

Community News

Issue number 14

Summer 2009



For free distribution in Fron, Garth & Trevor.

Llangollen Rural Community Council...



Llangollen Rural Community Council has entered the 2009 Best Kept Community Award competition. This will draw together the three villages of Froncysyllte, Garth and Trevor to enter as one community. We propose to hold a consultation meeting on Monday 22nd June at 7pm in the Garth and Trevor Community Centre and all are welcome, young and old, to put ideas forward and register their interest. Following this we propose to hold a Tidy-Up day on Saturday 27th June to litter pick, plant up flowers and have a general clean up of our community.

Please make every effort to assist with these events which will improve our already beautiful surroundings.

PLEASE support this community event

A very good history and life lesson

By Diane Powell

His name was Fleming, and he was a poor Scottish farmer. One day, while trying to make a living for his family, he heard a cry for help coming from a nearby bog. He dropped his tools and ran to the bog. There, mired to his waist in black muck, was a terrified boy, screaming and struggling to free himself. Farmer Fleming saved the lad from what could have been a slow and terrifying death.

The next day, a fancy carriage pulled up to the Scotsman's sparse surroundings. An elegant dressed nobleman stepped out and introduced himself as the father of the boy Farmer Fleming had saved.

"I want to repay you," said the nobleman. "You saved my son's life."

"No, I can't accept payment for what I did," the Scottish farmer replied, waving off the offer. At that moment, the farmer's own son came to the door of the family hovel.

"Is that your son?" the nobleman asked. "Yes," the farmer replied proudly. "I'll make you a deal. Let me provide him with the level of education my own son will enjoy. If the lad is anything like his father, he'll no doubt grow to be a man we both will be proud of." And that he did.

Farmer Fleming's son attended the very best schools and in time, graduated from St.Mary's Hospital Medical School in London, and went on to become known throughout the world as the noted Sir Alexander Fleming, the discoverer of Penicillin.

Years afterwards, the same nobleman's son who was saved from the bog was stricken with pneumonia. What saved his life? Penicillin.

The name of the nobleman? Lord Randolph Churchill.....

His son's name.....Sir Winston Churchill.

Some once said: What goes around comes around.

Local Bowlers Win County Titles . . .

By Moira Griffiths

Recently, several players from Trevor Bowls Club took part in the Welsh National Heats at Flexsys Community Hall. Moira Griffiths, Steven Jones, Joyce Evans and Margaret Jones won the Fours Heat and went down to represent Clwyd in the Welsh National Finals at Llandrindod Wells on 31st January.

Then on 21st February, Moira, Joyce and Margaret again travelled to Llandrindod Wells to represent Clwyd in the finals of the National Triples. Although they played well, on both occasions they were beaten by the overall winners from Pembrokeshire. They look forward to retaining their County titles next season.

If anyone is interested in taking up the game of Short-Mat Bowls, then please come along to the Garth & Trevor Community Centre next September, when the indoor season re-starts for the winter months. We have two mats and plenty of bowls of various sizes if you feel the need for a challenge. A Club Coach and International Umpire is on hand to give tips on the finer aspects of the game. For further information please contact Joyce Evans on 823244 or Moira Griffiths on 824401.

Chairman's Report

Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jim Davies (our outgoing Chair) for his dedication and hard work over the past year. With Spring coming to an end and the Lazy Hazy days of Summer (hopefully) ahead I can assure you I don't intend to let the grass grow under my feet!

For those of you who don't now me let me introduce myself. My name is Tracey Pugh a proud mother of 3 sons Matthew, Geraint and Rhys and although I am not native to Trevor I have resided in the Dee Valley for the past 28 years. I took up a position of employment in Llangollen; married a local boy, resided there for a while, moved to Fron (albeit for only 18 months) and have lived here in Trevor for the last 19 years, who knows Garth may have the pleasure of my company yet. My eldest son Matt has flown the nest leaving me with two challenging teenagers.

Since moving to Trevor I have actively been involved in local community groups to name but a few Trevor and Garth Toddlers/Playgroup, a Committee Member for our Beavers and Cubs, a Committee Member for Garth and Trevor WI. One of the former founders of the recently formed Trevor and Garth Youth Association and lastly an Advisor for the Aqueduct Community Association, as you can see local issues couldn't be closer to my heart.

For the past 5 years having been duly elected, I have had the pleasure of serving as a Community Councillor for Llangollen Rural Community Council and this year it is both my privilege and honour to be elected as your Chair for the coming year and, I endeavour with the knowledge and experience gained throughout the last 5 years, with the help of my fellow Councillors and support from residents of the 3 villages to be able to serve you wisely and justly.

Kind regards,
Tracey Pugh

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Harvest Thanksgiving Family Service at 9.30 am: all welcome.

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Swimming Gala

Following a swimming gala held at Chirk Leisure and Activity Centre on Wednesday 18th March 2009, Garth School came overall 3rd



place out of the 10 teams taking part on the day. Connie Cooper came overall first in the year five 25m freestyle event and went on to represent herself and the school in the Grand Final Gala held at Wrexham Waterworld on April 1st.

A brief update:

The World Heritage bid for Pontcysyllte continues to progress. During 2008 the ICOMOS World Heritage Secretariat (WHS) determined which experts/groups should be involved in the assessment of the Pontcysyllte nomination. Two aspects were covered:

1. Outstanding Universal Value: academics/non ICOMOS members were appointed to make this assessment although this has been done we do not know (and will not be told) who did it or their findings. It is a Library or Desk Study.
2. The assessment of the Site's Management, conservation and authenticity was undertaken by Prof Castensson during his visit in September 2008.

Prof Castensson then submitted a report to the ICOMOS Executive Committee within 15 days of his mission (Oct 2008) and a report from the Library Study would also have been sent to the ICOMOS Secretariat. Following this a draft evaluation was prepared by ICOMOS experts to go before the ICOMOS WH Panel. The Panel met in November, following which ICOMOS requested further information from us (via the UK Government) on Planning protection and some aspects of site numbering. (This is quite normal and nothing to worry about). Wrexham Council through UK Government had to reply by the end of February. This was done. ICOMOS now prepares collective recommendations i.e. the evaluations are revised and printed ready for the World Heritage Committee. These 'Evaluations' are made available to the State Party (UK Government and Wrexham Council in confidence) in late May. The UK Government can write to the World Heritage Committee re any factual inaccuracies up to 2 days before opening session of Committee meeting. The Committee meets in Seville from 22 to 30 June. We do not currently know which day Pontcysyllte will go before the Committee.

Please note that when ICOMOS present the nomination to the WH Committee there are three possible outcomes:

- a) Rejection of the nomination
- b) Deferral - if the Committee decide they require further information before they reach a decision
- c) Achievement of WHS Status.

Dawn Roberts,
Chair, Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal WHS Steering Group

Trevor & Garth WI

By Jean Roberts

The WI's April meeting had an international theme, members wore national costumes of the country of their choice. Japan, India, China were among the countries portrayed, not to mention Wales of course. There was also a lady from Hawaii grass skirt lei and all, and who will ever forget the Irish Woman who conducted the business meeting. Cuisine as well as the tipples of the countries was served during the evening.

On May 19th the Institute was hostess to the annual group meeting; this is when twelve Institutes from the Llangollen Group meet. The theme of the meeting was given by Gardening speaker Mrs. B. Molesworth from Nantwich.

Seven members went on a "Mystery Trip" traveling through the Wye Valley and eventually ending up at the Hilton Hotel Newport South Wales. All who think the WI is just Jam & Jerusalem, we invite you to join us and see how wrong that concept is.

Garth School News

By Mrs S. Clough

Our school is a very busy community and we have enjoyed the company of interesting visitors to include Bob Buckle, who taught the pupils some traditional songs, giving information about the background of each one. Years 5 and 6 visited Ysgol Dinas Bran to work on a Bridge Project with the Institution of Civil Engineers. This was arranged by Mr. Mark Valentine and was a fantastic experience for the children. They were able to appreciate how suspension bridges are built and understand the science and mathematics involved in their construction.



The School Council has been acknowledged for their good practice by The Welsh Assembly and is being featured in a booklet that they are creating. They were also asked to be involved in the creation of a web-site to promote School Councils. We are very proud of its achievement.

The Dream Den will be officially opened in June and will be a very important teaching area in the future.

Pupils have been learning how to draw cartoon characters with artist Paul Wilcox and they are now creating panels of Cartoon Art which will be placed on the front of the Vic Hallam building to create a colourful, artistic display.

We look forward to the visit of our European friends from Germany and Switzerland in June and July. We always benefit from their visit and enjoy learning a foreign language whilst they are here.

Tom Kerswell from Fron was Cefn United under 8's Man of the Match on 26th March. Playing left back and putting into practice what the dedicated trainers have been teaching him. His Dad, Kevern says that it appeared that everything had just 'clicked'.



HRH the Prince of Wales enjoying a cup of tea with Margaret and Audrey in Cakes and Company Community Cafe.

Froncysyllte School News

By Kim Dodd

The term started with great excitement with a visit by Prince Charles to the village. The children were invited to the Sion Chapel to sing alongside the Froncysyllte Male Voice Choir, and of course stole the show (according to them at least). Later the visit moved to the Community Centre where he met with children from Hopscotch and our After School Club. It was lovely to see that everyone enjoyed the day.

Now that the coldest, wettest weather is hopefully gone for a while, use can at last be made of the new giant sandpit and climbing wall in the school yard. Work is also underway to tidy up the school garden which, when finished, will create a habitat for an array of wildlife as well as being greatly improved in appearance. Earlier in the year, the children in years 3 and 4 designed individual pictures of various creatures. These have now been re-created and carved into a wooden totem pole. The end result is superb and will be sited in the outdoor classroom area. Many thanks to Mr Pimborough for well over 100 hours of work on both this and the school garden.

In March 'Smoke Bugs', an anti smoking road show, visited the school to help make the children aware of the dangers of this habit, the juniors took place in the annual Swimming Gala where they finished a very respectable 4th and the ever popular residential stay at Kingswood took place. The children had an excellent time taking part in activities that challenged them both mentally and physically. The School Council visited the Mayor in Wrexham to see for themselves how the council and councillors work, our football team took part in the tournament at Cynddelw and at the end of April years 5 and 6 visited Bliss Hill as part of their history topic. Thankfully, after all that activity, things went very quiet as pupils took part in a sponsored silence arranged by the PTFA.

Finally, congratulations to all those connected with the running of Hopscotch, which provides day care facilities within the school building for Early Entitlement children, enabling them to attend school all day should they wish. A recent inspection by the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales gave them an excellent 100% report with no outstanding issues.

Juniors at Kingswood



Years 5 & 6 on their history project



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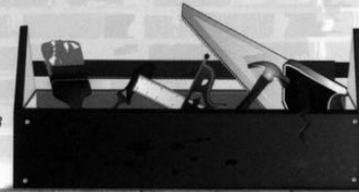
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Summer issue deadline for adverts or articles Monday
10th August 2009.

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Homelink Library Service

If you are disabled or have difficulty getting to your local library a Homelink library service is provided by Wrexham County. This offers a home visit every four weeks and provides access to the whole range of library and reference services, including books, Audios, CDs and DVDs. For further details contact Maifun Rogers at Wrexham library, by telephone on **01978 292090** or E-mail Maifun.Rogers@wrexham.gov.uk

The dates of visits to your area for the next three months are as follows:

Wednesday 24th June **Wednesday 22nd July** **Wednesday 19th August**

Homelink Library Service

The mobile library will still be calling every three weeks on a Tuesday:

Garth Rockman's Arms	9.30 to 10.10	Garth Primary School	10.15 to 11.00
Pentre Village School	1.20 to 12.00	Trevor Community Centre	1.15 to 2.15
Rhosymedre Community Centre	2.30 to 3.45	Fron Lay-by by Cliff's Cafe	4.00 to 4.40

Dates for 2009: 16th June, 7th & 28th July, 18th August and 8th Sept. Any queries regarding the operating of this route should be referred to Rhos Library 01978 840328.

Pineapple Cake

6 ozs Brown Sugar	4ozs Butter or Marg.
12 ozs Mixed Fruit	6 ozs Pineapple Chunks (chopped)
4 ozs Cherries	6 ozs Pineapple Juice
2 Eggs	8 ozs S.R. Flour

Place in a saucepan, sugar, marg. mixed fruit, cherries, pineapple chunks (chopped) and juice. Bring to the boil; boil for 10mins then leave to cool. Add eggs and flour. Place mixture in a fully lined 9 inch cake tin and bake for $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{3}{4}$ hours. Gas mark 4, 180C, 350F.

Bird news - Fron

By Julie Williams

Chiffchaff heard on the 19th March, did anyone hear it earlier?

Song thrush continues to entertain us with his variety of songs!

Against all the odds, a Robin fed from dish of mealworms in my hand, unusual in the breeding season. We only record what we see in the garden and flying over. We know there are lots more interesting birds in the area, we have seen Red Starts and Lapwings at the top of Fron, if anyone has any interesting observations, please contact me on Williams-julie@hotmail.com.

This month we have seen: Bullfinch, Buzzard, Bluet Tit, Blackbird, Coal tit, Chaffinch, Collared dove, Chiffchaff, Crow, Great tit, Goldfinch, Greenfinch, Hedge Sparrow, Jackdaw, Long tailed tit, Magpie, Pheasants, Pied Wagtail, Robin, Rook, Swallow, Swift (6th May), Song Thrush, Wood pigeon.

Congratulations Paul

Pictured is Councillor Pat Jeffares with Paul Richards of Llangollen Road, Trevor who on the 26th April 2009 completed the London Marathon. Pat can be seen admiring Paul's medal and congratulating him on his recent success. Paul had been trying for 3 years to be accepted as a runner in the Marathon and this year his dream came true. He completed the 26 miles and 385 yards in 4 hours and 9 minutes arriving at the finishing line in 10,339th position out of 36,000 runners. Paul was cheered on by his wife Judith and children Hannah and George as well as the many thousands of spectators lining the route. At the time of writing Paul had raised over £700 which will be split equally between Ysgol Y Garth and bowel cancer research. Paul would like to thank all of his family and friends for sponsoring him on this marathon.



Paul Richards being congratulated by Cllr. Pat Jeffares

He has already entered the ballot to run again in the 2010 Marathon with the intention of raising more money for local good causes.

Who said bowls was boring!!

By Moira Griffiths

During the 1990's, when villages in the Llangollen Rural area were under the control of Glyndwr Council, Trevor Indoor Bowls Club was privileged to take part in the (then) Inter-Village sports competitions. These are not held under the Wrexham area, unfortunately.

These competitions were held annually and it involved our village team travelling to the different village halls to play in the knock-outs. We visited many villages over the years and had some peculiar experiences in several halls. The mats we play on are 45 feet in length, designed specifically for small village halls, but in a few cases the halls had to be 'extended', by whatever means available, to accommodate the length of the mats! Imagine our amusement when turning up at two halls to find that their 'hall extensions' were on a slightly different level (albeit only by an inch or so) but it made quite a difference to the games! Once the bowls have been despatched down the mat it was just pure luck (or skill) if they managed to stop before hitting the bump or drop at the far end.

Many a game was won or lost by the interference of the extension and so many a cheer or groan was heard echoing around the village that night!!

Unforgettable!!

Bird Watch

by Anne Arnold

Tree Sparrows, House Sparrow, Robins, Green and Blue Tits, Great Tit, Collared Doves, Wood Pigeon, Stock Dove, Pied Wagtail, Thrush, Mistle Thrush, Yellow Wagtail, Blackbirds female & male (both taking food for young). Jay, Bullfinch, Gold Finch, Siskin, Green Finch, Woodpeckers, Sparrow Hawk, Buzzards, Pheasants, Crows, Starlings and Magpies.

News from Fron

Tug of War A cheque for £200 was received by Fron School from Cadbury's as a match fund for the amount raised on New Year's day. The school wish to thank Phil Davies for obtaining this amount and for Cadbury's continued support.

Spooky Night! On Friday 13th March, colleagues and friends of Froncysyllte After School Kids Club (ten in all) visited Plas Teg near Mold for a sponsored Spooky Night. The event was run by North West Spirit Seekers in one of the most haunted locations in Wales (supposedly!). The group stayed from 9pm until 3am and raised money to support the After School Kids Club. £556 was raised. That's the spirit!



After School Kids Club Bingo was held recently in Fron Community Centre. £98.40 was raised. Thanks to everyone for their support. Regular bingo sessions are held every fortnight in Fron Community Centre, to raise funds for local good causes. All welcome. A Cookery Club and Gardening Club started in After School Kids Club in April which is well supported.

Friday 3rd July 7pm in Fron Community Centre – General Knowledge quiz. Admission £1 – all welcome. Proceeds in aid of St Davids Church Fron

Cakes and Company opened its doors once again on Easter Saturday welcoming new and old friends. The café is open every weekend and bank holiday Monday until the end of October. All welcome. There will be no Cakes and company Cafe on Saturday 13th June due to a PRIOR BOOKING AT THE CENTRE. Anyone wishing to help in the café, please call in and see one of the volunteers. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers in Cakes and Company for their continued commitment. We now have a display cabinet which will be our history cabinet. Anyone wishing to donate or loan items of interest relating to Fron, please call into the Café or contact one of the volunteers or email Williams-julie@hotmail.com

Following the visit of HRH the Prince of Wales to Fron the official photographs were shown which delighted a packed Community Centre, they were also shown in school on two afternoons. As people want to have a reminder of the day, a limited edition, twenty eight page booklet detailing the visit by means of photos from early morning preparations on the day up until HRH departed has been commissioned. The books are available from Cakes and Company Community Café, Fron Post Office, Aqueduct Inn and Julie Williams Fron School.

Fron Community Centre now has its own website www.froncysylltecommunitycentre.btik.com

Any events happening in the village can be placed on the website diary.

Community Police

The light evenings have arrived and the increase in visitor numbers to the area in the warmer weather is growing week by week. With this influx of visitors the council and police will be trying to keep the area as clean and pleasant as possible with attention being given to littering and dog fouling which have been identified as areas of concern to many residents. Efforts are under way to clear up areas identified as needing attention as well as encouraging use of waste bins in the area with fixed penalty fines issued where necessary. Once again this year free bags to clean up after dog fouling are being provided at the British Waterways Information office at Trevor Basin. Please feel free to contact myself or your local Community Beat Manager PC Gary Robertshaw with any policing matters. Contact details are on posters in the ward and have previously been distributed with this newsletter. This information is also available on the North Wales Police website as is the details of the monthly meetings which you are welcome to attend.

Regards

David Jenkins PCSO Llangollen Rural

The Aqueduct Association

By Andrew Conde

The Aqueduct Association was formed just over 2 years ago to serve the communities of Trevor, Garth and Froncysyllte. Since its formation, it has raised several hundreds of pounds for a variety of local causes and have enjoyed some very memorable and enjoyable occasions, especially the pensioners Christmas party, the annual Christmas celebrations and float when father Christmas was brought to the doorsteps of our homes. Many social evenings have been enjoyed by all who attended. We have assisted Wrexham County Borough Council in the organisation and staffing of the August fun days at Trevor basin but the principle aim of the Association was not to raise direct funds, but to assist local organisation with both financial help and advice and support as and when required. We have had fantastic support from our County Councillor Pat Jeffares, Community Beat Manager PC Gary Robertshaw and the local Community Council. As well as Cadbury's of Chirk, Flexsys and many other local businesses. We are fighting to secure a suitable location for a MUGA for the youth of our community and we are ensuring that the elderly and infirm are looked after. It is our aim that the 3 villages benefit from our work. We are active in supporting the world heritage bid for the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and are very mindful of supporting all the proposals to increase tourism and business to our area. At our recent AGM, Sue Kempster was elected as chair, Mark Valentine secretary and Steve Edwards treasurer. We have our meetings on the first Monday of every month at Trevor Community Centre at 7pm (2nd Monday when a bank holiday occurs) we are always looking for new members and a warm welcome is extended to one and all.

Garth and Trevor Community Centre

Work is nearing completion on the refurbishment of the Gents and Ladies Toilets. The project is being carried out thanks to a matched funding grant from AVOW'S Wrexham Rural Key Fund. When complete it will make the Hall a building to be proud of and fit for any Party or Meeting. To Hire the hall ring 823244. Publicity must contain the following sentence and logos. The funding for the Key Fund has been made available through the Rural Development Plan for Wales 2007-2013, which is funded by the Welsh Assembly Government and the European Union.



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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

Best Kept Garden Competition

We are delighted that Mrs G. Manuel and Mrs M. Baxter have agreed to judge the garden competition again this year. Both are keen gardeners and flower arrangers, being members of the Llangollen Flower Arranging Club and the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod Floral Committee.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel. No. _____

* Categories are:-

Overall Large Garden
Hanging Basket

Overall Small Garden
Container.

***Please circle category(ies) entered.**

Garden Centre Vouchers will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each category. A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the most outstanding feature and the Monsanto rose bowl for the best garden.

The gardens will be judged on 16th July 2009.

The competition is open to all residents in Fron, Garth, Tower Hill and Trevor. If you are interested in applying please complete the application form. Forms will also be available from Councillors and the Clerk.

Please return the completed form to:

Mrs Sue Jones, 1 Ael Y Bryn, Llangollen Road, Trevor by Monday 13th July.

For further information please phone **01978 810466**

County Councillor's Diary

This is a brief update of the on going issues within the Llangollen Rural Ward. I would like to start by thanking Wrexham Council, and our local residents for planting the Daffodils and Tulips throughout the ward. Once again they were a magnificent show.

Tidy Town Grant Phase 2 Myself and the Community Council have submitted a bid to complete the work on the old Station yard. We are now waiting to see if we are successful with our application.

Community Council We have had a very busy year under the stewardship of outgoing chairman Cllr Jim Davies. I would like to thank Jim, the Clerk and Councillors for all their hard work and support for the past year. I would like to wish our new chairperson Mrs Tracy Pugh, my sincere good wishes, and support for the ensuing year. I would also like to thank members of the council for nominating me for Vice Chair at the AGM.

School Transport Still awaiting the outcome of discussions between Wrexham and Denbighshire Council's. I will inform the school and the governors, as soon as I know the outcome, and what action we need to take

Parking The parking at both Trevor and Fron is a major issue, measures are being taken to rectify this problem, and discussions are ongoing.

I had the honour of arranging a visit to the Mayors parlour, for both Fron and Garth school Council's. The Mayor remarked on their exemplary behaviour and good manners, and as an outcome I'm sure we now have a few more new mayors in the prospect. Eric & Olwen from Trevor Wines held a raffle to raise funds for the Shooting Star. I was honoured to be asked to make the draw, which raised £140. Well Done both. The Bungalows in Trevor have had new Roof's and new fire's installed. I hope it was not too much inconvenience to the residents during the project. I have been informed that our Shuttle Bus to Ruabon Station is going quite well. The Post Box by Trevor post office was removed without any consultation, but let me assure you; myself and the Community Council are on the case. This will be relocated in that area as soon as possible.

Any problems don't hesitate to contact me.

Pat Jeffares

Phone: 01978 820570

E-Mail: pat.jeffares@wrexham.gov.uk

Llangollen Rural Community Council - AGM

At the Annual General Meeting in May Cllr. Mrs Tracey Pugh was unanimously elected as Chairman and Cllr. Pat Jeffares elected as Vice Chairman. Cllr. Glyn Jones was re-elected Chairman of the Finance Committee and Cllr. Elfed Morris re-elected as Chairman of the Noddfa Cemetery Committee. Other Councillors were elected as representatives on various other committees and organisations.

Next Community News will be out during the first week in September 2009 and will be delivered to households by Councillors and the Garth & Trevor Youth Club. Any items of news for inclusion in the Autumn edition should be in by Monday 10th August 2009. If you would like to see any of the previous newsletters, then these can be seen on our web site www.llangollen-ruralcc.org