

Community News

Issue number 10

Summer 2008



For free distribution in Ffron Garth & Trevor.

Fun Day at World Renowned Pontcysyllte Aqueduct

In what is becoming an annual tradition, a family fun day will be held at Trevor Basin adjacent to Pontcysyllte Aqueduct on Saturday August 2nd.

There will be a whole range of activities and stalls to enjoy including fairground rides, face-painting, wildlife displays and entertainment from Gary Sausage and Punch and Judy.

Given the setting there will also be a demonstration of traditional canal crafts such as bonnet making, boatmen's spider web belts, painting, crochet and rag rug making. Many local community groups will also have displays and stalls with the local angling society running their popular "Guess the Weight of the Trout" competition.

There will be other chances to win with the tombola, balloon race and raffle but if you are not a winner you could console yourself with a delicious cake from one of the many on offer at various stalls.

Event organiser Kay Rickard from Wrexham County Borough Council's Economic Development Department says "The event has proved very popular over the last two years and has attracted thousands of visitors. We are delighted with the support from the local community and site owners British Waterways. The event appeals to local residents and tourists alike so we would love to see lots of people having a great time and enjoying the marvellous setting."

It is an important year for Pontcysyllte Aqueduct as UNESCO inspectors will be visiting the site in September as part of the process to assess whether this masterpiece of Thomas Telford can join the list of World Heritage sites. If all goes well during that visit then Pontcysyllte Aqueduct will join the ranks of other global landmarks such as Sydney Opera House, the Taj Mahal and the Tower of London.



If you would like to attend the fun day it will run from 12 noon until 5pm and both admission and car parking will be free. For further information please contact the Events Team on 01978 292538.

Memories of Trevor Wharf

By the late Don Evans

The Wharf was a small hamlet consisting of a row of three cottages, a single dwelling which used to be known as THE WHARF INN, a single cottage alongside the railway line and a further single cottage on the canal.

There was a cottage adjacent to Scotch Hall Bridge but the occupants were of the opinion it did not belong to the Wharf. All properties in the immediate vicinity of the Wharf were owned by G.W.R. who had acquired them when taking over the Shropshire Union Canal Company.

The Wharf building itself was a transit point for goods being dispatched by rail via a canal barge or vice versa. It had an internal docking spur off the canal it was at a lower level from the rail section and had a separate storage area at road level. The building had two sets of rails inside, with a turn table at the open ended north side and a double gated entrance for road traffic beyond. On the roof of the building was a water storage tank for replenishing the tank engine and at ground level immediately below was a weighbridge platform.

To the southern end of the building was a projecting arm which carried three rail tracks operated by a points system and was the marshalling area for the goods trucks. On the pub side were two rail tracks also operated by points which enabled the trucks to be shunted either to the wharf building section or to be directed to the tracks which terminated at Scotch Hall Bridge.

Most of the canal trade was to serve the local industry, either bringing in raw material or coal for the Graesser Chemical Works, later to become Monsanto and now Flexsys. Also coal to Roberts & McGuinness brickworks in Trevor, the Delph brickworks in Acrefair, and Hughes and Lancaster now Air Products and then carrying on to the terminus at Rhos.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Llangollen Rural Community Council Adoption of Revised Members Code of Conduct

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000

Notice is given that Llangollen Rural Community Council has adopted a revised Members Code of Conduct. The document is available for inspection by members of the public at 1 Ael Y Bryn, Llangollen Road, Trevor, between the hours of 2.00pm and 4.00pm Monday to Friday.

Sue Jones

Clerk Llangollen Rural Community Council

Chairman's Corner

My name is James (Jim) Davies and it is my privilege to be the new Chair of the Llangollen Rural Council. I was born in Froncysyllte 40 years ago! I went to Garth school and then onto Dinas Bran, I am known by many people and my family as Jamie and I have now moved back to Fron with my own family.

The council has just started a new term and with the election now behind us we can look to build on the success of the past. I offer my congratulations to County Councillor Pat Jeffares for his re-election and welcome to the Community Council Mr Mark Valentine, who lives in Garth. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Lola Roberts who has stood down as a councillor for all her hard work and dedication to our local community for the past 18 years and finally I would like to thank Cllr Elfed Morris who held office with real conviction and direction, in his 35th year serving the council!

This is going to be a busy year with the Aqueduct looking to play on a global stage, as the heritage bid draws to a conclusion. On a local level the Aqueduct Association and its members grows from strength to strength delivering some real benefit to all 3 villages with a real strategy to make a significant difference to our communities focusing on the short, medium and long term projects, that will benefit all for years to come.

The Garth & Trevor team are driving to make the improvement to their community centre, with the team from Fron making the most of theirs, now its been refurbished with Cakes and Company of Froncysyllte now open, for the summer season, raising funds and more importantly helping to bring all sections of the community together.

James Davies

Volunteers Required

The Wrexham Local Access Forum is seeking local volunteers to participate in protecting and enhancing the Public Rights of way network. With an aging population the country is blessed with a crop of skilled, motivated and healthy people who are looking for something fulfilling to do in their requirement.

Footpath Adopters.

This is for those who like getting out and about. An Adopter would choose a Public Right of Way(s) to walk on a regular basis, undertake minor maintenance work such as cutting back vegetation around stiles, but report more serious problems to the Rights of Way department. More details available from John Marchant, Maintenance and Enforcement Team Leader on **(01978) 297151** or e-mail john.marchant@wrexham.gov.uk.

Researchers.

For those with an interest in a more academic hobby there is an opportunity to identify public rights of way that have been lost during the process of creating the Definitive Map. This would involve researching historical documents for evidence of their existence and then applying to the Rights of Way section to have them recorded. Further information available from Sean Hanratty, Definitive Map Team Leader on **(01978) 297159** or e-mail sean.hanratty@wrexham.gov.uk.

Fron News

Fron Community Centre accepted the donation of a living Christmas Tree from James and Claire Davies. The Committee wish to thank James and Claire for their generosity and also Charlie Melish, James and Paul Needham for their help on the day planting the tree.

Froncysyllte Community Centre AGM. 2nd April 2008.

The following officials were nominated;

Geraint Roberts – Chair

Jack Hawkins – Treasurer

Paul Needham – Secretary.

The committee thanked Audrey Owens who retired as Chair for all her hard work and commitment shown over the years.

A flower arrangement was presented to her from the Committee at Cakes and Company Community Cafe.

Cakes and Company have attractions on most Saturdays at the Community Café Fron. Craft workshops, canal-ware painting, jewellery, home produce for sale, and spinning workshop/demonstrations are just some of the things going on.

All welcome. Open every week end 12 noon until 4pm.

Froncysyllte School Summer Fayre will be held on Saturday 5th July in Fron Community Centre.

All welcome.

Cakes and Company have a spinning display and workshop in Fron Community Centre on the 21st June (Saturday) between 1pm - 3pm.

St David's Church, Fron. Strawberry Tea at Fron Community Centre - Saturday 26th July - 12.00 - 4.00pm. All Welcome

Garth & Trevor Community Centre

Work has now started on upgrading the building. The new doors and windows have been installed. Disabled toilet together with baby changing facilities and gas central heating will be the next phase. It is hoped that all the work will be completed by the end of June. Grants have been obtained from Wren and the Welsh Assembly. We are also grateful for the support given by the Community Council and Aqueduct Association. The upgraded hall will be available for casual lettings from July on. What a great place to hold a Children's Party, **to book ring 01978 823244.**

Garth & Trevor WI News

Since the last news letter members have attended the Spring Council meeting held at Denbigh Town Hall. The speaker was Ann Widdecombe MP she gave an interesting and sometimes hilarious account of her life both in Parliament and on her various TV appearances.

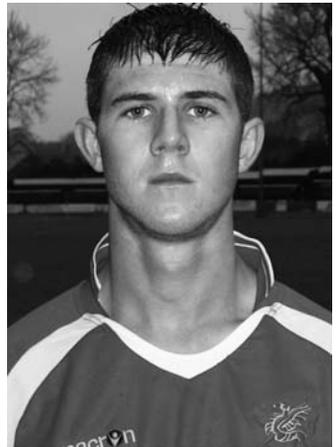
Ten members visited Rhuthin Jail and ten members returned home.

Forthcoming events include a Treasure Hunt on foot in June and trip to Chester Zoo in July.

DE JA VU! Bont Bridge damaged again.

After a successful campaign by the WI and Community Council not only to remove the unsightly pink wall from the bridge, and to get Wrexham Council to repair the bridge. What do we now, see yet another pink wall in situ. Once again CADW who now have responsibility for this drovers bridge will have to find matching stone to restore it to it's former glory.

Stefan Edwards



Local lad Stefan Edwards of 20 George Avenue, Trevor, has recently represented Wales Schools at under 18 level in this years Centenary shield. Stefan has been capped five times this season for his country, and once being as Captain against Scotland at Tannadice Park, home of Dundee United.

Stefan is currently completing his A levels at Ysgol Rhiwabon and hope's to attend UWIC (University of Sport in Cardiff) in September.

He currently plays football for Gresford Athletic in the Cymru Alliance league and has ambitions to play at the highest level

Retirement

It seems amazing that I have served on Llangollen Rural Community Council for 18 years. I became a member in 1990, I have enjoyed every minute of the time spent in office. We have had our ups and downs, disagreements and agreements, but through it all I have experienced nothing but help and friendship from all my fellow councillors and especially the clerks; Joe Hughes, with whom I had such an easy special relationship and latterly Sue Jones who has always been my friend.

I would like to pay tribute to all the councillors I have served with, past, present and future thanking them for 18 happy years and wishing them all success in the future.

Iola Roberts

Garth C.P. School News

The school has been fully re-furnished this term and it has made a difference to the appearance of the classes and has enabled us to re-design the teaching and learning spaces. During the summer the classrooms will be decorated and changes made in preparation for the foundation stage which will be implemented fully in September 2008. The school is now fitted with non-vandal proof CCTV cameras which will enable us to film the sight 24 hours a day, over a whole year period. Not only will this improve security, it will also provide the staff with a clear picture of the children as they play and work in any area within the school site.

We have achieved the bronze and silver Eco-Award and are now making our application for the green flag. Miss Ivanoff and the children have worked very hard to achieve these awards.

The School Council is now meeting with a variety of companies in an attempt to purchase and build the Dream Den, which they have designed. They have also worked well on a variety of work related initiatives.

The links with other countries goes from strength to strength and our Swiss students are due to visit us in June.

Message from the Vicar of Llangollen

I recently spent a couple of days in Sweden at a conference in Uppsala learning about how the Swedes run their churches. Of course, all my friends would have none of it – knowing what a nerdy ABBA fan I am, they immediately thought I must have been going to an international Abba convention dressed in 70s flares and with side boards down to my chin!

As one of the wealthiest countries in the world, the Swedish standard of living is very high. It has also one of the highest tax rates, and unlike our churches, the Church in Sweden is paid for by the state.

The wealth of the country and of its residents came as a real shock to me as did their willingness to pay so much into the common pot to cover the welfare costs of everyone. It felt quite different from our often begrudging attitude to taxation. In effect, it means that although there are some very rich people in Sweden, there is a fairer distribution of wealth, so that the glaring differences between rich and poor that exist in other countries are less severe there.

It was also interesting to learn that in the schools children are taught from a young age that being a good citizen is far more important than making lots of money, and that co-operation is the best way to build a healthy society. Coincidentally, on the same day I arrived back from my trip, the Sunday Times 'Rich List' was published, and the Independent for the first time published a list of people who, it said, had helped make Britain a happier place. "Who needs rich lists, when there are so many other things that are worth celebrating?" it asked.

It seems to me then that in a consumer society like ours, there's a crying need for values other than mere materialism. We all have a part to play in shaping the kind of society we want to live in. Jesus once said:

"What you possess or own will never set you free. Seek the things that last; Store up treasure in heaven, where it's safe from moth and rust and burglars. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Rev. Andrew Sully

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Saturday	9 - 12.00pm	Emergencies only
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Blackwood Road, Garth Llangollen LL20 7YL

Tel./Fax: 01978 821602 Proprietor: Linda Evans

OPENING TIMES

Easter until End October

Wed, Thurs, Fri 12 noon - 5.00pm

Sat, Sun & Bank Holidays 10.30am - 5.30pm

Closed Monday & Tuesday



Summer Opening Hours

From 1st April 2008

CLIFF'S CHIPPY

Holyhead Road, Froncysyllte

Monday	Closed all day
Tuesday	Closed all day
Wednesday	11.30am - 2.00pm
Thursday	11.30am - 2.00pm 5pm - 9pm
Friday	11.30am - 2.00pm 4pm - 9.30pm
Saturday	11.30am - 4.00pm
Sunday	2.00pm - 9.30pm

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10 Crane Street, Cefn Mawr, Near Wrexham,

Mint Jelly (with added vinegar this jelly has a piquant flavour suitable to serve with meats).

Ingredients

1.4kg (3lb) green skinned cooking apples
500ml (approx 1pt) water
A bunch of freshly picked mint
750ml (1 1/4pt) white distilled vinegar
Sugar
45-60ml (3-4tbsp) freshly chopped mint
Green colouring (optional)

Wash the apples and chop roughly without removing the peel or cores. Put into a pan with the water and a bunch of mint and bring to the boil. Simmer gently until the fruit is really soft and pulpy, stirring occasionally to prevent it sticking. Add the vinegar and simmer for a further 5 minutes. Strain through a jelly bag or cloth and measure the strained juice into a clean pan. Add 450g (1lb) sugar to each 500ml (approx 1pt) juice and heat gently until dissolved, stirring frequently. Bring to the boil and boil rapidly until setting point is reached. Remove any scum from the surface, stir in the chopped mint and a few drops of green colouring, if liked. Leave to stand for a few minutes before pouring into warm jars. Cover with waxed discs and a dampened cellophane circle. Cool, label and store in a cool dark place.

Bird Watch – Trevor

By Anne Arnold

Coal Tit, Blue Tit, Nuthatch, Green Tit, Wren, Robins, Blackbirds, House Sparrow, Collared Dove, Wood Pigeon, Tree Sparrows, Stock Dove, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Seagulls, Starlings, Pheasant, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Ducks, Heron, Tawny Owl, Jackdaw, Thrush, Buzzard, Kestrel, Magpie, Marsh Tit, Bullfinch.

Mobile Library

The mobile Library calls every three weeks on a Tuesday:

Trevor Australia Arms	9.30	–	9.55am
Garth Rockman's Arms	10.00	–	10.20am
Garth Primary School	10.25	–	11.00am
Pentre Village School	11.20	–	11.50am
Trevor Community Centre	1.00	–	2.00pm
Rhosymedre Community Centre	2.15	–	3.45pm
Fron Britannia Inn	4.00	–	4.40pm

Dates for 2008: June 24th, July 15th, 5th & 26th August and Sept. 16th.

Any queries regarding the operating of this route should be referred to Rhos Library 01978 840328.

News from the Aqueduct Community Association

Some of you may have noticed that there have recently been activities on the old station site. The aim is to clear as much rubbish and undergrowth as we can in order to identify possible uses for this area. We are looking to improve the path and introduce some managed planting of trees and shrubs. This should make the old railway a pleasant place to enjoy the outdoors. There are also plans to link this walk to the canal side making what we hope will be a pleasant circular walk that everyone can enjoy. Steve Edwards of the association has been working hard along with volunteers from Cadburys clearing the bank along side station road. This is just the first stage in an ongoing operation.



Volunteers have also cleared in excess of 20 bags of litter from this area, as mentioned by Councillor Pat Jeffares on the back page.

Steve along with Andy Hughes are keen to have more work days where local volunteers will continue the efforts already made by others. If you wish to contribute to this project phone 01978 810302, leave a message and someone will get back to you.

Sue Kempster
Chair,
Aqueduct Community Association.

Bird News

By Julie Williams

Birdsong – what a lovely sound, surely it must gladden even the hardest of hearts! And the Song thrush I'm sure, out sings them all! From dawn until dusk he doesn't seem to stop. With his repertoire of songs – imitating the tawny owl and woodpecker (have other readers noticed his imitating sounds?) – when does he have time to feed? - but he does of course because there's plenty of snail shells in the garden.

The welcome return of the Chiffchaff heralds the arrival of Spring. The Robin that was feeding off my hand is now feeding its own young in the hedgerow. The Swifts arrived on the 3rd of May but to date no sign of the Swallows.

Birds spotted:

Blackbird, Blue tit, Bullfinch, Buzzard being mobbed by Crows, Coal tit, Chaffinch, Chiffchaff, Collared Dove, Goldfinch, Great tit, Greenfinch, Heron, Hedge sparrow, Jackdaw, Long tailed tit, Magpie, Pheasants, Robin, Song thrush, Swifts, Siskin, Tawny Owl, Wood pigeon, Wren.

Trevor Church

Services each Sunday at 9–30am

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday HOLY COMMUNION
2nd & 4th Sunday MATINS

Vicar: Rev Andrew Sully,
Vicarage, Abbey Road, Llangollen
Telephone No. 01978 860231

St David' s Church, Froncysyllte

Worship every Sunday at 9.30am

(exceptions to this or extra services published on external notice board).

Vicar: The Rev. A.J. Rees
The Vicarage, Trevor Road, Chirk, Wrexham. LL14 5HD
Telephone No. 01691 778519

Llangollen Rural Community Council – AGM

At the Annual General Meeting in May Cllr. James Davies was unanimously elected as Chairman and Cllr. Mrs Tracey Pugh 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.

Fron School News

April saw the arrival of the School Inspectors here at Fron, and although the official report has not yet been received, early indications are of an excellent result once again with the school-achieving grade 2 in all but one of the key areas. Congratulations to both staff and pupils for all their hard work.

There have been several trips out and about so far this term, with years 5 and 6 visiting the roman Museum at Chester as part of their history project, and experiencing the music of the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra when they performed in Wrexham. In addition there have been woodland walks for the infants to make the most of the recent good weather.

Visitors to the school include the 'Animation Man' who taught the juniors how to make cartoons with clay culminating in them producing their own short stories. Everyone was treated to a show by the North Wales Falconry Display, with the children being able to take part and handle some of the bird.

P.C. Godchild made one of his periodic visits to make the children aware of the dangers that can sometimes be found around them. Parents of the infants and early years pupils were invited in for a fashion show. The children made their own costumes and wrote about how they come up with their ideas and then put them into practice. It was an enjoyable afternoon.

After school summer activities have begun and include athletics, gardening club and a project to build a greenhouse out of plastic bottles – let's hope we don't have too wet a summer term.

Finally, the school would like to thank A.N.Richards' garage who have agreed to make some badly needed new goal posts. Your time and generosity is much appreciated.

1st Trevor Scout Group

We currently have vacancies in our Beaver section (age 6-8) and our Cub Scout section (age 8-11) Recently we have been on a 4 day pack holiday to Edinburgh, entered a football competition and been on a scavenger hunt amongst many other things we do. Shortly we will be going on a fun day to Builth Wells and a weekend summer camp. If you want to make new friends, learn new skills and have fun, please come along.

Beavers Thursday 5.15 - 6.15pm
Cubs Thursday 6.30 – 8.00pm

Or Contact Elaine on 07939476208

Three Months on Already!

It doesn't seem long ago that the last newsletter was due, the last three months appear to have flown by. Since then nothing has happened to change my view that residents of Llangollen Rural are fortunate to live in such a pleasant environment. The approach of summer is bringing more visitors to the area as well as attracting more residents out of doors to enjoy the pleasant days and evenings walking around the area, in respect of which I would like to point out that staff at the British Waterways information office at Trevor Basin are kindly providing free bags for picking up dog waste as well as providing a waste bin by the office. Hopefully this will contribute to keeping the area clean during the busy summer.

I wish you all a good summer and invite you to contact myself, PC Gary Robertshaw your local CBM or your local Neighborhood Policing Team here at Cefn Mawr with any policing issues.

Regards

David Jenkins

PCSO Llangollen Rural

Editor's Comments

Due to lack of space some of the articles in this newsletter have been reduced. To see the original copies, please go to the web site www.llangollen-ruralcc.org If you have any comments, news or views please forward them to Sue Jones Tel. **01978 810466** or e-mail clerk@llangollen-ruralcc.org

Next Community News

Will be out first week in September and will be delivered to households by Councillors and the Youth Clubs. Any items for inclusion in this the Autumn edition, should be in by Monday 18th August 2008.

Advertising

1 Business Card - £10.00 2 Business Cards £20.00

Please mark all communications COMMUNITY NEWS and include a name and contact number.

Send copy to: Clerk to the Council, 1 Ael Y Bryn, Llangollen Road, Trevor, Wrexham LL20 7TF or via e-mail to: clerk@llangollen-ruralcc.org Telephone Enquiries: **01978 810466**

Spring Issue - deadline for adverts or articles Monday 18th August 2008

Best Kept Garden Competition

This year Mrs Gwen Manuel and Mrs Mary Baxter will judge the Best Kept Garden Competition. The competition is open to all residents in Fron, Garth, Tower Hill and Trevor with judging taking place on Thursday 17th July.

If you are interested in applying please complete the enclosed application form. Forms will also be available from Councillors and the Clerk.

Llangollen Rural Community Council Best Kept Garden Competition 2008 Application Form.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel. No. _____

* Categories are:-

Overall Large Garden Overall Small Garden Hanging Basket 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 Thursday 17th July 2008.

Please return the completed form to:

Mrs Sue Jones, 1 Ael Y Bryn, Llangollen Road, Trevor by Monday 14th 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.

The daffodils and tulips were a great show again around our three villages this year. I would like to say a special thanks to Andy Hughes, and his team with Wrexham Council, I'm sure such a display has cheered us all up.

Election Thanks

I was privileged to be returned as your local County Councillor at the elections 1st May. I would like to thank all those who voted for me, and for all your e-mails, cards, and phone calls of good wishes. This now gives me the mandate to continue the good work in conjunction with the Aqueduct Association, Cakes & Company and all other organizations within the ward, working for the benefit of our communities. We have already put together a robust programme of projects. I have already held site meetings with different departments at Wrexham Council, and have many more arranged. I am proud to be part of these organizations and the enthusiasm shown by them, I have no doubt that we will succeed.

Tidy up Days

Thanks to Steve Edwards, and his Cadbury community team, for a great job they did along the old station yard. What a difference that has made. Also Michael Hett and his team of litter pickers from Plas Madoc, who are in the photo and who did a great job in Trevor and Fron.

I have also put together an environmental improvement plan, which will be carried out by staff of Plas Madoc Housing office throughout the ward, which will start soon. We have a very busy time ahead.

I am very pleased that the refurbishment is well on the way at Trevor Community Centre, and I wish the committee every success.

An event day in Trevor basin is planned for the 2nd August, which will give us a chance to have stalls to raise funds for our local organizations. An opportunity not to be missed. I wish you all well.

Any problems don't hesitate to contact me.



Pat Jeffares

Phone: 01978 820570 E-mail: pat@jeffares.idps.co.uk