

Community Newsletter

For free distribution in Trevor, Garth & Froncysyllte

November 2021

Issue No. 56

www.llangollen-ruralcc.co.uk

Llangollen Rural Community Council
would like to wish our residents a

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a Happy & Healthy 2022

Christmas Competition

The Community Council is holding a competition for the Most Interesting and Creative Christmas window display, and the Most Interesting and Creative Christmas garden display.

Judging will take place during the week beginning 13th December and there will be prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category.

If you wish to enter the competition please telephone either

Cllr. Elfed Morris on 07974 796001 or

Cllr. Mrs Sian Williams on 07958 646382.



**The Council is also sponsoring and providing prizes
for a Christmas Card design competition
in Froncysyllte CP School and Ysgol Y Garth**



Noddfa Cemetery and Barnett Engineering

Andrea Evans

You may have noticed that the entrance to the Cemetery is looking much better after work has been done to clean and secure the stone pillars/gate posts. The work was carried out by Barnett Engineering without charge to the Community Council.

The before and after pictures show the improvement resulting from the work. Llangollen Rural Community Council very much appreciates Barnett Engineering carrying out the work without charge, and thanks them for their kindness, and support of our community.



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Please be considerate of the time of day if telephoning council members - **Thank you**

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Editor's Comment:

If you would like to see any back issues of the Newsletter, information about the Community Council, local organisations and history about the three villages please look at our website www.llangollen-rural.co.uk

Trevor Bowls Club

Moira Griffiths

The indoor bowlers are back in action after their 'year off'.

The league is well under way and after only two games the Trevor team are sitting at the top of the league with two outstanding wins. We play on a home and away basis and travel locally to such places as Farndon, Isycoed, Johnstown, Gresford and Higher Kinnerton.

In November, players will be looking forward to travelling to Gresford to play in some Open competitions, and morale is high. The National competitions have been put on hold for the time being, but we hope to get back to challenging the other Welsh counties soon.

We play on Thursday nights in the Garth & Trevor Community Centre, from 7pm until 9.30pm, and look forward to welcoming any new players. We have three mats, but due to Covid restrictions we are at present only allowed to play on two. There are plenty of 'spare' bowls in a range of sizes to suit all players, so if you're thinking of coming down to try your hand, then you can choose a size that fits.

Why not contact Joyce on 01978 823244 or Moira on 07909 917666.

Canal Workforce Update

Moira Griffiths

The Towpath Taskforce has been working every two weeks during the summer months, and has been trying to catch up with Mother Nature's attempt to make the area look overgrown!

Our work in the basin car park took three visits to get it looking tidy but now that the leaves have fallen, it doesn't seem that we have made much of an impact at all!

The benches outside the Visitor Centre and the grey shed were painted during the warm weather and we had some nice comments from visitors and locals.

We have been working on the wharf area opposite the old Jones the Boats site and have tried to clear some of the floating debris at the 'dead end'. Low lying branches have been cut back and the area is now opened for visitors to see the canal earlier, when walking in from the warehouse carpark.

The towpath towards Postle's bridge has had the vegetation cut back as it had been encroaching onto the towpath. The gutters on the ramp off the bridge have been cleared ready for the winter months.

We shall be tackling the vegetation on and around the aqueduct over the next few months as hopefully the amount of visitors will quieten down a bit.

Birdwatch –Trevor

Moira Griffiths

Blue tits, great tits, blackbirds, robins, magpies, dunnocks, sparrows, jackdaws, wood pigeons, collared doves, woodpecker, mallards, mandarin ducks, tree creeper, goldfinch, seagulls, long-tailed tits

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Councillor Elfed Morris

It is over eighteen months since we published our last Newsletter, and it has been a very difficult time for everyone. Covid 19 has affected every one of us in the community. As a Community Council we have met monthly on Zoom. It has not been a perfect solution, but at least we are able to discuss and act upon the many issues within the community.

Wrexham County Borough Council staff have been working from home, making it increasingly more difficult to get things done.

With more people taking their holidays in this country due to Covid, it has increased the volume of traffic in and around the World Heritage Site. This has created major parking problems in both Trevor and Gate Road in Fron, and this issue must be addressed before next summer.

The closure of the road from Pentre to Rhosymedre since January has caused major problems, particularly when the bypass is closed and traffic is diverted using Gate Road to Trevor. This road was never meant to carry such a volume of traffic. According to the Welsh Government the road in Pentre is not PRIORITY, and no funding is available for two to three years. That suggests to me that the North/South divide is wider than ever. The Council set up a Facebook page in March 2020. The page was created as Llangollen Rural Community Council Coronavirus Support Page and played a vital role in supporting residents throughout the pandemic. The page has been highly effective as a means of sharing information throughout the pandemic, and in supporting individual residents with the collection of prescriptions and shopping. The work of the Facebook page was recognised by Llangollen Health Centre "you have been excellent at sharing our updates on the Community Council's own Facebook page". Our sincere thanks go to Cllr. Keith Sinclair and others for updating this page on a regular basis.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to my fellow Community Councillors, the Clerk Andrea Evans, and County Councillor Anthony 'Rondo' Roberts for all their hard work and support.

The Community Council has agreed to sponsor and provide prizes for a "Design a Christmas Card" competition for our local primary schools. Also in the community, we will be having a most interesting and creative Christmas window display and garden display competition.

*With Christmas not too far away, I take this opportunity to wish you all
a Very Happy Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year*

Library Home-link Service

The Home-link Service is for people who live in Wrexham County, are housebound and have no-one to collect books on their behalf. For information on this service please email library@wrexham.gov.uk or call 01978 292090

County Councillors Update

Anthony 'Rondo' Roberts

I would like to share with you an update about things happening in our area.

The weather is now changing so please keep warm and safe. Hopefully all those eligible have had their Covid injections and the New Year will be an improvement on the last two.

On the home front, the levelling up fund from Westminster will enable great investment and changes within Llangollen Rural. Anglo Welsh plan to relocate the boat yard but there are concerns that the welfare of residents is not paramount in the plans, so I am trying to ensure that we are not forgotten.

The plans for the multi user path between Trevor and Llangollen are still under consultation, with discussions taking place with landowners and Denbighshire C.C. It is hoped that the plan for the J.C.Edwards wall will move forward in the near future with a seating area and notice board in place. I will ensure that you are kept up to date with both of these projects.

In terms of traffic, myself and numerous others are trying to get assistance with the re-opening of the road at Newbridge, as the closure is causing knock on effects throughout the locality, especially when the A483 at Chirk is closed for repairs. On the subject of traffic, discussions are taking place regarding the possibility of a speed camera by the Aussie Rooster. Again you will be notified on any progress.

I would ask residents to bear in mind the problems that refuse wagons are having in certain areas due to cars being parked awkwardly, and also bins being left in positions that make it difficult for these wagons to manoeuvre. Subsequently, on occasions, bins aren't being emptied and complaints ensue. It's not always the fault of the refuse collectors.

Christmas is fast approaching and I wish everyone a safe and happy time. Let's hope the New Year will bring cheer to all.

Over 50's Group

Pam Lewis

The Over 50s, the local informal group, is delighted to be back together. We meet between 2-4 pm every second and fourth Wednesday in the safe, warm and spacious Garth & Trevor Community Centre.

Since reopening we've enjoyed a good variety of activities including a small Garden Party, a fun poetry session, two basic line dancing sessions, a comic mini 'Sewing Bee', 'Apple Day' fun and various informal quizzes and games. Each afternoon the highlights are often the beautiful homemade cake, cuppa and chat with friends, old and new.

Forthcoming activities are to include an Indoor Bowling session with Moira & Steve, sweet making and a Christmas Lunch celebration.

Currently 10 to 13 local residents attend and there is room for plenty more. If you fancy giving it a try then just turn up at any session or phone Pam on 01978 823546 for more details.

This is an open, friendly group that welcomes everyone.

Police Matters

Lara Shiers (PCSO)

Crime Trends

Over the last couple of months, the Eastern District has seen a number of burglaries taking place, whereby offenders seem to be targeting high-powered motor vehicles, these are known as 'car-key burglaries'. We have also seen an increase of forced entry to sheds, whereby high valued items have been stolen. Our dedicated Burglary Team work closely with neighbouring forces as these crime trends are often being committed by offenders who travel between different force areas.

Additionally, we have also seen a spate of number plates being stolen from motor vehicles; and unfortunately offenders will often use these to place onto stolen vehicles to be further used in crime.

We are asking residents to remain vigilant, consider their home security measures and keep a check on their neighbours who may be more vulnerable.

Please always report any suspicious activity to us.

Police Surgeries

Our Neighbourhood Policing Team have been holding regular 'police surgeries', whereby members of the community can take the opportunity to meet their local PCSO's, to raise any concerns and chat about any issues. We are advertising the surgeries via Facebook, the NWP Community Alert system and by word of mouth. We look forward to seeing you at our next appointment.

Community Alert

In recent months, we launched our 'North Wales Community Alert' platform, which is a free messaging service whereby communities can receive up-to-date information on crime, local policing activity and crime prevention. Registrations can be made via the following link, or please contact your local PCSO and we will register on your behalf - <https://www.northwalescommunityalert.co.uk/> *Thank you.*

LLANGOLLEN RURAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

2021/22 GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Community Council has allocated a budget to provide funding for organisations and societies in the communities of Llangollen Rural.

Each year there will be one round of grant applications.

All applications must be received by the Clerk on or before 10th January 2022.

The Council will discuss and approve grants at its February 2022 Council Meeting.

If you require an application form, please:

1. Email: clerk.llangollenrural@gmail.com or
2. Write to Andrea Evans, Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer, Llangollen Rural Community Council, 59 Haytor Road, Wrexham LL11 2PU.

Community Agent

Katie Lucas

Hello, I am Katie Lucas the Community Agent for Trevor, Garth and Froncysyllte. My job is funded by the Community Council.

For those of you who are not aware, the Community Agent service supports over 50's across Wrexham. We help people access services and support in their local areas, support them as they improve their mental health and wellbeing, enable them to reconnect with their local community and strengthen those community relationships and services.

It's been a busy six months for me in Llangollen Rural since I started in post. During this time I have been supporting people with blue badge and attendance allowance applications, referrals to GP's, District Nurses, the Falls Team and Occupational Therapists. I have also been supporting some members of the community through prescription collection, meals on wheels delivery as well as supporting clients to attend GP and hospital appointments.

I am organising coffee mornings in Trevor & Garth Community Centre and Froncysyllte Community Centre. The details will shortly be shared on the Community Council Facebook page. I hope you will be able to come along for a cuppa, cake, and a chat. If you think I can help you in any way, please do not hesitate to reach out and contact me on 07543 148836 or via email at llangollenruralca@rainbowcentrepnpenley.org.uk.



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Boer War Memorial

Keith Sinclair

Llangollen Rural Community Council is currently working hard to try and secure funding to restore the Boer War Memorial, which is in the layby outside AN Richard's garage.

Over the years, the condition of the memorial has deteriorated, and we believe this is a monument that deserves to be preserved for the future.

The Community Council is applying for funding via the War Memorial Trust. We are currently applying for a grant to fund a contractor to draw up specifications for the necessary work.

We are optimistic that our bid will be successful, but even if that is the case it will only provide part of the necessary funding.

Froncysyllte Community Centre is helping to raise funds for the project. Please support the various fundraising activities. If you would like to know more, please contact the Community Centre.



Fron Community Centre

Sian Williams

We were delighted to reopen Fron Community Centre after eighteen months to host the MacMillan coffee morning in September. The event was very well attended by local residents and £810 was raised for an excellent cause. The Tai Chi and Yoga friends have returned, and it has been lovely to welcome back the Home Education group.

Bookings are coming in for birthday parties and other events where there is the opportunity for families and friends to meet in a safe environment. We intend to host various events in the coming months. The events schedule is posted on the community centre door as well as the Froncysyllte Community Notice Board on Facebook. All money raised at the events will go towards restoring the Boer War Memorial.

As Christmas time approaches, we will be ensuring the centre looks as festive as possible for Fron residents and visitors to enjoy. As always, special thanks goes out to the friends of the community centre who ensure that it is always well maintained and spotlessly clean, both inside and out.

Do you or your family shop at the Co-op? If so, you are now able to support Fron Community Centre through your regular shopping. We are delighted that Fron Community Centre has been chosen to be a Co-op Community Champion for 2021-2022. In 2020-2021, the Co-op Community Fund donated £842.75 to the Community Centre which was a real boost to the Centre's funds.

Details of our plans are here: <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/65539>.

Please sign up to support our Community Centre. Our Cause ID is 65539 so you can support Fron Community Centre even if you live away

1st Trevor Scout Group

Elaine Anderson

Group Scout Leader

At last we are almost back to running normally. We were closed for many months last year, and then we had to meet rain or shine outside under a



gazebo for weeks. Now we are back inside our HQ but with extreme caution. Since reopening we have been joined by many more Beavers and Cubs adding to our numbers. This then gives us another problem.

In the last few months we have enjoyed the climbing wall, archery, a hike, a day at the Crocky Trail, and a Halloween party, plus many more varied activities.

As we offer such varied activities and fun, we now find ourselves short of helpers, especially Leaders. Trevor Group is looking for Leaders, instructors and helpers. There is a role for everyone and we could help you to develop your skills and learn new ones. We provide full training and support. Come along and give it a try, you will be surprised and made very welcome.

We recently had a camp fire pit built. The youngsters love telling stories and singing around it.

The Group has an exciting program planned for the future. If anyone wants to chat about this, I am available at our HQ on Thursdays (term-time) between 6.00pm-8.15pm. Or you can contact me on 07939 476208, Elaine.

Recipe for Bara Brith

Ingredients:

300g / 11 oz. mixed fruit, 350g / 12 oz. self-raising flour
200g / 7 oz. light muscovado sugar, 2 tsp mixed spice,
Zest and juice of 1 orange

1 large egg, beaten, 250ml / 9 fl oz. hot black tea, 50g / 2 oz. soft butter



Method:

1. Tip fruit into a bowl with the sugar, orange zest and juice. Pour over the tea, stir together and leave to soak overnight.
2. Heat oven to Gas 3 / 170C.
3. Grease and line the base and side of a large loaf tin with baking parchment.
4. Tip the flour and spice into a bowl and beat in the fruit and soaked liquid. Add the egg followed by the butter. Beat until well mixed batter.
5. Put into tin and bake for 1.5 hours until cooked.
6. Leave in tin for 10 mins then remove and leave to go cold.



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HOLIDAY CLUB

Pontcysyllte offers holiday club to pupils during all or part of all school holidays – Summer, Christmas and Easter and half terms.

The holiday club currently runs for four weeks during the summer, one week at Christmas, four days at Easter and every day of each half term.

The clubs run from 8.00am until 5.30pm each day, and full or half day sessions are available.

Children are offered a wide range of activities from arts and crafts to forest school in our outdoor classroom and local woodland.

We offer a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. Children bring their own packed lunches to holiday club, but snacks and drinks are provided throughout the day.

All children from the local area and beyond are welcome, but places are limited and are therefore given on a first come first served basis.

HOLIDAY CLUB CHARGES

Morning	Afternoon
8.00am - 1.00pm	1.00pm - 5.30pm
All children £12	
Full day	
8.00am - 5.30pm	
1st child £20.00	
2nd child £17.00	

Payment is asked for by cash, or by cheque, made payable to Hopscotch Playgroup Nursery Plus, with a £5 deposit per child, per day before the holiday club begins to secure the booking.

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Christmas Fayre

27th & 28th November

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Our Picturesque Landscape Project

Kate Thomson

The Project is a 5 year National Lottery Heritage funded partnership project which centres on the landscape of the Dee Valley, the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and the World Heritage Site. It takes the theme of inspirational journeys that continue to be a feature of the area which is cut by the canal, the Aqueduct and the River Dee. Visitors have drawn inspiration from this beautiful valley since the 18th century and continue to do so.

We are starting important woodland management work around the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct during the autumn and winter. Some of the trees will be removed, following careful consideration, resulting in a more varied age structure benefitting the woodland, wildlife and people as discrete views will be opened across the World Heritage Site. The work involves coppicing, selective thinning and the felling of unstable stems close to pathways. The autumn and winter months are an ideal time to undertake active woodland management work. This work has been agreed with the Community Councils, Canal and Rivers Trust and Natural Resources Wales.

There are some volunteering opportunities if you would like to learn some of these skills, please email our.picturesque.landscape@denbighshire.gov.uk for more information.

Please note: sections of the pathways will remain open but Marshalls will be in place for your safety, for the duration of the woodland operations.

Clinker Path

The Clinker Path has had a new top dressing of stone and further drainage recently. We have finally installed the new iron bench at the end of the path by the canal. Some interpretation of the Clinker is due to go in over the winter.

Community engagement

We offer community engagement opportunities for schools and groups, with activities tailored around our local heritage and environment. Please get in touch if you are interested in finding out more.

Picturesque Bus service

We have launched a new bus service in the Dee Valley to provide access to some of the key destinations in this beautiful and historic landscape. The Dee Valley Picturesque Bus service is a circular route which has run every Saturday from May until October 2021, linking Llangollen and the surrounding villages to popular local attractions including Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, Horseshoe Falls, Valle Crucis Abbey, Plas Newydd House and the Horseshoe Pass. The service enables people to visit these locations without the need of a car and reduces the need for parking spaces. It makes it easier for those without their own vehicle to access places, and helps to reduce congestion.



The service provides both visitors and local residents the opportunity to explore the wider area. The service is funded from The National Lottery Heritage Fund in Wales, and delivered in partnership by Denbighshire County Council and the Our Picturesque Landscape project.

The Bus Service 199 will operate on Saturdays only again in 2022 from May to October.

Ysgol Y Garth

By Olly and Lauren - Head boy and girl

We are very happy to be back in school and we have enjoyed our first half term. All of the classes have been very busy starting their new topics.

Class 1

The Foundation Phases have been busy learning magic for their topic. The children have been reading 'Room on the Broom' and have been doing lots of exciting work based on this, including rainbow experiments and looked at Harry Potter and owls.

Every Monday we have had a forest school day, where we have built dens, made mud pies and had hot chocolate and marshmallows prepared on the fire pit!!

Mrs Haran has also been working with her eCadets and they have already completed 2 challenges and hosted an assembly. Due to their hard work they are in first place on the league table. Da iawn !!

Class 2

The children in years 3 and 4 have been learning about land and sea animals. They have completed some amazing underwater artwork that we have proudly displayed in the classroom. In science we have had fun discovering all about the different habitats and we have enjoyed lots of outdoor learning. Our next project is to write letters regarding our concerns about pollution.

Class 3

Our topic for this term is Africa; we have been learning lots of facts about the different animals and also Nelson Mandela and how he changed things in South Africa. We have started a sponsored cycle across the width of Africa, using an exercise bike in class. We have over 6,000km to complete by Christmas.

We had the opportunity to visit Xplore in Wrexham and to test the new lorry simulator. We also got to try out all of the work stations to figure out how everything works. We had a fantastic time and we would like to thank AN Richards for organising this trip for us. We are also taking part in a netball tournament at Ysgol Dinas Bran. Wish us luck!!

Garth & Trevor Community Centre

Joyce Evans

The hall makes an ideal venue to host your party of up to 100 people. We have a large kitchen equipped with cups, saucers, plates, dishes and cutlery. There is a fridge and microwave available. There is an electric cooker and an electric food heater.

The hall also has a lounge which can accommodate 20-30 people. It is equipped with a large screen television.

To check availability ring Joyce Evans on 01978 823244.

Telecottage - Garth & Trevor Community Centre

Shaun Jones

The Telecottage hopes to resume regular meetings in the near future.

Call Shaun Jones 01978 861400 for information.



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Froncysyllte CP School

Headteacher

Froncysyllte CP School has been very busy exploring the world around us to support our learning journeys.

Key Stage 2 have been time travelling. We have been back to 1863/4 to explore what the lives of the children and families who attended Froncysyllte School might have been like then. We have some pictures on display - do you have any more you could share?

We would love to see your photographs and share the stories behind them.



Year 5 and Year 6 pupils, went to Ysgol Dinas Bran for a netball tournament, we joined up with class mates from Ysgol Y Garth to make a super netball team. It was a fun afternoon out, and we are looking forward to more friendlies.

Foundation Phase pupils have been exploring 'The Snail', to make patterns, stories, and beautiful artwork. Here are

some pictures of our creations using pastels.

We are looking forward to the Dee Valley Schools Federation Christmas Fayre on November 27th, and the children will be helping to run stalls too.

St David's Church, Froncysyllte

Rev. Matt Wilkinson

Our events running up to Christmas are:

1. Saturday 11th December 10am - 1pm: Christmas Coffee morning with mince pies at Fron Community Centre in aid of Fron Church.
2. Friday 24th December 7.00pm: Christmas Service at St. David's Church, Froncysyllte

Please note there will be no carol service this year because numbers in church are limited due to Covid restrictions.

Also, there will be no service on Sunday 26th December.

St David's Churchyard

There has been a fantastic community effort to tidy up the churchyard, despite the setbacks caused by the inability to meet for many months. We will restart our monthly "Community Work Ins" in February on the last Saturday of each month from 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon.

Everyone is welcome. For more information email keithsinclairLRCC@gmail.com



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County Cllr. Rondo Roberts	07792 844493	Crane Medical Centre	01978 810844
PCSO Lara Shiers	07854 997046	Llangollen Health Centre	01978 860625
Gas Emergencies	0800 111 999	Wrexham Maelor Hospital	01978 291100
Dee Valley Water	01978 833200	Chemist Cefn	01978 822600
Dee Valley (Leak Line)	0800 298 7112	Chemist Plas Madoc	01978 810272
Scottish Power	0845 272 2424	NHS Direct	0845 46 47
Welsh Water	0800 0520130	Fron School	01691 773310
WCBC:		Garth School	01978 820582
Adult Social Care	01978 292066	Trevor Indoor Bowls	01978 824401
Children's Social Care	01978 292039	1st Trevor Scouts	07939 476208
Council tax/benefit queries	01978 298992	St. David's Church Froncysyllte	01978 824087
Housing Repairs	01978 298993	Garth & Trevor Community Centre	01978 823244
Planning	01978 298994	Froncysyllte Community Centre	01691 770912
Pride in Your Street	01978 298989	Cambrian Credit Union	01978 266843
Registrar's Office	01978 298997	Crime Stoppers	0800 555 111
Social Services (Emergency duty team)	0345 053 3116	Samaritans	116 123
Trading Standards	01978 298997	Dementia Helpline Wales	0808 808 2235
Telecare Solutions	01978 292075	Community Fire Safety	01745 352693
Welfare Rights	01978 298225	Citizens Advice Bureau	0300 330 1178



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Llangollen Rural Community Council

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