

Community News

Issue number 2

Summer 2006



For free distribution in Fron Garth & Trevor.

Funtime at Pontcysyllte Aqueduct

Come and join in the fun at Trevor Basin, from 12 noon – 5pm on Saturday 8th July

British Waterways and Wrexham County Borough Council are organising a 'Family Fun' event as part of their effort to support the bid for World Heritage Status for Pontcysyllte Aqueduct. Several community organisations will also be participating. The organisers hope that lots of local people and holidaymakers will attend.

There should be something for everyone and attractions will include a hog roast; fairground rides; Punch and Judy show; face painting; clown; storytelling; guided walks along the Heritage Trail; boat trips; inflatables from 'Jolly Jungle'; a display of reptiles and birds of prey; 'Guess the Weight of the Trout' competition and a balloon race. You can also have a go at fishing and learn how to tie a fly.

Try your hand at British Waterway's WOW (Wild Over Waterways) activity pack "I Spy at Pontcysyllte" and have fun walking around the site to find the answers. British Waterways also welcomes you to the Information Point where you can obtain the WOW pack and find out about the history of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.



**British
Waterways
Dyfrffyrdd
Prydain**

wrexham
COUNTY BOROUGH
RYWODDSTRÉE SIRIOL
wrecsam



Admission and parking are both free.

For further information, contact Fiona MacDonald, British Waterways (01606 723870) or Kay Rickard, Wrexham CBC (01978 292536)



Aidennir a heylfau'r Gweinethdau dros Gymunedau Cwledig gan Lywodraeth Cymuned Cymru
Rural Community Action is funded and facilitated by the Welsh Assembly Government



**Our thanks to Northern Marches
Cymru for part funding this
edition of the Community News**

Froncysyllte Male Voice Choir

Part One – The Early Years

The Choir was formed in 1947 following the first Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod. Many of the village men had just returned from the 1939-1945 war and were keen to support the peace initiatives of the Llangollen Eisteddfod with all Nations.

Gomer Powell called a meeting in Seion Chapel and the choir was taken by Councillor Joseph R. Jones. Lloyd Edwards a well-respected music teacher from Garth was appointed Conductor with one of his pupils Menna Hughes as Accompanist. Her father Robert Hughes was Treasurer and Merfyn Davies, Secretary and finally Frank Williams was asked to be President.

The Choir was now up and ready to go with a mixture of experienced and mature singers from the Church and four Chapels in the village and the young boys of the Youth Club Choir founded by Wilfred Jones. The Choir immediately set about getting ready for the next Llangollen Eisteddfod in 1948. It was soon realised that to be a competitive Choir it involved a high level of commitment and hard work.

Lloyd was the ideal man to start the Choir on its quest because he had inexhaustible patience and was determined to bring the Fron Choir up to the standard set by the famous choirs that sang at Llangollen such as the

Moravian Teachers' Choir, Czechoslovakia. The Choir had a setback when Lloyd was ill and the Sub-Conductor John Richard Davies was forced to take the Choir to Llangollen and achieved a good performance.

We send good luck and best wishes to the Choir as they are taking part in the Friday evening concert and competing on the Saturday afternoon at the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod.



Canine Capers

Tuesday evening 6.00 – 9.00pm at Froncysyllte Community Centre

Canine Capers – helping your dog to socialise. For further information call Tina on 07989927540.

Noddfa Cemetery

In the interest of public safety, all unsafe memorials in Noddfa Cemetery, Garth Road, Garth will be laid flat on the graves concerned. Anyone wishing to have information regarding these gravestones are asked to contact the Clerk Mrs SA Jones.

Chairman's Corner

Welcome to this our second edition in a series of four newsletters and thank you for your positive response to our first publication.

May is the beginning of a New Year for the Community Council and for me quite a challenge as I take my place in the chair for the first time. I do hope I can serve the community as well as my predecessor.

One of my first jobs was to attend a workshop debating the issues of the proposed merger of the four Welsh Police Authorities. The evening turned into what can only be described as a very lively debate.

The Community Council is pleased to be taking an active part in the family fun day organised by British Waterways and Wrexham County Borough Council. This is an exciting time for people involved with the Aqueduct as it bids for world heritage status. I'm sure we will get the opportunity to join in with further activities as time goes by.

The council is also supporting Garth and Trevor Youth Association with their planting project on the green outside Trevor shops. More of that in the next newsletter.

That's all from me in this edition.

Sue Kempster

Garth & Trevor Friendship Club

The Garth & Trevor Friendship Club was formed in 1965 and was originally called The Darby & Joan Club.

Members of the Club meet on the last Monday of the month from 6pm – 8pm at Garth & Trevor Community Centre. At the moment there are only 5 members and any new members will be most welcome. New members wishing to join can just turn up on the night, at a cost of £1.00 per person (to cover the room charge). Rotas of W.R.V.S. ladies provide tea and biscuits for the Garth & Trevor Friendship Club's social evening.

The aim of the Club is to provide a friendly atmosphere. We have bingo, cards, dominoes, etc. For further information contact Mrs Joyce Evans 823244.

Aqueduct Bi-Centenary Coasters

Trevor & Garth Youth Association have a number of Aqueduct Bi-Centenary Coasters for sale at £2.50 each. Anyone interested should contact Tracey Pugh. Tel. 01978 820631.

Play Days Toddlers

Meets Thursday mornings

9.30 to 11.30am

Garth and Trevor Community Centre

Price per session £1.50 for the first child with reductions for more than one child.

Price includes a drink and snack for both parent and child. So why not come along and let the children have some fun together while the adults have a friendly chat.

Trevor & Garth Youth Association

by Steve Edwards

Trevor and Garth Youth Association has been opening its doors to local children for just over 12 months now, and what a great success it has proved to be.

The club is open on a Wednesday evening running two sessions, one from 6pm - 7:30pm for the 8 - 12 yr old's and 7:30pm - 9:30pm for the 11 yr old's and above. There is a snack shop within the community centre where the children can buy hot and cold snacks and sweets. There are also hot and cold drinks available throughout the evening.

The equipment list is steadily growing longer and longer with new and exciting things arriving virtually every week, current equipment includes pool & snooker tables, table tennis, air hockey, table football, play stations, craft activities, TV & DVD, plus various games, however the club is not just about indoor activities, during the summer months there is a selection of outdoor games available.

Several part and full day trips have also been arranged including a day at Drayton Manor Park and Ice-skating in Deeside, further trips are also planned for the future.

We have regular visits by the local community policeman, Gary Robertshaw who attends the sessions to chat to the children and discuss any issues they may have.



Best Kept Garden Competition

Messrs Tom Owens and John Pemberton will judge the Best Kept Garden Competition again this year. The competition is open to all residents in Fron, Garth and Trevor and judging will take place on Tuesday 18th July. If you are interested in taking part please contact any Community Councillor or Mrs Sue Jones, Clerk to the Council Tel. 01978 810466 for an application form. You will also be able to pick one up from your local Post Office, Trevor Estate shop and on the web site www.llangollen-ruralcc.org.

Froncysyllte Youth Club

by Sonia Shepherd

Fron Youth Club has been going for over a year now. After arranging a Christmas party for the Youth Club members and a gathering for the local pensioners Mandy Jones and Christine Tanski handed the reins over to Rachel Chrishe and Sonya Shepherd as they deserved a well-earned rest.

The children would like to thank them for all their hard work and the equipment they have helped to acquire for the club.

This year the children have enjoyed making and eating popcorn and using a chocolate fountain to coat marshmallows and a variety of fruit in chocolate. To make up for all the sweet food they have been eating, they did some exercise and went on a trip to Chester to play Laser Quest. Despite being up against youths in their late teens the Fron children were not intimidated and managed to win both the games they played. The activity was enjoyed by all with Rhys Wyles and David Shepherd being the top shooters.

Last month the children went Ten Pin Bowling in Chester. Out of all the games they played the top scorers were Sarah Tanski, Sam Davies, David Shepherd, Rob Jones, Daniel Davies and Calum Shepherd. Since then the children have enjoyed tasting and trying to identify exotic fruits and several tournaments. The table tennis tournament was won by Rhys Wyles and Jordan Griffiths with Laura Wilson Griffiths and Alex Wyles winning the matchbox treasure hunt. Last week there was a very close and entertaining football tournament in which the best performing female was Charlotte Hawkins. The final was between the six foot Rhys Wyles and the much smaller and quicker Jamie Jones. We thought it was going to be a David against Goliath but one of Jamie's goals was disallowed. Rhys Wyles was the overall winner getting most shots past his goal keeping brother Alex.

The children are hoping to go on another Laser Quest trip soon and would like to thank youth worker Ian Jones who drives the mini bus and without whose help none of the trips would be possible.

Bird Watch

We are above the river, canal and open fields, and back on to woods and old quarries in Froncysyllte. The following birds have been seen in and from the garden.

March

Chaffinch, Song Thrush, Goldfinch, Robin, Great tit, Blue tit, Coal tit, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Nuthatch, Collared dove, Magpie, Siskin, Wren, Robin, Pied Wagtail, Hedgesparrow, Jackdaw, Starling, Bullfinch, Brambling, Hen and Cock Pheasant, Blackbird, Greenfinch.

April

The welcome return of the Chiffchaff, spring must be here!

Hen and Cock Pheasant, Bullfinch, Blue tit, Greenfinch, Goldfinch, Coal tit, Chaffinch, Siskin, Magpie, Jackdaw, Woodpigeon, Hedge sparrow, Buzzard, Robin, Heron, Wren singing from the top of the telegraph pole. Collared dove, Tawny Owl, Sparrow hawk made a dive into the hedge but I don't think he caught anything.

Swallow on the telegraph wire on the 22nd (only one so it doesn't make a summer!).

What's On

Strawberry Tea

On Saturday 17th June from 1pm – 3pm Fron Church are holding a Strawberry Tea at Froncysyllte Community Centre.

Illustrated Talk -

The History of St David's Church, Fron

On 19th July at 7pm Mr Emrys Roberts will be giving an illustrated talk on the history of St David's Church, Fron. This will be held at the Church with free admission.

Coffe Morning

On 26th August 2006 there will be a coffee morning at Lodge Farm, Chirk from 10am – 12.00pm. Admission is £2.00 and this includes refreshments.

Transport can be arranged for any of the above. If you require any further information please contact Mrs Silvia Johnson 01691 777606.

Recipe for Boiled Fruit Loaf

1/4 lb Margarine
1 cup of Sugar
1 cup of Milk
1 1/2 cups of Mixed Fruit
2 cups of Flour
1 Egg
a pinch of Salt

Put margarine, sugar, milk and fruit into a saucepan and bring slowly to the boil. Turn off the heat and let the mixture cool. When cool, add the flour, salt and egg. Mix well and put the mixture into a 2lb loaf tin. Bake in a moderate oven for 1 - 1 1/2 hours. 375 electric.

Message from the Vicar of Chirk with Froncysyllte

I welcome the opportunity to offer my good wishes to those people producing this new newsletter. At Chirk we have also recently launched a community newsletter. I am sure this Llangollen Rural Community Council newsletter will help to further the community spirit in the Llangollen Dee Valley.

The Anglican Churches and parishes in Chirk with Froncysyllte, Glyn Ceiriog, Llangollen (including Trevor & Llantysyllio), Rhosymedre, Ruabon and Rhosllanerchrugog all form the Llangollen Deanery: a local community of churches. These widespread churches don't have a common newsletter (yet ?!) but we keep in touch and support one another by holding meetings, special events, and regular worship together. On Sunday 9th July at 6.00pm there will be a Llangollen Deanery evening service at St David's Church, Froncysyllte. Members of the Deanery Churches will be attending, and I invite you too to come and join your neighbours in our worship of God. Light refreshments are served afterwards.

Finally two special dates are coming up.

Sunday 4th June is **Whitsunday**, when the Christian church celebrates the coming of God's Holy Spirit to the church (and us!). It is in effect the birthday of the Church.

Sunday 6th August is.....what? Two answers are possible here. One answer is a **Church festival**. The other answer is a date of historical significance in the twentieth century (and the lifetime of many readers). Answers in the next issue... or in St David's Church, Froncysyllte at 9.30am that day.

Your friend and vicar at Froncysyllte,

Tony Rees

Froncysyllte School News

Last term was a busy time, which began with the arrival of a new Head teacher, Mr Andrew Jarvis. Mr Jarvis has taught for fifteen years in schools in Wrexham, Chester and Walsall and hopes he can use his experience to help Fron continue to be an excellent school and be an integral part of the community.

The school also held a number of events during the Spring term. These events included an Open Morning, which allowed everyone to see how the school runs on a day-to-day basis. We also had a technology afternoon, Easter Service, two children took part in the Wrexham Music Youth Festival, a number of football matches, a visit to Chirk Castle for years three and four, a successful inspection in our Nursery Plus and After School Club and Cycling Proficiency classes

We held a charity auction in April and raised £932.00 for school funds. Kyle Heywood presented his teacher with £70, which was raised, by his mum and nana as a result of a raffle at their work. A new sand and water tray will be bought with the money.

May we also take this opportunity to thank all those involved with the Memories of Pontycyllte book and events. The Storytelling was thoroughly enjoyed and we wish to thank the Ty Mawr Team as well as Fiona and Amy for all their hard work in making these events so interesting.

Garth Community Primary School News

The School Council goes from strength to strength, providing the opportunity for all pupils to have a say in the everyday life of the school. We were very proud that Years 5 and 6 won the National Woolworth Playground Partnership Award. They have spent the £1000 on improving their play areas and providing challenging activities for all age groups.

The choir gave a fantastic performance in the NCH Christmas Concert in Liverpool in December. We feel that the School Concert went down well despite the fact that we had to make it shorter this year to make life a bit easier for ourselves.

On 23rd March many of the pupils enjoyed a trip to the Manchester United Football Club followed by training in the JBB Sports Centre. Pupils in Years 5 and 6 attended Dinas Bran for a bridging lesson in ICT. The children in years 2 to 6 attended a Mothers Day Service at Trevor Church.

Breakfast Club has now opened and has been a success so far. Owls After School Club and Diddy Ducks Pre-Nursery Group are also very successful.

Future Dates of interest:

End of June	Two Swiss Students arrive for two week training
27th June	Coverdale Puppet Theatre in school
12th July	Sports Day
18th July	End of Year Show

County Councillor's Diary

Since our last Newsletter this is a brief update on what's been happening within the ward.

Site Meetings have been held, regarding the old Station land Trevor, to see if we the community can put it to better use which would tidy up the area. I'm open to suggestions. Requests from residents of Charles Avenue also want the fencing replaced on this land, as it is in a bad state of repair. I also managed to get the footpaths, roads and garage areas on Trevor Estate resurfaced, and some kerb drops for the disability and disabled act. Still some more to be done in the area including Froncysyllte.

A further site visit has been arranged for the footpath at Pump field Garth for a handrail to be installed.

I met with the Highways department to discuss the safety on Gate Road Froncysyllte past Argoed Farm, to see if a crash barrier could be erected, as the existing fence and posts in my opinion are not safe.

I recently attended a meeting with British Waterways, and Wrexham council to discuss holding a family event day at Trevor basin. This event is to highlight the Pontysyllte Aqueduct for the World Heritage Status. It would be nice to see the various organisations of the three villages come together to make this day a success.

Any problems don't hesitate to contact me **Pat Jeffares**

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

Community Policeman

Our Community Policeman is **PC Gary Robertshaw** and he is situated at:

Cefn Mawr Police Station, Cae Gwilym Lane, Cefn Mawr LL14 3LF.

Tel: 01978 290222

Mobile: 07766 047972

Email: gary.robertshaw@north-wales.police.uk

Editor's Comments

We have received very positive feedback regarding our first Newsletter and we hope you will continue to enjoy the Summer, Autumn and Winter editions.

Due to lack of space many of the articles in this newsletter have been edited. The complete articles can be seen on our web site **www.llangollen-ruralcc.org**.

Items for inclusion in the autumn edition of the newsletter should be in by Monday 7th August. If you have any comments about the Community Newsletter please contact **Sue Jones**.

Tel: 01978 810466 or Email: clerk@llangollen-ruralcc.org