

Community Newsletter

For free distribution in Trevor, Garth & Froncysyllte

Spring 2019

Issue No. 53

www.llangollen-ruralcc.co.uk



Johanna Cooke (AN Richards) & Alyson Winn with the new Defibrillator at Froncysyllte community centre.



Froncysyllte Defibrillator

By Sian Williams, Chair of Froncysyllte Community Centre

Thanks to generous donations, a Defibrillator machine has been installed at Froncysyllte Community Centre. We are very aware of the importance the equipment may have for residents and visitors to the area. Our friends at AN Richards and the Cakes and Company Community Café together with an anonymous benefactor provided the funds to buy the equipment and also to have it installed.

We invite everyone to come to the Centre to see where this specialist life saving equipment is located. In addition please let friends and family know too.

We are arranging for a demonstration of the equipment being used. We will let everyone know when the date is via the Froncysyllte Community Centre Facebook page and also on the notice board at the Centre.

Our heartfelt thanks again to AN Richards, Cakes and Company and the anonymous contributor.

Our Picturesque Landscape Heritage Lottery Funded Project

By Sallyanne Hall

The team at the National Lottery Heritage funded Our Picturesque Landscape Project are very busy working with local community groups and schools engaging people in art inspired by the landscape.

Currently the Clwyd MIND groups in Llangollen and Corwen are creating two collaborative mosaics of the local picturesque landscape features which are important to them.

Young people at the Youth Clubs in Llangollen and Corwen are meeting different artists and trying out a range of different artistic techniques to celebrate the picturesque landscape which they call home.

Year nine art students from Ysgol Dinas Bran have been breaking down the barriers too, drawing and considering the invisible and visible layers that shape the local landscape and examining the wide and varied ways in which drawing can be approached. They visited the canal at Llangollen Wharf and spent time studying the details of the landscape and creating reimagined and personal interpretations.

In the coming weeks the community groups Cefn Creates, The Dee Boys, Cefn Crochets and Knit and Natter are working together to make canal themed decorative items to decorate the route to the canal for the community celebration event which is taking place to celebrate the 10-year anniversary since the inscription of the Pontcysyllte and Canal World Heritage Site on Saturday 29th June.

Over the forthcoming months there will be many more activities taking place with local primary schools and community groups themed around art inspired by the picturesque landscape with a focus on the Pontcysyllte and Canal World Heritage Site. Open to everyone is the BIG DRAW Event at Plas Newydd on Sunday 21st July from 13:00-16:00 at £2.50 per person. If you'd like to find out more about the project and meet the team, then come and visit our stands at the Llangollen Carnival on Saturday 8th June and Trevor Basin on Saturday 29th June or contact us by email at our.picturesque.landscape@denbighshire.gov.uk.



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Fron news

Darby and Joan Club

By Marjorie Crosbie

Froncysyllte Darby and Joan Club had a lovely trip to Bury Market on Wednesday 15th May. It was enjoyed by everyone. Everyone is looking forward to the next trip. Further details are available from Marjorie Crosbie, mmcrosbie@hotmail.co.uk

Froncysyllte Community Centre

By Sian Williams

This is an appeal for volunteers to help with Froncysyllte community cafe at weekends. Seriously short of helpers. We have a very small dedicated team who are brilliant in making sure the cafe is open most weekends. Any Duke of Edinburgh's out there? Any young people wanting to enhance their CVs by volunteering?

This is a heartfelt promise that the experience of helping others will help you also.

Please contact Sian Williams, esian@btinternet.com.

Walking Group

By Julie Williams

Fron Walking Group enjoyed the annual Beating of the Bounds walk on Saturday 18th May in the company of the Rev. Yvonne Price. The event was well supported. Beryl Jones became chief beater by winning the best stick competition.



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Dee Valley Federation of Schools

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Admissions now open

Come and see what our lovely rural community schools have to offer

Please ring us to come and visit!
Head teacher - Mrs Helen Pugh

Froncysyllte School 01691 773310	Garth School 01978 820582	Pentre CIW VC School 01691 773322
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1st Trevor Scout Group

By Elaine Anderson Group Scout Leader.

As usual, we are very busy in the group trying to encourage the youngsters to enjoy the outdoors now we have the lighter evenings.

We recently held our AGM. The officers are Chairperson Noleen Thelwell, Secretary Lisa Currie and Treasurer Maureen Evans.

The Beaver of the year was Ryan Turner of Trevor and Cub of year was Jayden Buckley of Chirk. Beavers have recently attended a sleepover at Penycae and also visited Tesco Cefn Mawr, where a manager Andy gave them a great evening and they achieved their Healthy eating and Community badge. Many thanks to Tesco for accommodating us.

Cub section had 2 boys who have achieved Chief Scouts Silver Award, they are Oliver Wedley

Roberts and George Nash, this is the highest award possible in the Cub section and we are very proud of them. Cubs are now working on the Pioneering and Naturalist badges. They will be visiting the All Wales Fun Day in Builth Wells in June.

Both sections recently had an evening on the canal learning canoeing. Thanks to Anglo Welsh for helping with canoes and 1 of the Dads (Matt) for taking them on the water. They achieved their time on the water and paddle stage 1 badge.

If there is anyone who feels they have a skill they could pass onto the children or would like to help out in any way, we are always looking for helpers and assistance, and believe me you will enjoy it. Please pop along to Scout hut on a Thursday between 6-8 30pm for a chat.

Garth & Trevor Community Centre

By Shaun Jones

The Telecottage has been restored and attendance is good. We continue to open on Monday and Thursday 1pm to 3pm. However we will take a Summer recess beginning Eisteddfod week, and then reopening when the children go back to school.

There has been further mindless vandalism at the Community Centre. Another senseless removal of a rain water downspout torn from the wall and lost. We are being forced to spend on these repairs which are wholly unnecessary. What is worse, we think the damage is caused by people of our community and this makes no sense at all. The police have been informed and extra visits planned.

Trevor Community Centre

By 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. The hall also has a lounge which can accommodate 20-30 people. Its is equipped with a large screen TV.

To check availability ring Joyce Evans on 01978 823244.

Bingo

By Joyce Evans

Afternoon Bingo starts at Garth & Trevor Community Centre from 21st March at 2pm.

All welcome

Telecottage

Open Mondays and Thursdays 1-3pm
Contact Shaun Jones 01978 861400 for more details.

Community Diary Dates....

Charity Pub Quiz.

Each month, the Aqueduct Inn hosts a charity Pub Quiz. The quizzes are held on Sunday evenings from 8.00 to 10.00 p.m. The next Quiz nights are 30th June 28th July and 25th August 2019. The June quiz will incorporate a World Heritage theme as part of the events locally to mark the tenth anniversary of the awarding of World Heritage site status.

Pensioners Christmas party - 6th December

Councillor	email	Telephone
<u>County Councillor:</u> Cllr. Anthony Roberts	rondo.roberts@wrexham.gov.uk	07792 844493
<u>Chair:</u> Cllr. Sue Kempster	sue.kempster@hotmail.co.uk	01978 810302
<u>Vice Chair:</u> Cllr. Rod Playford	yendor48@outlook.com	01978 812038
<u>Councillors:</u>		
Cllr. Joyce Evans	joyce-evans1@hotmail.co.uk	01978 823244
Cllr. Steve Jones	stevejonestrevor@gmail.com	07796 326963
Cllr. Steve Edwards	steved100@me.com	07984 166066
Cllr. Darrell Wright	darrellvictorwright@btinternet.com	01978 823622
Cllr. Keith Sinclair	KeithSinclairLRCC@gmail.com	01691 773634
Cllr. Alyson Winn	alysonw1811@hotmail.co.uk	01691 770912
Cllr. Elfed Morris	eandjgwern@btinternet.com	01978 820122
<u>Clerk:</u> Andrea Evans	clerk.llangollenrural@gmail.com	07950813858
<u>Other Committees</u>		
<i>Playground</i>	Anthony Roberts, Steve Jones, Keith Sinclair, Rod Playford & Sue Kempster	
<i>Finance</i>	Sue Kempster, Joyce Evans, Darrell Wright, Elfed Morris & Steve Edwards	
<i>Noddfa Cemetry</i>	Elfed Morris, Sue Kempster, Anthony Roberts, Rod Playford & Steve Jones.	
<i>Garth & Trevor Community Centre</i>	Steve Edwards & Rod Playford	
<i>Fron Community Centre</i>	Alyson Winn & Keith Sinclair	
<i>Newsletter</i> Steve Edwards & Anthony Rondo Roberts	newsletter.llangollenrural@gmail.com Newsletter adverts Telephone:	07792 844493
<i>Website</i>	Steve Edwards	
<i>Community Agent</i> David Jarvis	trevorcommunityagent@gmail.com	07956292546
<i>One Voice Wales Rep.</i>	Rod Playford	

Please be considerate to the time of day if telephoning council members - Thanks

Council meeting dates (7pm start)

2nd July	Trevor/Garth Community Centre	1st October	Trevor/Garth Community Centre
August	No meeting	5th November	Trevor/Garth Community Centre
3rd Sep	Trevor/Garth Community Centre	3rd December	Trevor/Garth Community Centre

Bus Timetables

By Rod Playford

The Community Council have been told by Wrexham County Borough Council that they no longer put up bus timetables at bus stops (except at Wrexham Bus Station where there is also an enquiry office) and residents who regularly use buses are expected to make their own arrangements to download the information from the appropriate website.

Three bus services regularly travel the Wrexham Town/Llangollen route along the A539 stopping at Trevor Station and Trevor Old Post Office:

- The Arriva No 5 and 5C (the latter only at school opening and closing times),
- Trawscmyru T5 service which links Wrexham and Barmouth
- The X5 service linking Corwen to Wrexham operated by Coastline Taxis

The www.travelinecymru website provides timetables and information for all three services and they have a freephone call line 0800 464 0000

Two of the operators also have individual websites which provide the latest timetables:

www.arrivabus.co.uk/wales for the Arriva No 5 and 5C

www.trawscymru.info for their T3 service.

Further timetable information is on the Wrexham County Borough site www.wrexham.gov.uk/english/index Coastline Taxis are on Twitter but details of their X5 service can be found by simply putting in X5 Corwen Coastline Taxis in your search engine and accessing one of the searches which result.

There are regular changes to the timetables and it is best to check the websites every few months to ensure you have the latest version or watch out for notification of timetable changes on buses and at Wrexham bus station. Anyone finding it difficult to access the websites or find the current information, I am happy to help on 01978 812038.

Chairmans corner

By Sue Kempster

It's that time of year again, the beginning of a new council year. I would like to thank the community councillors of Llangollen Rural for all of the work they have undertaken in the last twelve months. Despite sickness, family responsibilities and work commitments the councillors have all carried out their respective roles within the council with great gusto, and responsibility. Remembering these posts are completely voluntary we are lucky that in these times we can find people willing to serve their community in this way. Once again thank you councillors of Llangollen Rural.

One of our priorities this year is to cut speeding through our villages. We have purchased a mobile speed sign and you will be seeing our councillors putting this sign up at speeding black spots. The sign will light up with the speed they are doing when a vehicles exceed the speed limit. It is

meant as a deterrent and evidence proves that they really do work.

Littering in our community is a huge issue and one we are tackling daily. It is expensive to keep paying for the playgrounds to be kept litter free. It seems that some children and young people don't appreciate how expensive it is to keep these places in good order. If you are a parent of children or youths that use the playgrounds please reiterate the importance of disposing of litter in the bins provided.

Please report any antisocial behaviour in the playgrounds and wider community in order that we can keep these playgrounds and open spaces in good condition so they can be enjoyed by us all.

Thank you

Help please.....

If you live near one of our community planters or three tier planters we would be very, very grateful if you could water them please - every little helps.....

Thank you

County Councillor Diary

By Anthony "Rondo" Roberts

Summer is now upon us and hopefully we have nice weather and long lazy evenings to look forward to.

Unfortunately the long summer days mean the traffic problems that the Aqueduct visitors bring raise their head again both in Fron and Trevor. Meetings with Wrexham Council are ongoing together with the Canal and River Trust. Also bus operators have been contacted over the reluctance of a few bus drivers to adhere to instructions and cause chaos at Fron basin. I have a meeting very shortly to try and convince all of the above as to their responsibilities in relation to the Heritage site. I find it annoying that the powers that be continually boast of the visitor numbers that the Aqueduct bring but don't help our area as much as in terms of infrastructure.

Again the lighter nights are seeing an increase in anti-social behaviour. The majority of incidents are taking place close to the Community Centre and the playground in George Avenue. The Police are stepping up patrols and action will be taken. I would ask that we all play a part in stemming this increase. The benefit could be twofold, we make Trevor a more pleasant place to live and we also minimise the risk to our children of unwanted convictions and ASBOs.

Many local residents, not just locally but throughout Wrexham, have complained about the poor performance of the new LED lights. WCBC are aware and I will keep you informed of any future plans.

There will be a skip situated at the Community Centre car park in Trevor on the 5th September but unfortunately when I requested similar for Fron I was told that the plans had been finalised and the deadline missed.

I have been in discussion with departments of WCBC to gain access to the school playing field at Fron for use by local residents. This is a school field but I am hopeful that in the near future a compromise can be reached where we can partition off part of the field so that the school will still have their full use but also a section will also be available for local residents.

Plas Madoc Estate office is running a Garden competition in June and entrance is by nomination by neighbours, family and friends. Entry forms from the Estate office or by ringing Alan Griffiths on 01978 813000.

Finally I would like to say a big thank you to Richards's Garage in Fron who have kindly donated £1000 for the purchase of a defibrillator, which is now situated at the Community Centre in Fron.

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Crimestoppers 0800 555 111	PCSO Dave Jenkins 07854 332425	North Wales Ambulance HQ 01745 532 900	
Gas Leak 0800 111 999	Water Emergency 0800 052 0130	Water Leak Line 0800 281 432	Dee Valley Water 01978 846946
Sewers & Drains 0800 085 3968	SP Energy Networks 0800 001 5400		

WCBC Services

Adult Social Care 01978 292066	Telecare (formerly Care Call) 01978 292075	Emergency Planning 01352 702124	Highways 01978 298989
Housing Repairs 0800 085 5808	Social Services 0345 053 3116	Shelter Cymru 0345 075 5005	

Medical Services

Wrexham Hospital 01978 291100	NHS Direct 0845 46 47	Samaritans 08457 90 90 90	
Caritas Surgery, Cefn Mawr 01978 720450	Crane Medical Centre 01978 810844	Chemist Cefn 01978 822600	Chemist Plas Madoc 01978 810272

Education

Fron School 01691 773310	Garth School 01978 820582	Dinas Bran School 01978 860669	Coleg Cambria 01978 311794
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Local Organisations

Aqueduct Community Association 01978 810302	1st Trevor Scouts 07939 476208	Garth & Trevor Community Centre 01978 823244	
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Other contacts

RSPCA 01492 532780	National Rail Inquiries 08457 48 49 50	<i>These phone numbers are supplied for information only, we hold no responsibility for incorrect numbers.</i>

Birdwatch - Trevor By Moira Griffiths

Blackbird, blue tit, buzzard, chaffinch, coal tit, collard dove, cuckoo (in flight), dunnock, feral pigeon, goldfinch, great tit, heron, house sparrow, jackdaw, jay, long tailed tit, magpie, male and female mallard (with 14 ducklings), mandarin duck, pheasant, pied wagtail, robin, sparrowhawk, tree-creeper, wood pigeon, wren.

Best Kept Garden Competition Application Form



We are delighted that Andrea Evans and Tony Roberts have agreed to judge the garden competition again this year. Andrea has been on the Wales in Bloom team for a number of years. She has a passion for plants and runs her own gardening business. Tony is a very good vegetable gardener and has his own allotment at Price's Lane. They form an excellent judging team and we look forward to taking them around your lovely gardens!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel. No. _____

* Categories are:-

Overall Large Garden
Hanging Basket

Overall Small Garden
Container

Vegetable Gard
Children's Garden

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

Garden Centre Vouchers will be awarded to the winners in each category.

A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the most outstanding feature and the Monsanto rose bowl for the best garden.

The Sue Jones award will be given for the best container.

The gardens will be judged on Thursday 11th July 2018

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.

The category called Children's Garden can be a garden, pots or containers etc. as long as the children have planted them and can explain to the judges what they have done. This is open to Schools, Nurseries and After School Clubs

Please return the completed form to:

Ms Andrea Evans, 59 Haytor Road, Wrexham, LL112PU by Wednesday 3rd July 2019.

For further information please phone 07950813858 or e- mail clerk.llangollenrural@gmail.com

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A World Class Attraction On Our Doorstep

By Ani Sutton, Chair of the World Heritage Site Stakeholder Group (Canal & River Trust)

2019 is a special year – it marks the 10th anniversary of the World Heritage Site designation of our amazing Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, Britain's longest, highest navigable aqueduct, and 11 miles of the beautiful Llangollen Canal.

Various organisations, including The Canal & River Trust, Wrexham County Borough Council, Denbighshire County Council, Shropshire Council are in the planning stages of organising some fantastic events to mark the occasion. These include a new photography competition, Nordic walking, spectacular luminaire structure lighting, 'Under the Arches' celebration, Community Fun Day, a specially-brewed beer and a wide range of community and cultural events and workshops. Further details for all events as they are confirmed can be found on www.pontcysyllte-aqueduct.co.uk.



Here are three activities that are coming up soon that would be perfect for children and young people to experience the waterways:

LEGO Master Steve Guinness – The Brick Guys at Trevor Basin Visitor Centre.

Steve Guinness will be joining us at Trevor Basin Visitor Centre to build a 3+ meter scale model of our beloved Pontcysyllte Aqueduct. This is a free event for all ages and will take place on 1st June 2nd June, 7th Sept & 8th Sept.



Let's Fish: Fishing Taster sessions on Llangollen Canal

Let's Fish provides an opportunity for children and young people to have a go at Fishing and realise just how alive the waterways are. All equipment is provided, and qualified coaches are on hand to share their expertise and guide the participants to have a great time exploring the waterways with a rod. These events are free and will take place at Trevor and Gledrid in Chirk on the following dates:

- Trevor: 8th June, 15th June, 22nd June & 29th June
- Chirk: 6th July 13th July, 20th July

It is essential that you book your place on Eventbrite and all the details on how to do this are on the website.

Go with the Flow: Poetry Competition

We know that people feel better by water and we want to hear about it through Children's poems. The competition has just launched and details will be available on the website but also available from Trevor Basin Visitor Centre. There are three age categories and the winner from each category will have a VIP trip with friends and family on their very own Horse drawn boat in August from Llangollen Wharf. What a prize!



Residents may not be aware but behind the scenes and as part of the revised governance arrangements a Stakeholder Partnership has been formed of which the membership requires elected representatives from Cefn Mawr, Chirk South, Chirk North, Gobowen, Sellattyn & Weston Rhyn and Llangollen, together with representatives from organisations including Wrexham and Denbighshire Councils, Canal & River Trust, Cadw, ICOMOS, Visit Wales, Natural Resources Wales, Historic England, Railway & Canal Historic Society and the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). This extensive group is responsible for monitoring and driving forwards the activities and developments identified in the agreed action plan of the new management plan, and it was great to see so many attendees, representing their communities and organisations at the first meeting since the governance arrangements have been revised.

Involving local communities surrounding the World Heritage Site is absolutely crucial in getting the best outcome for everyone. Since the restructuring of the governance arrangements, we have identified a need to look at different ways that the community can advise, and support developments, and different models are being currently looked at with the support of the partnership and the elected members.

The UNESCO world heritage status has truly placed this corner of Wales on the international map. The number of tourists visiting the area has quadrupled over the last decade – nearly 500,000 last year. Visitors hail from all over the world, with Australians and Japanese top of the international league table. Signing the Trevor Basin visitor book last year were tourists from 52 countries, including faraway places such as Zambia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore and the Philippines, as well as most European nations.

The Llangollen Canal is one of the most popular canals in the country with hire boaters. Anglo Welsh, Jones the Boats and Llangollen Boat just some of the local companies benefitting from the aqueduct's new popularity.

CONTINUED.....

BE A VOLUNTEER? For local residents with a love of the outdoors and a little spare time on their hands, you may want to make a difference by joining the Canal & River Trust as a volunteer. The free Visitor Centre at Trevor Basin and local towpath task-force is currently recruiting for the new summer season. For more information, please email TrevorVisitor.Centre@canalrivertrust.org.uk.

COME AND SEE US! The free Trevor Basin Visitor Centre is currently open weekends and this extends to seven days a week on Friday 12 April. Find out about special events on the Pontcysyllte web site, it's dedicated Facebook page or through Twitter or Instagram.

The Canal & River Trust charity cares for 2,000 miles of canals and rivers in Wales and England, including the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Llangollen Canal. www.canalrivertrust.org.uk.

Celebrating 10 years of being a World Heritage Site has already begun with events being added to the calendar to enable everyone to take part in the celebrations. Keep an eye on www.pontcysyllte-aqueduct.co.uk for the latest news, more will be added as the year goes on.

Food caddy gone missing?



Need a new food caddy? Here's what you should do...

If you're in need of a new food caddy (either size), you can order one by simply calling the Contact Centre on **01978 298989**.

You can also order any other recycling containers you need through the same number.

You can usually expect to receive your new containers on your next collection day.

Community Agent

By David Jarvis

Hi everyone.

I am the Community agent for Llangollen Rural Community Council and will be working and helping to access the free services for the over 50s in the area and to liaise closely with third sector organisations (such as Charities, voluntary sector etc) for the benefit of local communities.

In particular I hope to improve interest and participation in voluntary activities across the communities of Garth, Trevor and Froncysyllte building on the good work already in hand. My role is to network and facilitate and much will depend on your help and support in establishing local

community groups and projects. One immediate task I am engaged on is a Community calendar to reflect the beauty of our local area so please continue to send in those photos.



From my conversations locally I know there are many other ideas and interests local residents have and I would be delighted to hear from you on 07956292546 /email trevorcommunityagent@gmail.com so we can take these further. In the next few weeks I hope to get around a see as many people as I can and keep you updated on what is new and developing through our local newsletter.

Froncysyllte litter picking

By Keith Sinclair

Well done to all residents who have supported litter picking efforts in the village whether as individuals or as part of a group. A number of local people regularly litter pick when out dog walking and that makes a real difference to our local environment.

The problem of litter is much less in Fron than in many areas but there are clear 'hot-spots' which can develop into an eyesore. In the relatively larger roads in the village, there are clear problems with litter from various fast food outlets. Representatives from the Community Council met with the manager of McDonalds on the A5 and explained the impact of litter on our community. McDonalds agreed to send a team of their staff to help litter pick in Fron, along with local people. We had 16 people litter picking for a morning. This was a useful activity focussing on the A5 entering the village from the Chirk direction.

McDonalds have agreed to repeat the exercise later this year. In the meantime, community litter-picks will continue. If you would like to get involved, please contact Keith Sinclair at keithsinclair.RCC@gmail.com. The dates will also be posted on the Froncysyllte Community page on Facebook.



Old photograph of Froncysyllte basin.



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Dinas Bran news.....

By Annette Gardner

WONDERFUL WHELAN WOWS HIS AUDIENCE

Award-winning author Daniel Whelan spent the day at Ysgol Dinas Brân recently; he worked with a number of Year 7 and Year 8 pupils in the Learning Zone – and it is fair to say that the youngsters had a fantastic time!

Daniel, whose book 'The Box of Demons' is set in North Wales, read aloud the opening chapter of his story before speaking about what, where and who inspired him to create characters with such a range of personalities. The three main demons in his book are Orff (who has every ache and pain imaginable!), Kartoffel (probably the most sarcastic character ever invented!) and Djinn (who is addicted to the smell of chips!).

Daniel then gave the students just a couple of minutes to draw their own character, a task that they thoroughly enjoyed. Year 7 pupil Millie Thomas-Leesmith said, "my favourite part of the session was when we got to design our own demons and name them. My demon was called Agora!"

The pupils also found it extremely interesting to hear about how recent events, such as flooding, helped Daniel to create his story; they were intrigued by how real-life events often provide the trigger for authors' stories and characters.

The youngsters certainly benefitted from this experience. Riley Laing (7S) really appreciated Daniel Whelan's advice to "keep writing as it will improve my vocabulary". Megan Claybrook (7N) added, "he told us to never give up, to keep reading, and to write stories based around where we live". Arun Pradhan said that having the opportunity to work with an author has encouraged him to use his imagination more in his own writing. Darcy Nelson was so inspired by listening to Daniel that she has started to write her own story about demons!

However, the pupils were not the only ones to enjoy the day. Daniel Whelan himself was so inspired by the commitment to reading in the school that he contacted a group called 'The Society of Authors' and requested for YDB to be given a 'Reading for Pleasure Award'. This is what Daniel had to say:

"Ysgol Dinas Brân have an extraordinary asset in the form of their librarian, Annette Gardner. The work she has put in to making the library somewhere students want to be is astounding. She clearly has a knack for finding ways to keep students of all ages engaged with books and reading as they move through the years (even the sixth formers have been enticed to stay with at-cost tea and coffee!). It was closed for a very short time during lunch so we could eat. During that time, I saw a steady stream of students turn up and on seeing it was closed, instead of going elsewhere, waited to be allowed in. It is obviously a real hub."

These lovely words were accompanied by a personally signed certificate from award-winning author and 'Society of Authors' president Philip Pullman.

The yr 10 Prince's Trust group arranged the annual charity curry night at the White Waters Hotel . They worked fantastically as a group, and organised a really memorable evening. They raised a record £1900 which is an amazing achievement. £400 will go to the British Heart Foundation and £1500 to The Walton Centre. Well done to all of the group! Special thanks go to Mrs Bailey for helping the students to cook the tasty curry, Miss Mansfield for working with the group to organise the evening, Pat and Janet at the White Waters Hotel for yet again allowing us to use their wonderful hotel free of charge, to everyone who donated a raffle prize/food donations/money, Lynne at Pethau Tlws, Corwen, who gave a fantastic prize and sold £500 worth of raffle tickets and to everyone who bought a ticket or came to support the group on the evening. Diolch o galon!

Guilty or Not Guilty?

12 members of MAT club spent one day of half term competing in a Magistrate's Court Mock Trial competition. The team took the parts of everyone who would be involved in a real trial from the usher to the defendant and barristers as well as magistrates. Each role was marked by a panel of actual magistrates.

The case they were trying concerned the theft of a mobile phone by a moped rider. The victim was a nurse and the accused was the owner of the moped.

The competition was in two parts. For the first trial our team were the prosecutors and then for the second they became the defence. They competed against Thomas Adams school, Wem and Weaverham High School. In both instances the defendant was found 'not guilty'.

Although not overall winners, Katie Clark and Befan Hughes were declared the best defendant and defence witness respectively. Everyone felt that the experience had given them a real understanding of the magistrate court process and an insight into just how ordinary people can be magistrate.

The team would like to thank Mrs A. Edwards for giving up a Saturday in half term to take them to the competition.

Canal Update

By Moira Griffiths

The Heritage Task Force has been busy over the last few months tidying the wharf opposite Jones The Boats. We have cleared a lot of dead growth away and have noticed birds coming to nest since.

We cleared the weeds off bridge 33 (White bridge) with intentions of repainting, but this is being put on hold until later in the year when we are sure of some warmer and drier weather.

The sluice area, down towards the river from the basin has been cleared of dead branches so that there is now no chance of a blockage.

If you are interested in helping out at any time, we meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month outside the information point at 10 a.m. Our task force supervisor is Martin Watson and he can be contacted via Lynda Slater at the CRT information site.

Bowls Update

By Moira Griffiths

The outdoor season is now well under way and the teams are having mixed results.

In the Saturday Wrexham league the team is playing well at home but is finding it difficult to get an away win.

In the Oswestry league the two teams are again having mixed results. The A team, who play on Tuesday evenings are holding their own mid table, but the B team, who play on Thursday evenings are yet to find form.

Wins are proving elusive!

In the Wrexham Vets league the A team is performing well, winning all their league games and sitting nicely at the top of the division. The B team is playing well but is currently mid way in the table.

If you would like to play bowls, then why not contact Joyce on 01978 823244 or Moira on 01978 824401.

The Towers Day Nursery

By Ruth Roberts

The Towers Day Nursery welcomed several new children when we returned after Christmas. They are all settling in well and are enjoying the varied, nursery activities.

The children have been busy celebrating Chinese New Year, St Valentine's Day, Shrove Tuesday and St David's Day. They have enjoyed stories, art/craft work and baking Welsh Cakes and also dressing up.

For Mothering Sunday we have been busy making cards and gifts and for St David's Day the children have been making Welsh flags, leeks and daffodils; as well as dressing up in traditional costume or a Welsh football/rugby top on March 1st.

Now that Spring is in the air there will be more opportunity for outdoor play and for work on the garden.

The children will soon be busy planting seeds and putting in plants ready for the Summer

The staff have been busy too, renewing their First Aid Certificates. The nursery has also received an award from Wrexham Council for Environmental Standard and has been awarded a certificate from the Tiny Tums scheme – an N.H.S. initiative to encourage healthy eating in the nursery sector.



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For further details on how to submit an article or advert please telephone: Anthony "Rondo" Roberts 0779284493 OR email : newsletter.llangollenrural@gmail.com

Did you know? We print just over 1000 newsletters every three months for free distribution in Garth, Trevor and Froncysyllte.

Closing dates for submissions during 2019 are: 25th August and 17th November

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Editor's Comments

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 have a look at our web site:

www.llangollen-rural.co.uk

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