

Community News

Issue number 15

Autumn 2009



For free distribution in Fron Garth & Trevor.

Major event to mark World Heritage success

A major event to celebrate Wales' newest World Heritage Site will culminate in a spectacular firework finale. Earlier this summer the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal was granted World Heritage Status, joining the ranks of elite heritage sites like the Taj Mahal and Acropolis.

To mark the achievement, a public celebration is being planned for Saturday, October 3rd at Trevor Basin. The event starts at 12noon, with stalls, activities, fairground-rides, face-painting, falconry displays, ferret racing, puppet shows, a magician, ventriloquist and lots more.

There will also be the chance to enjoy music by the canal, listen to the world-famous Froncysyllte Male Voice Choir, local children's choir, see demonstrations of traditional canal crafts and find out how the aqueduct and canal were built. The day will finish with a spectacular firework display at 7pm. The event is being organised by Wrexham Council and British Waterways, with help from community groups in the area.

The stalls will be open from 12noon-5pm, entertainment will be provided in the main marquee from 2.30pm-6.45pm, with a lantern parade at 6.45pm and the firework finale at 7pm. Entry is free.

For more information telephone 01978 292537.



Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal gets World Heritage Site status ~ what happened in Seville!

Whilst there were many anxious people back home in Wales, the Officers attending the World Heritage Committee meeting in Seville were on edge for two long days waiting for our turn to go before the Committee. The venue was a very large hall seating 1,000 delegates from across the World. The World Heritage Committee itself sat at the front and comprised 21 nations. The agenda item on nominations to the World Heritage List started at 10.45 a.m. on Friday 26th June, continuing until 7.00 pm that day and starting at 10.00 the next morning. They discussed 27 nominations, deferring or referring the majority after much debate and questioning; only 13 new sites were approved.

As it got closer to Pontcysyllte's turn our nerves were on edge. We had no idea what questions would be posed – from historical information, authenticity, integrity of the site, its management and conservation, visitor management and promotion, community involvement, international comparative sites, the World Heritage criteria, its Outstanding Universal Value and planning protection – so wide a scope to cover! We started at 8.22 p.m. (Seville time) and 10 different nations spoke, all stating how strong a case we had made, that it was a 'model nomination'. Wow! We had just three questions to answer – on the future of the Flexsys site, on planning protection, and why we had excluded an aqueduct site in Barbados in the section on comparative sites. We had done it. Such overwhelming relief! The phones were red hot between Seville and Wales, including a link into the Telford Inn at Trevor Basin.

Our technical team in Seville: Dr Sian Rees (Cadw), Peter Birch (British Waterways), Stephen Hughes (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales), Del Roberts-Jones and Dr Dawn Roberts (Economic Development Dept, Wrexham Council), Isobel Garner (Chief Executive, Wrexham Council).

Thank you for all your help and support along the way. We now need to ensure that the new World Heritage site brings the local jobs and economic regeneration needed in these difficult times. It won't happen overnight, just as it has taken 6 years from start to finish for World Heritage Site designation. Our focus is now fully turned to management of the 11 mile site, and in particular to continue to work to increase car parking capacity and visitor management, together with a major event to mark this special occasion on Saturday 3rd October.

Dawn Roberts,
Chair, Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal Steering Group

Trevor & Garth W.I.

By Jean Roberts

Two members were delegates at the NFWI AGM at the Albert Hall Sue Kempster & Tracy Pugh. The July outing was to Fleetwood for the annual tram festival. The weather was kind to us and a good time was had by all. On Friday 7th August the Institute held its annual evening soirée in Jane & Colins beautiful garden in Llangollen. Members enjoyed an Indian Banquet washed down by some fine wine etc. The WI next meet on Thursday 17th Sept at 7-00pm.

Chairs report

During the past couple of months' it was my great pleasure to attend the Mayor of Wrexham's Civic Ceremony in St. Giles Church Wrexham. What a great start to my year as Chair, with the brilliant news that the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct along with the 11 mile stretch of canal starting from The Horseshoe Falls right through to Chirk Bank has been awarded 'World Heritage Status' A great deal of work has been carried out during the World Heritage Bid by Members of many Organisations that I am sure residents of the 3 villages were not aware of and I feel it only fitting to thank all those involved on your behalf. 'Thank you and well done' !!!

Following this can I congratulate all on achieving 2nd place in the 'Best Kept Community Award'. This year was the first year we have entered and we were using this as a bench mark however, what good news to receive 2nd place and next year lets go for 1st. We can now all look forward to celebrate on the 3rd of October our achievement of 'World Heritage Status, where I hope all residents and local Organisations will come along and be a part of this!

Regards
Tracey Pugh

War Story . . .

By Rita Jones (Nee Aidley)

During the Second World War, I lived in Froncysyllte and was working as a laboratory assistant at Monsanto Chemicals.

One of the quickest ways of getting to work (or home) was by bicycle over the aqueduct and on one particular dark morning I'd finished my shift at 6 o'clock and was cycling home along with a friend, Bronwen Jones.

As it was dark I had my lamp switched on, but due to the blackout there was only a pencil-beam of light showing. As we reached the Fron side of the aqueduct, Bronwen decided to ride on my right but unfortunately didn't have her lamp on.

Now for those who remember, the towpath wasn't as tidy as it is today and the sides of the canal weren't concreted . . .

As we neared the Fron basin there was a crashing sound and the sound of something (and someone) hitting the water! A gentleman on his way to work (also without a lamp on his bike) had seen my light and decided to pass to my right . . . As a result of this he collided with Bronwen and unfortunately ended up in the canal . . . Bronwen had managed to miss hitting me and somehow ended up down the bank in the trees!

There was a lot of spluttering and shouting from the man in the canal, who was obviously distressed, but to make matters worse Bronwen said, 'Oh, sorry! . . . Are you wet?'

I daren't print his reply!

Garth C P School News

This term has been extremely busy and exciting. We were awarded the Eco Schools Green flag and this was a great encouragement to us all. The pupils have worked tirelessly to gain this prestigious award and I am very proud of them and thank Miss Ivanoff for leading the project. We celebrated the event by conducting our annual Green Day, successfully, raising over £340, which will be used to improve our outdoor area. We also used the day to officially open the Dream Den, our outdoor classroom and sheltered area, where we can enjoy activities in bad weather.



Opening of the Dream den and celebrating our achievement on being awarded the green flag



Margaret Pound sat the entrance exam to Moreton Hall School and managed to gain a major scholarship for her efforts. We congratulate her and know she has the ability to excel and make both Garth and Moreton Hall School very proud in the future.

Margaret Pound.

Mobile Library

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

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

Dates for 2009: 8th September, 29th September, 20th October, 10th November, 1st & 22nd December.

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

Youth Club News

By Helen Jones

Trevor Youth Club

Have been busy over the last few months between litter picking around the estate and planting up the timber planters on Trevor Green, we may not have won the best kept village competition but its defiantly 10 out of 10 for all the good work! Also at the club we have also had football skills, a visit from the peer education group and circuit training, which went down well judging by the red faces. Trevor & Garth Youth Club times: 7 - 9pm Wednesday - Trevor & Garth Community Centre.



Fron Youth Club

Have been demonstrating their cooking skills by baking apple crumble and chocolate muffins for Cakes & Co, its amazing sometimes that any of the cakes make it to the cafe with so many hungry eyes on them! We have also had Wrexham Hockey Club come down to show them some skills of the sport and a visit from Glyn Cerrig Youth Club, unfortunately our rounders match was rained off but we improvised with table tennis, pool and lots and lots of hot dogs!

Fron Youth Club times: 6.30 - 9pm Tuesday - Fron Community centre

Homelink Library Service

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

by telephone on 01978 292090 or E mail Maifun.Rogers@wrexham.gov.uk

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

Wednesday 16th September, Wednesday 14th October, Wednesday 11th November.

Fron News

Fron Community Centre

As a result of winning Wales Village of the Year 2008, the prize money will be spent on a sensory garden in the grounds of the Community Centre. The garden will be accessible to everyone and we hope will have a broad appeal, adding to the excellent facilities already available at the Centre. Grateful thanks for the support already received from the Welsh College of Horticulture, Derwen Garden Centre Welshpool and Westminster Stone, St Martins, in this the planning stage. More details to report in the next publication of the Community Newsletter.

Home Education Group

On Monday 25th July Cakes and Company volunteers were in for a real treat when they were invited to an afternoon tea hosted by the Home Educated children who use the Community Centre on a regular basis. This was their way of saying thank you for money donated by Cakes and Company enabling them to have a day out on a canal boat. Those in attendance were delighted to see photographs of the trip and to hear of the youngsters obvious enjoyment at being floated down the canal. Tea and cakes were admirably served by the youngsters and were absolutely delicious. With talent like that maybe they will become Cakes and Company volunteers of the future! Well done and thank you. Diane will be leaving the community for a short while but will still be involved in the Home Education Group. Diane and her family have been great supporters of events in the village and we wish them all the best for the future and hope it's not too long before we catch up with them again.



History Talk

Friday 18th September 7pm in Fron Community Centre. Proceeds to St Davids Church. All welcome.

The official Royal Visit dvd's

Are available from Cakes and Company and Fron Post Office - price £5.

Bird List – Fron

By Julie Williams

Nothing unusual to report, the same common garden birds.

I received a very encouraging email as a result of the last Community Newsletter publication from Lee Barber in Norfolk who works for the BTO.

The highlight of this season was a very young blackbird (accompanied by the male parent) preening itself on an ants nest, I believe this is to rid itself of the parasites picked up in the nest, something I've heard of but never witnessed before. Perhaps Lee could shed some more light on this behaviour.

Bird list: Bullfinch, Buzzard, Blue Tit, Blackbird, Coal tit, Chaffinch, Collared dove, Chiffchaff, Crow, Great tit, Goldfinch, Greenfinch, Hedge Sparrow, Jackdaw, Long tailed tit, Magpie, Pheasants, Pied Wagtail, Robin, Rook, Starling, Swallow, Swift, Sparrow Hawk, Song Thrush, Wood pigeon.

Tidy Towns Grant Aided Projects 2009

At the end of last year the Community Council was successful in obtaining a Tidy Town Grant from Wrexham County Borough Council to open a footpath on the old railway line in Trevor.

We are pleased to announce that we have now obtained further funding for the second phase of the project, to enable us to link the footpath in with the Garth & Trevor Community Centre and the Offa's Dyke footpath. The ramp from the footpath to the Community Centre has been completed and it is planned to install gates at the access points. Our intention is to put benches and picnic tables along the footpath.

The Aqueduct Community Association has been working hard with the community council on this project and through them Steve Edwards and volunteers from Cadburys have cleared large areas of fallen trees and undergrowth. This work will continue .for further information on volunteering contact www.aqueduct.uk.com

As a walk to the Offa's Dyke footpath. It will now form a rural walk as part of a wider healthy living agenda and attract visitors to Llangollen Rural. It can also be developed to incorporate a circular walk which takes in the Old Railway, Offa's Dyke and Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.

We hope to encourage wild life, bugs and beasts, natural vegetation, to erect bird and bat boxes, to plant bulbs and deciduous trees, to clear overgrown vegetation and create greater accessibility. We want to reduce environmental issues such as fly tipping and littering, to promote our area, and for residents to use and take pride in this footpath with these environmental improvements.



Llangollen Rural have been celebrating coming second in Wrexham Council's Best Kept Village/Community competition which was held this summer.

To achieve 2nd place Llangollen Rural demonstrated good community involvement, cleanliness of streets and floral displays. Some of the groups and organisations involved in the Llangollen Rural entry were the Community Council, Aqueduct Community Association, Trevor Cubs and Beavers, Fron Youth Club, Garth & Trevor Youth Club, Tiddlewinks, Mother & Toddlers, Cadbury's Community Team, Cakes & Company, and Keep Wales Tidy.

The competition was held as part of the Tidy Towns initiative and in conjunction with Wales in Bloom. All villages and communities across the county borough were invited to enter for the award and entries were received from seven Community Councils, Rhos, which included Ponciau and Johnstown, Llay, Brymbo, Rossett, Gresford, Chirk and Llangollen Rural - which included Garth, Froncysyllte and Trevor.

The final judging looked at all environmental aspects within the Community including street cleanliness, the care local residents and businesses put into their own properties as well as the floral displays on show in the area. The standard of the entries was high with local communities working with other organisations and local school children to improve the environment. The competition was judged by staff from Wrexham Council's Environment Department.

Tracey Pugh, Chair of the Community Council, said: "We are delighted with this award. A lot of hard work has gone into improving the area for the competition and I would like to thank everyone involved."

Cllr David Bithell, Lead Member for the Environment and Transport, said: "Judges had a difficult decision to make and I know they were very impressed with the quality of all the entrants. I hope more communities are encouraged to take part next year."

Next year Wrexham Council are already proposing to include runner up and also most improved community to encourage more communities to enter and take part in making their community a better place to live. Information about next year's Tidy Towns Grants and best Kept Village/Community award will be available early in 2010.



Pictured: Tracey Pugh, Chair of Community Council along with members of local community, Aqueduct Community Association, Cubs & Beavers, Fron Youth Club, Garth & Trevor Youth Club, Cadbury's Community Team, Cakes & Company, Tiddlewinks, Mother & Toddlers and Keep Wales Tidy.

Llangollen Rural Community Council would like to thank all the Community Groups and local residents who gave their time litter picking etc. and enabled us to achieve this award. Special thanks to the Aqueduct Community Association for arranging the Litter Picking Day, Merv Lloyd & his Team from Wrexham C.B.C., Plas Madoc Housing Team, Cadbury's Team, Shane Hughes Tidy Wales, Paul Mazerella's Youth Team, Piers Warburton British Waterways, Julia Jones, and Audrey & Paul Bowen for their help and involvement in this project.

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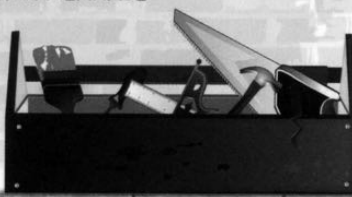
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Garth & Trevor Community Centre

W.I. Second Thursday of each month 7-9pm

W.I. Darts every Wednesday 1.30 -3pm

W.I. Craft 3rd & 4th Thursday of the month 6.30-9pm

Youth Club: Wednesday evening 7-9pm

Darby & Joan: Last Monday of the month 6-8pm

Toddlers: Thursday from 10am – noon

Indoor Bowls: Thursday evening 8-10.30pm

Aqueduct Assoc: First Monday of the month 7-9pm

Police Meeting: First Monday of the month 6.30 – 7pm

Mothers union: Four times a year 1.30 – 4pm

Council Meeting: Every other month Tuesday 7-9pm

Congratulation to the Aqueduct Community Association
For arranging a very successful litter picking day on Saturday 27th June 2009.



For arranging the planting of flower beds in Garth & Trevor.



Thanks to the Valentine Family for cutting out and planting the flower beds in Garth and to the Garth & Trevor Youth Club for planting in Trevor



The Aqueduct Association & the Community Council would like to thank Jeff Roberts & Aiden Jones for weeding and watering the flower beds in Trevor.

Policing Pledge

Information available in Welsh , see website

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Ian Shannon
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Message from the Vicar of Froncysyllte

Rev. Tony Rees

Earlier this year, St David's Church at Froncysyllte discovered that their church bell turret was in a dangerous condition. After some discussion the church committee resolved to spend £7976-40 to rebuild the turret and restore the bell mechanism to working order. The work has been done, and the bell can now be heard again on Sunday mornings.

We are grateful to all who have helped, and have promised to help in the future, to raise funds for this project. We need to restore our church savings account to pay for resurfacing the driveway which serves the church and churchyard.

Our single church bell is rung every Sunday to invite people to come to our 9.30 am morning service. Just a few people come. But judging from comments heard, many hear the bell, and indeed like to hear the bell being rung. Perhaps some people then pray at home: I hope so. Others may be glad that we are praying for them and Froncysyllte in church, even if they feel unable (or unwilling) to do so themselves.

So, when you hear the church bell ring, decide to come to church; decide to pray to God through our Lord Jesus Christ. As John Donne said (in another context) "Ask not for whom the bell tolls - it tolls for thee".

Trevor Church Services each Sunday at 9-30am 1st Sunday Morning Prayer 2nd & 3rd Sunday 3rd Holy Communion 4th Sunday Family Service Friday 25th September Harvest Service at 7pm followed by Harvest Supper at Trevor Hall (Ticket only from wardens) Vicar: Rev Andrew Sully, Vicarage, Abbey Road, Llangollen Telephone No. 01978 860231	St David's Church, Froncysyllte <u>Worship every Sunday at 9.30am</u> (exceptions to this or extra services published on external notice board). Friday 25th September 7.00pm Evensong and Harvest supper in Church Sunday 27th September 9.30am Harvest Thanksgiving Family Service Vicar: The Rev. A.J. Rees The Vicarage, Trevor Road, Chirk, Wrexham. LL14 5HD Telephone No. 01691 778519
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Blackcurrant Crumble

(Serves 4-6 people)

1 lb. blackcurrants (450g)

2 tablespoons caster sugar

For the crumble topping

8 oz plain flour (225g)

3 oz butter (75g)

3-4 oz light soft brown sugar (75 – 110g)

Pre-heat the oven to gas mark 4, 350°F (180°C).

This particular crumble is baked in a shallow 9 inch (23cm) fluted ceramic dish (or something similar). Strip the blackcurrants from their stalks, arrange them in the dish, sprinkle with the sugar, and top with the crumble topping.

Crumble topping Place the flour in a large mixing bowl, then add the butter and rub into the flour lightly, using your fingertips. Then when it all looks crumbly, and the fat has been dispersed fairly evenly, add the sugar. Now sprinkle the crumble mixture all over the fruit in the dish, spreading it out with a fork. Place the crumble on a high shelf in the oven and bake for 30 – 40 minutes or until the top is tinged with brown.

Local Lad gets on his bike to aid hospice

Anthony 'Rondo' Roberts, who plays for Cefn United Football Club, completed a 56 mile route on June 25th starting off at the Duke of Wellington in Acrefair at 6am and cycling all the way to Barmouth.

He completed the ride in less than four hours – and in doing so raised £1,693 for Hope House Hospice, which offers respite care for terminally ill children.

"I've always fancied a bike ride", said Anthony. "The target was £1,000 initially and then we just surpassed it and the response was amazing – nobody refused."

He achieved the impressive time after just eight weeks of training. "I started at five miles then went up to twelve miles, stepping up the distance once a week" he said.

Since 1999, the club and its members have raised over £8,500 for charity.

Anthony would like to thank everyone who sponsored the ride and provided assistance on the day, including Ram Leisure for supplying the team polo shirts. Somerfield supermarket in Rhosymedre, for allowing collections at the store, WT Evans Printers for posters and printing, Colin, Bonzo, Gus and Richie for their assistance on the day of the ride, and the Duke of Wellington for the food and refreshments on completion.



Bird Ringing

By Lee Barber

The British and Irish Ringing Scheme is organised by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) and around 800,000 birds are ringed in Britain and Ireland each year by just over 2,400 qualified bird ringers. The Ringing Scheme has now been operating for 100 years this year but we are still discovering new facts about migration routes and wintering areas.

The main focus of the current ringing scheme is the monitoring of bird populations. Ringing allows us to study how many young birds leave the nest and survive to become adults, as well as how many of the adults are able to survive the stresses of breeding, migration and adverse weather each year. Changes in survival rates and other aspects of birds' biology help us to understand the causes of population declines. Such information is vital for conservation.

I have been ringing birds in the Garth area for a while now so if you find a dead bird with a ring on it, it could be one that I have ringed or even one from another ringer anywhere in the UK or abroad. You can report the bird on the web at www.ring.ac or phone 01842 750050. The BTO will then send you the information about your bird.

The BTO are very grateful for all the reports they receive, as this information is extremely important in helping to understand more about our wild bird populations and how to help conserve them.

Old Books

By Moira Griffiths

During a recent sort out at my mum's house, I came across several old bibles and hymn books belonging to my dad and granddad. The books are a mixture of English and Welsh and unfortunately some are in a slightly shabby condition dated 1898 or thereabouts. Some of them are illustrated with lovely drawings. The oldest book is dated 1840 and was presented to Elizabeth Davies (my great grandmother) in 1856, by Doctor John Hall, Late Lord Bishop of Bristol. There are also a few hymn books, again in English and Welsh.

Another book is a St John Ambulance First Aid book, with a detailed diagram of the nervous system and has been stamped with 'Roberts & McGinnis Ltd, Trevor'. I'm assuming that since my dad worked there at one time, it belonged to him.

Finally, there is a book entitled 'Report of the Department of Mines 1908 – Part I Anthracite Pennsylvania'.

This book details everything: location of the mines, working conditions, nationalities, injuries, fatalities (and the gruesome descriptions thereof), production of coal, tons of coal mined, days worked, persons employed, quantities of powder and dynamite used, etc, etc . . . Quite an interesting read (if you like that sort of thing).

If anyone has any information on the last book mentioned I'd be interested to hear from them. Please call 01978 824401

Gone fishing

Two young anglers from Fron Jack Davies and Harry Dodd had a great days fishing in the canal in Trevor last month and ended up with more than they had bargained for when they managed to land a Pike using Harry's rod, that is reputed to be the biggest fish that has been caught in the canal in living memory, weighing in at more than 12 pounds! Once hooked an army of people gathered to watch and help the boys to land the fish ranging from holiday makers on the boats to local residence one of whom Steven Blackmore was particularly helpful.



Both Harry and Jack then had the arduous task of carrying the giant fish across the aqueduct home, that trip took a long time as they were stopped by people wanting to see the fish and have their photograph holding it.

It has to be said that the pike looked better than it tasted though!

Froncysyllte C P School

By Kim Dodd

Summer term, I suspect, is the children's favourite time of year. It is generally when most of the 'fun' stuff happens, and this year was no exception. Early June we had our annual Sports Day, and at last we managed to choose a beautiful summer's day. Everyone was able to sit out on the grass to watch, and for once any umbrellas were to keep off the sun rather than the rain. After all the sporting events, the children had a picnic down on the field before returning to school for the afternoon.

Unfortunately, the day picked for the trip for reception to year 5 to visit Talacre beach did not start quite so well weather wise. One date had already had to be cancelled due to a forecast of heavy rain, and when the bus left Froncysyllte on the morning of the trip, again in heavy rain, everyone wondered how the day would end up. As it was, within 5 minutes of arriving at the beach, the clouds began to part and the sun came out. Everyone had a wonderful time learning about the different plants and animals that lived both in and around the sand, and how the beaches were created over many years. Nursery and reception had their own trip to Alyn Waters where they hunted for minibeasts and made clay models.

Year 6 went to Nantyr to take part in a day of outdoor team building activities with pupils from both Pentre and Pontfadog and early July, those moving up to Dinas Bran in September, were invited to attend a transition week at that school. The leavers' party was a bowling night out where everyone enjoyed themselves, although the goodbye speeches the next day were quite emotional with lots of tears!!!

Thank you to the Aqueduct Association for arranging a fun day at Trevor Barn, it was a great success. The PTFA managed to raise over £100, and the money was used for the end of year disco where the children won prizes for their brilliant dancing and ended the evening with jacket potatoes. A good time was had by all. Thank you to Terry our DJ and to everyone else who helped.

Finally, just to let everybody know that the CSSIW has agreed that Froncysyllte School can now take children from 2½ years old. Our Hopscotch nursery plus opens from 11.30a.m. to 3.15p.m. for nursery pupils on Monday 7th September and we will be accepting 2½ year olds from Monday 14th September, 1p.m. to 3.15p.m. at a cost of £6 per session. If you think you may be interested in your child attending, please either come along to the school to have a look or phone 01691 773310 for further details. Our new breakfast club is also due to start in the new term.

Bird Watch - Trevor

By Anne Arnold

Nuthatch, Blackbirds on bird table feeding young. House and Hedge Sparrows, Robins, Bullfinch, Thrush, Chaffinch, Blue Tit, Great Tit, Coal Tit, Goldfinch, Green Woodpecker, five young Jays fighting each other for peanuts, real bullies! Collared Dove, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Tawny Owl, Buzzards, Goshawk & Sparrow Hawk. Geese overhead making a terrific noise. Lesser spotted Woodpecker pecking at the bark on the trees, at the bottom of the garden.

Best Kept Garden Competition – 2009

The winners of Llangollen Rural Community Council's 2009 Best Kept Garden competition were announced at a presentation in the Garth and Trevor Community Centre last week.

Mr Peter Rushton was the winner in the Large Garden category. Mrs Marjorie Crosbie won first prize in the Small Garden section and Best Overall. Mrs Janet Norman won first prize with her containers and a first prize to Mrs Mary Lowe for her hanging basket. The most outstanding feature was won by Mr & Mrs Phil Keddie.

This year thirteen gardens were entered from Fron, Tower Hill, Trevor and Garth. The judges Mrs Gwen Manuel and Mrs Mary Baxter commented on "the exceptionally high standard of the gardens. There were four entries in the category for large gardens; six entries in the small garden category; a variety of hanging baskets and containers to choose from".

Overall Large Garden

1. Mr Peter Rushton
2. Mrs Jay Leeson & Mr Gareth Williams
3. Mr Stephen Tudor



Overall Small Garden

1. Mrs Marjorie Crosbie
2. Mr & Mrs Phil Keddie
3. Carol & David Wrench



Containers

1. Mrs Janet Norman
2. Mr Stephen Tudor
3. Mr Jeff Roberts

Hanging Baskets

1. Mrs Mary Lowe
2. Mr & Mrs Dilwyn Jones
3. Mrs Edith Puxty



Most Outstanding Feature

Mr & Mrs Phil Keddie

Monsanto Rose Bowl (Best Overall)

Mr Marjorie Crosbie

WCBC Tenant & Resident Garden Award

Mrs Edith Puxty's name has been put forward for the Wrexham County Borough Council's Garden Competition.

Photographs were taken of all the gardens and these can be viewed on the web site www.llangollen-ruralcc.org

County Councillors Diary

This is a brief update of the on going issues within the Llangollen Rural Ward.

World Heritage Status

I am privileged to be part of the local community who worked so hard with British Waterways and Wrexham Council on Pontcysyllte Aqueduct's successful bid for World Heritage Status. A special thanks to Dr Dawn Roberts, Del Roberts-Jones, and their team at Wrexham Council who kept the community involved and informed every step of the way. This great achievement will help the local area with tourism, especially after the recent news of the closure of Flexsys and Air Products. This is also a great opportunity to work to improve the visitor facilities, such as a play area, coach and car parking, as we know this has been a major issue, but be assured talks are on going to rectify this. Local people too can look forward to more employment opportunities as the World Heritage Status attracts more tourists and more opportunities, for local businesses to benefit.

Tidy Town Grant Phase 2 Old Railway Line

I am very pleased to tell you that we were successful with our application for the funding, which now means that we can complete the project. A special thanks to the Community Council, Wrexham Council, Aqueduct Association, Steve Edwards and his Cadburys team, and all those who helped. It certainly looks a different area now.

Tidy Up Day

On Saturday the 27th June members of various organisations from the three villages took part in litter picking, planting, and a general clean up of our communities. The weather was terrible but it did not deter us, as we filled over 50 bags. I would like to say a big thank you to EVERYONE involved. I'm sure as result of their hard work we came second behind Chirk in the tidy community's competition, out of seven entrants. A great achievement, well done everybody, keep up the good work in keeping our communities clean and tidy. I was so proud of the young members of our community who worked so hard on the day.

School Transport

At the executive board meeting on Tues 28th July, the school transport policy was again deferred, adding that a further report would be presented to the board, for consideration on the 15th September following discussions with Denbighshire and Flintshire council's. I will inform the school and the governors as soon as I know the outcome and what action we need to take.

Any problems don't hesitate to contact me.

Pat Jeffares

Phone: 01978 820570 E-Mail: pat.jeffares@Wrexham.gov.uk

Next Community News will be out during the first week in December and will be delivered to households by Councillors and the Garth & Trevor Youth Club. Any items of news for inclusion in the Winter edition should be in by Monday 12th November 2009. If you would like to see any of the previous newsletters, then these can be seen on our web site www.llangollen-ruralcc.org