

County Councillor's Diary

This is a brief update of the on going issues within the Llangollen Rural Ward. We are still busy with overgrown hedges, grass cutting, roads and footpath sweeping in the three villages, and other issues raised in the last Community Council meeting.

The Council's Parks Department, have allocated Daffodils and Tulips again this year. It was decided in the Community Council meeting that the Councillors from the three villages should decide where they are to be planted.

After talking to a member of our Policing Team, I would like to issue a word of caution to the elderly and vulnerable residents in the ward. Please do not open your doors to strangers, especially at this time of year, as there have been con-men reported in the area.

Mini Action Day

Mark Owen Manager of the Plas Madoc housing office, his staff, and myself donned our work clothes, boots and gloves and headed off to our three villages, armed with paint, brushes, strimmer, hedge trimmer, and weed killer. On the tidy up list was clearing away all the overgrown weeds and bushes making the area look unkempt and overgrown. With the help of Alan and Alex the housing estate caretakers we were able to plough through and make the areas look much better. Also taking part in the clean up was Steve Edwards, and his two sons Harry and Ben and the Cadburys Community Team. They spent the day strimming and tidying up the entrance to the old station yard in Trevor. I have now obtained extra Daffodils which will be planted by Andrew and his team from Wrexham council. I would like to thank all the above Teams for all their hard work.

Community Centres

Fron – The refurbishment is now complete, and it's thanks to the hard work of the village volunteers, who have now formed a committee and have called themselves Cakes & Company. They opened up the Centre every weekend from 12 – 4pm to serve teas, coffees and light refreshments, and from doing this they have raised over £3000.00 towards the centre project. You should all be very proud of yourselves well done. What a wonderful community spirit.

Garth & Trevor – I was also very pleased to be part of a team, who was successful in getting a grant of £30k towards the refurbishment. However there is a short fall of £15k to do the full works, a further bid has been submitted to a fund holder in the Welsh Assembly. We are still awaiting the outcome, and with the same community spirit as in Fron, I know we will achieve our aims.

I would like to wish everybody in the ward a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. Thanking you for all for your support during the past year.

Any problems don't hesitate to contact me

Pat Jeffares

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

Community News

Issue number 8

Winter 2007



For free distribution in Fron, Garth & Trevor.

Christmas Celebrations in Trevor and Fron

The Aqueduct Community Association would like to invite all readers of this newsletter, to attend the switching on of our community Christmas tree lights at the Trevor Basin and Fron Community Centre, on the 15th December 2007 from 4pm. The lights on both trees, will be switched on at 4.30pm.

You can choose which tree you would like to see spring into life as the lights are switched on. One child will be chosen from Garth School and one from Fron School to switch the tree lights on. They will be chosen by entering a competition at each school to make the best Christmas tree decoration with the two lucky winners flicking the light switches on on the big day.

Local primary school children will also be singing Christmas carols and a selection of other songs around the trees.

Father Christmas will be travelling between the two Christmas trees on one of the boats for the disabled that are kept at Trevor Basin. He will be accepting visitors onto his boat for the short journey over the Aqueduct.

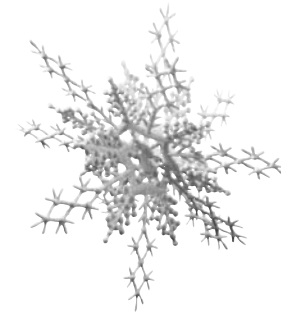
A present will be given to all the children who travel on the boat with him. A second boat will be used to bring the parents and children back to their start point. A small charge will be made for this service with all the proceeds going to the upkeep of the two boats for the disabled.

Several small stalls will also be selling Christmas drinks and food should you require something nice and warm.

Please help us make this first Community Christmas event special, turn up on the day and support your community.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from everybody at the Aqueduct Community Association.

Why not visit us on the Internet: - www.aqueduct.uk.com



Trevor News

Photo: Steve, Harry & Ben Edwards with the Cadbury's Community Team



C/Cllr Pat Jeffares said "we are very grateful for all the help the team from Cadbury have given, and I think it's great that business supports local communities in this way. I had a really good time getting involved in the clear

up, and at the end of the day, you can see the impact we have made enabling this area to be easily used by local residents".

If anybody would be willing to help out in the Spring please contact Steve 01978 810906, or visit our website www.aqueduct.uk.com and send an e-mail to the webmaster.

Are you new to the area or looking for something new?

Why not visit GARTH & TREVOR COMMUNITY CENTRE

Youth Club	Wednesday's young	6.00 to 7.30	older	7.30 to 9.30
W.I.	2nd Thursday of the month			6.30 to 9.30
Craft night	Thursdays			7.00 to 8.30
Carpet Bowls	Thursdays			8.00 to 10.00
Telecottage - Internet access	Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays.			7.00 to 9.00
(Can we help with repairs, printing or web design?)				
Computer classes for beginners	Mondays			1.30 to 3.00
Darby & Joan	Last Monday in Month			1.30 to 8.00
Mothers Union	First Wednesday in Month			1.30 to 4.00
Parents and Toddlers	Thursday mornings			10.00 to 12.00

Centre is available for Parties and receptions, or any other community use

Contact **Mrs J. Evans 01978-823244**

Community Policing

Welcome to another edition of your community news. As the run up to Christmas begins everyone is busy preparing for the festivities that follow and so can I just remind you that it is not only the law abiding residents that are busy but also those with a criminal mind. Please take care and just think about your own personal safety and that of your family and friends. Also consider your property, how secure is it? Some of the simpler measures of securing your property is to make sure that all window and door locks are fitted and in good working order. Just spend a couple of minutes inspecting your house garden and vehicle and then ask yourself what I can do to improve my security. If you need any advice then please contact me or the Pcs0 and we will be happy to assist.

There have been a couple of changes recently in terms of Neighbourhood Policing. The first is that you have a new Police Community Support Officer (Pcs0) dedicated to your ward. This is Pcs0 85 Dave Jenkins. Some of you will already have met him in a previous life, but he is now with us to help improve your community.

The second change is of a technical nature. For those of you that like to play around on the internet then I would like to point you in the direction of the North Wales Police website. Linked to this is a new web portal. (Discussion forum) This will be an area that you can have your say and amongst other things the Cefn Mawr Neighbourhood policing team will put out information relevant to your community. Go on have a look.

Have a safe and enjoyable Christmas.

Pc 1528 Gary Robertshaw.

Bird List - Fron

Blackbird, Buzzard, Blue tit,
Coal tit, Collared dove, Crow,
Chiffchaff, Chaffinch, Greenfinch,
Great tit, Goldfinch, House Martin,
Hedge sparrow, Jackdaw,
Long tailed tit, Magpie,
Mistlethrush, Nuthatch,
Pheasants with young, Robin,
Swifts, Sparrow hawk,
Tawny owl, Wren,
Wood pigeon.

by Julie Williams

Competition Time Answers.

1. Oxford
2. Redcar (Yorks.)
3. Deal (Kent)
4. Worcester
5. Westward Ho! (Devon)
6. Watchet (Somerset)
7. Barking (Suffolk)
8. Tring (Herts.)
9. Eccles (Lancs.)
10. Gainsborough (Lincs.)
11. Staines (Kent)
12. Goole

Fron News

Froncysyllte Craft and Produce Fair.

This was a great success; it's amazing how much talent we have in this village!

A variety of items were for sale, i.e. Christmas decorations, Cards, Dried flowers, silk flowers, jams and chutneys, photographs of the local area, gift bags, jewellery and much more. Hopefully this will be an annual event as everyone seemed to enjoy the day. Many thanks to everyone for their support.

Autumn Fayre

Helped organise an Autumn Fayre on Saturday 3rd November for Seion Chapel Fron. £452 was raised. Thanks to everyone for their support.

Wednesday 12th December: Fron School Christmas production to be held in the Community Centre in the afternoon and evening. All welcome. Further details 01691 773310.

Friday 21st December a Nativity service will be held in St David's Church at 9.30am. All welcome.

Froncysyllte Community send best wishes for
Christmas and a Peaceful New Year to their neighbours in Garth and Trevor.

Garth & Trevor Telecottage News

The Computer Access point in the Trevor Community Centre has been awarded finance for new computers which it is hoping to install before Christmas. There will be six new computers together with the latest soft ware. These will be in addition to the existing computers. Why not come and visit us at the Telecottage? We are open Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursday Evenings from 7-9pm and are able to help you with computer related problems. There are also sessions for beginners on a Monday Afternoon at 1pm if you are interested just turn up. We would be able to open on other nights if we had volunteers to supervise, Can you help? Contact Delwyn on 810119 or Glyn on 821983 alternatively come along one evening and see what we have.

Beetroot Chutney

3 lbs beetroot, 2 lge onions, One and a half pounds Apples,
Half a pound Sugar, Juice of one lemon, 1 tsp. salt, 1 pt vinegar.

Boil beetroot one and a half hours in salted water. Skin and cut into cubes. Mince or chop apples and onions and put in pan with vinegar, sugar and lemon. Boil for 20 mins. Add beetroot and boil for a further 15 mins until set, cool slightly and pour into warm jars. Store in a cool dark place.

Chairman's Report

At our October meeting we were very pleased to welcome Mrs Sue Wyles from Froncysyllte to our meeting. Mrs Wyles has been co opted on to our Council.

Autumn has now set in bringing its annual problems – leaves blocking drains etc. I am sure everyone in the villages has been pleased to see the road sweeper around gathering them up.

I was privileged to lay a wreath at the War Memorial in Garth on Remembrance Sunday. The weather stayed fine for the service which was very well attended.

The Council has decided to give financial support to the Community Centres in Trevor and Froncysyllte from Project money and to provide a new light in Upper Garth. We are also giving financial support to help Trevor Church who are putting in a Mains water supply.

With Christmas fast approaching, can I take the opportunity on behalf of our Council to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Bright and Prosperous New Year.

Elfed Morris

FROZEN CLOCK

High up on the Ruabon Mountain above Penybryn there is a place known as the 'Frozen Clock'. George Jackson and his two brothers formed a company, this was once used as a base for the broom making industry in Penycae. The material for the brooms or besoms, in this case heather not broom, was collected on the mountain, and grug (heather) dues were paid to Sir Watkin Williams Wynne for this privilege. The brooms manufactured here were dispatched by rail to Liverpool and Glasgow from Ruabon Station. They were then exported to America and Europe.

The building's curious name may have originated when Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, who often called in when grouse shooting, commented that this location was so high up that, "your clock must be frozen". A local man relating a similar story stated that his grandmother, when asked the time by Sir Watkin, gave the reply "cloc wedi rhewi" (the clocks frozen). Yet another story, is when the building was used by quarry workers, the clock froze and the workers continued until they had completed another shift. When they realised what had happened, they asked for more money, and being refused, went on strike.

Take your pick which one is the most likely reason why this place is called the Frozen Clock.

By Jean Roberts

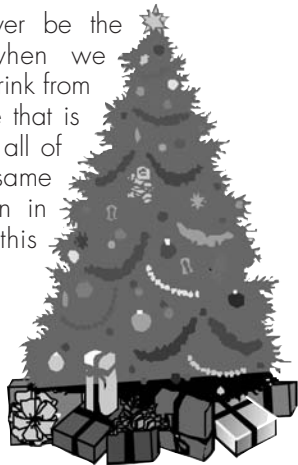
Message from the Vicar of Llangollen

People often say to me in the run-up to Christmas, 'So are you busy?' or 'this is your busiest time of year, isn't it?' and although I have to concede they are right, I can feel guilty that this is true. Why? Because Advent was once the season to take things a bit slower and to savour the period leading up to the Christmas festival in a spirit of anticipation, rather than of haste and business.

The Newport tramp-poet, W. H. Davies, talked in the first poem I ever learned at school about having no time to stand and stare because our lives are 'too full' of care. At this time of year, more than at any other, we badly need to stop racing around like proverbial headless chickens and instead to look up and out at the beauty of the created world. The season of Advent encourages us to nurture the art of looking and waiting expectantly for God's coming. Slowly, ever so slowly, if we sit quietly and learn to be at peace with ourselves and to wait on the God who speaks to our inner stillness, something grows within. Without realising it we have discovered the art of contemplation.

Nothing can ever be the same again when we have begun to drink from the waters of life that is the Christ within all of us. May this same Christ be re-born in your hearts this Advent and beyond.

Andrew Sully



Christmas Services

St David's Church, Froncysyllte:

Friday 21st December at 7.00pm:
Nine Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve at 7.00pm:
Christmas Communion

Sunday 30th December at 9.30am:
Family Carol Service.

Services at St David's every Sunday at 9.30am.

Trevor Church:

Friday 14th December at 10am
Ysgol Y Garth Christingle Service

Sunday 23rd December at 9.30am
Nine Carols & Lessons

Christmas Day at 9.30am
Holy Communion

Bird Watch – Trevor

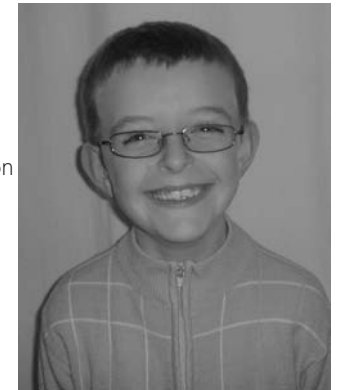
By Anne Arnold

Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Jay, Blackbird, Thrush, Great Tit, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Robin, Collared Dove, Swallows, Mistle Thrush, Heron, Nuthatch, Long Tailed Tit, Coal Tit, Pied Wagtail, Wood Pigeon, Buzzard, Hawk, House Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, Bullfinch, Marsh Tit, Blue Tit, Magpie, Starlings, Crows, Chaffinch, Sparrow Hawk, Raven, Seagulls and Lapwing.

Fron School News

On Wednesday 17th October the Fron School Harvest Festival was held in St David's Church, the children read poems, prayers and sang to family and friends. Gifts of fruit and vegetables were distributed amongst the older generation in the village by the children on the Wednesday afternoon.

Matthew Jones, a pupil in year four, had the idea of collecting for children in Africa and raised £85.51 which was donated to Save the Children. This money will buy a supply of Plumpy Nut high energy food for severely malnourished children in Africa. (See photo of Matthew)



Joe Richardson, Ben Valentine, Emma Dodd, Luke Edwards, Megan Green and Eliza Hill who are on the school council, visited the mayor in his council chambers in Wrexham on Thursday 18th October.

Megan Green and Eliza Hill are two of the children who visited the Brymbo Heritage Centre where the Healthy Schools Award took place on Friday 9th November. (see photo)

A local quiz and prize bingo was held in the Fron Community Centre to raise funds for Fron After School Kids Club on Thursday 18th October. £100.50 was raised on the night.

A Halloween Disco was held in the Fron Community Centre on Wednesday 24th October for the children of Fron School. (see photo)

Pupils from Fron School will visit the Theatre in Rhyl to see the pantomime Aladdin on Friday 14th December.



News form Garth C.P.School.

This term we have welcomed 8 new pupils into our nursery class and 11 pupils have started their full time education in the Reception class. We still provide a homely atmosphere within classes that are no larger than 25 pupils. We are also well staffed with 5 full time teachers, two class assistants, 3 trainee class assistants and a small army of parents that provide support within the classroom.

Our school clubs and pre-school provisions are still a great success and have been given excellent reports in recent inspections. We are very happy that the Breakfast Club is also growing in size and the quality of the provision is also commendable.

We are very busy as usual with pupils taking part in many initiatives. Through our links with Switzerland and Germany we have been able to train two Swiss and two German students over the past six months. Our links with Ghana and Uganda are also gaining momentum.

This term we are busy preparing for concerts and the pupils are looking forward to their annual "Work experience day". We also look forward to gaining our fourth Healthy Schools Award.

Congratulations to Jordan Tudor and Taylor Jones on winning the Wrexham County Road Safety competition.

Our Christmas Concert will be held on the 11th. December at the Community Centre in Trevor. On the 18th. December there is a school trip to Chester Zoo's Frosty Fair.

Trevor & Garth WI

The Institute met in September following the Summer break. The theme for the meeting was "Who Do You Think You Are" and some members were surprised as to where their ancestors came from. Unfortunately, there wasn't any one with Royal connections.

The AGM was held in October followed by a quiz, compiled by Ann Jones.

November we welcomed back Ruth Williams she gave a very amusing talk on "Grumpy Old Women".

Christmas Party Night will be held in December. Date will be posted in the Community Center.

Jean Roberts

European Day of Languages 2007

On Wednesday 26th September, Europe Direct Llangollen based at ECTARC (European Centre for Training and Regional Cooperation) celebrated the European Day of Languages. Europe Direct invited 120 pupils and staff from Bryn Collen C.P., Ysgol Dinas Bran, Froncysyllte C.P. School, and Ysgol Gymraeg y Gwernant, based in the Llangollen area. A performing arts theme was chosen to illustrate one of the many ways in which languages can be communicated.

Throughout the day there were plenty of activities happening to entertain the children and teachers. A storyteller was present for the whole day who read the children translated stories from around Europe. Also invited to the day was a modern languages theatre group called 'Whisper and Shout',

who gave two performances based on the French language, which were both interactive and educational, and had plenty of audience participation!

The morning session featured 'Language Taster Sessions', with the current visiting students at ECTARC offering lessons in German, French and Spanish, so the guests could practice the languages that they had knowledge of already, or

even learn new ones! During the afternoon session, a local dance teacher ran a workshop on 'Language Interpretation through Dance', where the children worked on expressing language and breaking down language barriers through dance.

Several exhibitions were on display during the day, including the European Book Collection, Winged Chariot translated children's literature, an array of European language and culture books lent to us by Denbighshire library services, and also a stand of resources and a representative from NGfl Cymru.

Europe Direct will be running another European Languages Day in 2008. Anyone wanting to learn more about the day or other future planned activities should contact:

Caroline Marston, European Information Officer on 01978 861514 or at europedirect@denbighshire.gov.uk



Tasty fundraiser is set to return



The Froncysyllte Community Centre has received a grant towards its refurbishment from the Landfill Tax Monies of Waste Recycling Group (WRG) who operate the Pen-y-Bont Landfill site near Chirk, the funding is administered by the Environmental Body WREN. The well needed changes include double glazed windows, gas central heating, installation of a

disabled toilet and painting throughout. The grant received was £16,400 however there was a short fall to totally fund the project and the villagers rallied together and opened the centre on weekends to provide refreshments to locals and visitors alike. A target of £1000 was set to raise during the summer months, however such is the success of the venture that so far a staggering £3000 has been raised it has now been decided to form a constituted social enterprise group to raise money for the whole of the community in Froncysyllte by fully utilising the refurbished community centre and doing the same again next year.

WREN has distributed funding to myriad of community projects throughout the Wrexham area. If you have a project that benefits the community as a whole and you are looking for funding please contact WREN head office on 01953 714114 www.wren.org.uk or their Wales project manager, Meleri Jones on 01248 674 907. They will be able to advise you if your project is eligible and offer assistance with your application to WREN.

Dawn Needham whose idea it was to start the cakes projects said "The group has had such fun doing the refreshments and the customers have been so positive about the idea that we want to carry on. The way the whole village has come together has been really nice to see as it is a real meeting point now were young and old, locals and visitors all mix together, it will be missed during the winter season by every one but we will be back in March. I would like to thank all those who turned out to support us, we have started to build up regulars from all over the area and the comments book is filling up with address from all over the globe we have had visitors from as far a field as New York and Australia."

Councillor Geraint Roberts said "The team are operating with the same since of drive and spirit as the previous generation of fundraisers who built the centre 30 years ago and have done really well to raise this much money and the way it has brought the community together is an added positive. I think that it is great that they have decided to carry on next year and use the community centre to benefit the whole community, I can't wait until March when it reopens as the cakes provided are second to none!"

Jim Davies

Report from the Aqueduct Community Association.

Following the community conference in the Summer, everyone who registered at the event should have received a copy of the report. There was a follow up meeting held on the 28th of November and further to this meeting a list of projects were drawn up and working groups organised to manage these projects.

Anyone who has any interest in joining us as an association member or volunteer please contact myself on 01978 810302 alternatively you can contact the web master at www.aqueduct.uk.com. All the latest developments are posted on the website as they happen and I will also be able to report more in the next issue of the newsletter.

As you can see from elsewhere in this newsletter we have organised a Christmas afternoon on December 15th. This was first suggested on the conference day, and it was one project that we were able to action with immediate effect. We have been very busy organising this event and thanks to everyone who has contributed. This is a community activity for everyone, so come along and enjoy. If it is a success, we would like to make it an annual event. Prior to this, on the evening of December the 12th, Santa will be visiting the villages of Garth and Fron stopping in Fron at the Community Centre. On the evening of 14th of December he will be visiting Trevor.

A working group from Garth and Trevor organised a race night which was held on the 23rd of November to raise money for the Garth and Trevor Community Centre fund and a Christmas raffle has been organised for the same fund.

Once again if anyone has any free time and would like to get involved in any activity we are organising, please contact us at www.aqueduct.uk.com.

Sue Kempster
Chair.

Mobile Library

The mobile Library calls every three weeks on a Tuesday:

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

Dates for 2008: 8th January, 29th January, 19th February, 11th March.

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

Froncysyllte C.P. School - Newsletter

September saw the start of another school year. During the summer break the school underwent redecoration work in the second phase of its three year renovation plan, and new furniture and equipment including interactive white board, was purchased for Early Years and Key Stage 1. With eleven Nursery children starting now and even more Early Entitlement children expected throughout the coming year, the school has appointed additional teaching staff to work with Early Years. This has enabled us to retain the individual class ratio of below 20 pupils per teacher. In a recent inspection, our Hopscotch Nursery which provided provision for all day attendance for children from the age of 3, which operates within the school premises, was commended for the level of service it provides. We do, of course, aim to maintain these high standards for future years.

We have had a number of workshops visit the school this half term including an art workshop for Key Stage 2 which was won by George Fletcher, one of our year 4 pupils, as part of his prize for winning the Read a Million Words competition. We were also visited by a Science Workshop who brought along all types of creatures for the children to both look at and hold, ranging from snakes and giant centipedes to the more cuddly rabbit – the children had a great time. In addition Key Stage 2 spent a day at ECTARC Centre for their European Day of languages as part of Global Citizenship they also took part in two music sessions provided by Dinas Bran to help develop transition links with that school.

The children have produced their first half termly newsletter called Pupil Post. In future issues we hope to include a selection of school work as well as information and pictures on events that have taken place. Pupils throughout the school will then be able to contribute.

After School Club had a quiz and bingo night to raise funds for the club and the Parent, Teachers and Friends Association held an end of term Halloween party which proved a great success. There were competitions, raffle prizes and apple bobbing. Thank you to everyone who helped and supported these events.

Kim Dodd
Chair of Governors

Live Band at the Telford Inn

On the evening of the 15th December from 7pm onwards there is a live band in the Telford Inn. The band is a bit different than normal because it has been formed using local residents with one intention – to raise money for the community. The band will only play this one evening and I have therefore named the band "4 one night only" The reason it is special for me is my son Harry is the drummer, and he is only 12 years old. There is quite a mixture of talent and musical instruments planned for the evening, so basically anything goes.

Tickets are on sale at the Telford Inn, Trevor or from myself 01978 810906 at a cost of £3, under 16's are free but must be accompanied by an adult. There are a limited number of tickets available so if anybody would like to come down its advisable to get the tickets early, it really will be a "fun" night.

All money raised is for the Aqueduct Community Association and will therefore be returned back into the community.

Steve Edwards

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Wednesday	9 - 11am	4.00 - 6.30pm
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Friday	9 - 11am	4.00 - 6.30pm
Saturday	9 - 12.00pm	Emergencies only
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COMPETITION TIME

Identify the following English towns from the clues provided,
eg: That's a high place for witches to meet - **Coventry**

1. Where the cattle cross the river -
2. Michael Schumacher used to drive one -
3. One for you, one for me, one for you, one for me -
4. What a saucy place -
5. The only town with an exclamation of its own-
6. "Be careful out there!" -
7. Completely off his trolley -
8. Nearly enough to tie up a parcel -
9. Bluebottle's best friend could be from Lancashire or Norfolk -
10. I doubt if "The Blue Boy" was painted here -
11. These make a mess of the tablecloth-
12. An apparition in Yorkshire -

Answers next to back page

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Spring Issue – deadline for adverts or articles
Friday 15th February 2008

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