

# Community News

Issue number 11

Autumn 2008



*For free distribution in Fron, Garth & Trevor.*

## Best Kept Garden Competition – 2008

The winners of the 2008 Llangollen Rural Community Council's Best Kept Garden competition were announced at a presentation in the Garth and Trevor Community Centre last week. You can see photographs of all the gardens on the Community Council web site [www.llangollen-ruralcc.org](http://www.llangollen-ruralcc.org)

Mr Peter Rushton won the Large Garden and Best Overall prize. Miss Mary Davies won first prize in the Small Garden section and the most outstanding feature was won by Mr & Mrs Dilwyn Jones.

This year eighteen 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 only four entries in the category for large gardens, and there were eleven entries in the small garden category. There were a large variety of hanging baskets to choose from and a number of containers".

### Overall Large Garden

1. Mr Peter Rushton
2. Miss Helen Jones
3. Mrs Ida Wild and Mr Stephen Tudor

### Overall Small Garden

1. Miss Mary Davies
2. Mrs Enid Powell
3. Mr & Mrs Brian Beesley

### Containers

1. Mr Peter Evans
2. Mrs M Crosby
3. Mr Peter Rushton

### Hanging Baskets

1. Mrs Ida Wild
2. Mrs Mary Lowe
3. Mr & Mrs Dilwyn Jones



### Most Outstanding Feature

Mr & Mrs Dilwyn Jones

### Monsanto Rose Bowl (Best Overall)

Mr Peter Rushton

# Memories of Trevor Wharf

By the late Don Evans

We start with **Rose Cottage**; this was the only dwelling in the Trevor Wharf, that boasted of having a bathroom en suite and in my time was tenanted by Mr & Mrs Jonathon Evans along with their children Emlyn, Blodwen, Howel, Helen and Betty. They were a musical family as Jonathon was a pianist, Emlyn was a noted tenor and generally all were above average singers. Helen later became the wife of a South Wales Cleric and settled down there.

Next came the **Wharf Public House**; the pub ceased trading in the early 1900's and reverted to a cottage to be known as **No 7 Canal side**. The first tenant of No 7 was my Grandmother Jane Evans who previously had before my Grandfather died, lived in Pen Y Graig, Bont a tied house owned by the Canal Company. My Grandfather Enoch Evans was a banks man for the Canal Company and had relocated to Bont from the Ellesmere Depot to cover the company owned embankment from the Aqueduct to Bryn Howell being responsible for keeping the grass, brambles and other weeds down. He was also along with Mr B. Davies the Fron – Whitehurst banks man, responsible for keeping the Aqueduct trough ice free during the Winter. If Grandfather needed additional help for one reason or another he contacted his supervisor in Ellesmere who would assess the situation and if needed would send out a gang from Ellesmere.

On Grandfather's death his job was given to his son Jack who was later dubbed 'Jack the Bont' and became a bit of a legend in his own right. It was at this time my Grandmother was offered the tenancy of No 7 and Jack the tenancy of Pen y Graig. Joining Gran at No 7 were children Sam, Gwyn, Noel, Elsie and Gladys. Her other children Cissie, Maggie, Rose and Chrissie were away working or married in 1924. I was to become the junior member of the household to be brought up by my Grandmother.

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## Lemon & Almond Drizzle Cake

100g (3½ ozs) Marg	2 large eggs
150g (5½ ozs) Castor Sugar	60ml (4 tbsp) milk
175g (6 ozs) S.R. Flour	1 lemon
5ml (1 tsp) Baking Powder	25g (1 oz) flake almonds
100g (3½ ozs) Gran. Sugar	

Preheat oven to 180c, 350g, and gas 4. Grease and line base of 2lb loaf tin.

Place marg, castor sugar, baking powder, flour, eggs and milk into a large bowl and beat well for two minutes until light and fluffy. Add grated rind of the lemon. Place into tin, level and sprinkle with almonds. Bake for 40 – 45 minutes until the cake springs back from side of tin.

While the cake is baking mix together the granulated sugar and lemon juice, spoon the lemon mixture over the top of the cake as soon as it comes out of the oven. Leave to cool in the tin.

## Chairman's Corner

The council are currently on their summer break and have not met since the beginning of July, but that does not mean that we have let the grass grow under our feet, indeed quite the opposite. It has been a busy period for members of the council, with a visit to Bettisfield community centre organised by the Aqueduct Community Association, the purpose of the visit was to establish what was available for our three communities by the way of grants for improvements, those that went have come back full of ideas of what can be achieved by working together. Several meetings have been arranged with organisations that will be able to help us achieve our aims.

The community café in Fron is going from strength to strength and continues to be really well supported by both visitors and villagers alike, the money raised is going to be put towards improvement projects in the village, and it is our intention to apply for support grants using the money raised to help with the match funding and make the money go further!

PC Gary Robershaw & PCSO Dave Jenkins have been working hard in the villages and have carried out a number of speed surveys in specific areas of concern that have been raised by your community councillors. The results from these surveys will be fed back in the next council meeting. Gary has also given a report of his findings in Garth in this newsletter. The villagers of Fron have also presented a well supported petition asking for action to be taken with regards the issue of speeding traffic through village along the A5, this is now being presented to the Welsh Assembly Government who have responsibility for this trunk road.

I would like to thank every one involved in making the 'fun day' in Trevor such a huge success, the number of visitors far exceeded expectations and I know the community stall holders were really pleased with the opportunity to 'boost their coffers'. I was helping out on the Cakes & Company stall and it was great to see so many people enjoying themselves.

The community celebrated the very best gardens in our villages in the newly refurbished Garth & Trevor Community Centre, with the annual best kept garden competition, the standard was extremely high and made the judges task of choosing winners really difficult, but win or lose the fact that our neighbours make such an effort in creating such beautiful gardens which bring pleasure and joy to all those that pass them. A special note of thanks should also be extended to our Clerk Sue Jones for organising the event.

James Davies

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## Trevor Indoor Bowls Club

Meetings every Thursday night at the Garth & Trevor Community Centre.  
Starting at 8 pm; admission £1.50. Refreshments available.

We have two mats and plenty of various sized bowls available, whether you'd just like to come for a practice or join in a competitive game. For further information please contact Moira on 01978 824401 or Joyce on 01978 823244

# Aqueduct Association

By Steve Edwards

The Trevor basin fun day on 2nd August turned out to be the best ever event yet, the weather was exceptionally good to us all day with loads of lovely sunshine. Estimates say there was probably in excess of 5,000 people who passed through the stalls on the day. The only minor issue on the day was parking; this will be corrected for next year's event.

The Mayor of Wrexham, Councillor David Griffiths was accompanied by the Mayoress Mrs Denise Griffiths and started off their duties by judging the painting competition at the Telford Inn, Trevor. The Mayor and Mayoress both commented several times on how good all the paintings were and how difficult it was to find some winners.

The competition was open to pupils from Garth and Froncysyllte primary schools with two categories for children aged 6 – 8 and aged 9 – 11. The theme of the competition was "wildlife of the canal" and the Telford Inn sponsored the event by supplying prizes and displaying the entries on the day.

The winner of the 9 - 11 category was Maggie Wood, aged 11, from Garth School who received a £10 Argos voucher. The runner up was Jessica Taylor, aged 11, from Garth School who received a £5 Argos voucher.

The winner of the 6 – 8 category was Leah Jones, aged 8, from Froncysyllte School who received an Art box (various art orientated equipment). The runner up was Emily Larwood, aged 7, from Garth School who received some colouring books and a pencil set.

The Mayor asked me to thank both schools for participating in the competition and to thank all the children for their efforts; every one deserved a prize as they were all so good. Rob & Sarah from The Telford very kindly donated all the prizes for the winners again, many thanks to them.

We also ran a "Hook a duck" stall for the children attracting children and parents alike. There were many winners on the day getting the winning prize of £5; however the Association still managed to raise £130 towards its funds. Special thanks to Ian & Fiona Edwards for running this stall (and their helpers!).

The painting competition and hook a duck stall had both been organised by The Aqueduct Community Association. Many thanks to all the people who helped to make the day the "best yet" including all the organisers and helpers prior to and on the day – you know who you are!!!!





## **Garth & Trevor Community Centre**

Due to the illness of the Mayor of Wrexham the immediate past Mayor deputised and officially opened the Garth & Trevor Community Centre on Saturday 30th of August 2008. Following the extensive refurbishment which has taken place, with the help of grants from WREN, the Welsh Assembly Community Facilities and Activities Programme, the Llangollen Rural Community Council, Aqueduct Association and Wrexham County Borough Council. Thanks to Davies Brothers being the main contractors and completing the work on time and on budget.

The building is now disabled friendly with; parking bay, dropped curb, tactile ramp, toilet facilities and the door to the computer area widened. Gas Central Heating has been installed, new extractor fans in the main hall, all new doors and double glazed windows, together with UPVC external Cladding. It is now a building the community can be proud of. It is in fact a superb venue for holding parties for your children or your selves. There are some Fridays and Saturdays available to book ring 823244.

The following user organisations were present, displaying some of their activities. Aqueduct Association., Bowls ,Computer Class, Church/ Mothers Union, Darby and Joan Club, Mothers and Toddler, W. I., & Youth Club.

Delwyn Roberts

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Secretary

## **Telecottage Computer Access Point New Opening Times starting September**

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Afternoon Internet access and after school use Tuesday 4pm - 6pm

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It is also possible to use the facilities, including laminating, at other times

by ringing 810119

## Message from the Vicar of Froncysyllte & Chirk Christianity at Canterbury

The recent Lambeth Conference of Anglican bishops worldwide brought to the world's attention the divisions that exist in Christianity about the place of the Bible as a basis of faith, especially with reference to what should be the Christian attitude towards homosexuality.

Over a quarter of the bishops failed to attend the Lambeth Conference: they were mostly from Africa, Asia and South America. They hold traditionalist views about everything, not just homosexuality, and regard the Bible as the sole basis for the Christian faith, like old fashioned Protestants.

They stayed away primarily because they disagreed with a liberal, indeed approach to homosexuality, but in fact they disagree with a liberal, indeed the Anglican approach to Christianity generally. Protestants base their Christian faith solely on the Bible, Roman Catholics have not only the Bible but more important the Pope and the authority of the Church (remember it was the Church that produced the Bible, so which has greater authority?). But Anglicans derive their Christian faith from the Bible, the Church, Reason and Experience: the Bible as the basis of faith (but not fundamentalism), the Church (its bishops, creeds and doctrines, etc.) as the interpreter of the faith (but not infallible popery), Reason to explain and understand the faith (but not rationalism), and finally Experience to test and apply the faith (but not eccentricity). Authentic Anglicans hold all four elements in careful balance when formulating and pronouncing on the Christian faith.

So where do you get your faith from? Christians have the Bible, the Church, Reason and Experience. We also have the examples of the saints (both the famous ones and the ordinary ones), we have the inspiration and guidance of God's Holy Spirit, and we have, above all, the character of Christ Jesus as known in the gospels and imagined by each believer.

And my personal understanding of Jesus is that he was a liberal by inclination (he was certainly a liberal Jew!), a man of great compassion and courage, faith and vision. I will not be rash enough to suggest that he would be an Anglican (!) but I will suggest that his known character would have found him at the Lambeth Conference rather than deliberately absent from it. At the end of the day, Christians must show the character of Christ, but we will all differ in our understanding of that character and in our efforts to copy that character. Everything else is secondary. As Sir Herbert Butterfield, the mid-twentieth century British historian famously said: "Hold fast to Christ, and for the rest be totally uncommitted".

Rev. Tony Rees

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## Bird Watch

By Anne Arnold

House Sparrows, Robins, Collared Dove, Thrush, Blackbirds, Magpies, Coal Tit, Blue Tit, Great Tit, Nuthatch, Jay, Swallows, Pied Wagtail, Long-tailed Tit, Mistle Thrush, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Starlings, Seagulls, Bats, Hooded Crow, Rook, Chaffinch, Tawny Owl, Buzzards, Green Woodpecker, Woodpigeon, Stock Dove, Lapwing, Sparrow Hawk, Yellow Hammer.

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**Winter issue deadline for adverts or articles  
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## **Fun Day at World Renowned Pontcysyllte Aqueduct**

In what is becoming an annual tradition, the family fun day was held at Trevor Basin adjacent to Pontcysyllte Aqueduct on Saturday August 2nd.

There were a whole range of activities and stalls to enjoy including fairground rides, face-painting, wildlife displays and entertainment from Gary Sausage and Punch and Judy. Given the setting there were also exhibitions and demonstrations of traditional canal crafts such as bonnet making, boatmen's spiderweb belts, painting and crochet and rag rug making. Many local community groups had displays and stalls. The local angling society also ran their popular competition "Guess the Weight of the Trout" which weighed in at 7lbs 2oz and 8 grams.

Event organiser Kay Rickard from Wrexham County Borough Council's Economic Development Department says "The event has proved very popular over the last two years and has attracted thousands of visitors. We are delighted with the support from the local community and site owners British Waterways. The event appeals to local residents and tourists alike so we love to see lots of people having a great time and enjoying the marvellous setting."

It is an important year for Pontcysyllte Aqueduct as UNESCO inspectors will be visiting the site in September as part of the process to assess whether this masterpiece of Thomas Telford can join the list of World Heritage sites. If all goes well during that visit then Pontcysyllte Aqueduct will join the ranks of other global landmarks such as Sydney Opera House, the Taj Mahal and the Tower of London.

Kay Rickard  
Event Organiser WCBC

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## **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](mailto:Maifun.Rogers@wrexham.gov.uk)

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

Thursday 4th September

Thursday 2nd & 30th October

Thursday 27th November

## **Fron News**

### **Calor Gas Village of the Year**

I'm sure when Pat read the article on Calor Gas Village of the Year and thought it a good idea for Fron to enter, little did she think we would get to the final. But her belief in the Community Spirit must have struck a chord with the judges because Fron has been short-listed and will be judged along with Llandegla and Barmouth in September. So watch this space and wish us luck!!

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### **Cakes and Company**

By Julie Williams

Cakes and Company are now open every Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday until the end of October. Money raised in Cakes and Company will be spent on village projects. These may include funding towards visual and environmental improvements.

To commemorate loved ones, for a minimum donation of £1 we will plant a daffodil bulb in memory of them. A message may be left in our book of remembrance which can be viewed at Cakes and Company Community Cafe. Bulbs will be planted in the autumn donations can be made whenever Cakes and Company are open.

### **Have a little fling!**

For just £1 you stand a chance to win a prize of £25 on the Bonus Ball, the remaining £24 goes to Cakes and Company. The first lucky winner was Beryl Jones. Good luck to everyone and thank you for your support.

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### **Fron Community Centre**

By Claire Davies Community Centre Committee member

This summer has seen the delivery of new outdoor picnic benches, the perfect place to sit and enjoy a cup of tea and slice of cake from Cakes & Co, the weekend community café which continues to provide a welcome break for both villager's and tourists. Stan's Supermarket has generously donated ten hanging baskets which are now in full bloom and look beautiful thanks to centre volunteer Dave, who tends them daily. Several Prize Bingo nights have been organised to raise funds for much needed storage units, thanks to everyone who has come along and raised over £300. The Bowls mat was brought out for a special Bowls Evening providing an evening of great fun. Keep an eye out on the notice boards for future events.

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### **Bird list**

By Julie Williams

Not a lot to report except for the Robin still coming to feed. Plenty of natural food for the birds at the moment. Still no sighting of the Tree Creeper and the Nuthatch hasn't been seen for around twelve months.

Buzzard, Blue tit, Blackbird, Chiffchaff, Crow, Chaffinch, Collar Dove, Coal tit, Goldfinch, Greenfinch, Great tit, Hedgesparrow, Jackdaw, Kestrel, Magpie, Pheasants, Robin, Rook, Raven, Swift, Swallow, Songthrush, Wren, Woodpigeon.



## Llangollen Motorcycle Show

By Kim Dodd

The younger members of the Llangollen and District Motorcycle Club were recently invited to take part in a display at the Motorcycle Show held in Llangollen. Ages on the team ranged from about 11 to 18 (apart from Russ Jones from Fron, who somehow sneaked in from the veterans class), but we do have even younger riders who participate in their own separate 'conducted trials' which run alongside the main club trials.

There was a full range of abilities taking part in the display, from Rhiannon Aitkinson who only started the beginning of the year, and who is one of our few female riders, to the likes of David Parry, Matt Marrubi and James Samuel who ride the intermediate and expert routes. The team showed their expertise by riding through and across various obstacles, whilst racing against each other and the clock and by demonstrating both balance and fearlessness on the see-saw and high jump.

It was a very entertaining couple of days. Well done to all who took part and helped in the organisation.

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## Mobile Library

There are some changes to the mobile library route this month.

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	11.20 to 12.00
Trevor Community Centre	1.15 to 2.15
Rhosymedre Community Centre	2.30 to 3.45
Fron Britannia Inn	4.00 to 4.40

Dates for 2008: Sept. 16th October 7th & 28th  
November 18th and December 9th

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

# Froncysylle C.P School

By Kim Dodd Chair of Governors

With the final Inspection Report now published by Estyn, the school can at last prepare for a new year proud in the knowledge of its achievements. Obtaining a level 2 in all but one area, both staff and pupils should be congratulated. Our aim is of course to maintain, and where possible, improve on these standards.

The final part of the school year has been just as busy as the rest. In the Ceiriog football tournament the school achieved a very respectable 3rd place position, we also took part in the annual Chirk swimming gala which we won last year, as well as holding our own Sports Day when the weather finally allowed. All the children took part with even Nursery having their own race.

There was a Ugandan promotion day as part of global citizenship, when visitors to the school included musicians and a storyteller, the children also made their own African masks. Years 3 and 4 dressed up at Chirk Castle as part of their terms topic, infants and Early Years took a trip to the zoo, whilst the juniors visited the Chester Roman Museum, and what school year would be complete without a day at the Llangollen Eisteddfod. Pupils in years 5 and 6 spent two days at an outward bound center in Nantyr where they took part in several activities. They all arrived home tired and some slightly smelly having spent time both on and in Ellesmere Lake. The trip received a definite 'thumbs up' from all those who took part.

Finally, the leavers service took place the last week of term. The class this year is split with two pupils going upto Rhyn Park and the remaining three (including my own son Harry) moving up to Dinas Bran. They all put on an excellent show, each taking part in a celebrity jungle trial adapted to include a humorous punchline. Both the show and their individual speeches were very well done. Good luck to them all in their new schools.





## You hate them, but you want them.

Many of you will be aware that Dave Jenkins and I hold monthly meetings with residents of Llangollen Rural. These meetings are all about us listening to your concerns. I would like to thank all those that take time to come to the meetings as your input is valuable to the way we police your area. If you haven't been before then please come along.

At a recent meeting those present stated that one issue affecting the quality of lives for those living in the area was of speeding motorists. I am not going to give you a long speech about speeding as I think that has already been done in the past. But, what I will say is that as much as people do not like speed cameras residents still complain about the speed of some vehicles, particularly those traveling along the A5 and A539.

One other area of concern was along Garth road. We recently carried out a speed survey along this stretch and found during two periods on a Sunday, 133 vehicles traveled along the route. Of this only one vehicle was found to be speeding with the average speed being 20.90mph.

Whilst residents are still complaining about speeding issues we will continue to utilize the speed gun and cameras in your area. Don't get caught. Driving at the correct speed may not only save a life but also save you money.

Regards.  
Gary Robertshaw  
David Jenkins

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## Tiddlywinks Toddler Group.

By Sharon Bakeman

The group meets on Thursday Mornings at Trevor and Garth Community centre from 10am-12pm. Cost £1.50 includes drink and snack for both Carer and Child. We welcome anyone from the local area, and offer a very relaxed and informal setting, So why not come along and join us. We are currently doing some fundraising to replace some old equipment and so far we have done the following: On 4th July we held a sponsored walk at Ty Mawr Country Park. We had a great time with children and adults all walking the full distance. We ended with a picnic and a visit to the small animal holding. Big congratulations to all the children, who managed to raise nearly £300. On 2nd August we had a stall at Trevor Basin Fun day and had a very enjoyable day, and raised £100. We will be having a body shop party on 5th September at Trevor and Garth Community Centre at 7.30pm all are welcome.



The children receiving their sponsored walk certificates.



## County Councillors Diary

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

### **FUN DAY**

What a great success even the weather was on our side. It was nice to see all our local organizations with their stalls all doing so well and the new Mayor & Mayoress, David & Denise Griffiths carrying out their duties. I would like to say a special thanks to British Waterways & their staff, Wrexham Council, Kay, Glen, Claire and their team. Andy Hughes, Aqueduct Association, Cakes & Company, CBM PC Gary Robertshaw, PCSO David Jenkins, and all our local organizations, who held several meetings throughout the year to put together this great event.

**Car Parking:** Because of the high profile of our aqueduct, we are now having problems in the area. Let me assure you that talks are on going to solve this problem.

**Bont Bridge:** Cadw and Wrexham Council have now come to an agreement as to who will carry out the repairs. Work to commence soon.

**Tidy up Day:** Due to bad weather and holidays there has been a delay. Better late than never it will be done!!

**Site Meetings:** I have had meetings with Environmental Dpt., Highways and Housing looking at ways to improve the appearances of our three villages. As a result I have had extra picnic tables, bins, and road resurfacing. These improvements are on going.

I would like to wish Froncysyllte Good luck in the Calor Gas Village of the year final. It was nice to see our local boy Stefan Edwards in our last news letter doing so well with his football, with his Welsh caps. I'm sure on behalf of myself and the people of the ward wish him every success for the future. Well Done Stef.

We now know that Trevor Post Office is earmarked for closure, but I'm having discussions and looking at other alternatives. I have been actively campaigning against these closures.

I was very pleased to be part of the naming of the Wrexham & Shropshire new train service to London, who held a name the train competition. It was open to all primary schools across the county borough. The competition was won by Froncysyllte school yr 5 & 6 who chose to call it Dyfrbont Pontcysyllte. They won a replica name plate and a free trip to London.



Any problems don't hesitate to contact me.

Pat Jeffares Phone: 01978 820570

Please note my new e-mail address: [pat.jeffares@wrexham.gov.uk](mailto:pat.jeffares@wrexham.gov.uk)