For free distribution in Fron, Garth & Trevor.

Pontcysyllte Fun Day

Following the success of the Fun Day held at Trevor Basin last July, the event is to be repeated on Saturday 4 August. The date has been changed to fall as near as possible to 9 August - the 250th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Telford, who was responsible for the construction of Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and the Llangollen Canal.

The day will include lots of 'fun' activities such as fairground rides and a Punch & Judy Show and we hope that local environmental and other community groups will take part, as they did so successfully last year. The Fun Day will be co-ordinated by the Events Team from Wrexham County Borough Council's Economic Development Department. Anyone who would like further information or who is interested in having a stand at the event should contact:

Kay Rickard, Tel: 01978 292536, email:kay.rickard@wrexham.gov.uk









Links with the Past

By Emrys Roberts

During the years 1830 to 1896 there lived in the village of Froncysyllte a man who was to make a huge contribution towards raising its status from that of a hamlet comprising a handful of houses, to a thriving village complete with school, places of worship, shops and other facilities which are the essence of the infrastructure of a community.

One of his principle achievements for the village resulted from the abundant support which he and his family gave to the then Vicar of Llangollen for the provision of a place of worship for the parishioners in the village. Throughout his life he remained a loyal Churchman and his reinforcement of Vicar James' efforts was rewarded in September 1871 when St David's opened its doors for public worship. Readers may be interested to learn that the original purpose of St David's was to serve as a Chapel for occasional use as a place for worship and also as a National School.

The gentleman referred to was a Cornishman who came to reside in the village as a young man of nineteen years of age, making his home with John Edwards who lived at Cysyllte Farm (the property known in the present time as 'Fron House'). John Edwards was a prominent member of the Welsh Baptists in the area and in addition to his farming activity he was also the village undertaker.

Those who in those far off times had the pleasure of hearing many and varied tales of this man from Cornwall must have been captivated by his first hand accounts of witnessing, as a very young child being taken to a vantage point on one of the headlands of the Cornish coast the sight of the British Navy escorting the defeated Napoleon down the English Channel. His eye-witness accounts of smuggling and the infamous press-gangs, whipping at the cart's tail and cockfighting made him a most interesting and much sought after raconteur.

He started a life long career as an engineer in the great mining industry of those days in Cornwall and came to North Wales to work in the developing coal mining products and also in the limestone quarrying concerns of the Cornwallis-West family of Ruthin Castle, land owners of a very substantial part of the Township of Cysyllte.

This highly respected Mining Engineer and much loved leading figure in the local community died at Fron in December 1896. A token of the esteem and respect in which he was held is illustrated by the beautiful stained glass window which is to be found at St. David's and is inscribed as follows-

"To the glory of God, in memory of Walter Eddy, born 12.1.1812 died 8.12.1896 – erected by public subscription".

From a personal point of view I would have been honoured and delighted to have met Walter Eddy and to have learned from him so much regarding the development of the village during the 60 odd years he lived at Fron. It would have been an enormous help to me in my research of the village history.

Chairman's Corner

I feel very privileged to have been elected as Chairman of the Community Council again, and look forward very much to my year in office.

Our monthly meetings are both interesting and constructive, and cover a considerable amount of issues within our Community from Police matters, Footpaths, Highways, Planning, Projects and many other things.

Our aims are to improve our villages and hope that by discussing together the various problems that our villages have improved over the years. We have money allocated for projects within our three villages and would welcome suggestions from residents.

With the 'summer like' weather we have had during April and early May and now the welcome rain, I am sure your gardens will be in full bloom ready for this year's popular Garden competition. 'Entry forms are included within this Newsletter'.

On a sad note we were very sorry to have a letter from Mrs Audrey Owens resigning from Council after many years as a very valuable member. Audrey has given a considerable amount of time to Council, and her knowledge of the village of Froncysyllte was outstanding. Thank you Audrey for the support and time that you have given this Council over the years.

Elfed Morris

Froncysyllte Community Centre News

The Froncysyllte Community Centre Committee has been working towards necessary improvements to the building. They have applied for a £16000 grant from WREN the money that is made available through the land fill companies.

If successful this money will be used to replace the windows, redecorate, fit central heating and toilet facilities for the disabled. With these improvements the centre will be more attractive to more users and be a better facility for the area.

The Committee has to raise £3000 in order to secure the grant funding and have been working towards this aim over the last 12 months. They currently have a shortfall of £2000 and ask that any event to raise money for this important community facility can be supported by as many residents as possible.

Message from the Vicar of Llangollen

I am writing this at the start of Christian Aid week, having just held a service in St Collen's Church to mark the 200th Anniversary of the abolition of slavery in the British Empire. Although this was marked on the 25th March nationally, we tied it in with the newly-launched Jazz festival in Llangollen which included a so-called 'scratch' Gospel choir performing three songs during the Sunday morning service which the singers had learned in a day-workshop some weeks earlier.

Jazz, of course, has its roots in black Afro-American music of the early twentieth century. The experience of slavery is reflected too in the 'spirituals' as well as the earliest Gospel songs of the mid nineteenth century, and these were all reflected in the service – hymns ranging from John Newton's 'Amazing Grace' to 'Blessed Assurance' and 'Steal Away' were sung with gusto alongside the choir's modern gospel songs.

Perhaps the challenge today facing those who wish to make poverty history is even more daunting than the one which faced William Wilberforce and his co-abolitionists. Today millions of people are still suffering from forms of slavery and human trafficking. In 2005 the International Labour Organisation (ILO) estimated that at least 12.3 million women, men and children were bound by slavery around the world. Of this number 2.4 million will have been trafficked – many women or girls for the sex trade. Poverty makes people an easy target for exploitation and traps families in slave-like conditions – often from one generation to the next.

Hilary Benn, speaking at the opening of the 'Slave Britain' photo exhibition at St Paul's Cathedral on 20 February, said:

"As long as one in five people live in extreme poverty, as long as 77 million children are not enrolled in primary school, and as long as too many countries have ineffective government – there will be a ready supply of victims for the greedy and unscrupulous. "Human trafficking and contemporary slavery are part of the greatest moral challenge today – to end global poverty."

What we chose to spend our money on matters because slavery today, as in the past, is market-driven. If we buy clothing made cheaply in third-world sweat-shops, or drink coffee and tea from producers who pay humiliatingly low wages to their workers, then we are, frankly, compounding the problem. When we try to look for and to buy more fairly traded goods, products, for instance, marked with the 'Fair-trade' Logo, then we really can begin to bring about a change in people's spending power. This in turn can begin to effect long-term changes in the way our global markets are run. It may seem little like small-gesture politics but it's a really important step to think 'Fair-trade' and to buy Fair-trade goods. A little good can so easily do a lot of good because when we work together, all things are possible...

Latest news from The Fron Male Voice Choir

Last week saw the Fron Male Voice choir participation in the glitziest evening of the year for Classic Music performers; they sang two songs at the Classic Brit Awards Evening at the Albert Hall. It was an evening to remember as they rubbed shoulders with all the stars of classical music.

Their arrival at the Albert Hall was greeted with a flurry of camera flashes as they walked down the red carpet following Katherine Jenkins and preceding Sting and his wife. With the year that the choir has had so far they have become used to the unexpected but even following all that has happened to them this was a moment of surrealism for the choir.

By now, we all know that in the classic Brits Award for Album of the Year their album "Voices of the Valley" was runner-up to the great Paul McCartney's album "Ecce Cor Meum (Behold My Heart). As far as the choir was concerned the fact that they were even nominated along with stars such as Sting, Sir Paul McCartney, Bryn Terfyl, Katherine Jenkins to name but four of the 10 nominees was an honour in itself. Choir Treasurer Allan Smith said "we had a great time and we were especially pleased that he (Paul McCartney) acknowledged the choir in his acceptance speech - apologised even!"

The choir are under no illusions that their presence at the Albert Hall was down to the fantastic support that they have received from the public as a whole, both in purchasing the album and voting for them for the award.

They are now embarking on a follow-up CD which will be out around October this year, and we hope - with a little bit of luck, and further support from the public that they will be back at the Brits again next year, and who knows maybe this time they will bring back that award to the Llangollen Valley.

Bara Brith

1 lb mixed fruit12 ozs sugarMug of hot black teaSoak overnight

1 lb SR flour
3 ozs margarine
Teaspoon mixed spice
Pinch of salt
2 eggs well beaten
Milk if needed
1 dessertspoon of black treacle (optional)

Next day, rub fat in flour, add salt and mixed spice, then eggs, fruit and treacle. Divide the mixture into $2 \times 2lb$ loaf tins.

Bake in a moderate oven for one and a half to one and three quarter hours.

Aqueduct Community Association

By Sue Kempster

Following a Public Meeting on the 20th March this year it was decided that the Aqueduct Community Association would be formed. Its aims would be to identify the needs and aspirations that we the people who live in this community would like to address.

Officers were elected, Chairman Sue Kempster, Vice chairman Jim Davies, Secretary Roger Cooper and Treasurer Stephen Edwards.

Representing the villages:

Garth - Andrew Condie, Trevor - Tracey Pugh and Fron - Richard Travis. Any of the above can be contacted for any information you might require.

There are a large number of members who are eager and willing to ensure this association is a success. However it would be fair to say that Trevor is represented more than Garth or Fron. We welcome anyone as a member but if you live in Garth or Fron please think again about joining this association.

You will have had flyers through your doors by now and hopefully booking forms for our community conference day on 23rd of June. This promises to be an exciting day in terms of progress for us all, and will give everyone the opportunity to make a difference. Lunch is included and a crèche facility is available if required.

If you have not received a booking form and would like to attend please contact clare.lightfoot@wrexham.gov.uk

Trevor Youth Club Future politicians?

Members of the Garth and Trevor Youth Association are working on a mind mapping exercise. Led by lan Jones of Wrexham Youth Service, they are taking part in a series of activities that will make them better prepared to express their views and objectives. These young people will eventually take their place as part of a Youth Forum to represent themselves, and others, in our community. The acquired skills will enable them to meet with local groups and outside agencies to speak for themselves on all matters that are important to the young people in our society.







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DEE VALLEY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP, CEFN MAWR.

The Dee Valley Community Partnership offices and staff are no longer located at the Community Enterprise Centre in Well Street, Cefn Mawr. We are now based at the new Ebenezer Centre on Crane Street on the first floor. We are still offering all our familiar services such as Community Transport, DVC P staff support and the Resource Centre (photocopying, laminating and binding) but in a more tranquil and attractive setting. Access to the building at



present will be through the side door (black door) on Hill Street but parking is limited within the immediate vicinity. However, car parks are available at Well Street and Crane Street within walking distance.

At the time of writing we are anticipating the new Café Bar project on the ground floor of the centre will be opening in late June, Early July 2007.

We look forward to seeing you at the Ebenezer centre but if you need any further assistance please do not hesitate to call us on the new telephone number 01978 814990.

Garth and Trevor Telecottage.

(at Trevor Community Centre)

Hours of business are 7pm. to 9pm. Mondays. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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Bird List - Trevor

By Anne Arnold

House Sparrow, Hedge Sparrow, Robin, Blackbird (Male & Female), Crow's, Chaffinch, Bullfinch, Nuthatch, Great Tit, Blue Tit, Coal Tit, Magpie, Jay, Collared Doves, Thrush, Wren, Woodpigeon, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Ducks, Green Woodpecker, Pheasant, Buzzard, Sparrow Hawk, Kestrel, Geese (flying overhead) What a Noise!! Starlings, Piedwagtail, Lapwing, Heron and Mistle Thrush.

My year in office

As you can see from the Chairperson's address, my year in office came to an end in May. And what a year it's been! I feel we as a Community Council have held our end up, and done as much as we have been able to do within the three villages. Our newsletter is going from strength to strength and is the best avenue we have to let you all know what is going on within the ward.

County and Community Councillors are now walking the job, out on the streets with representatives from other county council departments, they are looking to make continuous improvement. The Community Council now keeps a log of necessary jobs with a time line in order that repairs and improvements are carried out quickly and progress monitored. The new Aqueduct Community Association has been set up, more about that later.

Last but not least, Llangollen Rural Community Council now has a place on the Northern Marches Partnership Board, one of only four community councils to achieve this. I have been to so many meetings on behalf of you, my head is reeling with the information I have brought back, and all of this is relevant at some point or other. In short this last year has been a huge learning curve for me and I thank the council members for giving me this opportunity.

It just remains for me to thank the trusty clerk for all her help and guidance and wish Elfed an enjoyable and productive year in office.

Sue Kempster

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 Comm. Centre	2.15 - 3.45pm
Fron Britannia Inn	4.00 - 4.40pm

Dates for 2007:

June No Visit, 3rd July and 24th July. 14th August, 4th and 25th September, 16th October, 6th and 27th November and 18th December.

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

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Disclaimer: Llangollen Rural Community Council declares that the publication of any advertisement does not carry its endorsement or sponsorship for the advertiser or their products or services unless indicated.

Fron School News

On Saturday 16th June a car boot sale will be held in Fron Community Centre 12 noon – 4pm, in aid of Froncysyllte After School Kids Club. Refreshments available.

Stalls £5 on the day. All welcome.

An Easter disco was organised by Fron School PTFA on March 29th. All of the children enjoyed the evening. Thanks to everyone for their support. £207 was raised for school funds. Twenty six junior children have gone off to Kingswood Activity Centre Denbigh for three days on a residential trip. British Waterways visited school to give an assembly on Waterside Safety followed by workshops.



Millie and Kalum pictured at the Fairtrade Exhibition.

Geraint Roberts has retired as Community Council representative on the board of governors at Froncysyllte C.P. School. The governors, staff and pupils wish to thank Geraint for his commitment and hard work over the past years. Mr James Davies will take his place on the governing body.

A donation of £700 was received earlier this year by Fron School in memory of Gwyn Jones. The school wish to thank Mrs Ruth Jones and family for their kindness, the money will be of great benefit for the development of our outdoor classroom and garden which will be developed during the next year.

Bird List - Fron

By Julie Williams

Blackbird, Blue Tit, Bramblings, Bullfinch, Buzzard, Bullfinch (19th March), Crow, Chiffchaff, Coal tit, Collared dove, Chaffinch Greenfinch, Goldfinch, Great tit, Hedge sparrow, Heron (what a wonderful sight flying overhead), House sparrow, Jackdaw, Long tailed tit, Magpie, Robin, Rook, Song thrush, Starling, Sparrow hawk, Swallow (14th April), Swift (24th April), Willow Warbler (14th April), Cock & Hen Pheasants, Wren, Pied Wagtail and Woodpigeon.

Next Community News

Will be out first week in September and will be delivered to households by Councillors and the two Youth Clubs. Any items for inclusion in this the summer edition, should be in by Monday 20th August 2007.

Froncysyllte Youth Club

Time seems to have flown by since the Christmas Party where children had a disco and karaoke. Since then they have taken part in ice skating, bowling, Laser Quest, movie stunts and white water rafting in Llangollen.

They have been creative, making bead structures, fridge magnets and Valentine's cards, as well as Easter egg hunting and pancake eating. Fron Youth Club has now over 40 children on its books and 15-20 meet on Tuesdays 6:30 - 9:00 at the Froncysyllte Community Centre.



Update on Pontcysyllte Aqueduct World Heritage Site Nomination

A great deal of work is currently in progress to draft the nomination and management plan documents. These should be ready for consultation in June/July. An executive summary of the documents will be made available to the general public and an opportunity for local residents and visitors to make comments will be given. For those who wish to read the full documents these will be made available as reference copies at local libraries and on the Wrexham County Borough Council website. The period of the consultation will be made known to local residents via newspapers, local newsletters, libraries and at the Aqueduct's Visitor Centre, nearer the time. All local Community Councils along the proposed site will be officially consulted and given an opportunity to comment

The latest Pontcysyllte newsletter will be available from the end of May through venues such as the Visitor Centre and Wrexham Tourist Information Centre. Meanwhile work is underway to prepare for the International Canal Conference in Wrexham from 10-12th June. Numerous delegates have already registered their attendance from across the UK. This is a specialist conference with top experts lined up to present academic papers on various aspects of Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and canal. This work will feed into the final nomination document and management plan produced for submission to UNESCO.

Best Kept Garden Competition

Messrs Tom Owens and John Pemberton will judge the Best Kept Garden Competition this year. The competition is open to all residents in Fron, Garth, Tower Hill and Trevor with judging taking place on Wednesday 4th July.

If you are interested in applying please complete the enclosed application form. Or a separate application form can be obtained from your local Councillors, the Clerk, Trevor Estate Shop, and the Post Offices.

Llangollen Rural Community Council. Best Kept Garden Competition 2007 Application Form.

Name:					
Address:					
Tel. No:					
Categories	are:-				
Overall La	rge Garden	Overall Small Garden	Hanging Basket	Container.	
*Please circle category(ies) entered.					

Garden Centre Vouchers will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each category. A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the most outstanding feature plus voucher and the Monsanto rose bowl for the best garden. Various garden products will accompany the Garden Centre Vouchers.

Judging will take place on Wednesday 4th July 2007.

Please return the completed form to:

Mrs Sue Jones, 1 Ael Y Bryn, Llangollen Road, Trevor by Saturday 30th June 2007.

For further information please telephone 01978 810466.

County Councillor's Diary

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

The spring got off to a great start with the weather being so warm, and once again the daffodils were a great show, which helps to cheer us all up.

I would like to wish Fron choir their continued success on the world stage. I'm sure we are all very proud of them for all their record achievements.

This month, PC Gary Robertshaw and I held a site meeting of the ward with Inspector Paul Firth, Sgt. Darren Wibbley, PCSO Chris Cheshire, and Asst. Manager Vicky Ledsom from the Plas Madoc housing estate office, Highways engineer John Walsh, and Merv Lloyd the Supervisor for our area. We were looking at ways to improve the appearance of the three villages. We had a good walk around the ward looking at the outstanding work to be done, and to identify any new jobs that required action at the same time. The outstanding actions that we identified for attention are as follows:

Trevor Estate

Fencing, kerb drops, paint the garages, tidy footpaths, trim and cut back over growth and spray weed killer. The old station needs litter picking, cutting and a general tidy up.

Garth

Trimming of overgrown hedges, tidying footpaths and weed killer put down.

A further site meeting has been held with the Street lighting dept. to sort out the extra light at Upper Garth.

<u>Fron</u>

We still have further problems outstanding with the Trunk road dept. in Cardiff, who are responsible for the A5 road through Fron. There are still sections to be resurfaced and footpaths and kerbs to be replaced. Drains and Gully's to be sorted out these matters have been taken up with them.

Following the public meeting about the future needs with our community, the Aqueduct Community Association has been formed. This organization in association with Northern Marches Cymru, has arranged an event for 23rd June to which every resident is invited. If you want to have your ideas for our community changed into reality, this will be your opportunity. An invitation has been sent to all residents in Garth, Fron and Trevor about the Conference and launch of the Association. This will be held on Saturday 23rd June at the Garth & Trevor Community Centre.

Any problems don't hesitate to contact me

Pat Jeffares

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

Llangollen Rural Community Council - AGM

At the Annual General Meeting in May Cllr. Elfed Morris was unanimously elected as Chairman and Cllr. James Davies elected as Vice Chairman. Cllr. Glyn Jones was re-elected Chairman of the Finance Committee and Cllr. Elfed Morris re-elected as Chairman of the Noddfa Cemetery Committee. Other Councillors were elected as representatives on various other committees and organisations.