

# COMMUNITY CORNER

Hydref / Autumn 2020

## CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANTYSILIO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Rhyfyn / Issue 28

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Some items were submitter before the lock-down.

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## Defibrillator Training!

Pictured below are some of the participants who took part in the defibrillator training event which was held at the Abbey Bistro in December 2019.

As the Community Council's first defibrillator is situated at the Abbey Bistro it seemed the ideal location for a training event. With refreshments 'on tap', a Christmas atmosphere and an expert to show us the ropes how could the evening not be a success.

We practiced our resuscitation skills on very lifelike plastic models including one that looked like a baby, (in the picture being held by Lanni), and one which resembled a small child, (pictured with Adam).

We laughed aplenty at each others attempts to resuscitate dummies, but we never forgot the serious side to the evening. Thank you Adam for giving your time for free and coming out on such a wet, cold and windy night to show us how to use the defibrillator.



Tony Baker, Sandra Baker, Adam Salomonson (Trainer/First Responder), Nel Hulse, Lanni Hodkinson, Jo Davies, Nicole Porter and Dan Richards.

For free distribution in the area of Llantysilio, Rhewl, Eghwyseg, Pentrefelin and Pentredŵr.

## People Urged to Use the NHS Covid-19 app

People across Wales are being urged to download the NHS COVID-19 app to help stop the spread of coronavirus and protect themselves and their loved ones as case numbers rise.

The app has been launched after positive trials and the Welsh Government says it will be a useful tool when used alongside Wales' own manual contact tracing system. It will be available to those aged 16 and over, and forms a central part of the NHS Wales Test, Trace, Protect programme identifying contacts of those who have tested positive for coronavirus.

The roll-out of the app in Wales coincides with a national campaign around how people in Wales can best support the NHS Wales Test, Trace, Protect programme, including only getting a test if they are showing symptoms; self-isolating when required; and working with local contact tracers if they are contacted.

Wales' contact tracing system - which is a publicly-run service and locally delivered - is working well, says the government, and has seen a very high contact and trace rate. Latest stats show 94% of cases are being successfully contacted.

The new app works by logging the amount of time you spend near other app users, and the distance between you, so it can alert you if someone you have been close to later tests positive for COVID-19 - even if you don't know each other.

The app will advise you to self-isolate if you have been in close contact with a confirmed case. It will also enable you to check symptoms, book a test if needed and get your test results.

Wales' Health Minister Vaughan Gething said: "*The launch of the NHS COVID-19 app is an important part of Wales' coronavirus response, supporting the NHS Wales Test, Trace, Protect programme. The more people who download and use this app, the more it will help us to prevent the spread of COVID-19.*"

"*We have worked closely with the app development team to ensure it works seamlessly across Wales and England, providing people with the right advice based on where they live. In Wales, the app will complement our existing contact tracing and testing services and will further support our co-ordinated response to COVID-19 at both a local and national level.*"

"*I strongly encourage everyone in Wales to download and use the app to keep Wales safe.*"

The app has been designed with user privacy in mind, so it tracks the virus, not people and uses the latest in data security technology to protect privacy. The system generates a random ID for an individual's device, which can be exchanged between devices via Bluetooth. These unique random IDs regenerate frequently to add an extra layer of security and preserve anonymity.

The app does not hold personal information such as your name, address or date of birth, and only requires the first half of your postcode to ensure local outbreaks can be managed. The UK's major mobile network operators, including Vodafone, Three, EE and O2, Sky and Virgin, have confirmed that all in-app activity will not come out of customers' data allowance.

In a joint statement Apple and Google said: "*We built the exposure notifications system to enable public health authorities in their efforts to develop apps to help reduce the spread of the virus while ensuring people can trust in the privacy-preserving design. We are committed to supporting the government's effort to launch an app based on this technology.*"



## Good to Eat

### Savoury Pancakes

#### **Batter**

4oz plain flour

1 egg

1/2 pint of milk (or milk and water mixed)

Pinch of salt

Beat the ingredients together, leave to stand whilst preparing the filling.

#### **Filling**

1 sliced onion

4oz cooked mushrooms

2oz cooked sweetcorn

2oz cooked peas

1oz butter or 1 dessertspoon olive oil

1 dessertspoon plain flour

1/4 pint milk

Fry the onion in butter/oil until soft. Add the flour to make a roux. Slowly add the milk ensuring that the mixture doesn't curdle. Stir in the remaining ingredients and heat through.

#### **Pancakes**

Pour a little oil into a frying pan, when hot pour enough pancake batter to cover the bottom of the pan, turn once. Put on a plate, fill with the mixture and fold in half.

This mixture should be enough to make four pancakes.



### Fifteen ways to know when your getting old!

1. Everything hurts, what doesn't hurt doesn't work.
2. The gleam in your eye is the sun shining on your bi-focals.
3. You feel like the 'morning after' but you haven't been anywhere.
4. Your children begin to look middle-aged.
5. You join a health club, but don't go.
6. A dripping tap causes an uncontrollable urge.
7. You have all the answers but no-one asks you the questions.
8. You look forward to a dull evening in.
9. You turn out the light for economy instead of romance.
10. You sit in a rocking chair and can't make it go.
11. Your knees buckle but your belt won't.
12. Your back goes out more than you do.
13. Your house is too big and your medicine cupboard is not big enough.
14. You sink your teeth into a steak and they stay there.



## Flooding in Pentredŵr

These are photos of some of the floods in Pentredŵr caused by Storm Dennis which struck the country on the weekend of February 15th 2020. June 2019 saw similar scenes in Pentredŵr.



### Flooding emergency numbers:

#### Telephone:

Daytime - 01824 706101

Out of hours - 03001233068

### Community Corner

If you have an article you want me to include in the next edition please email me at [llantysilio.cc@btinternet.com](mailto:llantysilio.cc@btinternet.com). The Spring edition is scheduled for March 2021, which seems a long way off but will be upon us before we know it!

**Sandra Baker**

Community Corner Quiz - answers.

1. Horseshoe Pass
2. Pentredŵr
3. Chain Bridge
4. Lamb
5. Canal
6. The Sun Inn
7. Horseshoe Falls
8. Landslide
9. River
10. Farm
11. Abbey
12. Church
13. Kiosk
14. Trees
15. Eglwyseg Rocks



## A Fireplace Made from Cheese!

Many years ago I worked as a Field Officer for a local creamery. This was Express Dairy, Whittington near Oswestry. They collected all the milk from Froncysyllte to Llangollen as far as Rhysgog.

Sometimes I was sent to Cumbria to work from other dairies. One Friday afternoon I was on my way to my B & B in Langdale when I came across the Elterwater Slate Quarry. I asked if I could have some coloured slate. They said, "Help yourself". I picked up about ten pieces and went to pay. "Will a £5.00 note do?" They asked. As it was 4.30 pm they were in a hurry to close. I loaded up, and as I left I said "can you use some cheese samples?" and left them a 40lb box.

A month later I called again. One of the workers shouted, "The cheese man is here". Needless to say I did not pay for any more slate.

Let me explain... The cheese samples were from the lab at Whittington. Each week a taste panel was held and a small piece of each block was tasted. The remaining blocks were discarded. Whenever there was a 40 lb box spare I was allowed to take it. Relations and neighbours were all given plenty of cheese.

The slate pieces were for a fireplace my father-in-law had promised to build. We got some more from Cornwall while on holiday. The fireplace is still admired by everyone who calls to see us.

*John Pickett*

### Flooding Emergency Number

In case you are one of those unlucky enough to have experienced flooding, or think that you are at risk of flooding, here is a number to ring for assistance and advice.

Daytime - 01824 706101

Out of hours - 03001233068



### Local History - Help Please?

This area is full of history and, as such, I'm hoping to start a 'Local History' page in the next edition of Community Corner. To this end I am asking for your help. If you have anything of interest, could you please email me at the address on the back page.

If easier, ring me for a chat. The closing date for the next issue is 24th February 2021.

*Sandra Baker*

## Pentredŵr School Reminiscence

Pentredŵr School was built by Denbighshire Council and first opened in 1909.

It replaced a smaller church school in Eglwyseg. As a purpose built school it gave many more children the chance to learn to read and write.

At that time, the rural population was much greater and families larger. The Berwyn Slate quarry was a major employer, bringing new families to the area. It was not uncommon for families of up to 20 people to live in the same house.

On the eleventh of January 1909, 30 children enrolled at the new school. By the beginning of February 1910 there were 60 children between the ages of 6 and 14 on the school register.

In the 60's and 70's Pentredwr was a popular school, favoured for its Welsh education. Children were even bused in from Llangollen to attend. By 1982 numbers were dwindling and the school closed. It was bought by the Pentredŵr and District Community Association for use as a Community Centre.

Former pupils and staff from Pentredŵr School have been invited to share their stories and experiences of school days and village life over its 75 year history.

Pentredŵr Community Association has formed a partnership with Making Sense Community Interest Company, with funding from The Heritage Lottery Fund and support from Llangollen Museum, to capture these memories for future generations.

To find out "Who went to Pentredŵr" join the Facebook page: -

[Pentredwr and District Community Association.](#)

For more information about this project contact Ticky Lowe. Email: -

[tickylowe@makingsensecic.org.uk](mailto:tickylowe@makingsensecic.org.uk)



Not sure when these two photos were taken. Could be the 1920s or 1930s?? There are lots more photos on Facebook.



## A Very Local Quiz!

1. Equine foot-ware mountain road (9) (4)?
2. Village of water in Welsh (9)?
3. Cross the river on links (5) (6) ?
4. Mary had one (4) ?
5. Man-made, slower than the river (5) ?
6. The opposite of “The Moon Out” (3) (3) (3) ?
7. Equine foot-ware with H2O in a downward direction (9) (5) ?
8. Quality of earth on the move (9) ?
9. Revir in reverse (5) ?
10. B & B for domestic animals (4) ?
11. Built long ago, is quite high, and still standing (5) ?
12. Charlotte’s surname (6) ?
13. Anagram of Ikkos (5) ?
14. Money does not grow on them (5) ?
15. Seven Sisters made of limestone (7) (5) ?



*Answered are somewhere in this newsletter!*

### Lost?

Ferrying our teenage sons around often takes my husband far off his normal route. In one city centre he sought directions from a policeman. The officer asked if he knew a local landmark. “I’m afraid that I don’t know Nottingham very well”, said my husband. “It wouldn’t be much help if you did,” replied the policeman. “You’re in Sheffield”.

### The sun Trevor, Sun Bank, Llangollen Virtual Quiz

Join our weekly Wednesday night quiz raising money for charity, we have been supporting **Nightingale House Hospice**. Since lock-down, we run an on-line quiz. Our regular teams and many from further afield are taking part at home or meeting via Skype or Zoom.

Questions are posted at 8 pm on the Sun Trevor Facebook page and the answers posted at 9 pm. Teams mark their own papers and submit their scores in the comments section on the Facebook page. We have set up a Just Giving page so players can donate the usual £2 per player.

We would love more people to help raise money for this cause, and come along to the Sun Trevor on a Wednesday evening when this strange time is over. Come and join us for our next quiz.

**Maggie Smith - Quiz Master on behalf of the Sun Trevor.**

## Llantysilio Church

Our ancient church is dedicated to St Tysilio, a 7<sup>th</sup> century pilgrim who founded a number of Christian monastic communities in Wales and, later, in France. It is thought there could well have been a place of pagan worship on the site before the establishment of the Christian church here. The first church would have been a timber construction that was replaced in 1180 by one made of stone. The roof of this early Medieval church has survived to this day, including the barrel ceiling over the sanctuary.

The original oak roof beams and purlins can be clearly seen, although the roof joists were added by the Victorians when re-slatting in the 1860’s when the whole building was ‘modernised’ in the Gothic style when Carl Friedrich Beyer finished construction of the re-located Llantysilio Hall. There are lots of interesting features and artefacts including the ancient font, a medieval stained-glass window depicting St James the greater holding the pilgrim’s scallop shell, and a wonderfully carved rood screen and reredos behind the altar table.



It is estimated that over 10,000 visitors call in the church each year! Judging by the comments in the visitor’s book, many come back year after year to savour the peace and spirituality that has filled the place for at least fifteen centuries. Visitors also leave their prayers on the Prayer Tree in the front porch, and these prayers are read during the following weekly Sunday service.

The church is looked after by the Wardens and Sunday congregation, and, is self-financing. It is commonly thought that churches receive money from the Diocese or Llandaff to keep open for prayer and worship, but the very opposite is true! St Tysilio’s has to find just under £8000 in 2020 as its share of the costs of Ministry, and this is paid to the Diocese who employ our clergy. Then there are the costs of heating, lighting, repairs, maintenance and upkeep of the churchyards on top.



The church is open every day of the year and holds a Church in Wales (Anglican) service every Sunday at 9.30am. First and Third Sundays are Morning Worship, with Holy Eucharist (Mass or Communion) on Second and Fourth Sundays led by the Vicar, Fr Lee Taylor. When there is a fifth Sunday in a month the Llangollen Group of Churches meet on a rota basis at 11am at either St Tysilio’s, St John’s Abbey Rd, St Collen’s or Trevor Chapel. Everybody is most welcome at all services, and to refreshments afterwards.

**John Gambles**



## The Conquering Hero Community Centre

There has been a major upgrade of the facilities at 'The Conq' over the past few months, both inside and out. The external works include a seating area for hall users and passers-by, a wall mounted Ordnance Survey Map, drinking water and new signs.



Most of the works were completed by members of the committee and community. The seating area is enclosed by a perimeter wall faced with recycled Snowdonia slate and a fence made by a local blacksmiths firm. The surface is that of recycled astro-turf from a former football training pitch at an RAF base in Shropshire. The benches are constructed from a cherry tree that fell less than a

mile away, with the wood kindly donated by the Lloyd Jones's of Rhydonnen Isaf, and the Trustees are very grateful to them and all of the members of the community who have also freely given their time and skills.

Inside, there is a newly constructed library and 'Book-cycle', liberally stocked with a wide range of books and DVDs donated by the 'Worth It Book Club' and the Trustees. These are available for loan, swap or to keep, with donations to named charities.

A data projector and sound system has also been installed so it is ideal for presentations or meetings, and indeed the Community Council and Cymdeithas y Cwm both host their monthly meetings here.

### **COFFEE MORNINGS**

You can access the 'library and book-cycle' at any of the monthly coffee mornings, held every first Saturday of the month, 10am – 1pm. These are organised by the 'Worth It' Book Club and all proceeds go to named charities, Air Ambulance being a recent recipient. Starting last November, they have been very popular with villagers and visitors popping in for a tea, coffee, wonderful cakes or a breakfast bap and, most importantly, a chat in good company. Why not call in yourself? You will be made really welcome. The volunteers running the Coffee Mornings have enjoyed the newly upgraded CATERING KITCHEN. The refit has included commercial dish and glass washers, hand washing and preparation and storage facilities that have been met with approval by hirers.

To book, find out current charges or to discuss any idea that you may have, please contact: [info@theconq.org.uk](mailto:info@theconq.org.uk) or Facebook @TheConqRhewl

*(More news on page 6)*



## Conquering Hero - continued

### **CYMDETHAS Y CWM**

Are the responsible body who own the Conq' in trust as a registered charity. Although Cymdeithas applied and gained original funding from the National Lotteries Charities Board and Denbighshire County Council to purchase the property in 1997, the charity is completely self-financing, hence the need to charge for use of the facilities. If you would like to be involved, do remember that memberships of Cymdeithas y Cwm is open to all! Just get in touch at [info@theconq.org.uk](mailto:info@theconq.org.uk) or Facebook @TheConqRhewl or just pop in and have a word at one of the coffee mornings.

### **CARETAKERS FLAT**

The Trustees have also invested heavily in upgrading facilities in the flat in readiness for the new caretakers who will take up post in April. As part of the mission of the Trustees, Cymdeithas y Cwm, aims to help provide affordable housing. Hopefully, we will be able to introduce you to the new caretakers in the next edition of Community Corner.

### **BOOKINGS**

The Centre is open to everybody, whether living in the community or from further afield, and has been used for private parties and whole variety of functions and activities. The current hire charges for private or commercial use are currently under review but will remain very reasonable.

Good discounts are available for regular users and the Trustees will welcome and offer similar discounts to any other groups that would like to use the centre for recognised charitable purposes, or to offer an activity that benefits or adds to the well-being of the community. To book, find out current charges or to discuss any idea that you may have, please contact: [info@theconq.org.uk](mailto:info@theconq.org.uk) or Facebook @TheConqRhewl



### Eye - Eye

A young man attended a meeting at the Llangollen Pavilion. He then went into town and spotted a nice eating place for an evening meal. As he sat waiting for his order to be served he noticed a striking blond lady alone at another table. Suddenly she sneezed and her glass eye shot across the room. Our man instinctively put up a hand and caught it. She looked very embarrassed as he returned it to her.

She invited him to her table for a drink. They talked all evening and she invited him back to her converted barn for breakfast. As he plodded his way through a full Welsh breakfast he turned to her and said "Do you treat all the young men you meet like this?"

"Oh no" she replied "But you happened to catch my eye!"

## Llantysilio Community Council

The coronavirus has impacted on all of us, and the manner in which the Community Council works has also changed due to the pandemic. The Council did manage to hold it's Annual Meeting in Pentredŵr Community Centre in September, this being a combination of Community Councillors and our County Councillor. All aspects of social distancing, hand sanitisers and Health and Safety regulations were adhered to at this meeting. Members of the public are welcome to attend all meetings of the Council to observe proceedings. However, to enable social distancing guidelines to be put in place, the Clerk needs to be contacted in advance. There were no members of the public present at the AM.

### **Annual Meeting - election of Chairman and Vice Chairman**

Cllr. Mrs Maggie Smith was elected Chairman with Cllr. Rhys Hughes as Vice Chairman. All members of the Council were present. The Council held two minutes silence in memory of Cllr. J. G. Evans (Shep) who will be sadly missed by the Council and the community. The Council intends siting a memorial seat for Shep once the pandemic has abated.

### **Co-option of a new councillor**

In line with Welsh Government guidelines, the Council is unable to meet for the foreseeable future. This being the case, the election of a new councillor is to be held over until February 2021. If you wish to put your name forward please contact the Clerk :-  
*email: llantysilio.cc@btinternet.com / telephone: 01978 861451.*

### **Superfast Broadband**

The Council was supposed to be meeting Mr Philip Burrows, DCC Digital Officer in October, but due to the Covid restrictions this meeting was cancelled. Mr Burrows did however forward some information to the Clerk.

A voucher scheme, £7,000 is available for small-to-medium sized businesses (this includes the self-employed) and up to £3,000 is available for residential premises, the scheme is open to rural premises with broadband speeds of less than 100Mbps.

One voucher will not be enough to connect an individual property, and so communities have to pool resources. For manageability, areas will need to be broken into clusters, preferably ones on the same exchange/line. Once enough people are on board they can put in a tentative application to Openreach for their Community Fibre Partnership.

### **Planning Applications**

27/2020/0578 - Gyfelia Farm, Rhewl. Construction of a proposed forestry track and associated works. The Council had no objections to this Application.

BT/2020/0527 - BT Kiosk Consultation, Llantysilio. The Council resolved to oppose the closure of this kiosk.

27/2020/0376 - Land at Rock Farm, Eglwyseg. Construction of a sheltered slurry lagoon, formation of hardstanding and associated works. The Council recommended that a landscape visual impact assessment be undertaken and managed as appropriate.

## Llantysilio Community Council

### **Defibrillator**

Following the success of the defibrillator in the Abbey Bistro, the Council has sited another in Pentredŵr. This defibrillator has been donated to Pentredŵr by Mr and Mrs John Lawton-Roberts in memory of their daughter Julia, and in gratitude to the residents of Pentredŵr who were so supportive during this sad time.

### **County Council Budget for 2020/21**

The decision on the increase in Council Tax 2020/21 involves a rise of 4.3% per household based on a Band D property. This is low compared to the original proposal of 6%.

### **Poor condition of the roads**

The Community Council has asked DCC to deal with the many pot-holes and collapsing roadside verges in the area, some of which are now so bad as to need major rebuilding and repair. It is hoped also that all the roadside verges will be cut back before the end of September.

### **Abbey Dingle Footpath**

The Community Council intends resurrecting this project, which was shelved due to the County Council being unwilling to go down the path of a CPO (Compulsory Purchase Order). The Community Council is hopeful that an alternative solution can be found in the not too far distant future.

### **Mountain fire 2018**

In his report to the Community Council, Cllr. Timms stated that Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and the Fire Department have come to an agreement on how to move forward and are in the process of employing a Moorland and Upland Officer, who should be in post quite soon. His/her remit will be to oversee a large area of Denbighshire and surrounding counties and ensure that any fire is dealt with promptly and efficiently. It is acknowledged that more training of fire operatives is needed when dealing with mountain fires.

### **Rubbish collection**

The Council expressed some concern at the proposed changes by the County Council to bring the weekly rubbish collection more in line with Wrexham. This will involve residents having to be much more stringent with recycling. Many households in the area are so 'off the beaten track' as to be unsuitable for wheely-bins of any description. This proposal is not imminent but still under discussion.

### **Electric signs on the Horseshoe Pass**

The Council has complained to DCC that these signs, one at the bridge in Llangollen and the other at the turn off for Berwyn, do not always display the correct information.

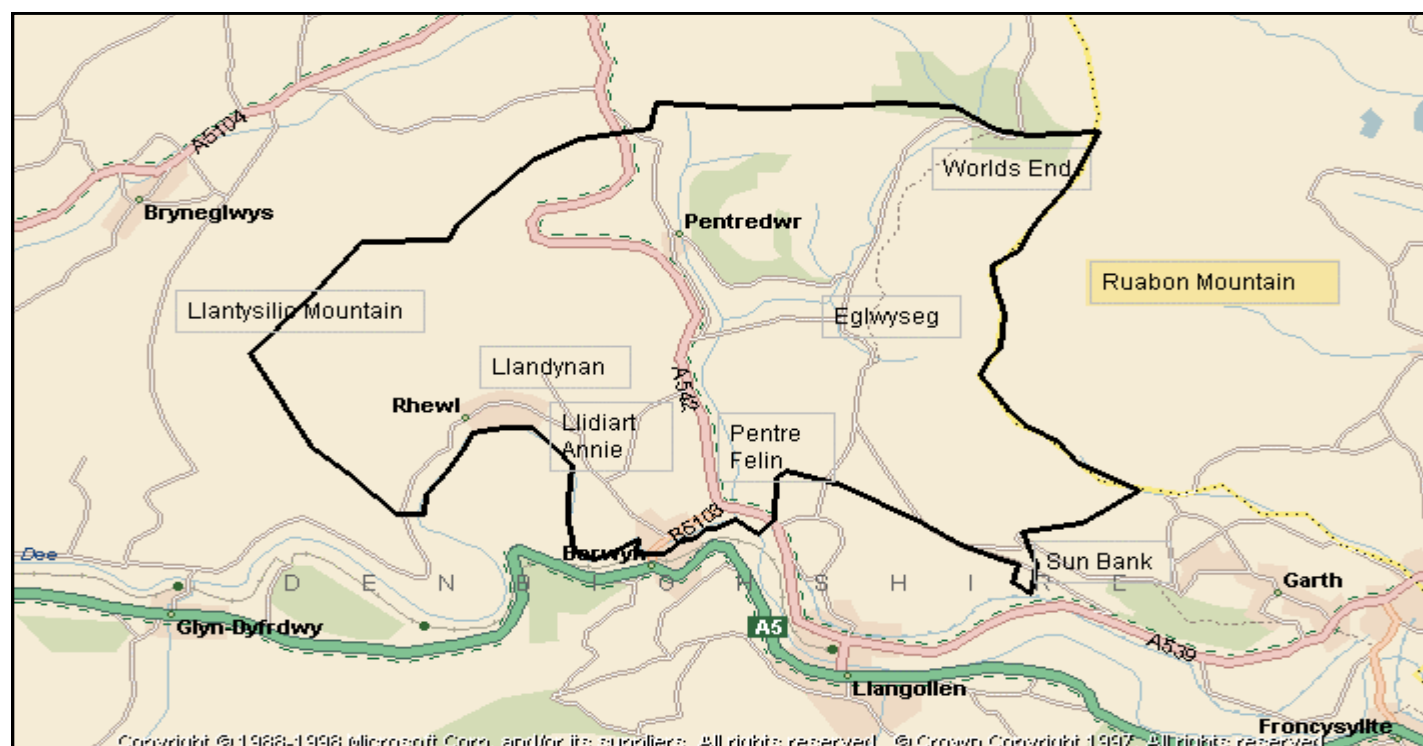
### **'Llangollen 2020' Parking Proposals**

The Council has asked that DCC keep it informed of any changes to highway restrictions in Llangollen as the knock on effect to Llantysilio, with specific regard to parking, can be serious. This summer has seen visitors disregarding the double yellow lines, thus blocking access for farm vehicles.



## Items of Interest

### Llantysilio Community Council Area Map



### Llangollen Library and One Stop Shop - Opening Hours

*Due to the covid-19 restrictions you need to look on the Denbighshire County Council website for opening times or to book an appointment.*

*Visits to Llangollen Library are now restricted to 20 minutes and are by appointment only.*

*For further information Telephone:  
01978 869606*



### Dee Valley Policing Team

PS 2143 Martin Jones	<a href="mailto:martin.jones2@nthwales.pnn.uk">martin.jones2@nthwales.pnn.uk</a>
PCSO 2637 Delia Bellis	<a href="mailto:Delia.Bellis@nthwales.pnn.uk">Delia.Bellis@nthwales.pnn.uk</a>
PCSO 3474 Aimie Clayton	<a href="mailto:Aimie.Clayton@nthwales.pnn.uk">Aimie.Clayton@nthwales.pnn.uk</a>
PCSO 2914 Ceri Evans	<a href="mailto:Ceri-louise.evans@nthwales.pnn.uk">Ceri-louise.evans@nthwales.pnn.uk</a>
PCSO 2889 Karl Joseph	<a href="mailto:Karl.joseph@nthwales.pnn.uk">Karl.joseph@nthwales.pnn.uk</a>

Facebook: - Dee Valley Police Team - please support the page / share  
Emergencies / crime in progress dial 999  
Non-emergency dial 101



## News from the Eisteddfod

### Volunteer Stewarding Opportunities at L.I.M.E.

1947 saw the birth of what has since become one of the world's most cultural festivals – the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod (L.I.M.E.). Fast forward to 2020 and the Eisteddfod is still going strong, with competitors, performers and visitors flocking to Llangollen from around the United Kingdom and all around the world.

During the daytime the impressive Pavilion which takes centre stage on the Eisteddfod field hosts a wide variety of competitions, including: Mixed Choirs, Children's Choirs, Male Voice Choirs, to Traditional Folk Dance, Cultural Showcase, Choreographed Dance, International Young Musician and International Voice of Musical Theatre.

In the evenings there is a series of concerts through the week, which covers a wide programme of musical genre offering something for everyone. Over the years, evening concerts have included Dame Shirley Bassey, Pavarotti, Status Quo, Katherine Jenkins, McFly, Jools Holland and the Manic Street Preachers.

The field is framed with a variety of stalls, bars and food outlets and has a small number of outdoor stages offering entertainment by both competitors and non-competing performers throughout the day. The International Eisteddfod highlights and promotes the ethos of friendship, peace and harmony and this is evident in the endless sea of actions, laughter and smiles that can be experienced throughout the week. However, it would be impossible for the Eisteddfod to continue each year, without the 800 or so volunteers that come together from all over the UK and sometimes from abroad, who work so enthusiastically.

One volunteer role is Stewarding. The Stewards are a friendly group of people of all ages, who volunteer front of house in small teams; their role includes manning the Pavilion doors, checking tickets and helping visitors with their questions or enquiries. The Steward's Committee is keen to welcome anyone who would be interested in Stewarding at this year's Eisteddfod that runs from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2020. Various shifts are available: morning, afternoon and evenings. The perks of volunteering include: gaining free entry to the Eisteddfod field, have an opportunity (when appropriate) to watch some of the stage competitions, chance to make new friends, the opportunity to chat to competitors and voluntary work looks great on a C.V.! Steward's must be aged 16 years or over.

Anyone interested in volunteering as a Steward can either email : - [volunteers@llangollen.net](mailto:volunteers@llangollen.net), fill in an application form on the official L.I.M.E. website at [www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk](http://www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk) or phone 01978 862000 and indicate that you would like to volunteer as a Steward.

We hope to welcome you in July!

**Siân Emma Evans**  
Chief Steward (Volunteer)



*Volunteers enjoying a break at last year's Eisteddfod.*

## What is a Community Council?

### **The Council**

People ask me what is the difference between a town council and a community council. The answer is simple, nothing at all - except a community council doesn't have a town within its perimeter.

Population hasn't anything to do with it either. For example, Llangollen Town Council has approximately 3,500 residents on its Electoral Roll, whereas Acton Community Council in Wrexham has 13,659.

### **The Clerk**

A community/town council is a local authority in its own right and is governed by Statute ( Acts of Parliament). The council employs a Clerk, who is the councils officer and RFO (Responsible Financial Officer). The Clerk is the legal advisor and administrator to the council and, as such, is required by law to be qualified for the role. These qualifications include either CILCA (Certificate In Local Council Administration) or NDILCA (National Diploma In Local Council Administration).

The term 'clerk' derives from legal terminology, i.e. Clerk to the Court, and has nothing to do with a clerk who works in an office. Many clerks to larger town/community councils have an assistant clerk and secretary to undertake typing, filing etc., but most clerks to smaller councils take on the role of clerk and secretary and work from home.

### **The Councillors**

Your first meeting as a councillor can be daunting. At, or before, your first meeting you must sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. In law you are not a councillor until you sign this. At the same time you make a written undertaking to observe your councils Code of Conduct. These documents must be signed in the presence of the Clerk.

The number of councillors on a council varies. Llangollen Town Council has eleven members whereas Llantysilio Community Council has nine. Llangollen Rural Community Council, which encompasses Trevor, Fron and Garth, has fifteen councillors.

### **The Team**

The council, chairman and clerk act as a team, and hopefully work well together. The clerk is the stable link to the council as she/he will probable have been in post for many years, but councillors can change from one election to the next.

Every May the council is obliged to elect a chairman, or if a town, a mayor. The chairman chairs all meetings of the council and is the council's representative in the community. Most councils also elect a vice chairman or deputy mayor who stands in when the elected chairman/mayor is absent.

These three roles, which form a council, can be very rewarding but also involve a lot of work. As the saying goes "a good council is one that works together i.e. the councillors the chairman and the clerk".

***Sandra Baker***

## LLANTYSILIO COMMUNITY COUNCIL



## CYNGOR CYMUNED LLANTYSILIO

### **COUNCILLORS:**

	<u>Telephone</u>
Maggie Smith - Chairman	01978 861156
Rhys Hughes - Vice Chairman	01978 860335
Roger Cragg	01978 861593
David Walton	01978 860967
Steven Evans	01978 860753
Arfon Jones	01978 860138
Paul Davies	01978 860173
John Pickett	01978 860021

Under normal circumstances the Council meets monthly at the Conquering Hero Community Centre and Pentredŵr Community Centre. The meetings are held on the first Monday in the month, excluding January and August, and begin at 7.00 pm. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the Council is unable to provide any dates for future meetings in this Newsletter.

If you wish to contact the Council please get in touch with one of the above Councillors or the Clerk: -

Mrs Sandra Baker  
Clerk and RFO  
Rockcliffe  
Abbey Road  
Llangollen  
LL20 8EF

Email - [llantysilio.cc@btinternet.com](mailto:llantysilio.cc@btinternet.com)