

Coed-y-Paen News

November 2016

Forthcoming Events

- 3 Dec Carol's School Christmas Dinner
14 Dec Village Christmas Dinner – Carps
24 Dec Carol Service - Christchurch
2017
15 Feb Residents Association AGM
1 Mar Poems & Pints/Wine & Words

Residents Association News

Since the last Newsletter the village has enjoyed several events. Best attended was **The Queen's Birthday Treasure Hunt and Hog Roast** (on a glorious sunny bank holiday Monday, 30 May). 64 villagers took part in the Treasure Hunt, ingeniously constructed by Gina, Hilary and Jean, followed by Matt's hog roast at the Carpenters Arms.

The solutions to the clues were all to be found within easy walking distance of the pub so there was a lot of socialising along the way and this continued afterwards at the Carps where many participants ate and drank outside on the deck whilst being musically entertained by Robin and friends. After the buffet, the winning team was announced as the Butler family and Rachel was crowned as the winner and cut the celebration cake. Photos are on the website.

The village barbecue (on a sunny Sunday, 31 July) was in Sue & Graham's garden and around 59 attended, raising £600 for church funds. The food was all locally sourced, including lamb donated by Roger Morgan and sausages and burgers from the Morris' at Pentrewaun House. Robin and his buddy (apologies for forgetting his name) together with Mark the Chef (from the Carps) entertained from their 'stage' in the summer house and the children danced on the deck! Thanks again Robin for your support.

Other events included Poems & Pints and 2 quiz evenings, arranged by Hilary and Jean.

Lorries You can't have failed to notice the increase in enormous lorries trying to get

through to Usk. This has been because various sat nav providers have caught up with the ban in Usk. After correspondence with Mon CC, we now have 'Unsuitable for Heavy Goods Vehicles' signs at Treherbert Road and Sluvad Road, so we hope these lorries will find an alternative route. Informing sat nav providers will be the next step. If we find a lorry blocking the road in future, advice is to call the police.

Burglaries As there have been 2 burglaries in the last few months, we will arrange for a visit from our local Crime Prevention Officer, hopefully in January, to talk to us about preventive steps we can take. Meanwhile some basic preventative measures are outlined here <https://www.gwent.police.uk/advice-and-guidance/property/>

Phone Box The Residents Association authorised the purchase of glass panes to replace the old, cloudy plastic ones and Anthony Mahoney very generously supplied Post Office red paint for the revamp. Sue & Graham were very pleased with the help received from Alan Rees, Huw & Tom Evans, and the Hargreaves family. Llanybi Community Council bought the new door closer.

Broadband The project to deliver wireless broadband to the village has moved slowly but a network of transmitters is now in place to deliver a signal to properties with line of sight to Forest House. Trevor Mosedale is currently visiting those who have expressed an interest and applied for a grant, to determine where their aerial and router are to be sited. He is also determining how to relay the signal to other properties which do not have a line of sight to Forest House but can see another property signed up to the scheme. The main hold up now is BT connecting the telephone lines to the first transmitter at the barn in New Inn. If you have not received a grant application form and or want more information, please contact me.

Best Kept Village For some reason we were not invited to the presentation evening this year,

however we subsequently received a 'Highly Commended' certificate, which is now on display on the noticeboard.

Sue Rogers

Church News

Thanks to all who came to our Annual Barbecue (see above), Harvest Festival and the Harvest Supper. The Bring and Share a plate of food was very successful. A donation of £160 was sent to Christian Aid.

Services in Christchurch for December are as follows:

1st Sunday (Dec 4th) Holy Eucharist at 9am
2nd Sunday (Dec 11th) Combined parishes
Holy Eucharist at 10.30am
3rd Sunday (Dec 18th) Evensong at 6.30pm
Christmas Eve Community Carol Service, 6.30
Christmas Day Holy Eucharist at 9am

Our grateful thanks go to all who have kept the church and the churchyard looking so good during 2016.

Olwen Howard & Jean Scarborough

Llangybi Fawr Community Council

Village Sign As Mon CC refused our request to replace the defective village sign at Pentrewaun, Llangybi CC has ordered, and will pay for, a new one which Mon CC will fit.

Lorry signs In support of Sue's campaign for signage to prevent large lorries coming through the village, Llangybi CC also wrote to Mon CC additionally raising concerns regarding lorries in Llandegfedd. We are pleased that a sign has now been placed at the Llandegfedd junction on Treherbert Road.

Prison Liaison Group At a recent meeting of this group, I discovered that Usk Prison is entirely populated by sex offenders as it has become a specialist centre for dealing with such offenders. The current population there is 260. In Prescoed, 20 of the 230 inmates are sex offenders. There have been no absconds in the last 6 months, and only one failure to return from a temporary release on licence. Around 100 of Prescoed's inmates go out every day to work in various locations including over 30 who run the 'Clink' restaurant in Cardiff prison. Prescoed

have installed polytunnels to grow vegetables as a commercial operation and hoped to supply Clink, but Clink wanted Prescoed to supply them for free, so Prescoed are now seeking contracts to supply other prisons.

Website The council's website www.llangybi.org has been revamped. Besides council news, it carries information about local facilities and events as well as links to other local organisations (including Coed-y-Paen's website).

Graham Rogers

Llanbadoc Community Council

We have delivered our Llanbadoc Community Council Newsletter to each household in the ward during September.

I attended a workshop hosted by Usk Town Council with Ben Hamilton Baillie. This was looking at problems with speed, HGVs etc through Usk. This impacts on Llanbadoc as the traffic that uses Usk Bridge comes into the Llanbadoc area. A very inspiring workshop making us look at very different options. I brought up the problems of HGVs using the village as a cut through and then getting stuck on the hill by Morris' farm. There were many representatives from Mon CC, so as well as Paul Keeble, it was helpful to speak to them all. I'll keep you updated as we progress with the feasibility study. I was invited to join the committee for HGV and speed watch of Usk Town Council.

Welsh Water have been so impressed with the number of people that use the Reservoir Trail that they have asked our Pathcare group to come up with some other walks in the area that people can use during the winter months. These are now being looked at by both parties. Our Pathcare group has been nominated for two awards for the work that they do. They work very closely with Mon CC keeping paths clear, installing signs, fences, signs and stiles etc.

Hilary Jones

Next newsletter

If you have any items for the next Newsletter, please send them to the editor, Sue Rogers, via coedypaenresidents@gmail.com or call on 672170.