

CWLWM BRO

COMMUNITY LINK

JULY/GORFFENNAF 1984

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Investigations into Quarry Blasting Vibrations

A report was recently presented to the Planning Committee of Mid Glamorgan County Council on Quarry Blasting Vibrations.

During the last year the County Council has been carrying out investigations into the effect of Quarry Blasting at the Steetley Quarry on the lower Garth. The worst affected properties were those on Ty Nant Road and during initial tests the ground vibration levels reached 12.9 mm per second, which can be classified as unpleasant. The reason given for the high vibrations was a narrow zone of geologically disturbed rock, which was folded and faulted, and appeared to amplify the effects of blasting in the direction of Ty Nant Road. In an effort to alleviate the effects of the blasting the Quarry Manager has agreed to reduce the blast hole from 5 inches to 4 inches in this area of the quarry (which automatically reduces the weight of explosive per hole by 36%). Tests taken at properties along Ty Nant Road since the reduction in explosive charge show a maximum recorded vibration level of 6.0mm per second which, although classed as noticeable, is well below any level which may cause damage.

The vibrations caused by Steetley Quarry were the highest of any quarry in Mid Glamorgan during the last year. If there are any noticeable vibrations from the quarry please note the time and date and inform County Councillor Penri Williams, tel. 890040 or the County Planning Department, Cardiff 28033.

Discussions to identify an area in which the Steetley Quarry can be extended without further affecting the Morganstown ridge are being carried out at present. The outcome of these discussions will be published and an opportunity given for public comment.

Councillor Penri Williams

Editorial

Over one year has passed since this Community Council took office. To us newcomers it often seems that the pace of discussion and decision making is unnecessarily slow.

We are often judged for decisions which are made by District and County Authorities, and our outside powers. To further clarify just what Community Councils can do we publish a summary of a paper produced by the National Association of Local Councils

We continue with our theme of '1984 - Change in our Community' and in this issue we look at the physical changes which have altered our landscape over the past 50 years. We also have an English Translation of the Welsh article 'Bethlehem Chapel'.

Finally the Council apologize for the patchy delivery of the last issue of 'Link'. We hope that it will be better this time. Happy Summer!



Photo by Stanley Travers

Do you remember this? See page 6

Summer '84 What's On

Creigiau National Childbirth Trust

The NCT group will be meeting every Thursday afternoon from 26th July, in the recreation fields for a picnic (12.00 p.m. onwards). Anyone with children is welcome; please bring your own food!

Church Hall

A wide variety of activities are held at the Creigiau Church Hall. Contact Miss Jermine 890388.

Golf Club

Telephone 890263 for details of membership.

Football Teams (including a Youth Side)

Anyone interested should contact Vahe Zarifian 891668.

Tennis Club

For membership details contact Glenys Sadler 890921.

Community Watch

Reminding members of Community Watch, meetings are held the 1st Thursday in the month. 8.30 p.m., Police House, Penuel Road, Pentyrch.

Gwaelod-y-Garth Conservation Society

Meets in the Village Hall, 7.30 p.m. Wednesday 25th July. New members welcome. Contact Cllr. Alan Rosser 811811, or Councillor Mike Gray 810968.

Show Time

Don't forget the Pentyrch Show. This two day show is of interest to the whole family.

The first day is the Horticultural section which is Vegetables, Flowers, Pot Plants, Cookery, Jam-making and a Craft section. There is also a children's section, Vegetable Monster, Miniature Garden, Cake Decorating and Painting — all that on Saturday 8th September.

There is also a trophy donated by the Pentyrch Improvement Group for the 'Best Kept Garden'.

On Sunday the 9th of September is the ever popular Pet Show for the children. *Watch for the Programme.* The Secretary of the Show Committee is Mrs. J. Rees Tel. Pentyrch 891253

We welcome news of events from all local organisations and longer articles about your work. If you wish to have your events published please send details in writing to the Editor. *The deadline for Autumn Events is September 16th.*

Twenty Fully Illustrated Natural History Talks WINTER 1984 - 85

IN THE GWAELOD-Y-GARTH VILLAGE SCHOOL NEXT
WINTER, from 1st OCTOBER & 14th JANUARY
MONDAY EVENINGS 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. (ten per term)
by DR. MARY GILLHAM for the EXTRA MURAL DEPARTMENT,
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, CARDIFF.

Are you one of those whose curiosity about our fellow organisms on Planet Earth has been aroused by the recent Attenborough and Bellamy series on Television? If so, you might like to follow up and learn more of our complex heritage at home and abroad. The group will enjoy slide showings, talks, discussions and examining specimens, with a half way break.

Emphasis on some occasions will be on the local scene, in this part of the Taff Valley and its bordering hills, but topics will range widely over the varying landscape of Glamorgan, from sea cliff and sand dune to mountain and moorland - and further, to remote islands off the Scottish, Irish and Welsh coasts. On occasion we shall journey further afield - to islands in the Indian, Pacific, Antarctic and Caribbean seas; deserts in Australia, Africa and America; tropical forests of the Old World and the high Sierras of the New World. In so far as time allows, we shall take peeps at Europe - especially the wealth of spring flowers in the Mediterranean region, the early summer blooms of the High Alps and the later ones of Scandinavian Tundra. Why not come along, and enjoy as you learn?

Community Council Highlights

by Molly Patmore

All play equipment in the three Wards has been inspected by Wicksteed Ltd. and, as a result, all faulty equipment will be repaired and will soon be in full working order. Unfortunately, the see-saw and carousel roundabout in the Memorial Park, Pentyrch have been condemned as unsafe and will, therefore have to be taken out of use. A slide and a small climbing frame will be installed in the Park, and it is hoped that at some time in the future when funds allow, the condemned equipment will be replaced. A slide will also be installed on the Garth Newydd playing field, Gwaelod-y-Garth.

Roads in the Community

The Council continue to be most concerned about the omission of the C100 Ynys Bridge to Heol Goch stretch of road and Cardiff Road, Creigiau, from the current five-year Transport Policy Plan and will continue to campaign for the inclusion of both these schemes. It has already enlisted the support of our local M.P., Brynmor John, and the local press.

Conservation Problems

A Meeting held with the Borough Council Chief Planner, Mr. Brian Thomas, and the Vice-Chairman of the Planning Committee, Councillor George, proved most valuable. It was agreed that attempts should be made to widen the scope of the Conservation Advisory Committee. A mini Local Plan for Gwaelod-y-Garth should be prepared by Council members, that enhancement schemes for the conservation areas should be considered in detail and that particular eyesores designated by Council members would be fully investigated by the Planning Department.

MSC Schemes

The Clerk has been told that, at last, a start is to be made on schemes proposed by the Council and that as a result, adventure playgrounds will be sited in the three Wards.

Local Organisations

Gwaelod y-Garth Conservation Society

A group of villagers, including all 6 Community Councillors for Gwaelod-y-Garth, intend to re-establish the Village Conservation Society.

If well supported, the society could prove to be a forum where villagers can express their views on how the village should develop, and through a representative on the Conservation Advisory Committee, (set up to advise the Borough on Planning Applications) make these known.

If the society can tap the talent which abounds in the Village, it could be instrumental in putting right a serious deficiency which afflicts the area, and help in the development of an urgently needed policy statement for development in the village. The Borough Council wish to cooperate and provide the guidance needed for this, and in the preparation of possible 'Enhancement Schemes' in the Conservation area itself. The Borough Planning Officer recently pointed out to Community Councillors that although this work was their responsibility, financial cut-backs and reduced staffing levels, make it unlikely that they can fulfill their obligations in the near future.

The Society could also provide the organisation and nucleus of willing hands needed to carry out improvement schemes and other useful work in the village, possibly on similar lines to the successful "Pigs" scheme in Pentyrch.

The first meeting will be held in the *Village Hall Committee Room at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 25th July.* If you think you can help in any way please come — everyone will be welcome.

Please contact Alan Rosser on 811811 or Mike Gray on 810968 for further information

Church Hall

A wide variety of activities are held at the Creigiau Church Hall. Contact Miss Jermine 890388.



Nature by Mary E. Gillham. Notes

Seasons of the Garth

Drawings by Rhys Daniel



With 'Flaming June' living up to its name - if a little hesitantly at times, and the gardens spinking with baby robins and thrushes, it is difficult to recall that cold, wet spring, followed by the month-long drought when fierce winds from the North blew flower petals prematurely from the fruit trees. I am told there was a warm week in late April (when I was away in the Mediterranean watching our migrant birds on their way North) but I returned to Arctic blasts. My October-flowering kaffir lily (*Schizostylis*) decided that that was "it" for summer 1984, and bloomed merrily through the month of May!

Early migrants arrived late: later ones on time: so all was suddenly hustle and bustle in the bird world. First comers get the best choice of nest sites, but can be clobbered by bad weather and have to start all over again, so that latecomers score. Where cocks arrive a week or ten days before the hens, to stake out their plot, as in many species, some of the travelling cohorts decimated by storms in transit may leave a languishing population of unfulfilled bachelors or spinsters.

Our parish is near enough to the coast to be not far behind the "first sightings" for Wales. Chiffchaffs had launched into their monotonous, bisyllabic chanting by 20th March, a full six and a half weeks before we heard the fluting couplet of the cuckoo on the 4th May. 31st March saw the first house martin, St. George's Day the first swift.



SEdge WARBLER

The ability to be where it is always summer is surely an idyllic way of life, but it has to be worked for and costs can be high. Once again there has been an earth-cracking drought in the Sahel region of the Sahara, where our whitethroats, sedge warblers and sand martins spend the "winter". Only time and nest census figures will tell how badly they suffered. Willow warblers winter in secondary forest further south, so have only to cross the desert - a formidable enough undertaking when one considers their fragility. 'Omnipotent' man would fare a great deal less well in an unmechanised desert crossing with no water bottle or tucker box!

Many of our swallows formerly went to the Johannesburg region of South Africa: now many go right down to the Cape of Good Hope or the dry country of Namibia in the South-west. In March, when the aloes and red hot poker are bursting into fiery bloom at the onset of the southern winter, they set off on a leisurely six week journey north, feeding along the way. Some were back in Gwaelod by 14th April: Southern Scandinavia had to wait until the end of April: Northern Norway until mid May. Some British bred house martins have given up the unequal struggle and are nesting under house eaves in Capetown; and who can blame them?

Our loss, offset perhaps, by the gain of a few over-wintering red admiral butterflies, which normally succumb to the cold or move south towards their population centre in Mediterranean regions of Europe and Africa. Those few species which manage to survive our winter as butterflies were loathe to leave their hibernating quarters this spring and were beaten by the bats, one of which was seen flitting through the dusk on 22nd March. 27th March saw the first small tortoiseshell on the wing. There were peacocks, commas and brimstones by 9th April, with various whites and orange-tips during the subsequent week. Speckled woods were out by the first week of May, common blues by the second, small heaths by the third and wall browns by the fourth.



SMALL TORTOISESHELL



ORANGE-TIP

Greater bee-flies (*Bombus major*), with the body of a bumble bee, the single pair of wings of a fly and an unretractable proboscis for sipping nectar, were hovering, kestrel-like, and zooming into the 'kill' by 13th April. They seem to confine themselves to blue flowers: grape hyacinth and aubretia at first, then forget-me-not and periwinkle: furry balls of suspended animation, as they probe the flowers like mini humming-bird-hawk moths. Youngsters live parasitic lives in the nests of the bumble bees which they resemble.



BEE-FLY

True bees, the mining bees, *Halictus*, were busy digging their burrows, erecting little soil volcanoes like egg cups in the lawn through the third week of April. While the sun shone an open tunnel led down to the brood chamber of each: in late afternoon this was plugged with soil, to be opened up next morning. By day the bees worked to furnish the nest with a "marzipan ball" of nectar and pollen, before finally laying their eggs and sealing the chamber. These are solitary bees, not hive bees, but are loosely colonial, my contingent having between forty and fifty nests within a few square metres.

My lawns suffered more brutal excavations at the hands of the grey squirrel which had buried unbelievable numbers of hazel nuts in it the previous autumn. I first noticed the little pits, each with two to four neatly halved nutshells alongside on 6th April. Foraging time seemed to be once daily, between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m., and no pit was opened if there was no prize to be had, the sensitive, bewhiskered nose leading unerringly to the right spots.

After each brief scurgle the squirrel sat back on his haunches to demolish the hand-held trophy. I marvelled at the speed with which he dexterously split the shell and discarded the halves - until I did a little scurgle myself and found that the nuts had started to germinate. The shells were already split, to allow emergence of the embryonic root and shoot. By leaving this part of his winter horde to the end of the season, my squirrel had saved himself endless trouble! By 6th May his visits were mostly 'search' and not much 'find'. A few more exploratory calls, and he decided the supply was exhausted. Spring had other dietary items in hand, laced, no doubt, with a few birds' eggs.

Those ash seeds which blight my gardening endeavours held no enchantment for this inveterate nut-eater. They thrive! I thought the jackdaws had come to help, but they were collecting twigs for their nest, always standing on the safe side of the bit they were breaking off. Their corvine kin prefer other fruits, and it is anybody's guess whether I or the jays get the gooseberry crop.

The seeds that no-one can have failed to notice, particularly through the month of drought and wind, were those of the pussy willows. The flying fluff got everywhere, indoors and out, caught in spiders' webs, floating on pools and drifted into crannies - an efficient dispersal mechanism if ever there was one.

And so the drama of life, death and birth proceeds. I have a photographic record of a prolonged battle between a sinuous Geophilomorph centipede and a chunky Tipulid leather jacket, grimly pursued in the darkened labyrinths beneath the flower bed or exposed in full daylight above.

The black death of fire has been a very real hazard for many this spring, with a broad swathe of the Garth above Gwaelod devastated as late as 29th May, with inevitable destruction of lark, wren and dunnoek nests. Bluebell flower heads pushed up among leaves charred by earlier fires along the fringes of Garth Wood and bracken sprouted unhindered from undamaged underground stems, while all that might have helped to keep it in check lay in incinerated ruins. But June is the month of "green peace", good to look upon, even where the thoughtlessness of man has reduced the green to an impoverished bracken cover - victuals for neither man nor beast.

CANTORION CREIGIAU

Conductor-
Mair Roberts

Cantorion Creigiau wins at Interceltic Choir Festival in Brest.

Cantorion Creigiau won two prizes at their first international competition in Brest, under the conductorship of Mair Roberts.

Choirs from Ireland, Brittany, Cornwall and the Basque region, together with a Celtic London Choir, gave healthy competition to the Welsh mixed Choir.

The 74 strong Choir compete at Eisteddfodau throughout Wales as well as appearing on B.B.C. and H.T.V.

Cantorion Creigiau was formed in 1969 specifically to raise money for a local foster home but since that time has expanded and is now registered as a charity raising Society having donated approximately £15,000 over the years to various charities.

New choir members would be welcomed and should contact: The Secretary, Mrs. Olga Thomas at Cardiff 843405

Creigiau Dog Owners

In the interests of hygiene and the health of our children Creigiau dog owners are urged to refrain from allowing their dogs to foul the children's park, the recreation field football pitch and in particular the playing fields of the Creigiau School!

Councillor Selwyn Roberts.

The Creigiau lollipop lady has indicated that she does not wish to continue in the post after October, 1984. If anyone is interested in this satisfying and responsible job, please contact Mr. Rosser, Road Safety Officer, 0222 28033, or the Headmaster, Creigiau School.

Llongyfarchiadau Ysgol Gynradd Creigiau

Aeth llu o blant yr ardal i Ogledd Cymru dros Wyliau'r Gwanwyn i gystadlu yn Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yr Urdd. Roedd y tywydd, ar y cyfan, yn fendigedig a'r wyl yn llwyddiant mawr.

Daeth Ysgol Gynradd Creigiau yn gyntaf yng nghystadleuaeth y Gan Actol o dan 12 oed, buddugoliaeth arbennig i'r Uned yn y gystadleuaeth boblogaidd hon. Thema'r gystadleuaeth oedd 'Ffasiynau' a dangoswyd perfformiad Creigiau nifer o weithiau ar y teledu, os nad ydych wedi ei weld eto mae ar gof a chadw ar ambell fideo yn yr ardal.

Daeth Ysgol Creigiau yn drydydd am y trydydd flwyddyn yn olynol yng nghystadleuaeth Ymarfer Corff, ac roedd Adran Urdd Pentyrch a Chreigiau yn ail yn y Dawnsio Gwerin dan 15 oed.

Bu'r plant yn aros ar aelwydydd ardal Mynydd Isa yn ystod eu hymwelid a'r wyl ac fe gafwyd croeso arbennig yno.

Congratulations Creigiau School

The Urdd National Eisteddfod was held this year on the outskirts of the picturesque town of Mold, surrounded by the beautiful North Wales countryside. The weather for the most part was glorious and the event, as usual, was a great success.

Creigiau School came first in the Gan Actol (Action Song) under 12 section — an outstanding and remarkable achievement for a small unit in this very popular competition. Many local people will have seen their successful performance on the theme of fashion on television. Creigiau School also came third in the Physical Education competition, a position they have now held for 3 successive years, and the Creigiau/Pentyrch Adran team surpassed all expectations by coming second in the under 15 folk dancing.

The children are indebted to the families of Mynydd Isa, Clwyd, for the warm hospitality that was extended to them during their stay in their village.

Councillor Selwyn Roberts.



The Winners: Creigiau School, Urdd National Eisteddfod, 1984.

Photo by Derek G. Lewis

MOTHER QUACK'S TREATMENTS

by Councillor Ken Gill

As most people would not be able to differentiate between plants which look similar, this article will deal only with external uses of common 'herbs'.

Beauty Treatment

Two *skin fresheners* are given, the first being for normal skin and the second for oily skin.

1. Simmer two tablespoons of barley in 3 cups of water for 1 hour, strain and cool. This is an astringent which cleanses and softens skin, but should be rinsed off after use. If you keep it, it should be refrigerated. If you wish to drink this liquid, sweeten with orange juice and honey.

2. Cucumber slices or juice left on the skin for 10 to 15 minutes and then rinsed off is a useful astringent cleansing lotion as well as being useful for rough or sunburned skin.

Masks are a good treatment for the skin as well as providing entertainment for the family. They are also useful at Halloween. Four types are given.

1. Dried mashed apricots mixed with warm olive oil provides vitamin A and is suitable for dry skin.

2. Bananas may be used instead of apricots as a dry skin moisturiser.

3. An avocado gently warmed and mashed prior to applying is a good source of vitamins as well as moisturising dry skin.

4. Carrot shavings with lemon juice applied to the face is a treatment for oily skin.

Hair Rinses

If you want some body to your hair, let a can of beer go flat and use as an after shampoo rinse. As the hair dries the bar-room smell vanishes.

If you are blond and want your hair to gleam, try a camomile flower rinse. Steep $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of flowers in 2 pints of boiling water. Leave until tepid and then repeatedly pour over the hair. Do not rinse for 15 minutes.

Insect Repellants

Walnut or laurel leaves, pine needles, yew leaves, wormwood, boiled quassia chips (ants), garlic (this also keeps friends at bay). *SEE YOU NEXT ISSUE IF MY BROOM PASSES ITS M.O.T.*

Rhyddid Riding Club (S.W.B.G.)

Rhyddid Riding Club, formally known as The South Wales Bridle Group, is an organisation dedicated to promoting the interests of many riders and owners of ordinary horses and ponies kept primarily for pleasure in South Wales. These riders from all walks of life, age groups and standards of expenditure, share one thing in common, the love of horses. By paying a small annual subscription, members of Rhyddid Riding Club are able to enjoy pleasure rides over countryside where normally they would not ride, and competing in inter-club activities associated with the British Horse Society affiliated clubs.

Meetings are held monthly at the Caesars Arms, Creigiau on the first Thursday of every month, at 8 p.m. any interested parties are welcome to attend.

Our forthcoming events include:-

Beach rides and Barbecue, 6th July, South Wales Trekking Championships on 19th August, Mini Show on 16th September and Pleasure Ride through Margam Park on September 30th.

Details and enquiries to:- Mrs. A Lamerton (secretary), telephone: Pentyrch 890572

BUZZ WORDS

by Jan Adams

Sweet - Honey Bees - Swarm - Queen - Worker

Honey Bees live in trees, in chimneys, under the eaves of roofs, in the heating ducts of factories, in garden sheds. Any dry cavity is likely to be chosen as a home. Once a year, from April to July bee colonies divide into swarms to rejuvenate and duplicate. Swarms leave the original nest, settle somewhere temporarily, while some of them fly looking for a new home. When this happens they hang in a big ball in a bush, a tree or a wall. This is the only time they can easily and harmlessly be removed by a beekeeper. So when you see a swarm — thousands of bees all hanging from each other in a ball — don't disturb them, don't spray them with water or other stuff, ring the police and tell them about the location of the swarm. Or you could ring your local beekeeper — JAN ADAM in Gwaelod-y-Garth 810018. He will take them away and give them a good home

Worker - Queen - Swarm - Bees - Honey - Sweet



Primrose Cottage: The family of Mrs. Emyl Williams



DEMOLITION AND REBUILDING

by Dave Jenkins

How the district has changed during the last forty five years. One could sit quietly on a Sunday morning, on the Garth Mountain, in the late thirties, and hear the bells of the local parish churches. Now one can only hear the traffic travelling on the trunk road through Taffs Well. Boats then glided along the Glamorganshire canal carrying their wares to Pontypridd chainworks and flour to the bakeries, often held up at the treble locks in Glan-y-Llyn. Alongside the locks was a large reservoir built to supply water to the canal when the water level was low. Part of Hillside park is now standing where the "Big Pond" was situated.

On the side of the Garth itself was a community known as Garth Hill. This comprised of about 35 houses and also a public house, known as the 'Colliers Arms' and sold beer until the late thirties. The whole community left after the second war, houses were demolished, the inhabitants were housed in new homes at Garth Newydd.

Garth Newydd was built on the site of Pentyrch Ironworks and Brickworks. Until 1946 the stacks, furnaces, engine houses and brick kilns were still standing. Houses adjacent to the ironworks were known as the level houses, and the 'new houses', although very old buildings themselves, they have long gone.

Looking across the valley from Gwaelod one could see New Rockwood Colliery, a busy drift mine now shut down. Ty Rhiw housing estate was grassland and further down the valley was the Walnut Tree Viaduct which carried the Barry Railway across the Taff Gorge. This viaduct has now been demolished with the exception of one solitary pillar.

Below the viaduct was a large foundry, from here steam locomotives travelled below the Gwaelod village to link with the main line at Ynyscau siding. The weir across the river below Pont Sion Phillip footbridge has been removed - this supplied water along a feeder to drive water wheels at a tinworks on the lower side of the Village, all these have gone, sadly nothing of the past has been retained.

The Village itself has not altered considerably over the past forty years apart from the demolition of Garth Hill. There have been some building, mainly Garth Olwg, built to house the people of terraced houses knocked down. Club Row, Cae Mawr, Evans Terrace - houses which in the opinion of many were unnecessarily condemned.

As for the people of the Village, they naturally have changed with the times. The age of the car now allows people to get about, therefore although a community spirit exists, I do not think it is such a close knit community as forty to fifty years ago. People unused to village life are now coming to retire here, but appear to have fitted in exceedingly well, and some quite an asset to village ways, with the exception of some who are just commuters.

1984 - CHANGE IN BETHLEHEM CHAPEL

During the 1820's there was a small number of people in the village of Gwaelod-y-garth and the surrounding area who used to go up to Groeswen Chapel to worship. Others used to go in the opposite direction over Cefn Pentyrch and down to Taihirion Chapel to listen to Dafydd Jones preaching. During the week they used to get together in a house at Level Houses near 'the works' to pray and for fellowship. But if they wanted communion or baptism they had to go to Groeswen or Taihirion. These were the nearest places of worship where they could become members of a Congregational Church. Naturally, they felt it was a long way to walk, especially during the winter months, but they were only a few and they lacked the confidence to plant a church in the village itself. During 1829-30 a religious revival swept through Glamorgan and like other areas it left its influence on this area. By 1832 the people had gained enough confidence to gather as a church there. In a Welsh religious magazine called 'Yr Efanglydd' it is recorded that on the 3rd and 4th March, 1832 a new church affiliated to the Welsh Congregationalists, called Bethlehem, was opened near the forge.

That was the beginning of what we know today as Bethlehem Gwaelod-y-Garth. After 40 years on the original site a new chapel was built on the present site. From the beginning preaching had an important place in the Church. In 1836 there is a reference to the first 'Big Meetings' where three sermons were preached at each service. The Church also ensured that it had a minister from the start and in a period of over 150 years only ten ministers have been inducted with only a brief period between ministries. Ninety five years ago the first Gymanfa Ganu (Hymn singing festival) was held. Then Bethlehem was one of five churches involved, now it is one of two. In 1851 there were 131 children in the Sunday School and the teaching and training of children had prominence in the Church. Over the years the chapel was, not only a Christian centre but also a centre for Welsh culture in the area. It's past is illuminated with Eisteddfodau, dramas, cantatas, lectures, choirs and many other activities showing the wealth and diversity of the culture.

When looking ahead we cannot ignore the past. Much of what is done today and will be done tomorrow is building on the foundations laid by our forefathers. By now many changes have taken place, some for the better others for worse. A great change has taken place in the nature of the community, in the economic foundations, the language and in attitudes to Christianity. At one time Bethlehem was one of a number of Welsh chapels of all denominations in the area, by now they have all ceased to exist and Bethlehem has inherited their mantle. The trend these days is for people to work outside the area, their cultural needs are catered for by the sophisticated media in Cardiff and their social life is to found



The Walnut Tree Viaduct 1972

Photo by Stanley Travers

OUR COMMUNITY



there also. Fighting against this tide is Bethlehem, and what we see is people from outside coming in to join in worship from the suburbs of Cardiff as well as from surrounding villages. The situation is a complete reversal of what it was 150 years ago. The changes have brought new demands on the Church and it is expected to accomplish a different form of work e.g. religious education for adults, mother and toddler group, teaching of Welsh and the practice of it for adults and children, handicraft and social work. In an age where we are threatened daily by the reality of a nuclear holocaust, the church has its role to play and Bethlehem have made a clear and unambiguous stand against nuclear arms and for peace. Through its different connections and collections, the Church tries to fulfil its responsibilities to the sick, the poor and the needy here at home and abroad.

Some think that the Church is something that belongs to the past but in every age the children of God wish to worship and congregate to offer their worship to God. They wish to partake of communion, baptism and hear the Word of God being preached. They wish for a minister to guide and enlighten them, to teach and educate them and to minister to the spiritual life of the Church. Bethlehem is not just a building but a living society in Christ. The purpose of the Church in the world is to witness to the truth and to teach it and to practise the Will of God. That is the specific purpose of Bethlehem in this community. It is there to minister in particular to the needs of the Welsh speaking people and generally to the needs of the whole community. That was the intention of the forefathers in 1832 and the Church is faithful to the same vision. Our hope is that through the Grace of God we may have strength and sustenance to remain faithful to Him, acknowledging nobody but Christ as our Head.

Situations change, circumstances are different but the call of the Gospel is the same as is the basic need of humanity. Although the external forms have to change from age to age the Truth in God remains. Facing the future, our duty is to keep hold of the truth and to practise the Will of God, at the same time releasing from our grasp those practices that have outlived their usefulness and the forms which have become meaningless to people.

1984 has been on the horizon for many years and many have been dreading what it will bring with it in its wake. But for Bethlehem, in the last few years, the dread has receded and in its place a new hope has surfaced as the Church sees the blessings bestowed upon it by God and success in its work. God willing, we can look forward to serving the community for a further 150 years and more.

Rev. Rhys Tudur



Bethlehem Chapel

Photo by Rhys Daniel

CONFUSED

by Councillor Ken Gill

Over fifty years ago my school books taught about the Iberian race that occupied Britain, Iberia of course being Spain. These people were driven to the west by the Celtic invaders who were a tall fair race, who had superior weapons of bronze.

The Black Celts of Ireland, which if I read the Mabinogion right were the cousins of the Welsh (even giving them their patron saint) must have been the descendants of the early inhabitants. But I also read that the Black Prince's victory at Crecy was partly attributable to these short dark Welshmen which seems to be accepted as the Welsh characteristics.

There are apparently two groups of Celtic languages namely the Q Celtic (Gaelic — Erse — Manx) and the P Celtic (Breton — Welsh). As my mother was short and dark (Black Celt Iberian type) and my father was tall and fair what language should I adopt Erse — Welsh, or even Iberian Basque?

PENTYRCH — NEW TOWN?

by Shirley Cox

Driving into Pentyrch some time ago, I stopped to give one of our older residents a lift. He'd been to the Fir Tree, missed his bus home, so decided to walk. He commented that he almost wished Pentyrch had become part of the proposed New Town, suggesting that at least some amenities would be more accessible.

Converts such as these have a habit of setting thought in motion. After all, I had been around during the late 1960's when it seemed as though the whole village rose to fight the New Town proposals. What could have raised such a comment, I wonder.

Pentyrch used to be a small close knit rural community. Its inhabitants were a solid, caring people sharing in each others happiness and heartache. We had an enthusiastic group of villagers who prodded the rest of us into action, and as a result had Carnivals, Dances, Rugby Matches and the dream of a Village Hall. We also had an environment, which was something quite special.

After winning the fight over a New Town, I suppose most of us realised our situation couldn't last, others of course wanted to share in our good fortune.

The planners eventually arrived, portfolios bulging with their plans. Public meetings were held, voices were raised and arguments were rife. Gradually the descenders were subdued, after all we would be gaining so much. A health centre, library and more shops.

Within a few years the new residents began to arrive. They were at first viewed with suspicion and a certain amount of resistance. Fortunately they were not deterred, the Village was now theirs as well as ours. They joined in with enthusiasm in community ventures. The Village Hall stands as an example of combined Village effort.

The villagers are obviously playing their part in forging their community. Increased social activities in the Village are in evidence. Why then do we occasionally voice dissatisfaction. The answer must lie in the non-implementation of those long ago proposals. The Health Centre, Library and Shops. Perhaps we feel slightly cheated on the deal.

THANK YOU BRYN . . .

The theme of this issue of Community Link is 'Change in our Community'. At the end of June we see a great change in Pentyrch, which, I am sure no one in the villages would object to me putting on the record, I mean of course the retirement of Bryn and Margery Evans. Some years ago now, my wife and I retired from the Grocery Shop in the Village, and we know exactly the feeling they have at the present time. So I take this opportunity on behalf of all Bryn's customers in wishing them a happy retirement. Having said that, may we all welcome Gareth and Diane Follis as the new owners of the Newsagent or should I say 'Bryn's'. They know the scene is set for this change in our community. They are young and I am sure raring to go and give us the same service as we have been used to in the past. Good luck in your venture.

Esther and Cllr. George Lamerton.



The Taff Ely Turtles in Bed Push organised by Taffs Well Community Enterprise Unit which raised thousands of pounds for local charities. Photo by Janet Daniel

CARNIVAL TIME IN GWAELOD



Huw and Anne Gray in 'Weetabix Olympics'

Photo by Mike Gray

I tumbled out of bed at half past seven that Saturday morning and as I pulled back the curtains to reveal a bright sunny morning, it dawned on me that Carnival Day was here again.

I stumbled down the stairs to find Gordon Atkins all ready hard at work loading his car with flowers and vegetable plants donated from our local Garden Centre the day before. "Come and have a cup of coffee" I called, "No time!" he shouted as he disappeared through the gate in a cloud of dust.

Ann appeared at the top of the stairs, "I've lost my Weetabix mask!", she exclaimed and was immediately bowled over by Huw and Rhianon rushing down stairs for breakfast.

The village was in a state of turmoil. Small groups of people were feverishly converting lorries into floats to be judged later by Mr. Arfon Haines Davies of H.T.V. Wales. Other dedicated workers transformed the school field into a miniature fairground.

By half past one the seven floats had been prised from their hiding places and were despatched on a tour of Taff's Well, led by our Carnival Queen, Miss Louise Wall and her two attendants, followed by the winning float, 'The Wizard of Oz', created by the team from the top end of the village.

The runners were now starting to appear from all corners of the Village, attracted to the Carnival by a gruelling four mile mountain run with a promise of a beer tent at the end.

The music in the capable hands of Mark Stone, started up and the loud speakers called for entries for the Fancy Dress Competition organised, to her surprise, by Molly Patmore after finding a loud hailer thrust into her hand.

BANG! the mountain race was off, with over one hundred runners starting the slow climb to the top of the mountain.

Hundreds of people were now flocking into the Village giving Dave Fuller a chance to tell everyone what to do with their cars — well after all, he was in charge of car parking.

With the Carnival in full swing the organizing committee who had worked so hard for many months were now able to relax and enjoy the fruits of their labours.

The loud speakers screamed again, "Will Mr. Gordon Atkins please report to the beer tent, all the beer has now run out!"

Carnival day was slowly drawing to its close. As the last of the children left clutching their gold fish, I'm sure the Carnival Committee will remember with delight the support they received from the village and the happy atmosphere which must have made all the hard work seem worth while.

Councillor Mike Gray

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Photographs of Viaduct loaned by A. WELSBY

Views expressed in "Community Link" are not necessarily those of the Community Council.

The Community Council meets every third Monday of the month:

August: No Meeting

September: Gwaelod-y-Garth Village Hall

October: Gwaelod-y-Garth village hall

A New Hall for Gwaelod-y-Garth

The building of the new Gwaelod-y-Garth Village Hall was a tremendous challenge to the Committee and the people of the village. There had been two centres of village social life before the building of the Hall, Bethlehem Chapel and a maycrete hut built as a war-time Rest Centre but never, in fact, used as such. The hut was a happy place used by a thriving Youth Club, (one of the best Welsh Association Clubs in Wales), a weekly whist-drive, and for concerts, dances and various social evenings but it was cold with a concrete floor and overhead gas heaters and the fabric was deteriorating rapidly. Repairs were constantly needed and were a drain on the finances. Heating was a constant problem — a report on the cost of a replacement system and finally, news of vermin seen under the stage, brought things to a head — a new Hall would be built.

The Committee swung into action — the title of the Trust Deed was changed to the Gwaelod-y-Garth Village Hall Trust, a constitution was drawn up and was accepted by the Charities Commission to make the Trust a charitable organisation. Fund-raising started in earnest; house to house collections were organised, a football tote was started, Spring Fayres and Christmas Bazaars were held and Derby and Grand National Draws were run. Working parties met in the hut weekly to make wooden and other toys for the Christmas Bazaar; forts, garages, wheelbarrows, carts and farms among other things were made and painted and some of the products were masterpieces of craftsmanship and are probably still being used and enjoyed. The first Carnival procession of decorated floats was held in September, 1967 and was led by the famous Excelsior Ropes Band. It was very hard work but also great fun and the response from the people was tremendous so that by February 1970 a sum of £3000 had been accumulated, a fantastic amount from such a small village although it was greatly helped by a first donation of £500 from the Joseph Frazier Trust.

All this time negotiations had been going on for the building of the new Hall. In December 1967 permission was given by the Department of Education & Science for rebuilding on the site but requests for additional land were refused as the School had only sufficient playingfield area for its number of pupils. Tenders were requested from various building firms, visits were paid to neighbouring village Halls and applications were made to the Cardiff Rural District Council and the Department of Education & Science for grant-aid. It was agreed after much consultation to have the Hall built by Reema Construction Company Ltd. and their representative visited the Committee in October 1969 with proposed plans. A grant of £3000 from Cardiff Rural District Council, £1500 for 1970/1 and £1500 for 1971/2 was thankfully received in March 1970 and final plans were received from Reema in May 1970. A public meeting was held in June 1970 to consider the plans and, with some amendment, they were submitted for planning permission. The lease of the land was extended for twelve years by the Education Department and the main worry now was whether the Department of Education & Science would approve the essential 50% grant; the cost of the Hall had increased during this time from an original £12,610 to £13,568. In view of the increasing cost, the Department was being asked for permission to sign contract without prejudice to grant and this was given. The shell of the old maycrete hut was sold (to our everlasting amazement) and building started in May 1971. An interesting event held to raise funds in 1971 was a mile of pennies which started at Salem Chapel; 9810 pennies were laid in line through the village and great fun was had by all. The Committee survived a stormy public meeting held in September 1971 to discuss use of the Hall by the Primary School (later agreed) and the grand opening of the Hall by the President, Mrs. Jeremy, was held on Saturday 11th December 1971 with many distinguished visitors present. A buffet, dance and concert by Cór Meibion, Pontypridd (our old friends) were organised and celebrations went on into the early hours with Cór Meibion still singing in the lounge of the Secretary's house!! The Hall was fully paid for, tables and chairs had been bought and £20 remained in the kitty.

The Hall is now a regular feature of village life used by the W.I., Senior Citizens, a Keep Fit Class, Youth Club, Badminton and many other activities. An active Committee continue to run a programme of events to raise funds to maintain and improve the Hall. The Carnival procession is an annual and keenly anticipated event run in conjunction with the annual fete and the programme gets bigger and better each year.

Molly Patmore



Gwaelod-y-Garth Village Hall Photo by Rhys Daniel

A 'Charge' of Serious Neglect

Half the world, half the world,
Half the world around,
All in the cause of 'Peace'
The Minuteman 100.
Forward the Cruise brigade;
On to Armageddon,
Heralding a frozen age
The Minuteman 100.

'Forward the Cruise brigade!'
Are we again betrayed?
Has Greenham told us true?
Someone would blunder:
Their's alone to make reply?
Their's alone to reason why?
Their's to refuse to die!
Not for the cause of Peace
Hordes of Minutemen 100.

Cruise to the north of us,
Cruise to the south of us,
Cruise to the east of us
Programmed and loaded:
Never such a cruel shell,
Under radar so none can tell,
Opening the jaws of death,
Spawn of cant and neglect
Soars the Minuteman 100

Flash'd all the cities there,
Flash'd and bloody corpses everywhere
No 'Pretty white coat' anywhere!
Charging at the funeral pyre, while
All the world shuddered:
Up rose the mushroom cloud
Covering the Earth in hellish shroud:
Cossack and Russian
Blasted by a fatal stroke
Shatter'd and sunder'd
Now see them roar back, but not,
Not the Minuteman 100.

'20's to the north of us,
'20's' to the south of us,
'20's' to the west of us
Programmed and loaded,
Soars the apocalyptic shell,
Doom and destruction out of hell.
No time to toll the bell.
Returning from the jaws of death,
Back from the mouth of hell,
S.S. 20's all of them,
Reprisal, for the Minuteman 100.

Do we ever learn?
Do we sit and burn?
And all the flowers gone.
Honour the change they made!
Honour the Cruise brigade!
The mutant few hundred! !

(After "The Charge of the Light Brigade" by Alfred Tennyson)
Glyn Fry



We only go Abroad for the Weather . . .

Now is the time when lucky people are looking forward to holidays. We always think of them at this time, and look forward to them, but we don't usually do anything about them until it's too late. Almost. In the past few years we have been lucky enough to go away 'somewhere', but it's not where most people would choose to go for a holiday. The simple reason is we leave booking somewhere reasonable until everything's gone.

"Choker blocked . . . if only you'd come in earlier" is the usual reply from our travel agent.

Last year was the same. In desperation we accepted an invitation from our Australian friend Struan, to stay with her in Madrid for a fortnight in August. How lovely, Spain in August everyone said. Costa Brava? Blanca?, Del Sol? Costa del sea, del sand? Madrid? tut tut, August? tut tut.

A week before departure, we got our cheque returned from the charter company. Fully booked; all seats to Spain, all seats to everywhere in the sun in August. We noticed a little advertisement for cheap flights in the newspaper. The address was a Greek travel agent in Cardiff so we set out at the 11th hour to investigate.

"Ella, Kyria, Orieste Kyrie", was the response as we opened the door of the shop. A strong smell of cigarettes wafted from the overfull ashtrays on a large desk taking up much of the shop. Behind the desk sat a puffy-eyed Onassis, beckoning welcoming gestures for us to pull up chairs and do business.

"Sbaen?", he said, and dropped his lower lip, pushing it forward to disclose nicotine gums. "You wanna go to Madrid? In August? Very hot, Madrid. He looked sympathetically at Angharad. No good for children. Everywhere booked. Greece, much better. The islands — wonderful!", he said looking to heaven and gesticulating as if he were savouring gourmet food.

"Greece is very nice, poli oreia," I said. You been to Greece? You know Greek? he asked. The old man with the big tummy, braces and trilby hat, who had been playing with his worry beads 'til this point, leant forward. "The girl speaks Greek? he said to the travel agent. "Para poli liri". "Very little," I answered.

The two men smiled. "You wanna coffee? I make you a Greek coffee eh? Until the war in Cyprus, we drank Turkish coffee, now its the same thing but we call it Greek," he laughed. He stumbled past the edge of the big desk and me, into a cupboard, where he produced two small cups. You wanna ouzo in your coffee? He thrust an almond cake into Angharad's hand and sat down again.

"Now, where you wanna go?", I explained about our Australian friend in Madrid. She was expecting us. We couldn't disappoint her, she'd never forgive us. "You lived in Greece?", he asked, his eyes narrowing. "Three years", I said. The old man leant forward again. "You have property there?", he asked in English. "No", I said, remembering the number of times Greek men had asked me that one, "I worked for the British Council. "Ah, the British Consul", he beamed. "I am very good friends with Mrs. Papadopolou. You know her of course? You wanna another coffee? Ouzo? Don't worry, I get you seats to Madrid". He smiled as he flicked his fingers through a grubby address book and reached for the phone. "Where you wanna go from?"

"Sas Parakalo, 3 seats, Madrid, Ella Spiro. What you mean it's booked." He shrugged. "You wanna go to Alicante? Ohi, Spiro. You wanna go from Manchester. Ohi, Spiro. Don't worry, I get you tickets. You wait".

After an hour and a half of telephoning we signed a cheque and were assured that tickets to Malaga from Luton would be in the post that night. We shook hands. "Next time you go to Greece for holidays", he said. "Corfu in Easter, its paradise." "I know", I said, "Efharisto".

We got into the car. "How many miles is it from Malaga to Madrid," I asked Rhys who looked concerned. "How long will it take us to get to Luton?", he answered. We drove straight to the AA. I shot to the shelf with the travel books. 'Malaga has the most polluted beaches in the Mediterranean', it read. Rhys pulled the piece of skin between his nose and his upper lip; a habit he has when he's about to go into a state of shock. It'll take 10 hours by train from Malaga to Madrid. We arrive at 11.30 p.m. on the weekend of the biggest holiday in the Roman Catholic Calendar, the Feast of the Maria Assumpta.

"Can we cancel our booking, our booking", Rhys shouted from the pay phone in St. David's Centre. I cocked my ear to the receiver. "Ts impossible, the tickets have gone out. I spent a lot of time doing the booking." "The child, the journey, the heat?" "Impossible, I'm sorry. . . Don't worry there are many hotels in Malaga" . . . beep, beep, beep.

Rhys spread out the beach towel on the coffee table in the lounge in Malaga airport and I stepped on to my 'hotel' bed. Angharad groaned in her half sleep, or was it the buggy? Our annual holiday had begun.

Editor.

What can Local Councils do?

(A summary of their powers for those who want better villages and towns)

Each description is brief and is intended to be a general indication. Like all powers given to public bodies the powers of local councils are defined in detail in legislation and these details may include a requirement to obtain the consent of another body (for example the approval of the County Council to the provision of a car park). Local Councils must exercise their powers also subject to the provisions of the general law (for example planning permission is necessary for a sports pavilion).

The powers are listed alphabetically. Where a power is marked with an asterisk the council may, in addition to exercising the power itself, help another body to act by giving financial assistance.

Allotments Provision and maintenance of allotments for cultivation.

***Arts** Developing and improving knowledge of the arts and the crafts which serve the arts.

Baths Provision of baths and wash-houses (which in modern terms may mean a launderette).

***Cemeteries** Provision and maintenance of burial grounds, or cemeteries, or crematoria.

Churchyards Power to contribute to the costs of a churchyard in use and a duty to maintain any closed churchyard where the duty has been transferred by the Church.

***Clocks** Provision and maintenance of public clocks, on churches or elsewhere.

Commons Power to protect any finally registered common which has no registered owner.

***Entertainments** Provision of any form of public entertainment and any premises for giving entertainments. (This includes maintaining bands or orchestras and providing for dancing.)

Footpaths Maintenance of public footpaths and bridleways.

***Halls** Provision of buildings for public meetings and functions, for indoor sport or physical recreation, or for the use of clubs or societies having recreational, social or athletic objects.

Legal Proceedings Power to prosecute and defend any legal proceedings in the interests of the inhabitants. Power to take part in any public local inquiry.

Lighting Provision and maintenance of any footway lighting which lights roads or pavements provided the columns are not above specified heights.

***Litter** Provision of litter-bins in streets and support for anti-litter campaigns.

Mortuaries Provision of mortuaries and post mortem rooms.

Open Spaces Provision and maintenance of public open spaces, pleasure grounds and public walks.

Parking Places Provision and management of car and cycle parks.

Parks Provision and maintenance of public parks and appropriate facilities.

Planning Local councils have a right to be notified of any planning application affecting their area and to make comments which the planning authority must take into account.

***Playing Fields** Provision and maintenance of land for any kind of outdoor recreation, including boating pools.

***Ponds** Power to deal with ponds, pools, or other places containing filth or matter prejudicial to health.

Post and Telephone Power to guarantee the postal or telephone authorities against a loss on a facility.

Public Lavatories Provision and maintenance of public lavatories.

Roadside Verges Power to plant and maintain roadside verges.

***Seats** Provision and maintenance of public seats on the highway.

***Shelters** Provision and maintenance of shelters for general public use and also particularly for bus passengers.

Signs Power to erect signs which warn of dangers or announce a place name, or indicate a bus stop.

***Swimming** Provision of indoor or outdoor swimming pools or bathing places.

***Tourism** Provision of facilities for conferences and encouragement of recreational and business tourism.

***Village Green** Powers to maintain the village or town green.

General Expenditure Power In any situation not covered by one of the specific powers described above a council may spend money on any purpose which in its opinion is of benefit to its area or to the inhabitants. The total expenditure by the council on all the cases under this general power must not in any financial year exceed the product of a 2p rate for the parish or town or community. (This power is often called 'The Free Two Pence'.)

**DOES YOUR COUNCIL
EXERCISE ALL ITS POWERS?**



Dear Editor,

This year South Glamorgan County Council and local Peace Groups have inaugurated an August Peace Week, 5th - 12th August, to be celebrated by many activities throughout the County. The children and young people of the County are being asked to contribute by participating in a Schools Poem for Peace competition and a Poster competition for the under 8 year olds.

South Glamorgan County Council are giving away prizes to the individual winners and to the winning schools. Entries are invited in English or Welsh and will be judged in separate competitions. Harri Webb, a South Wales poet whose work has stirred the public's imagination for many years and has recently published another volume, will judge the English entries. Rhys Daniel, Head of Art at Rhydyfelin, will judge the posters. The competition is to be judged in two age groups, with book token prizes for winners and runners-up:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Under 8's Posters	£10	£5 x 2	£3 x 2
8 to 11 Poems	£12	£7	£4

The closing date for entries is July 13th and hopefully winners will be notified before the end of term. Winners are invited to a prize-giving reception in County Headquarters during Peace Week.

For further information contact:

Mair Lewis, 6 Parc y felin, Creigiau, Mid Glam. Tel 395548

Caerphilly Mountain Project.

The Caerphilly Mountain Project was set up in 1979 by a Committee of local authorities (Mid and South Glamorgan County Councils, Cardiff City Council, Rhymney Valley District Council, and Taff Ely Borough Council), supported by the Countryside Commission.

The aims of the Project are:-

- To improve the quality of the landscape in the countryside between Caerphilly and Cardiff by carrying out work such as clearing rubbish, rebuilding stone walls, and tree planting;
- to improve people's enjoyment of the countryside by providing picnic sites, improving footpaths, and providing information.

To help achieve these aims a Part-time Warden Service has been set up. The wardens try to help landowners by ensuring that visitors to the countryside do not cause damage, and to provide an information service to visitors and the general public. This service has been extended to provide a programme of summer walks.

Sunday 22nd July "Coed-y-Bedw and Little Garth Woods" led by Jean Henderson and David Jenkins. Meet at Steetley Quarry entrance, Pentyrch Hill, between Taffs Well and Pentyrch, at 2.30 p.m.

Sunday 5th August "Fforest Ganol and Fforest Fach" led by Adrian Jones. Meet at Forestry Commission Car Park, Fforest Fawr, between Castell Coch and Caerphilly Mountain at 2.30 p.m.

Saturday 18th August "Caerphilly Common and the Warren" led by Phil Jayne. Meet at Caerphilly Mountain Car Park at 2.30 p.m.

Sunday 2nd September "Garth Mountain" led by Jean Henderson and David Jenkins. Meet at Garth Mountain Car Park, on minor road between Pentyrch and Gwaelod-y-Garth, at 2.30 p.m.

These are just a selection.

If you require any further information about the programme of walks or the Caerphilly Mountain Project, please contact:

P.D. JAYNE, PROJECT OFFICER, CAERPHILLY MOUNTAIN PROJECT, c/o 4th FLOOR, MID GLAMORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL OFFICES, GREYFRIARS ROAD, CARDIFF.
Telephone: CARDIFF 28033 Ext. 459

1984 SUMMER PLAYScheme - Message to Readers

You will be interested to know that the Taffs Well Community Enterprise Unit have planned a Summer play scheme for this area. The Playscheme will be held at Ffynon Taf Primary School each weekday 10am - 4pm from Monday, 30th July until Friday 17th August. The scheme is intended primarily for the 5 - 13 year olds, but older children will be welcome to attend and limited provision is being made for pre-school children of helpers.

The Play Scheme is being run in conjunction with an international workcamp and we will have up to ten volunteers recruited through the United Nations Association with us for the three weeks.

We should be grateful for your help in any of the following ways:

1. **Toys** a) Do you have any outgrown toys, books, puzzles, games etc. you could give?
b) Would you be willing to loan any larger toys or equipment, e.g. bikes, paddling pool, swingball?

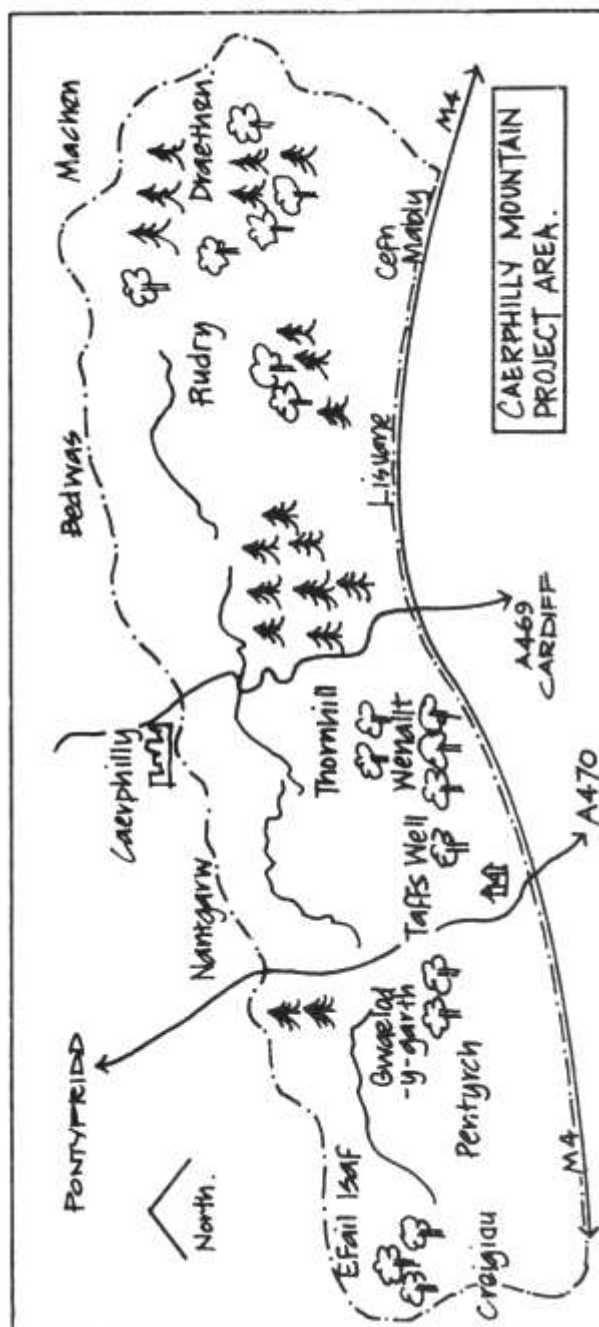
2. **Craft Material** Could you save cardboard rolls, egg boxes etc., oddments of wool or fabric remnants which would be useful for craft activities?

3. **Helpers** Could you be a helper? We must emphasise that no particular skills are required for supervising the children and any time you could spare, no matter how short would be invaluable.

If you have any questions about the playscheme please phone me on 810049 or on 810241.

We very much hope that you and your children will be able to support the playscheme to ensure its success and continuation. Thank you.

A. R. Toghill



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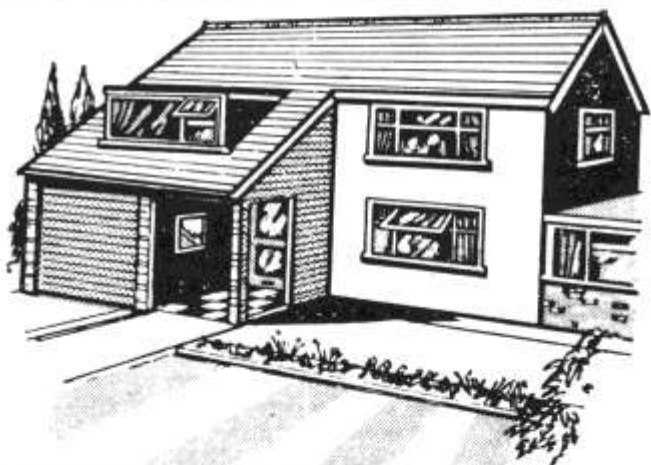
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