

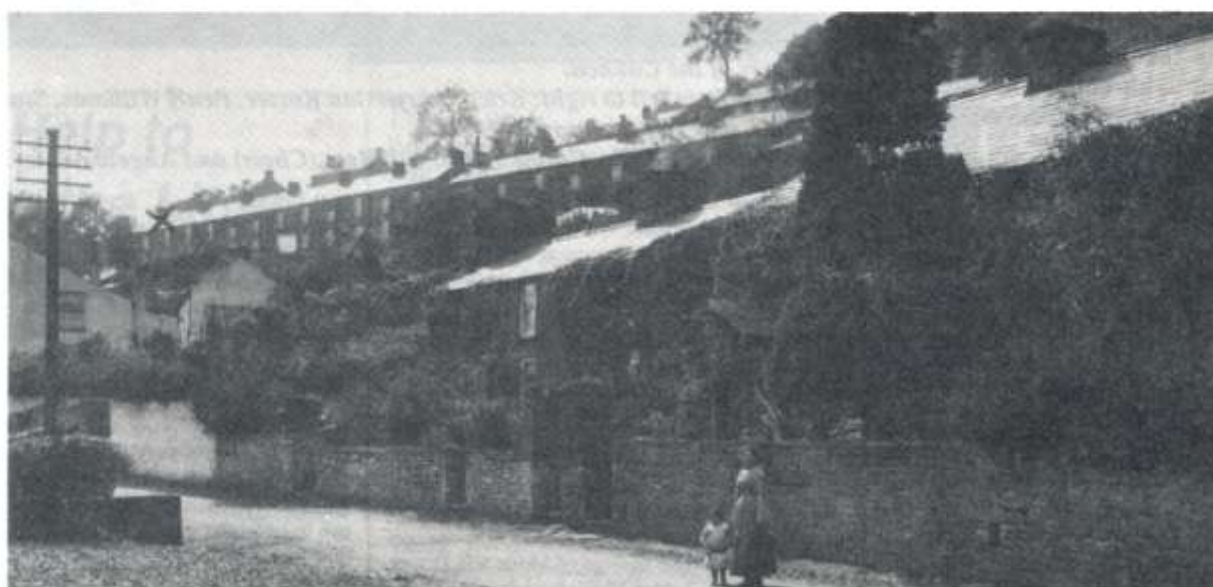
CWLWM BRO COMMUNITY LINK

AWST/AUGUST 1991

Editorial Board: Alan Rosser, 'Brynteg'
Gwaelod-y-Garth. Tel: Taffs Well 811811

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A postcard view of Gwaelod-y-Garth before the First world War. Do you know who the young woman is... or the child? If you do please let us know. Ed.

Editorial

PLANNING OUR FUTURE

There has been much insensitive development in our villages in recent years. It is therefore pleasing to be able to report, at long last, that the Borough Council has produced draft 'Local Plan' proposals for Creigiau, Pentyrch and Gwaelod-y-Garth which hopefully will address some of these problems.

A Local Plan is one element of a Development Plan for an area; the other element is the Structure Plan produced by the County Council. The Borough's draft plan incorporates parts of previous but unadopted plans for Creigiau and Pentyrch, the village Policy Statement for Gwaelod-y-Garth prepared by the Community Council and Mid Glamorgan's County Structure Plan of 1982, revised in 1989. It also contains 'written statements' on the existing situation and formulates land use policies for Housing, Employment, Shopping, Community Facilities, Leisure and Recreation, Tourism, the Environment, Transportation and Minerals.

The Borough Council will now consult widely to ensure that these proposals are generally acceptable and properly reflect local opinion. An adopted Local Plan is a definitive statement on land use and development and accorded statutory weight by the Welsh Office as a result, it will profoundly affect our communities for years to come.

SO PLEASE MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN.

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YOUR NEW COUNCIL

We have a new Council.

Many of the old familiar faces have gone. It will be strange attending meetings without Norman Follis, Glyn Fry, Molly Patmore, Gerald Richards and George Lamerton (who sadly died in Marc). They were all excellent Councillors, fierce in defence of our communities and will be missed.

In their place.... Stuart Thomas from Creigiau, Bill Foyle, Betty Rees and Angela Ashley from Pentyrch and Tom Proctor from Gwaelod-y-Garth.

As a means of introduction, members of the new Council have written a few words about themselves for the Link. These, along with addresses and telephone numbers, are shown below.

STD Code all telephone nos is 0222.

CREIGIAU WARD

Carole Willis

Cllr Mrs C A Willis, 40 Parc-y-Felin, Creigiau CF4 8PB [890770]

Carole has lived in Parc y Felin, Creigiau for 16 years. She is married to Eric and they have four children aged between eight and thirteen years. Following the recent loss of her Borough Council seat she is pleased to have more time to spend on Community Council matters and has joined the editorial board of Community Link. In her spare time she enjoys singing and is a member of Côr Gôdre'r Garth.

Selwyn Roberts

Cllr S H Roberts, 13 Parc-y-Felin, Creigiau CF4 8PB [891585]

Born 1948 and married with two daughters aged 12 and 17. Selwyn has lived in Creigiau for 12 years and had been a Community Councillor for 10 years. He represents the Community Council on the Governing Body of Creigiau School, is a keen gardener and Secretary of Creigiau allotments society. A graduate of the University of Wales, Cardiff, he specialised in cytogenetics and works in the Department of Genetics at University Hospital.

Stuart Thomas

Cllr R S Thomas, 10 Parc-y-Felin, Creigiau CF4 8PA [891812]

Stuart is married with two children aged 11 yrs and 9 yrs. He has lived in Creigiau for 8 years having moved into the area with his job as a Bank Official. He was founder of Creigiau Neighbourhood Watch, a former chairman and current member of Llantrisant Round Table. He is also treasurer for the Creigiau Scout Group.

Jeff Canning

Cllr J R Canning, 62 Parc y Fro, Creigiau CF4 8SA [892464]

Jeff is 36, married with two young children, Sara and Ffion, and has lived in Creigiau for 4 years. He works for one of the Clearing Banks and is an Associate of the Institute of Bankers. Jeff has been a Councillor for two years and actively supports the Welsh Language and the survival of our communities.

Richard Adams

Cllr R J Adams, "Castle View", Cardiff Road, Creigiau CF4 8NL [890017]

Richard, who is this year's Vice Chairman, has been a Community Councillor for 3 years and lives on



Members of the Council.

Back row from left to right: Eric Priday, Alan Rosser, Penri Williams, Stuart Thomas, and Jeff Canning.

Front row: Bill Foyle, Carole Willis, Gill Rees (Chair) and Angela Ashley.

Cardiff Road with his wife and two daughters. His particular concerns are in developing and maintaining an improved environment and C.R.A.M.C. Richard is a lighting cameraman with the BBC.

GWAELOD Y GARTH WARD

Tom Proctor

Cllr T Proctor, "Wood Cottage", Georgetown, Gwaelod y Garth, CF4 8HF [813346]

Tom is a professional musician. Twenty eight years ago he moved to Wales to take up a position in the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra. Two years ago, he retired from the Orchestra and now teaches trumpet at the Welsh College of Music and Drama. He is married with three Welsh-born daughters.

Alan Rosser

Cllr D A Rosser, "Brynteg", Main Road, Gwaelod Y Garth CF4 8H [811811]

Alan is married to Sandie and has two children, Gareth and Siân. He is an Architect and works for Rhondda Borough Council. Alan has been a Councillor for 8 years, currently edits the Link and strives continually to ensure that the views of villagers are properly heard. Deeply committed to the community, he supported the Quarry Action Group in their recent fight and is on two school Governing Bodies.

PENTYRCH WARD

Betty Rees

Cllr Mrs B Rees, "Crossways", Heol y Parc, Pentyrch CF4 8NB [890334]

Betty first came to Pentyrch with her husband, the local policeman, between 1946 and 1950. She returned in 1974 on his retirement and soon became actively involved locally as Community Councillor from 1979-83 and the village hall bookings' secretary. Betty worked at British Telecom, Coryton, for 20 years and now works part-time for G N Follis at Rhydlafar.

Eric Priday

Cllr E Priday, 7 Pantglas, Pentyrch CF4 8TH [891493]

Eric is 44 and married, with a son at University. He is Head of Microbiology for the Welsh Blood Transfusion Service, enjoys eating out, travel and the theatre. This is Eric's third term as Councillor - he believes people should use their Councillors more as Community Councils are the bedrock of local democracy.

Bill Foyle

Cllr W M Foyle, 12 Old Bakery Court, Pentyrch CF4 8NR [891185]

Back on the Council after a long absence, Bill has lived in the village for over 50 years. He is Committee member of the Derby and Joan Club and a Governor at the Primary School. His hobby... FUSCHIAS !!

Angela Ashley

Cllr Mrs A M Ashley, "Vale View", Off Heol Pantygored, Pentyrch CF4 8NE [890566]

Aged 48 yrs, married with two children at college, has lived in the village for twenty five years. She now works in the Personnel Department at British Gas Wales. She has always taken an interest in village life, as a founder thirteen years ago of Pentyrch School P.T.A. where her children attended school and as a Member of Young Wives. Currently, she is on the local parochial church council and runs a guide unit at Craig-y-Parc School.

Penri Williams

Cllr Penri Williams, "Hendre", 4 Pantbach, Pentyrch CF4 8TG [890040]

Married with two daughters, Penri has been a Community Councillor since 1979. He is an Engineer at Aberthaw Power Station. He takes a keen interest in all aspects of Welsh life, particularly choir singing and producing a Welsh Monthly newspaper.

Yn briod gyda dwy ferch, Llio ac Awen, mae Penri yn Gyngorydd Cymuned ers 1979. Yn beirannydd ym Mhwordy Aberddawan, ei brif ddiddordebau yw canu yng Nghôr Godre'r Garth, cynorthwyo gyda'r papur bro, Tafod Elai, a bod yn rhan o fwrllwm Cymraeg y fro.

Gill Rees

Cllr Mrs G A Rees, "Llys y Coed", Heol Pantygored, Pentyrch CF4 8NE [890571]

Gill, this year's Chairman, has lived in Pentyrch for 11 years with her husband, Wyn, and two daughters, Angharad and Cattrin. Having graduated from University College of Wales, Aberystwyth with a degree in International Politics she subsequently qualified and practised as a solicitor. She has been a member of the Community Council for three years and was elected Chairman of the Council for the current year. She is actively concerned with environmental issues and her aim is to ensure that our villages remain close-knit, friendly, rural communities.

A resident of Pentyrch for 33 years and Borough Councillor for the last 12,

JEAN HENDERSON is this year's deputy Mayor of the Taff Ely Borough Council and is looking forward to being Mayor next year. After a long service in the N.H.S. she left to take up freelance writing and hopes to write a humorous book about her mayoral experiences. A favourite pastime is walking in the beautiful countryside around here.



THE BOROUGH COUNCIL

The results of the elections on May 2nd for the Borough Council were as follows:

CREIGIAU

A Williams (Con) 456
C Willis (Plaid) 374
D Stone (Lab) 217

PENTYRCH/GWAELOD Y GARTH

M Henderson (Con) 666
E Priday (Lab) 534
P Bestic (Plaid) 147
T Hartog (Green) 72

Your Borough Councillors for the next four years are:

Cllr Mrs J Henderson
13 Tyn y Coed Road
Pentyrch
Cardiff CF4 8NP [890428]

Cllr A M Williams
"Cambrensis"
Peterston Road
Groesfaen
Pontyclun CF7 8NU [890983]

Self Help to Solve the Litter Problem

The main reason people live in places like Creigiau, Pentyrch and Gwaelod y Garth is because they enjoy living in villages with plenty of green areas and plenty of trees, surrounded by countryside. Therefore it is sad when adults and children drop litter and spoil these pleasant villages. It's particularly sad for the people who drop litter because they can't be aware of their own environment otherwise they wouldn't try to ruin it. Also, they must have no self respect since dropping litter should offend them as much as it does everyone else.

The easiest way to solve the litter problem is simply to open people's eyes to the mess they create and to try and get them to care about their environment.

This is best accomplished by trying to keep everything clean and litter free in the first place and this is easily achieved. If everyone is aware of litter and how it interferes with the enjoyment and pleasure they get from their surroundings they can easily get rid of the problem - by picking up offending litter. It's simple!!

Picking up litter removes the problem, and makes us all responsible for our environment. Strangely enough, it also seems to discourage people from dropping litter in the first place. If you make a habit of picking up litter on the way home from the shops or the pub, the problem disappears. Drop the litter in your own bin and wash your hands and, before long, we should see a dramatic change in our environment!

Eric Willis

13 Pen-y-Waun
Pentyrch
26th April 1991

Dear Mr Rosser

I would like to start by congratulating Community Link for this excellent publication.

I do, however, write in reference to the article in April's edition on litter.

Litter is a great problem just about everywhere in Britain, not least in our community. I know that the article expressed many local concerns, but whilst doing so it did imply that the problem was only caused by children and young people. I have, many times, seen adults, who should know better, discarding their litter on the ground for others to clear up. I am 15, and as a young person myself I can assure you that it is the minority and not the majority who contribute to such filth. I do appreciate that most of the litter is dropped by young people, but adults do too, we are not entirely to blame.

Yours sincerely,
Kirsty Lewis

Thank you Kirsty. You are of course quite right. Adults are indeed just as much to blame as the young for the problem. So come on adults - set an example for the young to follow. Ed.

LETTERS

21st Birthday Celebrations

21 years ago in 1970 a small group of people in Creigiau thought that it would be a good idea to go carol singing to raise some money for the Craig y Parc School. They were so successful and enjoyed themselves so much that they decided to try and form a choir to raise money for charity throughout the year.

They were very fortunate that a young professionally trained singer, Mair Roberts, had recently moved to Creigiau with her husband Elwyn. Mair is still the choir's conductor and over the years has contributed enormously to the development of the choir, whilst also pursuing a successful singing career of her own, most notably as the soloist with the Treorchy Male Voice Choir.

Over the years Cantorion Creigiau has had many notable successes, with wins at the National Eisteddfod, many television appearances and very successful tours to Brittany and Italy.

Recently, the choir sang at a special concert held at the Urdd Eisteddfod at Tonyrefail, which was shown on television.

A group of the male singers from the choir will also be seen weekly, on television, dressed as Ancient Celts and singing the introduction to a new Welsh language series 'Dan Rhufain'.

A feature of the choir's concerts is not just to sing well but also to provide a variety of comedy sketches, solos and duets. As a result

the choir is very busy and gets invited back to many venues year after year. This enhances the main aim of the choir which is to help organisations raise thousands of pounds for charity every year. Over the years tens of thousands of pounds have been raised for a wide variety of charities.

The high spot of the choir's 21st anniversary will be a special dinner dance to be held at the brand new Rhondda Heritage Park Hotel on Saturday, September 21st. Winston Roddick will be the guest speaker and it should be a very enjoyable evening, with an excellent dance band.

The choir is trying to write to all former members to invite them. So, if there are any former choir members, or friends of former choir members reading this article could you please contact Eric Willis on 890770 - to make sure that you are on our list to contact.

Next year the choir has quite a full programme, and it is hoped to organise a tour of Italy in 1992, to help celebrate the creation of a single Europe.

New members are always welcome. The first rehearsal of the new season will be in the Church Hall, Creigiau at 7.30 on Sunday, September 1st. Rehearsals will then be held in the school every Sunday at 7.30pm. We would be pleased to welcome anyone who enjoys singing and would like to help us celebrate our next 21 years.

Eric Willis

HWYL FAWR

The people of Taff-Ely can be proud. The Urdd Eisteddfod at Tonyrefail was a resounding success and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who attended. Our children, from the very youngest - to students, did well throughout the week, and are looking forward to next year.

Children from all 3 primary schools sang in the Pageant, "Taffi a Chonffetti Ffair", held in the pavilion on the 30th and 31st May. It was a wonderful experience for them and a pleasure for us listening.

It is not possible to mention the names of all the pupils who took part and won through to the finals or had their work displayed. There were far too many and there is not enough space unfortunately.

The Community Council, however, wishes to take this opportunity to thank all the children involved - and all those adults who worked so hard to ensure a successful Eisteddfod week.



In 1976, just 1000 children in Taff-Ely were being taught through the medium of Welsh. There are now more than 6000 or one in four. Children from the 20 Welsh language playgroups in Taff-Ely participated at the Urdd by celebrating five years of twinning links between Wales and Lesotho in collages, painting puppets and the making of models. In the photograph above are children from the playgroup at Capel Bethlehem in Gwaelod y Garth displaying their contributions.

FLYING PIGS

PIGS might fly, but Pentyrch Improvements Group lives on with a new committee of dedicated volunteers to take us through the 90's.

PIGS was formed following a public meeting in November 1982 organised by the W.I. to "promote, develop and otherwise provide for improvement to the appearance and character of the village and its environs". Worthy aims indeed and ones which I believe have been met in full over the past nine years.

PIGS has initiated a twice yearly village clean-up - including the stretch of Heol Goch to the Steetley entrance, planted daffodils throughout the area, supplied hanging baskets and plants at the shops and a Christmas tree there every year since 1985.

PIGS was also instrumental in persuading the Community

Council to fence Memorial Park and provide the adjacent bridlepath, pave the area outside Jones' the butcher and near the grit bin. It also tries to ensure the co-operation of other groups and individuals for the benefit of the community as a whole.

PIGS is looking to the future. Perhaps it is now time to join the Civic Trust, to take advantage of links with this larger organisation. Your views would be most welcome. We intend to concentrate on footpaths this year but our ultimate aim is to enter the "Best Kept Village Competition" in the near future.

Membership of PIGS is open to everyone living in Pentyrch. We have lots of fun on our projects, fund raising and at get togethers. We meet at 7.30pm on the first Thursday of each month at the Lewis Arms. So if you are interested, please come along - you'll be most welcome.

Further information can also be obtained from Haydon Walters on 891579.

Gladys Jones.



VILLAGE CLEAN-UP

A small enthusiastic band, including several members of the local W.I., turned out on Saturday 27th April to clean-up Gwaelod y Garth. Skips, plastic bags and gloves were provided by Taff-Ely Borough Council (for which we were most grateful) and volunteers worked hard from eleven in the morning until the middle of the afternoon when, it was decided enough was enough.

The village was certainly much cleaner. Unfortunately, this did not last long. Several black plastic bags filled with litter and left at the side of the road for collection by car, were deliberately overturned and the contents strewn about by unknown vandals. It was collected again on Sunday morning and put in skips but it is difficult to understand this kind of mindless behaviour - and why are the culprits never seen in the act?

Thanks are due to Alan Lock, Dave Jenkins, Gerwyn Williams, Mary Chamberlain, Colin Palfrey, Councillor Alan Rosser, Paul and Heather Stuart, Chris and Claire Neal, Katherine Davis and family, Molly and Lindsey Patmore and anyone else who was busy without being seen.



PRIZE BANGERS

The annual South Wales Sausage Competition was held at the Post House, Cardiff, on the 3rd March. It was organised again by the Cardiff and District Meat Traders' Association in conjunction with the Meat and Livestock Commission – and Heartbeat Wales.

Entries received from all parts of South Wales, were judged on appearance, texture, weight loss from cooking and most important – taste. Winners were invited to compete at the Royal Welsh Show in July for the 'Welsh Sausage Champion' title.

For the second time the 'Ken Hutchings' Challenge Shield was won by Pentrych butchers, H. C. Jones of High Corner. They won in 1988 – gained second prize in 1987 and were highly commended in 1984. The sausages were the standard pork sausages by Henry and Vaughan Jones and Simon Mansfield – pictured together in the photograph.



"So that will be £7,500 for the car and £8,000 extra for this simple but almost foolproof security system."

difficult and forces thieves to abandon your car once it runs out of petrol. Use lockable wheel nuts if you have expensive alloy wheels.

Caravans and trailers are for towing. Make sure it is not your vehicle that they tow away! Fit and use a Hitchlock. Use padlocks to secure the corner legs of your van and on the gas cylinder securing bar. You can also postcode all the windows using a security marking pen.

With pre-planning, a minimum of expense, and a regular routine when leaving the vehicle unattended, you can ensure that your vehicles stay where you want them – safe and sound.

FACTS

Thefts of and from cars account for 35 per cent of reported crime, totalling 46,886 cases in the South Wales Police District. On average a car is now stolen every 12 minutes in the force area.

SKIPS

As part of their on-going service to the community, the Borough Council will arrange for skips to be located in our villages on the following dates.

Creigiau

7th-9th and 21st-23rd August : Cardiff Road, Parc y Bryn and Llys Dewi.

9th-12th and 23rd-26th August : Heol Pant y Gored, Post Office, Station Houses and Ffordd Dinefwr.

12th-14th and 28th-30th August : Maes y Nant, Parc y Fro, The Terrace and Castle Close.

Gwaelod y Garth

14th-17th and 28th October - 1st November :

Heol Berry, Heol y Nant, Garth Newydd and Garth Olwg.

Pentrych

1st-4th, 15th-18th and 27th November-2nd December : Capel Llanilterne (Tai Penylan) and Bronllwyn.

4th-6th and 18th-20th November : Penuel Road, Heol y Parc, Mountain Road and Pen y Cwm.

6th-8th and 20th-22nd November : Ael y Bryn, Lon y Fro, Berllwyd, High Corner, and Heol y Bryn.

8th-11th and 25th-27th November : Heol Dan yr Odyn, Fairmeadow and Cefn Bychan.

11th-13th and 22nd-25th November : Heol Penllwyn, Heol Gam, Penywaun and Maes y Sam.

WHERE'S IT GONE ?

Can you imagine just how foolish it would be to leave £100 or £1000 or even £10,000 on your drive all day without any protection.

Ridiculous - nobody would do anything so stupid !

No - then just think about your car parked on your drive right now. Your radio will cost about £100, the video camera you took with you when you went out this afternoon and have forgotten to bring in because the children were moaning will cost you about £1000 and to replace your car will cost you easily up to £10,000.

In the last 3 years instances of burglary have been reduced dramatically. This undoubtedly coincides with the Neighbourhood Watch schemes now operating in the locality. One crime however is not under control. Car Crime.

To have your car stolen can mean a month or more to see whether it is recovered.....before the insurance company even considers paying a claim. This can mean having to hire a replacement or having to use public transport and beg lifts. And don't think you can use your wife's car all the time. She won't wear that for long !

Even if your car is recovered it may be badly damaged and stripped of radio, tyres, glass

and parts. Then just to top it all you will most likely have to pay higher insurance premiums on your next renewal.

So what can we do to make sure cars, caravans and boats are more secure.

If you have a garage, use it. Even in a garage **LOCK YOUR CAR EVERYTIME YOU LEAVE IT.**

Don't invite theft by leaving the ignition key in the car or valuables and luggage on display. Take them with you or lock them in the boot out of sight. At this time of year it is better to get up 1/2 an hour earlier to load the car for holidays, rather than to pack it the night before.

Engrave your car registration number and postcode onto the metal case of radios to make it difficult for thieves to sell. If your car has a removable radio, take it out everytime you leave the vehicle.

Don't leave vehicle documents in the car. One sure way to help a thief dispose of your vehicle is to leave your Registration, MOT and Insurance papers in the car.

Fit an alarm and use it. These can be bought for about £30 upwards and take an hour to fit. You may pay out more than this in increased premiums following a theft claim.

A lockable fuel cap makes siphoning petrol

COMMUNITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Chairman of the Community Council

At the Annual General Meeting of the Council in May, Councillor Mrs Gill Rees of Pentyrch was elected as Chairman for the coming year with Councillor Richard Adams of Creigiau as Vice Chairman.

Schemes and Projects 1991/92

The Community Council have recently decided upon the programme of works for the year up to March 1992. Within a long list of schemes, the Council specifically intends to put up a badly needed bus shelter at Capel Llanillterne, site two additional public seats, one in Pentyrch the other in Creigiau, arrange for bulbs to be planted in various areas to give a good spring display next year and also to look into the replacement of playground equipment at Garth Newydd (no promises, but we'll try!). On the footpaths and woodlands side, the Council is to continue maintenance and improvement with the aim of expanding the "Pentyrch Circular Walk" to include waymarked footpaths in Pentyrch and Creigiau. Plans are also in hand with regard to

management of the woodland behind Garth Villas in Gwaelod y Garth, which the Council now owns and wishes to open up for informal recreation whilst preserving the nature haven which it has become over the years. On the subject of footpaths, the Council recently submitted an entry for the Prince of Wales Awards scheme 1991 for the footpath improvement project and picnic areas on the Garth. Although the Award is aimed at voluntary groups the Council is hopeful of success as a community improvement project.

* The submission was based on the Taff Trail, Pentyrch Circular Walks project. Leaflets explaining these footpaths are available free of charge from the Post Offices in each of the villages or alternatively from the Clerk, Mrs Hilary Roscoe, 4 Rhymney Cottages, Taff's Well CF4 7RP.

Bronllwyn Graveyard

Over the past few years the Council has steadily worked to return Bronllwyn Graveyard in Pentyrch to a managed state. The results are now there for all to see. It was gratifying

recently to receive a letter from a lady in Dorset who complemented the Council after visiting her father's grave. The efforts of the previous Clerk and Mr Hodges are greatly appreciated.

Postcard Collection

As a result of the concern expressed by Members regarding the all too many changes and "improvements" that are taking place in the area, it has been decided to start a postcard collection of old views of Creigiau, Pentyrch and Gwaelod y Garth. Once a sufficient large collection has been accrued it is intended to produce a calendar or even a book depicting the changing scene over the past 100 years. One of the postcards recently acquired can be seen on the front cover of this issue of Community Link. If anybody has any postcards of the area which they wish to donate to the Council's collection they would be very gratefully received and assured of a very good home! Because of the difficulty in properly storing photographs, documents etc, the Council has decided that at the present time it has to restrict its local history collection to postcards.

INTO THE MELTING POT

Local Government is again in the melting pot.

The Secretary for the State of Wales recently published a consultation document proposing the establishment of unitary authorities in place of Districts and Counties. In our area he envisages an all-purpose single tier authority linking the Boroughs of Taff-Ely, Rhondda and Cynon Valley.

He believes "Community and Town Councils play an important role in maintaining local democracy" and is likely to enhance "their role under a single tier of principal authorities, particularly insofar as they represent and articulate local opinion". However, as happened in 1974, only lip service is likely to be given the role of local Councils unless our views are clearly and convincingly promulgated.

Community and Town Councils in Wales have long been concerned at inherent weaknesses in local government structure and finance arrange-

ments. The Wales Association of Community and Town Councils, anticipating change, therefore commissioned the Welsh Unit for Local Government at the Polytechnic of Wales to prepare a report on the current situation and point ways forward.

This report suggested three models for consideration. The first sees local Councils as identifiers and promoters of local needs, much as at present; the second sees them in partnership with principal authorities undertaking services on an agency basis; and the third, the one preferred by this Council and the Association sees them as principal authorities in their own right.

Democratic local government is concerned with citizens being involved in decisions affecting their lives, either by direct participation or through their elected representatives. Model three, it is suggested, would greatly strengthen local democracy by ensuring that services more closely reflect local needs and aspirations.

If the third model were to be adopted, Community and Town Councils would have powers and duties more in line with those enjoyed by their counterparts in Europe. They could then be responsible for recreation and leisure facilities, public housing, traffic management, street cleaning and planning matters.

The Secretary of State is opposed to the setting up of an Assembly for Wales; he considers the present arrangements to be in the best interests of our country. However, there is strong argument that democracy would be well served by an elected Assembly and, whilst the Polytechnic Report is neutral on this, Community and Town Councils are likely to debate and formulate opinions on this important and highly emotive issue in the coming months.

If you have views on the future of local government, its structure and finance, or on the establishment of Welsh Assembly, please write. The Community Council believes these matters should be fully aired through the pages of the Link.

Bus Shelter, Robin Hill, Creigiau

Yet again the bus shelter at Robin Hill has been vandalised. If it is local individuals who are responsible, when will they realise that only so much money is available for our area and actions such as this divert funds from projects benefitting the young and old, from grants to youth and sports clubs and from landscape and environmental improvements. The question is why? The answer is stop it or report anything you see. The Council will continue where possible to repair vandalism but wouldn't it be better if the money was to be spent on something more worthwhile.

By the way, the bus shelter will be repaired in mid July at a cost of £251, a proportion of which will be met by our Insurers, fortunately.

Playground at Memorial Park

Those of you who live in Pentyrch will have noticed the new playground equipment and safety surfacing in Memorial Park and will perhaps have wondered why the work is not yet finished. The Community Council feel it has been badly let down by the Contractor and is determined that he will be brought back to finish the job, and properly. Please bear with us while we ensure we get value for your money.

* * *

Have a good summer – try walking some of your local footpaths, we think you will be pleasantly surprised.

H Roscoe
27/6/91

FOR SALE

AMSTRAD PC1512 Twin Disk Drive Computer plus 'Ability' software package (includes Database, Spreadsheets, Word-processing and Graphs).

Written offers in sealed envelopes should be made to the Clerk of the Community Council, 4 Rhymney Cottages, Taff's Well, CF4 7RP. To be received not later than 23rd August 1991. (Price Guide £250).

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

March 18, 1991 Meeting of the Community Council

Planning Applications notified

Weeks 6 to 10 (Weeks ending 8th February - 8th March 1991)

56/0055 Taylor, 2 Ffynnon Ffigys, Gwaelod y Garth - detached dwelling house & garage off Tynant Road, Creigiau [Council objected on the grounds - outside the village envelope, dangerous access and linear development].

56/0076 Howell, Windrush, Gwaelod y Garth - new garage, hall and first floor living space extension.

56/0095 Edmonds, 9 Parc y Bryn, Creigiau - dormer bungalow extension [the Council decided to oppose this application as it would raise the roofline and be out of keeping with adjoining properties].

56/0127 Ms A Llewellyn & Mrs J Smith - conversion of barns to two residences, Pentwyn House, Heol y Parc, Pentyrch. [the Council objected - intrusion into open countryside, barns in derelict state].

Result of Planning Appeal to Secretary of State for Wales

56/0256 Jones, Cilmeri, Rhiw'r Ddar, Taffs Well - detached house on land adjoining Ty Newydd, Heol Goch, Gwaelod y Garth.

Appeal rejected.

Planning Refusals Notified

56/0996 Evans, 6 Springfield Close, Rhiwderin, Newport - replacement of dwelling house at site of Llwynypia, Mountain Road, Pentyrch.

April 15, 1991 Meeting of the Community Council

Planning Applications notified

Weeks 11 & 12 (Weeks ending 15 and 22 March 1991)

56/0148 South Wales Electricity - rebuild overhead lines, Tyla Morris House, Pentyrch. [Council requested Taff Ely to require power lines to be placed below ground].

May 13, 1991 Meeting of the Community Council

Planning Applications notified

Weeks 15-18 (Weeks ending 19 April to 3 May 1991)

56/0256 Mr & Mrs T J Browning, Tyn y Ffald, Garth Mountain - triple garage [the Council resolved to object as it considered the proposed garage represented a disproportionate extension to the main property and would be an intrusion into the open countryside.

56/0281 T W Thomas, Greenhurst, Pentyrch - detached bungalow in garden (outline) [objection - overdevelopment of the site, poor access].

Planning Approvals notified

56/0076 Windrush, Main Road, Gwaelod y Garth - side extension.

56/0114 land adjacent to A4119, Capel Llanillterne - house & garage

Planning Refusals notified

56/0095 9 Parc y Bryn, Creigiau - dormer extension.

56/0055 Ty'r Felin Fach, Groesfaen - one dwelling.

June 3, 1991 Meeting

Planning Applications notified

Weeks 19 & 20 (Weeks ending 10th & 17th May 1991)

56/0303 Garden of Cornerways, Pentyrch - dwelling [objected - it was considered to be overdevelopment of the site. The access, if from Penuel Road, would be dangerous being opposite the entrance to Parc y Dwrlan and mature trees in the garden might suffer].

56/0317 Land to the North of Llantrisant Road - 3 detached houses (outline) [the Council objected as a development at this location was considered to be an intrusion into the open countryside].

56/0312 Mr & Mrs B C Davies, Salem Chapel, Gwaelod y Garth - conversion of window opening to door [no objection but TEBC was requested to ensure that alteration was in keeping with existing].

June 17, 1991 Meeting of the Community Council

Planning Applications notified

Weeks 21 & 22 (Weeks ending 24th & 30th May 1991)

56/0367 Mr & Mrs Douglas, Woodlands, Tynant Road, Taffs Well - erection of reinforced garden wall [no objection but TEBC requested to ensure finished wall is stone faced].

Pentyrch Darby and Joan Club

If you are retired, feel lonely, want to seek new interests or meet other over-sixties, why not join Pentyrch Darby and Joan Club ? That's what I did when I arrived in the village four years ago. I found a thriving club of jolly friendly members, all ready to make me welcome in their various activities. As a stranger, it enabled me to meet and get to know people in Pentyrch and Creigiau.

Many of our members, who live alone, look forward to the meetings in our lovely village hall every other Thursday. There are special afternoons for Harvest Festival, St. David's Day and Christmas. There are always interesting talks by speakers on a wide variety of topics. This year we enjoyed talks on the history of Castell Coch and Tongwynlais, the lives of people in Soviet Russia, training dogs for the blind and health and safety advice for senior citizens.

Many members bring books and magazines to distribute and gifts to raffle, which help our funds considerably. Kind ladies prepare tea and biscuits and

many make Welsh cakes, bara brith and delicacies for special functions. Preparing the Harvest Table, dressing in Welsh costume, singing carols and Welsh folk songs are all part of our activities. We are also fortunate to have visits and help from our Vicar, the Rev G Holcombe and the W.R.V.S. organiser from Pontypridd.

During the Spring and Summer, there are coach trips to the country and seaside. This March a party of us spent an enjoyable week in the Isle of Wight. In the Autumn we organise a "Bring and Buy" Saturday at the village hall attracting a large number of people, the proceeds of which help to run the club.

Members always enjoy concerts at the local school when children joyfully entertain their grand parents .

May the Darby and Joan Club continue to thrive in this community for years to come.

Gladys Jones.

Extra-Mural Day

The University Extra-Mural Department in Cardiff is planning a one-day conference on the history of iron-ore mining and ironsmelting in the Taff Gorge on Saturday October 12th, 1991, at the Village Hall, Gwaelod y Garth.

The day-school, which anyone interested is welcome to attend, will provide the first opportunity for a full discussion on the history of the area and the environmental implications of continued industrial activity. Speakers will include Dr Brian Davies of the Pontypridd Historical and Cultural Centre on the history of mining; Philip Riden of the Extra-Mural Department on the two ironworks which flourished on either bank of the Taff from the 1560's to the 1880's; and a contributor from Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust about the archaeological investigations on the Steetley estate.

It is hoped also to invite Steetley themselves to say something about their plans and to include several shorter contributions from local people. Weather permitting, the day will include a walk over part of the Garth.

Full details of the conference, including booking fee, will be included in the Extra-Mural Department's Annual Prospectus to be published in August. Leaflets advertising the event will be available in the village about the same time.

Anyone wanting details direct can register an interest now by ringing the Extra-Mural Department on Cardiff 874831 or by writing to the University of Wales College of Cardiff, Department of Extra-Mural Studies, 38 Park Place, Cardiff CF1 3BB.



Members of the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust survey team at the quarry.

THE QUARRY

*Amid the wood,
A gaping wound
No salve will ever ease,
A hillside disembowelled,
A sight to see,
But not to please.*

Alan Lock 1990

OPEN NIGHT

Tarmac Roadstone Ltd are extending an invitation to the residents of Creigiau and Pentyrch to an 'open' night in the quarry on Monday the 2nd September 1991 between 6.30 and 8.30 pm.

This will provide an ideal opportunity to visit one of our local quarries, tour the workings and put questions to the company's representatives in attendance that evening.

There will be ample parking within the quarry itself. Please remember to bring stout walking shoes or boots and ensure that all children are accompanied by an adult.

A Wartime Childhood

In this issue of the Link, Don concludes his story about the Pentyrch of his childhood

It is interesting to compare the Pentyrch of today with that of say, 1941. I was eight years old but impressions were indelibly planted in my mind of a very special period in which rapid changes were taking place. The 'Blackout' was to come and go but other aspects of life were to be altered for ever. I could remember a village in which horse-drawn wagons were a familiar sight. Austin T delivering milk in winter with a pony pulling a skid mounted cart gliding smoothly over the snow. Two or three donkeys hee-hawing their way through the night. The most loveable equine resident though, was 'Bonni', Dai Lee Llewellyn's cob whose colour was exactly that of the Garth mountain in winter, a coppery hued creature with a 'saddle' back on which four could sit comfortably whilst uncle Dai delivered his 'cloron', 'moron' a 'maip' (potatoes, carrots and turnips) the more exotic items like monkey nuts, dates and figs were by now, of course, only a distinct memory.

Seeing a bearded old man carrying a scythe over his shoulder today would cause fits among the sensitive but at that time it would not have been considered unusual. Grass was regularly scythed smooth from all the verges and certainly from the graveyards. Mechanisation though, suddenly became the norm and the all-pervading aroma of tractor vapourising oil claimed its place in our consciousness of

those changing times. The Women's Land Army clad in green and brown, went cheerily about their work as centuries old meadows also changed from green to brown in one more metamorphosis in the cause of the nation's good.

Yet, there were things about Pentyrch which, it seemed, would never change; as if they were built into the very bedrock of the village's unique character. In 1941, nearly three hundred inhabitants spoke the local Welsh dialect as their first language. Affairs were conducted in both languages as part of normal life in grocery stores and butchers' shops in public-house bars as well as at the pulpits. There were 'bopas' (aunties) everywhere, strong willed women who, despite their thrift, dispensed kindness all around; 'ewythredd' (uncles) who laboured hard at being good men. It is not difficult to yearn for a time when doors were left unlocked; when apple scrumping was considered amongst the more serious crimes. When the recently retired village bobby of the day could look back happily on his forty years' incumbency during which there had not been one arrest made. If that is sentimental rubbish, then so be it.

There are many who will recall what happened on one December morning early on in the war. It had been raining heavily for two or three hours when the downpour stopped abruptly. With equal suddenness

the wetness everywhere froze solidly. Telegraph wires swayed down almost to the ground with the weight of the ice clinging to them; water which, moments before had been cascading off roofs was now like a collection of huge hunks of hand shaped glass. Every twig on every branch of every tree was transformed into a beautiful diamond-like gem. For those who ventured out and onto the magnificent land, the vision of majestic beauty all around them would have been pleasurable enough; soon though, they were to observe an unforgettable phenomenon. A gentle wind rose and gradually those objects which had hitherto considered themselves to be mere trees, had become in a miracle of transmutation, crystalline chandeliers tinkling in the growing breeze and like an orchestra tuning up, were preparing to make music. What followed was, for those who heard it, an unearthly beautiful sound. As millions of ice coated twigs touched, heavenly sounding chords were produced in a symphony beyond the ability of any mortal composer to create. Ecstatic harmonies floated in the air above the village for several hours until, gradually, the orchestration faded gently away. It became warmer, the ice melted and the whole experience was committed to the memory of those, including myself who were privileged to see it and hear it.

Don Llewellyn © 1990

NEW HEADQUARTERS

It is now some 6 years since the Scout group started in Creigiau and each week 90+ boys aged from 6 to 15 enjoy the progressive training schemes that scouting offers. A beaver group was recently established for the 6-8 year age group. The Cub scouts are divided into two packs for the boys 8-10, whilst the Scouts then cater for youths between 10 and 15 years of age.

The cubs have just returned from a 4 day trip to camp and the Scouts will leave for their camp in Oxford in early August, where they will be able to enjoy archery, canoeing and abseiling among many activities.

Some 4 years ago the group secured a lease on land at the end of

Castle Close, Creigiau to build their own headquarters. After much hard work and fund raising by a group of dedicated volunteers the building is now near completion and should be open for full use by September. The premises comprise of a good size main hall, a kitchen, committee room and toilets. There are car park spaces but, in order to keep volume of traffic to a minimum, users are asked not to unnecessarily bring vehicles to the hall.

The Annual Fête, which has been rescheduled, will now be held on the 7th September and all are welcome. There will be a wide and varied selection of stalls and a Childrens' Art competition with the theme - Cartoon Characters. Entries are also invited for the Flower Arranging competition.

ARTHUR WINNINGTON REES

Arthur Winnington Rees, Vicar of Pentyrch from 1968 to 1985, died on 11th May 1991. Born in 1916, the son of a vicarage, his father was Cannon Rees, Vicar of St. Catherine's in Canton. After studying at Jesus College Oxford he entered St Michael's College Llandaff to train for his ministry.

He spent the whole of that ministry in the Diocese of Llandaff. Ordained in 1939 he served curacies at Ynyshir in the Rhondda and at Mountain Ash where he met his wife

Muriel, a tower of strength to him and remembered with great affection in the Parish. He is survived by a sister Eileen and two daughters, Sarah and Jane.



VILLAGE DIARY

How many times has your organisation arranged a function, only to find that it is not as well attended as planned because another function is on the same day?

In order to co-ordinate events in Creigiau Jim Smart has agreed that a Village Diary can be put up in the store. If secretaries from Friends of School Committees, Cricket Club, W.I., Scouts, Guides, Creigiau 23 etc etc, consult with the diary before arranging their event and then enter their year dates, the problem should be solved and we will all enjoy full attendances after the hard work that goes into organising events

Lorraine Matthews.

A record was broken at the end of summer term when, after nearly 30 years as headteacher, Hywel Lewis retired from Gwaelod y Garth Primary School.

Brought up in Cwmgwili near Llanelli, Hywel Lewis served in the Merchant Navy as radio operator then studied at University College and Baptist College in Bangor. He was minister in Trefforest and Llanilltud Faerdref before attending a Teacher Training Course at Trinity College in Carmarthen.

His first teaching post, in 1955, was in Ffynnon Taf Primary School. After a short period there and Cilfynydd and a year on an exchange scheme teaching in Detroit, U.S.A., he was appointed headmaster of Gwaelod y Garth Primary School in November 1961.

At that time the school was a small rural village school with 61 pupils and three teachers. It is the atmosphere of intimacy, togetherness and informality which are the benefits of a rural school that Hywel Lewis preserved in the school as it developed over the years.

As the demand for Bilingual Education grew, a Welsh class was established in 1968 and by 1976 there were over 200 children at the school, 130 of them in the Bilingual section from Creigiau, Pentyrch, Taffs Well, Nantgarw and Gwaelod y

HYWEL EYNON LEWIS



Garth. This led to a Bilingual Section being opened as part of the new school in Creigiau in 1977 and numbers dropped to 130 at Gwaelod y Garth. However, With the continued success of the school, numbers have steadily risen again to nearly 200, with five of the seven classes now receiving education through the medium of Welsh.

The school is renowned for adaptations of West End Musicals and its Christmas concerts are a tribute to the musical talents of staff. Its production of 'Randall the Vandal' won great acclaim and was seen by pupils throughout Taff Ely as a part of the drive against vandalism. Recently the school has become famous as the village school in 'Pobol y Cwm' and the children involved in televised drama productions.

Hywel Lewis has also made sure that the fabric of the school has been looked after. A new school dining room for the children was one of his many concerns and the staff room is the envy of all Taff Ely schools.

Over the years Hywel Lewis has served our community as a Borough Councillor and more recently as a Justice of the Peace. His wife, Hilary, is also retiring this year, after 16 years teaching at Hawthorn Comprehensive School. They will now have more time to follow the careers of their two sons, Huw, a Multi-Screen Cinema Designer and Project Manager in Dusseldorf, and Owen, a Barrister in Cardiff.

Dymunwn ymddeoliad hapus i Hywel Lewis ar ôl rhoi gwasanaeth clodwiw yn Ysgol Gwaelod y Garth.

Bu'n gyfrifol am greu ysgol sydd â seiliau cadarn a'r iaith Gymraeg yn ôl ar wefusau plant y pentref. Diolchwn iddo am fugeilio ein hetiffeddiaeth.

CREIGIAU DRAMA WORKSHOP

All the children from Creigiau Drama Workshop had a wonderful time and delighted audiences when they put on their first production, 'The Wizard of Oz'. The show was a sell out for both performances and over £400 was raised for the Romanian Orphan Appeal.

This was indeed a feat as the group was only formed in January of this year, but producer Sarah Cooksey managed to include all the children of the group (around 50 in total) and organise a show to be proud of.

It was a show that involved everyone, with mums and dads doing their 'bit'. The scenery was made by Kathryn Powell and the beautiful costumes by Paula Whiteman. However, the real credit must go to the children who performed as if they had been acting together for years. 10 year old Sarah Williams gave a superb performance as Dorothy, the Kansas girl transported to the Land of Oz, and even managed to master an American accent.. 10 year old James Powell was a truly memorable scarecrow, 10 year old Sam Matthews a terrific Tinman, 8 year old Sophie Pope an awesome lion, 11 year old Catherine Belward the wicked witch and 12 year old Jonathan Morgan "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz".

We will all look forward to next year's show. Anyone interested in going on the waiting list to join the Drama Workshop, contact Sarah Cooksey on 891785.

Lorraine Matthews

PENTYRCH ART GROUP

WANTED... ANY BUDDING LOCAL ARTISTS

Pentyrch Art Group is a small group which meets on Monday evenings between 8.00 and 9.30 pm at the village school.

We began 4 years ago, meeting in a member's house, but soon outgrew the dining room table!

For the past three years we have met at the school and have had tuition.

We plan to change this in September 1991, and have demonstrations by various local artists.

Membership is £12 per term, and demonstrations will be free to members: non members however, will be charged a small fee.

Most of us work in water colour - but if your interest is in oils, acrylic, pastels or anything else - please join us.

We have been fortunate in receiving a grant from Taff Ely to help our organization, so do come along and share the benefits of this with us.

For further information contact :
G Mullins (Secretary) 891241
A Peebles (Treasurer) 890279

SPAGHETTI

*Spaghetti, a turbulent swirling sea
Of wriggling, writhing worms.
Some like to twist it on the fork
As it tends to fall off spoons.
Bolognaise and parmesan...
All those Italian names
Whirling, curling, twisting, circling.
It's enough to drive you insane.
Macaroni, squidgy pasta...
It multiplies on the plate, faster and
faster.
I lick my lips and chomp my 'gnashers'
While trying to avoid whiplashes.
Spaghetti, a tasty Italian dish,
Second to none, except fish and chips.*

G. R..

LIFE IN OLD GWAELOD

ABOUT SIXTY YEARS AGO I moved up unto the Garth from Glan Taf. There was a whole village up there then – houses stretched all the way between Gwaelod-y-Garth and Penttyrch – little groups of threes and fours. We moved into Ivy Cottage which was one of three. My boys, Chris and Arthur, were born there. The cottage was small with just two bedrooms upstairs and two rooms and a pantry downstairs. I liked the pantry. It had a cold stone to keep the food and a well. After heavy rain, the well would sometimes flood all over the floor – but we didn't trouble much. The boys bedroom was through ours. There was no separate entrance for them – they simply had to go through the parent's bedroom to their own.

There was a shared water tap for the house. It was clockfaced and made of cast-iron with a central knob that you turned for the water. Of course the toilets were in the garden in a shed building. When it was dark we walked out with a candle! There was a wooden seat with a hole in it and you put a bucket under it through a special door. When we were young, the kiddies would have an old bucket in the house. There were torn-up newspaper squares for toilet paper. The buckets were carried out and emptied in a hole in the corner of the garden. We didn't think about it. Everyone was carrying buckets. We took it granted; no-one was embarrassed. Everyone was doing the same.

My oven was out of this world. Marvellous. I wouldn't mind one like it today. It was made so that the heat from the fire would go under the grate and around the oven. I had a cast-iron kettle for the fire, cooking tins for the oven and my bakestone for Welsh cakes. There was no cooking like it. Food now tastes nothing like that food.

My flat iron for the clothes was heated between the bars of the fire. When it was hot I just wiped it over and rested it on the trivet. I would iron on the table – I simply had to whip the cloth off. The men never helped – they NEVER did – no fear! When I was a child we did the washing in a wooden tub, but up here we had a tin bath. I had to heat all the water I needed in a bucket on the fire and then I would boil up all the things that had to be white. We would use soda for the washing – we kept ours in a big, earthenware jar. It softened the water and helped with the whitening – together with the Puritan soap bar and the scrubbing brush.

We had a big garden and kept chickens and a pig as well as growing the vegetables. Nearly everyone had chickens and a pig in those days. Li Atkins was the local pig killer. The kiddies would have a day off school when he was coming for our pigs. There would be quite a few men. Everyone helped each other. They had to first catch the pig – it would be a chase round and round. Then it would be tied to a bench in the middle of the bailey and a knife would be stuck into its throat. It would be left to bleed into a bucket – nothing was wasted. We would use candlesticks to scrape the bristles from the skin. The pig always

knew when it was its day. It would be unsettled and scream from early morning. You got used to it, but it was awful to hear, it was terrible. The big day was when we made the faggots, the black pudding and the brawn. We washed the innards down at the stream so that they could be used for the jackets of the black pudding. Everyone did it. There was a hook from the wooden ceiling and the pig would be hung there. Some got salted for bacon. The pieces would be spread on the stone slab in the pantry and salted. Some people who did not have a pig might come to buy pieces. We all bought from each other. Of course, we all grew vegetables and stored onions and potatoes; apples too. There were trees under the wall – marvellous apples. We would pick them and store them in drawers. The smell! Marvellous! We had no want for



fruit or vegetables. The groceries were delivered by the shops – all horse and cart, of course. There was an oil man who delivered paraffin for the lamps, meat was delivered and a baker called.

My husband was a carpenter and I went to work on the Trading Estate in Treforest. I went out in the morning after the children had gone to school. My hubby also bred and showed dogs – bedlington and sealyhams. It was a registered breeding kennels known as Garth Well Kennels. My husband was at work all day, leaving the house at six in the morning and not returning until seven at night, so I had to see to the dogs, too – especially in winter. I can't understand now how I coped.

Everyone was very friendly. The women would call in for a chat – nothing arranged, they would just pop in for a cup of tea. The house was always full. The men would come in the evenings and play cards, dominoes, shove-penny. All use to come. Everyone had the wireless and sat and listened. But not me: I was too busy. Holidays were unknown. We might go to Barry once a year, for the day,

with the Sunday School – train from Taff's Well, or maybe we walked over the mountain to Church Village and caught it there. None of us had much money so there wasn't much at Christmas; a little present each and a decorated tree. But the family was together. I think you had more fun up there than nowadays. There was no money for toys, but the kiddies played together – by the roadside under the tall gas lamps – that was in Glan Taf. We would draw a ring and pitch marbles or put a pile of buttons in the ring and try to pick them up with a damp thumb. But my boys went to play in the woods or at Garth Rhondda, behind the Villas. Games were so different then. All summer long the kiddies would play in the ferns, making spears with them, building shanties or monkey villas. Arthur once saw one made by the bigger boys.

It was so perfect. It looked like a wren's nest; a perfect ball of bracken fixed there in the branches. Of course, the kiddies went to school. They would leave home when they heard the bell and race through the woods to get there before it stopped!

If anyone was ill, Doctor Thomas from Taff's Well would struggle up the hill on his bike. He travelled everywhere on that bike – Taff's Well, Penttyrch, Tongwynlais, Morganstown. We called him Doctor Poulitice – he cured everything with a poultice. But he was a good doctor. You got more attention then. We also had Nurse Pearce. She had to walk everywhere. We would go to her when a child was to be born – all the way from Glan y Llyn. Once, a young couple just arrived in the village. The woman was heavily pregnant. Then, suddenly, there was a baby arriving. My sister, who had taken her in, called me over. There was no time to fetch the nurse. I brought that child into the world. Once a child starts to come, you have to do what you can.

The winters were hard. Every year it was awful: winters were heavier then. Snow everywhere and the work and the shopping still had to be done. One year, the milk came from Craig Gwilym farm by sleigh. There was no other way.

In the end, we had to come down from there. It is just ruins now. Only a bit of rubble now. My husband had tried to buy Ivy Cottage, but there were problems over ownership. The landlord and his brother had borrowed from each other so often that no one knew who owned the cottages and anyway, the council said that they could not lay on water. All sorts of excuses, weak excuses. Look at the Valleys and where the water has to go to – steep hills – this was not out of the way. Everyone liked it up there. We were above the mist; the sun would be shining. Sometimes I wonder how I ever did all that work, but we were happy. We just didn't mind the inconveniences. We were really happy.

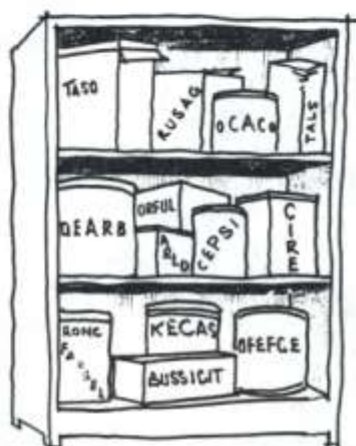
Lilly Welsby
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JUNIOR LINK

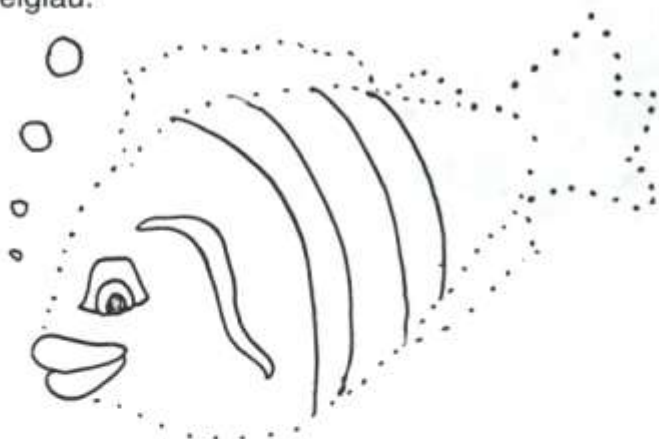
We have decided to include a page in the link for our younger readers. There will be puzzles, jokes, and competitions in every issue, with a really special competition and prize to start you off. You may think Christmas is a long way off, but Christmas card designers have to plan well in advance — and that's where you come in! Design a Christmas card and send it to us. The winning design will be printed on the cover of the Christmas edition of the Link and the winner will receive 2 tickets to the pantomime in Cardiff's New Theatre.

Don't forget to send your name, address and age with your design and make sure it reaches us before 30th September 1991. You can give it to any of the Community councillors or send it to the Editor at 6 Nant y Garth, Gwaelod-y-Garth.

Can you tell what food is in the cupboard, by rearranging the letters on the boxes?



Join the dots and colour this picture of someone you might see in the Frog Pond at Creigiau.



Joke Corner

Patient: Doctor, doctor, I feel like a pair of curtains!
Doctor: Pull yourself together!

Question: Why did the dinosaur cross the road?
Answer: Because chickens hadn't been invented.

Do you know any good jokes? Send them to us and we'll put them in the Link. Also, if you feel strongly about something in our villages e.g. litter, vandalism, pollution and you think you know how to stop it, write to us at the above address and we'll publish your

Country Fair

A Country Fair will be held at Garth Farm on Saturday 24th August 1991.

It will be a day out for the whole family and include a Falconry Display, Sheepdog Trials, Drag Hunt, Terrier and Lurcher Show, Gun Dog Display and Scurry, Clay Pigeon Shooting, Tractor Rides — and many more attractions.

Free parking will be provided and there will be a bar and refreshments available.

Admission: £2.00 (Children under 12 £1.00).

In the evening there will be a barn dance and barbecue. Admission: £2.00.

Acknowledgements

EDITORIAL BOARD

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Eric Willis	Hilary Rose
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Lorraine Matthews	Alan Lock

Special thanks are due to Gerwyn Williams for his cartoon and to the Western Mail for permission to publish the photograph on page 4.