

# DEPEND

**Issue 27  
Spring  
2009**

**An occasional Newsletter published by  
Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern**

## **Chairman's remarks - Dr Michael Robinson**

The last six months have seen various developments and rethinking taking place in DPVC. Our short AGM in June at the Murchfield Community Hall brought our new accounting year into line, accounts being presented and approved to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Our minibus/ambulance is in need of replacement and we hope to purchase a less troublesome vehicle, possibly a Mercedes. The cost would be around £40,000. As always we appreciate contributions from users and others in the community. A grant application has been made to the Vale of Glamorgan Council for support. One other important idea has been the DPVC Supporters Scheme. Its members also sign up to Gift Aid that enables DPVC to receive an additional 28p for every pound donated under these terms. We hope more Supporters will join in the future. On 4<sup>th</sup> March we are grateful that a concert by the Plough Singers

is to be held for DPVC funds.

An important development for DPVC has been upgrading our internet access to Broad Band. This has not only speeded up our e-mail and Internet access but also improved telephone availability. We are now [dpvc@btinternet.com](mailto:dpvc@btinternet.com)

At DPVC many of us have shared the distress widely felt in the community about the threatened closure of Bryneithen. (*see p 4*)

In these somewhat unsettled days I would like to wish our readers a full, healthy and happy year ahead. Please remember that we are always looking for people we can help and for volunteers to help us do it.

If you, or anyone you know, would be glad of the help and support we can offer - please contact us in the Resource Centre on  
**029 2051 3700**

or write to:  
**Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern  
Murchfield Community Hall  
Sunnycroft Lane  
Dinas Powys  
CF64 4QQ  
Email on: [dpvc@btinternet.com](mailto:dpvc@btinternet.com)  
Or you could just call in the office between 9.30 and 12.30 on any weekday morning.**

Have you recently retired, are the children at school, or do you just want to give something back to your community? As always we need drivers and in particular anyone willing to help with some gardening for those who can no longer manage on their own. If so - **will YOU be a volunteer?**

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - Forthcoming local events**

Further detail from the Community Council Office

Sunday 22nd March	DP Orchestra - Parish Hall
Thu/Fri/Sat 32nd-4th April	DP Players - Parish Hall. 7.00pm
Wednesday 10th June	DP Voluntary Concern - AGM 6.30pm MCH
Sat - for a week 20 -28th June	DP Music Festival - <i>detail see later</i>
Saturday 5th September	DP Village Show - <i>detail later</i>
Saturday 10th October	Concert - Royal British Legion, Parish Hall
Thurs-Sat 29th-31st October	DP Players Parish Hall
Sunday 8th November	British Legion Service of Remembrance
Tuesday 10th November	British Legion dinner - Parish Hall
Wednesday 11th November	British Legion Service of Remembrance - <i>(meet on the Twyn)</i>
Saturday 21st November	Autumn Fayre - Parish Hall ( <i>details later</i> )
Saturday 28th November	Tenovus Lunch - 12.30pm
Sunday 6th December	DP Orchestra - Parish Hall -7pm
Weds-Sat 9-12th Dec	Bethesda Community Choir - 7.30pm
Friday 1st January 2010	New Years Day Concert -1pm

Adult education classes - Upholstery, Family history, Gardening, Painting and Drawing, Keep fit, Bridge and Yoga are held in Murchfield Community Hall, the Lee Hall or the Scout Hall. Details from Adult Education 2070 1569 or [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk). Many other organisations use the various halls in DP and details are available in the Community Directory

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## NEWS from THE SENEDD - Chris Franks AM writes:

I have been an Assembly Member for almost two years and as a long term resident of Dinas Powys I take a real interest in developments in the village.

One of the most serious issues facing us is the possible closure of Bryneithin Residential Home. I have been active in proposing that the centre should remain open. Bryneithin is a well run caring home. We must not allow such an asset to close.

I am always pleased to meet people from Dinas Powys in the iconic Senedd building. As a former school governor of Murch Junior School I was delighted to welcome the school council on their recent visit. The pupils were very polite and a joy to have visiting. Murch School has received a first class inspection report and the pupils, staff, and governors fully deserved the glowing report.

*Murch School Council, Headmaster Derek Thomas & Chris Franks*



I am always keen to welcome groups to the Senedd or speak to young people in their schools and youth clubs. It is important for the future of Wales that young people take an interest in public life and in our youthful

democracy, which this year celebrates its 10 year anniversary.

I enjoy working with the voluntary organisations in Dinas Powys. Volunteers offer a huge range of services, practical help and opportunities for residents. We are blessed with a large number of people who give so freely of their time in our community. One example would be the Fair Oaks Tenants Association that has been awarded £851 to provide computer equipment for a group of older people.

The Assembly Government has formed a Climate Change Commission for Wales, including members of voluntary groups. The Welsh Government continues to support the Voluntary Sector Scheme and to further enhance the role of the voluntary sector in forming policy. If people have some ideas feel free to contact me.

The Welsh government has invested £2.75 million to support improvements in stroke services across Wales. This funding will enable the appointment of more acute stroke care co-ordinators and therapists and will support stroke patients at Llandough Hospital and the University Hospital of Wales. I am a member of an all party group on strokes, one of the biggest killers in Wales. Stroke services are seen very much as Cinderella services. People tend to perceive strokes as affecting only older people, which is not the case. There is a need for more rehabilitation services when in hospital and when patients return home. I have met with the Penarth Stroke Association and I am backing their excellent work.

If you would like to contact me about these or any other issues please phone, 029 2092 2578, or email [christopher.franks@wales.gov.uk](mailto:christopher.franks@wales.gov.uk).  
<http://www.chrisfranks.plaidcymru.org/>

## **THE HUNTSMAN RECIPE - Peter and Hilary Rice, Huntsman Restaurant, Station Road, Dinas Powys, have again generously allowed us to publish one of their favourite recipes :**

### **Apple and Sultana Chutney**

Delicious with cheese on toast or cold meats. The flavour will improve if kept for a month or more.

2kg apples – cored and roughly chopped

1kg onions – finely chopped

500 g sultanas

1kg dark soft brown sugar

1 litre malt vinegar

1 tbsp wholegrain mustard

1 dsp chilli powder and 1dsp mixed spice

Heat together apples, onions, sultanas, spices and

one third of the vinegar in a large, heavy saucepan. Bring to the boil and simmer for 15 minutes with the lid on, stirring occasionally.

Meanwhile dissolve the sugar in the remaining vinegar and add to apple mixture and stir well. Bring to boil, stirring regularly, until it thickens, for about 30 minutes, making sure it does not burn on the bottom of the saucepan.

Put into sterilised jars.

## RETIREMENT

### Alun Hodgson - Clerk to the Dinas Powys Community Council

Mr Alun Hodgson, Clerk to the Community Council has been at the hub of village life for the past fifteen years.

He was born and educated in Ammanford, Carmarthenshire, now Dyfed, and is Welsh speaking. After leaving school, he worked for four years as a trainee accountant in Swansea. In 1961, opportunities in London attracted him and for the next fifteen years he worked in two merchant banks in the City. He married Diana, a Londoner, in 1973 and they have a daughter, Lesley, a son Keith and are proud grandparents to Gwen and Stephanie. Diana is well known as the former Secretary of Dinas Powys Womens Institute. In 2007 she organised the much acclaimed Fashion Show, one of the events celebrating the centenary of the Parish Hall.

By the mid 1970s, Alun Hodgson had been transferred to Cardiff, and then after early retirement he took up the post of Clerk to the Community Council in September 1994. This meant not only dealing with the finances of the Council but all manner of challenges as he dealt with requests and complaints. He was very glad to have inherited the assistance of two long serving Community Council employees, Frances Butler, his deputy; and Brian Clemett, the groundsman, also responsible for maintenance of council property. Alun says that he has been fortunate in having supportive and helpful Community Councillors during his term as Clerk.

The Community Council office is very busy. There are up to 900 bookings a year for the Parish and Lee Halls for meetings, clubs, concerts, parties, weddings and indoor sports. Paperwork has increased considerably over the years, with the creation of the Unitary Authority, the Vale of Glamorgan Council and, in particular the Welsh Assembly Government. Technological advances have helped communication with electronic mail and the Council has its own website.

While the Community Council always seeks to play its part in local decision making, this can take time. Two persistent problems are parking in the village and, as custodians of the Common, the Council has to guard against infringements of its guardianship.

Highlights of his term of office recalled by Mr Hodgson include the organisation of celebrations for the Centenary of the creation of St Andrew's Parish Council in December 1994 (renamed the Community Council in 1974); VJ Day in 1995 and the centenary of the Parish Hall in 2007. Campaigns were organised by the Council to support the Woodland Trust bids for Cwrt-yr-Ala Woods. Vale Council grants have resulted in toilet facilities and ramps for the disabled in and around the Halls, whilst a Lottery grant enabled a new sound and lights system and stage extension to enhance performances in the Parish Hall. A new garage has also

been built.

Now he looks forward, at the age of 68, to his retirement at the end of March 2009. He hopes to play more golf and walk all the footpaths that have been a constant thread in his work. He suspects however that he may become an "underwater ceramic operator", ie a dish washer. .... Mrs Hodgson, please note!



### Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

The above Act followed the Bichard Inquiry into the Soham murders. It requires those who work with children or vulnerable adults **'to be registered'** - an estimated 11 million of us in England and Wales.

The Independent Safeguarding Authority has now been established within the remit of the Home Office. It is currently setting up a **'Vetting and Barring Scheme'** which is being introduced in a phased roll-out as from Autumn 2008. The 'Vetting and Barring Scheme' will assess and register every person who wants to work with vulnerable people. It will not distinguish between paid and unpaid (voluntary) work as this does not have a bearing on the potential for abuse.

The REGISTER will replace existing vetting systems including police checks. Once 'registered' an individual will receive a 'registered number' which unlike police checks will cover work in any setting and will not require periodic renewal.

***If you or your organisation works with children or vulnerable adults - either in a paid or voluntary capacity - you will be required to register in due course. Further information is available at [www.isa.gov.org.uk](http://www.isa.gov.org.uk)***

## Dementia - the Bryneithin Consultation

If the quality of a community can be accessed by the care taken of its most vulnerable members then the care currently provided for those suffering from dementia might cause concern. The good news of the population's increased life expectancy has been accompanied by the bad news of increased numbers afflicted by dementias, cruel diseases affecting not only the sufferer but also whole families. In the Vale of Glamorgan it can be estimated that some 2000 people and their families are involved and they need help. Paradoxically, as the need has increased the provision of care has not, leaving carers to take the brunt, often to the point where it is their own health that breaks down.

The recently published 'Strategy for Dementia Services in England' states that 38% of dementia sufferers are known to be in residential or nursing care homes although many such placements are unsatisfactory lacking the trained staff and facilities. An equivalent figure would indicate that some 750 such specialist places are required in the Vale of Glamorgan where the council's residential homes provide 25 of which 19 are approved (Care and Social Services Inspectorate, Wales) and are in Bryneithin. While there are some 500 private residential home places in the Vale few of these are designated for the care of the elderly mentally infirm. For such homes staff costs alone are £59 more per resident than those for the physically frail. Specially trained staff with good leadership, teamwork and properly adapted accommodation is essential to adequate care for these most vulnerable people in their last days.

This is found in Bryneithin where remarkable improvements are achieved in the quality of life of its residents. Mrs Alexander bequeathed the graceful house, set in beautiful and extensive grounds, as a care home. It has always enjoyed strong support from the community who raise funds on its behalf and run a number of social events for the residents even though they now come from across the whole county. The DPVC minibus ambulance is regularly used to take the residents out for events and trips. Over the last two decades the home has been increasingly involved in developments in dementia care. It was here, in 1995, that the first truly integrated and multidisciplinary Community Mental Health Team for the Elderly was pioneered and here, in 1998, that the new Vale of Glamorgan Local

Authority, appreciating the increasing number of carers needing respite, built a special day centre for the purpose to be staffed by trained Crossroads (EMI) care teams. It can provide 30,000 hours of respite to 45 families 364 days a year. To obviate the need for outpatient consultations that can so often add to a patient's state of confusion psycho geriatricians from Llandough Hospital make visits to residents when necessary

Recently however, an appraisal, undertaken by the Local Authority's department of Social Services at the request of the Vale Cabinet, has initiated a Public Consultation upon Bryneithin's possible closure. While the Council is obliged to use our funds effectively it will not do so without close cooperation with colleagues in Health, the Private and Voluntary Sectors. The dire current financial situation is likely to impact on private residential and nursing care (already a number of EMI beds have been lost) and the NHS in Wales is to undergo further "restructuring" (always a dangerous time for mental health services) so it does not seem a good time to lose this support for families facing such difficult lives. This proposed closure should be also seen in wider perspective against the shortage of beds in the health sector (*reported by Auditor General*).

Some questions need an answer. Has an independent assessment been made of the need for elderly EMI patients in the Vale? Such a report should include full costing of proposed alternatives and in the case of Bryneithin further consideration given to either upgrading the premises as opposed to closure or planning a new replacement facility on site. Closure without such plans will be a disaster for the aging population of the Vale.

It is to be hoped that the consultation will encourage a more positive approach to be adopted to develop the full potential of Mrs Alexander's generosity rather than squander it irrevocably for short term budgetary relief.

## 'SOUL in DINAS'

In 2004 a group of young people from Dinas Powys Baptist Church and Bethesda Chapel attended the "Soul in the City" event in London and joined thousands of other young Christians living on camp sites while they worked alongside churches in London serving the local communities. The work was both practical and spiritual, and included cleaning up overgrown sites, removing graffiti, painting and gardening. Community barbecues were organized giving neighbours of all ages an opportunity to get to know each other better.

When they returned to Dinas Powys they brought back with them a desire to see "Soul in the City" take place in Dinas Powys. They invited all of the local churches to join them in the planning a community action week and "Soul in Dinas" was born. Since then three "Soul in Dinas" action weeks have taken place during the Summer holidays. Supported by the local churches the preparation and running of the weeks has very much been led by the young people themselves who have taken seriously the sense of calling that they feel to "Serve Christ in the Community and serve the Community for Christ"

In preparation for the first action week every home in Dinas Powys was sent a personal invitation asking if there was anything that the group could do, free of charge, to help them. These jobs included gardening, weeding, painting, rubbish clearance, car washing, and many other sorts of household assistance. Permission was obtained from "Arriva Trains" to paint the railings at Dinas Powys railway station. Permission was also given by the Community Council to clean and paint all of the local benches and to clear the local water culvert.

During each of the action weeks "Soul in Dinas" has been supported by the local authorities - both the Vale of Glamorgan Council and the Community Council who have loaned the group tools needed to carry out much of the work. "Keep Wales Tidy" provided expertise on how to clean

graffiti. There have been open air community fun days and holiday clubs for children and during the evenings free barbecues taking place in different areas of Dinas Powys.

The sight of so many young people, in their "Soul in Dinas" T-shirts, working for the community has shown that the often perceived image of young people as drunken rowdy troublemakers is frequently misplaced and that they can lead the way in both community and Christian values.

*Cleaning the Community Council compound in Station Road - Soul in 2008*

Since that first "Soul in Dinas" the event has



continued and the trust of those who have welcomed the young people into their homes has grown. Ahead of the 2008 action week there were more than 50 personal requests for the teams to go into the homes of Dinas Powys.

The group continues to look for new opportunities of serving the community. "Soul in Dinas" has entered into "Arriva Trains" scheme to adopt a station - Eastbrook railway station and is already working towards other new and fresh opportunities for the coming-Summer and Autumn of 2009.

## **WHEN DID YOU LAST HAVE AN EYE TEST?**

**This service is free to all aged 60 years or over.**

**Difficulty in getting to the surgery - see below.**

**Simon Jones of “ Davies and Jones Optometrists, 84 Cardiff Road” writes .....**

'Davies and Jones Optometrists' is an independent optometrist practice and has been established in Dinas Powys for 20 years. Our aim is to provide a first class, comprehensive service with the highest standard of clinical skill and knowledge.



The practice has recently been refurbished and offers patients the best possible professional eye care in comfortable modern surroundings. Access has been improved for patients with mobility problems with the installation of a stair lift. Alternatively, eligible patients who cannot leave home unaccompanied are entitled to a free sight test in their home. 'Davies and Jones Optometrists' offer Domiciliary eye care to anyone, whether Private or under the NHS in the Dinas Powys district, Domiciliary services are a life-line for many, however people are unaware that the service exists. In Great Britain in 2006, approximately 1.4 million people were confined to their own homes, yet just less than 350,000 domiciliary NHS sight tests were carried out in the year ending 31 March 2006.

Our Optometrists are fully accredited to the Welsh Eye Care Initiative, providing emergency eye care to any patient presenting with acute symptoms at no charge. We also offer a specialist low vision service, again at no charge, which can help people with sight loss make the most of the vision they have by giving advice, equipment and training. Additionally, we are also D.V.L.A. accredited to conduct Visual Field Examinations for motorists.

Our frame stock includes models to suit all tastes and budgets and our friendly team will be able to help you choose a frame that suits your face shape, hair colour and skin tone. Advice is also available on sunglasses, safety eyewear and sports vision products such as prescription masks and goggles. Minor repairs to your existing frames can be carried out at the practice and our helpful staff can arrange more involved repairs if necessary. 'Davies and Jones' also provide a comprehensive contact lens service and all types of contact lenses can be supplied.

As an independent practice we are completely unbiased and so provide detailed advice on spectacle frames and lenses without obligation or pressure at very competitive prices.

## THE VILLAGE SHOW - 2009

Last years Show was reported in the Autumn 2008 edition of DEPEND. Where does the time go? We are again busy making plans for this year's Show which will be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>. September in the Parish and Lee Halls.

The committee has a couple of welcome new members and it is always good to have the input of fresh ideas. Already, there have been some alterations or additions to the extensive list of categories and the final list should be finished within the next month. We feel it is important to give notice of the categories early in the year as some classes need plenty of preparation and hard work. Although the Schedule will not be available until June you can get details from Val Hartrey on 029 2051 3274 or Email to [valhartrey@talktalk.net](mailto:valhartrey@talktalk.net).

As always, we pray for good weather on the day but the community spirit always comes out on top whatever happens. So often, first-time visitors to the Show are heard to comment that "I wouldn't mind a try at doing that" and, sure enough, they enter the next year. The committee hopes that this year's entries will come in from all those who have entered in previous years as well as new people.

So, look out for the bright posters (difficult to miss!) around the village and the press articles and then the bright pink schedules which will be available in many outlets in Dinas Powys and the Vale libraries.

## DINAS POWYS VILLAGE SHOW Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>.September

Parish and Lee Halls at  
1.45p.m.

Raffle will be drawn at 4.00p.m.

Trophies and certificates will be presented at  
4.15p.m.

Music from The Dinas Powis

Ecumenical Seven

Free Balloon Modelling and Face  
Painting

Bouncy Castle (weather permitting)

Women's Institute Teas

Punch and Judy Shows

### ENTRANCE TO THE SHOW

ADULTS.....50p      CHILDREN.....20p

FREE: RULES, SCHEDULE, AND ENTRY FORM:  
2009

### The 'FLICKS' are back - Film Weekend in Dinas Powys

It is intended to hold another weekend of film in the Parish Halls, sometime in October/November. Last year it was held in the Spring and, considering it was something new, the films attracted a small but enthusiastic audiences. The quality ice-cream and popcorn were also popular!

It was a unique experience sitting in the especially darkened hall and watching the big screen. Films are a regular feature in Cowbridge and some people from

there commented on the much more comfortable chairs than they are used to! We would like to establish an annual event in the listed building that is our Parish Hall. I would welcome ideas and suggestions for films - one fairly modern colour one and one old black and white, perhaps an Ealing comedy. I have my ideas but need yours as well.

The idea is to show the colour film on the Saturday evening and have a black and white matinee showing on the Sunday afternoon.

Please send you ideas to [valhartrey@talktalk.net](mailto:valhartrey@talktalk.net) or ring me on 029 2051 3274. I look forward to hearing from you.  
Val Hartrey

## DINAS POWYS ART GROUP

The Dinas Powys Art Group was reformed in 1994. There are two sessions, 2.30pm – 4.30pm and 7.30pm – 9.39pm on Mondays, both held in the Dinas Powys Golf Club, Highwalls Road. We would welcome new members. Contact Roy or Jill Gee 2051 5363

An average membership of 36, both men and

women, are encouraged under the guidance of a professional artist to work in various forms and mediums. Annually we hold an Art Exhibition and Sale in the Lee Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys. WE have donated large amounts of monies from the sale of works to the funds of local and national charities.

### **DINAS POWYS METHODIST CHURCH - Rev Graeme and Elaine Halls report:**

The recent refurbishment has a certain WOW factor. From the entrance doors to the furthest nook and cranny the premises have received a MAJOR MAKEOVER providing practical and pleasant premises for worshippers and all who use the building. Recognizing the danger of the former main entrance doors being positioned on the increasingly busy Station Road a decision was taken to relocate them to the rear of the premises. The need to link the Church and Parlour with Kynance meant a reconfiguration of the church and ancillary premises and adding a staircase to link the whole. What we end up with are premises to cater for a wide range of the population. The flat easy access with dedicated disabled parking and wide doorways makes pushchair, wheelchair and Zimmer frame access a doddle.

The entrance porch leads to a warm, light and airy foyer from which everything else can be reached. The Kynance space is enhanced by a glass wall and doors, comfortable upholstered seating, modern, easy-clean, foldable, yet sturdy tables, new arched double glazed windows giving views over the common and privacy to neighbours. The original beamed ceiling has been exposed and fitted with modern insulation. The kitchen is accessed directly off the main foyer and provides a large array of cupboards and appliances to suit all needs from a basic cup of tea to a full four course meal. A “dumb waiter” or “lazy butler” makes the kitchen easily accessible to the main worship area on the floor below. A commercial dishwasher, microwave and a large range style double oven with loads of preparation space make for a pleasant working environment. Walk the length of the foyer and you come to a wide staircase with handrails and a stair lift which takes you comfortably down to the lower level where you find the main multipurpose worship area with comfortable upholstered seating which can be arranged to suit the event. Off this room there is ample storage so keeping the worship area and other areas clear of clutter. A baby grand piano sits neatly in the corner and the pulpit is there for those who want it but unobtrusive for those who have no need of it. The stained glass windows, modern clean lines, polished wood floor, high beamed ceiling with a choice of lighting and loop and good quality microphone system all add to the ambiance of this room. Also on the lower level is the Parlour, again with wooden floor and exposed beams, refurbished stained glass windows, comfortable seating, good lighting, heating and a small kitchen. Toilets are positioned on both levels, all are modern and well equipped with a disabled toilet and baby changing facilities available.

DO VISIT ....DO SO SOON! You will be amazed!

*We wish Graeme and Elaine well as they leave Dinas Powys to take up their ministry on the island of Jersey*

### **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - branch reprieve!**

At the AGM the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer agreed to stay on a further year and two new committee members were appointed. The Wales office is advertising for a Poppy Appeal organizer. We still urgently need volunteers to fill these posts otherwise the Branch could yet be forced to close - a real loss to the village.

Please help by contacting:

Allan or Lynne Johanson - 2051 3734 or Tony Welchman 2051 3816



## Nursery provision in Dinas Powys

Many parents wish to give their children an experience of nursery life once they are old enough, benefiting both child and parent.

In Dinas Powys we are fortunate to have several groups. Children under five meet in St Mary's Church Hall on Mondays and under twos on Wednesdays (Leigh-Ann Davies 2051 5644). Scallywags parent and toddler group meets at Bethesda Chapel on Tuesdays (Sian Jones 2051 3385).

A pre-school playgroup meets in St Peter's Church Hall each weekday (Marilyn Sadler 2051 3924).

Dinas Powys Childminders run an under fives group at the Murchfield Community Hall on a Thursday 9.30 - 11.30am . All parents are welcome to attend with their child and join in the activities, singing and fun. (Jane Sissons on 2051 5157).

Increasing numbers of people wish to send their children to Welsh-speaking nurseries. In Dinas Powys we have two such groups. There is the mother and toddler group (Ti a fi) that meets in Eastbrook Methodist Church on Monday and Friday and a new nursery for older pre-school children, Cylch Meithrin, has reopened after a lapse of six years. It now meets at the newly refurbished Methodist church on the Common on Monday and Friday. (Elinor Elias Jones 2051 2405). Children from these groups can continue their education in Welsh at both primary and secondary level in local schools.

If you have a child approaching nursery age please contact leaders in good time as spaces are limited.

### YOUNG DEPEND WORDSEARCH No 12 (Age 8 - 14 years)

Find 10 Disney film characters. Give the name and the name of the film or films in which they appeared.

P	S	E	N	O	J	Y	V	A	D
E	O	V	W	J	H	G	M	O	N
A	E	C	O	Y	O	R	N	S	A
C	I	L	O	C	K	A	F	B	H
H	B	T	D	H	L	J	S	A	K
P	R	S	Y	D	O	L	E	M	E
N	E	Z	D	I	S	N	A	B	R
E	H	U	L	F	J	L	T	I	E
S	C	B	D	G	P	K	M	A	H
K	Y	S	T	W	A	B	M	I	S

Return your answers to:-

**Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern, Murchfield Community Hall  
Sunnycroft Lane, Dinas Powys, F64 4QQ  
or Email on [dpvc@btinternet.com](mailto:dpvc@btinternet.com)**

Please include your name, address, age and telephone number with your entry

We invite contributions to this page from anyone under 18 - for example, a short story, poem or an event you saw or took part in - or even a wordsearch.

**There was no winner ;ast time - if you would like to try No 11 please ring for a copy**

### DID YOU KNOW?

DPVC offers a photocopying and laminating service from the Resource Centre behind the Murchfield Hall - office open weekday mornings from 9.30 - 12

We can:

- copy A4 in colour - 25p
- Copy b/w A4 & A3 - 5p & 6p

We can also laminate your posters or valuables at 25p for A4 and 40p for A5

## **'STRICTLY COME DANCING' - DINAS POWYS STYLE in the 1930 and 40's**

Mrs Doreen Collins (nee George) was born in 1921 and lived in Britway Road until she was seven, when the family moved to Cardiff Road, Eastbrook. She continued to attend the Church School until she left school at the age of 14 in 1935.

She remembers how big a part dancing played in her life. Even before she was old enough to attend dances on her own she used to go with her mother and friend to sit in the balcony of the Parish Hall to watch the dancers and longed to be with them. An Eastbrook neighbour, Mrs Evans, made her first long dress a few years later. "I can see it now", she says, "pale mauve with deep mauve buttons all the way down the back to the waist". She was so fond of it that she had the style of the dress copied in white for her wedding to Glyn in 1942.

At the dances the boys stood on one side of the hall and the girls sat on the other,

waiting to be invited to dance the waltzes and foxtrots and the round dances like the valeta and military twostep of the 1930s. Doreen had been taught the charleston by an older brother but does not remember dancing it in the hall. Some dances were also held in the Scout Hall.

After leaving school, she worked in the sewing room of David Morgan Ltd. and belonged to the Girls' Club run by Mrs Cox, from Penyturpike. They performed an annual play in the Parish Hall but usually rehearsed in the Institute, now demolished and replaced by the block of flats at the bottom of Elmgrove Road.

When the war broke out in 1939, Doreen joined the Land Army and worked close to home in Nurton's Nursery and Market Garden on Cardiff Road, now replaced by housing. She recalls that soldiers were billeted in the

Swan and in private homes in the early years of the war. Mrs Cox turned to organising weekly dances for them and was helped by, among others, Miss Dot Williams and Mrs Ransome. The latter's cakes were memorable and these were served with tea for refreshments, - no bar! These dances were always packed. She thinks they were probably free and there was never any trouble. She and her friends walked to and from the village through the blackout and felt quite safe. She cannot remember any jiving at this time.

Post war, long dresses were resumed and Doreen and husband Glyn attended occasional dances organised by the Rugby Club.

### **Llandough Baptist Church celebrates its 150th anniversary in October 2009.**

Reverend J. M. Garland writes:

It is one of the oldest Nonconformist buildings in the district and is a prominent landmark at the traffic lights at the Eastbrook and Redlands Road intersection.

People may wonder why a place of worship was erected outside Llandough, and just within the boundary of the parish of St Andrews Major. The answer is that the members' original intention had been to acquire a site within Llandough village. They had been using Rose Cottage, a thatched dwelling opposite the entrance to Lewis Road, Llandough, as their worship centre throughout the 1850s, and by the end of the decade their numbers had grown to a point where they felt the need to construct a permanent chapel. But so poor were inter-church relations in the mid nineteenth century that the Anglican Rector of Llandough forbade the leasing of land within the parish boundaries to 'heretical' Nonconformists! So a chapel was constructed just outside the parish boundary, the stone coming from the quarry in Llandough with most of the labour supplied by the church members themselves.

One of the few non-working class founder members of the cause was David Edmunds, a railway contractor, who lived in Brooklands, Millbrook Road, a large house recently demolished to make way for modern flats. Baptisms by immersion in those early days had to take place out of doors, as the chapel had no baptistery; and often baptismal services took place at the brook. One elderly church member, writing in the 1960s wrote how 'Mr Edmunds was a most kindly man and always provided hospitality for candidates for baptism to disrobe and make ready for the service; there was always a cup of tea afterwards.' She continues, 'The baptisms were mostly arranged for the spring or summer, and friends and the Sunday School scholars would walk down singing as they went along'.

Times may have changed, but the little church at Llandough continues its work and worship. Thankfully, ecumenical relationships have improved markedly since the 1850s. Today members of the Baptist Church and the Church in Wales in Llandough co-operate closely, worshipping together in each other's buildings on a regular monthly basis.

## A History of EASTBROOK

The first written record of the name appears on the tithe map of the Parish of St Andrews in 1840. There are three homesteads lying along a lane running from Penyturmpyke to Penarth and surrounded by small fields. One building is the homestead and yard lived in by the family of Thomas John, and like most of the homes in the parish is owned by an absentee landlord, in this case Robert Francis Jenner one of the joint Lords of the Manor. In the census of 1841 Thomas with his wife Elizabeth is a farmer who by 1851 has five children and is farming 20 acres with the help of one farm employee. In 1841 one William Thomas and his wife Jane are near neighbours but by 1851 William is a widower has four live-in servants, and is farming 100 acres. The third tiny homestead in Eastbrook is inhabited by Philip Stephen, his wife and three children. Later age 63, we can find him still working as a mole catcher.

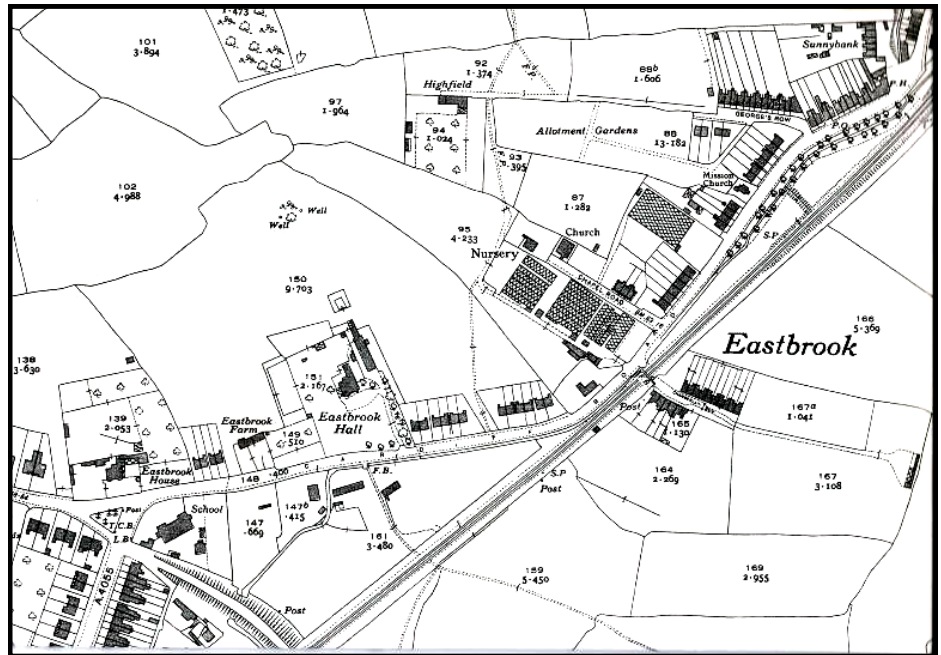
Little change occurred in Eastbrook or in the parish of St Andrews Major until 1888 - when following an Act of Parliament the Barry Dock and Railway Company was approved and the railway and what is now Cardiff Road were built through Eastbrook. The Vestry sold some of its land and used the profits to build the wall around the Twyn. The population of the parish escalated from 537 in 1871 to 1149 some twenty years later. Workmen poured in to the parish. Some 49 families came across the water from unemployment in Somerset alone. At the same time newly rich businessmen moved in and built their substantial homes in Eastbrook and Millbrook, and Eastbrook hamlet was born.

The workmen were mostly young with young families and inevitably strained the resources of the small parish. The National School, run under the auspices of the Church of England, became grossly

overcrowded until the Board (state) school opened in 1909. We can read in the National school log and in the reports of the MOH of the problems of epidemics of measles and whooping cough, while typhoid and tuberculosis also took their toll. Mortality among children was high, among infants 150/1000 died before the age of one. The Davies family living in their new home at Bryneithin opened, in

Swan Inn in Eastbrook in 1891 was lived in by James Meredith from 'Llandridrod', his wife Sarah and their seven children. Shops in Eastbrook included a baker, grocer and fishmonger.

The Eastbrook itself can be traced on the 1942 Ordnance Survey map, as it runs parallel with the lane to join with the Cadoxton brook. Today much is culvetted.



Eastbrook, one of the first clinics anywhere in Wales to provide care for mothers and their children.

The roads were poor. Children from Eastbrook often could not reach school because of the flooded roads. The water supply was grossly inadequate. The small springs that had served the community before 1881 could not cope and water piped in from Barry was described as 'yellow and full of animalcule'. Sewerage was being dumped by night carts behind newly built dwellings. For the destitute these were days long before the old age pension, and for those without family support the workhouse (City Lodge) in Canton was their last resort.

Public houses however were not in short supply. As well as the three still standing in the village, the

For the religious, both a church and chapel opened in Eastbrook and elsewhere in this issue you can read of the Llandough chapel built just inside the Parish boundary.

Since those early years, two World Wars and relative prosperity have changed the face of Eastbrook from the time when it was a microcosm of the effects of urbanization on a rural parish.



**‘St Andrews School ‘  
150 years old! David Southall, previous headmaster, writes:**

The Rectors of St. Andrews Major, and Michaelston-le-Pit and the joint Lords of the Manor, Major General Lee and Robert Jenner of Wenvoe Castle, together set up a National School at the bottom of Britway Road which opened its doors in 1858 to 58 children from all the parishes. Over the porch was a tiny bell-cote with the bell that still rings in the new school on the common.

In 1971 the heart of the village was torn out when, on St. David's Day, in the pouring rain the pupils, led by the headmaster, David Southall, marched up to the new open-plan school on the Common and the old school was demolished. All that now remains to remind us of the old place is the porch shelter to the Head Teacher's house now at the entrance to the Three Horse Shoes Inn opposite. From the seat in this porch, head masters over the past 150 years must have sat to contemplate the state of the village and its youth. Their education was now to include animal husbandry with the son of the Regimental Mascot of the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Welsh Regiment, Jacob, and Black Welsh sheep, bee keeping, snakes, tropical insects and sea and fresh aquaria (before Health and Safety). Sheep were sheared before the whole school by parent and good friend John Reynolds of Beauville Farm. The wool was then spun on the school's six spinning wheels.



In 1973 the school received its Prince of Wales Award from the Prince for the Nature and Study Observation Cabin, which was presented by the P.T.A. and contained a glass observation bee hive. St. Andrews was the first school in Wales to receive an award usually presented to councils and parks for their environmental contributions. When the Head retired in 1983 he remarked, "Who wants to retire when your work is your hobby."

Fittingly, the school stands on St. Andrew's Road, which links the centre of population with the ancient parish church of St. Andrew Major, where the tradition of Christian worship has continued for more than 1000 years.

"Our lines are set in pleasant places : we have a goodly heritage"



**Celebrations at the school continue:**

IN the Spring Term, we will be planting trees, working outdoors and continuing to redecorate the school. In the Summer term look out for a Summer Festival and Music Extravaganza.

We do hope you will be able to join us in our celebrations..

*For further information contact Sue Jordan, head teacher, 2051 3089*

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