



DEPEND

**Issue 25
Spring
2008**

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

DEPEND is published by Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern.

Articles for inclusion in future editions should be sent to:

The Editor

DEPEND

Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern

Murchfield Community Hall

Sunnycroft Lane

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DPVC

DPVC would like to thank the Civic Society for their donation of £300 towards the printing costs of DEPEND. We need every penny that we are given and are truly grateful.

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@waitrose.com

Or you could just call in the office between 9.30 and 12.30 on any weekday morning. You will be sure of a warm welcome.

Have you recently retired, are the children at school, or do you just want to give something back to your community - driving, office work, befriending, gardening etc? If so - would YOU like to be a volunteer? We would be delighted to hear from you. Telephone, write, or just visit us in the office. You will make new friends and would certainly gain satisfaction from a job well done.

EDITORIAL

Once again, DEPEND contains information about events which are taking place in our village. It is still amazing to realise that this small community contains so much talent. The Dinas Powys Players will be performing in April, the Music Festival and the Village Show follow later in the year showcasing local talent. The Murch Junior Choir already has a wonderful reputation and St Andrew's School concert taking place in June will entertain the elderly.

However, it is not just the talent of the residents of Dinas Powys that is to be applauded but the generosity shown by those who take part in village activities.

Most of the profits that comes from village events are used for the benefit of those in the community who are less fortunate or are in need.

Last year Dinas Powys Players gave £1500 raised from their Review to DPVC for which we were very grateful and now join in the congratulations to the Players who won £27,000 on the BBC quiz show, Eggheads, defeating a team of experts. The "Weakly Players", as they called themselves, have not yet decided how their winnings are to be spent but offered to again give some support to DPVC. We are very grateful indeed as DPVC minibus is in need of replacement.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - Forthcoming local events

Thursday 1st May

Sat 3rd May - 10am

Thu, Fri 10,11th June

Sat 21 - Sun 29th June

Sun 22nd June

Sat 30th August

Sat. 11th October

Sunday 9th November

Tuesday 11th November

Elections Day

DPVC Coffee Morning - Murchfield Hall

St Andrews School Concert

(details p8)

Dinas Powys Music Festival

(details p6)

DP British Legion 80th Anniversary

(details p7)

Dinas Powys Village Show

(details p6)

Concert in aid of the Poppy Appeal

Remembrance Service War Memorial

Armistice Day Service War Memorial

(details p7)

Adult education classes - Upholstery, family history, gardening, painting and drawing, Keep fit and Yoga are held in either Murchfield Community Hall or the Lee Hall. Details from Adult Education 2070 1569 or www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

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DINAS POWYS VOLUNTARY CONCERN - SEEKING YOUR SUPPORT

DPVC plans to introduce a scheme to invite members of our community to become a 'Supporter' of Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern.

Most readers will be aware of the various events that we hold in the village which are always well supported and realise valuable funding for the charity. We are also indebted to individuals, local organisations and the Vale of Glamorgan Council who are already supporting the ongoing activities associated with the Minibus-ambulance. **Ros Morgan, a regular user of the minibus, says 'if there were no minibus I would be housebound - it enables me to live a much fuller life'.**

However we are now looking to build on the current support we attract by asking you to become a 'Supporter' of DPVC. We are looking for individuals, groups or businesses to commit themselves to regular donations through the means of a standing order. In this issue you will find the necessary mandate as an insert. Donations may be monthly or annually and the amount would be at the discretion of the benefactor. If you are a tax payer Gift Aid would add an additional 28p for every pound donated.

The Minibus-ambulance is in constant use by voluntary groups and by signing up to become a 'Supporter' you will be helping those people in your community giving them access to activities and providing a lifeline to many who would otherwise be unable to take part.

'EVERY LITTLE HELPS' - THANK YOU

If you would like further information please contact Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern on 029 2051 3700. Barbara Daniels, Treasurer DPVC

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

BANANA, COFFEE AND WALNUT CAKE

Ingredients for cake:

110g soft butter (4oz)
170g soft brown sugar (6oz)
3 medium eggs
2 medium bananas - mashed
3 tablespoons hot milk
1 tablespoon instant coffee granules dissolved in the milk
225g self raising flour (8oz)
110g chopped walnuts (4oz)
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 teaspoon baking powder

Ingredients for the filling and topping

225g icing sugar (8oz)
110g butter (4oz)
Few drops vanilla essence
55g chopped walnuts (2oz)



Method

1. Beat together butter and sugar
2. Beat eggs and gradually add to above
3. Add warm milk and coffee to the mashed bananas
4. Add coffee and banana to cake mix
5. Finally fold in flour and baking powder
6. Divide between 2 lined and greased 8 inch (21cm) sandwich tins
7. Bake for 25 - 30 minutes at Gas 5 or Electric 190C or 375F

For the filling and topping:

1. Make a butter cream by beating together softened butter and icing sugar with the vanilla.
2. Spread half the mixture over one of the cakes and sandwich together
3. Top the cake with the remaining butter cream and walnuts

JAZZ CONCERT

Cardiff and Vale Youth Jazz Orchestra

This 'New' Minibus is now four years old and is not aging well. It looks as if it will need a replacement sooner than expected so, we thought, "We had better get cracking on raising the money" to do that. Thus it was that David Miller of the Cardiff and Vale Music Service was asked if the Youth Jazz Orchestra would be able to put on another of their very successful concerts for us. He was willing and so the fun began.

When and where? No clashes on the 2nd February at the Parish Hall when our lighting team would be available so go for it. The application made for a temporary bar licence was accepted "subject to any contrary notice". Tickets and posters were printed and people recruited to sell, circulate or display them. Others agreed to help set up and pack up the hall on the day of the concert. Ticket sales beginning when whoops! Six Nations Championship starts on--- 2nd February with Wales kicking off late afternoon against England: Oh Joy! Would we be able to sell the tickets?

At the beginning of the week the wooden spoon seemed possible both for Wales and for our fund raising. But come the day no contrary notice had been received and the final preparations commenced. By morning's end the stage extension was erected, seating and lighting sorted and glasses laid out for the bar.

players were warmed up, seated, lighted and ready to go. Furthermore the hall was packed, ticket sales (also amazingly) having soared to 174, just one less than maximum capacity. What a relief - all the hard work was going to pay off.

But Wow! What followed was a truly exuberant evening with a fantastic performance from the Youth Jazz Orchestra that kept their audience enthralled. The playing was to professional standards and quite staggering considering the



turnover that must inevitably be the case with older pupils moving on from school and new players starting each year. Surely Dave Miller's contribution to the performance of young musicians in Cardiff and the Vale must be as great as that of the new coach to the Welsh Rugby Team. At the interval the bar was busy and the hall had a happy buzz. By the second half the floor was suddenly crowded with dancers ranging in age from 3 to 93 and that was the way it stayed through to a triumphant climax. The vast majority seemed to have thoroughly enjoyed their evening and their joy made it all very worthwhile even though some found the volume high.

By 11 o'clock the audience and the band had gone home and a willing group of helpers remained to clear away. Thanks to them, to the orchestra and to their audience, you all "done good" and DPVC are extremely grateful to everyone for their contributions.

Mike Robinson -Chairman DPVC



By 5.30 Wales were losing (comprehensively), and arrival of the band, the wine and the crisps were awaited. By 7.30 Wales had won (amazingly given what had gone before) and the

Vale of Glamorgan Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)
Help in avoiding debt

The Vale of Glamorgan Citizens Advice Bureau says: "**Debt is the fastest growing problem for the CAB**". Day in, day out, we see the devastating impact of debt on people's lives and the desperation people feel about their situation. Families break up, people lose their homes, and often suffer long-term depression and anxiety as a result of the worry involved. The free, confidential, independent debt advice that we offer can help turn things around and prevent similar problems happening again in the future.

You can find us at 119 Broad Street, Barry, CF62 7TZ. Drop in or telephone us on 0845 120 3756 or consult www.adviceguide.org.uk.

Hours for both services - at present only open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10am to 1pm

Debt - the danger signs:

- Do you avoid opening bills?
- Do you have no savings and live on an overdraft?
- Do you regularly use your credit card to get cash or to pay for shopping
- Do you not know how much you owe?
- Do you only pay the minimum payment on your credit cards?
- Are you borrowing money to pay off other debts?

If you do any of these, you could well be on the road to a debt problem, so get advice as soon as you can before it gets worse.

Top Tips - to avoid debt

1. Credit, store and charge card debts

Tip: Always try to pay at least 10% of your balance every month, if not you will be paying your debt for years to come. For example, if you owe £5,000 on your credit card with a typical 16.9% APR, and only make the minimum payment, after 5 years you will have paid back over £5,200 and still owe nearly £3,000. After 25 years you would still owe nearly £300.

Tip: Never spend money on credit cards on the spur of the moment and don't use them to borrow money over a long period.

Tip. If you can't pay off the total balance on your store card, then use a cheaper alternative. Some store cards can have an APR of nearly 30%

2. Unsecured personal loan debts

Tip: You can't borrow your way out of debt. Be wary of borrowing more money to pay off existing debts.

It may seem like a good idea and may help in the short term, but you could end up with serious debt problems.

3 Rent, mortgage and secured loan arrears

Tip: Don't risk losing your home! Don't pay off the person who is shouting the loudest, but pay the most important ones like mortgage or rent.

Tip: Know the difference between unsecured and secured lending and don't borrow money against your home unnecessarily.

4. Bank and Building Society overdrafts

Tip: Don't just run up an overdraft without talking to your bank - this is much more expensive than if you arrange it beforehand. If you are living on your overdraft each month, you could be well on the way to a debt problem.

5. Council tax arrears

Tip: Make sure you pay it, you could end up in court and possibly prison. Local authorities commonly use bailiffs to collect unpaid council tax, so you could well end up paying a much higher price and losing much more.

6. Bankruptcy

Tip: Bankruptcy is not an easy option and it's not a cheap one either. It will cost you the best part of £500. Get advice, it may well not be the right option for you.

We are indebted to Mimi Watt, a volunteer with CAB, for this advice.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS - Report by Keith Hatton, Chairman.

Replacement Trees

Last November, the Community Council, following a generous grant from the Civic Society, commissioned Acorn Tree Services to plant trees on the Twyn and along Highwalls Road car park. This was a replacement programme for the original Red Hawthorns that had become too old and brittle and were removed for safety. From research into Council Minutes and articles in the Penarth Times, it does appear that these original Hawthorns were provided and planted in 1937 by Cardiff Rural District Council to mark the Coronation of King George VI on 12th May 1937.



Councillor Keith Hatton Chairman DP Community Council thanking Doug Matthews, Chairman of Civic Society

The Hawthorn on the Twyn was replaced by: - METASEQUOIA GLYPTOSTROBILIDES (the Dawn Redwood) and the five Hawthorns along Highwalls Road, replaced by four CRATAEGUS

LAEVIGATA 'Paul's Scarlet' and a PRUNUS CERASIFERA PISSARDII (Purple-leaved plum) In addition an ACER GRISEUM – (Paperbark Maple) was planted in the shrub bed in front of the telephone kiosk- *more details of the trees available from Keith Hatton*

Ramp for the Disabled

Under its Community Action Self Help (CASH) scheme, the Vale of Glamorgan Council Cabinet agreed a request from the Community Council for a grant of £3,500 towards the estimated cost of £4,600 for providing a ramp into the old library at the back of the Parish Hall. The Vale of Glamorgan Council began constructing the ramp in March. This was completed on schedule, within budget and with little disruption to the many societies and individuals who use the Lee and Parish Halls.

First to use the ramp with assistance from her husband Arthur Coxon, was local resident and ex Community Councillor Nola Coxon, who has been unable to gain access to the old library since suffering a stroke in 1989. Nola said that it was lovely that she would now be able to come and view exhibits by the many talented residents of the village.



Nola Coxon with husband Arthur negotiating the new ramp

Safe Routes in Communities

The Welsh Assembly Government has this year introduced the "Safe Routes in Communities" programme which provides funding of £10 million to schools and local communities to address road safety issues in their areas. Under this initiative, the Community Council, along with local schools, is submitting a **Travel Plan** to the Vale of Glamorgan Council to improve safety, reduce dependence on the private car for journeys to school and give a major boost to walking and cycling within our community. The plan will include a range of engineering measures, such as traffic calming, 20mph zones, pedestrian crossings, extra lighting on un-adopted pathways and cycle routes where practical.

PACT - Police and Community Together

The term PACT is used to describe how through meetings and other means, police and members of the community can discuss and identify problems and put forward solutions within their neighbourhood. The aim is to give you the residents a say in how your local neighbourhood is policed and governed in an effort to improve the quality of life where you live.

Local PACT meetings are held bi-monthly usually on the first Monday at Bethesda Chapel, Fair Oaks, commencing at 7pm and all residents of Dinas Powys are welcome to attend. Your local PACT meeting is attended by members of the local Police, Police Community Support Officers, local Councillors, and

youth support leaders. Proposed dates for 2008 are :- Mondays April 7th, June 2nd September 1st and November 3rd.

PACT meetings are most effective when the whole group (police, councillors, youth workers, and members of the community) can discuss together how a problem in the community is best resolved. Minutes of the meetings are recorded and any matters arising are directed to the attending officials with a progress report being given at the next meeting. The minutes are available to every individual who attends the meetings. If you have any issues or problems you wish to discuss why not come to the next meeting?

VILLAGE SHOW 2008

This popular annual event in the village calendar will be held on Saturday 30th August. It is the same weekend as usual but saying August makes it sound earlier!

The committee are busy making plans for the big day and altering the Classes in some categories where it is felt that some things were not attracting entries. However, we are still open to ideas from readers for new Classes and suggestions of how to improve the Show even further – and offers of help if anyone would like to get involved.

All the popular attractions have been booked – the Dinas Powis Ecumenical Seven, a new Punch and Judy Show, face painting and, of course, the Teas done by the Women's Institute.

We hope that as many of you will enter as did last year –



If you haven't already done so before, why not give it a go? There are over 100 classes in the Open Section and about 15 in the Young People's section and there is a £3 cash prize for first in each Class!

The afternoon is entertaining for all ages, so look out for the notices detailing when and where the Programme and free Schedule will be available.

Please contact the Chairman, Val Hartrey, for further details:
Tel: 029 2051 3274
or e-mail –
valhartrey@tiscali.co.uk.

ARIAS, ABBA AND ALL THAT JAZZ

The Dinas Powys 2008 Music Festival will take place from 21 - 29 June. This year's programme contains something for all tastes and ages.

Described as *"the best sound I have heard by a Welsh male choir for many years"*, the superb Pendyrus Male Voice choir will open the festival on Saturday 21 June 19.30. As well as their memorable and rousing music, they have the dubious distinction of being the only Welsh choir to have performed in the White House and the Kremlin.

Officially the best brass band in Britain, the Cory Band take centre stage on Wednesday, 25 June 19.30. with their unmistakable brand of brass. The Cory Band are one of Wales' finest and most innovative music ensembles. Their numerous CD recordings and live concert performances have received worldwide acclaim.

The Chamber Orchestra of Wales (Friday, 27 June 19.30) are back by popular demand after last year's atmospheric concert by candlelight. Sit down, grab your Chianti and enjoy the Chamber Orchestra of Wales Italian Night.

If you want a break from the classical treats on offer, let us take you back to the seventies and eighties and enjoy ABBAMAGIC, one of the first tributes to ABBA ever formed and undoubtedly the best in Europe (Saturday, 28 June 19.30). They have performed at festivals across Britain and Europe and at

private events for Richard Branson, Frankie Dettori and Cilla Black.

Bringing the festival to an end is one of the most popular fixtures of the whole week, the Sunday lunchtime jazz gig - 29th June 13.30. This year Phil Dando and his musicians will be the star performers.

And if you still haven't had enough, Bethesda Community Choir will bring the curtain down (June 29-20.00) on the 2008 festival with a very special guest! Look out for posters around the village in the next few weeks.

The children's concert and senior citizens' concerts are also back this year. Children from Vale schools will be able to brush up their skills in a Schools wind workshop led by members of the Cory Band (Wednesday 25 June 13.30 at Bethesda Chapel Hall).

Children from St Andrews Major C/W School will provide the entertainment for the senior citizens concert (Friday, 27 June 14.00).

The Dinas Powys Music Festival was established in 2000 in order to allow more people to hear professional musicians in their community, and has been growing in popularity every year so its advisable to book early.

For more information, visit the website, www.dpmusfest.com or contact 029 2051 3114.

THE GROWTH OF DINAS POWYS IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE 20th CENTURY

It was almost ten years after the end of World War 2 in 1945 before the British people began to regain some optimism for the future. With the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953, at last we began to plan ahead and think about building homes for ourselves and the next generation. Thus it was that Long Meadow Estate was planned and building works commenced in 1956. Northway Bros. Ltd. were amongst the first to turn what had been pasture land into homes and the first families took up residence in 1957. Initially Long Meadow Drive ended at the park area but gradually more land was acquired and the estate expanded into Hazel Grove, Robin Hill, Sycamore Close and so on through to Cross Common Road.

Later Valley View, Sunnycroft and Southra Park also came into existence. Sunnycroft had formerly been the site of the old



brickworks and a small workshop making coffins. A large market garden with vast greenhouses had occupied the land which is now Southra Park. Two houses were built to house the nurserymen and their families at



the rear of the land and access was gained by a lane alongside "The Pound", Cardiff Road. Eastbrook Hall, a splendid house in its own grounds, was demolished to make way for more housing and opened up the area of Eastbrook and Millbrook Heights. Similarly, another



babies born at home.

With the increased population in the village, the need for extra school capacity arose and Murch Junior School was built and opened in 1964, followed by the new Church in Wales school overlooking the common in 1971. Later the Dinas Powys Lower St. Cyres School was built at the top of Murch Crescent to accommodate pupils for their first three years of secondary education before moving on to Penarth for their final years.

Pictured - Valley view from Murch Bridge, the building of Plas Essylt 1960, and Eastbrook Hall.

Article by Terry and Betty Williams

property to be demolished in about 1970 was Windyridge, a bungalow set in just over three acres in the Murch area, the home of Col. Ralph C. Seel and family. In the same vicinity is the award-winning development at Little Orchard.

The health of the local population was overseen by the doctors with a surgery at the doctor's house in Mill Road prior to the opening of the Health Centre in Cardiff Road. The doctors - Alexander Beveridge, Mansell Watkins, Alun Bater and Hadyn Jones were familiar faces around the village. The local midwife, Nurse Rose Peters lived in the nurse's house adjacent to the Parish Hall and was busy with the many

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The Dinas Powys branch is this year celebrating its 80th Anniversary. Celebrations start on Sunday 11th June at 3pm with a service at the War Memorial followed by tea in the Parish Hall accompanied by music from the Sovereign Singers

On Saturday 11th October at 7pm there is a concert in the Parish Hall in aid of the Poppy Appeal. Anyone willing to help with the distribution of poppies please contact Lynne Johanson on 2051 3734

There are services of remembrance on Sunday 9th November at 10am and on Tuesday 11th November at 10.45am - both at the War Memorial.

The Anniversary Year ends with a dinner, to be held at the Parish Hall, on 11th November at 7pm. Anyone wishing to join in with the celebrations will be most welcome. Further details and tickets from the Parish Hall.

A SAFER ROUTE TO SCHOOL?

St. Andrews Major Church in Wales Primary School has successfully accessed funding from the Welsh Assembly Government's "Safe Routes to School" initiative to introduce traffic-calming measures along St. Andrews Road.



As you will have doubtless noted, the changes mainly include speed bumps, a zebra crossing and the introduction of a 20mph zone from

beyond the school virtually to the village. The main objective is to reduce the speed of passing vehicles to promote the safety of pupils and parents at St. Andrews School, although it is hoped that sports clubs on the Common and local residents will also benefit from the changes, which will hopefully make walking or cycling to school a safer alternative to driving.

**Andy James, Chair of Governors,
St. Andrews Major
C/W Primary School**

Other views regarding these speed bumps have been expressed. The nature of the bumps which require close attention to negotiate may lead to drivers failing to see a child by a parked car.

Drivers of the DPVC minibus ambulance have already commented on the discomfort for their older passengers.

Others ask if the money could not have been better spent in other ways and still improve safety for the children - see Community Council News

YOUNG DEPEND WORDSEARCH No 10 (Age 8 - 14 years) Find 10 holiday destinations-

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

Return your answers to:-

**Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern, Murchfield Community Hall
Sunnycroft Lane, Dinas Powys, F64 4QQ
or Email on dpvc@waitrose.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. The last winner was Elis Thomas of Southra.

DINAS POWYS INFANTS' SCHOOL

CENTENARY 1908 - 2008

Following the successful celebrations of the Centenary of the Parish Hall in 2007 Dinas Powys Infants' School now celebrates its own Centenary in 2008.

We are making plans for a number of events throughout the Summer, including a Centenary show with exhibitions marking the last 100 years at the School formerly known as Dinas Powys Council School. If you have old photos or artefacts or would like to write down your memories of your time at the School please send them in. Photographs or memorabilia should be well labelled for their safe return.

Centenary Gates are planned for the front of the School and a Centenary Garden to the rear. Sponsorship as well as individual donations toward the cost of these projects will be welcome.

Did you attend Dinas Powys Infants School or were you employed there? If so the school wants to hear from you. The school, on the corner of Cardiff Road and Murch Road is searching for the oldest living pupil and member of staff.

Mrs Julie Thompson, Head teacher, can be contacted at the school on 029 2051 2151 or email DinasPowysIS@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

St Andrews School 150th Anniversary 2008-2009

A working party is considering a range of ideas to celebrate this important event in the life of the school and community. These include: an Open Day on Tuesday 21st October with photographs and artefacts, new wall hangings - mural and mosaic, illustrated talk on history and memories, a new faith garden, ring of trees in school grounds, Summer fun day, school photograph, book of poems & prayers, Summer 'then' & 'now' musical, reunion of past pupils with a service of thanksgiving the following Sunday.

For further information contact Sue Jordan, head teacher, on 029 2051 3089