

Campaign to remember Bagillt's Prince

The Pwllgor Dafydd ap Llywelyn Committee was formed after a public meeting at the Flintshire National Eisteddfod in 2007 and is a voluntary, non-profit making organisation with the aim of erecting a monument to Dafydd ap Llywelyn. Dafydd was born around 1215, the son of Llywelyn Fawr and ruled Wales from 1240 until his premature death in 1246. Dafydd's reign was contested by his half-brother Gruffudd in 1240 and Henry III invaded Wales the following year.

Though many are familiar with the names of Llywelyn Fawr ('the Great'), few have heard of his son. Because of the shortness of his life and the attention given to his father and his successor, Llywelyn II, Dafydd has often been overlooked. Many historians believe that, had he lived he would have gone onto rival his father as one of Wales' greatness rulers. Dafydd was an enlightened and able ruler. During his reign he accomplished much, revising native Welsh law, sending ambassadors to the King of France and the Pope, and repulsing Henry III's invasion of Wales.

The Committee hopes to raise a standing stone in Bagillt in Dafydd's honour, as he was born at Castell Hen Blas in Coleshill, thus making him the only native prince of Wales to have been born outside Gwynedd. The committee is working with Bagillt Community Council to ensure the outcome of the initiative will be both lasting and fitting for the people of Bagillt and Flintshire. It has already worked to raise Dafydd's profile and the latest initiative to name an asteroid after Dafydd met with success. With your help we hope to raise awareness of Wales' past and bring the people together in a celebration of a unique cultural heritage. Join us on the journey!

Contact : Dr. Craig Jones, Chairman
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FLINTSHIRE PUBS AND BREWERIES Book by David Rowe

The book due to be published on 29th June gives an A-Z of pubs, inns and breweries in Flintshire (including Bagillt) and is in paperback at a cost of £14.99. It lists all known past and present pubs alphabetically by location and provides available background information on each. Since the closure of the mines many of the public houses have disappeared or changed significantly. The author is David Rowe a member of the Flintshire Historical Society, who lives in Mold. There will be author talks and signings taking place at various venues in July.

BAGILLT COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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Chairman's Comments

Welcome to the fifth Bagillt Community newsletter, which is the first since I was elected Chairman in May 2009, a position I will hold for 12 months. I hope you will enjoy reading the content. This is my third term as Chairman of the Council having been a Councillor since 1987. I was born in Holywell, but have lived in Bagillt for the past 45 years. I work for Flintshire County Council and have for a number of years served as a governor of Ysgol Merllyn.

The Community Council has decided to produce a further edition in order to continue to share information on services and other organisations. Since the last newsletter Councillor Terry Renshaw was elected to replace Robert Davies who had resigned. Terry is an experienced councillor with Flint Town Council and is a former county councillor. In this edition there are articles from the Bagillt Youth Centre and Womens Institute, by the Flintshire Countryside Services on the foreshore, the progress in relation to a monument to Prince Dafydd ap Llywelyn and from a local resident, as well as informing the public about summer play schemes and the publication of a book on Flintshire Pubs and Breweries.

The Council notice boards at the Community Centre and car park in the High Street and at Riverbank continue to be well used by local and other organisations. In order to facilitate a possible grant application to provide further play equipment at the Victoria Road Play Area, the Council have agreed to provide up to 10% funding. I should like to remind local organisations that applications for funding from the Council are only considered at the October and February meetings and that they must be received by the Clerk together with financial details by 30th September and 31st January respectively. Further details are available on the Council's website or by contacting the Clerk by e-mail to gareth@garethroberts62.entadsl.com or telephone on 01978 354617.

Andrew Griffiths

The newsletter is distributed free – Members of the Council will be delivering copies to many properties in Bagillt and others will be available at the Branch Library and Post Offices at High Street and Boot Garage, Bagillt Road as well as the Council website which is at www.bagilltcommunitycouncil.gov.uk. The website also contains information on council contacts, minutes of Council meetings and services.

This newsletter is published by the Bagillt Community Council.

Focus on a local organisation- Bagillt Womens Institute

The group meet on the first Wednesday of the month from 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm. Each month we have a speaker who gives a talk on various topics of interest. We also try to have a good social programme. We are a small friendly group so why not come to one evening and see for yourselves. Anyone interested can contact Barbara Carr on 01352 710943.

Teaching through the medium of Welsh at a Bagillt School Views of local resident – Mr. Carl Renshaw

I wonder, what would be the response from the people of Bagillt, to the proposal of establishing a school that teaches through the medium of Welsh as well as English, at an equal status. So that the children of Bagillt and out lying district, have the choice of an education that would give them fluency in the Welsh language combined with literacy in both languages in all subjects. This school would be within the village boundary.

Our young people and children deserve our support. There is more to see through two windows, and with bilingualism the opportunities are increased for a better future (employment prospects) and a better understanding and consideration for other cultures. A fluency in Welsh as well as English can only be an advantage and gain for the children of this village, irrespective of their backgrounds. At least they would have had the opportunity, which has been denied to this village before. The Welsh language with all its cultural richness is for all to share.

County Summer Playschemes Programme 20th July - 21st August 2009

This scheme is provided in partnership with Bagillt Community Council for children aged 5-12 years and will run from Monday to Friday on the above dates on the following sites in Bagillt :-

Victoria Road – 10.30am to 12.30 pm Merlyn C.P. School 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm

Flintshire is the only authority to provide a County wide scheme in partnership with Town and Community Councils and the Welsh Assembly Government. The scheme does not provide a formal "childcare" provision but "free-play" opportunities will be provided for children to participate in informal, spontaneous, creative, physical and social play. All play schemes are free of charge and all play workers will have undertaken a full enhanced CRB and reference process and had training. Parents are required to complete a parental/carer consent form. Flintshire are committed to providing play opportunities for all children to enable both disabled and non-disabled to play together. The Buddy scheme is in its 5th year and has enabled us to work closely with families to enable children with disabilities to access their local play provision. All enquiries to the Play Unit on 01352 702456.

FOCUS ON A LOCAL ORGANISATION Bagillt Youth & Community Centre

The centre is located on Holywell Road in the Boot End of Bagillt. The Youth Club is held on a Monday and Wednesday evening between 6.30 pm and 9.00 pm. It is open for those aged between 11 to 25 years and is only closed on bank holidays and staff holidays. The centre will also be open for a summer programme during the school holidays for those between 11 to 25 years. It will involve various activities taking place and trips jointly funded by the Bagillt Community Council and Youth Service at Flintshire County Council. Further information will be available from the centre by contacting Haf Davies.

The centre is also getting a group of young people together and organising a litter pick during the "keep Flintshire tidy" week in July. The local newspaper and community policeman will be attending and this will be run alongside Communities First in the Boot End. In February the centre ran a successful homeless youth services project giving those young people involved an opportunity to gain real life experiences. It was assisted by volunteers from Shelter Cymru and financial assistance from the Bagillt Community Council.

Haf Davies – Youth Worker – 01352 710390

FOCUS ON THE BAGILLT FORESHORE Flintshire Countryside Services

It has been a busy 6 months on the foreshore. Flintshire County Council has taken on a lease for 125 years to enable its coastal unit to turn the former colliery site and landfill into a local and coastal asset. Over £50,000 has been spent on signage, fencing, gates and access improvements. Cattle have been introduced to help manage the grassland and future plans are afoot to tarmac the old track from Bagillt Car Spares to Bagillt Station.

Look out for our Big Dee Kite Festival on Tuesday 25th August. Bring your kite or make one with kits provided.

A 'Friends of Bagillt Foreshore Group' is being formed from walking, fishing, conservation, motorbiking, sea fishing, Councillors and historical representatives. The Coastal Unit is looking for volunteers to help care for the access and conservation interests in a further effort to keep locals involved in an area steeped with history and a part of most locals childhood in one way or another.

For further details contact Peter Early, Coastal Ranger on 01244 814931.