



LLANGATTOCK GREEN VALLEYS NEWSLETTER

Issue 54 - November 2014

MICRO-HYDRO GENERATION:



Some of the Directors from MH1 inspecting the penstock at Cwm Gu.

Exciting news! Construction has started at our first MH-1 scheme Cwm Gu, on the Glanusk Estate. The weather and ground conditions aren't the best but penstock pipe has been delivered to site and joining is imminent.

We now have full permission and licensing for our first MH-2 scheme Nant y Hafod, above the Clydach Gorge.

We have also been granted planning permission for the Gargwy Fach scheme, with some conditions, and we should hear about licensing for this scheme very soon.

Sadly Blaen Dyar got refused for planning permission but we are hopeful of getting it through next time.

We are now exploring a number of big PV roof mounted schemes with the potential of another co-op being launched. We hope to include local schools and agricultural barns in the scheme, as well as large commercial buildings, village halls, chapels and churches. Anybody with a building with a large roof who would like to explore either doing it at the same time for themselves (and so reducing their costs through the benefits of bulk buying) or leasing the roof to the co-operative (with a deal on cheap electricity) please get in contact with me: andrew@wernwatkin.fsnet.co.uk. Many thanks, Andrew.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT - LLANGATTOCK LITTER PICKERS:

Many thanks to Timbercraft (Adrian Stael) who yet again has donated enough wooden stakes for the next round of roadside verge signs to deter people from littering to be erected. Roadside verge signs will be going out in the coming weeks following their success in previous years in reducing litter. This time, having learned some lessons from our previous efforts, we are creating more secure, wind-resistant signs which will give the same message.

As part of the group's on-going commitment to community enhancement, 10 new flower troughs are to be installed into the community to build on the success of the originals. Also, plans are being laid to plant wild flowers on the verges of the road into the village near the Plas.



Last month we provided Llangatock Church in Wales Primary School with 10 litter picking sticks and hoops to enable pupils to take on a responsibility for maintaining their own school grounds and surrounding areas. The next generation of LLPs?

However, for the present, we need more volunteers to maintain standards in and around the community, if only to take on some of the maintenance of flower troughs etc. Please contact Pete (01873 812073), Rollo (01873 811422) or Mike (07968 671257). Multi-taskers would be appreciated!

Advance notice that the LLPs will be holding its **AGM at the Rectory Hotel on January 29th 2015**.

November's Community litter pick was productive, as ever, and thanks to those who turned out. To celebrate the group's 5th anniversary, a press release has been sent to the B & R and to the Abergavenny Chronicle, with photos, which it is hoped will be in print by the time this newsletter is sent out.

The next Community Litter Pick will be: Saturday 3rd January 2015.

TY'R ASH MEADOW:

Good news from Ty'r Ash Meadow, Percy Davies Trust recently approved a small grant to pay for the planning application for a new wooden bridge from Bull Pit Meadow into Ty'r Ash Meadow. This will provide disabled access onto the site for public and school students opening up access for all. We will be calling out for volunteers in the spring to help build the bridge. There'll be more information nearer the time, but first we have to get planning permission. Watch this space!

LLANGATTOCK COMMUNITY WOODLANDS (LCW):

We've been busy splitting wood and preparing for the felling season. Jarrett's wood is looking really good now and our volunteers are able to see the wood for the trees at long last. Plans are on the way to start more activity along the Canal in our Canal-side woodland. There is some more laurel clearance to be done but the group is now keen to look at plans for a pathway through the wood. We will start working with the Canals and Rivers Trust on the best way forward. It is a project which we really want to develop to involve people in Llangattock and set up a group that will take on responsibility for this little gem of a woodland.

On another note the Council for the Protection of Rural Wales or CPRW send out a quarterly magazine across Wales which is circulated to interested members, policy makers, civil servant and politicians. They asked us to

submit an article on how volunteers 'feel better' after working in the fresh air and close to nature. Here is a [link to a pdf copy of the magazine](#). We have the centre page spread!!



Include these other items with your First Aid kit when you get ready to battle zombies...



As always, if you want to contact us please do, if you are particularly interested in volunteering in our Canal-side woodland then email jackiecharlton@msn.com

ENERGY AUDIT 2015:

If you live in Llangattock and haven't filled in a questionnaire please spare a few minutes to complete the online survey at Llangattock Energy. This will help us develop a clear picture of energy use in our village and the more who respond the more holistic and useful our survey will be. Many thanks to all those who have completed the survey so far.

Help please! If you are already involved in the energy audit, please can you spare a few minutes to send us your views on how this is/has been beneficial to you?

Things to think about: Have you reduced your fuel usage as a result of being involved? What steps have you taken to do this? Have you made any home improvements to reduce your energy bills? Have you changed your fuel supply or incorporated a new, more sustainable or locally sourced

energy supply? Has being involved in the energy audit changed your behaviour towards energy consumption in other aspects of your life?

If there is any anecdotal evidence you can share with us about your experiences of being involved, that supports the reduction of your own/the community's carbon footprint, please let us know. We are hoping that this information can be used as supporting evidence for our bid to be recognised as a carbon negative community towards the end of 2015. Please send your contributions to Simon Walter: admin@llangattockgreenvalleys.org

ALLOTMENTS (LACAS):



After a highly successful bonfire and BBQ, it's all very quiet down on the allotments. Tidying up, digging over, chucking in some 'muck' and generally getting the plots ready for 2015 is the order of the day. There are likely to be a few plot vacancies in the near future so, if you fancy growing your own fruit and veg and generally keeping fit without going to the gym, apply to Phil on 811537 to go on the waiting list or just ask for more information.

LGV VOLUNTEERS NEEDED PLEASE! CAN YOU HELP?

We are looking for a number of people who would like to get involved at Director and non-Director level. **Please get in touch with Andrew Fryer if you would like to explore the ways in which you can help:** andrew@wernwatkin.fsnet.co.uk

MEMBERSHIP:

To find out more about joining please visit Llangattock Green Valleys.



If you'd like to see your photographs in the next newsletter send them
to: admin@llangattockgreenvalleys.org

**For more information on all our activities
visit www.llangattockgreenvalleys.org**

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