

Dillwyn Davies – A Personal Reflection

By William Rees

Many tributes have been made since the sad passing of Dillwyn. The eulogy at his Church service by his daughter was especially memorable. The wide range of public service undertaken by Dillwyn through the numerous organisations he was a member of, have very fittingly been recorded. His contribution to the community of Monkton was immense.

My first contact with Dillwyn was as a ten year old at Albion Square School in Pembroke Dock, he was my teacher. He was a wonderful teacher, kind, considerate and inspirational in front of the class, he was always in charge, there was no “messaging around”, but we all absolutely adored him. He was a class teacher of 4A with forty six pupils and every member of his class passed the 11+ examination for entry into Pembroke Grammar School.

A few years after my mother found my school report for that year, suffice to say that it was not a glowing report. I brought it into school and showed it to him on his next visit. There was one particular comment he had made “William always lets you know he is around”. I asked him what he meant by this remark, he looked at me and said “Seems perfectly clear to me”.

I remember an occasion when I has mis-spelt the word “horse” in an essay and had written “A hore is a very graceful animal.” I couldn’t understand why he was smiling when he sent me back to my desk to check my spelling.

My next contact with Dillwyn was when I was a student. I undertook my second year teaching practice at Llanion School in Pembroke Dock, where he was headmaster. He was the same man that I remember from Albion Square - kind and considerate to his pupils with a fierce determination to provide them with the very best. He was protective of his staff and ensured an environment in which they could operate successfully. I especially remember a cricket lesson that I undertook on the school playing fields - at the end of the lesson I hadn’t properly organised the collection of all the equipment we had used. First thing the following morning in the staff room pupils were arriving at regular intervals bringing bats, balls and wickets that



I had left on the field. I sat, increasing squirming in the corner feeling very embarrassed. He looked at me as I was about to go to my classroom and said “We haven’t got lots of sports equipment in the school we might me totally wiped out by the time you leave!” So my school reports were not improving!

In 1979, we both became members of South Pembrokeshire District Council. A few years later I made a proposal speech when he became Chairman of the Authority. A few years after this he made a proposal speech when I became Chairman of the Council, I can remember that speech well, as he alluded several times to me as a school pupil. Again his report was not totally glowing. We worked together as councillors for yearly 20 years he was always a doughty fighter for his communities.

When Dillwyn retired was Headmaster of Pembroke Dock primary school he became Governor of Monkton Prioory, where he continued until his passing. His vast experience and kind and caring attitude made him a huge asset to the governance of the school.

The passing away of Dillwyn Davies means I have lost my teacher, my mentor and very dear friend. Monkton has lost a true champion.

If you would like a Welsh copy of this Newsletter please call us on 01646 680373



BBC Call for faces of their new campaign

PAVS are working with the BBC on their latest television campaign "You Are Not Alone", which aims to encourage people who are 55+ to go online. So many older people's lives have been positively enhanced since they have been using computers and new forms of technology, for example contacting family abroad.

If you know older people who have started their journey online then why not let them know about the opportunity to be one of the faces of the campaign.

To find out more, email katharian.waldrum@redbeemedia.com to register interest optionally with a one-minute YouTube style video clip of the persons informally introducing themselves with name, age where they live and what it means for them to go online.

Communities 2.0 Help

If you would like help filming, editing or uploading your video clip then call Sue on 01437 771197 or e-mail sue.blantern@pavs.org.uk

FREE ICT Workshop

It's Online, It's Free, It's Easy and It's Fun PAVS Communities 2.0 team will be sharing Top Tips for

- Talking to family online for Free
- Sharing Files, Photos, Videos
- Keeping up with your friends
- Capturing those memories

Friday 22nd October at 1.30pm – 3pm in Monkton Community School

Contact 01437 771197 for more information



Sports Afternoon

A good time was had by all who attended the Sports Afternoon held on the Village Green on the 12th August. There was a Rugby Workshop with Peter Morgan ex Welsh International and Scarlets player which then lead onto a swift game of touch rugby rounders and quick cricket were also played and enjoyed by parents and children alike.

There were activities for the younger children to do with Monkton Priory School kindly donating some sports equipment for the day. Monkton Communities First would like to thank Peter Morgan for conducting the workshops and providing the equipment, Alex and Dave from NPT, Maggie and Shelly for providing the cakes and The Community Hall Committee for letting us use the green.

Monkton Events Committee need's you!

Monkton Events Committee (MEC) has had great success with the organisation of the Village Fayre held in July.

The aim of the Events Committee is to raise funds by holding fundraising events in Monkton throughout the year, the money raised will then be used to organise events and activities in the community. The Committee is supported by Monkton Communities First and is always looking for new members.

The Committee meets monthly at The Old Priory Inn in Monkton, so if you've got a few hours to spare each month and would like to get involved, please get in touch with a member of the Communities First Team on 680373 or pop in to the Old Priory Inn and have a chat with Maggie and Shelley who are on the Committee.



M&M's members visit Pemberton's Chocolate Farm and Scolton Manor.

Members of M&M's Friendship Club enjoyed a trip recently to Pemberton's Chocolate Farm and Scolton Manor. The trip included a tour around the Chocolate Farm and around the House and Museum at Scolton Manor, with all having a thoroughly enjoyable day. Photos of the day are on the walls of The Old Priory Inn in Monkton, so why not pop in and have a cuppa in the café at the same time as you have a look at the photos. M&M's ladies would like to say a big thank you to Liz and Jane from Communities First for assisting with the trip.

The View from the Street



Since Spring, online search engine Google have made just about every city, town, village and street in the UK available to view online. It's a free and easy to use service available at maps.google.co.uk.

This can be really useful for checking directions, looking up the best routes for travel, researching possible venues for events and generally getting a real time view of what is where.

If you have visitors coming to meet you from out of town, it's really easy to send them a link from Google showing exactly how to find you, which roads to use and what your house looks like.

If you have to get to the GP or specialist shop in another town you can have a quick look to see where it is, what it looks like and the best place to park to save all the worry and hassle.

It even works in many holiday destinations so you can see what the Hotel really looks like and how close the beach is!

Not everyone likes the idea of street view - but it certainly has its uses!

If you'd like to learn more about this then please keep an eye out in M:Life for when the Communities 2.0 team from PAVS are next coming down to run IT sessions in Monkton.

For more information about Communities 2.0 visit www.clickconnectdiscover.org.

Monkton Communities First Facebook



Monkton Communities First now has a facebook page and profile, photos, events and news are all being posted regularly by the Communities First team.

The website is also undergoing a few changes with help from PAVS, if there is anything you would like to see on either the website or facebook page please get in touch with the Monkton Communities First team and they will be able to assist you.

facebook.com/communitiesfirst



PAVS Funding Fair

Pembrokeshire Association of Voluntary Services (PAVS) are holding their popular Annual Funding Fair on Tuesday 5th October at the Queen's Hall, Narberth between 10am and 4pm.

This event is a fantastic opportunity to talk to a wide range of funders and includes a presentation from the Big Lottery Fund talking about their current funding programmes. Light refreshments will be provided and all organisations and individuals are welcome.

If you would like more information on the Fair contact PAVS on 01437 769422.



Friendly faces at the Family Centre

The Carousel Family Centre has had its days changed that it's open to Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 9 – 4 pm. You're sure of a friendly welcome from Becky and Revis who run our Family Centre in Monkton and they're always available to hand out sensible advice to those who need it. Revis and Becky told us in Communities First that they've had a very busy Summer and they're looking forward to supporting many more families over the Autumn and Winter period. If you need to contact the Carousel, their telephone number is 01646 621728.

PATCH comes to Monkton!

PATCH (Pembrokeshire Action to Combat Hardship) is a charitable organisation aiming to relieve the effects of poverty for individuals and families in the county of Pembrokeshire. They are a registered charity and now have a storage area in The Old Priory Inn in Monkton where they distribute goods to people in need. The service is a referral based service, and currently Communities First and The Old Priory Inn can refer people to PATCH. However it is hoped that other groups in Monkton could also become signposting organisations. Donations of food or clothing are always welcome and very gratefully received.

If you would like to know more about this service or can help in any way then please contact Tracy Olin on 01646 696869 or 07775 571431 or email tracy@patchcharity.org.uk



MY Voice trip to Folly Farm

A trip to Folly Farm was recently organised by MY Voice, the young people's forum of Monkton. Over 28 young people attended with their parents on the last day of the Summer Holiday. The sun shone all day and everyone had a wonderful time. MY Voice were supported with their trip by Monkton Events Committee members, Communities First and Alex from the Neighbourhood Policing Team.



Springboard Autumn term 2010

Springboard is a community based project to provide fun, free courses to adults in the areas of Hakin, Pembroke Dock and Monkton.

The courses we run can be anything from short taster sessions to 10 and 30 week courses and range from Jewellery making to IT and from GCSE to Site Safety in Industry.

This year we have many new courses running in your community, English GCSE will be a new exciting challenge for both students and us at Springboard!!

10 students from Monkton have taken a GCSE in Science, all ten gained a GCSE with many Cs a B and an A. This is excellent as many of the students have not had any Science experience since leaving School 15 – 20 years ago! One student who did the course said 'I really enjoyed Science GCSE, we had good fun and the tutor was very enthusiastic and encouraging' Most of the 10 students gained a GCSE in Mathematics last year and are now embarking on a GCSE in English.

If you are keen to join one of our courses this term, or have any ideas of the kind of courses you would be interested in, please contact your local advisor Claire Arnold : 0845 6037021 07876651331. Or call in to chat.

'I am also involved in Learning and really enjoy the courses it's so different from school I look forward to the fun we have each week'

Claire Arnold

Monkton Communities First 2010 Annual General Meeting

The 2010 Annual General Meeting of the Monkton Communities First Partnership takes place on Wednesday 17th November at 2.30 pm at Monkton Priory School. All members of the community are welcome to sit on the Partnership and nominations are open for all to apply. If you would like more information on the work of the Partnership then contact James Roach-John the Co-ordinator on 01646 680373.



Alex's Leaving Party

Alex Jenkins the PCSO for Monkton has recently left the Neighbourhood Policing Team to attend university.

A party was held for her at The Old Priory Inn, where My Voice presented Alex with a stationary set, Monkton Communities First Partnership presented flowers and the Monkton Communities First Team presented her with a hamper.

Alex has held a very active role within the community over the last few years and she will be sadly missed.

Local resident Kellie Bellmaine recruited as BIG Lottery Financial Literacy Co-ordinator with Citizens Advice Bureau

Pembrokeshire Citizens Advice Bureau has recently been awarded 2 year funding from the BIG Lottery Fund to tackle the effects of the recession within local communities. The CAB has recruited local resident Kellie Bellmaine for this exciting community based project. The project will offer the people of Monkton enjoyable opportunities to develop skills, knowledge and confidence with money matters; 'enabling people to take control of their money and avoid getting into debt by making informed financial decisions, will be a big part of the learning programme' says Kellie, 'the project aims to help people, help themselves'

Kellie lives in Monkton and has 20 years experience of working in finance in Pembrokeshire. She was recently recruited by the CAB to help local people develop the financial skills they need to make informed decisions at key points in their lives which can make the difference between a secure future and a desperate struggle. Kellie will provide information and advice to people living in Monkton, Llanion Ward in Pembroke Dock and the Mount Estate in Milford. The community based project which will run for two years will involve delivering workshops on various topics such as working out how much money is coming in and how much is going out, knowing which bills need to be paid first, the power of bailiffs and how to deal with them, the different costs of borrowing money, understanding APR and choosing credit.

Kellie's background ensures that she is very aware of the problems that people face locally, particularly during a recession. The workshops are friendly, informal, confidential and relevant to the real issues people face today. 'The idea is to make the workshops

fun and an enjoyable experience in peoples' own community setting', says Kellie. She can also check that people are getting all the benefits they are entitled to. The workshops will include raising awareness about the free and confidential services Citizens Advice provides to all members of the local community.

Kellie will be working with a small team of CAB volunteers and the project will also encourage residents to help with the workshops as community volunteers giving them the chance to develop new skills and build confidence.

For more information about the project, volunteering or attending a workshop near you, please contact Kellie on 01646 683805 or email adm.pembdock@yahoo.co.uk.



Monkton Communities First Bulletin

As well as M:Life the Communities First Team produce a monthly bulletin which covers our work in more detail. This is passed onto members of the Partnership who discuss the progress and direction of the programme. If you would like copies of these please get in touch, 5 Tenby Court, 0845 345 4953 or e-mail Monkton_Communities_First@Co_operative.Coop

Monkton Voice Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Monkton Voice, Monkton's Tenant and Residents Association, is being held on Wednesday 27th October 2010 at 12.30pm in the Community Centre, Monkton. The meeting is open to all tenants and residents of Monkton and the general public.



Summer Play Sessions 2010

A big thank you to Pembrokeshire County Council from Monkton's young people for running another 3 successful Play Sessions in the Community over the Summer break. The sessions were again very well attended, with parents and young people enjoying the activities on offer. The weather was kind as usual, we're lucky with the weather here in Monkton for the play sessions, and everyone had a brilliant time. Thanks again to Steph and her team for all their hard work.

Christmas Raffle

Monkton Events Committee will soon be selling raffle tickets for the Christmas raffle which will be drawn at the Monkton Priory School Christmas Fair. The date for the Fair will follow in a later issue. Prizes have been donated by local business and tickets can be brought from The Old Priory Inn and the Communities First Office (5 Tenby Court).

Monkton Mini-Market

Community Centre
Monkton

Dates

- Saturday 2nd Oct
- Saturday 16th Oct
- Saturday 30th Oct
- Saturday 13th Nov
- Saturday 27th Nov
- Saturday 11th Dec



Car Boot Spaces & Tables for Hire
Only £2

To Book a table or for Further information ring 01646 687324

Village Fayre Success

Monkton residents and visitors enjoyed another fabulous Village Fayre which was held on the 17th July organised by the Monkton Events Committee with support from Monkton Communities First.

The event was opened by Maria Jenkins (currently on maternity leave from the Communities First team) and her new daughter Melissa. The sun shone all day and children were kept busy with a wide range of activities including a Treasure Hunt and Teddy Bears Picnic.

Samba Doc and Organised Kaos Circus Skills kept them busy too and the Fayre was compered by Neil Thomas. There were plenty of stalls to browse around and refreshments to enjoy, courtesy of Maggie and Shelley, out of the sun in the Community Hall, the use of which was kindly donated by the Hall Committee.

The 1st prize in the raffle went to a Ms Ivey Cole of Grove Hill, Ms Cole said "Thank you so much, I never win anything and I really like paintings and I am really interested in the Sunderlands as I remember seeing them every morning when I went to school."

Everyone joined in for the Tug of War and the final of 'Monkton's Got Talent' drew the day to a close, and was won by Tanesha Jones. Monkton Events Committee would like to say a huge thank you to all of the volunteers who helped make the day a success and to all the local businesses who supported their raffle which made £473.

Also a big thank you to Pembroke Town Council, The Communities First Trust Fund and RWEnPower for their kind donations. The Committee are already meeting to plan next year's Village Fayre and other events.

There were lots of competitions held and the Fayre, Congratulations to Seren who came 1st, Sam and Lexi who came 2nd and Courtney who came 3rd in the Children's Cake Competition. The winners of the Want 2 Work Colouring Competition were Under 7's - Brionney Paige and Under 11's - Chelsea, they both receive a prize of colouring equipment to encourage their future artistic endeavours. A big well done to Tanesha who came 1st, Kelly who came 2nd and Ellie who came 3rd in Monkton's Got Talent. And well done to Mandy who won the Treasure Island competition.

Get in Touch

If you have any comments or would like to include anything in the next issue of M:Life call in at 5 Tenby Court or call 0845 345 4953. Alternatively e-mail Monkton_Communities_First@Cooperative.coop



WANT 2 WORK NEWS

Want 2 Work have had a busy few months in Monkton, attending the Summer Fayre at the Community Hall; the Community Information Event at the Old Priory and the Adult Learners' Week event at the school. Several local residents joined us at these events, and we have already helped one into full-time employment, with another starting a work-based training course in September. Other support given has included help with CV's, matching to suitable vacancies and financial support for interview clothing and travel costs.

We are still available at Monkton Community Hall (side entrance) on Mondays, 9.30am – 3.30pm. And from Monday 13th September there will be even more help available, as we will be joined by colleagues from Workways. They will offer a range of other support, including help with job applications and interviews, volunteering opportunities and work placements.

Just drop in, or phone one of the numbers below for an appointment. We look forward to seeing you!

Alison: 07966566350

Lee: 07825378106

Want to Work Job Vacancies

Want to Work are updating the job vacancies notice board at the Monkton Communities First Office every week. If you are looking for work pop in to see what the latest vacancies are.

Communities First Outcome Fund

Monkton's Children and Young Peoples Action Group's hard work over the past year has resulted in a bid being made to the Communities First Outcome Fund. The bid includes three areas which the funding is required for; the first is to enable the youth club to be open during holiday times in addition to term times. The second is to train 6 local volunteers to deliver Open Access play sessions so that they can be run all year round and the third is for an Outreach Worker to work in Monkton for 5 hours a week to work with young people who do not currently access any youth clubs locally, to encourage them to do so.

Partners involved in the bid included the Tanyard Youth Project, Pembrokeshire County Council's Youth Service and The Big Lottery Childs Play Project for Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire. The bid was drawn up using information provided by the Young People of Monkton at consultations in Monkton Priory and Pembroke Comprehensive School, where they indicated their ideas and wishes for activities in their community.

Look out for the next edition of M:Life when we will hopefully have news on the bid's progress. If you'd like to know more about the work of the Young Peoples Action Group then contact the team on 01646 680373.

Communities First Trust Fund – Grab it while you can!

£5000 per group is available via the Communities First Trust Fund for all constituted groups with up to date accounts in Monkton. Communities First can assist groups with constitution preparation and as the Trust Fund is like many grants under consideration due to the public spending review of the new Government it may be a good idea for groups to get their bids in this year while there is money available. For any help contact the team on 680373.