

DAME JENNY ABRAMSKY GIVES COWBRIDGE PHYSIC GARDEN THE THUMBS-UP



ABOVE: THE COWBRIDGE PHYSIC GARDEN TEAM WITH DAME JENNY ABRAMSKY.

DAME Jenny Abramsky, chairman of the UK's Heritage Memorial Fund, met volunteers, trustees, helpers and members of Cowbridge Physic Garden in an hour-long visit on Tuesday.

She was shown round the half-acre site in Cowbridge town centre, now attracting more than 100,000 visitors annually, by the garden's chairman, Dan Clayton-Jones.

Last year, the garden was officially opened by the Duchess of Cornwall, its patron.

Dame Jenny said: "This project is one of sheer delight and quite one of the best developments of its kind in Britain. The fact that it gives so much pleasure to so many people is

the greatest tribute one can pay to those who developed and now run it.

"When one considers that just a few years ago this was a derelict site, it gives real encouragement to so many others about the task of embracing creative schemes throughout the country. I congratulate everyone who has put so much effort into it," she added.

Initially developed at a cost of £350,000, half by grant and the remainder from matched funding, the garden is open, free of charge, 364 days per year.

Dame Jennifer, who joined the BBC in 1969, went on to become the first woman editor of the agenda-setting Today programme, subsequently joining the

BBC's Executive Board with overall responsibility for Radios 1,2,3,4 and Five Live, plus many other elements of BBC broadcasting, running an annual programming budget of £236 millions.

Dan Clayton-Jones observed: "It's always a pleasure to show our garden to creative people, and no-one better fits that bill than Dame Jenny.

"Her role in running the UK National Heritage Memorial Fund is highly responsible and significant in developing landmark projects. We wish her well."



ABOVE: Dame Jenny is given a guided tour of the garden from Jo Homfray.

Top organist heading for Peterston festival

LEADING UK organist Gordon Stewart will be the main attraction at St Peter's Church, Peterston-super-Ely for the 2009 three-day organ festival.

He has played concerts all over the world, including at St Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Melbourne Town Hall and Johannesburg Cathedral, but is equally happy playing concerts in small churches and chapels.

Gordon's 'show' is very visual, but his style of delivery does not detract from the seriously good musicianship of his performance," said organist and director of music, James Bull.

"It is extremely exciting to be able to attract such high-profiled organists to our festival each year.

"We are delighted to be able to host Gordon Stewart."

Mr Stewart plays regularly on the 1860 Father Willis organ at Huddersfield Town Hall, where he has been resident organist for more than 18 years.

The festival runs from November 20-22, with Gordon Stewart's recital on November 21 at 7.30pm.

Further information from James Bull (0779 3738344) or the Peterston Village Shop.

Quiz nights AS autumn runs into winter, the quiz nights at the Fox & Hounds start once again - on November 18 and December 2.

They will start at 8pm. Teams of four.

Wine tasting A REMINDER that a dinner with Chateau du Seuil wines has been arranged for November 14 at the Fox & Hounds.

Please contact Sue or



COMMUNITY NEWS

LLANBETHERY & LLANCARFAN
Your community correspondents are **Sam & Patsie Smith** on (01446) 751448

John for a booking.
Whist drive
The next Llancafian Society Whist Drive will be on November 24 at the Village Hall, at 7pm.

Admission is £1 and there will be usual prizes, a raffle and refreshments. Date for the next event is December 29.

Call My Bluff
ON Friday, November 20 there will be a 'Call My Bluff' wine tasting evening in the Village

Hall, which has been organised by the Llancafian and District Community Association and Llancafian Primary School PTA.

These have been very successful over the years and the original panel of Andrew Thorn, David Stevens and Sam Smith will once again challenge the audience.

Telephone 01446 781271 or 781453. All proceeds are to go to Llancafian PTA and Hall funds.

VALE TEENAGER IS A CUT ABOVE THE AVERAGE!

Hairdresser Josh in line for a top award

A VALE teenager who left a college course in public services to try to cut it as a hairdresser, has reached the final of a top awards programme.

Joshua Rees-Hole from Cowbridge is among the finalists in the learner category at this year's prestigious Modern Apprenticeship Awards, which take place at Venue Cymru, Llandudno on November 12.

The Modern Apprenticeship Awards Wales 2009 is managed by the Welsh Assembly Government's department of children, education, lifelong learning and skills (DCELLS), and is organised to showcase modern apprentices, businesses and learning providers that have made outstanding contributions to education and training in Wales.

Three years on from his life-changing decision, Josh - now aged 21 - has amassed several industry awards, in addition to his vocational qualification, a foundation modern apprenticeship in hairdressing.

After receiving his employer's - local salon The Hair Business - assistant of the year award in two consecutive years, he recently



Joshua Rees-Hole.

went on to win hairdressing competition Salon Cymru, organised by learning provider Bridgend-based I-SA Training.

Josh has since been invited to join the British hairdressing team's junior squad and represented Britain at the Paris Open international competition in October.

Together with assisting senior stylists, Josh is also a key player in the Hair Business's work outside the normal day to day running of the salon, such as being involved in Fashion Showcase Wales as a member of the National Hair Federation South Creative Team, and styling models in the

Miss and Mr Wales contests.

"I enter as many competitions as possible to gain experience and help to build the reputation and status of the salon," he said.

"The more shows and work that we participate in outside of the salon, the more opportunities there are to meet potential clients."

Dawn Elliott, business development manager with I-SA Training, said: "In November 2006,

Joshua Rees-Hole decided that studying public services at college was not for him. He desired a career change to match his personality and creative nature.

"He walked into The Hair Business in Cowbridge, was interviewed and started the following day.

Colleagues immediately recognised his passion and enthusiasm.

"I-SA are privileged to work with Josh. At only 21, he is a true champion for modern apprenticeships and we look forward to supporting him on his journey."

The Modern Apprenticeship programme is part financed by the European Social Fund, through the Welsh Assembly Government.

Hairdressers are pretty in pink for charity day!



ABOVE: Paula and Hywel Jones of PH71 Hair Crew, along with their staff, who were all doing their bit to support the Breast Cancer Campaign.

A COWBRIDGE hairdressers got into the spirit of Breast Cancer Awareness Day last Friday by raising funds for one of Britain's great causes.

PH71 Hair Crew was - along with staff! - bedecked in the charity's chosen colour of pink. The business on Eastgate is owned by Paula and Hywel Jones who had a personal rea-

son for wanting to support the campaign as Paula explained: "We have had family and friends who have died from cancer and breast cancer, and that made us want to support the 'awareness day'.

"All the blow dries, sets, highlights and

perms with one of our staff members Alice are free of charge if someone makes a donation.

"We're aiming to reach a figure of £300.

"Customers have been making donations and we will be taking contributions up until next weekend."

Councils get together over Island Farm

A JOINT meeting of community and town councils affected by the Island Farm development plan has been held.

Members of Bridgend Town Council, Laleston Community Council and Merthyr Mawr Community Council attended the special meeting.

Concerns were raised about the increase in traffic to be generated from the development, which includes building three sports stadia, other sports facilities and bars and restaurants connected to them.

It was pointed out that the A48 between the Ewenny roundabout and

Laleston roundabout was already at saturation point at peak times and it was felt that the existing infrastructure in the area could not cope with increased traffic levels.

The issue of the loss of good quality agricultural land was also raised and there were also fears about the long-term funding of the project, with possible ramifications for the taxpayer.

It was agreed that each council would now discuss the plan and make its own decision on the application, which will be determined by Bridgend planners.

Cowbridge news - in brief

A GROUP of residents at Llanblethian have expressed an interest in taking over the red telephone kiosk in the village.

BT has offered to sell it for £1. The phone is being removed. Cowbridge Town Council is to pass on respon-

dence from BT to the new group. **VISIBLE Services** at the Vale Council is to be asked to remove a growth of buddleia from the top of the Southgate arch.

They will also be asked to remove oil deposits left by buses near the bus shelter at the rear of the town hall.

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Timothy 1:17 (Cowbridge Christian Fellowship)