

For the Communities of Rogiet, Llanfihangel & Common-y-coed

**Edited by Cllr Phil Ellwood** 

#### What we have been doing

Since the last edition of the Windmill Post, Jers Dyderski has sadly stepped down. We thank him for his contribution to Council, especially to the Rogiet Hub project. Recently we have co-opted Janet Trow onto the council, We welcome her on board.

Alongside our usual council duties (controlling the finances; managing policies, staff, council meetings & social media; reviewing mandatory planning applications), we have attended the Severnside Area Committee meetings where we make sure Rogiet is not ignored in favour of the larger settlements. The planning application for the railway footbridge extension was welcomed and approved recently, with the proviso that the trees to be removed will be reinstated. The CCTV installation is now complete around the Pavilion, play park and football pitch areas, and seems to be deterring vandalism and antisocial behaviour. Over the summer period we also had a new tennis court net and basketball nets installed in the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) and provided tennis racquets and balls. We have, on numerous occasions, reviewed with MCC the grass cutting areas for the summer season, extending the areas but still following the MCC green policy requirements. Cllr Wilson also requested a motion be passed through Council to request MCC funding or free bus travel for the Rogiet children who attend Caldicot Comprehensive School due to the many residents showing a keen interest in this.

Two Christmas trees have been chosen again this year for everyone's enjoyment, one by the Pavilion and the other on the main road.

From all of us on RCC, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

#### **Our future plans**

We recently submitted a response to the Active Travel proposals for the B4245 including improved crossings, and better lane markings on the Llanfihangel bends. These comments have been received positively by MCC. We will monitor this going forward until fruition.

We are planning to replace the wooden planters with self watering ones similar to those in Magor, and have new plants. Also, we hope to replace tree saplings that have died.

We continue to keep a close eye on the proposed developments to STJ Station and access from the B4245 and M48. We will continue to participate actively in any meetings related to the Local Development Plan (RLDP), including raising the concerns regarding the lack of infrastructure. Alongside this we will continue to lobby to get a crossing placed nearer to the Rogiet petrol station garage to provide safer crossing there. We will also continue to press for a resolution to the on-street commuter parking problems.

Our Five-Year Plan continues, which will shape our strategic vision on important topics such as energy conservation, climate change and maintaining our green spaces, including the green belt between Rogiet and Caldicot, whilst at the same time steering our year-on-year activities and budget setting. We would welcome any thoughts from residents.

Now we are back to seven Councillors, we will look to introduce "surgeries" where residents can come to speak to all of us about their concerns and learn more about what we actually do, and how they can report faulty street lights, potholes, overgrown

footpaths and other things that we do not control. We are hoping to invite along MCC Officers and other agencies. Again, any suggestions would be welcome.

#### Rogiet Hub - update

We thank the 118 adult residents and 16 young persons who responded to our survey earlier in the year. The information we collected was most useful in helping our understanding of the needs and wants of the community. You can find the survey results on our web site. Rogiet Hub Survey Results.

Recently we have been discussing our next steps for the Rogiet Hub project, taking into account a number of factors:

- 1. The opening of the Magor and Undy Community Hub and the uncertainty about the impact that might have on our income stream for Rogiet Hub.
- 2. The impending build of Rogiet Community Café and Shop: we think that it would be sensible to let that facility be completed and become fully operational, before constructing another building in the area. (Thinking about the parking constraints, the access from Westway, etc.).
- 3. Some doubt about the suitability of the location, owing to its parking and access constraints.
- 4. The financial climate: we are concerned that we might have difficulties in obtaining funding from our County Council and from Welsh Government. Also, the cost of borrowing for local councils has increased dramatically over recent months. We don't think this is the right time to take undue financial risks that could result in sizeable Council Tax Precept increases.

We have therefore decided to put the current Rogiet Hub project on 'pause', for at least two years. During this time we will 'save up' into our earmarked reserves; and continue to explore funding opportunities. We will also look at alternative designs and locations, including ways to improve the current Pavilion - especially the provisions for the nursery setting, and also to provide more facilities within the building for the use of the community. We will keep an eye on all the aforementioned external factors.

#### **New councillor - Janet Trow**

Hi, I have lived around the U.K. from Ogmore to Sunderland. I have lived in Rogiet for 18 years and love the community vibe our village can bring to the fore.

I have worked for many years in the education and childcare sector and hope to bring this experience to the council to promote the positive contributions our young people can bring to our community.

Sustainability within our lives is something I try to ensure and shared a passion for home grown food when a member of our wonderful allotments.

I would like to help our village work together to include all our views and support the people in our village of all ages.

#### Remembrance Weekend



At 11:00 in the morning on Remembrance Day (the 11th day of the 11th month), our Chair, Cllr Phil Ellwood installed a wreath and miniature crosses in front of the Unknown Tommy (the Silent Soldier) on Caldicot Road..

On Remembrance Sunday, 12th November, at 10:50 in the morning, a Remembrance Service was held at St Mary's Church, conducted by Reverend Gilly Hubbard. The Community Council was represented by the Chair, Cllr Phil Ellwood, who read the second lesson and laid a poppy wreath, and Cllr Janet Trow.

Later on Sunday, at 2:00 in the afternoon, we held our open-air Remembrance Service at the War Memorial, near the Pavilion building. This service was conducted by Reverend Daniel Frett. Poppy wreaths were laid by Cllr Peter Strong - County Councillor for Rogiet, Cllr Phil Ellwood - Chair of Rogiet Community Council, Mr Peter Wilson from the Royal British Legion, and by two residents, in dedication to their associated regiments. After the service, residents and councillors were able to warm up and meet for refreshments organised by Cllr Janet Fowler, in the Pavilion building.











#### Using a Defibrillator

Do you know where your nearest defibrillator is? In Rogiet there are currently five working defibrillators, three at the station, one outside of the Church Hall and one in Rogiet Primary school (only available during school hours)

**Do you know how to use one?** Everyone is capable of using one as the defibrillators have simple instructions and a voice prompt to guide you.

According to the British Heart Foundation only one in ten people survive an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest in the UK, and it can happen to anyone, at any age, so knowing how to do CPR and how to use a defibrillator can improve the chance of survival. There are currently 7,564 public access defibrillators (PADS) registered in Wales on the British Heart Foundations 'The Circuit' the national defibrillator network providing ambulance services with vital information, including the locations of PADS.

Immediate CPR and defibrillation can more than double the chance of survival, so it's really important that public access defibrillators are registered on 'The Circuit' and have an allocated guardian. You don't need to be trained in CPR, as a 999-call handler will talk you through exactly what to do, but knowing how to perform CPR can help you remain calm in an emergency. Defibrillators are easy to use, designed to be used by anyone and cannot cause any harm to the person.

When someone has a cardiac arrest, they collapse and become unresponsive. They either stop breathing entirely, or they may take gasping or infrequent breaths for a few minutes, which can be misinterpreted as snoring.

If you see someone having a cardiac arrest, phone 999 immediately and start CPR. The call handler will tell you exactly what to do, and if there is someone else at scene, instruct you to send them to the nearest identified defibrillator. A defibrillator will deliver a controlled electric, shock to try and get the heart beating normally again.

It is important that new and existing defibrillators are registered on 'The Circuit' in order that 999 call handlers can quickly and easily alert callers to their location if needed.

The following websites have further information and advice, including where to find your nearest defibrillators: -

www.defibfinder.uk www.thecircuit.uk www.bhf.org.uk www.resus.org.uk

#### **TALES FROM THE JUNCTION** (article by Peter Strong)

These stories were collected in around 1990-1991 by the late Bill Winter, formerly Clerk of Rogiet Community Council. Bill hoped to write a book on the social history of Rogiet but passed away before he was able to complete the project.

**THE WELFARE HUT** (from an interview Bill did with Kath Holloway in 1991):

"The Welfare Hut ...(was) in the station approach ... (It's) now demolished (and)...replaced by the station car park. During the 1920s and 1930s there was a social evening there every Thursday. The Methodist services were often held there, using the snooker table as an altar. The Severn Tunnel Band practised there on a Sunday afternoon. They later built a hut in the lower part of Mr Sterry's field between Caldicot and Rogiet. They also used the waiting room on Platform 1 (the south side of the station)."

#### A TROUBLESOME ANIMAL

This story was related to Bill by Joan Powell. It relates to the time when the goods carried from STJ included live animals.

"When the afternoon staff went off duty a note was left if any livestock was under the stairs on platform three. One morning we found the note telling us there was a goat there. When we went to find out where he was going he had eaten his wooden label. It took the foreman until lunchtime to find where he was from and where he was going. Memo's were then sent to every station saying that travelling goats must have metal labels."

#### IMPORTANT PASSENGER

In a letter written to Bill in 1990, Barbara Hollingsdale, remembered Henry Oakley, owner of Dewstow House who was apparently a Director of the Great Western Railway.

"I remember that Mr Oakley once got the train from Bristol (or possibly London) which did not stop at Severn Tunnel Junction. So he pulled the communication cord, stepped out when the train stopped and calmly handed the guard a £5 note."

#### **KNOWING HIS ONIONS**

Working on the railways was not an easy job. It meant a lot of shift work, a lot of heavy work and. for train crews, time spent away from home. For this reason, William Hawthorne, whose daughter Ada was interviewed by Bill in 1991, had hoped for a career in the licensing trade. However, in the end he decided to become a railwaymen.

"He sometimes regretted this but as he left for work at STJ on cold nights he would comfort himself with the thought of the onion broth that would be waiting for him when he returned, his parting comment to his wife being: "Never mind, have the onions ready."

#### THE TEA LADY

Ada explained to Bill that the cattle market wasn't a place for the faint hearted:

"The market ... (even) on days when it was closed held a dread for Ada, who had witnessed cattle being beaten to drive them to the pens. She remembered a one armed man was the worst offender. Her parents even had trouble taking her to church on Sundays."

"In the 1930s Ada's parents bought from Mrs William Lines ... the small refreshment room on the middle or island platform at the station. Ground rent was paid to the GWR and rates to the local council ... Ada ran this for her parents (William, an engine driver, and Queenie) then for herself for a period of 38 years until the station was closed in 1968."

"The refreshment room never opened on Good Fridays. The roads to the station were

"sufferance roads" and closed on Good Fridays." (By being closed once a year it meant that they did not become public rights of way through continuous usage and could only be used "by sufferance" from the GWR.)

"In the late 1930s, Bill Lines, nephew of the previous owner of the refreshment rooms, and Bill Lewis, son of an engine driver, worked six days a week from 8.00 m until 5.30 pm, walking the platforms with refreshments for the passengers on long distance stopping trains that had no refreshment cars."

#### THE HOSEPIPE

Although the cattle market was a source of distress for some, it was a source of fascination and even fun for some of the young lads in the village. A handwritten memoir in Bill's papers, signed just "RJD" recalled that in the 1930s:

"There was a six boy gang from seven to fourteen; there nick-names were:- Rako, Titch, Scoffy, Bulldog, Cockbird and Lauri....

Roggiett had a market day and the animals were taken away mostly by lorry, but long distance animals were taken down to the railway, where they had steel pens for them, until they were loaded onto cattle trucks.

After this had taken place the pens were washed down clean and ready for the following week's cattle. Some evenings the gang would get together and make for the pens.

The water hose was coupled to the hydrant and as passenger trains went by the hose sprayed water onto anyone who may have been looking out of the open windows. This was a big laugh.

Lauri who was fourteen was working on the railway station in the refreshment room, and when trains came to a stand at the junction, he would be selling chocolate, cigarettes from a hanging tray, similar to those in cinemas selling ices etc. He lived with his aunt and uncle, who did not approve of the gang he belonged to."



Pigeon handling at STJ in 1953



#### **Greetings from Rogiet Community Junction**

We did it! We've won the National Lottery Community grant of £465,450 for the Rogiet Community Shop and Café! We're through to the final stage of the Welsh Government Community Facilities Programme for the remaining £275,000 and if we're successful we'll be starting the build next Spring.

The Rogiet Community Shop and Café open Monday to Saturday will provide:

- the shop affordable essentials, veg, dairy, meat, all sourced locally where possible
- the café breakfasts, seasonal lunches, cakes to eat in and takeaway;
- our teaching kitchen opportunities to skill up in the kitchen for all ages and abilities
- Seed to Plate, our gardening project intergenerational all-accessible growing space to learn and share gardening skills and grow produce, some of which will be used in the café and shop
- Once a month we'll host a supper club / social evening to give the community a local night out.

Our funding covers the costs of the build and 2 x 2 years salaries for the chef / café manager and the shop manager. We have lots of volunteering opportunities both front of house and behind the scenes. Please get in touch if you'd like to volunteer.

If you are a group or organisation that will benefit from our new premises, please contact us by December 15th as the more support for the project the better the chances of funding success. The café will also be available for groups to use out of hours.

Thank you for your continued custom and support and to our partners, St Marys Church, Rogiet Community Council, Rogiet Primary School, Monmouthshire County Council and the National Lottery who are together making the Community Shop and Café a reality.

Hope to see you all for Christmas Carols on Dec 15th at 6pm, by the tree at the Pavilion.

Email: <a href="mailto:rogietcommunityjunction@gmail.com">rogietcommunityjunction@gmail.com</a> Facebook: <a href="mailto:Rogiet Community Cafe">Rogiet Community Cafe</a>



\* 2nd December

Christmas Fayre to be held in Rogiet Community Church Hall 1.30pm.

★ 17th December

Carols by Candlelight at St Mary's Church 6pm. With mulled wine and mince pies.

24th December

Christmas Eve service 8.30pm at St Mary's Church.



#### RALGS and the 'Big Shed' (article by Heather Hughes, RALGS Secretary)

We would like to take a trip down memory lane and reminisce about the fascinating history of our beloved Rogiet Allotments. It's always a joy to celebrate the rich heritage that makes our allotments so special.

As many of you may remember, the Rogiet Allotments and Leisure Gardens Society (RALGS) have always been a landmark that attracts attention throughout the seasons. Today, we'd like to share a bit of history about RALGS' iconic Big Shed.



According to some of the plot holders who have been working on the allotments for over 30 years, the Big Shed was once more than just a storage facility. It used to be open to the public, serving as a hub for gardening enthusiasts and those looking to nurture their green thumbs. In the past the Big Shed was a bustling place where you could find

seeds, fertilisers and soil ready for purchase. It was a valuable resource for both seasoned gardeners and beginners, ensuring that everyone had access to the tools that they need to tend their plots.

This sense of community and shared knowledge has always been at the heart of Rogiet Allotments. While the Big Shed may no longer serve this purpose, it remains a symbol of our commitment to cultivation not only our gardens but also the strong bonds that tie us together as a community.

The spirit of giving back to the community is still thriving. Outside the Big Shed, you might have noticed a table laden with fresh produce that has been donated by the allotment holders. It's a small gesture that has a big impact, connecting our community with a commitment to helping others.

In addition to the Sharing Table, many of the allotment holders have been donating their surplus crops to the local community café. This support not only reduces food waste but also ensures that those who visit the cafe can enjoy the locally grown produce.

For further information, including how to apply for an allotment, places as to the PA



allotment, please go to the RALGS web site: https://ralgs.weebly.com.

#### The Severn Tunnel Non-Political Club

The club, also just known as the 'Rogiet Club' was established by the workers involved in construction of the Severn Tunnel in the late 19th century. The club provided recreational and social space for the workers allowing them to unwind and socialise outside of work without engaging in political discussions, hence the name. The workers and the community were the driving force behind the establishment and construction of the club.



The club today carries on the tradition of providing a place to meet and socialise. Along with a full-size snooker table they have darts, pool and crib teams as well as a craft group. The club is also the home of the Severn Tunnel Football Club.





Throughout the year various special events are held in the club. Bingo,quizzes, family treasure hunts,medium nights and their very special black tie event, the 'Winter Ball' which gives everyone a chance to wear their finest clothes.

The large function room is the ideal place to hire for all types of celebrations and family events such as parties, weddings, anniversaries, wakes, birthdays, etc.

If you haven't yet stepped inside the club then perhaps it's time that you do. The club needs the support of the village and its community so that it can continue to thrive. If you are new to Rogiet why not come along and see what is available at the club and meet some other residents of the village.

The cost to become a member is £15.00 for the first year. This is then renewable annually for £10.00. Membership not only gives you a discount on all drinks but also allows you free room hire of the function room (subject to availability)

The Rogiet Club has its own Facebook page with information and upcoming events posted regularly on it. You can also message them directly from their Facebook page. Alternatively you can contact the club during opening hours on 01291420423



The Severn Tunnel Football Club also have their own Facebook page.

### ROGIET PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Email:rogietprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk Website:www.rogiet.monmouthshire.sch.uk Follow us on Twitter: @RogietPrimary



#### Future Dates:

Date	Event
Tuesday 17th October	Flu vaccination for pupils
Week 23rd October	Virtual Parents Evening
Week 30th October to 3rd November	HALF TERM
Monday 13th November	Governing Body Meeting
Thursday 16th November	Swimming for Y5
Thursday 7th December	Pantomime for Children
Monday 11th December	Christmas Performance Y3/4 (1:30pm)
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Performance Y5/6 (1:30pm)
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Performance Y1/2 (1:30pm)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	PTA Christmas Fayre
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Performance Reception (1:30pm)
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Last Day in school for pupils
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	INSET DAY

Mrs Morgan (school clerk) received her cap for representing Wales at hockey during the 1970's. Mrs Morgan played for Wales between 1973 and 1975, received her cap from Welsh Hockey who have been trawling through the archives to find people who represented Wales at hockey pre 2017 as these sportsmen and women did not receive a cap for representing their country.

We were informed that Mrs Morgan played for Wales against England in 1975 at Wembley Stadium in front of 75,000 spectators. All of us at Rogiet Primary School were proud and elated to be part of the presentation. Well deserved, Mrs Morgan.

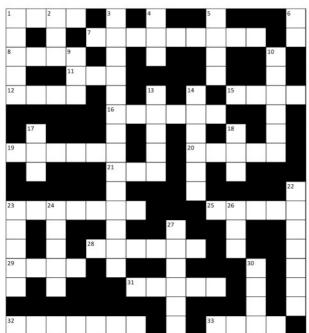
**First Aid Training** 

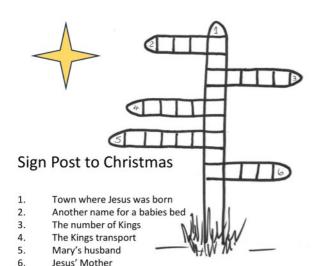


A fantastic week of First Aid for all pupils with employees from St. John's Ambulance. Pupils learnt Basic First Aid skills and D.R.S.A.B.C. (Danger, Response, Send, Airway, Breathing, CPD/Defibrillation). Pupils from Year 5 have been visiting the residents at Cherry Tree Care Home this half term. The intergenerational initiative has been a fantastic project to encourage old and young people to play games, chat over a hot chocolate and boost enthusiasm and engagement for all.

Thank You, Cherry Tree Care Home.

#### **PUZZLES – Just for Fun**





#### **ACROSS**

- 1A Scrooge's nephew
- 7A Seasonal poem by John Betjemen
- 8A Something you give
- 11A Chestnuts are this!
- 12A A type of log to eat or burn
- 15A Students go here for Christmas
- 16A You repeat this
- 19A 'Strictly' one of Santa's reindeer
- 20A There were three
- 21A see 9D
- 23A Good for your eyes
- 25A Number of reindeer with

'Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer'

- 28A see 9D
- 29A The star rose here
- 31A Prickly company for Ivy
- 32A see 27D
- 33A Throw a snow one **DOWN**
- 1D Pudding of 'We wish you a Merry Christmas'
- 2D One of Santa's little helpers
- 3D 1954 film starring Danny Kaye
- 4D Mince -
- 5D A shorter Christmas
- 6D Santa says three of these
- 9D 21A 28A 1861 Fairy Tale by

H. C. Andersen

- 10D Magi transport
- 13D Traditional Christmas dinner
- 14D and Tinsel
- 17D You make one of these from snow
- 18D No room here
- 22D Some churches have a pointed
- 23D Santa's Celestial reindeer
- 24D What you do to your turkey
- 26D Goes with the Holly
- 27D &32A 'Hark the Herald Angels' composer
- 30D Crackers do this in a Tug of War

SIGN POST TO CHRISTMAS: 1. Bethlehem 2. Crib 3. Three 4. Camel 5. Joseph 6. Mary

14. Turkey 17. Man 18. Inn 22. Steeple 23. Comet 24. Roast 26. Ivy 27. Wesley 30. Pull

CROSSWORD: ACROSS: 1. Fred 7. Christmas 8. Gift 11. Hot 12. Yule 15. Home 16. Christmas 4. Pie 5. Xmas 6. Ho 9. The 10 Camels 13. Gorose 28. Maiden 29. East 31. Holly 32. Charles 30. Ball DOWN: 1. Figgy 2. Elf 3 White Christmas 4. Pie 5. Xmas 6. Ho 9. The 10 Camels 13. Goose

# Season's Greetings To all residents of Rogiet from County Councillor Peter Strong



peterstrong@monmouthshire.gov.uk
07926 597765





## Short-Term Respite Stays Welcome

Our residents on short-term stays can benefit all the home has to offer, including joining in the activities provided by our Lifestyles Team, or simply pottering in the gardens. Our chefs provide tasty, nutritious freshly cooked meals, which can be enjoyed in our social dining rooms in the company of our residents.

Talk to the team today to find out more about life at Cherry Tree Care Home.

Call us 01291 421 940

Visit hallmarkcarehomes.co.uk/cherrytree

Cherry Tree Care Home, 209 Newport Road, Caldicot, Monmouthshire, NP26 4AF



## Little Tigers Day Care

#### **@Rogiet Primary School**

- Funded education nursery places available
- · Wrap around sessions & full day care
- Mornings & Afternoon sessions
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#### Open 8am until 5.30pm daily

#### Flying Start funded sessions

Dedicated to the under 3's providing playgroup sessions, based in the Pavilion, Rogiet Morning and afternoon sessions available subject to availability

#### Tiny Tigers

All parents and carers welcome to join us at our baby and toddler group

Qualified staff on hand providing activities, support and a friendly face.

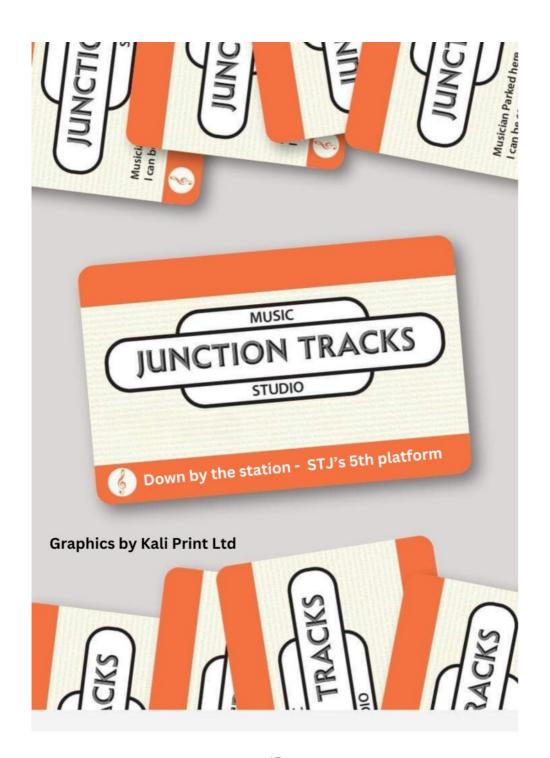
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## Adam & Eve

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Monday - Closed Tuesday - 9 til 4.30 Wed to Fri - 9 til 5.30 Saturday - 8 til 1

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#### **Rogiet Community Council:**

#### **Clerk to Rogiet Community Council**

Alice Vaughan - <a href="mailto:clerk@rogietcommunitycouncil.co.uk">clerk@rogietcommunitycouncil.co.uk</a>

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Please note: The Council has its own website <a href="https://www.rogietcommunitycouncil.co.uk">www.rogietcommunitycouncil.co.uk</a> which will give you up to date information on our projects and other community activities.

We also have a Facebook page, where we will post important information; and a Facebook group, which members of the community can contribute to.

#### **County Councillor for Rogiet:**

Peter Strong <u>PeterStrong@monmouthshire.gov.uk</u>



Booklet produced by Hanley Court Printers, Tidenham, Chepstow - 01291 623010