



THE LLIMEY - June 2014

The Newsletter of the Llimeys –
Friends of Llanymynech Limeworks Heritage Area



They say that it's a sign of age when the years appear to go by in the twinkling of an eye. I must be ancient as it seems no time at all since I was writing last year's newsletter. (No comments please!)

What have we done since June 2013?

Have you downloaded the new app for smart phones?

In late summer 2013, I was contacted by Sam Bibb-MacGregor from Powys CC. She was heading up a project called 'Walking with Offa'. This was aimed at people wanting to know more about the Offa's Dyke Trail. She wanted to include the Limeworks as one of the suggested circular walks on the route.

To cut a long story short, this resulted in the **Trails Mid Wales App** which provides a detailed guided walk around the Llanymynech Heritage Area among other places on the trail.

She has also produced an ebook, solely for ipads, which has detailed animations showing the technology of an inclined plane and how the Hoffmann kiln worked. There is also a 360° view from the Border Viewpoint and a journey back in time for the Tally House. Martyn Young gave invaluable technical assistance to the developers. If you have an ipad you really must get this ebook.

Go to <http://bookry.com/user/powys/> then click on **Public stores belonging to Powys** then **Trails Mid Wales**. Scroll down to see all the ibooks

As a thankyou for our help Sam also arranged for the new benches and table in our picnic area

Heritage Open Days, September 2013

What a washout!

It was so wet that we cancelled the proposed filming in the Hoffmann.

Glyn valiantly fired the demo kiln but had a sparse audience and Harriet had few attendees to her Lime Talks. It was decided that the screening of the film would be postponed until Spring 2014.

The next Heritage Open Day here is 14 September 2014. Fingers crossed for better weather!

Centenary Event April 13

To commemorate the closure of the Limeworks sometime in 1914 we held an event on April 13th. This included the screening of the Chaplin film in the Hoffmann held over from Heritage Open Days. This turned out to be a more appropriate time for screening this film as 1914 was also the year in which Chaplin introduced 'The Little Tramp'. (Thanks to Kinokulture for the screening)



Once again Glyn had an appreciative audience for the firing of the demo kiln and subsequent slaking of quicklime. The guided walks were less well attended but the Easter Egg Hunt had a satisfactory number of participants. And Tony sent some smoke up the chimney!



A number of local organisations provided stalls to promote their activities. Altogether about 200 people attended the event.

Gales ..

A number of trees came down in the gales at the end of February, including a majestic Black Poplar and one of our lovely Cherries. Thanks to Shropshire Countryside Services for speedily clearing those that had fallen across paths, and for arranging the scrub and weed clearance around the Hoffmann.

On the Telly again!

ITV Wales came on 2nd June to film for the programme 'Coast and Country'. They started on the boat on the Welsh side of the bridge and filmed the short trip from Wales to the Visitor Centre. Here, Carl Edwards, the presenter, and his adorable Shnauzer puppy, Peggy, disembarked to go to the Hoffmann kiln. Can you believe that took an hour and a half!



During the next couple of hours Tony took the team around the Hoffmann. Jerry, the cameraman, and Helen Hyde, the producer, were most appreciative. They loved the venue.

Then, back on the boat to cruise to the 'dry bit'. (Thanks to Alan Barnes for his expert helming of the boat). This linked well with the team's morning filming at Redwith to see the re-watering of the Redwith to Pryce's Bridge section of the canal. Only 2.5 miles to go to get to Llanymynech.

The programme featuring us is expected to go out at the end of July. Watch out for it.

Further adventures of Tony and Martyn

The intrepid duo has spent much time recently clearing saplings and undergrowth from the route of the tramway behind the Stables that led to the Welsh Wharf. It is now possible to see clearly where this branched off the main track. As further interpretation for visitors they have laid a number of sleepers and rails to show the purpose of the track. (Because it is often very wet there many visitors think it was an arm of the canal!)

We have also purchased a brush-cutter and leaf-blower now that it is not so convenient to borrow these. Tony and Martyn do valiant work using these to keep the paths and picnic areas clear. Our grateful thanks to them for all their hard work.

Discovering Nature

Luckily the weather stayed fine and warm for the 50 young people exploring various aspects of the natural world at the Nature Discovery Day at Llanymynech. This was organised by the volunteer group, the Llimeys, who help to look after the Llimeworks Heritage Area.

The Nature Day took place on Sunday, June 8th. Each child attending had a choice of three from the eight or nine activities on offer led by Shropshire Wildlife Trust and volunteers from wildlife groups with specialised interests. They could choose from activities ranging from the very active orienteering - the

less active pond-dipping, bug-hunting, and wood crafts - to sitting examining animal skulls and owl pellets. The organisers expressed their gratitude to all the volunteers who attended to accompany children or run activities.

Many of the young people came with scout/cub/beaver troops from Oswestry and Four Crosses among whom many were also accompanied by their parents, and a few came independently to enjoy the day as families. At lunchtime, Four Crosses Scouts supplied hot dogs and cakes and some sat and relaxed while the more active played or explored.



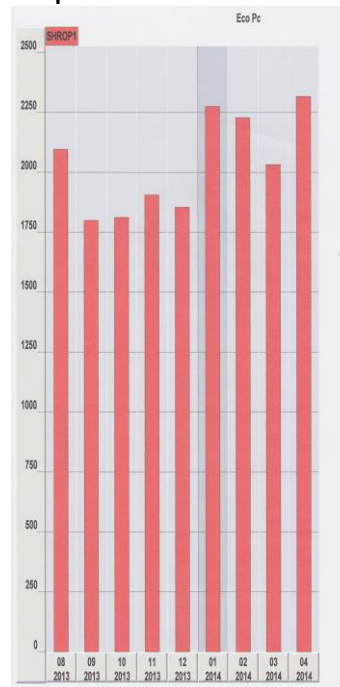
It was a day which the participants certainly seemed to enjoy much to the relief of the organisers who hope that, if they repeat next year, more families will come and join the fun.

Paddy Martin

Work Parties

In the autumn we again held a couple of work parties with Glenn Young of C&RT continuing the clearance of the area around the wharves. The very wet winter meant that it was not possible to have more in the early part of 2014. However, we'll continue the work later this year and hopefully, clear the canal bank towards Gill's Pool and remove much of the tree growth there. Paddy is also planning to establish more wild flowers in this area.

People Counter



There is a 'people counter' at the canal car park entrance to Llimeworks Heritage Area. The counter registers each time it is activated by a person walking past. The graph is for each month from August 2013 to April 2014, inclusive. The monthly average for this period is just over 2,000. This can only be taken as a guide to the number of visitors as the counter counts every passage over the counter, either in or out. A new battery was put in the counter in July 2013. Results before August 2013 were unreliable so have not been included.

For more information about the Llimeys, or if you would like to join us, go to

www.llanymynech.org.uk or ring Joan on 01691 839130