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Asthma attack victim hails her 'live-saver' neighbour

A WOMAN says her neighbour is a real life-saver after he came to her rescue as she was suffering an asthma attack.

Tracey Deakin, 47, of Hightown, Wrexham, was at home in Bell Court when she suffered the attack.

Luckily, at that moment, her phone rang. It was neighbour Christopher Harris telling her there was something interesting on TV.

"I answered but couldn't speak. Chris realised I was having an asthma attack and told me to open the front door, so that he could come over and help, " Tracy said.

> **I think that Chris undoubtedly saved my life and I would like to thank him very much**

Mr Harris attended to Ms Deakin and called for an ambulance.

Ms Deakin said: "I think that Chris undoubtedly saved my life and I would like to thank him very much for all that he did for me."

Ms Deakin said that although the response of one of the ambulance crew had led her make a complaint, she still had deep respect for ambulance workers.

"There is no way that I could possibly do the job which they do," she added.

A Welsh Ambulance Service spokesman said: "While we cannot comment on individual cases, should the patient or their family wish to contact us directly and share any concerns, we would be willing to discuss it with them personally."

● IN 2006 Ms Deakin was involved in a fire at Plas Madoc. At that time she said: "The ambulance service was brilliant and they arrived really quickly, even though it was snowing.

"Even though I said I didn't want to go to hospital, they took me and it was a good job because I had bad carbon monoxide poisoning. I was very lucky.

"If it wasn't for all of the emergency services, then I wouldn't be here today."

Scribblings from the Senedd

By Lesley Griffiths AM for Wrexham

LAST week we received the sad news that Wrexham Shropshire and Marylebone train company was ending its Wrexham-London service.

I have come to know the excellent service of the staff over the years and my thoughts are firmly with them.

Although the service operated free from public subsidy as an 'open access' line, the Welsh government did provide capital funding for the depot at Wrexham and I contributed to an urgent question on the issue in the Senedd.

I received assurances from the Minister that the Welsh Government will do all it can to fully assist, practically and financially, those looking for new employment following this sad announcement.

As a Wrexham fan, I would like to give the new owners of Wrexham FC a fair crack of the whip.

I certainly hope they are more able to build relations with the fans than previous owners and work with fans organisations to that end.

It is, however, worrying news that the club and ground seem now to be separate entities and I fear this fits into a long arc of asset-stripping we have seen at our beloved club.

More positive news came in the guise of the creation of 300 new jobs at the Sharp plant in Llay. The solar panel production facilities there are world class and the expanding operations here is fantastic news for the local economy.

I look forward to continuing the constructive relations between the electronics giant and the Welsh government.

■ Hairdressing and beauty therapy students Leah Corbett and Katie Foulkes.

Students take up Fancy That challenge

YALE College has taken up the national challenge 'Fancy That' set by BBC weatherman Derek Brockway to try something new in its library during the Welsh Libraries Festival.

'Fancy That' has been promoted widely across the college and students have enjoyed exploring stands on healthy eating, money management, exam preparation and e-resources.

As well as gaining from the helpful advice at exam time, Yale learners were able to relax with a free cup of coffee and offered hand treatments and nail painting by hair and beauty students.

During 2011-12, as Yale's Year of Reading, the college is also keen to highlight the importance of books, including the wide choice of electronic books, as great sources of information and inspiration.

"We are delighted to be part of the Welsh Libraries Festival as we develop resources in all mediums.

> **Healthy eating, exam preparation and e-resources on offer**

Libraries remain at the hub of teaching and learning here at Yale," said Joanne Stewart, manager of the college's learning and resource centres.

Encouraging library use is part of a national project with funding provided by the Welsh Assembly Government through the libraries for life programme, a three year £10.5million scheme which aims to attract more people to use libraries through providing improved facilities and services.

The Welsh Libraries Festival was launched by the Heritage Minister Alun Ffred Jones and Derek Brockway at Monmouth Library.

Man stole from shop to get locked up for the night

A MAN who had nowhere to sleep after falling out with his partner hit on a novel way to get a roof over his head.

Tadeusz Wandzel, 47, decided to get himself arrested so that he could sleep in a cell.

His wish came true after he was caught stealing a bottle of wine from the Tesco store at Wrexham, a court heard.

Wandzel, of Smithfield Road, Wrexham, was caught by security staff, arrested by police, and was held in the town's police station overnight.

At Wrexham Magistrates' Court at Mold, he admitted theft of the wine, valued at £4.49, and was given a 18-month conditional discharge and ordered to pay £40 costs.

Rod Williams, defending, told magistrates that it was an unusual case.

His client had been "somewhat misguided", explained Mr Williams.

"He had been at home drinking with his partner. They had an argument and he was asked to leave the property. He had nowhere to go.

"For reasons best known to himself, he decided to commit an offence with the intention of getting himself arrested and being given accommodation for the night.

"That explains why he went to Tesco and stole the bottle of wine."

Mr Williams added: "He was granted his wish. He was arrested and held in custody overnight."

The defendant, who lived with his partner and her three children, followed the proceedings with the aid of an interpreter.

He was said to have been in the UK for four years and had always been in regular employment, but work had dried up in the past few months and he had found himself on benefits.