



# NEWSLETTER



*BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP*

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**Issue Number 002**  
**January 2010**

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!**

## **BRAG Christmas Event**



Father Christmas, outside his Grotto, accompanied by one of his Elves and **allo! allo! a Copper!**

At our very successful Christmas Event held in the Village Hall on the 10th of December. This event was very well supported by the village with about 250 people attending at some point during the evening. The profit from the raffle held on the evening has been donated to two very good causes. £25 has been donated to the Children's Kidney Centre plus a further

£50 donated to Bryn Primary School.

BRAG thanks all those who came and supported the event. BRAG hopes you enjoyed the evening as much as we did.

## **Regular events in Bryn**

In addition to events such as the Christmas Event, the residents of Bryn organise a number of other regular events in the Bryn Community Centre. Below are some examples.

## **Womens Institute**

Come along and join us at Bryn Village Hall at 7:30pm on 4th Tuesday of the each month Everyone Welcome.

**JANUARY 26th:**  
Reflexology (demo & taster).

## **FEBUARY 23rd:**

The Pampered Chef (demo & tasting).

## **Karate**

Every Monday and Wednesday.

## **Senior Citizens Thursday Club**

Thursdays!

## **Home Craft**

Wednesday evenings.

## **Whist**

Wednesday afternoon.

## **Youth Club**

Friday evenings

## **Council Surgery**

2nd Saturday morning of each month.

In the past many other activities have been run and there is no reason why they could not be run again if there was sufficient demand. For example: Belly dancing, keep fit, computer lessons, Mother and Toddler, Tea Dances etc. So please

Come along and let's have your ideas!

### **Bryn Historic Society**

Will be Meeting Thursday January 28th at Bryn Wonderers Rugby Club starting at 7:30pm. The guest speaker, Mr Alan Thomas will present the village as it was, with discussions on historical aspects of village life. Ample opportunity will be given to explore each topic further.

There will also be a presentation at Bryn Primary School in Feb, of the Historical Groups findings to date. Further details will be placed on the village notice board.

### **Grant Received**

Brag has received a grant of £10,000 to begin work on a 'Bio-Diversity' project on the site of the old tip, opposite the Royal Oak. Work will begin in February 2010, with initially fencing being erected around the perimeter of the tip. We are currently on the lookout for volunteers to work with the Bio-Diversity team, with a view to helping them to clear the site of a number of gorse bushes scattered around the area. Anyone wishing to volunteer, please make contact with either Graham Rowland or Paul Bulmer.

We have also applied for a lottery grant to finance booking venues for our meetings and village events as well as publicity material. We hope to have this confirmed on the 25<sup>th</sup> January.

### **Lets go Walkabout**

BRAG also work closely with our sister group in the Ward Cwmafan Residents Action Committee CRAC. CRAC have said anyone from Bryn wishing to start the New Year by getting a little fitter can join a free community walk with Cwmafan Cwm Walking group, as part of their highly successful Cwm Walking scheme, The next walk is now to be organised by CRAC and the Communities First Team.

The 8mile walk will start at 10.30am Saturday 30th January from Kenfig Nature Reserve Centre near Kenfig Pool, proceeding to Porthcawl and back. Walkers can carry a lunch snack or visit cafés during the brief stop in Porthcawl. Although the walk starts at 10-30am from the Kenfig Nature Reserve Centre lifts will be available, for anyone without transport, from Cwmafan Library at 10:00am. Anyone requiring a lift should telephone Zoe at Communities First on 01639 894606.

Communities First are providing refreshments at the end of the walk.

Walkers are asked to wear appropriate clothing for the weather conditions on the day and walking boots or shoes with plenty of support should be worn. There will be some rough uneven surfaces and some stiles to cross. No dogs are allowed and children must be accompanied by an adult. New walkers are requested to turn up early for registration purposes. Walk leaders may decide to alter the duration and distance of the walk according to prevailing weather conditions. The walks will be lead by qualified leaders and more information can be obtained by telephoning Peter Knowles Chairman of CRAC on 01639 882470 Details and more on the Cwmafan Residents Action Committee are available on CRAC's Website: [www.crac.btik.com](http://www.crac.btik.com).

BRAG has also now started to build a website for Bryn and plan to put this online in February.



# NEWSLETTER



## BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP

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**Issue Number 003**

**March 2010**

### BRAG Now Has Its Own Webpage.

With information on most subjects that may be of interest to Bryn Residents. So why not log on and find out what is happening in your local community. The webpage address is:

[www.brag-site.btik.com](http://www.brag-site.btik.com)

### Bryn Historical Society.

This project aims to capture the heritage of the Bryn area and make the information available to all interested. The Bryn Historical Society meets on the last Thursday of each month. On the 25th Feb this will be in the Rugby Club.

### Bryn School History Project.

This project is a partnership between Bryn Primary School and the Bryn Historical Society. Feedback on this is to be presented at the Community Centre on the 9th March as part of the St David's event detailed over the page.

### Speed Cameras in Bryn!

Starting in February speed cameras will be operating in all parts of Bryn in response to the many requests received from the residents of Bryn. It's known that most motorists do slow down to below the mandatory 30mph speed limit and many stay below the advisory 20mph limit. Bryn thanks these careful drivers and welcomes them to Bryn. Sadly it is also the case that some drivers are under the delusion that they are too good a driver to hit and kill a child, a parent or grand parent. They need to consider the grief such accidents can cause. Excessive speed in the wrong place does kill. In November two of the village residents and the ward councillors teamed up with the police to monitor the speed of vehicles through the village.



Many motorists, including residents were found to be exceeding the speed limit by

a large margin and were given verbal warnings. The operations in the coming months will be carried out just by the police and fines and penalty points will be issued. Cut your speed and save your licence but far more importantly, avoid the fatal accident which is waiting to happen if you do not slow down.

### January 30<sup>th</sup> 2010 Community Centre Polling Station.

Many people in Bryn were asking why is Bryn Community Centre open for polling today. What elections are taking place? If you follow the link:-

[www.vkr1976.org.uk/index.html](http://www.vkr1976.org.uk/index.html)

you will see the reference to Bryn Community Centre Polling station and also what the event was all about. Bryn was chosen as the "Centre of South Wales", lying between Swansea and Cardiff and just off the M4.

This extract was taken from the site. "Diaspora (dispersal of any group of people for example the Jews) Tamils live in established liberal democratic states with freedom of the press and where the rule of law is invariably observed.

This weekend's referendum in Britain provides us with a chance to prove that the demand for Tamil Eelam is, as it always was, the well reasoned conclusion of rational, free-thinking, independent individuals."

## A Walk Took Place on Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> of February.

The Cwm Walking group had their most successful event ever on Saturday (20th Feb) with a choice of 13 and 5.5 mile walks. No less than 51 people turned out for the walks in beautifully sunlit Afan and Llynfi valleys. More pictures of the day out can be



seen on the CRAC website along with details of future walks. A link to this website can be found under the "links" button on the Bryn (BRAG) website.

## Work Starts on Bryn's own Nature Reserve

At the end of last year a number of news paper articles highlighted how BRAG's proposal to turn the area of land where the old Bryn Navigation Colliery and tip had been into a nature reserve had received planning support from the council who own this land.

After many further discussions by BRAG and the other groups it is working with, such as the bio diversity group, ground works and the forestry, work has now started on the land. See the Bryn web site for full details and updates.

## St David's Event

Our next big celebration is on the **9th of March** at the Bryn Community Centre for our country patron St David.

The programme for this is:

**06:30** Doors Open.

Traditional Welsh Piano Music, by Caroline Davidson.

An opportunity to check out the local history of Bryn, from Roman times to the present.

Partake of the Traditional Welsh Refreshments on sale.

**07:00** Opening Introduction by Graham and Dafydd

**07:10** Enactment of Local Welsh History by Bryn School Children.

**07:40** Anthony Bye & Rhidian James entertain

**08:00** Break for refreshments

**08:20** Traditional Songs and Poetry by Bryn School Children.

**08:30** Traditional readings by Jan Francis-Jones and Allyn Rees

**08:45** St David's Presentation by Dafydd Bowen

**08:55** Sue draws the raffle and closes the evening

BRAG is trying to arrange a community bus for the old age to travel to and from this event. If this is successful we will publish details in the community centre before Tue 9<sup>th</sup> Mar.

## Recent Achievements worth BRAGing about

About 250 people attended the Bryn Christmas event, which was put on as a result of many donations of time, equipment and prizes from the BRAG committee, local businesses, local councillors, Maesteg Gleemen Choir, Bryn Primary School staff and Children, Ken Pearson and friends, Mari Lwyd, Naomi, Santa and more. BRAG was pleased to be able to pass on some of this good will to two very worthy causes. A donation of £50 was made to Bryn Primary school and £25 to the Kidney Dialysis unit.

Another recent event was the presentation by Bryn's own Alan Thomas at the Rugby Club in January where almost 70 people turned up to hear about the history of Bryn.

## Big Lottery Funding

Communicating with the residents of Bryn via these news letter, posters, etc. puts a considerable drain on the funds raised by BRAG which are aimed at projects to enhance life in Bryn. To offset this cost, BRAG applied for Big Lottery Funding to cover such costs for the next year. We are very pleased to announce our success in obtaining this.





# NEWSLETTER



**BRYN  
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## **BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP**

<http://www.bragsite.btik.com/>

**Issue : 004**

**May : 2010**

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### Meeting of the Historical Society.

A well attended meeting took place on Thursday the 25<sup>th</sup> of March at Bryn Rugby and Social Club of the Historical Society. The meeting was chaired by Dafydd Bowen. Dafydd also gave a lecture on The Farms of Bryn 1814 & Farming practices of the time



Above is a Photograph taken at the meeting .

### New Rugby team

The old Bryn rugby team played their last game at the end of the 2002 season. But now in this season 2009/2010 a new young team has risen out of the ashes of the old, fuelled by the enthusiasm of the coaches with the full backing of the Committee. To date the new team have played 18 matches, winning eight and losing 10. On Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> of May the club held a presentation evening for the team. The guest speaker was Shaun Holly. Shaun began playing rugby for a Bryn under 10 side.

### Among the recipients of awards were:

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Club-man of the year  | Michael Fitts.     |
| Captain               | Daniel Elward.     |
| Captain               | Ryan John.         |
| Players Player        | Adam Rowlands      |
| Player of the Year    | Adam Rowlands      |
| Most Promising Player | Daniel Fitzpatrick |

The picture shows James Davies presenting the new kit for next season to Daniel Elward. James is the Managing Director of Fluid Power Solutions Wales who sponsored the Kit.



### Maesteg Pool League House Championship Competition:

Two top players from each team entered a knockout competition over a period of a month. The final was played between two members of the Royal Oak pub team. The winner was Lee Morgan and the runner up was Ryan Edwards.

### **Well Done Boys!!**

### Completion of Boundary Fence.

The boundary fence surrounding the tip redevelopment project has been completed

**The completed section next to the  
Community Centre.**



### The fence in the process of being erected.



There are further improvements in the pipeline with the ultimate aim of making the site of the old tip a focal point of the village. It is proposed that Mountain Bikes be allowed access to the tip. A Bridle Way is also being proposed and if agreed will pass through this area. But access by unauthorised motor vehicles is strictly forbidden.

### WW2 Tea Dance

The Bryn Residents Action Group (BRAG) would like to invite you to a WW2 Tea Dance on Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> of June at The Bryn Community Centre:

- Refreshments (WWII style) and entertainment will be provided.
- Doors open 12:45 pm the event will commence at approximately 2:00 pm.
- As well as various forms of WW2 memorabilia on display, there will be Dance Music and some instruction if required, and also a sing along to popular tunes of the time.
- Relevant theme costumes can be worn if so desired (optional).

## Hypodermic Syringe Needle Found by Children!!

A serious incident occurred here in the village recently which endangers the safety of all the children in the village. A few boys were playing outside the Rugby Club on the opposite side of the road and found a needle of a hypodermic syringe on the floor. Unfortunately they picked it up and played with it, I realise that the knowledge and awareness of the dangers of playing with such things is the responsibility of the parents and the school. But now having been alerted by reading this article of the possibility of other children finding needles and putting themselves in harms way. Can I suggest that we all remain vigilant and aware of such dangers, thus ensuring a safe environment for our children in which to play?

## Litter Pick

Bryn Village is located in a sheltered valley with many natural features, a stream running through it, woodland, grassy meadows and much more. However, the dropping of litter is fast becoming a blot on this beautiful landscape.

BRAG decided that something had to be done, if only for the time being at least to rectify this situation, with this in mind we contacted "Keep Wales Tidy" and the local school with a view to organising a litter pick. As can be seen in the photos below a busy few hours by many helping hands really can make a big difference.



Children from Bryn Primary school picking up litter from the ground near the surgery-



Children picking up litter from the ground behind the community centre.

Although the sign in the background clearly says "No Tipping" it is obvious from the amount of rubbish deposited in this area that many people persist in ignoring its message



It was not just the BRAG committee members and the school who had volunteered to roll up their sleeves to make Bryn a nice place to be. Councillor David Williams can be seen above doing his bit and not just for the camera; he filled more than one bag during the whole exercise



The pile of litter seen above included an old car battery and other items; it was just one of the many piles of rubbish, collected during the day by the school and other volunteers. A council open backed wagon was used to take away the rubbish collected. The amount of rubbish filled the wagon and had to be roped down to keep it all in place. It was estimated to weigh well over half a ton. It just goes to show how hard the volunteers worked during the exercise. Well done every one who took part! Some people in the village had asked why should they pick up other peoples rubbish. They are quite right; people should not just discard their rubbish when they are finished with it. However, once the rubbish has been dropped, if it is not picked up it could remain there for a long time. We should not need to lock our houses and cars but unfortunately we know the consequences that could happen if we do not! If you see people discarding rubbish you should report it just the same as you would report a theft. BRAG has also put pressure on the Council and the Police to address the litter dropped from cars driving along the Maesteg to Port Talbot road. It was good to hear that all the volunteers appeared to have enjoyed the exercise in the fresh air and the improvement to the areas picked was very noticeable. There is still litter about but if every one in the village picked up just one piece of litter a week then a start has been made in tidying up the village. Of course it would be preferable that the litter was not dropped in the first place.



**We are united in our desire to see our village kept tidy at all times and proud to live in such a beautiful area so please do not drop your litter. If there is no rubbish bin in the vicinity take it home with you!**

**Below are some of the views expressed by the children who took part in the litter pick:**

*"I felt a bit sick to see that people throw so much litter on the ground".*

*"It was good fun and nice to help the village but we shouldn't really have to pick up other people's litter. They should just take it home or put it in the bin".*

*"I like to think that I have saved something and made it able for things to grow in the village".*

*"I feel good about the litter pick because we picked up lots of rubbish".*

*"I think the people who throw litter should be thrown in the bin!!"*

*"I could not believe how much rubbish there was in Bryn, but I was glad to clean up all the mess and now Bryn looks nice and tidy".*

*"I felt proud of myself for helping to keep Bryn tidy".*

*"It was shocking how much rubbish we picked up!"*

*"I am not impressed with all the litter around Bryn"*

*"I worked hard for the environment"*

*"It's not nice to see Bryn dirty and polluted"*



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# NEWSLETTER

***BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP***

[www.bragsite.btik.com](http://www.bragsite.btik.com)  
Issue Number 005 July 2010



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## Hypodermic Needles in Bryn.

Graham Rowland, the BRAG Chairman, has had an email from PCSO Shaun Thomas regarding this find. In the email Shaun says, the school has been contacted about the matter, and that he and a colleague have been up in Bryn to check the surrounding areas, especially in the vicinity of the school, for any further evidence of drug taking. They did not come in to contact with any undesirables in the process, but Shaun says that it is important that residents report seeing any suspicious behaviour or vehicles that might possibly be linked to drug taking or drug dealing.

## Disabled Parking

The present practice of allowing disabled motorists to park free of charge in Council-administered off-street car parks have been discontinued throughout the Borough. Parking charges also increase by 10p on the first of July 2010.

## Derelict Site Remains a Blot on the Landscape of Bryn!

Although some remedial work has been carried out to clear up the unsightly mess that comes into view as you approach Bryn from the Port Talbot end, a lot



more remains to be done to improve travellers' first impressions of our village. The ward councillors are working on this issue, which has been raised regularly at the Bryn surgery meetings every second Saturday of the month.

## WW2 TEA DANCE



Above are just some of the people who attended the World War II themed Tea Dance at the Community Centre, they were entertained with musical recordings from the war years such as the Big Band sound of Glen Miller, playing timeless Favourites such as 'In the Mood', 'Chattanooga Choo Choo'. These were followed by recordings of 'We'll Meet Again', 'There'll be Bluebirds over the White Cliffs of Dover' by Dame Vera Lynne (the

forces' sweetheart) and many more.

There was also a Quiz with questions specifically aimed at the War years and raffles with suitable prizes, for example a tin of Spam, Bananas (for banana sandwiches!), Silk Stockings and ration coupons. There was also an opportunity to dance, which a few brave couples did take up and were helped in performing the dances by instructors who were on hand. A few people also arrived in period costume. On display outside was a genuine WW2 Jeep as used by the Americans. The refreshments were what you could expect to eat during the war years, such as Spam and Corned Beef sandwiches (sometimes referred to as Corned Dog) and Bread Pudding. A large amount of Memorabilia was also on display with people able to browse through it at their leisure. Further entertainment was provided by the children's dance group of Bryn Primary School, pictured below.



An enjoyable time seemed to be had by all who attended.

## Gone Fishing

A meeting took place on Wednesday the 23rd June in Bryn, attended, by Jonathan Price the Forestry Ranger, Graham Rowland and Steve Easton to discuss the setting up of two new projects. The first of which was suggested by Steve Easton pictured below.



Specifically Steve proposed the setting up of a Fishing Venue, utilising the existing ponds close to the entrance to the station. This suggestion was viewed favourably by all present but would need further approval. Steve will contact the relevant parties to set up a plan of action. Graham will work with Paul Bulmer and Heather Head to give some extra input to this specific project.

## Get some Exercise!

The second proposal was whether it would be possible to create a designated route through Drysiog forest for walkers. Jonathan did not see any major issues preventing this happening; we will keep you up to date on how both projects are progressing. These projects are good examples of what BRAG is trying to do as a group to improve amenities in our village

## Biodiversity is blooming in Bryn.

BRAG proposes to give the old tip, known by locals as "Amy", a new lease of life with help from Wendy Larcombe, Catrin Evans and Chaela Carrel, all members of the Council's Biodiversity Unit Team, and by doing so create a new community retreat for everyone to enjoy. It is hoped this will raise awareness of the old tip's importance to the village. BRAG is also working with Groundwork to create Interpretation panels, Stone walling and seating areas to make an attractive entrance to the site and a focal point for our village. BRAG Chairman Graham Rowland said "the former coalmine was of historical importance but also of ecological importance as it supports valuable plant life as well as a number of species of birds and animals. Our aim is to sustain its ecology but at the same time provide a community facility". Last year a Biodiversity Blitz day was run by the unit, with local wildlife experts surveying the site and recording all the plants, insects and other animals that were seen. It is intended to run volunteer days to encourage community participation. BRAG is also working with other teams in the Council, through our Conservation Area Scheme. Hopefully this will bring other Authority-owned land under sympathetic management, in order to increase the Biodiversity value of Neath and Port Talbot.



## Bryn Webpage on Wikipedia Expanded!

When the Bryn website was first set up by BRAG a link was added to Wikipedia. The entry for Bryn at the time was merely a few words; it has since expanded considerably and contains many interesting Historical and Present day facts about Bryn. If you wish to access this information, or add to it, log on to the Wikipedia website at the address below. It can also be accessed via a link on BRAG's own Website.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bryn,\\_Neath\\_Port\\_Talbot](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bryn,_Neath_Port_Talbot)

## One year old

BRAG has now been formed for a year and will be planning its first AGM for early October. Full details of this will be provided in the next news letter. This will provide an opportunity for you to become involved with the future of Bryn as well as being able to find out all about what has been achieved in this first year.

## A new editor

Sue Easton, of Coronation Street, will be taking over as editor of this news letter. BRAG thanks Allan Jones for all his hard work in preparing these first five issues of the news letter.



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# NEWSLETTER

***BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP***

[www.brag-site.btik.com](http://www.brag-site.btik.com)



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Issue 006 September 2010

## **Speed Checks in Bryn**

Police carried out speed checks in Bryn on Sunday September 5<sup>th</sup> and reported that 112 cars were checked, with only 3 cars being over the 30mph speed limit (but these were under 35mph). This was in addition to the previous speed checks carried out down by the Royal Oak.

This is good news that people are starting to slow down through the village, making the village safer for all.

## **Top Road between Ynys-y-Gwas and Port Talbot:**

Councillor David Williams reported at the August surgery meeting that work on the top road was still progressing well, contrary to what had been reported in the paper, and is expected to be completed in early October. When the top road is re-opened, the Goytre road is to be closed for urgent repairs to be carried out.

## **20mph signs outside Bryn School**

The speed limit signs have now been erected 150 yds from the school gates, reminding the vehicles coming down the hill. Hopefully this will slow the large vehicles using this road to be mindful of our children especially at the start and end of the school day

## **Portacabin and Petrol Station**

The portacabin by the Old Petrol Station has now been cleared.

Councillor David Williams has received a letter from Environmental Health requesting progress on the petrol station and the owner of the property has been informed that action will be taken if nothing is done about it.

## **Disused railway tunnels**

Some of the disused railway tunnels in the valleys are under consideration to be re-opened and used as cycle tracks or footpaths. The Bryn to Maesteg (Cwmcerwyn) tunnel is one that is being assessed, and this is an Assembly project that is being led by Dr Brian Gibbons, our AM.



## **Bryn Nature reserve**

BRAG's chair, Graham Rowland, has had further meetings with Groundworks to plan the next stages of the development of the Bryn Nature reserve. The work for this is expected to start some time in September. Discussions are also ongoing with the forestry to establish way marked walks from this location.

## **Bryn fishing pond update**



Paul Rees, (pictured) one of the Corus surveying team who kindly donated their time to survey the proposed area has discovered that, unfortunately, the proposed area for the pond is a little too hilly to be viable. However a second site has been earmarked and efforts are being made to pinpoint the owner of the land which is located a little way along the old railway track, at the end of Cwm Farteg. Any other possible location suggestions would be greatly appreciated. These can be fed back via the website

## **First AGM for BRAG**

The first AGM of BRAG is scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> October; this will be held in the Bryn Community Centre at 7pm.

The agenda is to include:

- Opening Speech by BRAG Chair
- Statement of accounts by BRAG Treasurer
- Summary of BRAG's first year
- Formation of committee for 2011
- Information relating to Bryn from your councillors, including the latest information on the LDP (do not forget, any feedback on the LDP proposals

must be submitted before 30th Sep 2010)

- Your Community Police Force
- Groundwork's contribution to Bryn
- Further information about the AGM can be found on our website.
- Proposals for the AGM that have been received will be put to the floor at the AGM.

What do YOU need to do?

- Consider becoming part of the BRAG committee or Historical Society again by notifying Sue or via the web site.
- Turn up at the AGM to show your support and obtain the latest update on issues effecting the village

Hope to see you all there.

### **New Website for BRAG**

BRAG has a new website; the existing site will no longer be operational after October. The existing site has a link to the new site on the homepage, along with an explanation as to why the site has been moved. Please do check out our new site and use the facility on the site for to leave feedback.

The new website is full of interesting information and articles about what is happening in the area and is becoming a very useful reference site for information relating to Bryn.

Peter, our webmaster, has put a lot of hard work into moving the site. As well as adding the content from the old site he has added lots of new materials. The new web address for BRAG is

[www.bryn-porttalbot.btck.co.uk/](http://www.bryn-porttalbot.btck.co.uk/)

### **The Rotary club of Maesteg sponsors Bryn RFC**



Maesteg Rotary club president Viv Gage, who lives in Bryn, presents team captain Scott Morris with Bryn RFC shorts to commemorate the Rotary Club's sponsorship of our rugby team for this season. Full details of this event can be found on our website.

### **A Big Thank you**

The BRAG Committee would like to thank Steve Jenkins for providing us with detailed drawings of the proposed picnic area opposite the Royal Oak pub, it is very much appreciated.

### **Bryn Heritage Society dates for your diary Autumn 2010**

**Venue:** Bryn Wanderers Rugby club at 7.30pm.

#### **Thursday September 30<sup>th</sup>**

Ms Harriet Eaton  
Voices from the south Wales coalfield.

#### **Thursday October 28th**

Mr. John Adams  
The Talbots of Margam Park

#### **Thursday November 25<sup>th</sup>**

Mr. David Lewis  
The Maesteg iron Industry.

#### **Thursday December 30<sup>th</sup>**

Mr. Daf Bowen  
Photographs from the Bryn Heritage Society Archives.

### **PCSO Shaun Thomas**

BRAG are sending a letter of thanks to the Police Inspector about the excellent co-operation of our PCSO Shaun Thomas. He has done an excellent job within the village.

### **Community centre area**

Councillor Marian Lewis is looking into the possibility of renovating the toilet block near the community centre; The Councilor is seeking a grant for this from Neath Port Talbot council.

It has been proposed that a barrier be installed between the surgery and the community centre, as children are cycling through the gap and jumping off the wall into the pedestrian access. This is being put to the council by Councillor Marian Lewis.

There is concern about council owned land to the rear of the community centre. It is felt that the area is turning into an eyesore. Councillor Lewis is to discuss this with the planning department.

### **Community Centre underutilised**

A call for suggestions for the better use of the community centre has been launched, suggestions are needed...e.g. coffee mornings, bingo, mother and toddler group, volunteers would also be very welcome please feedback to the webpage

### **Editors note**

Any articles you feel should be included in the next newsletter should be sent to  
Suzanna.easton1@gmail.com



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# NEWSLETTER



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## ***BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP***

[www.brag-site.btik.com](http://www.brag-site.btik.com)

Issue 007 November 2010

## **BEAST OF BRYN**

### **Picnic area opposite the Royal Oak**

The Groundworks Community gateways officer, Gail Devine, has sent us the plans for the proposed picnic area; groundworks have been carrying out projects for 21 years, and have been kind enough to plan our project for the picnic area for Bryn.



The picture (above) shows what the picnic area will look like when the project is completed.

### **Fishing pond update**

Cwm Wenderi farm has shown a lot of interest in developing a fishery in the area. This will be based on a commercial course fishery with the exception of fishing club members who will benefit from free fishing. Planning permission is being sought with the help of Councillor David Williams

### **A big Thank you**

Brag would like to say thank you to Royden Rogers, a local builder, and his son Wayne (pictured below), for repairing the walls to the Bryn community centre, these were in a state of disrepair and Roy and Wayne have kindly fixed them for us, it is much appreciated.



## **BWYSTEIL Y BRYN**

### **The old Petrol Station**

There seems to be very little progress on the demolition of the old petrol station, despite numerous attempts to get the issue resolved, this has been an ongoing issue for many months now, and really does need to be resolved.

### **Talk on the Talbots**

There was a talk on the Talbots that lived in Margam Park by John Adams; this was held in the Bryn Rugby club on October 28<sup>th</sup>. The evening was a success, with approx 50 people attending; a wonderful evening was had by all.



These images represent the evening of the talk.



### **Bryn Rugby club**

The Bryn Rugby Club has started to refurbish their toilets, Phase one has now been completed and a new disabled toilet has been built to a very high standard, phase two is due to start shortly, with a complete refurbishment of the ladies toilets. These pictures are of the new disabled toilets.





**Dog fouling**

It has been brought to the attention of the police that dogs are fouling in the area and owners are not cleaning up their mess, this is decreasing the quality of life for a lot of our residents. This will not be tolerated and any dog owner found to be allowing this to happen we have been told they will be prosecuted. Leaflets about this issue are to be distributed throughout the village, any resident that witnesses this happening can contact PCSO Shaun Thomas directly, his number at the foot of the newsletter. Thank you

**Vandalism to school property**

There have been incidents where youths have been using the school grounds in the evening time, these children are climbing the gate and cutting the wire fences to get into the grounds, causing a danger to themselves and others, while in the grounds they are causing damage to school property, this kind of behaviour is not acceptable, the police have been made aware of the situation. If any person knows anything, or witnesses any incidents involving the school grounds please contact our PCSO Shaun Thomas, his number is at the bottom of this page.

**Blooming Marvellous**

Two residents from Bryn were successful in the local authorities gardening competition, Dafydd Bowen (pictured below) won the Borough in bloom large garden section, and he also came second in the residential wildlife section.



Margaret and Ray Stratford (pictured below) gained second place in the Council area garden section.



**Christmas event in Bryn**

Father Christmas will be visiting Bryn on December 9<sup>th</sup>, the children from Bryn primary school will be singing Christmas carols along with father Christmas, they will be visiting streets around the village before arriving back at the community Centre where there will be a grotto for children to meet Santa and there will be further entertainments, after the success of last years Christmas event this should be a very enjoyable family evening for all, with lots of Christmas fun to get you into the Christmas spirit.



**The Beast of Bryn**

There is a planned half marathon for Bryn in 2011, this poster (below) is available to view on our website with details on the proposed run, , more details will follow in the future as plans progress.



**CONTACT NUMBER**

**PCSO Shaun Thomas can be contacted on 07584771275 for any Non emergencies.**