



# BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP NEWSLETTER

BRYN: A NICE PLACE TO BE / BRYN: LLE DEDWYDD I FOD Issue #020 February 2013

**SNOW TIME:** A panoramic view from Bryngurnos Street.



## Snowy start!



Welcome to the first newsletter of 2013 and, while it might be February already, I'd like to take this opportunity

to wish you all a Happy New Year.

There is a LOT going on in the village at the moment, as these packed pages will attest to.

And now that the unexpected burst of snowy weather has melted away, we can look forward to what I'm sure will be a fantastic spring.

## Mark

Email: [markreesbrag@gmail.com](mailto:markreesbrag@gmail.com)  
Twitter: @reviewwales

## Preserving our coal mining heritage

**BRAG have received a £4,800 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to research the coal industry, and the historical impact that it has had on the area.**

This exciting project will be called *Coal Coal Our Country Needs Coal*. It will provide financial support to the local school, allowing them to buy equipment and to further educate the children with visits to museums and historical sites, as well as being able to arrange presentation nights for the whole village to enjoy.

From the OS maps of the last century, it is clear that Bryn was honeycombed with coal resources. From as early as 1250 monks from Margam Abbey were exploiting coal



resources in the area, and the 18th century saw a boom in local mining, resulting in the creation of a railway and a significant increase in the population.

BRAG President Graham Roland said: "It is a massive opportunity for us to gather all this valuable information, and to store it for the benefit of future generations."

## One small step for Bryn...

**Pupils of Bryn Primary School, as well as the rest of the village, have a unique piece of space-age memorabilia to treasure thanks to a donation from Steve Easton.**

Steve salvaged a copy of the Daily Telegraph (pictured) dated July 21, 1969, from being shredded thanks to

his brother who works in a paper recycling plant in Swansea. The paper runs with the story about the historic moon landing.

Steve said: "I'm sure Mrs Francis will put it to good use for future generations of pupils at Bryn Primary school."



# GET IN TOUCH!

Email the editor: [markreesbrag@gmail.com](mailto:markreesbrag@gmail.com)

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



# BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP NEWSLETTER



## Useful Contacts

The local councillors are there to help. If you have any maintenance concerns drop them a line:

### LOCAL COUNCILLORS:

**Councillor Marian Lewis**  
01639 632324 / 07974656124 (mob)  
mlewisfarm@aol.com

**Councillor David Williams**  
01639 896999 / 07843255446 (mob)  
Cllr.d.whitelock@npt.gov.uk

### LOCAL POLICE:

**Christopher Doyle**  
Christopher.Doyle@  
south-wales.pnn.police.uk

**Sean Williams**  
07584770991  
Sean.Williams@  
south-wales.pnn.police.uk

## Bryn AGM

The BRAG AGM will be held in the village hall on Tuesday, February 26, 6.30pm, to review the accounts and activities over the last 17 months.

The period has been extended this year to move us towards an April to April financial year.

Recent success stories include:

- The Bryn Beast race and fun day
- Two Christmas events
- Two Halloween events
- Seating area at the nature reserve
- Daffodil planting
- Litter pics
- Regular news letters
- Guided walks
- Community Broadband scheme
- ...and much more!

BRAG has some big plans lined-up for the future, and if you'd like to help keep Bryn a nice place to be then please put your name forward to join the committee.

## Richard Burton Run

Not content with merely organising the hugely popular Beast of Bryn run, BRAG will now be helping their friends in Cwmavon by organising the upcoming Richard Burton run.

This historic race promises to be a wonderful event, and should be a huge boost to the village and the surrounding areas.



## Coal tip is a nature reserve

The old Bryn coal tip has officially been declared a nature reserve. While this doesn't rule out the potential return of coal mining to the village, it does make the prospect less desirable to any potential developers.

Also, BRAG has secured a donation from Keep Wales Tidy to work with Ground Works and the school in developing a natural rockery next to the seating area for the new reserve.

## Village victory

The planning objections raised to the heavy wagons going past the school has been successful after a coordinated campaign organised by BRAG along with the petition signatures from the village.

## Miners memory

Plans for the miners memorial are still progressing, with the planning being discussed with the Council.

## Actors road

The road to the Goytre has now been officially named Fford Owen Jones, in memory of the Bryn-born actor.

## Broadband update

Bryn has had approval for Welsh Assembly funding for the Broadband upgrade to the village.

ResQ have been the successful supplier and are now under way in installing broadband into the village.

If you have not yet returned your acceptance form back to the Welsh Assembly then you need to do so quickly as the Welsh Government have agreed to be flexible on the original return date in recognition of the difficulties caused by the snow.

If you did not put an application in but would now like to, it is unfortunately too late for the community application but you may just possibly be able to put in a personal application. See the website for details.

## Snow? Andrew to the rescue!

As difficult as it was go anywhere in the snow, it would have been even harder without the help of good samaritan Andrew Moore, who jumped in his tractor to clear the way. A HUGE thank you, Andrew!

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**BRYN  
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# NEWSLETTER

## BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP

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**BRYN  
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FOD**

Issue 21: May 2013

### Bwystfil y-Bryn

Last year the Bryn Beast (Bwystfil y Bryn) was enjoyed by far more than just the runners despite the terrible weather. Bryn will once again be hosting this 3rd event on the 1st June. Final plans for the race are now being finalised, the children's rides have been booked and the number of people applying to run the Bryn beast is again higher than at this time last year. Lowri Morgan the famous ultra-distance runner has again booked her place to run this year alongside many more great athletes. S4C have also confirmed they will be filming the race again this year.

There is a full agenda planned, starting this year with a Bwystfil y-Bryn Eve Concert on Friday, May 31st 2013, featuring the Maesteg Gleemen Welsh Choir. This will start at 7pm at the Bryn Rugby Club, Admission is Free, Food and Drinks will be available at the bar, Bingo & Raffle during the interval. Make the most of this chance to meet old friends and make new friends.

On Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> June, the current agenda for the day is as follows although all times are subject to change as dictated by circumstances on the day.

- 10:00 - Registration opens in the village hall where Heritage Displays and Refreshments will also be available.
- 12:15-Marshals Meeting (Royal Oak)
- 12:30-Runners Brief (Community Centre)
- 13:10 - 2K Race Warm Up (Start Area Outside Royal Oak)
- 13:20 - Mr. Ian Hobson representing Tata) Opens the Event

- 13:25 - Brass Band Starts Playing.
- 13:30 - Lowri Morgan Jones Starts the 2K Race
- 13:45 - Brass Band Finishes Playing
- 13:50 - Warm up for the 6.8 and 15 Mile Races
- 13:55 - Di Botcher Speaks Before Starting the Race.
- 14:00 - Choir Starts Singing as the Main Race Starts.

The Race will finish with a lap of honour around the Bryn Recreation Field. Supporters will move to this location once the race is under way.

Further family entertainment will be laid on in and around the recreation field. This will include:

Food and refreshments from a licensed bar, BBQs, Hog Roasts, Sweet stalls, etc.

Bucking Bronco, Bouncy Castles, Gladiator Suits, Ten Pin Bowling, Inflatable Activity Course, Enchanted Castle, Face Painting, etc.

Exhibitions provided by Tata Steel, Harsco and other sponsors. This will include some very heavy machinery as used in the Port Talbot Steel Works.

Stalls will also provide side attractions include the sale of our first Bwystfil y-Bryn 2014 Calendars showing the exquisite scenery on our door step.

There will also be music for all tastes provided by at least five different bands.

Presentations will be made by guests of honour to the competitors and event supporters.

All athletes participating in the 6.8 and 15 mile races will be entered into

a grand draw prize including a ladies and gents mountain bike which will take place during the post-race party. Athletes have to be present during the prize draw to claim the prize! If the athlete is not present, the prize will be re-drawn. This will commence at the end of the prize giving ceremony.

The Partying will go on into the evening.

Check out our "what's on" page on the village web site for the latest information on the Bryn Beast weekend.

### Picnic area Rockery

As a joint project with the school, Ground Works, BRAG and Keep Wales Tidy, The picnic benches, opposite the Royal Oak, have now been complemented with the addition of a rockery containing heathers that are natural to the area



### Broadband in Bryn

ResQ are now on their way to fully installing and upgrading the Broadband link to Bryn and other local villages. Hundreds of extra houses have now been connected to the ResQ broadband service under the Welsh Government scheme.

The faster backhaul link was installed at the start of May in and this should have greatly improved everyone's service. They continued tuning the

individual links over the rest of May to provide further improvement and to resolve possible problems on individual links that may have been masked before by the slow backhaul. They are also upgrading the bandwidth of their connection to the Internet at Swansea which should further improve the actual Internet services.

Once all this work is complete, which they expect to do by the end of May, they will then be in a position to start rolling out the phone service enabling people to cancel their land lines and save money as well as having a greatly improved broadband service.

If anyone is still seeing a poor service or have any other questions, they should let support@resq.co.uk know.

### **Fire Safety**

In March, BRAG placed a FIRE SAFETY CHECK poster on the Bryn Web site with a link from the home page. Recent articles in the Media have emphasised the importance of protecting your home against fire. If you have any concerns, you can arrange a free home check now by calling 01656 727800.

They will visit you and talk you through Fire Safety and how they can help you make your home safer in the event of a fire. A visit will take up to 30 min and could make a significant difference to the safety of your home. See the poster on the web site or the BRAG notice board outside the community centre for full details.

### **Surgery with the Councillors**

The Surgery with the Councillors is now on the first Saturday of every other month. The next surgery will be in July in the Bryn Community Centre. These meetings are no longer facilitated by BRAG as BRAG have additional meetings with the Councillors on an as need basis and it was felt by the Councillors that these surgeries can now be better used to meet villagers on a one to one basis to address personal concerns.

### **Bryn Guided Walks**

Last year BRAG ran a number of guided walks that were enjoyed by all

those taking part as reported in past newsletters. When summer does finally arrive, BRAG plan to resume these walks. If you have suggestions for routes and would like to take part, contact your local BRAG committee member.

### **Additions to the Village web site**

Our web master is continually adding to the information on the Bryn web site. The section on "Bryn Past and Present" continues to build on the history of the area and the "What on" section provides details of events coming up in the area. This includes activities at the Royal Oak and the Bryn Rugby Club as well as local events such as at the moment there are things for the kids in Margam Park as well as Bug Life. Peter is always keen to add information from visitors to the site so do feel free to contribute.

### **Coal our Country Needs Coal School Project**

As outlined in past BRAG Newsletters, BRAG and the school were successful in obtaining Big Lottery Funding for this school project which is now under way.

In brief, the project covers:

Why the coal in Bryn is so good for the metal industry.

School walks to Bryn mining sites.

A Trip to Big Pit & Afan Argoed Mining Museums.

Research into the local metal industries, copper and iron making (where and who owned). Why was copper so important? Why was iron making so popular in our area? Who mined this mineral and where did they come from?

A visit to the maritime museum and copper industries in Swansea, also look at the copper industry in Cwmavon and Port Talbot. Look at the local iron industry Cwmavon, Port Talbot and Maesteg.

The children will then make a presentation to the village.

The photo below shows the children on their field trip to Big Pit in May.



Memorabilia sessions have also been held both in the school and the village hall to help capture information for this project.

### **Good Friday Fun**

Gail Divine and Gareth McNeil did a fantastic job, last Good Friday, entertaining the village children

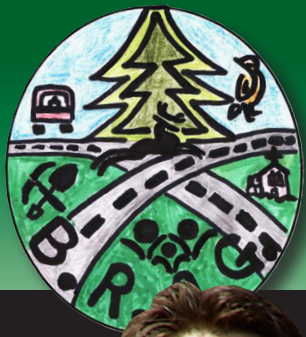


They provided games, an Easter Egg for each child, food and drink and a bouncy castle.



Rhianna Thomas-Rastaitis, 6, and brother Alistair, 3 at the Easter hunt during the fun day children were hunting for squirrels and other soft toys outside Bryn Community Centre.

**Anyone with articles, news or anything interesting please contact [markreesbrag@gmail.com](mailto:markreesbrag@gmail.com) we love to hear from people in our community.**



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BRYN: A NICE PLACE TO BE / BRYN: L... WDD | FOD Issue #022 August 2013



Gareth Ayres celebrates winning the 15 mile race for a consecutive year



## Fun run? The Beast of Bryn was finally a

# SUN RUN!

It was certainly a case of third time lucky for the annual Beast of Bryn race as the sun donned its hat and served up a stunning day for running...and partying!

The event, which has been rain-drenched in previous years, was widely featured in the local media, including S4C, newspapers and the Tata Steel SA13 newsletter.

Following some fantastic tunes from the Tata Brass Band, Lowri Morgan Jones got the action started with the popular 2K Race.

This was followed by a rousing rendition of the national anthem led by Anthony Bye, before Port Talbot actress Di Botcher kicked off the main race.

Running aside, a packed day of family entertainment was on offer, including a bucking bronco, bouncy castle, gladiator suits and ten pin bowling. Varied live music played late into the night, and the mayor was on hand to congratulate the runners.

For more pictures, visit the village website.



## Return of the Bryn Guided Walks

Time to get the walking boots on - BRAG has resumed its guided walks!

The photo opposite was taken on the June walk, and more photos can be found in the ramblers section of the village web site.

If you have suggestions for routes and would like to take part, contact your local BRAG committee member.



## Picnic area popularity

During the hot sunny weather it was good to see this area proving so popular with both visitors and local residents.

But the dryness did call for a bit of first aid from BRAG chairman Graham Rowlands, who watered the rockery plants every day.

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## Surgery with the Councillors

Surgery with the Councillors is now on the first Saturday of every other month. The next surgery will be Saturday, September 7, in the community centre.

The first point-of-call for all issues, such as street lights not working or drains needing clearing, should be the council on: (01639) 686 868 or email [contactus@npt.gov.uk](mailto:contactus@npt.gov.uk)

Routine issues are normally handled quickly, but if you still need to contact the councillors about issues such as services from your council, road conditions, policing, recycling, etc. their contact details are:

### Marian A Lewis

[cllr.m.a.lewis@npt.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.m.a.lewis@npt.gov.uk)  
Tel: 07974 656124

### David Whitelock

[cllr.d.whitelock@npt.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.d.whitelock@npt.gov.uk)  
Tel: 07843 255446

### David Williams

[cllr.i.d.williams@npt.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.i.d.williams@npt.gov.uk)  
Tel: 07967 489151

## Broadband improvements

ResQ are continuing to develop the local broadband service, while BT have also been improving their service in the area.

Following a recent issue with the ResQ service, a representative said: "The initial problem was the fibre feed supplied by our wholesaler went down. This meant nearly all the customers in your area were off-line. Although we have quite a strict SLA with the supplier they failed to repair the line within the terms of our agreement. We are at the beginning of improvements to the network. We are looking to complete these changes before the end of August."

Further queries contact:  
[support@resq.co.uk](mailto:support@resq.co.uk)

## Ride the Dragon!



BRAG's Graham Rowlands and Jonathan Price from the Forestry Comision next to a route marker

Easy? Not always. Possible? Certainly. Enjoyable? Without doubt! The Great Dragon Ride, a national ride which connects northern and southern Wales, will be heading through Bryn this year. Designed on existing bridleways, byways and quiet lanes, the 472km (293 miles) ride will run through the Bryn Nature Reserve and on to Margam. Details of the full route can be found at [www.emagin.org](http://www.emagin.org). Plans are also underway for a new walk that will lead from the Bryn Nature Reserve, along the riverside and up to Drysiog Farm ruins, one of the largest and possibly earliest farms in the valley.

## Coming soon...

Keep an eye on the web site and the BRAG notice board outside the village hall for the latest information on what is happening in and around Bryn.

- A charity football match will be played on **Saturday, August 17**, followed by a live band at the Bryn Rugby Club to raise funds for the family of Anthony (Bones) Jones. Details from Gus Jones.
- A charity golf day will be held for the same cause on **Saturday, August 10**. Details from Anthony James
- A section of the Bryn Beast race circuit is to be named in honour of Anthony Jones.
- A Presentation evening is to be held in the Royal Oak on **Saturday, September 14**, to present the money raised by the Beast of Bryn to the nominated charities. This will include food, guest beers and music.
- A summer play scheme is underway at Bryn Park, and will run **until Friday, August 30**. Play schemes are open access which means children are free to come and go. Children under 5 must be accompanied. For more information call 873004.  
Mon, Wed and Fri 13:45 to 15:45  
Tue and Thu 10:30 to 12:30.
- The Richard Burton 10K Road Race, one of the UK's most prestigious road races which year after year attracts some of the top UK running club athletes, returns **Sunday, November 3**. A link to register is on the village website.

Got an event or news for the next newsletter? Email: [markreesbrag@gmail.com](mailto:markreesbrag@gmail.com)

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# BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP NEWSLETTER

BRYN: ... BE / BRYN: LLE DEDWYDD | FOD Issue #023 October 2013



**Much needed money:** Anna Tobin of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust receives a cheque for £2,100 from main sponsor Tata Steel's Keith Farron at the Royal Oak, Bryn

## ALL FOR A GOOD CAUSE!

**There was song and celebrations late into the night as the Royal Oak pub hosted another hugely successful Bwystfil y-Bryn (Beast of Bryn) charity presentation evening.**

The Cystic Fibrosis Trust were the main benefactrices of the thousands of pounds raised, while significant donations were made to Mind, Singleton Ward, Bryn School, the Sea Cadets and

the Army Cadets. And of course, not forgetting the countless other charities that benefitted from donations from the individual fundraising runners who took part in the annual charity run.

BRAG Chairman Graham Roland also gave special thanks to the sponsors, whose support make the event possible. *Visit the BRAG website for more photos.*

Got something to tell us about?  
Get in touch!  
We love to hear from the community.



Email Mark with any thoughts, ideas, musings or suggestions at: [markreesbrag@gmail.com](mailto:markreesbrag@gmail.com)

Mark

### Boo! Trick or treat?



Ghostly games and spooky animal activities will be on offer at the BRAG Halloween Night, Bryn Community Centre, Friday, November 1. Full details to follow on the noticeboard and flyers, including times and a potential disco.

### The road to Goytre

So far BRAG have not had a reply from the councillors on what work was done during the six week road closure but it appears to have been drainage work with a number of pipes laid under the road to drain rain water from the hills.

### Bryn Nature Reserve

The Biodiversity group plan to put a sign at the entrance of the nature reserve, and will be carrying out further scrub clearances in the area.

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## Surgery with the councillors

The wind farm at Foel Trawsnant was the main topic of discussion at last months surgery (see below for details). The next surgery will be on November, Saturday 2, in the Bryn Community Centre.

In the meantime, to report any issues such as street lights not working, drains needing clearing, etc. the council can be contacted on: **(01639) 686 868** or email **contactus@npt.gov.uk**.

For issues such as services from your council, road conditions, policing and recycling. the local councillors can be contacted on:

### Marian A Lewis

cllr.m.a.lewis@npt.gov.uk  
Tel: 07974 656124

### David Whitelock

cllr.d.whitelock@npt.gov.uk  
Tel: 07866 763888

### David Williams

cllr.i.d.williams@npt.gov.uk  
Tel: 07967 489151

## Wind farm proposal

Pennant Walters (Holdings) Ltd. are proposing installing a wind farm at Foel Trawsnant, as notified in a letter to the residents of Bryn. BRAG attended the information days and have researched the proposal online. Below is a summary of our findings:

- The turbines will have an output of up to 2.5MW and a height of 115M to the tip of the turbines.
- A scoping report provided information on how visible the turbines would be, noise levels, impact on the environment and wildlife and proposed access routes.
- BRAG enquired about shadow flicker, health and safety etc., but until the exact technology has been decided on the company were unable to answer specific questions.

There is a lot more wind farm information online, such as a map of the areas approved by the Welsh Government, including land far closer to Bryn than the current proposal.

## Bryn's art attack!



Isn't it amazing what you can do with a lick of paint? Well done to all the talented local youngsters who joined in with the supervised graffiti project this summer - the photo above shows them hard at work. The completed design is now on display...

## Local development

A draft of the Local Development Plan is now available for comment, with consultation ending at midnight, Tuesday, October 15.

The deposit consultation is an important stage of the LDP as at this point the council sets out the planning policy for the next 15 years, identifying what can be built and where. It is also your opportunity to voice your opinion. The plan sets out:

- **Key policies** • **Area based policies for development** • **Major allocations of land, including housing and employment** • **Proposals for the protection of sensitive areas** • **A proposals map**

All documents are available online or in-print at any of the local libraries. During the consultation alternative sites can put forward, and later this year the council will carry out a further period of consultation. After the consultation, the Deposit LDP will be submitted to the Welsh Government.

Documents within the plan that include Bryn or ground around Bryn are:

- **The Settlement Protection Zone** • **Safeguarded minerals** • **Margam** • **Margam Mountain**

## Successful scheme

The Summer Play Scheme has been hailed as a huge success from the organisers and those who attended.

## Future village events

Keep an eye on the village web site and the BRAG notice board outside of the village hall for the latest information.

- **BRYN HISTORICAL SOCIETY** will be starting a new series of presentations. Information on these will be in the what's on section of the Bryn Village website as well as posters around the village. These will take place on the last Thursday of each month, starting November 28.

- This year's **CHRISTMAS PANTO**, "Tinsel Tales", will take place on Saturday, December 7. Performed by Likely Story Theatre, the same group as last year, it was booked through the Night Out scheme.

- Natalie Fletcher has been in touch about promoting the **HEARTY LIVES** project. To find out more contact Natalie on Natalie@nptcvs.org.uk or phone 01639 631387.

- Further **GUIDED WALKS** have been requested for late autumn. Watch out for dates as these become available.

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BRYN: A NICE PLACE TO BE / BRYN: LLE DEDWYDD I FOD Issue #024 December 2013

## BRYN XMAS • SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7



### Richard's Run

BRAG teamed-up with their Cwmafan counterparts last month to host the hugely successful Burton 10k, a sister run to our very own Bwystfil-y-Bryn.

With more runners than ever before, the event, named in memory of the Pontrhydyfen acting legend, attracted over 500 runners, and best of all it encouraged school children of all ages to give it a go through the "Go Run for Fun" initiative.

It was initially announced earlier this year that the race would be cancelled, but luckily BRAG chairman Graham Rowland stepped in at the 11th hour to save the day and ensure that the historical 30-year-old event continued.

"The retiring committee have done a fantastic job," said Mr Tobin afterwards, who had been a part of the original committee.

"I want to keep the race as it is and we don't want to forget the original people who started it up."

The race was sponsored by many local companies, including Tata Steel.



## Christmas Magic!

### BRYN XMAS TIMES

#### 5.00pm: Santa sets off!

Santa, accompanied by Rudolph, sets off on his sleigh from Bryn Primary School for a tour of the village...handing out sweets along the way!

#### 6.00pm - 6.45pm: Gifts in the Grotto

Santa arrives at his Grotto in Bryn Community Centre. Kids can meet Santa, and even get a special Xmas gift!

#### 6.15pm: O Come, All Ye Faithful

Anthony Bwye will lead a medley of much-loved carols for all to join in on.

#### 7pm: It's Panto Time!

*Mulled wine and mince pies served all evening.*

He's behind you! It's panto time again, and this year's festive showpiece will be the charming *Tinsel Tales* by Likely Story Theatre.

The theatre group, armed with buckets of energy, will sprinkle their special blend of festive jolliness on some of the best stories ever told, including *Three Little Pigs* and *Billy Goats Gruff*. See the flyer with this newsletter for details.

And if that wasn't enough to get you in the festive mood, there'll also be a visit from Santa, gifts in the grotto, a good old-fashioned carol singalong, topped off with some yummy mince pies - and some mulled wine for the mams and dads!

## The Royal Oak's Ruby Celebration!

Friday the 13th might be unlucky for some, but certainly not for those in charge of Bryn's Royal Oak who celebrate 40 years at the helm of the pub on that very date this December. Huge congratulations to Diane, Ryan and Sarah Edwards, who initially took out the licence in 1973. Happy 40th!



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• **Marian A Lewis**

cllr.m.a.lewis@npt.gov.uk

Tel: 07974 656124

• **David Whitelock**

cllr.d.whitelock@npt.gov.uk

Tel: 07866 763888

• **David Williams**

cllr.i.d.williams@npt.gov.uk

Tel: 07967 489151

The council number is: (01639) 686 868 or you may prefer to email them at [contactus@npt.gov.uk](mailto:contactus@npt.gov.uk)



## Extra Daffodils

BRAG has received a further donation of daffodil bulbs which will be planted ready for spring. Last years daffs did a great job of brightening up the village, and adding the same amount again should double the colour!

## LDP (Local Development Plan)

In the last issue, BRAG provided an update on this plan. On the NPT web site Cllr. Anthony J. Taylor has provided a summary of what happens next. A brief outline of this is as follows:

Whilst the consultation on the Deposit LDP is now closed, the Plan and all supporting documentation remain available to view on the NPT web site. Over the next few weeks all of the comments received will be placed on the website. In due course, copies of the comments will also be made available for public inspection at Port Talbot Civic Centre and all of the libraries across the County Borough. During the consultation, individuals have put forward 'Alternative Sites'. These have included the suggestion of new sites, a changed or altered site or the deletion of a site previously allocated in the Deposit Plan. Alternative Sites are therefore not sites proposed by the Council. Later this year, the Council will carry out a further period of consultation on the 'Alternative Sites' that have been put forward for you to have the opportunity to make comments. For more information, you can contact the LDP Team on 01639 686421 or e-mail: [ldp@npt.gov.uk](mailto:ldp@npt.gov.uk)

## The nightmare before Christmas...

Boo! The ghouls and ghosts were out in force this Halloween (including a particularly fierce looking werewolf!) to enjoy two spine-chilling events in the village. On Halloween itself a disco was laid on by the BRAG team, with prizes awarded for best costumes and lanterns. While on all Saints' Day, a "Beastly Bryn" event was staged in the community centre, which included den building, games and spooky animal activities.

## Wind Farm latest

As reported, Pennant Walters (Holdings) Ltd. are proposing installing a Wind Farm at Foel Trawsnant as notified via a letter to the residents of Bryn. BRAG have further researched the proposal online and by attending the information days, and this has brought other proposals for energy and mineral resources to our attention. Following meetings with local assembly member David Rees and regional assembly member Suzy Davies, we've been updated on what they know about any developments that may affect Bryn in the future, although no actual plans have been submitted at present.

## Swansea Lagoon

A number of presentations on this proposal have been made throughout the area. Paul Bulmer on behalf of BRAG went along to a presentation at Morfa Stadium and came away very impressed. The proposal will not only generate renewable energy in a predictable way but will also be a tourist attraction and provide a safe area for water sports. It was also stated how this could be the first of many around the British coast and could provide new opportunities for Welsh businesses.

## Bryn Nature Reserve

The Biodiversity group invited the residents of Bryn to join Neath Port Talbot Council and Buglife at Bryn Tip Local Nature Reserve on the 28th of November to help them manage the site for wildlife.

They removed scrub to maintain the open structure of the species rich grassland for the benefit of a range of invertebrates such as bees and butterflies. They also created habitat piles for invertebrates and reptiles with the brush.

## Future Village Events

Keep an eye on the Village web site and the BRAG notice board outside of the village hall for the latest information on what is happening in and around the village.

Bryn Historical Society will be starting a new series of presentations. As always, information on these will be in the what's on section of the Bryn Village website as well as posters around the village. These will take place on the last Thursday of each month.

# GET IN TOUCH!

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