



BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP NEWSLETTER

BRYN: A NICE PLACE TO BE / BRYN: LLE DEDWYDD | FOD Issue #035 March 2016



GREAT CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

Just before last Christmas, on Tuesday the 22nd December, Santa came to Bryn Community Centre, after first touring the village with his Elves and handing out sweets for the children who braved the torrential rain to come and see him. Santa also brought his theatre team, "Circo Rum Ba Ba" who presented Dress UP for Christmas. Those attending were entertained not just by the theatre team but also the many children and parents who got



up and joined the theatre team in showing off their hidden theatrical talents.

In what has now become a Bryn Christmas Tradition, Anthony Bwye led a medley of much-loved traditional carols for all to join in.

As the audience left, many approached the BRAG team to say what a really great evening it had been and how it had entertained all ages.

Burton Presentation

After the very successful event on Sunday 1st November, which saw thousands of people descend on Cwmavon, the money raised will be presented to local charities at the Tata Training Academy. The date for this presentation is to be announced by Tata soon and will be publicised once known.

Don't forget: Report crime!

Since the last newsletter, there has been an increase in garage burglaries and car crime in Bryn, such as a car windscreen being smashed in order to steel a satnav unit. Enquiries from the local police reveal that not all of the crimes have been reported, and in order for the village to get extra police visits **it is important that all crimes are reported via the 101 system.** The police have said they would be grateful for any information they receive.

Bryn School Closure

BRAG is continuing to work with all involved to retain and relocate, in the village, some of the assets obtained for the school through the people of Bryn. Discussions continue between BRAG, the Council and a number of possible funding bodies. Work on renovating the Coal Dram is under way.

BWYSTFIL Y BRYN RETURNS

The money raised from last year's event was presented to charities at the Tata Training Academy last autumn.

The Bryn Beast will be back on the 4th June 2016. Planning for this event has now been underway for a few months and online entries are open with many runners

already entered. If you fancy a challenge, get out there and start practising, the route is well sign posted.

With all entries possibly being online this year, get your name down as soon as possible. The website for the race can easily be found from the village website.

Get in touch! Visit the village website at: www.bryn-porttalbot.btck.co.uk



BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP NEWSLETTER



Bryn IT Club

BRAG has now started an IT (Information Technology) Club in the Bryn Community Centre on a Tuesday afternoon from 2pm to 4pm. This has covered many of the tools useful for living in the 21st Century such as buying computers, smart phones and computer tablets, using the Internet for free phone calls around the world, saving money when shopping, accessing "Cloud" services and social media. There is a small charge of £3 per session to cover costs. Future topics will include: Working safely on-line, avoiding



identity theft and scams, getting the most from YouTube, accessing government and council services, using streaming services for films and music and much more.

Surgery with the Councillors

The last surgery took place on the 02/01/16. The next Surgery meeting will be Saturday 05/03/16 at 11am. Your Councillors contact details are:

• **Marian A Lewis**

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

• **David Whitelock**

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

• **David Williams**

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

The council number is: (01639) 686 868
or you can email: contactus@npt.gov.uk

The Community Police number is:
101 or 07584 771269.

The Over 55's Club

This club meets every Thursday afternoon in Bryn Village Hall from 1.30 to 4.30pm. Over the Christmas period a number of very enjoyable events were hosted by the club and more subsidised events and trips are planned for the year ahead. For members who have difficulty with mobility, there is a minibus to take them to and from the Village Hall. Why not go along and find out why so many others keep going back every week?

Skateboard and Tennis Coaching

BRAG has proposed the provision of skateboard and tennis coaching in the new facilities. However, in order to do this BRAG needs to have evidence that there is such a need so please register your interest with Dianne Thomas on 896118 before it is too late to organise this for the current year

ahead. The annual safety inspection was carried out in February but BRAG did have to clean up lots of broken glass beforehand as this was a safety concern. Can all users of this facility please ensure glass is placed in the bin or even better, removed from the site.

Leases relating to Bryn

A number of leases from the Council have now been signed by BRAG and other groups in the village in order to retain facilities in the village that the Council would otherwise close down. Details can be found on the village website at: [/Documents/LicenceAgreements](#). A big thankyou to all those who have been prepared to put their names to these leases in the interest of the village.

Youth Club on hold

Bryn Youth club is still not operating after all three youth leaders left. BRAG has been told that they are currently recruiting but have been unable to fill the posts internally so are now looking to advertise externally. We are told that the Bryn Youth Club will be resumed once the situation has been resolved. Youth Club services have agreed to provide updates to BRAG and these will be posted on the What's On page of the village web site as soon as information is available.

New Coal Mine in Bryn

Rhys Jeffreys of 5 Caxton Rd., Neath has applied for planning permission for a coal mine at Penhyddwaelod Farm at the edge of Bryn. Details of this proposal can be found on the NPT website under planning number P2015/1058. This application also references P2012/0799 which has already been approved. The proposal is for an initial years production of about 1,000 tonnes while clearing an old air vent prior to establishing full production as long term mine.

Fitness & Yoga Classes

The fitness class, at Bryn Rugby Club, continues each Thursday at 7pm. There is also a Yoga class at 6pm each Monday.

New Goytre Wind Farms

A new wind farm known as Mynydd Brombil Wind Farm is now under construction.

Full details of this can be found at: www.mynyddbrombilwindfarm.co.uk/

The site entrance by Maesteg Golf Club is part of the route along which the equipment will be taken. BRAG was told this will start in May. This section of road has now been made into a 30mph zone. BRAG has made suggestions for the use of the community fund and awaits feedback from the company.

Easter Charity Events

Over the weekend, starting Friday 25th March, Bryn Rugby Club will be putting on events to raise money for the Welsh Teenage Cancer Trust. This will start on the Friday at 8.30pm with music from the brilliant Fonz & the Poets, and continue till late. On Easter Sunday there will be a bike ride from The Towers, Llandarcy via Baglan, Aberavon, Taibach, Goytre & then return to Bryn Rugby Club. Meet at Bryn Club for 9.30am if transport is required, £5 entry fee. Then at 9pm in the Club there is a Charity Team Quiz & Raffle.

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. All the events listed in this newsletter also appear on the village (BRAG) website. If you would like any information, of relevance to the village, publishing in this newsletter or on the village website then this can be arranged through any of the BRAG committee members.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY IN BRYN



For the second year running, regulars at Bryn Rugby Club donned their Christmas jumpers in aid of ITV's Text Santa charity, which raised more than £60 for good causes.



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Issue #036 May 2016

HAPPY RETIREMENT

After 26 years of service at the Bryn Surgery, Beverley Davies has decided to retire. Educated at Dyffryn School, she started her working life with social security and the labour exchange. A change of career came when Bev applied for a position as trainee pharmacy technician in Pen y Rhwtyn hospital. After three years training Bev gained her qualifications, equivalent to an HNC in Pharmacy.

Bev started at the Bryn Surgery on the 1st of March 1990. This meant the residents in

Bryn could now get their medication in the village.

Bev has served the community with a sense of duty, compassion and always with a cheerful smile. Although she will be sorely missed, we wish her a happy, long and healthy retirement, from all the villagers of Bryn.

After a collection around the village, a presentation was made to Beverley in the Bryn Community Centre on Thursday 26/05/16.



Sarah Bowen, Beverley Davies and Alison McKenzie

BWYSTFIL Y BRYN ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with regret that this year's Beast of Bryn trail running races will not be taking place.

Following recent announcements by Tata Steel, the organising committee, in partnership with Strip Products UK, have reached a decision not to hold this year's event. The decision to cancel the event has not been taken lightly; discussions led to a collective decision that holding the event following such difficult times was not appropriate.

Shaun Tobin, a race director, said "It is extremely sad that this year's event will not be taking place. As a steelworker, I completely understand the difficulties being faced by the business and at this time holding the event feels inappropriate. I am hopeful that this time next year we will be in a different position and the Beast can be



picked up from its resting place."

If you are one of the athletes that has already entered the race we apologise for any inconvenience caused and all entry fees and costs incurred will be completely refunded.

The very successful Beast of Bryn race has grown year on year attracting runners and

spectators from far afield and raising more than £60K for charity. Organisers share a very personal link to the race and have worked tirelessly during the last five years to provide a community event as well as donating the funds raised to charities close to their hearts.

On behalf of the organizing committee we would like to thank you for supporting and making what we think is a great and unique event. We have strived with a lot of passion, fun and hard work to create an unforgettable experience for the athlete, supporter and spectator included.

This event would not have been such a great success without the totally voluntary support from numerous people and businesses far too many to mention, no matter how little or large that support has been, we really appreciate it.

Recreation Park under discussion

BRAG is discussing the proposals shown in the plan (right) with NPT for permission to implement this using lottery funding. The decision to progress this can only be made once the Council provides their terms and conditions. Further information will be posted on the village website.



Tennis Coaching

BRAG is in discussion with local Tennis Clubs to arrange this for the summer. Watch the village website for details.

Youth Club

Bryn Youth Club is still not operating after all three youth leaders left. BRAG continues to pursue Youth Services for updates which will be posted on the What's On page of the web site as soon as information is available.

Get in touch! Visit the village website at: www.bryn-porttalbot.btck.co.uk



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Easter Charity Weekend Events

Martin Fitzpatrick would like to thank everyone who attended the Charity fundraising weekend at Bryn Rugby & Social club, this year in aid of the Teenage Cancer Trust Wales. An excellent Friday night kicked off with The Decades who performed at a reduced fee for the event and a brilliant time was had by all who attended from within and outside the village.

The Easter Sunday's bike ride from the

Towers, Llandarcy, was well attended with 28 riders making the journey via a few watering holes back to the Club. It was attended by all age groups from age 13 upwards.

The Quiz in the evening, provided by Glan Phillips, was another successful Easter weekend event. The Final total raised was £1100 for a very worthy cause. There are far too many people to mention, but a big thank you to all involved.



Surgery with the Councillors

The last surgery took place on the 05/03/16. The next Surgery meeting will be Saturday 02/07/16 at 11am. Your Councillors contact details are:

• **Marian A Lewis**

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

• **David Whitelock**

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

• **David Williams**

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

The council number is: (01639) 686 868 or you can email: contactus@npt.gov.uk

The Community Police number is: 101 or 07584 771269.

2016 Bowling Season

Bryn Welfare Bowling Club Season has begun, the green is now open and matches are being played. Coaching for the children has started and in the opening week 11 children attended. This coaching takes place on a Monday Evening between 5.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. Two of our young bowlers have already taken part in their first singles matches and was delighted to have played. Are there any Ladies out there wishing to take up Bowls? Anyone wishing to join Bryn club, please come along to the green, Monday to Friday evenings. If you don't want to play in a team but would like to play bowls and support the club, become a Social Member for £10.00pa.

This year is the 90th Anniversary of the Club and Mr Ceri Lewis, our Secretary, is this year's President of the West Glamorgan Bowling Association. Our first Presidential game against The Welsh Bowling Association is to take place on Thursday 2nd June on

our green. If you are interested, then please come along and support Bryn. The Ladies of the W.I. will be on hand to offer refreshments.

Our grateful thanks go to BRAG who has bought Heathers for our garden area and Mr Daf Bowen who organised it all. This is a big help to our club. Are there any other gardeners out there that are willing to help us keep our garden area tidy?

UKULELE BAND ENTERTAINS BRYN



On Friday May 20th, the Porthcawl Ukulele Band performed at Bryn Rugby Club. This proved to be a great evening's sing-a-long and dance with something to suit everyone.

Bryn IT Club

BRAG has now secured Big Lottery funding to purchase additional equipment and software to expand the club and its aim of reducing digital exclusion in the Bryn area.

Official figures now show that people who use the Internet save £570 a year on average as well as having better access to many services that increasingly will only be available through the Internet.

The Bryn IT (Information Technology) Club takes place in the Bryn Community Centre on a Tuesday Afternoon from 2 to 4pm. If you wish to know more, come along on a Tuesday or contact any of the existing club

members. If you currently run a group and would like the club members to come along to one of your group meetings just let BRAG know.

Many of the club members have gone from knowing very little about the Internet to now confidently using the many services available and even making large purchases such as buying new cars and other big savings using the Internet.

Regular Village Events

The Over 55's Club meets every Thursday afternoon in the Bryn Village Hall from 1.30pm to 4.30pm.

Bryn Yoga Class meet at the Rugby Club at 6pm each Monday.

Bryn IT Club meet in the Bryn Community Centre each Tuesday from 2pm to 4pm.

Future Village Events

The BRAG AGM will take place in June. See the village website for details.

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. All the events listed in this newsletter also appear on the village (BRAG) website.

If you would like any information, of relevance to the village, publishing in this newsletter or on the village website then this can be arranged through any of the BRAG committee members.



LOTTERY FUNDED

BRAG: Registered charity number 1,158,947



Bryn. A nice place to be.

BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP NEWSLETTER

www.bryn-porttallbot.btck.co.uk

Registered charity number: 1158947

Issue 37 Jul 2016



Bryn, lle dedwydd I fod.

Sunday Fun Day 17 July

On Sunday 17th July from 1pm, BRAG and other groups within Bryn and the surrounding area will be getting together to put on a Sunday Fun Day in the Bryn Recreation Park.

This is an opportunity for all ages to try their hands at different sporting activities including Tennis, Bowling, Pétanque, Cricket, BMX and more. There will be a party atmosphere with tombola, , BBQ, refreshments, etc. being served and music played. The Rugby Club is also open on a Sunday afternoon should anyone need a stronger drink after trying new sporting activities. Coaches for the different sports will be on hand to help you learn the basic rules and get a feel for the activity and even enroll for further coaching if interested.

Swansea Tennis Centre is one of the groups supporting this event and has experience of running similar events in the past. The tennis part of the event will be a part of 'Great British Tennis Weekend' where tennis clubs and centre's offer free tennis for one or two days over this weekend and resources such as t-shirts, signage, pens, balloons etc. are provided to help dress up the court. The Tennis Centre propose running a six week summer program, following this event, with coaching aimed at the different age groups from toddler to adult. With the refurbished tennis court and skate board facilities we now have in the village, along with the cricket, rugby, football and bowling facilities this is an opportunity for all village residents, young and old, to make a start on getting the best from what the village has to offer.

Bryn Recreation Park update

BRAG held a meeting with David Phillips from the Council on Friday 24th June where it was agreed in principle that the Council would offer a license in line with the requirements for the Big Lottery to fund this project. BRAG are now waiting on this being drafted by the Council and approved by the Big Lottery.



BRAG AGM

The BRAG AGM will take place in the Bryn Community Centre at 7pm on 18th July. This is an open meeting with all residents of Bryn welcome to attend. The audited accounts will be presented and the selection of a New Management Committee will take place, a brief presentation of the many activities BRAG is involved with will be given. It is also an opportunity for the residents of Bryn to add their ideas for the village and to become actively involved with making Bryn "a nice place to be". We would also love to see a voice on the committee from all the other groups in the village, many are represented already but not yet all of them.

RETIREMENT! A Big Thank You.

I'd like to thank all the people of Bryn for the fantastic send off I've had , all the gifts , cards and most of all the appreciation of me which really has been overwhelming .

I'm not saying goodbye yet! I will be covering Sarah for holidays so see you all soon! Beverly Davies

Bryn IT Club

The Bryn IT Club closed over the summer holidays but will be restarting in the autumn. The existing club members have said how much the club has helped them to get the most from the Internet and their smart devices and are all now doing things they never dreamed of before they joined the club. The club caters for all skill levels from complete beginner to IT experts so watch out for details of when the club restarts and come along and both enjoy and benefit from this club.

Official figures show that people who use the Internet save £570 a year on average with many saving much more than this. The Internet also provides access to many services that, in the future, will only be available through the Internet. For example obtaining travel visas, taxing motor vehicles, etc.

The Welsh Assembly recognizes this training requirement and has encouraged the voluntary sector to support this need. In recognition of this, BRAG and members of the Bryn IT Club were invited to an awards evening in Baglan where they received a certificate for their contribution to this and the many other causes supported by BRAG.

(Right) Paul Bulmer, from BRAG, along with representatives from the other groups, showing their awards.

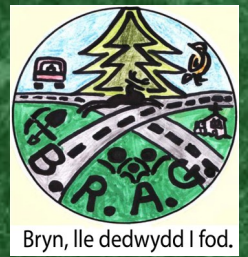


KEEP IN TOUCH WITH LOCAL NEWS AND UPDATES BY CHECKING THE VILLAGE WEB SITE



BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP

NEWSLETTER



Bryn Home Crafts Group

This group meet every Wednesday evening at Bryn Community centre to develop their home craft skills. These skills were greatly appreciated when they made and donated twiddle quilts and muffs to Llynfi Ward at Maesteg Community Hospital. The 20 bed ward provides care for elderly patients, including some with dementia.



The Bryn Ladies with a selection of their donations. Llynfi Ward occupational therapy technician Diann Richards said "our ward sister, nursing and therapy staff would like to thank the ladies for their wonderful support and generosity" If you would like to know more about home crafts and get involved with these wonderful ladies then why not go along to one of their meetings on a Wednesday evening.

Other Regular Village Events

The Over 55's Club meets every Thursday afternoon in the Bryn Village Hall from 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.

Bryn WI meet every fourth Tuesday in the Bryn Village Hall at 7pm, we would welcome new members.

Bryn Bowling Club is also open most evenings and weekends through the summer.

Bryn Yoga Class has been put on hold through the summer but hope to restart in the autumn.

Future Village Events

On Saturday July 16th the Bryn WI are holding a vintage tea in the village hall. There are a limited number of tickets left at £5.00 If you are interested please contact Gaynor Bowen Secretary on 885350.

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. All the events listed in this newsletter also appear on the village (BRAG) website.

If you would like to have published in this newsletter or website, any information of relevance to the village, then this can be arranged through any of the BRAG committee members.

Richard Burton 10k

After the disappointment of having to cancel this year's Bwystfil y Bryn race, Shaun Tobin has said that he is determined that the Richard Burton will still go ahead on 6th November.

The race committee is already making preparations for this and online entries should be opening soon. Full details will be published in the next newsletter.



Bryn Nature Reserve

The picnic area in the Bryn Nature reserve has been tidied up by BRAG and the rockery weeded and restocked. A litter pick also took place across the whole reserve. An update on the management of the reserve has been provided by the biodiversity group and posted around the village as well as on the website.



Surgery with the Councillors

The last surgery took place on the 02/07/16. The next Surgery meeting will be Saturday 03/09/16 at 11am. Your Councillors contact details are:

Marian A Lewis, Tel: 07974 656124

David Whitelock cldr.d.whitelock@npt.gov.uk

Tel: 07866 763888

David Williams, Tel: 07967 489151

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

The Community Police number is: 101 or 07584 771269.



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www.bryn-porttalbot.btck.co.uk

Registered charity number: 1158947

Issue 38 Oct 2016



Bryn, lle dedwydd I fod.

BRAG AGM

The BRAG AGM took place in the Bryn Community Centre on 18th July. The audited accounts were approved and new members elected as follows:

Trustees:

Paul Bulmer Dianne Thomas
John Thomas Dafydd Bowen

Officers

Chair: Paul Bulmer
Treasurer: Sue Phillips
Secretary: Gaynor Jones

Paul, the new chair, expressed BRAG's gratitude for the work done by Graham Rowland, the past chair, who has now moved out of the village and hence resigned from BRAG. Two new members joined the committee to represent the youth of the village. BRAG welcomed Dylan Morgan and Zak Dixon to the committee. The rest of the committee will continue to serve but members may leave or join at any point through the year. A brief presentation of the many activities BRAG is involved with was made. If you wish to become more involved, new members can be co-opted onto the committee at any time or you may simply choose to help out as a volunteer at any of our events.

BRAG also hold a general meeting every two to three months where the full range of BRAG activities are reviewed and BRAG members are kept up to date on events. These meetings are open to the village to attend. The most recent meeting took place on 20/09/16 when representatives from other clubs in the village were welcomed along. Part of this meeting focused on how we can all work together to help each other and a number of projects of joint interest were identified.

Sunday Fun Day

Unfortunately, after three attempts to organise a Sunday Fun Day, this has now had to be put on hold until next spring. The first two attempts had to be cancelled on the day due to appalling weather and on the third attempt we were unable to find a date when all the key providers were available, mainly due to prior holiday commitments.

The intention is still to provide an opportunity for all ages to try their hands at different sporting activities including Tennis, Bowling, Pétanque, Cricket, BMX and more with a party atmosphere including a BBQ, refreshments, cakes, tombola, etc.

Bryn Recreation Park update

As outlined in past newsletters, this work is still being progressed and further meetings have taken place with the Big Lottery, Council Officers and potential suppliers. The intention is still to complete this work before the end of the year.

Youth Club

After recruiting the three employees required, it was intended that the Youth Club would resume in Bryn on 23rd September this year. However, one of those employees has now resigned so although the intention is still to restart, the third position again needs to be filled first.

Bryn IT Club

The Bryn IT Club closed over the summer holidays but will be restarting on Tuesday 8th November but will move to a new time of 10am to 12 as many people have suggested a morning session would be more convenient for them.

Come along to the club and join the existing club members who now get so much more from the Internet and their smart devices and are all now doing things they never dreamed of before they joined the club. The club caters for all skill levels from complete beginner to IT experts so whatever your current level you will be made most welcome.

Richard Burton 10k

After the disappointment of having to cancel this year's Bwystfil y Bryn race, BRAG are pleased to announce that the Richard Burton races will go ahead on 6th November as normal. The race committee is already making preparations for this and online entries are rolling in. Further details can be found on the website at <http://richardburton-r-r.btck.co.uk/>

Surgery with the Councillors

The last surgery took place on 02/07/16. The next Surgery meeting will be Saturday 05/11/16 at 11am in the Rugby Club. Your Councillor's contact details are: David Whitelock, cllr.d.whitelock@npt.gov.uk, Tel: 07866 763888

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

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The Little Book of Welsh Culture

Evening Post arts editor and Bryn resident Mark Rees has just released his new book, *The Little Book of Welsh Culture* (The History Press, £9.99)

The hardback is described as a fast-paced, fact-filled journey through the cultural heritage of Wales, exploring the rich history of its literature, festivals, performing arts, visual arts and music, and unearthing some fascinating secrets and hidden gems along the way.

There are lots of local references included in the book, with Mark visiting Richard Burton's final resting place in Switzerland during his research, as well as a look at the life of Maesteg artist Christopher Williams and the unique collection of paintings he donated to Maesteg Town Hall, and the town's Capel Tabor where the Welsh National Anthem was first publicly aired.



The book is available now from book shops and from Mark himself, who can be emailed at: mark@reviewwales.com

Book signing at Margam Park.

Future Village Events

A Children's Halloween Party will take place in Bryn Rugby Club at 6pm on Thurs 27th Oct with entertainment provided by Daley Bee. This is again being organised by BRAG and the Rugby Club as was done last year. This has traditionally been a great event enjoyed by all so we look forward to seeing everyone again this year.

On Thursday 13th October 2016, Sister Shan Pearce will be in the Community Centre between 2.00 and 3.00 p.m. Anyone interested in receiving the Flu Jab may attend, otherwise appointments with the surgery will have to be made after this date.

Other Regular Village Events

The Over 55's Club meets every Thursday afternoon in the Bryn Village Hall from 1.30 to 4.30 p.m. All are welcome.

Bryn W.I. meet every fourth Tuesday in the Bryn Village Hall at 7pm, we would welcome new members.

Bryn Bowling Club is now closed for winter maintenance which is being carried out by Absolute Grasscare at a cost of £2.5k. The Green will re-open April 2017.



Bryn Boot camp is back on Thursdays at 7pm with Bryn ladies section and Patrick.

Marian Lewis has started up a charity teaching people how to sew, there are four trainers involved and they are located at the back of Cwmafan community centre, in the old community first offices.

They are open Monday 10-3pm and 6-8pm, Tuesday and Wednesday 6-8pm. Thursday and Friday 10-3pm. The cost is £2:50 per hour. They also do alterations, dress making, curtains, blinds and small upholstery.

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. All the events listed in this newsletter also appear on the village (BRAG) website.

WI Vintage Tea

On Saturday July 16th the Bryn WI held a vintage tea in the village hall. This was well attended with 90 people there, from Margam, Port Talbot and Cwmavon along with ladies from Bryn. Everyone enjoyed the tea and look forward to next year's event.

World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Another successful annual Macmillan Coffee & Cake event was held at the Bryn Rugby Club on 4/9/16 with a fantastic variety of cakes and pasties to tempt all who attended. A total of £350 was raised and Debbie & Colin Rogers, who again organised the event, would like to thank all who attended and contributed to the afternoon.

Plas Cwm Carw Nursing Home

A fundraising evening was organised in the Rugby club for Plas Cwm Carw nursing home in Port Talbot. Entertainment was provided by local singer Emma L Casey & £212.14 was raised towards providing entertainment for the residents over the Christmas period. The committee thanks everyone for their continued support for these events.



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Issue 39 Dec 2016

Santa Claus is coming to Bryn!



It's time to deck the halls, wrap the presents, open the advent calendar and heat the mulled wine:

Christmas is back in Bryn! Once again, BRAG will be staging a Christmas Event in the Village Hall. This will be on the evening of Monday the **19th December** and will include Santa's tour of Bryn with treats for the children

followed by a chance for the Children to meet with Santa in the community Centre. A program of entertainment will then follow, including "Christmas Magical Tales Show" starring Welsh Wizard Mario Morris and his assistant Lady Vee. A Family, Christmas Magic Show - entwining magic and tales in an enchanting show for all the family. Sleight of hand, magic, stories, high impact visual effects and a guaranteed high energy finale that will have everyone clapping and cheering!

Mario Morris is a family comedy magician and international performer for more than 20 years. His Magic Show is witty and full of comedy and family orientated and out standing award winning magic performances - creating a real magical experience to all those who watch.

BRYN XMAS TIMES

5pm: Santa sets off on his sleigh from the Royal Oak for a tour of the village.

6pm: Santa arrives back at his Grotto in Bryn Community Centre where children can meet Santa, and get a special Xmas gift and photo (£2 per child).

6.15pm: Anthony Bwye will lead a medley of much-loved traditional carols for all to join in on.

6:30pm: It's Time for a Christmas Family Experience with the "Christmas Magical Tales Show"

8:30pm approx.: Close

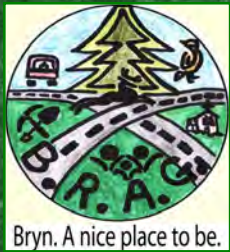
Mulled wine, mince pies and other snacks and refreshments served all evening. Get your Christmas festivities off to a great start and come along and enjoy a really great evening aimed at all ages.

Richard Burton 10k

This year the Richard Burton 10k once again set a new record for the number of runners. The photo on the left shows one of the very enthusiastic winners of the fun run receiving a trophy from the Port Talbot Mayor just before the start of the main race. The photo to the right shows some of the Maesteg Gleemen choristers leading the singing of the Welsh National Anthem with extra volume added by the 1000 runners just before they set out on their run.



KEEP IN TOUCH WITH LOCAL NEWS AND UPDATES BY CHECKING THE VILLAGE WEB SITE



BRYN RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP

NEWSLETTER



Halloween Party

A Children's Halloween Party took place in Bryn Rugby Club on Thurs 27th Oct with entertainment provided by Daley Bee. This was another great event enjoyed by all and particularly by those winning prizes on the evening which were judged and presented by Councillor David Whitelock.



Bryn IT Club

The Bryn IT Club restarted on Tuesday 8th November at the new time of 10am to 12 noon as many people have suggested a morning session would be more convenient for them.

A number of existing members have returned to the club along with a few new members. There is no set program so you can join at any time and the existing members will make you feel at home and help you get the most from your devices whether that is a phone a tablet or a laptop. Existing members now get much more from the Internet and their smart devices and are all now doing things they never dreamed of before they joined the club. The club caters for all skill levels from complete beginner to IT experts so whatever your current level you will be made most welcome.

Youth Club

It is thought that the long struggle to recruit staff to man the Bryn Youth Club has now been resolved. The intended start date is now 6pm on 27th January 2017. This is for 11 to 17yr olds. BRAG is currently in discussion with NPT Council to see if a service can be resumed for the under 11 year olds.

Surgery with the Councillors

The last surgery took place on 03/09/16. The Surgery scheduled for Saturday 05/11/16 at 11am in the Rugby Club was cancelled as our one Councillor was unable to attend. The next surgery will be 7/1/17. Your Councillor's contact details are: David Whitelock, cldr.d.whitelock@npt.gov.uk, Tel: 07866 763888
The council number is: (01639) 686 868 or you may prefer to email them at contactus@npt.gov.uk.
The Community Police number is: 101 or 07584 771269.

Bryn Recreation Park update

After a long struggle, the license required from the Council to enable us to make the improvements to the Bryn Welfare Recreation Park, as outlined in past newsletter, has now been approved and this work should now be completed this year.

Future Village Events

Bryn ladies section will hold their annual Christmas craft fair on Sunday 4th of Dec from 2.30pm.

A circuit training class is to start on the 5/12/16 in the Bryn Community Centre every Monday and Thursday evening from 6:45pm. at £5 per session. This is part of a project to establish a Bryn Community Gym with profession gym facilities if these classes are well attended. This replaces the Bryn Boot Camp on a Thursday.

The churches and chapels of Port Talbot will be staging "Christmas - The Story". The performances will run from Monday 5th to Saturday 10th December in the upper floor of Wilkinson's and there will be performances each day at 10.30am and 1.30pm, with an extra performance on Saturday at 3pm. Entrance is free and the performance lasts 20 minutes.

Other Regular Village Events

The Over 55's Club meets every Thursday afternoon in the Bryn Village Hall from 1.30 to 4.30 p.m. All are welcome.

Bryn W.I. meet every fourth Tuesday in the Bryn Village Hall at 7pm, we would welcome new members.

Bryn Home Crafts Group meet every Wednesday evening at 7pm in the Bryn Community centre to develop their home craft skills.

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. All the events listed in this newsletter also appear on the village (BRAG) website.

If you would like to have published in this newsletter or website, any information of relevance to the village, then this can be arranged through any of the BRAG committee members.



LOTTERY FUNDED

BRAG: Registered charity number 1,158,947