



## Shared Lives scheme success

A collaborative scheme which supports vulnerable adults across six local authorities in South East Wales celebrated its first anniversary recently. Currently this scheme is supporting 181 service users and 180 carers, making a real difference to their lives.

## Improving Communities

We have recently launched a Community Improvement Fund as part of the Welsh Housing Quality Standard, where community groups are able to bid for up to £5,000 to help make real improvements to their neighbourhoods

## £200m transforming homes



Caerphilly county borough council will spend over £200 million improving local homes over the next few years. Last year (2012/13), the authority spent nearly £18m. Over the next financial year (2013/14) we will spend more than £13m with 40 streets benefiting from improvement works. In 2014/15 we will spend £30m when work on the external programme starts.

## SmartCards hit 100,000



The Caerphilly SmartCard scheme has reached a major milestone, with the 100,000th member having recently signed up! With around 170,000 residents in area, the SmartCard scheme is well on its way to reaching every person who lives in the county borough. The initiative allows residents and visitors access to all of the Leisure Centres and Libraries across the county borough. Concessionary prices are also supported by the scheme.

## A helping hand for families

Caerphilly Family Information Services (FIS) has just launched a new website, which is a one-stop-shop offering information and advice about family matters. Whether you are a parent, child, young person or a professional working with families in Caerphilly there's a Zone full of information for you. Visit [www.caerphilly.gov.uk/fis](http://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/fis)



## Proms in the Park returns



The hugely popular BBC Proms in the Park will be returning to Owain Glyndwr Playing Fields, Caerphilly for the third time on Saturday 7th September. Wales will once again be part of the BBC Proms Last Night celebrations as the BBC National Orchestra of Wales brings the Proms in the Park to Caerphilly for an evening of spectacular performances in the open air, set against the backdrop of Caerphilly Castle.

## School Meals Frozen

We committed an additional £80,000 to avoid increases in school meal prices once again this year and have also become the first local authority in Wales to be fully 'Appetite for Life' compliant.

## Flood Action

Caerphilly was one of the first councils in Wales to have its Flood Risk Management Strategy approved by Welsh Government. Its aim is to help us and our partners prepare for, and reduce the risk of flooding in the future.

## £2.8m Improving roads

A number of resurfacing schemes across the area have been boosted by £2.8m from the Welsh Government's Local Government Borrowing Initiative (LGBI). The money will be spent targeting footways, side streets and A roads which have deteriorated during the winter months.

## Fun at the Big Cheese



The annual Big Cheese Festival comes to Caerphilly on 27th and 28th July with the usual mix of events, activities, music, dance and funfair rides for all the family. A spectacular fireworks display will kick things off on Friday 26th July with the main event taking place Saturday and Sunday.

## 2,500 residents Get Online

The 'Get Caerphilly Online' campaign has reached a major milestone recently, by successfully supporting its 2,500th client in Caerphilly county borough to use the Internet. Learning any new skill can be a daunting prospect, but this campaign aims to take that fear away so that getting online is easy.  
[www.getcaerphillyonline.org.uk](http://www.getcaerphillyonline.org.uk)

Welcome return for  
Aberbargoed Library!



The newly re-furnished Aberbargoed Library is set to open its doors to the public in May. The community facility is back by popular demand and is set to host a range of new fixtures including audio books and DVD's, public Internet PCs and photocopying facilities. The library will also be home to Flying Start Health Visitors who will manage the new play area to the rear of the building.

## Pedal power



The Tour of Britain bike race takes place on Thursday 19th September when elite cyclists from around the world speed through the streets of the county borough before racing to the finishing line in Caerphilly. A new route this year will see the riders travel through more of the county borough.

## Have your say on priorities

The council is encouraging residents to have their say on our proposed priority areas for improvement over the coming year. Each year, the council has a legal duty to choose its Improvement Objectives - and is currently in the process of setting the Improvement Objectives for 2013-14. We are committed to giving local people the chance to help shape our services.

## Recycling Right!

Caerphilly is leading the way in Wales with its recycling efforts. In December it was revealed that Caerphilly was 2nd in the Welsh recycling league table, recycling an impressive 59.9% of waste in our county borough! Our award-winning efforts are made possible thanks to the ongoing support and co-operation of residents across the area



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