

Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th July



Go for Gold at the Big Cheese!

The opening night of this year's Big Cheese Weekend on Friday 27th July will have a special Olympic theme and residents are being encouraged to come along to this once-in-a-lifetime celebration.

Friday night at the Big Cheese coincides with the opening ceremony at the London Olympics on 27th July. To mark this special occasion there will be even more attractions on offer at the festival site in Caerphilly:

● **Great Cheese Race**

The popular annual event is more than a match for the drama and excitement taking place in the Olympic stadium! Come along at 6.00pm and show your support as teams race around a special course carrying a truckle of Cheese!



● **Olympic Opening Ceremony LIVE on the Big Screen**

A huge TV screen will be erected at the Big Cheese site so that people can watch the Olympic opening ceremony unfold as they enjoy the Big Cheese atmosphere.

● **Parade of Nations**

Residents are being encouraged to wear their national colours with pride and join a special parade from the Tourist Information Centre to the Big Cheese site starting at 6.30pm.

We want to see a mix of nationalities and ethnic backgrounds to reflect the celebrations in London.

Then, on **Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th July**, the **Big Cheese** Weekend gets into full swing with an entertainment programme featuring re-enactment displays, musical entertainment, educational activities, food hall, craft stalls, activity marquee, Tommy Cooper tent, a huge funfair plus lots more.

Visit www.caerphilly.gov.uk/bigcheese for more information.



Community celebrates at Aberbargoed Grasslands

A green oasis in the heart of the county borough has become the country's first National Nature Reserve (NNR) in an urban setting.

Aberbargoed Grasslands is rich in biodiversity and is home to the endangered marsh fritillary butterfly, as well as other valuable wildlife features, including fungi, species rich grasslands, ponds and hedgerows.

The community turned out last month to celebrate the launch event and cheered on local school children as they took part in a colourful 'Butterfly Parade' to mark the special occasion.

The majority of National Nature Reserves in Wales are based in rural, coastal or upland areas, so this site is of particular importance to South Wales due to its close proximity to an urban community.

Environment Minister, John Griffiths, announced the designation at the event, "Before today, there were National Nature Reserves right across Wales, but none in the Central and Eastern Valleys. Nature reserves such as this one are a wonderful opportunity for people to learn more about nature and wildlife in a sustainable way."

Cllr Ken James, CCBC Cabinet Member said, "We are delighted that the site has been declared a National Nature Reserve, it is already open to the public and is visited by local schools. The designation will enable us to further enhance the habitat and increase opportunities for the community to enjoy this important green space."



Various improvements have been undertaken at the site thanks to grant funding from the Countryside Council for Wales, Objective 1, ERDF, Heads of the Valleys Programme and the Valleys Regional Park 'Valleys Hearts and Soul' Campaign.



A Magical evening of music!

The BBC Proms in the Park returns to Caerphilly on Saturday 8th September at Owain Glyndŵr Playing Fields at the rear of Caerphilly Castle.

Join the BBC National Orchestra of Wales for a magical evening of music under the stars including rousing choruses, orchestral favourites and sing-a-long numbers.

Ticket prices £10 in advance or £12 on the day with children 12 and under free. Gates open at 4.30pm and the Prom will begin at 7.45pm

Tickets can be purchased by calling the Blackwood Miners' Institute Box Office on **01495 227206**. Tickets can also be purchased online at www.blackwoodminersinstitute.com (£1.00 booking fee per transaction for online booking applies).

To purchase from the BBC National Orchestra of Wales Audience Line call **03700 101051**, opening hours are Monday - Friday 9am - 7pm. Standard geographic charges from landlines and mobiles will apply.

Alternatively to purchase tickets in person come to The Visit Caerphilly Centre, open 7 days a week 10am - 5.30pm.

For further details please see www.bbc.co.uk/promsinthepark

Your Newslines

"Newslines is produced by the council to bring you all the latest news and information from across the county borough. We are keen to hear your views about the publication and we welcome any feedback.

Please contact me if you have any queries about the information featured in Newslines and I will pass on your comments to the relevant department. Don't forget - Audio and large print versions of Newslines are also available on request."

Stephen Pugh - Editor e-mail: pughs@caerphilly.gov.uk

Post: Communications Unit, Penallta House, Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed, CF82 7PG.

National Mining Memorial Appeal

The First Minister visited Senghenydd last month to launch an appeal for the first ever National Mining Memorial in Wales.



Carwyn Jones AM announced plans by the Aber Valley Heritage Group to erect a landmark memorial close to the former Universal Colliery site in Senghenydd that will be dedicated to all mining communities across Wales, whilst also honouring the victims of the Universal Colliery disaster.

In total 440 men and boys were killed in 1913 following a huge explosion at the site. The disaster affected the lives of almost every household in the Aber Valley and sent shockwaves around the world.

The project will include a landscaped garden, a wall of remembrance, a small parking area together with a statue providing a symbolic, poignant & recognisable landmark which will be a focus of

respect for Welsh Miners.

Plans are moving forward thanks to financial support from Caerphilly County Borough Council, the Heritage Lottery Fund (£48,800) and various community contributions.

However, with a total project cost of over £200,000 there remains a shortfall of funding and therefore the

Group are seeking the support of Welsh Government to ensure that a fitting tribute can be provided that will impart a sense of pride on all mining authorities in Wales.

For more information about the scheme or to find out how you can make a donation please contact Aber Valley Heritage Group on **(02920) 830444 / 5** or email: senghen.heritage@btconnect.com.

www.abervalleyheritage.co.uk



Rewarding rugby success

Three local rugby teams have been recognised by the Mayor for their achievement in the recent SWALEC Cup tournament.

Representatives from New Tredegar RFC, Penallta RFC and Crosskeys RFC attended a special event at Penallta House council offices where they were presented with certificates of achievement from the Mayor, Cllr Gaynor Oliver. The three teams got the chance to play at the Millennium Stadium in May during the finals of the prestigious annual SWALEC tournament.

- **New Tredegar** came close to victory in the **SWALEC Bowl** final losing to Glyncoch in a very close game.
- **Penallta** beat Nant Conwy in the final to claim the **SWALEC Plate**.
- **Crosskeys** won the **SWALEC Cup** title after beating 4 times winners Pontypridd.

The leader of Council, Cllr Harry Andrews, congratulated the teams, "You can all be proud of these fantastic achievements - that's why we thought it important to formally recognise your efforts in this way. It was also great to see the whole community rally together during the competition with hundreds of people of all ages travelling down to the Millennium Stadium to cheer on the players."

Lloyd Burns, ex-Pontypool, Crosskeys, Newport Gwent Dragons and Wales hooker, was also present to show his support for the teams.



TRAINEES TACKLE ENVIRONMENTAL OFFENCES

The council has recruited three new trainees to the Environmental Health team, providing them with invaluable experience in environmental enforcement and pest control activities. These trainees will promote the council's zero tolerance approach to littering and dog fouling offences.

Leah Price, Alex Meade and Morgan Davies will each complete a two-year apprenticeship with the Environmental Health team, and will contribute to the tireless work the team undertakes to ensure the protection of all residents in our borough.

Cllr Dave Poole, cabinet member for community and leisure services, commented, "We are committed to tackling dog fouling, littering and fly-tipping issues and always aim to protect the public from harm. I am pleased to welcome the new apprentices, and I am confident that they will continue the hard work that the Environmental Health Team undertakes every day."

Leah, from Blackwood, started her apprenticeship with the Pest and Dog Control Team in April, joining a team whose commitment to tackling dog fouling across our borough results in over 400 stray dogs being impounded each year. Alex and Morgan both joined the team in May and will focus on the enforcement of littering, dog fouling and fly tipping offences.



Big news for Bargoed

Construction has started on a long-awaited retail development in Bargoed town centre. Preparatory works for the scheme, which features a major new Morrisons store, have been underway for the last few months, but residents will soon see the impressive development take shape.

Leader of council, Cllr Harry Andrews said, "This impressive scheme will breathe new life into the town and signals an exciting new future for Bargoed. Together with the wider Greater Bargoed Community Regeneration Project, we are transforming the town centre and everyone is now looking forward to seeing work commence on-site."

Improvements along the northern end of the High Street have recently been completed. Shoppers are benefiting from the introduction

of wider pavements along with attractive street furniture, giving an insight into how the town centre will look on completion of this £8m scheme next year. Attractive art works have been installed, with more to follow, including a Guardian Angel overlooking the town and a Daffodil Sculpture signposting Bargoed's presence to the surrounding community.

The next phase of works will begin in September for 10 months. These will concentrate on the southern part of the High Street at Hanbury Road and will include transforming the Hanbury Square bus station into a new public space.

The £8M Bargoed Town Centre Regeneration project is being delivered thanks to funding from the EU's Convergence European Regional Development Fund, and through the Welsh Government's Targeted Match Funding and Heads of the Valleys Programme.



www.bargoedsbigidea.co.uk

BIGidea Bargoed
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MORRISONS



Alex Fox (Chief Executive of Shared Lives), Cllr Harry Andrews (Leader of CCBC), Simon Burch (Chief Officer, Social Care and Health, Monmouthshire), Albert Heaney (Corporate Director Social Services Caerphilly), Anthony O'Sullivan (Chief Executive, Caerphilly).

'Shared Lives' partnership launched

Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Merthyr, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen councils have joined forces to work together in providing an improved Adult Placement Scheme.

The scheme, led by Caerphilly, has been established to bridge the gap between adults with special needs and the specialist services they require.

A special event took place at Penallta House council offices in Ystrad Mynach to launch the South East Wales scheme to professionals working in the field of adult care.

Leader of Council, Cllr Harry Andrews said, "This new scheme delivers the right services to the people who need them and will help make a real difference to their lives. What makes this partnership unique is that it will bridge the gap so vulnerable adults can access bespoke services to suit their particular needs."

Don't lose your vote in 2012

The council is urging local people to ensure they are on the electoral roll by responding to the Annual Canvass.

Canvass forms are being distributed to homes across the area at the moment and it is quick and easy to respond. Anthony O'Sullivan, CCBC Chief Executive and Returning Officer said, "The message is simple – if you want your voice heard you need to ensure you are on the electoral roll. Registering to vote is simple and I would encourage everyone to look out for their canvass form and follow the straightforward steps to ensure they are included."

The council is keen to remind local people that it is very important to complete the canvass form for the following reasons:

- You must be on the electoral roll to vote.
- You may not be able to get credit if you're not (credit agencies check the electoral roll).
- You are breaking the law if you don't respond to the canvass.

Young people who will reach eighteen during the next year are a key target age group for the campaign. Traditionally younger age groups have had a lower response rate to the canvass, so the council will be using social media to help spread the message as far and wide as possible.

If you have any queries about the annual canvass please call the council's Electoral Team on **01443 864405** or visit www.caerphilly.gov.uk



The Electoral Commission

Pride in Your Place

Schools, community groups, businesses and individuals across the county borough are being encouraged to show they have pride in their place by entering an exciting new competition.

The Pride In Your Place awards 2012 is organised by the council to acknowledge the endeavour, innovation and commitment of those who help make our area cleaner, safer and greener and a better place to live, work and visit.

The competition was organised for the first time last year and the inaugural awards ceremony took place at Penallta House council offices in Ystrad Mynach last November. Ysgol Y Lawnt Primary School in Rhymer scooped the top prize and it is hoped that even more quality entries will be received this year.

Category winners will receive a cash prize of £500 and will be eligible for the prestigious overall winner award.

The awards scheme is open to all residents, schools, businesses & community groups within the area. All applications will be assessed by an independent panel. Those short listed candidates will be invited to an award evening on the 23rd November, 2012. **Closing date for applications is Friday October 5th 2012.**

SEDA, a major international packaging company with a base near Blackwood, has agreed to be a key sponsor for this year's 'Pride in Your Place' awards.

For more information about the categories visit www.caerphilly.gov.uk or contact Rhodri Lloyd on **01443 866566** or email: prideinyourplace@caerphilly.gov.uk



The summer season is here, and Neville the sheep could do with a holiday!

We're calling on residents from across the county borough to get involved and take Neville on holiday with them! Cartoonist Gren's loveable sheep is the council's social media mascot, and we're looking for residents, whether they are holidaying in Egypt, Australia or in our very own Wales to take Neville on holiday with them and photograph him in front of a landmark.

We've got a selection of promotional items including beach balls and frizbees all with Neville printed on them, and we'd love for residents to share their photos of Neville on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/caerphillycbc - with a special prize for the best photo!

Keep an eye out for the team at this summer's events including the Big Cheese, where we'll be handing out the promotional items - in the meantime, please email: communicationsunit@caerphilly.gov.uk to request a Neville item.

 **Follow us! @caerphillycbc**

 **www.facebook.com/caerphillycbc**

£1million wi-fi boost for schools

All schools across the Caerphilly county borough are set to benefit from high speed Wi-Fi internet connections thanks to a £1million investment by the council.

"This move makes our schools some of the best-connected in Wales," said Cllr Rhianon Passmore, Cabinet Member for Education. "We want to give our children the best facilities in the best learning environments possible, so we are delighted to be leading the way yet again in helping to raise standards."

The investment will place Caerphilly schools at the forefront of learning in Wales. The improved connectivity will allow more flexibility for learning, better engagement of pupils and will ultimately raise standards of attainment. The new wireless networks will allow students to use new and emerging technologies such as wireless laptops, tablets, etc, to access and share exciting curriculum content using resilient and secure IT systems. All schools in Caerphilly CBC will also benefit from a migration to the PublicSector Broadband network

(PSBA), to provide faster links to the Authority's data centre and internet.

The scheme is currently being rolled out following successful pilot projects in two new local schools - Greenhill and St James'. Since then a further 20 schools have already had Wifi installed by the Authority's ICT Services division and the remainder are scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

The estimated cost of implementing Wi-Fi in every school is £992,000. This is made up of £435,000 for secondary schools, £552,000 for primary schools and £5,000 for special schools. Schools will pay 75% of the costs and the Council is contributing 25%.

"This move makes our schools some of the best connected in Wales."



Living life 'Off the Grid'

Work has started on the construction of a state-of-the-art 'eco-farm' in Manmoel. The scheme, at Maes Yr Onn Farm, is being held up as an example of excellence in sustainable development.

Local farmer Arthur Davies and his wife Sue are working closely with the council to progress plans to build a new farmhouse at the site.

The remote location means there is no mains electricity, gas, water or sewage services. The council and Building Research Establishment (BRE) have been supporting the family in order to deliver the scheme with a range of sustainable solutions.

As Maes Yr Onn will be an "off grid" house, the property will have a minimal footprint on the wider environment and will boast a range of 'green' technologies such as:

- **Photovoltaic panels**
- **On-site battery storage**
- **Solar hot water panels**
- **Wood burning stove**
- **Rainwater harvesting**

Cllr Ken James, cabinet member for sustainable development visited the site recently to view progress, "Maes yr Onn represents a unique opportunity to showcase renewable technology in a completely off grid site. The building is inspired by the traditional Welsh longhouse and complements the upland setting with spectacular views. We now look forward to seeing the project progress and the green technologies in action."

Arthur's daughter, Bronwen, was the climate change champion for Wales and was recently an Olympic torchbearer in Caerphilly.

The project is being promoted as an exemplar by both Caerphilly County Borough Council, and the Building Research Establishment, who have supported its development.



Supporting Rural businesses

The council's Rural Development Plan (RDP) team are keen to support businesses in the 14 rural wards across the county borough.

Eligible business can access a wide range of support and advice from the team, who work hard to promote, foster and enhance viable and sustainable rural communities within the area.

The Rural Development Plan for Wales (RDP) is jointly funded by the

European Union (EU) as part of the Common Agricultural Policy through the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, and the Welsh Government. It will run until 2013.

For more information call the RDP team on 01443 838632 or visit www.caerphilly.gov.uk

Jack hits the right note

Jack Mainwaring, the Head Boy at Pontllanfraith Comprehensive School, beat experienced competition at this year's Urdd National Eisteddfod, to win first prize in the Woodwind Solo Category.

Jack, aged 16, travelled to Eryri in North Wales to compete in one of the largest cultural youth festivals in Europe. He wowed judges with a captivating flute performance of Hypnosis by Ian Clarke.

Jack, who previously won Caerphilly Schools' Young Musician of the Year at the age of 13, has been playing the flute for seven years.

"I was really surprised to hear my name called as the winner. I am also proud of the fact that I have done this as a pupil from an English Medium School in Wales."

Cllr Rhianon Passmore, Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning, said,

"I am incredibly proud that a school from Caerphilly county borough has produced such a great talent in Jack. He is truly an inspiration and I wish him every success in his future ambitions."



'SMART' PROTECTION FOR COUNCIL PROPERTY

Council equipment and homes have been marked with an invisible fluid that allows police to trace stolen metal goods.

Over recent months, Caerphilly County Borough Council, like many areas across the UK has seen a sharp increase in the number of metal thefts from its homes, including central heating systems and copper piping.

The council has therefore taken steps to tackle this important issue, using SmartWater, which uses unique forensic coding systems in a liquid form, which can be used to individually identify property.

SmartWater is virtually impossible to remove from metal and will even withstand burning. Any metal marked with the substance can be irrefutably identified by police, therefore it makes it much harder for thieves to sell on the items once stolen and greatly increases their chances of detection and arrest.

Cllr Gerald Jones, Deputy Leader of Council and Cabinet Member for Housing said, "This technology means that we are able to send out a clear message to thieves that they are running a very high risk of being caught and convicted for their crimes. By clearly signposting our homes and equipment as being SmartWater protected, we hope we will be able to deter thieves and help further reduce crime of this nature across our county borough."

Delivering services to make a real difference



A new council was formed in May following the local elections and details of the new Leader and Cabinet Members are as follows:

■ **Leader of Council, Cllr. Harry Andrews** said, "We have been given a great responsibility by the people of the county borough to deliver the right services and make a real difference to their lives."

"The Cabinet has been restructured to meet the demands of business today. We have reduced the special responsibility payments from 22 to 18 and in doing so we have created a new cabinet post."

"We believe this is the best use of the resources available as earlier this year we received an unequivocal mandate from our council house tenants to spend over £173 million refurbishing the 11,000 properties in the county borough."

"We have made a commitment to meet the Welsh Housing Quality Standards by 2019. This requires due diligence and the **Deputy Leader, Cllr Gerald Jones** has been given this responsibility."

■ **Deputy Leader, Cllr Keith Reynolds** will be responsible for Corporate Services, which embraces a wide range of support services and delivers the financial resources for council.

■ **Cllr Dave Poole, Cabinet Member for Community & Leisure Services** holds an extensive service portfolio covering a range of frontline community services. We have put the eradication of antisocial behaviour as a priority and Dave will be driving this forward.

■ **Cllr. Christine Forehead, Cabinet member for HR & Governance and the Cabinet's Business Manager.** The council employs over 9000 people and we look after their wellbeing and health and safety as they deliver services to local people.

■ **Cllr David Hardacre, Cabinet Member for Performance & Asset Management.** The council has an extensive property portfolio and ensuring our assets are properly managed and maintained enhances our ability to maximise their use for the benefit of the people.

■ **Cllr. Ken James, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Planning & Sustainable Development.** We want to invest our resources

in our towns and village centres creating good employment and training opportunities particularly for young people. We will continue to support local businesses and increasing our tourism offer which brings in approximately £84 million per annum.

■ **Cllr Rhianon Passmore, Cabinet Member for Education & Lifelong Learning** will continue to work closely with the Welsh Government to ensure we maximise the investment in new schools across the county borough to ensure they are fit for the 21st century.

■ **Cllr Tom Williams, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transportation & Engineering** will play a key role ensuring our capital programme for roads enhances business opportunities for the county borough and allows citizens to move quickly and easily around the area.

■ **Cllr Robin Woodyatt, Cabinet Member for Social Services.** The council has embarked upon a major collaborative programme with Blaenau Gwent Social Services and this follows on from other joint successful health, social care and wellbeing projects.

'Green' furniture factory in Rhymney

Are you looking for a new sofa or electrical appliance, but you are on a tight budget? Or perhaps you would like your old furniture to be put to good use?

Anyone living in the Caerphilly county borough can make use of the Community Furniture Enterprise in Rhymney, which refurbishes used furniture and electrical items to sell on at reduced prices. Open to people from all backgrounds, whether in employment, on a low income or on benefits, there is a wide selection of good quality furniture and white goods for all rooms in the family home available at the showrooms in Lawn Industrial Estate, Rhymney.

The Community Furniture Enterprise relies on donations from the public, and will arrange collection of unwanted household items from residents which will then be refurbished and resold.

Anyone wishing to donate can call **01685 846830**, but please check that any upholstered furniture has the relevant label stating that it has passed 1988 fire safety regulations and that any electricals are in working order.

If you are interested in purchasing furniture from the enterprise visit www.community-furniture.co.uk to view the numerous items they have on offer or go along to the shop. Opening times are Monday – Thursday 8.30am-4.30pm Friday 8.30am - 4pm.

The Community Furniture Enterprise is managed by Groundwork Caerphilly in partnership with Caerphilly County Borough Council.



MEPHEDRONE WARNING

New warnings have been issued locally over the dangers of notorious party drug mephedrone.

The man-made stimulant is sometimes referred to as 'Meow Meow', 'MCAT', 'meph', 'bubbles' and locally as 'magic'. It was banned as a Class B drug in April 2010 after it was linked to a string of deaths amongst youngsters, however there are fears that users are underestimating the dangers because of its previous legal status.

It is imperative that members of the public realise the dangers associated with mephedrone and are aware of the repercussions. Possession of the Class B drug could carry a five-year prison sentence and supply could leave you facing a fourteen-year sentence.

Maria Evans, Substance Misuse Planning and Commissioning Lead Officer said, "Any substance misuse among young people is a cause for concern. The good news is that if young people need help they can get it

quickly through services available in the county borough, and they respond particularly well to these programmes."

If you or someone you know is 18 or under and has an issue with drugs or alcohol please call freephone **0808 168 7176**.

If you are over 18 and would like more advice or support about drugs contact GOALS on **02920 868675**. For family support linked to substance misuse contact DAFS (Drug and Alcohol Family Support) on **01495 240824**.



**Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr,
Ystrad Fawr Way, Caerphilly Road,
Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed, CF82 7GP**

**Main Switchboard:
01443 802200**



Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr - The story so far

Many services previously only available at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Prince Charles Hospital & the University Hospital of Wales are now available in Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr.

What services are in the hospital?

The hospital has 269 beds, all in single en-suite bedrooms which help to provide high quality care, reduce hospital acquired infection rates and give patients the privacy and dignity they need. Around 640 staff work in the hospital.

The hospital has:

- **24-hour nurse led local emergency centre, integrated mental health unit.**
- **Operating theatres & facilities for day surgery.**
- **Comprehensive diagnostic, outpatient and therapy services.**
- **Wards for medical assessment, acute conditions, rehabilitation, stroke, surgery and frailty.**
- **Three mental health wards.**

Helpful Numbers

Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr: 01443 802200

NHS Direct: 0845 46 47

GP Out of Hours: 0845 600 131

Dental Helpline: 01633 488389

Facts about Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr -

- Since the hospital opened in November 2011, 50,850 patients have been treated.
- 9,816 patients attended clinics between January and April 2012.
- For the first time a CT Scanner is available in the County Borough, around 2,500 scans have been carried out so far, avoiding patients having to travel to Nevill Hall Hospital and the Royal Gwent Hospital.
- 3,500 more X-Rays have been carried out compared to a similar period in Caerphilly District Miners' Hospital. This is due to the increased opening hours of the Local Emergency Centre and also additional out patient clinics that take place in the hospital.
- Over 2,000 dermatology patients were treated with phototherapy for skin conditions since February 2012. Previously these patients would have had to travel to Newport.
- A hydrotherapy pool is now available for the first time in the area - 882 patients have been treated in the pool so far.
- Around 1,000 more ultrasound scans have been carried out.
- 165 babies were born in the hospital during the first half of this year - more women are choosing the new environment in Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr to have their baby in a purpose built facility.

You said, we did -

A number of early teething problems were highlighted, by patients and visitors: these included – the need for more signage, a drop off point for the Local Emergency Centre, patients feeling isolated in single rooms, BBC Wales not being available on TVs, a better mobile phone signal, and more wheelchairs being required.

These issues have now been addressed, 250 extra signs were erected, direct signs to a drop off point at the Local Emergency Centre, a befriending service will be introduced and day rooms have been extended to avoid patients feeling isolated, a BBC Wales aerial was installed together with a booster system for mobile phones and 20 more wheelchairs were ordered to be made available at entrances. The hospital is already treating far more patients than was predicted and over 20 new nursing appointments have been made.

Catering services in the hospital prepare around 720 meals for patients every day! All food is now freshly cooked on site, where previously some local hospitals used a 'cook from frozen' method. A WRVS shop is now open and a trolley service to wards has also been introduced.

For more information please contact the hospital focus group on (01495) 241244



Aneurin Bevan Health Board is the operational name of Aneurin Bevan Local Health Board

A New Concept in Emergency Healthcare -

The Local Emergency Centre (LEC) comprising a Minor Injuries Unit and the Acute Medical Unit provides a new concept in emergency healthcare. Emergency services are now available 24 hours every day of the year.

The Minor Injuries Unit -

Minor Injuries are defined as injuries that have been sustained in the last 48 hours, beyond this period patients should access their own GP or Practice Nurse.

These include:

- Cuts, grazes and bruising.
- Recent wounds (in the previous 48 hours) including those that might need gluing, stitching or steri-strips.
- Minor burns and scalds.
- Sprains, strains and fractures.
- Tetanus immunisation after injury.
- Removal of foreign bodies from eyes, nose or ears.
- Minor eye problems including removal of contact lenses.
- Insect bites or other animal bites.
- Minor head injury (no loss of consciousness or vomiting and no other symptoms e.g. headache, nausea, visual disturbance, dizziness).
- Removal of rings, earrings or studs.
- Limb injuries where patient can still weight bear through their foot or move fingers.

A team of 22 Emergency Nurse Practitioners (ENPs) currently work between Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr and the Royal Gwent Hospital.

ENPs are highly skilled nurses who can carry out many diagnostic tests and can prescribe certain medicines. They are based in the Minor Injuries Unit and can also redirect patients to the most appropriate specialist.

Claire McCarthy, ENP explains "This is an exciting time to be in nursing as an Emergency Nurse



Practitioner because our role is expanding all the time. In other parts of Wales more centres like ours are coming on stream and are able to deal with everything but the most serious illnesses and injuries."

The Acute Medical Unit -

In the Acute Medical Unit patients with a medical condition are assessed and can be admitted for observation. This unit is staffed by doctors. ENPs can refer patients here and can also contact a doctor if they have concerns about a patient they are treating in the Minor Injuries Unit.



The GP Out of Hours Service is also based within the LEC which means that GPs and community primary care services are closely linked.

Waiting times will be much shorter if the Local Emergency Centre is used appropriately, says A&E consultant, Jane Gwilliam... "Local people will get prompt and excellent care preventing them from having to travel to busy A and E units where they will inevitably have to wait much longer. Staff have been highly trained to recognise when the condition is more serious and needs medical attention by a doctor. Therefore if a patient does result in being redirected, it is for the benefit of the patient."

MRI and CT Scanners -

MRI and CT scanning is now available in the hospital. This provides local patients with state of the art technology locally without the need to travel to other hospitals e.g. the Royal Gwent Hospital and Nevill Hall Hospital.

Smoke Free -

Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr is 100% smoke free. We are grateful for the support of the public in keeping the hospital (including grounds and car parks) smoke free at all times, this will help to keep the new hospital a healthy and pleasant environment for everyone.

Focus on a new service -

A Foot and Ankle Centre has recently been opened in the hospital. This means that all outpatient and surgical services relating to foot and ankle problems are now provided in Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr.

The centre has a 'one stop shop' where patients can have a number of treatments carried out in one single visit e.g. clinic appointment, radiology, fitness for surgery assessment, orthotic and physiotherapy assessments, and finally surgery if required.

This facility is not currently available for orthopaedic patients in any other NHS hospital in Wales, and very few such centres exist in the UK. It is well equipped with state of the art technology including on site MRI, CT, portable ultrasound machines to assist with diagnosis and treatment.

Mr Kartik Hariharan, Consultant Orthopaedic and Foot and Ankle Surgeon said "This is an extremely exciting opportunity for our foot and ankle services which will have significant advantages for our patients. My colleagues and I view this as a unique opportunity to streamline foot and ankle services in this part of Wales."



■ Mr Kartik Hariharan (far right) and his team in the foot and ankle centre.

Useful Numbers Rhifau Defnyddiol

MAIN SWITCHBOARD PRIF SWITSFWRDD ☎ 01443 815588	Children's Social Services Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i Blant ☎ 0808 100 1727
Minicom Minicom ☎ 01443 873626	Consumer Advice Cygngor i Ddefnyddwyr ☎ 01495 235111
Emergency number for all services: Rhif argyfwng ar gyfer pob gwasanaeth: ☎ 01443 875500 (Out of hours only • Allan o Oriau yn unig)	Council Tax Enquiries Ymholiadau Treth y Cyngor ☎ 01443 863002
Adult's Social Services Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i Oedolion ☎ 0808 100 2500	Furniture Recycling Ailgyrchu Dodrefn ☎ 01685 846830
StreetPride BalchderStryd ☎ 01443 866566	Housing & Council Tax Benefits Budd-daliadau Tai/Treth y Cyngor New Claims: Hawliau Newydd: ☎ 01443 866567 Existing Claimants: Hawliau Newydd: ☎ 01443 864099

Maesycwmmmer Highway Improvements - Update

Caerphilly County Borough Council has been developing plans to improve the traffic flow and ease congestion along the busy A472 principal road in Maesycwmmmer.

In order to progress the works, the council needed to seek funding from the Welsh Government in the form of a Transport grant. The Minister for Local Government and Communities has recently informed the council that the funding bid for the scheme has not been accepted. However, The Minister did state that officials would work with CCBC officers to consider value for money and community concerns in considering potential funding streams.

The proposed works were outlined at a recent public Information Day held in the village which was well attended by many local residents, therefore it is important that this decision is relayed to all interested parties. The council is now considering a way forward with Welsh Government officials and will look at other options if appropriate.

Diweddariad - Maesycwmer Gwelliannau Priffyrdd

Mae'r cyngor wedi bod yn datblygu cynlluniau i wella llif traffig a lleihau tagfeydd ar hyd prif ffordd brysur A472 ym Maesycwmer.

Er mwyn bwrw ymlaen â'r gwaith, roedd angen i'r cyngor geisio am gyllid gan i'r cyngor Lywodraeth Cymru ar ffurf grant Trafnidiaeth. Yn diweddard dywedodd y Gweinidog dros Lywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau nad oedd y cais am gyllid ar gyfer y cynllun wedi cael ei dderbyn. Er hynny dwedodd y Gweinidog y bydd Swyddogion yn gweithio â CSBC i ystyried gwerth am arian a phryderon cymunedol wrth edrych ar ffynonellau ariannu posib.

Gafodd y gwaith arfaethedig ei amlinelli mewn Diwrnod Gwybodaeth gyhoeddus a gynhaliwyd yn ddiweddar yn y pentref a fynychwyd yn dda gan nifer o drigolion lleol, felly mae'n bwysig bod y penderfyniad hwn yn cael ei throsglwyddo i bawb sydd â diddordeb. Mae'r cyngor yn awr yn ystyried y ffordd ymlaen a bydd yn edrych ar opsiynau eraill os yw'n briodol.

What's ON / Digwyddiadau

www.caerphilly.gov.uk/events • www.caerffili.gov.uk/digwyddiadau

Sign up to receive regular information about local events by e-mailing: events@caerphilly.gov.uk • Cofrestrwch i dderbyn gwybodaeth reolaidd am ddigwyddiadau lleol drwy e-bostio: digwyddiadau@caerffili.gov.uk

Aquatic Beasts or Art Attack • Bwystfilod y Dŵr neu Gyrch Celf 20/07/2012, 11am

Parc Cwm Darren • Parc Cwm Darren
Have a go at pond dipping to see what lurks in the deep waters of Parc Cwm Darren or create your own aquatic beastie!
Pond dipping: 11am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 3pm.
Art Attack: 11am to 3pm.
Ewch ati i chwiliota yn y pwll i weld beth sy'n byw yn nfyroedd dwfn Parc Cwm Darren neu beth am greu eich bwystfil dŵr eich hun!
Chwiliota yn y pwll: 11am i 12.30pm a 1.30pm i 3pm.
Cyrch Celf: 11am i 3pm.
01495 235219

Family Fun Day • Diwrnod Hwyl i'r Teulu 21/07/12, 12pm - 4pm

Lewis Girls Comprehensive School • Ysgol Gyfun Lewis i Ferched

Bring all the family to this fantastic fun packed day! On offer will be Musical & Sport performances - A Dog show - Face painting - Bungee run - Sporting activities - Inflatable assault course - Archery - Speed shot sumo wrestling - Badge making - Bouncy castle - Information stalls - Local crafts suppliers & traders - Refreshments and much more! Tickets cost £10 for family up to five or £4 under 16s, £2 per adult. All activities once inside are FREE!!!

Dewch â'r teulu i gyd i'r diwrnod gwych, llawn hwyl hwn! Bydd perfformiadau Cerdd a Chwaraeon ar gael - Sioe Cŵn - Paentio wynebau - Ras Byrnji - Gweithgareddau Chwaraeon - Cwrs antur chwyddadwy - Saethyddiaeth - Reslo sumo speed shot - Gwneud bathodynau - Castell neidio - Stondinau gwybodaeth - Gwerthwyr crefftiau lleol - Lluniau a llawer mwy! Tocynnau'n costio £10 i deulu o hyd at bump neu £4 i blant o dan 16, £2 i oedolion. Ar ôl talu'r pris mynediad, mae pob gweithgaredd AM DDIM!!!!

Coal, Celts & Contrast Walk • Taith Gerdded Cloddio, Celtiaid a Chyferbyniad 21/07/12, 10am-3pm

Cwmcam Forest Drive • Ffordd Goedwig Cwmcam
Join us for this popular walk around the Nantcam Valley and Mynydd Henllys! Enjoy fantastic views across to the Beacons and Bristol Channel from Twmbarlwm and gain a little insight into the history of the area!

Ymunwch â ni ar y daith gerdded boblogaidd hon o amgylch Cwm Nantcam a Mynydd Henllys. Gallwch fwynhau golygfeydd hyfryd o'r Bannau a Môr Hafren o Dwmbarlwm a chael rhywfaint o flas ar hanes yr ardal!

01495 272001

Summer photo walk • Taith gerdded lluniau yr haf 22/07/12, 10am - 3pm

Manmoel • Manmoel
A walk around the village of Manmoel, through woodland, pasture and over a common, with Tim Collier. Bring a camera and lunch. Meet at the Village Hall, Manmoel NP12 0RJ. Booking required for this event.

Taith gerdded o gwmpas pentref Man-moel, drwy'r coed, ar y tir pori a dros y comin, gyda Tim Collier. Dewch â camera a chinio gyda chi. Cwrdid yn Neuadd y Pentref, Man-moel NP12 0RJ. Bydd angen trefnu lle am y digwyddiad hwn.

078 3621 7110

Pirates & Princesses Fun Day • Diwrnod Môr-ladron a Thywysogesau

15th August 2012, 11am - 4pm

Llancaiach Fawr Manor 01443 412248

Shiver me Timbers! A welcome return of last year's popular fancy dress event, especially for children aged 3-12. There will be Swashbuckling indoor and outdoor activities with something for everyone. Accompanying adults free. Please note no unaccompanied adults or children.



www.llancaiachfawr.co.uk

15fed Awst 2012, 11am - 4pm

Maenordy Llancaiach Fawr 01443 412248

lo ho ho! Mae digwyddiad gwisg ffansi poblogaidd y llynedd yn dychwelyd, yn arbennig i blant 3-12 oed. Bydd gweithgareddau cyffrous dan do ac yn yr awyr agored, gyda rhywbeth at ddant pawb. Nid oes cost i'r oedolion sy'n dod gyda'r plant. Nodwch, rhaid i blant fod yng nghwmni oedolyn, a rhaid i oedolion fod yng nghwmni plentyn.

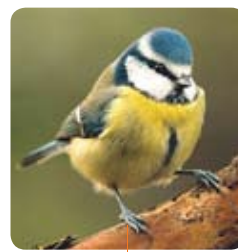
Bird Boxes & Bird Feeders • Blychau Adar a Bwydwy Adar

27th July 2012, 11am - 3pm

Parc Cwm Darran

Have a go at Bird Box and Bird feeder making and take them home to put up in your garden. £3 per bird box and £1 per bird feeder.

01443 875557



27ain Gorff 2012, 11am - 3pm

Parc Cwm Darran

Rhowch gynnig ar greu Blwch Adar a Bwydwr Adar ac ewch â nhw gartref i roi yn eich gardd. £3 fesul blwch adar a £1 fesul bwydwr adar.

01443 875557

Sultan's Summer Sessions • Sesiynau Haf Swltan

6th - 10th August

Parc Penallta

Join us for a week of fun packed family activities at Parc Penallta. There will be a wide range of wildlife or countryside related activities to enjoy from catching a dragon to surfing the skies.

01443 816853



6ed - 10fed Awst

Parc Penallta

Ymunwch â ni am wythnos llawn hwyl i'r teulu ym Mharc Penallta. Bydd amrywiaeth eang o weithgareddau bywyd gwyllt a chefn gwlad i'w mwynhau o ddal draig i syrffio drwy'r awyr.

01443 816853

Trowels & Treasure! • Tryweli a Thrysor!

24 - 27/07/2012, 10am - 5pm

Winding house, New Tredegar • Tŷ Weindio, Tredegar Newydd

Get digging at the Winding House! There are Mystery objects and fabulous finds waiting to be discovered at this hands-on history and archaeology Adventure for all ages. Part of the Festival of British Archaeology.

Ewch ati i balu yn y Tŷ Weindio! Gallwch ddarganfod eitemau dirgel a gwych yn y digwyddiad hanes ac archeoleg ymarferol hwn Antur i bobl o bob oedran, Rhan o Wyl Archeoleg Prydain.

01443 822666

Blackwood Carnival • Carnifal y Coed

Duon 04/08/2012, 12pm

Blackwood Town Centre • Canol Tref Coed Duon

FREE EVENT!!!! The carnival starts at the top of Blackwood High Street where you can follow the carnival and its floats along the High Street to its finale at Pontllanfraith Council Offices. Musical entertainment, face painting, children's activities, food and craft stalls and funfair rides will offer you an afternoon of family fun.

DIGWYDDIAD AM DDIM!!!! Mae'r carnifal yn dechrau ar ben uchaf Heol Fawr y Coed Duon lle gallwch ddilyn y carnifal a'r ffloatau ar hyd yr Heol Fawr hyd at ei ddiwedd yn Swyddfeydd y Cyngor, Pontllan-fraith. Cewch brynghawn llawn hwyl i'r teulu gydag adloniant cerddorol, paentio wynebau, gweithgareddau i blant, bywyd a stondinau bywyd a chrefft a reidiau ffair.

Get out and play!

There will be fun for all the family at Morgan Jones Park in Caerphilly on Wednesday 1st August.

Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO) and partners are holding a Play Day celebration between 12pm and 4pm. Play Day is the celebration of the child's right to play. All the family will be able to try a range of play opportunities including; den building, junk modeling, dressing up, sports, water slides, arts and crafts, pond dipping, a climbing wall, stalls and much more. Bring along a picnic and have some play day fun! The event is FREE and all ages can participate.

www.playday.org.uk • **01443 863540**

Ewch allan i chwarae!

Bydd hwyl i'r teulu cyfan ym Mharc Morgan Jones yng Nghaerffili ar Ddydd Mercher 1af Awst.

Mae Cymdeithas Mudiadau Gwirfoddol Gwent (CMGG) a phartneriaid yn cynnal dathliad Dydd Chwarae rhwng 12pm a 4pm. Mae Diwrnod Chwarae yn ddathliad o hawl plentyn i chwarae. Bydd yr holl deulu yn gallu rhoi cynnig ar ystod o gyfleoedd chwarae, gan gynnwys; adeiladu ffau, modelu jync, gwisgo i fyny, chwaraeon, sleidiau dŵr, celf a chrefft, trochi mewn pwll, wal ddringo, stondinau a llawer mwy. Dewch â phicnic a mwynhewch ddiwrnod chwarae hwyl! Mae'r digwyddiad AM DDIM a gall bob oed gymryd rhan.

PROTECTING YOU

The council's Public Protection team aims to ensure that the county borough is a healthy, safe & fair place for people to live, work & visit. One of the team's key tasks is to expose and bring before the courts those individuals and businesses we discover acting illegally.

Below are examples of recent prosecutions:

Defendant	Offence	Court Decision
Sukhjit Sandhu trading as Top Stores, Penyrheol, Caerphilly.	31 May 2012 at Caerphilly Magistrates Court. Sale of alcohol to person under the age of 18.	£135 fine, £258.42 costs and £15 victim surcharge. Prosecuted under the Licensing Act 2003.
Thomas John Davies trading as The Hafodyrnyrs Inn.	31 May 2012 at Caerphilly Magistrates Court. Sale of alcohol to person under the age of 18.	£265 fine, £515 costs and £15 victim surcharge. Prosecuted under the Licensing Act 2003.
Gareth Rhys Collins trading as St Martins Car Sales Caerphilly.	31 May 2012 at Caerphilly Magistrates Court. Supply of a dangerous motor vehicle and statement on invoice indicating that consumer did not have any statutory rights.	£1600 fine, £754.11 costs and £15 victim surcharge. Prosecuted under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008. General Product Safety Regulations 2005.
Owain James Brown trading as GMOT Services Llanbradach.	7 June 2012 at Caerphilly Magistrates Court. Advertising for sale and selling "clocked" Motor vehicle. Advertising and selling a vehicle in the course of a business without disclosing fact he was a motor trader.	£400 fine, £500 costs and £15 victim surcharge, £300 compensation to consumer. Prosecuted under Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008
Karen Louise Harris & David John Harris trading as Spike's Shop, Rhymney.	11 June 2012 at Abergavenny Magistrates Court. Sale of alcohol to persons under the age of 18 (2 offences).	KL Harris £180 fine, £400 costs and £15 victim surcharge. DJ Harris £180 fine, £400 costs and £15 victim surcharge. Prosecuted under Consumer Licensing Act 2003.
Michael Pipe, Longfellow Gardens, Graig Y Rhacca	18 June 2012 at Abergavenny Magistrates Court. Failure to provide any waste transfer documentation during a scrap metal stop check operation.	12-month conditional discharge and ordered to pay costs of £85 and £15 victim surcharge. Prosecuted under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 Section 34 (5).

To view the full list, visit www.caerphilly.gov.uk/prosecutions Prosecution results are provided for a limited period to promote the openness of the council's actions to local residents. Information provided must not be reused in any form without the agreement of CCBC.