

Financial Assistance

We give financial assistance to many clubs, groups and charities that we think will benefit local people (see page 1). To find out more please contact the clerk for an application form or download a form from our website.

This leads nicely onto our next item about a group of people who started out with nothing and yet within a couple of years, with an idea and dedicated and committed hard working people working together as a team, have achieved great things and have given children fantastic opportunities.

This is Cefn Hengoed Majestic Jazz Band's inspirational journey...

The reason we set up the jazz band in 2012 was to give our local children and young adults something to do in the evenings, that was affordable and fun. We wanted our children to pull together to make new friends and to learn at the same time in a disciplined and safe environment



Founder committee members of the Cefn Hengoed Militaires Jazz Band that folded in 1999 along with other volunteers were responsible for the setting up of the new band. So we had lots of experienced people on board and plenty of enthusiasm. The band solely runs itself. We are also a charity registered with the United Kingdom Federation of Jazz Bands. (Ref:282684). All that we own, has been achieved through grants, sponsorship and fundraising events, such as sponsored walks, bag packing, charity nights, fun nights etc. One of our sponsors is Gelligaer Community Council. They have been a huge help to us by providing information and funding opportunities. In return for their support we offer advertising on our bus and equipment. We currently have 34 marching members, ages ranging from 2 - 37. Each member has been taught to play a musical instrument, to march correctly to form a display, as a part of the band. Every member thoroughly enjoys what he or she does. To see their smiling faces when they play at competitions and events is priceless. The children feel that they are doing something worthwhile and feel a sense of achievement. They are excellent role models and represent our community in a positive and respectful manner, and we are so very proud of them all. Our first season of competing was in 2013 and was very successful, with us winning many trophies. We travel most weekends of the year to competitions and carnivals around the UK on our very own 51 seater bus. We also hold our own annual competition at Cefn Hengoed football field, this year it is set to take place on Sunday 20th July. Last year was a brilliant day and we received lots of positive feedback from the community, and we are hoping for the same again this year. So please make a note in your diaries.

If your child is interested in joining the band they train at:-
Hengoed Community Centre every Wednesday 6.00 - 9.00pm and Friday 7.00 - 9.00pm
For further information please call: Leanne Meredith, Band Secretary on 01443 300737
or email her at cefnhengoedmajestics@aol.co.uk

100th Birthday Celebrations

Last year a few of us joined Mrs Violet Stevens in celebrating her 100th birthday at Cascade Methodist Church. Cllr Judith Pritchard presented a bouquet of flowers and a card with our very best wishes. Caerphilly County Borough Council's Mayor and Mayoress also attended along with family and friends. Some of the major events that Mrs Stevens has lived through are 2 British Olympics, WW1 and WW2, and 20 different serving Prime Ministers from Herbert Asquith in 1908 to current PM David Cameron.



Our 'Young Citizen Award' goes to - Charlene Yemm & Shauna Webb - Well Done!

They have been attending youth club for the last five years and will get engaged in any project. They have recently been undertaking a cooking project, which forms part of the ESDGC Scheme that they run at the club. Both have participated in planning, cooking, evaluating and recruiting other young people and this has been an integral part of the 30 week long project. As they are becoming older members of the youth club, they now assist with all aspects of the club, including setting up new projects, recruiting other young people and ensuring that young people's voices get heard! They are clearly an asset to the youth club, and one of the youth workers stated that, 'they have been an absolute pleasure to work with'.



We also nominated them for Caerphilly County Borough Council's Pride in your Place Awards, where they received further deserved recognition and prizes. If you know anyone under the age of 25 years that has undertaken good deeds in the community please let your ward member or the clerk know.

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

The Community Council are funding life saving equipment at Lewis School, Pengam and Lewis Girls School. The initiative is in support of Jack's Appeal, whereby every secondary school should have an AED.

Poppy Project



To commemorate the Great War, Gelligaer Community Council are funding every child in our local schools to plant a poppy in their school grounds. We have 1,850 poppies on order, and during the last week in June, members will be visiting each of our 8 primary schools throughout Gelligaer, to assist the children with the planting, alongside Caerphilly County Borough Council's Park Services personnel.

Swap Your Bottles For Beakers



In an attempt to tackle tooth decay and other dental problems in our children, the Community Council have purchased Doidy beakers. Breast Feeding - a Doidy can be used for babies from the age of 3 months and throughout weaning. Bottle Feeding - a Doidy can be used from 6 months or earlier. Babies at 12 months should actively be discouraged from using a bottle. Please speak with your councillor or health visitor for more information.

Junior Bowls



If your child is interested in taking up outdoor bowls then why not send them along to Gelligaer Bowling Club at Duffryn Field, Gelligaer. The Community Council have purchased lighter bowls and suitable footwear and clothing to encourage children to take up this sport.

The youth at Gelligaer Bowling Club meet on fine days after 4.00pm Monday - Saturday. For further information please contact Mr Bufton (Chairman) on 01443 833373 or Gareth Williams (Coach) on 01443 830812

Bands in the Park - 15th June and 6th July 2014 2.30 - 5.00pm

Bands in the park were a success last year at Ystrad Mynach Park. A lazy couple of hours were spent lying back in deckchairs listening to Oakdale Silver Brass Band. We had to call off the event at Tiryberth due to bad weather.



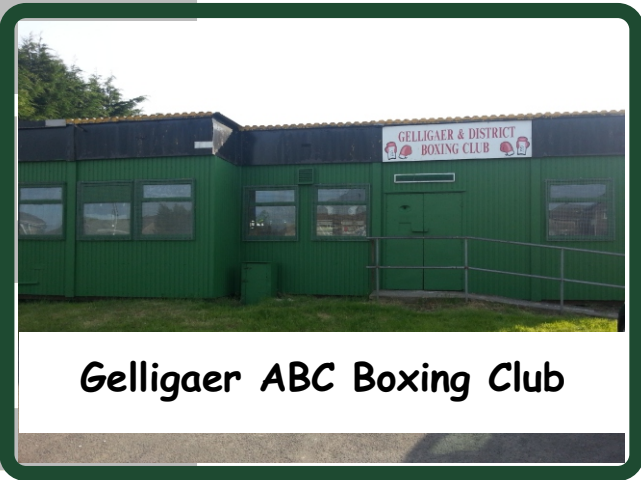
The good news is, that the event will be going ahead again this year at Tiryberth on 15th June with RAF St Athan Voluntary Brass Band performing, and at Ystrad Mynach Park on the 6th July with Oakdale Silver Brass Band returning. Posters, flyers and banners will also be displayed closer to the dates.

Refurbishment

We have supported a few refurbishment projects at Lewis Street Methodist Church and Bryn Seion Baptist, both at Ystrad Mynach, which has made a big difference for the parishioners and other groups that make use of the churches for activities and events.

‘Ysgol Sul Bryn Seion’
Would you like to speak more Welsh over the weekend?

Ysgol Sul Bryn Seion is the only Welsh Medium Sunday School in the area. They sing, do crafts, listen to Bible stories, have refreshments and meet other children.
Venue: Bryn Seion Chapel, Lisburn Road, Ystrad Mynach.
Sunday during term time 11.15am - 12.45pm



Gelligaer ABC Boxing Club

Wild Flowers

We funded Wild Flower planting too last year near (1) The Cross public house (2) in the verge past the entrance and roundabout to Brynsiriol Estate and (3) at Tiryberth Park. We are looking to support this project again this year, with additional areas under consideration.



Ieuan clearly enjoyed the wild flower areas as they attracted lots of butterflies, bees and other insects, which he was keen on showing us!! Ieuan's Grandfather commented on how much local people were enjoying the wild flower areas, and he was interested to learn that the Community Council were behind the initiative along with Caerphilly County Borough Council's Parks Services.

‘Ysgol Sul Bryn Seion’
A hoffech chi siarad mwy o Gymraeg dros y penwythnos?

‘Ysgol Sul Bryn Seion’ yw'r unig Ysgol Sul Gymraeg yn yr ardal. Rydyn ni'n canu, gwneud crefftau, gwrando ar storïau o'r Beibl, cael diod a bisgedi ac yn cwrrd a phlant eraill.
Lleoliad: Capel Bryn Seion, Lisburn Road, Ystrad Mynach.
Dydd Sul yn ystod y tymor 11.15yb - 12.45yp

We funded, along with the Welsh Church Fund and CCBC's Area Forum, a steel container and a lick of paint at the ABC Boxing Club. Conditions were becoming a bit cramped in the club with all of their equipment; thankfully they now have plenty of extra secure storage space. And the site looks much fresher with a newly painted building.

Christmas at Ystrad Mynach

The festoon lighting at Ystrad Mynach has been looking a little poor of late, with more bulbs out than on. So just before Christmas we had new festoon lighting installed throughout the town. The lighting and tree were part funded by Ystrad Mynach Partnership. The Community Council is always striving for value for money and sustainability and is planting Christmas trees with roots at Derwendeg Primary School, Tiryberth Primary, Penybryn and Ystrad Mynach. We also had fitted Christmas lighting in the existing trees at Hengoed Primary School, which was an absolute delight for the children.

Ohhh yes they were...the pantos were a great success!!!

We saw 7 performances of Rapunzel throughout the area of Gelligaer Community Council, which went down very well...just like her hair!!! Of course the pantos would not be possible without our volunteers tirelessly helping out from selling tickets, to setting out chairs, making food, selling hot and cold beverages and snacks, to clearing up at the end of it. So our thanks and gratitude goes out to all of you that got involved.



This year's pantomimes, which will be **PETER PANTomime**, are again booked at the same venues on the following dates:-

Pantomime Dates & Venues for 2014:

Penybryn Village Hall (Jan Moore Tel: 815626)
Monday 1st December 2014 6.00pm
Gelligaer Community Centre (Julie Tel: 831601)
Sunday 7th December 2014 7.30pm
Tiryberth Primary School (Tel: 875526)
Wednesday 10th December 2014 5.30pm
Hengoed Community Centre (Alma Tel: 815312)
Monday 15th December 2014 5.30pm
Lindsay Constitutional Club (Mrs Bolter Tel: 262676)
Wednesday 17th December 2014 6.30pm
Lewis Girls Comp School (Gill Jenkins Tel: 812972)
Sunday 21st December 2014 2.30pm & 5.30pm

Tickets will be available from November 2014

You Ward Members are:
Please contact them if you have any issues.

| Ward | Councillor | Email Address | Telephone No. |
|---------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Hengoed | Teresa Parry | t-parry@hotmail.co.uk | 01443 814826 |
| Hengoed | Judith Pritchard | pritchja@caerphilly.gov.uk | 01443 832785 07968 051824 |
| Cefn Hengoed | Dennis Bolter | bolted@caerphilly.gov.uk | 01443 262676 |
| Cefn Hengoed | Donna Cushing | donnacushingGCC@yahoo.co.uk | 01443 862837 07974 796515 |
| Cascade | Wynne David | davidw1@caerphilly.gov.uk | 01443 832278 |
| Cascade | Graham Hughes | grahamhughes@caerphilly.gov.uk | 01443 820791 |
| Gelligaer | Hefin David | hefindavid@caerphilly.gov.uk | 07902 287223 |
| Gelligaer | Tommy Matthews | | 01443 820146 |
| Gelligaer | Bill Griffiths | w.griffiths@talktalk.net | 01443 822252 |
| Tir y Berth | Nicola Quarry | nicolaquarry@aol.com | 07508 008715 01443 836769 |
| Ystrad Mynach | Alan Angel | angela1@caerphilly.gov.uk | 07935 272163 |
| Ystrad Mynach | Gethin Roberts | brewergeth@gmail.com | 07775 645358 |
| Ystrad Mynach | Martyn James | jamesm8@caerphilly.gov.uk | 01443 813694 |



Gelligaer Community Council Newsletter
Newyddion Bro Cyngor Cymuned Gelligaer

Welcome to Gelligaer Community Council's newsletter. We've had a very busy year supporting clubs, organisations and undertaking many worthwhile projects throughout our area and thought it about time to share some of our good news with you.

Issue No.7
Spring/Summer 2014



Message from Cllr. Dennis Bolter, Chairman

I felt very honoured to be elected as Chairman again to Gelligaer Community Council 2013/14 as it gave me another opportunity to visit some of the many good causes the council supports. I was privileged also to accompany the Mayor of CCBC on some of his duties like welcoming the troops into Bargoed and attending a concert given by the Cefn Hengoed Ladies Choir. And this being my 70th birthday and 50th wedding anniversary, make it all the better. It has been a very good year.



Message from Cllr. Judith Pritchard, Vice-Chair.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my year as Vice-Chair, working alongside our chairman , Cllr. Dennis Bolter. It's good to see so much going on in our various villages, and to know that many of the events have been supported by our Community Council.
There were three highlights of the year for me, the first was in June when I attended the celebrations for the 100th birthday of Mrs Violet Stevens at Cascade Methodist Church - what a wonderful lady and what an example to us all.

The second was the presentation of the Gelligaer Community Council's Young Citizens' Awards to two very special young ladies, Shauna Pugh and Charlene Yemm. They were nominated by one of their youth leaders for their help at the Cefn Hengoed Youth Club. And the third was having the great honour of switching on the Christmas tree lights at Tiryberth School at the end of November. This was a lovely occasion and the children really enjoyed it.
May I wish you all the best for an enjoyable summer - let's hope for good weather!

Clubs and charities that we have supported over the past year have included: The Aber Valley Heritage, Gelligaer ABC Boxing Club, Cascade Under 8's FC, Croeso Club, Cefn Hengoed OAP's, New Start 4 Life, Tredomen Allotment Association, The Melody Makers, Cylch Meithrin Penpedairheol, Gelligaer Ladies Bowls, Eisteddfod y Cymoedd, Gelligaer Allotment Association, Cascade Carvers, CHAD, Cardiac Fitness Solutions, Ystrad Mynach Boys & Girls Club, Cascaid Community Action Group, Cascade Crafters, Bargoed & District Art Society, Cascade Scrabble Club, Cefn Hengoed Majestics Jazz Band, Hengoed Community 1st Responders.

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