

**2013**

## **Green Light to New Town**

**On 28 February RCT Planning Committee gave an outline planning consent for the development of a 'New Town' on the Purolite, Staedler and Leekes**



Sunset

Consent has been given for a Sainsbury supermarket, a Debenhams store, about 40 other shops, a cinema, a hotel and 64 flats, alongside the Talbot Green by-pass site.

Two Pontyclun residents, Claire Wiltshire and Ann Bennett, spoke to raise questions about this development. Pontyclun RCT councillors, Margaret and Paul Griffiths, spoke against the development on the grounds that as there was no evidence of increased spending in shops, quite the opposite, then all the new jobs on this site would be at the expense of jobs in other towns and villages. They did not believe that the highway proposals would overcome the impact of extra traffic.

Talbot Green Councillor, Paul Bacarra, moved the motion to approve the application subject to an important amendment that the developer spends £4 million on the road infrastructure before the development starts.

Posted: Thu, 21 Mar 2013

## There was at least one day in January when the sun shone, and I was enjoying a walk along the Ely River



It was lovely to be sharing the new cycle path with other dog walkers and joggers. I'm looking forward to seeing all the young children in Pontyclun learning to ride their bikes along this wonderfully flat path. In the next year, the further extension of the path will allow traffic free cycling all the way to Pontypridd. The path is funded by the regeneration funds of the European Union. There will be benches and litter bins. There will be bollards preventing vehicle access to the path other than the vehicles used by the Environment Agency to manage the flood defences along the River Ely. The path does look a bit stark now, which we are talking to RCT officers about putting a habitat management scheme in that will allow the growth of meadow grasses and wildflowers – it will also save money through less regular grass cutting. We'll keep you informed and if you have any suggestions please get in touch.

**Posted: Fri, 29 Mar 2013**

# Pontyclun Railway Station

**Our railway station should be one of the main attractions of our village.**



When the whole of South Wales railway lines are electrified at the end of this decade, we can look forward to trains stopping more frequently in Pontyclun. However, the sad truth is that the land belonging to Network Rail is no more than a hideous rubbish tip masquerading as a railway station. It is an absolute disgrace which undermines all our efforts to improve Pontyclun village centre, creating new trade and more jobs. We have asked to meet representatives of Network Rail to find ways in which we can all work together to improve the management, appearance and facilities at Pontyclun Station. Our MP, Owen Smith, and Welsh Assembly member, Mick Antoniw, are joining with us to press for a meeting with Network Rail. We will seek to involve all those residents who have written to us on this matter.

**Posted: Fri, 29 Mar 2013**

# NHS changes – Pontyclun public meeting

Wednesday, 11 July 19.00 at the Bethel Chapel



Royal Glamorgan Hospital

Proposed changes to the NHS provision at Royal Glamorgan will be discussed at a public consultation meeting, organised by Pontyclun Community Council, on Wednesday, 11 July at 19.00 at the Bethel Chapel. Speakers will include Dr Chris Jones, chair of the Cwm Taf Health Board Mick Antoniw AM and Professor Tony Beddow.

Questions and comments from local people will be the focus of the meeting.

The NHS South Wales Programme that is now out for consultation until 19 July (<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/SWP/consultation-documents>), proposes that consultant led maternity, neonatal; in-patient children's services and emergency (A&E) care for the sickest and most seriously injured patients should be concentrated in fewer hospitals in order to ensure consultants are available all hours of the week.

Four possible options are offered in this programme; but the preferred option is currently to downgrade these services at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital by removing the consultant supervision.

**Posted: Wed, 3 Jul 2013**

## Pontyclun's new website starts today



We launched the Pontyclun Community website on 4 July, because it is Independence Day of course – the beginning of the month in which we celebrate the independent retailers of Pontyclun.

Research shows that for every £ spent in a local independent shop between 50p and 70p re-circulates around the local economy. When we spend a £ on-line or out-of-town less than 5p re-circulates.

Let's support local independent businesses. The new Pontyclun community website includes a business directory. Check it out. If your business is not on the website, please get in touch.

**Posted: Thu, 4 Jul 2013**

# Groes Faen Battles to save Babel Chapel

On 8 July over 40 residents of Groes Faen...



Babel Chapel

On 8 July over 40 residents of Groes Faen, one in ten of the village's adult population, came together to plan the rescue of the Babel Chapel which is up for sale.

The meeting had been convened by Groes Faen's Community Councillor Gwynn Griffith. The meeting identified many local needs which would be served by bringing the chapel into community use. There could be nursery groups, youth groups as well as a range of community associations. The venue could be available commercially for birthday and wedding parties. Groes Faen had a clearly identified lack of community facilities and the conversion of this chapel could allow this community to bring this community together. The key was to persuade the chapel authorities to slow down the sale of the chapel – the associated house could be sold separately; so that the community could bid for grant funding.

All residents wanting to support the campaign should contact Cllr Gwyn Griffith at [gwynn.griffith@virgin.net](mailto:gwynn.griffith@virgin.net)

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**Posted: Wed, 10 Jul 2013**

# RCT Council gives Consent for New Town Application

RCT Council has given its consent



Leekes store - area of development

RCT Council has given its consent for the application for up to 40 new retail spaces near Leekes – a 'new town'. The developer will be required to spend £2 million on new lanes and new lights at the roundabout on the A4119 dual carriageway.

A detailed planning consent has been given for a new Sainsbury store on this site and it is predicted that work will start quickly. In contrast it is likely that the consent for the rest of the New Town will lie dormant for some time – no detailed plans have been submitted.'

**Posted: Wed, 24 Jul 2013**

# Arriva trains meets Pontyclun

## Pontyclun residents met Arriva in July



On 16th July, a meeting was held between residents of Pontyclun and Arriva Trains Wales. Arriva Trains Wales was represented by the group station manager, the head of franchise and stakeholder management and the communications manager.

They informed us that a ticket machine will be installed at the station by 15th August and that they would site new bins on the platforms - these have subsequently arrived.

The managers from Arriva Trains Wales have agreed to:

- talk to Network Rail about litter on Network Rail land,
- request the Transport police to arrange for more PCSOs to patrol the station and
- work with us to set up an Adopt a Station group whose members will help improve the appearance of the station.

In the long term

- electrification of the line will happen by 2018 and
- we will eventually get CCTV on the platforms

**Posted: Thu, 8 Aug 2013**

# Report of the Pontyclun public meeting held to discuss the proposed RCT cuts on Tuesday the 5th November 2013



Martin Eaglestone introduced himself as Chair of the meeting. He explained that the meeting had been convened by the local Labour Party so that views could be expressed on the service cuts that RCT Council had proposed as the basis for a public consultation. Views expressed at the meeting would be recorded by Bethan Theaker and conveyed to RCT Council by Pontyclun's councillors Margaret Griffiths and Paul Griffiths.

Paul Griffiths explained the context of the budget cuts. The unregulated banks had expanded credit in such an irresponsible way that they crashed in 2008. As a result, economies contracted, and tax revenues collapsed. It was the loss of tax revenue that caused the deficit not the level of public expenditure. The deficit would decrease as the economy grew but the policy of George Osborne has been to reduce public expenditure and therefore prevent growth. In June 2013 he announced three years of extra deeper cuts in expenditure. The result is that RCT Council has a cut of 3.5% in its funding for next year and a 10% cut over the next three years. The first response of RCT Council has been the proposals to cut aspects of nursery education, youth services, day centres, libraries and Meals on Wheels.

Margaret Griffiths explained that she has been informed by some members of the public that they should stand up to the UK Government and vote against any proposed cut but argued that the effect would be cuts imposed directly by central government. They have also been informed by the public that the Council should cut administrative costs. However, it needed to be recognised that administrative costs had been reduced continuously throughout the past three years and that this was planned to continue. A meeting has been attended with parents who have strong views on the effect of reduced nursery provision on their children's education and on the practicality of finding alternative childcare in the short timescale. People have also discussed the closure of the library and the Day Centre and Youth Services. There are many different views within the community. Paul Griffiths explained that the Pontyclun Library has many unique and valued features - links with children in the School, young people, and others who use it in the community. We need to recognise that it is not only Pontyclun Library that is proposed for closure but also half the other libraries in RCT.

Paul argued that when other communities were losing, or had lost, their library, day centre and youth service, it was not possible to persuade the Council that Pontyclun should keep all three. Paul asked whether the meeting thought that there were ways of providing affordable and sociable lunches other than a Day Centre and asked whether this could be an alternative to closing the Pontyclun Library.

### **Public Comments on the Big Picture**

**Lee** described himself as a young people's representative who had previously worked as a Youth Worker. He asked

- (a) Can Councillors assure the public that they will take a robust view on cuts regarding young people and if they would ensure that an Equality Impact Assessment is requested?
- (b) In regard to the UNCRC, can Councillors make sure that the legal rights of children ages 0 to 18 to have their say on the proposed cuts will be achieved?

Answers to Lee's comments- These questions regarding the Impact Assessment have been asked and will be asked again. Assurances will be sought on the process of involving young people in the consultation process.

Len Arthur stated that Labour Party Councillors should be making a stand and refusing to implement any cuts. £56m has already been cut and we need to ask when enough is enough. He asked the community to work together to fight the cuts. Len made enquiries regarding the RCT reserves and on the level of funding through specific grants.

Answer provided- There is a substantial reserve and a significant amount of that is to ensure that there are funds available to internally insure buildings. The reserve can only be used once. It cannot therefore fund a continuing gap between income and expenditure. The general grant to RCT will be cut by 3.5% next year. The level of other grants for specific purposes is not yet known.

Katherine commented on the consultation document believing that parts of first section are misleading and that the questionnaire is poorly designed. She explained that her and many others had been attempting to contact the Council today to complain about this and could not get through or have been waiting several hours for call-backs.

Answer provided- Paul stated he would encourage everyone to complete the consultation document no matter what your feelings are on the layout of the form. Input can also be given by the public at any time to him or Margaret who will ensure this is fed through to the Local Authority.

### **Nursery Education for Children**

Faye: Parent (UNCRC should be fully applied and an equality impact assessment needs to be undertaken. She believes that the current provision of nursery provides crucial support for younger children helps children with disabilities and that cutting nursery education will have a dramatic impact.

Marion- Grandmother Expressed concerns that the nursery education for some children will be a very interrupted process: first full time, then part time, then full time. Marion argued

that this sends the message to children that their education is an unimportant optional activity. She asks if any future change can be phased to achieve continuity for each child. Karen Roberts- Runs a Day Centre Nursery and is a School Governor Expressed concerns regarding childcare provision. She argued that there appeared to be nothing in the proposals to allow continued effective integration with the provision of Flying Start in our most deprived communities.

Stephen Parent Expressed concerns regarding the lack of alternative provision of childcare. Concerns about working parents' ability to assure care for their children once nursery provision is reduced to part time. There will be parents who will have to give up employment for children to be picked up from school at the end of the morning. Stephen argued that it is too late to arrange childcare in nurseries for children as spaces are organised years in advance and this cannot be done within a few months.

Ross Parent Stated that RCT has improved young children's literacy levels and that it has been shown that children have enhanced their performance since three to four-year-old education. He expressed concerns regarding 'at risk' children, in that some of these children only get one hot meal a day in school and that this will no longer be provided once nursery education is reduced to part-time.

#### Response

Many points have been very well made: the need for a managed transition, the need to support children with additional needs, the need to overcome the effects of deprivation. The Equality Impact Assessment will be an important document to be considered alongside the consultation responses before any decision is taken.

Margaret and Paul had been meeting with local schools and with local care providers. For the past ten years there has been full time school nursery provision for three-year olds. This has affected the capacity of other providers in the market, but they do believe that with time and support they can rebuild capacity.

#### Library

Brendan O'Reilly enquired as to whether the figures used for the library between 2010 and 2011 reflect the fact that the library was closed for some months during that period, and whether this would have an impact it closing?

#### Other points made included:

- (a) The Elderly will not be able to access Llantrisant Library as there is not public transport and it requires a long uphill walk.
  - (b) What provision is being made for the school children who will lose access to the library?
- Answers provided – We will ensure that full year figures are reported for Pontyclun Library. The proposals imply that Llantrisant library is well located as a single library for Tonyrefail, Llanharan, Llanharry and Pontyclun. There would need to be a case for additional library serving both Pontyclun and Llanharry and a special case for the service it provides for schools.

### **Meals on Wheels**

Sue enquired as to the cost difference of providing hot and cold meals and how much we save by doing this?

It was also noted that if RCT staff are not able to distribute the consultation document, this would not make it easy for those older people who receive meals on wheels to respond to the consultation.

The individuals who use this service will be provided with two chilled meals on Friday for the weekend. There will be reduced delivery costs and a reduction in the number of kitchens. There will be annual savings £300,000 after taking account of the investment needed for a capacity to deliver chilled food. There needs to be consideration of the ability of all recipients to manage chilled food and this needs to be reported in the Equality Impact Assessment.

### **Youth Service**

Lee- Youth Worker expressed concerns regarding elected members understanding the value of youth work and its outcomes. He reported that there were substantial benefits gained from relatively little expenditure. He asked that councillors ensure that they fully understand the nature of this service.

Margaret Griffiths responded that she had helped with a voluntary Youth Club in the local village and understand the impact it has on young people. We are lucky in Pontyclun to have the E3 services held in Y Pant School. However, it is understood that not all children may want to attend this as they have been in school all day. We are fortunate that Bethel Baptist also provide youth services.

Susan asked why over 50's are provided with subsidised meals and whether the Local Authority provides free breakfasts for school children?

Answer provided- It is recognised that most people in their 50's and 60's would not regard themselves as in need of support because of their age. It was confirmed that children do have free school breakfasts as this is covered by specific funding from the Welsh Government.

Jackie- Parents Against Education Cuts.

(a) Enquiry regarding the consultation papers. She has been provided with two documents regarding the cuts and both are very different. One is size A4 and the other size A5. One has many personal questions which she feels inadequate/ not needed.

(b) She also expresses concerns regarding the number of leaflets that were provided. Only 20 in the local library and she has been told there will be no more provided. Which document is she supposed to complete? Why is distribution of the documents not allowed? Posters are only allowed to be displayed in designated places. Confirmed these are Council Posters.

### **Suggestions on Alternative Cuts**

Abbie - Parent asked whether the option of running the Leisure Centres as external charity or businesses had been considered.

There was also a suggestion that street lighting could be turned off in residential areas in the night-time between 12pm and 6am.

Answer provided- All options for the future of the Leisure service are being considered. Street light provision is being reviewed and many lights are being made more energy efficient.

**Posted: Tue, 12 Nov 2013**

# Pontyclun Community Council cuts response

## The PCC consultation response to RCT's phase 1 service cuts



Dear Colleagues

### **RCT medium term service planning – current budget assumptions 2013/14 – 2017/18**

At its last meeting Pontyclun Community Council passed the following resolution in relation to the above. It was agreed your proposals as described above had been distributed to PCC councillors by our two ward RCT councillors and the decision to support the resolution took place following a full debate. A related but separate resolution was also agreed opposing the proposed closure of our library; this is the subject of another and specific response you will have received from us.

The Pontyclun Community Council believes that the cuts in services (youth provision; meals on wheels; library provision; school admission arrangements; and day centres) as detailed in the Report of the Corporate Management Team to the RCT Cabinet meeting 21 October 2013 "service change proposals phase 1" will degrade service provision and the quality of life in Pontyclun and other communities in RCT.

*"Whilst acknowledging the UK and Welsh Government decisions provide an unacceptable financial context to these proposals we call upon:*

- 1. RCT councillors to explore all alternatives to making cuts in services and jobs.*
- 2. RCT councillors to vote against these proposals and join with us, trade unions and communities across RCT to challenge the decisions of the two governments.*
- 3. The Pontyclun Community Council will respond to the consultation within the terms of 1 and 2 above.*

*We wish to submit this resolution and the following points to your consultation process on these proposals. We trust these will be accepted as the consultation documents, made available by RCT, do not allow for an adequate response from public bodies and organisations such as ourselves."*

### **Background**

Pontyclun is a vibrant small-town community with a population, in the 2011 census, of over 8000. It has a commercially viable centre and smaller village communities which are very conscious of their identity. The PCC has a policy of helping in every way possible to

commercially sustain the village centre and support the large number of voluntary organisations which provide a rich social life. The census revealed that 34% of the population are under the age of 24 and 22% are aged over 60. Despite the appearance of relative affluence 20% of households have an income below the official poverty line (ONS) and the services of the local foodbank are increasingly in demand. Low wage increases, particularly in the public sector, which is a large employer in the area, have put family incomes under pressure.

This context is important in understanding why we oppose your proposals so strongly. A point made during our discussion was that as families are put under pressure our collective provision of services becomes more important to them. This is why we find this quote from your document particularly chilling: 'The future delivery of all Council services now needs to be fundamentally reviewed and challenged and there is little doubt that this Council, like all others in Wales, will look very different by 2017/18.'

### **Comments**

1. As you will see from the second resolution, we fully understand the changed financial context of RCT because of the austerity policies of the UK government and how this affects those of the Welsh Government. We also recognise that engagement with the consequences of these policies by opposing them should also form part of both our responses.
2. We recognise that £56m has already been taken from the RCT budget over the last four years; largely through efficiency gains and that the current situation has become critical. It is, however, difficult for lay people to fully understand how you have arrived at your financial conclusions and a clearer explanation would have made the consultation process more meaningful. Reserves of £117m, 24% of your net annual spend, seem large and your accounting documents do not fully justify why a proportion of this could not be used to offset some of the proposed cuts. For example, to what extent can some of the £49,355,000 set aside for 'charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets' be released to sustain services? (see statement of accounts 2012/13 page 17 of 161) Given the circumstances could the assumptions underlying this figure be reviewed?
3. We are concerned that the consultation process is not sufficiently meaningful. It is, for example, difficult to understand how £4m is going to be saved from the youth service limiting opportunities for a meaningful consultation response. The questions asked limit alternative responses by expecting a simple yes or no answer: are leading in that they are based on an acceptance of a particular premise: the request for personal information indicates that some responses may be taken more seriously than others and opportunities for open responses are limited. Finally, there is no evidence of the required impact assessment being made or planned.
4. Pontyclun library is the subject of our first resolution and our Community Council response is included as a separate letter.
5. Loss of full-time nursery provision between the ages of three and five is a huge blow to local families that are already under financial pressure. We believe that in balance, full time education for this age group within the curriculum supported by the Welsh Government is of important long-term educational benefit. The provision enables families to have the possibility of a vital second income often enabling expensively trained public sector service

providers to return to work earlier. For many families reducing this provision will amount to a very significant and painful cut in household income. RCT was right to provide this enhanced full-time provision and should under no circumstances back away from this commitment.

6. Meals on wheels are an important part of re-enforcing the general social policy, supported by RCT, of encouraging people to have support in their own home for as long as possible. They provide a daily check on peoples' wellbeing. There is a real risk that meals will either not be heated or properly heated at all over the weekend.

7. As stated above it is difficult to identify exactly how over £4m will be saved by the proposed changes to the provision of the youth service. We know, through our engagement with the local youth service how all elements of the current provision overlap and are coordinated effectively through local CYOGs to cover young people with a range of experiences and social interaction. With 34% of the Pontyclun population under 24 these services are important to us. Locally we would like to support a Pontyclun 'drop-in centre' which would require additional funding as opposed to a cut back.

8. Our day centre is not threatened by these cuts at the moment but again we support this community based provision as another arm of helping people to remain in their own homes, thus providing them with a better quality of life and reducing potential alternative costs to RCT. It may be that RCT should consider extending this provision to other people who are in the situation of isolation and possibly not eating well as opposed to closing the centres down.

### **Conclusion**

From our perspective we feel our community is at the end of the cuts 'food chain'. You, as RCT, are put under financial pressure but our local people and families must bear the social cost. As we have indicated the services are increasingly important to us as individuals, families and as a vibrant community. We cannot pass the pain on to anyone else, so we are left with no option but to oppose your proposals. We are aware that in doing so we are challenging a wider policy rationale but as this is only phase 1 of your proposals, we fear that this and promised further proposals your chilling terms describe '... that this Council, like all others in Wales, will look very different by 2017/18' will permanently degrade the services on which our community increasingly depends. We urge you and all your councillors to take note of our resolutions and join us in our opposition.

**Posted: Tue, 3 Dec 2013**

**2014**

## **Pontyclun Walk for Life April 6th**

**A big thank you to everyone who got involved!**



WFL 2013

Matthew Harris and the organisers of the Pontyclun/ Llantrisant Walk for Life 2014 would like to pass on their thanks. *"Thanks to everyone who took part in our annual walk. Once again over 100 people took part. A huge thanks to Deborah Evans and Mark who put on a huge amount of work helping organising the event. Over 70 people enjoyed an excellent meal at the Bute. Thanks to John and James and all the Staff. We are confident of beating the £2400 raised last year!"*

**Posted: Sat, 5 Apr 2014**

## Riverside Walk Brynsadler



### River Walk

Last Sunday morning a group of volunteers went down to the riverside walk in Brynsadler and began extending the walk into the woods below Millfield cutting out fallen wire fences. It is already a wonderful walk and the more of us who walk it regularly the easier it will be to maintain.

On Easter Monday, 21 April, everyone is welcome to join us again, secateurs in hand, as we beat back the bush a little further. We are meeting from 10 am onwards and then adjourning to the Ivor Arms for lunch.

It is worth remembering that this is land that a former Community Council voted to sell to a local developer and was prevented from doing so by a mass rebellion from Pontyclun's revolutionary masses.

**Posted: Wed, 9 Apr 2014**

# Late News!! Pontyclun 'Fame Factory' steals show!

**MASSIVE congratulations to 'Musicality' who were the proud winners of Sport Relief Does Glee Club 2014!!**



Friday the 21st March, South Wales based 'Musicality' group, made up of children from Y Pant Comprehensive students, and residents of Miskin and Groes Faen, got to the final round of BBC's "Sport Relief Does Glee Club", and won the voting audience when they stole the show taking 1st place!

Fame Factory is a South Wales based Stage School offering the highest standard of tuition in singing, dancing and drama!! Classes take place in Pontyclun Community Centre.

Fame Factory Theatre School is an established stage school based in South Wales.

The school also runs a professional Young Performers agency where many students have worked in TV, Film & Theatre.

<http://www.famefactorytheatreschool.com>

**Posted: Fri, 18 Apr 2014**

## The Comedy Cow at The Brunel Arms



Comedy Cow @ The Brunel Arms

An evening of stand-up comedy took place at The Brunel Arms, on Thursday Evening - headlined by the excellent one liner merchant Gary Delaney.

Gary is a regular guest on Mock The Week and has also recently appeared on Dave's 'One Night Stand', Comedy Central's 'Comedy Blue' and on Channel 4's 'Robert's Web' as well as Radio 4's 'Loose Ends' and Radio 2's 'Russell Kane's Whistle-Stop Tour'.

Opening the night was Andy White. Andy is an energetic, confident and silly Brummie who combines silly voices and a mad afro to devastating comic effect.

Hosting the night was Paul James. Paul has a warm and laid-back style, which together with an ever-present glint in his eye puts an audience at ease, even if they feel just a little naughty afterwards.

It was a sell-out first time event, and newcomers and locals alike enjoyed the energetic atmosphere and hilarity that the night promised.

**Posted: Fri, 18 Apr 2014**

# Boars Head Beer Festival



Festivities!

The Boars Head Tyla Garw had an overwhelming turn out over the weekend and would like to say a big thank you to all the staff, bands & customer for making it one of their busiest ever.....

"We raised £100 for the Rotary that we will make up to £300.00, using the raffle (number below)

The BBQ for Team Amanda took £ 375.00 so a big thank you for the girls that flipped all the burgers & sausages.

We are also going to give £300.00 each to the British Heart Foundation, Alzheimer's Society & Macmillan Nurses.

Raffle Numbers: If you have a winning ticket please let me know, email or call pub on 041443 225400 (Ticket will need to be seen)

Sunday meal for 4 @ the Boars Head – 216-220

Bottle Vintage Port – 431-435

Litre Harveys Bristol Cream – 226-230

Portmeirion boxed 2 tier cake stand & 2 glass tumblers – 376-380

House of Commons Merlot 2011 – 121-125

Whisky Marmalade & Cherry Jam – 421-425

Bottle Orkney single malt – 221-225

Wrapped Box of Cosmetics – 326-330

6 bottles Moondarra Australian Shiraz – 16-20"

Well done!

**Posted: Tue, 22 Apr 2014**

# Pontyclun District Arts and Crafts Festival 2014

Announcing! Pontycluns Art Festival coming October 2014!!!



Art Festival

Pontyclun and District Arts Festival 2014

Hello everyone.

For those that have not heard Julie Croad is putting together several events to form an Arts Festival for Pontyclun in October 2014.

There will be workshops and talks, exhibitions, shows and lots of events covering as many of the arts as possible. Many will be free to attend and take part in.

If you are holding an event in October and it can be linked to the "arts" please let Julie know if you would like it to be included in the festival.

If you take part or teach in an artistic pastime and would like to get involved, please let her know.

If you would like to know more information, please contact Julie.

If you are an organisation that sponsors community events, please, please get in touch!

Julie Croad Email: [croad426@btinternet.com](mailto:croad426@btinternet.com), Tel: 07933 944165

**Posted: Tue, 6 May 2014**

# Parkinson's Cafe Starts!

**Parkinson's Cafe Thursday 29th May**

CHANGE ATTITUDES. FIND A CURE. JOIN US.

CHANGE ATTITUDES. FIND A CURE. JOIN US.

## Parkinson's Café

Parkinson's Cafe

Pontyclun Athletic Club 2- 3:30pm,  
Last Thursday of every month.

Open to people living with Parkinson's, their family, carers and friends.  
Come and join your local group for friendship, support, information, coffee and cake.

Contact 01443 227448

**Posted: Tue, 27 May 2014**

## Saturday 14th June - PAG Village Summer Fair- war memorial field.



10am- all day

PAG is having a Summer Fair on Saturday 14th June in the school field next to the war memorial.

There will be a fair, stalls and traditional country amusements.

Performance entertainment yet to be announced but if you are interested in getting involved, contact PAG via Alexia Mei [alexiamai@outlook.com](mailto:alexiamai@outlook.com)

**Posted: Tue, 10 Jun 2014**

# Pontyclun Stained Glass Window Festival!

## 28th - 29th June

### St. Paul's Church Stained Glass Window Festival & Competition



Stained Glass Window Festival!!

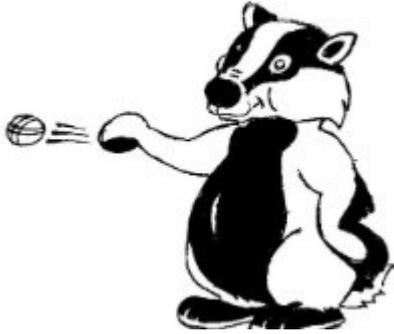
St. Paul's Church Llantrisant Road

10am to 5pm Sat and 12 noon to 5pm Sunday

Stained Glass Window Festival Sat 28th and Sunday 29th June at St Pauls Church, Pontyclun. There'll be over 30 'windows' on show so come along and vote for your favourite one. Entry will be adults £1, child 50p, includes one vote each. Have a cup of tea/coffee/ soft drink and enjoy delicious home baked cakes. There will be a raffle. Doors open 10am to 5pm Sat and 12 noon to 5pm Sunday.

**Posted: Wed, 18 Jun 2014**

## Pontyclun Petanque club second division WIN!



Pontyclun Petanque Team

Big congratulations to Pontyclun Petanque club who, after last night's game, won the second division league title with 1 game still to go. Big achievement for a newly formed club this year. They have only lost 2 games all season so far and look to stay that way after next week's game.

A big thanks to all members of the team who have played extremely well in every game and look forward to playing in division one next year.

If anyone is interested in joining us to maybe make up a second team drop me a message and I'll pass it on or join us on a Wednesday night or Sunday lunch time in pontyclun rugby club for practice

**Posted: Thu, 4 Sep 2014**

# Aladdin rehearsals!

## Rehearsals start for St. Paul's Players panto- Aladdin!



Aladdin- with a twist ;)

This year's panto at St. Paul's Church hall, Pontyclun will be Aladdin - rehearsals start a week later than normal this time, so that will be next Monday (8th September 2014).

The actual panto is going to be a week later than normal too though, so that'll be:

Wednesday 10th December

Thursday 11th December

Friday 12th December

**Posted: Thu, 4 Sep 2014**

## Pontyclun Fashion Show



### Pontyclun Fashion Show

Thursday 9th October 7:30pm Pontyclun Athletic Club, Castan Road

After the success of the last Fashion Show PAG are organising another one!

An evening of entertainment and local fashion, on board so far,

[Bridal Box](#), showcasing the latest in Bridalwear.

[Katwalk Designer clothes](#), specialising in the latest fashion from Italy and Paris.

[The Little Shop of Vintage](#), Talbot Green will entertain you by showing a mix of clothing and music through the decades.

We have various acts throughout the evening including, belly dancing and cheerleading, with more acts to confirm.

Only £10 a ticket with cheese and wine.

Tickets will be available from Monday 15th September at Sensi in Pontyclun.

**Posted: Tue, 9 Sep 2014**

## 24fitcamp comes to Y Pant School



24FitCamp

24FitCamp are running a Free Fit Camp at Y Pant school, it's a 4-week Free Fit Camp to help you lose weight and get in shape!

The Camp includes:

More than 12 Free class  
Simple nutritional education  
Individual guidance for everybody

Our class times are Monday & Wednesday 6.30 pm to 7.30 pm Tuesday & Thursday 6am to 7 am and Saturday 9am to 10 am.

Our next induction night is on the 15th of September at 6pm.

Pleas register at [www.24fitcamp.co.uk/ALY24](http://www.24fitcamp.co.uk/ALY24)  
We trying to help the community get Healthier and Fitter!!!

**Posted: Wed, 10 Sep 2014**

# New fundraising group off to a great start!

## Boars Head quiz for new Marie Curie Fundraising Group was huge success!



Marie Curie

The newly formed Marie Curie Fundraising Group in Pontyclun, recently held a quiz night at the Boars Head in Tyla Garw, Pontyclun. The evening was a great success with over 50 local people turning out to support the event, raising £297.28 for Marie Curie Nurses, it was a lovely evening, and everyone enjoyed themselves. A big thank you to the Boars Head pub for allowing the group to use their venue for free. As well as providing a very generous donation and a prize for the winning team. Also thank you to all the local businesses that donated prizes to the raffle including- Tesco, Worgans, Llanharry News, Pure Indulgence, Pontyclun butchers, Spar and Ann's Chemist.

The Pontyclun Fundraising Group promote fundraising within the local community by organising fundraising activities like quiz nights and collections at local supermarkets, encouraging new volunteers to help the charity, as well as supporting Marie Curie's major fundraising campaigns such as the Great Daffodil Appeal and Blooming Great Tea Party.

If you would like to help the group in any way and would be interested to hear more about them then please join the group at their next meeting, which is taking place on Monday 29th September at 6.30pm in the Boars Head Pub. For more information on any of our local fundraising group please contact Helen Mulhern on 02920 426068 or email

[Helen.mulhern@mariecurie.org.uk](mailto:Helen.mulhern@mariecurie.org.uk)

**Posted: Tue, 23 Sep 2014**

## Giles Gallery has finally moved!



Giles Gallery has officially opened its door at the new premises of the Old Methodist Chapel, Cowbridge Road! They will be open throughout October for the Arts Festival, then revert to normal hours of opening until Christmas. For more information- [www.gilesgallery.com](http://www.gilesgallery.com)

**Posted: Sun, 5 Oct 2014**

# Logo Competition!

## Chance to Win £100 creatively!



LOGO Competition. £100 prize!

To mark its 20th anniversary, it has been decided that the "Community Shop" needs a distinctive LOGO, hence the reason for launching this Competition, which is open to anyone who feels they have the necessary flair to fulfil the challenge, and win the prize of £100.

The LOGO will be used on letterheads and displayed on equipment provided by "Shop" funding, either in the form of plaques or transfers. It may also appear on sports kit, either as an "iron on" or embroidered badge, and for lapel badges, flags, bunting, balloons, or in any other way deemed suitable to help promote and advertise the work of the "Shop".

The chosen theme is left entirely to yourselves, although it must of course reflect the work of the "Shop", and incorporate the words, "Pontyclun Community Shop".

Entries will be judged by the Board of Directors, whose decision will be final. The prize of £100 will be awarded to the winner on the understanding that the chosen design becomes the exclusive property of the "Shop".

Giles Gallery, Pontyclun, have kindly agreed to collaborate with the "Shop" in the running and organisation of the Competition. Please note that you can submit as many entries as you like, using any media, but entries should not be bigger than size A4. Clearly state your name, address and telephone number on the back of each entry. Do not fold, but place each in a large A4 envelope, and clearly mark the top left-hand corner of the envelope, "Shop LOGO Competition".

All entries must be either handed in or sent to Giles Gallery, Old Methodist Church, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, RCT, between Tuesday 14th October and Friday 14th November 2014.

Judging will then take place, and the winner will be invited to a Presentation Ceremony to be held in Giles Gallery on Friday 28th November 2014, in the presence of family members, friends and the local press.

Every effort will be made to safeguard all entries, which may subsequently be collected from "The Community Shop" by 5th December 2014.

**Posted: Sun, 5 Oct 2014**

## Pontyclun Arts Festival Fashion Show huge triumph.



Local charity fundraising group PAG, held a fashion show at the Athletic Club in Pontyclun to raise funds for good causes. The main hall was transformed by black chair covers, white bows and silver table decorations, as well as a starry sky stage background.

It was a sell-out evening with cheese and wine provided, compered by Chris Bolton and several local businesses were involved, with numerous talented local volunteers modelling. Entertainment was provided by the Shehrazat Belly dancers, local vocalist Lucie-Anne Davies and for the finale, Kerry Sanson had everyone on the dance floor rocking a bit of Zumba.

Thanks to Sally Davies for organising on behalf of PAG.

Well done everyone involved!

Edited from text by Alexia Mei, The Gem Thursday October 16th, 2014

**Posted: Sat, 18 Oct 2014**

# Local Artist exhibits new work

## Gary Hamer Rees exhibits at Giles Gallery



### Gary Hamer Rees Exhibition

Aberthin based artist, Gary Hamer Rees, is exhibiting his newest work this Autumn, as the first solo show at the new Giles Gallery. With local themes including the welsh landscape, Colliers and equine subjects, there's something for everyone.

Free admission; visit the Giles Gallery for this nostalgic and stunning exhibition of work.

Finishes October 31st

**Posted: Tue, 21 Oct 2014**

## Pontyclun Arts Festival has inspired and entertained! Bring on 2015!!



Pontyclun Arts Festival 2014

The organisers of Pontyclun Arts Festival wish to let everyone know the following- "I'd like to thank everyone who attended an event/workshop/concert/danced and learned something new! Although numbers at a lot of the events have not been high, this is only the first year. What has happened is that those who did participate enjoyed it so much that craft workshops, in a variety of styles, will be a continuing thing in the Gallery and Brunel. More activities in Pontyclun can only be a good thing. We will also have a book of poetry composed by the children on Y6 in Pontyclun Primary published shortly by David Norrington of the bookshop. Sales of this will raise funds for the school. I will continue to use this group (and the hub of course) to notify everyone of forthcoming activities." - Julie Croad.

**Posted: Fri, 31 Oct 2014**

# Pontyclun Santa Fun Run

Run for Fun! As SANTA!!!



Santa Fun Run

The Pontyclun Santa Fun Run is a new 5k run for 2014. Taking place on December 6th from 10am the run will start in Brynsadler, go along the high street before heading down station road onto the cycle path. At the end of the path the route loops back, past Y Pant and the fire station before heading back down the high street and returning to Brynsadler.

Registration will take place from 9.30 in the Ivor Arms

**Posted: Fri, 28 Nov 2014**

# Pontyclun Christmas Light Switch On!!

## Everyone wrap up warm and join in the carols!



### Pontyclun Christmas Tree

5:30 - 8:00pm events around the Cowbridge Road/ Palalwyf Ave cross section, Pontyclun.

Mince Pies, mulled wine, hot chocolate at Cafe 50 from 5:30pm

Crafts for sale Cafe 50 from 5:30pm

Late night shopping at numerous shops in the village high street 5:30- 8:30pm

Victorian Organ 5:30pm

Cor Tadau outside Giles Gallery at 6:00pm

Pontyclun Primary School Choir outside the Credit Union at 6:15pm

Count Down! at 6:25pm

Lights to be switched on at 6:30pm

Communal Carol Singing 6:35pm

**Posted: Fri, 28 Nov 2014**

## Pontyclun Christmas lights switch on, huge success!



Côr Tadau

Tuesday the 2nd December, a clear evening with more than just a nip in the air! Choirs, including Côr Tadau and Côr Ysgol Gynradd Pont-Y-Clun, lifted festive spirits with carols a plenty.

Local showmen Tommy, Tommy Jr. and family kept us enthralled with wonderful Victorian pipe organ and sated with freshly roasted chestnuts. Along with many of the local businesses staying open later, including the delicatessen, serving delicious hot soup with crusty bread. As everyone waited for the moment this year's streetlights were switched on and the new village Christmas tree on Giles Gallery frontage, donated again by the ever proactive PAG, and powered by the gallery, to dazzle us with its lustre! It did not disappoint. Between 6:15 and 6:30, we as a community were treated to a fantastic fireworks display, wonderful communal carols and an impressive bag piper! The lights they are now lit, and outdo last years, and dare I say a few neighbouring towns!

It's a heart-warming sight to walk or drive through our thriving village again this year. Let's hope it's a sign of a merry Christmas and a flourishing 2015 to come!

Well done and thank you to everyone involved, ours is a community to be oh so proud of.

**Posted: Fri, 5 Dec 2014**

# Weatherman Walking... To the Deli!

**Saturday 20th December Derek Brockway book signing!**



Derek Brockway

10 am - 12:30 pm, the Delicatessen, Cowbridge Road.

The walking weatherman will be at our local Deli, signing copies of his latest book. Join him for tea cake and a chat!

**Posted: Fri, 19 Dec 2014**

**2015**

**Giles Gallery hosts an evening to raise money for this amazing cause!**



Macmillan

Macmillan volunteers invite you to join them at a charity fund raiser at Giles Gallery this February.

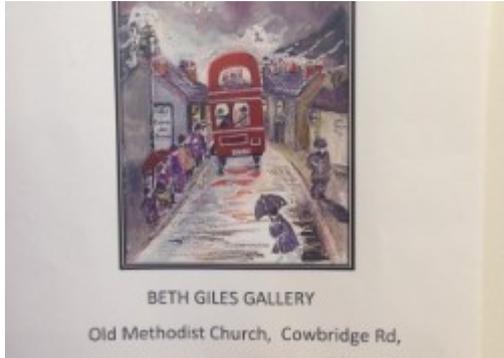
They will be auctioning off over a dozen donated framed tapestry works by a local artist, to raise money for the very worthy cause of Macmillan Nurses.

You are encouraged to bid generously and be rewarded with a wonderful evening with refreshments provided, and hopefully a wonderful new artwork to hang in your own home.

**Posted: Sat, 17 Jan 2015**

# Exhibition- Elizabeth Hopkin

## Latest exhibition at Giles Gallery



### Elizabeth Hopkin Exhibition

Our latest exhibition on work by Elizabeth Hopkin is hung and ready. Elizabeth Hopkin's paintings are a chronicle of life within the Welsh valley community seen through the innocent eyes of a child but executed with the formal composition of an adult. It is the imaginative colours and figures that combine to give her work a curious charm of its own. The most recent paintings show a move to simpler and more poetic expression.

#### Exhibitions-

Fowler Mills Gallery, California

The Greenwich Gallery, Connecticut

Galerie Jean Lavigne, Palm Beach, Florida

Portal Gallery, London

Lucy B. Campbell Gallery, London

Albany Gallery, Cardiff

Giles Gallery, Cardiff

Finalist in Wales Artist of the Year

Private Commissions

**Posted: Tue, 7 Apr 2015**

# Maesyfelin Park



Pontyclun Community Council opened the new play facility over Easter. It has been an astonishing success for the children and families of Pontyclun. The total cost of the 800 metres of new fencing and the play facilities has been £202,000, which has been financed in large part by the Welsh Government's Aggregate Levy scheme. The Community Council was able to apply for the money because the Welsh Government levies money from our local quarry for the benefit of local communities. The Community Council is now working with Pontyclun Primary School on a management plan which ensures that there is open space for sports and games, as well as space for wildflowers, fruit trees, cultivation beds and a path from the school to the new play facilities

**Posted: Tue, 5 Apr 2016**

# Pontyclun Primary School Fete

**Saturday 20 June**



Everyone is welcome to the wonderful family fete next Saturday. There will every sort of entertainment and the weather forecast is good. Starts at 11 am.

**Posted: Tue, 16 Jun 2015**

**2017**

## **Pontyclun Park blooms with new beds**



On Sunday 14th May a group of 26 volunteers built two raised beds for members of the community to cultivate flowers and vegetables. The new raised beds cannot be missed if you visit Pontyclun Park and enjoy this wonderful facility created by Pontyclun Community Council in 2016. The beds follow on from planting the Orchard earlier this year, the funds for which were donated by Rybec homes.

The event was arranged by Lisa Williams, a local resident and Development Worker with of the Federation of City Farms & community gardens. It was supported by generous donations of materials from J T Merchants and Hazelwood Carpentry, who were with us all Sunday morning bringing their skills and organisation to the installation.

The volunteers whose ages spanned from 5 to 75 had a great time building and filling the beds with soil and plants. The beds are for Community use and anyone is welcome to help put in and harvest any edibles.

Pontyclun Community Council and Lisa Williams are now looking for volunteers to help maintain these beds for the future.

Community Councillor Paul Griffiths said " It is wonderful to see so many local people offering their time to support this new people's garden. The council is grateful to the support from Hazelwood and JT Merchants for their support"

**Posted: Thu, 18 May 2017**

**2018**

## **Stargazing and Planetarium show**



Pontyclun Community Council are proud to offer an evening of astronomy with astronomers from Dark Sky Wales. Using state of the art technology DSW astronomers will take you on a journey of discovery through our amazing Universe! Learn about the constellations their stories and legends before venturing to the planets, star clusters, nebula and galaxies. Along the way ask our astronomer those questions you've always wanted answered.

If the weather is kind enough, we will also have telescopes available to firstly observe the Sun before waiting for darkness to look at the night sky!

The event will be held at Pontyclun Rugby and Sports Club on Wednesday 28th March from 4pm.

Tickets costing £2.74 per person can be booked by following this [link](#)

**Posted: Thu, 1 Mar 2018**

# Pontyclun "Spring Clun"



Do you want to help improve the local environment & enjoy it at the same time?  
Then join in the 'Pontyclun Spring Clun' on 14/15 April  
Pick a time and location that suits you & just come along

Saturday 14th

- Station terrace play area - 10.30 to 12 noon
- Cycle path 1pm - 2.30pm
- Miskin Heights 10.30-12 noon AND/OR 1-2.30 pm

Sunday 15th

- Brynsadler Bridge footpath - 10.30 to 12 noon
- Miskin Village Centre - 10.30-12 noon
- Ivor Woods - 1-2.30pm
- Pontyclun Park - 10.30- 12 noon AND/OR 1-2.30pm

Equipment and tools provided

**For further info or to let us know you are coming:**

Email: [srj555@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:srj555@hotmail.co.uk)

Text or phone: 0785 002 0477

Posted: Fri, 9 Mar 2018

# Pontyclun Easter Egg Hunt



Come along to Pontyclun Community Council's Easter Egg hunt in the school Easter holidays.

Search for the hidden treasures and claim your chocolate treat as a prize

**Pick up a map from the council Offices on Thursday 5th April (9am to 1pm).**

Find all the clues hidden around the village and pick up a chocolate treat.

Free event for Children 12 and under. Can be completed up to Friday 13th

Prizes donated by The Co-op and Tesco Stores

**Posted: Thu, 29 Mar 2018**

# Pontyclun Walking Festival 29th May to 3rd June 2018



Pontyclun Community Council is organising a Walking festival for Whitsun Bank holiday week.

There will be a range of walks of different lengths and difficulties suitable for all. We are particularly trying to encourage people to start walking around our lovely area.

Come and enjoy our local countryside and meet some new friends as you go.

The walks are -

- Tuesday 29th May **Family Walk to Pontyclun Park**. Starts at 11am at Pontyclun Community Centre. Leisurely 1.5 mile walk to Pontyclun Park aimed at families. Bring a picnic and stay and play in the park afterwards
- Wednesday 30th May. **Historical Landmarks of Pontyclun**. Starts at 10am at Pontyclun Community Centre. Leisurely 3 miles learning about some of the fascinating history of our area.
- Thursday 31st Enjoy an **evening around Miskin** start 7pm at All Hallows Church in Miskin. Easy 4 miles.
- Friday 1st June. **Wheelchair/Pushchair friendly stroll along the river**. Start at Pontyclun Community Centre at 1pm. easy 2 miles.
- Saturday 2nd **Morning stroll from Pontyclun**. Start at 10am from Pontyclun Community Centre. Easy 3 miles
- Sunday 3rd June - **Walk around Pontyclun, Miskin and Groesfaen**. Starting at 10am from Pontyclun Community Centre. An 8 mile walk across rolling countryside.

Walks in conjunction with Taff Ely Ramblers and the U3A

For more information please contact the Clerk at the Council on 01443 238500 or e-mail [clerk@pontyclun-cc.gov.wales](mailto:clerk@pontyclun-cc.gov.wales)

**Posted: Fri, 20 Apr 2018**

# Vegetable garden & Allotment Competition



Pontyclun Community Council are arranging a Best Vegetable Garden and Allotment competition this summer.

This competition is open to all residents of Pontyclun Community Council wards ( Pontyclun, Miskin, Groesfaen) and aims to promote a sense of pride in their gardens/allotments. It does not matter how small or large your vegetable garden/plot/allotment is, or how young or old you are, just enter and show us your efforts.

## Categories

1. Best Vegetable garden / plot
2. Best small Vegetable garden/plot (less than 2m sq)
3. Best Allotment
4. Best Children's vegetable garden/plot
5. Most Bee friendly vegetable garden/allotment

Closing date for applications is 10th August 2018 with judging taking place in the week commencing 27th August.

Application forms from the Council Offices or by downloading [here](#)

**Posted: Thu, 7 Jun 2018**

# Peace at Last - Art, Photography & Writing Competition

Commemorating the 100th anniversary of 1918

Coffáu 100 mlwyddiant 1918



Pontyclun Community Council is Commemorating 1918 - the year that saw the end of the "Great War"

We invite members of our community to submit entries to our Art, Photography and Writing competition. Original entries can be submitted by individuals, groups or community organisations on the themes of

- Commemorating people who lived and died at the Battle front
- Commemorating those who lived or died at the Home front
- Peace at Last

Entries can be any of the following -

- A poem or piece of writing of no more than 500 words
- A drawing or painting
- A photograph

The Council aims to display the entries in various Community venues in November.

Please submit your entry by post or hand to Pontyclun Community Council, Heol yr Orsaf, Pontyclun CF72 9EE or by e-mail to [clerk@pontyclun-cc.gov.wales](mailto:clerk@pontyclun-cc.gov.wales).

All entries should include your name and contact details - phone or e-mail address

Closing date is noon on 5th November 2018

Full rules can be found [here](#)

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Cyngor Cymuned Pontyclun yn coffáu 1918 -y flwyddyn a welodd ddiwedd y "rhyfel mawr "  
Gwahoddwn aelodau o'n cymuned i gyflwyno cofnodion i'n cystadleuaeth celf,  
ffotograffiaeth ac ysgrifennu. Gellir cyflwyno cofnodion gwreiddiol gan unigolion, grwpiau  
neu sefydliadau cymunedol ar themâu

- coffáu pobl a fu'n byw ac a fu farw ar ffrynt y frwydr

- coffáu'r rhai a fu'n byw neu'n farw ar y ffrynt cartref
- heddwch o'r diwedd
- Gall ymgeiswyr fod yn unrhyw un o'r canlynol-
- cerdd neu ddarn ysgrifennu o ddim mwy na 500 o eiriau
- lluniad neu baentiad
- neu ffotograff

Nod y Cyngor yw arddangos y cofnodion mewn gwahanol leoliadau cymunedol ym mis Tachwedd

Cyflwynwch eich cais drwy'r post neu drwy law i Gyngor Cymuned Pont-y-clun, Heol yr orsaf, Pontyclun CF72 9neu drwy'r e-bost at Glerc @ Pontyclun – CC. gov.

Dylai pob cofnod gynnwys eich enw a'ch manylion cyswllt-ffôn neu gyfeiriad e-bost

Mae'r dyddiad cau yn hanner dydd ar 5 Tachwedd 2018.

Mae'r rheolau llawn i'w gweld [yma](#)

**Posted: Fri, 14 Sep 2018**

# Walking Football and Walking Rugby

Don't hang up your boots yet



The Community Council are looking to see if people are interested in setting up Walking Football and Walking Rugby teams in Pontyclun.

These fast-growing sports are a great way to stay healthy and make new friends.

If you are interested in finding out more or to register your interest, please contact the clerk on 01443 238500 or by e-mail [clerk@pontyclun-cc.gov.wales](mailto:clerk@pontyclun-cc.gov.wales)

**Posted: Fri, 19 Oct 2018**

# Pontyclun - a great place to base your holiday

## Pontyclun recommended as a great place to stay



Image: Copy of Newspaper article

In October the Huddersfield Daily Examiner posted an article about the wonderful family holiday that you could have by basing yourself in the Pontyclun Area.

We are close to many local attractions with Caerphilly Castle, Merthyr Mawr, Porthcawl and Mountain View ranch on Caerphilly Mountain all getting a mention.

[The news article can be found here](#)

**Posted: Thu, 20 Dec 2018**

**2019**

## **Enjoy your snacks and still help save the environment**



Crisp packet recycling in action

The Community Council is pleased to have launched a Crisp packet recycling scheme for Pontyclun.

The scheme hopes to reduce the amount of landfill waste created in Pontyclun and give our residents a simple way to help the environment

Residents can drop off empty crisp packet and Pringle boxes at our two collection points at Cafe 50 and Pontyclun Library

The packets are sent off for recycling and the recyclers make a small contribution towards improving the facilities for our older residents at Cafe 50.

The Council is working with various local businesses to expand the number of locations where you can drop off packets and for these businesses to collect from their staff and customers.

The scheme builds on other environmentally friendly initiatives that we have launched, including Refill Pontyclun

**Posted: Thu, 30 Jan 2019**

# Walking Rugby & Football

Come and join the new Walking revolution



Image : Playing walking rugby

Wednesday 6th February 2019 saw the launch of Pontyclun's Walking Rugby and Football groups.

Over 20 eager men and women came to Pontyclun Park for the first Walking rugby and football sessions with people from all over Taff Ely and the Rhondda Valley.

Coaches from Play Sport Wales & RCT Sport oversaw the sessions which were supported by the Hapi project; Men's Sheds; Cwm Taf Health authority and Pontyclun Community Council.

The groups will meet every Wednesday at 10am at Pontyclun park and new members are welcome

**Posted: Wed, 6 Feb 2019**

## New baby changing facilities at Heol yr Orsaf



Baby changing station sign

Following requests from the Public Pontyclun Community Council has now installed baby changing facilities in the public conveniences situated in Heol yr Orsaf

This will help support parents visiting Pontyclun with babies and toddlers.

The public conveniences in Heol yr Orsaf are normally open

Monday - Friday 9am to 5pm

Saturday 9am to 1pm

**Posted: Thu, 28 Feb 2019**

# Spring Clun 2019

## Time for a Spring Clun



Image: Children collecting rubbish

Following last year's very successful Community Litter pick, the Pontyclun Environment Group are pleased to announce there will be another Spring Clun on 13 & 14 April.

Come along and help tidy up on

### **Saturday 13th Apr**

Ynysddu & riverbank (meet by Brunel)

10.30-12.00

Miskin Heights (meet by school)

10.30-12.00

Station Terrace

13.00 -14.30

### **Sunday 14th Apr**

Miskin (meet by church)

10.30-12.00

Brynsadler & Pontyclun Park (meet by park entrance)

10.30-12.00

For more information contact 0785 002 0477 or [srj555@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:srj555@hotmail.co.uk)

**Posted: Wed, 3 Apr 2019**

## International Petanque comes to Pontyclun



This weekend teams from Ireland, Scotland and Wales will be competing at the Celtic Challenge competition in Pontyclun.

This prestigious competition is Petanque's Tri nations and will be held on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th at Pontyclun RFC.

We wish all the competitors well and hope that our Welsh teams have great success at the event.

**Posted: Wed, 1 May 2019**

# Picnic in the Park 2019

## Hundreds attend Picnic in the Park



Saturday 8th June 2019 saw the annual Pontyclun Picnic in the Park event. This was attended by hundreds of local people enjoying the community events and stalls at the park. Thank you all for coming along and making it a great event this year.

The Community Council wishes to thank all the groups and businesses who made this event so special including; The Pipeworks, Thirsty Elephant, MacMillan Cancer Support, Pontyclun Primary PTA, Bethel Chapel, Llantrisant Breastfeeding group, RCT Council, The Pontyclun Environment Group and Pontyclun Community garden.

Special thanks to the sporting clubs who laid on some great fun for our younger residents - Miskin Cricket Club, Pontyclun Road Runners, Pontyclun Petanque Club and Pontyclun Walking Rugby & Football teams

We will hopefully see you all again next year

**Posted: Wed, 12 Jun 2019**

## The Refill revolution comes to Pontyclun



Refill scheme shop sign

Refill Pontyclun is on a mission to make refilling your water bottle as easy, convenient and cheap as possible, by introducing Refill Stations across the Community.

To coincide with National Refill day, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019 an exciting Refill Scheme has launched in Pontyclun which encourages participating shops, bars and other businesses to sign up to the free Refill app and put a sticker in their window alerting passers-by to the fact they're welcome to fill up their bottle for free.

The average adult buys more than 3 plastic water bottles every week - a startling 175 bottles every year per person. In total, some 7.7 billion plastic bottles are bought across the UK each year, resulting in substantial amounts of single-use plastic waste ending up in our oceans.

City to Sea, a not-for-profit organisation headed by entrepreneur Natalie Fee, launched the award-winning Refill Scheme in 2015. Now being rolled out nationwide with full support of Welsh Government and water companies Dwr Cymru and Hafren Dyfrdwy, Refill will substantially increase the availability of high-quality drinking water.

Paul Griffiths Chair of Pontyclun Community Council, who are launching Refill Pontyclun, explains why both businesses and residents should get involved: "Here in Pontyclun we're rightly proud of the great Community we have. Plastics, including single-use plastic bottles, are now one of the most frequently found type of litter and you don't have to look far to find them littering our streets and green spaces too."

Paul added, "Refill Pontyclun gives us all the opportunity to help make this type of litter a thing of the past at the same time as saving money. It's good business sense as well, as customers view businesses that provide free water refills more favourably and are more likely to return to them to make future purchases."

Refill Pontyclun is being supported by the School and Pupils of YGGG Llantrisant and local businesses including The Pipeworks. If you are a local business who would like to join the scheme, then contact the Community Council on 01443 238500 or e-mail [clerk@pontyclun-cc.gov.wales](mailto:clerk@pontyclun-cc.gov.wales)

Refill Pontyclun builds on the success of Refill around the UK, which now boasts a network of over 13,000 Refill Stations.

**Posted: Thu, 13 Jun 2019**

# WRU Walking Rugby festival comes to Pontyclun

## WRU Walking Rugby festival 4th Sept



The next WRU Walking Rugby mini festival is coming to Pontyclun

Following on from festivals at the Principality Stadium and Cwmbran the WRU have arranged for their next festival to be held right here in Pontyclun

Teams from across South Wales will be playing on Wednesday 4th September from 10am till 1pm

Come along and support Pontyclun and see what this fast-growing sport is like.

There are now 14 teams in South Wales who play Walking rugby with many ex-players coming back to the game as well as new players, both male and female.

Pontyclun Walking Rugby team trains on Monday evenings at 7pm and Wednesday mornings at 10am. Both are in Pontyclun Park and all you need is trainers, a drink and sense of fun.

See you all soon!

**Posted: Thu, 29 Aug 2019**

**2020**

## **Cafe 50 has a facelift**



Café 50 is a social hub run by Pontyclun Community Council for older people. It offers affordable and freshly cooked lunchtime meals along with a continuous programme of social activities to serve every interest.

Over Christmas, Café 50 had a much-needed re-paint. It now looks as fresh and as inviting as when it was first opened in 1995. The repainting was undertaken by the Probation Service who provided people fulfilling Community Safety Orders. My thanks to them and to Julius Roszkowski, the Council's Chief Officer for organising the partnership with the Probation Service. Several community councillors volunteered their time over Christmas to get the Café ready for its re-opening.

The range of activities at Café 50 includes

- · A Weekly Quiz organised by Cllr Gwyn Jackson
- · A monthly Film Club organised by Cllr Mike Davies
- · A weekly social group for families living with Dementia organised by Sabrina Cartlidge with Cllr Margaret Griffiths, Cllr Ann Jackson and other volunteers
- · A weekly Craft Group – Welcome Friends
- · Mature Movers
- · Armchair Yoga
- · Indoor Curling
- · Yarnmongers
- · Cantorion Pontyclun
- · Macmillan Support Group

Café 50 is managed by Tara Davies who works part time for the Community Council in a post part funded by RCT Council.

If you are interested in have lunch at Café 50 or joining any of the groups, you can contact Tara 01443 238500 or e-mail [cafe50@pontyclun-cc.gov.wales](mailto:cafe50@pontyclun-cc.gov.wales)

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