



# Community Development News

AUGUST 2007

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Welcome to this, our August edition of Community Development News

Lots of people are working towards better communities in the Vale by

- identifying local needs, interests, opportunities, rights and responsibilities
- planning, organising and taking action
- evaluating the effectiveness and impact of the action.

This newsletter is a virtual network, sharing information and ideas. If you have any information, articles, photos, etc. to contribute, please e-mail [banoon@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:banoon@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk).

The next newsletter will be available in December, and a closing date for contributions is 23<sup>rd</sup> November.



Send us your contributions for Community Development News

## Calling all development workers!

The Community Enterprise Service works in partnership with development workers to provide free training for community groups. Recent training has included First Aid, Food Hygiene and Health & Safety.

Groups accessing these courses included sports, youth and play workers.

We can help you and the groups you work with! Contact: Gail Hughes on 01446 733034 or e-mail

[GJHughes@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:GJHughes@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)



Free training for community groups

## Getting to know you



*Getting to know you and sharing ideas—cameras were provided for people from community groups to show off their photography skills!*

Over 30 people, representing a wide range of community groups within the Vale, came together for 'Getting to know you' an event which gave them the chance to network and share ideas. Feedback was unanimous: the event was user-friendly and useful. Many of the groups would like to hold such an event on a quarterly basis.

As a result of this the next 'Getting to know you' will be held 10.30 am -12.30 pm on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> September at Barry Community Enterprise Centre - everyone is welcome! It's a friendly, informal get-together, with a cuppa and cake; contact Gail on 01446 733034 to confirm a place.

## Vale Open Learning Centre moves on!

The Vale of Glamorgan's Basic Skills Centre has moved to new premises in Provincial House, Kendrick Rd.

Centre manager Coralie Morgan says "After 17 years on the Holton school campus we were unsure about the change, but the purpose built venue is able to offer our students an even better service, easy access and super crèche facilities in marvellous surroundings."

The Vale O.L.C. is open to anyone who wishes to refresh/improve his or her language/maths/computer skills(or all three!) including, of course, Vale Council employees.

The new term starts on Sept 10<sup>th</sup>, so if you would



like to see what the OLC can do for you, why not make a date and call in to see us.

For more information call us on 01446 736466, or find us on [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk), *click on education and follow the links.*

# Family Learning Scores a Success!

Julie Jones, a busy Colcot mum and grandmother, took the time to do Colcot School's "Family Learning" courses to help her three grandsons, whom she looks after. She did so well that she was nominated for the national NIACE (National Institute for Adult and Continuing Education) Family Learning award..... and she won it!

The high-class award ceremony and dinner was held in Cardiff's Coal Exchange, with BBC's Jason Mohammed presenting the certificates.

Everyone had a good time, and as Julie told Jason "I have been able to help my grandsons..... and it has given me confidence to help myself in other aspects of my life."

This was also a big feather in the cap of the Vale Open Learning Centre's Family Learning Team! The team works in many of the Vale's schools helping parents (and carers) help their children learn.

If you wish to find out more about the services on offer at the Vale Open Learning Centre then ring us on 01446 736466 or find us at [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) click on education and learning and follow the links.



## Choose Childminding

Childminding is a rewarding job for people who love working with children and want to provide home-based care and education for children from birth to 14. You'll be helping children to develop and sharing their successes as they grow.

**Jan Harris** is the Childminding Development and Network Coordinator and can be contacted on 01792 324454

**Email:**  
janice.harris@ncma.org.uk



A rewarding career

## International Day of Disabled People - 3 December 2007

The theme for 2007 is 'Decent work for disabled people'. The day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilise support for the dignity, rights and well being of disabled people. It also seeks to increase awareness of gains to be derived from the integration of disabled people in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life. Further details are available from

[www.un.org/esa/socdev/enable/iddp2007.htm](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/enable/iddp2007.htm)



## Community Focused Schools – a new role for our schools



### Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School

A community focused school is one that provides a range of services and activities, often beyond the school day, to help meet the needs of its pupils, their families and the wider community. The Vale has employed four Learning Managers based in Comprehensive schools to make this a reality.

In each area (Penarth, Barry, Llantwit Major and Cowbridge) the work will be different to respond to the needs of the local community. The managers will be looking to use the schools to supply out of hours learning for both children and adults, utilising schools as a resource

Community Focused Schools are the way forward for the schools in our communities.

for the community and linking with other community groups to develop local initiatives.

Contact details for each area:

**Barry Cluster**  
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# Genesis celebrates success



A wonderful evening was had by all who attended the all-Wales genesis awards ceremony to celebrate the success of such a unique project.

The Vale of Glamorgan Genesis Project recently attended an awards ceremony as part of an all Wales Genesis event at Holland House Hotel in Cardiff. Pictured, as some of the staff team, Rachel Nugent-Finn with beneficiary, Pamela Diamond, Carole Daniels, Operational Manager of Genesis Cymru Wales, Assembly Member, Brian Gibbons, Jamie Owen and Sarra Elgan from BBC Wales.

Rachel Nugent-Finn Commented "I am very proud to announce that out of 22 local authorities, the Vale of Glamorgan was nominated for the award of best volunteer, and actually won the award".

The Genesis Project was created to remove the barriers so many people face when wanting to access any courses, training or employment. It covers costs towards accessing quality child-care as well as offering a wealth of advice and guidance to individuals who may need support to gain qualifications, training opportunities, up-skilling and employment, offering everybody the opportunity to maximise their independence.

For more information, please contact the Genesis Project, (01446) 730852.

The Genesis Project is part funded by the European Social Fund objective 3.

## **The time to apply to Gwraidd is running out !**

The deadline for applications to Gwraidd has had to be brought forward. The final date for applications to arrive is now the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2007. Please destroy any Gwraidd materials you have, and contact the helpdesk for the updated versions.

There have been some changes to the scheme so that as many groups as possible can benefit. The upper limit for applications is now £5000, so groups can apply for amounts up to that level. In addition, groups should contact their named referee before they submit their application. The purpose of the referee is to support the groups to ensure that as many new, and developing small community groups as possible can make a successful application.



## Thompson Street Estate Communities First partnership

In 2000, Thompson Street Estate was designated a Communities First area by the Welsh Assembly Government. The area suffers from high levels of unemployment currently running at 93%. It is often difficult to persuade residents to participate in projects and activities that do not appear relevant to their day to day lives. Associated problems include drug and alcohol misuse, poor mental health and a range of issues concerned with parenting.

The Communities First area currently includes Thompson Street, Dunlin Court, Avocet Court, Osprey Court and Merganser Court.

The principles of Communities First are to work with residents to help them take a more active role in, and responsibility for, building the community's capacity to affect real change for the future.

Emily Forbes was recently appointed as a development worker. Her role is to work with residents and partner agencies in identifying residents' needs and priorities and looking at long term sustainable solutions to problems they face in their day to day lives.

She is based at the Drop In Centre, 3 Dunlin Court, Barry, CF63 4JY or contact [emilyforbes@thompsonstreetestate.org](mailto:emilyforbes@thompsonstreetestate.org) or 01446 403549.

## Date for the diary – 27th & 28th September 2007

Places are booking fast for the CDC (Community Development Cymru) annual conference.

This conference is for those working in Communities First, community development and in education – issues covered will include:

**Course endorsement – how do you know a course is any good ?**

**National Occupational Standards – these are being revised – will your job description change?**

**What's it like being a community development apprentice?**

**How to get a grant to evaluate your work and share your good practice?**

and much more...



The conference will be a mix of workshops, speakers, panel sessions and other activities and promises to be a lively and interesting event. Please contact Emma for further details – [emma@cdc.cymru.org](mailto:emma@cdc.cymru.org) 01686 627 377.

# 1, 2, 3... Eat Healthily



This is an Open College Network accredited resource for raising awareness of basic healthy eating messages amongst community groups and individuals, whilst also incorporating elements of physical activity and basic skills (literacy and numeracy).

The resource is made up of 12 sections covering 10 topic areas ranging from the Balance of Good Health, Food Labelling, Eating on a Budget to Healthier Cooking. Each one is designed to build on the previous, aiming to increase the knowledge and skill of individuals in relation to healthy eating messages and practice and basic skills. Since its launch in June 2006 the resource has been very well received with over 30 organisations and groups, both in and outside of Carmarthenshire, receiving training.

Any interested groups who wish to have further information or have any questions should contact Caroline Nichols, Health Promotion Practitioner (Community Nutrition) on 01554 744468 or email [caroline.nichols1@nphs.wales.nhs.uk](mailto:caroline.nichols1@nphs.wales.nhs.uk)



## Community centres provide a unique community facility

The Vale is home to 22 community centres, all managed by volunteers. They provide low cost affordable facilities for their local community. Social activities include entertainment, celebrations, sport, education and health - the list of possible uses is endless. Many local clubs and groups also rely on their local community centre for invaluable meeting space.

Centres are used by all ages of the community - from the very young (playgroup and parent and toddler sessions are very popular) to senior citizens who participate in activities that include dancing, bingo and various hobbies. They also run unusual Clubs – did you know that we officially have a 'Rabbit Club' in the Vale?

For further information on community centres contact Siân Vaughan on 01446 704828. Alternatively you can make a booking, view photographs and get further information on the community centre section on the website at [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/enjoying](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/enjoying)