

**VALE**

# Waves

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THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL'S  
**COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER**



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## News in brief

### 25th Anniversary

A LOCAL swimming club for the disabled, which has been supported by the Council for a number of years, is celebrating its 25th anniversary with a party at Barry's Masonic Hall on December 4.

Barry Beavers, which has a current membership of 70, is inviting all past members to attend and they should contact either Eunice (01446-739469) or Anne (01446-738820) for further details.

The club hosts an annual gala and seven of its members currently represent Wales in national competitions.

### Gambling applications

IN line with other local authorities, the Vale will have new and extended responsibilities for licensing premises for gambling from September, 2007. Under the new Gambling Act, matters in relation to betting, casino gaming and bingo transfer from local licensing justices to councils.

The Council, which is preparing a Statement of Principles in consultation with the Gambling Commission, HM Customs & Excise, Fire Authority, Police, Environmental Health, Planning, Children and Family Services and Protection of Vulnerable Adults, will begin dealing with applications from April 30 next year.

There will be two types of gaming centre – one for the sole use of adults over 18, and family entertainment centres providing machines for both children and over-18s.

Anyone who feels the Gambling Act will effect them or seeking further information or a copy of the Statement can telephone 01446 709105; email KLBrook@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

### Youth facility for Rhoose

A much-needed facility for the young people of Rhoose is on the horizon.

Made possible thanks to the Council and Welsh Assembly and European funding secured by the Rhoose Community Centre through Creative Rural Communities, the facility will be part of an extension to the Rhoose Community Centre at Stewart Road.

**Further information on the project can be obtained from Tara Morris on 029 2019 0003 or email tlmorris@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk**

# Bright new future for Barry Town Hall

**H**istoric Barry Town Hall is once again set to become a focal point for the town following the Council's multi-million pound flagship regeneration project.

The £10m redevelopment scheme, which features the largest town library to open in Wales for at least 10 years, also includes a refurbished and enhanced King Square and Central Park, with its children's play areas and landscaped terraces.

One hundred years after work started on the construction of the original building, the Grade II listed complex will also be the new home for the Vale Mayor.

The library, which is on two levels as part of a new extension, is expected to open in the New Year, while the building will also house a public exhibition area, meeting rooms and public toilets.

A newly refurbished shoppers' car park in Wyndham Street, which will hold 78 cars, will have a height restriction to prevent the parking of commercial vehicles and is designed to accept pay and display in the future.

The entire development is covered by CCTV cameras.



Built as offices for the then Barry Urban District Council, the first phase of the development was completed in 1908 at a cost of around £7,500 but the second phase never started, and Council Leader Cllr Jeffrey James said: "It could be said that, to some extent, our project is completing what was originally proposed and comprises an

interesting mix of Victorian and contemporary architecture.

"I am sure that all residents, commercial interests and members of the Council will welcome the new scheme which is a lynchpin of the regeneration programme initiated by this Council in the central retail area of the town."

## Vale pupils star in A levels and GCSEs

SCHOOL pupils in the Vale produced another set of outstanding A level results this summer.

Compared to 2005, the number of pupils achieving an A grade was 2.8 per cent higher (32.6 per cent), while there was a 4.9 per cent increase (85.3 per cent) in pupils who achieved A - C grades. Overall, 99 per cent of all entries resulted in a pass, 1.9 per cent more than last year.

Vale schools also produced outstanding results at GCSE level.

More than one in five GCSE exam entries now results in an A\* or A grade, while 67 per cent of all entries result in an A\*-C grade. The schools have also managed to maintain high A\* - G grade passes at nearly 98 per cent.

Cllr Tony Hampton, Cabinet Member for Education and Training and chairman of the Welsh Joint Education Committee, said: "The results are a credit to the sustained efforts of pupils and schools and to the excellent teaching staff within the Vale."

## Barry pupils win book competition

A GROUP of pupils from a Vale primary school triumphed in the final of a national competition promoting reading and literacy.

Held at the Arts Centre, Aberystwyth, the final of the annual Welsh Books Competition brought success for Gladstone primary in Barry who, as Vale winners, competed against youngsters representing schools across the Principality and the independent schools sector.

The pupils, who have now moved on to secondary school, took part in a discussion of a book, Framed by Frank Cottrell Boyce, and a dramatic presentation of another book, Hannah Goes to War by Phil Carradice. The pupils also took part in a question and answer session with Frank Cottrell Boyce in which they had an opportunity to ask him about his work.

English adviser with the Vale Education Authority Jane McCarthy said: "These competitions are viewed as very effective way of encouraging children to enjoy reading and we, in



**Winning Gladstone (Barry) Primary School pupils are pictured with, from left: Sarah Benlican (left) and Sarah Axcel (centre), teachers; Jennifer Davies, competition adjudicator, DELLS, Welsh Assembly Government; Jane McCarthy, English adviser, Vale of Glamorgan Education Authority; and Hilary Farley, now retired headteacher**

the Vale, were delighted with the national success of Gladstone."

The Gladstone group were Charlotte Andrews, Hannah Andrews, Bethan Thorngate, Sophie Owens, Kelly Alford and Sophie McCabe.



**St Cyres trio, from left: Connie Lau, Wen Yan Li and Mandy Lau**

## Home language success for pupils

YOUNGSTERS from the comprehensive schools at Bryn Hafren, Barry and St Cyres sat GCSEs in their community/home languages with support from teachers at Fitzalan High School, Cardiff, and St Richard Gwyn RC High School, Barry.

Year 11 pupil Forhad Ahmed, who achieved an A\* in Bengali through Barry Comprehensive, is going on to study the language at A level with the support of Dr Latif from Fitzalan. Forhad said: "I am so pleased my language skills in Bengali are recognised by my school."

Wen Yan Li and Connie Lau achieved A\* in Spanish and Chinese respectively through St Cyres. Wen said: "Before moving to the Vale, I lived in Peru and became a fluent Spanish speaker. I now have a good GCSE result thanks to the help of St Cyres and St Richard Gwyn."

Connie said: "Chinese is a 'world' language and one day soon I'm sure many pupils will wish to take it to GCSE level, particularly if they want to pursue a career in business or the media."



**Barry Comprehensive pupil Forhad Ahmed**



# Fresh look

The Pier Pavilion at Penarth Waterfront is being given a fresh look this autumn, with painting and specialist concrete repairs carried out

## Milestone for Penarth regeneration

Contracts were signed in the summer between house builder Crest Nicholson and the Council for the redevelopment of Penarth Heights.

This milestone has been reached after a four-year pre-contract exercise, with Crest Nicholson South West chosen from a shortlist of six bidders.

Subject to planning and other post contract legal matters being resolved the multi-million pound scheme will see the demolition of 329 flats and maisonettes and the building of new homes – 60 per cent houses and 40 per cent apartments, of which 20 per cent will be categorised as 'affordable' homes.

Following a public exhibition hosted by Crest Nicholson (SW) in June 2005, the developer has been working on its proposed scheme in discussion with the Council and local residents to ensure the community's aspirations and concerns are taken into account during the planning process. A further public exhibition of proposals for the area is due to be held

by Crest before the end of this year.

Crest Nicholson Managing Director John Gatehouse said: "Being given the opportunity to regenerate Penarth Heights is a fantastic opportunity for us. It is a high-profile site with some fabulous views, and I am really looking forward to starting work on the site."

Council Leader Cllr Jeffrey James said: "This is a major step forward for what promises to be a very exciting regeneration project for Penarth and the Vale of Glamorgan, and the exchange of contract follows a great deal of hard work by the Council and Crest Nicholson. We have always regarded the site as unique with its panoramic views across Penarth marina and the Bristol Channel. I look forward to Crest Nicholson preparing, in consultation with the local community, their planning application for a high quality residential development that will complement the multi-million pound investment the Council has been implementing in north Penarth."



Council Leader Cllr Jeffrey James (centre) with Director of Environmental and Economic Regeneration Rob Quick (left) and Crest Nicholson Managing Director John Gatehouse

## News in brief



### That's show business!

An inaugural Council Business Brunch has been hailed a great success.

Hosted by Council Leader Cllr Jeffrey James as part of the Vale Show at Fônmon Castle, the highlight of the event was an inspirational address by Sahar Hashemi (pictured above), co-founder of the nationwide coffee chain, Coffee Republic.

Business representatives from across the area joined Cllr James, colleagues from the Council Cabinet and chief officers.

Cllr James said: "As Council Leader I am endeavouring to encourage enterprise within the Vale and this event was warmly received by the business community."

### Evenlode hits right gear

Road safety conscious pupils from Evenlode Primary School, Penarth, found top gear to win the annual Vale primary schools' road safety quiz for the second successive year.

Sponsored for the first time by Barry-based Cabot Microelectronics, the ever-popular event for 10 and 11 year-olds is organised by the Council's Road Safety Team and attracted entries from nearly 40 primary schools. Llansannon, Sully and Llanilltud Fawr were joint runners-up.

In addition to prizes for individuals, Evenlode received £200 and a magnificent glass trophy.

### Cutting it with care

The garden at Southerndown Care Home is blossoming thanks to members of the Vale Youth Offending Team.

More than 20 young people carried out three months of work, including cutting back and maintaining the hedges and grass, painting exterior walls and doors, and repairing the fencing and dry stone walls.

The YOT manned a stall at the home's summer fete selling items made by other young people.

## £10m homes repairs project

A £10m package of housing and environmental improvements is transforming central Penarth.

Initiated by the Council in 2000, and jointly funded by the authority and Welsh Assembly Government grant, the town's 10-year Central Renewal Area Project covers around 550 properties mainly bounded by Arcot Street, Plassey Street, Albert Road and Paget Road.

Ten phases of grant funded group repair schemes are now either complete or set to get underway and to date some 212 homes have benefited – a participation rate of 75 per cent.

There are a further six phases of group repair – renovating the external envelope of properties (roofs, walls, doors, windows and chimneys) – programmed to be completed.

A renewal area office at Glebe Street provides a contact for the community, and Cabinet Member for Housing and Community Safety Cllr John Thomas said: "Renewal area initiatives improve housing, general amenities and the local environment.

"The Council recognises that an essential ingredient in regenerating an area is the active participation of the local community, and the majority of residents have been very enthusiastic and supportive of the



A total of £10m is being pumped into the Penarth Central Renewal Area Project

authority's proposals. The project is providing a tremendous boost for this part of Penarth and generating a new confidence among residents."

The project also involves a programme of community and environmental schemes which, with a spend of nearly £200,000 so far, has included the provision of new play equipment at Belle Vue Park and improvements to the Lord Street Triangle green space and waste ground at Queens Road.

Council Leader Cllr Jeffrey James said: "We have actively encouraged the local community to come forward with ideas for initiatives aimed at improving the appearance of the area.

"The Council is committed, through a partnership approach, to delivering a high quality programme of improvements which will help lift this area of the town to a new level in the years ahead."

## Scrutiny meetings

Scrutiny meetings start at 6pm and are generally held at the Civic Offices in Barry. Members of the public are welcome.

- Lifelong Learning – December 4, January 22 and February 19.

- Corporate Resources – December 5, January 23 and February 20.
- Community Wellbeing and Safety – November 27, January 15 and February 12.
- Economy and Environment – November 28, January 16 and February 13.

## Link under scrutiny

THE role of Scrutiny in the decision-making process has been highlighted in the ongoing dialogue on the future of the Penarth Headland Link proposals.

Both Economy and Environment and Corporate Resources Scrutiny Committees called in the item for further consideration following the Cabinet decision to postpone the project in the wake of a report from consultants showing a final cost scheme of £20 million, which was substantially in excess of available funds.

Economy and Environment Scrutiny met at the Paget Rooms, Penarth, to discuss the project and scrutinise the reasons for postponement, with the strength of public feeling demonstrated by an attendance of more than 300 people.

Committee chairman Cllr Nic Hodges invited local residents to air their views, with 22 individuals responding, including representatives of organisations such as the Penarth Society and Penarth Marina Residents' Association.

The committee unanimously backed the public view that Cabinet should give the scheme top priority and investigate the feasibility of proceeding with a less expensive option.

Corporate Resources Scrutiny looked at the financial aspects of the project, and, endorsing the recommendations of Economy and Environment, further recommended that the project continue but at reduced cost and risk to the Council.

The recommendations were referred back to Cabinet, with the Council Leader Cllr Jeffrey James noting that both Scrutiny Committees had provided a good opportunity for full and frank discussion in relation to the rising costs as well as a chance to review alternative options.



## News in brief

### Safer Vale on the road

More than 500 people put forward their views on crime and disorder issues as part of an initiative promoted by the Safer Vale Partnership.

The Partnership's Home Security Roadshow visited Barry and Penarth (Tesco), Llantwit Major (Filco) and Cowbridge (Town Hall) where advice was available from the Council, Neighbourhood Watch, South Wales Energy Advice Centre, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, South Wales Police and Victim Support.

**For information on Safer Vale, contact the Community Safety Unit on (01446) 709835 or email sevans@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk**



### £135,600 for local organisations

A total of 150 organisations and groups across the area have benefited from Council grants totalling £135,600.

Agreed by the Cabinet under the authority's annual Community Grants Awards scheme, the money was distributed to organisations including charities, sports and lifesaving clubs, arts and theatre groups, community organisations and youth facilities.

The grants were presented to some 80 recipients at a ceremony at Dyffryn.

Council Leader Cllr Jeffrey James said: "It was a wonderful opportunity to bring many voluntary representatives together, to thank them for all their hard work."

David Williams, of the Vale of Glamorgan Festival, thanked the authority for its ongoing support of voluntary organisations in the Vale.

### Meetings focus

All members of the public are invited to attend meetings of the Council which start at 6pm in the Civic Offices at Barry unless otherwise stated:

- **Cabinet (2pm)** – November 22, December 13, January 3, 17 and 31.
- **Full Council** – December 6.
- **Planning** – December 13, January 10 and February 8.
- **Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison** – February 14.
- **Community Liaison (7pm)** – January 23 and March 14.

# Harvesting a winner

**A**n organic farm that has improved a beautiful area of the Vale has been successful in an annual awards scheme.

Now in its second year, the Vale Biodiversity Award (2006), which is run by the Local Biodiversity Action Partnership Steering Group and sponsored by RWE Npower plc, seeks to recognise groups who create, improve or manage sites for wildlife in the Vale.

The TRW, PW and RL Davies Farming Partnership was overall winner as well as winner of



*Pupils at St Bride's Church in Wales Primary School, who were winners of the class for schools, colleges or other educational centres*

'sites for wildlife created, improved or managed by voluntary groups or industrial or commercial businesses, including farms', for developing permissive access ways around and through land improved for biodiversity at Dunraven Park.

Second and third places respectively went to the Wildlife Trust for South and West Wales (Lavernock Point Nature Reserve) and Dow Corning Ltd (Cadoxton Pond Nature Reserve).

In the other class for projects by schools, colleges or other educational centres, award winners were: 1, St Bride's Church in Wales Primary School – school grounds project; 2, Eagleswell Primary School, Llantwit Major – wildflower area and forest school setting; 3, 94th Penarth Scout Group – wildlife haven.

This year's awards was judged by Sue Maberley, of the Countryside Council for Wales, who confessed to finding it very difficult to separate the many excellent entries.

Assistant ecologist at the Council, Matthew Hamilton, said: "Our congratulations to all who entered this year's award. We were heartened by the amount and quality of work that is being put into conserving and enhancing biodiversity within the Vale."



*Fields and permissive access routes belonging to Peter Davies, overall winner of this year's Vale Biodiversity Award*

**Anyone seeking details of how to enter next year's Vale Biodiversity Award should contact Matthew Hamilton on (01446) 704710 or email mjhamilton@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk**

## Get more active, more often

ORGANISATIONS across the Vale continue to reap the rewards of the Sports Council for Wales' commitment to creating new and improved sport and physical activity opportunities.

Since 1999, the Lottery-funded Community Chest scheme has offered a huge prize pot to more than 550 projects Vale wide, including nearly £25,000 to 40 applicants in the current year.

Traditionally supporting sports clubs and sporting organisations, the remit has since expanded and, while the scheme still supports traditional sports and activities, it is also adopting alternative approaches to getting more people, more active, more often. Priority has shifted to delivering opportunities for everybody to engage in physical activity, whether that be during work time, spare time, social time or retirement.

Voluntary clubs and organisations, workplaces, parks departments, slimming clubs and mental health groups have all moved to the fore. So, while funding the local football club might get the younger members of the community moving, backing a walking group will encourage more adults to get active.

Although seeking innovative and imaginative projects, the simplest ideas often deliver the biggest impact and, as long as it's an active proposal, you could be entitled to up to £750.

Lunchtime fitness classes, the installation of bike racks or showers in workplaces, training to become a walk leader and cycling projects in both rural and urban areas are all eligible for funding. Community Chest panels hold the purse strings



*Barry YMCA Gymnastics Club has received funding to purchase equipment and for coach education*

and members are given presiding powers to decide upon worthwhile projects.

In the Vale, there is a fund of £55,500 still available in the current financial year so, if you have an idea that will get more people more active, more often, come forward and stake your claim.

**Contact Julie Morgan on (01446) 704754 or email jamorgan@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk for an application form.**

## Rules concerning private fostering

INDIVIDUALS are being reminded they must inform the Council if they care for a child under a private fostering arrangement.

Private fostering is different from the care of children provided by the Council through approved foster carers, and occurs when a child under 16 (under 18 if disabled) is cared for for more than 28 days by an adult who is not a relative.

Examples of private fostering include:

- children coming from abroad to access the education and health systems;
- children living with a friend's family after separation, divorce or arguments at home;
- teens living with family of a boyfriend/girlfriend

The private foster carer must:

- tell the Council that they intend to foster a child at least six weeks in advance or, where an emergency placement is made, within 48 hours;
- tell the Council when a child leaves their care, stating why and to whose care they are entrusted

The birth parents must:

- keep parental responsibility for the child;
- tell the Council about the private fostering arrangement, if the prospective carer has not already done so.

The Council must:

- check on the suitability of private foster carers;
- make regular visits to the child to ensure the child is well cared for;
- ensure that advice is made available when needed, to both the private foster carers and the birth parents.



## Mân newyddion

### Mae Bro Ddiogelach ar y Ffordd

MAE mwy na 500 o bobl wedi mynegi eu barn am droseddau ac anhrefn fel rhan o gynllun Partneriaeth Bro Ddiogelach y Cyngor.

Bu Sioe Deithiol Diogelwch Tai'r Bartneriaeth yn ymweld â'r Barri a Phenarth (Tesco), Llanilltud Fawr (Filco) a'r Bont-faen (Neuadd y Dref) ac roedd cyfle i holi nifer o sefydliadau e.e: y Cyngor; Cynlluniau Gwarchod Cymdogaethau; Canolfan Cyngor Arbed Ynni De Cymru; Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub De Cymru; Heddlu De Cymru a Grwpiau Cefnogi Dioddefwyr.

**Am fwy o wybodaeth am Bartneriaeth y Fro Ddiogelach ffoniwch yr Uned Diogelwch Cymunedol ar (01446) 709835 neu anfonwch neges e-bost i [seveans@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:seveans@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)**



### Sefydliadau lleol yn cael £135,600

Mae'r Cyngor wedi rhannu grantiau gwerth £135,600 rhwng 150 o wahanol sefydliadau a grwpiau ar draws y Fro.

Ar ôl cael sêl bendith y Cabinet o dan gynllun Grantiau Cymunedol blynyddol yr awdurdod, rhannwyd yr arian i amryw o elusennau, clybiau chwaraeon ac achub bywyd, grwpiau theatr a'r celfyddydau, sefydliadau cymunedol a chyfleusterau pobl ifanc.

Cafodd y grantiau eu cyflwyno i ryw 80 o ymgeiswyr mewn seremoni yn Nyffryn.

Dywedodd Arweinydd y Cyngor, y Cyng. Jeffrey James: "Roedd yn gyfle bendigedig i ddod â llawer o gynrychiolwyr gwirfoddol ynghyd a diolch iddynt am eu holl waith caled".

Diolchodd David Williams (Gŵyl Bro Morgannwg) i'r awdurdod am barhau i gefnogi sefydliadau gwirfoddol y Fro.

### Golwg ar gyfarfodydd

Mae croeso i'r cyhoedd ddod i gyfarfodydd y Cyngor sydd (oni fynegwyd yn wahanol) yn dechrau am 6pm yn Swyddfeidd Dinesig y Barri:

- **Cabinet (2pm)** – 22 Tachwedd, 13 Rhagfyr, 3, 17 a 31 Ionawr.
- **Y Cyngor Llawn** – Rhagfyr 6.
- **Cynllunio** – 13 Rhagfyr, 10 Ionawr ac 8 Chwefror.
- **Cydgysylltu â'r Sector Gwirfoddol** – 14 Chwefror.
- **Cysylltu â'r Gymuned (7pm)** – 23 Ionawr ac 14 Mawrth.

# Llwyddiant Organig

**M**ae fferm organig wedi cael ei gydnabod mewn cynllun gwobrwyo blynyddol ar ôl llwyddo i wella darn hyfryd o'r Fro.

Dyma'r ail flwyddyn i Gynllun Gwobrwyo Blynyddol Bioamrywiaeth y Fro gael ei gynnal, a'i bwrpas yw cydnabod grwpiau sydd wedi creu, rheoli neu wella safleoedd ar gyfer bywyd gwyllt yr ardal. Rheolwyr y cynllun yw Grŵp Llywio'r Bartneriaeth Leol ar gyfer Gweithredu Bioamrywiaeth a'i noddwyr yw RWE Npower. Partneriaeth Ffermio TRW, PW ac RL Davies



*Disgyblion Ysgol yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Saint-y-brid a enillodd yn y dosbarth ar gyfer ysgolion, colegau a chanolfannau addysgol eraill*

oedd yr enillwyr cyffredinol eleni, a hi hefyd a enillodd yn nosbarth 'safleoedd ar gyfer bywyd gwyllt wedi'u creu gan grwpiau gwirfoddol, busnesau diwydiannol a masnachol a ffermydd'. Cafodd ei gwobr am greu 'llwybrau drwy ganiatâd' ar draws ac o amgylch tir ym Mharc Dwnrhefn a gafodd ei wella er mwyn cymell bioamrywiaeth.

Ymddiriedolaeth Bywyd Gwyllt De a Gorllewin Cymru (Gwarchodfa Natur Trwyn Larnog) a gafodd yr ail wobwr a Dow Corning Cyf. (Gwarchodfa Natur Pwll Tregatwg) a gafodd y drydedd wobwr.

Yr enillwyr yn y dosbarth ar gyfer prosiectau gan ysgolion, colegau a chanolfannau addysgol eraill oedd:- 1. Ysgol Gynradd yr Eglwys yng Nghymru Saint-y-brid - prosiect tiroedd ysgolion; 2. Ysgol Gynradd Ffynnon yr Eryr – safle ysgol sy'n cynnwys ardal blodau gwyllt a choedwig; 3. 94ain Grŵp Sgowntiaid Penarth – hafan bywyd gwyllt.

Sue Maberley o Gyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru oedd y beirniad eleni, a chyfaddefodd ei bod yn anodd iawn dewis enillwyr eleni am fod cymaint o geisiadau ardderchog.

Dywedodd Matthew Hamilton, Ecolegydd Cynorthwyol y Cyngor: "Hoffem longyfarch pawb sydd wedi cymryd rhan eleni. Mae hi mor galonogol bod cymaint o waith rhagorol yn cael ei



*Caeau a llwybrau drwy ganiatâd sy'n perthyn i Peter Davies, enillydd cyffredinol Gwobr Fioamrywiaeth y Fro*

wneud er mwyn gwarchod a datblygu bioamrywiaeth y Fro".

**Os hoffech gymryd rhan yn y gystadleuaeth y flwyddyn nesaf, mae croeso i chi ffonio Matthew Hamilton ar (01446) 704710 neu anfon neges e-bost i [mjhamilton@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:mjhamilton@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)**

## Ymarfer corff yn amlach

MAE sefydliadau ar draws y Fro'n dal i elwa ar ffyrdd newydd a gwell o gymryd rhan mewn chwaraeon a gweithgareddau corfforol, diolch i ymroddiad Cyngor Chwaraeon Cymru.

Ers 1999, mae Cynllun Cist Gymunedol dan nawdd y Loteri Genedlaethol yn cynnig gwobr ariannol sylweddol i'w rhannu rhwng mwy na 550 o brosiectau yn y Fro. Cafodd bron i £25,000 eu rhannu rhwng 40 o ymgeiswyr eleni.

Er mai cynllun i helpu clybiau a sefydliadau chwaraeon oedd hwn ar y dechrau, ehangodd ei olygon dros y blynyddoedd, ac erbyn hyn bydd hefyd yn gefnogi ffyrdd llai traddodiadol o ddenu mwy o bobl i ymarfer corff. Y nod bellach yw sicrhau bod pawb yn cael cyfle i ymarfer corff boed yn ystod y diwrnod gwaith, wrth hamdden, wrth gymdeithasu neu ar ôl ymddeol.

Mae mwy o bwyslais erbyn hyn ar glybiau a sefydliadau gwirfoddol, manau gwaith, adrannau parciau, clybiau colli pwysau a grwpiau iechyd meddwl. Felly, er y gellwch ysgogi pobl ifanc yr ardal drwy noddi clwb pêl-droed lleol, mae'n well gefnogi grŵp cerdded hefyd er mwyn i'r neges gyrraedd y to hŷn.

Er ein bod yn chwilio am brosiectau creadigol a dyfeisgar, y syniadau symlaf yw'r rhai mwyaf dylanwadol yn aml, a chyd â bod eich cynnig yn weithredol, gallech fod yn gymwys i dderbyn cymaint â £750.

Mae dosbarth cadw'n heini amser cinio, cynllun i osod cawod neu resel feiciau yn y gweithle, hyfforddiant ar gyfer arweinwyr teithiau cerdded a phrosiectau seiclo trefol a gwledig i gyd yn gymwys i gael eu noddi.

Panelli Cist Gymunedol sy'n rheoli'r arian ac yn penderfynu a fo prosiect yn werth ei gynnal ai peidio. Mae £55,500 ar gael o hyd yng nghronfa'r Fro ar gyfer y flwyddyn ariannol bresennol, felly os ydych wedi meddwl am ffordd o ddenu mwy o bobl i wneud



*Mae Clwb Gymnasteg YMCA y Barri wedi derbyn nawdd i brynu cyfarpar ac ar gyfer hyfforddi hyfforddwyr*

ymarfer corff, mae'n bryd i chi hawlio'ch arian. **Ffoniwch Julie Morgan ar (01446) 704754 neu anfonwch neges e-bost i [jamorgan@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:jamorgan@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) am ffurflen gais.**

## Rheolau Maethu Preifat

OS YDYCH yn trefnu'n breifat i edrych ar ôl plentyn rhywun arall, mae'n rhaid i chi roi gwybod i'r Cyngor.

Mae maethu preifat yn wahanol i'r gwasanaeth y bydd y Cyngor yn ei ddarparu drwy ofalwyr maeth trwyddedig. Mae'n golygu unrhyw drefn lle mae oedolyn nad yw'n aelod o'r teulu'n gofalu am blentyn o dan 16 oed (neu 18 oed os yw'r plentyn yn anabl) am fwy na 28 o ddiwrnodau.

Rydych yn ofalwr maeth preifat os ydych yn:
 

- gofalu am unrhyw blant tramor sy'n aros gyda chi er mwyn cael addysg neu ofal iechyd ym Mhrydain;
- gofalu am blant cyfaill am fod eu rhieni wedi gwahanu neu ysgaru neu'n ffræo bob amser;
- gofalu am berson ifanc yn ei arddedau sy'n gariad i'ch mab neu'ch merch.

Mae rhaid i ofalwr maeth preifat:
 

- roi o leiaf 6 wythnos o rybudd i'r Cyngor cyn dechrau gofalu am blentyn a 48 awr o rybudd os yw'r sefyllfa'n gofyn am gymryd y plentyn cyn gynted ag sy'n bosibl;
- roi gwybod i'r Cyngor os yw'r plentyn yn symud i ffwrdd gan roi rhesymau am hynny ac enwi'r person sy'n gofalu am y plentyn erbyn hyn;
- Mae'n rhaid i rieni naturiol y plentyn:
  - dderbyn cyfrifoldeb am y plentyn;
  - roi gwybod i'r Cyngor am y trefniadau maethu preifat os nad yw'r darpar ofalwr eisoes wedi gwneud hynny;
  - Mae'n rhaid i'r Cyngor:
    - sicrhau bod gofalwyr maeth preifat yn addas;
    - ymweld â phlant yn rheolaidd er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn cael y gofal iawn;
    - drefnu i ofalwyr maeth a rhieni naturiol gael cyngor pan fo angen.



# Music studio is a big hit

Cowbridge rockers The Automatic have taken time out from a hectic schedule to officially open the new studio of Llantwit Major-based charity Major Music.

The studio is a dream come true for Major Music co-founders Dave Roberts and Phil Kirkham.

The rockers reached No 3 in the charts with their hit, 'Monster'.

Phil said: "We were really grateful that they took the time to join us on this truly memorable occasion."

Working in partnership with the Vale Youth Service, Major Music has, over the past two years, invested immense amounts of energy and enthusiasm in moving ahead with the building of their fantastic resource.

Major Music received huge support from Creative Rural Communities, the Vale Council-led regeneration partnership that secured a £77,000 European 'Article 33' grant from the

Welsh Assembly Government, and allowed the studio project to go ahead.

The project has additionally received valuable support from businesses, organisations and individuals including Roland (UK) Ltd, MITIE Engineering Services, COS – the Complete Office Solution, npower Aberthaw Power Station and Filco supermarkets.

Dave Roberts paid tribute to all those who have been associated with the project, making particular reference to the commitment of its mentors and volunteers and sessional workers – and the young people who have attended the project and many of its events.

Vale Council Principal Youth Officer Bob Fussell said: "The Vale applauds the work of Major Music in the establishment of this new music studio, which will focus on the talents and creative skills of young people. This studio is the culmination of more than five years' work by a small band of



Young enthusiasts at the Major Music studio

dedicated adults who are committed to the provision of musical opportunities to young people in the area and the wider rural Vale. Young people now have a new, high tech facility of which

they can be justifiably proud."

For more information contact the Llantwit Major Youth Centre on 01446-792141 or visit the website at [www.majormusic.net](http://www.majormusic.net)

## News in brief

### Great start to the day

Children attending Barry Island and High Street primary schools in Barry have been the first in the Vale to start their day with a free healthy breakfast.

The initiative, a collaboration between local authorities and the Welsh Assembly Government, is being rolled out to all Vale primary schools that wish to participate.

Most of the area's schools have registered an interest, and Vale Catering Services are rolling out a programme to bring them on board.



### Booked in advance

Vale Libraries host an exciting programme of author visits over the next few months.

Through the Face2Face events, residents will have the chance to meet Catrin Collier, Sheenagh Pugh, Trisha Ashley, Shirley Billing, Lionel Fanthorpe and a quartet of crime writers.

The next event is at Penarth Library on Wednesday, November 29, at 7.30pm, when Welsh writer Catrin Collier promotes her new novel, 'Tiger Ragtime', the second in a series set in Cardiff's docklands in the 1930s.

On Wednesday, January 23, at 7.30pm, Penarth Library will host a visit by Sheenagh Pugh, one of Wales' foremost poets and winner of numerous prizes.

Tickets at £2 are available direct from Penarth Library or can be reserved in advance by telephoning the library on 029 2070 8438.

Future events will be held in Dinas Powys, Llantwit Major and the new Barry Library in King Square.

For a full programme of events, pick up a brochure at your local library.

### CCTV for interchanges

CCTV cameras are to be installed at the Llantwit Major and Rhoose transport interchanges.

Both sites have been the subject of a series of incidents including criminal damage, vehicle and bicycle crime, trespass and violence and the move is being funded by a Welsh Assembly Transport Grant.

The move follows talks between Council officers and the police.

## What's on in the Vale

### November

#### Sunday, November 26 – Cowbridge Christmas Reindeer Parade

Father Christmas and his elves travel through the town on a sleigh pulled by real live reindeer, especially flown in from the Cairngorms! Events this year include the largest nativity parade in the UK, music from the RAF band and the switching on of the Christmas lights at 4pm by TV personality Sara Edwards. Call 07802 561782.

### December

#### Friday, December 1, from 2pm (switch on 7pm) – Llantwit Major Christmas Illuminations

Christmas celebrations start at 2pm with a Farmers Market around the Cenotaph. At 4pm the funfair begins in the Town Hall car park, and in the precinct there will be plays, concerts and an 'open microphone' session for would-be performers. Santa will be in his grotto at 7pm. Call 01446 793707.

#### Friday, December 1, 2pm to 3.30pm – Shelter Cymru Carol and Festive Song Event King Square, Barry

Enjoy an afternoon of live music with Christmas carols and festive songs. Collections for charity (Shelter Cymru).

#### Tuesday, December 5, from 5.30pm – Ty Hafan 'Light Up a Life' Carol Concert, King Square, Barry

Enjoy an evening of carols and for a minimum donation of just £5 you can dedicate a light on the Christmas tree. Your personal message will be inscribed in the 'Memory Book' displayed at the event.

Call 01446 739993 or visit [www.tyhafan.org](http://www.tyhafan.org)

#### December 7-9, 10am to 5pm – Continental Market King Square and Holton Road, Barry

Each day you can browse through the many stalls, which will include leather goods, handmade soaps, handmade jewellery, live music and street entertainers.

#### Friday, Saturday & Sunday nights in December until December 17 (5.30 - 8.30pm) – Light Up The Nights at Dyffryn's Historic Arboretum, Dyffryn Gardens

Enjoy a walk through Dyffryn's illuminated arboretum. Wrap up warm, wear sturdy footwear and bring a torch. Call 029 2059 3328 for more details.

#### December 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 22 and 23 On the hour, 11am to 3pm – Santa Specials, Barry Island Railway

The ever-popular Santa Specials will run with festive fare, special gifts and seasonal stories. This year's 'Ticket to Santa' offers an interactive experience in which children help Professor Gooch to find luggage labels for Santa. Tickets: £7.50 adult/child or £25 family (2+2), includes a present for children, mulled wine and mince pies for adults. Call 01446 748816.

#### Friday, December 8, 6pm to 9pm – Dickensian Fair, Dinas Powys Village Square

This atmospheric event will get you in the Christmas spirit, with craft and gift stalls, mulled wine, Santa's Grotto and carols by the Vale of Glamorgan brass band.

#### Friday, December 8, 7.30pm – Christmas Concert with Clare Teal, St Donats Arts Centre

Clare Teal, award-winning jazz singer, will be joined by seven singers for this Christmas themed concert. Early booking advised. Tickets £17, £15.

Call 01446 799100 or visit: [www.stdonats.com](http://www.stdonats.com)

#### Saturday, December 9, 7pm and 9pm – Ghost Tours For The Brave, Cosmeston Medieval Village

Take a walk on the dark side with an hour-long, candlelit, ghostly tour of the medieval village then sip a glass of mulled ale around a roaring fire. Groups need to book in advance. Call 029 2070 1678 for details.

#### Sat, Dec 9 and Sun, Dec 10, Sat 11am to 6pm, Sun noon to 4.30pm – Penarth Christmas Tree Festival, St Augustine's Church, Penarth

See more than 50 Christmas trees decorated by local schools, organisations and individuals. Accompanied children can also join Santa for breakfast in the Parish Hall at 10am. Call 029 2070 6309 or visit [www.staugustineschurch.co.uk](http://www.staugustineschurch.co.uk)

#### December 15-17, 5.30pm – 8.30pm – Father Christmas Grotto, Dyffryn Gardens

In addition to the illuminated trail through the arboretum, this special Christmas weekend includes mulled wine and mince pies for adults and a visit to Santa for children. Admission £5 adults, £3 children. Call 029 2059 3328.

#### Saturday, December 16, 7.30pm – Christmas by Candlelight, St Donats Arts Centre

A concert of glorious classical music by Arcata Ensemble. The medieval Tythe Barn forms an evocative candlelit setting for a varied musical repertoire. Mulled wine and complimentary mince pies. Tickets: £11, £9. Call 01446 799100 or visit [www.stdonats.com](http://www.stdonats.com)

Any groups or organisations wishing to publicise events in future issues of Vale Waves can contact (01446) 709453/454 or email [press@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:press@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)



# What's in your Bin *this Christmas?*

With Christmas just around the corner, we will all create more rubbish – through eating, drinking and giving cards and presents. We also tend to clear out things like clothes and toys

to make way for new. Most of this rubbish will end up buried in the ground in a landfill site, but it doesn't have to. Up to 85 per cent of what we throw away can be

recycled, reused or composted so please make the most of your local recycling services.

Follow these easy steps and give your bin a break now and at Christmas!

## FACTFACTFACTFACTFACT

Every year 78,000 tonnes of junk mail ends up in landfill sites around the UK.



Register your details to reduce the amount of junk mail coming through your letterbox

## Reduce

Reduce the rubbish you have in the first place.

- Avoid pre-packed fruit and vegetables. They are often cheaper if bought loose as you don't pay for the packaging.
- Avoid disposable items like paper plates, plastic cups and nappies.
- Buy less cling film and foil – use airtight containers for packed lunches and storing leftovers instead.
- Buy energy-saving lightbulbs and rechargeable batteries – they're cheaper in the long run.

### Fed up with junk mail?

Register with the mailing preference service to help reduce the amount you receive.

You can do this in a number of ways:

- Visit the website at [www.mpsonline.org.uk](http://www.mpsonline.org.uk)
- Send an e-mail to [mgs@dma.org.uk](mailto:mgs@dma.org.uk)
- Call 0845 703 4599
- Write to: The Mailing Preference Service, FREEPOST 29, LON2071 London W1E 0ZT stating that you would like to stop receiving unsolicited direct mail.

Don't forget to recycle any junk mail you do receive. Please do not include envelopes as our contractor will not accept them.

### Compost this Christmas!

After preparing your Christmas dinner why not compost your left over vegetables? One popular supermarket chain alone sells 140 million sprouts in the final week before Christmas – that's a lot of composting just waiting to happen! Discounted compost bins are available to all Vale residents priced from just £10. Call 01884 841 515 to order.

## Re-use

- Many items can be re-used including bottles, carrier bags, envelopes and refillable containers.
- Donate unwanted, good quality items such as clothes, toys and books to friends and family or your local charity shop.

## Recycle

- Use our free kerbside service to recycle as much of your waste as possible. We collect paper, glass and cans one week followed by clean plastic and cardboard the next.

**IMPORTANT** - We cannot accept broken glass.

Please contact us if you need a calendar for your collection dates. Please ensure you put your recycling out by 7am on collection day and please put out as much as you can.

You can also use your local recycling banks. These get used a lot during Christmas and New Year so please try and stagger your visits to give us a chance to empty them!

## FACTFACTFACTFACTFACT

Vale residents produced an additional 350 tonnes of rubbish during the Christmas holidays last year. Much of this could have been recycled or composted.

## Kerbside Christmas tree collection

Following the success of this year's scheme, we will again be collecting Christmas trees for recycling at the kerbside during January 2007.

If you would like your tree collected, simply place it out with your rubbish on your **normal** collection day between January 8 and 12. Please remove all decorations (we will only collect bare trees) and remember, this service is for the collection of real trees only!

## Mobile phones



If you get a new mobile for Christmas, don't forget you can recycle your old one at main council offices and libraries and help raise money for Guide Dogs for the Blind.

## Important changes to your refuse and recycling collections over Christmas

Due to the way Christmas and New Year falls this year, your refuse and recycling collections will change during the weeks starting 25 December and 1 January:

### December

Normal Collection	Revised collection
Mon 25 Dec	Weds 27 Dec
Tues 26 Dec	Thurs 28 Dec
Weds 27 Dec	Fri 29 Dec
Thurs 28 Dec	Sat 30 Dec
Fri 29 Dec	Sun 31 Dec

### January

Normal Collection	Revised collection
Mon 1 Jan	Tues 2 Jan
Tues 2 Jan	Weds 3 Jan
Weds 3 Jan	Thurs 4 Jan
Thurs 4 Jan	Fri 5 Jan
Fri 5 Jan	Sat 6 Jan



# New Christmas Card Competition!

This year we are launching a schools' Christmas card recycling competition and there are some great prizes up for grabs for individuals, including a portable DVD player and an Ipod, and for schools.

All schools in the Vale have been invited to enter, and the primary school pupil and secondary school pupil (from participating schools) collecting the most cards by the 13th January will win a prize. Vouchers to the value of £200 will also be awarded to the primary and secondary school collecting most cards overall. This will be worked out based on pupil numbers so even our smallest schools are in with a chance to win!

You can help support the competition by donating your cards to pupils attending one of the participating schools; details of these can be found under the recycling section of our website [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

Alternatively, you can recycle your Christmas cards at Tesco (express stores to be confirmed), or W H Smith from 2nd – 31st January, 2007; see in store for details. All cards collected for recycling will help the Woodland Trust, a national conservation charity, to plant trees.

**IMPORTANT** - Please do not put cards in with your paper or cardboard recycling as our contractor will not accept them. We can only collect what the contractor will accept. If you do mix cards in with your recycling this could result in the whole vehicle of recycling being rejected by the contractor and ending up in landfill.



*The Sullivan family from Penarth, – mum Julia, Mia, aged three, one-year-old Leo, Dylan, aged four, and dad Dan – will be recycling Christmas cards at their local Tesco store*

## Flytipping the facts

- Fly-tipping is illegal and offenders can face fines up to £50,000 or 12 months in prison.
- It happens every 35 seconds in the UK and costs £100 a minute to clear.
- You are responsible for ensuring that any waste removed from your property by others

such as builders, plumbers and gardeners is disposed of properly. Make sure they are a registered waste carrier. If you have any doubts you can call the Environment Agency on 08708 506 506.

- If your rubbish is found fly-tipped and traced back to you, you will be held responsible.

### DID YOU KNOW...?

The Council operates:

- two Household Recycling Centres at Hayes Rd, Sully, and at the Llandow Trading Estate where you can dispose of domestic rubbish free of charge.
- a competitively priced waste removal service for items such as bathroom and kitchen fittings

## Flytippers fined

The Council is continuing to crack down on people dumping rubbish in the county and 18 residents have been issued with fines recently.

One offender was witnessed throwing waste, including kitchen drawers, into overgrowth at the side of Cemetery Lane in Barry by a resident who contacted the police.

The police used the vehicle registration details to identify the person and then passed these details on to the Council's enforcement team who issued a fixed penalty notice for £75. This was delivered through the offender's letter box the very next day.

Another resident was fined after dumping black bags in Frampton Lane in Llantwit Major. The waste was reported to the Council and, following an investigation by its enforcement team, the resident received a visit from officers at home that day and was issued with a £75 on-the-spot fine.

Cabinet Member for Visible Services Cllr Geoff

Cox hopes these examples will act as a deterrent to anyone who may be considering dumping rubbish in the Vale. He said: "Fly-tipping is illegal and anti-social and affects everyone. The Council will not hesitate to prosecute individuals and commercial companies found to be disposing of their waste inappropriately.

"I find it astonishing that some people will drive somewhere to dump rubbish when they could just as easily drive to one of the Council's Household Recycling Centres and dispose of it free of charge. The small minority who do fly-tip make our countryside and communities look unsightly and waste a substantial amount of Council Tax money that could be spent on improving services for everyone in the Vale."

If residents have evidence, such as vehicle registration numbers, that could be used to help with the prosecution of fly-tippers please call us on the number below. All information will be treated confidentially.



*Flytipping in Cemetery Lane, Barry*

For advice on waste disposal or to report fly-tipping, please contact Visible Services on 029 2067 3000, e-mail

[visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) or visit [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

For further details on any of the above, please call 029 2067 3000, e-mail [visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) or visit [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)



## Young people give their views

A RANGE of views from young people on life in the Vale came under the microscope at youth conferences in Barry and Llantwit Major.

The annual conferences organised by The Young People's Partnership (YPP) were attended by more than 100 students from five local secondary schools and voted a great success.

The conferences focused on a Communities that Care (CtC) survey that involved more than 4,000 young people (copies of the summary or full report are available from the address below). It was aimed at gathering current information about the lives of young people, which would inform the work of the agencies providing services for children and young people.

YPP co-ordinator Mark Davies said: "The conferences were the first opportunity to provide survey feedback to young people and allowed youngsters an opportunity to discuss with professionals how agencies can work together to resolve a number of areas of concern."

In breakout groups of 10, the young people rotated around a carousel of workshops discussing their views on access to alcohol and drugs, attitudes that condone problem behaviour and poor parental supervision and discipline.

Mark added: "The research issues and ideas put forward by the young people at the events will now become the focus of the Partnership's work."

"Although organised by the YPP, the event was a great example of partnership working, being supported by a wide array of representatives from all sectors including the Youth Service, Youth Offending Team and the health and voluntary sectors."

Also attending was Vale youth participation officer Ve Van De Voorde. An experienced youth worker, Ve has already been developing a number of projects to help actively involve young people in the development of youth provision within the area. A key focus for Ve is the development of school councils and the wider network.

A full report highlighting the views of the youth of the Vale and what changes they feel are needed will be available from October.

**If you would like more information, log onto the YPP website at <http://www.valeypp.org/> or contact Mark at the Barry Hostel, Gladstone Road, Barry CF63 1NH; tel (01446) 734276; fax (01446) 733679 or email [MDDavies@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:MDDavies@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)**

## New chapter for mobile libraries

The Council has unveiled a major expansion of its mobile library service. Following the launch of a second mobile library, the Vale will be taking its service to even more communities to provide much greater benefits for people of all ages unable to visit the county's static libraries.

Both mobiles are well stocked with a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books, large print books, and talking books on cassette and CD. The vans also have removable shelves so that they can be customised for laptop use, and are fitted with lifts for full disabled access.

Community outreach officer Andrea Griffiths said: "The mobile service is now more user-friendly than ever before, and the much smaller vans can negotiate the narrowest of lanes and streets in the Vale."

The new timetable which came into effect on November 6 comprises more than 110 locations, of which 35 are new, which will be visited on a fortnightly basis. There are also dedicated stops at schools, nurseries and care homes.



From left: Christopher Edwards, Principal Librarian; Alan Bracey from A G Bracey Ltd of Bristol, who were the van body builders; John Jones and Rachel Hewitson, Senior Assistant Drivers; Andy Griffiths, Community Outreach Officer; and Cllr Tony Hampton, Cabinet member for Education and Training. The livery was designed in house and applied by Cardiff-based Semaphore Display Ltd

Andrea added: "The new rota represents a 30 per cent increase in contact time over the fortnight but, if any Vale Waves readers do not see their community included or wish to suggest further stops, then they are invited to contact me. We are keen to develop the service further,

providing stops for additional groups of people who would welcome a regular visit."

A further initiative is the availability of the mobile service on Saturdays in the Barry area. **Further information can be obtained from the Vale Mobile Library HQ on (01446) 740688.**

## The new mobile library timetable

★ denotes new locations

<b>ABERTHIN</b>		Community Centre car park ★	Sat 11.00-12.15	Redlands Court	Tues 3.45-4.10		
Maes Lloi	Thurs 11.45-12.10	Enfield Drive ★	Fri 2.00-2.20	<b>PENDOYLAN</b>	Heol St Cattwg	Thurs 4.25-4.40	
Downs View	Thurs 12.15-12.45	Lakin Drive ★	Fri 2.25-3.00	<b>PENILLYN ★</b>	Village Hall	Wed 1.00-1.30	
<b>AMELIA TRUST FARM ★</b>	Fri 11.10-12.10	Lakin Drive (west) ★	Fri 3.05-3.40	<b>PENMARK</b>		Fri 4.00-4.30	
<b>BARRY</b>		Highlight Lane (Oakfield Road) ★	Fri 3.50-4.15	<b>PENYLAN</b>		Thurs 2.15-2.35	
West Walk	Thurs 11.15-12.00	Brynhill Close ★	Fri 4.20-4.45	<b>PETERSTON-S-ELY</b>		Thurs 2.15-3.10	
Vale Resource Centre	Thurs 12.05-12.30	<b>BARRY – MERTHYR DYFAN</b>		<b>PICKETSTON</b>		Thurs 3.45-3.55	
Peterswell Road ★	Thurs 2.00-2.30	Merthyr Dyfan Road (Post Office)	Fri 9.30-10.00	<b>PORKERRY</b>		Leisure Park ★	Thurs 9.30-10.30
Millwood Court	Thurs 2.40-3.10	<b>LLANDOW</b>		<b>RHOOSE</b>		Ceri Road ★	Thurs 10.40-11.20
<b>BARRY – CADOXTON</b>		Vale Business Park (top) ★	Fri 10.55-11.25	<b>SOUTHERNDOWN</b>		Three Cups	Mon 12.55-1.15
Church Road (Bells)	Tues 11.30-12.00	Vale Business Park (bottom) ★	Fri 11.30-12.00	<b>ST ATHAN</b>		West Camp	Thurs 2.00-2.50
Treharne Road	Thurs 9.30-10.00	<b>LLANMAES</b>		Community Centre ★		<b>ST BRIDES MAJOR</b>	Mon 11.10-11.30
(Iolo Place) ★		<b>LLANSANNOR COURT</b>		Pant Close		The Green	Mon 11.35-12.15
Spring Street	Mon 2.00-2.30	<b>LLANTRITHYD</b>		Lon yr Eglwys		<b>ST BRIDES-S-ELY</b>	Thurs 12.15-12.45
Palmerston AEC	Mon 2.35-3.30	<b>LLYSWORNEY</b>		St Brides Place		<b>ST DONATS</b>	Mon 4.25-4.50
Pontypridd Street	Mon 3.40-5.00	<b>MARCROSS</b>		Castle Green		<b>ST HILARY</b>	Thurs 11.55-12.10
<b>BARRY – COLCOT</b>		<b>MICHAELSTON-LE-PIT</b>		Bush Inn		<b>ST LYTHANS</b>	Thurs 11.00-11.30
Meggitt Road ★	Sat 1.45-3.00	<b>MONKTON</b>		<b>ST MARY CHURCH</b>		<b>ST NICHOLAS</b>	Thurs 9.45-10.00
Milton Road ★	Fri 10.10-10.40	<b>MOULTON</b>		Dinas Road		Downs	Thurs 10.00-10.25
Winston Road	Fri 10.45-11.45	<b>OGMORE</b>		(Beechwood Drive) ★		Village	Thurs 10.35-11.15
Hinchliff Avenue ★	Fri 11.50-12.30	Hardies Café	Mon 2.30-2.55	Purcell Road		Dyffryn Close	Thurs 10.15-10.40
<b>BARRY – COLD KNAP</b>		Rivermouth Café	Mon 3.05-3.40	(Sullivan Close) ★		<b>TRE-DODRIDGE</b>	Thurs 4.00-4.15
Bridge Café	Tues 10.45-12.15	<b>PENARTH</b>		<b>PENARTH – COGAN</b>		<b>TREOES</b>	Wed 3.00-3.40
<b>BARRY – COLDBROOK</b>		Glyndwr Road ★	Mon 9.45-10.15	Pill Street		<b>WICK</b>	Mon 3.10-3.40
Churchfields	Tues 10.55-11.25	Myrtle Close	Mon 10.25-10.55	Gwyn James Court		<b>YSTRADOWN</b>	Thurs 3.30-4.20
Brookfield	Tues 12.10-12.45	(Ty Dewi Sant) ★					
Langlands Road	Tues 2.55-4.00	Myrtle Close (Oak Court) ★	Mon 11.00-11.30				
(Hanover Court)		Dinas Road	Mon 11.40-12.00				
Glenbrook Car Park	Tues 4.10-5.00	(Purcell Road)	Mon 12.10-12.30				
<b>BARRY – CWM TALWG</b>		(Sullivan Close) ★					
Conway Drive (woods) ★	Thurs 3.20-3.50	<b>PENARTH – COGAN</b>					
Cwm Talwg car park	Thurs 4.00-5.00						
<b>BARRY – GIBBONSDOWN</b>							
St Brides Way	Tues 10.20-10.45						
(Laleston Close)							
St Brides Way	Sat 3.15-4.30						
(Pendoylan Close) ★							
Ty Dyfan	Thurs 10.05-11.00						
<b>BARRY – HIGHLIGHT PARK</b>							



## Excellent report on Council services

An all-Wales local government report has highlighted the excellent progress being maintained by the Council.

Produced by the Local Government Data Unit (Wales), the report has been welcomed by Council Leader Cllr Jeffrey James, who said: "We have done a great deal of good work over the last few years and it is of immense pleasure that it continues to be recognised."

"The last few years have been particularly challenging for local government but we have maintained our impetus to improve services."

"It is a pleasure to positively promote the outstanding progress being made by the authority and the first-class initiatives we are rolling out across many service areas."

Cllr James added: "All Council directorates should be congratulated for delivering services which are, in many cases, well above the Welsh average."

The Vale is particularly outstanding in – the number of households covered by a kerbside recycling collection service, the number of "high risk" food premises inspections, the accuracy of Housing and Council Tax Benefit claims processing and children entering care with a Care Plan in place at the time of placement. In these areas, the Vale, along with a number of other authorities, is highlighted as a 100 per cent achiever, while the Welsh averages were 78%, 91%, 98% and 86% respectively.

The performance of the Vale in other areas (with Welsh averages in brackets) includes:

- street lamps repaired, on average, within one day of being reported (4.2 days is the average in Wales)
- 97% of roads and public spaces of an acceptable level of cleanliness (96%)
- 18.75% of waste recycled (14.7%)
- 91.74% pupil attendance at secondary schools (91%)
- a 46 external qualifications point score for 16 year olds based on exam results (40)
- 1% of pupils left school without a recognised

qualification (2.3%)

■ the average number of days taken to re-let dwellings was 59.4 (53)

■ 92.1% of emergency repairs to council dwellings completed within 24 hours (95%)

■ 87.6% of people presenting as homeless receiving a decision within 33 working days (83%)

■ 74% of domestic planning applications processed within eight weeks (73%)

■ the rate of delayed transfers of care (also known as bed blocking) was 5.28 (7.7)

■ Council workers took an average of 13.2 days sick leave (11.7 days)

■ a 97.4% Council Tax collection rate (96.5%)

Cllr James added: "We appreciate that there are a number of areas of concern, and our officers will be looking at ways of addressing problems and ensuring that we continue to be among the top performing authorities in Wales."

The Council's progress has also been recognised by the Welsh Assembly Government.

As part of a policy agreement requiring the authority to meet a number of yearly service delivery targets, it has been rewarded with a £1.2m performance incentive grant from the Assembly.

Areas covered by the agreement include adult education, schools, youth service, homelessness, energy efficiency, adult and children's services, libraries, equalities and waste.

In a letter to the Vale, Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services Sue Essex said: "I was particularly pleased to note evidence of strong performance against milestones for young people leaving school without a qualification, use of bed and breakfast temporary accommodation for homeless people, delayed transfers of care, older people in residential care, electronic service delivery and recycling of waste. In all of these, you have significantly exceeded your targeted performance and/or shown a high degree of improvement, and the Council and its officers should be commended."

## Get ready for the smoking ban

Local businesses requiring further information or assistance in preparing for the ban on smoking in all enclosed public places that comes into effect on April 2 next year are being invited to contact the Council.

Approved by the Welsh Assembly Government, the aim of the legislation is to protect workers and the general public from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke.

The new law will affect most public premises, including restaurants, pubs, bars, shops, cinemas, shopping centres, leisure centres, other enclosed workplaces and public transport.

**Further information can be obtained from the Council's Regulatory Services department on (01446) 709105, email**

**RegServ@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk, or log on to [www.smokingbanwales.co.uk](http://www.smokingbanwales.co.uk).**

The law will create three specific offences:

- failing to display no-smoking signs in premises covered by the law;
- smoking in a smoke-free place; and
- failing to prevent smoking in a smoke-free place.

The regulations will cover issues such as exemptions to the ban, signage requirements and enforcement arrangements.

The regulations also set out definitions of 'enclosed' and 'substantially enclosed' premises.

Enclosed premises are those that have a ceiling or roof, and except for doors, windows or passageways, are wholly enclosed, whether on a permanent or temporary basis.

Substantially enclosed premises are those that have a ceiling or roof, but there are openings in the walls which are less than half of the total area of walls.



## What to do in an emergency

IF a large-scale emergency ever occurs in the Vale of Glamorgan, the emergency services, Council and central government have plans to deal with the situation. But you can take action that will help YOU to help yourself.

### SNOW

Main roads are cleared and gritted during snow and icy conditions; you should only venture out if absolutely necessary. Tell someone where you are going. If you become stuck, stay with the vehicle as long as possible – abandoned cars disrupt snow-clearing efforts. If you leave your car, inform the police on (01656) 655555 or 029 2022 2111. For travel and school information, listen to local radio such as BBC Radio Wales or Red Dragon and visit websites such as [www.travelwatch.com](http://www.travelwatch.com) or the travel pages of [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

### STORMS

Use radio, television and the internet for news updates. Park vehicles away from trees and high walls, secure outdoor items such as garden furniture and draw your curtains to protect from flying glass. After the storm, contact landlords or insurers if your property has been damaged. Contact the relevant suppliers if gas, electricity and water supplies are affected. If you believe your property is no longer safe, leave it and inform the Council – we will assess the risk.

### FLOODING

If you have sandbags (or bags/ pillowcases etc filled with sand) available, block doors and low level vents. Move valuables and furniture upstairs. You can also evacuate and stay with family or friends. If you get into difficulty in a single storey property, contact the emergency services for evacuation. Provisions will be made available where necessary. Turn off gas and electricity until they can be inspected. Check the EA floodline – contact tel 08459 881188, website: [environment-agency.gov.uk/flood](http://environment-agency.gov.uk/flood). After flooding, contact insurers. If you commission pumping or repair works, remember to keep all your receipts. Make sure you wear rubber gloves and thoroughly clean your house with disinfectant.

### UNUSUAL CLOUDS

If you see unusual clouds of smoke or gas, go inside and shut all windows and doors. Block off obvious drafts, extinguish naked flames and turn off air conditioning. Cover food and remember to

wash or peel fruit and vegetables before eating. Tune in to BBC Radio Wales or Red Dragon or visit [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) or the news pages of [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk). Don't try to collect children from school unless told to do so – their teachers will keep them safe. Do not go out until authorities say it is all right to do so, either by radio announcement or via a loudhailer. Once the all clear is given, empty rainwater butts and do not handle animals that have been kept outside.

### EMERGENCY EVACUATION

In extreme circumstances, you (and your pets) may be asked to leave your home for your own safety. A Rest Centre will temporarily house evacuees, and transport will be provided if necessary. You may also stay with family or friends as long as you inform the police. Try to gather spare clothes, personal documents, immediate valuables and any special foods or medicines you require. Remember to turn off fires – follow instructions from the emergency services about turning off utilities. The Rest Centre will provide beds, refreshments and meals as appropriate.

### GO IN, STAY IN, TUNE IN

The GO IN, STAY IN, TUNE IN advice is recognised and used around the world. It was developed by the independent National Steering Committee on Warning and Informing the Public as being the best general advice to give people caught up in most emergencies.

There is an agreement with radio and TV companies that if there is a major emergency they will interrupt programming to give public safety advice and information about the incident, so that when you tune in locally or nationally anywhere in the UK you'll get the advice you need.

■ Visit [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) to find out more about what happens in an emergency.

■ The Vale of Glamorgan Highways Maintenance Division produce guidance leaflets for residents on

■ FLOODING

■ WINTER MAINTENANCE

Available from Highways Maintenance Division, Visible Services Department, The Alps, Wenvoe CF5 6AA  
Tel 029 2067 3000

*Images supplied courtesy of Bridgend County Borough Council*



## Your Council's plan for 2006 and 2007

**D**o you want to know what the Council has done to improve services over the last year and how it plans to make further improvements during the coming year? The Council's Improvement Plan will give you the information you need.

Produced each year, the complete Improvement Plan is available at all public libraries in the Vale and on the Council's website at [valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://valeofglamorgan.gov.uk). It gives full

details of what the Council has achieved over the year, and what it needs to progress over the coming year.

If you would like to comment on the Plan please email the Council Leader, Cllr Jeffrey James at [leader@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:leader@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) or write to him at the Leader's Office, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU.

On these pages we give a brief summary of the information you can find in the Plan.

## Lifelong Learning

THE COUNCIL aims to help schools provide high quality education to all Vale pupils and to improve the already impressive standard of education in the Vale.

The Council also works with partners to increase the number of residents taking advantage of lifelong learning, recognising the benefit of education to individuals, their communities and the local economy.

### WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED OVER THE LAST YEAR?

#### We have:

- Opened the St Illytd Early Years Integrated Centre
- Ensured all nursery, primary and secondary schools achieved the Basic Skills Quality Mark
- In consultation with schools and parents promoted the inclusion of children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) in their local mainstream schools, to reduce barriers to learning
- Completed the development of the Vale's Welsh medium secondary school, Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg
- Increased the opportunities for adults to undertake education in main libraries and community venues



*Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg - the Welsh medium comprehensive school in Barry*

### WHAT WILL WE ACHIEVE IN THE COMING YEAR?

#### We will:

- Maintain and improve the quality of early years education
- Progress plans to improve secondary school accommodation for Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and St Cyres
- Review our Youth Service
- Develop a strategy for full co-educational secondary education in Barry
- Open the new, easily accessible County Library and Open Learning Centre in Barry, and use the facility to increase the number of people taking part in lifelong learning



*The Council has held community meetings to promote public interest in decision-making*

## Community Leadership

COMMUNITY Leadership is at the heart of the Council's work – providing strong political leadership to represent the interests of the community, and working in partnership with the public, private and voluntary sectors to deliver a wide range of benefits for local people, as well as encouraging residents to take an active part in community life.

### WHAT ARE WE DOING WELL?

#### We have:

- Carried out a survey to gather the views of local people and we are using the results to develop our services to meet the needs of Vale residents.
- Promoted public interest in the Council's decision making by holding three State of the Area Debates in the community (at Barry, Penarth and Llantwit Major) and running other meetings at community venues.
- Produced a new Welsh Language Scheme and a Welsh language website [www.bromorgannwg.gov.uk](http://www.bromorgannwg.gov.uk) to promote the Welsh language within the Council and across the Vale.

- Improved the support we offer our Councillors, with the aim of helping them to better represent their areas' residents.

### HOW WILL WE TRY TO IMPROVE OVER THE COMING YEAR?

#### We will:

- Open a contact centre and one-stop-shop to improve access to Council services for all Vale residents.
- Revise the way the Council deals with complaints.
- Launch an improved website and increase the ways residents can use the website to give the Council their views on services.
- Extend our office opening hours to 8 am – 6 pm through the Contact Centre, which will be extended as new services are introduced.
- Ensure Welsh speakers' telephone calls are dealt with in Welsh from the moment their call is answered.

## Creating a better environment for tomorrow

THE COUNCIL works to ensure that people living and working in the Vale and its visitors have access to a clean and high-quality local environment. We aim to protect the Vale's rural and urban areas from insensitive development, poor management and pollution.

### WHAT ARE SOME OF OUR ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE LAST YEAR?

#### We have:

- Invested an additional £250,000 in highway resurfacing.

- Added plastic and cardboard to the materials we collect through our kerbside recycling scheme – this is in addition to glass, metal and paper. Our recycling initiatives have been recognised by a national merit award.

- Promoted environmental awareness within the Council through schemes such as Green Dragon, and introduced a green travel plan for the Council and its staff.

- Prepared a strategy to encourage public art

works in the Vale, to benefit the landscape and generate a sense of pride in public spaces.

- Promoted the Ecoschools initiative, Safe Routes to Schools and local road safety.

### WHAT ARE WE PLANNING TO DO TO FURTHER PROTECT THE VALE'S ENVIRONMENT?

#### Over the next year we aim to:

- Develop strategies for tree management, play areas and parks.

- Develop a Coastal Strategy that will help us to better manage our coastal facilities

- Develop a Rights of Way action plan to improve access to the countryside.

- Achieve green flag status for three parks.

- Develop a Waste Resource Park at Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry.

- Further increase recycling rates



## Corporate Resources

THE COUNCIL is committed to managing its resources, finance, staff and assets so that the Vale and its residents receive the best services possible.

### WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED OVER THE LAST YEAR?

#### We have:

- Again increased the amount of due Council tax collected.
- Introduced new ways of buying goods and services, that will ensure best value for the Council.
- Reduced the overall turnover of staff in key areas.
- Reduced sickness absence among Council staff and set challenging targets to reduce absence figures further.
- Continued to improve the speed with which new benefits claims are dealt with – meaning the Vale's performance is well above the Welsh and English averages.

- Achieved the Gold Corporate Health Standard, to maintain and promote a safe and healthy workforce.

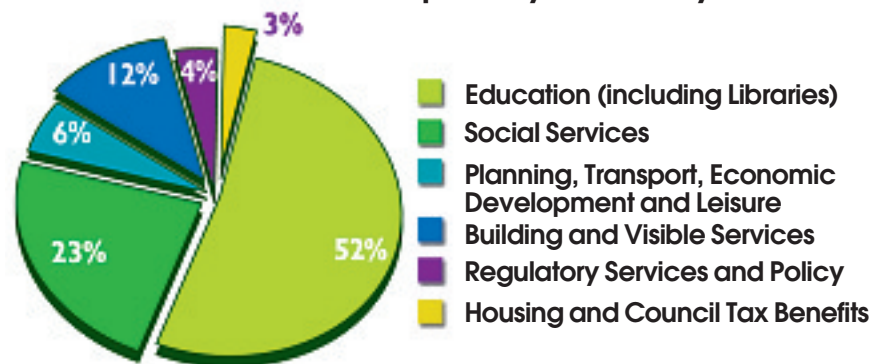
- Developed a Freedom of Information Strategy, including a publications scheme and a record management system.

### WHAT ARE WE AIMING TO IMPROVE?

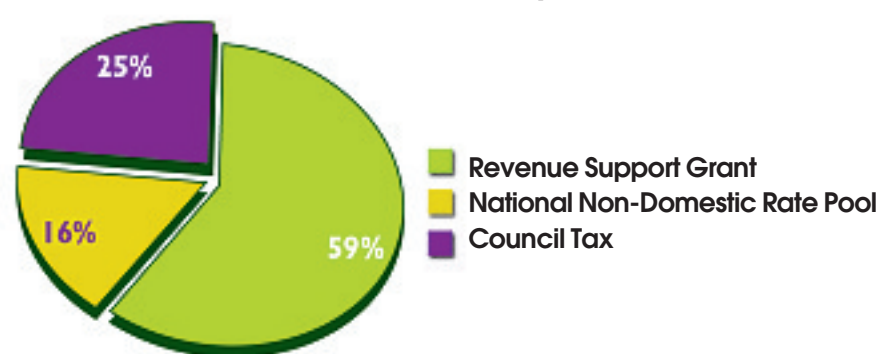
#### We will:

- Achieve one per cent savings year on year on the Council's budget
- Develop a Business Continuity Plan to ensure the Council is able to supply key services in the event of a major crisis
- Continue upgrading our buildings and training our staff to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act
- Develop our staff to better equip them to deliver the Council's planned service improvements

### What the Council spends your money on



### Where the Council's money comes from



## Community Well-Being

THE COUNCIL is keen to make the Vale a safe, healthy and enjoyable place to live for all its residents. The welfare of children and young people is a key priority.

### WHAT ARE WE DOING WELL?

#### We have:

- Prepared a Food Law Enforcement Plan to ensure high standards of food safety for residents and visitors to the Vale.
- Developed The Hub project, a multi-purpose community centre in Barry, in partnership with the YMCA and other voluntary organisations.
- Developed a Children's Information Service.
- Developed and launched the Vale's first Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Strategy in partnership with the Vale Local Health Board.
- Reduced the number of families with children living in bed and breakfast accommodation.
- Developed the first homelessness prevention service in Wales.
- Increased the number of older people helped to live independently in their own homes.
- Opened a new respite care centre and developed residential short break provision and support services to meet the needs of disabled children and their families.



**The Hub**

- Reduced energy use in the public housing stock.

### WHAT DO OUR PLANS INCLUDE FOR THE COMING YEAR?

#### We will:

- Reduce the use of bed and breakfast accommodation for homeless people, by investigating leasing and market renting schemes and by improving the availability and quality of emergency accommodation.
- Develop a Housing Stock Asset Management and Investment Strategy to work towards the Welsh Housing Quality Standard.
- Increase the availability of local foster carers and reduce residential placements outside the Vale of Glamorgan.
- Reduce the number of placements and changes to schools for children looked after by the Council.



*The Council has worked with partners to re-open the Barry – Bridgend railway line*

## Regeneration

PROMOTING regeneration and economic development is the key to ensuring the Vale is a great place to live.

### WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED IN THE LAST YEAR? We have:

- Completed the regeneration of Barry Town Hall, Central Park and King Square.
- Worked with Bridgend Council and the Welsh Assembly Government to re-open the Barry – Bridgend railway line to passenger traffic and built new stations at Llantwit Major and Rhoose.
- Strengthened the Council's links with local business through the sponsorship of the Vale Business Club, the establishment of the Barry Regeneration Partnership Board and the

appointment of a Town Centres Manager.

- Increased the number of compliance checks on hackney carriages and private hire vehicles.

### WHAT DO WE AIM TO DO OVER THE COMING YEAR? We will:

- Continue to develop facilities at Dyffryn Gardens.
- Produce a town centre strategy for the Vale.
- Formulate strategies for traffic management and parking.
- Produce a marketing plan that ties in events marketing, art development work and other cultural activities to promote leisure provision.



## Rooting out problems!

THE Council's arboriculture team has responsibility for highway tree maintenance and the authority's tree stock in its parks, gardens and open spaces.

The subject of trees divides people quite strongly; while some view them as an unwelcome blight on the horizon, others protest passionately against their removal.

Based at the Council's Court Road depot in Barry, the team is led by John Withers.

John explains: "A tree may need removal if it is causing subsidence problems to nearby properties, severe damage to a road and underground services, lifting the pavement, creating poor sight-lines for vehicle drivers, and, generally, making the street awkward for its users."

Replanting takes place wherever possible, and new trees are often a species more suited to the street environment.

The team are continually working on a rolling programme of tree maintenance, and have recently benefited from an extra £75,000 of funding.

Ninety per cent of the tree waste produced by any maintenance is recycled thanks to a state-of-the-art chipping machine, and these chippings are made available to the public free of charge.

# New day dawns for care service

**A** new home is on the horizon for a day care service for older people, including those with mental health problems, living in the western Vale.

The Vale's own care home, Southway, Cowbridge, and the Jane Hodge Hotel, Trerhyngyll, have been venues for the facility in the past but, with the support of the British Red Cross and St Athan Methodist Church, the service was relaunched as the Red Cross Western Vale Day Service earlier this year.

Capable of providing day care facilities for 10 people per day, the centre is currently located on a site at the former RAF St Athan but will move in the future to a brand new resource centre being built in St Athan.

Team manager (commissioning), Terry Hacking, said: "The centre aims to provide day care facilities in a homely, comfortable and friendly setting for older, frail and EMI clients and, since opening in April, has proved to be an immense success."

"The centre is entirely user led and typical activities for clients include arts and crafts, quizzes and games, gardening, hairdressing and the provision of personal care."

Having its own minibus, the Red Cross has been able to provide day trips to St Fagans, Cosmeston Lake, Porthcawl and Aberavon.

Red Cross senior service manager Lisa Kenny



**A new centre in St Athan will house day care services in the Vale**

said: "Although the day care centre has only been open three months, we already have waiting lists and I think this demonstrates its success particularly in terms of being a place where clients want to go."

"Relatives of clients have commented on what a change they've seen in their next of kin due to the different activities and stimulation they are now getting, and we hope in the future to be able to increase our client numbers."

## Don't fall fowl of food poisoning

CONTRARY to popular belief a major contribution to food poisoning is unsafe food practice in the home.

It is estimated that 5.5 million people – that's 1 in 10 people – in the UK each year suffer from food-borne illness.

Forgetting basic hygiene rules in the home could leave people suffering from unpleasant symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhoea and stomach cramps resulting in a miserable Christmas and New Year.

Make sure you follow the Poultry Code and don't fall foul of food poisoning.

- Keep a frozen bird in the freezer and do not defrost until required. Do not refreeze once thawed!
- Fresh birds should be bought as close to Christmas as possible and refrigerated until needed.
- A frozen bird must be completely defrosted in the fridge or at room temperature away from other food.
- Poultry is ready for cooking when the body is pliable, the legs flexible and body cavity free from ice crystals.
- Don't forget to remove the giblets!
- Avoid filling the body cavity with stuffing, but cook the stuffing separately. Remember stuffing will increase the weight of the bird and cooking times should be adjusted accordingly.
- The centre of the bird must reach 75°C to kill any bacteria, but use a meat thermometer to make sure. Check it's cooked by ensuring all juices run clear.
- Eat as soon as possible after cooking and handle as little as possible.
- All remaining meat, stock and trimmings must be covered and

cooled as quickly as possible and then stored in the refrigerator within 1-2 hours.

- If reheating the bird and using leftovers, ensure these are heated thoroughly and the temperature reaches at least 70°C.

As a guide, please see the following table for information regarding thawing and cooking times

Oven ready weight of poultry kg (lbs)	Approx. thawing time at room temperature (21°C) (hours)	Cooking Time at 180°C/350 F Gas 4 (in foil) (hours)
2.25 (5)	15	2.5
4.5 (10)	18	3.5
6.75 (15)	24	4.75
9 (20)	30	5.75

**REMEMBER** – clean all work surfaces and equipment used to prepare the raw bird; otherwise the cooked bird can pick up food poisoning organisms from contaminated surfaces. The cook's hands must also be washed thoroughly after dealing with the raw bird.

### Keep your food safe

The festive season always encourages people to stock up on

Christmas goodies. Fresh food is normally preferable, but make sure that it is stored safely.

- If your fridge is not cold enough, harmful bacteria can grow and cause food poisoning.
- Keep the coldest part of your fridge between 0°C and 5°C – use a fridge thermometer and check the temperature regularly.
- Keep the most perishable foods, e.g those with a short shelf life such as cooked meats, in the coldest part of the fridge.
- Take chilled and frozen food home quickly – then put into the fridge or freezer at once.
- Wrap or cover all raw or uncooked foods so that they can't touch or drip onto other foods and contaminate them – keep raw meat and fish at the bottom of the fridge.
- Don't overload the fridge.
- Don't put hot food in the fridge – let it cool first.
- Don't keep food beyond its 'use-by' date.
- Don't keep the fridge door open.

For further information, please contact Environmental Health (Commercial Team) on 01446 709105.

Keep a look out for our online Festive Food Fun Quiz at the beginning of December. It is open to all children up to the age of 14 who live in the Vale giving the chance to win gift vouchers.

Simply log on at the beginning of December to: [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ourenvironment/environmentalhealth](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/ourenvironment/environmentalhealth)