

## We're tops for recycling – and it's all down to you!



You're never too young to be "green" is the message from pupils at Bute Cottage Nursery School in Penarth.

The Vale of Glamorgan is one of the top recycling councils in Wales - and that's down to Vale residents.

Official figures for 2005/06 issued by the Welsh Assembly Government show the Vale as fourth best of Wales' 22 councils, recycling 18.75% of our waste in this period compared with 13.91% in 2004/05.

The good news doesn't stop there – with your help so far this year we have recycled almost one million Christmas cards, more than 12,000 Christmas trees and collected an additional 149 tonnes of household waste for recycling over Christmas compared with the same time last year. These achievements alone saved

over 210 tonnes of waste from being buried in landfill and demonstrate what a huge difference we can all make.

Council Leader Cllr Margaret Alexander thanked residents for their continued support of the Vale's recycling initiatives. She said: "Our recycling rates have increased steadily over the past three years and I am delighted that so many residents are now using our kerbside and recycling site services. We have also seen huge support for our seasonal initiatives, especially the schools' Christmas card recycling competition, and I hope this will continue."

The Council's Head of Visible

Services, Miles Punter, said: "Our recycling performance is very encouraging and residents must be given great credit for helping us achieve this. That said, we still have some way to go. Our combined recycling and composting figure was 25.54% for 2005/06 and we need to reach at least 40% by 2010 to meet Welsh Assembly targets."

Composting figures should improve significantly from April with the launch of a new kerbside garden waste collection – see inside for details.

Residents are reminded that over 60% of their waste can be recycled or composted.

For further details about local services, 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)

• Turn to pages six and seven for more recycling news including a new improved garden waste service offering a regular fortnightly kerbside collection service from April to October.

Remember that Easter rubbish and recycling will be collected as normal on Good Friday and Easter Monday.



### New and improved website

The Council's new and improved website is more user friendly and contains over 40% more content

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### Youngsters learn to be better drivers

Pupils from schools across the Vale have taken part in a highly successful "Road Runners" initiative.

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## Welcome to our new and improved website



### The Council has launched its new and improved website at [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk).

The website is not only more user-friendly than our previous site but also contains over 40% more content.

The layout is now split into four areas – Living, Working, Our Council and Enjoying – to enable visitors to quickly identify the type of information they are looking for:

‘Living’ contains information on housing, transport, social services, public order.

‘Working’ includes topics such as education, libraries, rural and urban regeneration, business support and environmental health.

‘Our Council’ contains councillor details, details about jobs, online payments, Council Tax facts and a new feature allowing access to

agendas, reports and minutes of council meetings.

‘Enjoy’ is a new section which has a completely different look and feel to the rest of the site, with information about leisure centres, community centres, sport, play and art. It includes a new area ‘www.visitthevale.com’, designed specifically to market the Vale to encourage increased tourism.

We are proud to say that over 60 per cent of the site is now translated into Welsh, and we aim to increase this percentage in the future. The Welsh version of our site can be found at [www.bromorgannwg.gov.uk](http://www.bromorgannwg.gov.uk).

Let us know what you want on the site. Contact Web Editor Angela Magee on (01446) 709852 or email [amagee@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:amagee@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk).

## Young Achiever of the Year

Organised by the Council's Youth Service, the fifth annual Vale Youth Awards again celebrated the successes and achievements of local youngsters.



Chris Lloyd was named as ‘Young Achiever of the Year’ for his superb efforts at the Amelia Trust Farm.

The awards also included recognition for the Vale Youth Service, and volunteers affiliated to the Service.

## Social services focus

The Council is establishing a dedicated Social Services Directorate aimed at providing added focus to its work in adult and children's services.

The issues within the previous Community Services directorate have been well documented over the last few months and, with a significant overspend having an adverse impact on both social care services and other key council services, the new Cabinet felt action was necessary.

Mr Mark Wheeler has been appointed as interim manager for Social Services.

It is expected that the proposals will help the Council become more streamlined and efficient in the way it delivers its vital social care services.

## Youngsters win gold

Nine young Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award recipients from the Vale have won civic recognition.

The award winners, who took the spotlight at a special reception hosted by Vale Mayor Cllr Nic Hodges, were Rose Angell, Laura Gush, Katy Jones, Theo Jones, Rachel Pugh, Adam Simmons, Ben Swallow, Rebecca Williams and Tom Woolley. Matthew Robinson and Jonathan Simmonds were unable to attend.

Each award winner, aged 17 to 25, had gained his or her gold award by undertaking a wide choice of activities over a period of at least 18 months in five sections – service, skills, physical recreation, a 50-mile expedition and a residential element.

The award offers young people the challenge to try new things, to learn more about themselves and to work together for themselves and their community.

The scheme is offered at various venues across the Vale, and further information can be obtained from the county office at Cowbridge Youth Centre, Old Courthouse, Westgate, Cowbridge CF71 7AR; tel (01446) 774011; email [dofevale@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:dofevale@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

## £14bn academy will bring huge jobs boost

The Council is delighted with the news that a £14bn defence training academy is to be built at RAF St Athan.

The Metrix Consortium proposal will bring a large number of highly skilled jobs to the Vale and will transform the area for decades.

Leader Cllr Margaret Alexander said: “The 4,000-plus direct jobs that this proposal will bring will undoubtedly lead to many more jobs being created throughout South Wales, with all the benefits that this brings to the local economy.”

The Council has worked alongside the Welsh Assembly Government and Metrix in preparing the bid, and Cllr Alexander added: “It has been very encouraging that the local communities around St Athan have always been supportive of this bid, and I am sure this has been a major factor in its success.”

The Council looks forward to working with Metrix and the Assembly in delivering the proposal and in ensuring that the benefits are spread as widely as possible throughout the Vale and the rest of South East Wales.

Cllr Alexander added: “The hard work that has been undertaken by my colleagues in all parties, along with



their partners in the Assembly and Metrix, has paid off.

“This proposal will transform the area and there will be many challenges to meet in terms of necessary infrastructure, education, skills and housing. This Council is up to the challenge and looks forward to playing its full part in delivering this exciting project.”

## Members' roles

The new Council Cabinet comprises Leader Cllr Margaret Alexander, who has taken on the Policy and Regeneration portfolio, Deputy Leader Cllr Neil Moore (Finance, ICT and Property), Cllr Chris Franks (Legal and Public Protection), Cllr Gwyn John (Tourism and Leisure), Cllr Chris Williams (Planning and Transportation), Cllr Nigel Gibbs (Education and Training), Cllr Stuart Egan (Social and Care Services), Cllr Margaret Wilkinson (Housing and Community Safety), Cllr Margaret Randall (Human Resources) and Cllr Rob Curtis (Visible and Building Services).

In other changes, former Leader Cllr Jeffrey James and Cllr Tony Hampton have been elected as chairmen of Scrutiny (Corporate Resources) and Scrutiny (Lifelong

Learning) respectively, replacing Cllrs Chris Williams and Chris Franks, who are now members of the Council Cabinet.

Cllrs Keith Stockdale and Eric Hacker were elected vice-chairmen of Scrutiny (Community Wellbeing and Safety) and Scrutiny (Lifelong Learning) respectively, replacing Cllrs Rob Curtis and Stuart Egan.

Cllr Clive Williams was elected Deputy Mayor in place of Cllr Chris Williams.

Scrutiny meetings start at 6pm and are generally held at the Civic Offices.

- Lifelong Learning – March 19 and April 23.
- Corporate Resources – March 20 and April 24.
- Community Wellbeing and Safety – March 12 and April 16.
- Economy and Environment – March 13 and April 17.

## Tell us what is important in your area

Now is your chance to get people talking about what is important in your part of the Vale. The Council will be holding public meetings at Barry, Cowbridge, Dinas Powys, Wick/Monknash, Llantwit Major and Penarth and wants residents to set the agenda.

Let us have your ideas for the subjects that should be debated. Council Leader Cllr Margaret Alexander is committed to ensuring that the Council meets with local people and talks about the subjects that matter to residents.

Email your ideas for discussion to [contactonevale@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:contactonevale@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk), call 029 2067 3000 or write

to the Cabinet Office, Vale of Glamorgan

Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU by April 15.

### Debate venues (6pm start)

- Dinas Powys – Parish Hall (Tuesday, June 5)
- Barry – The YMCA Hub (Thursday, June 7)
- Cowbridge – Comprehensive School (Lower Hall) (Monday, June 11)
- Penarth – Paget Rooms (Wednesday, June 13)
- Wick & Monknash – Village Hall (Tuesday, June 19)
- Llantwit Major – Llantonian Hall (Thursday, June 21)



## Vale Waves

We want to hear your views.  
Contact Vale Waves on  
(01446) 709454  
or email  
press@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

# Our County Library is "fantastic"

Many thousands of words have been printed already about the Vale's new multi-million pound County Library at Barry but just two seem to sum it up – "It's brilliant".

Forming part of the £10m redevelopment of the Town Hall, King Square and Central Park, the library is currently averaging three times the number of visitors who visited its former home at the town's leisure centre.

Particularly pleasing is the number of people joining for the first time or rejoining after an absence of a few years and the many youngsters using the library on Saturdays and in the evenings after school.

Among the notable visitors to the first county library in Wales for 10 years have been Welsh Assembly First Minister Rhodri Morgan and Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport Alun Pugh, who said: "The County Library is exciting, colourful

and vibrant, and I'm extremely impressed by the building itself and the wide range of resources on offer.

"This is a fantastic community resource, and I hope it will play a key part in the regeneration of the surrounding area."

The visitors' book is full of praise and includes the following:

- Better than the old one by far. It's so much fun!
- What a great asset for Barry. Money well spent for young and old.
- The new library is brilliant. You have plenty of computers for everyone. It's nice to see Barry is finally in the 21st Century with this new modern library.
- Such a great place to use and a pleasure to visit. Thanks – staff have a great attitude.

The new library opening hours are – Monday and Thursday (8.30am-8pm); Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday (8.30am-6pm) and Saturday (9am-5.30pm)



Vale Mayor Cllr Nic Hodges and the Mayoress, his wife, Shirley, mark the official opening of the Vale's new County Library.

## Unsung heroes



Andrew Emery, aged 13, of Barry, gives the thumbs up to the award.

**Youngsters from the NCH Cymru Vale of Glamorgan Young Carers' Project have won a prestigious UK media award for helping highlight the daily challenges they face at home, in school and in the community.**

In a high profile award ceremony in London, the young carers, who look after a member of their family who may be ill, disabled or need support for other reasons, beat six other finalists from around Britain to win the children's issues magazine 'Children Now' Positive Images Award.

Sally Robinson, young carers' worker at NCH Cymru's Barry-based Vale project, said: "Young carers, some as young as six years old, are the unsung heroes of care provision and it's right they are recognised for the help and support they give. Their story is one of dedication and selflessness and they have won this award for telling that story to the media with clarity and confidence."

Supported by funding from the Welsh Assembly Government and the Council, the work of the NCH Cymru service, and the 60 young carers from across the Vale who benefit from it, has grabbed media attention nationwide.

TV programme-makers, newspaper editors, photo-journalists, celebrities and local and national politicians have all responded to the way the young people have expressed their hopes, needs and concerns through the media.

Vale young carers aged 11-16 were also the subject of a major touring photography exhibition by Michelle Sank, a professional photographer from South Africa. They also produced their own campaigning posters and book of poetry drawn from their own life experiences.

## 50th anniversary

**The Vale was represented at a special event to mark the 50th anniversary of the inauguration of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme.**

Among 800 delegates comprising participants, helpers and organisers from around the globe who attended the biennial General Council in Edinburgh were Vale councillor Tony Hampton and Award Officer in the Vale Dave Golding.

## Do not lose your right to vote

Elections for the Welsh Assembly are taking place on the 3rd May, 2007.

In order for you to be able to vote, your name must appear on the Electoral Register. If your name is not on the register, you will not be able to vote.

If you want to check that your name is on the Electoral Register or if you require Registration forms, you should contact the Vale of Glamorgan Electoral Registration Section on (01446) 709304.

The Electoral Register is also used by credit agencies to verify your details and proof of residency for mortgage applications, loans, credit agreements, opening of bank accounts, etc. You should be aware that, if you are not on the electoral register, you may be refused credit.

# Sense of achievement for young drivers

**Nearly two hundred 16 and 17 year old school pupils from across the Vale are geared up for the road following a highly successful "Road Runners" initiative.**



Funded by the Safer Vale Partnership, the event involved workshops ranging from learning what to do at the scene of an accident to how much driving really costs, ie, MoT, tax, insurance, petrol, new parts.

The pupils came from St Cyres, Llantwit Major, Cowbridge, Bryn Hafren and Barry comprehensives, the Amelia Trust and the Alternative Education Group.

The five workshops were:

- Highway Code and Hazard Perception Workshop – presented by Youth Project Officer Tara Morris, Trainee Youth Worker Kimberley Wagstaff, and student Jeremy Gilmour, from the Vale Youth Service.
- Road Safety Not Dangerous Driving – Schools' Liaison Officer PC Phil Davies.

- Driving Skills and Knowledge – Cats Eyes Driving School Instructors.
- Cost of Motoring – Grant Poiner from the Boys' and Girls' Clubs in Wales.

- First at the Scene of a Motoring Accident – Stephen Railton-Jones, Welsh Ambulance Service.

The organiser of the event, Youth Development Officer Tina Simmons, said: "Road Runners makes a big impact on young people's perspective and very often opens their eyes to the realities of driving and everything that surrounds it."

"The youths were a pleasure to teach and left with a buzz of confidence and sense of achievement."

Bryn Hafren teacher John Allen said: "All of the students fully engaged in the workshops and gained knowledge that will help them to not only pass the driving test but also to be better drivers."

Barry Comprehensive teacher Sarah O'Kelly added: "It was a fun-packed and informative day providing pupils with essential information before starting to drive. A must for all."



## Council asks young people to speak out



### The Council wants to hear more from people aged 16-40.

Nearly 1,300 Vale residents take part in the Council's Citizen's Panel, influencing what happens in the Vale – but the majority are in the 40 plus age group.

Council leaders are concerned that the voices of youngsters in the 16-20 age group, and residents in their twenties and thirties, are not being heard. Panel members are only asked to give a few hours of their time each year, to fill in questionnaires or take part in informal discussions, to make sure their voice is heard.

Lynsey, aged 30, and a current panel member, says the panel "gives members of the public a chance to express their concerns and/or approvals to proposals."

"Being a panel member takes up no time at all," she adds. Council chief John Maitland Evans said: "To

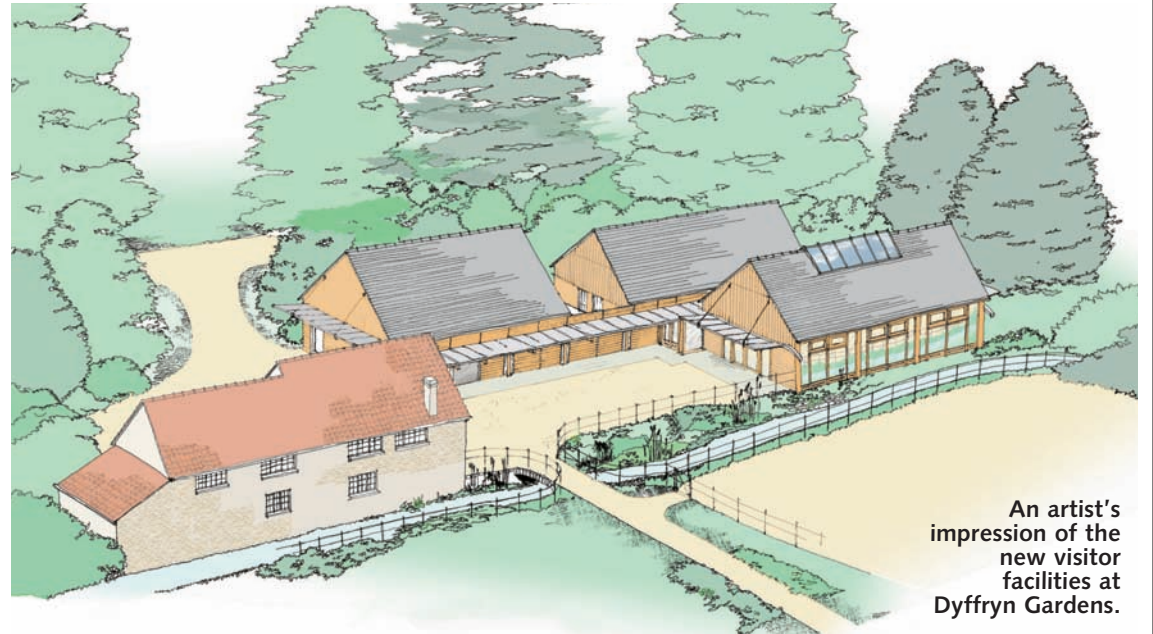
help the Panel truly represent the views of Vale residents, we need young people to give us their opinions. We understand that young people can be particularly busy; studying, building careers and looking after young families but being a member of the Panel only takes up a few hours a year.

What are the benefits of Citizen's Panel membership? The main benefit is that Panel members know their views are helping to shape decisions taken by the Council. Younger members of the Panel might find membership a useful addition to their first CV. Members receive a bi-annual newsletter about research being undertaken and how it influences the Council's work. Recent research has included members' views on tourism in the Vale and kerbside recycling.

Want to know more? Then contact acting consultation officer Rhian Thomas on (01446) 709687 or email [consultation@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:consultation@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) – signing up is only a case of filling out a simple form – see below.

Further details of the work of the Citizen's Panel can be found on the Council's website [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) – under Our Council.

## Looking ahead to a busy year



An artist's impression of the new visitor facilities at Dyffryn Gardens.

### New visitor facilities at Dyffryn Gardens and Aboretum are nearing completion.

To minimise the intrusion of the buildings into the sensitive landscape of the gardens, the new visitor facilities, which are being built with assistance from the Heritage Lottery Fund, are based on the site of the original estate kennels and utilise the existing east lodge. The architectural style has taken

into consideration the setting and the scale and character of the estate buildings whilst incorporating contemporary requirements such as inclusive access.

The facilities include new tea rooms and gift shop, administration offices and meeting room.

Contractors Andrew Scott Ltd recently received a Highly Commended Certificate as part of the Council's Built in Quality

Awards and has been nominated to go forward to the South Wales awards in the sustainability category.

Following the very successful centenary year of 2006, Dyffryn is looking forward to a busy 2007 and marking 10 years of restoration work to the gardens.

For more details on the gardens and 2007 events, visit the Council's website or [www.dyffryngardens.org.uk](http://www.dyffryngardens.org.uk).

## CITIZENS' PANEL ENTRY FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile no. \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Are you?

Male  Female

Which types of consultation would you prefer to be involved in?

- Postal questionnaires   
 Telephone interviews   
 Face to face interviews   
 E-mail questionnaires   
 Website surveys   
 Message board discussions on the internet   
 Text messaging   
 Focus groups   
 Public meetings and debates   
 Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Would you prefer to be contacted in Welsh? Yes  No

What are your top five areas of interest when it comes to Council consultations?

- The environment   
 Education   
 Leisure   
 Sport   
 Tourism   
 Transportation   
 Commerce   
 The countryside   
 Urban regeneration   
 Crime   
 Health   
 Social Services

How would you describe your working status?

- Unemployed   
 In full-time employment   
 In part-time employment   
 Self-employed   
 Full-time homemaker/carer   
 In full-time education   
 In part-time education   
 Retired

How would you describe your ethnic background?

- White British   
 White Other   
 Black British   
 Black Other   
 Asian British   
 Asian Other   
 Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a disability?

- Yes  No   
 If yes, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to:

Rhian Thomas, Chief Executive's Office, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU

## Lifeline service

Vale Mayor Cllr Nic Hodges has taken to the road to highlight the importance of a service which is a lifeline to many elderly and vulnerable people across the county.

As part of National Meals on Wheels Week, Cllr Hodges helped with the delivery of meals from the Southway Residential Home at Cowbridge.

The Meals on Wheels service in the Vale is also run from day centres at Rondel House, Maesycwm Street, Barry, and Gardenhurst, Holmesdale Place, Penarth.

Cllr Hodges said: "I was delighted to help promote the value of a service which is a lifeline to so many people."

"The visit with a meal and a smiling face is a major part of the lives of so many people who may otherwise have no human contact throughout the day."

"This is an excellent service and the volunteers deserve a really big pat

on the back."

Vale Catering organise and cook on average 600 hot, healthy and nutritional meals a week which are distributed as a seven-day service by a mixture of paid drivers, WRVS and volunteers.

Unit supervisor Teresa Wheeler said: "Drivers go out in all weathers and play a very important part in the lives of our clients."

"Volunteers really feel they are putting something worthwhile back into their community."

As part of the celebrations, Meals on Wheels clients were invited to take part in a special quiz, with winners Mrs Legg (Cowbridge), Mrs Gay Garwood, MBE (Barry) and Mrs Betty Scott (Dinas Powys) receiving their prizes from Mary Hesford, of Vale Catering Services.



Helping to promote Meals on Wheels, Vale Mayor Cllr Nic Hodges was given a warm welcome by Rowland and Pauline Jenkins at their Colwinston home.



## Vale Waves

We want to hear your views.  
Contact Vale Waves on  
(01446) 709454  
or email  
press@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

## Local schools excel in media project



Barry Comprehensive School produced the best overall video in the annual media4schools awards.

Talented student film makers from the Vale have scooped a range of prizes in an exciting media project for schools.

In the secondary schools section of the annual media4schools awards, Vale youngsters won six out of nine categories.

media4schools is a "TV network produced by students for students" and, as well as being a creative project, aims to encourage the development of entrepreneurial skills, requiring youngsters to establish a "virtual" business, complete with board of directors, to run their TV station.

Prizes were provided by a range of businesses and organisations including sponsors Sony and HSBC Bank and the Vale Council, ITV Wales, Apple, Careers Wales (Cardiff and the Vale), Cardiff Council, Golf Development Wales and Ryder Cup Wales and First Campus.

Cllr Gordon Kemp, who represented the Vale at the awards ceremony, said: "I am delighted with the success of so many Vale schools which is a real testament to the hard work and enthusiasm of pupils and teachers."

Vale winners were:

- Overall video and camera work – Barry Comprehensive
- Edited video – Cowbridge
- Summer moviemakers, Charlotte Groves and Johanna Fisher-Davies (St Richard Gwyn RC High)
- Regional video (Vale) – St Cyres
- Golf video – Llantwit Major

Finalists included:

Presenter/reporter (Jack Penketh, Cowbridge); camera work, edited video and business award (Bryn Hafren); summer moviemakers (Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg); regional video (Llantwit Major and Barry Comprehensive); golf video and business award (Cowbridge) and overall video (St Cyres).

## What's on in the Vale this spring

### March

#### Fri 9th – South Wales Modern Jive Dance, Paget Rooms, Penarth

South Wales Modern Jive extends a friendly welcome to all for a good night out. Tickets: £5, available on the door. For more details call 07977 901562 or visit: [www.southwalesmodernjive.com](http://www.southwalesmodernjive.com).

#### Sat 10th, The Last Pirate, Memorial Hall Theatre, Barry

In 1768, in a small Welsh fishing village, there once lived a notorious, but now forgotten, female pirate. Her name was Captain Jayne and in her day she was as well known as Captain Morgan and Long John Silver. Join us for a family adventure starting at 2:30pm. Tickets: £5 each or £15 family. Box Office: 01446 738622.

#### Fri 16th, Ballroom and Popular Sequence Dance, Paget Rooms, Penarth

All are welcome at this friendly social evening; 8-10.30pm. Great dance floor and good atmosphere. Dress: smart or smart casual, no jeans, trainers or t-shirts. Bring your own drinks. Tickets £4, available on the door. For more information call 01443 238867 or 07890 707759.

#### Sat 17th, Farmers' Market – Cowbridge

Arthur John's car park from 10am to 1pm. Tel: 01656 729305.

#### Sat 17th, Mike Doyle – In Concert, Memorial Hall Theatre, Barry

Back by popular demand, the award winning comic, West End star and BBC TV sensation. The entertainment starts at 7:30pm and tickets cost £14 for adults and £12 for concessions. Group booking discount available. Box Office: 01446 738622.

#### Sat 24th, Farmers' Market – Penarth

Westbourne School from 10am to 1pm, 12 Victoria Road, Penarth.

#### Fri 30th, Ballroom and Popular Sequence Dance, Paget Rooms, Penarth

#### Sat 31st, GAGA – The Best of Queen, Memorial Hall Theatre, Barry

No wigs, no make up, and no false moustaches – just pure rock and roll. The show starts at 7:30pm. Tickets: £12, concessions £10. Group booking discount available. Box Office: 01446 738622.

#### Sat 31st, An Evening with Queen Victoria, St Donats Arts Centre

Starring the much-loved British actress, Prunella Scales, this show is a portrait of Queen Victoria in her own words, drawn from her letters and diaries. With music selected from pieces known and loved by this often surprising woman the programme is very funny and above all a tour de force for a superb actress. Book early to avoid disappointment. Tickets: £15.50 and £13.50. Tel: 01446 799100 or visit: [www.stdonats.com](http://www.stdonats.com).

### April

#### Sun 1st, Music in the Garden at Dyffryn Gardens

Every Sunday afternoon until 30th September, you can enjoy relaxing in the gardens whilst listening to a range of music. Call 02920 593328 for further details.

#### Fri 6th – Mon 9th, Easter Fun at Dyffryn Gardens

Easter activities and entertainment for all the family including face painting, storytelling, bouncy castles and the CURS Living History Camp. For more information call 02920 593328.

#### Fri 6th – Mon 9th, Easter Bunny Rides, Barry Island Railway

Call 01446 748816 for more information.

#### Sat 7th, South Wales Modern Jive Dance, Paget Rooms, Penarth

#### Sun 8th & Mon 9th, A Medieval Easter, Cosmeston Medieval Village, Penarth

Life in 14th Century Wales with bread baking, weapons and armour displays plus traditional medieval crafts and an Easter egg hunt! Tel: 02920 701678 for more information.



Food produce available at one of the area's Continental markets

#### Thurs 26th – Sat 28th, Continental Market, King Square and Holton Rd, Barry

Market traders will be selling high quality products from across Europe including Italian nougat, Belgian Chocolates, French sausages, cheeses, fresh breads, croissants, jewellery, hand made soaps and much more. You can also sample and buy a range of excellent wines, calvados and cider. The market will be open from 10am to 5pm each day. For more details please call 01446 704736

#### Sat 28th & Sun 29th, Day Out with Thomas, Barry Island Railway

Call 01446 748816 for more information.

#### Sun 29th, The Porthkerry Plod

Penarth & Dinas Runners and Lifestyle Health & Fitness present a five-mile Multi Terrain race around Porthkerry Park, Barry. For more information please call 07879 060270.

### May

#### Fri 5th – Mon 7th, Day Out with Thomas, Barry Island Railway

Call 01446 748816 for more information.

#### Sun 6th & Mon 7th, Medieval Welsh Rebellion, Cosmeston Medieval Village, Penarth

May Day is a time of celebration and feasting, but in the village of Cosmeston all is not well. Tel: 02920 701678 for more information.



Baking on the menu at one of the themed attractions at Cosmeston Medieval Village

#### Sat 26th – Mon 28th, Horticultural Weekend at Dyffryn Gardens

Discover more about the history of the gardens through various walks and talks. For further information Tel: 02920 593328.

#### Sun 27th – Mon 28th, History Through The Ages, Cosmeston Medieval Village

Join us for travellers from other times and places – the ever popular warriors of ancient Greece plus the Duke of Wellington infantry. Also watch out for Tudor Time Travellers and Queen Victoria's Redcoats.

Log onto [www.visitthevale.com](http://www.visitthevale.com) or call 01446 709325 for more information about any of the events.



# What's in your bin this spring?

## New garden waste service



Barry residents Danni and Steve Llewellyn will be using the new service to dispose of their garden waste.

**A new improved garden waste service will be launched this spring offering a fortnightly kerbside collection between April and October.**

The new service will replace the current 'ring and request' system and residents will have a choice of placing their garden waste out in disposable biodegradable sacks or new re-usable fabric bags (pictured). The bags will be collected once every two weeks on the same day as your plastic and cardboard is collected for recycling.

Both types of bags can be bought from the Council Offices in Barry (Civic), Penarth, Llantwit Major and Cowbridge. The biodegradable bags are priced three for £1 and the re-usable bags (available from 26th March) are £1 each.

The bags will also be sold at a series of composting roadshows held during the spring. Full details about the service will be delivered through your door this month. Information will also be available in the local

press and on the Council's website.

The following can be disposed of using the service: grass cuttings, hedge clippings, prunings, leaves, plants, flowers and non-invasive weeds.

All garden waste collected in the Vale is taken to a local farm where it is composted. This compost is then used on the farm, providing an environmentally friendly method of waste disposal.

By collecting from the kerbside the Council is hoping that many more residents will use the service to dispose of their garden waste. This will help us reach the challenging targets set by the Welsh Assembly which require local authorities to recycle and compost at least 25% of all waste by 2006/07 and at least 40% by 2009/10. We are doing well in reaching our recycling targets but need to at least double the amount of garden waste collected.

Cllr Rob Curtis, Cabinet Member for Visible Services, explained: "We really need to increase the amount of

garden waste that is composted in the Vale.

The new service is really easy to use and I hope residents will take advantage of being able to compost at the kerbside in the knowledge that their waste is being put to good use locally."

Garden waste can also be taken free of charge to the garden waste skips at Llandow and Sully Household Recycling Centres. The green waste from these sites is also composted locally.

Your bags will be collected by a dedicated recycling vehicle on your pre-arranged collection day. Please note that we will not collect any black bags that contain garden waste.

Garden waste, along with other organic waste such as fruit and vegetable peelings can also be composted at home. Discounted compost bins are available to all Vale residents priced from just £10 please call 01884 841515 to order.

### Christmas Trees

A huge thank you to everyone who recycled their Christmas tree this year – we collected over 12,000 trees saving 46 tonnes from landfill. These were shredded and used as cattle bedding and soil conditioner on a local farm.

### Recycling Update

Our recycling rates are continuing to improve and that's all down to you – thank you! We collected an additional 149 tonnes of waste for recycling over Christmas compared with the same time last year. This is equivalent in weight to saving 149 family cars from being buried in landfill and demonstrates what a huge difference we can all make by using local recycling services.

**Please remember** – do not place your recycling out in black bags as these are for refuse only and will not be collected by our recycling crew.



Shredded Christmas trees are being used for cattle bedding at a Vale farm.



Spar Store Manager Rob Gough and Council Enforcement Officer Steve Abdulla outside the shop in Barry.

## Further success for litter campaign

**A Spar shop in Barry is the latest business to benefit from working with the Council on a high profile litter initiative.**

Launched last October, the initiative involves the Council placing signs outside business premises to remind customers that dropping litter is an offence that carries a £75 fine. Enforcement Officers also carry out regular patrols.

The area outside the Spar store on Barry Road has historically had problems with litter but, within weeks of the sign being installed, staff noticed a significant improvement.

Store Manager Rob Gough said: "Since working with the Council's Enforcement Team we have seen major improvements outside the store and I'm sure this will continue"

Other businesses in Barry that have seen major reductions in litter since joining the initiative are McDonalds, Waitrose, Marks & Spencer, KFC, and the College Inn. Senior Enforcement Officer

Denny White puts the success down to working closely with individual sites. She said: "With this campaign we can target specific problem areas and so far we have seen major improvements at every site where the signs have been installed"

Cllr Rob Curtis, Cabinet Member for Visible Services, is pleased with the campaign's success. He explained: "Since we launched this initiative many shops have come on board and together we are helping to raise awareness that dropping litter is not only anti-social but also carries a financial penalty of £75. We would ask residents to support this initiative as money wasted on clearing litter could be put to far better use improving services".

Residents are reminded that dropping litter, including cigarette ends and chewing gum, is a criminal offence.

For advice on responsible waste disposal please contact Visible Services – 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).



# Thanks a million!

Nearly a million Christmas cards have been saved from landfill thanks to the Vale schools' competition featured in the last edition of Vale Waves.

Some 912,913 cards, equivalent in weight to approximately 17 tonnes, were collected by pupils from 32 schools that took part in the competition, organised by the Council.

Twelve-year-old Josh Hurley, of Ashgrove School, Penarth, won the individual primary/special education school prize by collecting a staggering 11,052 cards. Carrienne Rogers, aged 11, of Bryn Hafren (Barry), won the individual secondary school prize with 5,994 cards. Each received an iPod for their efforts.

A thrilled Josh said: "I'd like to thank everyone for bringing in Christmas cards. I really enjoyed collecting them and helping towards saving the trees. I'm really excited that I won the iPod. Please can we do this again next year?"

Lisa Marshall, Josh's class teacher, said - "The children at Ashgrove have

really enjoyed the challenge of collecting the Christmas cards for recycling. It has proved invaluable not only for the environment but for their own numeracy skills and communication needs."

Pendoylan Church in Wales was the overall winners of the primary/special education school category of the contest, collecting a massive 67,311 cards, and St Richard Gwyn (Barry) won the secondary school category collecting 44,288. Both schools will receive a prize of £200.

Pendoylan headteacher Mrs Lyn Murray said: "The response was wonderful and we would like to thank all of the children, their families and the local community for helping us to win the competition. It was also a great way of spreading the recycling message."

The number of prizes on offer was increased by the Council in recognition of the tremendous support shown by schools and their pupils.

The second and third placed schools won £100 and £50 respectively and



Pendoylan Church in Wales was the overall primary/special education school winner collecting 67,311 cards. Cabinet Member for Visible Services Cllr Rob Curtis went along to thank the pupils for their efforts.

the top four individual winners received £30 of vouchers.

Cabinet Member for Visible Services Cllr Rob Curtis explained: "We were absolutely delighted with the response to the competition. The schools really helped to push the recycling message and, as results show, many pupils and their families went to extreme lengths to collect such huge amounts of cards. We would like to thank the schools and everyone in the community for supporting this initiative and significantly reducing the amount of

waste ending up in landfill."

All cards collected in the Vale will be turned into new products such as tissue paper, photocopy paper or corrugated cardboard.

The process also helps to raise funds for the Woodland Trust, a national conservation charity, to manage woodlands and plant trees.

For further details about recycling, 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).



Twelve-year-old Josh Hurley, of Ashgrove School, Penarth, collected a staggering 11,052 cards for recycling.

## Card Facts & Figures

1 billion cards are sent in the UK each year

1633 tonnes (approx 80 million) cards were recycled last year

For every tonne of cards recycled 17 trees are saved.

The scheme, organised by the Woodland Trust, helped to raise £100,000 pounds in 2006. This will help secure the future of 10,000 acres of woodland.

## Information for older people

Nearly 150 people have attended a special information day for older people.

Organised by the Vale Older People's Strategy Forum, the event at The Hub YMCA in Barry comprised a range of speakers and displays by organisations providing advice and support to older people.

It was opened by Forum chair Mary Williams, MBE, who said the 150 people attending was an indication of how far the organisation had come since its formation 18 months ago.

She added: "There was an exciting mix of encouragements to older people to challenge discriminatory practice, work co-operatively and positively with public bodies, preserve their dignity, exercise regularly and ensure they are kept up to date on really important developments such as the appointment of a Commissioner for Older People in Wales."

Contact David Craig on (01446) 704854 or email [HSCWB@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:HSCWB@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) for further information.

## Village accolade



Ystradowen's success in this year's Vale Best Kept Village competition has been recognised at a reception hosted by Mayor Cllr Nic Hodges.

Also attending were representatives of runners-up Wenvoe and the winners of the children's competition (aged six to 11) - St Bride's Major Church in Wales Primary School. Cadoxton Nursery School were the winners of the under five years section.

Established in 1953, the competition is currently sponsored by Lafarge Cement (Aberthaw), the Council and town and community councils.

## 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) - March 14 and 28, April 18 and 25
- Council - May 2
- Annual Council - May 16
- Planning - March 7 and April 25
- Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison - May 1.
- Community Liaison (7pm) - March 14.
- Licensing (10am) - May 1

# Recycle extra this Easter!

With Easter fast approaching, thousands of chocolate eggs will be eaten in the Vale and residents are reminded that they can recycle the cardboard and plastic packaging from their eggs using the Council's free kerbside recycling service.

**Top Tip** - If you haven't bought your eggs yet, you may want to consider more environmentally-friendly options with less packaging, such as big bars of chocolate and foil wrapped chocolate bunnies.

**Foil** - Our recycling contractor will not accept foil so please do not put this out with your cans. You can recycle clean foil in the banks at the following sites: Morrisons Car Park

(opposite Halfords), Tesco, Waitrose and the Llandow and Sully Household Recycling Centres.

## Easter rubbish & recycling collections

Residents are also reminded that rubbish and recycling will be collected as normal on Good Friday and Easter Monday. Please ensure your waste is placed out by 7am on your collection day.



Vale residents Jaskiran and her brother, Jorawar, will be recycling the cardboard and plastic packaging from their Easter eggs using the Council's kerbside service.

Don't forget you can recycle your paper, glass, cans, cardboard and plastic using the Council's free kerbside collection service.



## Have you room for a local youngster?



**A project set up to help young people in the Vale is looking for local residents who can provide a spare room for a homeless youngster.**

Llamau – which means “steps” or “progression” in Welsh – has over 20 years’ experience of working with homeless young people and set up the Friendly Lodgings Scheme in partnership with the Council.

The scheme has been successful in helping a number of young people gain the skills and confidence needed to become independent young adults. It aims to find supportive accommodation for young people who cannot live at home, and is always on the lookout for new lodgings providers.

Lodgings providers don’t need any special qualifications and come from a variety of backgrounds. It doesn’t matter whether you are married or single, working or unemployed, we need to hear from you. All you need is a spare bedroom and a willingness to help equip a young person with the skills they will need to eventually move on to more independent accommodation.

In return for your help, you will receive full training, payment and support from Llamau.

The youngsters who apply for

placements on the Friendly Lodgings Scheme are either young care leavers aged between 16 and 21 or homeless teenagers aged 16 or 17. All applicants are assessed for suitability to join the scheme, and placements last for a maximum of two years.

Kate Hollinshead, Llamau’s Friendly Lodgings Scheme Development Worker, said: “We want to hear from anyone who can offer a secure and supportive home to a young person. We currently have two young people on the scheme and both of these placements are going very well, but we desperately need more providers.”

One of the lodgings providers commented: “Being a lodgings provider is a very fulfilling experience. It is good to know that you are having a positive effect on a young person’s life.”

Sophie, a young care leaver, said, since being in friendly lodgings, she has gained confidence, feels more settled and is pursuing a college course which she enjoys immensely.

If you are interested in taking part in the Friendly Lodgings Scheme, contact Kate on (01446) 748852 or drop into 240 Holton Road, Barry, between 9.30am and 5pm Monday to Thursday or 9am to 4.30pm on Fridays.

## Promoting rugby

A warrant officer with the Welsh Guards, who is nearing the end of a distinguished Army career, is tackling a new challenge on secondment to the Council.



Sergeant Major Andrew – Micky – Spillane has joined the Sports Development team for one year and, initially, focusing on rugby, a sport in which he has more than 20 years’ invaluable experience both as player and coach.

Micky has already liaised with Ysgol Maes Dyfan in Barry, fellow Rugby Development Officer Matt Silva and Disability Sports Wales Development Officer Linda Ruston to improve opportunities in rugby for people with disabilities.

For nearly a decade, he has been scrum half for his local club at Llantwit Major and is an active community member coaching the club under 15s and under 16s and the Cardiff Blues under 16s.

## Dinas Powys community's support for £750,000 leisure project

**A major Council project involving the upgrading of sports and leisure facilities at Dinas Powys is set for completion in May.**

The £750,000 development at Parc Bryn y Don involves the construction of new changing rooms, and a cricket pavilion, and the provision of a floodlit skate park.

Funded by the Sports Council for Wales, the new complex comprising eight changing rooms, rooms for referees to allow the use of all pitches at one time, a community room with a small kitchen and storage facility will replace pavilions that have been used since the site opened.

Vale parks boss Phil Beaman said that the skateboard facility, which has been the subject of consultation with the Youth Service, Police and the authority’s Landscape Section, would

include a different number of ramps that could be used by boards, blades or bikes.

He added: “This has been a great project, especially working alongside local clubs and the community, and I am hoping that local people will play a leading role in ensuring the facilities are fully used and for the widest range of activities as possible.”

Council Leader Cllr Margaret Alexander said: “This whole project will be of great benefit to the local community, including youngsters and adults, and I would like to thank local sports clubs and organisations, and their members, for their support.”

The Parks and Grounds Maintenance Division are managing the project, and further information can be obtained by contacting on 029 2067 3000.

**Two Dinas Powys ward members, Cllrs Chris Williams and Val Hartrey, joined Council Leader Cllr Margaret Alexander to mark the start of work on the new facilities at Parc Bryn y Don.**



## Gambling applications

The Council now has new and extended responsibilities for licensing premises for gambling.

Under the new Gambling Act, matters in relation to betting, casino gaming and bingo transfer from local licensing justices to councils.

The Council has prepared a “Statement of Principles” and will begin dealing with applications from May 21.

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

Anyone who feels The Gambling Act will effect them, needs further information or a copy of the statement can tel (01446) 709105 or email [klbrook@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:klbrook@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

## Llantwit Major – everyone is benefiting from wonderful resource

**A centre in Llantwit Major has become the focus for a wide range of services being offered to children, young people and their families in the western area of the Vale.**

Officially opened in November, the £800,000 Western Vale Integrated Children’s Centre has been funded through a Big Lottery Fund grant of more than £470,000, Welsh Assembly Government grant and Council resources.

The development, which has refurbished and extended the Family Centre at Llantwit, and sits alongside the St Illtyd’s Primary School and

Youth Centre complex, followed wide consultation.

The centre has four core themes – early years education, childcare, open access play, and training and community development – each of which is underpinned by the Health and Wellbeing agenda.

Activities offered either at the centre or through outreach services are a Sunshine Group, Stay and Play, Parent and Toddler, Childminders’ Support Group, Credit Union, Pop In and Play (The Gathering Place, St Athan), Clap, Tap and Rhyme, Fruit and Veg Community Co-operative, Get Cooking, Confidence Building,

Open Access Play Opportunities, Ti a Fi, and a Cylch Meithrin.

The centre also hosts a variety of training courses particularly aimed at parents and carers, and these include language and play, number and play, an introduction to play, food hygiene, first aid, volunteer training, welfare and benefit sessions, breastfeeding support, basic skills, ICT, confidence building and Welsh language tasters.

Congratulating everyone on the “excellent work” already undertaken, BLF Head of Programmes John Rose said: “We always stress that the community as a whole must benefit

from any investment. This is certainly true in this instance and there is a comprehensive programme in place to ensure the local community has extensive use of all these facilities, providing an opportunity for every member of the local community to take advantage of this wonderful resource.”

Anyone wishing to find out more about the centre and current or future opportunities can telephone (01446) 793030 or email [WVICCAAdmin@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:WVICCAAdmin@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)



Children enjoy one of the many activities on offer at the new £800,000 centre.