

# NEWSLETTER

Shannon Stephens



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## Bryn Residents Action Group.

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### “WELCOME EVERYONE!”

This is the first issue of what is intended to be a bi-monthly Newsletter produced by BRAG (Bryn Residents Action Group); a group of like-minded residents who have come together to promote the interests of Bryn as a community. The agenda for the next Village Meeting is set out below. We hope that you will make every effort to attend this meeting and take the opportunity to have your voice heard with regard to the future of our community.

#### NEXT VILLAGE MEETING AT BRYN COMMUNITY CENTRE

##### THURS 12 NOVEMBER

- 6:45 *Doors Open and Welcome, register and Raffle,  
Refreshments:  
Tea, coffee and biscuits on sale and a chance to socialise and  
catch up on the current events in Bryn  
Displays and information about BRAG, Bryn, and the LDP  
(Local Development Plan) will be on display and members of  
the BRAG committee available to answer questions*
- 7:15 *Bryn Heritage Project introduction:  
A brief presentation and overview of this project*
- 7:30 *BRAG Logo: The Bryn School children provide Bryn with a  
Logo*
- 7:45 *PACT: The community police officers introduce themselves  
and tell you what they are now doing for Bryn*
- 8:00 *Christmas event: A chance to discuss ideas for a Bryn  
Christmas Celebration.*
- 8:15 *LDP Update: The local councillors provide an update on this  
Local Development Plan, which allows you a further chance  
to record your views on the proposals.*
- 8:45 *Feedback:  
Your chance to express your thoughts on the meeting and  
any issues discussed.*
- 9:00 *Doors Close*

#### DAY-TO-DAY BUSINESS OF BRAG

##### SO FAR

BRAG was formed this year (2009) by individuals interested in improving the village, with committee members from each area of Bryn to represent all the residents of Bryn.

The first week after the councillors' surgery in October, we had a team in Bryn cutting the grass, collecting litter, trimming back the excessive undergrowth, placing the large plant pots opposite the Royal Oak to help control unauthorised access to the area, and other actions officially recorded by BRAG at this surgery.

BRAG has now formally contacted 3 possible sources of funding to improve the Bryn Village and will continue to progress about half a dozen other sources identified.

BRAG is helping to facilitate the voice of the people of Bryn through public meetings, such as the discussion on the Neath & Port Talbot Local Development Plan, working with Neath & Port Talbot on plans to make the old Bryn tip a protected area for wild life open to the public and many other initiatives.

P.T.O.

**BRYN**  
A NICE PLACE TO BE

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BRAG is working with the Police through PACT to make Bryn safer. Current examples are the speed cameras in Bryn, patrols for stray dogs and dog fouling, incidents of vandalism and graffiti, control of off road vehicles and much more. Below is an extract from one of the police reports last month for the Bryn area.

*"At the Penybryn barrier (forestry side) we issued a Sect. 59 warning to male on a scrambler. Later we intercepted 5 bikes above the Cwm Wernderi reservoir"*

The report continued on to say that even though these riders road off the police continued to track them and seized their bikes.

#### Running BRAG

Hiring a room for village meetings costs money, as does printing flyers and posters. To fund such activities, BRAG needs to generate an income. We can all do our part in this regard by purchasing refreshments and buying raffle tickets (remember, you just may win a prize!)

#### PRESERVE YOUR HERITAGE

Do you have any photographs or memories of our village? Would you like to be involved in preserving our heritage? If so, bring all your memories and memorabilia to Bryn Primary School so that they may be recorded. Every thing will be preserved and stored on computer to enable future generations of our village to learn about their heritage. All photographs and memorabilia will be returned. Please contact Graham Rowland, Dafydd Bowen or Jan Francis-Jones to become involved.

Below is Bryn Colliery, sunk in the 1890s and closed in 1964.



#### LETTER FROM HEADTEACHER BRYN PRIMARY SCHOOL Friday Sept. 18th 2009

Some months ago I met with three local residents of Bryn, namely Mr Graham Rowlands, Mrs Julie Moore and Mr Paul Bulmer, who informed me that they were in the process of setting up an action group for the village called BRAG. The purpose of the group is to work within the village of Bryn to try to help improve the village facilities and preserve the culture and heritage of Bryn. I have been invited to join the group as a representative of the school and am very pleased to do so... A school is often seen as the heart of a village and its contribution to the community plays a very important part and I therefore welcome the idea of working with BRAG in the future for the betterment of the village.

As this is a brand new venture one of the initial projects for the group is to create a logo to display on stationery, T-shirts and posters etc. It was decided that we would offer this competition to the children at school to come up with a design for the logo. They will need to create something that would be unique to the village of Bryn. The designs will be judged by the committee and the winning logo will then be used as the official logo for BRAG. I am enclosing an entry sheet for all children/ families to come up with a creative design for the group. All entries need to be returned by Wednesday September 23rd at the latest. There will be a small prize for the winning entry plus, of course, the honour of seeing their logo used officially by the group. I hope as many families as possible will take the time to enter and I look forward to seeing the different ideas that will be created.

We are also looking at arranging an open evening at school on the history of the village but more information on that evening will follow.

I would like to wish Mr Rowlands and the committee members all the best with this new venture.

Regards

Mrs. J. Francis-Jones.

#### FURTHER LETTER FROM HEADTEACHER BRYN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Thursday, October 15th

Well done and thank you to everyone who took part in the BRAG logo competition last month. We had 21 entries and the standard was very high indeed. The judges were looking for designs that conveyed the natural environment and social and industrial history of the village. They were also looking at a logo that would catch the eye and give out a clear message. With these criteria in mind, a decision was made to award two prizes-the logo design and the logo message. The winners were:

Shannon Stevens Yr.1: Design.

Laura Easton Yr.4: Message.

Shannon Stephens



**BRYN  
A NICE PLACE TO BE**

**BRYN LLE DEDWYDD I FOD**

All 21 entries will be on display in the Community Centre at the Village Meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> Nov. where you will be able to see the very high standard of all these entries.

