

GWANWYN
2018
40c

Cylchlythyr
Cyngor Cymuned
Dyffryn Clydach



Newsletter of the
Dyffryn Clydach
Community Council

SPRING
2018
40p

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Er mwyn cynnwys eitemau o ddiddordeb lleol cysylltwch â'r Golygydd neu'ch Cynghorwr lleol

DYFFRYN HOUSE



see article on page 4 for more about its history

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Editor's Note

Well Spring is here and hopefully Summer to follow on. We have had a long Winter and unpredictable Spring which has taken its toll on our spirits and on nature too. The accompanying photograph in this issue submitted by Karen Hopkins show the effects of the blizzard and snow on our surroundings, with the seven trees brought down by the Beast from the East by the Glyn



Clydach. Besides the weather there has been a lot happening within the Community Council and locality itself, I hope to reflect some of this with the articles on the apple orchard, Working with Nature's activities and the Citizen of the Year awards. We have had some sad losses too with the passing away of one of our longest standing Community Councillors Mr Gwyn Edwards and the loss of local teacher Mrs Thomas, known to many of you as Ma Stone. We have paid tribute to them both within this issue. Well, onto the future, may we have lots of sunshine and a fun, restful Summer. Enjoy the warm dry weather (if we get any more!).

Sarah Elias



A TRIBUTE TO / TEYRNGED I'R

Community Councillor / Llynghorydd Cymuned Gwyn Edwards

We were all very sorry to hear the sad news of the passing away of Community Council stalwart Mr Gwyn Edwards. He was first elected in May 1995 and was a well respected and active member of our Community Council until his death in 2018. Gwyn was a lifelong supporter of many aspects of our community. He was a firm favourite with members of the locality as a bingo caller for many years. He was also Chairman of the Community Council for 3 years during his long stint of service. We send our condolences to his family and friends and acknowledge a sad loss to the community.



Gyda thristwch y clywyd am farwolaeth un o hoelion wyth ein Cyngor Cymuned, Mr Gwyn Edwards. Etholwyd yn gyntaf ym Mai 1995 a bu'n ffyddlon i holl weithgarwch ein Cyngor tan ei farwolaeth eleni. Cefnogodd holl ddigwyddiadau'r gymuned ac roedd yn ffefryn fel galwr gyda ffyddloniaid y Bingo. Bu'r Gadeirydd ein Cyngor Cymuned ar dair achlysur yn ystod ei gyfnod hir o wasanaeth. Cydymdeimlwn yn fawr gyda'i deulu a'i gyfeillion a cydnabyddwn yma y golled i'r gymuned gyfan.

WALKING IN DYFFRYN CLYDACH

Having been a lover of walking in the countryside for most of my life when I moved to this area some twenty years ago from Baglan, I very soon set about seeking to discover the walks to be found.

As a member of the Ramblers for many years I was vaguely familiar with Mynydd Drumau, having walked there a long while ago and therefore one of my very first walks was to the standing stone called Carreg Bica at the top of the mountain via Dyffryn Woods. My recollection of Dyffryn Woods in those days was of a wonderful wooded area which was being overwhelmed by commercially grown conifers and choked by large areas of rhododendron.

Thankfully, shortly before my arrival in the area the good people of Dyffryn had rallied around the vicar of St Matthews Church who, seeing with others that the area was being viewed for development began a campaign to save the woodland.

Thankfully, the campaign was successful and with money raised the woodland was purchased by the Woodland Trust and therefore saved. Today, after many years work by volunteers and much money spent by The Woodland Trust most of the commercial stands of conifer

and the rhododendron have been removed, leaving a woodland bursting with wildlife.

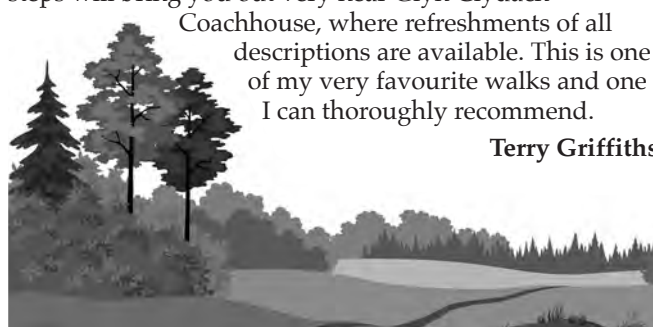
It is therefore well worth a walk from the Longford area to the dramroad and then on to Bryn Dewi near Swiss Cottage. Turn left and follow the woodland tracks gradually upwards to pass Wood Cottages and Keepers Lodge and back to Dyffryn Church.

For a longer walk turn left here uphill and following the wide track head towards Carreg Bica where you will be rewarded with wonderful views East to see the highest mountain in South Wales, Pen y Fan in the distance or South West and South to see Loughor estuary and North Gower or Swansea Bay, Mumbles and beyond to the coasts of Somerset and Devon.

On a fine day with good visibility all can be seen in the absence of the humdrum and traffic noise of modern life. There are a number of return routes but retracing ones steps will bring you out very near Glyn Clydach

Coachhouse, where refreshments of all descriptions are available. This is one of my very favourite walks and one I can thoroughly recommend.

Terry Griffiths



Beaky Blinders of Dyffryn Clydach

One of the advantages of living in such a beautiful area surrounded by countryside is the variety of birdlife. I am astonished by the number of feathered friends who visit my simple birdfeeder in the garden, from the common sparrows, thrushes, robins, blue tits through to larger birds such as magpies, crows, jays and wood pigeons who clear the feeder in minutes. There are also dawn raids on the fat balls and seeds from squirrels. These interlopers can scale the tables and poles that kindly humans fill with goodies and clear them out. I do not mind personally but prefer to feed the birds, particularly in the winter when sustenance is hard to come by and also importantly when the breeding season is underway. My favourite visitor to the table is a woodpecker with his flashy bright plumage. Throughout Dyffryn Clydach the sound of woodpeckers drilling holes can be heard and is a most heartening reminder of what is all around us if we take a moment to listen.

Given that this area is surrounded by water, we have rivers, streams and ponds within or near the locality; this increases the variety of birdlife, as we see waterfowl such as ducks and moorhens on Cwrt Herbert Pond. It is a pleasure to walk past and see the ducklings in Spring in an area with many more human inhabitants.

I have spotted Canada geese regularly flying through the area and in particularly recently in Longford farm field with the horses. The water also brings with it the beautiful and surprisingly large grey



heron, many of which reside locally and can be spotted fishing in The Cwm if you are lucky. Again, I have seen them in the field with the horses and also up in surrounding trees of Longford. They are a personal favourite, quite prehistoric looking and distinctive. It would also be churlish not to mention the whirling of seagulls, a continuous feature of life in the locality.

Last but by no means least are the local residents who strike terror into the heart of mice and small birds.

These are our wonderful birds of prey. The call of the buzzard is a ubiquitous feature of life in Dyffryn Clydach where they are thriving and can often be seen



circling in groups on updrafts utilising the warm air to save energy. They often reside near Drummau Mountain. I have also had a close encounter with a young sparrowhawk here in The Highlands which flew into our window chasing prey (a common occurrence apparently) and had to be taken to Gower Bird hospital where she made a full recovery. I had a close encounter with a ghostly barn owl who flew over my garden at dusk in search of his evening meal. The twit twooing of owls is a feature of life near the woodland particularly in the autumn. The most exciting development in Dyffryn Clydach recently though, has been the increase in red kites. These birds were persecuted almost to within extinction by gamekeepers and farmers and have made a rapid recovery across the United Kingdom. I regularly see them flying above the woodland and they are becoming a far more common sight here with their beautiful colouring and forked tale. It is a thrill to see one of these creatures on our doorstep, long may their reign continue.

The Squires of Dyffryn House

I wonder how many people looking at Howel Gwyn's statue in Neath's Victoria Gardens realise how important he and his family were to this area? The Gwyns were an ancient Welsh family from Breconshire who'd moved to the then 'boom town' of Neath - a place which thrived on its metal working, manufacturing and coal mining activities - where they practised as solicitors. The family had acquired large landed interests in South Wales including their Neath estate in the town centre where Howel Gwyn was born in 1806. It was in 1853 that Gwyn bought the Dyffryn estate on the outskirts of Bryncoch village from the Williams family where he built a new Gothic-style mansion which was completed by 1855. Its stables, now known as The Grange, is the only part of the estate's buildings still in existence.

After the 1840s coal began to dominate the commercial life of this area, a development closely associated with the growth of railways and shipping. The Moores were a Devonshire family who settled in the Skewen area and became involved in local coal mining enterprises. The family's elder, Edward Acland Moore, resided at Lonlas House and an area in Skewen known as Mooretown perpetuates the name of the family. Moore's son, John Newall, lived in Longford Court (Cwrt Rhydhir) and became managing director of the Main Colliery Company formed as a result of the amalgamation of a number of collieries, including those at Bryncoch, Court Herbert and Skewen, which had been worked in this area. The Company obtained a lease to mine the minerals on Howel Gwyn's Dyffryn estate and this eventually provided work for over 500 men at Bryncoch. Many living in what's now a commuter belt village which only began to expand rapidly from the 1960s might be surprised to know it was once a thriving coal mining community. Howel Gwyn married Ellen Elizabeth, the sister of Edward Acland Moore. A nephew, Joseph Edward Moore, eventually succeeded to the estate of his uncle Howel Gwyn in 1900 as there were no children from the marriage of Howel and Elizabeth and the new Squires of Dyffryn then became known as the Moore-Gwyn family.

Victorian society needed to adapt to the many challenges created by the industrial revolution which brought a huge growth in population to South Wales. Howel Gwyn generously used his wealth to meet the needs of this rapidly expanding society in all kinds of ways such as by



Howel Gwyn

contributing to the building of churches, chapels, schools and meeting places. In Neath, the Gwyn Hall, St David's Church and the former Constitutional Club, all in close proximity, were benefactors of land and money from Howel Gwyn and many other localities, including Bryncoch and Skewen, benefitted too from the family's wealth.

Howel Gwyn died in 1888 at the age of 82 after a life of great public service. He served as the High Sheriff, Deputy Lord Lieutenant and a Justice of the Peace in the three counties of Glamorgan, Carmarthen and Brecon in which he owned estates. Gwyn was in his time the Member of Parliament for two different constituencies as well as being a Neath Councillor, Alderman and Mayor. He supported too a large number of charities. The Cottage Homes for children were opened in Bryncoch in 1876 and each Christmas the children were entertained by the Gwyns. At meeting of the Neath Constitutional Club after Howel Gwyn's death in 1888 a speaker expressed his "regret that our Gracious Sovereign did not confer some special mark of favour on our dear friend and neighbour. Richly he deserved it."

Howel Gwyn's magnificent residence, unlike the parish church of St. Matthew's dedicated in 1871 which he'd paid for, was not to endure. Dyffryn mansion was erected in



1855 on an elevated site which commanded a fine view of the surrounding countryside. The house had 47 rooms including ten principal bedrooms, a billiard room, library, smoking room and a servants' hall. There were garages, stables and other outbuildings and the estate had its own gas-making plant. There were a number of estate lodge houses including the Front Lodge which still stands at what was the main entrance to the mansion next to Dyffryn Church. The Dyffryn estate consisted of over 320 acres with beautifully kept grounds including water

gardens with artificially constructed waterfalls. There were four tennis courts with a pavilion and a private cricket pitch. The mansion was frequently visited by the surrounding gentry, affluent local families who formed a closely knit group who often intermarried with one another. Madame Adelina Patti, the great opera singer, came to Dyffryn and the Moore-Gwyns, in turn, visited the 'Queen of Song' at Craig-y-Nos Castle in the Swansea Valley. Lloyd George paid a visit to the mansion in 1918 when the National Eisteddfod was held at Neath, at which time the Prime Minister was awarded the Freedom of the Borough.

This was a hierarchical, deferential society, with the landowning class enjoying a style of living which was

continued on the next page

The Squires of Dyffryn House – continued

largely to disappear between the two World Wars. The family at Dyffryn employed a large number of domestics in the mansion and a photograph taken after 1900 shows sixteen servants, including a butler, housekeeper, maids, coachman, groom and chauffeur. There were, in addition, gamekeepers, gardeners, and other ancillary staff like carriage drivers/ chauffeurs engaged about the estate. Not everyone lamented the passing of this almost feudal pattern of society however. Someone who grew up during the family's occupation of the mansion remembered being punished by the school headmaster because he hadn't doffed his cap when Mrs Moore-Gwyn passed by.

Significant changes occurred both nationally and locally in the 1920s. Following on the depredations of the First World War, economic depression and death duties eroded the fortunes of many families. Falling coal prices and strikes at the Main Colliery Company meant that the Moore-Gwyns' principal source of income - rich reserves of what's been called 'Wales's black gold' - which had sustained the Dyffryn estate was ended. The Main Colliery ceased operations in 1929 and the company, which by then had large debts, was wound up. In 1927, Dyffryn mansion, which had already been vacated for a few years, and its estate were offered up for sale. Plans to transform the mansion into a hospital or similar institution failed to materialise and so the estate was divided into lots and sold. The fixtures and fittings of Dyffryn mansion, which had once contained splendid furniture, fine paintings, choice porcelain and a large library, were disposed of in 1931. By 1932, the proud residence had been demolished after being used for fire fighting practice by the Neath Fire Brigade. The Moore-Gwyns resided at Longford Court for a few years and then moved to Hampshire. The most influential family and the principal industry of this area, coal mining, had thus faded within little more than a decade. While we might lament the disappearance of fine mansions like Dyffryn House and their splendid estates, unless alternative uses were found for them they were inevitably doomed being the product of very different economic circumstances, not least the large numbers of lowly-paid employees needed to run such establishments.

by Jeff Griffiths

Jeff Griffiths is the Chair of the new Dyffryn Clydach and Bryncoch Historical Society which holds monthly meetings. Further information can be found on Facebook and its website where photos and matters of local interest are shared.

** A full text version of the centenary history of St Matthew's Church published in 1971 which contains much more detail about the family who lived at Dyffryn House can be found online by accessing the Dyffryn Clydach and Bryncoch Historical Society's website. This source also has a number of other articles about the Dyffryn Colliery and the recollections of a schoolboy whose father was in the colliery growing up in Bryncoch during the First World War. Photo of Dyffryn House submitted by Mr Norman Lemon.*

Cheese and leek flan recipe

This recipe is in old measurements as that way it is easy to remember. It is an old Welsh farmhouse recipe and is easy to make, sets well and is tasty. It is a nice addition to a picnic or a meal in itself with some salad on a Summer evening.

Ingredients

- 6 ounces of cheddar cheese grated (I use mature cheddar for flavour)
- 2 or 3 leeks depending on size and your preference
- Butter for frying
- 3 large free range eggs
- 3 ounces milk
- 3 ounces single cream
- Salt and pepper
- 1 pack shortcrust pastry (You are welcome to make your own pastry but I have neither the time nor inclination!)

Method

Grease a quiche dish/tin (9 inch approximately but can be made with a bigger dish or quiche tin)

Line the tin/dish with the shortcrust pastry

Preheat oven to 400F/200C (180 fan)/ Gas mark 5

Saute leeks in butter and season to taste

Pour milk and cream into a dish/jug and add the eggs, whisk the mixture well

Add half the cheese to the mixture and stir

Arrange the leeks in the pastry case spread evenly

Pour the cream/milk/eggs/cheese mixture into the quiche dish

Top with the remainder of the cheese and bake on the middle shelf until set (30 minutes)

Can be eaten hot or cold and will keep nicely in the fridge for a few days. Freezes well too. Enjoy!

Gardening with a twist

Just a quick reminder that we will be holding our Annual Garden Certificate Ceremony in the Autumn. With the advent of the drier, warmer weather there has been an increase in the hum of the lawn mower and the planting of bedding flowers, perennials and the like. The Community Council members will be keeping a keen eye out for fabulous gardens. This year we are also hoping to consider biodiversity within gardening with a view to aiding our pollinating insects. The idea is to encourage mini wild gardens to help bees and butterflies, many of which have species in decline. Working with Nature are aiming to hold a workshop event hopefully in June with information and activities on the improvement of gardens for wildlife and the creation of small areas of 'wildness'. The workshop will be advertised locally and also online.

Working With Nature

– Dyffryn Clydach

Spring is Sprung, and the Working with Nature project is well and truly buzzing with excitement at the work done, and the work to come! We have been working hard over the last 21 months to integrate into communities and wild spaces throughout Neath Port Talbot; bringing together residents and groups with their local nature spots has been a joy to behold and one we are happy to keep doing for 2 more years!

Our partnership with the Dyffryn Clydach Community Council has been a fantastic asset to the project, allowing us to work on beautiful sites such as Y Graig and Coed Bach (top of The Cwm), improving access, managing invasive species, creating an orchard and engaging with the local community!

Our regular volunteer days have been well attended and we have made a big impact on the influx of the invasive Cherry laurel that threatens the native woodland in Coed Bach and have developed new partnerships with the National Autistic Society (based in Neath Abbey) who have committed a day a month to helping maintain the pathways in the woods.

Y Graig is home to numerous species of trees and woodland plants and provides a fantastic escape for walking and relaxing. Anti-social behaviour continues to be a concern in the area however, with regular fires and camping taking place throughout the warmer months. Multiple litter picks have been carried out on the site, but broken glass in the clearing at the top remains an issue and one we are working to reduce through

partnerships with the Community Council and discussions with the Community Officers.

Engagement with the community has been a delight, with events held outside the Memorial Hall and in the two woodland areas. Residents have enjoyed carving spoons and spatulas, as well as helping to plant the new Community Orchard behind Lon Glynfelin, bushcraft, willow weaving and needle felting have provided a great variety of activities suitable for everyone.

The future of the project in the area will see more work being carried out on the woodland areas, ensuring access is maintained and introducing new trails and points of interest for the community. Activities will include green woodworking, accredited training and nature walks to encourage a wider appreciation of the marvellous habitats that surround the community.

If you'd like to hear more, contact us directly at n.hinds@npt.gov.uk and follow us on Facebook @WorkingWithNatureNPT



The First World War Centenary

This November sees the close of the centenary commemoration of the First World War which lasted from 1914 to 1918. Some readers may, like me, have delved into their family history to find connections with this conflict.

What I found from the records and such family stories as I could tap into caused me surprise. I discovered we had a war hero in the family in the person of Robert David Rees, my maternal grandfather's youngest sibling. He'd been a teenage Telegram Messenger, cycling around delivering what was then the fastest means of communication, later becoming a Neath area Postman. Robert didn't wait to be conscripted but signed up with the Royal Welsh Fusiliers in 1915. In September 1918 he was

awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal, the second highest bravery award after the Victoria Cross at that time, displaying a 'splendid example of courage and initiative' in repulsing a German attack. Sadly, he died of war wounds and the Spanish 'Flu just four days after the Armistice on 11th November 1918. What agony his Neath



family must've experienced on learning that he'd died just as the fighting had ended. I've visited the Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery where he rests in France bringing to his graveside the war medals which he'd never lived to receive himself. By a strange coincidence, the family lived just eight doors away in Creswell Road from Allan Leonard Lewis, the

only Victoria Cross holder with a Neath connection, after whom a local pub has now been named. I also discovered that my maternal grandmother with whom I was brought up in Skewen had been in domestic service in London during WWI. She was cook to a Welsh-born General whose wife was also the highest ranking woman in the British Army, Dame Florence Leach who led the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (my own mother would be named Florence after her). It was always rumoured that Anna Rees, my grandmother, had cooked for Royalty and, with employers of this high

military rank, it seems evident that this was a well-based family tale. I'm sure many other similar fascinating stories will be found in 'Neath and Briton Ferry in the First World War' by Jonathan Skidmore being published in June.

Jeff Griffiths

A TRIBUTE TO *Mrs Thomas*

Sadly the Community lost one of its most well-known and respected members earlier on in the year, Councillor Martyn Peters pays tribute to a special lady, Mrs Thomas, also known as Ma Stone or Ma Brick during her time as a maths teacher; 'We are very sorry to hear of the death of Mrs Thomas of The Highlands, aged 92. She was born and lived in this community all her life having also taught many thousands of children. Besides her teaching career, within which she had risen to Deputy Head, she also received an award from Dyffryn Clydach Community Council which was 'The Citizen of the Year'. She was a stalwart of this community and was head of the Neath Abbey Women's Institute for many years. Her funeral was extremely well attended and many ex-pupils came to pay tribute to her.'

It must be noted however that Mrs Thomas was a lady of her time with regard to her teaching methods, some pupils will remember her ruler well. She was also a lifelong member of St Johns Church, Neath Abbey and was its treasurer for many years. Aside from her professional achievements which were many, Mrs Thomas had a keen sense of humour and was often part of a joke about her driving skills or lack of them. She took the criticism well and had a fun side to her that was often visible at social occasions. Mrs Thomas leaves behind one son, Mr Simon Thomas.



Bowled over by silver medal!

Congratulations to Neath Abbey lady Laura Daniels who has won a silver medal in the Commonwealth Games 2018. Laura was playing in the Women's Bowls Singles event. Laura started playing short mat bowls at the age of 12 and has gone on to successfully compete internationally, her achievements include, World Champion of Champions Winner 2017 and World Singles Champion 2015. We wish her every success for the future.



Cider Lovers Rejoice!

It may have come to some of your attention that an Orchard has been planted in Lon-Glyn-Felin in Longford, situated where the playground was. On the 31st of January this year, Neil Hinds of Working with



Nature NPT led the planting of 20 apple trees (four rows of five). They are a mix of eating, cooking and more importantly cider apples and are all Welsh species trees. The Community Orchard is the second one that the organisation has planted with the first being in Banwen and the aim is for local residents to look after the trees and reap the benefits of the harvest. Once the Orchard is established it is hoped that there will be cider pressing and other community events with maybe a spot of traditional apple tree Wassailing if we are lucky!

Volunteer David Gravelle helped with the planting alongside Paul Davies of Dolau-hirion Fruit Trees. David of the Rhyddings, enjoys gardening and regularly attends the workshops and walks that Working with Nature provide. There have been many activities available to us in Dyffryn-Clydach, including a dawn chorus walk, litter picking mornings and needle-felting sessions. Working with Nature are looking for volunteers to look after the trees, though they can be left for a year before pruning and grow around a foot during that time. You are all welcome to join in with their woodland walks, activities and conservation sessions, many are local to you but attendance is encouraged at any of the sites throughout the Neath area. Follow them on Facebook @WorkingwithNatureNPT to see what they are up to.



Citizen of the Year Awards 2018

There were two recipients of the above award this year. These were **Mrs Ann Doran** and **Mr Alan Jarrett**. Both were chosen for the award from the Community Council due to their many years hard work and excellent service to this community.

Message from the Chairman

I cannot believe how quickly the year has flown by since the elections in 2017. The Community Council has many new members to follow in the footsteps of those who have gone before. The future is looking bright with enthusiastic new members who are now taking up their roles in the community. Amongst these, Sarah Elias has accepted the role of the editor of Ymlaen and is doing a wonderful job of this. Karon Hopkins is now the new Chairperson of the Open Spaces Committee and other members are showing their commitment to our community.

There are many new projects planned, first and foremost, as promised, the new play area for younger children behind Longford Memorial Hall will be a reality shortly. We are hoping to have the playground built before Summer 2018. I would like to thank all those who worked hard putting the playground bid and plans together. I would like to stress here that although we are living in one of the better parts of the County Borough, one downside we are suffering from is the high degree of littering. This causes a huge blight on our community and we will be arranging regular litter picks which will be posted on social media. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who already pick up litter locally and there are many of them. I hope you all have a lovely Summer.

Cllr Martyn Peters



Neges gan y Cadeirydd

Mae'n anodd credu bod blwyddyn gyfan ers etholiadau 2017. Etholwyd nifer o gynghorwyr newydd i ddilyn ôl troed rhai profiadol a fu'n gwasanaethu'n ffyddlon am flynyddoedd. Mae'r dyfodol yn obeithiol gyda'r aelodau yma'n derbyn cyfrifoldebau newydd yn y gymuned. Sarah Elias yw golygydd brwdfrydig a llwyddiannus ein cylchlythyr Ymlaen. Cadeirydd newydd ein Pwyllgor Mannau Agored yw Karon Hopkins ac mae eraill yn ymdaflu i weithgarwch yn ein hardal.

Mae nifer o brosiectau ar y gweill fel yr addawyd: y pwysicaf yw'r man chwarae i'r ifancaf y tu ôl i'r Neuadd Goffa a'n gobaith yw y bydd yn barod cyn Haf eleni. Hoffwn ddiolch i bawb a fu'n gyfrifol am baratoi'r cynlluniau a'r cynnig am nawdd. Er ein bod yn byw yn un ardaloedd hyfrytaf y Sir mae gwastraff sbwriel yn creu hagrach a diflastod i'r mwyafrif ohonom. O ganlyniad byddwn yn cynllunio nifer o sesiynau casglu sbwriel a bydd rhain i'w gweld ar y cyfryngau cymdeithasol. Cymeraf y cyfle i ddiolch i'r rhai hynny sy'n gwneud hynny'n barod. Mwynhewch yr Haf.

Y Cyng. Martyn Peters

Pets Corner

This edition's star pet belongs to our very own Martyn Peters. This is his hen named Henrietta. She was one of a group bought from Zoar's Ark, and is the last one standing. She is around five years old and is unusually very happy as a solo hen. Henrietta has made friends with the dogs and likes to have a nose in the house.



Our second featured pet is Pickles, the rescued Jack Russell. It was his 6th Birthday in May and here he is looking



very dapper in his summer bowtie. He was adopted 5 years ago from Dogs Trust Bridgend. He was brought in as a puppy when his previous owners found him too boisterous. Pickles' favourite activities include sleeping, eating, sitting on the windowsill and barking at various passers by. He is a good example of a happy, settled rescue dog and I would urge readers to consider rescue dogs rather than always buying from a breeder if possible.

If anybody has any pets they would like us to feature in pet's corner, please email them in, thank you!

Extra copies of Ymlaen will be available at Abbeygate Stores and Longford Stores. Thank you to Jagtar and to Jan for their support.

Remember to support your local shops and businesses.

Bydd copi'au ychwanegol Ymlaen ar gael yn Siop y Gât a Siop Rhydhir. Diolch i Jagtar a Jan am eu cymorth. Cofiwch gefnogi eich siopau a busnesau lleol.

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