Community First Spring 2010 Newsletter

Although the calendar is telling us that spring is just around the corner, it's only in the past few days that it has felt like it will make an appearance this year. If like us, you are looking forward to being able to be out and about without worrying too much about having to wrap up to fend off the worst of the winter weather, please come along and join us at some of the events we have planned over the next few months.

The Neath Town Centre Community First Team celebrated its second anniversary in February. One of the most pleasing aspects of organising our community activities is the number of return visits that many of you make to our events. It was wonderful to see so many of you at Santa's Grotto in the Castle Hotel during December which yet again, was the result of a partnership between many Town Centre businesses and community volunteers. Over 300 hundred families visited Santa and enjoyed the hospitality that he and Mrs Claus were able to provide due to the support we received from regeneration specialists St. Modwens, The Castle Hotel, Marks and Spencer, Wilkinsons, Zoar's Ark and Neath Town Council.

It's important to us to find out what you think about where you live, what you like and what you would like to change. Along with the Town Centre Manager Terry Harvey we will be at the Bluebell Hotel on APRIL 27th between 8.30 am and 10.30 am so that we can find out more about what you think. If you are out and about, please join us for a chat over a cup of tea and some breakfast.

Our development worker Donna Roberts has been busy helping to organise the Neath Town Festival which takes place in MAY every year. This year the Festival runs from Thursday 7th May to Saturday 15th May, opening with a Continental Market in Angel Square from the 7th to the 9th of May and ending with a family fun day in and around Neath Indoor Market. Along with Maureen Winter from RSVP, Donna has organised a packed programme of events for all the family who come along to Sirens, Shelters, Shortages and Spam in St. David's Church on Thursday 13th May. The morning will be filled with songs, stories and reminiscences of the war years over a cuppa with Anzac biscuits and in the afternoon we are looking forward to an exhibition of the Lindy hop from professional dance experts Hopping Mad, in preparation for the tea dance that will end the day's activities. Come along to enjoy the entertainment and bring along your family recipes to share with the rest of the community. Look out for more information on who is taking part and where to pick up tickets on our website and on flyers that we will be giving out nearer the time.

If you came along to the family workshops that we ran in the Community Centre during the Food and Drink Festival last year then come along and join in with the cup cake and shop window workshops on Saturday 15th May. So many of you joined Donna, Maureen and their very skilled volunteers last time that we thought we would do it all again. For those of you who prefer to be outdoors, Organised Chaos will be demonstrating Circus Skills in the Town Square throughout the day and they will be looking for willing volunteers to join in the fun.

We are already looking forward to planning our activities for the second Neath Food and Drink Festival on the 9th of October 2010. If you missed out on taking part last year and you would like to be involved this year then take a look at www.neathfoodfestival.co.uk. This year's Festival promises to be even bigger and better than last year and very shortly we hope to announce exiting news about who will open this year's Festival.

As ever, if you would like to participate in any of our events including our bi-monthly Neath Town Centre Communities First Partnership meetings please contact us on **01639 640670** or become a member of our website www.neathtowncentre.co.uk

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Cylchlythyr Gwanwyn 2010 Cymunedau yn Gyntaf

Er bod y calendr yn dweud wrthym fod y gwanwyn ar gyrraedd, dim ond yn yr ychydig ddyddiau diwethaf y mae wedi teimlo'n debyg i hynny eleni. Os ydych chi, fel ni, yn edrych ymlaen at fedru mynd o gwmpas heb orfod poeni gormod am orfod gwisgo'n gynnes rhag tywydd gwaethaf y gaeaf, dewch draw i ymuno â ni yn rhai o'r digwyddiadau sydd gennym ar y gweill ar gyfer yr ychydig fisoedd nesaf.

Dathlodd Tîm Cymunedau yn Gyntaf Canol Tref Castell Nedd ei ail ben-blwydd ym mis Chwefror. Un o agweddau sy'n rhoi mwyaf o bleser wrth drefnu gweithgareddau cymunedol yw'r nifer o ymweliadau dychwel a wnaiff llawer ohonoch i'n digwyddiadau. Roedd yn wych gweld cynifer ohonoch yn Ogof Siôn Corn yng ngwesty'r Castell ym mis Rhagfyr a oedd unwaith eto yn ganlyniad partneriaeth rhwng llawer o fusnesau yng nghanol y dref a gwirfoddolwyr cymunedol. Ymwelodd dros 300 o deuluoedd â Siôn Corn a mwynhau'r lletygarwch y medrodd ef a Siân Corn eu rhoi oherwydd y gefnogaeth a gawsom gan arbenigwyr adfywio St Modewns, Gwesty'r Castell, Marks & Spencer, Wilkinsons, Zoar's Ark a Chyngor Tref Castell Nedd.

Mae'n bwysig i ni beth yw eich barn am y lle rydych yn byw, yr hyn rydych yn ei hoffi a'r hyn yr hoffech ei newid. Ynghyd â Terry Harvey, Rheolwr Canol y Dref, byddwn yng Ngwesty'r Bluebell ar 27 EBRILL rhwng 8.30am a 10.30am fel y medrwn ganfod mwy am eich barn. Os ydych yn y cyffiniau, ymunwch â ni i gael sgwrs dros dishgled o de a thamaid o frecwast.

Bu Donna Roberts, ein gweithwraig datblygu, yn brysur yn helpu i drefnu Gŵyl Tref Castell Nedd a gynhelir ym mis MAI bob blwyddyn. Mae Gŵyl eleni rhwng dydd Iau 7 Mai a dydd Sadwrn 15 Mai, gyda Marchnad Gyfandirol yn Sgwâr Angel rhwng 7 a 9 Mai gan orffen gyda diwrnod hwyl i'r teulu ym Marchnad Dan-do Castell Nedd ac o amgylch. Ynghyd â Maureen Winter o RSVP, mae Donna wedi trefnu rhaglen lawn o ddigwyddiadau i'r holl deulu sy'n dod i'r digwyddiad Atgofion am y Rhyfel ddydd Iau 13 Mai. Bydd y bore yn llawn caneuon, straeon ac atgofion am flynyddoedd y rhyfel dros dishgled gyda bisgedi Anzac ac yn y prynhawn edrychwn ymlaen at arddangosfa o'r Lindy Hop gan yr arbenigwyr dawns proffesiynol Hoppin Mad, wrth baratoi ar gyfer y ddawns te a ddaw â gweithgareddau'r dydd i ben. Dewch draw i fwynhau'r adloniant a dod â rysetiau teulu gyda chi i'w rhannu gyda gweddill y gymuned. Cadwch lygad am fwy o wybodaeth ar bwy sy'n cymryd rhan a lle i gael tocynnau ar ein gwefan ac ar daflenni y byddwn yn eu dosbarthu maes o law.

Os daethoch i'r gweithdai teulu a gynhaliwyd yn y Ganolfan Gymunedol yn ystod yr Ŵyl Bwyd a Diod y llynedd, yna dewch draw ac ymuno yn y gweithdai teisennau bach a ffenestr siop ddydd Sadwrn 15 Mai. Gwnaeth nifer mor dda ohonoch ymuno â Donna, Maureen a'u gwirfoddolwyr y tro diwethaf fel y gwnaethom benderfynu wneud y cyfan eto. I bawb ohonoch sy'n well gennych fod yn yr awyr agored, bydd Organised Chaos yn trefnu Sgiliau Syrcas yn Sgwâr y Dref drwy gydol y dydd a byddant yn edrych am wirfoddolwyr parod i ymuno yn yr hwyl.

Rydym eisoes yn edrych ymlaen at gynllunio ein gweithgareddau ar gyfer Ŵyl Bwyd a Diod Castell Nedd ar 9 Hydref 2010. Os na fu modd i chi ddod draw'r llynedd ac yr hoffech gymryd rhan eleni, edrychwch ar at www.neathfoodfestival.co.uk. Mae Gŵyl eleni yn argoeli bod yn fwy a gwell na'r llynedd a gobeithiwn gyhoeddi yn y dyfodol agos pwy fydd yn agor Gŵyl eleni.

Fel bob amser, os hoffech gymryd rhan yn unrhyw un o'n digwyddiadau yn cynnwys cyfarfodydd deufisol Partneriaeth Cymunedau yn Gyntaf Canol Tref Castell-nedd, cysylltwch â ni ar y rhif islaw neu ddod yn aelod o'n gwefan www.neathtowncentre.co.uk Tel - 01639 640670

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