CYNGOR CYMUNED
TONGWYNLAIS
COMMUNITY COUNCIL



CYLCHLYTHYR HYDREF 26
NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 26

Holi'r Gymuned | Community Consultation

Many thanks to all who have responded to our community consultation. The Community Council has discussed feedback and comments received and will implement suggestions wherever possible. We will soon be installing a suggestion mailbox outside the Tanyard where you can provide any letters or comments for the Community Council whenever you like. We would love to hear from you and have provided the consultation again with this newsletter for those who would still like to respond. Please share with us your views on the village, what makes Tongwynlais a great place to live, and what could be improved? Please take 5 minutes to complete and return the consultation sheet on the last page of this newsletter either by email or by post through the Tanyard door. The consultation is also available to complete and submit online via the QR Code, or via our website and Facebook page.

Eich Cyngor Cymuned | Your Community Council

Rydym wedi penodi dau Gynghorydd Cymuned newydd yn ddiweddar, Mike T a Jen, gan ddod â chyfanswm y Cynghorwyr Cymuned i naw, ynghyd â Mike JP, Caryn, Ceri, Owen, Simon, Ana a Linda.

We have recently appointed two new Community Councillors, Mike T and Jen, making up 9 Community Councillors together with; Mike JP, Caryn, Ceri, Owen, Simon, Ana, and Linda.



Cymdeithas Hanesyddol Tongwynlais | Tongwynlais Historical Society
Diolch yn fawr i'r gymdeithas am wirfoddoli i drefnu a chatalogio'r holl ffotograffau sydd yn y Tanerdy. Mae'r fframiau wedi cael eu glanhau'n drylwyr a'r lluniau bellach wedi'u trefnu'n dwt. Mae'r gymdeithas hefyd wedi cyflwyno hen olwyn cert hanesyddol i'r Tanerdy, a bydd yn cael ei harddangos maes o law.

Many thanks to the Historical Society who volunteered to tidy up and catalogue the photograph collection at the Tanyard. The photo frames have benefitted from a good clean and have been reorganised in an ordered display. The society has also donated a historic cartwheel to the Tanyard, which is awaiting its own display.

Ap Cyngor Caerdydd | Cardiff Council App
Missed waste collections; help on recycling; bulky item collection; finding out which bins are to be collected; pothole problems; blocked drains; streetlamp not working; fly-tipping; dog fouling and much more…
Why not download the Cardiff Council app from the Google Play Store or Apple Store, or from the link on the Cardiff.gov.uk web page? With just a few taps you can report any of the above, as well of lots of other services.

Dros yr haf, bu i'r Cynghorwyr Cymuned gydweithio â Thîm Gwastraff ac Ailgylchu'r Cyngor i sicrhau y caiff ein biniau gwastraff cyhoeddus eu gwagio'n amlach.

Over the summer, the Community Councillors worked closely with Cardiff Council Waste and Recycling Team to improve the frequency of emptying our public waste bins.

Yr Heddlu Lleol | Local Policing

Cuppa with a Copper at the Ainon Church, every 2 weeks, 11:00am - 12:00 noon. If anyone wants to speak to the PCSOs about any issues, they are more than welcome to attend.

They also have a free online messaging service, South Wales Listens. If anybody would like more information or would like to sign up to this, please contact your PCSO.

South Wales Police are running an operation to tackle the illegal use of e-bikes, called Op Grebe. They have an online form for residents to use to report sightings of these bikes and are encouraging residents to do so.

If you have any information or intelligence to share with the Police, please report it. This can be done anonymously.

https://www.south-wales.police.uk/police-forces/south-wales-police/areas/campaigns/campaigns/tackling-illegal-use-bikes/

Cofiwch ffonio 999 mewn argyfwng neu 101 os nad oes brys.
For any emergency situation phone 999, or for non-urgent calls please contact 101.

Dyma fanylion cyswllt ein swyddogion lleol:
If you need to contact your local PCSO, you can email:

PCSO Neil Park Neil.Park1@south-wales.police.uk
PCSO Stephen Westlake Stephen.westlake@south-wales.police.uk
PCSO Kyle Williams Kyle.williams@south-wales.police.uk
PC Kelly Rees Kelly.Rees@south-wales.police.uk

The Community Council have once again decorated the village with lamppost poppies to commemorate Remembrance Sunday with many of the poppies featuring the names of past residents fallen in service.
If you would like the name of a fallen war veteran commemorated on a poppy, please get in touch.



Bioamrywiaeth yn Nhongwynlais: Pentref yn Llawn Natur |Biodiversity in Tongwynlais: A Village Alive with Nature

Yn ddiweddar, trefnodd Grŵp Bioamrywiaeth y Cyngor Cymuned daith gerdded natur o amgylch y pentref, i weld rhwyfaint o'r bywyd gwyllt sydd yma. Diolch i'r trigolion lleol, Andy a Kaz, am noson hynod ddiddorol a llawn gwybodaeth. Daeth nifer o bobl ar y daith, a'r gobaith yw cynnal cyfres o sgyrsiau am natur dros y misoedd nesaf. Bydd y sgwrs gyntaf yn ymwneud â draenogod, a bydd ar y 4ydd o Dachwedd, diolch i Eglwys Ainon a Chymdeithas Draenogod Caerffili.

The Community Council Biodiversity Group recently hosted a nature walk around Tongwynlais village to take in some of the wildlife we have on offer. Thanks to local residents Andy and Kaz for an extremely interesting and informative evening. The walk was well attended and it is hoped to host a series of nature talks over the upcoming months, with the first talk on November 4th, hosted by Ainon Church and the Caerphilly Hedgehog Society, all about hedgehogs.





Mae'r Cyngor Cymuned wedi llwyddo i ennill Grant Bioamrywiaeth Lleoedd Lleol ar gyfer Natur (Local Places for Nature). Bydd yr arian yn mynd tuag at greu gwledd o flodau gwyllt ar hyd y Taith Taf wrth ddod i mewn i'r pentref o gyfeiriad Ffynnon Taf. Mae'r ardal eisoes yn gyfoeth o fyd natur, ac mae llawer yn mwynhau gorffwys am ennyd ar y fainc goch, felly bydd y blodau yn harddu'r lle yn fwy byth.

The Community Council has been successful in obtaining a Local Places for Nature Biodiversity Grant to create a wildflower display along the grass verge of the Taff Trail as you enter the village from Taffs Well. The wildflowers will enhance an area already rich in nature and where many already enjoy spending a restful moment on the red bench.

CYNNIG AR GYFER SIED DDYNION | MEN'S SHED PROPOSAL

The Men's Shed movement originated in Australia during the late 1980s and early 1990s with the first recognised shed opening in South Australia in the early 90s. It was created as a non-profit, community-based space to improve men's health, combat loneliness, and address social isolation and loss of purpose. The movement has a 'Shoulder to Shoulder' philosophy built on the idea that men often find it easier to connect, open up, and talk while working side-by-side on practical tasks (like woodworking, gardening, or repairs) rather than sitting face-to-face. This is something we would like to establish here in the village and there will be more details coming soon. If this is an initiative you feel you would benefit from, or if you feel you have some skills that would help in the establishment of the group then please get in touch with the council.

Wales & West Housing Association

The Community Council has been holding regular meetings with Wales & West Housing Association to build collaborative working relations for the benefit of residents. Wales & West have recently completed improvements at the Catherine Drive estate including better bin storage, new washing lines and area privacy, and the installation of a fence by the green space used as a play area. Raised bed planters have been installed with plans to create wildflower areas.

Cyfyngiadau Parcio Newydd – Merthyr Road – New Parking Restrictions

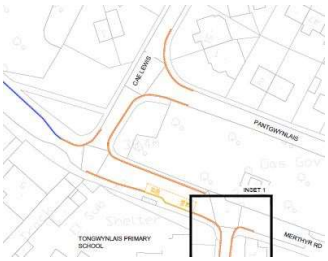
Following a public consultation, Cardiff Council will be introducing new parking restrictions on Merthyr Road to improve safety for children by the Primary School and to help reduce traffic congestion, especially during busy times.
'No Waiting' will be introduced opposite the cottages on Merthyr Road, opposite the row of shops by the village hall, and on the corners of Mill Road and Market Street, and St Michaels Close. 'No waiting and no loading' will be introduced by the Primary School, on the corners of Cae Lewis, Pantgwynlais and Ironbridge Road.



Merthyr Road and Mill Road junction



Merthyr Road and St Michaels Close.



Merthyr Road, Cae Lewis and Ironbridge Rd

River Taff Chemical Spill

Following the recent chemical spill into the River Taff, Community Councillors reported this to Natural Resources Wales. We wrote to them asking about lessons learned and how the spill had impacted the environment. They responded to thank residents and the Community Council for reporting the incident, enabling them to respond quickly, and advised that specialist teams worked swiftly to reduce the amount of fuel able to enter the river. Investigations are ongoing to understand the environmental impact but early indications show this to be minimal in terms of deceased fish. Information is shared on our website and social media for residents near the river or using the Taff Trail including the NRW response letter.

Digwyddiadau'r Tymor | Festive Events

November 25th – Festive Lights Switch on
November 25th – Choir singing and Band Lewis Arms 7pm lighting of tree
Father Christmas in the Village Hall Grotto (Please book your place via Cllr Morgan)
November 26th – Father Christmas Grotto & Christmas Fayre in the Village Hall
December 17th – Judging the Christmas Lights competition, prizes for Best Dressed House and Best Dressed Street.
December 17th – 'Together at Christmas' Event – Village Hall from 5.30pm till 8pm
A free festive evening open to all residents of any age to enjoy buffet food and drink and entertainment for the children.
Thanks to our sponsors Wales & West Housing Association

‘BYWYD Y TON’ – CYFWELIAD 2 | ‘TONGWYNLIVES’ – INTERVIEW 2 – LEONORA MILLIN



Above the fireplace in the cosy flat of Leonora Millin is a letter she received from King Charles and Queen Camilla on the 19th October 2026 to mark the occasion of her 100th birthday. To reach such a milestone is a remarkable feat, but to have lived for the whole of that century in one village is also very rare. Accompanied by her friend Carol, I went to meet Leonora to talk to her about her childhood memories of growing up in Tongwynlais.

Leonora was warm and welcoming and her recollections of years gone by were as clear and crisp as if they had happened only yesterday. She was born in one of four old cottages that used to stand at the bottom of Ironbridge Road – for reference, where the electricity substation now stands. When the cottages were condemned in 1937 she went first to live at Boothville before settling in Cae Lewis. She was a pupil of Tongwynlais Primary School.

She recalled studying for her 11+ only to miss the exam due to a bout of Scarlet Fever. In spite of the protestations of her teacher, Mr John, that she be allowed to re-sit, unfortunately she could not. And so Leonora left school at 14 years of age. She worked in Jakeman’s, the village shop where Spar currently stands. As the shop changed ownership over the years, Leonora went with it, serving many generations of Tongwynlais residents.

She has vivid memories of living in the village during World War Two. She said ‘Tuesdays were a good day, because Mr Russell who owned the Greengrocers on Market Street always had bananas’. She remembered the soldiers who were billeted at Castell Coch during the war. How they would walk with them to the Saturday night dance in Glan-y-Llyn, walking back to the village afterwards, before parting company at the Lewis Arms.

She remembers the Prisoner of War camp in Radyr with its occasional escapees. And the joy of the Whitsun march when, wearing a new dress and sandals, she and her friends would sing at every corner of the village. How the children were threatened that ‘If you don’t behave then you won’t march behind the band’. Whitsun Saturdays would be sports in the playing field, and the Sunday would always conclude with church in the evening.

She remembered climbing on to the horse-drawn barge as it passed through Tongwynlais. The bargemaster would drop them off in Whitchurch and they would walk back singing. She also recalled once crossing the old Ironbridge by climbing along the outside of it. With the river roaring beneath her she was greeted on the other side by a man who told her off. He waited until she arrived at the other side in case his shouting made her lose her grip!

She told us about when she used to play with her friends in the ruins of old Greenmeadow. And how a boy called Walter Foster once came screaming out of the ruins with cries of ‘ghost’. And how the ghost he had seen was discovered to be an old, discarded mirror high on the wall. And how the same group of friends once found they had a penny between them and so bought a single lolly which they all took turns to share!

My favourite story was that of her Grandmother’s parrot. Called ‘Loretta’, it had a wide vocabulary and was a favourite of the children in the village. Her mother once walked into the house to be greeted by the sight of a tramp standing in their kitchen. Asking him what he was doing there, he said he had knocked on the door and was told to ‘Come in!’ It transpired that the invite had been extended by none other than Loretta the talking parrot!

Leonora was generous with her time and her memories. There were tales of the cane and of scrumping apples. Of days collecting milk from Bale’s farm, swinging the jug around on the walk home and wondering how there was any milk left. Or swapping vegetables in wartime allotments during rationing to help each other out. And even with the sad reflection of five boys lost in the war, Leonora said she ‘never wanted to be anywhere else.’

This Tongwynlives article is the second in what will be an ongoing series of interviews. Recording the lives and the memories of some of our residents is a very important way to capture the history of this place that we all call home. It allows us to glimpse the places that are no longer there and recall the faces of those who lived in our houses before us. If you have any suggestions for future Tongwynlives interviews then please do get in touch.

Happy 100th Birthday, Leonora, from all of us!

Diolch John Freeman! Many thanks John for helping clear a fallen tree from the entrance of Catherine Drive.
Diolch yn Fawr Siân! Thank you very much Siân for the Welsh translations.
Diolch am ddarllen ein cylchlythyr. *Thanks for reading our newsletter.*

Cysylltu â'r Cyngor Cymuned
Dyma fanylion cyswllt Clerc y Cyngor: **clerk@tongwynlaiscommunitycouncil.gov.wales** neu dros y ffôn ar 07955341292.
Mynnwch olwg ar ein gwefan i weld y diweddaraf: **www.tongwynlaiscommunitycouncil.gov.wales**
Neu mae tudalen Facebook hefyd ar gael – Tongwynlais Community Council (Saesneg yn unig).

How to contact the Community Council
Contact the Clerk to the Council by email on **clerk@tongwynlaiscommunitycouncil.gov.wales** or by phone on 07955341292
Visit our website to stay up to date with information **www.tongwynlaiscommunitycouncil.gov.wales**
or our Facebook page – Tongwynlais Community Council.

Holi'r Gymuned | Community Consultation

Hoffai Cyngor Cymuned Tongwynlais ddeall beth mae ein trigolion ei eisiau er mwyn inni allu gwasanaethu'r gymuned yn dda. Helpwch ni drwy lenwi'r **Ymgynghoriad Cymunedol** hwn. Diolch 😊
Anfonwch ef yn ôl drwy e-bost at Nadine: clerk@tongwynlaiscommunitycouncil.gov.wales neu ei bostio drwy ddrws y Tanerdy.

Tongwynlais Community Council would like to understand what our residents would like so that we may serve the community well. Please help by completing this **Community Consultation**. Thank you 😊
Return by email to Nadine: clerk@tongwynlaiscommunitycouncil.gov.wales or post to The Tanyard.

Beth sy'n arbennig am Dongwynlais? What is special about Tongwynlais?	
Rhestrwch eich hobïau a'ch diddordebau os ydych chi'n fodlon eu rhannu â ni. Please list your hobbies and interests if you are happy to share this info	
Beth rydych chi'n ei fwynhau am gymuned Tongwynlais? What do you enjoy about the Tongwynlais community?	
Pa gyfleoedd sydd ar gael i chi yn Nhongwynlais? What opportunities do you have in Tongwynlais?	
Ydych chi'n aelod o grŵp cymunedol, clwb, eglwys neu grŵp chwaraeon yn ardal Tongwynlais? Pa un? Ble gallwn ni gael gwybodaeth am y grŵp hwnnw? Do you belong to a community group, Club, Church or sports Group in the Tongwynlais area? Which one? Where can we find out about that group?	
Sut rydych chi'n defnyddio ardaloedd awyr agored Tongwynlais ar hyn o bryd? Pa rai ydyn nhw?	

How do you currently use Tongwynlais outdoor areas? What are they called?	
Pa broblemau sydd yng nghymuned Tongwynlais? What are the problems in the Tongwynlais community?	
Pwy yw arweinwyr eich cymuned? Who are your community leaders?	
Sut fyddech chi'n gwneud Tongwynlais yn lle gwell? What would you add to make Tongwynlais a better place?	
Ychwanegwch unrhyw beth yr hoffech ei rannu â ni. Please add anything you would like to share with us	
Os ydych chi'n teimlo'n unig ac yn ynysig, sut allwn ni helpu? If you feel lonely and isolated, how do you feel we can help?	

Gobeithiwn ddefnyddio syniadau a awgrymwyd a gwybodaeth a ddarparwyd yn y holiadur; a hoffech chi wybod mwy?
We hope to use ideas suggested and information provided in the Questionnaire; would you like to find out more?

Enw: Name:	
Manylion cyswllt: Contact details:	

Sganiwch y cod pe bai'n well gennych gwblhau'r arolwg ar-lein.
Scan the QR code if you prefer to complete the survey and submit online.