

BRIDGEND TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



Edition 4 - March 2022

Dear Resident,

A warm welcome to the Spring edition of our newsletter. Days are getting longer and brighter and our maintenance team has been out and about making our town and wards look as best as they can be.

As pandemic restrictions are starting to ease we are delighted to announce the return of our Wartime

Bridgend event on 16th July 2022, we would love for residents to get involved or come along and enjoy this free community event in Bridgend Town Centre.

For more information take a look at our Wartime Bridgend Facebook page or contact the team on carnegiehouse@bridgend.gov.uk

Out and About in the Wards

The Facilities Team have been working very hard out in the wards during the winter months.



Before



After

Work undertaken includes pavement and path clearance works, cleaning and removing graffiti and stickers off benches and bins in Newbridge Fields, cleaning and planting the four Welcome to Town planters we have at the key entry points to Bridgend, groundworks around benches and picnic



Before

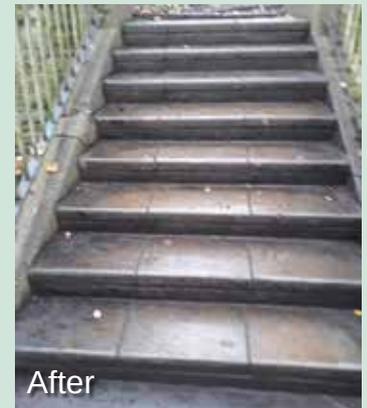


After

tables and path edging in Newbridge Fields and also planting up the planters at the bottom of Newcastle Hill.



Before



After

This is no means an exhaustive list but it illustrates what is undertaken in our wards to make our communities inviting and pleasurable for all.



Before



After

COLLECTING COVID STORIES

Congratulations to Artist Claire Hiatt whose work has been incorporated into the online Collecting Covid Stories collection at the Public History and Archaeology Department at St Fagan's National Museum of History.

The portrait of ICU Nurse Geraint Hume was painted as part of our Who is Bridgend? Pwy yw Penybont? Project, funded by the Arts Council of Wales and run by Bridgend Town Council at Carnegie House.

As part of this project, Artist and Project Leader Claire Hiatt received nominations to create portraits of local heroes in the community. Geraint, who works at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend, worked tirelessly throughout the lockdown but he also had to postpone his wedding due to Covid; he was the perfect candidate to be celebrated as part of the project, which ran during the height of lockdown. We are all extremely proud of you Claire, well done!



Claire presents the portrait to Mark Etheridge, Curator of Collecting Covid



ONLINE COURSES



Carnegie House introduced a new online Conversational Italian course in January which has been very well received. The Italian course is in addition to our long standing and ever-popular evening Online French and Spanish courses.

The next courses for Italian, French and Spanish will start in April 2022 and cost £70 for 10 weeks.

Spaces are limited on all courses to give individual attention to participants and they fill up very quickly.

If you would like more information or would like to register for a course please e-mail carnegiehouse@bridgend.gov.uk

SAKURA CHERRY TREE PROJECT



Bridgend Town Council have been gifted seven Cherry Trees as part of the nationwide Sakura Cherry Tree Project. Four Cherry Trees were planted in December at; Brynteg School, St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Penybont

Primary School and in the grounds of Ty'r Ardd, which will open as the new Town Hall in 2022.

A further three trees were planted in January in Newbridge Fields.

Approximately 6,500 Japanese cherry trees have been given to the UK by Japan, and planted across the country in parks, gardens and schools to celebrate Japan's relationship with the UK. The project will plot the locations and blossoming of the trees over the coming years.

Bridgend Town Council would like to thank the Sakura Project and it's Chairman Mr Keisaku Sano for donating the seven trees to Bridgend Town.



*Newly Planted Cherry Trees
Newbridge Fields*

BLUE PLAQUE SCHEME



As part of the Blue Plaque scheme, Bridgend Town Council are pleased to announce that the following former residents of Bridgend will be commemorated with a blue plaque.

OLDCASTLE WARD - DILWYN LEWIS

Dilwyn was born in 1924 and lived in the Cottage Homes in Bridgend. He was a fashion designer turned Roman Catholic Priest who oversaw the restoration of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major in Rome. It is hoped that the plaque will be sited on St Mary's Catholic Church on Ewenny Road subject to planning permission.

NEWCASTLE WARD - CAROLINE E. WILLIAMS

Caroline was born at a house on Newcastle Hill in 1823. She was the daughter of well-known surgeon John Williams. She went on to fund the first Women's Scholarship ever given at a Welsh University College.

MORFA WARD - JOHN THOMAS

John was born on St. David's Day 1826. He was given the title of 'Pencerdd Gwalia' at the Aberdare Eisteddfod of 1861. He was an avid promoter of Welsh Music and supported over forty annual Welsh music concerts in the Bridgend area. He went on to become the harpist of Queen Victoria and her successor King Edward VII.

WALES AND THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN EXHIBITION

This July we are delighted to be hosting this fantastic touring exhibition curated by the Royal Air Force. The Wales and the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain Exhibition was originally due to tour Wales in 2020 but was held up by the pandemic. The exhibition tells a unique Welsh perspective on the Battle of Britain and is displayed in both languages.

The exhibition will be situated inside Carnegie House and will form part of our Wartime Bridgend event which this year also features a life size replica Hurricane and Spitfire along with a Battle of Britain Museum trailer, among many other vintage attractions!

The exhibition will open on 16th July as part of the Wartime Bridgend Event and will be open to the public until 21st July.

For more information, please contact carnegiehouse@bridgend.gov.uk.



ALLOTMENTS

Please note that most allotment sites are now fully occupied and any vacant allotment plots are in the process of being offered out to the next people on the waiting list. If you would like to register for an allotment plot you can send your name, address, email address and telephone number to btcallotments@bridgend.gov.uk however please note that prior to the pandemic the potential waiting time on the Allotment waiting list was approximately three years but this is variable, dependent on when plots become available.



BRIDGEND TOWN MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS

Bridgend Town's Mayor, Cllr. Steven Bletsoe supported the following events in November and December 2021.

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|---------------|---|
| 17th November | Unveiling of Defibrillator at Pen y Bont School |
| 26th November | Filming of Christmas Lights Switch On in Bridgend Town Centre |
| 5th December | Feeding the Reindeer Event at Y Bont |
| 11th December | Côr Bro Ogwr Christmas Concert |
| 16th December | Planting of Cherry Tree for Sakura Cherry Tree Project in New Town Hall |
| 12th December | Christmas Brass Band Bus |
| 24th December | Compassion Church, Christmas Eve Service |



GET IN TOUCH

Town Councillor's details can be found on our website
www.bridgendtowncouncil.gov.uk/contact-us

COUNCIL STAFF

The Town Council's affairs are managed by an appointed Town Clerk who is supported by a Deputy Town Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer and a team of part-time managers, administrators and manual staff.

**Your Town Clerk is
Mrs Leanne Edwards**



bridgend.tc@bridgend.gov.uk

You can also write to us at:



**Bridgend Town Council
Carnegie House,
Wyndham Street,
Bridgend, CF31 1EF**

HAVE YOUR SAY

The Town Council really want this newsletter to be valuable for you so please, share your feedback and suggestions to help us improve.

If you have a subject matter or project in your community that you would like the Town Council to get involved in, please contact our Community Engagement Manager, Sharlene Lewis on Sharlene.lewis@bridgend.gov.uk

You can also keep up-to-date with news from the Town Council and local matters on our social media pages:

-  Bridgend Town Council
-  Carnegie House Arts Centre
-  Carnegie House
-  Carnegie House

This newsletter is also available online in Welsh at www.bridgendtowncouncil.gov.uk