

# THE '*STIWT*' NEWS



UK Government Wales  
Llywodraeth y DU Cymru



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol  
**Blaenau Gwent**  
County Borough Council



## ABOUT PROMO-CYMRU

ProMo-Cymru, Charity and Social Enterprise operates and is the custodian of the Ebbw Vale Institute.



We are proud to have saved EVI for future community use.

## MAIN FUNDERS

This project is funded by the UK Government through the UK Community Renewal Fund\*



\*The UK Community Renewal Fund is a UK Government programme for 2021/22. This aims to support people and communities most in need across the UK to pilot programmes and new approaches to prepare for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. It invests in skills, community and place, local business, and supporting people into employment. For more information, visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-community-renewal-fundprospectus>

## PARTNER SERVICES



### CYFANNOL WOMEN'S AID:

03300 564456

[BlaenauGwent@cyfannol.org.uk](mailto:BlaenauGwent@cyfannol.org.uk)

[www.cyfannol.org.uk](http://www.cyfannol.org.uk)

### LEEDERS VALE STUDIO:

[info@leedersvale.com](mailto:info@leedersvale.com)

[www.leedersvale.com](http://www.leedersvale.com)

### BLAENAU GWENT YOUTH SERVICE:

01495 355811

[youth.service@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk](mailto:youth.service@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk)

[www.thebyg.co.uk](http://www.thebyg.co.uk)

### GWENT N-GAGE:

0333 3202751

[www.barod.cymru](http://www.barod.cymru)

### ACT TRAINING:

01495 301354

[info@acttraining.org.uk](mailto:info@acttraining.org.uk)

[www.acttraining.org.uk](http://www.acttraining.org.uk)

# EVI'S FRESH START

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT EVI HAS SUCCESSFULLY BEEN AWARDED A GRANT FROM THE UK COMMUNITY RENEWAL FUND!

## THIS FUNDING WILL ALLOW EVI TO REOPEN TO THE COMMUNITY WITH SOME EXCITING NEW DEVELOPMENTS:

- Planning a Social Enterprise Development Café
- Working with local creatives and community groups to host cultural events for the community
- Running environmental activities and workshops while carrying out energy efficient upgrades to the building
- Delivering digital training to local businesses and organisations to help them promote their service in Blaenau Gwent

## GET INVOLVED AND SHARE YOUR IDEAS!

Ring **01495 708022** or email **sian@evi.cymru**

*DON'T MISS A  
THING THIS  
SPRING!*

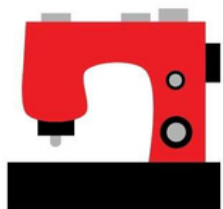
*KEEP AN EYE  
ON OUR  
SOCIAL MEDIA  
AND WEBSITE  
FOR ALL OUR  
EXCITING  
UPDATES.*



# EBBW VALE INSTITUTE

***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED  
TO HELP ESTABLISH A NEW MONTHLY***

# REPAIR CAFÉ!



If you have the skills to help repair bicycles, jewellery, IT/tech, clothing, woodwork and more- we'd love to hear from you. Help us reduce waste and bring the community together!

*EVI Repair Café will take place at **Ebbw Vale Institute, Church Street NP23 6BE***

*If you would like to volunteer or find out more, please contact:  
**sian@evi.cymru or 01495708022***



UK Government Wales  
Llywodraeth y DU Cymru



Cyngor Bwrdeistref Ebbw  
**Blaenau Gwent**  
County Borough Council



REPAIR  
CAFÉ  
WALES





# ECO AT EVI

With funding from the UK Community Renewal Fund, our 2 air source heat pumps have undergone energy efficient upgrades to help reduce our carbon emissions and footprint.

They work by transferring heat absorbed from the outside air to an indoor space!



## 173 YEARS OF EVI THE OLDEST INSTITUTE IN WALES

Help us celebrate EVI's history by sharing your old pictures, stories, and items with us. We want to display them at EVI and share with the community!

Email them to [sian@evi.cymru](mailto:sian@evi.cymru), pop in, or ring **01495708022**

Ebbw Vale Institute was founded in 1849 and saved from demolition in 2008 by ProMo-Cymru, a charity and social enterprise who regenerated the building and operate EVI to this day.





# WELCOME TO EVI SIAN!

## SIAN IS OUR NEW CENTRE MANAGER.

"It is a joy to have been chosen to take on the role of Centre Manager at EVI and to join such a dedicated team. The centre team are looking forward to working with the community to re-open the café and to develop new services and activities for all the family. I'm sure that together we will create a Community and Cultural Centre to be proud of."

- **Sian**

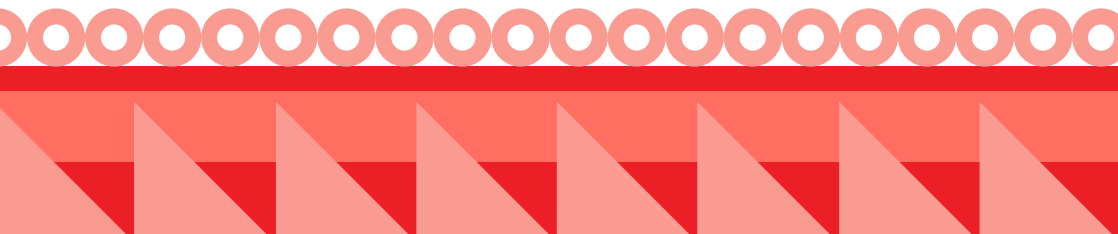
# GLYN WALTERS

## LOCAL HISTORY ARCHIVE

Priceless footage from Ebbw Vale's history, filmed by local video archivist Glyn Walters, has been donated to EVI for us to digitise and make accessible to the community for the very first time - by creating an eclectic online archive of footage.

Did you work at or visit the 1992 Ebbw Vale Garden Festival? EVI would love to hear from you and document your story! Help us bring Ebbw Vale's history back to life.

Contact **[megan@promo.cymru](mailto:megan@promo.cymru)** or ring EVI at **01495708022**





# HOSPITALITY TRAINING

Would you be interested in joining informal and friendly hospitality training at EVI? Want to learn how to pull a pint, change a barrel, prepare food, receive barista training or even gain food hygiene certifications?

**WE CAN ORGANISE THIS FOR YOU AT EVI!**

Register your interest with **sian@evi.cymru** so we can work with you and arrange training sessions.



# BLAENAU GWENT

## ARTIST ASSEMBLY

On 31st March, EVI invited local artists and creatives to collaborate and help develop a programme of cultural events for EVI. As well as being a great networking opportunity, this informal session brought up exciting and innovative discussions around EVI's future!



Learning, collaboration, confidence, ambition, and opportunity were just a few areas identified by attendees that EVI can support in the community by holding various events and workshops. These conversations will help enable EVI to be a catalyst of community cohesion and development in Ebbw Vale and Blaenau Gwent.



Register your interest with [tom@promo.cymru](mailto:tom@promo.cymru) to join future Artist Assembly meets.

Help us shape the future of EVI – get involved and share your ideas with us!



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



12 May 2022 1pm-2:30pm

## EBBW VALE SPEAK-EASY

HELPING YOU SAY WHAT YOU MEAN  
AND MEAN WHAT YOU SAY

With the Founder of Body Breath Voice,  
**Charlotte Lewis**

Finesse and fire up your speaking skills with theatre director, yoga & breathwork teacher, Charlotte Lewis. Charlotte will take you through an interactive and sociable body, breath, and voice workshop in the main hall of Ebbw Vale Institute.

Email **tom@promo.cymru** with any queries about this event.

## DEMENTIA UK

### COFFEE MORNING AT EVI:

TIME FOR A CUPPA!

Come and join us for a cuppa, cake and chat – every penny raised will support families facing dementia.

**TUES 17TH MAY**

**10.30AM - 12.30PM**

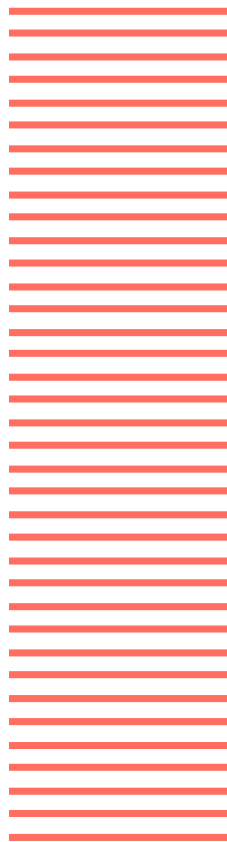
# FAMILY FUN DAY COMING SOON



## HELP US SHAPE THE FUTURE OF EVI

Tell us the sort of events you, your friends, and family would like to take place at EVI and help us develop a programme of community and cultural activities. Let us know your ideas and thoughts by scanning the QR code below, we would love to hear from you!

**PLEASE CONTACT:**  
[sian@evi.cymru](mailto:sian@evi.cymru)  
[tom@promo.cymru](mailto:tom@promo.cymru)



# LOTS OF EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS FOR EVI IN 2022

KEEP UP TO DATE ON OUR SOCIALS & WEBSITE!



@evi\_ebbw\_vale



@EbbwValeEVI



@ebbwvaleEVI

<https://evi.cymru/>

Scan this QR code to view our digital newsletter, available in both Welsh and English:



If you would like to receive a printed copy of this newsletter in Welsh, please ring **01495708022** and we will be more than happy to provide it for you.

**CONTACT US: 01495708022**

EBBW VALE INSTITUTE, CHURCH STREET, EBBW VALE, NP23 6BE



Thomas Brown, Manager of Ebbw Vale Iron Works granted money for the building of the Institute to the sum of £3000.00

## THE EVI STORY SO FAR...

### TIMELINE



## 1849

Establishment of The EVI at Penuel chapel vestry.

## 1853

Building completed and opened.



## 1855

Facilities extended.

## 1856

Further literary & scientific lectures were given.

## 1930

Grants by the Miners Welfare were made between £30 and £500 for items such as books, billiard table and linoleum.

## 1864

The acquirement of the Irish Elk antlers was obtained from Ireland. One of the first museums in Wales was established.

## 1857

Several lectures, concerts and the first soirée was provided.



## 1958

New Education act passed by parliament.

## 1964

The Institute's Technical School closed due to reorganisation of Secondary Education.

## 1974

Continued Adult Education and Community classes under the ownership of Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.

## 1949

100th Anniversary Celebrations. Serving the community since 1849.

## 1930

Technical school started at the Institute.



## 1984

Future World Snooker Champion Mark Williams practised at the Institute.



## 1999

1999 marks 150 years since the Institutes foundation.

## 1993

Snooker tables were sold.

## 1980-1991

Institute continued to be home to community education and recreation.



## 2004

"Friends of the Institute" was created to save the facility from dereliction.

## 2008

Promo Cymru take over ownership of the Institute and it's Regeneration, re-establishing it as a Community and Cultural centre.



## 2015

The modern day institute under the continued ownership of Promo Cymru hosts concerts, rehearsal rooms, community cinema, recording studio, café, conferences, wedding receptions and parties, award ceremonies and much more.