

CARTREFI CO-OP

Newsletter



Inside the Issue

MOST INSPIRING CO-OP

We are delighted to have been nominated and shortlisted for Most Inspiring Co-op of the Year Award.

CO-OP STATISTICS

The number of Co-op members is growing, check out just how many like minded people have signed.

NATIONAL NEWS

Communities all over Wales are doing great things. We are sharing our members stories from Mid, North and South Wales.

MESSAGE FROM ADRIAN

Exciting times! Our first Co-op elections are coming! I do hope that as many Cartrefi people as possible can vote – and have a chance of standing for election. Of course, you have to be a Co-op member to vote or stand, but it's easy to join and only costs £1 and a promise to be a good member. Membership is open to everyone we support and to all our employees. We also welcome applications from family, friends or anyone who shares our commitment to respect and value people and care about our communities.

The elections are for a new Council of Members which will represent the grassroots and

provide a strong voice at the highest level.

Each category of membership will elect a representative for their region, and these representatives will meet with our Board of Trustees and senior management team. They will have a real say in the running of the company, with the power to appoint new Trustees. It's not just a talking shop.

All members are being sent information about how to stand for election. If you want to vote, you need to become a member by 13th June. If you'd like more info, email: info@cartrefi.coop or ask someone to help.



MY COME DINE WITH ME EXPERIENCE

by Donna Yule

Over the past four weeks I took part in Cartrefi Come Dine With Me, at the Brecon Office. We chose to have it here because our local Howdens generously donated a new kitchen to us. There was four of us that took part, and each week we took it in turns to cook.



Pictured: Sharon Wieland, Kirsty Pfeiffer, Nae Cook, Donna Yule

I enjoyed preparing and serving the food to the other participants the most, I made cheesecake for dessert! I loved my prize at the end it was a certificate and an engraved chopping board with my name on. I am proud of it and keep it in my bedroom. I had lots of fun taking part, and made new friends who I will keep in touch with. It was lovely to see everybody and all the staff, they done lots of hard work too.



Pictured: Kirsty, Donna, Sharon, Nae

HATS FOR THE HOMELESS

by Sian Roberts

Edryd Williams and Owain Jones from Gwynedd have been hard at work to make a difference in their community.

They have been putting their love of knitting to good use to create hats and snoods for the homeless community in Bangor. They will be donated to North Wales Housing soon. Great effort by all involved!



Pictured: Edryd and Owain

BLANKETS FOR ANGLESEY HOSPITAL

by Sian Roberts

Co-op member and support worker Sandra Jones of Anglesey, has a history of using her knitting skills to bring joy to her community in Holyhead. She often creates knitted items to bring colour and beauty to her area. Her previous work includes knitting poppies for a local display.

Sandra is now using her knitting skills to make blankets for patients staying at her local hospital, Penrhos Stanley in Holyhead. The aim of Sandra's blankets is to ensure that patients feel warm and comfortable during their stay in hospital.

If you would like to donate, please get in touch with Sian Roberts who can help arrange delivery of the blankets.

Email: sian.roberts@cartrefi.coop



Pictured: One of Sandra's blankets

MEMBER STATISTICS

We currently have

423

Co-op members across Wales



Pictured: Sioned Evans sorting some of the donated items

CLOTHING COLLECTION

by Sian Roberts

Co-op members in the Penrhydeudraeth area have been busy collecting clothing items for North Wales Housing and Women's Aid. They have had such an overwhelmingly positive response from the community, and as a result, North Wales Housing have gratefully collected multiple batches of donations over the last 12 months. The remaining donations will be given to the local Women's Aid.

If you have clothes to donate, get in touch with Penrhyn forum chair Sioned Evans. Well done to all members on such a successful campaign to help those in need in their community.

For more information email: sioned.evans@cartrefi.coop

SPRING BALL

by Alys Phillips

In Powys and Gwent a team of Cartrefi Cymru enthusiasts came together to plan and organise a Spring Ball. Regular meetings were held to discuss ideas for a theme, venue, and fundraising opportunities. The group worked in partnership with local communities to raise funds to support the project. These included a Florist, DJ, Photographer, Events hire company and Housing Association amongst many others.

All the teams dedication and attention to detail was put into practice at The Manor Hotel, Crickhowell on Saturday 5th May when a James Bond Spring Ball was held. It was a great opportunity for people we support, employees and community supporters to celebrate in unison.

The event was a success and a great example of what you can achieve when you work together!



Pictured: Guests at the Manor Hotel

FOOTBALL FRIENDSY

by Teresa Jones

Coaches Doug Taylor and Gareth Wood are inviting you (and a team if you wish) to join Football practice at Llandrindod Leisure Centre. The idea is to get enough players to create a tournament.

If you would like to find out more please contact
Teresa.jones@cartrefi.coop.

FOOTBALL

LLANDRINDOD LEISURE CENTRE

EVERY TUESDAY

6-7pm

Males & Females age 18 & over

(Small fee to attend to pay for hall)

Get Fit, Have Fun, Make New Friends

Play against other Cartrefi teams in the Cartrefi league, with the ultimate prize!



DID YOU KNOW?

Co-operatives have a long history of providing services in the local community. This historically was particularly prominent coal and slate community in both North and South Wales. To begin with, the development of co-operatives in Wales was slow in comparison with England. Despite this, the Victorian period saw many pockets of co-operative communities and Societies develop across Wales.

The Societies had a focus, to make the local area feel the benefit of working together as a community. In Ton Pentre, the local Society built a 'Co-operative Street'. The street was composed of 50 houses, built specifically for the members of the co-operative. Co-operatives were also instrumental in educating its members. Ynysbwl Society's Education Committee organised classes for adult men and women as well as children in the area. The establishment of this enabled hundreds of people to gain a better education, an opportunity which was not as widely available in 1920 as it is now.

For many, the local co-operative replaced the churches and chapels as the social hub of the area. People began to see co-operatives as a way of life, not just a commodity or a means of accessing goods and services.

In 2018, co-operatives remain in our communities and promote social and environmental issues.

CO-OP QUESTION

In preparation for the upcoming elections, all members should have received a Nomination Form in the post. This explains how to stand for election. You must submit your form to the ERS following the instructions by June 13th.

You can familiarise yourself with the advantages and duties of being a Member Representative with the enclosed leaflet.

To ensure all members have the same understanding and opportunity to stand we want to know:

If anyone has not yet received their Nomination Form?

GET IN TOUCH

Share your Co-op story with us to feature in next month's newsletter.

 @CartrefiCymruCoop

 @CartrefiCymru

 02920 642 250

 info@cartrefi.coop



MOST INSPIRING CO-OP

by Sian Roberts

VOTE FOR
Cartrefi Cymru Co-operative
FOR MOST INSPIRING
CO-OPERATIVE OF THE YEAR
AWARD 2018

We want to thank all of our staff, and members for their commitment and enthusiasm for making Cartrefi Co-op a success. As a result of your determination, we have been nominated and shortlisted for the most Inspiring Co-operative of the Year Award.

We would be very grateful if you could show your support by voting for Cartrefi. You can vote by visiting <https://www.uk.coop/VoteNow>. Voting closes Tuesday 15th June.



Catch up with Adrian's recent blog, 'The Elephant in Our Care System'

<http://bit.ly/Adrianroperblog>