

The Bevan *Festival*

24th June - 1st July 2018



Celebrating the 70th anniversary
of the National Health Service



Wishing the **NHS** a very
Happy 70th Birthday,
and best wishes for the
many more yet to come.

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Foreword



Dear Friends,
Welcome to
Tredegar, the
Home of the NHS
and to the first
Bevan Festival
Week. Organised
by Tredegar
Town Council it
celebrates our
favourite son and
Wales's greatest
hero, Aneurin
Bevan.

The conveyor belt of politicians continued over the years, however Aneurin Bevan, Nye to us, stands loud and proud at the head of that list. The injustices that he witnessed in school, at home and in the pit drove the young Bevan to fight for a better future for his community. Later he used the blue print of the Tredegar Workingmen's Medical Aid Society to end the health and housing poverty trap faced by so many. In his own words he 'Tredegarised' the UK and introduced the National Health Service, giving healthcare free at the point of need and put in motion the largest public housing programme ever launched in Britain.

The town of Tredegar has a long and proud history stretching back to its early iron making days that made Wales the world's first industrial nation.

Many of those workers joined forces with comrades in the coal pits, iron works and patches and limestone quarries to fight for and earn our democratic right to vote. Streams of Chartist campaigners marched from our town to Newport, some never returned paying the ultimate cost.

Seventy years on we celebrate this most wonderful gift to our nation and long may it continue to help those who need it most.

Cllr Haydn Trollope
Mayor of Tredegar



Sunday 24th June

Sunday Afternoon Band Concerts

Bedwelty Park

3:00-5:00pm

Throughout the summer months, Tredegar Town Council provides free musical entertainment in Bedwelty Park. The music is predominantly provided by traditional brass bands however other local choirs and musical groups sometimes take part.

On Sunday 24th June the Tongwynlais Temperance Band will be performing.

Also on Sunday 24th June there is Live music in The Castle.



The other performances this summer are:

1st July	Tredegar Town Band
8th July	Ebbw Valley Brass
15th July	Cross Keys Band
22nd July	Oakdale Band
29th July	Tredegar Orpheus Male Voice Choir
5th August	Monmouth Big Band
12th August	Abergavenny Borough Band

Nye's Tredegar - Places to visit and things to do

Aneurin Bevan Heritage Trail

A walking & cycling/car trail taking in important sites associated with Aneurin Bevan. The town trail can be walked however we recommend the remainder of the trail is undertaken by cycling or car. Leaflets can be downloaded at www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk or collected from Bedwelty House.



Tredegar Town Council proudly celebrating our heritage

Home of Nye Bevan and the National Health Service

Looking after your facilities, your community and your town.

Tredegar Town Council
Bedwelty House,
Bedwelty Park, Morgan Street
Tredegar, Blaenau Gwent
NP22 3XN

01495 722 352
tredegartc@btconnect.com
www.tredegartowncouncil.co.uk

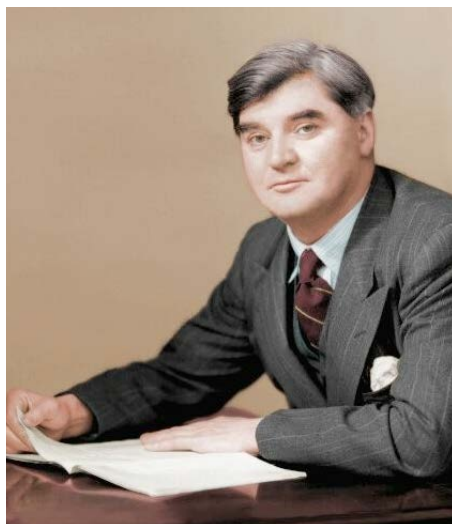


Bevan and his Tredegar

Aneurin Bevan was born on 15th November 1897, one of the 10 children born to David and Phoebe Bevan. They lived in a small terraced property in Charles Street. His dad was a miner; his mother a seamstress.

Tredegar at the turn of the century was a prosperous town yet poverty reigned for the working classes, with the powerful Tredegar Iron and Coal Company (TIC) hiring, firing and calling all the shots.

Bevan wasn't particularly academic at school, this in part due to the antagonistic head teacher who humiliated this shy stammering youngster. Nye left school at 13, going straight to the pit with his father where he joined The Fed and became a trade union activist. By the age of 19 he headed the Tredegar Lodge of the South Wales Miners Federation. He was already a well known orator but was regarded a troublemaker by the TIC who sacked him and had to reinstate him, following a victimisation battle.



Bevan earned a scholarship to the Central Labour College in London where he studied Marxism developing his socialist ideology.

Nye along with his brother Billy, Walter Conway and others formed a political debating society called the Query Club whose aim was to wrench the grip of power from the TIC. The club also raised and redistributed funds to needy members.

Walter Conway was the secretary of Tredegar Medical Aid Society and mentored the young Nye who too was a member of the Cottage Hospital Management Committee. Nye was elected to Tredegar Urban District Council in 1922 and then won a seat on Monmouthshire County Council in 1928 before becoming MP for Ebbw Vale in 1929 General Election. Following the 1945 Labour landslide election, he became Minister for Health. He put in place the largest public housing building program and 'Tredegarised' the UK through establishing the National Health Service.

The NHS remains a cherished institution for the country just as Tredegar's Nye, our Nye will forever be Wales's greatest hero.



Nick Smith MP

**Member of Parliament for
Blaenau Gwent**



Advice Surgery

Friday July 13th

At Abertillery Library (Station Hill, NP13 1TE)

From: 4:30pm - 5:30pm

No appointment is needed

Please email me on nick.smith.mp@parliament.uk or ring 01495 313 167 if you want my help with anything.

Tredegear Medical Aid Society

In the 1800s there were several benevolent societies in Tredegear some of which provided medical benefits to their members. In 1890 several of these merged to form the Tredegear Workmen's Medical Aid and Sick Relief Fund. After the turn of the century, the concept of building their own hospital was proposed. A committee was formed, Lord Tredegear gave them the land and the Tredegear Iron and Coal Company along with other philanthropists paid for its construction in 1904. In 1909, the workers increased their weekly contributions from a halfpenny to one penny a week to cover its running costs.

The Society was recognised nationally as the most advanced and beneficial health provider for its members. In 1915 Walter Conway was appointed as its secretary and under his vision and drive the society continued to expand employing more doctors, dentists and dental mechanics and opening two general surgeries. It now looked after 20,000 members. Walter Conway remained in post until his death in 1933 and by then 95% of the population of Tredegear were benefitting from its services. It employed five doctors, two dentists, pharmacists and nurses.

**Nye's Tredegear -
Places to visit and things to do**

Aneurin Bevan Memorial Stones

The stones mark the spot where Aneurin Bevan, Labour MP for the Ebbw Vale constituency and architect of the National Health Service, addressed his constituents and the world. The hillside location saw enormous gatherings eager to hear one of the greatest orators in the history of British politics. The central monolith represents Bevan and the 3 smaller ones represent Rhymney, Tredegear and Ebbw Vale, the 3 towns in his constituency.

Within ten years the local MP, Nye Bevan was appointed as Minister for Health and the Tredegear Workmen's Medical Aid Society became the blue print for our cherished National Health Service. This was the beginning of the end for the Society as it was replaced by a universal system. It was eventually wound up in 1994 with 114 members who still paid their 18p a week towards their medical expenses cover.



Alun Davies AM/AC



Assembly Member for Blaenau Gwent

Aelod Cynulliad dros Blaenau Gwent



23 Beaufort Street

Brynmaur

Blaenau Gwent

NP23 4AQ

alun.davies@assembly.wales

01495 311160



My next advice surgery is on

Friday 13th July 2018

10.30am—11.30am

Tredegear Library

If you require an evening or weekend appointment, or a home visit, then please get in touch.

Wednesday 27th June

Quiz Night

held at Tredegar Moose Hall

Quiz starts at 7.30pm

Test your knowledge at a fun and entertaining evening organised by Blaenau Gwent Labour Party

Nye's Tredegar -
Places to visit and things to do

Cefn Golau Cholera Cemetery

This isolated site, set on the bleak mountainside to the west of Tredegar is one of the most evocative in the south Wales valleys. Here rest the mortal remains of at least two hundred people, victims of the "King of Terrors" – cholera.



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bglabourgroup@yahoo.com



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A festival celebrating the 70th birthday of the NHS



A Love Letter to the NHS

NHS70: For All I Care

12-14 Gorffennaf / July 2018 _ 8pm (+5pm 14 Gorffennaf / July)

Venue 1, Georgetown NP22 4LD

Tredegar

#NTWNHS70

Tocynnau / Tickets _ £15 / £10

nationaltheatrewales.org

Disgownt gonsesiynol i weithwyr y GIG / Concessionary discount for all NHS employees!

Canllaw Oed / Age guidance _ 14+



Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru
Arts Council of Wales



Thursday 28th June

Question Time

Bedwellty House

Time 7.30

This is your opportunity to put your national politicians on the spot and ask those questions you have always wanted answers to.



Nye's Tredegar -
Places to visit and things to do

Bedwellty House & Park

A listed Regency villa surrounded by a historic garden established in 19th century for the famous Homfray Ironmaster dynasty. Bedwellty House and Park are intimately linked with the early social history of Industrial Wales. Its relevance continued when the house and park were given to the people of Tredegar in 1901 and consequently became a centre of the Labour movement in Wales and Britain. It was in the council chamber here that the young Bevan cut his political teeth. The park contains an arboretum, tea rooms and the biggest block of coal in the world!



Coleg Nyrsio Brenhinol
Cymru
Royal College of Nursing
Wales



Gaynor Jones, Chair of the RCN Welsh Board, said:

"The RCN is delighted to join in the celebrations of the 70th Anniversary of the commencement of the NHS, one of the best institutions in the world. The RCN has always been supportive of the ethos of the NHS – care, free at the point of delivery and has always been very proud of the National Health Service. At this time, we must acknowledge the important work undertaken by the whole nursing family and remember that health and social care nursing also takes place in the community and the independent sector. It is important for the future of health care in Wales that the right decisions are made to ensure that the health service is sustainable, properly funded and recognises the extraordinary potential of nurses and health care support workers to deliver a major contribution to improving the health of our nation, in a caring and professional manner."

RCN Wales Achievements in the NHS in Wales include:

RCN Credentialing

Free to Lead, Free to Care (Empowering Ward Sisters)

School Nursing Strategy

Nurse Staffing Levels Act (2016)

Community Nursing Strategy

Nursing Education Strategy

The RCN represents more than 25,000 nurses, midwives, health visitors, nursing students and health care support workers in Wales. The majority of RCN members work in the NHS with around a quarter working in the independent sector. The RCN works locally, nationally and internationally to promote standards of care and the interests of patients and nurses, and of nursing as a profession.

Join the RCN: www.rcn.org.uk/membership

Nye's Tredegar -
Places to visit and things to do

Parc Bryn Bach

The park is set in 340 acres of mixed grass and woodland and has a 36-acre lake as its focal point. The park is enjoyed by everyone, whether you are strolling or cycling around the lake, having a picnic or barbeque with the family, enjoying a round of golf or participating in some of the many adventure activities available there.



Friday 29th June

Walking in the Footsteps of Nye

Meet at Tafarn Ty Uchaf, Trefil

10:00am

Nye loved to walk across the lonely moors above Trefil, through a landscape packed with myths, archaeology and political history. Follow in the footsteps of this legendary man to his favourite view of the Brecon Beacons and the Chartists' Cave.



Why read the

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We're not owned by oligarchs or big business, but by thousands of ordinary people via the People's Press Printing Society co-operative.

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“

The Morning Star is the most precious and only voice we have in the daily media

Jeremy
Corbyn



Gerald Jones MP
Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney



As your Member of Parliament, I hold regular advice surgeries across Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney.

For information on my upcoming surgeries, or if you would like any help and advice, please contact me on:

Call: 01685 383739

Email: Gerald.Jones.mp@parliament.uk

Write: Oldway House, Castle Street, Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 8UX

**WALES TUC CYMRU
CELEBRATING 70 YEARS
OF THE NHS**

**MAE WALES TUC CYMRU
YN DATHLU 70 MLYNEDD
O'R GIG**

Friday 29th June - 1st July

Trade Union Political School

The Political School is organised by Unions Together Wales to celebrate the proud history of the Labour Party and Trade Union movement. To book your place contact **Mary Williams** on **02920 394521 / 07768931270**

Bedwellty House - Council Chamber

Friday Program

10:00am Guided Walk in the Footsteps of Aneurin Bevan. (meet in Trefil)

4.00pm Introduction to the Festival - and welcome from the Mayor

4.30pm History of the Trade Union Movement

5.30pm Break – check in at b&b/ hotel

7.30pm Festival Dinner – Guest Speaker Jeremy Miles AM

Return to accommodation

Saturday Program

10.00am Programme will include Nye Bevan Lecture, foundations of Labour, Devolution in Wales and Trade Unions campaigns etc

4.00pm Aneurin Bevan Trail guided walk

5.30pm Break

7.30pm Poems, Pints and Pies - Moose Lodge

Return to accommodation

Sunday Program

Bevan Day

10.00am Review of the Sunday papers

10.30am Banner Parade

12noon Speeches at the Bandstand (Jeremy Corbyn, Carwyn Jones, Carolyn Harris, Jon Ashworth and others)

2.00pm Plans going forward - Council Chamber

3.00pm Commissioned music performance, lighting of the lantern and Vaughan Gething

Friday 29th June Summer Gala Dinner

Bedwellty House, Tredegar

7:00pm

On Friday evening a Summer Gala Dinner will be held in Bedwellty House to celebrate Nye and his achievements.

Guest Speaker Jeremy Miles AM

This event is organised by Tredegar Labour Party and to book your tickets contact **07944 881333 or 07538 752247**

Saturday 30th June

Bevan's Tredegar

Little Theatre, Tredegar

4:00pm

Locally produced film about Bevan and his town. Sponsored by Lynne and Darren of The Castle.

Nye's Tredegar -
Places to visit and things to do

Sirhowy Ironworks

The Sirhowy Ironworks is a rare survivor of the heyday of iron making in the South Wales valleys. They were first established in 1778 supplying Ebbw Vale with iron where it was worked into wrought iron and later steel.



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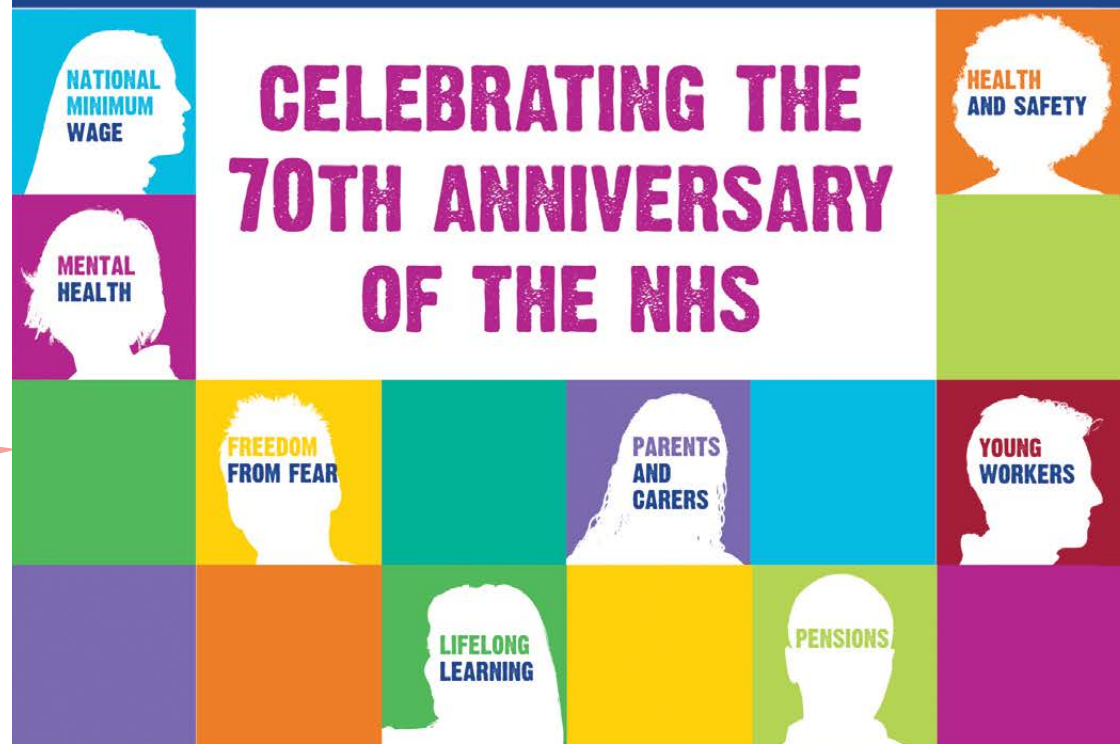
STEP 2: Fill in the simple form & pick the day you want to attend

STEP 3: SHOW UP, LEARN & HAVE FUN!

Upper Coronation Street, Tredegar, NP22 3TS



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www.usdaw.org.uk/campaigns

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Cardiff Gate Business Park,
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Nye's Tredegar -
Places to visit and things to do

St James Pond

A recreational area found to the east of Georgetown, Tredegar surrounded by forestry.

The site includes picnic areas and pathways accessible by all.

Fishing is also allowed with carp, perch, roach, rudd, and tench being the main fish available. Permits are available from Tredegar Angling Centre, 5 Morgan Street, Tredegar Town Centre, 01495 725570 or from the bank side bailiff.

The site is also one of 5 Dark Sky Reserves in Blaenau Gwent.

Saturday 30th June

Guided Walk

Aneurin Bevan Trail, meet at
Bedwellty House 4.00pm.

Saturday 30th June

The Cambrian

Peaky Blinders theme night

7:00pm

With themed 1940's music and karaoke.
Also serving traditional fish and chips
wrapped in newspaper 9-4pm.

.....
Tredegar town council would like to
thank Melin Homes, Tredegar Ladies
Circle, Friends of Bedwellty Park, Tai
Calon Community Housing Limited and
Tredegar Gardeners Club for sponsoring
the festival.



Saturday 30th June

Poems, Pints and Pies

Tredegar Moose Lodge, Lower
Coronation Street

7:30pm

No celebration in Wales would be
complete without a good old sing along
and some speeches, poems and good food.
Bring along your favourites to share.
FREE event with the option to buy food.
Event organised by Tredegar Moose
No.1 Lodge.



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- A decent pay rise for all public employees – lift the Tories' 1% cap and raise the minimum wage to £10 an hour!
- Protection for jobs and services – stop the closure of job centres, tax offices and other workplaces in our communities!
- Fairness at work – repeal the 2016 Trade Union Act and strengthen workers' rights!

1 Cathedral Road, Cardiff
CF11 9HA
Tel: 02920 666363
Email: wales@pcs.org.uk

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Cyhoeddus a Masnachol

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gwasanaeth sifil sydd wedi a heb ei
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- Diogelwch ar gyfer swyddi a gwasanaethau – atal canolfannau gwaith, swyddfeydd treth a gweithfannau eraill rhag cau yn ein cymunedau!
- Tegwch yn y gwaith – diddymu Deddf Undebau Llafur 2016 a chryfhau hawliau'r gweithwyr!

1 Heol yr Eglwys Gadeiriol, Caerdydd
CF11 9HA
Ffôn: 02920 666363
Ebost: wales@pcs.org.uk

Cymru Wales

The National Health Service is Tredegar's gift to Wales, the UK and the rest of the world.



When Nye talked of “Tredegarising Britain” he wasn’t simply talking about the new health service, he was talking about our values and our vision. He was talking about how those values would drive a new way of delivering health care and a new way of taking care of everyone in society, and today in Wales that vision and those values still drive our ambition for our NHS.

In Wales, the Welsh Government has protected the NHS, there is no privatisation of the service, no profiteering from suffering or illness and protecting health and social services from the worst of austerity. Those decisions are driven by our values, Nye’s values. In exactly the way that Nye Bevan demanded but we have also gone further than that.

We are planning a new NHS for the future, bringing together health care and social services, to provide a seamless system of care for everyone. We will focus on our own health and how we all can stay healthy and fit for longer. We are investing in new hospital and health care centres. The biggest hospital project in Wales at Llanfrecfha is taking shape to serve our needs in south east Wales and new primary care centres opened in Brynmawr and planned for Tredegar.

In celebrating 70 years of taking care of us, our families and communities, we look forward to a National Health Service, rooted firmly in Nye’s vision, being renewed and reinvented for the new challenges by a Welsh Labour Government which is true to those timeless socialist values.

Alun Davies

Nye’s Tredegar -
Places to visit and things to do

Tredegar Local History Museum

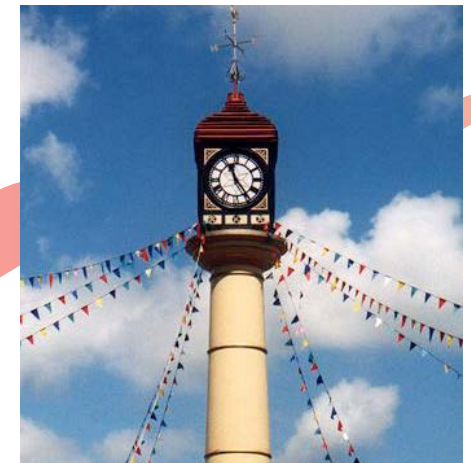
The museum has a varied collection of artefacts reflecting the industry and life of this important iron making town. The museum has several exhibits showcasing Tredegar’s unique history including Tredegar Medical Aid Society.



Nye’s Tredegar -
Places to visit and things to do

Tredegar Town Clock

Built in 1858, the iron clock tower is a symbolic reminder that the town’s existence and growth was due to the production of iron.



Sunday 1st July

Bevan Day

Bedwellty Park

- 9:00am** Exhibition of School Competition Entries
- 10.30am** Trade Union Banner March from Bevans former home in Charles Street to Bedwellty Park
- 12:00noon** Political Speeches at the Band Stand
- 1:00pm** Musical performances by Tredegar Comprehensive School
- 14:00pm** School Oracy and debating competitions
- 15:00pm** Tredegar Town Band and the lighting of the commemorative miners lamp to be taken to Parliament.

There will be many other performances, activities and stalls at Bedwellty House and Park.

The Cambrian

Beer Garden Party with BBQ, live 1940's themed music and an outdoor bottle bar.
The Castle, 8.00pm Live Music.



Nye Bevan was a colossus of British Politics. All who have followed him, myself included, realise they are standing on the shoulders of a true giant.



He was the architect of an institution that is the envy of the world and first took root here in our borough.

When Bevan said he wanted to "Tredegarise" the NHS he was basing his plans on the Tredegar Medical Aid Society.

A mutual - an organisation established for all, supported and funded by the people of Tredegar.

Whether they be miners at Ty Trist colliery like my grandfather, quarry workers in Trefil or nurses at the St James' hospital.

However, even on a day of celebration such as this I know he wouldn't want us to rest on our laurels.

We may have put polio and diphtheria to bed, made medical breakthroughs that decades ago we could only dream of, but we now have to tackle the challenges of the 21st century.

Our better healthcare has meant that we live longer than ever and our population is ageing.

Obesity rates are climbing, including with children, and it's storing up a potential health crisis down the road.

And all this against the backdrop of years of austerity from Conservative-run Westminster.

To truly honour the 70th anniversary of the NHS, it isn't just about celebrating all it stands for and all it provides for one day.

But working together to make sure we are proud of all we've done to make the 70 years ahead successful ones.

Let's get stuck in.

Nick Smith

Sunday 24th June

- Band Concert, Bedwellty Park
- Live music, The Castle

Wednesday 27th June

- Quiz Night, The Moose Lodge

Thursday 28th June

- Question Time

Friday 29th June

- Guided Walk, Trefil
- Gala Dinner, Bedwellty House
- Swing Band, The Castle

29th June - 1st July

- Political School, Bedwellty House

Saturday 30th June

- Bevan's Tredegar, Little Theatre
- Poems, Pints and Pies, Moose Lodge
- Peaky Blinders night, The Cambrian
- Aneurin Bevan Trail. Meet at Bedwellty House at 4pm

Sunday 1st July

BEVAN DAY

- Beer Garden Party & BBQ, The Cambrian
- Live music, The Castle

Under a Welsh Labour Government

our Welsh NHS remains true to Bevan's vision.



"We are going to Tredegar-ise you."

– NYE BEVAN

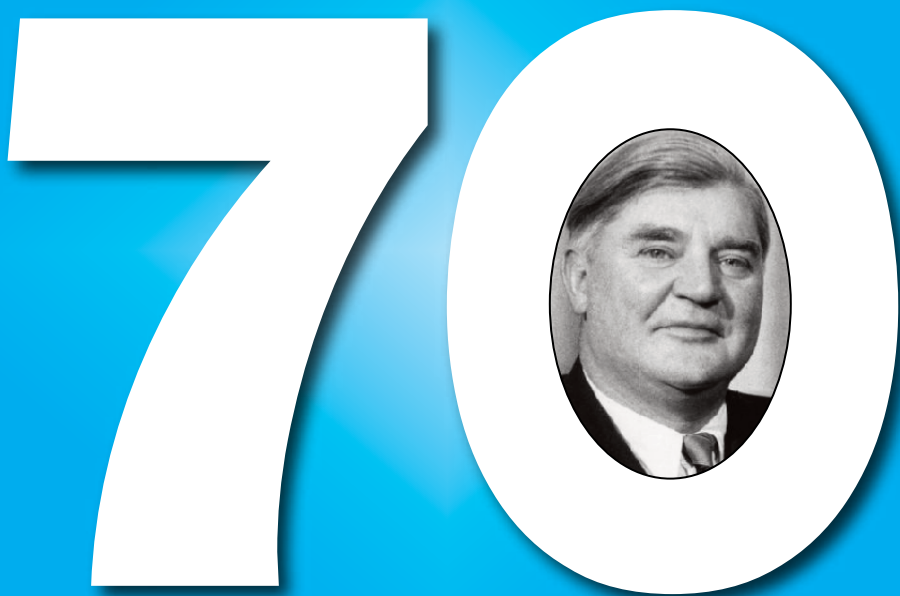
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Welsh Labour  Llafur Cymru **STANDING UP FOR WALES**

11104_18 Promoted by Louise Magee, General Secretary, Welsh Labour, on behalf of Welsh Labour, both at 1 Cathedral Road, Cardiff CF11 9HA.

CELEBRATING



YEARS OF THE *NHS*

**Unite is proud to support the 2018
Bevan Festival. Celebrating
70 years since the founding
of the NHS in Wales**

Andy Richards Wales Secretary **Mike Jenkins** Regional Chair

 www.unitetheunion.org/wales

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