



# **Neath Port Talbot Black Minority Ethnic Community Association**

**Annual Report  
2021 - 2022**

# Contents

**Page 3** - Introduction

**Page 4** - Trustees who Served and Wider Association Meetings

**Page 5** - Comic Relief Project

**Page 6** - Chai and Chat

**Page 7** - BME Recruitment Day

**Page 8** - Allergen Information and Natasha's Law Webinar and Black History Month Workshop

**Page 9** - Ysgol Cwm Brombil BME Parents Network Group and Women's Sunday Funday

**Page 10** - Mayor's Interfaith Afternoon Tea and Funding

**Page 11** - Financial Report

# Introduction

**It gives me great pleasure to present the annual report of the Neath Port Talbot Black Minority Ethnic Community Association for the year 2021-2022.**

The situation over the past few years has made our activities and work very challenging. Nevertheless, we have made good progress, which I have highlighted in this report.

The Association welcomes Sheridan Barrell, our new Community Cohesion Officer, who is working very closely with the Association and its members and has already established a good relationship with members of the BME communities in Neath Port Talbot.

The arrangement between the council's Community Cohesion post and the BME Association is working well, and we anticipate that the partnership agreement will remain in place to help further develop the Association.

I take this opportunity to thank the Trustees of the Association for their time, dedication, and commitment in helping govern and direct the work of the Association.

Thanks also to all our other volunteers who work closely with the Association. They all have busy lives and, like all great volunteers, give of their time freely and with no expectation of return.

I would like to thank Neath Port Talbot Council, which makes the work of the Association possible through its third sector grant and to Neath Port Talbot CVS for its administrative support, advice, and guidance.

Thanks go to all our other funders, strategic organisations and partners in the third sector, without whom we would not be able to deliver as an Association.

Thanks also to all those friends and partners that have attended and made contributions to the wider Association through remotely held meetings, workshops, training and awareness sessions, and the chai and chat sessions.

The Association said goodbye to Mohamad Khatib, one of our Trustees, who is now pursuing his higher education at Swansea University. We wish him the very best and thank him for his service to the Association.

**Farida Patel, Chair**

# Trustees who Served

- Lara Griffiths
- Doreen Jones
- Ashra Khanom (Treasurer)
- Mohamad Khatib (left)
- Shahjan Mohammed
- Farida Yusuf Patel (Chair)
- Saifur Rahaman (Secretary)
- Ziaur Rahman
- Imran Sarwar (left)
- Muhammed Usman

## Wider Association Meetings

Meetings of the wider Association have continued to take place remotely.

The meetings have good attendance rates and provide an opportunity for all those who share an interest in the work of the Association to meet partner organisations and other support groups and agencies to discuss matters concerning BME communities.

Some of the guests and speakers at the wider Association meetings have included:

- Neath Port Talbot Council HR Team
- Local Police Hate Crime and Cohesion team
- Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of West Glamorgan,  
Mrs Louise Fleet CStJ JP
- Welsh Government's Head of Anti-racist Wales Action Plan  
Implementation Team

# Comic Relief Project

The Association has been successful in its grant application to the Comic Relief Community Fund in Wales. This means that it has received funding to carry out a range of activities with the focus on promoting health and wellbeing for BME communities in Neath Port Talbot. The Association has recruited 10 volunteers who have all received volunteer training to help plan and roll out these activities.

The Association has held several meetings to discuss the project and what activities we think would benefit those within the community. Following these joint discussions, a range of different activities were planned and delivered by our volunteers including:

- Zumba classes at the Plaza in Port Talbot, which take place every Monday and have seen great attendance at all sessions.
- A men's walking club, which takes place every Wednesday and involves scenic walks around Port Talbot and the surrounding areas.
- A women's running club which takes place on Saturday mornings.
- Arts and crafts sessions, bikeability classes, boxing classes and educational trips are being planned.

Neath Port Talbot Black Minority Ethnic Community Association

## WOMEN'S ZUMBA CLASSES

STARTING ON THE 6TH FEBRUARY

**FREE**

**EVERY MONDAY**  
1:30PM - 2:30PM

**THE PLAZA**

14 TALBOT ROAD, PORT TALBOT, SA13 1DT

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT  
Rahina - 07930450439  
Sahina - 07548828487

**BME MEN'S WALKING CLUB**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** | **11AM-12:30PM** | **LOCATION TBC**

Come and join us for gentle weekly walks in Neath Port Talbot and the surrounding areas.  
Come along to meet others, or bring a friend!  
We advise that you wear weather appropriate clothing and suitable footwear

If you would like to join please get in touch via  
s.rahman.sr@gmail.com or 07824445991

Website: www.nptbme.wales Facebook: NPT BME Community Association

Neath Port Talbot Black Minority Ethnic Community Association

## BIKEABILITY

Dunvant Rugby Club Broadacre, Killay, Swansea. SA2 7RU

Bikeability helps you learn practical skills and understand how to cycle on today's roads. Bikeability gives everyone the confidence to cycle and enjoy this skill for life.

**For children aged 11+**

Saturday 29th April  
Saturday 6th May  
Saturday 13th May  
Saturday 20th May  
All sessions will run from 10am-11am

Only 5 spaces available, child must be able to commit to attending all 4 sessions in Swansea.

Both children who can and cannot ride a bike are welcome.

**FREE**

If you would like to book a space, or for further information please contact Ashra on 07955503377

Neath Port Talbot Black Minority Ethnic Community Association

## ARTS AND CRAFTS CLASSES

Come along and learn about arts & crafts right from the expert! A range of different craft activities to be enjoyed in each session.  
**Places must be booked in advance.**

**TUESDAYS 10AM-12PM ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:**  
7th, 14th & 21st of March.  
16th, 23rd & 30th of May.

**Port Talbot Library**  
1st Floor, Aberafan Shopping Centre  
SA13 1PB

To book your space please contact Ashra on 07955503377

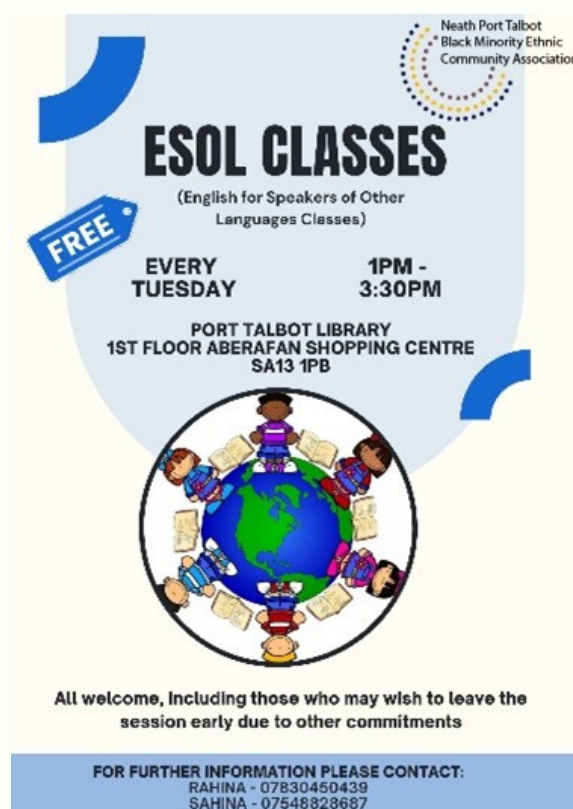
# Chai and Chat

In partnership with Swansea Bay University Health Board and the Diverse Communities Outreach Officer at Neath Port Talbot CVS, the Association has set up weekly women's Chai and Chat sessions, which take place every Tuesday morning at Port Talbot Library.

These sessions give attendees an opportunity to meet and chat with others, while having a hot drink and something to eat. It has been a great opportunity to meet others from the area and to discuss important topics led by speakers from Neath Port Talbot Mind, South Wales Police, the College, and many others.

To mark the success of the Chai and Chat sessions, a celebratory event was held in December 2022 at St Paul's Centre, Aberafan, where all those who have participated in the sessions were invited and presented with a certificate and thanked for all their efforts and enthusiasm.

As a result of the Chai and Chat sessions, our volunteers have organised regular ESOL classes in partnership with the College, which are being held on a weekly basis.



Neath Port Talbot  
Black Minority Ethnic  
Community Association

## ESOL CLASSES

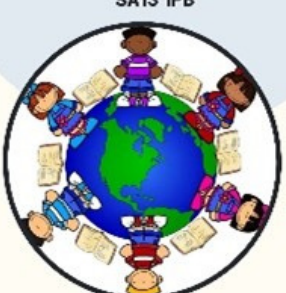
(English for Speakers of Other  
Languages Classes)

**FREE**

**EVERY  
TUESDAY**

**1PM -  
3:30PM**

**PORT TALBOT LIBRARY  
1ST FLOOR ABERAFAN SHOPPING CENTRE  
SA13 1PB**



All welcome, including those who may wish to leave the session early due to other commitments

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**  
RAHINA - 07830450439  
SAHINA - 07548828687



# BME Recruitment Day

Following from our first meeting with the council's HR Team, the Association planned a BME Recruitment Day event which took place at the Princess Royal Theatre in Port Talbot.

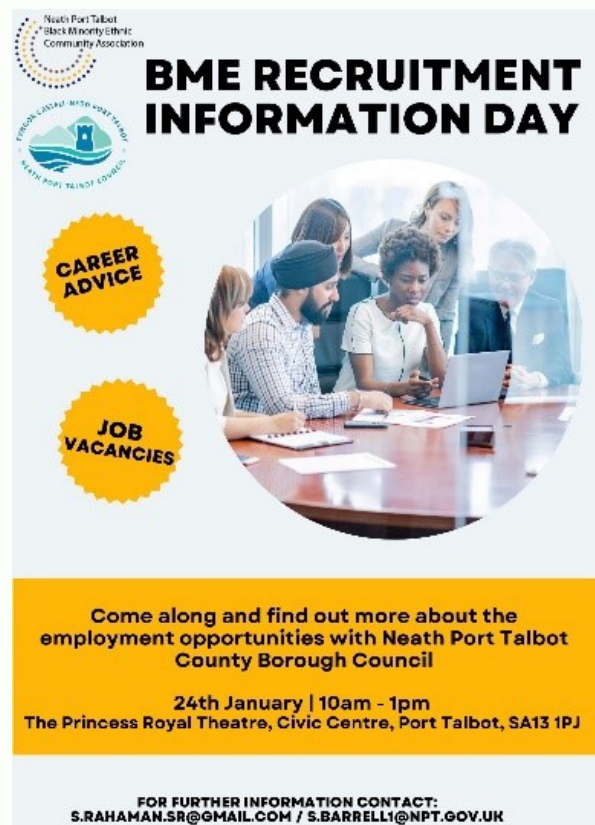
Alongside the council, which provided employment opportunities and advice, there were also other organisations in attendance such as Careers Wales, Workways Plus, Communities for Work Plus, EYST, Neath Port Talbot CVS and DWP, who were all able to provide information and advice on careers, volunteering, and support with CV writing tips. The event received over 50 attendees and was a great success.

The Association will continue to work in partnership with Neath Port Talbot Council on this initiative by helping enable more members of the BME communities to feel comfortable and confident in working for the council. Here are some quotes from the press release issued by the council following the event:

**Diane Hopkins, Principal HR Manager at Neath Port Talbot Council** said: "It was a great opportunity for the council to partner with the NPT BME Community

Association at this event, to showcase the diverse jobs we have available and to provide guidance and advice on how to apply. We also had employees from our Ethnic Minority Employee Network at the event so they could share their experience of working for the Council with potential applicants."

**Sheenagh Rees, Head of People and Organisational Development** added: "The Council is an inclusive employer and we are delighted to be strengthening our links with the NPT BME Community Association and other networks to encourage people to work for us who wouldn't have previously considered a career with the Council."



The poster for BME Recruitment Information Day features a circular image of a diverse group of people sitting around a table, looking at a laptop. To the left of the image are two yellow circular icons: one with 'CAREER ADVICE' and another with 'JOB VACANCIES'. At the top left are logos for the Neath Port Talbot Ethnic Minority Ethnic Community Association and Neath Port Talbot Council. The main title 'BME RECRUITMENT INFORMATION DAY' is in large, bold, black letters. At the bottom, a yellow box contains the event details: 'Come along and find out more about the employment opportunities with Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council', '24th January | 10am - 1pm', and 'The Princess Royal Theatre, Civic Centre, Port Talbot, SA13 1PJ'. A footer in a light blue box provides contact information: 'FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: S.RAHAMAN.SR@GMAIL.COM / S.BARRELL1@NPT.GOV.UK'.

# Allergen Information and Natasha's Law Webinar

In October 2022, alongside Trading Standards, we held a Webinar for BME food businesses in Neath Port Talbot on Allergen Information and Natasha's Law. The session provided in depth information on Natasha's Law and what food businesses are legally required to do when it comes to allergen information and how this is displayed.

The webinar had 17 attendees from ethnic backgrounds who are either working or owned a catering/food business within Neath Port Talbot. Attendees interacted and engaged well at the webinar. Following on from the success and interest shown at the webinar, we are now planning an in-person session with both Trading Standards and Food Hygiene.



## Allergen Information and Natasha's Law

Information, support and advice for local businesses

**Wednesday 26th October**  
**12:30pm - 2:00pm**  
**Microsoft Teams**

Join us for a free Webinar held by Trading Standards

A session on what food businesses need to know about Natasha's Law followed by a Q&A

To take part please email [s.barrell1@npt.gov.uk](mailto:s.barrell1@npt.gov.uk) or [s.rahaman.sr@gmail.com](mailto:s.rahaman.sr@gmail.com) to receive the Microsoft Teams link.

# Black History Month Workshop

To mark Black History Month in October 2022, together with the Vulnerable Learners' Service in Neath Port Talbot, the Association helped organise a workshop in Ysgol Carreg Hir Primary School in Briton Ferry.

Jessica Dunrod, who is Wales's first Black children's author, led the workshop, which was based on one of her books. Jessica talked to the children about the importance of not judging somebody by what they look like and where they are from, and how they can do anything that they set their mind to regardless of their backgrounds. It was a very interactive session which all the children enjoyed.



# Ysgol Cwm Brombil BME Parents Network Group

The Association has been working with Ysgol Cwm Brombil in partnership with Swansea Bay University Health Board and Neath Port Talbot CVS, to arrange regular BME Parent Network meetings in order to exchange knowledge and information about the diverse culture and traditions in the local community.

The first session was led by Ashraf Ali Lorgat, Imam from Port Talbot Mosque who delivered a presentation on Ramadan. In attendance were parents, teachers, pupils, and individuals who are keen on promoting culture and diversity at the school. All participants found the session very informative and gave positive feedback on how they have learnt more about Ramadan.

Planned sessions include topics such as Disability Awareness, Food, Faith and Culture, Hinduism, and Community Culture.

## Women's Sunday Fun Day

On Sunday 17th July 2022, the Association held a Women's Health and Wellbeing Day at St Theodore's Church Hall in Port Talbot for women and children from the Black Minority Ethnic Community.

The event was aimed at promoting better health awareness with different activities and other wellbeing tips and advice. NPT Mind attended to provide advice on projects and activities that are available locally. It focused on well-being and gave the opportunity for attendees to socialise and meet with others following the pandemic.

### YSGOL CWM BROMBIL COMMUNITY NETWORK GROUP

'Understanding Faith'

Come along for a  
presentation on Ramadan  
with Ashraf Ali Lorgat Imam  
from Port Talbot Mosque

THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY  
16TH

11AM -  
12PM

YSGOL CWM BROMBIL  
BERTHA ROAD  
PORT TALBOT  
SA13 2AN

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

S.BAHAMAN.SP@GMAIL.COM  
S.BARRELL1@NPT.GOV.UK OR  
TOMKINSJ1@HWBCYMRU.NET



The event received 40 attendees and included activities such as henna painting, face painting, chair yoga, musical chairs as well as colouring and a bouncy castle for the children. Neath Port Talbot CVS, Swansea Bay University Health Board and other council services were also in attendance to provide support and advice on the day.

All the feedback from the attendees was positive, with all of them saying that they enjoyed the event and that they would like to see similar events held in the future.

# Mayor's Interfaith Afternoon Tea

The Association assisted the Mayor of Neath Port Talbot to organise and plan the first ever Mayor's Interfaith Afternoon Tea, which took place on Thursday the 23rd February 2023 at The Margam Orangery.

The event took place to celebrate the diversity and culture that exists within the faith communities in Neath Port Talbot, where attendees were all encouraged to wear traditional dress.

The event had 150 attendees where the Mayor and other key speakers highlighted the importance of the Faith, Spiritual and Religious groups in Neath Port Talbot and how the part that they play in community cohesion is vital.

The event was an opportunity to bring everybody together to meet and to celebrate the work that those from our local faith communities do.

## Funding

The Association was successful in obtaining funding from Neath Port Talbot Council's Third Sector Grant, which has enabled it to continue sharing the cost of the Community Cohesion Officer to help deliver our projects, meetings, and engagement activity, and to undertake other organisational related work.

The funding also enabled us to secure administration support from Neath Port Talbot CVS. In addition, we received funding from the Comic Relief Community Fund in Wales Grant.

# Financial Report

## Financial Report 2021 - 2022

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022

### Income Receipts

#### Donations

Grants

NPTCBC: £15,000

#### Total receipts

**£15,000**

### Reports and accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022

Staff Costs

**£6,130**

#### Other expenditure

Computer Equipment: £1,605

Postage & Stationery: £35

Event and activity costs: £150

Insurance: £428

Miscellaneous: -

**£2,218**

**Total Payments: £8,348**

**Net surplus/deficit for the year: £6,652**

**Net Assets: £28, 170**

The Board of Trustees has approved the above Statement and Account as making up the annual accounts for the charity for the year to 31st March 2022, which the Trustees have elected to prepare under section 42(3) of the Charities Act 1993 in accordance with the provisions of that section.

**Farida Patel**  
**Chair**

**Neath Port Talbot Black Minority Ethnic Community Association**

