

**BARGOED VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS FAIR, LANTERN PARADE & FIREWORK DISPLAY
(IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BARGOED CHAMBER OF TRADE & GREATER
BARGOED PARTNERSHIP)
SATURDAY, 19TH DECEMBER 2009
EMPORIUM & HANBURY ROAD CAR PARKS, BARGOED**

Timings

<i>10 a.m. – 4 p.m.</i>	<i>Victorian Fair</i>	<i>12 p.m. – 4 p.m.</i>	<i>Santa's Grotto Open</i>
<i>4.30 p.m.</i>	<i>Lantern Parade</i>	<i>5.30 p.m.</i>	<i>Firework Display</i>

Historically, the Christmas event in Bargoed has played host to Santa's Grotto, a lantern parade and a firework finale. This year it is proposed to bring all the events together and support a Victorian themed Christmas event. The main point for the daytime activities will be in the Emporium Car Park with supporting events in the High Street (outside the Spar).

A craft and gift marquee has been arranged and will house various stalls offering a range of gift ideas for Christmas including jewellery, hand made cards, food gifts and much more. Bookings are already coming in from interested parties. All the stallholders will be asked to support the Victorian theme and be suitably dressed for the day. Alongside this Bargoed Male Voice Choir and Phil Dando's Jazz Band have been booked and it hoped that more musical entertainment could be provided such as carol singers. Hot and cold refreshment will be on sale such as mulled wine, tea, coffee, mince pies and hot roasted chestnuts.

An additional marquee has also been arranged and will offer space for Santa's Grotto whilst offering children's entertainment including creative activities i.e. card making, decorations and small gifts and pottery workshop. Costumed street entertainers, face painting and a Punch and Judy Show will add to the festive feel.

Lighting and heating will be provided for both marquees and they will be dressed with Christmas trees, decorations and Christmas lights. A free gift will be offered to the first 100 children who support the fair.

Retailers in Bargoed will be encouraged to support the Victorian theme and will be offered financial support to dress their windows in a Victorian Christmas fashion and be suitably dressed for the day. A prize will be given to the shop with the best-dressed window and staff on the day.

Santa will tour the Greater Bargoed area on his float mid morning and arrive at the Grotto at 12 noon to start meeting the children. The lantern parade will lead off after the fair has finished from the Emporium car park via Upper High Street, High Street and Hanbury Road before turning down into Hanbury Road Car Park where the firework finale will be viewed.

Other activity options are currently being looked at subject to the funding and availability.

A Greater Bargoed Christmas Events Calendar is being developed to highlight events from 1st November leading up to Christmas and through to the New Year to inform the community of what's on in the area.

Author: Barbara Green – Events Officer