

## Who's making plans in your street?

Planning applications submitted to Cardiff council for your consideration

### PLASNEWYDD

- A rear extension is planned for 81 Bangor Street, Roath.
- There are plans to fit a new roof light at 81 Shirley Road, Roath.
- A new extension and some changes to an old one are proposed at 94 Arabella Street, Roath.

### RHIWBINA

- A garage and a residential development is planned on land to the east of Coed-y-Wenallt.
- A financial and professional services shop is planned at 12 Beulah Road.

### RIVERSIDE

- Two residential flats at 1b and 1c Pontcanna Street might be changed into offices.
- Timber-framed windows could be replaced by glazed uPVC windows at 186 Cathedral Road.
- There are plans for a house to be converted into four flats at 2 Despenser Street.

### RUMNEY

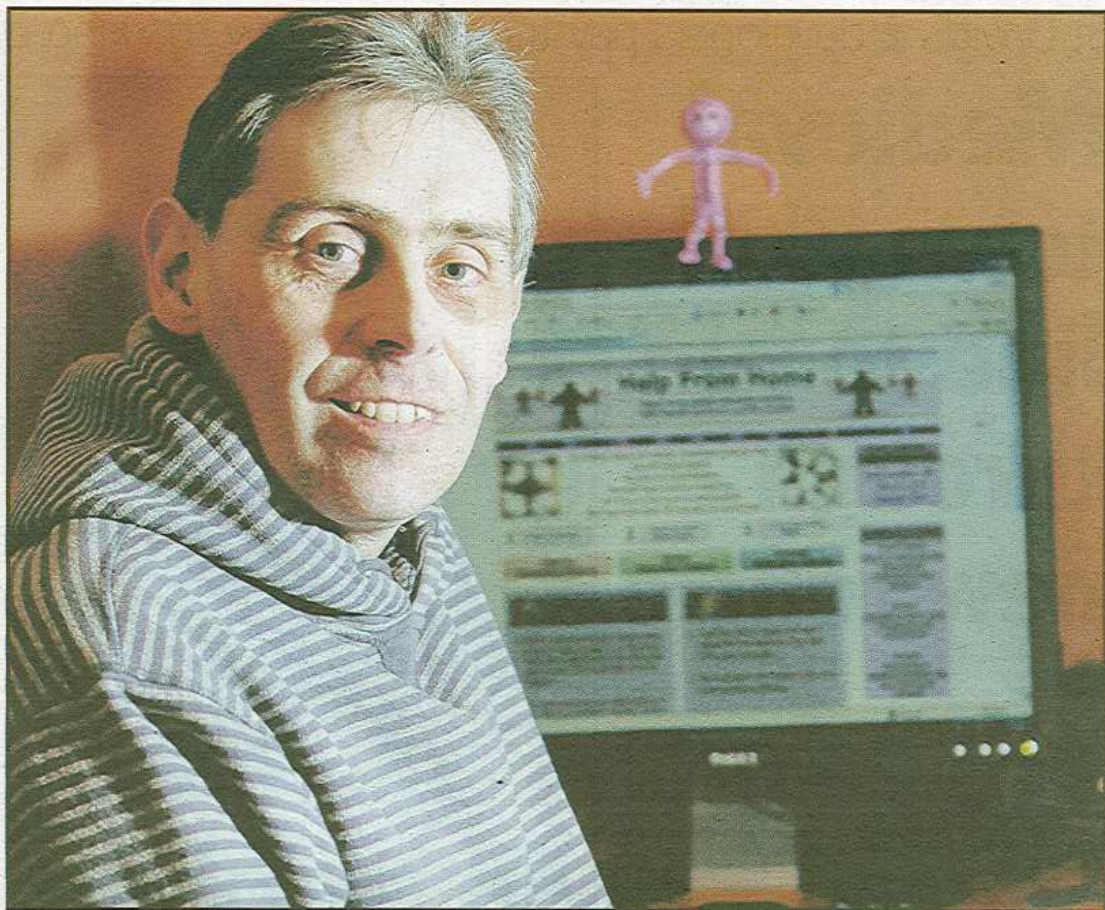
- Plans for a retention of the house, conservatory and wall of 69A Llandudno Road.

### SPLOTT

- There are plans to demolish a coach house and build a two-storey side extension with a garage and an en-suite bathroom at 18 Eyre Street.

### WHITCHURCH / TONGWYNLAIS

- Diamond Ground on Forest Farm Road plans to erect cricket nets.



**BRIGHT IDEA:** Creator Mike Bright who set up a new website for people who want to undertake volunteer work from home

PICTURE: Richard Swingler

# Volunteer from your armchair with site's help

A DEDICATED volunteer has embarked on a new venture to enable people to help others without spending money or leaving their homes.

Mike Bright, 45, of Pontprennau, Cardiff, has founded the website [www.helpfromhome.org](http://www.helpfromhome.org) to spread the word about how to undertake volunteer work without having to go through your front door.

The site includes information about writing letters of support to poorly children, raising awareness about good causes, making and donating hats or blankets for people in need and how to lend your experience to people in difficulty through online support groups.

As well as information about how to help charities and good causes, the site tells people how to take part in surveys for psychological researchers and even how to report a suspected UFO sighting to enthusiasts.

## Katie Norman

The website is a labour of love for Mike and he makes no money from it.

He said: "I'm the kind of person who wants to help others. I know there's lots of other people out there who want to do the same but don't necessarily know about the right opportunities."

"These are just things I do myself anyway and I wanted other people to be able to do them too. There are opportunities here that anyone with a bit of spare time can do."

"It's also well geared to people who have busy lives and might just have five to 15 minutes to spare."

Mike is an architectural technician, currently working on the Meridian Gate development in Bute Terrace, Cardiff, but he spends his free time volunteering with the Pioneer Club at Cardiff's Institute for the Blind.

When he has a few minutes to spare, he also looks on the internet to find more ways of helping good causes.

He said: "The website came about because I was doing some of these things anyway and I really wanted to do some more."

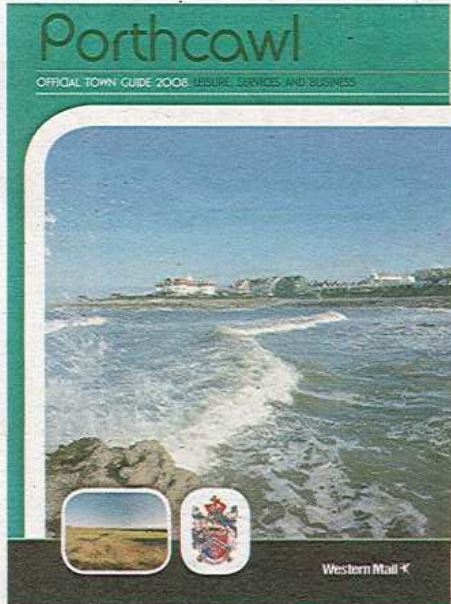
"I found lots of ideas different websites but I couldn't find any one site listing all these things in one place."

"A lot of my friends and family told me they didn't even know you could do things like this, so I thought there should be some way of allowing people to home in on these opportunities."

"There's so many things you can do. You can write to a sick child and put a smile on their face. If you're a gardener you can donate seeds to charity. There's something for everyone."

Visit Mike's website at [www.helpfromhome.org](http://www.helpfromhome.org)

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