Giving dogs a

Yobs'

HOUSEHOLDERS have to pay more towards policing in the region from

New Dyfed-Powys police and crime commissioner Christopher Salmon Christopher proposed a 3.9 per cent rise in the amount it charges residents, which has now been backed by the area's police and crime panel. Bills for the average

band D property owner will rise from £198 to £206. Mr Salmon said the hike was lower than in recent years — the equivalent of a 14.9p weekly increase for

"In proposing council tax precept, I have sought to balance the needs of our police service with the demands on families across Dyfed-Powys," said Mr

It takes the force budget to £98 million for 2013-14.

## Internet speed upgrade

SUPERFAST fibre-optic broadband is speeding its

way to Llanelli. Though Llanelli doesn't feature as part of the first 14 areas to be developed under the Superfast Cymru programme, fibre optic broadband should be installed Wales-wide by

A BT spokesman said: "Llanelli is due to get fibre broadband as part of BT's normal roll-out. It is scheduled to go live during the summer. but, of course, because of the engineering works involved, dates can slip."

BT aims to make ligh-speed broadband high-speed available to around 19,500 homes and businesses in Llanelli by the time the work is completed

### **Blankets** recalled

A RANGE of electric blankets have been recalled due to a fault that could cause them to overheat and catch fire. Morphy Richards has

using them immediately

Owners of the blankets

Richards on 01709 572570

should contact Morphy

or by e-mail at blankets@

morphyrichards.co.uk

were unloading petrified dogs.
As I clutched one terrified issued a product recall notice on its Over Electric pup, a volunteer told me where some of the dogs come from: "We Blankets with the model number 75310 and 75312. are called out by the puppy As a precautionary measure, the company has asked customers to stop

"Most of the dogs we collect are on death row. If we didn't take them they would be dead a spade to the head.

■ Chris Carra meets one of the residents

Many Tears Animal

"IF this was a week ago I

wouldn't have let you in this

"He would have attacked you

because he was so frightened of humans — but look at him

A comment like that would

usually see me bolt for the cage door, but after spending a few

hours with the volunteers at

Chance was now a safe dog

who, like many others, had been

rehabilitated at the centre and

was beginning to learn to trust

numans again.

The snow still frozen on the

ground, I headed out to the van to begin my afternoon at Many

Tears, where I would be assis-

ting staff and volunteers who

wrestled with

a three-year-old

Shephard-Husky

cage," Peter told me as he

playfully

Chance.

German

animals.

during his time

"It sounds terrible, but it's

I was shocked, but relieved that the dogs were now in a place where their paramount.

Sylvia Van Atta, who set up the not-for-profit rescue centre with her husband Bill in 2004, gave me the lowdown on how Many Tears works.

And it was clear to see that

she runs a tight ship. She is adamant that everyone follows the strict procedures that govern the centre.

"We have around 100 dogs here at the moment, and Many Tears Animal Rescue in Cefneithin, I trusted Peter's another 120 out in foster homes across the country." Sylvia told knowledge and passion for the me over the boom of washing machines, which run almost constantly to provide fresh bedding for the dogs.

"We can see around 2.500

Sylvia explained the process each dog would go through, from arriving in the van to being adopted, which includes washing, inoculations and other treatments and micro-chipping

"All our volunteers are given a class if they are regulars.' Sylvia said as she took me

"If any one part goes wrong or is missed, a dog may be sent out to a new family without a vital

As we visited vets Anne Plummer and Jo Evans in action, Sylvia explained that paid staff is Peter White, who room with massive drums of dog dog that comes through this

many of the people currently working at Many Tears were here." told me: "I basically live to work biscuits and the laundry room stacked with piles o paid staff, but started out as

volunteers at the centre. look at our volunteers first."

Peter, 36, who is originally from Stockport and was once a me how he had originally come

Sylvia told me: "We do not silver service waiter on the to volunteer for a week, but quit promise jobs, but when jobs do Orient Express, moved to his job and stayed with the become available we obviously Llanelli after various stints of centre for six months. volunteering with Many Tears.

"I just fell in love with the One fine example of a As he walked me around the place," he said. "I would much cassionate volunteer turned centre — pointing out the food rather this kind of job. Every

colour-coded bedding — he told

Number of paid staff: 23

Dogs currently waiting for homes in foster homes: 120

0

Name: Trevis Age: 2 years **Breed: Collie** Gender: Male Trevis is a stunningly handsome

collie. He has striking, unusual red and white colouring. He and his brother were unwanted farm dogs as the owner had too many dogs.

Average number of animals the

centre will see over a vear: 2500

Number of volunteers: countless

He is very loving and affectionate and jumps up gently for a cuddle. He is an intelligent boy who learns very quickly.

He loves to run free and chase birds on the open fields, and his recall is excellent. Given plenty of exercise and

training, he would be a lovely



•For information on animals needing homes call the rescue centre between 10am and 4pm on 01269 843084 or visit www.manytearsrescue.org Toys and treats can be sent to Many Tears Animal Rescue, Cwmlogin House, Cefneithin, Llanelli, SA14 7HB.

working here that you can't get anywhere else.

He loves toys and would

I headed back inside and so for around four years. helped to wash a poor ex-breeding spaniel who was from Germany but now lives in walking the dogs. On a sunny of Jessie, who had only been at future worth wagging a tail at.

but docile and accepted whatever anyone would do to her.

ins and outs of volunteering.

so for around four years.

"But the main thing Elke suggested we swapped staff of Many Tears put in daily volunteers are needed for is dogs—I agreed and took control to ensure mistreated dogs have a

She was quick to notice that I

Peter's passion for the animals—like everyone I met at handed a lead by Elke Stilgoe, kennels and even provide was extremely excited to be out of woofing still playing in my

#### Charity's mobile support thanks homes OLDER people's charity WRVS attack their commitment during the

recent spell of snow in WRVS head of operations for VANDALS have caused thousands of pounds worth of damage at a Wales Sally Rivers said: "Volunteers have been battling

if anything, was stolen during the raids.

Shoreline carayan park

manager Steve Bassett said: "They smashed up the caravans, getting in

through the front doors. "They made a bit of a

storage sheds.

mess and raided the

"But by the looks of i

most of it is just vandalism

Burry Port carayan park. through the snow and ice to Police are appealing for witnesses to the attacks, ontinue to deliver services to older people and check that they are safe, warm and well. which affected 13 caravans and took place some time "Fear of slipping on icy paths overnight on January 17. It is not yet known what,

and treacherous road conditions mean that older people often cannot get out and about and without our volunteers they may not see anyone else for days at a time.

Llanelli

She added: "I'd like to say a massive thank you to our volunteers across the region who have continued to deliver vital services like Meals on Wheels to the housebound despite the had weather

beyond the call of duty and

the centre for four weeks and

was noticeably timid. As I took

mean the world to Jessie," Elke

"Just by walking with us she

has seen that humans aren't all

bad and she will be able to trust

After our stroll we dropped Jessie and Ollie back to their

walk-in cages and Jessie jumped up and licked me.

Elke pointed at her and said:

"There we go, 20 minutes later

and look at the difference. You

tell me that isn't an ego boost."

Another regular volunteer is 20-year-old Chelsea Morse, from

"I was about 14 when I first

Llangennech.

the next person slightly more.

walked slowly behind me.



"It's hard to pinpoint if

they were stealing," he

Contact police on 101

## Action on fish

ERADICATION of 'alien' fish from Llanelli lakes has

her lead she cowered and entered its second stage. "It doesn't seem like a massive thing, but this walk will The topmouth gudgeon, a non-native fish from Asia, is deemed to be

threat to native fish. Environment Agency (EA) officers aimed to tackle the issue by adding a chemical known as

lakes. It is toxic to fish, but harmless to humans, birds and other wildlife. Previously the were drained and native fish species rescued. Once the process is complete

mouth gudgeon in Wales Writer to

# share tips

THESE are just three of the many dogs Chris met at the centre who are still in

need of a

home:

**Many Tears** factfile

confused dog who was dumped into the private **Breed: German** 

porch of Sylvia's house. Shepherd cross homed with a German Shepherd savvy owner, **Gender: Male** who can take time to teach this fellow to give perfect and his his heart and trust, and response to name is that this time he won't great be betraved again.

and will keep checking back with you that he is

doing it right. He learns so quickly. in Chance, he is a

He is really active He loves to run, but and loves to play with a is very controlled with it ball, play tug or run with you.

We have seen a world of improvement

Established: 2004

Dogs currently waiting for

homes at the centre: 10

Name: Chance Age: 3 years

Name: Ollie **Breed: Springer** spaniel cross pointer **Age: I year** Gender: Male

Ollie is in need of a very active home where someone would like to take him running or cycling to help wear him out He is a bright boy and will need mental stimulation as well

love to go to dog training

He is desperately lonely here in his kennel and is longing for him their special boy.

place is a life that is saved. There covered with ticks and fleas. She Llandeilo, and as we set off to day like this it gives the dogs a

are so many things about was understandably terrified, walk two dogs, she gave me the chance to have an extra walk. "As volunteers we do the odd was struggling with Ollie — a

Many Tears — was instantly visible.

Who volunteers at the centre about once a week, and has done visible.

Who volunteers at the centre about once a week, and has done visible.

Who volunteers at the centre about once a week, and has done for the website," she explained.

started volunteering," she said. "I came up with my dad and l just fell in love with the dogs. As I walked away from the cages I bumped into Peter again and asked what he was up to.

"Well, I'm technically finished for the day, but I will stick around to help out," he replied. "We all do it." As I left the centre, covered in to ensure mistreated dogs have a

second chance at a future worth wagging a tail at





LSA-F01-S2





threat

piscicide to three Mill ennium Coastal Park

EA expects to have eradicated one of the three established colonies of top

A SIX-WEEK course with novelist, poet and BBC Radio Wales presenter Phil Carradice starts at Bethania Chapel vestry, Morfa, next week. WEA creative writing takes place from 2pm to 4pm on Wednesday, February 6. Call 01792 891679 or e-mail 891679 cazleucarum@tesco.net