



It's a Pug's life

A dog called Minnie and a night-time picture of Rhyl's seafront will be the focus of a 2021 tourism campaign.

Rhyl Town Council launched a competition to find a stunning town image to be turned into a vintage pin badge.

Rhyl mayor Cllr Ellie Chard takes up the story. "We launched the competition in a bid to find a photo which summed up our Sunny Rhyl nickname. We had previously made a pin badge which was handed out at our community events. It proved something of a collector's item, so we thought we'd start a new trend. But choosing just one photo turned out to be more difficult than we anticipated," she said.

Photographers from across North Wales sent in their favourite pictures featuring landmarks including the seafront, Brickfield Pond, town clock, and Marine Lake.

And it will be a photograph of a four-year-old pug called Minnie and a night-time seaside shot which will now be made into badges.

Meliden's Chris Evans, a self-taught amateur photographer who learned his craft by watching YouTube videos and also set up Prestatyn Camera Club, took the stunning shot of the sun setting over Rhyl.



Holly Thomas, of Rhyl, captured the picture of her pug posing at Marine Lake on her daily walk.

Cllr Chard said: "Initially we were looking for one photo, but we were so charmed by the beauty of the seaside photo taken by Chris and the cheekiness of Minnie we have decided to make two badges. Both Chris and Holly came up with something which captured Rhyl."

The badges will be given out at future town council community events to help promote the town.

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Chris, who works for Wales and West Utilities by day and whose pictures regularly appear on ITV Wales' weather reports, said: "I started taking pictures in 2016 and now go everywhere with my camera and my Staffordshire bull terrier, Oscar. It feels wonderful to have my Rhyl skyline picture chosen, and I'm looking forward to seeing the finished badges."

Holly echoed Chris' sentiment and said she was 'delighted' Minnie, named after Minnie Mouse, had been chosen.

"Minnie is a proper poser, and I'm always taking pictures of her. I saw the competition advertised and thought I'd give it a go. It's wonderful to think Minnie will be something of a celebrity," added Holly.

For future event plans, keep an eye on the town council's Facebook page.

Ends

