



Peter Walker MBE Officially opening Radyr Cricket Club's nets, photographed with Radyr Chairman, Chris Hitchings and Glamorgan Players Aneurin Norman and Graham Wagg.

## Radyr Cricket Club Official Opening of New All Weather Net Facility

On the 4th June, Radyr Cricket Club officially opened their new all weather outdoor net facility.

The new facility has allowed the club to provide practice opportunities equal to any in South Wales to all the junior and senior players during what has been a particularly wet summer so far.

The Club was awarded a substantial grant towards the cost of a three bay synthetic practice facility by the England and Wales Cricket Board. This grant along with support from Cardiff City Council and various Corporate Sponsors was added to funds raised through a host of fund raising events by the members and has enabled the club to fund the cost of £65000 in its entirety.

Peter Walker MBE, (Ex Glamorgan & England cricketer) cut the ribbon in the presence of Glamorgan Cricketers Graham Wagg and Aneurin Norman as well as invited guests from the local Community, Cricket administrators, Sponsors and many of the club's members, parents and friends.

Youth players from the age of 7 to 15 showed off their skills to the guests under the close supervision of the Clubs Coaching team. Afterwards the

entire club celebrated with a food and drink in the sun.

The club provides cricket for four senior teams and over 150 junior cricketers embracing 10 junior teams and a girls team.

Peter Hybart, the Director of Cricket Wales, who supporting Radyr in their application for the ECB grant said "I was delighted that the Club was awarded the grant because they have an outstanding cricket development programme and they have worked hard to promote cricket in the local school and the community generally. Cricket Wales recommended the Club

because Radyr Cricket Club have enthusiastically embraced all the ECB development policies and the facility is key to further development of cricket in that locality."

Bruce Cruse, the ECB's National Funding and Facilities Manager said, "Investing in worthy projects like this one allows cricket clubs to make their facilities as welcoming and accessible as possible to members, players and spectators. Having high quality cricket facilities accessible to the community will be key to sustaining participation in grass roots cricket over the coming years".

## The Radyr & Morganstown Association

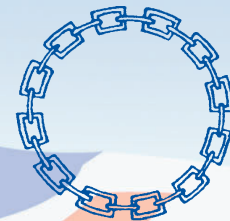
The Association runs the two week May Festival, organises the Festivities for the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony, manages the Old Church Rooms (with the Community Council), publishes a topical Newsletter every two months, holds regular meetings (with a speaker), and aims to help and encourage all other R&M organisations.

If you would like to hear more about what we do, become a member (free), assist in our activities or serve on the Executive, please contact the Chairman, Cyril Williams, 2084 2250, or the Secretary, Nick Hakwins, 2084 2561, [rma@radyr.org.uk](mailto:rma@radyr.org.uk).

Our next meeting is on 3rd September when the speaker will be Jill Jones of BBC's Crimewatch

# RADYR CHAIN

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown



Number 201

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## THE DIAMOND JUBILEE PROM

In July 2011 at our regular monthly R&MCC meeting the Council discussed the forthcoming Queen's Diamond Jubilee and what celebrations could be arranged for Radyr & Morganstown. It was proposed that I lead on 2012 celebrations with a subgroup of Councillors Sue Philpott, David Suthers and Clive Morgan.

In September at a joint meeting of the Radyr and Morganstown Association & The Radyr and Morganstown Community Council a number of people expressed an interest in joining our subgroup and help to organise events to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Under my direction as chairman of the newly formed Jubilee Committee we set about looking at various suggestions and begun to plan events to interest all age groups of the community around the period of 2nd to 5th June 2012.

...continued on page 7



## COMING EVENTS



N.B. Details of all coming events can be found in the Diary section of the website [www.Radyr.org.uk](http://www.Radyr.org.uk)

### JULY

- 26 Radyr & Morganstown Community Council Main monthly meeting of R&MCC. Chain Room, Old Church Rooms, Park Road CF15 8DF 7.30pm
- 27 allthebells.com Assemble at 8am Ring bells for 3 minutes from 8:12am National event at the start of the Olympic Games, London. To chime on Christ Church bells contact Phil Kitcher 20843520. (15year-olds and over, two short training sessions necessary.) 8.00am

### SEPTEMBER

- 3 R&M ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING, OCR. Speaker to be announced. All Welcome. 7.30pm
- 6 PACT Meeting. Old Church rooms. All residents welcome 7.00pm
- 10 Radyr & Morganstown WI. Old Church Rooms 7.30pm
- 26 Tenovus Coach Trip to London from Radyr for sightseeing/shopping to return between 8 - 9pm Fare £25. Please ring 20401872 7.30am
- 27 Radyr & Morganstown Community Council. Main monthly meeting of R&MCC. Chain Room, Old Church Rooms, Park Road CF15 8DF 7.30pm

### OCTOBER

- 8 Radyr & Morganstown WI. Old Church Rooms 7.30pm
- 11 Tenovus Coffee Morning at Radyr Golf Club. All welcome. Please ring 20843108 or 20842096 for tickets £2. 7.30pm
- 17 Tenovus Charity Bag Collection in Radyr. A Tenovus van will be parked at the Guide Centre for one and a half hours. Donations of shoes, handbags, clothes, books and bric a brac will be appreciated. For more information please ring 20842096. 12.30pm

### FOR SALE Garden shredder

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## Morganstown Village Hall

### JUBILEE CHILDREN'S PARTY 5TH JUNE, 2012

What can I say about this event – organised chaos?

The Hall was ready in plenty of time, the entertainer waiting and for a while it looked as if we might only have a few children.

However, by 4.10pm, the children started to arrive and by 4.30pm, there must have been 85 children, quite a few babies and at least 80 adults. The Hall was full.

Not knowing just how many to expect, food ran a bit short, fresh supplies were sent for, but all the children had something to eat in the end.

After tea it was time for the entertainment. The parents all helped to clear the tables and the children were soon playing Musical Statues, Bumps and Chairs. Since there were so many taking part, each game took quite a while and it was so hard to judge winners. The best three were chosen, rosettes being given as prizes. Well done everyone.

Thanks must go to Joyce Morgan, June Thomas, Bob and Maggie Roberts, Carol Clarke and Harry Clarke for all their hard work setting everything up.

Special thanks to Cllr. Clive Morgan who arrived soon after 2pm and stayed helping to the end, to Cllrs. Rod and Sue McKerlich and Cllr. Mike Diment and his wife Ruth, whose help was invaluable and to all the parents who lent a hand.

Many thanks to the Entertainer – he did a great job together with his assistants Joyce Morgan, Maggie Roberts and Mandy McKerlich.

Thanks to all the children who came and behaved so well – it wouldn't have been much of a party without you.

## RADYR LAWN TENNIS CLUB SET FOR BRIGHT FUTURE

Jonathan Davies has hailed Radyr Lawn Tennis Club after they unveiled a host of new facilities.

The investment into the club is the biggest in Welsh sport in sixteen years and will now offer year-round access at one of Cardiff's biggest outdoor clubs.

Upgrades to the facility include three artificial turf courts with parameter fencing, seven sets of floodlighting, modernisation of the clubhouse and a new bar.

The work was made possible thanks to a £99,000. loan from the Law Tennis Association (LTA) and a further £99,000. grant from the sport's governing body, while the club contributed £130,760. towards the £418,426. total.

And the rugby legend is eager to come and try out the new facilities. He said "It's a fantastic facility that the club now has and with my daughter having tennis lessons here as well, I think it will encourage not only me but plenty of other people in the Radyr community to join and play tennis at the club for years to come".

LTA Councillor Steve Clarke added "The significant financial support that the LTA have been able to provide Radyr LTC along with other partners, will enable to club to offer more all-year-round tennis and will no doubt contribute greatly to the increase participation".

To celebrate the occasion the club put on a free taster day with numerous matches being played on the new courts. The day's finale saw some of the club officers play an exhibition match with old white balls and wooden rackets.

Despite intermittent rain the new all-weather courts allowed members to continue playing throughout.

The LTA makes financial support available through its resources and ensures investments will deliver the maximum return for British tennis through more people playing and across Britain. There will be an increase in the number and standard of facilities nationwide which will be available to the whole community at a reasonable, affordable cost.

To find a playing partner, a local court or coach, register at [allplaytennis.com](http://allplaytennis.com)

Letters, articles, reports and other contributions are invited and should be submitted by September 15th. Submissions may be subject to editing at the Editor's discretion. The views expressed in the Radyr Chain are not necessarily those of the Editors.

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# RADYR LIBRARY RE-OPENS!

After an eight month wait, the new extended and refurbished library opened to the public again on 23rd June. 278 people visited the library on opening day and enjoyed looking around and borrowing books. Representatives from some local organisations were on hand to talk about their work and tea, coffee and some of Anne's famous Welsh cakes were served to visitors.

So what has changed? The library is bigger, brighter and looks much more contemporary. The most popular comment was "How much more specious it looks". We now have a community area, a totally redesigned and restocked children's library, a great teenage corner and attractive seating areas for adults to sit and read or browse the newspapers. The reading house in the children's library has become a great favourite. Wi-fi access, a photocopier and an extra public pc have also been provided. For the first time we have an accessible public toilet with baby changing facilities.

Our opening hours are still under review so at present we are working the old hours of:

**Mon 10-1 2-6 Tues 10-1 2-5.30**

**Wed 10-1 2-5.30 Thurs Closed**

**Fri 2-7 Sat 10.1**

However, our telephone number has changed to 029 2078 0996 and our email address remains the same at [radyrlibrary@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:radyrlibrary@cardiff.gov.uk)

We are still providing free internet access, newspapers, talking books, DVD hire and, of course, lots of books. You can also collect your recycling, food waste and dog waste bags from the library. Newer services include free e-books and free e-audio downloads and you can now follow Cardiff libraries on Twitter @cdflibraries or @llgellcaerdydd or like us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/cardiff.central.library](http://www.facebook.com/cardiff.central.library) or [www.facebook.com/llyfrgell.ganolog.caerdydd](http://www.facebook.com/llyfrgell.ganolog.caerdydd) You can see pictures of the library on Facebook or on the Radyr website [www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk)

The library is very much a "work in progress" and so there will be more changes in the coming weeks and months. We are expecting more new books, particularly adult stock and we will be having a scanner installed. We will also be finding out what sort of activities you want in the library and then trying to put those in place.

The big event happening now is the national summer reading challenge. Children enrol on this scheme and read six books across the summer holidays. This year's challenge is called the Story Lab and involves three levels – Bronze, Silver and, you've guessed it, Gold. Those who read six books receive a medal and a certificate. We are hoping that more children than ever before will join the Story Lab and make 2012 a summer of reading in Radyr.

If you are not already a member of Cardiff Libraries and would like to join, just come to the library with some form of identity, for example a driving licence, bill or bank card and we can enrol you straight away.

**We look forward to  
welcoming you all to the  
"new Radyr library. Caroline,  
Jen and Anne**



## Tenovus Sponsored Walk and Strawberry Tea

On July 1st the Tenovus ladies prepared over 100 Strawberry Teas, including delicious scones all baked by Janet Boyce, for sponsored walkers, local residents, families and friends at the New School Rooms. Many supporters took the opportunity to enjoy the sunshine on the lawn at Christchurch.

The walkers met at Cardiff Castle where a group of yoga enthusiasts joined in and walked as a tribute to Mollie Tilley, who had supported the event since the first walk in 1995. Mollie was sadly missed this year and the tribute was very much appreciated by the Group.

The walk along the Taff Trail was enjoyed by all, on one of the rare sunny afternoons of this summer. All of the walkers were served refreshments at

Hailey Park and then looked forward to free Strawberry Tea at the end of the walk at Christchurch. A number of other sponsored walkers, who were unable to walk, due to other duties, on the day, very kindly walked for Tenovus on July 8th. Many grateful thanks go to all who helped to make the event a success.

The next Tenovus event will be a Coffee Morning supported by Enerchi on 11th October at Radyr Golf Club. There will be a collection of bags for the Charity shops on 17th October when a Tenovus van will be parked at the Guide Centre from 12.30 – 2.00 pm. Your support would be very much appreciated.

**For more information please ring  
20401872 or 20842096.  
B. Fitzgerald**



## Jubilee Report *from front cover*

At this early stage events suggested were: -

- An Audio Visual night on HM The Queen's life at the Old Church Rooms
- A 50's fete on Mound Field;
- An animal blessing at Ty Gwyn farm
- People to share a Big Lunch at local street parties
- Sports events
- A dance and band competition
- A concert over two days at Parc Radur
- A children's party at Morganstown Hall

The original plans for Parc Radur were to put a marquee and feature Radyr Comprehensive youth orchestra, bands and groups on the Monday afternoon. The evening events were to include local Brass Band, Jazz & Pop Groups, classical music by students of the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama (RWCMD) followed by the lighting of the beacon accompanied by fireworks. On the Tuesday we hoped to arrange for our local primary school children to perform "Peter and the Wolf" with the RWCMD.

There were lots of meetings before Christmas particularly about the concert. The proposed venue belonging to Cardiff County Council required special permissions, various acts needed to be confirmed, as well as the involvement of all local schools and the orchestra of RWCMD. The logistics of putting on such a large scale event were both expensive and mind-blowing...bearing in mind the limited access to Parc Radur and the safety and security concerns.

Then came the disappointments! The schools were on half-term during the Jubilee period and it was not feasible for them to be involved with staff living out of the area or away on holiday. We wondered if we would have a concert at all.

Thankfully a few days before Christmas I was approached by Dave Cargill (Treasurer of the Golf Club & RMA Committee Member) who suggested that the Golf Club may want to get involved and would I go and meet the Club captains, committee and manager?

The boundaries of putting on a free outdoor concert at the Golf club were not for the faint-hearted as the Golf Club would be operating as normal on the day with just the practice area closed. Also the area had to be cleared by 9 a.m. the following morning as there was a Ladies' match! From the offset we proposed to invite members of the public to "bring a picnic" to the event.

Now relocated at the Golf Club we sought and received their agreement to continue this policy alongside their commercial refreshments sales.

As we were now planning for this beautiful setting, we realised our Jubilee Concert would benefit greatly from a professional stage with lighting and amplification systems. We knew this would be expensive. The breakthrough came when the clerk to the RMCC (Helena Fox) managed to secure a very healthy grant of £4,750 from the "Big Lottery Awards for All Wales". Smaller donations were also received from The Blakemore Foundation (Spar), Pugh's Nursery (towards the Children's party) and a donation from the Lower Machen Festival for promoting their event. Finally, the trustees of the Millennium Lottery Advisory Committee agreed to the balance remaining in their account to help fund any events.

The other huge contribution came from Claire Barnett leader of the Radyr Youth Club. She with the aid of her team signed up and managed all the youth events including bands, singers and dancers for the Prom's afternoon session. If this wasn't enough she also signed up tribute singer Suzannah Jayne for our evening performance and with her team helped steward the event

*Jubilee Events: -*

**Friday 1st June.** An Audio Visual evening given by Mick Sullivan and Harry West showcasing events and people spanning 60 years in Radyr. After a short interval we watched a presentation of The Queen's Coronation which was fascinating. The evening was well attended and very well received. It was obviously a great deal of work for Mick & Harry who managed to select appropriate music for all aspects of a very successful evening.

**Saturday 2nd June.** Under grey skies there was an Animal Blessing at Ty Gwyn farm hosted by Val Allen, with the blessing given by the Reverend Keiron Webster. Unfortunately there were only a few animals to be blessed. Even so Keiron (although allergic to many of the animals) carried on admirably and each animal was blessed with their owners then receiving a very colourful rosette.

**Sunday 3rd June.** An early, busy start for those involved in the setting up for the Jubilee Concert (by now called The Jubilee Prom). Many thanks to all the volunteers involved. There were also a number of street parties etc. with some taking place the following day because of the bad weather. Take a look on the R&M Website for some great photographs.

**Monday 4th June**

Another early start for those volunteers in

order to complete the setting up of gazebos, fencing off the public viewing areas, as well as setting up the First Aid tent, Stewards' tent, and the Bar and Catering area etc.

A last minute panic!! The Orchestra had now grown to 51 plus the Conductor and we therefore needed more staging. Thanks again to our volunteers who brought it in on loan from Morganstown Hall and the New Church rooms.

After a slow start at 2:00 p.m., when there were only about 40 spectators the numbers soon grew with many teenagers and parents arriving to support some very talented youngsters. The bands consisted of boy pop, rock and folk rock... watch out for these acts in years to come!! When the sun began to shine we were pleased to see the families arrive and set up camp complete with picnics, rugs, and chairs etc.

After a very lively and enjoyable afternoon we were treated to a fine example of yet another aspect of music from within the village by 'The Parish Music Group.' They had an excellent programme of songs from shows and displayed how well accomplished they are. They were very well received.

Heading into the evening 'The Plums' took to the stage with some lively indie and rock numbers including some of their own material. Originally formed and with a totally different name back in the eighties they certainly got our toes tapping.

They were followed by something completely different... a vocalist 'Suzannah Jayne' showcasing her Whitney Houston tribute. She gave us a tremendous performance and we have subsequently received lots of favourable comments concerning her act. By performing to the side of the stage it also gave the stage managers time to prepare the stage for the large orchestra.

Playing some familiar music we all got into patriotic mood when the orchestra struck up. Peter Esswood, conductor, got us all on our feet as the evening progressed and we sang and waved our flags as if we were attending the last night of the proms. The finale to the evening was the lighting of the beacon and the splendid display of fireworks ably arranged by members of the tennis club. What a wonderful time we had all had for this very special occasion...A JUBILANT JUBILEE!!!

There was plenty of variety to please everyone and I and the Club Management were very pleased that everything ran so smoothly.

**Finally Tuesday 5th June.**

Yet another early start 8:00am by a small band of volunteers and councillors to clear the area ready for a 9:00 a.m. start to the Ladies' Golf matches. cont'd.

### Children's tea party:

On a very wet afternoon a huge number of children descended on Morganstown Village Hall. We had initially expected about fifty children but there were probably about eighty. After hurriedly laying up more tables and sharing out the food the children were ready to party along with the D.J. It was a great success, though perhaps selling tickets would have certainly helped those responsible for the catering!

Thanks to Maggie Roberts and the team of ladies from Morganstown who have been organising these parties for years!!

To conclude, many thanks to: -

Helena Fox (Clerk to the Council) for securing the funding and coping with all the additional meetings and administration.

David Cargill for facilitating the venue and organising the RMA leafleting of both villages.

The Golf Club Committee and Club Manager, Gareth Jones and staff.

The Rotary Club for great help in stewarding the event.

Claire Barnett and the youth workers.  
Youth MC Tayab Khan

The Youth Singers, Bands, Groups and Dancers

Our evening M.C. Brian Wills

The Parish Music group  
The Plums

Suzanne Jayne (the Tribute Act)

Peter Esswood & the Prom Orchestra  
from RWCMD.

R&MCC who helped with the stewarding, especially our new members.

Chris St Leger and Mike our Electrician who were invaluable.

Mike Clarke and the Tennis Club Team for the pyrotechnics

The many neighbours and friends who volunteered to set up/clear up and helped with stewarding.

I'm sure you will agree it was a great success!!!

**Mike Diment**

Chairman, R&M Jubilee Committee

### **PARKING ON THE KERB**

Concerns have been raised with regard to parking on the kerb.

Vehicles are parking so far on the kerb that pedestrians cannot walk past without being obstructed. This is an offence of causing an unnecessary obstruction.

This notice is for information only. No further notice will be given. The fine for this offence is £30.00.

## **END OF SUMMER TERM REPORT ON RADYR & MORGANSTOWN WI**

Amidst the soggy wet summer of 2012, our Institute has been a ray of light in the gloom as a varied programme of events has taken place.

On the 30th May (a rare hot sunny day) seven of us attended the National AGM in the iconic Albert Hall. During the day, WI members voted to launch a campaign to invest in the training and employment of midwives in order to tackle chronic staff shortages. We also heard from guest speakers Maggie Aderin-Pocock, a space scientist and from Downton Abbey's creator, Julian Fellowes. He revealed that some of his feistiest female characters were inspired by the strong women with whom he grew up.

After lunch a challenge was undertaken to promote the work of craft groups. Silence fell on the Albert Hall as more than 3,000 WI members prepared to break the world record for the greatest number of people knitting together in one location for fifteen minutes. Photographs and video footage of the event will be submitted to the Guinness Book of World Records for assessment. It was a varied and inspiring day though, as always, the stirring singing of Jerusalem and the anthems was the most memorable.

June proved a very busy month. At our monthly meeting, one of our members, Sue Duffield, gave us a very informative, superbly illustrated talk on her work at The Physic Garden in Cowbridge. We hope to arrange a group visit there some time in the early Autumn.

As many of you realise R&M WI is about for more than our regular monthly meetings, important and enjoyable though they are. A very special event took place on Thursday, 14th June in Christ Church School Rooms. The Vintage Tea Party, in honour of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, was organised down to the finest detail by our President and Committee Members and specially invited were served delicious traditional afternoon tea by pretty waitresses to the accompaniment of piano music played by David Thompson (Llandaff Cathedral organist and music teacher at Howell's School). The atmosphere was gentle and sophisticated and then three hunky builders walked in! Had the Committee lost the plot and arranged some alternative form of entertainment? However, their presence was quickly explained. They were representatives of ISG Construction, the firm involved in the refurbishment of Radyr Library. A group of our members had volunteered their services as cleaning ladies in order to prepare the building for its re-opening and in recognition of this, the firm presented our Institute with a cheque for £1,000. The Treasurer has safely banked it in the NatWest Bank so no-one can get at it! Decisions will now take place as to how this windfall can best be used.

Another on-going project is the "Big Walk, Little Splish". This is a national initiative to celebrate the 2012 Olympics. Each participating Institute has to walk/swim a total of at least 209 miles from April to July, 2012. This is the distance from the first British WI village to North Wales to London. Several of our members are so fit that they could do this with ease but the big

challenge is that every member has to take part, regardless of how challenged they are. The upshot of this is that everyone is involved even if they are covering short distances. Over the last few weeks, members have taken part in a guided walk around the quarry, a golf course walk, the Glamorgan Federation walk and a Treasure Trail walk around Cardiff Bay (this was a link group event). Thanks must go to our Secretary, Gaynor Leaf, who has the onerous task of recording and compiling a journal of everyone's efforts.

July has now arrived and like the schools, we approach the end of term. Our July meeting took place on 9th July when we were entertained by Peter Gowan who read an eclectic selection of his own poetry which covered many themes, some rather surprising. Sufficient to say that he obviously didn't regard the WI as a stuffy organisation.

Friday the 13th is notoriously unlucky so when a group of us set off for a day trip to Denman College in pouring rain, we were relieved to arrive safely in bright sunshine. Denman, the WI college, is a beautiful Georgian house set in very attractive grounds. The rooms had all been redecorated and refurbished, the displays of art and needlecraft were exquisite but "The Jewel in the Crown" was the "State of the Art" Cookery School. We had morning coffee, lunch and a cream tea. The WI, like the army, marches on its stomach!

Though there is no meeting in August, a trip to Lacock is planned on Thursday, 16th August.

Meeting resumes on Monday, 10th September when the Speaker is David Sherman. His talk is on "Norwegian Moods",

Another initiative planned for September is the "One-on-One" computer learning opportunity where members with computer knowledge and experience share their expertise with members who wish to know more.

As usual, all our ancillary groups – walking, book groups, craft and genealogy are planning programmes for the Autumn term.

For regular up-dated information visit our website, keep reading the Chain or contact our President, Pat Williams on 2084 3843 email mpwradyr@btinternet.com

Visitors and new members are always welcome.  
L.H.

## **Experienced Local Maths Tutor**

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**References Available**

**Contact Dave Hayward**

**07528 309321**

**dave.hayward63@gmail.com**

# PIRACY

This article, taken from *The Southampton Master Mariners*, is reproduced in *Radyr Chain* in an attempt to bring attention to the dangers being faced and not reported by merchant seamen on a daily basis. The activities of the Somali pirates are occasionally mentioned in the national press, but piracy is also commonplace in other parts of the world e.g. West Africa and the China Sea.

One wonders whether the world would be as sanguine if such treatment was being meted out to several hundred passengers from a jumbo jet or cruise liner.

## Another Iceberg

Since the advent of 2012 many people in the western world have been obsessed – very understandably – with an iceberg and the loss of the White Star liner “Titanic” a century ago on 15th April, 1912. The story is legendary – a huge liner on her maiden voyage steaming too fast through a dark ocean where icebergs had been reported, the inevitable collision and the huge loss of life due to the lack of lifeboats. In many cities throughout the United Kingdom people lost loved ones and none more than the port city of Southampton where the casualty list of crew members was in excess of 500. The centenary of her loss was honoured throughout the country and many acts of bravery and sacrifice were recounted with pride and sorrow by the relatives of those who perished.

Undoubtedly, the ship will never be forgotten and the numerous plaques and memorials detailing the names of many of the crew members will be visited on the anniversary of her loss – and people will remember with pride the part played by loved ones so many years ago.

Today, as the recent memories of that huge ship start to fade perhaps we should give thought to another much smaller ship – a relatively tiny roll on-roll off cargo vessel called “Iceberg 1” launched more than 35 years ago and owned by a small company in Dubai. On 29th March, 2010, the ship was on passage to the port of Jebel Ali with a cargo of cement, building materials and equipment. She had a multi-national crew of 24 comprising 8 Yemenis, 7 Indians, 4 Ghanaians, 2 Pakistanis, 2 Sudanese and a Filipino and although she was steaming in waters known to be frequented by pirates she was not in the recommended Transit Corridor where



she might have enjoyed some form of protection. Again, the inevitable happened and when she was approaching the port of Aden, in darkness, the pirates attacked and the ship was taken.

Under extreme duress the Captain was instructed to proceed to an anchorage off the Somali port of Hobyo and once there, the pirates sent their ransom demand to the owners in Dubai.

The entire crew of 24 was then incarcerated in a forward cargo compartment less than five square metres in floor area and in December 2011 – some 21 months since the ship was captured – the Master, Captain Ali Saleh smuggled a message to a French news agency saying that they were existing on one meal of boiled rice daily and drinking unclean water. All of them are suffering physically and mentally. Unconfirmed reports say that six Indian crew members were released when their relatives in India managed to raise an adequate ransom payment but the owners of “Iceberg 1” in Dubai have gone into liquidation and there is no money available to meet the ransom demand. Recently, one man managed to escape from his tiny prison and committed suicide by jumping into the water.

Those of us who have plied the trade routes of the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean find it almost unbelievable that in 2010, a small cargo vessel en route some ten miles off the busy port of Aden could be boarded and captured by a gang of ransom-seeking desperadoes but unfortunately, it has happened several times since then. Another ship, the “Asphalt Venture” was captured in a similar manner and although her owners paid the ransom demand and the vessel was released, her captors retained about fifteen of her crew – and demanded a further ransom.

Today, insofar as is unknown, some nine ships and more than 236 merchant seamen are being held captive. Many of the seamen have been brutalised and

others have been murdered. Reports from their homelands suggest that when those held captive are released and repatriated, they have been so damaged mentally and physically that many will never work again and little, if any, support is forthcoming from their erstwhile employers.

It would be untrue to say that today, nothing is being done to ensure the safety of vessels transiting the vast area of ocean threatened by these criminal activities, but it would not be untrue to suggest that it is a case of “Too Little, Too Late” and procrastination at all levels has allowed the malefactors far too much operational freedom – and little fear of the consequences in the unlikely event of their being apprehended.

Most worrying is the plight of the hostages – more than 236 innocent merchant seafarers endeavouring to enjoy their right of innocent passage on the trade routes of the world.

It is now more than two long years since “Iceberg 1” and her multinational crew fell into the hands of the Somali gangsters but their plight – and that of their fellow captives – goes unrecognised by the vast majority of people, many of whom recently sat with bowed heads and sombre thoughts as we relived the horrors of “Titanic” ... and that, earlier iceberg.

## PENTYRCH ART GROUP EXHIBITION

Just a note to thank you for mentioning our exhibition in your publication.

We had a really successful exhibition and several people mentioned having seen the notice which you published for us. Over 345 people attended during the course of the day and we sold a record number of paintings.

Thanks again for your help in publishing the item

Anne Peebles

## RADYR GOLF CLUB

June and July have been busy but successful months for the junior section at Radyr Golf Club.

The first day of July was the day in which the annual junior club championship was held. This was 36 holes of medal play, with the top eight qualifying for the knockout stages. Three handicap, Oliver Young, showed that keeping a calm head throughout the whole day was what was needed qualifying in first place ahead of Lloyd James in second. A special mention must also go to Luke Thomas; a 19 handicap at the time, drawn to play in a group with two low handicapped players. But he managed to overcome obvious nerves to score an incredible first round net 65.

Slightly worse weather greeted players on the following Sunday for Tom Abberley's Junior captains day. This made scoring particularly tough throughout all age groups. Following his excellent form from the previous week, Luke Thomas came out on top with a solid score of 39 stableford points, with Matthew Williams in second with 36 points. Matthew Charlton beat this year's captain into third place on count back with 34 points.

In addition to the main tournament, the junior academy players from the gold, silver and bronze groups also competed. Running every Sunday, the junior academy has over sixty members aged from 7-18 who learn all parts of the game from driving and chipping to etiquette and sportsmanship. The gold group played nine holes medal off the yellow tees. For many in this group this was a big step as many had never played a full nine holes before. The remaining groups played from the junior academy tees, with the silver group playing a five hole medal and the bronze a 40 shot flag competition.

Results:

Gold Group

1st Sam Evans 2nd James Walker

Silver Group

1st Ben Ladd 2nd Jac Wylie

Bronze Group

1st Sam Gwynne-Carol

2nd Gwen Williams

**Christian Askins**

PGA Professional

Radyr Golf Club

Tel. 029 20842476

[www.radyrgolfacademy.co.uk](http://www.radyrgolfacademy.co.uk)

## THE BIG ISSUE IN RADYR

When I was first given the opportunity to go to Radyr to sell The Big Issue I had my reservations, to say the least. Like many people looking in I had an unfair, uneducated opinion of the area. I had the belief that there was a good chance I would be chased out by an angry mob carrying pitchforks and lit torches. Fortunately this was not the case.

Over the first few weeks, I introduced myself to the local shop keepers, like Dave from Welsh's Greengrocery and Alan and Jill from Seasons Restaurant. Through these small beginnings over the next few months I began to meet and build a strong bond with many more people from the community. It wasn't long after I arrived in Radyr that I was given a new flat to move into. This was when I first realised how caring and giving the Radyr and Morganstown community can be. I received new bedding, offers of furniture and many other kind and unexpected gestures.

I have now been in Radyr for nine months. I'm sure many of you will say "Is that all? I'm sure he's been pestering me down those shops for longer than that". In that nine months I have gone from being someone who used to walk to my pitch worrying that it could be my last day, to feeling like I'm part of the community. A day doesn't go by that I don't have at least two or three brilliant conversations and I now feel as at home outside those shops on Station Road as I do just about anywhere and that is down to the fantastic people of Radyr and Morganstown.

As many of you now know, I shall be going to university in September to study Health and Social Care at the Cardiff Metropolitan. I would like to thank everyone from the area for their support and help over the last few months. I arrived in Radyr as a broken man who had been through the mill as many of you know, but thanks to this community I shall be leaving as someone who is ready to take on the challenges that life throws at you and hopefully achieve all my ambitions that I have for university and going forward.

Thanks for everything, Radyr and Morganstown.

**Mat, the Big Issue guy.**

### CORRECTION

In the last edition of Radyr Chain in the article "Advice on Financial Needs", we may have given the impression that no other financial advisor operates in the area. There are in fact several such independent firms in the area. One, Higginson Mortgage Services, advertises in the Radyr Chain.

Letters...



### DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION

Despite the weather, many of the residents in Penrhos met up with various gazebos, tables, chairs and a vast amount of food and refreshments for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

We would like to thank Clare and Mark for their wonderful achievement in arranging this event. It was an ideal way of meeting neighbours who haven't met up for a long time and welcoming new families to the street.

Janet Lynham

### THANK YOU

On behalf of the residents of Cefn Coch, we would like to thank Julie, Maureen and Trudy for organising our "Get to Know your Neighbour Party" on Jubilee Sunday, which was a great success.

Thanks to Trudy for accommodating us indoors instead of making us sit around the lamp post in the rain!

A. Watkins

### JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Despite having to move the event to Monday from Sunday, the residents of Meadowfield Way celebrated the Jubilee in fine style. With participants providing their own requirements, the party got underway at 12.30, with BBQ's and refreshments. The street had been closed, which ensured the children were free to enjoy themselves with the bouncy castle, slide and other playthings thoughtfully provided. The 'grown-ups' needs were catered for with the ingenious storage of refreshment in an ice-filled children's paddling pool. The event extended until late into, what in this rain-soaked summer, was a fine, warm and very successful evening.

The occasion provided an opportunity for both a celebration and a get-together for residents in this relatively new area of the village and thanks go to all who participated, decorated the area and felt it worthwhile to suggest the event become a regular feature.

John Hunt

### RADYR LIBRARY

Having visited the new library for the first time this morning, I must say how delighted I am with the new premises. A big Thank You to all concerned.

I must add how relieved I am that we were able to resist the attempt to re-site it in that rather inaccessible location on the periphery of the village. People Power!

Don Canning.



# GOODBYE BRYN DERI AND THANK YOU!



July will see the end of ten very happy years at Bryn Deri as I will be taking early retirement. It is understandably a time of very mixed emotions.

As usual we have had a very productive year and over the last two terms there have been particular highlights. This is the 25th year of twinning with Ecole Jean Rostand in St. Philbert de Grand Lieu and it was great to welcome Bernard Lebee and past staff (including Tim Osborne who set up the twinning) and parents involved in the twinning over the years, to come and celebrate with us.

The children were involved again in the Radyr Festival with the choir entertaining the Radyr Good Neighbours and signing in Songs of Praise in Christchurch. Recently in celebration of the Olympic torch coming to Cardiff, we had a whole school theme week on the Olympics which was enjoyed by all the staff and pupils and ended with an exciting Sports Day. We were also fortunate to get a close up look at an Olympic torch



brought in by one of the torch bearers, Karen O'Donohue Harris.

The PTA organised a Jubilee picnic and everyone had a lovely time and the queen herself put in an appearance and enjoyed the cream scones – you will have to ask our children all about that.

Bryn Deri is a super school. The staff are brilliant and the governors and parents so supportive ensuring that my time here has been both enjoyable and rewarding and I wish to give my heartfelt thanks to them. I will certainly miss them. It has also been a great pleasure being welcomed into the community of Radyr and Morganstown and I have made good friends with a number of people who do such sterling work for the community and for the French twinning – I am so very grateful to them.

Mrs. Claire Davies will be taking up the Headteacher role in September and I wish her well and I am sure the school will go from strength to strength.

Finally, I must acknowledge the super children (past and current pupils) who I will really miss – a big thank you to them for making my job so enriching – it has been a real privilege to be involved in their education and development.

*Best Wishes*

**Diane Moverley**, Headteacher

## A FINAL CLEAN UP!

The construction company ISG asked Radyr and Morganstown WI to help with the final clean of the new library building and in return would donate £1,000. into their funds. ISG explained that as the new library building was a community project they were keen to give something back into the community.

Six Mrs. Mops, armed with mops, dusters and vacuum cleaners went to work and gave the library its final clean, resulting in sparkling toilets, a gleaming kitchen, dust-free shelves and a very well vacuumed carpet.

The task was completed on 21st June in readiness for the grand opening on 23rd June.

We are extremely grateful to ISG for their very generous donation and will utilise the money for the benefit of all our members. The cheque was handed over by Chris Bickerstaffe from ISG at Radyr and Morganstown WI's Vintage Tea Party.

Members who took part in the final clean were Pat Williams, Jill Newbould, Sue Llewelyn, Jo Smith, Ann McLarg and Louise Rigby.

**Part Williams**

President Radyr & Morganstown WI

## "IF YOU'RE READING THIS ..."

After a delightful annual outing to Salisbury and Wilton House on one of the few sunny days we've had this summer, the History Society will take a break for a few months.

It will meet once again on Thursday, 13th September when Sian Price – one of the Producers of Time Team – will give a talk on her recent book "If You're Reading This ..." last letters from war fronts starting with the Napoleonic Wars and going via the American Civil War, the Boer War, the First and Second World Wars to the Falklands Conflict, Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Society meets as usual at 7.30pm in the Old Church Rooms. All are welcome.

## PLAZA SUITE

For their next production the Radyr Drama Society have decided on Neil Simon's delightful comedy *Plaza Suite*. The action takes place in Suite 719 of New York's Plaza Hotel. It follows several sets of occupants of that suite, Sam and Karen Nash who are trying to rekindle their marriage by visiting the suite in which they spent their wedding night and Ray and Norma Hubley who are trying to persuade their daughter, Mimsey, to come out of the room in which she has locked herself in time to get married.

When it opened at the Plymouth Theatre in New York, Time Magazine called it "an avalanche of hilarity".

Neil Simon is one of America's finest comedy writers. He started on the Phil Silver and Sid Caesar television shows and went on to write such classic comedies as *Barefoot in the Park* and *The Odd Couple*.

Plaza Suite can be seen at Morganstown Village Hall on Thursday, 22nd, Friday, 23rd and Saturday 24th of November.

## THE GREAT OUTDOORS!

The Radyr Primary School Nature Trail and Conservation Area were opened on Saturday, 25th May by past pupil Rhodri Morgan as part of our annual family barbecue. To reflect the importance of the Olympic Games, the children passed an Olympic Torch along the Nature Trail to Mr. Morgan who lit the ceremonial camp fire flame. Families then enjoyed their barbecue whilst being entertained by the school rock bands who performed hits from the Black Eyed Peas, Jesse J and Bruno Mars.

The school's Parent Teacher Association (PTA) have worked hard throughout the year raising funds through a variety of fundraising events such as a Sports Evening hosted by rugby stars Jonathan Davies, Tom Shanklin and Ieuan Evans, a Rock Evening hosted by the headteacher's band, a Christmas Fete, Football Event, Family Disco, Halloween Homebake and Toy Sale, all of which helped us raise our target of £10,000. The trail comprises a wooden stage and seating area, a conservation area, 'dipping pond' and campfire. The pupils took part in a competition to design a logo for the trail which was then incorporated into the bench designs. The new resource will now provide a wealth of opportunity to develop Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship across the school curriculum.

In addition to the trail our caretaker, Mr. Thomas, parent volunteers and pupils have been working extremely hard to develop our infant and junior allotments and new raised beds around the school. The children have planted a range of produce from runner beans through to strawberries and Mr. Thomas is currently finalising our 'Pop Bottle Greenhouse' (bottles donated by pupils and parents) which will provide further opportunities for pupils to develop their 'green fingers'. It is hoped that this work, along with the ongoing efforts of our eco and school council (who recently accompanied BBC Television's Iolo Williams to Radyr Weir to help launch Welsh Water's 'See It, Report It, Stop It' campaign) will stand us in good stead for assessment towards Green Flag Status in the coming school year.

## THE RADYR NSPCC COMMITTEE

The Radyr Committee held a number of successful events during the last few months.

Our Summer Coffee Morning at the Golf Club made £912. We would like to thank all those who helped and contributed so generously.

Gareth Jones, the Club Manager, kindly allowed us the use of the dining room. Paul Cale did sterling work, helping to arrange the room and clearing up afterwards.

Pugh's Garden Centre donated plants which always prove so popular at this time of year.

We were also grateful for the cakes donated for the Festival Teas. These raised the magnificent sum of £444.

Radyr Library very kindly presented us with £100.

We would also like to thank Don and Jan Ribiero who generously allowed Jan Doody to arrange an informal coffee morning at their Tiny Tots Group in the Methodist Church. This made £78.

These funds are again going to a 'Build a Brighter Future' to support on-going local projects at NSPCC purpose-built centre, Diane Englehardt House.

The Radyr Committee also helped with a Literary Lunch at Dyffryn House. The Guest Speaker was the popular author, Barbara Erskine. Unfortunately, this is the final year at this venue owing to the policy of the National Trust which recently acquired Dyffryn. The Lunch is expected to be held at The Bear Hotel in Cowbridge next year.

NSPCC are very pleased to announce that this year they are able to answer all calls to a 'Childline'. Children can now also make contact on line. During the Christmas period this year, 35,675 calls were made, demonstrating the importance of this service.

There is currently a Helpline which takes calls from those concerned about children. During the same Christmas period, 726 calls were made. Of these, 64 were reported to the Police. Many others needed intervention.

Unfortunately, the demand for this service and other projects funded by the NSPCC is growing.

The Radyr Committee would therefore like to thank everyone for their generosity and support which enables the NSPCC to continue to give vital help to children and their families.

## CHAIN COOKERY CORNER

### FISH PIE

A delicious main course – serve with green vegetables. If you plan to freeze, omit the eggs. Serves 6

900g/2lb baking or old potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks  
150ml/1/4 pint single cream  
55g/2oz butter plus extra to grease dish  
Salt and pepper  
Pinch grated nutmeg  
225g/8oz skinless, boneless haddock fillet  
450/1lb salmon cut from tail piece (thinner), skinless and boneless  
Good pinch mixed herbs or teaspoon freshly chopped dill  
Juice 1/2 lemon  
2 large eggs

For the parsley sauce  
60g/2oz butter  
Large bunch parsley, finely chopped  
30g/1oz plain flour  
570ml/1 pint milk  
Salt and pepper

Cook potatoes in boiling salted water  
Gently lower eggs into pan and cook for 8 minutes  
Remove eggs and cool quickly in cold water  
Test potatoes. When soft, drain well and mash  
Add cream, butter, salt, pepper and nutmeg  
Taste and set aside

For the sauce, heat butter in pan, add parsley  
Cook gently for five minutes  
Add flour, stir and cook for few minutes  
Gradually add milk, stirring well  
Bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer for five minutes  
Taste and add seasoning.

Pre-heat oven 200C/400F/Gas 6  
Butter a deep ovenproof dish  
Cut salmon and haddock into bite sized pieces and lay in dish  
Squeeze over lemon juice and sprinkle over herbs  
Pour hot sauce over the top  
Shell and quarter eggs, push into sauce  
Spoon over mashed potatoes  
Bake 35 minutes until top is brown  
Serve at once

A.M.P.

## A FORTNIGHT IN MAY



After many meetings with Radyr & Morganstown Association over the past year, the Radyr Festival was about to begin. I won't mention each event but as all will know, they were many and varied over two weeks.

Our thanks as a local Committee for George Thomas Hospice Care go to the people of Radyr and Morganstown for their generosity through events, raffle tickets and bucket collections. WE had many events, donating all their takings to us which was more than we expected.

Our thanks go to MGY for sponsoring the back page of the Festival Programme and also to Radyr Golf Club.

The Committee of Radyr & Morganstown Association, together with our Committee worked incredibly hard to make the grand total of £4,350. We even benefited latterly from the Jubilee festivities when the people of Llwyn Drysgol donated a further £125. from their street party, making £4,475. This, I can assure you, will be much needed and well implemented by George Thomas Hospice Care.

**Pam Williams**

## A TRIP TO REMEMBER

On Saturday, 2nd June, 23 excited scouts and 5 leaders clambered aboard two mini-buses and set off for the Blackwell Adventure in Birmingham for five days of fun, adventure, activities and good old-fashioned scout traditions.

After pitching camp in the sunshine everyone tucked into the most delicious chicken curry. Then the activities started – go-cart racing and grass sledging. (Sledging at speed down a giant hill assisted only by gravity). I'm not sure who laughed more – the scouts taking part or the leaders watching.

Sunday unfortunately brought rain but did it 'dampen' spirits – NO! After devouring a full English breakfast everyone set off for more exciting activities. These were to be the second largest zip wire in Britain and High All aboard. (Thirty feet up and wearing a helmet and a full body harness. Four scouts needed to support each other while leaning backwards off a small platform). This tested both nerve and skill. The afternoon saw more rain, but no moans or groans or complaints. Each

patrol set about making puppets and putting on a show for the leaders. We were entertained with scenes from Harry Potter, Britain's Got Talent, Leaders at Camp and a Jubilee show. We too were going to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Our marquee was soon decked out in bunting, balloons and paper chains and a good old fashioned afternoon tea was served with cakes, cucumber sandwiches and cups of tea. After playing games in the 'dry room' to warm up and dry out, we went back to camp to devour Paprika Pork and play board games. It was lovely for the leaders to sit back and watch and listen to both boys and girls of different ages just joining in and having fun the old fashioned way with no inhibitions.

Monday – no rain – hurray! After eggy bread and cereal, we set off again for our morning activities the one they had all been waiting for – the 3G Swing (the serious adrenaline rush! The scouts were hauled into the air in pairs whilst strapped to the swing via a harness and wearing a helmet. When they were in the air they had to release a pull cord and swing

through the air at high speed overcoming any fears of heights or speed!) And crate stacking. (The scouts had to work well together to stack the crates underneath them as they got higher. This tested not only balance but agility and teamwork skills). The courage and determination shown by all scouts as they decided their fate was tremendous. In the afternoon we went for a hike – no scout camp would be complete without one! The hike was extremely picturesque walking beside the Tardebigge canal. Then back to camp for more activities – indoor wall climbing or tree trek (the scouts were harnessed up to a pulley system that enabled them to navigate safely around a course of scramble nets, wobbly bridges, vine walks and then another zip wire). Then back to camp for fish and chips. This was possibly my favourite evening, sitting around a camp fire watching the scouts whittling making marshmallow sticks or pea shooters. As it grew dusk we climbed the hill and watched the beacon being lit for the Jubilee. Penknives away and time for marshmallows on the fire and patrol skits (comedy sketches) and then time for a night wide game again just like a hike - no camp would be complete without a camp night wide game!

We spent the day at The Think Tank in Birmingham on Tuesday which proved to be a great success. The evening saw a little bit of rain, but the scouts didn't mind swimming in an outdoor heated pool in the rain – it just seemed to add to the enjoyment.

Wednesday morning came around too soon and everyone set about packing away and by mid-day we were on our way home. When asked best bits of camp it was a unanimous decision – the 3G Swing!

Last year's camp was a very modern scout camp. This year a little more traditional with a modern twist – tents, outdoor cooking, marshmallows and camp fires and of course there was the 3G Swing! Many thanks to David and Mark for organising such a fantastic camp again. Thank you to Owen and Rhys our young adult leaders and many thanks to all 23 scouts that attended for making it such a pleasure to be with you. Again year after year it never ceases to amaze me at the determination and courage shown by our scouts. Many of them faced their own person fears or anxieties over the five days whether it had been fear of heights or being away from home for the first time or even eating something new. Or coping in the rain. So they must all be very proud of any personal goals they achieved.

*I can't wait to see what we do next year!*

**Simba**



## RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S COLUMNS

Radyr & Morganstown Community Council, The Old Church Rooms, Park Rd., Radyr, Cardiff, CF15 8DF.  
Tel: 029 2084 2213. E-Mail: [clerk@radyr.org.uk](mailto:clerk@radyr.org.uk)  
Clerk/Clerc: Helena Fox

Apart from the miserable weather, the things that occupied most of my time since the last issue of the Radyr Chain were the Jubilee events held over that first weekend in June. Elsewhere in this issue is a report by Cllr Mike Diment who led the Jubilee Committee and I would like to thank him for the huge amount of work he put into the project. There was a lot to plan and coordinate and between R&MCC, Radyr Golf Club and Clare Barnett at Radyr Youth Centre and we were delighted with the weekend and the Prom Concert in particular. I was very pleased to have received a grant of £4750 from the Big Lottery which covered the cost of the impressive professional stage and sound system. We were also grateful to receive £400 from the Lower Machen Festival for promoting community engagement with music, £150 from the Blakemore Foundation through Spar and £50 from Pugh's towards the cost of the children's tea party. Last issue I told you about the new members of the Community Council and you can find their contact details on our website at [www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk). Cllr Tyrone Davies was elected Chairman for a second term and Cllr David Silver is the Vice Chairman. Our web pages also have copies of all the council's minutes and dates of future meetings.

A few years ago a skateboard park was installed by Cardiff Council in the Moundfield and it has been a great success. We have been approached by a group of young people who would like a BMX track. In case you don't know, BMX stands for bicycle motocross and involves riding a push bike over obstacles. It became an Olympic sport in 2008. R&MCC is always keen to support young people's ideas, particularly when they involve a group effort towards a community benefit. As you may know, there is a plan by Cardiff Council to install two Archimedes screws to generate electricity at Radyr Weir. The development will also rebuild the fish ladder and is an opportunity to improve the community facilities there. There is already a BMX area that young people have made out of the existing landscape and we support the idea of improving this at the same time. Cllr Rod McKerlich will be leading on this as both a Community and Cardiff Councillor.

As many of you know, the Community Council recently bought part of Radyr Woods to ensure and preserve its community use. As part of our care for the woods a dangerous beech tree has recently been felled as part of our management agreement with Cadw who are helping us preserve the Bronze Age burnt mound.

In June the Community Council held a joint meeting with the Radyr and Morganstown Association to discuss greater participation in the community. This was a very well-attended meeting with many positive suggestions and opinions expressed. Both organisations are now distilling suggestions before acting on them.

**Helena Fox - Clerk to R&MCC**

## IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF PILGRIMS

The R&M Association will be taking part in the Civic Trust's "Open Doors" month once again this year. They have asked Allan Cook to lead a walk of the Danescourt end of the parish.

The walk looks at the growth of the Mathew family of Radyr and their influence on the Pilgrimage route from Llandaff to Penrhy. It also looks at the growth of the first two hamlets in the parish; the development of roads and the creation of the Radyr Chain and toll cottage. St. John's Church will be opened for the event.

The walk will take place on Sunday, 16th September. Those interested should meet in the car park outside the Radyr Court Inn at 2.30pm. The circular walk of approximately two miles is along relatively easy footpaths and will take about two and a half hours.

## BORED WITH WINTER MONTHS? COME AND JOIN

### Radyr and Morganstown Indoor mixed bowls club

(lads and lasses)

2012/13 season starts on 19th September

We meet at Morganstown Village Hall  
Two sessions on Wednesdays and Saturdays  
Afternoon 2 – 6pm and evening 6 – 10pm

But you can choose when you come, no obligation

We have friendly matches with other clubs, competitions,

Special afternoons and evenings, fun sessions  
BUT MAINLY JUST TO ENJOY OURSELVES  
YOU DO NOT NEED PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Or any special gear until you decide its for you  
(no age barriers)



Don't stay at home and be miserable, come and learn a new skill and laugh at the same time – you never know YOU could be our next **CHAMPION!**

**INTERESTED?** Contact our secretary, Jerry Bray  
029 2084 3387 email: [jerrybray4@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jerrybray4@tiscali.co.uk)  
or simply wander down to the Village Hall and be captivated!

## JOTTINGS FROM THE R&M ASSOCIATION

The last meeting of the Association on 18th June was held jointly with the R&M Community Council and looked at Volunteering. It was really well attended and there was a lot of discussion (in groups) on the underlying issues. We have had a look at all the suggestions made and come up with the following initial set of actions that we think should be taken:

1. Pass findings re communications in R&M to the Webteam for consideration.
2. Consider setting up a Facebook page for the RMA.
3. Update the publication 'What is there to do in R&M?' and set in place a mechanism for its regular update. Review the distribution network of the publication and/or promote it more.
4. Consider additional public Noticeboards and what could be put on them.
5. Set up meetings with the Head Teachers of all three R&M schools to review Community involvement.
6. As above, but with the Youth centre.
7. Consider resurrecting the Youth Forum (as initiated by Marion Drake). It was noted that the R&MCC is already working with youths on the matter of the location of a BMX track and a more general and on-going Youth Forum could arise from that action.
8. Work together with the new Library to promote them as a pivot of Community Information.
9. Develop a marketing plan to promote RMA and R&MCC awareness and understanding of the roles and responsibilities.
10. Speak to organisations individually about their future, how they can be promoted etc – the theme being taking further the discussion at the joint meeting. Stress the need for the involvement of families.
11. Consider insurance possibilities and assistance to organisations in Health & Safety, Disability legislation and CRB checks matters etc.
12. Pass findings re Festival to the Festival Committee.

We will be discussing this list with the Community Council over the next few

weeks, but you will see that the emphasis is on promoting both the Association and the Community Council (many people do not know we exist or what we do) as well as helping existing organisations to prosper.

On another matter, we will once again be taking part in the Civic Trust for Wales's "Open Doors" month, repeating the walk that took place during the May Festival. On Sunday 16th September, Allan Cook will lead a walk looking at the Danescourt end of the Parish. He will show how the Mathew family grew into being the Lords of the Manor of Radyr and their involvement in the Pilgrimage to Penrhys in the Rhondda. The walk will look at Radyr Court, St John's Church - which will be specially opened for the occasion - the two early hamlets within the Parish, toll roads and Rachel's cabin. The walk will start in the car park outside the Radyr Court pub in Danescourt at 2.30 p.m. It is a relatively easy walk of about two miles on footpaths and will take a leisurely two to two and a half hours.

If you missed the Festival walk, don't miss this one!

The next meeting of the Association will be on Monday, 3rd September at 7.30pm in the Old Church Rooms when the speaker will be Jill Jones of BBC Crimewatch. If you would like to become a member of the R&M Association (there is no charge for membership and you will receive our regular two-monthly Newsletter), or would like to hear more about Association activities, contact the Secretary, Nick Hawkins, (029 2084 2561 or [rma@radyr.org.uk](mailto:rma@radyr.org.uk)) or have a look at our web pages on [www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk).

## ROTARY IN RADYR

The Rotary calendar begins in July so at the end of June President Eric Blackwell (left) handed the reins over to Stephen Brennan. In a year that's raised money for Ty Hafan Children's Hospice, Friends of Guiding in Radyr, Rotary International Polio Eradication campaign and The George Thomas Hospice and made donations to Aberystwyth Flood Appeal, Women's Aid, Cardiff Food Bank and Dyfrig House Hostel, Past President Eric can feel proud of our achievements.

Two of our members Gwen and Stan Elsworthy have had a couple of busy

months. In May, Stan ran the Cardiff 5km fun run organised by the Llanishen Rotary Club. He ran a very respectable time and raised money for the Global Eradication of Polio. At the beginning of June, they were at the Abergavenny Steam, Veteran and Vintage Rally organised by the Abergavenny Rotary Club showing Gwen's beloved Morris Minor.

Also on June 23rd they spent the day at Radyr Library raising awareness for the club and Rotary. At all these events Gwen and Stan promote Rotaract (ages 18-30), Interact (ages 12-18) and Rotakids (ages up to 12) which are Rotary initiatives for younger people, allowing them the opportunity to organise and participate in community-based projects both locally and internationally. Gwen and Stan are in charge of Rotaract for the South Wales District, something that they are passionate about and are doing excellent work in.

### Upcoming club evenings of note

**Tuesday 7th August** – Dr Ralph Vaughan – "In memory of Queen Victoria".

**Tuesday 11th September** – Dr Drew Richardson – "The History of Cardiff Castle".

**Tuesday 2nd October** – "The Jubilee Sailing Trust".

Details of both will be soon be on our website

[www.cardiffwestrotaryclub.wordpress.com](http://www.cardiffwestrotaryclub.wordpress.com) as are our other club evenings or you can email [sec.cardiffwestrotary@gmail.com](mailto:sec.cardiffwestrotary@gmail.com) for further details.

## THE TAFF TRAIL CLUB

If you walk/run/cycle along the Taff Trail and would like a meeting place, perhaps you would like to join the Taff Trail Club, based at the Diamond Ground, Forest Farm Road.

For £6.00 a year you will have the right to use the car park, changing rooms, showers and toilets. A family (parent/s + children under 16) can join for £10.00.

By joining NOW you will be members till September 2013 and the opportunity to enjoy the trail over the Summer.

To join or for more detail/information, phone 07985 174 997.

## CARDIFF HARLEQUINS OPENS DOORS TO SPORTING & SOCIAL ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER

The Diamond Sports Ground on Forest Farm Road in Whitchurch is welcoming new members to take part in a range of sporting and social activities, from rugby and cricket to running and Pétanque.

"It always surprises us to hear some local people were unaware, until very recently, of the existence of the sporting and social facilities available at the ground" says club president, Richard Pexton.

The ground, home to Cardiff Harlequins RFC, has attracted rugby players from all over Cardiff, including Blues player Rhys Patchell and Welsh women's captain, Rachel Taylor. Set in an idyllic location alongside the River Taff and adjacent to the Country Park, the club hopes locals will get involved in its wide-range of activities.

The men's rugby club is keen to attract players who can help in its attempt to stay or even improve on its promotion to Division 3 of the WRU SWALEC National Leagues. In an exciting last game of the season, a home win against also promoted club Talywain gave the Quins the title of Champions of Division 4 East. Both teams were equal on points and number of games won but the Quins took the title for having scored more tries during the season.

The women's senior team continues to nurture young talent with members including under-20s Welsh stars Jo Jones, Cerys Ballett and Ffion Elen. For any girl from school Year 8 and above who is interested in playing rugby, take a look at the website at [www.quinsgirlsrugby.co.uk](http://www.quinsgirlsrugby.co.uk) for information.

The club also hosts junior (Welsh medium) rugby, lacrosse and running as well as some more unusual activities such as the French boules game Pétanque. The running club meets on Tuesdays at 6:30pm and Thursdays at 6pm. Come and join for a good work-out! Anyone can play Pétanque and there's no running involved, so come down on a Tuesday after 7:30pm to give it a go.

Two teams have been entered into Division 3 of the Welsh Pétanque Association Leagues and are playing this summer.

More info at  
[www.clwbpetanquecwins.co.uk](http://www.clwbpetanquecwins.co.uk)

The ground also has a Clubhouse which is the envy of many, with three separate bars and two function rooms which are



available for parties and special occasions. This facility is only a ten minute walk from the railway station and footbridge at Radyr, down-river along the Taff Trail.

As Richard Pexton says "The club would be truly proud to be at the heart of the local community both in a sporting and social sense. We look forward to welcoming you".

The Diamond Ground, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 7JH

### Radyr, Morganstown and District Gardening Club

It would be an understatement to say that, so far, this year has not been the easiest for Gardeners. The high rainfall and lack of sunshine and warmth has meant that many flowers and crops have not given of their best and we can only hope for an improvement in the autumn to give a decent show in the garden.

However, Garden Club members enjoyed a dry day on Wednesday 4th July visiting the historic garden of the University of Bristol Goldney Hall of Residence in the morning and the University Botanic Gardens in the afternoon.

Bristol University, through past benefactors, is custodian of a number of properties which have gardens of historic interest, the jewel in the crown being the grade 2 listed Goldney House garden. Thomas Goldney III (1696 – 1768) the son of a wealthy Bristol Merchant and himself an entrepreneur inherited the estate in Clifton from his father in 1731. He took an active interest in the development and planting of the garden and set about transforming the garden into an "Arcadian Wilderness" dotted with notable buildings which act as focal points; the highlight is the subterranean grotto. Our knowledgeable and enthusiastic guide for the tour set the garden in both its historical and geographical context and introduced us to each of the features as we walked around with surprises at every turn. The tour culminated in the descent into the Grotto, an amazing cavern with several unique features and decorated with

minerals, shells and corals. This is one of the few complete ornamental grottos surviving intact and has Grade I listing. Because Goldney House is a Hall of Residence in use throughout the year the garden has very limited opening for the public and the Club was privileged to be one of the few groups to be given a conducted tour this year.

After lunch at the Bristol Harbourside we moved on to the Botanic Garden and a tour by two very knowledgeable volunteer guides. The Botanic Garden has only been on its present site for 6 years although the garden has been in existence for many years and provides an educational and research facility for the university. The curator, Nick Wray, has spoken to the Club on two occasions the second being about the garden and its relocation so it was interesting to see what has been achieved over the past 6 years. Among its many facets the garden demonstrates the relationship between plants and pollinators, plants and climate, plants and location and in particular those specific to the Bristol area such as the Avon Gorge. The afternoon passed all too quickly and all agreed that both gardens are well worth a further visit.

Our thanks go to the University staff for organising and providing us with a enjoyable and informative day.

Our forthcoming programme for September – November Programme has now been put together :

**September 12th** - *Glamorgan Heritage Coast and Dunraven Gardens, an illustrated talk by Helen Mills.*

**October 10th** - *A Core History of Apples an illustrated talk by a local Pomologist (speaker to be confirmed)*

**November 14th** - *Christmas Trees a talk by John Hunt relating his experiences of commercial "farming" and marketing of Christmas trees.*

Meetings are open to all and take place on the second Wednesday of each month from September to April (with the exception of December) with illustrated talks and demonstrations. Some speakers bring examples of the plants they talk about and others bring plants for sale.

All meetings (apart from visits) are at the New School Rooms, Heol Isaf starting at 7.30pm and are followed by refreshments. We hope that there is something for everyone and look forward to meeting you.

Please see Village notice boards and Radyr web site ([www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk)) for programme details and any changes or contact our Chairman - Richard Gregory (029 20842084)