

#### THE RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN ASSOCIATION

The Queen's Award

President: Kevin Brennan MP
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**Nick Hawkins** 

## **NEWSLETTER TO MEMBERS – September 2017**

## **Parking on Station Road**

Will parking between Station Road and the Station - plus the surrounding streets - ever get sorted out? The extension to the Station car park is now open but that has not stopped people parking in the adjacent roads, like the bottom half of Kings Road. The Co-op is about to open (with 15 staff and just one allocated parking space at the back) and no-one seems to have any vision as to how the shopkeepers and the commuters will coexist in the future in parking terms.

This is a problem that is not going to go away. In fact it will get worse as the houses in Plasdwr come on stream. We don't have any simple answers to the question and we feel that no-one else has either. We will raise this as an issue at our next General Meeting on 25th September. If you have any views on the issue, come to the meeting or get in touch with the Secretary, contact details below.

#### Festival and Charity 2018

This year's charity is the Alzheimer's Society and two meetings have already been held with their fund raiser, Cheryl George, to start the planning for 2018. This disease has affected many



raiser, Cheryl George, to start the planning for 2018. This disease has affected many members of our community and their families and impacts not only on the elderly, but their children and grandchildren. To raise money successfully during their year, the charity needs to have as many local fundraisers as possible. The Society have already stated that they would like to set up a local fundraising group. Any member of the community who would like to help this organisation in fund raising and making others aware of the aims of the Society should let David Silver or Cheryl George (07484510012) know.

Planning has started for the Festival fortnight in May. We will have a mixture of the regular, and hopefully some brand new events. There is a Festival Committee meeting on 21st September where we hope to agree the theme for the Festival and firm up on the events to be held. Work is well advanced for the Arts Events. The two lunch time concerts on the two Fridays of the Festival are already confirmed - a young Welsh harpist from the Royal College in London and the now customary visit from the Welsh Academy. Other concerts, theatre and a literary event - possibly the launch of a book on cooking - are still under discussion.

#### Film Club

This season's films were selected by the members of our mailing list. We are continually looking to increase



our audience numbers and hope that you will be tempted to join us. The shows are held on the fourth Thursday of the month in the Old Church Rooms at 7.30pm. Tickets to the films are available from Enerchi in the village and online at Ticketsource.

Our first film is on Thursday 28th September at the Old Church Rooms. "Their Finest" is a comedy drama about a British film crew's attempts to boost morale during World War II by making a propaganda film after the Blitzkrieg. Starring

Gemma Arterton and Bill Nighy, and directed by Lone Scherfig (An Education). The film-within-a-film structure is a neat device, which mirrors the tea-swilling stoicism of the blitz spirit in the brisk pulled-together professionalism of the movie set. Arterton brings a grace and dignity to the role, which suggests reserves of courage in her character that the screenplay only hints at. The humour is fortified by sterling work from Bill Nighy, deliciously vain as ageing star Ambrose Hilliard and gloriously hammy in character as boozy Uncle Frank.

The October film on 26th is "Miss Sloane" which is set in the high-stakes world of political power-brokers. Elizabeth Sloane (Jessica Chastain) is the most sought after and formidable lobbyist in D.C., but when taking on the most powerful opponent of her career, she finds winning may come at too high a price. "Miss Sloane" is a talky, tense political thriller, full of verbal sparring and fiery monologues. The film is an addictive fantasy, satisfyingly snappy even in its absurdity, and something no Chastain fan should miss.

November rounds the season off with "Churchill" on Thursday 23rd. This is a ticking-clock thriller following Winston Churchill in the 96 hours before D-Day. Brian Cox gives a brilliant performance that is not a superficial Churchill impersonation — though the famous brandy-thickened baritone and lugubrious bearing are both impeccably reproduced — but a restlessly smart interrogation of the statesman's image, and how the man behind it may or may not have measured up.



We have been looking at developing the Film Club. We would welcome more input into our planning group. Would you be interested in a season of films with a defined theme? Is there a Group in the community who would like to liaise with us to show films?

If you would like to go on our mailing list, or have any suggestions on the development of the Club please write to us at rmfilmclub@btinternet.com

## **Christmas Tree Lighting**



Children Meeting Santa

This popular annual event takes place this year on **Friday 8**<sup>th</sup> **December** and we are busy planning the details. We are considering making changes to the lighting of the trees in Morganstown, Lychgate Gardens and Windsor Park and will let everyone know what is happening very soon. The main lighting in Station Road will take place as usual and we hope to be able to announce the celebrity soon. We are now taking bookings for people and groups who would like to have a stall at the Fete in Station Road. We don't make a charge for that, but you will need to bring your own gazebo. Contact the Secretary (see below) if you are interested or would like more information or would like to help with the organisation of the event.

## Update on the Co-op, Station Rd.

Construction is currently underway at the site, which will be handed over to the retail contractors mid September in preparation for their planned launch on October 19th. There will be a team of approximately fifteen colleagues, many of whom either live in Radyr or have grown up there. They are really excited to be opening a store in Radyr and look forward to working closely with the local community.

## Dan y Bryn woods (update from R&MCC)

Radyr and Morganstown Community Council commissioned a tree survey of the woods early this year. There were many recommendations in the survey and in the management plan that came with it. The urgent tree work was done straightaway. All the other work was put into abeyance until the birds had finished nesting. Sometime this Autumn, the Cardiff Conservation Volunteers will do some coppicing and a tree surgeon will start a programme of tree works, with the aim of creating a well-managed wood. Material to mend the benches is on order. We'd also like to make the main path mobility scooter and pram friendly but that will have to be a project for the future.

## RMA Meeting 25th September

The next General Meeting of the Association is on Monday 25th September in the OCR at 7.30pm, Our guest speaker will be Ian Thomas, Chief Executive of Age Cymru. His talk is

Ian was The Alzheimer's Society first Welsh Director from 2005 - 2009.

entitled "The role of Age Cymru in creating an age friendly Wales".

As well as the talk we are happy to talk about any matter which is of concern to our members. All that we ask is that, if possible, we have an idea in advance of topics that will be raised. Contact details are given below.

# **Change of Name for Morganstown**

There is a move to change the official Welsh name of Morganstown from Treforgan to Pentre Poeth. We believe this originates from the Welsh Language Commissioner and has been discussed by Community Councillors. Pentre Poeth has been around for quite some time, since Judge Watkin Powell who was born in Radyr and lived for most of his life in the two villages, found it some years ago.

Historian Allan Cook, chair of the Radyr and Morganstown Local History Society said, "I am very doubtful of the name Pentre Poeth. The few written references could apply to Morganstown or they could apply to a group of houses, now completely lost, which grew up around the Pentyrch Ironworks. This "village" is shown on 19th century maps of the area and in photographs taken from, the now dismantled, viaduct across the Taff Vale. This "village" could justify the name Pentre Poeth (Hot Village) much more than the residential and non-industrial Morgantown. I would like to see a great deal more work done on Morganstown/Treforgan/ Pentre Poeth before the Community Council spend money on changing the signage in the two villages yet again."

It might be a good idea if somebody actually asked the community involved what they think.

# **Eisteddfod Fundraising**

The Radyr and Garth Fundraising Committee are busy raising the £35,000 towards next summer's National Eisteddfod to be held in Cardiff Bay. Several events are planned including a Concert of Christmas Music in December and a dinner to celebrate the Welsh Patron Saint of Lovers, Santes Dwynwen, in January. The next event to be held in the Old Church Rooms on 20th of October is a launch of her latest book of verse by poet Gwyneth Lewis. Gwyneth is best known as the poet whose work blazes out at you from the front of the Millennium Centre in the Bay. This will be her first book of verse in Welsh in ten years.

If you would like to comment on any aspect of this Newsletter or require further information, either email the Secretary, Nick Hawkins (rma@radyr.org.uk), or the Chairman, David Silver (rmachair@radyr.org.uk).