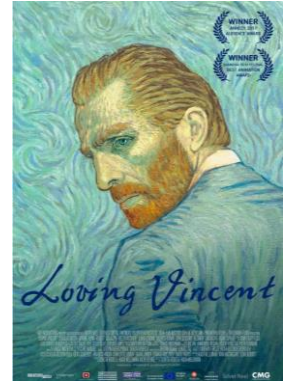


NEWSLETTER TO MEMBERS – March 2018

Welcome to our regular Newsletter.

FILM CLUB

Let's start with the most immediate item. On **22nd March at 8:00pm** in the OCR we will be showing "Loving Vincent". The film is a labour of love by Dorota Kobiela and Hugh Welchman who turn van Gogh's work into an unusual kind of biopic. Using tens of thousands of oil paintings commissioned from scores of artists, the filmmakers transform famous works of modern art into a hypnotic and beguiling cartoon. *The reason for the later start than usual is that **we are inviting Film Club members to arrive around 7:15pm** to have a chat about the way the Film Club is working – are we choosing the right films, should we show films over the summer, what else would like the Film Club to do, etc? And, to provide a thank-you for the consultation, we will provide free refreshments!* Not a member yet? Just come along to the consultation and we will sign you up – and give you a free drink anyway! Tickets (£4) can be purchased online at TicketSource, or locally at Ener chi in Station Road, and from Nick Hawkins or Allan Cook.



FESTIVAL 2018

The Festival Programme is now complete and has gone to the printers; it will be distributed with the April edition of the Radyr Chain. The Festival website <http://www.rmfestival.org.uk> is currently being populated with events, photos, competition details, ticket bookings etc and is virtually complete. Please have a look at it in advance of receiving your hard copy; you will shortly be able to book tickets for all our events online.

Organisers of events are still planning the final details but all the basic work has been completed. I would like to thank all members of the Festival Committee for the work they have done so far, and Nick Hawkins, for putting the programme together. We now have the hard work of running all the events. If anyone is available to help us set up events such as the 'Concert in the Parc' (on 12th May) or the 'Fete' (on 5th May) please let us know on rma@radyr.org.uk.

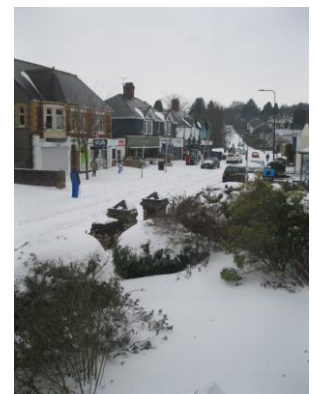


This is the last Newsletter before the May Festival so we would encourage you to attend as many events as possible, buy some raffle tickets to support the charity (Alzheimer's Society Cymru) and enjoy yourselves. If you have any ideas for Festival 2019, let us know at the email address above.

We must add that the R&M Community Council have again agreed to sponsor the 'Parade' and the 'Concert in the Parc' (our major youth events) and Redrow have agreed to sponsor the Festival Website. We are extremely grateful to both organisations for providing the background finance to allow us to continue promoting this fantastic Festival.

THE SNOW

How did you cope with the recent snow? The last time we had we had anything like the same amount was in February 1982, when we were actually cut off for quite a few days. This time we were able to provide some information about schools and the local shops via the R&M Website and our Facebook and Twitter sites. Spar won the Station Road prize for being open the longest in difficult circumstances but all the shops served us well despite running desperately short of essential supplies for a period. It is not quite clear why people suddenly run out of bread and milk (notably) at such times, particularly when the Met Office had been warning us of the impact of 'The Beast from the East' for some days. Take note in future! By the way, if you have any comments on the way things were handled, let us know. It is always worth learning from experience. And, as a final point, beware of the potholes left in the road by the snow – we trust they will be repaired quickly.



CHARITIES

We are delighted to note the continuing success of this year's Charity, Alzheimer's Society Cymru. Having formed a fund raising group, they have already held a number of successful social events and the total raised so far from all sources is around £9000 – and this is before we have even started our Festival activities! We wish the group every success in their endeavours and ask that you give them your continued support.



We are also delighted to say we have just chosen our Charity for the next year, 2018/19. It is 'Action for Children', a Charity formed in 1869 and originally called 'National Children's Home'. They are active in the Cardiff area, have a need for money, and have some local Radyr contacts. We look forward to working with them in the future. Do get in touch if you think you would like to be involved.



PLANNING and PLASDWR

We haven't got a lot to say about Plasdŵr just at the moment. Everyone is aware of the problem of Heavy Goods Vehicles using Heol Isaf illegally to service the site. There are details on the Noticeboard of the R&M Website as to how to report such vehicles. Everyone we have spoken is appalled at the 'laying waste' of all the hedgerows at the end of Radyr and along the Llantrisant Road. We suspect that everything will be landscaped in time but, given that the hedgerows taken out are probably over 100 years old, it will not look tidy in our lifetime!

We did have a meeting with Plasdŵr representatives a short while ago and were introduced to Katie Powis, Plasdŵr's new community liaison manager. If you do have questions to ask on any aspect of Plasdŵr, do contact her on Katie.Powis@plasdwr.co.uk. You can also subscribe to Plasdŵr's, regular Newsletter by emailing getintouch@plasdwr.co.uk. We will try to keep you informed on any local meetings they are holding.

NAT WEST

We are a bit shocked to hear that R&M NW customers, having originally been moved to the Llandaff Branch, are now being told that that branch is closing and all the customers will be moved to Canton. On top of that they are proposing to move the Thursday morning mobile away from Radyr, possibly to Insole Court. Do NW actually want to retain any R&M customers? (A number of local organisations – including the Golf Club – still have an account with NW). We are suggesting that they might use the OCR car park in future. We will let you know how that goes.

RADYR WOODS

Let's talk about something more pleasant. Despite the time of the year, traditionally a quiet period for woodlands, there has been much activity recently in the Radyr Woods Community Nature Area, and more is planned. This follows an extensive survey undertaken last year of the trees in the whole of R&M. It identified numerous actions needed to ensure the health and safety of our valuable community woodlands. Teams of 20 or more Cardiff Conservation Volunteers have spent two



Sundays in the last month coppicing the large number of small trees that have avoided this important management strategy for a number of decades. The numerous neat piles of stacked trimmings stand testament to their enthusiasm! In former times the new saplings encouraged by this technique would, after about seven years' growth, have been used to make hurdles, charcoal and firewood. The effective reduction in leaf cover will encourage a healthy and varied return of the undergrowth flora and fauna. Two massive ancient beech trees have been identified as seriously diseased and unsafe and will be felled soon to remove any risk of uncontrolled collapse. The young beech trees starting out under their canopy will be able to replace them in a manner typical of the natural life cycle of the beech tree.

Easy access concerns have resulted in the purchase by the Community Council of a wheelchair friendly picnic bench which will be installed in the open green field area in the woods. This is scheduled for the early spring.

GDPR

A boring but essential bit of briefing. EU rules (yes, we are still subject to those) mean that a new regime for holding and managing personal data comes into force on 25th May. It is called the 'General Data Protection Regulation'. We are not unduly affected as an organisation but we will shortly be putting out a message to all our members stating how we hold and look after the information we hold (normally, just an email address) and what we use it for (sending you Newsletters like this). It will also set out how to get your name taken off our circulation list (just tell us, although we will be sorry to see you go).

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be our **AGM on 16th April**. As usual, it will not be a very formal meeting and we will make things more palatable by offering a free drink and nibbles after the proceedings. We do have some vacancies on the Association's Executive Committee and we would love to have some new members. **If you are Community-minded and have ideas as to what the Association should do to make R&M a great place to live and work, do consider joining us on the Committee.** We do not meet very frequently and your input will be hugely valuable. If you want to know more, do have a chat with us. Contact details below.

And, finally, if you would like to comment on any aspect of this Newsletter or require further information, then either email the Secretary, Nick Hawkins (rma@radyr.org.uk), or the Chairman, David Silver (rmachair@radyr.org.uk). **We are particularly interested in whether you find these Newsletters useful.** We started producing them in November 2011 and feedback has been slight, but positive. However, we would love to know from more members if they are truly useful – do they cover the right subjects, what else you would like to hear about, etc. Do let us know.