

NEWSLETTER TO MEMBERS – November 2019

Welcome to our regular Newsletter. Let us start with a few updates from our last newsletter.

PLASDŴR AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

To put it bluntly, we regret to say that (and most residents will have noticed) things have not improved. We had understood from a meeting we had with Plasdŵr that the traffic light restrictions would relatively short lived but their latest statement (which is on our website but can also be accessed directly [using this link](#)) makes it clear that the road works around Heol Isaf and Llantrisant Road will continue until 'summer 2020'. We despair.

As mentioned in the last Newsletter, Katie Powis, the Community Liaison Manager for Plasdŵr, is happy to respond if people wish to contact her direct (07741 194199 or katie.powis@plasdwr.co.uk). She also attends the Plasdŵr 'Drop in sessions'. The last one was in October and we will let you know when others are scheduled. In the meantime, we can suggest no other way forward than to suggest people contact Councillors and Cardiff Council to make your displeasure clear. There have been quite a number of complaints so far and you may like to look at our website to see a very relevant comment from Cllr Rod McKerlich. Also, if you have a Facebook account, do access the many comments on the [R&M Hub](#).

IDEAS FOR IMPROVING R&M

We reported on the ideas that you had submitted to us and we had passed on to the Community Council. They added your ideas to ones received via other routes and came up with a [composite list](#) which has been submitted to Cardiff Council. The comment on the Community Council website is that 'Our next step is to meet with Cardiff Council officials to discuss the 41 ideas - and to press for the adoption of as many of them as possible - as projects to be funded either with Section 106 money, or via Cardiff's mainstream fund'.

BUS PASSES

Don't forget that, if you have a bus pass, **it will need to be renewed before the end of the year**. Existing passes will expire on 31st December 2019. If you want to know more about this, then look at this [Transport for Wales web page](#). We have been told that 600,000 passes are due for renewal so there are some delays to issuing the new passes. So don't delay doing the renewal or you may be inconvenienced.

And now for some new news...

ALIENS IN STATION ROAD?

Are you intrigued as to what this installation in Station Road is for? We asked the people in McColl's and they said they knew nothing about it – and hadn't been consulted even though it is outside the shop. We can, though, tell you that it is part of a planned roll-out of 'Nextbike' across Cardiff – rentable bikes which are picked up and dropped off at a number of locations. You can read about the scheme and even register as a user by [following this link](#). However, be warned, the system has had a few problems recently as you can read about in [this Wales on Line report](#).

Time will tell how popular it is here.



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

We would like to pass our congratulations to the organisers of this year's Remembrance Sunday Parade. It was a brilliant crisp day and the turnout by the local community was as good as ever. We have placed a [report on our website](#) giving full details.



HELEN LLOYD JONES

Also on our website is a report on Helen Lloyd Jones [running a marathon in New York](#). We make no apology for repeating this here as it was a fantastic achievement in support of her own charity, 'Both Parents Matter'. If you would like to know more about the charity, do get in touch with her (02920 842279) and she would be delighted with any further sponsorship, which can be made via www.viginmoneygiving.com/HelenLloydJones1



Some social events...

FILM CLUB

The next film, and the last in our autumn season is *Tolkien* (PG) which we will be showing on **Thursday, 28th November** in the Old Church Rooms starting at 7:30pm, ticket price £4. The film is the story of J.R.R. Tolkien, showing how his early life experiences later inspire the budding author to write the classic fantasy novels "The Hobbit" and "The Lord of the Rings". Tickets are available from [TicketSource](#), and also from ener-chi in Station Road, Nick Hawkins (2084 2561) and Allan Cook (2084 3176). Don't forget, we now have **a supply of cushions for the chairs**.



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

This year's lighting ceremony will be on Friday 6th December – weather permitting – and we are delighted to report that Welsh actress Leona Vaughan will be with us to turn on the lights. Leona is a Welsh actress from Caerphilly, and a proud patron of Tenovus Cancer Care, this year's sponsored charity. She has attended the Mark Jermin Stage School and starred in CBBC's television series 'Wolfblood' as Jana and in 'Stella' (written by Ruth Jones) as Cerys.



The three main trees will be lit as usual by the Festival Queen and her attendants. Pupils from Gwaelod y Garth Primary School will be singing carols at the lighting of the tree in Morganstown, Comprehensive School pupils will be singing in Lychgate Gardens, and both Primary School pupils in Windsor Gardens. The Station Road lights will be lit by Leona at 7:00pm precisely and Santa will arrive shortly afterwards to talk to the young children. The stalls will be open from 6:00pm selling all sorts of goodies – crafts, gifts, jewellery and much more. Burgers, hot dogs and mulled wine will be available at the R&M Association stall and the R&M WI will be dispensing tea and coffee. Cicchetti, Slice and Radyr Tap will also be open. We are also planning on having a special photo booth, a snow machine and bouncy castle if we can fit them in! Come along and enjoy the festivities, arranged jointly between the R&M Association and the R&M Community Council. It is a lovely way to start the Christmas Season and entrance is free.

FESTIVAL 2020

Plans for the Festival are now taking shape. On the Bank Holiday Friday, we are holding a 75th VE anniversary Concert in the Parc. Besides the regular school performances and bands we have booked a group called Kitty's Music who will perform 1940's songs during the afternoon. We are also trying to get a roaming saxophone group who will be dressed in period costume and will play whilst other groups set up. The concert will probably continue until 7pm this year.



Performers have been booked for both lunchtime concerts and the Choir concert on the first Saturday. Cube will also be providing Jazz on Friday 15th May. We have booked Lisa Fearn, who runs the Pumpkin Patch Kitchen and Garden near Carmarthen for our cookery event on 13th May. She has written two books and we expect another sell out. We will be having an Open Gardens again this year. If you are interested in showing your garden please contact Gill Evans.

In all, we have 31 events on the programme, though this may still change slightly. There is a Festival Committee meeting on 20th November where we hope virtually to finalise the programme.

SPEED LIMITS – A WARNING!

Some of you might have noticed that a new speed limit has appeared between the Ty Nant and Ynys Bridge. Up until now there was a 40mph limit sign just after the Ty Nant heading north, but this has been taken down. The 30mph sign still exists at Pugh's heading south, although a new 30mph sign has appeared on the Ynys Bridge. The road between the Ynys Bridge and the Ty Nant heading south seems to be in some kind of no-man's land. No indication has been given as to if and when the new regulation will come into force. Be aware of this anomaly.

COMMUNITY WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

More and more people are viewing the R&M Hub on both Facebook and Twitter. We are currently getting over 50,000 views of our posts per month. In May, during the Festival this increased to almost 100,000 views.

The number of followers we have on each platform is still increasing every month. We now have nearly 1100 followers on Twitter and almost 2000 Followers on Facebook. Both of these have increased by 20% in the last 12 months.

Besides promoting local events, we try to keep people informed about local news.

Items on social media appear speedily or as they happen. The community website gives a permanent record of things that have happened in the past, often greater detail of news items and a view of events taking place in the future. We believe they work hand in hand to provide the information pertinent to residents. If there is anything you think is missing, please let us know.

We are still working to improve the community website having only taken over responsibility for running it in June. We are pleased to say that, having taken over after a period of inactivity, we are already back to previous levels of use by the community. However, we are very keen to get more News Items on the website so, if you have any ideas or articles, please send them to us at web-team@radyr.org.uk

NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We are delighted to announce that we have recruited two new members to the Association's organising Committee – Richard Wales and Ade Currie. They are already helping us with the planning of both the forthcoming Christmas event and next year's Festival. With their help, we will be looking at new things to do and new ways of involving the R&M Community.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL VACANCY

We also understand a vacancy has also occurred on the R&M Community Council. Here is the [relevant Notice](#). Contact the Community Council (clerk@radyr.wales or 029 2084 2213) if you would like further details.

NEXT MEETING

The next General Meeting of the Association is on **Monday, 18th November** when Dr Barry McDonnell, a Reader in Cardiovascular Physiology at Cardiff Metropolitan University will be talking to us about Cardiovascular Health. He knows all there is to know about how to protect your heart (at any age) and what to do if you have had problems. So, if you value your health or want to know how to help others, come along to this fascinating talk.

The meeting is also an opportunity to talk about or comment on any other local matters. We hope to see you there.



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).