

# Treforgan WI

**AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2016**

The sun has been smiling on Treforgan WI this summer. In August members enjoyed a beautiful day walking in the Brecon Beacons. We set out from the Mountain Centre and the views were stunning and everyone basked in a real sense of achievement by the end of the day.

September has seen us venture both far, to Malvern and Madresfield and closer to home. Madresfield was fascinating; the owners, the Lygon family, had eclectic collections from all over the world to see.

Following on from an informative talk at our August meeting, members visited the Royal Mint to find out more about how our money is made.

Our October meeting is "Lost for Words", a talk from Alan Badminton and November will see us exploring "Landscapes and Landmarks" with Artist and Designer, Gayle Rogers. Treforgan WI meets at 1.15pm on the third Thursday of the month at Morganstown Village Hall.

Visitors welcome. For more information, look us up on Facebook.



## Remembering World War One

After a highly successful and much praised exhibition to commemorate the Great War in the summer of 2015, the R&M World War One Committee are organising another weekend of events this October.

Thursday, 13 October at 7.30pm and Friday, 14 October at 3pm, Old Church Rooms.

Two showings of the film *The Battle of the Somme*. This black and white film has been expertly restored by the Imperial War Museum and looks stunning on the large screen in the OCR. All are welcome and entry is free.

In 1919 the then Parish Council organised a welcome-home event for Radyr and Morganstown residents who'd fought in the war, one of those organising the event was Harald Dahl, who had newly moved into Ty Mynydd House.



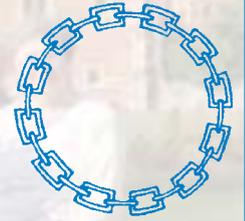
We have copies of the programme for this event. There must have been quite a number of men returning from the war as the Council bought 100 silver Vesta (match) cases to give as presents

with the logo Radyr Grateful and the returnees' initials, at the incredible price of two shillings (modern 10p) each.

The WWI Committee have tried to reproduce this event as closely as

*continued on page 5*

# RADYR CHAIN



Number 226

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown

October 2016

## Radyr Golf Club Champions



Two of our young members were very successful in our recent Club Championship.  
**Alice Thomas**, aged 14, with a handicap of 6 became the youngest ever Ladies Champion.  
**Osian Morris**, also with a handicap of 6, won the Junior Championship



I have just returned from the International Youth Exchange Conference in Helsinki. There I made contact with Rotary District Youth Exchange Officers from all over the world.

If you are between 15 and 17 years old next summer, I can arrange a Family to Family Exchange. You would spend up to three weeks with a family abroad and then entertain your new friend in your own home. Other programmes cater for young

*"I had a brilliant time"*



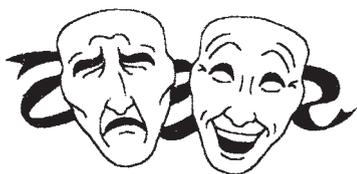
**Travel the world and discover yourself through Rotary Youth Exchange**

people up to the age of 30. Read about all our programmes at [www.youthexchange.org.uk](http://www.youthexchange.org.uk) and register your interest for next summer. If you register now you are more likely to get your trip of a lifetime.

You can contact me for further information [ye1150@btinternet.com](mailto:ye1150@btinternet.com)

**Eric Blackwell**  
District 1150 Youth Exchange Officer

## 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)

Wed 28 Sept 09:30 Pilates Class. Beginner Level Pilates Class. At Radyr Guide Hall. *Every Wednesday*. Contact Alyson on 07548185319 for further details or just turn up. Cost:- £6 per class

Mon 10 Oct 19:30 Radyr and Morganstown WI "Medieval Medicines and Herbs" is the topic for our October meeting. New members welcome.

Wed 12 Oct 10:30 Tenovus Coffee Morning at Radyr Golf Club. Tickets £2 . Please ring 20843108. Cakes,plants,tombola, raffles, etc All welcome

Wed 12 Oct 19:00 RCTS - The Railway Society. A 1960s Journey around the M25 with my Father's Slides. OCR Details - Peter Fortune 2084 3090

Wed 12 Oct 19:30 Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club. "A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF A FRUIT FARM" an illustrated talk by Scott Lewis. New School Rooms, Christ Church, Heol Isaf. Meetings are open to all, visitors and new members welcomed. Details - Richard Gregory 029 20842084

Thur 13 Oct 19:30 The Battle of the Somme. A film about this historic battle from the Imperial War Museum, shot in black and white and restored to its pristine glory. Presented by the R&M WW1 Committee in association with the R&M Association and the Film Club. Old Church Rooms. Entry Free.

Sat 15 Oct 19:30 DEATH IN THE HILLS. Christ Church, Radyr. A programme of choral and instrumental music by Elgar, Vaughan Williams, Respighi, Rutter and Parry to Commemorate the Great War. Given by the R&M Choral Society, Soloists and Orchestra. Tickets £5 from Ener-chi Station Road, Radyr, or Choral Society members. Presented by the R&M WW1 Committee.

Wed 19 Oct 10:45 Diamond Pilates Course for pelvic health. This is a 6 week course focussing on issues caused by pelvic dysfunction, eg stress

incontinence, post natal, prolapse, prostate pre & post surgery etc. The class will be 1hr a week. Spaces are limited Please email me for further details and to register your interest. [Alyjb267@sky.com](mailto:Alyjb267@sky.com)

Thur 27 Oct 19:30 RMA FILM NIGHT. We will be showing "L'étudiante et Monsieur Henri", a fantastic French film with English subtitles. Tickets £4 from ener-chi in Station Road; Allan Cook, 2084 3176; Nick Hawkins, 2084 2561 and on-line at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/rma](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/rma). Old Church Rooms. Doors open at 19:10.

Sat 5 Nov 10:00 CHARITIES' FAIR AND COFFEE MORNING at RADYR METHODIST CHURCH. You are invited to our Annual Coffee Morning and Charities' Fair. Support the many Charities by buying Christmas cards, Scout stamps, gifts etc while you chat to friends old and new and enjoy a cuppa too! This is always a wonderful event.

Wed 9 Nov 19:00 RCTS South Wales - The Railway Society. The Robert Whitfield Collection : UK Steam 1948-58. OCR - Details Peter Fortune 2084 3090

Wed 9 Nov 19:30 Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club. "HOW DID WALES BECOME GREEN?" an illustrated talk by Dr.Christopher Cleal. New School Rooms, Christ Church, Heol Isaf. Meetings are open to all, visitors and new members welcomed. Details - Richard Gregory 029 20842084

Thur 10 Nov 10:30 NSPCC coffee morning. NSPCC Xmas Coffee morning at Radyr Golf Club

Mon 14 Nov 19:30 Radyr and Morganstown WI. Come along and find out about "Women War Artists", our speaker topic for this month.

New members warmly welcomed.

Mon 21 Nov 19:30 RMA GENERAL MEETING. Come along to the R&M Association meeting in the Old Church Rooms to hear what is happening in your community. Kwai Lee and Wayne Duffin of Chase de Vere will be talking about Investment Planning. All Welcome. Contact 2084 2561 or [rma@radyr.org.uk](mailto:rma@radyr.org.uk) for further details.

Thur 24 Nov 19:30 RMA FILM NIGHT. We will be showing "Our Kind of Traitor ", a John Le Carre Thriller movie. Tickets £4 from ener-chi in Station Road; Allan Cook, 2084 3176; Nick Hawkins, 2084 2561 and on-line at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/rma](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/rma). Old Church Rooms. Doors open at 19:10.

## DO YOU WISH TO SEND GREETINGS TO FAMILY & FRIENDS THIS CHRISTMAS?

### Why not use Scout Christmas Post 2016.

Once again, Radyr Scouts are providing the opportunity for you to send Christmas Greetings through the Scout Post to family and friends living in the **Cardiff and Vale areas**. If you wish to support scouting in Radyr and Morganstown, please purchase your scout post stamps from the local area outlets:

**Pugh's Garden Centre, Morganstown**  
**P'Zazz Hair Designers, Castle Court, Caer Graig**  
**Solo Hair & Beauty, 1a Springfield Gardens, Morganstown**  
**Radyr Library, Park Road**  
**Ener-chi, Station Road**  
**Section Leaders and Members of Radyr Scout Group**

We are grateful to these local businesses that support scouting in Radyr and Morganstown by selling stamps during such a busy period.

Can I thank all those people who have, in previous years, supported Scout Christmas Post.

By purchasing your stamps locally, you are providing the Radyr scout group with its largest source of fund raising during the year.

Leaflets giving information on Scout Post 2016 will be delivered to your door and stamps will be available at the local outlets from the start of November.

Please note that scout post greetings will only be delivered to the **Cardiff and Vale areas** indicated on the scout post 2016 leaflet.

The last date for posting this year is **Monday, 5 December, 2016.**

Please use the post boxes provided at the above outlets and the scout hall. The price of the scout post stamp is 25p again this year.

**Be prepared to post early and save money by using Scout Post, 2016.**

JBT

Letters, articles, reports and other contributions are invited and should be submitted by November 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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**Hon. Treasurer** - Ellis Jenkins, (to whom donations may be sent; they will be gratefully acknowledged) 62 Windsor Avenue, Radyr, CF15 8BY

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## Remembering WW1

... from back cover

possible including the menu. Children from the two Primary Schools will sing some of the popular songs of the period. This will take place on Friday, 14 October at 12.30pm at the Old Church Rooms.

The big event of this weekend will take place on Saturday, 15 October at 7.30pm in Christ Church. The Radyr & Morganstown Choral Society, with an orchestra and soloists under the baton of Peter Esswood, will present a programme under the title Death on the Hills. The programme will consist of choral and orchestral music by Elgar, Vaughan Williams, Respighi, Rutter and Hubert Parry to commemorate the War.

Tickets at the special price of £5. from ener-chi, Station Road, Radyr

### RADYR FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**Venue:** The New School Rooms, Heol Isaf, Radyr

**Time:** Tuesdays 12.15-2pm

**Membership Fee:** £20.00

**Lunch:** £6.50. **Talk only:** £2.00

#### Autumn Programme 2016

11 October – Women War Artists  
Rosemary Challoner

18 October – From the Egg to the Race,  
Jim Hooper

25 October – Half Term

1 November – Trip to Bath &  
Underground Tunnels

8 November – Aspects of America  
Rosemary Scadden

15 November – It shouldn't happen  
to a tour guide, Roy Gee

22 November –

My mother was a cook,  
My father was a butler  
Yvonne Rees

29 November – The Belarus  
Experience, Val Cousins

6 December – Trip to the Royal Mint  
13 – Christmas Party

Telephone Number  
2084 2461 or 20552610



Radyr Parish  
Music Group  
presents

## Gilbert and Sullivan's

# The Gondoliers



At our first meeting of the new season, our new Producer Linda Cleak and new Music Director Charlie Rennie took the company through Gilbert's usual convoluted plot of unrequited love and mistaken identity. RPMG will be performing this G&S favourite at the Bishop of Llandaff High School from 22nd to 25th February 2017.

As ever the company has an enthusiastic bunch of players but we are always happy to see new members. Auditions for principal parts have already commenced but we still need more candidates for these roles. Entry to the chorus is without audition so if you have ever fancied singing in a full on musical production with costumes, lights and orchestra, please check our web site [rpmgweb.weebly.com](http://rpmgweb.weebly.com).

This year we would be particularly pleased to recruit additional back stage staff. Helping with props, make up, stage crew etc. Our most urgent need is for a Wardrobe Person, willing to co-ordinate costume measuring and ordering. Experienced assistance is available but we do need someone to take charge.

If you would like to join us, as a principal, in the chorus or back stage, please contact Judith, our Secretary on [music@radyr.org.uk](mailto:music@radyr.org.uk) or just drop in at one of our Friday evening rehearsals held in the New School Rooms at Christchurch.

In addition, this year we are working on an exciting new venture with Cathays Brass, a 15 piece brass ensemble in Cardiff. We are joining forces to present 'Tarantara Tzing Boom', an evening of Gilbert & Sullivan music. This will be at **Morganstown Village Hall at 7:30 on Saturday 10th December**. Tickets are available either by phone on 02920 842 995 or online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/rpmg-with-cathays-brass](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/rpmg-with-cathays-brass). Profits from the evening will be going to Rubicon in Noah's Ark Children's Hospital For Wales who do wonderful work providing dance and movement for children in hospital. This should be an entertaining evening so please book it in your diary now!

MC

Charity Concert in aid of RUBICON DANCE  
Dance and Music in Noah's Ark Children's Hospital

# Tarantara, Tzing Boom!

An evening of music by Gilbert & Sullivan  
from Radyr Parish Music Group and Cathays Brass

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at 7:30pm  
In Morganstown Village Hall  
Tickets: £8.00

Tickets from Maggie Roberts on 029 2084 2995  
or  
[www.ticketsource.co.uk/rpmg-with-cathays-brass](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/rpmg-with-cathays-brass)  
Licensed bar

# Radyr & Morganstown Community Council

## Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan



We welcome two new members to R&MCC: Cllr Michael Deem and Cllr Huw Jones. They were both co-opted to represent Radyr South but, like all R&MCC members, work on behalf of the whole of R&M. We also say goodbye to Julia Hallinan and thank her for her service. If you are interested in serving the community on the council, keep a look out for a Notice of Vacancy in the next week or so and/or contact Helena Fox.

The OCR is up and running at its usual full strength following the

renovation project and the start of a new school term. We are enjoying the new facilities and hope that you all do too.

As many will know, R&MCC has been working with the community to commemorate WW1 through its Heritage Lottery Funded project: R&M: At Home and at War. We are ending this two-year project with a lunch and concert. The lunch will replicate, as best we are able, the meal held in 1919 by the then council to celebrate peace. The concert will take place on

Saturday October 15 in Christ Church with music by the R&M Choral Society and the programme features pieces written during the war. We hope you can come and join us. Helena Fox

Clerk and Proper Officer.  
The Old Church Rooms,  
Park Road, Radyr, Cardiff CF15  
8DF

Tel. 029 2084 2213  
Email : clerk@radyr.org.uk

## Radyr & Morganstown District Gardening Club

Summer has almost come to an end and it has been a busy one in the garden and on the allotment; the autumn colours are now beginning to show and the time is approaching for tidying the garden and preparing for next spring. The memory of the Club visit to Coughton Court in June, enjoyed by all those who came along is fading as we now turn attention towards next season, browsing the plant and bulb catalogues.

We have an interesting and stimulating programme of talks for 2016/2017 ranging from particular plants species, through gardens and parks to the trials, tribulations and satisfaction in organising the local NGS Open Gardens programme. Our winter programme will be published in the "Chain" on the events page of the Radyr website and village notice boards.

We started the programme on 14 September when we welcomed back Sheena Crossley. Sheena gave us an entertaining talk on "Herbs"

touching on their historic use, medicinal and culinary and how they got their common names. She then went on to discuss the many herbs available today, their cultivation, propagation and modern day uses, all illustrated with samples.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 12 October when we have a talk by Scott Lewis entitled "A Year in the Life of a Fruit Farm" and on 9th November we will be joined by Dr. Christopher Cleal with a talk entitled "How did Wales become Green?"

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.

New Members and Visitors will be made very welcome. We share an interest in gardens, plants and generally growing things. So come along – you will be very welcome.

All meetings (apart from visits) are at the New School Rooms, Heol Isaf starting at 7.30pm and are followed by refreshments.

Please see village notice boards and

Radyr website ([www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk)) for programme details and any changes or contact any committee member or our Chairman – Richard Gregory (029 2084 2084).

*We hope to see you at our next meeting.*

### Memories of Roald Dahl

I read with interest Matthew White's account in the August edition of the Radyr Chain regarding his meeting with Roald Dahl and was reminded that I too met the great man, albeit much more fleetingly!

It was around 1986 pushing my two young children in their double buggy when a car stopped in Woodfield Avenue and the driver was none other than Roald Dahl. His passenger in the brown coloured Saab was I think his daughter Tessa and they asked directions for St. John's Church. I was able to direct him to the church in Danescourt and remember thinking this is a moment I will enjoy telling my girls about when they began to learn about his work.

Lynn Masefield

# News from Radyr and Morganstown WI

Having spent a good deal of my working life in schools, I always think of September as the start of a new year. The buzz in the hall on the eve of the September meeting reflected this – everyone greeting and chatting after the summer break and a sense of anticipation of the activities to come throughout the coming months.

Our speak for September was Wendy Maher of The Will Consultancy Limited in Pontypridd. Her talk “Writing Wills” was an earnest and somewhat sombre topic for our opening meeting, but Wendy provided a great deal of useful and thought provoking information which we all must address and review regularly.

To move on to lighter matters, on Friday, 23 September, a lunch at Nant Nantgarw has been arranged and plans are now in place for our birthday celebration in October. This year, our WI will be 59 years. Our Committee has given the format for the celebration much thought as we will not be celebrating at Radyr Golf Club this year. We are, therefore, going to have a celebratory Afternoon Tea presented by “Tealicious Vintage Teas” at Christ Church New School Rooms on Thursday, 20 October – 2.30-4pm. Dress code for this event is “garden party posh” including hats. This latter item is strongly suggested but not obligatory.

On Thursday, 10 November, a trip to the New Theatre to the matinee performance of “Breakfast at Tiffany’s” will take place. This classic tale of Holly Golightly, written by Truman Capote and memorably portrayed by Audrey Hepburn in the 1961 film is being given a new lease of life as a stage play with music. It will be interesting to see how it compares with the iconic film.

Two evens in October arranged by the Glamorgan Federation of Women’s Institutes include the Autumn Walk at Brynmenyn (a six

mile moderate walk) on Friday, 7 October and Afternoon Bridge at Ystradowen Village Hall on Saturday, 22 October.

Our meeting October takes place on Monday, 10 October. The Speaker is Adrienne Jones and she will talk about Medieval Medicines and Herbs.

All our ancillary groups : book clubs, walking group, genealogy and craft have their Autumn programmes in place so the Autumn term is now up and running.

Prior to the end of the September meeting, Anne Marie reminded us all of the annual “Shoebox” appeal, which many members support. Mention of this appeal serves as a timely reminder that once the Autumn term for schools and organisations is underway, Christmas is not so far away. Should you wish to partake in the many and varied activities of the WI throughout the Autumn and Winter months, just come along to a meeting. Visitors are always welcome.

For more information our email address is mail to : [radyrmorganstownwi@yahoo.com](mailto:radyrmorganstownwi@yahoo.com) or contact our President, Enid Brooker on 029 2084 3412.

L.J.H.

## History Society

There is a change to the published programme for the next meeting of the History Society on October 20th at 7.30.

Dr Oliver Davis, lead archaeologist on the excavations at Caerau Hillfort, will talk about his work and the fort.

One of the best preserved hill forts in south Wales, it is surrounded by housing and the A4232. It occupies the western tip of an extensive ridge-top plateau in the western suburbs of Caerau and Ely, Cardiff. Caerau Hillfort is the third largest Iron Age hillfort in Glamorgan enclosing 5.1 hectares (about the size of four football pitches). Recent excavations by Channel Four’s Time Team showed that occupation started about 600BC and lasted, probably not continuously, into the 3rd century AD.

The meeting on 17th of November will be given a talk by Chris Dale on the Roman town of Ephesus, now in Turkey.

Meetings take place at 7.30 p.m. In the Old Church Rooms. All are welcome.



## CHAIN COOKERY CORNER

### CREAMY BEETROOT SOUP

A stunning colour, this delicious and highly nutritious beetroot soup is the perfect dish when you want to serve something a little different.

Serves 6.

1 onion chopped  
450g (1lb) raw beetroot, peeled and chopped  
2 celery sticks chopped  
1/2 red pepper chopped  
115g (4oz) mushrooms chopped  
1 large cooking apple chopped  
25g (1oz) butter  
30ml (2tbs) sunflower oil  
2 litres (3 1/2 pints) stock or water  
5ml (1tsp) cumin seeds  
Pinch dried thyme  
1 large bay leaf  
Lemon juice – to taste  
Salt and freshly ground pepper

For garnish :

150ml (1/4 pint) sour cream  
Few sprigs fresh dill

Place all chopped veg and apple in large pan  
Add butter, oil and 45ml (3 tbs) stock  
Cover and cook gently for about 15 minutes  
Stir in cumin seeds and cook for 1 minute  
Add remaining stock, thyme, bay leaf, lemon juice and seasoning to taste  
Bring to boil, cover pan, lower heat to simmer  
Cook for approximately 30 minutes  
Strain veg and reserve liquid  
Process veg in processor until smooth  
Return to pan, add reserved stock and reheat  
Check seasoning

To serve, garnish each bowl with swirls of sour cream  
Top with a few springs of dill.

A.M.P.

## FILM CLUB

By the time that the two films covered in this article hit the screen in the Old Church Rooms the new projection and sound equipment should be fully up and running. Over the summer, the Film Club has been given a very expensive new screen, projection and sound equipment. Always adventurous and eager to break new ground the second of this autumn's films to be shown on Thursday, 27 October is in French with English subtitles.

**L'Étudiante Et Monsieur Henri.**  
(The Student and Monsieur Henri).



An elderly curmudgeon lets out a room in his large apartment rent-free to a young student on condition that she does everything in her power to ruin his son's marriage. If that sounds like the premise for a farce, it's because that is precisely how this movie started out in real life. Ivan Calberac directs this adaptation of his own stage comedy, a hit on the Paris boulevard scene.

The November film to be shown on 24 November takes us back to more familiar ground. **Our Kind of**



**Traitor**, based on the novel by John Le Carré, stars Damien Lewis and Ewan McGregor amongst a star studded cast. The Guardian said of it "The insecurity of the modern world has brought John Le Carré back out of the shadows. Following Tinker Tailor, A Most Wanted Man and TV's The Night Manager, this movie finds the author trading shamelessly on western suspicions about Mother Russia, tossing troubled couple Naomie Harris and Ewan McGregor into the geopolitical cut-and-thrust after they befriend vodka-gulping heavy Stellan Skarsgård during a make-or-break Moroccan getaway".

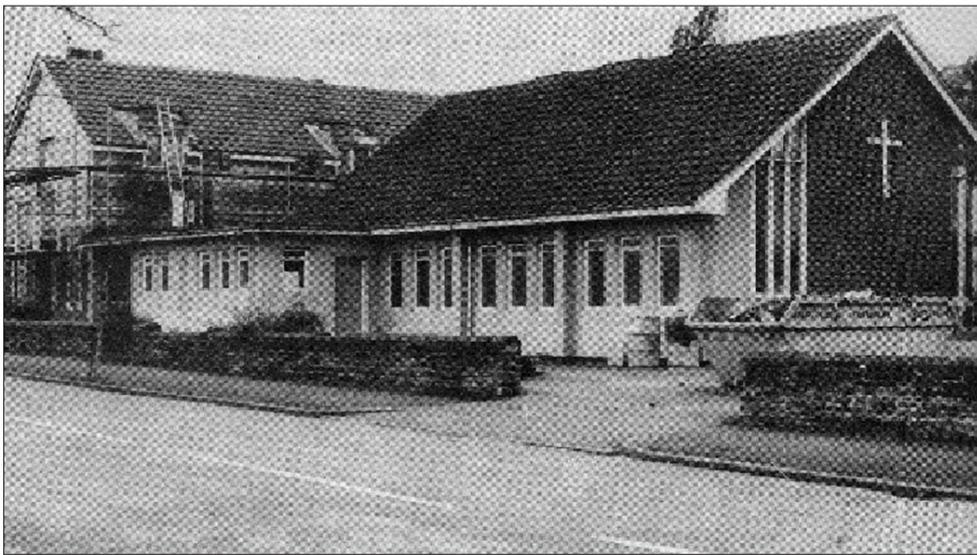
All films start at 7.30pm and cost £4. bookable from ener-chi, Station Road, Radyr, Nick Hawkins 2084 2561, Allan Cook 2084 3176 or online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/rma](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/rma) and any remaining tickets can be booked on the door. For those who haven't been before, although the film club is not licensed, audience members are welcome to bring their own drinks, alcoholic or otherwise and delicious Joe's Mumbles ice cream is on sale.



## ALL CHANGE RADYR



Radyr Post Office 1981



Methodist Church rebuild 1981



The first pedestrian crossing in Radyr - 1981

### Radyr Post Office

After 30 years of service in the community, Mr and Mrs Brown have retired from Radyr Post Office. When they took over this Office in 1951 it was the Telephone Exchange as well as a Post Office counter. The Telephone Exchange was manned by five operators, three in the daytime and one at night with a weekend cover. The mail was sorted by five postmen in a building at the end of the garden.

The new Post Master is Mr Brian Miles, who has lived in Radyr for five years. As a bank official with Midland Bank he must be ideal for the job along with his wife Carol.

Alteration work is being carried out on the building to modernise the Post Office and Newsagency.

### Radyr Methodist Church

The impressive rebuild of the Methodist Church is now well on completion at the bottom of Windsor Road.

The congregation over the last ten years has grown with the main hall able to seat around 140 people. The roof on the old church has been raised creating a first floor with two school rooms and a toilet.

The total cost of the redevelopment is around £50,000 with grants and fund raising helping to finance the cost.

It is hoped to use the facilities for community functions as well as providing more room for the church to increase its witness in Radyr.

### Pedestrian Crossing – Heol Isaf

The first pedestrian crossing has been installed in Radyr.

The increase in traffic through the villages has made this essential, but the siting of the crossing at the bottom of Windsor Road, must be open to question.

Certainly the young lady crossing the road in the photograph has little regard for it!

# OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

(Christmas Shoe Boxes)

Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest children's project, run by the Christian relief and development organisation, Samaritan's Purse. It aims to meet critical needs of victims of war, poverty, disease and natural disaster. For many children it is their only Christmas present.

Each year we have a collection of shoe boxes at Christ Church and this year our Shoe Box Sunday is on **20th November**.

The aim is to fill a shoe box with items suitable for the age you have chosen. There are full guidelines on the leaflet. We now have flat pack shoe boxes available at 50p. These are available at Christ Church, St. John's Church and from me.

Last year we had a brilliant collection from you with a total of 273 wonderfully packed boxes.

If anyone is interested in joining in this project, please contact me.

Anne-Marie Phillips, Ty Gwyn, 1a Kings Road. Tel. 2084 2526.

**Charities Fair & Coffee morning**  
at  
**Radyr Methodist Church**  
**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November**  
**10am - 12 noon**

**entrance £1.50**  
(Refreshments included)

Come and support various charities - Christmas cards, Scout stamps, Traidcraft gifts and more.

## Acapela "Gigs"

Most of us look towards Cardiff for our entertainment but a little lateral thinking suggests that there may be equally good entertainment at venues easier to reach and with easier parking.

One such venue is Acapela in Pentyrch. Acapela is an old chapel on the corner opposite the Lewis Arms in the centre of Pentyrch. The name plays with the musical term and the Welsh word for chapel. Its owners, music producer Hywel Wigley and his international harpist wife, Catrin Finch have converted this Grade II listed chapel into a delightful music venue. Acapela consists of a music recording studio, a 180 seater music venue and a delightful bar and coffee area.

Over the coming months they will be presenting Beverly Craven, Kiki Dee and Carmio Luggeri, The Epstein, Amy Wadge and Luke Jackson, The



Police Academy (tribute) and the Philip Clout Quartet, amongst others. On average they present between five and ten "gigs" a month so it's well worth looking at their website [www.acapela.co.uk](http://www.acapela.co.uk) or contacting their box office, 08448 700 887.

A final thought – parking in Pentyrch is easy in the evening.



## Jason Mohammad talks to the RMA

On 19th September, local resident Jason Mohammad gave a great talk to the Association. He spoke about how he got into broadcasting, the lucky breaks he has on the way and the amazing people he has met. He also said how much he enjoys living in Radyr and what a fantastic community we have here! He had also told us earlier that, as he did not drink, he didn't want the usual bottle of whisky but, if we could run to it, a new Maserati would be very welcome. At the end of his talk the Secretary duly presented him with a model of a Maserati!

The Association's next meeting is on Monday, 21st November in the OCR starting at 7:30pm. We have two speakers, Kwai Lee and Wayne Duffin of Chase de Vere. They will be talking about Investment



Planning. There are many financial issues that affect people at different times of their lives – saving for and buying a house, the cost of having children; if you have spare money how you should invest it, planning for old age, inheritance planning, etc. Come along and quiz them. All welcome.

## Winter Sunshine

The Radyr & Morganstown Association will be bringing Swansea's Lighthouse Theatre to Morganstown Village Hall on Thursday, 8 December in Shirley Valentine. The original play by Willy Russell was made into an award winning film in 1989 starring Pauline Collins as Shirley. Shirley is a 42 year old Liverpoolian whose marriage has gone stale. When her friend, Jane, wins a holiday on a Greek island she persuades Shirley to go with her. The trouble is that Jane immediately abandons Shirley for a holiday romance.

Left alone, Shirley starts to fall in love with Greece, its food and its way of life. She meets Costas, the owner of a nearby taverna, who introduces her to things she's always wanted to do, like drink wine on the beach. He also takes her around some of the islands in his brother's boat.

When Jane returns she is surprised to find that Shirley too is having a holiday romance. But is Shirley in love with Costas or is it just the Greek way of life



that fascinates her? Will she return to grey and wet Liverpool? This delightful romantic comedy by one of the greatest writers of the second half of the twentieth century – Educating Rita, Blood Brothers – will introduce a great deal of sunshine to Radyr and Morganstown.

Part of a sixteen venue tour, critics have been unanimous in their praise.

“Absolutely smashing” said the New York Post and “A thrilling cheer-raising piece of theatre” said the Financial Times. Shirley Valentine is at the Morganstown Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday, 8 December. Tickets £9., £8. concessions, £4. students, bookable from ener-chi, Station Road, Radyr, Nick Hawkins 2084 2562, Allan Cook 2084 3176 or online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/rma](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/rma)

## Radyr Station

With the work on the Station nearing completion – at the time of going to press the lifts were still not usable – perhaps its a good time to look at the history of Radyr Station.

The Taff Vale Railway was built to serve the needs of the iron masters in Merthyr, it was only as the 19thc. progressed that coal became dominant. It was opened on the 8th of October 1840 between Crockherbtown (near to the present Queen Street Station) and Navigation House (Abercynon). Many of the tramways from the ironworks in the Merthyr area ended at Navigation and loaded their cargoes onto canal barges. It had two intermediate stations at Llandaff and Pontypridd. Passengers sat in carriages open from waist height, although these early trains seemed to have travelled at a good speed, taking 31 minutes from Cardiff to Pontypridd, little more than it does in 2016.

The line was built by Isambard Kingdom Brunel, who was also working on the Great Western Railway. Because of the difficulty of the terrain Brunel decided to use a narrow gauge on what he called his “crooked little line in Wales”. Brunel favoured a much wider gauge on his main lines, it was only later that the gauge he used on the TVR became the “standard gauge” throughout the UK.

Within twelve days of its opening the

Board of the TVR had decided to open another station at Pentyrch, actually Morganstown, although at the time Morganstown was a cluster of cottages known as Ty'n y Berllan or Pentre Poeth, so they decided to call the station Pentyrch Halt. Pentyrch Halt can still be seen on the opposite side of the main line behind Pugh's Garden Village. It is now a private house. Pentyrch Halt was moved to Walnut Tree Junction (Taffs Well) in 1863.

The growth in the export of coal in the second half of the 19th century put great pressure on Cardiff docks and in 1859 a branch line was opened to a new set of docks at Penarth. The point at which the Cardiff and Penarth docks lines split was called Penarth Junction, which grew to

be an important marshalling yard. A row of cottages was built near to the marshalling yard at Junction Terrace and they are the earliest houses in modern Radyr.

In 1883 a new station, the present station, was opened near to the marshalling yards with a waiting room complete with a Bible for passengers to read. It's not clear whether the new station was sited to be close to the marshalling yard or whether it was built for the convenience of “docksmen” who were starting to build large houses in Radyr. The docksmen included George Fisher who became Deputy Chairman of the TVR in 1884 and who bought a late 18thc farmhouse called Ty Mynydd which he had enlarged and gothicised.



K-class 060 'Kitson' at Radyr Station scrapped in 1926