

# RADYR CHAIN

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown



Number 182

June 2009



## FESTIVAL OFF TO A FANTASTIC START!

We hope that you enjoyed the 22nd Radyr and Morganstown Festival with over 35 events – too many! Oh well! We will look at that for next year. We have tried to cater for all tastes, ages and interests. Of the 35 events there were 15 suitable for young people – the future of our village. The two primary schools were heavily involved with many of the events from sport to art and culture. The outdoor events at the beginning of the Festival were

blessed with good weather. The "Mabinogion Parade" attracted a large crowd – "too many for the Old Church Rooms" was a comment – a nice problem to have! The hard work over the previous 10 weeks by Jane Morris and her team of helpers resulted in a spectacular event. Over 100 children dressed in traditional costumes depicting the Welsh myths and legends of the Mabinogion. There were dragons, knights, warriors, princesses and dancers, all in glorious colour led by a drum band. A big thank you to Victor of The Cougar Band, Leah and Kelly Jones and the dancing groups – Dance Angels, Nicola's School of Dance and Victoria George Veale School for their support.

The Fete was opened by J.P.R. Williams, introduced by the new Chairman of the Association, Cyril Williams, who recalled the legends (and myths) of JPR on the rugby pitch.

Dr Williams and the Festival Queen, Poppy Williams (none of them are related) with her two attendants, Elin Bird and Lucy Martin, declared the Fete open. The Festival Queen and her attendants kept a diary. Extracts are as follows

*"As we approached the Old Church Rooms we saw the Fete and met J.P.R. Williams. We visited all the stall holders; saw all the photographs-they were very good! We bought some peppermint creams from the Brownie stall – they were yummy!"*



...continued on page 5

## 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)

### JUNE

- 16 Neighbourhood Watch Meeting. Old Church Rooms. All Welcome. Come and meet the new Beat Officer PC Paul Tebbitt. 7:00 pm
- 16 PACT Meeting. Old Church Rooms. All welcome. This meeting follows on from the Neighbourhood Watch Meeting. 7:30 pm
- 17 Language & Play - An interactive play session for babies and toddlers to encourage language development through play. Includes stories, rhymes & craft activities. Radyr Library. Tel. 20842234 11:00 am
- 24 Language & Play - An interactive play session for babies and toddlers to encourage language development through play. includes stories, rhymes & craft activities. Radyr Library. Tel. 20842234 11:00 am
- 25 Radyr & Morganstown Community Council. Old Church Rooms. Clerk : 20842213 clerk@radyr.org.uk 7:30 pm
- 26 Book Club - This month the theme is weather. We are reading *Gone with the Wind*, *Love in a Cold Climate* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. Radyr Library. Tel. 20842234 7:15 pm
- 27 Councillor Rod McKerlich is holding a surgery. Radyr Library. Tel. 20842234 radyrlibrary@cardiff.gov.uk 10:00 am
- 28 Tenovus Sponsored Walk. From Cardiff Castle to Christchurch. Free Strawberry Tea for all sponsored walkers. All welcome. Please ring 20842096. 2.00 pm.
- 28 Tenovus Strawberry Tea. Lawn at Christchurch, Radyr. For tickets please ring 20842887 3.30pm

### JULY

- 1 Language & Play - An interactive play session for babies and toddlers to encourage language development through play. includes stories, rhymes & craft activities. Radyr Library. Tel. 20842234 11:00 am
- 2 R&M Local History Society. Visit to Bath and the American Museum, Claverton Manor, the only American Museum outside the USA. Why not join us? We will leave Radyr at 9 a.m. and travel to Bath. The morning will be free in Bath and the afternoon at the American Museum. Entry £6, coach £12.50. For more details contact Allan Cook on 20843176 9:00 am
- 6 Radyr and Morganstown Women's Institute. Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr. This evening is entitled "Carte Blanche". This means anything can happen but we can't tell you yet what it will be! 7:30 pm
- 8 Language & Play - An interactive play session for babies and toddlers to encour-

- age language development through play. includes stories, rhymes & craft activities. Radyr Library. Tel. 20842234 11:00 am
- 15 Language & Play - An interactive play session for babies and toddlers to encourage language development through play. includes stories, rhymes & craft activities. Radyr Library. Tel. 20842234 11:00 am
- 17 QUEST SEEKERS - From today you can join the quest seekers. Read 6 books over the summer holidays to receive stickers, prizes and a medal and certificate. For 4 - 12 year olds. Radyr Library. Tel. 20842234 2:00 pm
- 23 Radyr & Morganstown Community Council. Old Church Rooms. Clerk : 20842213 clerk@radyr.org.uk 7:30 pm
- 24 A Knights Tale - To promote this years reading scheme Sir Andrew of Castell Coch is visiting Radyr Library to teach his amazing Knight school. There will be stories, crafts and a jousting tournament. Come in fancy dress and join in the medieval adventures. Radyr Library. Tel. 20842234 10:30 am

## EDITORIAL



We apologise for the late arrival of this edition of *The Chain*; this is due to technical problems beyond our control. We hope that the inclusion of photographs of various events during the recent Festival will prove worth the wait.

Congratulations to The Festival Committee and to all the organisers of the events. Without their hard work the Festival would not take place. Particular thanks and congratulations to Jane Morris for her wonderful patience and hard work in organising the children's costumes for the Carnival Parade. It was a brilliant start to the occasion and involved hours of preparation.

A resident of Brynteg, Alan A. Cohen, has written and published an interesting and thought-provoking book entitled "*Science and Spirit Reconciled*" that may be of interest to some readers.

## WEBSITE NEWS

[www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk)  
[www.morganstown.org.uk](http://www.morganstown.org.uk)  
 email: [web-team@radyr.org.uk](mailto:web-team@radyr.org.uk)

Eagle-eyed readers will have noticed the reminder at the foot of each page about the Radyr & Morganstown community web site. This web site was re-designed last year and is giving great service to the people in this area.

So how does it all happen? The webmaster is a local resident, Robin Williams, who although professionally involved in the website business, gives his services free of charge. The modest running costs of the site (hosing the address etc.) are met by the Community Council and the whole process is supported and overseen by the Web Team of local volunteers.

Although the Team is independent, it receives help – for which we are very grateful – from both the Community Council and the Radyr & Morganstown Association.

The Web Team is always aiming to increase the use of the web site by all parts of the community, so here are a few of the things you can do.

### Add details of your local club, society, business or organisation to the web site.

Just send us an email giving information for publication. If you have your own web site, give its address (URL). If you want help or advice, please just email us (address above) and we will help.

### Public information about a forthcoming event.

Go to the online diary where you can get your password and add your own events. If you want help, just send us an email.

### Provide a news article for the web about a recent event in Radyr and Morganstown (or involving R&M People).

We like to publish news items and pictures about recent events. If you would like to write an article for web publication, please send us an email to say what you have in mind and one of the team will advise.

### Have your say about a local issue.

Visit the Soapbox at:  
<http://www.radyr.org.uk/forum/index.php> and join in an existing discussion, or start a new one.

### Help us to run the web site.

We are always pleased to hear from people who would like to help run the site. Maybe you can contribute as part of the web team – no technical expertise is needed. Here's a list of the team and our roles:

<http://radyr.org.uk/homepages/radyrwebteam.php>

If you find anything factually incorrect or have any other problem with the web site, please let us know by email [web-team@radyr.org.uk](mailto:web-team@radyr.org.uk)

Letters, articles, reports and other contributions are invited and should be submitted by July 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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# FESTIVAL 2009

*from front cover...*

The opening was followed by a depiction of a scene from the Mabinogion and supported by the dance groups. A large number of stalls, side shows and exhibitions were kept busy for the rest of the afternoon. Those who attended the "Happening", organised by Keith John, (who also built the knight with the scouts) had a preview of the photograph exhibition and the children's paintings – over 100 entries this year and also enjoyed the jazz group "Cube". *"In the evening Poppy, Elin and I (being Lucy), were taken to the City of Cardiff Melingriffith Brass Band Concert. We thought the band were excellent. We enjoyed listening to the soprano singer."*

Sunday brought the Radyr Rangers 7 a side football competition with a good turnout from all around Cardiff. The weather was warm, almost like a summer's day. For lovers of the outdoor a barbecue evening was arranged by the Tennis Club and this was followed by the Civic Reception laid on by our Community Council. Civic guests including the First Minister, Rhodri Morgan, our local MP, Kevin Brennan, the Patron of the Motor Neurone Disease Association, Baroness Finlay and County Councillor Rod McKerlich. The address in the church was given by Rev John Stacy-Marks MBE who is currently the Chaplain of the Youth Offenders Institute in Bristol and emphasised the necessity for all communities to be more socially aware of the needs of others.

The big day for the Festival Queen followed a very well supported Fun Run, organised by Beverley Lewis and the Primary School PTA. The winners are detailed later. Meanwhile the Association were busy erecting the Maypole for the Bryn Deri School dancers who had been rehearsing all week for this occasion. At 2.30pm the ceremony commenced with Cllr David Silver crowning the 22nd Festival Queen, Poppy Williams. *"Two of us walked out side by side with pretty, pale, pink flowers in our hair and holding a bouquet of beautiful flowers. Poppy walked in front of us holding a bouquet of gorgeous flowers. As soon as we sat down in our chairs, cloaks around our shoulders-Poppy was crowned, the 2009 Festival Queen."* The dancing began on a blustery afternoon with the ribbons taking off into a cloudy sky. All three dances were performed to perfection and followed by Radyr Primary School street dancers, Stagecoach and the Victoria George Veale Dance School. After the dancing the Queen was off to Dan y Bryn to talk with the residents, no doubt discussing the new extension plans and fund raising! *"Kevin, the Vice Chairman of LC Home gave us a tour and we talked to lots of people who live there. We liked the people!"* A quick tea and cakes at the Methodist hall, laid on by the ladies of the WI and then its off to the children's tea party at Morganstown Village Hall. *"We watched an*

*entertainer who did a diabolo trick with a grumpy lion and juggled knives whilst balancing on a rolling tube. We all enjoyed that day!"*

The next few days included, discos, cricket matches, boules, library readings, senior citizens tea party where the children from Bryn Deri entertained in grand style.

*"We were asked to draw the raffle and picked out the numbers and handed out the prizes"* Wednesday evening gave a choice of indoors or outdoors. The Radyr Wardens did their traditional conducted tour of Radyr Woods whilst Fluellen presented, "The Odd Couple" at Morganstown Village Hall. They kept the audience enthralled and amused with this fast running comedy. At the end they commented that the audience was the best they had played to all season!

A ticket sell out for the next day "Lunchtime Recital" with Chinese soprano, Sally Li and baritone, Phillip Rhodes from New Zealand. The quality of these performances was outstanding and we are extremely fortunate in attracting such talent from the Cardiff International Academy of Voice. Again it's a great thanks to Allan Cook for his contacts and organisation. He was involved again on the Friday with poetry readings from Academi. Two Welsh poets offered their own written work to a very responsive audience. A prize was offered for the number of times they referred to food – the winner – Chris Wills! It's a good job it wasn't drink!

The Tenovus quiz has been running the whole 22 years – not the same quiz master! Nick Hawkins and his team narrowly beat off Carol Anthony's team to take the prize. Nick Holmes and Chris Wills managed to keep the punters in order despite a dispute over how many litres of air the body can breathe in at any one time!

Saturday, the weather was good, yes, good enough for tennis in the morning and for listening to the Junior Cardiff City Brass Band and other rock bands with a picnic at Parc Radur. This was a first time event and we hope that those families who joined us will come again next year. The soul band, "Take Off" performed on behalf of the charity – MNDA. Although this was difficult event to organise with the Authorities, it's thanks to the residents for their support and encouragement.

The weather was still holding fair and Terry Fitzgerald and his team were busy erecting gazebos for the Sunday, "Jazz on the Patio". Over 150 people sat out for a salmon lunch listening to "Cube" led by our very own Raymond Rivron on saxophone. The wine flowed and even a few people got up for a dance and it was still daylight. This event was well oversubscribed and the organisers are scratching their heads as to how to accommodate a few more next year. *"We were asked to shake buckets. We went around all the tables talking to people who were having a lunch whilst listening to the band. A lot of*

*people put money in to our buckets. We are looking forward to another busy week."*

On the following night Terry hosted the "Race Night" where all the horses had been pre sold and were waiting eagerly in the paddock for the big start. They're off!...with the punters placing their bets on their favourite horse. Over £300 was raised that evening for the Festival Charity.

Still plenty of events during the second week...Gardeners Question Time was held in Morganstown Village Hall with a celebrity panel of garden experts – Sheena Crossley, Ivor Mace, Lyn Davies, Colin Jackson and Jim Goodwin. A number of specimens were produced and the panel gave their judgement and a prognosis. Most of the recent plant problems were put down to the cold easterly winds which have prevailed over the last few weeks. Some useful tips were passed on, but it seemed to me that so long as you water, feed, prune and talk to your plants success will be yours!

Radyr Primary swept the prizes at the Cool School Boules although the Governors and Parents of Bryn Deri took top spot. The Festival Queen had to dash from there to the Beetle Drive at the Guide Hall before formally dressing for the Concert in Christ church. The Denner Ensemble performed a number of Handel pieces on harpsichord and oboe, accompanied by a string quartet. The soloist, Hannah Grove Atherton, who was called in at the last minute to replace Sian Winstanley performed brilliantly. *"After the Beetle Drive we were taken to Heavenly Handel. We enjoyed all of the concert especially the oboe player and the harpsichord solo. His hands were moving so fast that they were blurry. The singer was also very good."*

The weather is changing and the rain is back. The History Society visit to Llancafarn to see the 15th century wall paintings and the tomb at Llantrithyd church was well attended despite the poor weather conditions. A few pints in the local rounded off an educational evening.

*"On Friday we went to the Audio Visual evening. There were lots of photographs and video of the Festival of 2008, Radyr past and present and the Festival in 2009."*

*We found the pictures of the Black Chair and The Italian Intrigue very interesting. We enjoyed seeing the photos and videos of Radyr in the past as well. Today was another day we all liked"*

The film presenters were Mick Sullivan, Edgar Gibbs and David Cargill and despite clashing with the Parish Music Group rehearsal the event was well attended.

The last weekend, and still five events to go.. *"at 11 o'clock it was the Gymkhana. It was very exciting. We enjoyed watching the races and the fancy dress competition was good. We had to judge the fancy dress competiton. It was a tough decision but in the end we gave the rosettes to our winner. We thought*

all the horses were very pretty and we enjoyed the Gymkhana a lot."

At 7.30 We were all in our seats for "Success in the City". It was a concert performed by the Radyr Parish Music Group. We had to hand out chocolate coins to the audience during two songs that were about money. We enjoyed handing out the chocolates and listening to the singing. A cheque for £4000 was handed over to the Festival Charity.

On Sunday the first thing we had to do was to launch the ducks into the river for the Duck Dash. We travelled by car to the Taff and stood in a shallow part of the river and on the count of three we poured all (550) ducks in to the river. Most bobbed off slowly towards the middle of the river. A few were caught on the rocks so we gave them a helping hand and pushed off towards the group but one duck stormed ahead of the rest. Hopefully all the ducks crossed the finishing line. It was fun!"

In the evening we attended the last event - Community Songs of Praise in Christ church. We sang lots of lovely hymns and Radyr Primary School choir sang some songs as well. We especially liked the first song about music being the language of Wales. We thought Songs of Praise was a wonderful way to end the Festival.

We all enjoyed being involved with the Festival. We went to a lot of the events which we enjoyed. We would like to thank all the people who took care of us during the Festival, especially Maggie for making the experience so enjoyable and interesting.

We would recommend to anyone who is wondering what it is like to be the Queen or an attendant - and having lots of photos taken!"

Terry Fitzgerald was awarded the Ken Innis Trophy for the most endeavour during the Festival with special mention in despatches for Jane Morris (Mabinogion Parade) and Beverley Lewis (Fun Run and Concert in the Parc).

The Festival is over for another year - many exhausted by their efforts and attendances at so many well organised events - all in a good cause for charity. Three main charities were involved - Motor Neurone Disease Association, Tenovus and NSPCC raising over £5000 during the Festival, along with other organisations who organised events. A very big thank you to the Festival committee, the MNDA Association, supporters of all the events, Cardiff County Council, Art Council for Wales, GE Healthcare, Pugh's Garden Centre, McCarthy & Stone, Cardiff Medical & Mobility, Chris's Shop, Adventure Cardiff, the churches, staff of Radyr Library and all the sponsors of Festival Draw prizes - too many to mention but listed in the appendix of winners.

The meeting for the 2010 Festival will be held on!!!

David Cargill  
Festival Chairman

## Appendix of Winners:

### PAINTING COMPETITION

Radyr Primary School  
Under 7's  
1st - Jemma Lai  
2nd - Matt Jones  
Over 7's  
1st - Tom Frost  
2nd - Anwen Govier  
Highly Commended  
Adele Miah, Laura Mia Crowder  
Jessica Matthews  
Free Painting  
Edward Williams

Bryn Deri Primary School  
Under 7's  
1st - Annabel de Graaf  
2nd - Carys Johnson  
Over 7's  
1st - Elin Crotty  
2nd - Stephen Hodgetts  
Highly Commended  
Archie Clegg, Chloe Thomas  
Lewis Richards, Holly Pedlar

### FUN RUN

Fastest Girl  
BDPS - Rebecca Latchford 27'  
RPS - Meg Cox 26' 45"

Fastest Boy  
BDPS -Rhys Gooch 21'45"  
RPS - Joseph Williams 23' 45"

Girls Year 3 - 4  
1st Katie Long 27' 45"  
2nd Ella Powell 28' 45"  
3rd Alys Booth 28' 45"

Boys Year 3 - 4  
1st Harry Owen 27'  
2nd Jay Desmond 28'  
3rd Oliver Jackson 28' 15"

Girls Year 5 - 6  
1st Meg Cox 26' 45"  
2nd Rebecca Latchford 27'  
3rd Lizzie Booth 28' 15"

Boys Year 5 - 6  
1st Rhys Gooch 21' 45"  
2nd Joseph Williams 23' 45"  
3rd Mathew Lai 25'

Girls Year 7 - 9  
1st Angharad Cole 23' 30"  
2nd Catrin Owen 25' 15"  
3rd Sophie Austin 27' 30"

Boys Year 7 - 9  
1st Jack Gooch 20' 15"  
2nd Harry Tustin 21' 30"  
3rd Nelson Johnson 22'

Girls Year 10 - 13  
1st Alice Johnston 21' 45"  
2nd Cerys Owen 29'30"  
3rd Mollie Kearns 45'

Boys Year 10 - 13  
1st Aneur Abbasi 21' 30"  
2nd Joshua Gooch 21' 30"  
3rd Adrian Delpert 22' 15"

Adult Female  
1st Julia Bennett 24' 45"  
Elaine Wharmby 26' 30"  
Jannine Bradley 27'

Adult Male  
Julian Baker 17' 32"  
Julian Carter 19'  
John Palser 19' 30"

### FESTIVAL PRIZE DRAW

	PRIZE	WINNER	DONATED BY
1st	£250 Cash	Sharon Griffiths	M.N.D.A.
2nd	Case of Wine	Glyn Nash	Doug Kear
3rd	DAB Radio	Hilary Borrow	Linda Sargent
4th	Signed Rugby Ball	John Lewis	Cardiff Blues Rugby Team
5th	Meal for Two	D.R. Kear	Latina Latina, Station Rd
6th	Dinner for Two	Barbara Sullivan	Kalla Bella, Llandaff
7th	Lunch for Two	Enid Spencer	Vale of Glamorgan Inn
8th	£25 Voucher	Anna Tanti	M&S
9th	£20 Voucher	Mrs Owen, Tonteg	W A Harris (Butchers)
10th	£25 Voucher	Pat Price	Beauty Lounge, Station Rd
11th	Basket of products	Carla Ward	Ener-Chi, Station Rd
12th	Basket of Fruit	Sam Combes	Veg Vender, Station Rd
13th	Prescript Sunglasses	Glenys John	Radyr Eyecare, Station Rd.
14th	£10 Voucher	N. Richards	Headway, Station Rd.
15th	Champagne	Beth Crompton	Whites, Dentist, Station Rd
16th	Bottle of wine	Marilyn Vaughan	Spar, Station Rd.
17th	Cleaning Voucher	Sheila Edwards	Dry Cleaners, Station Rd.
18th	Toiletries Gift set	Owen David	Co-op Chemist, Station Rd
19th	Confectionery	Lloyd Williams	Staff of Martin's, Station Rd
20th	Bottle Wine	Audrey Kinasz	Christine Davies
21st	Voucher	June Loveday	XCell Hairdresser, Morganstown
22nd	Box of biscuits	Anne Marie Phillips	
23rd	Gondilier tickets	John Milsom	Everyman Theatre
24th	King Lear tickets	Richard Owen	Everyman Theatre
25th	Toad in Toadhall	Wyn Tadd	Everyman Theatre

Winner of the Duck Dash

Mr Arthur Williams

cont.

Winners of the Photographic Competition  
- Imaging 2000

1st Prize Hannah Welbourn  
2nd Prize Robin Williams  
3rd Prize Ken Williams

Cool School Boules

Pupils Cup - Radyr Primary	7 Bryn Deri	6
Parents	Bryn Deri	2 Radyr Primary
Governors	Bryn Deri	2 Radyr Primary

## HISTORY SOCIETY TRIP

The Radyr and Morganstown Local History Society invite residents of Radyr and Morganstown to join them on their annual trip to Bath and the American Museum at Claverton Manor, the only American Museum outside the United States.

Claverton Manor holds a wonderful collection of American folk and decorative art. Rooms within the historic 18th century manor house are laid out with furniture, paintings, glass and silver. There is also a special exhibition, American Beauty, Arts and Craft in 19th Century America.

The 120 acres of grounds overlook the River Avon and still contain the old Italianate pleasure gardens of the 1820's with its famous grotto. It also contains a replica of George Washington's garden at Mount Vernon, Virginia, as well as an arboretum of American trees and shrubs first discovered by Lewis and Clarke on their plant finding expedition two hundred years ago.

We will leave Radyr at 9am on Thursday, 2nd July and spend the morning free to explore Bath or to enjoy coffee and music in the Regency Pump Rooms. After lunch in Bath, we will proceed to Claverton Manor. We plan to be back in Radyr by 7pm. Non Members are welcome to join us on this visit. Entry to Claverton Manor is £6.00 and the coach costs £12.50. If you wish to join us, please phone Allan Cooke on 2084 3176.

### PACT MEETINGS

The dates of the next PACT Meetings are as follows :

**Tuesday, 16th June at 19.30hrs**

This will follow on from the Neighbourhood Watch Meeting at 19.00hrs

**Wednesday, 22nd July at 19.00hrs**

The venue for both meetings is The Old Church Rooms.

Ralph Vaughan, Chairman R&M PACT

## NEWS FROM RADYR & MORGANSTOWN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

It's not often that we blow our own trumpet, but thanks to a sterling effort from so many of our members, we can report that the Spring Market held on Saturday, 4th April in aid of the Dan-y-Bryn Cheshire Home was a resounding success. Who better to express our thanks but our President, Lesley Hall.

### President's Thank You

"Our final donation to the Dan-y-Bryn Cheshire Home re-development programme will be £2,300. as a result of the Spring Market and the 'General Stall' at the Festival Fete. The Committee and I are delighted with the result and would like to thank all members who gave so freely of their time, talents and money. Our gratitude also goes to the "W.I. Men" who came to help with the heavy work and were on hand to help with the setting up and the dismantling. We would also like to express our thanks to Mr. Rhodri Morgan who came to open the event, to members of the Radyr Association who made

the Hall available, to Mick Sullivan for his photographic services and to Jane Morris for supplying and displaying the costumes which decorated the stage. Thanks are also due to representatives from Dan-y-Bryn who were present on the day and who were supportive throughout the planning and realisation of the project.

Most of all, thank you to all the people of Radyr and the wider community who came on the day and spent money. No neighbourhood can boast such a population of willing supporters".

*Lesley Hall, President of Radyr & Morganstown W.I.*

The response from the public was tremendous, the weather was fine and all the hard work from the members themselves was more than adequately repaid. We are delighted that Radyr and Morganstown W.I. have been able to mark our 50th Anniversary year with such positive and perpetual results.

Sheila Adam.



Chris Dale at the Egg Decorating stand at the WI Fete for Danybryn which raised £2.300



## 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

The Community Council elects its chair and vice chair at its annual meeting in May. David Silver is standing down after two years' hard work so I will let you know who is replacing him in the next issue of the Chain. There will be a notice on our website immediately after the May 28 meeting if you can't wait that long! I would like to thank David for the support and advice he has given me and the council during his time as its chairman.

When you visit the Old Church Rooms you will have noticed that the gardens are always beautifully maintained and they have won first prizes from Cardiff in Bloom for several years. The gardens are used by both our nurseries for the children to play and learn outside. The gardening is done voluntarily by Norman Clewer and we are always hugely grateful for all that he does. We are looking for some help to assist Norman for just a couple of hours a week. If you are interested in some light gardening, please call me.

You will see work in Windsor Gardens in the next few weeks. We have decided to move the site of the Christmas tree so that it doesn't tangle with the other trees. The new position will be just a few meters away and we are installing better electrical supplies which can also be used during the Festival and other events. We will also be putting in two more of the fire-resistant litter bins which have proved successful and much easier to empty. We would appreciate it if people didn't use the Windsor Gardens bins for disposing of domestic waste or dog waste.

I would just like to remind you that we publish many of our documents online at [www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk). You can find copies of the main council minutes along with the environment, finance and planning subcommittees. There are also council policies, budgets, precept and other legal documents.

Work on the Village Plan is continuing well and we will give a full update in the next issue.

**Helena Fox**  
Clerk



### The weather summary - by John Trenchard

Spring has sprang early this year in England and Wales and the season has progressed steadily and strongly ever since. Temperatures have been consistently above the seasonal average since the third week in February, the only hiccup coming over the Easter holiday when eastern, central and southern districts were cold and dull. The first week of May has also been warmer than average. This may come as a surprise given the heavy showers, the gusty winds and the shortage of sunshine. True, there have been one or two fairly warm days, but much more important has been the lack of chilly nights thanks to the cloudy skies and the southwesterly breeze. The latest air frost this year, up to 12th May, here in Cardiff was on 6th March with -1.0C, whilst the latest significant ground frost was 1.1C on the 30th March. Very roughly, plant growth begins when the temperature climbs above 6C (43F) and given sufficient moisture, the temperature is above that threshold, the faster those plants will grow.

Thus we can get a good objective measure of how advanced spring growth is by adding together the excess of each day's temperature above 6C. Cardiff April's average temperature was 7.1C.

The next important marker indicates when the hay fever season is likely to begin; this year it will probably come as early as any in recent decades. You may have noticed how the press and media described the British Met Office 2009 summer forecast issued during the last week of April. What this Met Office summer forecast actually said was "For the UK rainfall is likely to be near or below average. A repeat of the wet summers of 2007 and 2008 is unlikely. For the UK temperatures are likely to be above average". Averages refer to the period 1971-2000 and summer is defined as the months of June, July and August.

Regarding our Cardiff rainfall this year, there was 64.6mm 86% in April compared with 67.6mm 90% last year. For 2009 up to 30th April our rainfall has been 327.6mm 81% compared with 403.1mm 100% for the same time last year.

# ~ Radyr Festival 2009 ~





## R&M ASSOCIATION



*Cyril Williams*

At the Annual General Meeting held in April, Cyril Williams was elected Chairman of the Radyr & Morganstown Association.

Cyril is a Caerphilly boy where he was a keen rugby player in his youth. He married a local Caerphilly girl and they now live in Min y Coed, Radyr and have two grown up children and two grandchildren.

Cyril joined the Pearl Assurance Company and after several years in Cheltenham, he returned to Cardiff as a senior manager with the Pearl. Cyril has been a very keen member of Radyr Tennis club and also a former Chairman of the R & M Twinning Fellowship. Following company reorganisation, he took early retirement and became Postmaster at Piccadilly Post Office in his home town of Caerphilly. He is now fully retired and can be seen regularly walking the family dog, Amber, around the village.

Cyril has been involved with the Association for many years and was instrumental in the organisation of the Millennium candlelit walk which was a huge success. We wish him well in his new position.

## REACHING OUT TO RADYR AND REACHING INTO RADYR!

What a remarkable past year it has been for Christ Church! Regular attendance at church services is growing; more and more people and families are coming back to church, or joining the church community for the first time.

In Christ Church they are finding, hopefully, a peaceful opportunity to explore and reflect in their own way the mystery of faith and how it can change all our lives.

But that is only part of the story. The last year at Christ Church has been about so much more besides! We have been working hard to nurture and strengthen the church community and make Christ Church more than ever a heart and soul of Radyr.

Sunday School is thriving, with members aged from 18 months to 11 years, creatively exploring lessons and stories from the Bible, under a growing cohort of volunteer teachers.

Meanwhile, the children have not confined their activities to indoors on Sundays; since Spring 2009, every Saturday afternoon gardening club has seen them busily transforming a bland patch of land behind Christ Church into a home for flowers, vegetables, garden sculptures (and even a "bug hotel"!).

Teenage members have also been busy developing their own group and activities. Other groups have been busy with regular activities ranging from bell ringing to day trips to supporting good causes within Radyr and beyond.

We have a number of exciting events planned for the coming few months and would love you to join us and share in them.

On **Saturday, 6th June**, teams from Sunday School and the Youth Group will compete against each other and the clock in a series of fun challenges and quiz questions. It all gets going at 2pm in the New School Rooms, Christ Church.

On **Saturday, 20th June**, the Youth Group (11-15 year olds) is having a day-long outing

to the Summit Centre in South Wales. It will be a morning and afternoon of trying out activities like indoor climbing and tackling the high ropes. Then it will be back to Christ Church for a BBQ.

Don't forget as well, that on **Saturday, 4th July** we are holding our Summer Family Fun Day at Christ Church. This year it has a medieval theme (coming in costume is welcomed!). There will be medieval fun and games, lots of stalls, face painting, fancy dress competition, BBQ and bar, kids' lunches, great raffle prizes and much more.

If you want to find out more about these events and have a closer look at all aspects of faith, worship and community in the parish, then the good news is that this spring we have also revamped the parish website. It captures all of the events and activities described with lots of pictures, and invites you all to explore a little more about faith, worship and community in the parish. Do come and visit us on [www.parish.radyr.org.uk](http://www.parish.radyr.org.uk)

### LT. COL. HUW WILLIAMS

About two years ago I wrote with much pride an article for the Radyr Chain about my nephew Hugh Williams, an ex resident of Radyr and an ex pupil of Park Road school and Radyr Comprehensive who on leaving school, went to Sandhurst and then on to join the Parachute Regiment. Last time I wrote about him being awarded the M.B.E. after a six month tour of duty in Afghanistan.

Now once again it is with much pride I can say that he has been awarded the O.B.E. after another six months in Afghanistan. He will be going to the Palace on 28th May. I want to tell the world but at least I can tell readers of the Radyr Chain, particularly those that remember him.

Barbara Leigh.

## VICTORIA FEARN GALLERY

### CELEBRATES ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY!

Victoria Fearn Gallery celebrated its fifth year of opening this June and to mark the anniversary, will be holding an Extra Special "Summer Exhibition" which starts on 20th June, exactly five years from when mother and daughter team opened in Rhiwbina.

As you will know, the gallery is packed full of interesting and unusual gifts, along with collectable works of art such as paintings, sculpture, glass, ceramics and jewellery.

Carole and Victoria would like to thank all of their Radyr and Morganstown friends and family for their loyal support over the past five years and hope to have their continued support for the future.

The preview for the summer exhibition is on 19th June from 5pm until 8pm and all are welcome. The exhibition runs until the 22nd August.

## RADYR MUMS SET TO TAKE PART IN SUNWALK

Thousands of fundraisers are set to take to the streets of Bristol in the SunWalk, an event supporting those battling cancer.

And several Radyr mums have pledged their support to the walk, in which women, men and children will stride out through Bristol on 5th July to raise cash for breast cancer causes across the UK.

Penny Couston, Louise McNamara, Kate Wakeling and Emma Lockley have been power walking the pavements of Radyr in preparation for their half marathon walk in July.

The Radyr mums will set off to pound the pavements in bright pink decorated bras – a trademark of the charity – to raise awareness of the disease.

Chief organiser Kate Wakeling said she was delighted to be supporting this year's SunWalk. She said "Cancer affects us all at some point in our lives and it has tragic and devastating consequences and we couldn't think of a better way of helping, whilst we are all getting fitter and having fun.

Louise McNamara added "We all feel very strongly about raising awareness and supporting anybody who is battling the illness and that's why we are giving our unstinting and enthusiastic support to this year's SunWalk.

All money raised by the event will go to breast cancer causes and research projects that will benefit people throughout the UK.

Emma Lockley said "I never cease to be amazed by the determination and generosity of the people in Radyr when it comes to making a difference for charity like this".

Designed to be a fun day for all the family, the SunWalk offers a variety of distances, including 5km, 10km or half marathon.

Penny Couston explained "Each year the SunWalk brings thousands of people together with the single aim of achieving personal goals and uniting together to raise money for vital breast cancer causes. Walk the Walk became an official charity back in 1998 and does not receive any grants or funds from the government, lottery or anyone else. The fundraising is from the women and men pounding the pavements all over the world".

Sarah Wilbraham intended to participate in the SunWalk, however she injured her knee during a particularly physical session in Radyr Woods.

Sarah said "I'm extremely frustrated at not being able to complete the walk with all of the Radyr Mums, but I have turned my efforts into ensuring we raise as much money as possible for the charity. Anybody wishing to make a donation can do so by accessing the JUST GIVING website where the Radyr Mums have set up a fundraising page.

<http://www.justgiving.com/Radyrmums>

## MERCHED Y WAWR CANGEN RADUR. EBRILL 2009.

A ninnau'n wynebu'r Pasg gyda'r sôn am wyliau a lleoedd pell ac agos lle byddai 'n aelodau yn cael egwyl fach ar ddiwedd gaeaf go hir, cawsom gan siaradwraig y noson sôn am le reit agos i gartrefu pob un ohonom, ond lleoedd na wyddai fawr neb ohonom fawr ddim am ei ddirgelion – diolch byth, a hir y parhaed felly! Elan Griffiths o Gasnewydd (ers dros ugain mlynedd) oedd yn sôn wrthym am waith "Ynad heddwch" – y bobl sy'n wynebu'r rhai sy'n mynd 'o flaen ei gwell'.

Mae yna filoedd o Ynadon yn New Cymru ac y mae 95% o ochasion o dor-cyfraith (ac ati) yn dod am wrandawriad mewn Llys Ynadon. Mae'n ofynnol i bob Ynad wirfoddoli 40 o ddyddiau'n flynyddol i eistedd ar y Fainc, a 'does dim tâl am y gwaith, mae'n rhaid i bob Ynad fod dros 26 mlwydd oed cyn ymuno a'r Fainc.

Mae tua 2 filiwn a hanner o achosion yn mynd drwy'r llysoedd yng ngweledydd Prydain Mae hyn oil yn gwneud i rywun feddwl am y system fel diwydiant ac yn peri i rywun feddwl sut le fyddai yma heb y gwirfoddolwyr sy'n rhoi'r gyfraith ar waith ar lefel leol.

Yn ôl Elan synnwyr cyffredin yw'r angenrhaid mwyaf ynghyd a'r gallu i ganolbwyntio ar yr achos dan sylw ac yna feithrin y gallu i gau'r drws arno ar ddiwedd yr eisteddiad. Tipyn o ofyn feddylw'n i. Pwysleisiodd nad teimlad o foddhad a gai hi o fod yn Ynad ond teimlad o fod yn rhan o gymdeithas.

Mewn hanesyn am ddau garchar yn Ffrainc - un yn Garchar newydd sbon danlli gyda phob math drefniadau ar gyfer gofal iechyd ond gyda'r rheol nad oedd DIM cyfathrebu rhwng y deiliad a'u gilydd, a bod pob carcharor are u pen ei hun hyd at 15 awr y dydd. Ar ôl I'r carchar yma ganiatau Teledu fe ostyngwyd y galw am dawelyddion hyd at 30%. Carchar Ffrengig arall – hen adeilad heb holl gyfleuterau'r un blaenorol ond gyda mwy o gyswllt rhwng y carcharorion ac yr oedd yn well gan y 'cwsmeriaid' yr hen fath o garchar.

Yn ddiddorol nid yw'r Ynadon yma ym Mhrydain yn cael gwybodaeth am 'hanes' y rhai sy'n dod ar brawf yn y Llys, ond nid felly yn Ffrainc, yno mae gwybodaeth am ynrhyw dor-cyfraith yn cael ei ddatgelu.

Noson ddiddorol dros ben, a chip ar weithgareddau carfan o bobl sy'n rhoi gwasanaeth rhyfeddol i gymdeithas.

Efallai fod y geiriau 'mynd o flaen eich gwell' yn fwy ystyrion ar ôl gwrado ar Elan Griffiths Y.H.S.

## LIBRARY QUEST

We have had a very busy couple of months at the library including Tai Chi and "Surf the Net" taster sessions and free manicures and massages as part of the adult learners week. For the Radyr & Morganstown festival we held Storytime, "Language and Play" and "Genealogy Online" sessions.

We would like to congratulate Jemma Lai, Adil Miah, Matthew Dubberley and Rhiannon Dubberley who won prizes in our Bonkers Bunny competition over the Easter holidays.

We would also like to congratulate our third group of Silver Surfers who graduated with flying colours.

If you visited the Library on 1st April you might have noticed a cat, cowboy and disco diva. The staff dressed up to help raise money for the George Thomas Hospice and thanks to the generosity of the staff and customers, we raised a total of £45. and won a bottle of champagne.

We very much hope that everyone who took part in Time Read last year is looking forward to taking part in this year's reading challenge "QUEST SEEKERS". You can sign up from 17th July to take part in the reading challenge. On Friday, 24th July at 10.30am we will be hosting a morning of medieval mayhem including stories, crafts and family friendly jousting. Sir Andrew of Castell Coch will be joining us to teach his amazing Knight School to all willing participants, so come along and test your swordsmanship and brush up on your damsel saving skills.

There are plenty of activities for everyone to join in with at the Library.

Language and Play for babies and toddlers is held every Wednesday morning at 11am

We hold our book club for 9-12 year olds on 12th June at 4pm. This month we are reading *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* and *Five are Together Again*.

We hold our book club for adults on Friday, 26th June at 7.15pm. This month we are reading a number of books including *Gone with the Wind* and *Love in a Cold Climate*.

Councillor McKerlich will be holding surgeries at the Library on Saturday, 27th June and Saturday, 1st August 10am – 11.30am.

As always, please call in or contact us on 20842234 or [radyrlibrary@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:radyrlibrary@cardiff.gov.uk) for further information. Details of all of our events can also be found on [radyr.org](http://radyr.org) website.

Anne, Deb and Sarah

# RADYR & MORGANSTOWN FESTIVAL

## MORGANSTOWN VILLAGE HALL

### *The Children's Tea Party*

Fifty children with parents, the Festival Queen and attendants. County. Councillor Rod McKerlich and Mrs McKerlich. together with other dignitaries from the Community Council and Association arrived at the village Hall for 4.30pm.

Following the announcement of the Festival Queen tea began, and in a remarkably short space of time the food was consumed and enjoyed by everyone. Jelly and Ice-cream being extremely, popular with the assorted dignitaries!

After tea the chairs were then quickly, re-arranged for the children to watch 'The Entertainer', Mike, who kept them thrilled for an hour or so with his assortment of wigs. 'Lionel', the lion, furry animal which jumped everywhere and juggled three balls. one of which had a 'mind' of its own.

The Festival Queen with her attendants and even our County Councillor joined in the fun.

All too soon the entertainment came to an end and it was time to go home. It was amazing how quickly all the chairs and tables were cleared away, thanks to all the parents who stayed to help. Special thanks must go to Joyce Morgan, June Thomas, Mary Foley, Joanne Thomas and Sonia Collins who set up the Hall and served the children and adults for the afternoon. Our gratitude also to the Community Council for the grant towards the Entertainer, Mike. who was great. Finally to all the children who behaved so well.



### *The Duck Race*

The weather was cold and damp on the morning of the duck race, but around forty intrepid spectators arrived at Gelynis Farm to watch this prestigious event.

The Festival Queen with her attendants along with Bob and Maggie Roberts were driven across the fields, in a car this year as there was a problem with the tractor, to throw the ducks into the river.

Despite the heavy rain, it seemed to take ages for the first duck to appear at the Finish Line but then, as usual, they all came together. There was, however, a clear winner. It was at least 100 'beaks' ahead of the rest of the field. Once the three winning ducks crossed the finishing line it was refreshments courtesy of Gelynis Farm, after which not many spectators stayed as the rain started to pour at that point.

Many thanks go to Joyce Morgan, whose idea was for the original Duck Race, and who has sold most of the ducks every year for the past twenty years.

Our thanks also go to Maraget Watt and sons Edward and Tom, and Mark Humphries for all their help collecting the ducks. And, of course, to everyone who bought them!

### **Winning Ducks**

First Duck – 176 - A. Williams

Second Duck – 122 - A. Neville

Third Duck – 503 - Tom Watt



## TENNIS CLUB NEWS

If you're a budding Rafael Nadal or Serena Williams but haven't joined Radyr Lawn Tennis Club yet, why not? You've got a fantastic facility right on your doorstep with a fun-packed calendar of social events, tennis tournaments and team tennis, as well as dozens of events and competition for the kids to get involved.

With summer almost upon us, the evenings are getting lighter at last and it's time to dust off those tennis rackets in preparation for the new season.

This year promises to be one of our busiest yet, with a hectic social calendar, including a golf day, our famous Beer and Wine tournament on 20th June and Open Finals Night in July, as well as tournaments throughout the summer, including a Celts v English battle in August.

There is plenty of tennis to get you fit and socialising all week, with Monday night for Juniors, Tuesdays for the ladies, Wednesday for improvers and social tennis, Thursday for Men's and club night for everyone on a Friday night.

Every Saturday you can also enjoy social tennis and the famous RLTC teas at 4.30pm, the perfect way for the whole family to enjoy a Saturday afternoon.

Anyone wishing to find out more about Radyr Lawn Tennis Club, log on to [www.radyrtennis20m.com](http://www.radyrtennis20m.com) or call Ian/Sarah Smith on 029 2084 3224.

In the post-Christmas 2007 edition of the Radyr Chain, it was mentioned that Elaine Gregory had sadly passed away after bravely fighting cancer.

Elaine's daughter Jane, who now lives in Sarasota, Florida with her husband Mike, gave birth to their second daughter on Wednesday, 15th April, 2009. This date happens to be the same date as Elaine's birthday when she would have been 71. Such a lovely and fortuitous coincidence this is for their family. Jane and baby Camryn Elaine Todd are both well and Grandpa Ken Gregory will be visiting Florida shortly.

# FLUELLEN RETURNS

Following their sell-out with **The Odd Couple** at the Festival, Fluellen will return to Morganstown on Tuesday, 22nd September this year with Dylan Thomas's spine-chilling version of the Burke and Hare story **The Doctor and the Devils**.

The Doctor and the Devils follows the story of the two best known 19th century body-snatchers, sometimes known as "resurrectionists", Burke and Hare and the anatomist, Doctor Knox, who commissioned them. But did they resort to snatching bodies that were not yet dead? Murder! Set in Victorian Edinburgh it is part murder mystery, part who-done-it, it teems with the characters that could have come from a Dickens' novel all in Dylan Thomas's inimitable style and sharp wit.

Fluellen are the resident professional drama company at the Grand Theatre in Swansea and The Doctor and the Devils comes to Morganstown after a run on the main stage at the Grand. Tickets will be available from early August from Nick Hawkins, Allan Cook and Chris's Shop.



*"Kevin Johns and Adrian Metcalfe in Fluellen Theatre Company's hit production of The Odd Couple which delighted audiences at the Morganstown Festival in May."*

# CHOOSING PLAYS

After their success with Harvey in April, the Radyr Drama Society move on to choose their next plays.

For six consecutive Monday evenings from the 1st June until the 6th July, they will meet at 7.30pm in the Christ Church Schoolrooms to read a selection of possible plays. Amongst the plays to be read are Agatha Christie's **Murder at the Vicarage**, Oscar Wilde's **An Ideal Husband** and a very funny French play – in translation – **My Three Angels**.

Why not come along and listen or even better, read one of the parts. It's free and very enjoyable.

For more information, phone Sheila Phillips on 2084 2585. If you can't come and have a play you've always wanted to see performed, why not let Sheila know?



**COFFEE MORNING AT PUGH'S GARDEN CENTRE**  
Pugh's Garden Centre is kindly supporting a coffee morning for the British Heart Foundation (BHF).

On Wednesday, 19th August between 10.30 and 11.30am, the Bay Tree Restaurant and Coffee Shop will be generously serving tea and filter coffee free of charge, in exchange for a ticket from the BHF.

The Pugh family has chosen to support the BHF as unfortunately some members have been affected by heart disease. Earlier this year, they donated a fantastic £1,900. raised from their Christmas activities.

Glenda Meakin of the BHF said "We are really grateful to Pugh's for their continued support of our cause, which touches so many lives. We will be running a raffle at the coffee morning and hope as many people as possible will be able to come and support us".

Tickets are £2.50. and can be purchased in advance or on the door. For further information, please contact Glenda on 2089 0148 or meaking@bhf.org.uk

## HELP US BEAT HEART DISEASE ANYWAY YOU WANT TO

There are lots of ways to volunteer with the British Heart Foundation including helping with collections, at events or in a shop and you only have to give the time you can afford.

For more information, ask me.

Glenda Meakin

Fundraising Volunteer Manager (South East Wales)

PO Box 6067, Creigiau, Cardiff CF15 5AR.

Tel. 029 2089 0148 Mobile 07718 638 158

# LLANDAFF FESTIVAL 2009



Llandaff Cathedral in Partnership with Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama

**Saturday 6th June - Sunday 14th June**

Following last year's successful relaunch, this year's program includes:

Saturday 6th June	7.30pm Llandaff Cathedral Choir
Sunday 7th June	5pm Lieder Recital
Monday 8th June	7.30pm Brass Ensemble - RWC Music & Drama
Tuesday 9th June	7.30pm Baroque Orchestra - Vivaldi Evening
Wednesday 10th June	tba Piano Recital
Thursday 11th June	7.30pm Mavron String Quartet
Friday 12th June	7.30pm Brahms Piano Quintet - Songs & Arias
Saturday 13th June	7.30pm Llandaff Cathedral Choral Society
Sunday 14th June	11am Festival Thanksgiving Service
Sung Evensong:	Monday - Saturday, 6pm & Sunday 3.30pm

Throughout the Festival refreshments will be available at Prebendal House for afternoon tea or a light pre-concert supper with Licensed Bar

\*\*\*\*\* ALL WELCOME \*\*\*\*\*

All donations & proceeds to Llandaff Cathedral Organ Appeal

See [www.llandaffcathedral.org.uk](http://www.llandaffcathedral.org.uk) for further information

## PLEASE DON'T HOLD ME BACK

In case you have not noticed I'm back on the attack,  
I'm not ashamed to tell you why as I've never been as shy,  
I'd like my independence back  
The only thing I've got to say is please don't hold me back.

The fact that I was very weak it helped me quite a lot,  
And if I didn't carry on I'd slowly lose the plot,  
Aided by encouragement I find myself on track  
I put this plea to everyone please don't hold me back.

I live with only one dream, a place I call my own,  
Along with things that I used and that includes a phone,  
I may be on a budget course to be taught the things I lack,  
As I said at the beginning please don't hold me back.

My name is Mary Jane Stredwick. I was born in 1960 and an injury at birth brought on hydrocephalus. This brought on accident number two which caused me to fall into a radiator and a brain injury that caused me to fight back again, in spite of the fact I was paralysed down the whole of my right side.

I will never understand why I wanted to do this and even though I wanted to walk again, in the end I was not aware of how weak I was and have now ended up living here at Dan-y-Bryn Cheshire Home.

I have now got my own electric wheelchair which was given to me as this was the only thing I could get around in and I continue to do now.

At one stage in my life, however, due to the second accident I had at the age of nine, whilst I was at school, I got the chance to learn to type. This I did with a lot of pleasure as in doing so I was able to keep up with my class. By some teachers it was seen as unnecessary, but thanks to the back-up of one teacher who told all the teachers and the pupils I had contact with to leave me alone.

A lot of the time I have spent writing poetry which I must admit helps me to cast away my frustration.

I hope in time to come you will see more of my poetry and I hope that you will enjoy reading it as much as I have enjoyed composing it.

I was lucky enough to have met a kind and caring man who went under the name of Alan Mayfield who I had the privilege of living with for over twelve years, who pulled me out of a situation regarding the care home I was living in at the time. Going down the right road I had plenty of time to have an enjoyable life. Aided by Alan, I was able to regain a lot of confidence.

However, one night everything came to a stop as on this night due to a very high temperature, I went into a long epileptic fit which I learned much later was caused by a very high temperature, which sadly meant it was on-going and that left me in such a state that I did not come round for two days. However, when I did come round, I was minus two things – my memory was one and my speech was another. I work on my speech ever since and it has returned.

## TREFORGAN WI

For the majority of us who are completely new members of the Women's Institute, Treforgan WI is proving to be an exciting introduction. At our first meeting, one of our members suggested that we might put our names down on the waiting list to visit Highgrove. There is normally a 1-2 year wait so the aforementioned member, Judy Grundy, was asked to get the ball rolling. Within days the emails were flying. There had been a cancellation and we could visit in three weeks time. Judy was immediately promoted to events organiser and the bus booked. We had a lovely day despite the weather. As you would imagine, the beautiful gardens are tastefully planted and incredibly well maintained. It is definitely worth a visit if you have the chance.

On 16th April, our meeting was held at Pugh's Garden Centre where Jenny showed us how to plant up containers and gave us some helpful tips of the trade as she worked. This was followed by tea in the café and a little shopping in the centre made for a very pleasant afternoon.

On 21st May, we have our resolution meeting followed by a plant sale and on 18th June, dr. Neville Evans will talk on the unsung scientific heroes of Wales. He has already spoken to Radyr and Morganstown WI so we're sure it will be an enthralling talk.

On 16th July, we will be having a cookery demonstration courtesy of Waitrose. The subject is 'Making the Most of Summer Tastes'.

We meet at Morganstown Village Hall on the third Thursday of each month for about two hours starting at 1.15pm. Visitors and new members are most welcome.

**NEW!**  
**CHILDREN'S  
FRENCH CLUB**

Making  
Language Learning  
**FUN**



- A revolutionary method for learning language through **SONG, RAP** and **RHYME**, tongue twisters, jokes and riddles
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- Taught in fun and exciting way to build confidence and communication skills
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- Karaoke allows the opportunity to practise new skills
- Tried and tested in Primary schools for 10 years
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**Les Alouettes  
club français**

At Old Church Rooms, Radyr  
Mondays 3.50-4.30, 4.40-5.20  
& 5.30-6.10 £4.25  
Small classes  
For more details and  
**FREE** taster class  
contact **Fiona Crowder**  
07899 963917 or 02920844219

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**Les Alouettes** uses the Language Factory resources -  
**WINNER** of the CILT European Award for Languages

# RADYR DRAMA SOCIETY'S PRODUCTION OF 'HARVEY'



Flora Williams Burton with the WI Millenium Cup which she won for her poem 'The Dragon'

## THE DRAGON

Beneath the glow of a white, Welsh moon,  
A mystical creature flies.

It swoops and swirls in silent swiftness,  
As the village sleeps, far below.

One small, sharp breath and the village is  
alive,

Flames blazing in every direction,  
The heat from the flames is threateningly  
hot,

Yet he just sits there, waiting.

As the fire dies a new village emerges,  
Different and mournful

The villagers huddle in this spooky town,  
Created of cremated black ashes.

In the depths of the deep and dark, damp  
forest,

In the midst of enchantment,  
The moving shadows dance through the  
labyrinth

Generated by the fearsome flames,

The flames they lick, they dance, they spit,  
Warning mortals of death.

Burning oranges, reds and yellows,  
Create a maze of vibrant colours.

His claws are sharp talons of fear,  
A glistening polished black.  
His teeth a terrible, mouldering yellow,  
Yet sharper than a blacksmiths sword.

He is the fear  
At the heart of all Englishmen  
Yet to the Welsh, a clear hero,  
The Dragon.

Flora Williams Burton (JL)

Mary Chase's *Harvey* written in 1944, like all good fables, contains an animal and a moral lesson. Interestingly, the animal, a six-foot rabbit, the Harvey of the title, never actually appears, but his presence and influence are felt throughout the piece. He is the boon companion of Elwood Dowd, played by Roger Page, who gave us a character of delightful eccentricity that infuriated and bewildered those around him but which enchanted the audience. Immediately we met Elwood, his scheming family and the staff at the sanatorium to which he is being committed became the villains of the piece. We laughed when Elwood's sister Veta (Pauline Watson) recounted distraught how she was mistakenly seized herself by the staff at the sanatorium and subjected to enforced hydrotherapy. People who would do that to Elwood deserve all they got. Yet when finally given the power to transform Elwood to 'normality' she has learned through her own experiences and the observations of others that Elwood and Harvey are best left as they are. Pauline Watson played the many aspects of the part with such conviction that ultimately, we forgave Veta her social climbing and conspiring.

"Dr. Chumley, I'm afraid there's been a serious error" reports Dr. Sandersons nervously to his superior. "We don't permit errors in this institution" Dr Chumley replies. With the two doctors we see how complacency and over-confidence can unravel a successful career. Jim Cowan as Sanderson and Martin Jeeves as Chumley gave finely observed performances of men whose cosy world is rapidly collapsing. They were well supported by the other staff at the sanatorium: Sarah Jones as the hero-worshipping chief nurse Miss Kelly and Michael Collins as the muscle-bound Wilson, while Zoe Pearce played Dr. Chumley's kindly wife with great sensitivity.



Harvey makes a call...

Other characters too were drawn into Elwood mayhem. Helen Windsor as the redoubtable Ethel Chauvenet wilted wonderfully as Elwood introduced her to Harvey. Meredith Carson brought the selfish Myrtle Mae to life: "People get run over every day. Why can't something like that happen to Uncle Elwood?" Brian Willis made a fine Judge, he who had made the arrangements to commit Elwood. Graham Pearce's worldly-wise cabbie effectively brought Veta to the realisation that the world is a better place with Harvey in it.

Harvey sparkled from start to finish under Graham Pearce's direction on two sets (an art-deco living room and a sanatorium) that continued the high standards of the company. Lighting, sound and costume all were well realised. Particular mention must be made of the two portraits, skillfully executed by the director himself. "I always have a wonderful time, wherever I am, whoever I'm with" Elwood declares. Those who saw this production of *Harvey* did too.



The full cast of 'Harvey'.