

# RADYR CHAIN

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown



Number 183

August 2009

## FESTIVAL CHARITY PRESENTATION

The Festival Committee handed over a cheque for £5,500. to the Motor Neurone Disease Association at a review meeting of the 2009 Festival.

A presentation was made by representatives of Ty Hafan, which is the nominated charity for 2010.

A planning meeting is to be held at 7.30pm at the Old Church Rooms on Tuesday, 13th October. All representatives of groups within the village are welcome to this meeting.



## BRYN DERI WEDDING OF THE YEAR

Year 2 found out all about weddings and had a mock wedding at Christchurch followed by the wedding breakfast in the school hall. The children really became immersed in their roles and the bride and bridesmaids were gorgeous.

## Bryn Deri Summer Term News

### French Visitors

We have had a very busy and enjoyable term starting with the very successful visit from the children, staff and parents from Ecole Jean Rostand in St Philbert.

### Radyr Festival

We enjoyed contributing to the May Festival. The Maypole dancers at the crowning ceremony and the choir and instrumentalists at the Good Neighbours' Tea did us proud.

...more on page 19



## 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)

### AUGUST

- 1 Councillor Rod McKerlich is holding a surgery. Radyr Library. Tel. 20842234 [radyrlibrary@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:radyrlibrary@cardiff.gov.uk) 10:00 am
- 1 Come & Join Us for a Danybryn BBQ. Danybryn Heol Isaf Radyr CF15 8AJ Tickets from Christine Moore 07827996020 BBQ Bar Available Entertainment-including Minnesingers £10 per ticket No onsite parking 3:00 pm
- 10 to 28 Free Open Access play schemes by Children's Play Services (part of Cardiff Council). We aim to offer free play opportunities that are child-initiated and child-led with our team of qualified playworkers helping to facilitate these activities. Radyr Youth Centre. Arts and crafts activities, games, sports and opportunities for children and young people to explore their own ideas. See <http://www.cardiff.gov.uk/childrensplay/> for more and a timetable of where we will be operating this summer. 10:00-11:55am
- 11 Special Bookstart Bear Story & Rhymetime for under 5's. Come and meet Bookstart Bear and have lots of fun sharing stories, rhymes, craft & bear hunt. Radyr Library 20842234 [radyrlibrary@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:radyrlibrary@cardiff.gov.uk) 10:30 am
- 20 Treforgan WI. Dyffryn Gardens (meet at cafe). Guided tour (one and a half hours). Stay for lunch and further exploration if you like. Contact Sue 20842820 11:00 am
- 24 to 28 Radyr Methodist Church invites you to "Showstoppers" Holiday Club. For children aged 5 to 11 years. Games, Crafts, Puppets, Singing, Bible Stories. Further information and booking forms available from [radyrshowstoppers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:radyrshowstoppers@hotmail.co.uk) Early booking is advised - Places are limited. Cost £1 per child per morning. 10:00 am

### SEPTEMBER

- 7 Radyr and Morganstown Women's Institute. Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr. Beverley Humphries is going to impart the "Joys of Serendipity" to us so this should be an interesting evening. 7:30 pm
- 8 Monkey Music - new term begins. Pre-school music classes. Radyr Methodist Church, Windsor Road, Radyr. Tel. Mandy on 029 2065 5794 or e-mail [mandy.kitching@monkeymusic.co.uk](mailto:mandy.kitching@monkeymusic.co.uk) for a complimentary class.
- 17 Tenovus Coffee Morning. Park Road. More details to follow.
- 17 Treforgan WI. Morganstown Village Hall. The Samaritans. What you would you like to know about their work? Contact Sue 20843920 1:15 pm
- 22 The R&M Association is pleased to bring back the Fluellen Theatre Company in a

performance of 'The Doctor and the Devils', a specially commissioned stage adaptation of a Dylan Thomas screenplay.

MORGANSTOWN VILLAGE HALL. Based on the story of the infamous body snatchers, Burke and Hare, this thrilling production is set in Victorian Edinburgh. Tickets (available early August) £8 ( £7 conc, £4 full time student) from Allan Cook, 2084 3176, Nick Hawkins, 2084 2561 or Chris' shop in Park Road, Radyr. 7:30 pm

- 24 Radyr & Morganstown Community Council. Old Church Rooms. Clerk : 20842213 [clerk@radyr.org.uk](mailto:clerk@radyr.org.uk)

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

At the last PACT meeting it was agreed that an update of Neighbourhood Watch will be included in the meeting agenda. PACT meetings are held every second month at the Old Church Rooms. The meeting is chaired by Dr. Ralph Vaughan and local police officers are present. The next meeting is to be held at 7pm on Wednesday, 22nd July. From the recent village plan survey there are over fifty residents expressing an interest in being members of Radyr and Morganstown Neighbourhood Watch. They are being contacted to ascertain whether they wish to be included in the list of members and receive police alerts from time to time by ringmaster (telephone) or email. The purpose of Neighbourhood Watch is for the people to be aware of their neighbour's needs, especially when they are away on holiday. It may be as simple as removing the unwanted milk bottles left on the doorstep or pushing mail through the letterbox. In some areas, neighbours look after each others properties by holding door keys. Members of NW will alert other members and if necessary, the local police officer, PC Paul Tebbut, about unwanted callers and unusual activities in their area. All these activities help keep the community safe and secure. From time to time, the police will provide advice and assistance when incidents occur within our community. This can be achieved by email, phone or through the PACT meetings. If you are interested in joining, please contact David Cargill – [d.cargill@ntlworld.com](mailto:d.cargill@ntlworld.com)

## TREFORGAN WI

Treforgan WI hosted a Federation quiz night in June. Teams from twelve Glamorgan Women's Institutes enjoyed wine, fruit juice and nibbles mixed with amazement at how much we knew and embarrassment at how little we knew!

At our normal afternoon meeting in May, our guest was Mr. John King who told us of the problems besetting honey bees and included a tour of a real hive brought along for that purpose.

In June, we were enlightened and entertained by Dr. Neville Evans who told us of the significant achievements of Welsh scientists.

We will have what is seen as a more traditional Women's Institute Meeting on 16th July, with a cookery demonstration by Waitrose – 'Making the most of Summer tastes'.

There is no scheduled meeting in August but on the 20th, we are getting together for a guided tour of Dyffryn Gardens. We have a talk about the work of the Samaritans at our next formal meeting on 17th September and there is a packed programme arranged for the months to follow. 'Formal' is a poor description of our institute afternoons. They are not seriously structured but friendly, vibrant and fun.

Many of our members find that an afternoon meeting (we start at 1.15pm) fits in conveniently with their lifestyle. Tea, coffee and biscuits are the last item on the agenda so that, if necessary, children or grandchildren can be collected from school in good time while members wanting to linger for a chat can do so.

Whether you are a novice in the WI world, as most of us are, or a veteran member, Treforgan WI would love you to visit us. We meet in Morganstown Village Hall on the third Thursday of the month. If you would like to know more, contact Sue – 029 2084 3920 or [sue@billandsue.co.uk](mailto:sue@billandsue.co.uk)

Letters, articles, reports and other contributions are invited and should be submitted by September 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.

**Editor** - Mary & Robert Pearce, 1 Windsor Grove, Radyr. 2084 2615

**E-Mail address** - [Chain@radyr.org.uk](mailto:Chain@radyr.org.uk)

**What's On** - Mary Pearce, 1 Windsor Grove, Radyr. 2084 2615

**Advertising** - Jerry Bray, 41 Hazel Tree Close, Radyr. 2084 3387

**Hon. Treasurer** - Victor Evans, (to whom donations may be sent; they will be gratefully acknowledged) 3 Woodfield Avenue, Radyr CF15 8EF. 2041 2869

**Distribution** - Carol & Steve Geen, 87 Pentwyn, Radyr CF15 8RE. 2084 4080

## WALLET FOUND

A.M. FRIDAY, 20TH JUNE  
IN CAER GRAIG  
TEL. 2084 2956

## TWINNING EXCHANGE MAY 2009

The 22nd May saw the commencement of our Twinning weekend. This year, for the first time, Radyr Twinning members, 49 in all, ages ranging from 12 to 75, travelled independently by trains, boats, planes and cars to St. Philbert de Grand Lieu, our Twin Town. Most people combined the weekend with a holiday in France, our first exchange without a coach.

We arrived at the Salle de Maris early on Friday evening for a welcome reception and

Nantes and this was a real treat. We were looking forward to a ride in the howdah on its back which carries fifty passengers, but the atrocious weather that morning prevented the elephant from taking its usual forty minute walk. More than 56 square metres of poplar wood combined with steel ribs create the elephant's sturdy body, hundreds of moving parts and scores of pumping pistons (22 in the trunk alone) with superb workmanship make this a sight to behold. We were given a tour of other crazy mechanical Lock Ness type creatures, where brave volunteers climbed up into the

directions to explore the City of Nantes and to have lunch at one of the many delightful restaurants. Later we returned to the island and most of us were lucky enough to see the elephant walking with its flapping leather ears, deeply wrinkled eyes and the snaking reticulated trunk from which, every now and then, jets of water were sprayed into the watching crowd or over the passengers. A few of us were lucky enough to get a ride in the late afternoon.

Later that evening, there was a lively soiree, where a delicious meal was served, washed down by gallons of French wine. Everyone



were greeted with warmth and affection by our French friends and the new visitors were introduced to their hosts. We were then all whisked off for the evening by our host families, some of us met up again at dinner parties while others enjoyed quieter meals at home or were taken out to a restaurant. Every exchange has some event of cultural significance and this year we were taken to Nantes on Saturday morning to visit 'La Galerie des Machines' situated in a disused shipyard on an island in the Loire. This is home to the fifty ton wooden elephant and other mechanical creations dreamed up by Francois Delaroziere. At the launch of Liverpool's year of European City of Culture, a giant mechanical spider was part of the procession and by coincidence, it was made here in Nantes. The spider is currently horrifying the citizens of Tokyo but the twice normal size elephant was at home in

huge mouth of a giant mechanical angler fish, or were tossed and splashed in a small rowing boat much as on the open sea. Others road upon the back of the strange mechanical creepy crawlies. This was followed by a visit to the workshops where other monsters were being created. By this time, the elephant had moved to the hanger entrance ready to take visitors aboard when the weather improve and it towered above us as we posed for a group photo. We then climbed the first completed branch of the 'Heron Tree'. This creation, when finished in 2014, will be an enormous steel tree which will be housed in one of the cities many parks. Visitors will be able to ride in baskets carried in the beaks of giant herons flying above the 35 metre sculpture. The foliage will come from forty different countries and you will be able to walk from branch to branch. We then went off in various

present will agree that the highlight of the evening was the surprise 'Can-Can' ... performed by the French Twinning ... eight energetic ladies gave us a few moments of delight, a very polished performance of high kicks, cheeky movements, the splits ... the whole works. Wow! Follow that Radyr.

Sunday was a day for relaxing with our French families. Many people went to the coast, others got together for a long French style lunch or were taken to one of the many places of interest.

The committee had a short but productive joint meeting to discuss future exchanges but before the meeting began, Andre Bernard, the French Treasurer (and host to Caroline and Cyril Williams), was presented with a 60th birthday card and wished a happy retirement from his 'day' job. The card was signed by all the Radyr visitors.

A picnic by the river on a warm summer evening brought this wonderful weekend to a close, friendships having been renewed and new ones made. Below is a short review from two of our new visitors. Catrin Redknapp wrote:

*Radyr-St. Philbert: first-timers' impression.*

*A combination of anticipation and mild trepidation came over us as we covered the last 20km of our trip from Nantes to St. Philbert de Grand Lieu. How would we get on with our host family? From the moment we rang the bell to be greeted by Sylvie, Gilles and family to our farewells on the Monday morning it struck us time and time again that any anxieties had been totally unfounded. Having been dormant members of the Radyr-St. Philbert Twinning Fellowship for years, we decided that this year was going to be different and we found ourselves part of the gregarious crowd descending on St. Philbert. Our brief stay with our French hosts was a wonderful combination of relaxed socialising, discovering the delights of St. Philbert and a trip to the Vendée coast. The lively soirée on the Saturday evening provided the perfect opportunity to meet other members of the Fellowship – and also to get to know a number of Radyr residents! As a 'new' family to the twinning, hosted by a French family that was equally new to the whole experience, we feel that we all benefited from the venture – socially, culturally and in terms of French language skills. For over twenty years the Fellowship has created*

*and maintained some wonderful friendships and we were struck by the number of members who have been involved from its beginnings. As with all other associations, future success can only be guaranteed through new membership and involvement. St. Philbert, like Radyr, are keen to recruit new 'younger' families. Why not take the plunge and decide to get involved for next year's French visit to Radyr?*

Another first timer who wishes to remain anonymous also had feelings of nervous anticipation and doubt, but reports that these were instantly extinguished by the warmth so evident in the greetings between old friends from both sides of La Manche and says

*... From that moment I was in a place of enchantment, such extraordinary kindness I shall never forget. My hosts, also first timers, confided that they also questioned their decision to invite an unknown 'Gallois' into their home. So much so that when it came to departure time on Monday morning, the air was charged with emotion comprising a heady mix of dreamlike happiness but also an all too real sadness. I can report that the 'Entente Cordiale' is alive, well and thriving.*

For further details about the Radyr-St. Philbert Twinning Fellowship and how to get involved, please contact  
Jumelagestphilbert@hotmail.co.uk or phone  
Maggie 2084 2995 or Geoff 2056 3181.

## **CHILDREN'S PLAY SERVICE PLAYSCHEME PROGRAMME 2009.**

I would just like to let you know that the Children's Play Services (Cardiff County Council) are operating a free summer playscheme in Radyr Youth Centre for the last three weeks of the summer holidays between 10am and 11.55am (10th-28th August).

We also have nearby schemes in Creigiau, Waterhall Youth Centre (Fairwater), Pentreban Community Centre, Insole Court and College Fields (Gabalfa).

I thought this would be of interest to the local residents and young people in Radyr and wondered if I could include it in the next edition of the Radyr Chain?

Our big free event is in Cardiff Bay on Wednesday, 5th August, National Playday. The event will include climbing wall, graffiti wall, skateboard ramps, circus skills, pottery, wood and stone carving, outdoor cooking, performances by the Welsh Bockers and Capoiara groups, sensory yurts and much more! The event will be running between 1 and 7pm and all are welcome. Everything is free and kids will be sure to have fun.

**John Davies**  
Assistant Playscheme Coordinator  
0797 605 6211

## **BROKEN GLASS IN RADYR & MORGANSTOWN**

I am emailing in the hope that you will be able to publish a warning to all dog owners and parents about the danger of broken glass in Radyr and Morganstown.

Twice in the past three months I have had to take my pet dog to the vet because broken glass has become embedded in her paw. I am extremely concerned that this will happen to another animal or to a child.

I have complained to Cardiff Council but in the meantime, would be grateful if you could warn your readers of broken glass in the following areas :

**Bus shelter in Caer Graig, Radyr**

**On the path and in grass, beside football pitch Cwm Farm, Morganstown**

**In the alley at the side of Cwm Farm Park, Morganstown and several other alleys around Radyr.**

The Council is very quick to prosecute dog owners who don't clean up after their dogs. I hope they will be as quick to prosecute the people responsible for leaving broken glass.

Gail Horton.

## **RADYR METHODIST CHURCH**

Invites you to  
'Showstoppers' Holiday Club

Monday 24th to Friday 28th  
August  
10am – 11.45am  
For children aged 5 to 11 years

Games, Crafts, Puppets, Singing,  
Bible Stories

Cost £1.00 per child, per  
morning

Further information and booking  
forms available from  
radyrshowstoppers@hotmail.co.uk

Early booking advised – places  
are limited

## MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE!

Have fun and make new friends at the same time. Members are all in agreement that Rotary opens doors to a better world. Join men and women in 1,840 clubs across Great Britain and Ireland and help improve the lives of others locally and internationally.

On 23rd February, 1905, Chicago lawyer Paul P. Harris called three friends to a meeting, his vision being to form a club that would encourage fellowship amongst members of the business community, an idea originating from his desire to find the kind of friendly spirit he had known in the villages where he had grown up. Little did the four businessmen know that they had created the first ever Rotary Club. Rotary International is the world's first service club organisation, with more than 1.2 million members in 33,000 clubs worldwide. Rotary club members are volunteers who work locally, regionally and internationally to combat hunger, improve health and sanitation, provide education and job training, promote peace and eradicate polio under the motto Service Above Self.

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI) has over 55,000 members in 1,840 clubs. It is an integral part of Rotary International, the world's first service organisation. Each member enjoys business as well as social networking opportunities, whilst giving something back to those less fortunate, learning new skills and having a huge amount of fun!

Rotarians are committed to the drive to wipe out polio from the world. Since Rotary became involved in polio eradication in 1985, the number of reported polio cases has fallen from 350,000 a year to 1,000; 125 endemic countries have been reduced to just four – Afghanistan, India, Nigeria and Pakistan; and two billion children have been protected from the disease. With nearly 33,000 clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas, Rotary reaches out to national governments worldwide to generate crucial financial and technical support for polio eradication. Since 1995, the advocacy efforts of Rotary and its partners have helped raise more than

\$3 billion in vital funding from donor governments. Bill and Melinda Gates have recently awarded a challenge grant of \$355 million with Rotary committed to raise another \$200 million to raise the total to \$555 million to finally eradicate this crippling disease from the world.

Clubs all over Great Britain and Ireland have ambitious plans, so they're looking for more men and women aged over 30 to bring their energy, business skills and sense of humour to make a real difference to the lives of others.

Every Rotary Club has a different 'personality' and offers a different range of benefits so it's well worth trying out a few of your local clubs and meeting their members to find the one that suits you best.

There are seven Rotary clubs in Cardiff, but the club I belong to is Llandaff, as it has a good number of local Radyr and Morganstown members. Llandaff Rotary Club has around thirty members and has recently welcomed two new lady members. The membership is mixed with business people, engineers, lawyers, doctors, teachers, pharmacists, dentists and clergy. We meet every Tuesday either for an evening meal or lunch at Fairwater Conservative Club in Ely Road, but we also use Radyr Golf Club for several meetings. Each year we vote in a new committee and our incoming President is David Lloyd who practiced dentistry in South Wales and who now lives in Llandaff. David and outgoing President, Dr. Geoff Morgan, who practiced as a GP in Cardiff, are pictured at the 'Club Handover' evening at Radyr Golf Club on Tuesday, 7th July, 2009.

If you are interested in finding more about Rotary then please contact me and I will be pleased to provide more information and invite you to attend a local Rotary club meeting to really find out what Rotary is all about.

Rotarian Ron Eccles.

Rotarian Ron Eccles can be contacted by email – [ron.eccles@virgin.net](mailto:ron.eccles@virgin.net) or by telephone 029 2084 4343 or contact our Club Secretary Past President Rotarian Jack Ayles telephone 029 2084 2562 or by email [jack.ayles@lineone.net](mailto:jack.ayles@lineone.net)

## "CARDIFF STYLE" LADIES BARBERSHOP CHORUS

### LEARN TO SING WITH A DIFFERENCE

"Cardiff Style" is a Ladies Close Harmony chorus.

We sing in four part Harmony and sing a variety of songs for example. We sing songs from the movies and the shows to songs by popular artistes such as Barry Manilow, Neil Sedaka, The Beatles and Bette Midler, to name just a few.

We have ladies of all ages and from all walks of life and we are looking to increase our numbers. Don't worry if you can't read music, that is not a problem. We learn the songs from a teach CD although we also have a copy of the sheet music to help.

In chorus we learn how to breathe properly and how to hold a note and when all four parts sing a song together it sounds SPECTACULAR!

We sing at lots of different venues. This year we will be singing at Barry and Penarth seafronts, Cardiff Bay Millennium Theatre Stage and St. David's Hall Foyer entertainment.

If you are interested, please feel free to come along to one of our Rehearsal nights on a Monday evening (apart from Bank Holidays) at the Sbectrwm (Fairwater Community Centre) Bwlch Road, Fairwater, Cardiff at 7.45pm. We would love to see you.

Any questions or enquiries you have please feel free to contact me on 029 2025 3096 or email at [c.marchant3@ntlworld.com](mailto:c.marchant3@ntlworld.com)

Catherine Marchant  
PRO Cardiff Style Ladies  
Barbershop Chorus

# Radyr & Morganstown Community Council

## Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan



### Annual Report May 2009

Cllr David Silver

**Thanks:** First of all I would like to thank everyone on the Council for all the help they have given me this year. I would also like to thank the Clerk for all her hard work.

**Council:** Welcome to the three new councillors: Tyrone Davies, Alf Butler and Richard Owen. We are waiting to hear from Cardiff when we can recruit our 12th councillor.

**Systems:** The weekly list of planning applications for the area that is on our website now includes official decisions. Many more documents are now available electronically from Cardiff Council and the Welsh Assembly Government and we have access to the One Voice Wales website. We are adding more information to the website to comply with the Freedom of Information Act including all sub-committee minutes, budget and precept information, standing orders and our code of conduct.

**OCR:** The OCR won the Cardiff in Bloom competition again this year. Regular working parties have taken place to maintain the OCR. Nick Hawkins, once again, deserves a special mention for all the work he does. Inappropriate and dangerous parking of cars at around 9am in the morning has become a major safety issue with real concern about the safety of small children in the car park. This will be addressed with the OCR Management Committee.

**Planning:** Thanks go to Judith Marsh for all her hard work keeping the Council informed on applications. This was a quieter year with no major applications in our area.

**Village Plan:** This project was started last year with a steering group comprising the Community Council, the RMA and our County Councillor and has progressed rapidly. Three major projects have been undertaken including two involving students from Cardiff University. A community Questionnaire was completed by the steering Group and was circulated to all households in R&M. There was a 33% return from households in the community. The results were analysed with help from the Cardiff Research Centre and a summary report has been published in the Radyr Chain and on the website. The full report is now also on the website with hard copies available for viewing in the library and Council office. Work has started on the production of the plan itself. The data obtained from the replies has already been

used on a number of occasions and should be of great benefit to the Council and the community.

**Website:** The Community Website continues to be heavily used. A relaunch and upgrade to the website went live at last year's festival. The clerk and Chair of the Council have been heavily involved in this team and we are now using the site regularly to publish information to the community. A front page link to the Village Plan has been set up. This has enabled us to provide residents with a full copy of the report on responses to the community questionnaire.

**Civic Reception:** The annual civic reception and church service in May is a focal point and a thank you for those who are involved in local organisations in Radyr and Morganstown. In May 2008 the event was again very well attended and the Council was pleased to host leaders of the community and various representatives of the voluntary organisations in the villages, including our MP, Kevin Brennan and the Deputy Lord Mayor of Cardiff and his wife. This event effectively starts the Radyr and Morganstown Festival. At the opening fete the Council displayed the new community map and outlined the Village Plan project. It also supported the launch of the new community website. At the Tenovus Quiz Night the Community Council won back the shield for winning team.

**Grants:** Almost £1,720 was made in grants to local organisations, including Friends of Radyr Guides, RMA, Senior Citizens, Good Neighbours' Scheme, the British Legion, Radyr & Morganstown Mixed Indoor Bowls Club, Cardiff Corinthians Football Club, and Radyr Primary School.

**Finance:** The precept for the year was £62,000. Expenditure involved maintenance of Council Land and Radyr Woods, grants to local organisations and administration costs for the running of the Council. In addition we are committed to over £12,000 for payments on the Old Church Rooms together with insurance costs of over £4,300 which includes the building insurance.

The grass-cutting contract continues to be the largest regular contract that we place and is valued at approx. £4800 pa.

**Map:** The Council commissioned an updated Radyr & Morganstown map which

was distributed to all R&M households as well as local organizations. The map is also on the website.

**Land:** No major projects this year. Negotiations are underway with Cooke and Arkwright to renew the lease for Radyr Woods which we have now held on behalf of the community for 25 years.

**Other Issues:** Lowering policing levels in Radyr and Morganstown has been a major issue and letters of complaint were written to the Chief Constable. The Chief Superintendent of Cardiff, Josh Jones, attended one of our meetings to give us his view of the situation. Whilst the police believe we live in one of the safest areas in South Wales we are concerned that this is leading to further erosion of police resources in our areas which will increase crime in the area. This was echoed by the responses in the community questionnaire where a quarter of the households said they had been affected by criminal activity in the last three years and one third of households marked police effectiveness as poor or very poor. Council members have regularly attended PACT meetings.

The Community Council are still supporting the Youth Outreach workers and they attend Council meetings to update us on their work.

A project to set up a Skatepark in the Mound Field, started by a number of local youths and supported by the Council and the RMA, has been completed. After some teething problems the skatepark is well used and is being well looked after by the local youths.

We are in the process of setting up a charter with Cardiff Council defining the roles and responsibilities of each group and the working arrangements between us.

The Council has also maintained its links with GE Healthcare (formerly Amersham PLC) and Taffs Well Quarry through the local liaison Committees.

**Christmas:** Fortunately, we had no problems with the trees this year. We have put plans in place to move the Christmas tree in Windsor Gardens next year as it is too close to the large tree in the centre of the park. There are plans to improve the Granny Park in Morganstown by felling the alder to make more room for the Christmas tree and by planting some new decorative small trees and shrubs.



# RADYR SCOUTING NEWS

## Contacts

Beavers (Simba) 2084 4463  
Cubs (Akela) 07952 470414  
Scouts (Skip) 2084 2757

## Cub Camp 2009 Report

...from back cover

... We even got it on video this year with the perfectly timed commentary "if that cub is not careful he's going to fall in". Other elements that made camp were the rope bridge, (couldn't get Simba on again but more encouragement next year and who knows) night hike to a cave, initiative games that were only briefly interrupted with the pain au chocolate, and rousing camp fire songs with hot chocolate and marsh mallows. I am sure tired, dirty and hopefully happy cubs returned home. Judging by the state of the tents I doubt whether all the correct kit was returned. The cubs were so good this year not one could be singled out as best in camp, but that is a credit to them all. So that was the fun, and what did they learn? I have already mentioned the personal responsibility; they really did make you feel proud though I am aware that the rose tinted glasses are firmly in place because camp is a distant memory. One learned he had to tie his shoe laces or he will fall into the river when traversing stepping stones. One learned that too many harribo sweets really will make you rainbow sick, and one learned that you can't cheat and get away with it (that was Jacala).

So to sum it up in the words of the cubs "It was better than last year the weather was sunny" "Very enjoyable", "Best rope walk", "Beach was good".

And what would make it better cubs? "More sun", "Not the big walk", "More dangerous stuff"

One cub said "I actually enjoyed it". I am so pleased because actually I did too.

Claire Garman  
assistant Chef and roving reporter.

## Scout News

Lewis Richards receiving his Chief Scouts silver award from Jane Hutt AM, Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills at a recent ceremony at the Senedd. The Chief Scouts silver award is the highest scouting award that cub Scouts can earn"



### *Did You Know these 12 things about Scouting and Scouts?*

Scouting is the UK's largest mixed youth organisation.

**10% of all Scouts are girls - Scouting is for girls and boys.**

There are over 28 million Scouts worldwide.

**There are Scouts in 216 countries.**

Last year Scouting saw its largest increase in membership for 22 years. 13,500 young people and 1500 adults joined.

**The number of miles Scouts walked gaining their Queens Scout Badge in 2008 was the equivalent to once around the world.**

The youngest person to climb the highest peak in each of the seven continents was a Scout.

**11 out of the 12 people who have stood on the moon were Scouts (not sure what the twelfth did, but it was not the map reading!)**

The Scout Association is a non profit organisation and a registered charity.

**Adult volunteers in the UK donated the equivalent of 324 million pounds in time last year.**

There are over 100,000 adult volunteers in the UK, more than the combined work force of the BBC (24,000) and MacDonald's (67,000)

**There are 33,000 young people on waiting lists in the UK, some may never get in.**

Akela

## DRAMA SOCIETY

How would you like to have a convict or three working on your house? That is the basic premise of Sam and Bella Spewack's delightful comedy My Three Angels, which the Drama Society are preparing as their autumn production.

It is Christmas Eve 1910 and it's only 105 degrees in the shade. Welcome to French Guiana where convicts from the local penal colony move about with relative freedom. Each of the three decides to use his (criminal) skills to do a good turn for the family on whose house they are working. What we soon learn is that it is often very hard to tell who the real criminals are.

Based on a French original, My Three Angels marks the beginning of a French theme in Radyr. In May 2010 our friends from St. Philbert will come over to mark the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Twinning Charter. In February, The Music Group will perform Offenbach's delightful operetta, La Belle Helene and the organisers of the 2010 Festival are hoping to have a return visit from Fluellen with Pam Gem's "play with music", Piaf. So polish up your accent.

My Three Angels will be followed in April by an adaptation of either Alice in Wonderland or A String of Pearls by Allan Cook, following his very successful adaptations of The Wind in the Willows and A Christmas Carol for the Society. Alice in Wonderland needs no introduction and A String of Pearls is the Victorian "penny shocker" that introduced Sweeney Todd the Demon Barber of Fleet Street to an unsuspecting world.

My Three Angels will be directed by Pauline Watson and can be seen from the 26th to the 28th November, a delightfully light hearted start to the Christmas season. Auditions will be held in Christ Church Schoolrooms at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 1st September. If you are interested in taking part on-stage or helping backstage with either of these productions, please phone Sheila Phillips 2084 2585 or Allan Cook 2084 3175 for more details.

## BRIDGES VETERINARY SURGERY

is looking for

**A PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST**

5 Mornings a week (Mon - Fri)  
More hours available if wanted.

Must have had previous reception experience and a good knowledge of animals. Please send a CV with covering letter by 19th August 09 to:

Mrs R. Bridges, Bridges Vet Surgery  
at Pughs Garden Village,  
Tynant Road, Radyr. CF15 8RS

## ECOBAPTISM FOR CLIMATE CHANGE CHAMPION

Sixteen year old Climate Change Champion Anna Surridge, who lives in Radyr, has been busy with her GCSEs over the last few months. However, she hasn't let this stop her raising awareness of climate change and putting green theory into practice. In fact almost everything Anna does is now "eco-aware" and "eco-friendly". Take her baptism for example. Many Christian churches practice baptism by immersion and a lot of churches and chapels have baptisteries in them specifically for the purpose. However, this just wasn't "green" enough for Anna who worked out that the electricity required to raise the temperature of a baptistery to a comfortable temperature could be equivalent to making about a thousand cups of tea! Apart from this there's the use of water – a good baptistery can easily hold over a thousand litres. So, Anna went for an "eco" baptism. With the permission of the minister of the little chapel she attends in Ystrad Mynach, Anna arranged for her baptism to take place during a weekend camp near Brecon – in the cool waters of the River Usk.

"It was an amazing experience" says Anna. "The weather was fantastic, but the water was absolutely freezing! Fortunately, I was wearing a wetsuit, as was my Dad who baptised me (he's a minister, by the way), but I can assure you I most certainly could still feel the cold".

Other ways in which Anna is trying to live a greener life include growing some of her own salad and vegetables in the back garden, getting an old mobile phone off a friend and having it unlocked instead of buying a new one and wearing a vintage 1950s dress



*Anna on the train in her vintage prom dress*

instead of a brand new one to her school prom. Oh, and she also ditched the limo and went by train!

Anna was chosen as one of six Climate Change Champions for Wales following a Welsh Assembly Government competition at the beginning of the year. She regularly takes part in interviews, photo shoots and speaking engagements, all in order to raise awareness of climate change. For more information about what she has been doing check out her website at [www.anna.surridge.org.uk](http://www.anna.surridge.org.uk)

## EDINBURGH MARATHON

Daphne Austerberry, the former Cardiff Mobile Librarian and for over thirty years a Radyr resident, successfully completed the 2009 Edinburgh marathon on 31st May this year.

It is likely that a number of other Radyr residents have achieved similar feats this year, but Daphne's effort is noteworthy as it was her first ever marathon and she is 66 years young! Add to this, she never really participated in sport (other than Olive Samuels' badminton nights), had not done any running at all until she retired five years ago and the fact that the temperature on the day went up to about 25C does make it an achievement worth mentioning.

Daphne is not motivated by a desire to become a pensionable Paula Radcliffe (her time of just over six hours is testament to that, but just wanted to "get out and do something". Having achieved her goal, she now wants to get an entry accepted for the London Marathon and then complete the course ideally in under six hours.

### FOR SALE

**Would you like to own a Harmonium?**

Ours is now surplus to requirements  
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Will even deliver (locally)

For all details, contact Nick Hawkins  
029 2084 2561

## CHRISTIAN AID

The final total banked from the 2009 Radyr and Morganstown Christian Aid week held in mid May is £3110.45. (Last year £3500.).

A very good total given that this year, we had fewer collectors and we are in difficult economic times. Add to this the splendid sum of £1080 raised by Lent Lunches and £305 from a November "Charities Fair" arranged by the Methodist Church and the year total comes to £4495.

Many thanks to all of you who helped to achieve this, both donors and collectors.

Phil Kitcher

## CONGRATULATIONS! TO A WINNER!

The day before her 101st birthday, Mrs. Nina Leigh of Radyr won the Bridge Competition held at Radyr Golf Club on Lady President's Day.

## ST. JOHN AMBULANCE MEMBER HAS AFRICAN EXPERIENCE

Early in January, I received an unexpected call from our Commander Youth and after initially thinking I was in trouble, I was pleasantly surprised to find out that I had been nominated for a trip to Zambia with St. John Ambulance. All too soon, the 9th March came round, giving me the first real opportunity to meet the other eleven young people, four leaders and the Chief Commander who I would be spending the next week with. After the ten hour flight, we landed in Lusaka to initially be greeted by an overpowering heat which was rapidly followed by being met air side by senior volunteers of St. John Zambia and other VIPs who made it possible for us to bypass security and immigration checks. We were then guided straight to our minibus with a police escort which cut through all the traffic using blue lights and sirens. This was an amazing welcome to Zambia and set the standard for the whole of our trip which we were not disappointed with at all!

Our main aim for the visit was to train the local community in basic first aid as medical provisions in Zambia are very basic. The population of Lusaka is over 1,080,000 and supported by one St. John ambulance which is basically a van with a stretcher. St. John Wales has a partnership with St. John Zambia until at least 2012 and before we left Wales, we were informed our target for the week was to train 600 people in first aid. This was a daunting target as I had never trained more than twelve people at a time! It turned out that many more people than anticipated were interested and willing to take part in our training sessions with an average of 75 people turning up at each training session. We worked in two different groups so that we could train as many people as possible and in the four days of first aid training that we did, we trained over 1,200 people, more than double our original target! It was a fantastic feeling to know that we achieved training this staggering number of people and that everyone who took part in the

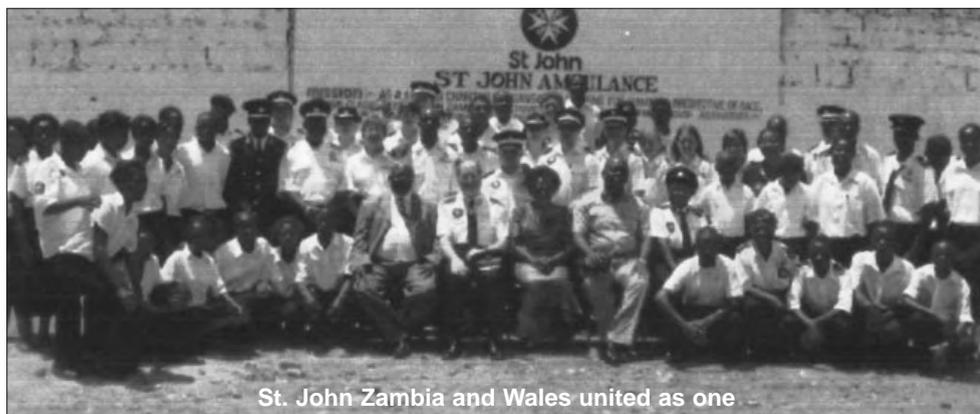
training was so willing to learn and were appreciative of everything that we were doing for them.

Our trip wasn't all hard work as we were lucky enough to be in Lusaka for the end of their National Youth Week which climaxed with a massive parade passing by the Zambian President. There were over 10,000 young people taking part in the parade, many of them gathering at the meeting point from 6am, despite the parade not starting till 11.30. It was a bustling atmosphere throughout the parade and before as everyone was singing and dancing to make their own entertainment.

We also went to Munda Wunga Park which is loosely our equivalent of a zoo but without the intervention of health and safety as all that was between us and the majority of the wild animals, was a thin wire fence with a hole big enough that you could put your arm through (if you really felt the need). There were all the usual animals that you would expect to find at a zoo, such as lions, zebras, porcupines, mongooses, a cheetah, crocodiles, tortoises, primates and birds but it was a completely different experience to be so close to all these dangerous animals.

The whole week flew by in a blur as we were constantly busy but I thoroughly enjoyed every minute of my time in Lusaka and I am so thankful for having the opportunity to help such a deserving bunch of people and knowing that the small things that we did in our short time could make such a huge difference. I know it really is a cliché saying it is an experience of a lifetime, but in this case it is true and I have memories that will now stay with me for life.

Radyr St. John Ambulance meets Monday evenings in the Old Church Rooms. Cadets (10-18 year olds) meets 6-745pm and the adults meet 8-9pm. For more information please contact Kim Tysom, 07709 340 016, kimtysom@yahoo.co.uk



St. John Zambia and Wales united as one

## RADYR PARISH MUSIC GROUP

Offenbach's 'La Belle Helene' will be the next production for the Radyr Parish Music Group [sung in English], which we will perform at the Bishop of Llandaff High School 17th-21st February, 2010.

Rehearsals for the show start on 21st August at 7.30pm at the New School Rooms, Christchurch and new members are always welcome, whether you are interested in performing or helping out with our enthusiastic back-stage crew.

We would love to hear from you. There is plenty to do for everyone and we all really enjoy putting on the show.

Visit our website at  
[www.radyr.org.uk/music](http://www.radyr.org.uk/music) for more information and our contact details.

## Bryn Deri Summer Term News

### Cricket News - Poetry Competition

We are very proud of 2 of our children, Cameron Harvey and Lucy Martin - who made the final 8 of The Ashes National Poetry Competition judged by Danny Abse. Lucy Martin won and had the honour of having her poem published in the programme for the Ashes match.

**The Ashes** Great excitement as our children displayed cricket skills during the lunch hour of the test match in Sophia Gardens on 10th July.

**Glamorgan v Kent** On 21st July our cricketers will be playing a demonstration match to entertain the crowd during the lunch break.

**Quality Standard** We have just been assessed for the new Basic Skills Standard for Literacy and Numeracy. (This replaces the Basic Skills Quality Mark.)

**ECO Award** We have just been given the silver award and will now be working towards achieving the Green Flag.

**"Art Daze"** We have had 4 creative Art days which the whole school has had a part in. There has been puppet making, circus skills, African drumming and Street dance. Work and photographs of these days are displayed in the hall. A very enjoyable time was had by all.

**Enterprise Initiatives** Year 5 have had input from Careers Wales and set up their companies undertaking market research and making their products. They sold their wares and made £345 for charity.

Year 4 made pizzas at Asda and in school.

Year 2 had a very successful "Garden Centre" morning selling plants they had grown / brought on.

Year 1 had a café afternoon for their families which was also very enjoyable.

We are all very tired after such a busy term and it has been a fitting end to be entertained by the Yr6 in their Leavers' Concert. We will miss them all and we wish them all the best for the future.

# I AM HOPE

I am writing to you in response to your request for Articles related to youngsters from the local area. There is a fantastic Indi rock band called "I am hope" the band is made up of Jodie Daniels and Alexander Carr

(pedro) Who are the singers and guitarists within the band, Both having attended Radyr Comprehensive school before going to music college, first in Bridgend and their final years spent in Cardiff music college at Glamorgan University. Then there is Gareth Phillips (base and vocals) and Steve Jenkins (Drummer and vocals) who are from the Bridgend area They are just about to release their first C.D. which has a release date of the 29th of June. Several music magazines have written very favourably about their music, and they have recently played their music in session on local radio stations. On the 4 th of July they are playing live for free, at Whitchurch Hospital Grounds in aid of the George Thomas Hospice appeal. Anyone interested in listening to or want to download their music then you can go to I AM HOPE MUSIC @ MY SPACE. The band is always looking for sponsors to help them purchase more equipment. Or if you have any second hand equipment to get rid of they will take it off your hands. I f any readers think they have a musical talent the band is always on the lookout for support groups/ bands or individuals both male and female to support them around Cardiff. Contact David Carr on 07980808188.

I AM HOPE are four passionate young musicians from South Wales dedicated to bringing their lyrically esoteric yet optimistic songs to the world. Influenced by and taking musical reference from the likes of Biffy Clyro, Kings Of Leon and Alexisonfire, I AM HOPE build their sound emphatically and methodically, as only they know how. Recorded and produced by the legendary Jeff Rose and Martin 'Ginge' Ford (Funeral For A Friend / Bullet For My Valentine), this debut EP perfectly exemplifies the bands ethos for making music: strong hooks and infectious melodies coupled with intense and engaging yet ultimately sanguine lyrics.

As their name suggests, I AM HOPE promise to be one of the brightest new lights on the horizon.

"Engaging and emotional, raw and heart-breaking ... Those vocals left me a little bit in love." CARDIFF BARFLY (Beth Edwards Bangingdrum.com)



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All proceeds go towards the Danybryn  
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**PLEASE NOTE NO ONSITE PARKING**

# Radyr & Morganstown Community Council

## Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan



The Old Church Rooms  
Park Road  
Radyr  
Cardiff  
CF15 8DF

Clerk/Clerc: Helena Fox

June 8, 2009

Ruth Chapman,  
Chief Highways Officer,  
Cardiff Council,  
County Hall,  
Cardiff. CF10 4UW.

Dear Ms. Chapman,

### **Junction of King's Road and King's Avenue/Taff Terrace, Radyr, Cardiff, CF15 8AE/8EE**

We have had a number of complaints from local residents about this dangerous junction. We have discussed this with Cllr Bowen who has given us the views of Highways officers. We find it unacceptable that a clearly dangerous junction will be left unimproved until an accident happens. We are writing to request a weekday morning site meeting with officers and Community Councillors so that proper consideration can be given to the following issues.

We are told that the records for the above location over the last five years show no accidents, that on one visit traffic was seen to be light and free flowing and visibility was not adversely affected by parking. When we challenged this, Cllr Bowen accepted that 'there is limited visibility at the junction caused by its general alignment, irrespective of parking conditions'.

We find that visibility on turning in either direction from King's Avenue into King's Road is poor when there are no cars parked because of the angle of the roads. When cars are parked along King's Road drivers are completely unable to see traffic in either direction on King's Road. This is made more difficult by cars parked right up to the junction. We understand that Cllr McKerlich hopes to extend the double yellow lines at the junction, but this is not certain and will not solve the whole problem.

The road system has changed and the volume of traffic has increased dramatically in this part of Radyr since the development at Radyr Sidings. All traffic from the 500+ new homes at the sidings exits (and much enters) via King's Road because of the one-way system on Station Road below King's Avenue. There remain plans for a community centre and a residential care home at the sidings. King's Avenue has become a short cut into Station Road from King's Road for all traffic wanting to use the shops.

The junction at King's Road/King's Avenue/Taff Terrace is a crossing point for Radyr Comprehensive pupils walking to and from school and for Radyr Primary pupils from the sidings.

Radyr Station is the outermost point for the cheapest fares into Cardiff. This, together with a Park and Ride initiative from Cardiff Council, means that the station car park now overflows every weekday with parking along De Clare Drive, up the full length of King's Road, spreading into all surrounding roads. This displaces residents and parking for the Station Road shops on to Heol Isaf and far up Windsor Road. Access for older and less able people has become increasingly difficult and at times impossible.

These significant changes have taken place over the last five years and traffic flow will not reach its peak until the sidings development is complete. The accident record over the last five years cannot take account of the junction as it is today or as it will become. We urge you to agree to a site visit so that improvements can be assessed before there is a serious accident.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,  
Helena Fox, Clerk.

# GLOBAL STUDENT FORUM

On Tuesday, 30th June, a group of sixth formers from Radyr Comprehensive School attended the fifth annual Global Student Forum in Westminster, London, in order to help raise awareness of child mortality in developing countries. The forum exists to encourage school students to think carefully about the spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues underlying global citizenship and to help others to do the same. This year, the theme of the forum was child mortality, focusing in particular on the fact that 9.3 million children die before they reach their fifth birthday, which averages about one child every three seconds.

The conference was made up of multi-media presentations, debates, workshops and live music from artists, designed to help equip us to become peer educators on our return to school and therefore contribute to the aim of raising awareness locally. The conference was a major eye-opener for all of us and made very one of us realise how fortunate we are. During the conference, we learnt that there were five main causes of child mortality in third world countries. These were malnutrition, poor sanitation, climate change, lack of education and lack of resources. It was particularly shocking to hear that preventable diseases, the top two being pneumonia and diarrhoea,

caused the most deaths amongst children in developing countries.

Catrin Cooper, one of the sixth formers that attended the conference said "The whole experience really changed my perspective on world issues. The facts that I learnt and images I saw really affected me and I've realised that even I can make a difference! One of the most moving parts of the conference was Perry Mjeri talking about losing her two children to aids. Hearing this firsthand account is something I will never forget".

In the afternoon, we had the opportunity to meet with our local MP, Kevin Brennan, in the Houses of Parliament, to present him with a question to raise in parliament on our behalf. The question we chose to pose to him was "If child mortality is such a significant issue, why is it not included in our school curriculum at a younger age?" We will be meeting with him again at the start of September to further discuss with him what we will be doing and what he can do to further this cause.

It was reassuring that there were things we could do as individuals to help. We have taken the Copenhagen pledge on the Christian Aid website to reduce our carbon footprint. Likewise, we have sent a petition to Gordon Brown urging him to attend the UN Climate Conference in Copenhagen on the 6th-8th December. In addition to this we learnt that we could make a difference to the lives of people in third world countries by simply buying more fair-trade products, like bananas, chocolate and clothes.

Finally and perhaps most importantly, we are going to make use of the lessons learned in London to raise awareness of child mortality amongst our local community. We are currently preparing assemblies and lessons to deliver in our own school and primary feeder schools that will go into more detail about why mortality rates are so high and how we can make a difference.

To find out more about child mortality go to [www.damaris.org](http://www.damaris.org)

To make the Copenhagen pledge go to [www.christianaid.org.uk/ActNow/Countdown-to-Copenhagen-climate-change](http://www.christianaid.org.uk/ActNow/Countdown-to-Copenhagen-climate-change)

**Helen Wilson, Catrin Cooper, Sama Razouqi.**

## MORGANSTOWN WOMAN TACKLES BEN NEVIS FOR ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY

Kathryn Williams, 25, of Morganstown is taking the fight against dementia to the highest point in Britain as part of a fundraising effort for Alzheimer's Society.

In the lead up to World Alzheimer's Day, 21st September, 2009, Kathryn hopes to raise over £500. by taking part in the Ben Nevis Challenge this September. Ben Nevis, Gaelic for 'Mountain of Heaven', stands at 4409 feet (1343 metres) above sea level. Kathryn will climb the mountain to raise money for the 700,000 people in the UK that have a form of dementia.

Kathryn said, "I was inspired to take part in this challenge for Alzheimer's Society because I was moved by the recent publicity regarding Alzheimer's sufferers and those that care for them. I am hoping that, by raising funds for the Alzheimer's Society, they will be able to continue and develop the excellent work that they do. The fact that I have always wanted to climb Ben Nevis is a bonus! I'm planning to practise for the challenge by climbing Snowdon this summer and I also completed the 'Moonwalk' – a marathon-length power walk through London – in May in aid of the 'Walk the Walk' breast cancer charity. I have been walking as much as possible recently, so I hope it all pays off in September!"

Kathryn's fundraising efforts for Alzheimer's Society have been keeping her busy with a coffee morning, raffle, book and cake sale held at work. Kathryn said "Everyone has been really supportive and all staff dug deep to make sure that the event was a real success. Thank you very much to everyone that donated a raffle prize, some cakes, or their time to the event!"

Jo Swinhoe, Director of Fundraising and Marketing at Alzheimer's Society said "We are delighted that Kathryn is giving her time to support Alzheimer's Society. By scaling Ben Nevis she is certainly taking fundraising to great heights. As a charity, we rely on the generosity of individuals like Kathryn to help us care today and find a cure for tomorrow. One in three people over 65 will die with dementia. It is more than just memory loss; it robs people of their lives and has a devastating impact on families and loved ones. Please back Kathryn in her fundraising efforts so that we can continue leading the fight against dementia".

Kathryn will join a group of all ages and from all backgrounds on Alzheimer's Society's Ben Nevis Challenge.

To sponsor Kathryn, please visit her Justgiving website : [www.justgiving.com/kathrynwilliams5](http://www.justgiving.com/kathrynwilliams5)

From running your local 5k to trekking the jungle or even parachuting, if you would like to take part in an event for Alzheimer's Society, please visit [www.alzheimers.org.uk/events](http://www.alzheimers.org.uk/events) or call 0870 417 0192.



## NATIONAL POETRY COMPETITION WINNER – LUCY MARTIN

As the world's media descends on Cardiff for The Ashes, which begins next week, pupils from Bryn Deri Primary School have been celebrating this memorable event in their own way.

An Ashes poetry competition was announced in April and 350 schools across Wales submitted entries for The Ashes poetry competition, including the pupils in Year 6 at Bryn Deri.

With the amount of schools and pupils entering, we were amazed to be told that of the eight poems short-listed for the final, two were from Bryn Deri. Lucy Martin with a poem called *'Flying through the air'* and Cameron Harvey with his poem entitled *'My First Cricket Match'*.

The judging panel was headed by one of Wales' most illustrious

poets, Dannie Abse and he was going to be present at the finals.

On Friday, 26th June, our two finalists (along with three friends each) were invited for a tour of the SWALEC stadium, where the first game of the Ashes will take place. Dr. Andrew Hignell, the Education Officer, gave us the grand tour and then we went to the Old Library for the announcement of the winner.

After a buffet lunch and look round the Ashes display in the Old Library, we congregated to hear the announcement of the winner.

Dannie Abse read some of his poems and then read the poem he had picked as his favourite. To our delight, it was *'Flying Through the Air'* by Lucy Martin and she won a pair of tickets to The Ashes in Cardiff. A second winner was also announced as one of the other judges selected another poem as her favourite.

We congratulate both Lucy and Cameron on their excellent poems.

## MY FIRST CRICKET MATCH

I was in the changing room,  
My heart pounding with fear.

It was my first match,  
I was the batsman.

I walked towards the empty round circle,  
Like falling in a black hole.

The crowd were cheering,  
Was I up for it?

I stepped up to the crease,  
My head spinning like a merry-go-round.

I tried to feel confident,  
But the really fast bowler was first.  
The ball bounced and mud flew up.

I was ready and screwed my face tight.  
I felt like shattered glass when I hit it,  
I looked up to see where it was, with hope.

The ruby seemed to hang in the air,  
It looked like a bird that never lands,  
It flew over the heads of the fielders,

I was in luck,  
It hit the ground behind the boundary.

## FLYING THROUGH THE AIR

Nearly done, nearly done, one more ball left  
The fielders stand, the batsman stands the bat in his hand.  
The bowler stands gripping me,  
He rubs me clean, my leather coat shines.  
His hands feel soft as silk as he prepares to run.  
His arm comes back, he starts to bowl.  
The batsman raises his bat,  
The crowd cheer as I soar.  
The batsman hits, I want to scream with pain.  
The willow club hurts but it sends me flying the other way,  
The batsman starts to run.  
I see an approaching fielder,  
His hands outstretched.  
He's going to catch it, he really is.  
I close my eyes, metres above his head.  
**OUT!**  
It's over.

I am thrown in the air as the fielders cheer,  
I land unnoticed.

All I see is a rampage of feet high above me.  
The crowd scream with delight,  
A hand picks me up, I try to roll away.  
It is the bowler.

I am put into a pocket and light is shut away.  
Now I will never fly through the air.

## TORCHWOOD AND DR. WHO DESIGNER

The Torchwood and Dr. Who designer, Edward Thomas, will join Fluellen for their forthcoming production of Dylan Thomas's *The Doctor and the Devils*. As *The Doctor and the Devils* will be a proscenium production and opens on the main stage at the Grand Theatre in Swansea before transferring to Morganstown Village Hall, it gives the designer a great deal of scope to recreate nineteenth century Edinburgh, a city often compared to Dickensian London.

Although Dylan Thomas wrote only two plays, *Return Journey* and *Under Milk Wood*, he wrote a number of film scripts for Donald Taylor at Stand films. It was Donald Taylor who commissioned *The Doctor and the Devils*.

Taylor immediately realised that it was a fine piece of writing and ensured its publication in book form. It was the first time that a screenplay had ever been published before the film had been made and it was published on the same day that *Under Milk Wood* received its first ever performance in New York.

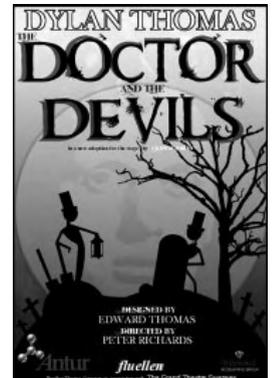
*The Doctor and the Devils* is based on the true story of the infamous body snatchers Burke and Hare who eventually resorted to murder in order to supply bodies for anatomical research. In the Thomas version, the characters become Fallon and Broom who are driven to murder by the desperate conditions in which they live. The purchaser of the corpses is Doctor Rock, young, ambitiously ruthless and a lecturer of anatomy with a growing army of adoring pupils.

The play tells an exciting and thrilling story of how Fallon and Broom resort to more and more terrifying ways of obtaining bodies to satisfy the medical profession's seemingly insatiable needs. But it is also more than that. Thomas brilliantly asks the question who is the more morally corrupt? *The Doctor* or *the Devils*?

Thomas contrasts the squalor and depravity of Fallon and Broom's tenements with the civilised comfort of the houses where Rock and the rest of the medical profession live and work.

*The Doctor and the Devils* is filled with wonderful and eccentric characters that could have walked out of the pages of a Dickens' novel and despite its subject matter, is full of wry humour.

*The Doctor and the Devils* will be at Morganstown Village Hall on Tuesday, 22nd September at 7.30pm. Tickets, £8., £7. and £4. are available from Chris's Shop, Park Road, Nick Hawkins 2084 2561 or Allan Cook 2084 3176.





# RADYR SCOUTING NEWS

## Contacts

Beavers (Simba) 2084 4463  
Cubs (Akela) 07952 470414  
Scouts (Skip) 2084 2757

## Cub Camp 2009 Report

The emphasis of scouting is to have fun and learn at the same time, and here is how we did it at Parc-le-Breos 2009

Everyone agreed the weather made this years camp, with the exception of the last morning when it chucked it down. It was ok though because the only parents to forget to pack rain coats were camp helpers so it was more an amusement than a serious kit failure.

It was a joy for me to watch the cubs rise to the personal responsibilities placed upon them. The dried on custard from the previous night's supper, mixed with milk on their breakfast cereal was enough to convince them they had to wash their own dishes. One night and one morning of lost wash kits and 'minging' teeth made them realise their personal kit would not be returned by the camp fairy (Akela is no fairy), and the more experienced cub campers eagerly helped the uninitiated. Don't get me wrong this was no Little House on the Prairie. But if you were ever unsure about what cubs could offer your son or daughter then offer to help out at camp. You and your cub will not be disappointed by the experience.

One of the main attractions this year was the army chefs visit from 160th Brigade Brecon. They used sat nav to find us and there was lots of tutting amongst the



leaders as a result. Never the less they held the cubs spell bound by their out door cooking skills. You couldn't even tell they had been there after they stamped the patch of grass back in. In the end I think the cubs were actually disappointed because they did not have to catch and skin squirrels. The army were equally as mesmerised by the cubs who managed the perfect level of good behaviour and fun throughout the day and indeed the whole camp.

The cubs weren't as interested in the camp chefs however..."The food was horrible..." "No it was great..." Were the chirps that greeted us. Well you can't please them all



but I don't think anyone went hungry, sweet and sour chicken, sausage casserole and bacon and egg butties to name but a few of the culinary delights. Not to mention the cakes that came along with the cubs. Thank you, maybe next year the leaders will let the cubs have some too!

Apart from the weather the other thing that helped camp go with a swing this year was the huge amount of effort applied to the organised proceedings. An activity matrix is not a term you will find in the scouts hand book but is a meticulously planned array of outdoor fun and that is exactly what we had. The wide game required a rematch with red and white team winning twice. This had nothing to do with Jacala ("I didn't know you couldn't do that") encouraging her team to win by hiding the flag! It was a little surreal to see a field full of cub scouts attacking each other with paper, scissors, stone (the game - don't panic). This seemed a good way of avoiding the violence required to remove the oppositions tag tail but it really was a sight to behold.

They charged the fortress on the beach and literally dipped their toes in the freezing cold water at Three Cliffs Bay. A photo of all the cubs standing on a stepping stones was finally obtained after last year someone forgot to charge the camera battery but it took so long to line them up in the bad weather conditions they didn't have the heart to say. *continued on page 15*

