



The three Wise Men will be riding their camels in to the heart of the city's shopping centre this Christmas, as Cardiff gets set

to pioneer a dramatic event, the first of its kind in the UK. Called Christmas - The Story, it's a nativity play - and more - which will be performed every day, throughout the day, from December 1-18. Forget tea towels and cute angels, this production will be a visual feast performed by adults and which aims to become as essential to every family's Christmas as a trip to Santa's grotto.

In future years Christmas - The Story will become a tradition, an annual event in towns and cities across the UK

The project was inspired by a shocking survey which showed that there was a woeful lack of knowledge of the nativity story among young people in the 18-24 age group, with 36 per cent of those interviewed not knowing Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

Now the mainstream churches of Cardiff, backed by the charity the Bible Society, have got together to fund and produce a 20-minute nativity play to bring back the Christmas story for new and future generations. English and Welsh-language versions of the play will be performed inside Tabernacl Church on the Hayes, with market stalls and street entertainers adding to the fun outside.

This will be no attempt to evangelise or preach. The Story will be the free gift of the churches of Cardiff to the people of Cardiff - not just this year but every year. This will be no attempt to evangelise or preach. The Story will be the free gift of the churches of Cardiff to the people of Cardiff - not just this year but every year.



Christmas - The Story is the brainchild of Sally Humble-Jackson, a Cardiff church-goer, who in the past has worked both in theatre and as a writer.

"We think it's important that the nativity story is restored to our collective consciousness, and that a new generation does not grow up in ignorance - in the interests of social cohesion, if nothing else. Because we have the involvement of a major charity, it is planned that Christmas - The Story, piloted in Cardiff this year, will be replicated in town centres across Britain next year and into the future.

"The entire project is run by volunteers giving up their time and offering their services and areas of expertise for free. Obviously there will be certain materials, services and skills we will need to buy in, but these we anticipate being funded by the members of the Churches of Cardiff as a gift to the people of Cardiff. It will require a huge number of volunteers to serve as actors, technicians, stewards and so on but that in itself is an opportunity for a variety of disparate communities to work together for a common goal."



For more info contact project manager, Mark Tugwell:07787 979292; Sally Humble-Jackson (029) 20493326

or Juliet Lloyd: 07968 032720 or email [cardiffnativity@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cardiffnativity@hotmail.co.uk)

## CENTENARY GOES OUT WITH A BANG

Radyr Guides, Brownies and Rainbows have been working hard over the past fourteen months on challenges and badges, as well as having lots of fun celebrating one hundred years of Guiding. The Guides took part in WOW, an all-Wales camp at the Royal Welsh Showground, the Brownies took over Cardiff Castle one Saturday and the Rainbows went Wild! At Forest Farm. We have also enjoyed a Fun Day at Rhymney High School and travelled to the Guide House, Broneirion in Mid Wales, to join in lots of circus fun and games.

By the light of a full moon, approximately 300 Guides, Brownies and Rainbows from Garth District together with their leaders and several ex-Brownies and

Guides renewed their Promise with thousands of other girls across the world at ten minutes past eight on 20th October – 20:10, 20/10, 2010. The evening at Pentyrch Rugby Club started with a traditional campfire sing-song and hot chocolate, to keep us warm and we were also treated to a firework display before the girls were presented with special 2010 Promise badges. A wonderful experience and some of the youngest members may be reminiscing at the Bi-centenary in 2110.



# RADYR CHAIN

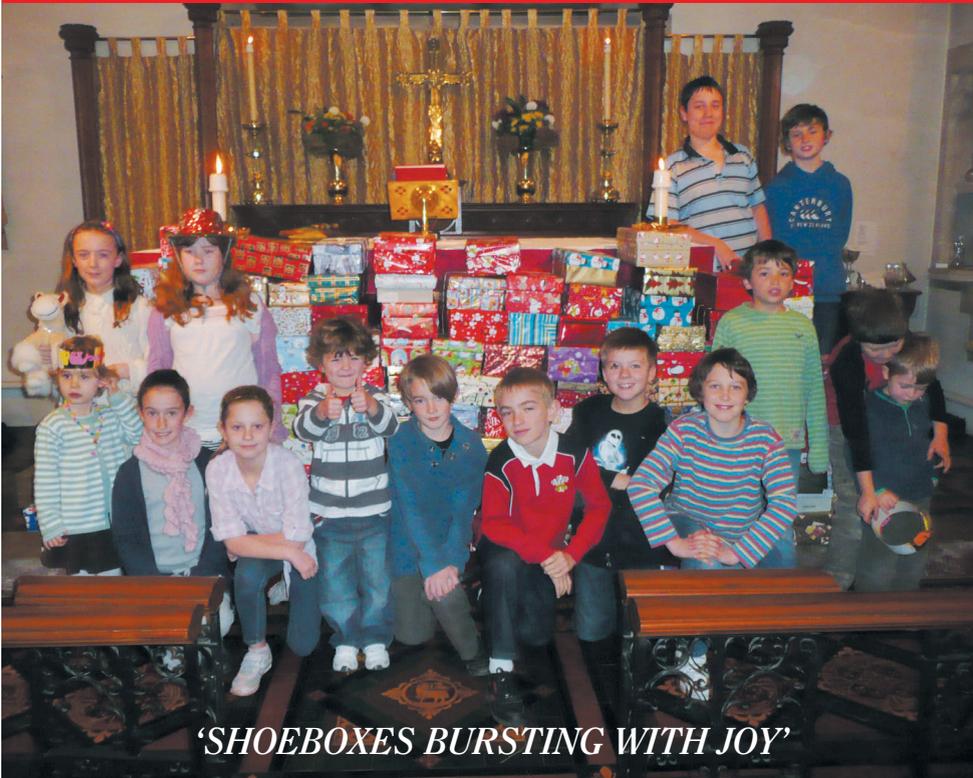
Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown



Number 191

December 2010

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD ~ 20th Anniversary ~



### *What a wonderful response!*

I am delighted to report that 175 beautifully packaged and imaginatively filled shoeboxes were collected from Christ church on 22nd November. This is a tremendous total. Both St. John's and Christchurch were full for our services on 'Shoebox Sunday', to collect and bless the boxes. A colourful wall was built before they were taken to the depot at Bridgend, then transferred into large lorries to begin their journey to distant countries.

Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest Christmas project – devoted to spreading love, joy and smiles to children in parts of the world who really need them. For the first time Haiti is to be included with Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

An enormous thank you to all who have made this possible. Amongst those who have packed boxes are Christ Church – Sunday School to Mothers Union, St. John's Church – Sunday School plus parishioners, WI members, Radyr Golf Club and even my French class.

Anne-Marie Phillips

## RADYR ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT CENTRE OPENS

on Monday November 22nd by Mr Glyn Evans, the lead external verifier for the IMI (Institute of the Motor Industry) Awards.

The IMI is the leading awarding body for the retail motor industry and offer an unrivalled range of motor industry qualifications that demonstrate skills and competence.

Also attending the launch was Jordan Chamberlain, European and British Go Karting Champion and Nick Cooper from the South Wales Police Collision and Forensic Investigation Unit who was promoting Road Safety. Radyr Comprehensive Headteacher,

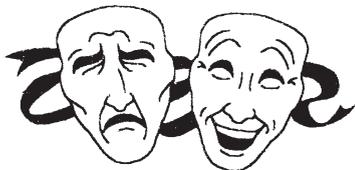
Steve Fowler said: *"This is a fantastic new facility. It is great to see the enthusiasm and commitment*

*from Radyr students and those from other schools in the west of Cardiff. They are really enjoying the course*



*continued on page 13*

## 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)

### DECEMBER

- 2 Christmas Tree Lighting. All residents are welcome to attend the lighting of Christmas Trees at Morganstown 6.30pm, Lychgate Gardens 6.45pm, Windsor Gardens and Station Road 7.30pm. See the News item for more information. 7.00pm
- 4 Christmas Fayre, Radyr Primary School. Come and join in the fun from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Something for everyone - have your photo taken with Father Christmas, raffle, biscuits to decorate, toys and books, face and nail painting, buy a present and wrap it for your Mum or Dad at the Secret Santa stall, bottle stall, sweet tombola, bingo and many more. Seasonal refreshments - coffee and mince pies, mulled wine and turkey or brie and cranberry rolls. Everybody welcome. 10.30am
- 4 Twinning Christmas Event Now at Old Church Rooms with Vocal Entertainment by Billy Rose from the Don Jones Entertainment Agency. Ticket entry only £20 from Caroline at 2084 2250 Maggie 2084 2995 or any committee member. Dress code something Christmassy or French. Licenced Bar & Raffle Catering by Spiro's. 7.30pm
- 6 Radyr & Morganstown W.I. We are pleased to welcome back Christine Seaman who visited us in July to talk about her career as a Ballerina. We invited her back to demonstrate some of the work she does teaching exercise classes to older people. Do come along and share in the last meeting of the year. 7.30pm
- 8 PACT & Neighbourhood Watch Meeting Old Church Rooms with PC Huge Thomas, PCSO Helen Coleman, Cllr Rod McKerlich. All Welcome 7.00pm

### JANUARY

- 12 Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club. GROWING CACTI & SUCCULENTS - a talk to be given by Tony Jukes. Venue: New School Rooms, Christ Church, Heol Isaf. Meetings are followed by refreshments. For further information see Village Notice Boards or contact Richard Gregory (029 20842084 or [richardjgregory@btopenworld.com](mailto:richardjgregory@btopenworld.com)). 7.30pm

## Cylch Meithrin Radur a Phentrepoeth - Upcoming events

**Sadwrn Ileg Rhagfyr: Ffair Nadolig (1100-1300 Ystafelloedd yr Hen Eglwys) Saturday 11th December: Christmas Fair (1100-1300 Old Church Rooms)**

Ymunwch A Sion Corn a'i ffrindiau wrth iddyn nhw baratoi at y Nadolig. Fe fydd digon o gyfle i brynu cacennau, danteithion a chreftiau Nadoligaidd yn ogystal a chyfle i droi eich llaw at ambell grefft. Bydd hefyd raffl, siop mins peis a chownter fwyd.

Join Sion Corn and friends as they prepare for Christmas/Nadolig with a fun-packed Festive Fair, featuring cake and confectionary stalls, Christmas Craft-Making workshops, snack and mince pie bar, raffle and plenty more. Also a chance to purchase crafts and other gifts in time for Christmas.

**24ain Ionawr 2011: Cwis Mawr y Gaeaf (8pm Tafarn Y Ty Nant) 24th January 2011: The Great Winter Pub (8pm Y Ty Nant Pub)**

Ydych chi'n gwybod y gwahaniaeth rhwng schnee a sneeuw? Rhwng Tallinn a Tblisi neu'n gwybod yn union pwy ywr piplings a'r cheebies? Ydych chi ffansi profi eich gwybodaeth cyffredinol ac ennill teitl Pencampwyr Cwis Radur, Pentrepoeth, Gwaelod y Garth a Liandaf? Os ych chi, dewch i gymryd rhan yng Nghwis Mawr y Gaeaf. Fe fydd tocynnau ar gael drwy'r Cylch, neu drwy gysylltu A Radha Nair-Roberts ([rgn@cadarn.net](mailto:rgn@cadarn.net)).

Do you know your schnee from your sneeuw? Your Tallinn from your Tblisi? Your piplings from your cheebies? Have you got what it takes to be crowned Quiz Champions of Radyr, Morganstown, Gwaelod and Llandaff 2011? Only one way to find out: take part in our MidWinter Charity Pub Quiz. Tickets to be purchased in advance from Meithrin, the Veg Vendor or by contacting Radha Nair-Roberts

## EDITORIAL



We are delighted to hear that, partly due to our campaign to recycle batteries responsibly, the Council is siting receptacles for used batteries in the library.

It is good to hear that the restaurant in Station Road is reopening shortly. We wish it every success.

*The editors would like to wish everybody a Happy Christmas.*

*Many thanks to those who deliver the Chain and contribute with articles and news*



## DOGS ATTACK PREGNANT SHEEP (Ewe in lamb)

On Monday, 8th November, two dogs were witnessed running loose in a field with a flock of sheep at Pantawel Lane. There are National Farmers Union signs clearly visible at all entry points to the field stating DOGS MUST BE ON LEADS AT ALL TIMES. The stupidity of the owner has led to serious consequences which were witnessed attacking a pregnant sheep (one was a Husky cross and the other was a Staffordshire bull terrier). The Husky dog was witnessed leaving the field with blood over its face.

The sheep suffered a very severe attack on its leg and udder area which were severely damaged. The sheep had to undergo medical attention as a result of its severe injuries and was also extremely traumatised.

This incident has been reported to the police and if you have any information about this incompetent and irresponsible dog owner, please can you contact the local Police Officer Huw Thomas on 07584 004472 or Police Support Officer Helen Coleman on 07584 883 307.

Clearly, this person is not in control of her dogs and a defenceless animal has suffered as a result of this and next time, the attack could be on a small child, so if you do have any information please act on this and contact the police. Val Allen.

Letters, articles, reports and other contributions are invited and should be submitted by January 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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# CARDIFF WEST ROTARY CLUB

Cardiff West Rotary Club is based at Radyr Golf Club and is the first club to be formed in the Cardiff area since 1997.

Friends of one of our newest members, 32 year-old Catherina, reacted in amazement when she told them that she had joined the Rotary Club. Their comments varied from "You're too young to join Rotary", "Only men join Rotary", "It's a lunch time 'men only club'" and they even thought it was a secret society!

## So, **WHAT IS ROTARY** and **WHAT DO THEY DO?**

It's an organisation with 1.2 million people, both **MEN** and **WOMEN** of all ages, in 33,000 clubs worldwide. Members are volunteers who meet regularly for Fun, Fellowship and Fundraising. Cardiff West Rotary Club meets on a Tuesday evening at Radyr Golf Club and is looking to encourage new members especially young people! Our meeting takes the form of a meal (**Fun & Fellowship**) followed by a speaker, often from local charities. This gives us an insight into what is going on around us, which we probably wouldn't know. Another night we have a 'business meeting' to discuss and plan our own charitable work, which may be one of the charities who has spoken to us (**Fundraising**), then afterwards back to the **Fun and Fellowship**.

In the first six months since the club was formed, in order for us to raise money for various projects (**Fundraising**), to date we have had a 'Fun Quiz' for members, family and friends which raised £788. and a collection at Asda for the Pakistan Disaster Appeal which raised £800. We are also supporting Dyfrig House for which we have collected a number of bags of useful items for them, Cardiff Women's Aid for which we will be collecting toys and toiletries for Christmas. Some members agreed to sell raffle tickets for the Rotary Disabled Sports, which takes place annually

and last but not least, we've also helped with collection for the Danybryn Home in Radyr.

Some events we are planning are as varied as a sponsored walking over 'hot coals', a 'Poems and Pints' night, a Choral and Brass Band Concert and a Fun Quiz evening.

So, for a 'young' newly formed club we've done quite well so far.

Internationally, we support many projects in all parts of the world especially the 'third world' countries. We do this in many ways. There is a Rotary Doctor Bank which sends a doctor [volunteer] for a month at a time to benefit from the skills they have to offer. Recently, a doctor from Cardiff went to a hospital in Uganda. We also provide help with health, sanitation, water aid, education and job training and help combat hunger. We have adopted minefields, supplied cows for families and also helped greatly with the world-wide project to eradicate polio by an immunisation

programme which, hopefully, is nearing its successful conclusion. Unfortunately, space doesn't allow the room to list the numerous other projects Rotary has worldwide.

## **WHY NOT JOIN CARDIFF WEST ROTARY CLUB AND GET INVOLVED IN HELPING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Hopefully, this article has given you an insight into a few of the many things Rotary does. Volunteering can be so rewarding and it doesn't have to take up too much time. It offers you the chance to learn new skills, get involved in sometimes challenging activities and to make new friends.

If you would like further information on Cardiff West Rotary Club and would like to become involved in helping with local, national and international projects, please contact: David Warrell on 029 2056 2531 or check on our website

[www.cardiffwestrotaryclub.wordpress.com](http://www.cardiffwestrotaryclub.wordpress.com)

STATION ROAD  
RADYR

**SPAR** 

PHONE  
2084 2437

JEFF, JANET, STEPHEN AND STAFF  
WISH ALL OUR CUSTOMERS  
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU  
OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD  
**WITH MANY SPECIAL OFFERS**

COME AND CHECK OUT OUR OFF-LICENCE PRICES  
THIS CHRISTMAS

### OPENING TIMES FOR THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

Christmas Eve - 8am to 8.30pm  
Christmas Day - CLOSED  
Boxing Day - 9.30am to 1.30pm

New Years Eve - 8am to 8pm  
New Years Day - CLOSED

**PP**  
Pay  
Point

## R & M Twinning Fellowship Annual General Meeting



On Sunday evening 24th October approximately 30 people attended the Annual General Meeting of the Fellowship in the Weir Room of the Old Church Rooms.

The Chairman, Maggie Roberts welcomed everyone to her last AGM as Chairman and gave a comprehensive report of the year's events.

She concluded the report by saying that she was retiring as Chairman after twelve years in office and that it had been a privilege to have Chaired such a splendid organisation. She thanked all who had served with her as committee members and the membership in general for the support she had received over the years.

Her last duty in the Chair was to invite the members present to formally vote in her successor, Caroline Williams. Both Maggie and Caroline have been members since 1985 when the fellowship was formed.

Caroline then presented Maggie with a bouquet stating that she would be '*a hard act to follow*'.

Caroline conducted the rest of the formalities of voting in the officers and committee.

The new committee is as follows:

Chairman: Caroline Williams  
Vice Chair: Raymond Rivron

Secretary: Diana Langmaid  
Treasurer: Hilary Mann

Maggie Roberts, Geoff Barton-  
Greenwood, Penny Nash  
Martin Williams

The evening ended with members socialising over a glass of wine.

The next Twinning function will be our Christmas Party on Sat. December 4th at the Old Church Rooms.

The Fellowship E.mail address will continue to be:

[jumelagestphilbert@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jumelagestphilbert@hotmail.co.uk)

## REDEVELOPMENT AT DANYBRYN

The redevelopment project at Danybryn Cheshire Home is now in its final phase. The second extension to the main house has been constructed and refurbishment of the existing building is well underway.

All of the new rooms benefit from ensuite facilities and are modern, light and airy. With the help of funds raised from the community and elsewhere, we have been able to install infrared sensors to bedroom doors which mean they can be operated by remote control. This feature will enable our residents to live more independently.

It is anticipated that residents will be moving into their new rooms in early January. When everyone is happily settled in, demolition of the old bedroom wing will take place. This last piece of work in this phase will be to upgrade some of the external features e.g. lighting and to provide a 'woodland walk' to the lovely gardens at the rear of the house. The gardens had previously been inaccessible to our residents; creation of the new path means they will be able to enjoy this area during the warmer months.

Thanks to Pugh's Garden Centre, we have also been able to create a brand new garden for the two storey extension which opened at the start of this year. Pugh's kindly donated a large number of fabulous plants and also the time and expertise of Lyn Davies, one of their garden designers. Once these plants are established, this area will be another asset to Danybryn.

The contractors should finally be leaving the site in late February 2011, leaving behind a much enhanced environment in which to live and work.

Love to run or know someone who does? Put your best foot forward and run to support our work. From 5km fun runs to ultra-marathons, we have running events to suit everyone. Find out more at:

[www.LCDisability.org/ilovetorun](http://www.LCDisability.org/ilovetorun)

## RADYR, MORGANSTOWN & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

It is hard to believe that we are already nearly half way through the Gardening Club's winter programme.

We enjoyed two very different talks in October and November. Firstly, Richard Arnold, with a talk entitled "Really Welsh Daffodils" gave an insight into the range of products produced and marketed by the "Really Welsh" company. It started with the daffodil; being the national flower of Wales why not grow, package and market them from Wales. The company has since then expanded into a wider range of vegetables and is looking for further expansion of its activities, with the ethos that if it is grown or produced in Wales, it should be processed, packaged and marketed from Wales.

Richard Arnold was followed in November by Linda Nottage with a talk entitled "Fascinating Fungi". Although she professed not to be an expert on Fungi, the talk showed her wide knowledge, fascination and enthusiasm for what is one of the largest classes of plant. We were shown slides and examples of a number of varieties and were amazed at the range of shapes, sizes and colours of fungi occurring in the UK. Included was a group of twenty or so different fungi photographed in the fields behind Morganstown a few days before the talk. Although a number of mushrooms are edible it takes an expert to identify these, so unless you know what you are doing the advice is to stick to the supermarket! The evening ended with Linda Nottage identifying and discussing samples that members had brought to the meeting.

To give you time to finish planting daffodil and tulip bulbs and read those seed catalogues, we meet again in the New Year:

### Wednesday, 12th January

Growing Cacti and Succulents  
A talk by Tony Jukes

### Wednesday, 9th February

An Update on Dyffryn Gardens  
A talk by Head Gardener,  
Alexandra Andrews

All meetings are at the New Church Rooms, Heol Isaf on the second Wednesday of the month starting at 7.30pm and are followed by refreshments.

Please keep an eye on the village notice boards and for those who are digitally minded, the Radyr website ([www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk)) for programme details and any changes.

## NEWS FROM RADYR LIBRARY

Firstly, Jen would like to announce the birth of her son Charlie, a brother for James. Mother and baby are very well and Jen would like to thank everyone for their good wishes.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Marlene from Fairwater library, who will be acting Librarian. Marlene has joined us until work on Fairwater library has been completed.

Customers who use the public access computers have been delighted with the speed of the new computers. Our IT department fitted four new public computers and flat screen monitors. Use of these computers is free but "print outs" are charged at 20p each.

To make room for new books, periodically, we have to delete books from our catalogue. We offer these books for sale at a nominal charge. Currently, there are so many books for sale that we are offering many books at the reduced price of 20p ... a bargain.

The Radyr library book club will meet at 7.15pm on Friday, 25th February, 2011. The theme is drink! And the titles are:

Triple point of water by  
F. Dunscombe

Weight of water by P. Evans

Rose en marche by J. Ivey

Cider with Rosie by L. Lee

Mother's milk by E. St. Aubyn

A warm welcome will be extended to anyone wanting to join. If you would like to reserve one of the above books, please contact the library staff.

The Man Booker prize shortlisted books have been very popular. There is a display and short critique about each book available to help you with your choice. As Christmas is only weeks away, have a look at our seasonal book display. We have selected books on seasonal cookery and crafts to help with your Christmas decorations and entertaining.

Congratulations to local author, Romy Wood, on the publication of her debut novel *Bamboo Grove*. Lindsay Clarke, author of "The chymical wedding" describes it as "unusual and engaging ... packed with a cosmopolitan cast of colourful characters". "Buzzes with

insight and imagination ... a very fine debut" says Richard Gwyn. We have placed Romy's book on display. If it is not in the library when you visit, don't forget that we offer a reservation service free of charge.

To help the recycling effort, we have a dump bin for collecting and recycling spent "portable" batteries.

We plan to offer seasonal crafts and colouring sheets in the children's section. This year we are holding a colouring competition for the under 5's and would like to invite older children to make either a Christmas card or a New Year greeting card. There will be two age categories – 5 years to 8 years and 9 years and over. The closing date is 22nd December and winners will be notified by telephone. Call in and collect a picture or some card.

Radyr Library will be hosting a coffee morning in aid of the NSPCC at 10.30am on 10th December. There will be an "unwanted presents" table so come and bag a bargain! Quiz sheets are available at £1.00 each and raffle tickets are £1.00 per strip. Please help us support this worthy children's charity.

The Legacy Cardiff International Hotel, Tongwynlais is donating a three-course Sunday lunch for two. The Rhondda Heritage Park and Llanciach Fawr are giving free entry tickets to their sites. Great prizes, well worth winning.

Our last working day before Christmas will be 22nd December. As in other years, between 11am and 4.30pm, we will be offering our customers tea, coffee and mince pies and if Anne has the time ... Welsh cakes!

The library will be closed from the 23rd December until re-opening on the 29th December – 10am – 12 pm – 5.30pm.

The library will be closed as usual on Thursday, 30th, but please note that the opening hours for Friday 31st will be 11.30am – 3.30pm.

The library will remain closed until re-opening on Tuesday, 4th January 10 – 12pm – 5.30pm.

*All that is left to do is thank you all for your custom and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous and health New Year.*

**Marlene, Anne and Hannah**

## TREFORGAN WI

Those of you who have been following the adventures of Treforgan WI will remember our tri-athlon efforts. It seems that we did so well that details of our achievements have been forwarded to head office to represent Glamorgan. 'Achievements' is a justifiable description as there was not only the physical activity involved but also the compilation of the figures of who walked, swam and cycled how many miles. And their verification – no cheating allowed. Apart from the obvious benefit to ourselves of making sure we exercised, we are delighted to be putting Morganstown on the national WI map.

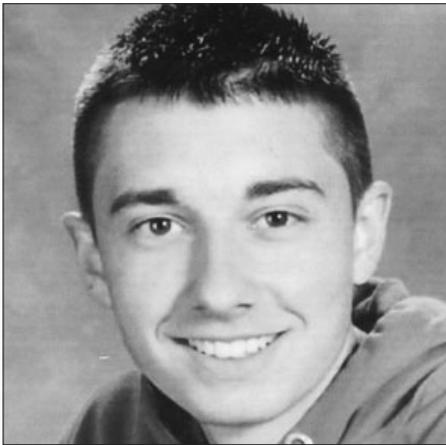
And Treforgan WI won a prize for increasing our membership by the biggest proportion of anyone else in the Glamorgan Federation – 100%! It was a particularly delightful surprise as we didn't know there was such an award!

In September, we held a Harvest Supper and Barn Dance. It was tremendous fun with an appropriately decorated hall, a traditional wheat sheaf made out of bread, plenty of delicious food in true WI fashion and a 'caller' who was able to persuade even the most reluctant to get to their feet. We are making a donation to Morganstown Village Hall from the profit of the evening.

By the time you read this, Treforgan WI will be ready to deal with winter colds after Professor Eccles' talk, will have made Christmas table decorations, lunched, knitted, played bridge and finalised an intriguing programme for 2011. Details will be on the Radyr and Morganstown website shortly. If you would like more information, speak to Sue Smith – 2084 3920.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

## THE WORLD'S GREATEST...



The local community has recently felt the immense loss of one of its much loved students, family member and friend. The passing of William Rhodri Owen has undoubtedly shaken the lives of everyone who knew him and knew of him and it will continue to affect those who loved him and cherish his memory forever more. Known by his friends and relations as dotting big brother, gym addict and owner of an infectious smile, there is no question that the hole that has been left in his place will never be filled.

The extent of the number of people's lives that he touched was made clear by the staggering number of tributes left for him and the mass congregation that gathered on Tuesday, 26th October at Christchurch in Radyr to pay their last respects.

Close friend and loyal companion, Rhys Vaughan, has had this to say of Rhod and the effect that he had on so many people's lives:

*"The loss of a fellow student has been traumatic for all students at Radyr Comprehensive School. To his close friends it has been the saddest time of our lives. Rhodri was an outgoing person who took part in many sports, such as tennis and always took part in activities during school, such as sports day. He was a friend who you could always confide in and he will be greatly missed. I still half expect to come in to school and see his cheeky smile, or see him playing football at lunch or him asking me to go to the gym where he spent most of his time. Throughout Radyr Comprehensive School I can honestly say Rhodri never picked on anyone and was a friendly lad, who was very competitive from a young age when we played pool at lunchtime and out of school, he just couldn't resist gloating if he won and if he didn't, then he wouldn't accept it".*

**Lost but never forgotten, Rhod will continue to be present in many people's lives.**

Jessica Ure

## BT RACE TO INFINITY

**Would you like to help get faster Broadband in Radyr and Morganstown and possibly get £5,000? of computer equipment for a local community project?**

At present, Broadband speeds in our community depend on our distance from the exchange; the further away means slower, the new BT system in effect pushes the exchange closer to our homes into the green street cabinets, meaning that Broadband speed will depend on our distance to the cabinet not the exchange. A person I know has just jumped from a 2meg connection to 38meg - nineteen times faster. This is what we could help our community achieve.

As we all know the Broadband situation in Radyr and Morganstown is a rather mixed bag. Our exchange is classified by OFCOM as "Market 1" which means we have BT Wholesale as the sole provider of Broadband services. There is some Virgin cable available in certain parts of the community, but it's limited and they have no plans to expand.

Given our exchange is a small one (2,254 lines), BT have no incentive to improve our Broadband provision any time soon unless we give them one. When ADSL (the current standard Broadband) was introduced, BT targeted the largest exchanges first; these also tend to be the exchanges with the most competition from other Broadband providers. After they selected the large exchanges they were faced with the dilemma of which order to do the smaller exchanges in, so they allowed people to register an interest in receiving Broadband. They used this information to draw up the plans for ADSL roll out. Over the next five years, BT is rolling out superfast optic Broadband across the UK in a similar fashion to the original ADSL roll out.

BT has announced it is to launch a nationwide survey to see how much potential demand there is for fibre Broadband. The survey will run until 31st December, 2010 enabling communities to express their desire for the service. This will help BT identify "hot spots" where demand is

high and influence the company's future deployment plans.

As an extra incentive, BT is running the survey as a competition - the "Race to Infinity" - with BT Retail promising funds - if needed - to enable the five exchanges with the highest demand by early 2010 at the latest. This could see commercially viable exchanges brought forward to the front of the queue or non-viable exchanges added to the deployment plans. BT is also pledging to engage with any community that expresses a high level of demand so that all avenues can be explored to see if fibre Broadband can be brought to their area.

BT Group is also pledging to engage with any community that gathers 75% of possible votes for their exchange but hasn't won the competition. This is in the hope that those exchanges can either be included in future commercial phases - if the exchange is deemed commercially viable - or enabled as a result of either public sector or community support as has already happened in some parts of the UK.

We are not on the announced roll-out plan. The Race to Infinity gives our community the opportunity to fast track our area into getting BT Infinity next.

The five areas with the largest percentage of votes by 31st December, 2010 will win the chance to bring superfast Broadband to their area. BT will also donate £5,000. of computer equipment to a local community project. At the time of writing we have 85 votes out of 2,254 which is 3.77% of the exchange after a campaign consisting of a poster in the Library and a few helpful shops. We can do a lot better.

The only thing left is to point you to the website so you can register your vote:

**[www.racetoinfinity.bt.com/](http://www.racetoinfinity.bt.com/)**

Please vote even if you get Virgin Broadband and help our community get better internet speeds and possibly win £5,000. of computer equipment for a community project.

## UPDATE FROM YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

**New Sports Pitch:** I am delighted to announce that £400K has been approved to construct a floodlit all-weather hockey and soccer pitch at Radyr Comprehensive School. We hope to commence construction in May 2011 with completion in September of that year. Of course, this is a tight timetable, but I will report progress to interested parties. It is planned that this will be available for community use in evenings and at weekends.

**School Reorganisation Plan:** This does not propose any change to Radyr Comprehensive and this will be a relief to pupils, parents and staff. Considerable work has been done on the school roofs and new boilers have been installed.

**Boundary Commission:** The draft report intended that Radyr and Morganstown for council elections would be part of a three member ward called Pentyrch and including Radyr, Morganstown, Penrych, Gwaelod and Creigiau. The final report envisages us being linked with Tongwynlais in a two member ward called Radyr and Tongwynlais. I believe that best quality of care comes from a single member ward which elects a local resident as its councillor, but I recognise that R+M, with nearly 5000 electors, is far bigger than the guideline of about 3200 electors per councillor. I shall not object to the plan unless urged to do so by local people, as I believe that the new plan is less damaging than the original plan to which I submitted an objection. To become effective, the Welsh Assembly has to approve it and the May 2012 Council Election may be run on this basis.

**Used Batteries:** These are pernicious if sent to landfill but they will be properly recycled if deposited in the bin at Radyr Library. This new facility has come partly as a result of dogged campaigning by the joint editors of Radyr Chain.

**Council Services:** If you want anything done by the Council, please contact me [as in my details below] or telephone Connect to Cardiff on 2087 2087; it is helpful if you give a clear description of the problem and its location. I will take up any issues you raise with me and advise you of the agreed outcome. I report major ward issues on a monthly basis to leaders of R+MCC, PACT and R+M Association and I attend meetings of these bodies where I am open to personal enquiries. Otherwise, come to one of my surgeries or contact:

*Cllr. Rod McKerlich*

Tel. 2084 3106 or  
email [rmckerlich@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:rmckerlich@cardiff.gov.uk)

## RADYR & MORGANSTOWN ASSOCIATION

### ~ REFLECTIONS ON 2010 ~

We were a little startled to find that our first contribution to Radyr Chain for some time was inadvertently omitted from the last edition of Radyr Chain. However, we have forgiven the Editors and hope that many of you will have read the article anyway on the R&M Website or will have received it directly as Association members. Just in case this is not the case, this article does duplicate some of the previous material.

2010 has, as ever, been a busy year. Not only did we run another successful May Festival (our 22nd), which generated £4,000. for Ty Hafan but, we ended it by establishing a new framework (together with the Community Council and the Station Road shopkeepers) for Christmas celebrations. [Please note we are brave in writing this. Deadlines mean we have to put things on paper which have not yet happened. We do hope it went well and that everyone enjoyed it!]. The Festival and Christmas celebrations are at the heart of what the Association does – making R&M a great place to live and assisting all the local organisations to be successful and prosper.

We have worked hard on our Village Plan projects, producing the booklet ‘What is there to do in R&M?’ which went to every house in our community (and is on R&M website, [www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk)). We will keep that document up-to-date on the website so you can download new versions whenever you want. We have also produced a new very full ‘Welcome Pack’ that will be distributed to new residents via the Neighbourhood Watch network and also be held in the library in Park Road. We would be interested in having feedback from any new resident who has received the pack. Was it useful? Were there any critical omissions from your point of view? We can only improve things if you tell us!

Another VP project which is just getting underway is to provide assistance (where required) to all the many R&M organisations in making them more successful. We are aware that a number of our organisations are flagging in a similar way – ageing members and too few ‘new recruits’ from people who have recently moved here (notably in the new estates). It is sad to see an ageing and dwindling membership of some organisations and even sadder to hear new residents say either that ‘there is nothing to do’ or they ‘didn’t know a

group existed’. So do get involved – and even tell us if you think something needs changing or creating.

We successfully applied for a grant from Cardiff Council for the replacement of the windows in the main (Garth) Room and also the front door of the Old Church Rooms. We found that the windows taken out were the original ones, fitted in 1880, so they have lasted well. But the new ones will make the room much less draughty and more comfortable. They will also save money on heating bills.

At our AGM in April, we were delighted to make George Carroll the first winner of the annual ‘Garry Newbould Award’, which recognises young people who have demonstrated leadership and commitment in enhancing our community life. All too often the young people in our Community are criticised for bad behaviour, or ‘upsetting the residents’. We do not think that all youngsters are saints, but the vast majority are hard working, polite and talented. We should rejoice in that. We are still trying to form a youth branch of the Association (let us know if you are interested).

Don’t forget that we are going to change the format of our regular public meetings. We do not meet often – just four times a year, including the AGM – and we have a stalwart number of followers who come to them. We would like to see a much greater attendance and so, from 14th February, the date of the next meeting (put it in your diary now); each meeting will feature a guest speaker on a topic of relevance to our community. In February, Dr. Chris Partridge (Cardiff Tidy Towns Officer) will talk about ‘Keeping R&M Tidy’, which we know is an issue with many people. Do come along.

Finally, the R&M Executive would like to take this opportunity of wishing everyone a very happy forthcoming Festive Season and a successful New Year.

If you would like to become a member of the R&M Association or would like to hear more about Association activities, contact the Secretary, Nick Hawkins (029 2084 2561 or [rma@radyr.org.uk](mailto:rma@radyr.org.uk)) or have a look at our web pages on [www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk)



## 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

I write this having just returned, with Cllr Mike Diment, from choosing our Christmas trees. In case you don't know, the trees come from the woodlands at Usk Castle Chase. We selected three trees because this year there will be a new tree on the community plot at Radyr Sidings.

We will have the usual trees at the Granny Park in Morganstown and Windsor Gardens in Radyr. For many years, the Community Council has organised a ceremony to switch on the lights. This year a much bigger event is planned together with the RMA and the shop keepers of Station Road. Look out for information about this December 2 event.

Plans to support the Radyr Woods Wardens Ltd in buying part of the woodland are moving ahead and the legal process should be completed soon.

The Community Council is supporting a campaign for superfast fibre optic broadband in R&M. You will find an article about this elsewhere in the Chain and online. If this is important to you, please follow the online links and vote on the BT Race to Infinity website : [www.racetoinfinity.bt.com](http://www.racetoinfinity.bt.com). We may not win the race but the more people who vote, the higher up BT's rollout timetable we hope to be. The community with the largest percentage of votes by December 31 2010 will win the chance to bring superfast broadband to their area. BT will also donate £5,000 of computer equipment to a local community project. Please vote! Pass it on ...

Projects that came out of the Village Plan are well under way and you will find an article by our Chairman, Cllr David Silver, elsewhere in this issue. You will see how much has been achieved and I would like to echo David in thanking all the local people who work so hard, often unseen, to make these things happen. We are all fortunate to live in a community where so many do so much.

At Remembrance Day this year, Brigadier Rick Libbey was hugely impressed by the participation of the community and particularly of so many young people. I counted almost 200 people in the march past. He has asked for information on the numbers of young people involved in our local organizations and I have sent them to him via Col. Roy Scott. Brigadier Libbey is now the Director of the Prince of Wales Trust for Young People and wants to bring R&M to the attention of His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales.

**Helena Fox - Clerk**



### The weather summary - by John Trenchard

It appears that several forecasts for this coming winter have already been published, but they offer different kinds of winter weather for us. The trouble is that seasonal forecasting is still a very young science with teething problems. But the oceans do give tantalising clues to future weather because they change temperature slowly over months.

For this coming winter, one of the big factors is La Nina when the tropical seas of the Pacific turn cooler. This La Nina event could turn out to be the biggest on record and its impact might be strong enough to influence the winter over the British Isles. Another huge influence on our winter is the Atlantic Ocean. Depending on which parts of the Atlantic are cooler or warmer, the British Isles can have vastly different kinds of weather.

Cardiff's winds during October at 0900 showed a marked contrast with only five days from SW or W but twelve days from N or NE, whilst the first thirteen days of November have seen seven days from the W. However, by the 14th November there were already signs that the Atlantic weather systems were once again weakening and that easterly winds may well return to the British Isles within a week or so, bringing much less rain to most regions in contrast to this November, when Cardiff recorded rainfall on each of the first thirteen days. (A rainfall day is for the 24 hours up to 0900GMT when 0.2 millimetres or more is measured). Last October's rainfall in Cardiff was 104.5mm (74%).

Since July 2009, there have been only three months with above average rainfall. This year's rainfall to 31st October has seen 800.2mm (979%) compared with 951.9mm (94%) for last year. For Cardiff's temperatures, the average of the day maximum and the night air minimum has been 11.2C (-0.7C) this year, compared with 11.9C (0.0C) for last year.

# RADYR & MORGANSTOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL VILLAGE PLAN PROJECTS UPDATE



When the Village Plan was published earlier this year, we undertook to update you at intervals on the progress of the various projects listed in the plan. Work has now started on many of them and a few have already been completed. Here is what has been done.

A booklet publicising what there is to do in Radyr and Morganstown has been printed and circulated to all households. This was in response to residents who said in the Village Plan Questionnaire that they did not know what was available.

A newcomers' Welcome Pack has been developed and the final contents are currently being agreed. This will give a lot of useful information to new members of our growing community.

We are about to start work on one of the bigger projects, the Gap Analysis of Radyr and Morganstown. With this we will consider all the facilities we have and compare this with what we think a community our size should have. We will be looking at community planning guidelines from both Cardiff Council and the Assembly.

The Radyr and Morganstown Association (RMA) is running a project to support local leisure groups and will be contacting them all to see what help, if any, they would like.

An initial meeting on the future of the Mound Field has been held, organised by County Councillor Rod McKerlich.

The Webteam have redesigned the website and have been working hard to encourage all local groups to create web pages and have a presence online. They have checked and updated the online contacts.

The Community Council organised an environmental community event in Pentwyn Park and over sixty residents attended. Bird and bat boxes were built by local children and adults to be sited in their gardens or in Pentwyn Park. Six hundred Welsh daffodils were planted in four beds and a wild flower area was sown. Boules pitches are now planned for the park, to be built by the Twinning Association, the RMA and the Community Council. These will be in place for the May Festival 2011 for both adult and school competitions and we hope this will be the start of a well-used facility.

A Friends of Danybryn Woods group has been set up with around twelve members. They have been meeting every two weeks throughout the summer and have cleared large areas of bramble and planted some 150 Welsh daffodils. The pathway along the top of the wood has been kept a little more open and the weeds on either side of the main path scythed. In December, there will be coppicing of hazel and removal of seedling ash and sycamore.

A cycle and walking route from Radyr

Sidings to Hailey Park is being built and it will create a new circular route as well as new access to the Taff Trail. It is being paid for by community gain money from the developers of the Sidings.

The future of the community plot at the Sidings is still unknown. A lot of work is being done by local groups to try to secure it for us all.

The Community Council and RMA have been working with the Police to increase attendance at PACT meetings. In a project run by the local Police, a survey of local residents looked at major issues and the results were published. The report is available on the PACT page of the website.

A Youth PACT has met for the first time in R+M and youth involvement in the 2010 May Festival went well. There will again be a large number of events for young people in May 2011.

On road safety, yellow lines have been painted on the corner of Kings Road and Kings Avenue following representation from both the County Councillor and R&MCC. They make this dangerous junction a little safer. Yellow lines have also been painted on the lower end of Station Road to stop parking down to the station.

The International Business Park plans at J33 of the M4 have now been withdrawn so there is now nothing to do on this unless new plans are submitted.

The RMA are now working more closely with local shopkeepers. A result of this is a Christmas Lighting event based around Windsor Gardens and Station Road, planned for 2nd December and jointly organized by the RMA, shopkeepers and R&MCC. This year the Community Council will give a third large Christmas tree sited on

the community plot at the Sidings as well as those in Morganstown and Windsor Gardens.

The project to install hanging baskets on Station Road is well on the way to completion and we can look forward to next summer's flowers.

Both the Community Council and RMA will be supporting our County Councillor on the new library project in Park Road. This will be a major enhancement to our community.

R&MCC tried to have the Village Plan adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance but have found that no one area of Cardiff can have its own SPG. However, we will be submitting our Village Plan as part of the evidence used in the production of Cardiff's Local Development Plan. We will use that consultation to highlight important local issues such as housing, traffic and public transport.

I hope you can see from this long and diverse list how much work has been done by many people. We have made progress on many of the projects, others are starting and some have yet to begin. We knew there would be a range of timescales for completion of projects, but I am heartened by the progress we have seen in such a short time and look forward to giving more details in future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has, or is, working on any of the projects.

If you have mislaid your copy of the Village Plan with the project list, it is available online on our website [www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk) in the Community Council section. If you wish to help on any of the projects, or need another hard copy, just contact Helena Fox, Clerk to the Community Council, weekday mornings in the Old Church Rooms, by email to [clerk@radyr.org.uk](mailto:clerk@radyr.org.uk) or on 2084 2213.

**David Silver,**

*Chair of Radyr & Morganstown Community Council*

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN THE PARISH OF RADYR

### At Christ Church

Sunday, 19th December

6pm - *Nine lessons and carols*

Friday, 24th December - 6pm

*Nativity play and carols round the crib*  
11pm *Holy Eucharist - 'Midnight Mass'*

Saturday, 25th December

8.00am - *Holy Eucharist*

11.00am - *Family Eucharist*

Sunday, 26th December

11.00am - *Holy Eucharist*

### At St. John's

Sunday, 19th December 9.15am

- *Holy Eucharist and Nativity Play*

6.00pm - *Carols round the Crib*

Friday, 24th December

9.00pm - *Holy Eucharist*

Saturday, 25th December

9.15am - *Family Eucharist*

Sunday, 26th December

9.15am - *Holy Eucharist*

## SINGERS WANTED!

Are you someone who enjoys singing? Christ Church choir always welcomes new members – and you don't need to read music. Just come along to a rehearsal on Thursday at 6pm, or ring the choir master, Darren Hawken, for more information – 0781 750 4036.

# NEWS FROM RADYR & MORGANSTOWN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We reconvened for the Autumn term on Monday, 6th September, when our speaker was Claudine Anderson who gave a fascinating presentation on the use of genetic DNA profiling in crime solving. This provoked much interesting discussion.

4th October was our 53rd birthday party where members provided a sumptuous supper in the Old Church Rooms. The themed "Autumn Evening" was a very happy and sociable occasion.

1st November was our Annual Meeting which was very well attended. Louise Rigby, our registrar and membership secretary stepped down after four years service and we thank her for her past work. The three officers and remaining committee will stay for the year 2010-2011 but we are also very pleased to welcome two new members to the team – Jill Newbold and Gaynor Leaf. It was also decided, at the meeting, to change the date of the regular institute meetings which, from January 2011, will be held on the second Monday of the month. This is to avoid clashing with bank holidays.

December is rapidly approaching and our Christmas activities are planned. On Monday, 29th November, some of us will visit Howells' store where Glamorgan Federation has negotiated a shopping evening just for WI members. Our institute Christmas meeting will take place on Monday, 6th December when Christine Seaman, a ballerina, will make a return visit by popular request.

On Thursday, 9th December, a group of us will visit Pontcanna/Canton Institute for our link activities this year.

Our specialist interest groups continue to flourish. However, please note that our Art and Craft group held on the last Saturday of the month will be holding its meetings in Morganstown Village Hall from January 2011.

We now also have a group who meet to play canasta and a new group for those interested in genealogy has just been formed by our new committee member, Gaynor Leaf.

Our first meeting for 2011 will be on Monday, 10th January in the Old Church Rooms at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Jane Breeze, who is a Life Coach. She will speak on making changes in our lives – an appropriate topic for New Year resolutions.

Though a long established institute who maintain many WI traditions (yes, we still sing Jerusalem and rather well, too), we are always willing to make appropriate changes and embrace new interests. We currently have 81 members, so any rumours of our decline are "greatly exaggerated". We would still be very happy to welcome new members. The WI is growing nationally. In Radyr alone, our institute and Treforgan WI can muster approximately 120 members. We are a force to be reckoned with! Why not join us?

Contacts Lesley Hall [029 2084 3630] or Val Convery [029 2020 6130]

## RADYR & MORGANSTOWN FRIENDS OF TENOVUS

The committee would like to thank everyone for their generous support at the Autumn coffee morning held at Radyr Golf Club.

The Tenovus Christmas cards proved to be very popular and stocks had to be quickly replenished with sales finally totalling £715.31. Entrance ticket sales, stalls, raffle and donations raised £1057. and this, together with the profit from the card sales, will go towards supporting the various Tenovus projects.

Further events will take place next year and information regarding these will be advertised on the Radyr website and also in the Radyr Chain.

Alison Skidmore

## CHAIN COOKERY CORNER

### CHEESE AND ONION WHEELS

These are delicious served hot with drinks. Freeze until needed and reheat in oven or grill until crisp.

*1 packet frozen puff pastry 375g (1/2 lb) or 1 packet sheet puff pastry*

*25g (1oz.) butter*

*1 medium onion*

*150g (5oz) strong Cheddar cheese*

*Pinch dry mustard powder*

*Black pepper*

Oven 250 or Gas 8

Grease two baking trays

Grate cheese

Finely chop onion

Melt butter

Roll pastry to rectangle approx. 500mm x 225mm (20" x 9") or unroll sheet

Brush with butter

Scatter with cheese, onion, mustard powder and pepper

Damp far edge with water

Roll up like Swiss Roll

Cut approx. 24 slices

Space on baking trays

Bake approx. 20 minutes until golden (less with fan oven)

Freeze when cold, layered with paper

Heat through to serve

**Anne-Marie Phillips.**

*We welcome Anne-Marie as our new Cookery Correspondent and look forward to many delicious recipes to come.*

## RUNNING FOR CANCER RESEARCH WALES

My name is Paul Newman and I live in Radyr Gardens, Morganstown.

I am running in a charity event for Cancer Research Wales under the name of "Team Hope Wales". This event will see a team of eight runners take on the challenge of south to north to south over four days, starting at 3pm on Thursday, 2nd December and finishing on Sunday, 5th December at 3pm in Cardiff Bay. The team will cover 440 miles in total, with each runner covering a total distance of 55 miles each over the four days.

We have a website and I have included the link underneath. There is also a "justgiving" website set up for this event which can be accessed separately or via our website below.

<http://www.teamhopewales.com/>

## DELOITTE DAY AT DANYBRYN



*The Deloitte team with Mrs. Valerie Gibbs, Service Manager at Danybryn*

The rain may have delayed the Ryder Cup on 1st October but it did not dampen the enthusiasm of the Deloitte's team on a volunteering event at Danybryn. The team completed the planting of the garden around the new extension, cleared ground behind the building and planted two raised beds with bulbs that should produce flowers in late February/early March to celebrate the completion of the building work at Danybryn.

This volunteering activity was facilitated by CSV employee Volunteering, who specialise in providing tailor-made assistance with

a wide-range of corporate volunteering activities.

Employee involvement in local community projects is a cost effective way of 'employee teambuilding' and management training which has been proven to improve the performance of companies while leaving a lasting legacy in the local community.

To find out more about CSV Employee Volunteering, contact Lesley Nicholls on 020 7643 1427 or see [www.csv.org.uk/employeevolunteering](http://www.csv.org.uk/employeevolunteering)

Do you have any time to spare, no matter how little? Come and volunteer to work with the residents of Danybryn. You may like to read, escort on trips, listen, chat, garden, do jigsaws or any skill you have that can be shared. Help is particularly needed in the dining rooms. Any time, no matter how short, is valuable. We are keen to recruit drivers available to undertake regular trips during weekdays or short notice trips to the theatre etc.

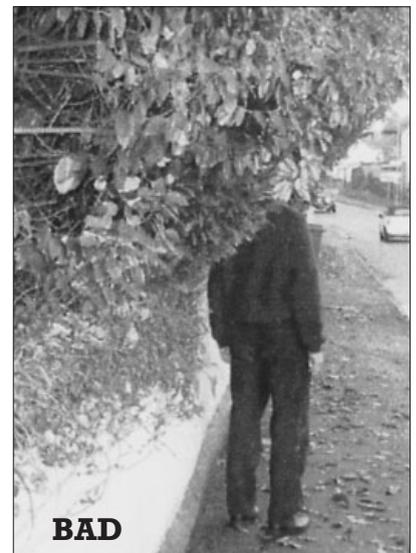
If you or someone you know may be interested, please contact me.

## HEDGES

We like hedges and autumn/early winter is a good time to cut them back, if necessary. The aim is not to obstruct the pavement or the highway or the view of drivers and if you want to consult the law, it is the Highways Act, 1980 Section 154.

Readers with hedges/trees on their boundary with the highway are asked to look at what they have got. Clearance to the road needs to be 16ft or more for overhanging trees. For hedges overhanging a pavement, a clearance of 6ft to the pavement is a minimum so that pedestrians can walk past without interference and they must not extend to the road at this low height. The associated pictures show good and bad examples.

House occupiers are obviously in the best position to cut back hedges themselves, or to arrange for it to be done by a professional, without recourse to the heavy hand of the law. However, Cardiff City Council will take action against persistent offenders – but well before such action is initiated neighbours should really talk about the problem with the occupier. Phil Kitcher



Cardiff Centre for Lifelong Learning  
Canolfan Caerdydd ar gyfer  
Addysg Gydol Oes



# Choices

[www.cardiff.ac.uk/learn](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/learn)  
[www.caerdydd.ac.uk/dysgu](http://www.caerdydd.ac.uk/dysgu)  
029 2087 0000



Courses are starting in  
**January**  
Cyrsiau sy'n dechrau ym mis  
**Ionawr**

# 'Get Ready for Christmas' Event

- 20th November



The Parish of Radyr annual 'Get Ready for Christmas' event was held at Christ Church on Saturday 20th November. The event is in its third year, and there was the usual sense of anticipation and excitement at the church as the final preparations were completed and the event got underway.

Teams from the congregation at St John's and Christ Church had distributed flyers and posters throughout the parish to attract families and children. The advertising campaign resulted in over 200 adults and children being warmly welcomed at Christ Church from 11 am on the Saturday morning. There was plenty for them to enjoy.

Fifty volunteers from St John's and Christ Church, all dressed in bright red 'Parish of Radyr' T-shirts, had worked hard to transform the schoolrooms into a seasonal array of stalls and activities. There was something for everyone - great gifts to buy, Christmas crafts, wonderful raffle prizes, gingerbread to decorate, tasty cakes and preserves, toys and books, face painting and children's activities.

For those wanting to take a break from the bustle of the stalls, the

Lady Chapel was the place to be. All you had to do was sit, relax and have a chat while enjoying a great range of seasonal refreshments - a cup of coffee and a mince pie or a glass of mulled wine and a delicious hot turkey roll.

Entertainment was provided throughout the event, People of all ages filled the pews to listen to music from the parish organists and songs from Christ Church choir, while the puppet shows performed by a group of puppeteers from the Methodist church ensured that the pews were full of laughing families.

Miss Cardiff and Miss South Glamorgan, who both live within the parish, came along to chat to stall holders, join in with the children's craft activities and help with the prize draw.

So, with a fantastic atmosphere, great attendance, record fund raising and lots of new families and children coming into church, Get Ready for Christmas 2010 was another great success. If you came along, we hope that you enjoyed it as much as we did and that we will see you at one or more of our Christmas services.



Ex-Radyr resident and ex-Radyr comprehensive school pupil, Rhys Owen (pictured far left) is now making a name for himself as a professional musician working nationally and internationally with several musical projects.

Travelling a long way since being part of Radyr High School Big Band, Rhys' relatively short professional career so far has taken him all over the UK as well as abroad to Romania, Egypt, France and India.



Currently performing with an exciting new band for which he writes the music 'They Say Jump' ([www.myspace.com/theysayjump](http://www.myspace.com/theysayjump), Rhys' weapon of choice is Tenor Saxophone but he also performs on Piano and Drums.



You may have seen Rhys playing saxophone on Eastenders in December 2009 or heard his subsequent interview on BBC radio Wales with Roy Noble.

'It was a surreal experience, finding myself sitting next to the characters of Pat Butcher and Ian Beale. Getting shot down by Steve Mc Fadden (who plays Phil Mitchell) when I asked him for a photo was pretty amusing for the other band members too!

His main project 'They Say Jump' which performs what is probably best described as Soulful Reggae and Latin music had success recently when they performed to a sell out crowd at the 229 Club in London.

"It was amazing to perform to such a great audience that included so many friends as well as my parents who traveled all the way from Cardiff. Hopefully we will be performing in Cardiff some time in the near future so they won't have to travel as far!"

Having been based in London for the last 2 years Rhys also co-runs a music agency called 'Articulate Music' ([www.articulatemusic.co.uk](http://www.articulatemusic.co.uk)) that provides bands and musicians for various events and occasions.

### Wanted - to borrow or buy

Hinged hooks for making rag rugs are needed by R&M WI Craft group. Please phone Mary Thompson 2041 9870 or Mary Pearce 2084 2615.



**RADYR & MORGANSTOWN FESTIVAL**  
The Radyr Sewing Group led by Emma Thomas meets in the Old Church Rooms once a month.

During the Festival, the group created a large colourful quilt which was raffled in aid of the festival Charity. They raised the grand sum of £500, which was donated to the Charity - Ty Hafan Hospice for Children.

Those interested in joining the Sewing Group should contact Emma on 2084 2077

## RADYR ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

...continued from from cover

and my thanks go to my colleagues Mark Roberts and Paul Atkins for making the program such a great success."

Councillor Freda Salway, Executive member for Education and Lifelong Learning, said: "Radyr

*Comprehensive School is currently the only school in Wales to have this IMI approval status and the school and its partners have done a brilliant job setting up this workshop and launching this course which is proving extremely popular. I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of the 14-19 network in Cardiff and Coleg Glan Hafren."*

