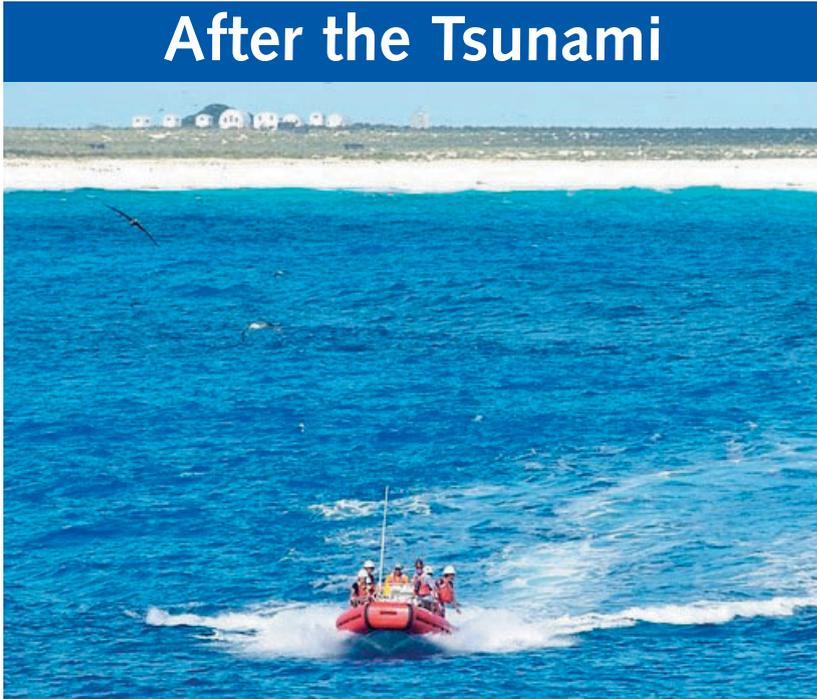


# After the Tsunami



On March 10th The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Ship Hi'ialakai set off on a nine-week research cruise from Honolulu Hawaii for Wake Atoll, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), in the Western Pacific. One senior scientist aboard the vessel was oceanographer and local boy Oliver Vetter. His expertise is in ocean reefs and the impact of waves and sea quality on them.

Six hours out of harbour the Japanese earthquake struck. Tsunami warnings followed and the ship was diverted to rescue 7 scientists from the tiny low lying island of Laysan. These scientists were studying rare monk seal and albatross. They got to high ground when warned of a 30 metre wave

heading their way. Oliver says they 'Prayed to whatever deity they chose' and sat it out. Laysan is 45m at it highest point.

Hi'ialakai arrived four days later. On arrival the sea was very rough, with a 30 foot swell, they found a gap in the reef, which was passable and launched two boats from which Oliver and a friend, Jamie had to swim to shore to help the scientists out. There was a considerable rip tide off the beach which assisted both excellent swimmers to help the scientists to swim out beyond the reef to the Hi'ialikai.

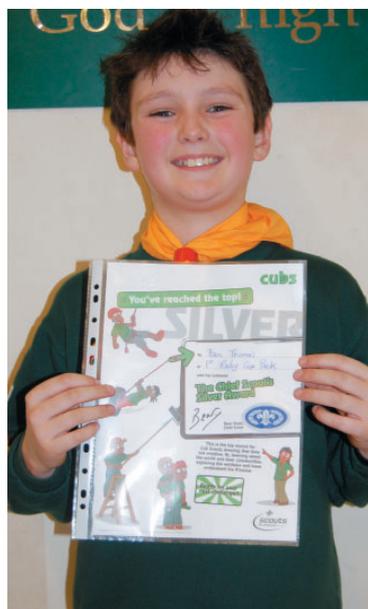
A day late they rescued a smaller group of five scientists from the smaller Island of Kure. By this time worries about



radiation were adding to the need for evacuation. This time the sea was calmer and the boats were able to get to a landing point for the rescue. The ship then sailed to Midway Island, to drop the evacuees off. Normal work was resumed and the ship headed for Wake Island, renowned for the amazing, enormous, bump-head parrot fish and Napoleon Wrasse.

**If anyone is interested in the work of the boat go to:-**  
[www.noaaced.blogspot.com](http://www.noaaced.blogspot.com)

# Chief Scout Silver Award



Congratulations to the Cubs in the Tuesday pack who have achieved their Chief Scout Silver Award, the highest award a Cub can get.

Your hard work and dedication has paid off.

*Keep it up and good luck in Scouts.*

# RADYR CHAIN

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown



Number 193

April 2011

## ST. DAVID'S DAY AT BRYN DERI



Bryn Deri Primary had a highly entertaining and enjoyable Eisteddfod on St David's Day which included, singing, dancing, recitation and a Charing of the

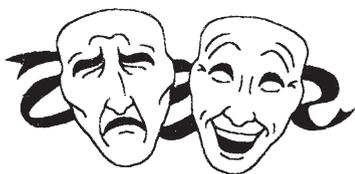
Bryn Deri Bard (Congratulations to Aaron Dyer who won this year.) Also on display were winning stories, poems, pictures and models showing off the talents of all the children.'



Cubs Miskin Frosbite Camp 2011...see page 17 for article

**FIND YOUR FESTIVAL  
PROGRAMME AND  
DRAW TICKETS INSIDE...**

## 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)

### APRIL

- 10 MOZART REQUIEM. Christ Church Choir (and friends) perform Mozart's Requiem in Christ Church, Radyr. Conductor, Darren Hawken; Organist, Martin Colton. All welcome. No charge. 6.00pm
- 11 R&M ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. Please attend our AGM in the Old Church Rooms in Park Road, Radyr. Hear about what the Association is doing, and plans to do in the future, and have your say. There will be an election of officers (do put your name forward) and a free drink and a chat at the end. 7.30pm
- 13 Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club - AGM to be followed by *Some Interesting Australian Plants* - an illustrated talk by Dr Mary Gillham. 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) 7.30pm
- 14 VISIT TO PLAS LLANFIHANGEL The R&M Local History Society will make an afternoon visit to the Elizabethan manor house, Plas Llanfihangel, near Cowbridge. Time to be confirmed. For details phone Allan Cook on 20843176.
- 19 PACT Meeting at 7pm in the Old Church Rooms. all welcome. 7.30pm
- 28 R&MCC April Meeting. Radyr and Morganstown Community Council, April meeting. A meeting of the Council will be held in the Chain Room, Old Church Rooms. Members of the public are welcome to attend. 7.30pm
- 29 Royal Wedding Fireworks. Radyr Lawn Tennis Club. Barbecue and bar. All welcome. 7.00pm
- 30 April - 15th May R&M Festival. See enclosed programme.
- 30 Festival Parade and Fete. "Alice in Wonderland" Parade starts at the Methodist Church and finishes at the Festival Fete at 12noon. 11.00am

### MAY

- HISTORY OF THE SEVERN FERRIES . R&M Local History Society. Old Church Rooms. A talk by Tim Ryan on the history of the Severn ferries and the rescue of the Severn Princess. All are welcome 7.30pm
- 21 Choral Concert and Finger buffet George Thomas Hospice Care invite you to Morganstown Village Hall for this event with a ticket price of £15. Tickets from committee members or Pam Williams

(20843080) 7.00pm

- 26 VISIT TO PLAS LLANFIHANGEL A second chance to visit this important Elizabethan manor house near Cowbridge. Time to be confirmed. For details phone Allan Cook on 20843176. 7.30pm
- 26 R&MCC May (Annual) Meeting. Radyr and Morganstown Community Council, May and annual meeting. A meeting of the Council will be held in the Chain Room, Old Church Rooms. Members of the public are welcome to attend 7.30pm

## EDITORIAL



The Radyr Chain urgently requires more volunteers to deliver the paper. The population of Radyr grows and every household receives a copy. Volunteers are particularly needed for The Sidings Development. The task takes no more than an hour every two months.

We are greatly indebted to those who deliver The Chain, some of whom have been delivering for years.

## MRS. NINA LEIGH

aged 102, has died at her home in Radyr.

She was a member of Radyr Golf Club for many years, playing in the 1st team and later turning her interest to bridge which she played with great skill and enjoyment until shortly before her death.

Her funeral service at Christ Church was attended by many friends and family who will miss her greatly.

## R & M FESTIVAL 2011

**WEDNESDAY 4th MAY**  
 Morganstown Village Hall  
 7.30pm

Fluellen present:  
**ANTON CHEKOV'S**  
 best loved comedy  
**UNCLE VANYA**  
 Tickets: £9, £8 and £4

**SUNDAY 8th MAY**  
 Christchurch, Radyr  
 7.30pm

**CANTEMUS CHAMBER CHOIR**  
 Conductor: Huw Williams  
 Cello: Simon Davison  
 Organ: Dr. Peter King  
 Tickets: £9, £8 and £4

**WEDNESDAY 11th MAY**  
 Methodist Church, Radyr  
 12.45pm

**LUNCHTIME CONCERT**  
 With international baritone  
**JEREMY HUW WILLIAMS**  
 and **NIGEL FOSTER**, piano  
 Tickets: £7, £6 and £3

**THURSDAY 12th MAY**  
 Old Church Rooms  
 8.00pm

Crime Writer  
**BERNARD KNIGHT**  
 author of Crouner John  
 Novels  
 will be giving a talk on writing  
 crime fiction.  
 Tickets: £5, £4 and £2

Tickets available from the  
**FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE**  
 Veg Vendor, Station Road,  
 Radyr  
 Allan Cook 2084 3176  
 or Nick Hawkins 2084 2561

Letters, articles, reports and other contributions are invited and should be submitted by May 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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**SPAR**

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 Sunday 9a.m. - 10.00p.m.



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 Quality Wines - Beers, Lagers & Ciders  
 Cigarettes & Tobacco - Photocopying - Greetings Cards - Phone top-up Cards



## RADYR & MORGANSTOWN FRIENDS OF TENOVUS Beetle Drive Evening

The recent fund-raising event held at the Old Church Rooms on Friday, 11th March was a huge success. Everyone had a great deal of fun trying to be first to complete a beetle. There was a great deal of laughter in the hall which showed people were really enjoying themselves. The supper was then followed by entertainment by the Radyr Harmony Group which was a perfect conclusion to the evening.

Over £900. was raised and these monies will help Tenovus in their research and care for people affected by cancer. Thank you to everyone who came along and supported our fund-raising evening.

Our next event will be our annual quiz night to be held on Thursday, 5th May. Please see your local Festival Programme for further details.

Alison Skidmore

## A SMALL ART EXHIBITION

OF PAINTINGS

(Done by an 87 year old RESIDENT of Radyr)

Will be held in Christchurch Hall

On Saturday 21st May 2011 - from 1pm to 7pm

There will be paintings of:

1. Birds and flowers
2. Various fashions of the last century 1900-2000
3. Children's favourite characters

Prices are reasonable and all proceeds are to go to the  
 Christchurch funds

Entrance 50p,  
 children free with an adult

DO PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT YOUR  
 VILLAGE CHURCH

## TREFORGAN WI

Treforgan WI celebrated its second anniversary in January. We reminisced about our past, looked forward to our future and ate cake. Treforgan was chosen as our name because it is the Welsh word for Morganstown and our centre is Morganstown Village Hall. We have links with institutes in Radyr, Pontcanna and Canton, Tongwynlais and Taffs Well (we have just enjoyed a St. David's Day walk and lunch with them), but we enjoy being a vibrant part of the Morganstown community.

Treforgan WI uses the Village Hall not just for meetings but also for the other regular activities of the craft and bridge groups and seasonal events like the harvest supper and barn dance. We support local businesses such as Pugh's for prizes and the Tynant for pub lunches and have a tour of the quarry arranged for the near future. We have members from Radyr, Llanishen, Rhiwbina and Llandaff but we have only one member who actually lives in the village of Morganstown! Of course, ladies are welcome from anywhere but it would be particularly appropriate if our numbers were swelled by residents from the local vicinity.  
 xxxx

When this magazine is published, you will have missed talks about penguins and prisons, but you will be on time to learn about diet, activity and health on Thursday, 21st April and to try dry curling on Thursday, 19th May. It would be great to see you in Morganstown Village Hall at 1.30pm on those days.

If you would like more information,  
 ring Sue Smith on  
 029 2084 3920.

## A TRIBUTE TO CONNIE GRIFFITHS

Many of Radyr's longstanding residents have fond memories of Connie Griffiths who lived in Maes-yr-Awel from the mid-60s, until moving first to Barry and then to the Cotswolds, where she sadly died in January of this year.

The Radyr Chain could not possibly record the passing of all former residents, but Connie was a member of the original 'Chain Gang' that founded this publication, a role which was wholly typical of her devoted service to the community during the years she lived among us.

A number of Connie's Radyr friends have contributed to this appreciation and we are most grateful Christine & Geoff Davies, Enid Evans, Nick Holmes, Marion John, Helen & Colin Johnson, Pat Jones, Barbara Leigh and Mary Pearce for their recollections which you can read below.

Connie & David Griffiths came to live in Maes-yr-Awel in 1965, where they remained until 1987. Their three children, Jane, Ann and Matthew grew up here and attended Radyr Comprehensive School.

"During this period of rapid growth in Radyr, Connie gave a total involvement to so many community activities, including Women's Institute, Radyr Tennis Club, founding member of Radyr Chain and, of course, her stage appearances in the WI pantomimes".

"Our main memory of Connie was her enthusiasm for life and everything she did, from nursing to all her pantomime appearances such as playing 'Buttons'! Her ability to act on stage seemed to come naturally to her and she had a particularly good rapport with the children. Rehearsals, too, were always enjoyable when Connie was around. Her sense of fun and caring nature spilled over into everything she did".

"Connie was a very keen sportswoman, in particular tennis and a few years after moving to Radyr she joined the Radyr Tennis Club in which she played an active part – both as a distinguished playing member and in the administration of the Club. She encouraged her three children to take up the game and all of them held office in the junior section".

"As the children grew older and left primary school, Connie resumed her profession as a nurse and for some years worked in the Radyr Health Centre with Drs. Hughes, Jenkins and Price. She followed this with District Nursing on behalf of the Health Centre in Radyr itself and also in the Vale of Glamorgan".

"As a District Nurse, Connie showed dedication and devoted care to her patients. During a huge snowfall, when other staff failed to arrive, she walked from dawn to dusk visiting those who depended on her with no thought of overtime, as usual putting her patients first. I shall miss her".

"Connie was a great supporter of the Twinning Fellowship and was a very devoted worshipper in Radyr Church. Amongst her other activities were her membership of the WI, voluntary help at Danybryn Cheshire Home and she was a tremendous support to David when he founded the Radyr & District Choral Society in September 1969, which he continued to conduct until 1991".

"David was the conductor of the RCS and Connie sang in the soprano section. We spent many happy hours with them at rehearsals and performances. Who will ever forget Connie's lisping rendition of the David and Goliath poem at the choir socials? She was also the perfect foil to David in their famous David and Connie magic act".

"Connie was always so friendly and warm and though she talked about her own family, she was always interested to know what was happening to yours and what their plans were for the future".

"Even on moving to their new home in Barry they kept in touch, inviting the Christ Church Young Fellowship to their home after one of their bank holiday walks. Connie provided a wonderful tea for us all and we spent a lovely afternoon chatting and singing together".

"It was a sad day when David and Connie moved away from Radyr. They had both been, in their different ways, so much part of the community".

"We will remember her with great affection".

These notes have been compiled with the generous help of David Griffiths

who still lives in the Gloucestershire village of Willersey, to which they retired in 1996.

## A MESSAGE FROM DAVID GRIFFITHS

*My children, grandchildren and myself have been overwhelmed, not only by the hundreds of letters we have received, each paying tribute to Connie in highly individual ways, but also by the large numbers who packed St. Peter's Church in Willersey for her Thanksgiving Service on the 27th January. It was so good to see close friends from Radyr at her service and we are very grateful to them for travelling the long distance.*

*The many letters we received from friends in Radyr brought back so many happy memories of the twenty three years that we lived there, from April, 1965 to September, 1987.*

*To write individually in acknowledgement would be an enormous task and I ask you, please, to accept this omnibus expression of my appreciation and that of my family.*

*God bless you all and those you love.*

## A BIG THANK YOU FROM SOPHIE



*Dear Radyr Chain,*

*My name is Sophie, I am 20 years old and live in Pentwyn, Radyr. On 3 March, I got scared and I ran away to hide – I tried to find my way home but my memory isn't as good as it used to be but I knew my mum and dad would get worried and try to find me. I met two nice dogs and their mum and dad let me stay with them. Mum and dad and Cori (my doggie sister) put up posters and lots of nice people in Radyr helped to look for me. I am now back home safe and well and Mum, Dad and Cori are very happy to have me back.*

*I would like to thank all the nice people in Radyr for helping to look for me. I'm now grounded but if you are passing, give me a wave, I can see you through the window. Mum says some cats will do anything to get their picture on a lamppost.*

*Lots of Love, Sophie xx*

# A Stroll in Radyr Wood

23rd JANUARY, 2011

After descending the stairway from the entrance at the top of the llama field, a petulant mewling drew my attention to a buzzard, wheeling just above the leafless treetops with the usual mischievous troupe of jackdaws bullying it.

The harried bird passed from sight, but I flushed it later from the ground as I approached Hermitage Wood. Seen to scale among the fallen trunks and trailing ivy, it looked enormous. We are so used to seeing them way up in a thermal. A few flaps and it settled on a low branch then took off as a jogger passed along the contour path above.

My sighting of the great spotted woodpecker was exhilaratingly close. It was working its way up one of the tall

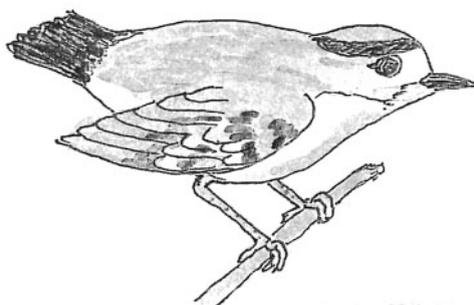


but moribund alters near the Iron Age mound and I watched it all the way. Not far behind was a tree creeper, hurrying up the same flank of the same tree, not pausing to probe for food. Awkwardly bent branches at the top caused the woodpecker to change tactics, working round to the underside, though keeping the head half erect alongside. It was probing all the while for food, with no drumming. Almost immediately overhead, my angle of viewing was too awkward to maintain for long. The rest of my stay, however, was punctuated by short spells of mechanically rapid drumming of one bird communicating with another.

A chirping nuthatch was shinning up another of these half-rotten alders with their roots in the water below. Those must have harboured some good insect life.

A wren was poking around in the ground cover by the marsh, while blue, great and long-tailed tits searched the twiggy bits and dense holly above.

The best was yet to come as I lingered on the boardwalk. I spotted a goldcrest, impossibly small, as the



buzzard was large. Melding my person into the tree trunk, I watched as the tiny yellow-capped bird came closer and closer among the tangle of branches and young sprouts of hemlock water dropwort growing in the clear stream. This was evidently a good feeding site and it remained within touching distance or not far off for a long time.

Ahead of me another of the moribund alders had lost its roothold on the stream bank and had fallen to lodge across the memorial stone erected to honour Bill Clarke MBE, warden of the nature reserve from 1986 to 2000. The upper trunk formed an attractively curved arch across the path alongside, the bushy top settling into the undergrowth beyond to stabilise it. The angle of the upended root slab by the water showed that it had needed no human help in constructing this homely natural feature.

I moved on to the snowdrop site. There were lots of little clumps of leaves, some three inches high, but only about a dozen flowers so far. Land rose sharply to either side and I wondered if this was a frost pocket, making the opening season later than by the Forest Farm pond.

This part of the woodland floor was decorated with widely spaced scarlet elf cups (*Sarcoscypha coccinea*). A fallen branch in the wet wooded gully below the towering red brick buildings

bore bright orange, cartilaginous flanges of Jew's ear fungus (*Auricularia auricula*).

The whole area was dotted with fresh molehills. Frosts had not deterred the diggers. Soil thrown up was mostly black river alluvium, with more red from the Triassic rock on the craggy slope and yellowish sand probably from infill, on the grassy flats. A lone pair of mallard pushed through thin ice on Kingfisher Pool and came ashore to preen.

Mary E. Gillham.

## JOSHUA XERRI



Erstwhile member of Christ Church Choir and organist at St. John's at the tender age of 15 years, Josh Xerri has successfully gained places with the County Youth Choir, The National Youth Choirs of both Wales and Great Britain and is a member of the Welsh Chamber Singers as well as singing with the Consort at Llandaff Cathedral. He is also singing with the Cardiff Polyphonic Choir in a production of Berlioz's *Romeo & Juliet* in St. David's Hall this April.

Josh entered a Psalm Writing competition last December, open to all Consort Choristers at Llandaff Cathedral that was adjudicated 'blind' and won. His composition was performed at Evensong in Llandaff Cathedral on 20th February.

He has just competed in the Abertawe Festival for Young Musicians winning two gold medals and a silver for Piano and Organ classes. One was his own composition on the organ where he was one of a privileged few to play the great Willis Organ in the Brangwyn Hall (pictured here).

Josh has also recently heard that he has been awarded a Music Scholarship to Wells Cathedral School for 6th form and starts in September this year. Besides the singing he has recently tried his hand at public speaking for the first time and has successfully won through the Cardiff and South Wales area finals and goes forward to the national final later in March.

## Cylch Meithrin Radur a PhentrepoethDATHLU

### DIWRNOD EIN NAWDDSANT

Os oedd unrhywun yn ardal Radur yn chwilio am le i ddathlu Dydd Gwyl Dewi Neuadd yr Eglwys Fethodistaidd oedd y lle i fod ar Fawrth y cyntaf 'Roedd hi'n bleser gweld y neuadd dan ei sang a lluo blant a'u teuluoedd wedi dod i gefnogi'r Cylch. 'Roedd yn gyfle am glonc a phaned i'r rhai hŷn tra bod y plant yn troi ei llaw at arnbell gem a chrefffta a hyn oll tra'n edrych yn hyfryd iawn yn eu gwisgoedd Cymreig. Dangoswyd doniau lu y plant yn ystod y prynhawn o'u dawnsio Twmpath crefftus i'w canu gwerin traddodiadol soniarus. A braf oedd gweld fod dros dri deg wedi cystadlu yn y gystadleuaeth tynnu llun. Roedd y thema "Dyma Gymru" yn amlwg wedi eu hysbrydoli! Rhydderch ap Gareth aeth a'r wobwr gyntaf a Menna Roberts yn ail. A nid dyna oedd diwedd ar y cystadlu - dyw'r un dathliad Gwyl Ddewi yn gyflawn heb gystadleuaeth Bara Brith a chystadleuaeth Cage Bach. Enillwyd y gystadleuaeth Bara Brith gan Sally Evans a daeth Llinos Wells yn ail. Fiona Dubberley aeth a hi yn y gystadleuaeth Cage Bach a'i rysait blasus (sydd i'w weld isod) a Mia Haf Owen, sydd ddim eto yn dair, ddaeth yn ail. A diolch o waelod calon i Marian Evans o Ferched y Wawr Radur am ei beimiadu campus - roedd cael beimiad mor gymwys a thalentog yn fraint i'r Cylch. 'Roedd un cystadleuaeth arall ar ol sef y gystadleuaeth cage bach gorau i fusnesau a'r plant a'u teuluoedd oedd a'r gair ola y tro hwn. Siop Fferm Tŷ Nant yn siop arddio Pugh's aeth a hi a Tan y Castell yn ail - Pugh's amdani felly os am y gage bach gorau! Prynhawn hyfryd o ddathlu. Diolch i bawb am eu cefnogaeth ac yn arbennig i Cadarn Consulting Ltd am noddi'r digwyddiad ac i Lynne Williams, Sylvia Middleton a Tegid Roberts am gyfrannu damau o gelf i harddu'r fynedfa. 'R'un ni'n gobeithio cynnal y digwyddiad yn flynyddol - felly cofiwch amdanon ni fis Mawrth nesa!

Rhian Jardine Aelod o Bwyllgor Codi Arian Cylch Meithrin Radur a Phentrepoeth.

## Cylch Meithrin Radur a Phentrepoeth

### A ST. DAVID'S DAY CELEBRATION FOR CHILDREN

On a chilly but dry St. David's Day, Cylch Meithrin Radur a Phentrepoeth held its first ever St. David's Day celebration for Children at the Radyr Methodist Church Hall.

On arrival, attendees were greeted by an exhibition of art and crafts created by local residents: beautiful examples of handmade quilting (Lynne Williams), watercolour painting (Sylvia Middleton) and ceramics (Tegid Roberts). Also on show were 30+ colourful entries created for the children's art competition on the theme "This is Wales", prooaf (if any be needed!) that Radyr and Morganstown's youngsters are a talented and patriotic lot.

The festivities kicked off with Welsh afternoon tea being served, a chance to sample home-made Bara Brith and Welsh cake entries for the Baking Competition. Games and activities, including Welsh flag, daffodil, dragon mask crafts and a treasure hunt were much appreciated by the young ones. A real highlight for adults was the Welsh song concert, performed by Cylch toddlers (conducted by Rhian Jardine). Looking adorable in their national costumes, the little singers treated us to renditions of favourites such as "Dau gi bach" and "Mi welais Jac y Do".

As the party drew to a close, it only remained to declare the results of the Art and Baking competitions. We are very grateful to Mrs. Marian Evans from Merched y Wawr for agreeing to undertake the daunting task of judging the dozens of entries. The children's art competition winners were Rhydderch ap Gareth (1st) and Menna Roberts (runner-up). The Best Welsh Cake category was won by Fiona Dubberley for her melt-in-the-mouth creations - she has kindly agreed to allow us to publish her winning recipe (see below). Toddler Mia Haf Owen came runner-up with her delicious chocolate Welsh cakes. The prestigious Best Bara Brith competition was won by Sally Evans for her beautifully tangy loaf (sorry, this recipe must remain a family secret). Llinos Wells came second with her deliciously flavoured entry. The final competition of the day was "Best Commercial Welsh Cake" decided by attendees. The winner was "Ty Nant Farm Shop at Pugh's Garden Centre"

with "Tan y Castell" coming second. So, you know where to go for a treat if you don't fancy making your own!

At the end of the day, we felt that the event had been a great success, all thanks to support from volunteer helpers, competitors and attendees. We'd also like to thank Cadarn Consulting Ltd. For sponsoring the event. We hope to make this an annual celebration, not just for Cylch but for the entire Radyr and Morganstown community, so see you all next year!

Radha Nair-Roberts  
(member of Cylch Meithrin Radur a Phentrepoeth fundraising committee).

## Cwmni Cwm Ni

Nos Fawrth, 3ydd o Fai, fe fydd Cwmni Cwm Ni yn dod ar eu hymweliad blynyddol â Gŵyl Radur. Byddant yn perfformio yn Ysgoldy Eglwys Crist, Heol Isaf am 8 o'r gloch y noson honno.

Mae gan y cwmni drama Cymraeg hwn o Gaerffili gysylltiad agos â Radur. Nid yn unig mae eu cynhyrhydd Allan Cook yn weithgar yn y gymuned yno ond llynedd yn Radur y perfformiodd y cwmni eu dehongliad nhw o ddrama boblogaidd Emyr Edwards, "Dringo yn yr Andes" am y tro cyntaf. Aeth y cwmni ymlaen wedyn â'r ddrama hon i gymryd yr ail wobwr yng ngŵyl ddrama Corwen a chipio cwpan Gwynfor yn y Genedlaethol yng Nglyn Ebwy.

Eleni, eto, maent yn dechrau ar eu taith yn Radur ar ei ffordd i Gorwen a'r Eisteddfod yn Wrecsam fis Awst. Yr arlwy eleni yw "YN FYW O.....? Cewch weld sut mae cwmni drama'r BBC yn y 50au yn mynd ati gyflwyno cyfreithiad Ben Jones o ddramâu radio Lucille Fletcher, "Sorry Wrong Number" a "Hitch Hiker". Daliwch yn dynn eich seddi.....

## UNCLE VANYA

Fluellen have paid Radyr and Morganstown the great compliment of opening their new production of Chekov's best loved comedy, *Uncle Vanya* at Morganstown Village Hall and not at their production base of the Grand Theatre in Swansea.

Fluellen have become regular visitors to R&M, bringing such memorable productions as *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Caretaker*, *Under Milk Wood*, *The Odd Couple* and most recently *The Corn is Green* by Emlyn Williams.

It is difficult to believe that Chekov is the second most performed playwright in the world, Shakespeare being the first, as his reputation depends on a quartet of fine comedies. More recently Sky Arts have recognised Chekov's fine comedy skills in a series of comedy shorts.

*Uncle Vanya* is set in the period immediately prior to the Russian revolution. Vanya and his niece, Sonya, look after a rural estate for Sonya's father, the Professor, who lives in Moscow. The comedy begins when the Professor arrives for his



summer inspection along with his new and very beautiful young wife. Vanya falls in love with her instantly, the consequences are disastrous.

*Uncle Vanya* will be performed in a new translation by Francis Hardy at Morganstown Village Hall on Wednesday, 4th May at 7.30pm. Tickets £9., £8. concessions, students £4. can be obtained from the Festival Box Office.

## CANTEMUS

This year there will be two major music events, the first being a choral concert given by a relatively new chamber choir who are rapidly making themselves quite a reputation, Cantemus. Already highly regarded in France, Spain, Italy and Norway as well as on the BBC, they were given the honour of opening the 2010 Swansea Festival of Music with a performance of Monteverdi's Vespers of 1610 and later this summer they will open the new concert hall at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

Their programme, subtitled Two Continents and Four Centuries, will feature the choral works of composers such as Bach, Byrd, Tallis, Pachelbel and Vaughan Williams.

The concert will be an opportunity to see Cantemus's new conductor, Huw Williams, at work. Huw was born in Swansea and as well as being musical director of several choirs, is sub-organist at the Chapel Royal, where his predecessors include Tallis,



Byrd, Gibbons and Purcell. Prior to being appointed to the Chapel Royal he was organist and choirmaster at St. Paul's Cathedral, where he played for the Queen's Golden Jubilee Service. He has appeared on eighteen recordings.

The concert will feature Radyr resident, Simon Davison, on cello and organist Dr. Peter King, musical director of Bath Abbey. There will be cello and organ solos, a fine opportunity to hear the Christ Church organ at its best.

Cantemus can be heard at Christ Church on Sunday, 8th May at 7.30pm. Tickets £9., £8. concessions, students £4. from the Festival Box Office.

## CHAIN COOKERY CORNER

### SALMON WITH PESTO AND PROSCIUTTO SERVED ON FLAGEOLET BEANS

[Serves 4]

4 pieces skinless salmon fillet

4 tbs. Pesto

4 slices prosciutto ham

2 (440g) tins flageolet beans

1 lemon

Olive oil

Leeks or broccoli to serve

Preheat oven to 200C/400F/

Gas 6

Spread each piece of salmon with pesto and wrap in a slice of prosciutto.

Place on baking tray and cook for 8 minutes until just cooked through.

Open tins of beans, drain and rinse.

Place in pan with glug of oil, salt and grated lemon zest.

Gently heat through.

Cook preferred vegetables.

Season beans with s+p and squeeze of lemon juice.

Pile beans on plate and top each with salmon.

Serve vegetables alongside.

Delicious, quick and easy! A.M.P.

## SUMMER END

Following the success of their Autumn comedy "A Kick in the Baubles" the Drama Society have once again responded to the requests and suggestions of their audience and will be presenting a murder-mystery thriller for their Spring/Summer production.

"Summer End" by Eric Chappell combines the elements of a murder-mystery thriller with a touching and funny character study of two old ladies whose early mutual distrust gradually changes into friendship as they face suspicion and adversity together. "Summer End" is by Eric Chappell best known for his television series "Rising Damp" and "Duty Free".

"Summer End" will be performed on Thursday 9th, Friday 10th and Saturday 11th June at Morganstown Village Hall, starting at 7.30 p.m. Tickets £8 concessions £7 students £5 available from Veg. Vendor, Station Road, Allan Cook 20843176 or Sheila Phillips 20842585.



## 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

Spring is especially welcome this year. The daffodils planted in Pentwyn Park are flowering although, I have to say, a little sparsely. Those we planted in Danybryn Woods have done very well. We are planning a community environmental event in Windsor Gardens for later in the year and I will be publicizing that nearer the time. A working party has removed a lot of dead and overgrown shrubs and ash saplings. We plan to plant some new shrubs and bulbs as well as running environmental activities for you to take part in.

I would like to welcome back to the Community Council Cllr Clive Morgan. Dr Morgan was a councillor a couple of years ago but had to stand down when his job moved out of Cardiff. Now he is back in Radyr and we are very pleased that he has been re-joined the Council.

R&MCC is raising a Precept of £75,000 for the financial year 2011-12. This is an increase of £10,000 from 2010-11. However, because the cost of the Precept is shared amongst a growing number of Council Tax payers, individual contributions to R&MCC have hardly changed. You can see a detailed explanation of this on the Council's Financial Information page on the website.

As Cardiff Council works to produce its Local Development Plan a list of Candidate Sites has been published. These are sites that developers have nominated for inclusion in the LDP. We will have an opportunity to comment on the sites that affect us both directly and indirectly between May 9 and June 10. You may comment as individuals or through the Community Council. I will put information on this online as soon as it is available.

The Old Church Rooms Management Committee has been working with Park Road Nursery to provide a garden for use by the nursery children. I am happy to say that with a donation from Pugh's Garden Centre there are now raised beds in which the children can plant flowers, vegetables and herbs. Park Road Nursery would like to thank all involved for their enthusiasm and support. The Foundation Phase in Wales has transformed the use of the outdoors in education for children between the ages of 3 and 7 years. I am delighted that the OCR is playing a part in such an important element of children's learning.

**Helena Fox - Clerk**



### The weather summary - by John Trenchard

Although car drivers did not welcome and appreciate the very cold wintry spell from 25th November to 26th December last year, I am sure gardeners welcomed it very much. That cold spell would have done wonders for our native trees and plants, which need a decent spell of freezing cold in winter to make their seeds germinate and spur on growth, flowering and fruiting. Crops such as rhubarb, blackcurrants and raspberries will also have received a good boost from the cold.

Our winter (taking the months of December, January and February) in 2011 was less cold than the previous winter of 2010.

The daytime maximum temperatures were 5.5C ms 1.9C in 2011 but 5.2C ms 2.2C in 2010. The night time minimum air temperatures were 2.0C ms 1.7C in 2011 but 1.6C ms 2.2C in 2010. The winter's rainfall (including melted snow) was below average with 325.9mm 89% in 2011 and 307.8mm 85% in 2010. However, for our 2011 winter, rainfall was above average in January and February but below in December. Although our 2011 winter was less cold than the previous one, this was due to the mild February when the day maximum temperature was 8.8C ps 1.2C and the night time minimum air temperature was 5.6C ps 2.2C, whilst the rainfall was 118.0mm 125% but a dull month with only 34.2 hours 52% of sunshine.

Taking this past winter's combined data for December and January we had a daytime maximum temperature of 4.1C ms 3.2C and a night time minimum air temperature of 0.4C ms 3.5C whilst the rainfall including melted snow was 207.9mm 78%.

Regarding our snowfall last December, reflect on the period 25th to 29th February, 1945 when South Wales had a very heavy snowfall leading to forty inches (100cm) of undrifted snow accumulated at Penarth, near Cardiff. On the promenade exposed to the wind, drifts eight feet high piled up. The worst snowstorm of the 1947 winter for parts of England and Wales took place on the 4th and 5th March where further north over Wales at Lake Vyrnwy, the snow lay 35 inches (90cm) deep.

# Radyr & Morgantown ~ Festival 2011 ~

## THEME:

### ADVENTURES OF ALICE

Mums and Dads, Boys and Girls come and join again in the fun of a street parade on Saturday, 30th April.

The parade will start at 11.00am at the Methodist Chapel in Windsor Road and travel through Windsor Avenue down Park Road to the Old Church Rooms, where there will be the Festival Fete, opened by Jason Mohammad of BBC Wales.

The theme of the parade will be "The Adventures of Alice" and we are hoping families will make and wear costumes appropriate to the stories of Alice in Wonderland. There will be a band, dance groups and children from the local schools in the parade – so come and join us!

All good fun, in kicking off the 2011 Festival. This year's charity will be our very own Radyr and Morgantown Good Neighbours Scheme and we are planning to have events at both Parc Radur and Lychgate Gardens. There will be a motor rally and a mountain bike ride, walks, concerts, football, boules, barbecues and much more. The Festival is pre-empted by a Royal Wedding Firework display at the Tennis Club on Friday, 29th – all welcome.

Pugh's Garden Centre is hosting two events – a tea party for Dan-y-Bryn Cheshire Home and a "Taste of Wales" day. This will give you the opportunity of visiting two new centres – Robinson's Country Leisure and the Mountain Warehouse, who are giving all residents a 10% introductory

discount voucher to be collected from Pugh's Garden Centre.

More details on the village website – [www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk) and the Festival programme which is being circulated with this edition of Radyr Chain.

We are also taking the opportunity of enclosing a book of raffle tickets with the Radyr Chain, which we hope you will purchase in support of the Festival Charity. Ticket stubs and cash can be handed in at Veg Vendor in Station Road, the Radyr Library or the Good Neighbours Office at the Old Church Rooms. If you would like a member of the committee to collect your ticket stubs, ring Barbara Willis on 2084 2404.

If you would be able to help in any of the events, please let us know. We specifically need volunteers for the Fun Run (2096 2068) and the Street Parade (2084 2034).

David Cargill  
Festival Chairman

## OVER £2,000. RAISED BY CARDIFF WEST ROTARY CLUB

Well, what another successful couple of months Cardiff West Rotary Club has had. We have collected over £2,000. for Rotary and local charities and what fun we have had doing it.

Over 100 people attended the St. David's Day concert. We heard the fabulous voices of Con Voce, the renowned four-part choir and soloist from 'Only Men Aloud', Ben Smith. We enjoyed hearing a variety of songs from traditional folk songs such as Oes Gafr Eto to modern classics such as Fields of Gold. The evening raised over £450.

We would like to thank Radyr Scouts group who helped provide the refreshments and we would like to thank everyone who attended the event. We hope you enjoyed the evening as much as we did. Proceeds from this event will be shared between Radyr Scout Group and Rotary Charities, including Rotary Foundation and the Polio Challenge.

### What is the Polio Challenge?

Rotary and its partners have been working for over twenty years and are on the brink of eradicating this disease.

All contributions will help Rotary raise \$200 million to add to the \$355 million donated by

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The resulting \$555 million will directly support immunization campaigns in developing countries, where polio continues to infect and paralyse children, robbing them of their futures and compounding the hardships faced by their families.

We also sold raffle tickets for a trolley dash at Asda. We raised a fantastic £1850. The money raised will be shared between the Teenage Cancer Trust and Rotary Charities. We would like to thank Asda and everyone who bought a ticket.

### Teenage Cancer Trust

Teenage Cancer Trust is a charity devoted to helping to improve the lives of teenagers and young adults with cancer. The charity is involved in building specialist units, supporting families and educating young people in the UK about cancer, prevention and healthy living.

### Cardiff West Rotary Club's Forthcoming Events

And we have another couple of months ahead with a variety of activities planned. At our forthcoming meetings, we will hear from a number of great speakers including:

Anthony Williams, 'The Role of High Sheriff'

Sara Ward, MCOptom, 'Optometry Today'

Clive Johnstone, 'Visit to Uganda'

Anne Marie Hart, 'C.E.O. R.I.B.I'

Ian Purcell, 'Cardiff Food Bank'

Rtn Steve Best, 'Journey to Everest Base Camp' and  
Philip Sutton, 'Fostering Network Wales'

Wales has more children in foster care than any other part of the UK as a proportion of children looked-after. There are nearly, 1,900 fostering households in Wales, looking after over 3,000 children.

**Fostering Network Wales** works with the Welsh Assembly Government to shape foster care policy, it meets with groups of carers and social work staff across Wales and they are developing the support care service in Wales.

We are also looking forward to supporting Radyr and Morgantown Association in their festival in May.

And finally, a number of club members will be taking part in the May Cardiff Fun Run which covers a 5km course.

If you would like to hear any of the speakers mentioned or would like further information on any of the events or how to become a member, please contact David Warrell on 020 2056 2531 or email [sec.cardiffwestrotary@gmail.com](mailto:sec.cardiffwestrotary@gmail.com). Alternatively please visit our website [www.cardiffwestrotaryclub.wordpress.com](http://www.cardiffwestrotaryclub.wordpress.com)

**Don't forget, we are always looking for new members.**

Catherina Balls

# Just Ask Jane

[JustAskJane@orangehome.co.uk](mailto:JustAskJane@orangehome.co.uk)

Jane is an experienced Change Coach and any questions can be sent to her at [JustAskJane@Orangehome.co.uk](mailto:JustAskJane@Orangehome.co.uk) Jane will try and respond to all emails, but please include a comment as to whether you would agree for your question to be published

*I consider myself to be a fairly rational individual, and yet before I leave the house, I need to check that all the taps are turned off sometimes, even when I have done that and I am outside the front door, I have to go back in and check again. Usually after I have checked about 3 times, I am fine and I don't give it another thought. However this habit is becoming annoying and my family are beginning to lose patience with me.*

Most of us are superstitious about certain things in our lives, maybe touching wood or thinking that of particular piece of jewellery or clothing as 'lucky'. When a habit starts to become a bit obsessive, it's just an exaggeration of a superstition. There are a couple of techniques that you may want to try. Firstly when you first check the taps, say it in a loud voice, so that you have told yourself that the taps are off, and perhaps having heard this message, you may be less likely to go back again. However, if you have the urge to go back, stand still and notice what the experience is. It may be a feeling in a part of your body, it may be a message in your head or you may have a vision of a tap being left on. Whatever it is, stand still with it for a count of perhaps 50 or 100, before returning to check. As you begin to notice what messages are prompting you, you will begin to find it easier to break the habit of an immediate response and soon you will find that the need to check will diminish.

*I tend to worry a lot about things that generally never happen. However I spend so much time worrying it takes away some of the pleasure of everyday life. How can I stop worrying?*

This is a really interesting question as the more we try to 'stop' thinking about something, the more we think about it! There are a couple of techniques you can try. The first is to choose to replace the thought with something more positive. This is called an affirmation, and needs to be stated in the present tense, such as 'I am relaxed' or 'I feel happy'. When you find an affirmation that suits the way you want to feel, repeat it as many times a day as you can, until it begins to replace the former habit. You might want to choose a couple of prompts for this, perhaps a little sticker on the kettle, the bathroom mirror, the dash board of your car, and so on, to remind you of this new thought. Another technique is to select a 'Worry Time', which could be about half an hour at some point in the day. Each time you start to worry about something, ask yourself to wait so that you can worry about it at the appointed time. You may well find that when you sit down to have a really good worry, very little comes up!

There are many more techniques that I could work on with you, so please drop me a line. Meanwhile, my final suggestion is that when the thought starts with 'What If...' and usually ends with a negative such as 'What if it all goes wrong', try replacing the thought with the opposite, such as 'And what if it all went really well?' Sometimes you can even feel the difference in yourself as each worry turns into a positive! And what if you were able to think positive thoughts all day.... how good would that be!

*Just Ask Jane*

[JustAskJane@orangehome.co.uk](mailto:JustAskJane@orangehome.co.uk)

## CAN YOU HELP?

Do you have an hour and a half to spare each week? Then

## RADYR BROWNIES NEED YOU

We are 48 enthusiastic girls who love attending Brownies. We enjoy having fun, crafts, games and learning new skills. But we need someone to help our leader so we can have even more fun.

Making a difference to girls' lives and helping them achieve their potential is hugely rewarding. But there are lots of benefits for you too. It can give your CV a boost! You could learn new skills and you'll have lots of fun! The guiding programme is packed with activities and challenges and you'll have a chance to experience them along with the girls.

Anyone that is over 18 and willing to undergo recruitment checks can become a volunteer. There are thousands of male volunteers supporting guiding although Leaders and Assistant Leaders must be female. The most important things are energy, enthusiasm and a willingness to try new activities.

## INTERESTED?

For more details, please contact  
Julie Davies  
Tel: 029 2084 2923 or  
[auntiejuliee@hotmail.com](mailto:auntiejuliee@hotmail.com)

## Cubs Miskin Frosbite Camp 2011

see photo on front cover

1st Radyr Cubs (Thursday) spent an enjoyable weekend at Miskin Mill Scout Village. On the morning of day one the Cubs hiked through the countryside to collect sticks for making rafts. After returning to base and gobbling down a hearty lunch they began to build their rafts, explore the campsite and play the thrilling game "Capture the Flag". After dinner the Mill was transformed into a cinema and the Cubs watched the film 'RV'; we think everyone managed to stay awake to the end.

Sunday was raft-race-day. Akela, Zazu and Kaa gingerly lowered the rafts into the stream and cast them off. It was a tense moment. Would they float? Luckily Chief Raft Building Mang had supervised all construction efforts and each vessel was able to float proudly down the stream. It was an exhausting morning for the Cubs as each raft was chased and cheered until it sailed out of sight.

Finally, everyone gathered in the Mill to look at the photographs Mang's special camera had taken. This camera takes infra-red photographs which means it can see in the dark. After dinner on Saturday night, Mang took a small group Cubs to hide the camera in the forest. They then laid out bait in the hope of photographing some interesting wildlife. We were in luck! The tasty strips of bacon left over from breakfast attracted a hungry fox. We think it might have been Fantastic Mr Fox himself...

Many thanks to the Cubs for their excellent behaviour and to the leaders, young leaders and helpers who made the camp possible.

## School Vouchers

Once again Radyr Scout Group is saving Tesco and Sainsbury's school vouchers. We have placed collection boxes in Martins the newsagents, The library and pughs garden centre. If you have any spare vouchers or if you are not collecting them perhaps you could donate them to radyr Scouts. Many Thanks

## Rotary Club

1st Radyr Scout Group would like to extend their thanks to the Rotary Club for choosing us as one of their chosen charities to benefit from their concert in St. David's Hall. The funds raised will come in very handy as the summer camping season approaches.

Many thanks to all of the leaders and Scouts that helped with the preparation and sales of refreshments.

## RADYR & DISTRICT GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME

Radyr and District Good Neighbour Scheme are delighted to have been chosen as the 2011 charity for the Radyr and Morganstown Festival.

We are a small, local charity (registered with the Charity Commission), which aims to reduce social isolation, improve the quality of life and help the more mature residents in our area feel part of a caring community whilst continuing to live independently.

The Scheme started in 1988 and has helped hundreds of people in the Radyr area. We support two weekly lunch clubs with nearly seventy members and run a friendship group. Some of our members have to rely on lifts to and from the venues and we rely on local volunteers to transport them. It takes a short time to collect them from home and take them back again - for some members it can be the only time they leave their homes. We also help with shopping, library book changing, letter writing, befriending etc. and provide an information service.

Most good neighbour schemes are run by Age Concern. We are one of two in the Cardiff area that are independent. The people we help are usually elderly residents who find it difficult to use public transport or to walk a great distance. We are funded in the main, by Cardiff Council but also supported by the local Community Councils, occasional one-off grants and donations from grateful clients. We have just one part-time employee. We are an ageing population and our service is as important now as it was in 1988.

We always need new volunteers as the success of the Scheme is dependant on them. We would hate to have to turn people away through lack of volunteers. Volunteering is a good way of making new friends and getting involved in your local community. No regular commitment is required. If you think you can help us or would like more information about the Scheme, please contact us on 2084 2404. Even if you can only help at certain times - school term, mornings, odd days, we would be delighted to hear from you. Many of our volunteers do not get involved in regular weekly activities and may only help us once a month - every hour someone can give adds up. All of our activities are covered by insurance and petrol expenses can be claimed.

Wyn Jack, a member of our Radyr lunch club told committee member, Ruth Diment, what the Scheme and lunch club mean to her.



*Wyn Jack on her 90th birthday with volunteer Rupert Andrew, a gap year student*

Winefred Jack, or Wyn as she is affectionately known, was born in Glasgow in 1920. After living in various parts of Britain, Wyn found herself in Radyr about 35 years ago when her husband Robert's job brought them to Wales.

Wyn and Robert had five children. All five children, four boys and one girl, are married and scattered across the country with none of them living close by. When Wyn's husband died some 25 years ago, Wyn opted to stay in Radyr. At that time she belonged to Radyr Choral Society, University Hospital of Wales Choir, a Scottish Country Dancing Club and a Bowls Club. Wyn was extremely active and still is today. Indeed, her diary comprises of Church on Sunday (Radyr Methodist), helping Teeny Tots on Monday, Good Neighbours coffee morning on Wednesday, a Recorded Music Club on Wednesday evening, the Canteen at Velindre on Thursday mornings (Wyn has been a WRVS volunteer for 53 years) and the Good Neighbours Lunch Club on Fridays. All this and Wyn is in her nineties!

Wyn has been a member of the lunch club for about ten years and says that it is a great place to be. She has made friends, enjoys the company of people her own age and loves a chat. In Wyn's words "It's efficiently and kindly run and deserves to flourish. It offers great food and companionship". The lunch club celebrates its member's birthdays and has many celebrations throughout the year, including St. David's Day, Easter, May Tea, Harvest, Christmas etc.

The club is often entertained by local school children and at Harvest, Bryn Deri children bring gifts for the members which are greatly appreciated.

Wyn says she is "always amazed and grateful to the volunteers who make the Lunch Club happen".

## HISTORY SOCIETY NOTES

### Battle of Towton

Good Friday will see the 350th anniversary of the Battle of Towton in Yorkshire. Reputedly the bloodiest battle ever fought on British soil it saw the Yorkist claimant, Edward VI, father of the princes in the Tower and brother of Richard III take throne.

It was fought in a snowstorm, probably an indication of the beginning of the mini ice age that enveloped the country for most of the Tudor period. Why is it of importance to us in Radyr? Well, David Mathew, the founder of both the Llandaff and Radyr branches of the Mathew family and whose fine tomb effigy can be seen in Llandaff Cathedral, reputedly carried the standard for Edward VI at this battle and was knighted for his services. Unfortunately, no evidence of this fact can be found, a Ralph Vestyn den received an annuity of £10. for his services as Standard Bearer at Towton. The Mathew family were very good at putting a gloss on their achievements, but Sir David was undoubtedly there.

### Metal Detectors

Are there any metal detectorists out there? The History Society is preparing a new edition of the history of the parish of Radyr and would be fascinated to hear of any finds within the parish. If you've found anything of interest, please phone Allan Cook on 2084 3176.

### Morganstown Motte

It is hoped that DEFRA will soon declare the area of the Motte free from the fungal infection which has slowed down progress. At the moment it is still fenced off and inaccessible. Once access to the Motte has been restored, plans can be drawn up for a survey of the Motte and possible excavations of parts of the area. Local schools are being invited to get involved.

The County Council who acquired the Morganstown Rugby Club building some years ago when the Rugby Club went bankrupt, are planning to put the building up for lease. It is hoped that whoever takes over the building some kind of interpretation area for the Motte and the lower Taff Valley can be included.

### Festival Walk

This year's Festival Walk will take place on Wednesday, 11th May and will begin at the entrance to Radyr Station at 7pm. The Walk will follow the route offered in the first of the R&M Association's Walks in and around Radyr. This walk will look at Industrial Radyr. All are welcome.

### Severn Princess

The next talk on Thursday, 19th May will be one given by Tim Ryan on The History of the Severn Ferries and the Rescue of the Severn Princess.

We meet at the Old Church Rooms at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

## News from Radyr Library

The staff at Radyr Library are concerned that during the last few months there have been 6 incidents where children have been left unattended in the library and were still there at closing time. This has resulted in two members of staff having to remain in the building after it has shut until the children's parents arrived to collect them. Staff are not required to do this as it is not their responsibility to care for unaccompanied children. We'd like to remind all our customers that it is illegal for a child under the age of 8 to be left unsupervised in the library. If parents arrange to collect their children who are over the age of 8 from the library, they should make sure that they arrive before closing time.

The current opening hours for Radyr Library are:

Monday 10:00am to 1:00pm  
2:00pm to 6:00pm  
Tuesday 10:00am to 1:00pm  
2:00pm to 5:30pm  
Wednesday 10:00am to 1:00pm  
2:00pm to 5:30pm  
Thursday Closed  
Friday 2:00pm to 7:00pm Saturday  
10:00am to 1:00pm

Thank you all for your co-operation.

On a personal note..... I have worked at Radyr Library since October 1994 and have seen many changes of staff and customers during my very happy working life here. Radyr and Morganstown has been a wonderful place to work. The feeling of community is unsurpassed and I thank all of our customers for their friendship. So it is with a degree of sadness that I leave Radyr to move temporarily to Llandaff North Library. There will be diverse, new challenges to look forward to and new customers to meet. However I will be returning to work at Radyr Library

after its refurbishment and will look forward to being a part of the "Grand Re-opening". I wish you all good health and happiness. Anne

## NEWS FROM RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN WI

Our planned programme for 2011 is now well underway. Having survived the arctic temperatures in January and February we are now looking forward to our spring and summer activities. However, our early meetings this year were well attended in spite of the weather conditions.

Jane Breeze was our speaker on 10th January. Jane is a life coach and through her talk entitled "The Diamond Within", she explained how we could take control and improve the quality of our lives. This proved a very suitable topic for helping implement New Year's resolutions.

In February, we joined with the Radyr Association for the early part of the evening to hear a presentation given by Cardiff City Council. Councillor Margaret Jones introduced Tara King who is Head of the Department for waste disposal and re-cycling. Mrs. King gave a very informative talk about the current situation and outlined plans for improved services in the future. She answered varied and diverse questions from the audience who had obviously found her talk interesting. As a joint meeting it worked very well and we thank the Radyr Association for their invitation.

Moving on into Spring, the local primary schools held their St. David's Day celebrations and this year, the WI Millennium Cups for creative writing were won by Steffan Phillips in Radyr Primary and Aaron Dyer in Bryn Deri. The boys will receive their engraved cups in our March meeting. However, they were presented in the schools on St. David's Day by WI representatives.

2nd March was a beautiful day for the WI link groups walk from the Bay to Tongwynlais. This event was organised by Tongwynlais WI who also provided a very welcome lunch. A further link group activity will take place on 24th March, when Pontcanna WI will host an afternoon at Chapter Arts Centre.

Meanwhile, our specialist groups continue to flourish. The book groups are reading and discussing, the craft group is creating, the walkers are keeping fit and for those who like eating and socialising, a lunch event is being organised for April. Our latest group is a genealogy group led by Gaynor Leaf. Members of this group are currently engaged in "climbing their family trees".

As Spring continues, we are all looking forward to the events of April and May – not just the Royal Wedding but the Radyr Festival. This year, Radyr and Morganstown WI is breaking with

tradition. We will not be providing May Day teas at the crowning ceremony on Monday, 2nd May, but don't panic, Treforgan WI are going to be at the Methodist Church dispensing refreshments in our stead.

This year we are going to be part of the Festival Fete on Saturday, 30th April. In 2009, we held a very successful Spring Market to support the Dan-y-Bryn building project. On the strength of this, we are planning to hold a "market" within the festival fete. Stalls will include cakes, homemade produce, craft and flowers. Come and support the fete and purchase some R&M WI "goodies". In so doing you will be supporting the festival's named charity, the local Good Neighbours Scheme.

Should you wish to find out more about our WI, go to our updated website or pick up a 2011 Programme in Radyr Library. Alternatively, just come along to meeting as a guest.

See you in the Festival Fete – Saturday, 30th April at 1pm. L.J.H.

Contacts: Lesley Hall 2084 3630  
Val Convery 2020 6130  
valcon@sky.com



Aaron Dyer from Bryn Deri above and Steffan Phillips from Radyr Primary below



## MY FAIR LADY

A seemingly never ending winter, disturbing news from the Middle East, earthquakes, rising costs – we did not need these things as February came to an end. What we did need was an antidote to all this misery, and – by jove – we got it! Radyr Parish Music Group gave us “My Fair Lady”.

Colourful and lively from the start, this show did not disappoint us, maintaining a vigorous pace to the end.

Gill Evans directed with flair and imagination. The music was a delight with strong principals and chorus, thanks to Tessa Davies and her assistant Pauline Gutteridge. What a privilege, also to enjoy the expertise of Simon Davison (Welsh National Opera) as he conducted a well trained orchestra.

Very good choreography by Jane Clarke ensured that there was plenty of movement on stage, and clever use of cast members for scene changes provided smooth continuity.

We were thrilled by the lovely voice of Victoria Quigley (Elizabeth Doolittle). We shall watch her career with interest.

Brian Willis and Nick Hawkins gave strong performances as Professor Higgins and Colonel Pickering – a perfect foil for each other. Chris Dales (Alfred Doolittle) held the whole show together with vigorous acting and singing.

The “highlight” must surely have been the jolly romp through the audience with everyone joining in with the singing and clapping.

Anne-Marie Phillips was well cast with her convincing portrayal of Mrs. Higgins. Julian Dale played sensitively in his role as Freddy of the unrequited love, and Gill Davies gave us a wonderfully calm and un-flappable Mrs. Pearce as the only sane member of a somewhat crazy household!

And what of Sue Thomas and John Hopkins? They made an hysterically funny entrance as the Queen and Prince of Transylvania – a real little gem in the Ball scene.

The children performed well and with obvious enjoyment.

This was an excellent production, worthy of even greater audiences, and probably the best we have seen from Radyr Parish Music Group who go from strength to strength.

We came away humming the lovely tunes and feeling that “we could have danced all night”.

We eagerly await ‘Iolanthe’ which will be staged next February.

Ros Bray

## LUNCHTIME CONCERT

The second major musical event and this year’s lunchtime concert will be given by another Radyr resident, the international baritone Jeremy Huw Williams. When I spoke to Jeremy, he was on his way to Germany to sing opera in Stuttgart then on to Aberdeen for a concert followed by more opera at Edinburgh and Glasgow.

As well as singing in France, Belgium, Norway, Greece, Italy, the USA and Ireland, he appears extensively in Wales where he has sung Guglielmo (*Così fan tutte*) and Escamillo (*Carmen*) for Welsh National Opera, as well as singing for Music Theatre Wales. He has given recitals at the Wigmore Hall and the Purcell Rooms in London. He sang at the opening concert at the Wales Millennium Centre and received the inaugural Sir Geraint Evans Award from the Welsh Music Guild, given to a person or persons who have made a significant contribution to Welsh music.

His programme will include Purcell songs, some of George Butterworth’s settings of A.E. Housman’s *The Shropshire Lad*, some rarely heard settings of Welsh folk songs by Haydn and arias from three of Mozart’s great operas, *Don Giovanni*, *The Marriage of Figaro* and *The Magic Flute*.

Jeremy will be accompanied by Nigel Foster. Nigel was born in London and studied piano at the Royal Academy of Music and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. His teachers were Roger Vignoles, Graham Johnson and Iain Burnside. At both the Academy and the Guildhall he won every prize and award available for piano accompaniment and has since been appointed an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music. Nigel enjoys a busy schedule performing on the concert platform and is the founder, director and pianist of the London Song Festival, an annual event that promotes the song repertoire.

The lunchtime concert will be at Radyr Methodist Church at 12.45pm on Wednesday, 11th May. Tickets £7., £6. concessions, £3. students from the Festival Box Office.

## MURDER HE WROTE

This year’s literary event moves from the world of poetry to the world of murder. Professor Bernard Knight is best known for his medieval mysteries featuring “Crown John”, but more recently he has started on a new series based in the Wye Valley. Still technically historical, the series is based in 1955.

Forensic pathologist Dr. Richard Pryor uses his ‘golden handshake’ from Singapore to return to Wales to set up in private practice. The story, based partly on the author’s own past experience, carries the stamp of authenticity, as well as capturing the atmosphere of the fifties, when Britain was recovering from the effects of the Second World War.

After nearly fifty years as a writer, Professor Knight is still amazingly prolific. In 2010 he produced both a Crown John and a Richard Prior novel. He is the second longest-serving member of the Crime Writer’s Association and was for a number of years one of the judges for their Silver Dagger Award.

In another life he is both a doctor and a barrister. He was one of the Home Office’s most senior pathologists and he has been involved in hundreds of homicide cases, for both prosecution and defence, including Fred and Rosemary West, Mary Bell and Vatican banker Roberto Calvi.

It will be interesting to know why someone who must have been so abreast with current developments in forensic medicine, decided to write of periods before such scientific evidence existed.

Professor Knight will speak at the Old Church Rooms at 8pm on Thursday, 12th May. Tickets £5., £4. concessions, £2. students from the Festival Box Office.

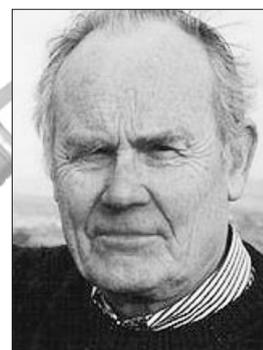
**Tickets can be obtained from the Festival Box Office, namely Veg Vendor, Station Road, Radyr, Allan Cook 2084 3176 or Nick Hawkins 2084 2561.**



Jeremy Huw Williams



Nigel Foster



Professor Bernard Knight