

**Dance Angels**, who rehearse in the Old Church Rooms in Radyr each Wednesday evening, were delighted to be invited to perform at Disney Land Paris in August. This follows their success in reaching the semi-finals of *Britain's Got Talent* on ITV. The troupe took 50 dancers to perform in the Disney Parade celebrating 20 years of Disneyland Paris. Dance Angels are also in the process of auditioning for the hit show *Sky 1 Got To Dance*. to be shown later this year.

## GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

During week commencing Sunday 6th August four teams from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales competed in an Under 18's girls International tournament at Radyr Golf Club. Following the practice days on Sunday and Monday the competition commenced on Tuesday with a foursomes competition in the morning and a singles competition in the afternoon. Each country played each other over 18 holes. The

contest was close right up to the last day when in the final match between Wales and England the match was won by England on the 17th hole. This resulted in England winning the tournament, with Ireland second, Wales third and Scotland fourth. Georgia Hall of England is the sixth best lady amateur golfer in the World. The presentation was made on the patio in bright sunlight in front of a large crowd by the ladies

captain of Radyr Golf Club, Mrs Katherine Collier. Ron Jones, Club Captain, thanked the teams for their quality play and making the week so enjoyable. The President of WLGU, Jill Edwards and the International team organiser praised the golf club on their warm welcome, the club facilities, the excellent course and all the staff and volunteers who had scored, ball spotted and provided refreshments and support when needed. This was a superb event and puts Radyr Golf Club on the International map for the future.



Winners – England



Third place – Wales



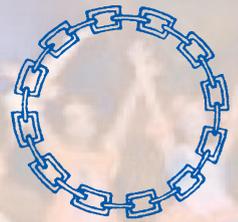
### Brass in Concert, Saturday 22nd September

An entertaining evening of music with the prize winning City of Cardiff 'M2' Brass Band at Radyr Methodist Church. It was an excellent evening with a very talented band. The music selection (tour of the world) was very pleasing to listen to.

# RADYR CHAIN

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown

Number 202



October 2012



## Mrs Claire Davies – new Head Teacher for Bryn Deri Primary School

Bryn Deri School welcomed their new head teacher, Mrs Claire Davies, at the start of the Autumn term. On her introduction to the school, she thanked the school pupils and staff, and also the community of Radyr and Morganstown for their warm welcome. She commented on her invitation to our 2012 Festival celebrations and experienced the wonderful community spirit with the villages. Her goal is to make Bryn Deri “the best school in Cardiff and beyond”. She recognised the number of successful organisations within the community and the number of sports facilities. She believes the success of the school will be due to “team work” including pupils, parents, staff and the community at large. Bringing together all their skills and talents will make a real difference at the school.

## WONDERFUL SUMMER OF SPORT

The “Wonderful Summer of Sport” is fading into memory as the leaves start to fall from the trees and we look forward to yet another Christmas. I’m not sure whether my favourite events were the rowing or the equestrian. Probably the equestrian. Who could fail to be moved by the beauties of Greenwich Park with the Queen’s House and the Royal Naval College as a foreground and Canary Wharf as a background and the handsomely turned out horses. Pampered, beautifully groomed and well cared for.

Unfortunately, the reality for many horses is far from this. The economic downturn has led to many more animals than usual being neglected and this is particularly true of horses as a recent visit to Val Allen informed me. Val, who runs the Ty Gwyn Farm Young Riders Club in Radyr, is a

founder member of the Horse and Pony Rescue Society. Val told me horrific stories of male foals being killed at birth and their bodies thrown into other people’s fields. The landowner on whose land the dead foal is found is responsible for disposing of the body. Many horses

are allowed to forage for food wherever they can find it by uncaring owners i.e. school fields, council property, churchyards, farmers fields, grass verges and even woodland. One group of horses starved to death in woodland near Cowbridge when they ran out of food, having eaten the grass and all the accessible leaves from the trees. *Go to page 5*



## COMING EVENTS



N.B. Details of all coming events can be found in the Diary section of the website [www.Radyr.org.uk](http://www.Radyr.org.uk)

### October

Radyr & Morganstown Indoor bowls Club. The current season has already started but this does not mean new members will not be welcomed. We meet at Morganstown Village Hall on Wednesdays and Saturdays 2 and 6pm each day throughout the winter months. More information at [www.rdyr.org.uk/i-644](http://www.rdyr.org.uk/i-644)

- 7 FAMILY FUN CHURCH at RADYR METHODIST CHURCH. Children of all ages, with accompanying adult(s), are invited to join us in our new venture, FAMILY FUN CHURCH. We will meet every first Sunday afternoon of the month for fun, craft, Bible story and song, plus refreshments. We look forward to seeing you, 4pm to 5.15pm at Radyr Methodist Church. 6.00pm
- 8 Radyr & Morganstown WI, Old Church Rooms 7.30pm
- 10 "A Core History of Apples". A talk to be given by "A Local Pomologist". Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club in the New School Rooms, Christchurch starting at 19.30 and followed by coffee/tea and chat. All are welcome. For more information please contact Richard Gregory (029 20842084). 7.30pm
- 11 Tenovus Coffee Morning at Radyr Golf Club. All welcome. Please ring 20843108 or 20842096 for tickets £2. 10.30am
- 17 Tenovus Charity Bag Collection in Radyr A Tenovus van will be parked at the Guide Centre for one and a half hours. Donations of shoes, handbags, clothes, books and bric a brac will be appreciated. For more information please ring 20842096. 12.30pm
- 20 Posh Nosh Supper, Radyr Guide Centre - An evening not to be missed with good food, wine & friends. Further information & Tickets £18 available from Judith Turnbull 20843371 or Julie Davies 20842923 7.00pm
- 25 Radyr & Morganstown Community Council. Main monthly meeting of R&MCC. Chain Room, Old Church Rooms, Park Road CF15 8DF 7.30pm
- 25 Indulgence Evening. Bryn Deri PTA are hosting an evening where you can shop, catch up with friends over a drink or take a beauty treatment to soothe away your worries. Free entry, everyone welcome. 7.30pm

### November

- 12 Radyr & Morganstown WI. Old Church Rooms 7.30pm
- 14 "Growing and Selling Christmas Trees" A seasonally appropriate talk by John Hunt relating his experiences of commercial "farming" and marketing Christmas Trees. Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club in the New School Rooms, Christchurch starting at 19.30 and followed by coffee/tea and chat. All are welcome. For more information please contact Richard Gregory (029 20842084). 7.30pm
- 17 Get Ready for Christmas. Christ Church, Heol Isaf 11am to 2pm. Seasonal stalls, delicious food and drink, great gifts to buy, kids' craft activities, seasonal music, entertainment, fantastic raffle. 11.00am
- 19 R&M ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING, OCR. The speaker will be Dr Rhys Jones of BBC Wales, who will give a talk on his programme "Rhys to the Rescue", dealing with creatures all great and small. All Welcome. 7.30pm
- 20 PACT Meeting. Old Church Rooms. All residents welcome 7.30pm
- 22 NSPCC Coffee Morning at Radyr Golf Club - cake stall, tombola, jewellery, scarves, handbags. 10.30am
- 22 Radyr & Morganstown Community Council. Main monthly meeting of R&MCC. Chain Room, Old Church Rooms, Park Road CF15 8DF 7.30pm
- 22- Radyr Drama Society Production. RDS
- 24 presents two plays from the comedy 'Plaza Suite' by Neil Simon, at Morganstown Village Hall at 7-30 pm. Tickets (£8, £7, £5) available from Vintage Gem at 1B Station Road, Nicky Webber (02920 843582), Allan Cook (02920 843176) and Sheila Phillips (02920842585). 7.30pm

### FOR SALE

#### M&S BED THROW - PURPLE

(ONE SIZE)

Plus two matching small pillows.

Pretty beaded edging to throw

Never used. Cost new £150

£50.00 ono

Telephone: 029 2084 2289

### FOR SALE

#### TWO BOYS' BIKES

1 suitable for 5-7 years £25

1 suitable for 7-10 years £35

both in good condition

Also, FREE, three 26" wheel

mountain bike tyres

Telephone: 029 2084 3832

Letters, articles, reports and other contributions are invited and should be submitted by November 15th. Submissions may be subject to editing at the Editor's discretion. The views expressed in the Radyr Chain are not necessarily those of the Editors.

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

### Why not use Scouts Christmas Post 2012

Once again Radyr Scouts are providing the opportunity for you to send Christmas Greetings through the Scout Post to family and friends living in the **Cardiff and Vale areas.**

If you wish to support scouting in Radyr and Morganstown, please purchase your scout stamps from the local area outlets:

**Pugh's Garden Centre,  
Morganstown  
P'zazz Hair Designers, Castle  
Court, Caer Graig  
Radyr Library, Park Road  
Section Leaders and members of  
Radyr Scout Group**

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

Can I thank all those people who have supported Scout Christmas Post in previous years. By purchasing your stamps locally, you are providing the Radyr Scout Group with its largest source of fund raising during the year.

Leaflets giving information on Scout Post 2012 will be delivered to your door at the beginning of November. Stamps costing 20p will be available at the local outlets from the start of November.

**Please note that scout post greetings will ONLY be delivered to the CARDIFF AND VALE AREAS indicated on the Scout Post 2012 Leaflet.**

The last date for posting this year is **Monday, 3rd December, 2012.**

Please use the post boxes provided at the above outlets and the scout hall.

Be prepared to post early and save money by using Scout Christmas Post 2012.

JBT

## JOTTINGS FROM THE R&M ASSOCIATION

We are still working on the action items that arose from the joint Community Council/Association held in June (see last edition of the Chain). In terms of highlights, Allan Cook is updating the publication "What is there to do in R&M?" We will be changing the format so it is easy to update and look at on-line. Copies of the present (rather out of date) edition can be found in the library. We know Allan (2084 3176) would be very grateful if everyone were to look at that and tell him the changes that need to be made. We also think it would be a good idea if there was a regular time slot at the library (weekly?) when R&M societies put on a display, explain what they do and seek to interest new members. We will be talking to the library and also to the many R&M societies to see if a schedule can be drawn up.

We were very shocked to find two of our traders in Station Road suddenly gone – Seasons and Welsh's. Seasons is a particular loss. We always had good reports of the food there and it also brought a wonderful ambience to Station Road with the tables outside (when sunny). Local residents commented that there had even been less youth annoyance in the immediate area since the restaurant opened in the evenings. We cannot comment on the business issues surrounding these closures but we sincerely hope that Seasons will re-open shortly. If it does, make sure you use it!

We are now working (with the Community Council) on this year's Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony which will be on Friday, 7th December. The Community Council are again funding the erection of three main trees around the village – including a potential new site on Lychgate Gardens. In Station Road, the Community Council have also provided funds for the extension of the lights we had last year; they will now extend down to the corner of Radyr Eyecare. We will be

providing the trees in Station Road, as usual. We are even getting a new sleight built for Santa!

So the 'Community Plot' on Lychgate Gardens has gone. We are sad about that but the fight to keep it for Community use was lost years ago. Although it has nothing to do directly with the Association, we are now getting concerned about the building plot at the other end of Lychgate Gardens where the intention originally was to build some form of retirement home. We understand that no proposals have come forward from anyone to develop such a home so there is a real risk that we shall simply have more houses. If you have any views on this, do speak to Cllr. Rod McKerlich or the Community Council. We may not have many levers to change things locally but to allow opportunities to slip through our metaphorical fingers is a bit foolhardy.

You may have heard that a horse was injured when it panicked during the letting off of the Jubilee fireworks. Just a reminder to be careful and consider animals when letting off fireworks on 5th November, or at any time and if you are an animal owner, to take precautions at obvious times.

We had a very successful meeting on 3rd September when Jill Jones of BBC Wales told us about her experiences in producing "Crimewatch". Our next meeting will be on Monday, 19th November at 7.30pm in the Old Church Rooms when Dr. Rhys Jones, also of BBC Wales, will give a talk on his programme "Rhys to the Rescue", dealing with creatures all great and small. If you would like to become a member of the R&M Association (there is no charge for membership and you will receive our regular two-monthly Newsletter) or would like to hear more about Association activities, contact the Secretary, Nick Hawkins (2084 2561 or [rma@radyr.org.uk](mailto:rma@radyr.org.uk)) or the Chairman, Cyril Williams (2084 2250).

## WONDERFUL SUMMER OF SPORT

from front cover...

Horses on roads should be reported to the police. A horse on your property should be reported to the Pound, who will collect the animal. Distressed animals should be reported to the RSPCA or the Horse Hospital in Monmouth. Val tells me that all the Rescue Centres are overcrowded because of the downturn. Rescue Centres need a lot of money to keep going, food and vets bills being two major costs.

On the 27th October, members of Val's Pony Club will be taking part in the Annual Sponsored Fancy Dress Halloween Ride in Caerphilly to raise funds for the Horse Hospital in Monmouth. Last year they raised £500. This year they'll need to raise a lot more.

**Useful numbers –  
Cardiff Pound 2078 8344**

**Horse Hospital Monmouth  
01600 750233**

**FIREWORKS TERRIFY ANIMALS.**  
For many people Bonfire Night is an enjoyable evening watching spectacular fireworks, but for animal owners it can be a time of concern and distress. Please let off your fireworks responsibly.

### HISTORY SOCIETY NOTES

The next talk in the Autumn season will take place on Thursday, 8th November, when Dr. Anita Jordan will give a talk on Paupers.

The meeting will take place in the Old Church Rooms at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

## Charities Fair

at  
**Radyr Methodist Church**  
**Saturday 3rd November**  
**10-12 am**

entrance £1.50  
(to include refreshments)

Come and buy your charity Christmas cards, Scout stamps, Traidcraft gifts and more.

## BORED WITH WINTER MONTHS?

COME AND JOIN

### Radyr and Morganstown Indoor mixed bowls club

(lads and lasses)

2012/13 season starts on 19th September

We meet at Morganstown Village Hall  
Two sessions on Wednesdays and Saturdays  
Afternoon 2 – 6pm and evening 6 – 10pm

But you can choose when you come, no obligation



We have friendly matches with other clubs, competitions,

Special afternoons and evenings, fun sessions

**BUT MAINLY JUST TO ENJOY OURSELVES**

**YOU DO NOT NEED PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE**

**Or any special gear until you decide its for you**

**(no age barriers)**



**Don't stay at home and be miserable, come and learn a new skill and laugh at the same time – you never know YOU could be our next CHAMPION!**

**INTERESTED? Contact our secretary, Jerry Bray**

**029 2084 3387 email: jerrybray4@tiscali.co.uk**

**or simply wander down to the Village Hall and be captivated!**

## FAMILY FUN CHURCH AT RADYR METHODIST CHURCH

We had a super 'taster' day in August when eighteen children plus assorted Mums, Dads and Grandparents joined us for an afternoon of fun, craft and a Bible story and song, not to mention cakes, biscuits, fruit and freshly-made toast and jam!

Our regular Family Fun Church afternoons, 3.30pm to 5pm, start on Sunday, 7th October and every first Sunday of the month from then on. We look forward to meeting lots more children (with accompanying adult) and hope you will come and enjoy our new venture – **FAMILY FUN CHURCH**

Catherine Hewett

## RADYR DRAMA SOCIETY

In November, Radyr Drama Society will present "Visitor from Mamaroneck" and "Visitor from Forest Hills" from "Plaza Suite" by Neil Simon. It will be performed at Morganstown Village Hall on Thursday to Saturday, 22nd to 24th November.

Neil Simon's plays are justly famous for being both funny and intelligent. Among his hits on Broadway and in the cinema are "Barefoot in the Park", "The Odd Couple", "Last of the Red Hot Lovers" and "The Sunshine Boys". "Plaza Suite" is a portrait of different couples successively occupying the same suite at the Plaza Hotel, New York.

The first is a funny yet touching story of a marriage in tatters as the wife tries to bring back the romance on their wedding anniversary in a suite where they spent their honeymoon, or so she thinks. The second couple, in an uproarious farce, try to get their daughter to come out of the locked

bathroom and go down to the ballroom where she is due to be married. In the process, their relationship comes under the spotlight as disaster piles on disaster.

Farcical action and witty dialogue should make this a very entertaining evening.

**Tickets (£8. adults, £7. seniors, £5. students) are available from Vintage Gem in Station Road, Nicky Webber (20843582), Sheila Phillips (20842585) and Allan Cook (20843176).**



## NEWS FROM RADYR & MORGANSTOWN WI

On Thursday, 16th August we held a trip to the beautiful National Trust village of Lacock. The sun shone all day and the village, the setting for many television productions, looked its best and offered a wealth of inns, coffee shops and opportunities for retail therapy, not forgetting the beautiful Abbey and grounds and the Fox Talbot photographic museum. In fact, something for everyone.

There was no meeting in August but now at the end of this golden summer – I refer to the sporting achievements not the weather – WI has resumed its activities and the Autumn term has got off to a flying start. The “Olympian” Big Walk, Little Splash, has been completed, the total 209 miles has been achieved and the journal recording it all, compiled by our secretary, Gaynor Leaf, is now ready for submission to the Federation Office.

On Saturday, 8th September, our WI and all its activities were show cased and celebrated in the community space in the newly refurbished Radyr Library. Anyone interested was able to pick up a programme and a book mark listing all we offer. Examples of our craft work were on display and a collection of book reviews by reading group members. This portfolio will remain in the library and further reviews will be added.

Our Institute is planning to use the community space in the library on a regular basis on a Wednesday for book group meetings, craft and genealogy workshops and most importantly, one to one computer classes. Hopefully, this initiative will be up and running by the start of October. In conjunction with the library theme, a visit to the Libraries Stacks, accompanied by our Radyr Librarian, will take place on Thursday, 17th September.

The September meeting took place on Monday, 10th, with a change to the advertised programme. We were privileged to be educated and entertained by Ian Fisher, Principal French Horn player in the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, guest

principal in many other renowned orchestras and tutor of horn at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. A natural communicator and an enthusiast, he had his audience enthralled. Though a virtuoso performer on the French horn, he received a great round of applause for producing musical sounds from a coiled length of garden hose!

Moving on into the Autumn, WI hopes to take part in the “Keep Britain Tidy” campaign between 17th and 24th September. Our Birthday Party at Radyr Golf Club is planned for 1st October and a trip to London with a chance to visit the “Ideal Home at Christmas” Exhibition is arranged for Thursday, 15th November. For very fit members, the Autumn Federation Walk on 19th October is a challenging eight miles with 24 stiles, one event in which I will not be participating!

Should anyone wish to join us, Radyr & Morganstown WI holds meetings at 7.30pm on the second Monday of the month at the Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr. There are several subsidiary groups including three book groups, genealogy group and craft group. Weekly and monthly walking groups meet for long and short walks and lunch and supper clubs eat and socialise together. Add to all these regular outings and visits and there is, in short, something for everyone. Come along to one of our meetings – we would be delighted to see you.

*For further information contact*  
radyrandmorganstown.wi@gmail.com  
or ring our President, Pat Williams on  
2084 3843  
emailmpwradyr/@btinternet.com  
L.H.

### RADYR, MORGANSTOWN & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Somehow we have survived it, but as gardeners it is hard to remember a wetter summer. The high rainfall of June, July and August has not encouraged plants to grow and flower in abundance and this has not been helped by the continual battle against slugs and snails which appear to have grown into monster plant munching machines. However, the

first weeks of September have brought some drier and warmer weather and plants are catching up with a good show of Autumn colours in the garden and a decent harvest of Autumn vegetables.

The Gardening Club has come to that time of the year when we look forward to those bright spots which light up the Winter months. Our Winter programme started with an illustrated talk on The Glamorgan Heritage Coast and Dunraven Gardens given by Helen Mills, one of the Heritage Coast Rangers. Helen Mills described the diversity of her work as a Ranger, the geology peculiar to the area and the flora that this supports many of which are rare species and a few occurring only within the heritage coast area. The talk was illustrated with many superb and stunning photographs.

Our programme continues in October and November with:  
**10th October** – A Core History of Apples An illustrated talk by a local Pomologist

**14th November** – Growing and Selling Christmas Trees A talk by John Hunt relating to his experiences of commercial “farming” and marketing of Christmas Trees

Meetings are open to all and take place on the second Wednesday of each month from September to April (with the exception of December) with illustrated talks and demonstrations. Some speakers bring examples of the plants they talk about and others bring plants for sale.

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

We hope that there is something for everyone and look forward to meeting you.

Please see Village notice boards and Radyr website ([www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk)) for programme details and any changes or contact our Chairman – Richard Gregory (2084 2084)

# AN EVACUEE'S TALE

The article below was published in the house magazine for retirees of the South Staffs Water Co. A friend being one such and spotting the reference to Radyr sent it on to me. The author, a Mr. Mountford, has been contacted and an edited version of his article follows. Clearly any village in South Wales was a mining one!

## An Evacuee in Radyr

The commencement of air raids in June 1940 perturbed my parents sufficiently to decide that my sister and I should be sent away. Our school party eventually ended at the mining village, this being Radyr some miles north of Cardiff.

A quiet lane on a gradual incline ran the length of Radyr. At the lowest end was a row of miner's cottages, alongside the local railway. Higher up were a few shops, post office and church. Further up still were a number of post houses. These houses were occupied by wealthy people, escaping from London for the duration.

A large house at the highest point of the village road had its name "The Tops" on its driveway gate. It was here that a small group of waifs including myself, arrived with our WVS escort. The owners of this house, Major & Mrs. Holt, were having a party. To request a room for an evacuee was clearly an intrusion. Nevertheless the lady of the house quickly picked me out.

To me, entering this house was just like stepping into an Ealing film extravaganza (in colour). There was wall to wall ankle deep carpeting and attractive pictures on the walls, silver and china artefacts on display and there was so much lighting, all with elegant shades.

I was hastily despatched to the rear quarters of the house, the kitchen area, which was occupied by Lily the cook and Annie the maid who were told to look after me. My sister had been accepted earlier at a house nearby.

My first face-to-face with Mrs. Holt was next day in her sitting room where I was quizzed to establish my status, or more importantly, my parents' status. I was totally intimidated by her, so I lied.

My story raised "The Mountfords" up the ladder of affluence quite a number of rungs. I could tell that Mrs. Holt did not believe a word. The interrogation was followed with a rundown of the behaviour rules that would apply to me

1. Live and eat with Lily and Annie
2. Always use the side entrance
3. Do not go into the front of the house uninvited
4. Make sure to attend school and church
5. The special coloured toilet paper was reserved for the major (piles!)

I think that after our "chat" Mrs. Holt may have felt a slightly warmer regard for this "Brummie Stray" she had landed herself with. Neither Lily or Annie liked me at first. In fact I knew that any of my misdemeanours, however small, were reported to "Her Ladyship" for which I would be summoned to her inner sanctum to be told off.

Mrs. Holt owned a large Austin car, for which there was no room in their garage, as this was mostly full of trophies dating from the Boer War. The car was fitted with a tow bar. This was to be used for taking out a mobile canteen after air raids on Cardiff, of which there were many. The intensity of these raids made compelling viewing from my bedroom window. One night, it must have been quite late as everyone had gone to bed, I was suddenly awakened by a frantic knocking and ringing on the front door. This continued on and off for some time. Eventually I ventured from my bedroom to see Lily and Annie transfixed with fear, standing at the top of the stairs. After a while at Mrs. Holt's insistence, Lily went down and cautiously opened the door. There was not a soul to be seen or heard.

"The Tops" was at the highest point in the village and a late night prankster would have been easily detected. A day or so later Lily, Annie and myself were told by a local man a story that was believed by many of the villagers. This concerned the suicide of a previous occupant, the anniversary of this event being marked by an assault on the front door. [Mr. Mountford also writes about revisiting this house in the 1990's].



I'm not too sure how long my sister and I stayed in Radyr – probably a year. A number of small events happened, hardly worth mentioning, but they come to mind from time to time. For instance going to the local school where the headmaster was determined to try and teach us Welsh; also winning a new stamp album in the school raffle which pleased me no end. One thing that never pleased me was being inspected, head to foot, in my Sunday best, by Mrs. Holt before I accompanied her to church on Sundays.

On a more sombre note, I remember walking back to the coach after a short school visit and passing by the cathedral grounds. We were able to observe the damage (due to the previous night's raid) and also many parts of exposed "remains" yet to be reburied. A lasting memory. Annie had obtained permission to take me to Merthyr Tydfil to visit her parents. I was looking forward to a trip up the Rhondda Valley by train but it didn't happen.

At this point my story ends abruptly; I have no memory of events that took place over the next day or so. In some way, my sister and I returned home. The bombing had become much worse. It was now the middle of 1941.

Letters...



COPY OF EMAIL FROM RALPH  
VAUGHAN REGARDING LEARNER  
DRIVERS

*Dear Editors,*

At a recent meeting of PACT, several residents complained about the number of cars used for driving lessons at all times of the day and indeed at night. Their main concerns were that there were times when the volume of cars could be dangerous particularly during school arrival and departure times.

I subsequently wrote to the Driving & Test Centre in Fairwater expressing concern. Some weeks later I received a reply from Newcastle upon Tyne which is attached. I have received similar replies in regard to village and paving parking. It is not unusual to receive such replies which, to my mind, fail to address the problems.

It does beg the question as to who will issue a definitive statement and how it can be policed.

I therefore wonder if you would consider publishing this reply to let residents know how difficult it is to make progress.

*Yours sincerely,*  
**Ralph Vaughan**

A LETTER FROM DRIVING  
STANDARDS AGENCY TO R.S.  
VAUGHAN

Thank you for your letter received on 29 June about learner drivers in your area.

I am sorry that you are experiencing problems with learner drivers in your area. I can appreciate the inconvenience and distress this situation can cause. The test centre manager, Nia Irvin, has displayed a notice in the test centre asking the local instructors and schools to consider the residents in the area.

Nia confirms that we only use one test route in the Radyr area and therefore our examiners do not over-use it. The road is a public highway and as such we have no jurisdiction to prevent instructors and driving schools using a certain area.

Displaying a notice in our test centre should alleviate the situation. However, if the matter persists please contact your local Council.

*Yours sincerely,*  
**S. Farrer**  
Corporate Correspondence.

## NEWS FROM RADYR LIBRARY

We've had a really busy summer in the library with over 350 children enrolling on the reading challenge and most of them reading six books over the holidays. Those who completed the challenge will be presented with medals and certificates in school.

Jen has been doing a great job with our story and rhyme times for under 5s. Each session includes a story, songs and nursery rhymes and a craft activity. The sessions are on Tuesdays at 10.15 and 2.15 in term time. All under 5s and their carers are welcome, so why not come along? Kelly James from the Family Information Service has been attending some of the sessions with information on childcare, events and activities for children and some great cookery booklets. The Bookstart Bear will be joining in with the fun on Tuesday, 2nd October to celebrate Bookstart Day. Don't miss him!

We are starting to see more new adult books arriving and they are proving very popular with readers. Don't forget you can always reserve your books on-line. The community area of the library is already being used by local groups and Councillor Rod McKerlich will be holding surgeries there on two Saturdays, 27th October and 8th December.

Cardiff celebrates 150 years of public libraries in 2012. We were the first authority in Wales to set up a public library service. We held a number of events throughout Cardiff in September and will be holding a special coffee morning in Radyr library in October or November and will be asking for your thoughts on why you love libraries. Look out for further details in the library.

We are considering setting up a monthly reading group in the library, possibly in the early evening. If you would be interested in joining this group please let us know.

Would you like to learn to knit or crochet? Or brush up your knitting skills? Come along to our free monthly knitting group on the first Monday of the month starting on 1st October at 10.15am. Suitable for beginners or those with some knitting experience.

We have now received our collection

boxes for recycling small batteries. So bring your old batteries along on your next visit. Don't forget you can collect your recycling and food bags at the same time.

Found on Heol Isaf, near Dan-y-Bryn and handed in to the library – a pair of glasses in a black case. Are they yours?

Finally, if you are not already a member of the Cardiff libraries, you can join by bringing along a proof of i.d. (driving licence, bill, bank card etc.) and find out just how much your library card entitles you to.

Don't forget to bring your library card along each time you come to the library.

**Happy reading.**  
**Caroline, Jen and Anne at Radyr  
Library**  
**2078 0996**  
**radyrlibrary@cardiff.gov.uk**

### MISSING SILVER CUP???

With a degree of difficulty I hope I have located the right people. If not, I do apologise for the interruption.

I spent most of my childhood in the village attending Mrs. Stanford's school on Heol Isaf near the church. My grandfather, Walter Watkins, was well known to the village having commanded the first aid post in the Church Rooms during the last war.

He was, as I remember, the first chairman of the Tynant FC that played on the mound field in Morganstown. He died very suddenly in March 1969 and the following summer my grandmother and I attended the village fete to see a competition played for the "Walter Watkins Memorial Cup", although I cannot remember what the competition was about.

I wonder if there is anyone still in the vicinity that might know the whereabouts of this item?

**Dr. Tim Watkin Jones.**



## HOW HEAVY IS YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL BAG?

Children's back health is important. A new school year has now begun but how much is your child carrying every day? According to research carried out by BackCare (a charity for healthier backs) 80% of children carry 20% or more of their body weight on their back. Equivalent to a 70kg adult carrying 15kg!

In my career I have treated hundreds of backs and worked within occupational health settings. This research struck a chord with me as my daughter has now started school and I remember vividly the weight of my own school bag. Frequently lifting a bag of 11kg is categorised as a medium physical demand job for an adult so I was shocked to see research has shown that the average 10 year old was carrying approximately 10.5kg!

My advice to parents and children regarding their school bag: Is it comfortable, will the weight be evenly distributed across the back

when carrying it and does it have good shoulder straps and a waist strap?

Ideally the bag should be a rucksack worn on both shoulders with wide padded straps and a waist strap. However, if fashion has superseded comfort in your child's choice of bag then it should at least have one good shoulder strap which will allow your child to easily swap the bag from shoulder to shoulder to balance the load.

Look at the amount carried. Does your child need everything ... every day? If possible re-pack the bag every morning to minimise the amounts carried. Ideally bags should weigh no more than 10% of the child's body weight. Distribute the weight so that the heaviest items are carried nearest to the body around waist height.

And finally, think posture ... tummy in, head up and shoulders back! Might be difficult in the teenage years!!

Children aged 11-18 years can help BackCare by taking part in the School Bag survey [www.schoolbag2012.com](http://www.schoolbag2012.com)

If you would like any further information or advice please contact me I treat a variety of musculoskeletal conditions ranging from postural pain at work to sport injuries, from chronic arthritis to workplace accidents.



Clare Rayner BSc (Hons) MCSP

Phone: 07551991773

Email: [clare@gngphysio.co.uk](mailto:clare@gngphysio.co.uk)

[www.gngphysio.co.uk](http://www.gngphysio.co.uk)

### More Dance Angels photographs... see back cover



## TREFORGAN WI

Treforgan WI has had mixed experiences since the last bulletin. Our decorum slipped somewhat when we took our first belly dancing lesson and enthusiastically modelled the glitzy costumes. At the same time, a plate of Turkish sweetmeats, kindly donated for a raffle by the demonstrator, was inadvertently eaten by members before the draw could be made!

In August, our 'Trelympics', brilliantly hosted by Margaret at Gelynis Farm, were not too dignified either but enormous fun. Those of us with replaced hips and knees were banned from the hula hoop spinning endurance event but all were able to fiercely contest the bean bag throwing competition and the egg and spoon heats in order to win the chocolate 'gold' medals melting in the rare flashes of sunshine between the showers. Our guest of honour was one of the Olympic torch bearers. Photos with him were posed in front of the camping lantern – an imaginative substitute for the cauldron of flames. We adjourned to a barn for sandwiches and a union flag cake presented as usual by our indefatigable catering team. It was they who provided a scintillating spread when Treforgan entertained other local WIs to 'high tea' in July.

Of course, over the months we have also been 'normal' dignified WI members – enjoying our book clubs and craft classes, walking, bowling, skittling and supporting the Radyr Festival.

We have noted on an important national resolution to increase the number of UK midwives, visited St. Fagan's museum and the stacks library, learned about Mrs. Beeton and chemical free gardening.

If you would like more information about Treforgan WI, contact Judy Grundy on 2081 0243.

## OLYMPIC VOLUNTEER

Every day before I leave for work I put on the most important part of my uniform, my smile, in readiness for what is one of the many highlights of my day; the commute to work.

Every day I have the pleasure of a ten minute walk across the park to the tube and every day without fail, I'm touched by the welcome I receive. Young children run up to me and ask what sport I do. Buses full of inquisitive heads all turn in unison as they drive past. Homeless people wake from their uneasy slumbers and mutter an inaudible message of appreciation.

The Tube ride is just as good. Strangers smile and talk to me; something I'm told is unheard of in London.

I never tire of telling my ten minute friends how much I have enjoyed my time in London. Being a Games Maker isn't a role, it's not an appointment, not even a job – it's a duty, a calling that is recognised and acknowledged by all who have had the pleasure to know us.

I only hope that when it's all over, when the last medal won, then in some small way the spirit of the Games Makers will live on in all of us. That is our legacy, that is our gift to this great city.

**Michael Deem (EVS Team NGA)**

## 'QUINS COMING EVENTS

**6th October**

Cardiff 'Quins RFC v Brecon  
Division 3 South-East  
KO 2:30pm at the "Diamond"  
Ground, Forest Farm Road,  
Whitchurch

**20th October**

Cardiff 'Quins RFC v Pentyrch  
Division 3 South-East  
KO 2:30pm at the "Diamond"  
Ground, Forest Farm Road,  
Whitchurch

**8th December**

Cardiff 'Quins RFC v Fairwater  
Division 3 South-East  
KO 2.30pm at the "Diamond"  
Ground, Forest Farm Road,  
Whitchurch

## CHAIN COOKERY CORNER

### PROVENCIAL CHICKEN BAKE

A very tasty 'all in one' dish. It is packed with flavour and just needs to be served with a mixed green salad. The most difficult part is shopping for and sorting out the ingredients. This is a large recipe but can obviously be halved. Serves 8

8oz/225g dried pasta shells (e.g. orechiette – cats ears!)  
8oz/225g onions  
2 garlic cloves  
3 tbs/25ml olive oil  
2tbs fresh thyme/1tbs dried thyme  
1/4 pint/150ml white wine or dry white vermouth  
Two 14oz(400g) cans chopped tomatoes  
1 1/4lb (550g) tomato passata  
1 dessert spoon sugar  
1 1/2lb (700g) skinless chicken breasts/boned chicken thighs  
1oz/25g butter  
1oz/25g flour  
3/4 pint/250ml milk  
7oz/200g soft cheese  
2oz/50g pitted black olives  
5 tbs/75ml pesto sauce  
Seasoning

Cook pasta in boiling salted water until just tender. Drain, pour cold water over and set aside.

Peel and roughly chop onions, peel and crush garlic.

Heat 1 tablespoon oil in large pan, add onions, garlic and thyme. Cook for 2 minutes.

Pour in wine and bubble for 3 minutes. Add tomatoes, passata, seasoning and sugar. Bring to boil. Simmer for 20 minutes until reduced by one third.

Heat oven 400F/200C/Gas 6

Cut chicken into chunks and place in roasting tin. Pour over remaining oil and season. Cover with foil.

Cook for 10-15 minutes until just cooked. DO NOT OVERCOOK.

Melt butter in small pan, stir in flour, gradually add milk, stir and simmer for 10 minutes.

Remove from heat and add cheese.

In large bowl mix chicken, pasta, olives and pesto sauce.

Place in 6 pint/3.4litre ovenproof dish.

Lightly stir tomatoes and white sauce – try to create marbled effect.

Pour over chicken and lightly stir.

Cook in oven for 30-35 minutes until golden and hot through.

Suitable to freeze.

A.M.P.

# Radyr & Morganstown Community Council

## Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan



The Community Council is preparing to respond on behalf of R&M to the latest consultation on Cardiff Council's LDP (Local Development Plan). There has been some publicity on this in the local news and we have information on the overall plan. Full details will be made public in October when the draft LDP (called the Preferred Strategy) goes before Cardiff Council. There will be a public consultation starting in November and ending in December. We hope that Cardiff will run events where you can see the plans in detail and comment. The events run for the previous LDP were successful and one held at Radyr Comprehensive School was well attended.

Once the documents are released they will be put on the community website in the R&MCC pages with a note on the website's front page. If anyone wants to come to see a copy of any documents you are welcome to arrange to visit me in the Old Church Rooms.



In September councillors visited Radyr Primary School to make bird and bat boxes with the Year 6 pupils. We hope to do the same with Bryn Deri Primary School and Radyr Youth Club later in the year.



The issue of parking and traffic congestion is a long-running concern in R&M and the Community Council has raised it with Cardiff Council frequently over the years. We have done so again. We would like to see a plan to address the hot spot of Station Road and the overspill from Radyr Station and the effect on local streets.



New curtains have been ordered for the Weir Room of the Old Church Rooms. Over the summer our hard working and much-valued volunteers completed a list of improvements and most of the downstairs was repainted.



Congratulations to the Friends and Wardens of Radyr Woods. They entered the RHS 'It's your neighbourhood scheme' and won the highest Champion Award. There were 600 entrants in UK for schemes including allotments, woodlands, street and neighbour improvement schemes.

**Helena Fox**  
Clerk to R&MCC

The Old Church Rooms,  
Park Road, Radyr,  
Cardiff CF15 8DF

Tel. 029 2084 2213

Email : [clerk@radyr.org.uk](mailto:clerk@radyr.org.uk)

### MESSY TIMES ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

Messy times is busy this Autumn term so come and join us at the Old Church Rooms on Wednesday from 1.30pm-3pm! This term we will be singing our way through different nursery rhymes ... always ending up with the Grand Old Duke and Hokey Cokey. Craft activities will be based around the nursery rhyme of the day!

We started with "Here we go round the Mulberry Bush" and will end up with "We wish you a Merry Christmas" with Miss Polly, frogs and music in between. Making, sticking and baking everything from bubble painting to teddy cake pops to noise makers and dancing ribbons.

Pop in for a coffee and a biscuit. Only £1. per adult and 75p per child. See the programme on the Radyr & Morganstown Community website.

**Contact: Clare Rayner 07551991773 or [clare@raynerzoo.com](mailto:clare@raynerzoo.com)**

**WALKIES FOR HOPE**

**Sunday, October 7th, 2012**  
Start 10am

Dogs and their two legged partners are invited to join us for a relaxed four mile sponsored 'walkies' through beautiful Bute Park in aid of George Thomas Hospice Care

**The Temple of Peace,  
King Edward VII Avenue,  
Cardiff CF10 3AP  
Contact: Sarah Harris  
T: 02920 524150 E: [sarah.harris@gthc.org.uk](mailto:sarah.harris@gthc.org.uk)**

Charity Number 1022311

Articles in recent editions of the Radyr Chain have recorded some of the great developments and achievements of Radyr Cricket Club over the past few months and how the club is going from strength to strength. This has not always been the case for exactly forty years ago, almost to the day, the club almost ceased to exist.

On the morning of September 5th 1972 the then captain of the club, John Eddy, telephoned Keith Terry, the skipper of the Overseas XI, to inform him that Radyr Cricket Club would be unable to fulfil the fixture that afternoon at Radyr as they were unable to raise a team. Indeed he went on to say that unless there was a significant influx of new players then the club would be likely to fold. As the Overseas XI was a nomadic team without a ground but with plenty of players and Radyr CC was a team with a ground but with a shortage of players, the prospect of an amalgamation of the two was discussed.

As a result of this conversation each of the clubs convened extraordinary general meetings of their members and the amalgamation was duly agreed and the future of Radyr Cricket Club was secured.

The newly formed club was to face many challenges in its first season. The most significant of these occurred when the club went on tour to Pagenham in Devon in June 1973. They returned to find that the pavilion had burned down and all that was left was a smouldering pile of ashes. Undaunted the club fulfilled all of its fixtures using touring caravans as changing rooms and set about a range of fundraising ventures to pay for a new clubhouse which was opened on 5th March 1974. All that is left of the old pavilion is a charred piece of wood mounted and on display on the wall in the current clubhouse

Radyr Cricket Club now fields four senior league teams each Saturday



*Tony being presented with his 'Behind the Scenes' award*

and has junior sides for under seven, nine, eleven, thirteen and fifteen year olds. Fifteen of the boys and seven of the girls represent county teams at a variety of age groups. Four of these girls are currently in the Welsh team. This youth section continues to go from strength to strength and is the lifeblood of the club and a significant factor in the future of the club and its on-going success.

Earlier this month, Tony Butlin, a vice-president of the club, its head grounds man and a coach to a variety of youth age groups was the winner of the 'Behind the Scenes' award from the Cricket Board of Wales for all of his endeavours in promoting and supporting the development of cricket. Tony, along with all of the regional finalists from all over the country, is going to Lords Cricket Ground on the 22nd October for a presentation lunch, when the national winner will be decided. Our best wishes go with Tony and we will all keep our fingers crossed for his further success at this prestigious event.



*Two members of the 1972 Radyr Cricket Club Team. Colin Jones(left) past Chairman and now Life Vice-president and Robert King (right) past secretary and now club Patron*

## ROTARY IN RADYR

Over the last few months we have had a packed programme. In mid-July we were very fortunate to be visited by District Governor Bob Lewis of Porthcawl Rotary Club. He spoke to us very enthusiastically about the year ahead and its theme of **"Peace Through Service"** and talked of the importance of increasing the profile of rotary.



August began with a fascinating talk from Dr. Ralph Vaughan about the introduction of anaesthesia and the advances that have occurred in the 180 years since. Also in August we had a talk from Rotarian Mansel Thomas on the land speed record from the first record set in 1898 to the latest in 1997.

At the beginning of September we had a visit from Paul Godding, a former maths teacher who now devises board games and puzzles to help improve numeracy in children. As well as holding workshops in schools Paul has a puzzle at Techniquet that has proved very popular. He also has his own website [www.7puzzleblog.com](http://www.7puzzleblog.com) which posts a daily maths puzzle. During an enjoyable evening he challenged us to a number of games which brought out the competitive side in some members!

We were also very lucky to have Rebecca Parke from Macmillan Cancer Care come to talk to us in September. She highlighted to us how important Macmillan is to those with a cancer diagnosis as they support patients throughout their whole journey. They provide essential support in ways that are often neglected such as financial and benefits advice and dietary advice. Macmillan is one of the charities that

President Stephen has chosen to support this year and some of our members have helped out at collections held over the last couple of months.

**We are now on twitter! You can follow us on @CardiffWestRota.**

**Upcoming meetings –**

Tuesday, 2nd October  
**"The Jubilee Sailing Trust"**

Tuesday, 9th October  
Dr. Andrew Richardson  
**"The History of Cardiff Castle"**

Tuesday, 23rd October  
Glyn Evans  
**"The Work of The Health & Safety Executive"**

Tuesday, 6th November  
Philip Pinder  
**"The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds"**

**In November, we will be holding a quiz to raise money for charity so here's a quick teaser.**

**What do the following test abbreviations stand for?**

- |         |         |
|---------|---------|
| 1. LOL  | 6. TTYL |
| 2. ROFL | 7. FE   |
| 3. BRB  | 8. BTW  |
| 4. AFK  | 9. BYOB |
| 5. GTG  | 10. IRL |

Details are on our website [www.cardiffwestrotaryclub.wordpress.com](http://www.cardiffwestrotaryclub.wordpress.com) as are our other club evenings or you can email [sec.cardiffwestrotary@gmail.com](mailto:sec.cardiffwestrotary@gmail.com) for further details.

Answers – 1. Laugh out loud. 2. Rolling on floor laughing. 3. Be right back. 4. Away from keyboard. 5. Got to go. 6. Talk to you later. 7. Fair enough. 8. By the way. 9. Bring your own beer. 10. In real life.

### **New fun mums and toddler class coming to Radyr in October!**

Occupational Therapist and founder of Discotots, Zoe Jefferies, has developed a unique music and movement programme for preschoolers, with an upbeat and contemporary twist! Discotots offers fun learning through funky action songs, dancing, musical games and exciting props! It's also a chance to have a boogie in a friendly, relaxed environment with disco lights and bubbles, to feel good tracks that will even have the nans bopping! Zoe says 'After having my son, I wanted to create a class or an activity that would be just as much fun for the mums(and dads, and grandparents!), as it is for the tots.

What better way to start a bleak autumn morning, than in a fun-filled disco session?! Funky Discotots birthday parties also available (up to 10yrs).



For more details and to book a **free taster session**, contact: Zoe Jefferies  
**T: 029 20 706502 M: 07970 626318**  
**W: [www.discotots.com](http://www.discotots.com) E: [info@discotots](mailto:info@discotots)**

**A DAY OUT...**

# **Dinefwr Park**

**There are few places in Wales where the marriage of cultural, historical and environmental values has been so fulfilled as at Dinefwr Park and Castle by Llandeilo in Carmarthenshire.**

Dinefwr Park covers over 338 hectares (811 acres) and consists of rolling ancient grassland and wood-pasture, wetlands and woodlands. Parts of the park are a remnant of medieval woodland featuring many ancient trees at least 400 years old. And at its core, the wood pasture is dominated by nearly 300 huge oak trees, including some of the oldest and largest trees in the UK – one is thought to be over 700 years old!

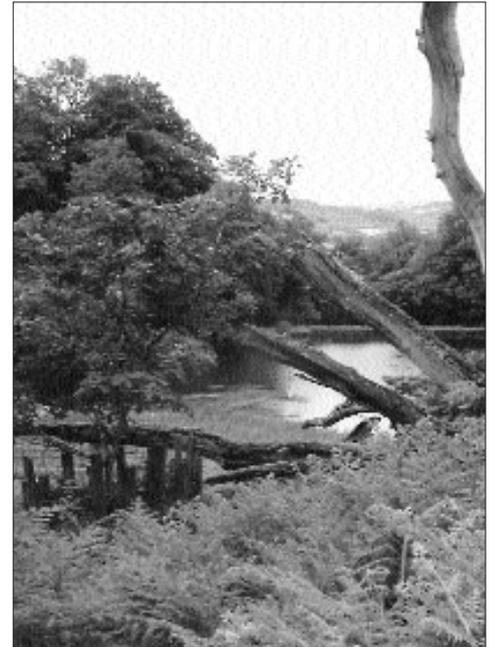
The park was in the ownership of the Rice/Rhys family for approximately 500 years until the 1970s. Part was sold for farming and significant pieces of woodland were acquired by The Wildlife Trust South and West Wales. The deer park remained in the ownership of Lord Dynevor until 1987 when it was bought by the National Trust (NT) which went on to acquire the outer park and wet meadows. The house came into the Trust ownership in 1990, followed by the East Drive. Home Farm was acquired in 2005 and Inner Courtyard in 2006.

There are many sides to the park. Dinefwr is also of exceptional significance for its archaeology, designed landscape and buildings. The present day landscape was set out by George Rice and his wife Cecil with some assistance from Lancelot 'Capability' Brown in the second half of the eighteenth century. It has been widely admired ever since with impressions recorded by means of painting, sketching and the written word – it even appeared on a dinner plate, part of a service commissioned by Catherine the Great. Today, it is

widely acknowledged to be one of the finest designed landscapes in the UK. At the centre of this is Newton House. Originally constructed in the seventeenth century to a simple but elegant design, it was encased in limestone to a Venetian-gothic design in the 1850s. Silhouetted against the southern sky are the ruins of Dinefwr Castle, once occupied by the Lord Rhys, one of the most influential of the Welsh princes.

Dinefwr's ancient trees, important in their own right, are host to a remarkable assemblage of wood decay invertebrates including 400 saproxylic (dead wood) beetle species, 26 of which are Nationally Scarce. More than 160 species of lichen have been recorded in the park, several of which indicate a long history of ecological continuity and one, *Collema Fragrans* is a Red Data Book species.

Archaeological survey has revealed evidence of earlier landscapes, including the defensive structures of an Iron Age fort and most remarkable of all, two overlapping Roman forts. Faint earthworks mark the outlines of tracks and field boundaries that pre-date the construction of the deer park in the middle of the seventeenth century.



However, despite extensive investigation, nothing has been found of the two towns, Dinefwr and Newton, which documentary accounts describe. The park boundaries include two Schedule Ancient Monuments and fourteen listed buildings. The site is a Registered Park and Garden (Grade I) and a Registered Landscape of Outstanding Historical Importance.

After exploring Dinefwr the town of Llandeilo has several cafes and hotels and interesting small shops to discover.

The Church of St. Teilo has a fascinating exhibition of the St. Teilo Gospel, the original of which are kept at Lichfield Cathedral.

Have a good day out. Dinefwr is a National Trust property.

