

Successful Summer Stories!



We have reached the end of an amazing summer, with the most successful reading challenge ever. We had 486 children enrol on the Creepy House challenge and 49 on the Book Crawl challenge for under4s. While our adult challenge had just a small enrolment, those who took part found some interesting and enjoyable books. The exact numbers completing the challenge are still being sorted out, but we will probably have a completion rate of 80%. So we need to say a big thank you to all those who took part and congratulations to all our finishers. As you can

imagine it is going to take some time to sort out all the medals and certificates but we will be going to all local primary schools to present them some time in October. If you missed out on joining the reading challenge or failed to complete it, don't worry, there will be another one next year. In the meantime, you can continue to enjoy the wonderful new books that are arriving every week in the library.

The summer holidays included several craft and story sessions on the Creepy House theme. These were well attended and the children showed great imagination with their crafts.

In October we will be running a free i-pad course from 10.30-12.30. The course will last eight weeks and will start on Friday, 4th October. Places are very limited so you do need to book. You will need to bring your own i-pad. Further details are available from the library.

Now the autumn term has started Jen is, once again, running the rhyme and story sessions on Tuesdays (10.15 and 3.15). Each session consists of story, songs and rhymes and a craft activity. All babies, toddlers and under 5s are welcome. Kate, who has brought such enthusiasm to setting up and running our Welsh language rhyme and story session, Amser Stori, is moving on to a new job. We will certainly miss her and wish her all the best. Until her replacement is in post we are hoping to continue the rhymes and songs with a Welsh learner. Your support and understanding during the interim period is appreciated.

Our monthly book group have invited Radyr author, Romy Wood, to come to our October meeting and talk about her first novel, Bamboo Grove and to introduce us to her second novel, Word on the Street, which is launched on 3rd October. If you would like to attend either or both of these events please get in touch. You will be most welcome.

Our Saturday morning bookings for the community area are proving popular. Many groups like to use the community area to promote their group and possibly increase membership. One reader, who

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Sian Winstanley



Left to right: Daisy Brown, Sian Winstanley, Caroline Kennedy, Rebecca van den Berg (MWO Albert Herring) © David Pugh.

Many of us have watched with interest the career of Radyr soprano Sian Winstanley blossom. I am happy to inform them that Sian will be singing in a fully staged opera, with orchestra, within easy reach of Radyr.

2013 has been an important year for musical celebrations, the bi-centenaries of Wagner and Verdi and the centenary of Benjamin Britten. On the whole, Wagner has come off best with a major tribute in the Proms and several major productions of his operas, including one by the WNO.

Verdi and Britten have come off second best and the WNO is doing fewer Verdi operas than usual and none by Benjamin Britten, even though they have excellent productions of Peter Grimes and Billy Budd in their repertoire.

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RADYR CHAIN

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown

Number 208



October 2013

Miskin Scout Camp 2013



I want to tell you about the 1st Radyr Scout Camp at Miskin Mill. We left on Friday, 12th July. When Nathan, April and I got to Miskin everybody was sitting around some gas lamps with cards stuck to their heads for no apparent reason. The first night everybody slept in the scout cottage. Sam sang a random bed song to me and Nathan which made us laugh a lot whenever we heard it. I put up my camp bed and got to sleep at around 12 o'clock.

On Saturday we had a cooked breakfast of sausage, bacon, egg and beans and cereal. It was delicious. We made our lunches and then planned where we were to go. During the first part Rhys got us lost twice and then we were off!

After walking for some time we got to the first activity with Graham, one of the leaders. We had to get across some poisoned contaminated ground with only two planks and three crates. We did very well, except that I lost a limb because I fell to the ground. *cont. on page 5*

Concert in Parc Radur

Sunday 19th May @ Parc Radur

A huge thank you to everyone that came along to spend a very sunny Sunday down at Parc Radur with us. All of the performers from Radyr Comprehensive - were brilliant. Year 13 pupil Matt Brettle was our host for the day who did an excellent job.

We were entertained all afternoon by Bryn Deri Samba Band, Radyr Rockers and Rocks from Radyr Primary School, from Radyr Comp Unspoken, Bethan & Caragh and Year 13 band Edition and special guest Scot Hawtin.

Radyr Sk8 Off 2013, Sunday 19th May @ Radyr Skate Park

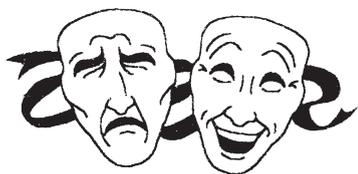
A massive thank you to all of the young people that turned up to this year's Sk8 Off! We had a great turn out of over 40 young people from right across Cardiff participating in 3 really good

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Radyr Youth Club News 2013



COMING EVENTS



N.B. Details of all coming events can be found in the Diary section of the website www.Radyr.org.uk

October

- 3 Owain Glyndwr. Radyr and Morganstown History Society. Dr John Gwynfor Jones, a leading authority on Welsh history will be giving a talk on this fascinating character. Old Church Rooms. All are welcome 7.25pm
- 9 Railway Correspondence & Travel Society Railtours in the North East. John Spencer Gilks has authored 7 railway books and will offer us an evening of photographs of the last days of steam in Eastern England. Old Church Rooms 7.00pm
- 9 Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club "A YEAR AT ABERGLASNEY". An illustrated talk by Joseph Atkin (Head Gardener, Aberglasney). New School Rooms, Christ Church, Heol Isaf. Meetings open to all, talk followed by refreshments and chat! Contact Richard Gregory tel: 02920842084 for more information. 7.30pm
- 10 Tenovus Coffee Morning at Radyr Golf Club. Sale of cards, cakes, books, bags, scarves etc Supported by Ener chi. Raffle. All welcome. For tickets £2 please ring 20843108 or 20842096 10.30am
- 14 Radyr & Morganstown WI Meeting - 'Spinning and Weaving' taster by Ms Heather Becket. Old Church Rooms. 7.30pm
- 15 Imaging 2000 Photographic Club. Leigh Woolford, a member of Welsh Federation of Photographers is giving a talk on Iceland supported by a digital image show. All welcome at the Old Church Rooms, Weir Room. 7.30pm
- 17 R&MCC Main monthly meeting of R&MCC. Chain Room, Old Church Rooms, Park Road 7.30pm
- 19 Cardiff West Rotary Club Autumn Barn Dance. Featuring the Folk Group Calennig with a caller, who will guide you through the dances. A light supper will be provided and there will be a bar to quench your thirst. Join us at the New Schoolrooms, Christ Church for a great night. Tickets £12 Liz Davies Tel: 20842717 7.30pm

November

- 2 Charities Fair & Coffee Morning at Radyr methodist Church, entrance £1.50 (to include refreshments). Come and buy your charity Christmas cards, Scout Stamps, Traidcraft gifts and more. 10 - 12am
- 4 Special Website Meeting. How can local organisations make best use of the R&M Website to help them be successful? Run by the R&M Association, this free hands-on workshop in the Old Church Rooms is designed to show how the system works and brings benefits to all. For details, contact Nick

Hawkins, 2084 2561 or rma@radyr.org.uk.

- 7 THE LIGHTER SIDE OF WILLS. Radyr and Morganstown History Society. Mr. Phil Davies will give a light hearted talk from his experience of wills. Old Church Rooms. All are welcome. 7.25pm
- 11 Radyr & Morganstown WI Meeting - talk 'Guide Dogs for the Blind' by Yves and Ben Strawson. Old Church Rooms. 7.30pm
- 13 Railway Correspondence & Travel Society South East Wales railway Scene - 1960s to the Present Day. Old Church Rooms 7.30pm
- 13 Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club, "GOOD COMPANIONS". An illustrated talk by Aisling Judge. New School Rooms, Christ Church, Heol Isaf. Meetings open to all, talk followed by refreshments and chat! Contact Richard Gregory tel : 02920842084 for more information. 7.30pm
- 18 R&M ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING To be held in the Old Church Rooms. All residents of Radyr & Morganstown are eligible to be members of the Association and are invited to attend. The speaker will be Martin Chamberlain who will talk about Forest Farm. 7.30pm
- 21 NSPCC Christmas coffee morning to be held at Radyr Golf Club - cakes, tombola, jewellery, handbags, scarves, raffle, Christmas cards. 10.30am
- 21 R&MCC Main monthly meeting of R&MCC. Chain Room, Old Church Rooms, Park Road 7.30pm
- 21-23 RDS present 'An Inspector Calls' by J. B. Priestley, a classic of twentieth century theatre, will be presented by RDS at Morganstown Village Hall at 7-30 pm. Tickets available from Vintage Gem, Station Road Radyr, Sheila Phillips (Tel: 2084 2585) & Allan Cook (Tel: 2084 3176). Adults £8. Concs. £7. Students £5. 7.30pm

Charities Fair & Coffee Morning

at

Radyr methodist Church
Saturday

2nd November 2013
10-12 a.m.

Entrance £1.50
(to include refreshments)

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

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 2013

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 our scout post stamps from the local area outlets:

**Pugh's Garden Centre,
Morganstown**

**P'Zazz Hair Designers, Castle Court,
Caer Graig**

**Solo Hair & Beauty, 1a Springfield
Gardens, Morganstown**

Radyr Library, Park Road

Vintage Gem, Station 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 2013 will be delivered to your door at the beginning of November. Stamps 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 2013 leaflet.

The last date for posting this year is
Monday, 2nd December, 2013.

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 POST 2013

FOR SALE

Phil & Ted vibe Buggy

Black and red with added double kit

Also included:

Phil & Ted cocoon black

Phil & Ted peanut black and red carry cot

Phil & Ted Maxi Cosi car seat

Adaptors for vibe

Buggy in good clean condition, well looked after
COST £230

Please contact

07890 188569 for further details

Miskin Scout Camp 2013

...from front cover

After many miles of hard, strenuous walking we saw the other group again, had lunch with them and talked with them. Following lunch we set off to get to the second and final activity. It was first aid with Andrew and Steve (the other leaders). They pretended to have gigantic cuts on their leg and head. It looked like it hurt quite a bit. Then we got back to the walking and Rhys found a frog which I called Bernie. He died.

When we got back to the camp we went down by the river where Mang had put up an amazing rope river crossing. It was amazing and fun!!! Everybody had a go on it, even the leaders. After that we went to get all the supplies that we needed to make our dinner. Our group was in charge of making the pasta bolognaise and the garlic bread which we cooked on the fires. The other group was in charge of making the dessert, which was heated up bananas with melted mars bars and crushed up Oreo. It was all delicious.

Afterwards we put up our bivouacs. I shared a bivouac with Ben. It was great fun in the bivouac because it was hard to find all our stuff that disappeared down to the bottom. For the rest of the evening we played Hide 'n' Seek. Tom, Ieuan and I all hid by the train track fence. Dan the leader found us. Eventually we got to sleep after talking about a lot of unimportant things.

The next day we had a cooked breakfast again. We went out and made our campfire from last night's ashes to surprise the leaders. Then we played a wide game called Mob Tag; I got mobbed by Steve. After that we did water rockets and got drenched. And then we did some rope work where we had to set a candle alight with some wood, some lashings and a match.

Unfortunately we eventually had to go home and have a rest from our fun weekend. It was one of the best camps I have ever been on. Thanks to all the leaders for putting in so much effort and for making it so much fun.

Matthew Dubberley
[Age 11]

Sian Winstanley

...from back cover

It has been left to the ever-enterprising Mid-Wales Opera to rectify the omission. This Newtown based professional company will be touring Benjamin Britten's delightful comic opera *Albert Herring* from Mansfield to Margate and from St. Asaph to Aberdare.

Called "the funniest opera written in the 20th century" it is set in the fictional town of Loxford in Benjamin Britten's beloved Suffolk. It is early in the 20th century and preparations are in hand for the May Festival. The committee, under the watchful eye of local grandee Lady Billows, have a major problem, they cannot find a young lady fit to be Queen of the May. Let's just say "country virgins, if there be such". In their desperation they set upon Albert Herring, the greengrocer's lad and decide upon a May King. This is the basis for Britten's delightful comedy.

Albert Herring is an opera particularly suited to Mid-Wales Opera, having a large cast of recognisable small town characters and it is scored for a small orchestra. It will be conducted by the company's Musical Director, the world famous Nicholas Cleobury.

Albert Herring can be seen at the Coliseum, Aberdare at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 6th November. You'll probably get to Aberdare quicker than you would to the Millennium Centre in the Bay. It has the advantage of a large car park alongside and with tickets at £12. or £7. concessions, it is a snip. Tickets can be obtained from the Box Office [0800 147 111] between 11am and 4.45pm or online. *See you there.*

NEWS FROM RADYR & MORGANSTOWN WI

On Tuesday, 6th August, our summer trip took place. The destination was Tyntesfield, a National Trust property. Everyone agreed it was a well organised and enjoyable day. WI then "broke up" for the holidays but after our beautiful summer, the autumn term is here again and as the schools begin a new academic year, WI resumes its activities.

Our September meeting has already taken place, when our guest speaker was Susan Saliman. Her performing name is Sofeena, she is from Newport, married to an Egyptian, has a house in Cairo and is an exponent of the ancient

tribal rituals of belly dancing. Her talk and demonstration explained the history and development of the dance from its roots and its importance in women's health and social well being.

The meeting was well attended. Everyone seemed pleased to see one another after the break and once again, there were many new faces, no doubt tempted by the comprehensive programme of "extras" which began on Saturday, 7th September with a "Showcase" event in Radyr Library. Our Institute uses the library community space for two genealogy groups and our internet 1 to 1 learners class. These groups will be joined by a new midweek handicraft group "The Bus Bees" for quilting, knitting etc. The "Library Girls" are always helpful and welcoming and the WI appreciates the partnership.

Continuing our links with the community, some of our members will be taking part in litter picking around the Mound Field and the Taff Trail on Friday, 20th September between 10am and 12noon.

Social events for September and October include Lunch Club at Mulberry Street Restaurant, Llandaff and Lunch Club at "The Clink" at Cardiff Prison on Wednesday, 16th October. Our Birthday Party/Link Group Meeting will take place in Morganstown Village Hall on 23rd October. This will celebrate our 56th birthday and will, appropriately, be a 50's themed evening with "vintage" costumes and hopefully, some in-house entertainment comprising 50's songs.

Our Walking Groups, Book Groups and Saturday Monthly Craft Group have autumn programmes up and running and at federation level, walks in October and November in Bute Park, Cosmotron and Penarth and Dare Valley Country Park will take place.

As an Institute we try to offer something for everyone. Should you wish to join us, visit our website for more information or contact our President, Pat Williams on 2084 3843 or just come along to one of our meetings as a visitor at the Old Church Rooms on the second Monday of the month at 7.30pm. Our next meeting will be on Monday, 14th October which will be a spinning and weaving "taster session" run by Ms. Heather Beckett.

LJH

Radyr Youth Club News Summer 2013

...from front cover

competitions. Congratulations to James Frost from St Mellons for winning the scooter comp, Alex Evans from Rhydyfelin for coming first in the under 16's BMX comp and Will Beynon from Aberdare for first place in the over 16 category. Each of the guys received £20 worth of Route One vouchers and a certificate. Check out the pics:

D of E Silver Practice Expedition

Our Silver participants braved the cold Easter weather to complete their practice expedition in the Gower between the 4th-6th April. The qualifying expedition will take place 7th-9th September in St Davids. Remember to keep updating your E D of E account with your evidence and progress.



D of E Bronze Practice Expeditions

Our Bronze participants also braved some very wintry April showers to complete their practice expeditions in the Brecon Beacons. Everyone worked well in their teams despite the horrible weather conditions spoiling our last day. Hopefully the sun will be shining on your qualifying expeditions that take place at the beginning of July.

Gold D of E

Our gold participants will be participating in their Practice Expedition from Monday 22nd – Thursday 25th July in the Brecon Beacons good luck to all of those Year 12 & 13 pupils participating.

Youth Forum News

By Lowri, Sophie, Holly, Melissa, Izzy, Eimer and Hannah - Year 9

Red Oak Creek

On Sunday 12th May Radyr Youth Forum went on an activity day to Red Oak Creek (Canada Lakes), a lodge set in the woods.

We started off the morning with some fun team building games that included sheep and shepherds, pipes and balls and making a bridge from sticks. For lunch Red Oak Creek kindly provided us with a BBQ, we all ate loads! After lunch the other Forums, Waterhall and Whitchurch and Radyr Volunteers talked about their Passport to Participation Social Action projects. Ours was about saving the tuck shop. The other



Forums had done things like a Band Night and running a Junior Youth Club. Some of the people from the Neighbourhood Management Team talked about what it was like to be on the Council. They gave everyone a task where we had to work together to solve problems that a local council might encounter.

Social Action Project (P2P)

Recently in Youth Forum we have been involved with the Passport to Participation (P2P) project. This involved us having to create a Social Action Project. For our project we decided to base it on the tuck shop in the Youth Club because in September a new law will come in and Schools will not be allowed to sell unhealthy items on the premises and as our Youth Club is on a School site, our tuck shop will have to sell healthier food. We knew that a lot of the pupils in our school would not like this so we took matters into our own hands and wanted to change this. We conducted surveys to ask people what they thought about the tuck shop closing. We even had a trial day where we swapped all of the unhealthy food for healthy food and a lot of people's reactions were very interesting. Most people said they preferred the unhealthy foods and would not come into Youth Club at lunch time if we sold healthy foods. We created a presentation to show to our teachers on our findings and what we would like to see happen. This would be for the tuck shop and lunch club to remain open possibly run by Welsh Bacc volunteers, just lunch club staying open but with no tuck shop or both close altogether. This is still ongoing. Watch this space!

Coming Soon

Year 11 Transitional Summer Programme

If you're not sure what you want to do in September and you haven't yet applied for sixth form, a college placement, an apprenticeship, a training course or full time employment; then you can come along to our project to help you decide your destination. It'll be held in Radyr and Waterhall Youth Clubs every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 1-3pm. We'll be on hand to offer you support on applying for courses, completing application forms, searching for jobs and attending mock interviews.

Fairwater & Pentrebane Community Day

Come and join us at Fairwater Skate park – Outside Fairwater Leisure Centre on Saturday 20th July for lots of fun and games.

SK8 Safari Tuesday 13th – Thursday 15th August 2013

This summer we are going to Stoke Plaza and Adrenaline Alley in Corby., staying at Dimmingsdale Youth Hostel in Stafford. So if you fancy bringing your bmx, skateboard or scooter and coming along to join us come and see Clare or Hevs at Youth Club to pick up a form – be quick as there are only 14 spaces.

And finally.....

It's the end of an Era



This summer we say goodbye to our much loved Lunch Club. We reluctantly have to close our lunch club that accommodates over 150 pupils per day. We also say the fondest of farewells to our beloved Heather Watson everyone's favourite Youth Worker that has been co-ordinating the Lunch Club, helping to deliver PSE and generally being there for 100's of pupils (and staff) for 13 and a half years. We wish her the best of luck in her new post at Rumney Youth Centre and hopes she comes back to visit us soon. Miss you Hevs xxx

Furniture Plea

Radyr Youth Club is in desperate need of new sofas so if you know of anyone replacing an old sofa that is still in good condition please ask them to give us a ring on 02920 843177.

What's on from September December?

Tuesday: 3.05-4.30pm – Radyr Youth Forum

6.15-8.45pm – Seniors (Year 10+)

Wednesday: 3.05-4.30pm – Pool Club
6.15-8.45pm – D of E

Thursday: 6.15-8.45pm – Young Achievers (Year 7 & 8)

Friday: 3.05-4.05pm – 5 aside Football
6.15-8.45pm – Seniors (Year 9)

For further information please contact Community Education Officer Clare Barnett on 02920 843177 or email her at cbarnett@cardiff.gov.uk

RADYR, MORGANSTOWN & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

How different from last year! After a slow start the gardens and vegetable plots have enjoyed the warmth and we have been rewarded with a lovely show of summer flowers and fruits. Other crops are showing a promise of autumn colour and a good harvest.

Garden Club members enjoyed a day out on Wednesday, 19th June at Cothay Manor and Gardens tucked away in the Somerset countryside near Wellington. Cothay is a small medieval manor, parts of which date back to the fourteenth century and although it has been added to over the centuries it remains unspoiled and retains many interesting features. The house is only open to organised groups and the tour provided by the daughter of the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Robb, gave a fascinating insight into the origins of the house, its various owners and its development through the ages.

After the morning tour and lunch in the tea room we were left to wander the gardens. The five acres of formal gardens were designed and laid out by Reginald Cooper who owned the house in the 1920s. He was a friend of both Harold Nicholson and Lawrence Johnson; the garden shows their influence and pre-dates Sissinghurst. A formal garden surrounds the house with lawn, lake, interesting planting, hidden courtyards and seating. However, the highlight is the 200 yard Yew walk with many garden rooms leading off, each with different planting. The remaining seven acres has many types of planting and provides a relaxing, colourful and in many places shady stroll down to the river Tone. There is so much to see and take in we all agreed that the garden would repay several visits.

On the Sunday immediately after the Cothay visit members helped out at Antonia Wigley's "Open Garden" in aid of Radyr Good Neighbours. We manned a plant stall selling plants largely grown by members and friends and managed to raise around £190. Many thanks to all those who provided plants, sold plants and bought plants.

Our summer programme concluded in July when twenty members and guests visited Cowbridge for an informal summer lunch followed by a conducted tour by Sue Duffield and other volunteers, of the Physic Garden. Despite the heat of the afternoon (or maybe the effect of a good lunch) the tour was enjoyed by all with the garden in full flower and knowledgeable guides to explain the groupings and historic medicinal use of plants.

Our 2013/14 winter programme started on Wednesday, 11th September with an illustrated talk by Sheena Crossley on "Capability Brown & Co". Sheena is an old

friend of the club having spoken to us on a number of occasions and as usual she gave an interesting, informative and yet amusing insight into the life and work of Capability Brown and his contemporaries.

Our programme continues in October and November with:

9th October

"A year at Aberglasney"

with Joseph Atkin, Aberglasney's head gardener, updating us on developments at Aberglasney and the work undertaken through the year.

13th November

"Good Companions"

with Aisling Judge who will talk about companion planting, the benefits and disadvantages.

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.

Visitors and New Members will be made very welcome. You don't have to know the Latin names of plants or have green fingers to come to a meeting; few of our members would claim to be experts. We just share an interest in gardens, plants and generally growing things. So come along – you will be very welcome.

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

Please see Village Notice Boards and Radyr website (www.radyr.org.uk) for programme details and any changes or contact any committee member or our Chairman, Richard Gregory (029 2084 2084)

Your local TBT (Total Body Toning) Class starts on 7th October at Radyr Comprehensive School!

This class focuses on strengthening and sculpting your whole body by using resistance bands, loop bands, and completing body weight exercises.

Two cardio sections within the class will also focus on stamina, and a pure core mat and stretch series to finish for a complete head to toe workout! Burn more calories in a 24hr period than traditional cardio classes.

TBT Workout is a class for all abilities with plenty of options available for all fitness levels.

A highly experienced instructor who has put together a method that works!

Mondays 19:45-20:45

Classes must be booked in advance to reserve equipment - and participants are to bring a mat

To book call: Jo 07791051770

Rotary in Radyr



In August, we had a visit from Rotarian Christine Thorpe from Brynmawr Rotary Club. Since 2005, Brynmawr RC has promoted a portable water filter called Lifestraws®. Lifestraws provide effective access to safe and clean water, removing bacteria and parasites simply by sucking the water up through the straw. Small and lightweight, containing no chemicals or electrical parts, they can be easily carried and help to prevent the common diarrhoeal diseases that can occur from drinking contaminated water (more information is available from Brynmawr RC's website www.lifestraws.org.uk).

We have held a number of social events recently, including a bowls evening in Pentyrch and a walk around Cardiff Bay (which served as practice for our sponsored walk in mid September). We also held a membership information evening at the end of July, with a number of guests who we hope may wish to join us in the future.

Upcoming events

1st October – Speaker Ray Cassar from Techniquet "The Stars and Planets at Night"

19th October – Fundraising barn dance at the New Schoolrooms

8th November – Fundraising race night

Further details are on our website www.cardiffwestrotaryclub.wordpress.com as are our club evenings or you can email sec.cardiffwestrotary@gmail.com for more information.

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Like us on Facebook



Letter to the Editor...



RADYR & WW1

Dear Editor,

My father, Mervyn Charles Mathews, served in the Royal Artillery during WW1 in both the middle east and later, in France. Born in 1888, the son of Edwin (a Railway Inspector) and Sara (nee Matthews) living at 12 Junction Terrace, he was a member of the Mathews (variously Matthews and Mathew) family long associated with the Radyr and Llandaff area.

Prior to entering the service, he was briefly a student teacher (his uncle John Blethyn Mathew having been a headmaster at Radyr School) and then a Clerk with what was then the Taff Vale Railway Company. In 1911 he lived in "Bryn Derwen" with his sister Olwen (b. 1891 d. 1926) and mother (his father having died in 1907). Returning from the war he found that his mother had died in 1916. He and his sister then lived at Pen-yr-heol with Jack and Blanche Mildon (Blanche being his mother's sister).

He returned to service with the Taff Vale Railway Company (later Great Western Railroad company, then British Rail), eventually serving as Yard Master at the Radyr yard and later at Cardiff Newtown Yard (then the largest rail yard in the UK). He married Bertha Farrow in 1934, I was born in 1938, he died on 20th December, 1957 (in an unbelievable coincidence, Blanche Mildon died that same day) and my mother died on 8 June, 1983. While married they lived at "Ambleside" 6 Windsor Crescent and then at "Yardley", Number 66 and "Patterdale" Number 85 Heol Isaf (this last house probably still having the remnants of a massive brick and concrete air raid shelter that my grandfather had built during WWII).

Somewhere along the way my father acquired what is believed to be the original 1836 coat of arms of the Taff Vale Railway Company which now proudly hangs in my home in Pauma Valley, California, where I am honoured to drive a Porsche Panamera bearing the personalised license plate "Radyr".

Andy Mathews

Summer at Danybryn

Danybryn took the opportunity of the fine weather and an end to its building works to hold a Harvest fete on Saturday, 24th August, raising around £1,000. Our thanks go to all the people who organised the fete and all the fun that the residents and visitors enjoyed on the day. Special thanks must go to Lloyds TSB who arranged a corporate event on the preceding Wednesday to tidy all our gardens, plant bulbs and shrubs to give us colour in the gardens at other time of the years and supplied forest bark to help us manage the gardens in the future.

For some months Danybryn residents have been using Eye-gaze equipment from Tobii technology which culminated in an exhibition on 3rd September in the home for friends and families of the digital artwork they have produced. This new technology was supported by the Big Lottery Fund Wales as part of an Assistive Technology project. How it works – sensors detect eye movement, tracking which area the user is looking at on screen. This movement can be used for a number of activities such as selecting symbols to communicate, or to create a picture. There are a range of applications and games. Their use can be tailored to each individual depending on their ability and what they would like to do. First there are simple sensory lights and shapes on screen as means of stimulation, then with more advanced use there are distance communication aids (e.g. emails and Skype). The art applications have been a big hit with a lot of the residents. Even without hand use people can now be creative again, an achievement which is something that they couldn't have anticipated before the arrival of the new technology.

A resident at Danybryn with MS says "I love using the revelation art programme to be able to create shapes and add colour using my eyes. I haven't done anything artistic in a long time! It opened up a whole new world to me, being creative and of course a means to independently email my daughters to keep in touch". Alex Jones, Activities/AT Assistant, has been running the project at



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Danybryn with the help of a dedicated number of volunteers and comments "It's great to see the independence and higher involvement in activity that the residents here have achieved. My job varies from one to one teaching on how to use the systems, to set up and working with volunteers who support twice weekly music sessions. Here residents can play instruments on screen using their eyes on top of their favourite tunes!"

The art show was a landmark of the success of this project and all the prints are now going back to the residents as a keepsake in their room, or as a gift for their families.

Derek Bateman,

Volunteer Co-ordinator, Danybryn
Leonard Cheshire Disability Telephone
029 2084 2237/0773 832 9525

E-mail: Derek.bateman@lcdisability.org

JOTTINGS FROM THE R&M ASSOCIATION

We said rather too much in the last edition of the Chain. We probably bored you and gave the Editors a headache to boot. We will try to be brief.

You will shortly be bombarded with details about the Cardiff Local Development Plan and undoubtedly it will feature elsewhere in this edition of the Chain. The subject featured heavily in our last General Meeting on 16th September, which was attended by Kevin Brennan, our local MP. Both he and Mark Drakeford, our AM, have been vocal in condemning the Council-based LDP Process which omits any real aspect of regional planning. It was made clear that the present LDP process is deeply flawed and might have dire consequences for NW Cardiff, but opposing it entirely would not be wise. It is better to seek to modify the proposals to take away the worse excesses. To hear the full story, come to the public meeting on 7th October being set up by the Community Council. We and the R&MCC are now planning the Christmas Lighting Ceremony which will take place on Friday, 6th December in and around Station Road (plus the three main tree sites). Come along and enjoy yourselves; we have been told Santa will be there again.

Did you notice the refurbished hanging baskets in Station Road? We did that and we will do even better next year. Enough said, except no thanks to Cardiff Council. WE mentioned a special website meeting in the last edition. That will take place on 4th November and will be a hands-on opportunity to see and talk about everything the website has to offer, including our plans to involve 'Social Media'. We will be inviting organisations but individuals are very welcome to attend. See the website for more information.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, 18th November when Martin Chamberlain will talk about Forest Farm. All are welcome, but if you would like to become a member of the Association (no charge) or would like to hear more about Association activities, contact the Secretary, Nick Hawkins (2084 2561 or rma@radyr.org.uk) or gave a look at our web pages on www.radyr.org.uk

Just a thought...

I have recently had six weeks off for the school holidays during which my parents have taken me to a variety of different places. One thing that stood out boldly was the community spirit both on my Italian part of the holiday and when visiting a cousin in Little Haven, a small 'doc martin' style fishing village that without imagination, may seem ... well, boring to your average teenager!

I noticed that in this small village most of the children seemed to move to the seafront to watch the sea splash against the wall and if the tide was high enough they would even jump off the rocks. The jumping did not appeal to me as the water was freezing (at least I thought so) but I noticed that everyone congregated to this deeper point just to enjoy the water and meet up in massive groups just for the social aspect of it.

It reminded me of a few days earlier in Italy, where they had a kids club that everyone met up at, although the activities were repetitive and no one had the courage for the mock disco. It was very enjoyable and I made a small group of friends.

But just a thought, could this be recreated in Radyr? I know that sports clubs exist and some groups arrange a get-together every month, but if only there was more opportunity for young people to meet up perhaps the tennis club bar could be used for more relaxed people to enjoy a drink and a good conversation.

RADYR & MORGANSTOWN HISTORY SOCIETY

The first two talks in the History Society's autumn programme are:

Thursday, 3rd October –
Leading Welsh historian Dr. John
Gwynfor Jones on Owain
Glyndwr

Thursday, 7th November –
Solicitor Mr. Phil Davies on The
Lighter Side of Wills

We meet in the Old Church
Rooms at 7.30pm.

If either talk is of interest, you are
very welcome to attend.

CHAIN COOKERY CORNER

Autumn Plum Crunch Cake

This is a delicious, seasonal cake/dessert. Either slice and serve as a cake or with a dollop of crème fraiche and extra poached plums as a dessert. Serves 8/10.

Cake:

200g (7oz) plums
140g (5oz) softened butter
140g (5oz) golden caster sugar
2 eggs + 1 yolk
140g (5oz) SR flour
1 flat tspn baking powder
Grated zest and juice 1 orange

Topping:

1 1/2 tbs lemon juice
200g (7oz) golden caster sugar
25g (1oz) rough sugar pieces crushed
(optional)

Heat oven 160/Gas 3

Line 1.2 litre/2 pint loaf tin

Halve and stone plums. Divide into two

Roughly chop half, cut rest into wedges

Beat eggs and yolk with pinch of salt
Cream butter and sugar until light
and fluffy

Add eggs little by little, beating after
each addition

Fold in sieved flour and baking
powder with orange zest and 2 tbs
juice

Fold in roughly chopped plums

Spoon into prepared tin and scatter
plum wedges on top

Bake 50 minutes until inserted
skewer comes out clean

Topping. Mix remaining orange juice
with lemon juice and caster sugar.
Leave cake to cool in tin for 10
minutes. Turn out right way up on
cooling tray. Spoon over topping and
sprinkle with sugar pieces. Leave
until sugar sets into rough icing.

A.M.P.

Autumn is upon us - and so too is a striking new season colour palette of rich reds, golds, ambers and purples. We've not only rounded up the best ways to incorporate these fiery shades into your own garden, but have also gathered our top tips for getting your garden in tip-top shape - year round!
Happy Gardening!

To Do List

With winter setting in, there's plenty to be doing on the gardening front...

As temperatures begin to drop, bring tender, exotic plants indoors a frost-free greenhouse or conservatory is ideal.



Deadhead late season bloomers (such as dahlias and salvias) to allow them to flower until the first frosts.



Plant Spring flowering bulbs

Maintain watering of new plants (with rainwater or grey

water if possible)

Lift and divide herbaceous perennials to rejuvenate (re-planting immediately)

Take cuttings from borderline-hardy perennials to replace any that get cut down by winter frosts

Cover leafy vegetable crops with bird-proof netting.

Collect and sow seeds from perennials and hardy annuals.

Plant fruit trees (a huge variety of apple, plum, cherry, pear, peach and nectarine trees are now available at the garden centre)

Protect fruit trees by tying grease bands to the trunks to stop female winter moths crawling up into the trees to wreak havoc.

Try This...

Remove old bedding plants that have finished flowering for the year and replant with spring bedding plants such as wall flowers or spring bulbs.

As the soil is still warm, now is an ideal time to lift and divide perennials. Use a fork to lift the rootball, discard the centre of the clump and replant the young new shoots into well-prepared soil.

With autumn conditions fast setting in, don't forget to put out additional feed for the birds. At this time of year there should be plenty of nuts and berries in the garden or nearby countryside to



collect, and don't forget to keep their water topped up too.

As the first frosts arrive, be sure to protect your plants by covering them with cloth, fleece, nets or polytunnels.

Autumn garlic, onions and shallots require a cold period to grow well — so now is the ideal time to get planting. Start by pulling the bulbs apart and plant the individual cloves with the tip pointing upwards and firm in well. Keep an eye out for birds however as they have a habit of pulling the bulbs out of the ground.

Home Grown

Our top vegetables to sow now...

Onions and shallots

Plant in an open, well-drained spot with added lime (they will not thrive on acid soils) and a good helping of organic matter.



Growing onions from sets is generally easier and will encourage the crop to mature earlier. As the sets grow, onions will form a larger bulb, while shallots will split to form a clump of bulbs.

It's important to note that autumn planting is not suitable for heavy soils that are prone to water-logging.

Garlic

Choose an open, sunny site with well-drained soil with added lime (just like onions, they will not thrive on acid soils) and a good helping of organic matter.

Once planted, garlic requires a chilly period of around 0°C to 10°C for good bulb development — making Autumn the ideal time to sow.

On heavier, wet soils, garlic is best started off in modules, overwintered in a cold frame then planted out in Spring.

Hardy Lettuces

Though traditionally associated with summer, there are plenty of hardy salad varieties — such as lamb's lettuce — (ask in-store about the most suitable) that can be grown throughout the autumn months for a continuous crop of leaves!

For a steady supply, sow every four weeks in well-drained soil in a sunny, sheltered spot — and if a sudden dip in temperature is predicted, we'd recommend protecting the crop with cloche or fleece.

Rocket

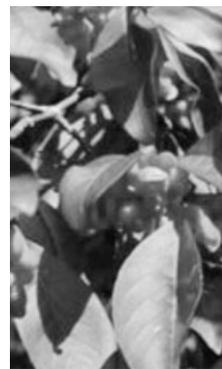
This easy-to-grow salad crop is perfect for planting now, and will carry on cropping into winter if stored in a greenhouse or protected by cloches or fleece.

Sow thinly in rich, fertile soil (preferably in a sunny site) for a peppery crop that will be ready in approximately 4 weeks!

Hot Hues!

Autumn brings with it a fiery feast of colour to gardens of all shapes and sizes so we've rounded up our top ways to incorporate this season's warm seasonal palette into your very own outdoor space...

If your garden benefits from bountiful space, the widely spreading *Parrotia persica* (which can reach 8M) offers a long-lasting firework of colours that include splashes of reds, oranges, purples and golds; *Prunus sargentii* (which can reach a height of 12M) develops a warm combination of yellow, peach and coral leaves, while the fast-growing red oak, *Quercus rubra*, boasts striking red leaves that will last all season long.



But it's not just the larger varieties of trees that boast a brilliant display of colour throughout autumn — and many of this season's most coveted colouring trees are available in a range of sizes that will suit all types of garden.

If space is limited, the highly adaptable *Euonymus europaeus* 'Red Cascade' is known for its bright red foliage and can be trained as a small tree or shrub; the bronze-tinged leaves of *Amelanchier xgrandiflora* 'Ballerina' gradually change to an attractive display of deep red and orange hues; while Japanese maples provide a beautiful display of reds and can even be housed in pots or containers.

Planting your chosen trees in sheltered spots will allow them to hold onto their colour, but keep in mind that soil type and rainfall will also effect the colour and intensity of the foliage — meaning this can vary each year.

A whole host of berries and fruits are also displayed during the autumn months. Incorporating these into your garden will not only look great, but will also provide a tasty treat for birds and other wildlife.

Avoid being over zealous when tidying your borders as many perennials are also known for holding their colour well into the autumn months. For example, resist dead heading alliums and leave seed heads uncut to receive a striking display throughout the autumn months and even into winter.



Pugh's Garden Village
Tynant Nurseries, Radyr,
Cardiff CF15 8LB
Tel. 029 2084 2017



www.pughsgardenvillage.com
Find Pugh's on Facebook & Twitter!

Bryn Deri Primary Celebrating and Building on Success



The summer term at Bryn Deri was filled with many exciting opportunities for all our staff and pupils in addition to a visit from Estyn. The final report was published on August 28th and recognised the many positive features that Bryn Deri has to offer. Indeed it demonstrated that Bryn Deri is a good school, in fact a very good school, receiving judgements of 'good' in all aspects of the Estyn Framework.

The school received overall judgements of: 'Good' in respect of current performance, 'Good' for the school's prospects for improvement

The school has much to celebrate and be proud of with the report describing the school as:

'a well ordered and caring community with clearly understood expectations, rules and procedures',

'a caring and fully inclusive community where all staff and pupils demonstrate mutual trust and respect taking good account of the diversity of pupils' backgrounds'

'The curriculum is broad and balanced with literacy and numeracy given high priority'

This has ensured that: **'overall performance of pupils is consistently high'** and **'levels of participation in learning are very high.'**



It was pleasing to see that the report recognised the grounds and external learning areas as

'strong features of the school' and that **'the outdoor learning facilities in the Foundation Phase being of a particularly high standard'**

This is an aspect of provision which is ensuring that our pupils achieve their full potential and **'make good progress from their starting points'**

As a school our vision is: **to develop happy, confident, caring children with a positive attitude to life and learning.** The report reflected positively on this demonstrating that our pupils display **'good levels of confidence and independence from a very early age'**



'pupils participation in a rich variety of extra curricular activities resulting in the development of good social and life skills.'

As Head teacher, I believe that the school should be placed within the very heart of the community as our children are the future of this community! Our children have benefitted positively from local community links through the local magistrates mock courts, bird box building, participation in the annual Radyr and Morganstown Festival and Remembrance Day Service to name but a few. Links with the library have developed from strength to strength with pupils visiting termly. Estyn commented positively on the **'opportunities that pupils have to take an active part with the local community.'**



Not only are our pupils provided with opportunities and skills to be active citizens in their local community but the report highlighted

'the stimulating opportunities to learn about other countries and cultures, for instance though a French visit exchange programme and links with schools in Texas and Kenya.'

We are particularly proud of our links with Ecole Elementaire Jean Rostand in St Philbert, a community which we have been visiting for 26 years!



'The Team' - 'The Bryn Deri Family' is given high priority at Bryn Deri. It is this **high quality team work** which the inspection team witnessed first hand and successful, effective partnerships with both parents and the local community that ensured such a successful outcome in our inspection. More importantly it is this same team spirit which is having a positive impact on our children's learning. It was noted that the **'Good relationship with parents is having a positive impact on pupils' learning'** and **'the school benefits from an active PTA which works energetically to raise valuable funds.'**

This year alone they have raised funds for additional resources such as tablet computers and creative playground equipment (The Peaches Tower).

'The governing body supports and challenges the school effectively, visiting the school regularly and make valuable contributions.'

Congratulations to you all; staff, governors, parents, pupils and indeed the whole community for the role you each played in ensuring such a positive inspection report. The full Estyn Inspection Report is published on the Estyn Website at www.estyn.gov.uk and the school website. Should you require a paper copy please ask in the school office.



We are now ready to move forward in new and innovative ways to ensure that Bryn Deri is not only a 'caring and inclusive school community where standards are consistently high' but a school which steps out of the ordinary and provides sector leading education for all our pupils. The journey has now begun.....

The school will be holding an open day on **19th November** to which you are all warmly welcomed to visit the school. Further details are available on our website
Are you a Welsh speaker?

Do you have a few spare hours to spend reading Welsh books with our children?

WHY DON'T YOU.....

Pick up a DBS form and come to school as part of a Welsh Guided Group Reading Scheme in Bryn Deri?

Radyr & Morganstown Community Council

Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan



As I hope you know, the Community Council pays very close attention to each stage of Cardiff Council's Local Development Plan (LDP). In September, some of the documents for the Deposit Plan, that is the final draft of the LDP, were released. More documents will be released in time for the public consultation which will run from October 15 to November 26. Cardiff will be running events to make it easier for you to study documents and submit comments. You can find copies of key documents, all our consultation submissions and statement on the LDP page of our website : <http://www.radyr.org.uk/7607>. We will be using the front page of the website to keep you up to date too.

We are working with our neighbouring community councils in Pentyrch and St Fagans, with the Llandaff Society and the RMA to pool our resources and expertise. We have taken legal advice on our submissions to date and were very pleased to know that we had prepared professional responses that represented the community well. We will be seeking a legal opinion on our Deposit Plan response before it is submitted to be sure that we have covered all

the essential points in the best way. Our overall view is that while we cannot challenge the housing numbers we will insist that infrastructure is put in to avoid traffic snarl ups.

You can be assured that R&MCC is doing everything it can to represent R&M's needs. By the time you read this we will have had a public meeting on October 7th at which local residents were able to give their response to this plan. If you have any questions, please contact me.

We are still interested in hearing from local people who would like to contribute in any way to the commemoration of the start of WWI. We recently heard from a man in California who has Radyr ancestors and has given us new information on his family history. People are working hard to research the servicemen named on the War Memorial and have found some names that seem to have been missed out. A recent car boot sale find is a silver Vesta case engraved 'Radyr Grateful 1914-1919' and the initials 'CG'. Some of you will be living in houses that were built then and some may even have relatives who were living in R&M a hundred years

ago. If you have any family memories or objects that relate to this important time in history do get in touch.

We commissioned a tree survey for all the land we own and manage and have now completed the first round of work in Radyr Woods, Pentwyn Park and Danybryn Woods.

Last year, we were able to arrange for daffodil bulbs donated by Cardiff Council to be planted in Parc Radur, Radyr Gardens and at the War Memorial. This year we have asked for bulbs to plant at the entrance to R&M from the Llantrisant Road. There is a wide grass verge on the NW corner which we think could take a big planting and look colourful in spring.

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

MOTORING

Are you aware, new penalties for careless driving came into force on 16th August, 2013?

Changes giving the police powers to issue fixed penalty notices for careless or inconsiderate driving have come into effect.

Now careless drivers who put other road users at risk by committing offences such as tailgating or poor lane discipline will face on-the-spot penalties.

Existing fixed penalty point levels for most motoring offences which include using a mobile phone at the wheel and not wearing a seat belt have been raised to £100.

The fixed penalty for careless driving is now £100. with three points on your licence. The most serious examples will continue to go to court, where you may face high penalties.

The police will also be able to offer educational training as an alternative to endorsements as they already do for speeding offences. You will still be able to appeal against any decision in court.

Although most motoring offences fines have changed penalty points remain the same for the offence. Fixed penalties notices for parking, waiting and obstruction offences remain unchanged.

- Non endorsable offences (no points on licence) have raised from £0. fixed penalty to £50.
- An endorsable offence (points on licence) and £60. non-endorsable have risen to £100.

- An endorsable £120. fixed penalty notice has risen to £200.

- The fixed penalty notice for driving without insurance has risen from £200. to £300.

Graduated fixed penalties, mainly for commercial and passenger carrying vehicles, including offences like driver's hours and overloading have also increased as above.

If you are closer than two seconds from the vehicle in front did you know you are tailgating?

We need this gap to allow for thinking and braking distance to ensure you don't hit the vehicle in front.

If it's raining increase gap to four seconds, snow and ice leave ten times the gap or don't drive.

If somebody is tailgating you, don't concentrate on behind, that's not going to make them drop back, concentrate in front. Don't react by hitting your brakes, putting your lights on, use hand gestures, this will only annoy the driver behind.

Don't speed up, that's what they want. Double the gap in front of your vehicle by just easing back of the accelerator slightly and now you are back in control. Brake earlier and smoother; if you need two seconds to think and react, so does the vehicle behind you! You are now doing the thinking and reactions for them.

If you are still feeling intimidated, pull over and allow the vehicle to pass.

How often do you see cars hogging the middle lane on a motorway or staying in the

outside lane of the A470 for several miles before deciding to move over? Not only is this inconsiderate driving, it can also be classed as dangerous as some people can get frustrated and start undertaking.

When you've overtaken a vehicle give them a two second gap then pull back into the left hand lane.

Plan ahead, make sure you are in the correct lane at the right time and most importantly for the correct reason.

So how can I become a safer driver?

If you drive for work, speak to your employer. They should be aware of their responsibilities under the Corporate Manslaughter and Health and Safety at Work Acts and how it affects work related journeys. Some companies may arrange for a fleet training company to come in, assess you driving and then give you some advanced driving training which would be beneficial for both parties.

If this is not possible or you don't drive for work, why not have an advanced driver trainer look at your driving. It may not be as expensive as you think. It's certainly cheaper than a £100. fine and don't forget how much your insurance will go up by. It'll also make you a better, safer driver and could save yourself up to 15% on your weekly fuel bill, so the cost of training could be recuperated in a few weeks.

For further information or advice please visit www.ldcradyr.com

or contact Mike Hodgetts

on 07980 433486

BBC TO LEAVE LLANDAFF!



Llandaff has been the home of BBC Wales Broadcasting House since 1966 when their prestigious headquarters building, designed by Sir Percy Thomas Partnership opened in the grounds of what was formerly Baynton House at Llantrisant Road. Subsequently the fortunes of BBC Wales have prospered and it has become a centre of excellence in the fields of both radio and television, with its splendid news and current affairs coverage and creative television drama recipients of many awards.

The success and related growth of Cardiff as a creative media centre has led to the removal of BBC Welsh Orchestra to the Millennium Centre, followed by its television drama, including 'Pobl y Cwm' transferring to new waterfront premises at Pwll Teiger, in Cardiff Bay. Hence it was only a matter of time before the replacement of its Llandaff Headquarters came onto the agenda. It has now been announced that BBC intends to leave Llandaff and is actively looking at four alternative sites in The Bay.

The Llandaff Headquarters will be offered for sale in the Autumn. It is most likely that this prospect will be eagerly seized by national house builders and or out of town retail developers anxious to capitalise on a windfall opportunity in desirable Llandaff. With the City of Cardiff Local Development Plan already threatening 12,500 new homes out along the Llantrisant Road, redevelopment of the BBC headquarters can only exacerbate the strain on local infrastructure and traffic congestion.

Councillor Kirsty Davies says: 'It's obviously a good thing for the BBC but I am not sure it is good news for the people of Llandaff! We've a huge traffic problem already and if housing and/or retail units are built on the site it is going to add to them. There's a particularly bottleneck with traffic coming across the river bridge from Llandaff North and then turning right into Llantrisant Road. I'd like to see a road built across the current BBC site to relieve the pressure'.

Successful Summer Stories!

...from back cover

found out about the WI during their promotion last year has now joined, become their social secretary and came back this year to tell others about their activities. If you would like to book the community area for a Saturday, please contact the library.

If you have not used the library in the last three years you may find your card is no longer valid. Inactive cards have recently been deleted from the system to keep it current. However, we can easily re-join readers. Just bring along one form if ID (driving licence, bill, bank card) and we will do the rest. If you haven't called in recently you will find many improvements, e-books, e-audio books, email reminders when your books are due back, great free electronic resources including free access to family history websites, book groups, activities for children and a really great selection of books. So if you don't have a current library card, why not pop in and find out all the advantages (and how much money you can save). Support your local library and see the benefits.

Finally we have an appeal for a missing and dearly loved soft toy rabbit. The rabbit is white and was brought to the library in mid August. Unfortunately, it was picked up in error by another child and taken home. If you find the rabbit, could you please return it to the library (it can be left in our drop box if we are closed) and we will reunite it with its owner. Thank you.

We look forward to seeing you in the library in the autumn.

Anne, Jen and Caroline
Radyr Library 0292078 0996
radyrlibrary@cardiff.gov.uk



Commemorating World War One

You may have heard that the Government in Westminster has decided to commemorate the centenary of First World War from its inception in July 1914. Cynics claim that it is because they don't expect to be in power to celebrate its ending.

A committee has been set up and is hard at work researching Radyr and Morganstown's part in the war. We have an exceptionally fine War Memorial for a community of our size and work is in hand to find out more about the names on it.

I have been working on the records of the Parish Council. Within a few weeks of war breaking out the Chairman reported that he had sent a telegram of condolence to the Earl of Plymouth and his family on the death of one of their sons.

Equally important is the declaration by Mr. D. Rupert Phillips, later Captain Phillips, son of the vicar and Chairman of the Council, that he would no longer be able to attend



Council meetings as he had enlisted. Happily, Captain Phillips returned from the war to lead the Council into the 1920's.

One of the suggestions under consideration is an exhibition of photographs and memorabilia relating to the war. One of the committee discovered a silver Vesta case given by the community to returning soldiers, in a car boot sale. The silver match case cost the princely sum of 10 shillings and 2 pence – about 51p in today's money.

If you have any photographs, memorabilia, or stories of the First World War we'd be delighted to see or hear them.

Please contact me on 2084 3176.
Allan Cook

Radyr Primary News – September 2013

New Library and ICT Suite

Staff and pupils have been amazed at the change to the computer area which has transformed from worn out desks and cloakrooms into a purpose built library and IT area. The builders have removed walls, rearranged pipework and installed new ceilings and lights in to the library and thanks to the work of the PTA and parents who through a comprehensive range of activities, raised £12,000 towards the project.

from this...



to this...



New Classrooms and Nursery

Over the summer, we have had four classrooms installed on site. These are being used to house our Year 5 pupils on a permanent basis and also to house one of our Year 4 classes whilst our new nursery is being built. We were also delighted to learn that our application for a nursery has been approved and we will begin to accept children into our nursery from Monday 23rd September. Summer Growth

Its not just the school buildings that have been growing over the summer break. We were delighted to return to school to find that our marrows and pumpkins have grown to record breaking size! The pumpkin pictured with Mr Coley, is the current leader in our house competition. Pupils at the school have watched the pumpkins develop from tiny seeds which were planted by the house captains in Spring.



Huge Thanks

To Mrs Jane Hughes who steps down as chair of our PTA this year. Mrs Hughes has co-ordinated the work of the PTA for many years and has been instrumental in raising money for various projects including the purchasing of interactive whiteboards, the development of a nature trail and conservation area and more recently the refurbishment of our new school library.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD [CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES]

Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest children's project, run by the Christian relief and development organisation, Samaritan's Purse.

Each year we have a collection of shoe boxes at Christ Church and this year our 'Shoe Box Sunday' is on 17th November.

Last year the congregations of Christ Church, St. John's, Radyr & Morganstown WI, National Housewives Register, Radyr Golf Club, RPMG and others, donated 171 beautifully covered shoe boxes to be distributed to children living around the world in extreme poverty. For many children, this is their only one present.

The aim is to fill a shoe box with items suitable for the age you have chosen. The gifts are in four groups:

Educational – pens, pencils notepad etc.

Toys – soft toy, knitted hand puppets, tennis ball, jigsaw etc.

Hygiene items – toothbrush and paste, soap, flannel etc.

Other – sweets (not chocs.), gloves, scarf, bangles etc.

The box is covered with bright Christmas paper and taken to the collection point.

If anyone is interested in joining in this project, please phone Anne-Marie Phillips [2084 2526] and I can arrange for you to have a leaflet with the details.

Collection points are Ty Gwyn, Kings Road (before 17th November)

Christ Church, Heol Isaf (any Sunday morning 10.30am to 12.30pm) up to 17th November.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Drop off your Shoeboxes @

Radyr Methodist Church

On Friday 12:00 – 13:00

Wednesday 18:00 – 19:00

[1st – 18th November]

Spare leaflets available if needed



"An Inspector Calls"

J.B.Priestley wrote "An Inspector Calls" after the second world war and like much of his work contains controversial, politically charged messages. His chief concerns involved social inequality in Britain and through this play, he encourages people to seize the opportunity the end of the war had given them to build a better, more caring society.

The characters we see as the curtain rises are not the same as those at the play's conclusion. The events of the evening change everyone. Inspector Goole is

instrumental in disturbing the harmony: a purposeful, mysterious character who forces the family to confront each other's social responsibility, snobbery and guilt. But *who is Inspector Goole and what is he investigating?*

Come and find out at 7:30pm. on Thursday 21st. November to Saturday 23rd. November at Morganstown Village Hall.

We promise you an exciting evening's entertainment with a number of new talented young actors as well as some of your old favourites.

**Tickets available from Vintage Gem,
Station Rd. Radyr. Sheila Phillips,
Tel:- 2084 2585.**

**Allan Cook, Tel :- 2084 3176. Adults
£8. Concessions :£7. Students £5.**

AN INTERVIEW WITH GARETH KNOWLES – BY ANGELA SIMON, RESIDENT OF RADYR



Family Fun Church has arrived at Radyr Methodist for the Autumn Season; and with it a new Children and Family Worker – Gareth Knowles. Gareth lives in St. Mellons with his wife Rachel and their two daughters, but he hasn't always been a Cardiff boy.

He was born in Stockport, Greater Manchester and is a keen Manchester City supporter. However, he left his place of birth to study art and theatre design at College; since qualifying he has worked all over the country. His first job was in Newcastle with Cornerstone Theatre Company, but a few years later moved to Bedfordshire working with the small theatre company "Punchline". It was here in Bedford that Gareth met his future wife, Rachel. They were married and came to reside in Cardiff where she had a job in the University Hospital of Wales. They have lived here for 24 years and consider this very much their home.

But what made Gareth interested in working with Children and their Families in the Methodist Church in Cardiff? He says that he has been involved in Children and Youth Projects within the church setting for the past thirteen years. He told me "Church has to be fun, exciting and relevant and needs to evolve for the new generation; Jesus isn't boring and when it comes to our faith, it's about showing people, not talking at them. This is what Family Fun Church is all about".

Family Fun Church starts on Sunday, 6th October, 4pm-5.15pm and the first Sunday of each month. All children welcome; please bring an adult!

I am researching the history of my property in Heol Isaf and enquire if any Radyr Chain reader has photographs that show any aspect of the Heol Isaf / Drysgol Road junction, say from 1895 to 1945, that I might view and, perhaps, copy. I have all the equipment to make copies, but would happily meet any expenses involved.
I can be contacted on
029 20 843004.
Many thanks, Alan Theobald

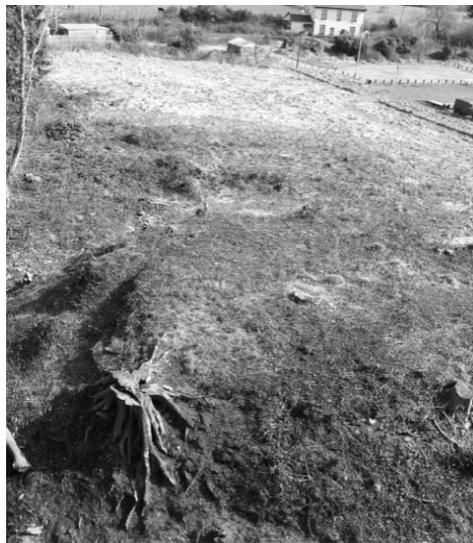
Morganstown Motte

The weather on Sunday September 15th couldn't have been more unkind for the Open Day at the Motte. The weathermen were predicting a major storm with high winds and the event had to be brought to a premature end. Our apologies to those who turned up to find the Motte closed.

It wasn't all doom and gloom however. The Woodland Rangers were on hand to show the two dozen or so people who turned up early what they had achieved so far. I can never remember seeing the Motte and Bailey looking so attractive. The grass on the Bailey had been cut and should have been raked to create a hay meadow. Rand Richard Cormock told us of the large number of wild flowers that had already re-generated in the area, including cowslips. We saw how quickly the undergrowth was re-generating on the Motte now that the tree cover had been felled and more vigorous species will have to be kept in check to allow the wild flowers to spread. With the spread of plant species helpful to birds and insects it will become another wildlife haven. He also told of future plans for the woodland in the area.

A Friends Group for Morganstown Motte is in the course of being set up. It's aims are:

1. To help the Woodland Rangers maintain this attractive site, there are only two of them to cover the whole of Cardiff.
2. To secure funding to protect and investigate further this important historical site.



On Monday November 18th at the Old Church Rooms at 7.30 pm the Chair of the Friends of Forest Farm will be speaking to the Community Association to tell us about this very successful group and what they do. Why not come along then.

In the meantime, if you are interested in becoming involved with Morganstown Motte in any capacity, please contact Allan Cook on 2084 3176. Hopefully we will have another open day at the Motte in the spring, when the weather is more clement and the cowslips are in flower.

