

Festival Literary Competition 2015

During this year's Festival, R&MCC sponsored its third literary competition for all primary and Y7 school-aged children living in R&M. The theme was *Carnival*, to match the Festival Parade, and the work was judged by Anna Bingham of Radyr Library, Non Morgan, Music Department, Radyr Comprehensive School, and Zoe Pearce. We thank the judges for giving their time and expertise so generously. The competition was a great success with entries from each school going forward for final judging. The judges were most impressed with the standard of work. R&MCC donated a handsome glass trophy to each school to award to their Year 6 winners and donated book tokens for each year group with gifts for the runners-up. The winning entries were put on display in Radyr Library where many local people could enjoy them and be proud of our children's achievements. We will run the competition every year from now.

Congratulations to everyone who took part!



William Smith, Bryn Deri Y6 winner



Sophie Thomas, Radyr Comprehensive Y7 winner



Jessica Fudge, Radyr Primary Y6 winner

Bryn Deri Primary School's Y6 trophy winner says, "I have always like writing poetry; but the one about carnival was definitely a favourite, I was inspired by visiting the Radyr Festival over the last few years to write my poem! When I won the competition, I felt exulted especially since I didn't know I was entered. It was lovely to receive a reward to make my parents and School proud." William Smith Y6

continued on page 7



Aelodau Cangen Bro Radur ~ photograph by Irfon Bennett

Merched y Wawr Bro Radur

Noson ddathlu oedd hi ar y 3ydd o Fehefin, dathlu pen-blwydd y gangen yn 25 oed. Daethom ynghyd yn brydlon a chael fod Irfon Bennett a'i offer camera yn aros amdanom. Tynnodd luniau o holl aelodau'r gangen, o'r swyddogion ers y dechrau ac o'r aelodau oedd yn perthyn rhwng 1989 a'r flwyddyn 1999. Yna gwahoddwyd Mary Wiliam i dorri'r gacen.

Croesawodd ein llywydd presennol, Carys Pugh Williams, bawb ohonom i'r dathliad a datgan ei llawenydd fod Nia Jones, cyn-lywydd y gangen, wedi gwella ac yn bresennol. Braint i bawb ohonom oedd cael cwmni ein Cyn-Lywydd Cenedlaethol, Gill Griffiths, a'n Llywydd Cenedlaethol presennol, Meryl

Davies. Wedi ein llongyfarch ar ein llwyddiant anogodd hi ni i fanteisio ar ein cyfle i groesawu'r merched o bob rhan o Gymru sy'n dod i'n plith yma yng Nghaerdydd a dymuno'n dda i'r gangen i'r dyfodol.

Eirlys Davies gymerodd yr awenau i ddiolch i sylfaenwyr y gangen ac i'r swyddogion a fu'n weithgar dros y blynyddoedd, yn sicrhau'r twf a'r brwdfrydedd.

Ein gwestai Mair Penri Jones a lywiodd weddill y cyfarfod yn acen hyfryd Maldwyn ac yn nhraddodiad Penllyn. Roedd wedi dewis ei thestun — "Mair Penri a'i phobl" ac ar ôl cyflwyno i ni ychydig o'i hatgofion cynnar am ei phlentyndod ym Mhenybont Fawr ac Ysgol Llanfyllin a chydnabod rhai

dylanwadau ar ei gyrfa aeth ati i'n diddanu trwy bortreadu "ei phobl", pob un yn gymeriad unigryw. Byddwn yn cofio'n hir am Bethan Mair walltog, am y wraig fferm radlon a'i gwregys "cordyn beindar" oedd yn arbenigo mewn sawl maes, am y gantores o fri nad oedd beirniaid yn ei gwerthfawrogi ac am sawl cymeriad lliwgar arall. Roedd llawer ohonom yn chwerthin hyd ddagrau.

Diolchodd Eirlys Eckley ar ein rhan am noson hwyliog a chawsom wledd o luniaeth wedi ei pharatoi gan y swyddogion a thamaid o'r gacen ddathlu. Addas iawn oedd cydnabod trylwyredd arferol ein hysgrifenyddes, Meri Griffiths, a drefnodd y noson.

Eirlys Roberts

RADYR CHAIN



Number 219

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown

August 2015

Radyr Primary School News July 2015



£50,000 Energy Makeover Prize!!!

Mrs Bale's Y5 class travelled to the St David's Shopping Centre on the 10th July to take part in the final of the British Gas Generation Green Competition. Children from across the school submitted designs for an eco-school and Mrs Bale's class

were selected from across Wales to compete in the final. Catrin and Isabelle's design was highly commended and they received Disney Vouchers for their individual efforts. For the final, the children had to perform a dance on Pavegen Tiles (tiles which record the amount of energy generated) in the shopping centre and were

judged against two criteria— the amount of energy produced and the overall dance performance. Radyr Primary competed against a school from North Wales and the dances were judged by Jordan and Perri from Diversity. In the words of the judges, Radyr Primary School 'smashed it!' and we have been awarded the first prize of a £50,000 energy makeover. In addition, Jordan and Perri have invited the classes from both schools to visit the Diversity Studios in Essex in the Autumn Term. This is a fantastic achievement, the school have been looking into ways to fund energy saving technology for the last few years and the children will now be involved with British Gas in the survey and resulting makeover. Very well done to Mrs Bale and her class and many thanks to Miss Davies and Mrs Prycemorris who supported the children along with a fabulous parent cheering section.

Welsh FA School of the Year Finalists!

Thanks to the votes of parents, the school have progressed to the finals of the Welsh FA Awards Evening for 'Football School of the Year' for promoting girls' football. We now progress from the South Wales finals to the National Finals which will be staged later this year.

This is a fabulous end to what has been a very successful year for girls' football at the school. In total, the girls have played 13 matches (of which there were 11 wins and 2 draws) and have taken part in 3 festivals, one hosted at our school during which our Year 4 team were awarded the 'Players' Cup' one held at Whitchurch and Ely where our girls took first place and the final festival at Ely where the football season finished with a well-deserved final victory (see picture). The team for the Ely Festival included



a pupil from Y2 who was also made honorary captain for the day by the older girls. At the tournament, the girls played 5 matches and won 5 with a total of 26 goals scored and only 1

conceded. Huge thanks to Mr Britton and Miss Davies for their guidance and to all of our parents for lift shares and cheering support.

more on 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

July

- 30 RCC U18s vs O45s. An afternoon not be missed as the younger members of the club take on the more senior members. Teas will be served and the bar will be open! 2.00pm
- 31 RCC vs The Royal Household, Windsor A prestigious day as we are joined by members of The Royal household, Windsor. Come and join us, cricket teas will be served. With a BBQ to end this special day. 1.00pm

September

- 9 RCTS - The Railway Society Pot Pourri over Six Decades 7.30pm
- 9 Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club "Not Just A Pretty Face - Practical Uses of Ornamental Plants" an illustrated talk by Willow West. New School Rooms, Christ Church, Heol Isaf. For more information see Village Notice Boards, Web site or contact Richard Gregory (02920842084) 7.30pm
- 14 R&M ASSOCIATION General Meeting Meeting of the RMA in the Old Church Rooms. Speakers are our own David Cargill and Brian Evans who will be talking about the role of the Magistrate. 7.30pm
- 14 Radyr & Morganstown WI Clarice Cliff - talk by Marjorie Page. OCR 7.30pm
- 17 Visit to Dyffryn Gardens The last of the R&M History Society summer visits to Dyffryn Gardens. No coach has been booked but transport will be arranged for those requiring it. To book or for more information contact Allan Cook on 2084 3176. 11.00am
- 17 R&MCC Monthly Meeting 7.30pm
- 19 Friends of Tenovus 30th Anniversary Event to be held at Radyr Golf Club. 'Film Show' featuring events over 30 years. Performance by Tenovus Choir Tickets £20 to include celebration meal. Please contact 20842096 or 20401872 6.45pm
- 30 Coffee Morning. George Thomas Hospice Care are holding a coffee morning at Radyr Golf Club at 10.30 am. There will be a cake and craft stall 10.30am



Main Contact:

Andrew Morris, Head of Fundraising

Company Name:

Velindre Fundraising

Telephone Number:

02920 316239 and 07837 620291

Email:

andrew.morris@velindrefundraising.com

Website:

www.velindrefundraising.com

Velindre Cancer Centre is the largest non - surgical cancer Hospital in Wales and has been providing support and care to cancer patients for nearly 60 years.

We are the premier provider of radiotherapy and other specialised anti-cancer treatments in Wales. Access to radiotherapy is critical to improving patient outcomes for cancer: the evidence tells us that approximately 40% of patients with cancer would benefit from radiotherapy treatment, and recent advances at Velindre means that it can be delivered with remarkable precision.

Facing up to, and dealing with cancer is one of the biggest challenges that anyone can face; it affects everyone - family, friends, work colleagues and ultimately how you live your life. It can be a very frightening time.

At Velindre we support cancer patients and their families through this difficult period, and our specially trained and highly committed staff strive every single day to make this time as comfortable as possible.

We believe that every hour, every day, and every month that someone survives cancer is a victory. Our Victory over Cancer campaign helps to reinforce this positive message.

Every pound that is raised will be

used to help us in our battle to achieve the ultimate goal. Every event, every function no matter how small, will be a celebration because anything that helps defy cancer will contribute towards our aim of Victory over Cancer.

Patient Centred care is at the heart of everything we do and believe in here at Velindre.

Money raised from our Victory over Cancer campaign will be used to ensure the best possible support is offered to every patient, their families and carers dealing with cancer.

It will allow us to fund ground breaking research, and buy specialist equipment, so our staff have access to the most up to date training and techniques available.

The incidence of cancer is rising by 1% each year in Wales. It is estimated that 1 in 2 people will be affected by cancer in Wales by 2020.

People in Wales living with cancer will increase by 80% between 2010 and 2030.

However cancer survival rates have doubled in the last 40 years, meaning that more people in Wales are surviving cancer because of better treatments and earlier detection

People can show their support for our campaign by visiting:
www.velindrefundraising.com/victoryovercancer

Join with President **Jonathan Davies**,
Vice President **Roy Noble**

Patrons:

Annelies

Brynmor Williams

James Dean Bradfield

Martyn Williams

Rhod Gilbert

Sam Warburton

Support our campaign and help us to achieve **Victory over Cancer**.



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

Editor - Mary & Robert Pearce, 91 Dan-y-Bryn Avenue, Radyr CF15 8DQ. 2084 2615

E-Mail address - Chain@radyr.org.uk

What's On - Mary Pearce, 91 Dan-y-Bryn Avenue, Radyr CF15 8DQ. 2084 2615

Advertising - Linda Turner, 19 Sycamore Tree Close, Radyr. 2084 3562

E-Mail address - ltturner4@btinternet.com

Hon. Treasurer - Ellis Jenkins, (to whom donations may be sent; they will be gratefully acknowledged) 62 Windsor Avenue, Radyr, CF15 8BY

Distribution - Chris Wills, 1 Llwyn Drysgol, Radyr. 2084 2197

Cricket Wales South Wales Finalists

...from front cover

Our cricketers returned to Radyr Cricket Club in July to take part in the Cricket Wales Finals. The children won 3 of the 4 group matches however, despite appeals from our Mr Coley, the team were eliminated in controversial style due to the 'no LBW' rule which allowed an opposing team to kick the Radyr deliveries away. A great day however and fabulous sportsmanship from all.

Kids of Steel

Also in July, 37 children from across Key Stage Two travelled to Newport International Sports Village to take part in the TATA Kids of Steel Triathlon. This is the second time children have taken part and although non competitive, the children had to push themselves out of their comfort zones with many trying activities they hadn't tried before. Swimming was the first stage followed by a cycle and then a two lap run around the track.

Quad Kids Athletics



After qualifying in first place from the heats, our Year 6 athletics squad spent the day at Leckwith on Tuesday 16th June competing in the finals of the Quad Kids Athletics Competition. Eighteen schools from across Cardiff competed on the day and with excellent times and distances in all events, our talented athletes gained 3rd place overall. The team members each received medals for their hard work.

In other news

The Summer Term has once again been incredibly busy and successful at the school. Mr Crocker and our eco-council have introduced chickens onto our allotments. The chickens have begun to lay their eggs and it is lovely to see them wander the school



grounds and to then return to their coops ready for Mr Crocker to tuck them up safe and sound for the night. The chickens returned to the farm over the summer holiday and will hopefully be back with us shortly.

Our musicians finished a fabulous year of learning with a showcase performance for parents. The repertoire included a range of solo and group performances including recorders, orchestra, samba group, choir and rock bands (including horn section and a few parent guests).

Our Summer Fayre was a huge success and thanks to the support of the PTA and all who attended, the school raised a fabulous £2800 which will be put toward the PTA total for the year. The money raised this year will be spent on improving the range of reading books for the pupils and further developing ICT provision in the school.

Best Wishes to our Year 6 Leavers

Parents and staff enjoyed a fabulous and emotional afternoon with our Year 6 children at the end of term. The Leavers' Afternoon started with a band of parent volunteers tasked with setting up activities for the end of year leaving party and then parents took their seats as Year 6 outlined their favourite memories, shared long held secrets and then amazed us all with their skill during the I'm a Y6—Get me Out of Here!!! challenges. Parents then returned to their duties and the pupils returned to a fabulous party which included Sumo Suits, a Bucking Bronco, a Water Slide, Penalty Shootout (with tickets for Cardiff City



and a signed Cardiff City Football offered as prizes by Mr Williams), Karaoke, Zorbs and a range of beach accessories. The weather was horrendous but the children took absolutely no notice and to be honest, the party was probably the more enjoyable due to the weather (for the children anyway!). Many thanks to Dawn at The Orchard. Mrs Jan Deem and Mr Paul Hopkins from Makro, Cardiff who supplied sweets and cakes for the event and also special thanks to our cook Sue Jones who made a fabulous Leavers' Cake for the



children. They really have been a fabulous year group who have exceeded all expectations this year. The sky really is the limit for this group of friends and we have thoroughly enjoyed all of the fabulous memories. Pob lwc pawb.

Sad to say goodbye



It was lovely to have Mrs PryceMorris attend the leavers events also (she wouldn't have missed them) and this week marks the end of a fabulous 29 year's service to Radyr Primary School. Also leaving us after ten years of paid service (and numerous years' voluntary service) is Mrs Julie Davies. We will also be sad to say goodbye to Miss Anna Sharpley and Miss Hannah Cummings who are both commencing their Post Graduate Certificate of Education training from September. In addition, Mrs Glynis Webb will be leaving us to take up a post at The Court Special School where we know she will continue to make a huge difference to the education of pupils with additional learning needs.

Festival Literary Competition 2015

...from back cover

Radyr Primary School's Y6 trophy winner says: "I was really happy when I won the competition, It is really important to me because I'm not very good at other things like sport, so being recognised for my writing means a lot to me. Our original theme was carnivals. We looked at lots of different images and videos in class. I was inspired by the bright colours and themes from the carnival in Rio. I decided to base my poem around the atmosphere the carnival creates and how people feel when they see and hear it. Writing is my hobby. I write a lot at home as well as in school. I like writing adventure stories mainly, but, it can depend on how I'm feeling. If I'm not in the mood for a story I might write about historical events with an added twist." Jessica Fudge, Y6

Radyr Comprehensive School's Y7 trophy winner says: "I really liked the theme of this year's May Festival - 'Carnival'. It inspired me to write my poem. I love all the bright colours and loud music of the Rio Carnival; having watched it on TV. I would love travel to Rio to experience it in person one day. However, the Radyr and Morganstown Festival parade came a close second with everyone dressed in colourful clothes (even if it was a bit wet!). I am glad that my poem captured the atmosphere of Carnival! Thank you." Sophie Thomas, Y7

With thanks to Mick Sullivan and David Cargill for the photographs.

Cllr Sue McKerlich and Helena Fox (Clerk to R&MCC)



Every year in Wales 3000 people will collapse due to Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA). Wales has the lowest survival rate in the UK from sudden cardiac arrest (SCA), only around 3% of people who have a SCA will survive. The reason for this is poorly performed Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the lack of public access Automated External Defibrillators (AED)

We are pleased to announce with the help of Welsh Hearts Charity, Radyr and Morganstown will be purchasing an AED which will be in an accessible location in Radyr Village, near the shops. (Pugh's Garden Centre have also been approached for consideration of an AED being placed for the Morganstown area – we will update you on this once a decision has been made)

Free training will be provided for the residents of Radyr and Morganstown during September. Dates will be announced on the Radyr and Morganstown website and local posters.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is a condition in which the heart stops beating suddenly and unexpectedly due to a malfunction in the heart's electrical system. The malfunction that causes SCA is a life-threatening abnormal heart rhythm; an arrhythmia. The most common arrhythmia is ventricular fibrillation (VF). When in VF, the heart's rhythm is so chaotic (called "fibrillating") that the heart merely quivers, and is unable to pump blood to the body and brain.

All of this can happen quickly - in fact, in a matter of seconds... Sudden Cardiac Arrest can strike anyone, at any time, any age, without warning. Unless treated immediately by CPR and defibrillation death will most certainly occur within minutes - Every minute counts!

Public access to defibrillators is so vital, and the heart charities are driving this forward. Their aim is to have AEDs in all public areas, schools, golf clubs and to train people to use this life saving equipment.

Mandie Welch and Rachel Owen

CHAIN COOKERY CORNER

[Two vegetarian recipes which can be served alone or as an accompaniment]

Mushroom Stroganoff

1 tbspn olive oil
200ml medium carton crème fraiche
1 dessertspoon capers
160g (6oz) chestnut mushrooms, wiped and sliced.

Put olive oil in pan on medium heat

Sauté sliced mushrooms until juice runs dark [sprinkling a little salt with draw out the juices]

Add crème fraiche, capers and little caper juice

Keep on heat until sauce reduces and thickens a little

Serve with brown rice and parsley

Courgette and Carrot Bake

[halve the recipe for 2]

3 courgettes
6 medium carrots
25g (1oz) butter
160g (6oz) strong Cheddar cheese
Seasoning

Oven at 200C, 400F or Gas 6

Grate vegetables and sweat in butter

Grate cheese, add to vegetables, season.

Lightly grease ovenproof dish

Place mixture in dish

Bake for 30 minutes

A.M.P.

Can I ask for your support?



Nicola Densley of Radyr is trekking in Patagonia in November of this year for Velindre Cancer Centre because it is a charity close to everyone's heart. This is the village Festival charity for 2015/16.

This event will mark the 150th anniversary of Welsh settlers arriving in South America with a challenging six day trek over the mountain ridges, amazing icefalls and stunning views of the snow-capped Andes. At the same time she and other volunteers, including local celebrities, will be raising funds to help Velindre continue to provide help and support for cancer patients in Wales. Nicola says "Velindre Hospital does such amazing work and I hope that I will get support from the community for this fantastic cause". She has a daunting target of £6000. to hit but is confident that with the support of family and friends she can achieve it.

If you wish to support her trek you can donate at www.justgiving.com/NicolaDensley

Alternatively, cash/cheque donations are also greatly received by sending your donation to 1 Graig Llwyd, Radyr, CF15 8BG

Year 12, Pembrokeshire based female student looking for responsible host family in Radyr for term time only (no weekends).

Requires own room; en suite preferred, breakfast and evening meal – for reasonable fee. If interested please contact

Liz.daviesfamily@gmail.com

Or

Telephone 01437 731886

SPAR

STATION ROAD, RADYR
 OPEN: Mon to Sat 8a.m. - 10.00p.m.
 Sunday 9a.m. - 10.00p.m.

All services come with quality and value

General Groceries - Chilled Foods & Ready Meals - Fresh Bread Daily
 Confectionery - Fruit & Vegetables - Crisps & Snacks - Ice Cream
 Quality Wines - Beers, Lagers & Ciders
 Cigarettes & Tobacco - NATIONAL LOTTERY - Phone top-up Cards

TELEPHONE
029 2084 2437

RADYR CHAIN FROM JULY 1980

HEAD-LINES!



Anne Petherbridge and her daughter, Denise Coulter, opened a hairdressing salon in Bert's old shoe repair shop in Station Road on the 3rd March, 1980, which they have named "Headway". They have lived in Radyr for more than thirteen years and vividly remember Denise with her twin sister, Jane, along with the other children of Radyr helping to hammer nails into Bert's old stool. Little did Denise think that one day, she would be helping to run a salon in the place where she had spent so many happy days. As Bert looked after the feet of the villagers for so many years they now hope to look after the heads!

Retirement - In 1964 Mr. Douglas Jones was appointed the head teacher of Radyr Primary School. Now at the end of this summer term Mr. Jones retires after sixteen years. When he started there were 135 pupils at the school but as a result of new houses being built the number has increased to 485. Work started in 1967 to enlarge the school and parents decided that a swimming pool should be part of the extension. £1,000. was raised in twelve months towards its cost. We wish Mr. Jones a happy retirement.

Celebrity Visit to Bryn Deri School

Pupils at Bryn Deri School recently met Police Dog Handler, Ray Plummer and his black Alsatian "Gelert". Roy was the first handler in the Cardiff City Force and in 1968 with his dog "Garny", he was awarded the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct after disarming a man with a shotgun. "Garny" was given an award for courage by the RSPCA.



News from Radyr & Morganstown WI

June proved to be a busy month for all Institutes throughout the country as 2015 is the centenary of the formation of the organisation. The National Federations AGM, held on Thursday, 4th June in the Royal Albert Hall was attended by HM The Queen, HRH the Princess Royal and Sophie, Countess of Essex. The Queen accepted the Centenary baton, addressed the meeting and presented cups and awards for various categories to winning WIs, including the Huxley Floral Cup to the Glamorgan Federation. The visiting speakers at the meeting were Lucy Worsley, the historian, Tanni Grey Thompson, the athlete and Helena Morrissey, a business director.

Radyr and Morganstown WI was represented at this special AGM by Jane Parry who gave us an entertaining account of both her attendance at the Centenary Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace and her attendance as a delegate at the Royal Albert Hall. Both events were characterised by the many and varied outfits worn, the long queues and the impression of "women everywhere".

Members of our WI had a lovely day at Radyr Golf Club, watching a live transmission of the Centenary AGM. We felt as if we were there, applauding and discussing comments. The Golf Club served a delicious buffet lunch. Thanks go to Pat Williams and Gaynor Leaf for organising the transmission and to Nick Holmes and David Cargill for setting up the technical equipment.

Our June meeting took place on Monday, 8th June. The speaker was Dean Powell, a former newspaper editor and BBC journalist. He is the author of fourteen books, including *The Memoirs of Glyn Houston*. His very entertaining talk was entitled "Glyn Houston, the Black and White Actor" – the black and white referring to the black and white screen. Glyn Houston was born in Tonypany and brought up by his grandmother. He entered show business via ENSA and became one of the "Tafia" group of Welsh actors which included Richard Burton, Stanley Baker and his brother,

Donald Houston. He eventually went into TV work and appeared frequently on the small screen in series such as "It Aint Half Hot Mum" "Minder" and "Softly, Softly".

And so we move into July via a lunch at Arbennig Restaurant, a Welsh evening hosted by Pontcanna Institute, an evening visit to Wyndcliffe Court Sculpture Gardens and the Federation Summer Walk from Rhossili. The last meeting prior to the summer break took place on Monday, 13th July. Our Speaker was Yvonne Rees, whose talk "Going going gone" was a personal memoir of her redoubtable "Auntie Glad", a lady aged 98 whose collection of antiques, originally acquired through church humble sales, eventually came up for auction in spite of some of them having been promised to her long-suffering niece, Yvonne. Yvonne bid for them, purchased them and eventually realised their value when she was advised to insure two items for £10,000. This is just the bald outline of a tale told with charm, humour and great affection. Yvonne Rees has a natural gift of raconteur and her story telling was much

appreciated.

Our evening ended with a celebratory glass of bubbly as we will not meet again as a group until September when events are already planned to take place.

On Tuesday, 11th August, there will be a lunch at the Market Place Restaurant in Cowbridge. Meanwhile, members are currently being asked to volunteer for a litter pick a part of the "Keep Wales Tidy Week" on 15th September. The following day, Wednesday, 16th September is Centenary day. We will be celebrating in the New School Rooms with lunch, displays and a toast. There will also be a guest speaker.

Meetings resume on Monday, 14th September when the subject of a talk by Marjorie Page will be Clarice Cliff.

Should you need further information visit our website at radyrandmorganstown.wi@gmail.com or phone our President, Enid Brooker on 029 2084 3412.

Meanwhile – have a good summer!

L.H.

WELSH PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

Radyr Golf Club hosted the Welsh National PGA Championship early in July. North Wales golfer, Garry Houston, former European Tour player won the event, beating Stephen Dodd and Sion Bebb in an exciting play-off after 36 holes of competition. They each tied on three-under-par after they could not be separated over two rounds.

The course and staff were highly praised for presentation, organisation and hospitality for the event.

The last time this Championship was held at Radyr was in 1904. Houston remarked "It's a great achievement to come here and win this tournament – I've won the Welsh National".



Radyr & Morganstown Community Council

Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan



We said goodbye to Cllr Liz Nicholas this month and thank her for her service to the community. She took a particular interest in Radyr Woods and will continue as R&MCC governor for Bryn Deri Primary School. We therefore have a vacancy on the Council; contact Helena Fox if you want to know more.

It's hard to believe for those of working on it, but the LDP is in its final stages. The public consultation on the Matters Arising Changes Schedule (ie the Inspectors' questions to Cardiff Council) closed on July 23 and we are waiting to hear if there will be any further Hearing sessions before the Inspector. The Inspectors' report is expected towards the end of the year.

R&MCC's and the NW Cardiff Group's responses to this last consultation are on the R&M website. In summary, we do not think that Cardiff has properly answered the Inspectors' questions. Although developers can phase house building to provide schools (clearly a good thing), they and Cardiff refuse to do the same for the transport needs of new and existing residents. We continue to say that without phasing new developments with a fixed-track public transport system the resulting traffic problems for NW Cardiff and the city

generally will be a disaster.

It is a huge frustration and disappointment to us that Welsh Government's insistence on a high level of growth has forced Cardiff Council into a situation which is unreasonable and damaging to our capital city. The LDP should and could have aimed to create a bigger, better, more sustainable Cardiff that was fully supported by infrastructure including an integrated public transport system provided in-phase with development. The elephant in this Plan is that it is distorted by the pressure from Welsh Government to deliver over 41,000 new homes and all associated development by 2026. No one believes that that rate of construction can be achieved. By forcing Cardiff to put a quart in a pint pot by 2026 it cannot include the essential transport infrastructure like the Metro that Cardiff acknowledges it needs to achieve a 50:50 split between private cars and other forms of transport. Using the words 'bus-based rapid transit' to describe what is actually conventional bus services on roads like the A4119 is another fudge made necessary in an LDP that has to make the impossible appear possible. A few sections of bus lane and traffic control measures on our existing roads will not,

we say, lead to thousands of bus travellers replacing private car traffic and avoiding serious traffic congestion.

Our project to renovate and extend the Old Church Rooms, our community building in Park Road, will start in early August and we have written about this in more detail elsewhere in this issue of the Chain. This project could not run well without the support and time given by members of the RMA, who are joint managers of the OCR with R&MCC. We thank them for their continued hard work and joint decision-making. We are delighted that R&MCC was successful in securing a grant of £130,500 from the Aggregate Levy Fund Wales towards the cost of the works.

Our WW1 commemorative exhibition was a huge success and Cllr Mike Diment has written about that elsewhere in this Chain too. R&MCC again thanks everyone who helped make it possible, include Heritage Lottery Fund Wales.

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



R&MCC is delighted to announce that it is moving ahead with exciting plans to renovate and extend the Old Church Rooms (OCR) in Park Road. This has been made possible through a generous grant from the Aggregate Levy Fund Wales of £130,500 with contributions from the RMA, R&MCC and the balance funded through a loan.

The OCR is managed and maintained by a joint committee of RMA and R&MCC members and this has been a successful arrangement for over 25 years. We have been working together closely on the plans for the building with the aim of bringing it up to 21st century standards and expanding it

to provide a new meeting space and a new glass entrance with room to get out of the rain. We will also refit the kitchen to commercial standards and upgrade the lavatories and the heating and lighting systems which will be more energy efficient. The old police room will be demolished opening up space for the new entrance and restoring the Victorian double entry from the building's old school days. An extension, making the building L shaped, will include the new meeting space and new storage room.

Some of the internal works to the existing building will be done over the school summer holiday so that Park Road Nursery can reopen in September. Use of the building will be severely restricted during that time. The extension and other works will follow and we hope to have most of the existing building

back in working order as soon as possible.

The works will take some 20 weeks from the start of August and the OCR car park will be closed for the entire time. We apologise for any inconvenience that that will cause. If you have any questions or want to see the drawings please contact Helena Fox.

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



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

English isn't as east as you think!

This guy nails it.

Posted 12 months ago by Tacoassassin
www.tickld.com/funny/t/763779

You think English is easy?

The bandage was wound around the wound.

The farm was used to produce produce

The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse

We mush polish the Polish furniture

He could lead if he would get the lead out

The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert

Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present

A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum

When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes

I did not object to the object

The insurance was invalid for the invalid

There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row

They were too close to the door to close it

The buck does funny things when the does are present

A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line

To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow

The wind was too strong to wind the sail

Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear

I had to subject the subject to a series of tests

How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

Let's face it – English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads

which aren't sweet, are meat. We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which an alarm goes off by going on.

IMAGING 2000 VILLAGE CAMERA CLUB

Imaging 2000 starts again on Tuesday, 15th September with an open meeting and display of photos taken during the summer period. This group which meets on a fortnightly basis at the Old Church Rooms in Park Road, holds competitions, helps improvers, arranges speakers and presenters on photography of all subjects. The Club members display their work from time to time.

New members are very welcome – please get in touch with David Cargill – d.cargill@ntlworld.com

Mick Sullivan, our President, recently won the Festival photo competition. He is here having a presentation made by Councillor Rod McKerlich.



A THANK YOU... Hi, I just wanted to write to say Thank You to the residents of Radyr and Morganstown who have supported me recently while I set up Penelope's Bento Lunches – particularly those who visited my stall at the R&M Festival.

I took a lot of orders that day and had lots of interest from children and parents alike with the usual things I had for sale. I sell lunchboxes, lunch bags, Japanese food picks, sandwich cutters, egg/sushi moulds, edible food pens, Yumboxes and other lunch box/picnic accessories.

It was amazing to have such support, so I would like to say thank you!

Claire Bryant - Penelope's Bento Lunches -
www.facebook.com/Penelopesbentolunches

Radyr & Morganstown District Gardening Club

I am writing this having just returned, with club members and friends, from visiting two contrasting gardens close to Bradford-on-Avon. We started at Iford Manor, a privately owned terraced garden on a steep-sided hill above the River Frome. Iford Manor was the home of architect and garden designer Harold Peto. He was particularly attracted by the charm of old Italian gardens and in the early 1900s he developed his garden in the Italianate style; the current owners have restored the design and planting in accordance with Harold Peto's vision. We followed this with a visit to "The Courts", a National Trust property which is quoted as showing "... the English country style at its best". A garden of rooms each with differing planting and interest. The day was enjoyed by everyone, particularly as we benefited from a dry period between wet weather systems!

Our 2014/15 winter programme finished on 8th April with the club AGM; the current Committee was re-elected. The AGM was followed by an illustrated talk by Peter Grehan on "Gardens and Plants in Science Fiction", who showed how science fiction writers have taken everyday plants and planting and thought how they may look in an alien landscape; he illustrated this with examples such as "Day of the Triffids" and episodes of Dr. Who.

Our Programme Secretary has been working hard to put together an interesting and stimulating programme of talks for 2015/16 ranging from particular plant species through gardens and parks to the history of a little known Welsh born garden designer. The programme will be published in the "Chain", the Radyr website and village notice boards in due course.

We start again in September:

9th September –
"Not Just a Pretty Face – Practical uses of Ornamental Plants"

An illustrated talk
by Willow West.

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. We 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 School 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).

MOONWALK LONDON 2015

On the weekend of the 16th-17th May, fourteen fit and energetic ladies from Radyr Tennis Club (plus one past member) took on an extraordinary challenge of walking the 'Moonlit Marathon' through the streets of London. They walked the 26.2 miles overnight to raise money and awareness for Breast Cancer Charities.

The group raised over £8,000. – thank to all their sponsors for their generous donations, including the staff and customers at 'The Orchard' Coffee Shop.

Many thanks also to the four careful drivers (Rhodri, Mike, Justin and Graham) for all their support and encouragement.



Radyr & Morganstown Friends of Tenovus

This year's Tenovus sponsored walk took place on Sunday, 28th June where a large group of volunteer walkers gathered at the tennis courts in Cardiff Castle grounds at 2pm. Betty, who organised the sponsored walk was delighted to meet so many of our regulars and some new supporters taking part in our annual fund-raising afternoon. After a damp start the weather improved and the walkers enjoyed the picturesque surroundings along the Taff Trail and when they arrived at Hailey Park they stopped and enjoyed a refreshing drink.

When they reached Christ Church the Tenovus ladies were ready to serve them a delicious strawberry tea with the tables neatly laid with blue and white crisp tablecloths. As the walkers sat down to tea they were joined by further local supporters who all enjoyed the delightful strawberry tea prepared by Janet Boyce and her team of helpers. Plenty of freshly brewed tea together with strawberries and cream and Janet's home made scones were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Every year Janet makes over 300 scones and is often asked for a copy of her recipe.

The sponsored walk raised in excess of £,000. and these much-needed funds will help Tenovus provide continued help and support to all those affected by cancer. We are very grateful for the kindness and generosity we receive from our friends and the local community who support us at all our fund-raising events throughout the year. Should you wish to help Tenovus in any way please contact Chairman, Rosanne (Tel. 20401872).

We very much look forward to seeing everyone in September when we will be celebrating a rather outstanding achievement. A very special event will take place at Radyr Golf Club on Saturday, 19th September, 2015. Radyr and Morganstown Friends of Tenovus are celebrating thirty years of fund-raising for Tenovus Cancer Care and are holding a celebration evening dinner. Entertainment will be

provided by the Tenovus Sing With Us Choir and an archived film show presented by David Cargill.

We look forward to seeing many of our friends and supporters from the community whose help and generosity have enabled us to raise an amazing amount in excess of £300,000. during the past thirty years.

Chairman Rosanne and her committee look forward to celebrating this wonderful achievement with all of our friends who will be able to join us at our Anniversary event. Tickets - £20.00 to include a three-course dinner are available from Secretary, Betty (Tel. 2084 2096).

Alison Skidmore

What's Happening at Radyr Library?

There is a lot happening at Radyr Library during the summer holidays. This year's Summer Reading Challenge theme for children is Record Breakers! For teens and adults we are running the Summer Six Book Challenge again. Complete the challenges by reading any six books from the library. Along with the pleasure of reading books and discovering new authors and titles there will be rewards for those taking part in the challenges! Thank you to everyone who came along to our launch party - we got 155 pledges towards the Guinness World Record attempt and 87 children, teens and adults signed up to the reading challenge. We've got lots of books to choose from for adults, teens and children but if you can't find what you're looking for or need some inspiration, just ask a member of staff and we can help you find your next book.

Cardiff Libraries are also trying to set a Guinness World Record for the longest chain of book themed bunting so we need everyone's help. Pick up a bunting template from the library or print from bit.ly/bookbunting and when you've completed it, hand back in to any Cardiff library. The unveiling will take place at Central Library on 29th August.

There are Summer reading Challenge events with stories, crafts and activities, every Wednesday at 10.30am for ages 5 up. In addition,

author Mark Brake will be visiting on 4th August at 11am to talk about his book 'How to be a space explorer' and the Exotic Pet Shop will be bringing some exciting pets on 21st August at 2.30pm. For our younger members (under 5s) we have summer story time every Tuesday at 2.15pm and a Teddy Bear's Picnic on 18th August at 10.15am. Don't forget to bring your teddy!

You can still collect your recycling bags at the library. Just ask at the staff desk and you can collect 1 roll of food and recycling bags per household.

If you would like to donate to a Cardiff Food Bank, we have a collection point. We also have a list of the foods they need, that you can check before you donate.

If you have a laptop, smartphone or tablet that you would like some support or advice using then put your name down for our IT help sessions that will be running after the summer holidays. Cardiff Libraries also provide free downloadable eBooks, eMagazines and eAudiobooks. Visit our website www.cardiff.gov.uk/libraries or ask at the library for more information.

Finally the summer will be a very busy time for us. Please help us by bringing your library card on every visit. Thank you for your patience at our busiest time and good luck to everyone taking part in the reading challenges.

Anna, Jen and Anne at Radyr Library

THE LATE VICTORIA MAY KEOHANE, NEE HOGG

Through your pages may I thank the many friends in and around Radyr who have written to me, helped me and encouraged me through the difficult days before and after Vicki's funeral.

As I have found before this village is a very special place in which to live and to raise a family and the incredible support of such a community has meant so much to me and my family over the years.

Douglas Hogg

A Hidden History – Coal, Clay and Horses

“When I bestride him, I soar. I am a hawk: he trots the air; the earth sings when he touches it; the basest horn of his hoof is more musical than the pipe of Hermes” William Shakespeare.
Henry V (Act 3, Scene 7)



There have always been two passions in my life – Clay and Horses. As a keen rider I grew up around them and this adoration crossed over into my work as a ceramicist and became a key element in being able to express myself as an artist in clay.

When I was young my grandmother used to buy me brightly coloured plasticine strips and I would model horses and imagine myself riding them. I would spend hours observing a pony that lived on some scrap land behind our terraced house in the Rhondda Valleys. As my interest in a creative career grew I worked towards entry onto a B.A (Hons) ceramic course at the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff. After gaining a first class degree I took up a position teaching art and design and an apprenticeship with architectural ceramist Gwen Heeney who inspired me to become a professional artist; wanting to develop my career further I was awarded a scholarship to the Royal College of Art in London to study ceramics and glass.

Whilst there I was encouraged by my tutor, Allison Britton, to explore animal mythology and the horse to inform my studio practice. After graduation I set up a workspace and produced a body of work to discover how I could use the plasticity of clay to express human emotions using the symbolism of the horse. This resulted in a solo exhibition, *Curiadau Calon/Heartbeats* at MOMA Cymru – Y Tabernacl in Machynlleth, Powys and started my journey to become a professional ceramicist and emerging artist.

Through the development of my dissertation whilst at the RCA and visits to research the ceramic collections at the V&A

and British Museum I was inspired by their Chinese Tang Dynasty horses embellished using glazes and coloured by three metal oxides called ‘Sancai’ literally ‘Three colours’. As a ceramicist I am familiar with the challenge of making clay stand up on four legs and marvelled at the skill of these master potters whose love and sensitive observation of their subject breathed life into these clay models over a thousand years ago during the 6th-9th century AD and spoke ‘Horse’. Many people believe that the Chinese were among the first to ride horses and valued bloodlines bred in the west. Emperors of the Tang dynasty kept their horses in elaborately built stables around the Tang capital in the Shaanxi province of China. Only high status people rode and owned horses they symbolised wealth strength and freedom and were prized for their domestic service and use in military and sport such as polo.

These three colour pottery figures flourished during the Tang period and apart from making objects for daily use pottery was made principally for funerary objects, warriors, guards of honour, servants, cups, bowls, camels and horses some with tack ready to serve an emperor or member of a high status family in the afterlife. Many of these tomb figures were never meant for public display and took over from the earlier practice of live sacrifice of servants and horses. The relationship humans have developed with horses over time fascinates me and many similarities exist in Chinese and Celtic symbolism and their affiliation with the horse.

I have continued my research into the history of the horse in ceramics from Tang dynasty tomb figures through to large-scale religious Indian terracotta horses built and fired in situ. The mass-produced Staffordshire figurines made from moulds



are inspirational and describe a wide range of equine activity and sport and possible solutions to modelling and decorating legs, tails, hooves, manes, ears and eyes in clay.

Learning from ceramic history has helped me develop my own way of hand building as being faced with a shapeless bag of clay can be quite daunting and the horse is a complex animal and shape to model. As a student I was unable to find a ‘how to’ guide book to making horses in clay so decided to develop my own by researching the history of the horse in ceramics.

Recently I have had the opportunity to observe first hand and examine two Tang Dynasty horses, one with a rider from the ceramic collection at the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff, with support from the ceramic curator. Being able to observe first hand and speculate potential construction methods and a formulaic approach to carving key features of the horse’s anatomy has helped in the development of my own modelling and building of clay horses.

On returning home to South Wales to further progress my career as a ceramic artist and produce a new exhibition I needed a place to work. I was introduced to Nantgarw China Works Museum through the Arts Regeneration Team at Rhondda Cynon Taff Council. I approached them for help in developing clay making opportunities within the south Wales Valleys. Growing up in the Rhondda I was fully informed of its rich heritage and coal mining background but was taken by surprise to learn of an alternative hidden history of porcelain production at Nantgarw China Works. It is situated on the upper side of the disused old Glamorganshire Canal and equidistant between Cardiff and Pontypridd. The pottery has produced some of the world’s finest decorated porcelain and later mass-produced earthenware slipware pipes, tiles and tableware. I was delighted to discover that there was a rich industrial ceramic heritage so close to home. As a dedicated ceramicist I had never come across this hidden gem in any of my studies and wanted to find out more.

The pottery was active from 1813 and ceased production in 1920. It owes much of its artistic fame solely to the production of soft paste porcelain a secret recipe developed and exquisitely decorated by William Billingsley (1758-1828) produced at Nantgarw during a short period of 1813 to 1822. When fired it became glassy and translucent with a bright white hue a perfect canvas of classic shapes for Billingsley to work his magic painting on porcelain with enamels developed from his apprenticeship at the English Derby Works.

He became known as 'The roses man' and strove for artistic excellence. In the book *Old Derby Porcelain* (1925), Frank Hurlbutt wrote "*Billingsley's artistic skill and taste, his white-hot enthusiasm for his creative trade, his love of beauty, of perfection itself, his power of absorption of all that was most perfect and beautiful around him, set him on a plane apart*". Billingsley's dedication to his craft and to artistic perfection is evident in the quality and beauty of the surviving porcelain. The high wastage rates due to slumping and breaking in the bottle kilns during firing meant that the enterprise was a commercial disaster though an artistic success. Much of his work graced the tables of the high society in London and it was his successor's son W.H. Pardoe, the eldest son of Thomas Pardoe (1770-1822) a porcelain decorator who found commercial success when he re-opened the pottery in 1833 to produce over 10,000 hand mould pressed earthenware clay pipes weekly.

Pardoe made tableware, tiles and pipes to meet the needs and affordability of local people and the masses, unlike the exclusive high end production of Billingsley. It has been recorded that the Marquise of Bute, a former customer, offered £1,000. to re-commence the manufacture of porcelain but was turned down, the mass market being too much a temptation and financial success. All this history was made possible by the construction and opening of the Glamorganshire canal in 1794, the motorway of its time, connecting Merthyr Tydfil to Cardiff docks.

The pottery was built in an ideal location as clay and coal were transported by horsepower along the canal from the Bryncoch drift mine in Taff's Well during Billingsley's time and from the Rhondda during Pardoe's. A bottle kiln could use up to five tons of coal during a three day firing and a constant supply was needed. Boat horses connected these two industries together working tirelessly to deliver coal and raw clay to the pottery then transporting fired work to Cardiff docks for shipment to London and beyond.

After contacting Sally Stubbings, artist in residence alongside Carol Feehan and the Trustees of Nantgarw China Works Museum, a group of passionate people who work tirelessly to preserve the history and legacy of Billingsley's and Pardoe's ceramics I was granted a residency and opportunity to produce a body of work for an exhibition in October, focusing on the history of the horse in ceramics. The passion and dedication of the Trustees at Nantgarw is infectious.

I have been given access to the museum's collection and enthused to develop new

surface decoration inspired by Billingsley's roses and Pardoe's pipes using mocha diffusion made from tobacco juice mixed with oxides and the original pipe moulds to form makeshift polo sticks for my horseback riders. Following Friend of the Museum Judy Cox's tour and observing her adoration for Nantgarw's history bringing to life Billingsley's and Pardoe's work makes me feel proud to walk in these historic footsteps and confirm my choice of career to become a professional ceramic artist.

I can relate to the energy of Billingsley and his constant striving for artistic excellence pushing the boundaries of my own ceramics whilst learning about Pardoe's entrepreneurial skills and developing wares for mass production has encouraged me to make a range of slip trailed wares depicting the boat horses at the pottery for mass production, a history of art and craft combined.

I am constantly inspired by the ability of clay to allow through its plasticity human hands to shape and record our emotional, spiritual and intellectual development throughout time helped along, of course, by the horse. My new body of work focuses on the horse as a carrier and source of support a key to freedom moving without fear towards a new life unafraid of expressing myself, my own personalised tomb figures. I hope the exhibition will inspire young people of the creative potential of working with clay. Discussing possibilities of a creative life and career and engaging them with the museum's collection of fine porcelain and artefacts will ensure the wonderful history of Nantgarw and our ceramic production past fuelled by coal and horsepower passes on to new generations.

On returning home I felt isolated from the world of ceramics and the contemporary galleries of London, only to discover a rich ceramic heritage on my own doorstep.

There's no other place I'd like to be working and learning and feel proud to be part of Nantgarw's ethos of developing the site as a centre of ceramic art and craft excellence as this opportunity is needed in and around the South Wales Valleys. Sharing good practice with the resident artists has been invaluable and the ingenuity of some of the trustee's ideas to produce and make a living from ceramics is inspiring. I have even been able to develop my Welsh language skills with trustee Gwen Griffiths, a first language Welsh speaker. Horses, Clay, Welsh, what more could I ask for? Well maybe to discover a fragment of William Billingsley's notebook with his secret recipe written on it! I would like to say a big thank you to Jeff, Margaret and the entire Trustees at Nantgarw for this opportunity and their belief and encouragement of the ceramic arts. I would also like to thank the Arts Council of Wales for their financial backing and support with his project.

Come and immerse yourself in Nantgarw's rich history and find out about an alternative industrial past of the South Wales valleys linking together horses, clay and coal. I am working at the museum from Wednesday-Sunday 10am-4.30pm and would be happy to show you around and discuss my working practice. Keeping the history of this magical place alive is so important – a real addition to our rich cultural heritage.

Ceffylau Clai, Chwarae gyda Tân/ Clay Horses, Playing with Fire opens to the public at Nantgarw China Works Museum gallery on the 7th October for two weeks 10am-4.30pm.

www.nantgarwchinaworksmuseum.co.uk
www.garethnash.com

Contact Mr. Jeff Pugh for all information and opportunities at Nantgarw China Works Museum 01656 862 908
alanpugh@hotmail.co.uk



World War 1 Commemoration Exhibition at the Old Church Rooms

R&MCC held its WW1 exhibition over the weekend of June 12-14. Funded by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund Wales as part of our two-year WW1 project, this three-day commemorative event entitled "Radyr & Morganstown at Home and at War" was visited by over 900 people. It has been very satisfying to receive many complimentary comments and emails from visitors appreciating the hard work put into staging the event. One email in particular from Maria Moruzzi said that "Joe was very impressed with the men and their hands-on collection of arms and equipment which he has seen in other exhibitions, but never been able to handle and touch. He thought that the exhibition was as good if not better than many he has seen in specialist WW1 museums".

We are very grateful to Mark Drakeford AM and Kevin Brennan MP for their interest in our exhibition and for linking today's R&M and Cardiff with our communities during WW1 before officially opening our commemorative event.

Our small WW1 committee made up of Community Councillors, local enthusiasts plus our Clerk to the Council and specially created Heritage Assistant, (financed by the Heritage Lottery Fund). Work began in earnest some 12 months ago to bring something special to the village by commemorating 100 years since the start of World War 1.

Local historian Allan Cook and David Warren, a Trustee of The Regimental Museum of the Royal Welsh (Brecon), were invaluable members of our committee. They carried out an enormous amount of research into R&M's War Memorial and the names of the WW1 fallen, providing a great source of information, resources and artefacts. David added a very professional touch in bringing the Great War Society re-enactors and the Western Front Association to the event.

The main exhibition hall was filled with medals, official records, photographs and WW1 memorabilia. The contents were sourced by committee members or loaned from many members of our community who all contributed in no small way to making this event such a great success. As well as having a 1917 photograph of the Red Cross Hospital located on Heol Isaf, we were able to display numerous employment records of staff and a metal brooch worn by one of the nurses who

worked there. All were residents of Radyr & Morganstown!

On the Saturday, two Great War Society re-enactors came to show uniforms of the period as well as weapons, ammunition and other military hardware. For many it was a fascinating experience actually to hold and sight a very heavy WW1 rifle with bayonet attached. The Western Front Association was also on hand to investigate family military records instantly online and provide advice on any follow-up research to be taken.



Our small committee was supplemented in April by three very enthusiastic ladies Councillors Sally Evans, Sue McKerlick and volunteer Ruth Diment who concentrated on home life during this era, to enable children to see exactly what life would have been like. After a visit to the archive at St Fagans National History Museum, they met regularly to plan, discuss, source and make artefacts for our exhibition. As well as making clothing of the period for children to dress-up in and a kitchen range, they investigated the craft activities the soldiers would have experienced whilst recovering such as sweetheart cushions, and paper bead necklaces. Lots of our visitors enjoyed making these items.

The toys of the period in the exhibition, many of them very simple and home-made, certainly engaged those who visited. Over one hundred and twenty children from our two local primary schools attended on the Friday afternoon and thoroughly enjoyed playing with the toys and not an electronic game in sight! Some children made simple toys, such as peg doll or a card-jointed animal.

For many of the older generation it was a time to reminisce about some familiar items: an old school desk, pen and ink, a stone hot water bottle, a flat iron, a treadle and hand sewing machine and even a darning mushroom! There was an opportunity to try World War 1 Trench cake made to a traditional recipe, which was somewhat dry but quite tasty!



Finally our commemoration came to an end on Sunday with a bar & barbeque organised and run by the Radyr & Morganstown Association. This, together with three traditional 'Punch and Judy' shows, was a fantastic finale to a very successful weekend.



I would like to thank the many people, clubs and societies who contributed to our event. In particular:

Members of the WW1 Project Committee
Allan Cook and the History Society
David Warren
Great War Society
Western Front Association (South Wales Branch)
Radyr & Morganstown Association
Pupils from Radyr Comprehensive School
Heritage Lottery Fund for funding our WW1 project.
Helena Fox (Clerk to the Council) for the successful application for funding.
Julie Hopkins (Assistant Clerk)
R&MCC Heritage Assistant
R&MCC for Staff match funding for the event.

Michael Diment
Community Councillor & Chairman of
the WW1 Committee

