

RADYR CHAIN

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown

Number 245

December 2019

CBBC Star to turn on the Christmas Lights

This year's Christmas Tree lighting ceremony will be on Friday 6th December – weather permitting – and we are delighted to report that Welsh actress Leona Vaughan will be with us to turn on the lights. Leona is a Welsh actress from Caerphilly, and a proud patron of Tenovus Cancer Care, this year's sponsored charity. She attended the Mark Jermin Stage School and starred in CBBC's television series 'Wolfblood' as Jana and in 'Stella' (written by Ruth Jones) as Cerys.

Prior to the switch-on in Station Road, pupils from Gwaelod y Garth Primary School will be singing carols before the lighting of the tree in the Granny Park in Morganstown at 6.00pm and Radyr Comprehensive School pupils will be singing in Lychgate Gardens before the lighting of the tree there at 6.15pm. The action will then move to Windsor Gardens where a joint Choir from our two Primary Schools will sing carols before the tree is lit at 6:45pm. The Festival Queen and her attendants will also be there.

The lights will be lit in Station Road by Leona at 7:00pm precisely. Providing everyone has been good, Santa will arrive in his sleigh to talk to the young children. There is bound to be a bit of a queue so Santa will have some helpers around to keep everything in order. Every child will also be awarded a satsuma!

The Station Road stalls will be open from 6.00pm selling all sorts of goodies – crafts, gifts, jewellery and much more. Burgers, hot dogs and mulled wine will be available at the R&M Association stalls and the WI will be dispensing tea and coffee. Many of the shops will also be open, including Cicchetti, Slice and Radyr Tap, so you will be able to do some

shopping and even stay for a meal. Tenovus will have a stall and be collecting during the evening. We are also planning on having a special photo booth, a snow machine and bouncy castle if we can fit them in!

Do come along and enjoy the festivities, arranged jointly between the R&M Association and the R&M Community Council. It is a lovely way to start the Christmas Season and entrance is free.



Remembrance Day Service



The 100th anniversary of Remembrance Day and the 101st anniversary of the ending of World War 1 fell on a Monday this year. In accordance with tradition it was held on the Sunday nearest to Remembrance Day, Sunday 10th of November.

A good turn out at the Memorial in Radyr were blessed with fine weather.

COMING EVENTS



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

Sun 1 Dec **18:00 Advent Carols at Christ Church.** Christ Church sees our service of Advent Carols. A reflective service of readings and Advent Carols as the church begins the time of preparation leading up to Christmas.

www.radyr.org.uk/parish/events/

Tue 3 Dec **11:00 Wellbeing Cafe at Radyr Library.** Come along for a chat and free refreshments at Radyr Library. Every Tuesday.

www.radyr.org.uk/events-summary/

Fri 6 Dec **15:30 Childrens Festive crafts at Radyr Library.** Come along and make a festive craft. FREE event.

www.radyr.org.uk/events-summary/

Fri 6 Dec **19:00 Christmas Tree Lighting, Station Road.** Come along to the popular lighting event in Station Road. Trees will be lit beforehand in

Morganstown Granny Park at 6pm, Lychgate Gardens at 6.15pm, and Windsor Gardens at 6.45pm. Leona Vaughan will turn on the Station Road lights. More details contact rma@radyr.org.uk.

www.radyr.org.uk/events-summary/

Mon 9 Dec **10:30 Christmas Coffee Morning at Radyr Library.** Come along to our Christmas Coffee morning organised by our Knit and Knatter Group.

Raffle, cakes and hand knitted items on sale. www.radyr.org.uk/events-summary/

Mon 9 Dec **19:30 Radyr and Morganstown WI "Christmas Celebration"** hosted by the Committee. Old Church Rooms, Park Road. Visitors and New members welcome. Visit our page "Radyr Women's Institute" for contact details.

www.radyr.org.uk/events-summary/

Tue 10 Dec **11:00 Weekly Wellbeing Cafe at Radyr Library.** Come along and enjoy free refreshments at our weekly wellbeing cafe.

www.radyr.org.uk/events-summary/

Wed 11 Dec **19:00 RCTS South Wales** Mike Wilcock Videos of South Wales and beyond by Mike Wilcock

www.radyr.org.uk/clubs/rcts/

Fri 13 Dec **15:30 Childrens crafts at Radyr Library.** Come along to this FREE event and make some festive crafts. www.radyr.org.uk/events-summary/

Sun 15 Dec **17:00 Christingle at Christ Church** Come and celebrate Christ the light of the world with our Christingle service. A warm welcome to young and old.

www.radyr.org.uk/parish/events/

Mon 16 Dec **Christmas Tree Festival at Christ Church.** Come and see the Christmas Trees decorated by groups from across the Parish. From 16 to 24

December Christ Church will be open from 10.30 - 12.00 and 15.30 - 18.00 each day (except Sunday when we will have the usual services and be open for a short time around each of these to browse the trees)

www.radyr.org.uk/parish/events/

Wed 18 Dec **18:30 Santa Claus, the Pantomime 2019 Old Church Rooms.** 'Once Upon a Time' Theatre Company present their latest Christmas offering, sponsored by the R&M Community Council. Tickets, just 50p, from the R&MCC Office in the OCR, 029 2084 2213, SOLD OUT

www.radyr.org.uk/events-summary/

Fri 20 Dec **15:30 Childrens crafts at Radyr Library.** Come along after school to our free event and make some festive Christmas crafts.

www.radyr.org.uk/events-summary/

Fri 20 Dec **18:00 Carol & Crib Service, St John's Danescourt.** Come and sing the Christmas story as we prepare the crib scene at St John's Danescourt.

www.radyr.org.uk/parish/events/

Sun 22 Dec **18:00 Service of Lessons and Carols, Christ Church.** All are welcome to the traditional service of Lessons and Carols at Christ Church.

www.radyr.org.uk/parish/events/

Tue 24 Dec **16:00 Crib Service, Christ Church** All are welcome to join us as we build the Crib scene and re-tell the Christmas story together.

www.radyr.org.uk/parish/events/

Tue 24 Dec **23:00 First Eucharist of Christmas (Midnight Mass), Christ Church** The traditional First Eucharist of Christmas. Come and welcome Christ Jesus into the world.

www.radyr.org.uk/parish/events/

Wed 8 Jan **19:00 RCTS South Wales** Behind the Iron Curtain - Narrow Gauge Steam in East Germany 1969-1992 by Nigel Wassell

www.radyr.org.uk/clubs/rcts/

Thur 16 Jan **10:00 Improvers Bridge at Radyr Library** £75 for 12 week course. Please contact Rachel Oliver on

07827 928810 or email racheloliver1@live.co.uk for further information and to book your place. www.radyr.org.uk/events-summary/

Thur 16 Jan **14:00 Bridge for Beginners at Radyr Library.** A 12 week introduction to Bridge. £75. For further information and to book your place please contact

Rachel Oliver on 07827 928810 or email racheloliver1@live.co.uk.

www.radyr.org.uk/events-summary/



Christmas Services
At Christ Church, Radyr

Sunday 22nd December
6 pm - Carol Service
candlelit service of Nine Lessons and Carols

24th December - Christmas Eve
4 pm - Crib Service
Children please join us dressed as angels, shepherds, wise men
11.30 pm - 'Midnight Mass'

25th December - Christmas Day
8am - Holy Eucharist
11am - Sung Eucharist
with carols for all the family

At St John's, Danescourt
Friday 20th December
6 pm - Carols around the Crib
Children please join us dressed as angels, shepherds, wise men

24th December - Christmas Eve
9 pm - The First Eucharist of Christmas

25th December - Christmas Day
9.15 am - Sung Eucharist
with carols for all the family



THE FEBRUARY EDITION OF THE CHAIN WILL GO TO PRESS PROMPTLY ON THE 15th OF JANUARY WE CANNOT GUARANTEE TO INCLUDE ITEMS THAT ARRIVE AFTER THAT DATE

Letters, articles, reports and other contributions are invited and should be submitted by January 15th. Submissions may be subject to editing at the Editor's discretion.

The views expressed in the Radyr Chain are not necessarily those of the Editors.

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RADYR METHODIST CHURCH

Welcome to our Christmas Services

15th December at 6pm -
Carol Service
Rev. Judith Holliman

22nd December at 10:30am -
Family Nativity Service
Rev. Judith Holliman

24th December at 11:30pm -
Midnight Communion Service Rev.
Judith Holliman

25th December at 10am -
Christmas Morning Service
Rev. Judith Holliman

Radyr Girls Solidarity for Charity

When Rosie Vetter heard last November that a much-loved close relative had prostate cancer, she decided to turn her worry and sadness into positive action. She committed to run a half marathon every month for 12 months to raise £5000 for research to develop better treatment. Prostate cancer UK supported her with promotional materials, and she ran her first, the Gloucester half marathon in December 2018.

This was followed by Leicestershire, Bath, Solihull, Litchfield, Swansea, the Black Country, San Francisco in

California, Cardiff and Birmingham. She managed, while protesting her hatred for running, to do them all just over the 2-hour mark. Her run over the Golden Gate bridge in August with one of her brothers, Max, might have been the most memorable, but that was before her friends intervened for the Cardiff half on October 6th.

The evening before the half marathon she was delighted and moved to tears when five of her closest school friends, with two additional supporters and partners, appeared unannounced at her family home the evening before the run. They brought with them video messages collected in secret, of her previous runs and from her far-flung family sending their love and wishing her luck.

Not satisfied with this her friends then shocked her even further by showing her a training video of them all practising to get fit for the occasion and announced that they were all running the half marathon with her the next morning. One of her friends, Lara Hall, was sadly injured in the training, so unable to run on the day.

Rosie has now exceeded her £5000 target, thanks to so many wonderful family, friends and Radyr neighbours. Her last two half marathons, Richmond and Pisa with her partner Kieran, will be greatly boosted by this wonderful show of strong friendship love and female solidarity. What amazing young women they all are.

If anyone has not yet donated and would like to her just giving page is. www.justgiving.com/Rosie-Vetter1.

From Left: Elin Morgan, Eleri Tainton, Charlotte Geen, Amy Bateman, Emily Watson, Rosie Vetter, Clare Hall



Change of Plan

Following the disappointing postponement of the planned February 2020 musical of 'Return to the Forbidden Planet' Radyr

Musical Society are moving forward with a different kind of extravaganza to entertain you.

RMS are very proud of their routes in Radyr Parish Musical Society and believe that to keep the history alive the time is right to perform a musical revue of past productions which many local residents, or people they know, may have either watched or taken part in. With over 30yrs of history behind them it has been very hard to find the right mix to produce but Chairperson, Director and Producer Bev Jones, along with Musical Director Ben Pinnow have worked hard to put together a selection from nine musicals.

The group will be rehearsing three numbers from each of the these beloved productions along with small amounts of scripts to link the numbers to give you a sense of the overall show. Featuring numbers from Kiss Me Kate, Guys and Dolls, Hello Dolly, Pirates of Penzance, The Mikado as well as a few other hits and well known songs from the companies back catalogue of shows there is bound to be something to get your toes tapping and humming along to as well as hopefully giving you the opportunity to reminisce.

The production will take place at it's usual time, Spring Half Term, with performances running from Thursday 20th February through to Saturday 22nd (with an earlier start on the Saturday at 6:30pm), but this year it will be performed in the smaller venue of Morganstown Village Hall to provide a more intimate atmosphere.

On top of all this RMS will also be performing as part of the Radyr and Morganstown Festival on Saturday 16th May in Morganstown Village Hall with a 'Swing when you're Singing' theme and following on from the successful Cabaret Evening from Summer 2019 they are also getting ready to produce a 'Heros and Villians' themed evening.

The group have moved on from a 1920's Speakeasy and will be taking you to the dark and dirty streets of old London town and will be entertaining you with well known hits from a range of musicals most famous protagonists on Saturday 4th July along with a three course meal to fit the theme.

From the Rectory

The Light shines in the darkness
As I reflect on the events of 2019 it is tempting to believe we live in a dark, dark world. This has been the year in which 39 migrants died in a refrigerated lorry and aid agencies told us one child dies of pneumonia every 39 seconds. War and want, floods and heat waves have driven us to ponder whether belief in God is possible or whether we just need to rethink how to live more carefully on this earth.

In his book "The Magic Of Reality", Richard Dawkins, the well-known atheist, attempted to "demolish the Judeo-Christian myth" and prove that "science is better than religion". He says we should warn our children, "against believing in fairy tales as well as God" because "novels about witches and spells have a pernicious effect". My own childhood was filled with fairy tales, myths and stories. Perhaps The Secret Seven, The Famous Five and The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe damaged me irreparably! Yet in this world of darkness I need to hear good news and imaginative stories. I could blame the tooth fairy, Father Christmas and a mother with eyes at the back of her head for wrecking my rationality but I give thanks for the ways in which stories have helped me see a world beyond my own. During Advent Christians watch and wait in prayerful expectancy. Advent means "coming" or "arrival." We begin in darkness on Advent Sunday and move falteringly towards the light as we tell stories of a Light that came to us once as a vulnerable baby, a murdered man, and who still comes to us daily and often quite unexpectedly in the weak, the vulnerable, the tortured and the one who forgives us and loves us when we least expect it.

I hope you will join us in Christ Church for on 22nd December for a Candlelit Christmas Carol Service - In words and music we will tell the story of God's unfolding plan, to save you and me from ourselves. Please come along with your children to our Christingle Service and Christmas Tree Festival at 5pm on 15th December when holding

oranges, tied with blood red ribbons and glow sticks shining in the darkness we will wonder whether we can all be light in the darkness today. On Christmas Eve at 4pm bring children to our Crib Service dressed up as shepherds, angels or wise men to take part in the greatest story ever told. Perhaps you will hear a baby cry and see God is with us in the face of an infant.

At Midnight Mass at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve perhaps the stars will dance and the angels sing and a child will be born in your heart and mine. Just imagineand on Christmas morning I hope you will join us to celebrate at 8am or 11am.

If you prefer to worship in the wonderful atmosphere of our old parish church - St John's Danescourt do join us for a Christingle Service and Christmas Tree Festival at 5pm on 8th December, for "Carols around the Crib" 6pm on 20th December, for our Christmas Eve service at 9pm and on Christmas Day at 9.15am

Whatever Mr. Dawkins tells us, many of us know that one small child changed the way we see the world by showing us that love is stronger than hatred. Light can and will overcome darkness.

Wishing you peace and joy this Advent and Christmas and many blessings in 2020,

The Rectory, Rectory Close,
Radyr, CF15 8EW
Tel 029 2084 2417
vicki.burrows@me.com



CHAIN COOKERY CORNER

Butternut Squash, aubergine and lentil moussaka with feta
A delicious, filling vegetarian dish that freezes well. Serves 8

For the lentils

2 Tbsp. olive oil
1 large onion finely chopped
1 celery stick diced
2 garlic cloves crushed
250g. (9oz) puy lentils
2 x 400g tins chopped tomatoes
1 bay leaf
1/2 tspn. dried oregano
5cm piece cinnamon

For other vegetables

700g. (1 1/2 lb) squash (peeled, deseeded, cut into pieces - 1 1/2 cm thick)
prepared weight
2 large aubergines + oil

For the sauce

75g (3 oz) butter
75g (3 oz) plain flour
600ml (good pint) milk
generous grating of nutmeg
90g (3 1/2 oz) Gruyere cheese, grated
30g (good 1oz) Parmesan, grated
115g (4oz) Feta, crumbled
2 large eggs beaten

Heat oil in pan
Saute onion + celery till soft
Add garlic, cook few mins
Add lentils, tomatoes, bay, oregano, cinnamon
+ 250ml (nearly 1/2 pt.) water
Season and cook approx. 25mins.

Place squash in roasting tin
Brush with oil and season
Roast in oven 200C, Gas 6
approx 20 mins until tender.
Slice aubergines into rounds 1/2 cm thick
Warm oil in large frying pan
Cook aubergine on both sides in batches
Drain on kitchen paper.

Melt butter in pan
Add flour, stir over med. heat.
Gradually stir in flour and cook till thick, stirring all the time
Add nutmeg and s+p
Add half grated cheese
Remove from heat
Stir in beaten eggs
Taste for seasoning

Use a deep gratin dish or tin
23x31x7cm deep
Pour lentils in first and smooth (remove cinnamon + bay)
Cover with layer of squash + aubergines
Pour over sauce
Sprinkle rest of cheese
Crumble over Feta
Bake 30-40 mins until top golden.

AMP

News from Radyr & Morganstown WI

November 2019

This is the last "Chain" report of 2019, the next one will be due in January 2020. It is hard to believe how quickly this year has gone.

Our October meeting was held on Monday 14th when our guest speaker was Anthony Walton whose subject was "Birds in the Garden". As well as our members, several visitors attended to hear his enthusiastic and entertaining talk. He obviously has a reputation as a speaker for various organisations. His talk was particularly relevant in October when the gardens are rich with berries and the wonderful colours of Autumn.

October also saw our annual WI birthday celebration which took place on Tuesday 22nd October in Radyr Golf Club. Thanks must go to the Golf Club staff as the quality of the food and the standard of service at the birthday dinner were exemplary.

Moving into November, our Institute was represented by our President, Ginny Jenkins, at the Remembrance Sunday Service at the monument where she laid a wreath on our behalf. The service, as always, was well attended and the crisp, bright November morning provided perfect weather.

The following day, Armistice Day was the November meeting of the WI. Appropriately, the speaker was Romeo Basini talking about "The Italian Connection". Two years ago, Romeo told us how Italians from an area of northern Italy came to the Welsh valleys and settled here. This time, he told of the internment of Italians during the war and the subsequent recruitment of skilled Italian stonemasons to help rebuild war damaged buildings in London and Wales, including the Rhayader Dam.

Now we are half way through November, Christmas preparations loom closer. Our December meeting will be on Monday 9th December. As is our custom, the committee will be hosting a "Christmas Celebration", the details of which are still under wraps. There will be a WI presence at the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony in Station Road on Friday 6th December, where we will be hosting a stall selling hot drinks and mince pies. Hopefully this colourful pre-Christmas event will

not be cancelled due to atrocious weather as it was last year.

Finally, we will be displaying a Christmas tree at the opening of the Christ Church Christmas Tree Festival on 15th December when a Christingle service will take place at 5.00pm.

Our WI resumes on Monday 13th January 2020 – all visitors welcome.

In the meantime, best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from the committee and members of Radyr and Morganstown WI.

LJH

Radyr Winner

The photograph shows Abigail Cole of Radyr Comprehensive with Community Councillor Helen Lloyd Jones, chair of the Penrhys Pilgrimage Group. Abigail was previously a pupil at Bryn Deri Primary School.

Abigail won a prize for designing one of the stamps with which users of the Penrhys Pilgrimage Path will be able to stamp their "passport". The idea takes its cue from the immensely successful Camino Real across northern Spain from the Pyrenees to Santiago de Compostello, where walkers can stamp their passport several times to prove that they have completed the walk.

The Llandaff to Penrhys path, which goes through Radyr, will open officially on the 25th of March 2020.

**Roland F-110
Digital Piano**

**Available - free for anyone who
can collect (Radyr area)**

**Full sized 7 octave piano, suitable
for learners up to Grade 4/5**

**Also several easy piano music
books to go with it.**

**Contact Cath
07976 832956**

Walkers will be able to download their "passport" from the internet and have it stamped at regular intervals on the journey. In Radyr they will be able to have it stamped at Christ Church.

The 21 mile long pathway, through some of the most beautiful scenery in south Wales, goes through Radyr, Pentyrch, Creigiau, Goesfaen, Llantrisant, Tonyrefail and Dinas Rhondda.

The path has been carefully planned not only to take in the way medieval pilgrims would have walked to Penrhys, but also to take in bus and train stops and places to eat drink and shop.

Abigail's stamp shows a view from Gelynis Bridge showing Castell Coch in the background and a kingfisher flying underneath.



News from Bryn Deri PTA

Bryn Deri PTA have had a fun and busy start to the autumn term! We want to thank the Co-op for choosing us as a "Local Cause" for another year. Last year the Co-op and its members raised an amazing £5,800 for the PTA, for which we are immensely grateful. So please help us for another year by signing up with a Co-op membership card and selecting Bryn Deri PTA as your chosen charity.



The way it works:

1. Purchase a Co-op member card for £1
2. Choose Bryn Deri PTA as your local cause
www.coop.co.uk/membership
3. Present your card in any Co-op (not just in Radyr) to get:
 - 5% back for yourself
 - 1% for Bryn Deri PTA when you buy Co-op branded goods.

Thank you to everyone who handed in their old/foreign coins. *Radyr Chain* readers and the local community helped us raise £496! As the scheme was such a success, we hope to run it again next year.

For our November *Rags2Riches* collection of unwanted clothes and shoes our community donated over 80 bags which raised a fantastic £169! Thank you so much for your support.



Bryn Deri held its Christmas Fayre on Saturday 30th November, and as always there was much festive fun to be had. Thanks to everyone who joined us.

If any members of the community have any fundraising ideas or opportunities, or would like to be involved in activities, the PTA would love to hear from you. We can be contacted via the school. Have a wonderful Christmas!

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Radyr Medical Centre, Macmillan Cancer Support and Cardiff and Vale University Health Board have collaborated in commissioning the new role of Macmillan Cancer Wellbeing Coordinator, which is a wonderful example of our investment in the health of our community. Jane Breeze is available to see patients who have been diagnosed with or who are living with cancer, to provide support to them and family members/carers.

Patients need to be registered with Radyr Medical Centre, or at Llwynycelyn surgery, Whitchurch Village surgery or Bishops Road surgery to be eligible for this service.

Your GP can refer you to this service, or you can self-refer by completing a short form available at the reception in the four Medical Centres that are taking part in the scheme.

The role of the Wellbeing Coordinator is to provide advice on a range of NON-MEDICAL topics, and to signpost the person to relevant resources. This includes health and wellbeing programmes, support groups, learning and social opportunities such as singing groups or art groups, practical support such as welfare advice and money management, emotional support or even to discuss a number of

volunteering opportunities.

Jane will be able to guide you through the options that might work best for you, to see if you feel more comfortable with on-line support, or face to face courses, or whether you just want more social interaction with local groups. She can discuss ways in which you might want to take more care of yourself such as light exercise or complimentary therapies and can link you up with specialists for practical advice on topics such as welfare benefits, or preparing to return to work.



GIG CYMRU NHS WALES
Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Caerdydd a'r Fro
Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

You can contact Jane at jane.breeze@wales.nhs.uk and can also meet her at the Wellbeing Café in Radyr Library every Tuesday

Radyr & Morganstown Alzheimer's Society Volunteer Fundraising Group

The above group presented a concert in celebration of Forty Years of the Alzheimer's Society in the Old Church Rooms on Friday 15th November. The guest artist was Sarah Brown, a talented singer and musician. Supper and a welcome drink were provided by the Committee. Thanks to all those who supported this event. Should members of the Radyr Community wish to continue their

support for this hardworking local group in their fight against this devastating disease here is a way you can help. Our Alzheimer's Society group has been chosen as one of the Co-op local charities for the next 12 months. If you are a member and shop in the Co-op 1% of your Co-op branded purchases will be donated to the Alzheimer's Society. If you would like to support us, just log into your account and select us.

Another way of helping us is to support our events. The first one of 2020 will be a coffee morning at 10.30am on Thursday 13th February in Radyr Golf Club. We hope to see you there. With many thanks for your continued support.



THE EXORCISM

The Radyr Drama Society's autumn production was **The Exorcism** by Don Taylor, not to be confused with the Exorcist. The Exorcism was completely new to me, I have never been aware of it being produced anywhere in the UK and as such I am grateful to the RDS for bringing this interesting play to my attention. From the programme notes it seems to have been first produced on the BBC in 1972 in a series called The Dead of Night. A spine chilling ghost story for Christmas.

Taylor's basic idea is that houses can develop malign feelings from what has happened within their walls. Dan and Margaret are spending Christmas day with their friends, Edmund and Rachel, at their newly restored cottage somewhere deep in the country. A lovely set by Raymond Rivron and Dave Burgess. At first everything goes well, then as Edmund starts to carve the turkey the lights go out. Edmund thinks that the wine is blood and all are affected by stomach pains after trying the turkey.

Things get worse, Rachel plays a piece of music she doesn't know, with dreadful forebodings. They cannot open the doors nor smash the glass in the windows and it is unnaturally dark outside.

Director Gill Evans made the most of this tense drama with the help of some spine chilling music and effects conjured up by Tony Watson and some atmospheric lighting by Geoff Davies.

This was a four hander and the actors were onstage for most of the time, no mean feat in a play that lasts two hours. They are to be congratulated for at no time did I feel that they had lost or were about to lose their lines. With acting of this caliber the tension built and I often felt the hairs on the back of my neck tingle.

Towards the end, Rachel is taken over by the spirit of a previous occupant of the cottage, a woman



who had lived there one hundred years earlier, around 1870 - the play is set in 1970. She had watched her husband hang and her children starve to death. The curse that she puts on the area and the landed family who owned the "big house" nearby seems to drip from the walls. Melanie McLeod is to be congratulated for the way she handled this long and difficult monologue.

In fact all the actors. Patrick Baker, Peter Griffiths and Helen Blundell

are to be congratulated in the way they paced this difficult spine chilling drama.

It had a good audience the night I attended, but RDS can always do with more people in the audience and those of you who missed it missed a real treat.

The RDS's next production will be Bullshot Crummond at the end of April 2020.

JAC

Cultural Ambassador

Congratulations to Saverio Florimonte of Radyr's Cicchetti Restaurant on being appointed Secretary for Wales of the National A.I.M of Italy . AIM is an organisation in Italy which promotes cultural and social interaction with other countries. Saverio is a fitting recipient of this honour for the work he has undertaken in the past and will doubtless continue to do in the future.



A 'Slice of the Good Life'

How the smallest of spaces is having a big impact in Radyr village.

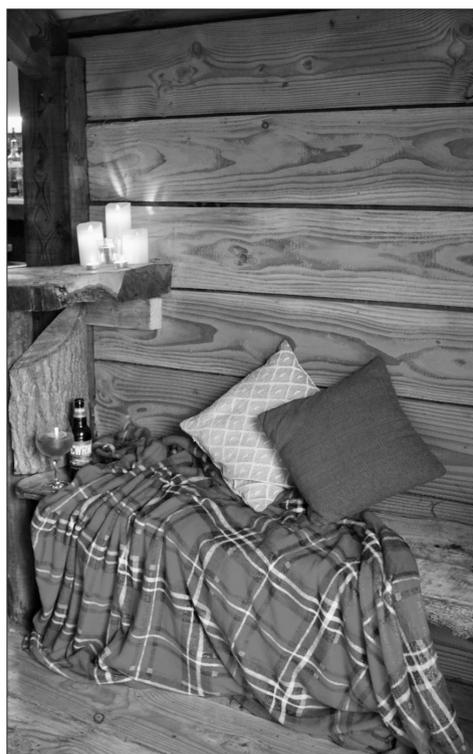
Rebecca Lewis-Chapman, Director at The IAD Company, Radyr.

Following the closure of the old sandwich shop in Radyr village we were left for what felt like months to speculate about what the new owners would do with the space. Rumours were flying, whispers had intensified in to quiet (but still dignified) chatter and still we were none the wiser. Well, we are now 18 months on from the grand opening and I think it is fair to say that nobody could have predicted what a success story the new venture would turn out to be.

Speaking as both a local resident, and a local business owner, it has been an absolute pleasure to watch Radyr's newest deli, Slice, go from strength to strength as a fledgling business over the course of 2019. The energy, enthusiasm and fun that Gam, Matt and their team bring in to work with them every day is infectious, and I find it impossible to leave without a smile on my face every time I drop by.

I can still remember Radyr village as a youngster in the 1980s, it was the kind of place you travelled through to get somewhere, rather than a destination in itself. The difference between then and now is like night and day. From the gorgeous window displays at Ener-Chi, to the hub bub and chatter of friends meeting up for drinks at Radyr Tap and the constant stream of people coming and going to Cicchettis, Radyr village has really transformed into somewhere we can all be proud of – with Slice right at the heart of it.

As anybody who has eaten there will tell you, the food that Slice has to offer is delicious. From meaty snacks to veggie friendly treats there is something for everyone, and it is always worthwhile checking out the daily specials for something a little bit different. Whatever your dietary needs nothing is too much trouble. When I spotted a Thai green curry (my favourite) on the specials board I was devastated to find out that the only filling was chicken. Sure enough, the very next day a vegetarian option had been added to the menu. That kind of responsiveness, personal service and genuine care for the customer is absolutely typical of what the Slice team offer.



The same imaginative flair, attention to detail and quality delivery that has made Slice's sandwiches become prized treats (within my office at least!) is also evident in how they have chosen to use the space that they have available to them. When you arrive at the shop the first thing you will notice are the meticulously cared for plants outside the front of the shop. From there you walk on in to the cosy and functional shop front where you will be warmly greeted by Joe, while Gam works her magic in the prep zone - everything has a purpose, everything has a function, and everything works.

Back out again and through the gate in to the (not very) Secret Garden Seating Area. Here you will find yourself in a family-friendly covered courtyard area filled with bench style seating and an outside bar. The space has a family friendly atmosphere which adds to its appeal, with children encouraged to have fun and play whilst their parents enjoy the lovely food and drinks on offer. During the summer it was lovely to see the children enjoying imaginative play and building little dens, while their parents watched on.

When dropping by in the evenings you will be treated to a great playlist which is always set to a volume that creates a fun atmosphere without requiring you to raise your voice in order to have a conversation. Getting older alert!

At the back of the space stands Slice's latest addition, the Cabin Bar. This gorgeous timber structure was erected at the beginning of the summer to

house the bar and allow the business to extend its hospitality offering into the evenings. The space has a distinctly 'après ski' feel to it, with chunky timber and warm intimate lighting dominating the interior. There are seasonably appropriate blankets strewn across the seating and if that's not enough to keep you warm, one of Joe's generous G&T's is sure to do the job.

The bar itself is made out of a single slab of timber, which still has all of the natural dents, knots and undulations from when it still stood in the ground. This has created a stunning centre piece for the cabin but is not always conducive to easy drink making – Joe can sometimes be overheard proudly bragging that he has only ever spilled one drink as a result of his challenging work surface.

Through a series of small, incremental changes Slice have created a destination for us all to enjoy. They have repurposed the land to really take advantage of their central village location, which has previously sat unused. They have put in hard work, passion and vision and the results are fantastic.

This small but mighty independent coffee shop has only been open for 18 months and has already made a huge difference to village life in Radyr. I can't wait to see what they are going to do next!

About the author:

Rebecca Lewis-Chapman is a 3rd generation Radyr resident. Her business, The IAD Company, is an award winning not-for-profit architectural and interior design firm. To find out more about IAD visit their website on www.theiadcompany.com or call on 02921322112.

FOR SALE

CHILDREN'S GAMES TABLE

Includes snooker table, football table, chess, table tennis and other games.

Length 49" width 24" height 32"

In good condition £25

MODERN WOODEN COMPUTER DESK

Will accommodate computer, server and printer

Length 43" width 30" height 29"

In good condition £25

Contact M. Williams
07816 908806



Community Council News

There can be little doubt that **traffic problems** have hit the headlines over the past few weeks. Local social media sites have been busy with complaints about delays for motorists, especially during peak travel times. This is, of course, primarily a matter for Plasdwr and Cardiff Council. We have, however, had frequent discussions about this issue with the developers - whilst posting any fresh information on our website. There is, of course, a degree of inevitability about this situation - as 7,000 homes are built as part of Plasdwr, on our doorstep - but the failure to deploy adequate, sensible, optimally timed traffic lights at the road works on Llantrisant Road constitutes a significant low-point for Plasdwr and its contractors.

As we reported on our website (in June) these road works on the Heol Isaf roundabout will be with us until at least the summer of 2020. We will press Plasdwr for a 'lessons learned' report, arising from the serious inconvenience caused to residents in recent weeks. We will also ask them about future, scheduled works along Llantrisant Road, and how they will seek to keep the inevitable disruption to a minimum.

In the meantime, we continue to liaise with Cardiff Council about **road improvements** within Radyr and Morganstown - with a view to making our roads safer - and making as pleasant as possible the public spaces through which our main roads pass. To this end, we have developed ideas with regard to the Station Road area - which we hope to share with the community in the near future.

Many readers will have seen the new **Nextbikes** station outside McColls on Station Road. This is aimed at encouraging more of us to choose an active travel option as we move around our community and the city. Have you used Nextbikes? Let us know way you think, by contacting us through our website.

Our work to improve the **children's' playground near Drovers' Way** continues. We recently held a site meeting with Cardiff's drainage officials, following which a solution to the problem of mud and water flowing

across the playground was developed. This work should be undertaken before the end of January - and then, at last, the new play equipment will be installed.

At the same time, Cardiff Council has agreed to undertake a feasibility study, to consider altering the tarmac play-area (near the Drovers' Way playground) into a 3G **Multi-use Games Arena**. This would be fantastic news for children and youngsters across Radyr and Morganstown.

We have also issued invitations to local organisations and experts to work with us to develop ideas with regard to providing facilities and opportunities for our **young people**. An important part of this work will be engaging with youngsters across the community - to find out what they think of Radyr and Morganstown - and what they think should be done to improve life for them.

We have met with several officials across Cardiff Council to discuss the ideas we submitted for their **infrastructure ideas list**. These ranged from installing proper bus shelters to a new community hall on the Mound Field. Times are very hard, financially, of course, but we will keep you posted about any developments. And we will continue to liaise with Cardiff Council to ensure that our proposals are borne in mind as and when money becomes available. You can see our infrastructure proposals on our website (just search for 'infrastructure' on our site).

We have a **new piano** at the OCR! The old one had a broken sustain pedal - and was beginning to sound very muffled! We hope that groups using the OCR will enjoy the new instrument!

Our **lunch club** continues to meet at Radyr Golf Club - where we always receive a very warm welcome and some very tasty meals. This meets on Wednesday lunchtimes, twice a month. Lunches are followed by a talk (we've heard about the work of GCHQ, the history of maps and much more). Please contact our office if you would like to attend. You will be very welcome!

We continue our work at **Pentwyn Park**, where steps have been taken to

clear the footpath of the large puddles that collected there following rain. We are also working to rebuild the wall between the park and the car park situated behind the adjacent flats.

Work at **Radyr Woods** continues, also. This is a hugely valuable resource - but we are short of volunteers to help develop and maintain the site. Please contact us if you would like to help.

We objected recently to the **proposed development of 45 homes** in woodlands behind Danescourt. This woodland is part of the glorious wooded footpath that leads from Radyr to Llandaf. You can see our objection on our website (search for Taff Housing).

A Welsh language version of this report is available on our website (under 'Our work' / 'The Chair's Blog').



Cllr Huw Onllwyn Jones - Chair
Radyr and Morganstown Community
Council. November 2019

Margaret Frances Wadey

(26th January 1923 –
24th September 2019)

We are sorry to record Margaret's death, following several years of illness, in Fareham, Hampshire, where she had moved to be near her family.

Margaret retired to Radyr to be near to her sister Jean Bray and her family following a working life in the W.R.N's and then in the Civil Service. She was for some years Treasurer of *The Radyr Chain* as well as being an active member of the W.I and of Christchurch. She will be remembered by all who knew her for her accomplishments and public spiritedness as well as her sense of humour and kindness

We extend our sympathy to her nephews, Andrew and Peter Bray, and to their families.



AN EVENING OF SHIRLEY BASSEY & MOTOWN

By Rachael Roberts

Taffs Well Village Hall

Saturday 18th January 2020 • doors 7pm show 8.30pm

Licensed Bar available • Proceeds to Alzheimers Association.

Tickets £8.00 various discounts available

Tickets available from www.ticketsource.co.uk /Zoe Phillips (village Hall)/The Taffs Well Hub.



WARNING

Some of you might have noticed that a new speed limit has appeared between the Ty Nant and Ynys Bridge. Up until now there was a 40 m.p.h. limit sign just after the Ty Nant heading north, this has been taken down. The 30 m.p.h sign still exists at Pugh's heading south, although a new 30 m.p.h sign has appeared on the Ynys Bridge. The road between the Ynys Bridge and the Ty Nant heading south seems to be in some kind of no mans land. No indication has been given as to if and when the new regulation will come into force.

Be aware of this anomaly

Since the Chain went to press a sign has appeared along the road between the Ty Nant and Ynys Bridge conforming that it is now a 30 mph limit with immediate effect.



Letter to the Editor...



Dear Editor

I note from reading the October 2019 copy of the Radyr Chain, RCM's insistence on pursuing a statutory limit of 20 mph throughout Radyr and Morganstown. Has no one taken any notice of the letters from Professor John L Harwood on the subject of pollution relative to speed? He is an expert in the field, as his letters in previous copies of the magazine clearly show.

Many areas around the U.K. justifiably and correctly have a speed limit of 20 mph approaching schools for safety reasons. Many have lights that flash around school entry and exit times, but the speed outside these times is at 30. Could this not be considered as an alternative?

I drove from the Ynys bridge along Heol Isaf this morning and a car, three ahead of me had clearly decided to travel at 20. I followed it out of interest to Llantrisant road before turning back to Radyr. It was mid morning and not a busy time. When checking my rear view mirror at Radyr Comp, vehicles were tailing back as far I could see. Maybe the pollution levels could be checked at both speeds. Would a compromise at 25mph outside of school starting and leaving times be a possible compromise? Perhaps Professor Harwood could advise on this.

Finally, I note when driving around that the percentage of homes with the 20's Plenty sign in the garden is very low. I have been asked and refused to put one in mine. Presumably, so have many other residents. Is this a case of the usual ignoring of the silent majority? May I ask that this is looked into further before a decision is made to go ahead with the plan.

Name and address supplied.

**Ty Coch Nursing Home
Station Road,
Llanishen, Cardiff**

I would like to wish all my friends in Radyr a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Audrey Skidmore

More photographs of Armistice Day in Radyr



As 1919 dawned the British Government had a new problem, how to record and recognise the carnage that had gone on over the previous four years.

Fabian Ware had been too old to volunteer for the army in 1914, but had quickly enlisted with the Red Cross. Early in the War he became aware that the provision for recording and marking the war graves was insufficient. His work led to the creation of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

It was largely on Ware's suggestion that the British Government decided not to repatriate the fallen of the First World War. This was contrary to the wishes of many of the families of the fallen who had wanted their loved ones near at hand.

As part of the commemoration of the end of the War in 1919 the Government commissioned Edward Lutyens, probably the leading architect of the Edwardian era, who was responsible for the grandiose Imperial buildings in New Delhi, to create a Cenotaph in Whitehall. He first created a temporary structure of wood and plaster but so many thousands of families of the fallen came to lay their floral tributes at the Cenotaph in 1919 that the Government had to rethink and convert it into a permanent structure of Portland stone.

Cymun Bendigaid

Cynhaliwyd y cyntaf o'r
gwasanaethau Cymun Cymraeg
yn eglwys hynafol Sant
Ioan, Danescourt ym mis
Hydref. Braf oedd gweld cynifer
wedi dod ynghyd. Y Parchedig
Dyfrig Lloyd, ficer Eglwys Dewi
Sant oedd yng ngofal y
gwasanaeth a chafwyd croeso
cynnes gan aelodau'r eglwys, a
ddarparodd baned a theisen i
bawb ar ôl y gwasanaeth.

Diolch i'r Parch Vicki Burrows am
fentro wrth gynnal y Cymundeb
yn Gymraeg ym mhlwyf
Radur. Edrychwn ymlaen at y
gwasanaeth nesaf, a gynhelir am 4
y prynhawn ar Ionawr y 12fed.
Croeso i bawb.

*It's not essential that you speak
Welsh fluently as the service books
are bilingual.

Radyr & Morganstown Alzheimer's Society Volunteer Fundraising Group

The above group presented a concert in celebration of Forty Years of the Alzheimer's Society in the Old Church Rooms on Friday 15th November. The guest artist was Sarah Brown, a talented singer and musician. Supper and a welcome drink were provided by the Committee. Thanks to all those who supported this event.

Should members of the Radyr Community wish to continue their support for this hardworking local group in their fight against this devastating disease here is a way you can help. Our Alzheimer's Society group has been chosen as one of the Co-op local charities for the next 12 months. If you are a member and shop in the Co-op 1% of your Co-op branded purchases will be donated to the Alzheimer's Society. If you would like to support us, just log into your account and select us.

Another way of helping us is to support our events. The first one of 2020 will be a coffee morning at 10.30am on Thursday 13th February in Radyr Golf Club. We hope to see you there. With many thanks for your continued support.



Running the New York Marathon

Congratulations to our Community Councillor, Helen Lloyd Jones, on completing this year's New York Marathon. The picture shows Helen looking remarkably fresh after completing the 26 mile run. She is particularly pleased to have a confirmed time of under five hours, although she did say that some of the areas they ran through were a bit "scary".

Helen says:

Felt much better when I saw that my age adjusted marathon time would have been under 5 hours. It actually took me 7 hrs 36 mins and I experienced similar problems to the slow runners in last year's London Marathon. Very scary when you're not sure if you're on the right route because you can't see in the dark, the blue line marker from the sidewalk but I made it round.

I Will try to resist the temptation to do another one!

Children's Events at Radyr Library

Free event

Come along after school on Fridays starting on Friday 29th November. Friday 6th, 13th and 20th December.

Children's Book Club at Radyr Library
3rd Wednesday of the month 4-5pm

Radyr Library is setting up new groups and activities.

These include Chair Yoga, Conversational French and Bridge. Our new Wellbeing Café on Tuesdays at 11am is free and open to all.

Please do come along and see what is on offer.

If you would like to use the space, set up a group or would like to volunteer please do get in touch RadyrLibrary@cardiff.gov.uk.

Christmas Coffee Morning at Radyr Library

Organised by the Knitting and Crochet Group
Monday 9th December
10am-1pm

Radyr Library on Friday 10th January 10am-1pm

Free digital workshops for those over 45+ looking to gain or improve their digital skills. The workshops are accredited through Learn My Way and Open Badge, and learning opportunities in the session are personalised to each learner's needs.

The sessions cover:

- Online Basics
- Computer functionality basics
- Accessing online services (shopping, watching and listening)
- Using government services/applying for and managing Universal Credit
- Online Safety
- Social media/ communication)

For more information and to book your place please call Adult Learning on 02920 872030 or email adultlearningquery@cardiff.gov.uk

When is Plastic Fantastic?

- Update

I would like to thank everyone who took the time to read and respond to my article in the October issue of the Radyr Chain.

Heather (Ellie's mum) from the Ellie's Fund charity was really pleased to hear the news!

I recently dropped off a box containing over 3kg of pet food pouches collected within a few weeks. For every 7kg parcel the charity receives £3.50.

The bread bag collection is growing by the day. The first parcel I sent off contained around 200 bread bags. I have already got another 300 to send off!

For every bag collected the charity receives 1p.

It is so simple. We stop the plastic pollution by recycling it instead, and the charity gets to benefit from our efforts too!

If anyone missed the article and would like more information then please contact me on 07938058868.

Thank you - Nicky

High Energy Gymnastics

Are you a young person aged between 13-18 in the community?

Are you passionate about sports or want to gain a qualification?

High Energy Gymnastics club is a small after-school gymnastics club based at Bryn Deri Primary school on a Wednesday. Claire is searching for a young volunteer from the community to help with gymnastics classes for children aged between 5-9. It will involve helping with warm up,

supporting gymnasts with a range of basic gymnastics skills on floor, bars, bench and other apparatus. Claire will provide all the support and guidance you need. In return for a weekly commitment you will be able to gain a Welsh Gymnastics Sports Leaders qualification by attending a 1 day course which would be paid for by the club.

Interested? Please call her on 07976645652 to have a chat and find out more.



Hand-made Rabbit, Cat and Mouse for sale £25 each

They are made with wool felt and 4 buttons each. 16" - 20" tall.

Not suitable for children under 5 years

Can take orders with choice of clothes.

Phone Jenny 02920 842435

A Fitting Farewell

It is with sadness we announce the death of Tom Allen of Ty Gwyn Farm. Tom and his wife, Val, have kept a riding stable at Ty Gwyn for many years and taught generations of Radyr youngsters to ride safely.

Tom and Val have been leading members of the Radyr community and of the horse world in south east Wales. It is only fitting, therefore, that Tom's journey to his final resting place should be on a horse drawn cart pulled by a beautiful matched pair of shire horses.



Thank You

Thank you to the community angels (both ladies and gentlemen) in the form of district nurses, carers, doctors and all the surgery staff at Radyr Health Centre for looking after Tom. They were all dedicated, kind, professional and compassionate. Tom adored Dr Lawton, who was his

favourite, and Dr Dolman both of whom he considered to be first class ladies who were kind and considerate. Also, thank you to the lovely Rev'd Vicki Burrows for the beautiful service at the Church which was so touching.

Grateful thanks for all the kind wishes, flowers and cards which helped us massively to overcome our great loss of Tom.

Val Allen

Christchurch Concerts

The first of the music@christchurch concerts took place at Christchurch in November. The idea is to mix local talent with established performers. The first concert featured the Bryn Deri and Radyr Primary Joint

accompanied by her brother on the piano. Connie is a virtuoso on the double bass. Not many people are aware of the double bass as a solo instrument and Connie played movements from two concertos written for the instrument by composers who few had ever heard of, Drogonetti and Botesinione the latter known as the of the Paganini of the



Connie Francis, the double bass virtuoso



The joint Bryn Deri and Radyr Primary School orchestra

Orchestra, numerous soloists from the two schools as well as a choir and soloists from Danescourt Primary School.

With a lot of Christmas music it got us off to a fitting start to the Christmas season. The standard was very high and it got the series off to a good start.

The established performers came in the form of Connie Francis

double bass. She did, however, show off the extensive range of this instrument. Connie finished off with two movements from Saint Saens's Carnival of the Animals which again showed the double bass off to advantage.

Bryn Deri were the first of the performers to nominate a charity and they had nominated Bobarth, Cymru.



Nick Francis accompanist

£363 was collected for Bobarth Cymru.

We look forward to the next concert on the 13th March 2020. JAC