

# RADYR CHAIN



Number 258

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown

February 2022

## Christmas in Radyr

**Christmas 2021 was a great deal better for most people than the previous Christmas. We congratulate all concerned on two delightfully lit villages. Heading through towards the A470 you saw the Church tower, the Christmas trees and lights in Station Road and Windsor Gardens, The Old Church Rooms lit up and a tree and lights in Morganstown. There was also a tree in the Sidings.**

Unfortunately because of a very stormy weather forecast, it was decided to cancel the lighting ceremony and the arrival of Santa in R&M. As the lights had been switched on already the event would have centred on the arrival of Santa.

In the event the weather was nothing like as bad as predicted.

Friday 10th December saw Santa, in his brightly lit sleigh, wind his way from Morganstown to the Llantrisant Road, a journey that took three and a half hours. The idea was that no one would be more than a three or four minute walk from a point where Santa passed. This year's charity was Headway, a charity for people affected by acquired brain injuries to rebuild their lives. Small charities are always grateful for money and Headway was particularly grateful for the £450 donated in the bucket collection on the night. Headway will be the charity for the May Festival which runs from the 30th April to the 15th May. More of the Festival in our next edition.



The Community Council again awarded a prize for the best decorated house - see the report by the Chair of the Community Council.

## Repair Shop

**Over the past decade or so I think that we have all become fed up with being told we need to ditch an item and start again because a small part is broken. I think that is particularly true of items which have a sentimental over a cash value and is why programmes like the Repair Shop have become such a hit.**

One of the most heartwarming stories we've been told in a long while is the experience of the Rev. Judith Holliman, the minister of our Methodist Church. Judith was brought up by her grandmother and when she was two she spent a long time in hospital with "significant skin burns". Her grandmother bought her an owl to comfort her in hospital which Judith named Wol after the owl in Winnie the Pooh.

Nearly half a century on Wol was "in a sorry state" and Judith said in one of her Sunday thoughts on Facebook how scared he was and how she'd like to have him repaired on the Repair Shop. Judith's grandmother, who lived to be 91, had repaired him several times already. One wonders whether some kind person had sent



Judith's thoughts to the Repair Shop because six months later she received an invitation to take Wol to the Repair Shop.

Judith and her son James visited the Repair Shop, which is situated at the Weald and Down Living Museum near Chichester, on two occasions. Once to take and once to collect the restored Wol. The photographs show Judith and James with the two fabric restorers at the Repair Shop, Amanda Middleditch and Julie Tatchell. Judith tells us that the team at the Repair

Shop were very pleased with the outcome.

One sometimes wonders how much some of the repairs cost, but Wol only cost Judith the petrol cost of travelling to and from the Museum, some things are worth more than money.

The programme was shown in early December, but with the popularity of the series and its frequent repeats you're almost certain to catch up with Judith and Wol.

## COMING EVENTS



N.B. Details of all coming events can be found in the Diary section of the website  
Please check that they are going ahead  
[www.Radyr.org.uk](http://www.Radyr.org.uk)

- Mon 14 Feb** **19:30 Radyr & Morganstown WI**  
Meeting at Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr. Details to follow  
[radyr.org.uk/clubs/radyr-wi/](http://radyr.org.uk/clubs/radyr-wi/)
- Thur 17 Feb** **13:15 Treforgan WI**  
Meeting at Morganstown Village Hall. Details to follow.  
[radyr.org.uk/clubs/treforgan-wi/](http://radyr.org.uk/clubs/treforgan-wi/)
- Mon 21 Feb** **19:30 RMA General Meeting, Old Church Rooms and on Zoom**  
Open to all the RMA General Meeting is an opportunity to hear from a speaker of local interest before sharing news of local matters and events. This meeting will focus on the Cardiff Revised Local Development Plan, which is in preparation, what it means for the local Community and how you can get involved.  
[www.radyr.org.uk/rmassociation/meetings/](http://www.radyr.org.uk/rmassociation/meetings/)
- Thur 3 Mar** **10:30 Probus Club of Cardiff West**  
"A Funny Thing Happened...On The Way To The Theatre" by actor and humorous raconteur Philip Davies - an illustrated talk being given at the Radyr Golf Club. For more information please phone Geoff Foot on 07780 990 847. Coffee and tea at the start, plus lunch afterwards are all available. If you think you might like to join our Probus men's club, you are welcome to come along too. [radyr.org.uk/events-summary/](http://radyr.org.uk/events-summary/)
- Mon 14 Mar** **19:30 Radyr & Morganstown WI**  
Meeting at Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr. Details to follow  
[radyr.org.uk/clubs/radyr-wi/](http://radyr.org.uk/clubs/radyr-wi/)
- Mon 4 April** **19:30 Radyr Hustings (1/2)**  
The RMA are hosting two hustings events ahead of the elections on 5 May 2022. Come along and hear how your candidates are planning to represent you. More details to follow...  
[radyr.org.uk/events-summary/](http://radyr.org.uk/events-summary/)
- Tues 5 April** **10:30 Probus Club of Cardiff West**  
"A Literary Life" - by the broadcaster, story teller and writer Phil Carradice - an illustrated talk being given at the Radyr Golf Club. For more information please phone Geoff Foot on 07780 990 847.

Letters, articles, reports and other contributions are invited and should be submitted by March 15th. Submissions may be subject to editing at the Editor's discretion. All advertisements are accepted in good faith and The Radyr Chain is not responsible for information contained therein.

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

**Receiving Editor** - Jeff Davison, 3 James Place, Treforest, Pontypridd CF37 1SQ

**E-Mail address** - [Chain@radyr.org.uk](mailto:Chain@radyr.org.uk) or [davison.litho@gmail.com](mailto:davison.litho@gmail.com)

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

**E-Mail address** - [ltturner4@btinternet.com](mailto:ltturner4@btinternet.com)

**Interim Treasurer** - Linda Turner, (to whom donations may be sent; they will be gratefully acknowledged) 19 Sycamore Tree Close, Radyr. 2084 3562

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

Coffee and tea at the start, plus lunch afterwards are all available. If you think you might like to join our Probus men's club, you are welcome to come along too.  
[radyr.org.uk/events-summary/](http://radyr.org.uk/events-summary/)

**Mon 25 April** **19:30 Radyr Hustings (1/2)**  
The RMA are hosting two hustings events ahead of the elections on 5 May 2022. Come along and hear how your candidates are planning to represent you. [radyr.org.uk/events-summary/](http://radyr.org.uk/events-summary/)

**Thur 5 May** **Polling Day** 5 May 2022 is Polling Day for the Local Council and Community Council elections. No matter who you vote for, just make sure you vote!

## Radyr and Morganstown Alzheimer's Society Fund Raising Group

Although our fundraising activities have been severely curtailed due to the pandemic we managed to raise a considerable amount for the Alzheimer's Society in 2021. We are delighted to inform you that the total amount we received from the Co-operative Society for the year is £4570. Thank you so much to all who have helped to make this possible. The Co-op has generously chosen our group again for 2022.

Over £600 has been gained for the charity this year from the sale of your broken and unwanted jewellery and again we are so grateful for your contributions. Please contact Pat on 2084 3843 or Gaynor on 2084 3069 if you have jewellery that you no longer want.

When Welsh Government restrictions are eased we hope to kick-start our campaign with a coffee morning at Radyr Golf Club and will give you more information when available.

In the meantime we wish you all a happy and healthy 2022 and look forward to once again be able to raise funds for the Group.

## Radyr resident in New Years Honours List



Dr Bnar Talabani, 32, who lives in Radyr with her husband and daughter has been appointed an MBE in recognition of her above and beyond work during the Covid crisis.

This not only included work to help promote vaccine take-up in the Muslim and ethnic communities, you may have seen her on local television, but also combating anti-vaccine misinformation.

She volunteers to work with the British Society for Immunology and the international organisation Team Halo who battle to correct myths on covid vaccines. A particular tool they use is short videos on social media. This meant using TikTok as part of her tool kit to access younger generations. [note to older readers, this is not the former Tick Tock watch factory of legend at Ystradgynlais.]

Bnar who is Kurdish, had to flee Iraq in 1998 with her mother and siblings, all of whom have established themselves as successful professionals here in Britain.

She herself specialises in kidney and transplant medicine at the University Hospital having studied at Cardiff University.

She gratefully acknowledges the help and support she has had from others during this campaign.

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

# Merched y Wawr, Bro Radur



Yn ystod y ddau fis diwethaf cawsom ddau gyfarfod amserol.

Prosiect Ynni Gwyrdd, yn Ysgol Bro Dinefwr, oedd dan ystyriaeth ar nos Fercher 1 Rhagfyr. Mr Eirian Davies, Dirprwy Brifathro'r ysgol, roddodd gyflwyniad i ni ar y gwaith arloesol sydd ar droed yn yr ysgol a agorodd ei drysau ym mis Medi 2019. Saif yr ysgol ym mhentref Ffair-fach ger Castell Dinefwr a phont Llandeilo. Esboniodd Eirian Davies iddo gael ei fagu ar fferm laeth ar gyrion y dref, a derbyn addysg gynradd yng Nghwm Ifor, Llandeilo, ac Ysgol y Strade. Pan oedd yn astudio am radd mewn Bioleg ym Mhrifysgol Abertawe, gwelodd nifer o ddatblygiadau arwyddocaol ar waith. Yna cafodd ei benodi'n athro ym mro ei febyd gyda'r gymuned yn ffactor pwysig iddo.

Esboniodd fod Ysgol Bro Dinefwr yn amcanu i fod yn ysgol gynaliadwy addas ar gyfer y dyfodol. I gyflawni'r amcanion gwyrdd, meddai, mae gan yr ysgol dri llwybr, sef, yn gyntaf, integreiddio dysgu awyr agored i mewn i'r cwricwlwm yn y dosbarth er mwyn sicrhau bioamrywiaeth. Yn ail, trawsnewid trefn cael bwyd i gynnal economi cynaliadwy. Yn drydydd, er mwyn lleihau ôl troed carbon yr ysgol, trawsnewid y ffordd y mae hi'n defnyddio ynni.

Wedi i'r ysgol gael ei hadeiladu, sylweddolwyd bod darn o dir oedd yn agos at yr afon oedd yn dueddol o sugno dwr. Dyma benderfynu dechrau plannu llysiau yno i weld beth fyddai'n digwydd. Yna gosodwyd llwybrau addas, gardd synhwyrdd, lleoliad ar gyfer ieir, a llyn ar gyfer hwyaid.

Esboniodd y siaradwr fod y datblygiadau wedi bod yn her gan fod unrhyw arloesi yn golygu menter a pharodrwydd i weithio'n ffyddiog. Bydd Cwricwlwm newydd gan yr ysgol erbyn 2023, a bydd gan Gymru gyfan gwricwlwm newydd erbyn 2027.

Ar nos Fercher 5 Ionawr cawsom gwmmi Sioned Lewis. Drwy gyfrwng

Zoom, siaradodd â ni o bellter (Sbaen), a theitl ei sgwrs oedd 'O Hel Straeon i Westy Aduniad'.

Wedi'i magu ym mhentref Dolwyddelan, nid nepell o Flaenau Ffestiniog, aeth i Goleg y Brifysgol ym Mangor i astudio Cymraeg a Drama. Wedi graddio, fe'i penodwyd yn gyfieithydd yn y Swyddfa Gymreig cyn symud i swydd ymchwilydd gyda Radio Cymru ym Mangor. Arweiniodd hynny at gyflwyno rhaglen deledu o'r enw 'Bwrw Mlaen' ar gyfer dysgwyr y Gymraeg. Cyfnod wedyn yn ymchwilio ar gyfer rhaglenni cwmni Teledu Dime Goch. Newidiodd gyfeiriad wedyn a chael profiad yn gwerthu tai gyda chwmmi adnabyddus Dafydd Hardy. Yn dilyn hynny, gweithiodd yn swyddfa hysbysebu Papurau Newydd Gogledd Cymru.

Bu'n Swyddog Iaith i Fudiad Ysgolion Meithrin am bum mlynedd. Wedyn fe enillodd gymwysterau cwnsela yng Ngholeg Menai, Prifysgol John Moores, Lerpwl a Chaer. Gweithiodd fel Cydlynnydd Gwasanaeth Cwnsela Ysgolion Uwchradd Gwynedd a Môn. Canfod ei hun wedyn yn arwain rhaglen gwmsela Coleg Prifysgol Bangor a phenderfynu mynd yn hunangyflogedig a chynnig ei gwasanaeth i gleientau ymhell ac agos drwy gyfrwng y We.

Pan ddaeth cyfres rhaglenni 'Gwesty Aduniad' i fod ym mis Medi 2018, gofynnwyd i Sioned Lewis eu cyflwyno. Yn ystod ei sgwrs gerbron Merched y Wawr, esboniodd fod y profiadau gwaith amrywiol a gafodd wedi bod yn baratoad ardderchog ar gyfer y gwaith o gwmsela yn y rhaglenni hynny.

Esboniodd y bydd lleoliad 'Gwesty Aduniad' yn symud o Westy Treysgawen, ym Môn, i Westy Iscoed Park, ger Wrecsam, gydag Alex Jones yn cyflwyno'r fersiwn Saesneg, dan y teitl 'Reunion Hotel'.

Cawsom gyfle yn ail hanner y cyfarfod i holi Sioned Lewis am natur a chefnidir y rhaglen deledu amserol.

Ar nos Fercher 2 Chwefror, bydd Efa Lois yn sgwrsio am ei gwaith ym maes arlunio. Croeso cynnes i bawb.

Gwen Emyr

## Poppy Appeal – 2021

Despite the on-going uncertainty and sometimes fluctuating social restrictions of the COVID 19 pandemic, the response of the communities of Radyr, Morganstown and Danescourt to the British Legion Poppy Appeal was absolutely marvellous. A total of £3,036 was raised towards the Legion's continuing financial and social support of British ex-services personnel.

The three primary schools of the Radyr Parish area raised almost one third of this amount themselves, much of it through sales of the popular 'Kids' Pack' poppy-themed school and personal items. Each of the major local retailers also made a significant contribution, as did the relatively small, but dedicated group of individual poppy sellers around Radyr.

On behalf of the Royal British Legion, a sincere 'thank you' to all involved – schools' staff and parents, retailers and local door-to-door poppy sellers. Without your help and co-operation – and continued caring about those who have served their country - we could not have made this year's appeal such a resounding success. Anyone who may be interested in helping with the Appeal, or would like further information about its activities, please contact

i.ogden88@btinternet.com, or Ian Ogden on mobile 07711-713176.



## From The Rectory



Dear Reader,

*Radyr and Morganstown Good Neighbours*

"This is going to be the best Christmas ever," one of our girls announced after she returned home from shopping in Cardiff. I asked her, "why?" I suspected she had seen a much longed for gift either in the shops and had a hunch she might receive it, or I wondered if she'd been peaking at the gifts wrapped up and under the tree. I was wrong. She explained, "this is going to be the best Christmas ever because I've bought some brilliant presents to give to the family." Out of the mouth of babes! She articulated that truth many of us discover as we grow up that it gives us great pleasure, fulfilment even, to see the look of delight on the face of another when they receive the gift we give them.

In the week before Christmas amongst the many cards we received there were letters written for the benefit of distant friends and family members telling the story of their journey through 2021. I was particularly touched by one letter as a close friend told amusing tales of their family's goings ons, but it was the story of how they had "entertained themselves" in lockdown and early retirement that got me thinking. Lawrence is a retired teacher and Belinda spent her working life as a physiotherapist in a children's head injury hospital. Last year they volunteered to work in a Covid vaccination centre and they both loved serving their community and making a difference. In the seemingly menial tasks of checking people in and making

them feel welcome they found a sense that they had played their little part in our hurting world. Wow!

Very many years ago the Good Neighbours charity in Radyr made such a difference to those who needed help. In recent weeks, supported by funding from our community council we have registered a new charity, "Radyr and Morganstown Good Neighbours". Following interviews we have now appointed Louise Beesley to lead what we hope will one day be a group of willing volunteers who will serve the needs of others. In the coming months Louise will be listening to you and asking. Who is in need locally? What can we do to make a difference? We are open to all suggestions. Should we be assisting the elderly with shopping, visits to the dentist, hospital, GP? Does our community need a place to meet for carers, dementia sufferers, those with special needs? Are the children and young families in need of support? Should we introduce community lunch clubs or coffee mornings? Please tell us. You can email Louise via the trustees, myself on [vicki.burrows@me.com](mailto:vicki.burrows@me.com) or Councillor Vina Patel on, [vinap69@googlemail.com](mailto:vinap69@googlemail.com).

As the early church reflected on the life of a child born in poverty who gave his all for others they began to say, "It is more blessed to give than to receive". This is a truth that one 12 year old girl delighted in just before Christmas, it is a truth the many of you who helped strangers in lockdown discovered and its a truth that might just make our own community an even better place to live.

Please consider whether you might like to help us shape the vision of Radyr and Morganstown Good Neighbours or help us make it a reality

Wishing you many blessings in 2022  
Vicki X

**The Rectory  
Rectory Close  
Radyr CF15 8EW  
[vicki.burrows@me.com](mailto:vicki.burrows@me.com)**

**Tel: 029 2084 2417 or 07515 965781**

## Radyr & Morganstown Litter Pickers

### Talking Rubbish!



We are delighted to report that the R & M Litter Pickers have collected 264 bags of litter from the streets and parks of our villages in the last six months and also reported 12 cases of fly tipping and picked up 64 bags of leaves.

Or perhaps we should say we are sad that we have had to collect this amount. Still, we hope you can see the difference and have noted the pink bags awaiting collection.

We have 20 members who go out and about solo picking and we organise group picks - the next one is Tuesday 8 February, 10.00 at Morganstown Village Hall. However, it is not just our job - cleaning up is the responsibility of us all. Recently two of our pickers were congratulated when they were out - and the person then said "there's some litter outside my house."

Contact us on  
[rm litterpickers@outlook.com](mailto:rm litterpickers@outlook.com)

*Becca, David, Jeanette and Peter - the Committee of Radyr and Morganstown Litter Pickers*

*Supported by Radyr and Morganstown Community Council*





## Happy Jack -

*A Review...*

It was a wild and windy November evening. In the darkness Storm Arwen was blowing strong and promising yet more. It was on such an evening that Radyr Drama Society opened their production of John Godber's *Happy Jack*, their first venture for two years. The audience arrived in good time and even before the actors appeared one could sense an air of eager anticipation; the drought was ending.

The choice of play was influenced by Covid considerations. A small cast with a simple set would reduce the number actively involved through rehearsal and performance which in turn would reduce the risk of Covid infection; one positive lateral flow test in the latter stages of rehearsal could derail the show. Gill Evans is a great admirer of John Godber's work and her selection of *Happy Jack* with a cast of just two actors was ideal in these unusual circumstances.



*Happy Jack* relates the story of Jack and Liz Monroe and was inspired by John Godber's grandparents. Jack, played by Peter Griffiths, and Liz, played by Pauline Watson, are coal miner and wife and typical of their generation. The play opens with the couple in old age and successive scenes gradually take the audience back through time to the characters



in their courtship days. Their love for each other is glimpsed in flashes, but all too often hidden under a stereotypically tough approach to life.

It would feel wrong to differentiate between the performances of Pauline and Peter. Both are highly experienced actors and they both exhibited that experience in very demanding roles requiring their continuous presence throughout the play. Their mime actions were particularly well performed, as in their entry to a crowded cinema and also in the grandson bathroom scene. Yes, those actions were shown by two actors with minimal set and props and with total credibility. The reverse aging process was clearly shown in voice and body variation. It will have taken much concentrated rehearsal time to achieve such standards

The minimal set was most appropriate in term of period and action. It allowed for seamless movement between home life and external scenes with simple furniture moves quickly effected by the actors. Costumes matched set and cast, with changes indicated by subtle variations in hat, coat or scarf, Lighting effects were most effective with gobo images setting the colliery outline and Blackpool tower illustrating how simple and well-timed effects can add to audience

understanding and enjoyment. The musical contributions were similarly well judged to indicate period and character preference.

The contributions of cast and production team all clearly benefited from the leadership and experience of director Gill Evans.

All involved can be proud of Radyr Drama Society's first steps towards the Covid recovery world. The audiences showed how much they appreciated their evening of live theatre and it is to be hoped that future productions will be rewarded with larger audiences as infection fears diminish.





**Fighting Hidden Hunger** Restoring Hope  
**Brwydro Newyn Cudd** Adfer Gobaith

A very big thank you for the many generous donations of food received in November which resulted in two cars full of food weighing 240kg being delivered to the Cardiff Foodbank warehouse ahead of Christmas.

Members of Radyr Methodist Church are collecting donations for the Foodbank again. Please place any donations of food in the boxes which will be outside the following addresses between 9a.m. and 5p.m. on Friday 25th and Saturday 26th February.

30 Pentwyn, Radyr CF15 8RE,  
20 Walnut Tree Close, Radyr CF15 8SX,

13 Heol Roald Dahl, Radyr CF15 8GT.

The foodbank particularly need:

- CUSTARD
- BISCUITS
- MILK (UHT LONG LIFE 1 LITRE)
- FRUIT JUICE (LONG LIFE) 1 LITRE
- TINNED POTATOES
- SPONGE PUDDINGS
- JARS OF COFFEE (110G-250G)
- MICROWAVEABLE RICE
- SAVOURY SNACKS (CRISPS, CRACKERS ETC)
- RICE PUDDING
- CHOCOLATE BARS
- ANTI BACTERIAL SPRAY /BLEACH
- DEODORANT

Rising prices for goods and energy will continue to impact many families over the coming months. Please consider giving generously to avoid people going hungry.

*Thank you.*

## Lack of toilets...

In December members of the Community Council were invited to visit the Transport for Wales (TfW) base in Taffs Well to see the new tram/trains which will be running on the Valley's Lines from 2023 onward. The latest round of Covid restrictions has delayed the opening of the exhibition and we'll let you know once it is open to the public.

While the tram/trains are very comfortable one point is very clear, the ones that will run through Radyr will not have toilets onboard. Toilets will be built on some stations and Radyr is one of those where a new toilet is proposed. But travellers needing to use the toilet during their

journey will need to get off the train and catch a later one. TfW argue that toilets will not be necessary as they will cut the longest journey - from Merthyr to Cardiff - to a little over fifty minutes.

On the other hand travellers on the Rhymney Valley Line from Rhymney to Cardiff will have toilets. Here TfW quote the time from Rhymney to Barry - nearly one and a half hours - although the journey time from Rhymney to Cardiff is not noticeably longer than from Merthyr to Cardiff. One wonders why our Assembly Members and our Assembly Government have allowed this strange situation to arise.



# News from Bryn Deri Primary School PTA

Happy New Year from all at Bryn Deri Primary PTA!

## Christmas fun

In place of our usual Christmas fayre, the children put their entrepreneurial talents to good use to raise money towards updating the school library. Each class made their own Christmas crafts with the older children researching ideas using online surveys and designing adverts for their creations. The children's crafts varied from beautiful foliage centrepieces and painted snowmen to handcrafted tree decorations and polar bear peppermint creams. The sale of the decorations raised almost £500 – well done to all the children and their teachers!

For the first time, the PTA organised a Christmas hamper raffle with the lucky winner in each class taking home a hamper of Christmas food and drink and several runners up receiving some



extra Christmas treats. Thank you to everyone who donated items and took part helping us to raise over £200.

The PTA organised a Christmas jumper and costume swap shop to help children (and even some lucky parents!) find a Christmas jumper for Christmas jumper day and costumes for the school plays. For the second year running, we also hosted the Bryn Deri Virtual Christmas Market on Facebook where parents and members of the community could support small businesses as well as the school. Thank you so much to those who organised the market, had stalls and made purchases.

You may have spotted some mischievous elves peeking out of houses around Radyr and Morganstown over the Christmas period. These little helpers were part of a trail organised by the PTA to entertain the children over the Christmas period. It was lovely to see families searching for the elves as well as enjoying the wonderful Christmas lights and decorations.

## Rags2Riches

Over the years, the PTA have raised thousands of pounds by organising Rags2Riches collections



for unwanted clothes. In November we opened up our Rags2Riches collection to the community for the first time, thank you very much to those of you who brought a donation – we raised £73. If you have clothes in good condition that you've finished using and would like to raise funds for the school, please bring your donation in a sealed plastic bag to the school playground between 4 and 6pm on Thursday 17th February 2022. Please visit the Rags2Riches website to see which items we are able to accept <https://www.rags2riches4schools.co.uk/what-we-collect/> - thank you for your support.



### FOR SALE

Cot and Mattress (Mothercare)  
£40

Excellent condition  
Used on only a few occasions

Mobile:  
**07773 624140**

## Radyr and Morganstown WI COFFEE MORNING

Proceeds to  
**Headway**

10.30 a.m.

Thursday 31st March  
at Radyr Golf Club.

Entry £3.00  
from members of R&M WI  
or at the door.

*Headway is this year's  
Festival Charity.*

All are welcome.

## Radyr Library Beeping!

As a regular user of the library I first noticed the continuous beeping on the way in a few weeks ago.

Apparently the alarm system developed a fault and has been beeping ever since! I can't understand why the powers that be are so incredibly slow to rectify this problem. It has been over three months since it started. I really feel for the staff of the library who have been exposed to this insufferable noise for this length of time.

Whoever is responsible for the maintenance of the alarm system please get this sorted now for the sanity of the hard working staff!

H. Davison

## Cookery Corner

Anne-Marie Phillips, our regular contributor to the *Cookery Corner* column in the Radyr Chain has decided after many years to hang up her apron. This column has always been very popular with readers and will be greatly missed. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Anne-Marie for her many recipes which have been published over the years and wish her well in the future.

If anyone would like to take up the role of regular culinary contributor please contact the editor.

## Pentyrch Bowling Club in 2022

Buoyed by an influx of over 20 new members, Pentyrch Bowling Club is very much looking forward (COVID-permitting) to a full programme of lawn green bowls and social functions from April onwards.

We are a small bowling club, comprising men and women bowlers, but pride ourselves on being a very sociable group of friends. Both men and women play in local leagues - on Wednesdays/Saturdays

and Tuesdays/Thursdays respectively. We also play mixed friendly matches and usually go on an annual bowling tour.

We continue to look for new members and will be offering free taster' sessions again from the middle of April; these will be advertised on the local Facebook hubs. All you need is a pair of flat-soled shoes and we provide the rest. So, come along and have a go; you will soon find that bowls is a very enjoyable game. There is also a Monday 'club evening' (5.30 pm for 6 pm start), where both men and women play friendly bowls together.

You can find us on the Parc y Dwrlyn sports complex in Pentyrch, next to the tennis courts, and read more about us on our website ([www.pentyrchbowlingclub.co.uk](http://www.pentyrchbowlingclub.co.uk)). Hopefully, our social functions will resume again with a coffee morning (open to all) on the last Friday of each month from March onwards (10.30 am to 12 Noon).

Please contact Brian Ilbery, Membership Officer, on 07979 658481 for further information.



**YOUR LOCAL CONSERVATIVE PARTY CANDIDATES FOR THE COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS (MAY 5th 2022)**

Radyr and Morganstown Conservatives have selected their candidates for this year's Cardiff City Council elections.

Calum Davies, 25, and Christopher Harries, 32, were chosen to contest the ward, which goes to the polls on 5th May, by local Conservative members back in November.

Following boundary changes, Radyr ward residents will elect two councillors rather than one, reflecting the increasing population of the area.

Incumbent Cllr Rod McKerlich is standing down, giving his full backing to Calum and Christopher to succeed him.

Rod said: "It has been an honour to represent the people of Radyr and Morganstown for 14 years but I feel the time has come for me to stand aside.

"Calum and Christopher have already shown their keenness to fight for Radyr and Morganstown residents, knocking on nearly half the doors in the ward between their selection and Christmas, asking if they had any problems they or myself could help with.

"Both will bring the energy, passion and determination of fresh, new councillors. They are determined to put Radyr on the map by getting as much out of the Council as possible for people here while making their concerns heard."

Calum is a communications officer with experience working in the housing sector. He comes from a farming family who also run a small tourism business, and is a Welsh-speaker. He moved to Cardiff four years ago after graduating with a first-class degree from Manchester University and stood in last year's Senedd election.

Calum says the Local Development Plan is clearly the main concern of residents, saying:

"Christopher and I have already spoken with scores of people in this beautiful part of Cardiff who are worried it is going to be permanent entry-point for HGVs and Redrow reps.



Calum and Christopher with our sitting member Cllr. Rod McKerlich

"The LDP is easily the most popular source of contention in the ward. It is not even about housebuilding in itself, but the sheer scale and pace. The Plasdwr development is already an enormous undertaking, so proposals to expand when they've barely started is totally unacceptable.

"Schools, GP surgeries, and shops need to be in place before further development. Infrastructure is creaking and Heol Isaf is starting to feel as congested as the city centre.

"Proposals to build on fields near the golf club and on Radyr Station car park fly in the face of the 'nature emergency' announced by Cardiff Council as green land is built on, hedgerows are gutted, and public transport is undermined.

"With little green space left in the ward, we will oppose and organise against further housing in the area. We are already canvassing opinion and have started a petition which I would urge anybody who wants to register their own opposition to sign."

Christopher works in Compliance for a Financial Services provider. Originally from Pembrokeshire, he originally moved to Cardiff to study at University and chose to return to the city to build a career.

Christopher has highlighted that although the LDP is clearly the biggest issue in the forthcoming election, both he and Calum know

there is more to do, adding:

"Councillors are the first port-of-call for residents and so that means more than just organising against overdevelopment. It means getting the potholes filled, the bins collected, and supporting local groups and projects.

"Other issues we know that are worrying you is the pressure on school spaces, anti-social behaviour, and the Council and developers not making right on improvements promised years ago.

"We are also proud to label ourselves as pro-driver and pro-road safety. Some councillors like to demonise car owners. We believe they have every right to drive, and they do so because of the poor standards of public transport in the city. We will stand up for drivers but ensure that road safety is upheld, whether that be tackling speeding or poor road lighting.

"And we cannot ignore the issue of council tax: while we emerge from the pandemic, the last thing we need is further pressures on incomes. Constant rises by the Council punishes the poorest and youngest in our society the most. We would resist the inflation-busting tax rises of recent years."

Calum and Christopher can be contacted at [info@radyrconservatives.com](mailto:info@radyrconservatives.com)

# Radyr Cricket Club

## The Clubhouse

It is now almost eighteen months since the club opened up the private pathway at the back of the clubhouse, which seems to be the “go to” destination for village joggers, cyclists, walkers (with or without dogs) and anybody who wants to take in a great view of the river Taff. Whilst the members were delighted with the results, especially when the fences were erected, there was one unexpected outcome: the removal of the leylandii had left the rear of the clubhouse exposed to view from, not just those on the path, but also those on the Taff Trail, on the opposite bank of the river. For years this part of the clubhouse had been ignored, you could say out of sight out of mind, and the fabric of the building had suffered as a consequence. When I saw it, close to and from the river bank I shuddered with embarrassment. The walls were covered in moss, the timber was rotting, the down pipes were absent and I suspect a paint brush had not been seen here for a very long time, if ever. Well not anymore. For those of you who take the path you will have seen that members have brought the area back to almost new: the walls have been painted, fascias repaired and cleaned, down pipes restored and the environment improved by the use of bark and stone chippings on the ground. Now that the work is complete I intend going to the opposite bank of the river in the certain knowledge that I will no longer be embarrassed.

## The 2022 Season

As I write this note I have just noticed that the League fixtures for the forthcoming season have popped into my email inbox. The excitement is palpable as it is confirmed that the First XI kick off their programme with a home game on April 23rd, with the four other senior sides beginning their campaign a week later. Now that the League fixtures are known it will be possible to arrange a few pre season friendlies and due to the second ground and new changing facilities the club in

early April should be able to play games at the same time as our footballing partners: a Radyr sporting treat and a first for the club.

Last year the First XI played in coloured clothing: this year it is the turn of every other side from the Under 13s to the seniors. This as you can imagine is a massive logistical exercise and probably involves an order of over a hundred shirts and trousers. With the club deciding that it will meet the cost of the shirts there is a need for sponsorship and if anyone who reads this can help us please contact me on christopherhitchings@btinternet.com at anytime.

Other changes that will be seen at the club, which were authorised as part of the 2021 budget, will be a new canvas for the second ground mobile covers and a new track cutter. Also the other day on behalf of the club I purchased a new set of lattes which fit into the main ground's sight screens: last season one of the club's young batters hit a drive which saw the ball go straight through the latte, leaving a perfect cricket ball sized hole!!

## Cricket Angst

The last few months have been quite difficult for those of us who love the game of cricket. Firstly there was the Yorkshire CCC tragedy, which I suspect will rumble on for some time and secondly, following quickly behind, and clearly of lesser significance, was the rather poor showing of the national team in Australia. All sports need to enthuse children and their parents to get them playing any game and cricket is no exception, as it needs to try even harder as it is often swamped by Premiership football and to a lesser degree rugby. These two unfortunate occurrences will no doubt, for different reasons, make it more difficult next season to recruit youngsters to play our great game. Hopefully when the Test team and Glamorgan CCC return to the field in the summer they will give us performances which will get people talking about the wonderful game of cricket rather than anything of a more negative nature.

As a final thought regarding the Yorkshire CCC issue all people

involved with the administration of recreational cricket have I'm sure taken a moment to think about their clubs: did we behave as we should and are systems in place to ensure it can never happen here? At Radyr there is a zero tolerance towards racism and sexism and whilst it would be naive to believe nothing has ever happened in the club, I know that today the only thing that matters to the members is the playing of cricket and the camaraderie one gets from being part of one of the friendliest and most welcoming of clubs to whoever you are.

## A Chairman's Lot

You've achieved quite a lot since you took over he said. I nodded, but with a flush of embarrassment. So, he continued, are you telling me honestly that you don't have keys to the clubhouse? I've never been given a set, I spluttered. Really he said, I find that hard to believe? I'm also not a signatory on the club's bank account. His quizzical face changed and he smiled and said, aagghh I understand now, the art of delegation. I smiled and he finally understood my chief skill.

C.F. Hitchings

Radyr Cricket Club - Chairman

---

## News from Radyr & Morganstown

WI *from back cover...*

included a combination of women who committed adultery and murder. He ended the talk by mentioning that men as well as women were just as wicked and they could be just as liable to blame.

We meet on the second Monday of each month at 7.30 in the Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr, CF15 8DF. All are welcome, current and new members, email us to find out more at radyrandmorganstownwi@yahoo.co.uk.

Details of further meetings can be found on the Events section of the Radyr & Morganstown web site.

# Radyr & Morganstown Festival 2022

The Radyr and Morganstown Festival Committee are in the process of planning a major Festival once again this May.

The Festival will run from Saturday April 30th to Sunday May 15th. Over the past two years they have had to curtail events and hold them via Zoom or hold outdoor events only.

Already planned are two Friday lunchtime concerts in the Methodist Church. The concert on the 13th May will be a piano recital by Dominic Ciccotti. As Allan Cook, who books a number of the Arts Events said, "I first saw Dominic in the autumn of 2019 when he won the Beethoven prize at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. At the time I booked him to do an all Beethoven recital - 2020 was the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth. This will be the third time that we have tried to bring Dominic to Radyr. This time I hope we'll be successful."

Other indoor events being planned are a tribute to Ivor Novello, a cookery demonstration by Radyr based Nerys Howell, a choral evening and a fund raising closing concert for the Festival Charity Headway. There will also be the traditional Tenovus Quiz and the Beetle Drive.

Outdoor events will include the ever popular Fete on the first weekend, a dog show, Concert in the Parc, the open gardens on the middle Sunday and the History Society walk in Morganstown.

It's hard to believe that the next edition of the Chain in April will contain the Festival programme and the Raffle tickets to support the charity, Headway. Headway is a small charity that supports people in south east Wales who have suffered head injuries and are working extremely hard to make the Festival a success. There is a list of mouth

watering raffle prizes that they have put together. Lets hope that further Covid restrictions don't derail this Festival.

## Queen's Jubilee

The Westminster Government has made June 2nd to the 5th a long Bank Holiday weekend to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Queen's reign. Later this month she will become the longest reigning monarch in recorded history. Monarchist or Republican, I think that we all have to acknowledge the huge contribution the Queen has made to the life of this country while remaining above the hurley burley of politics.

Planning is inevitably rather late and the Community Council is yet to set up a committee to organise events during and around this weekend. If you wish to get involved with the planning of this event get in touch with the Clerk of the Community Council. We also hear that a number of street parties are being planned. The Chain will keep you informed of events and the regulations regarding closing streets for parties etc.

## Radyr Library

Happy New Year! Have you made a New Year's Resolution? Are you looking for a new challenge? Join Cardiff Libraries at Radyr Hub and gain access to thousands of titles in branch from paperbacks to large print that cover a wide range of topics for all ages and interests. Your library card (acquired with one form of identification) will also give you access to all the Cardiff Hubs and Libraries as well as PCs in any of our buildings.

As we move through these difficult times, we have made every effort to put things in place to make you feel



safe. Masks and hand sanitisers are available for customers, and we are also maintaining social distancing measures. We will continue to review these as the pandemic progresses.

Early in the pandemic we introduced a click and collect service which we will be continuing. If you would like books delivered to you, please call our Library Line on: 029 2087 1071 and select option 2. We also run a service that brings the library to your doorstep if you are incapacitated through illness, infirmity, disability, post operative recovery or long-term isolation and can no longer travel to your local library independently or carry books home. Call us on 029 2087 1333 to arrange a visit.

Too busy to visit us on a regular basis? You can use your library card to access thousands of e-books and e-audio books through the BorrowBox or Libby website or App. Or if you prefer reading a newspaper or magazine you can access hundred of titles free with your library card through the PressReader app.



Looking for new things to do? Once the rules are relaxed further, we will be resuming story times and other events. Keep an eye on the Cardiff Hubs and Libraries events page for events as they come up: <https://cardiffhubs.co.uk>

We hope these restrictions won't last too much longer but until then, thank you for visiting us and obeying the rules. Keep safe and hopefully we will see you soon.

# History Society

Hopefully most Societies are slowly emerging from the various stages of lockdown. After more than a year of events via Zoom the History Society is looking forward to live interaction once again. One lasting effect of the pandemic will be that even when live interaction is possible once again, talks will still be available on Zoom.

Thursday 10th March will see the The Society's post Christmas lunch, postponed from January.

The Annual General Meeting on Thursday 17th February will take place via Zoom. As the AGM is usually quite a short event, the Chair and a few friends will do a short presentation to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the burning of Ruperra Castle - between Newport and Machen. The Chair had prepared a programme based on eye witness accounts of the momentous events in December 1941. Ruperra Castle, built in the Stuart period, had once belonged to the Morgan family of Tredegar House who had used it largely as a hunting lodge. By the early 20th century it was surplus to the families requirements. At the beginning of the Second World War it was taken over by the War Office and a fascinating array of military units, from army bakers to Indian Army soldiers were billeted there.

Pat Jones-Jenkins, a local historian, had prepared a book based on the memories for the 60th anniversary of the fire and Allan Cook has dramatised it. Pat has succeed in bringing to life this fascinating period which was visible throughout the lower Rumney Valley and as far as Newport. You see the number of local girls who married soldiers, the arrival of the Indian Army at Machen Station and even the imprisonment of German soldiers there.

Thursday 10th March will see a talk by Richard Britton on Medieval Cardiff hopefully live as well as via Zoom and on the 14th April Gwerfel Gardiner will give a talk on William Goscombe, John the Cardiff born sculptor who has many examples of his work around Cardiff. Both the



talks will begin at 7.30 in the Old Church Rooms and all are welcome to join us.

Looking further ahead the committee are actively planning summer visits to places if interest.

## Updating the LDP.

Cardiff Council adopted the current LDP (which brought in Plasdwr) in 2016. They are now working on developing a revised LDP (Local development Plan) which will cover the period 2026-36. A number of potential development sites in and around Radyr & Morganstown are being considered in the new plan. The RMA is very concerned at what is being proposed and will be opposing the inclusion of these sites.

The meeting will be addressed by members of the RMA, the newly formed R&M Local Development Group, the R&M Community Council and the North West Cardiff Group. Come to the meeting to be briefed on what is happening and how everyone can get involved. We hope the meeting will be held in the Old Church Rooms starting at 7:30pm on 21st February, plus a Zoom link for those unable to attend in person.



## Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan

Well, here we go again! Another year lies ahead of us - with all of the opportunities and challenges it can bring. But let's hope that this pandemic will finally begin to fizzle out - so that we can return to a more normal existence.

Not a great deal has happened since our November report. Partly due to Covid restrictions bought on by the Omicron variant - and partly because of the festive season.

Speaking of which, my thanks must go to Cllr Julia Charles for her excellent work in leading our Christmas programme. Thanks to her hard work, along with that of Julie Hopkins, our assistant clerk, we managed to install our light displays on Heol Isaf, Station Road, Windsor Gardens and elsewhere. We also arranged another visit from Father Christmas, who toured Radyr and Morganstown in his colourful sleigh.

Covid made all of this much more difficult, with electrical contractors struggling to provide Christmas light installation services. But we begged and cajoled - and the work was done! Unfortunately, our contractor could not attend to provide a 'switching-on' event at the RMA Station Road Fair on 3 December (or anywhere else in Cardiff) - and, these days, public liability insurance rules make it impossible to make any other arrangements. In any case, the fair was cancelled by the RMA because rain was predicted (although, on the evening, not a drop fell on Radyr! Typical, unpredictable Welsh weather!)

We also held our Christmas Lights Competition, which this year was won by Rebecca Oxenham, of Philbert Street. Her display (see picture on back cover) was described by our judges as 'a beautifully installed, sophisticated and joyous display - which must surely bring a smile to all who pass by, young and old, day and night'. Well done Rebecca, you win our £150 first prize!

And by the way, Philbert Street is one of our newer streets, in the Plasdwr development - and it's wonderful to see residents in this new part of Radyr contributing so well to the community spirit we always try to nurture, especially at Christmas!

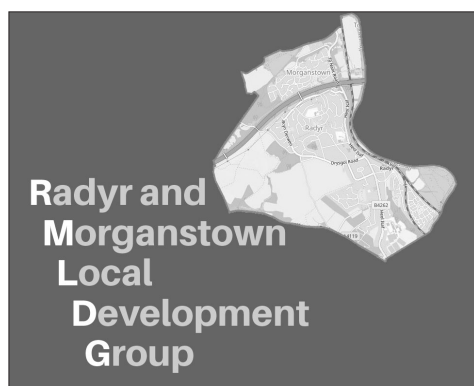
The only other news of note is Cardiff Council's second phase consultation with regard to its proposed replacement Local Development Plan. We will be meeting the Council on 2 February - to find out more about their proposals - and to discuss their views about our response to their first phase consultation. We will keep you posted about this important development.

That's it for now. Have a great 2022!

Huw Onllwyn Jones  
*Chair - Radyr and Morganstown  
Community Council - February 2022*

*Send your comments to  
clerk@radyr.wales.*

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



## Revision of Cardiff LDP

Residents may be aware that at the beginning of December Cardiff Council opened a ten-week consultation period on the strategic options for a revised Local Development Plan (LDP). The Council has also recently invited applications from landowners/potential developers for Candidate Sites to provide more housing and

other development within the LDP area.

There are 2 applications for Candidate Site status within our community, one at Radyr station and the other a much larger area of the fields bounded by Pant Tawel Lane, the Golf Club, Rhydlafer and the M4.

This latter site is in the current LDP as an area of "potential future expansion" and many may feel there is no justification for changing that status to a Strategic Site for development in the next revision of the LDP as, amongst other considerations, annual housing targets are not being met and there are sufficient sites within the existing land bank to meet current projections.

The current consultation is at a high level, seeking views on the strategic options for future housing and jobs growth in Cardiff in the period 2021 - 2036 and there will be further consultations on the Preferred Strategy and the Replacement Plan in the coming months.

The R&M Community Council and the newly formed Radyr & Morganstown Local Development Group (RMLDG) both intend to submit formal responses to the consultation and they will be available on the RMA website. Individual residents who wish to add their views can access the relevant documents at [www.cardiffldp.co.uk/consultation](http://www.cardiffldp.co.uk/consultation). The official consultation period ends on February 8th.

The Radyr and Morganstown Local Development Group (RMLDG) is an independent group of local residents which has come together to be informed and take positive action on matters relating to Planning Consent and the revision of the Cardiff Council Local Development Plan, with particular interest in how it will affect both the area of Radyr & Morganstown and those who live there. More information on how you can get involved is available at <https://radyr.org.uk/clubs/rmldgroup/> or get in touch with us: email [RMLDGroup@radyr.org.uk](mailto:RMLDGroup@radyr.org.uk) or Twitter @RMLDGroup

# Violence Against Women

On the 22nd of November the R&M WI organised an event in Windsor Gardens to highlight the campaign to end violence against women, at a time when several high profile murders of young women had taken place. Members of the WI and Councillors attended and white ribbons were handed out. The event was organised to catch pupils leaving the Comp. and members were pleasantly surprised by the positive attitude displayed by many of the younger men they spoke to.



# News from Radyr & Morganstown WI

This year has been strange for a lot of our members, firstly, having to have zoom meetings and then finally being able to meet up in person which has been appreciated by many.

November 22nd saw the WI supporting the "No more violence against women" campaign by handing out white ribbons in the village to members of the public and students on their way home from school. Later in the evening several members attended the candlelight vigil which was taking place at the Senedd.

The end of November saw the committee gathering together to prepare presents for our stall at the lighting ceremony in the village on 3rd December which, unfortunately, was cancelled due to weather predictions.

At the end of the year, we were still able to meet up for our meetings and in December it was party time! We managed to have our usual Christmas Party, members were asked to take lateral flow tests before the meeting and we adhered to the current Covid regulations. We were very fortunate to have a marvellous buffet prepared for us by one of our members, Jan Deem and our thanks go to her and her son, Michael who helped her.

In between the first course and the dessert, we were entertained by Gill

Evans who performed some of her hilarious poems and were enjoyed by all. The desserts followed made by the committee members and the evening then drew to a close.

Also in December, Christ Church held their Christmas Tree Festival and the WI presented a tree which was decorated by Jane Woodward with artistic advice and help from Jan Deem and Hilary Gorgian.

Due to the latest Covid restrictions, our January meeting was back to Zoom and we had an interesting illustrated talk by Mr. Graham Sutherland on "Wicked Women". These ranged from Lady Macbeth to the Countess of Warwick and

*continued on page 17*



*From left to right, Gill Evans, Jan Deem and Mary Pearce.*



# Christmas Lights Competition Winner...

*see Community Council article on page 23*

