

# RADYR CHAIN



Number 264

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown

February 2023

## The end of the Rue?

Members of the Radyr and Morganstown St Philbert de Grand Lieu Twinning Association met in December to discuss the future of the Association.

We normally visit the other country in alternate years and the French were due to come to R&M for the Spring Bank Holiday in 2020. Unfortunately the pandemic prevented this.

Patterns had been changing for a number of years, as members got older they were less inclined to short concentrated visits and more inclined to stay with their opposite numbers for a week or so.

Brexit and the change of regulations regarding bus drivers and child safety were making visits more difficult. In the early days parties went over from our two Primary Schools and the Twinning organisers also took parties of teenagers to St Philbert for a week to ten day visits.

The Twinning Association was set up in 1968 and both sides chose the other because we were dormitory areas for regional capitals. R&M for Cardiff and St Philbert for Nantes.

St Philbert de Grand Lieu, to give it its full name, is a delightful small town south east of Nantes.

*...continued on page 5*



Members of the Committee of the Twinning Association as characters from the hit TV comedy, *Allo Allo*, at a Radyr Fete.



The unveiling of the red telephone box in St Philbert, a gift from the R&M Association.



Chairs of both the R&M and St Philbert Associations at an event in Caerphilly Castle.



A visit to the largest mechanical elephant in the world at Nantes.



A trip on the big lake - le Grand Lieu.



## 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)

**Thur 2 Feb** **10:30 Probus Club of Cardiff West**  
An illustrated talk about the incredible and amazing work of the Wales Air Ambulance is to be 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/)

**Wed 8 Feb** **RCTS South Wales**  
The Advanced Passenger Train - Old Church Rooms 7 for 7.30

**Sun 12 Feb** **Radyr & Morganstwon Litter Pickers**  
Group Pick 10 am - Radyr Hub with refreshments afterwards at 11.15

**Mon 13 Feb** **Radyr & Morganstown W.I**  
Tonight is a talk by Sarah Liney on Hedgehogs. We meet at The Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr.

Old and new members welcome  
[radyr.org.uk/events-summary/](http://radyr.org.uk/events-summary/)

**Thur 2 Mar** **10:30 Probus Club of Cardiff West**  
"UK Government's GCHQ Past Present and Future". Could some of the mysteries ... be revealed in this morning's talk 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/)

**Wed 8 Mar** **RCTS South Wales**  
From Here to There - a railway journey around Great Britain - Old Church Rooms 7 for 7.30

**Sun 12 Mar** **Radyr & Morganstown Litter Pickers** Group Pick 10am - Radyr Station car Park with refreshments at Radyr Hub at 11.15

**Mon 13 Mar** **19:30 Radyr & Morganstown W.I**  
Tonight we have three short talks by Gavin Davies on The Tranby Croft Affair, Rhoda Willis and Enon Chapel.

We meet at The Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr. Old and new members welcome. [radyr.org.uk/events-summary/](http://radyr.org.uk/events-summary/)

**Sat 18 Mar** **19:00 Friends of Tenovus Radyr and Morganstown Concert**  
Concert in Morganstown Village Hall with Radyrcals performing and Molly Taylor singing also. 7pm opening for 7.30pm start. Licensed Bar - tickets £10 each - please get in touch with Rosanne Holmes to reserve your place on 07855 230286. [radyr.org.uk/events-summary/](http://radyr.org.uk/events-summary/)

**Wed 12 April** **RCTS South Wales**  
East Coast Main Line from York to Edinburgh - Old Church Rooms 7 for 7.30

**Sat 15 April** **Radyr & Maorganstwon Litter Pickers**  
Group Pick 10 am - Radyr Hub with refreshments afterwards at 11.15

**Mon 17 April** **19:30 Radyr & Morganstown W.I**  
Please note this is the third Monday in the month due to Easter Monday. Details to follow

## Radyr Court

For many years Radyr Court, the old Manor House of Radyr opposite St John's Church in Danescourt, has been a failing pub. In the summer of 2022 it was taken over by a nursery who opened a coffee shop in the autumn.

The Chain is happy to report that it is a delightful space with a fair amount of room, it has good coffee, cakes and snacks including breakfasts. If its current popularity is anything to go by it's here to stay. Look in if you're in the area

## Radyr and Morganstown Friends of Tenovus March Concert

Featuring our homegrown Radyrcals and Mollie Taylor

On Saturday March 18th from 7pm  
In Morganstown Village Hall with bar and raffle.

Tickets £10.

Contact Rosanne Holmes on 02920401872 or 07855230286.



## Frank Bowles 1932-2023

We are sad to see the passing Frank Bowles of Radyr.

Frank dedicated his life to voluntary work and was well known in the community. Frank spent four decades working with the Police as a volunteer and was instrumental in setting up the first Neighbourhood watch scheme in South Wales. He also Chaired the crime prevention panel for South Wales.

Moving to Radyr in 1978 Frank joined the Radyr and Morganstown community council, where he was a councillor for many years and chaired the council in 1983 and 1987.

In recognition of all his hard work to the community Frank was awarded an MBE in 1995.

Frank will be missed by the community, his family and especially by his wife Pat.

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.

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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

# The end of the Rue?

...from front cover

Technically in the Vendee because it is east of the Loire, the Grand Lieu refers to an important freshwater lake and nature reserve on the outskirts of the town. It is a typical French market town with a large market square which still holds weekly markets, and has a Romanesque Abbey named after St Philbert.

St Philbert was a Celtic saint, first buried at the isle of Normountier on the coast about twenty miles from St Philbert. The arrival of the Normans meant that the monks moved his body to St Philbert. Unfortunately the Normans soon caught up and his body was moved for a third time.

The annual visits were usually a concentrated weekend of receptions, meals and visits. Over the years we have visited such delightful places as the Mont St Michel, Nantes and Angers on our visits to France while we have taken the French to visit the Newport Transporter bridge, Big Pit and the Glamorgan coast, which they always loved.

"They were great times and we had some good fun. With R&M being so concentrated one event the French always insisted upon were the "progressive suppers", said Maggie Roberts joint Chair of the Twinning. "We would start in one place and then we moved from house to house with each course increasing in number as we went along."

Our Twinning Association is one of the oldest still in existence. At the December meeting it was decided that we would put the Association on hold for a period - the connection and the signage will still exist. No formal exchanges would take place unless new members came along to revitalise the Association.

Members will of course continue to contact and visit their opposite numbers in St Philbert. If anyone is interested in joining the Twinning please get in touch with Maggie Roberts on 029 2084 2995.



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

THANK YOU, THANK YOU,  
THANK YOU...

for the generosity of the community in continuing to support the work of the foodbank. Following the collection in early December we were able to deliver a tremendous 335 kg of food plus £124 in monetary donations in time for the Christmas period.

There will be another collection in February. Please place any donations of food in the boxes which will be outside the following addresses between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Friday 17th and Saturday 18th February.

30 Pentwyn, Radyr CF15 8RE,

20 Walnut Tree Close, Radyr CF15 8SX,

13 Heol Roald Dahl, Radyr CF15 8GT.

The foodbank currently need -

- COFFEE (INSTANT) small jars, plus
- TINNED FISH, MEAT, TOMATOES, POTATOES, CARROTS, FRUIT.

They have enough - PASTA, BAKED BEANS, CEREAL, TINNED SOUP, SWEETCORN, TEA.

The foodbank is unable to accept fresh, home-made or perishable food.

For up to date information on their requirements please visit the

following page on their website

<https://cardiff.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Every donation, of whatever amount, is appreciated so please consider whether you can help. Thank you so much.

## CHAIN COOKERY CORNER

### Welsh beef winter salad

#### Ingredients

- 400g Welsh rump steak
- 100g quinoa, cooked
- 160g tenderstem broccoli
- 2 oranges
- 100g spinach
- 40g hazelnuts
- 1 tbsp honey
- 2 tbsp olive oil

#### Method

Juice one orange into a bowl and mix in with the honey, olive oil and salt and pepper. Use half this mixture to marinate the steak and save the other half for the quinoa.

Lightly steam the broccoli until just cooked and mix in a bowl with the quinoa, the remaining marinade and spinach leaves. Toast the hazelnuts in a pan for a few minutes before chopping them.

Season the steak on both sides with salt and pepper and cook in a pre-heated and oiled frying pan to your preference. Remove from the pan and leave to rest for a few minutes before cutting into thin strips.

Peel and slice the other orange and add to the salad along with the steak and hazelnuts. Serve warm.

*Nerys Howell*  
ARBENICWR BWYD FOOD SPECIALIST

## JULIAN EVANS

1933-2022

Jane Evans and her family would like to thank everyone for the many kind messages and cards. Your kindness was greatly appreciated.

There will be a private family cremation.  
A celebration of his life will be held at a later date.



## Radyr Drama Society Signal Triumphant Return in Madcap Comedy



Radyr Drama Society (RDS) completed the celebration of their fortieth anniversary year in November with a rumbustious performance of *The 39 Steps* which was rapturously received by full houses over three nights at Morganstown Village Hall. After gamely staging a challenging two-hander, *Happy Jack*, in between pandemic lockdowns, and a one act comedy, *Last Tango in Little Grimley*, plus some dramatic monologues, shortly after the lifting of Covid restrictions, RDS began their return to operational capacity with a successful one off 'whodunnit' night at Christchurch New School Rooms in September. Their performance of *The 39 Steps*, however, showed RDS back to their sparkling best. Loosely based on John Buchan's 1930s tale of suspense, espionage and derring-do, brought memorably to the screen by Alfred Hitchcock, Patrick Barlow's adaptation is a comedy masterpiece. It provided a perfect vehicle for a versatile and accomplished cast, who clearly enjoyed themselves portraying a host of comic stock characters, complete with hilarious accents, disguises, and props, in a succession of outlandish set pieces. These included the lead exiting a moving railway carriage, navigating obstacles in misty Scottish moors, and jumping from the Forth bridge before fleeing his pursuers on to the stage of the London Palladium! Visiting director Pete Stickler brought his considerable experience



to bear in skillful staging of the set pieces, ensuring the actors missed no opportunity for a laugh. A minimal set comprising multifunctional elements was brought to life by clever use of sound and lighting effects. Visible costume changes and deliberately dysfunctional props added to the fun-filled mayhem, stimulating further laughter and audience interaction.

Leading the cast of seven, RDS veteran Peter Griffiths gave a masterful performance as raffish hero Richard Hannay (37!). On stage throughout the play, he provided a reliable foil for the other characters and timed each of his comic one-liners to perfection. He was ably supported by Melanie Macleod, who played with confidence and gusto both the spy and femme fatale, Annabella Schmidt, and Hannay's feisty hostage/companion/love interest, Pamela Edwards. The comic talent of experienced actors Tony Allan and Graham Perkins was plain to see, particularly as, in one scene, they swapped characters and costumes mid-scene at breakneck speed, and in their portrayal of the eccentric highland hotel keepers, Mr and Mrs McGarrigle, which brought the house down. The production also benefitted from confident performances by Phil May as chief villain, and Helen Blundell as a discontented crofter's wife. Special mention should be made of the performance of Drew Heusch, who, though a long-time supporter of RDS, was making his acting debut. In addition to brief turns as a

'heavy', a charlady, a police inspector, a professor's wife and a bumbling election agent, his hilarious portrayal of a puritanical Scottish crofter was among the highlights of the production. Given the complexities of staging such an ambitious production, the backstage crew deserve the highest praise. They comprised Tony Watson on Sound, Dave Burgess on lighting, Stage management by Nicky Webber and Maria Round, and continuity and costumes by Gill Evans and Sandra Green respectively.

Chris Locke

## County Councillor Surgeries

Helen Lloyd  
Jones

Saturday 22nd  
April  
Cicchetti  
10.30am to  
11.30am.



Callum  
Davies

Thursday 23rd  
February  
Castle Room,  
Old Church  
Rooms  
5:30pm until  
7pm



No appointment necessary, but feel free to contact  
Calum.Davies@cardiff.gov.uk in advance.

# Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP) Update

The R&M Local Development Group (RMLDG) held its first public meeting in the OCR on 16th January – all previous meetings have been on Zoom. It was well attended with representatives from R&M, St Fagans, Rhydlafar and elsewhere. The meeting was addressed by Peter Fortune, who set out the current position of the RLDP, and Nick Hawkins, who talked about the plans for the Group.

The meeting had been timed to follow a meeting of Cardiff Council's Environmental Scrutiny Committee (on 12th January) at which the 'RLDP Strategy' was due to have been debated and approved. To explain briefly, the RLDP process involves initially defining how many dwellings need to be provided in the plan (which runs from 2026 to 2036), and receiving submitted sites where they might be located. Those two parts have finished although the required number of dwellings has been thrown into confusion by the results from the 2021 census which demonstrated that Cardiff's base figures had been grossly overstated. In itself, that has caused a delay to the RLDP timetable but we expected the 'Strategy' paper – which will set out the framework for the RLDP (e.g. where and for what purposes houses should be built, the policy on the protection of the environment, etc) – to be published in time for the meeting. But it has not appeared and the RLDP timetable is yet again delayed.

Knowing the underlying RLDP Strategy is key to the RMLDG deciding what to do next. Peter Fortune reported that, in a meeting with Cardiff's Chief Planner, Simon Gilbert, it had been suggested that the main problem was the lack of Social Housing in Cardiff and the Strategy might call for around 7000 houses to be built with an emphasis on the City Centre. It could even mean few, if any, allocations of land in NW Cardiff. If that is the case then the RMLDG will have fulfilled its main purpose. However, the fear

remains that more land adjacent to the Llantrisant Road will remain open for consideration in the final stage of the RLDP, which will define specific sites for development.

Nick Hawkins said that the RMLDG needed to prepare for a significant campaign if the further development of NW Cardiff remains 'on the cards'. The problems that will arise if that happens are already well defined (see the RMLDG website [www.radyr.org.uk/clubs/rmldgroup/](http://www.radyr.org.uk/clubs/rmldgroup/)) and the difficulties that have already arisen in the development of Plasdwr illustrate the dangers of inadequate initial planning. To this end, the RMLDG is seeking to increase the number of people involved in the campaign, both by adding to the Group's address list and setting up a WhatsApp Group. The Group also has the assistance of a professional Public Relations expert.

If you want to know more about the RLDP, particularly if you have specific concerns or expertise to offer, then do contact the RMLDG Secretary ([RMLDGroup@radyr.org.uk](mailto:RMLDGroup@radyr.org.uk)) and join the address list and WhatsApp Group. We suspect there will be a number of battles to be won to ensure that Cardiff fulfils its own stated policy of being 'stronger, greener, fairer', and those battles are not just for NW Cardiff. Specific skills in mounting a Social Media campaign are especially welcome.

## Talking Rubbish!

**Radyr & Morganstown  
Litter Pickers**

**JANUARY**

### RED & BLUE BAGS

Many more of you are now using the Council's new recycling system which has raised a number of questions. In particular, you ask why are we having to sort out our recycling and then it is all just dumped into the crusher cart. The aim of the new system is to make us recycle better. Cardiff's recycling performance in the last couple of years has been one of the worst in Wales because the green bags were not working; there was a lot of

contamination in particular because waste was not being washed. Further, the green bags were costing almost a million pounds a year and were single use plastics. The Council is fined by Welsh Government if the amount of waste which is recycled falls below a certain level.

We have, however taken issue with the Council's Assistant Director of Street Scene about the paper and cardboard which is being left behind on the road by the new kerbside collection lorry. This appears to us to be due to the compartment of the lorry being too full and the opening for the bag to be emptied in being too small for the operators. It is depressing for our 43 pickers to being going out cleaning up Radyr and Morganstown when the Council is actually creating litter.

We have picked almost 1,000 bags of litter since we started in the summer of 2021, which is 3 tons of litter. A fantastic performance but one which is at the same time quite depressing; hot spots continue to be Heol Isaf from Woodfield Avenue to Llantrisant Road, Radyr Station car park and Bryn Derwen up from the motorway bridge.

If you would like to join us on our monthly group picks - or go out individually using the kit provided for us by the Radyr and Morganstown Community Council - please contact us at [rmlitterpickers@outlook.com](mailto:rmlitterpickers@outlook.com). The dates of the forthcoming picks are included in the diary on page 3 of the Chain. Thank you!!

*Aashi, Ayesha, David, Jeanette, Martin, Peter and Roger  
Committee members of Radyr & Morganstown Litter Pickers*

*Facebook :*

*[www.facebook.com/rmlitterpickers](https://www.facebook.com/rmlitterpickers)*

*Instagram :*

*[www.instagram.com/radyrmorganstown\\_litterpickers](https://www.instagram.com/radyrmorganstown_litterpickers)*







## Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan

### Looking Ahead

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year!

Blwyddyn Newydd Dda!

There is much to look forward to in 2023.

As the current Chairman of Radyr & Morganstown Community Council, I look forward to working alongside your other Community Councillors to help deliver local services and support our local community.

I hope that, in the coming year, we will continue to support important community events such as the Radyr & Morganstown Festival as well as wider commemorations such as Remembrance and of course, Christmas.

So many people make such a significant contribution to such occasions helping to build a cohesive local community. The Council is pleased to have supported such events.

I chair Council meetings and also sit on a number of Council committees which

discuss the ways in which community needs can be best met. Details of all our meetings can be seen on our web pages at [www.radyrandmorganstown.org](http://www.radyrandmorganstown.org). You can study agendas, minutes and reports and find out how to contact your local Community Councillor. You can also read details of how to attend our meetings.

We always welcome views from the public about how we provide our services and spend public funds. Contact the clerk with any views via [clerk@radyr.wales](mailto:clerk@radyr.wales).

You can also follow us on Twitter via @RandMCCouncil. We have seen an increase in the number of our followers on Twitter and I would be delighted to welcome more.

During 2023, I hope that we can work with our community partners to help improve services in the community and represent your views. In particular, I would like to do more to support our young people and improve our local environment.

Looking further ahead, 2024 marks a significant landmark in the life of our Council.

Radyr and Morganstown Community Council was brought into being by virtue of the Local Government Act 1972. The act came into force on 1 April 1974. Our first Chairman was Maurice W. Hendra.

This means that next year, the Council will be 50 years old!

We would love to hear your recollections about life in Radyr & Morganstown in 1974. Were you wearing flared trousers or driving a Ford Cortina? What did Radyr and Morganstown look like in 1974?

We would be especially thrilled to hear from you if you were born on the 1st of April 1974. That would make you the same age as us!

No firm decisions have been taken yet but I hope that we might be able to mark our 'Golden Jubilee' somehow and involve you in any celebrations.

Please contact the Clerk to the Council, David Collins with any thoughts on any of the above [clerk@radyr.wales](mailto:clerk@radyr.wales).

Councillor Tyrone Davies  
Chairman, Radyr & Morganstown  
Community Council 2022/23

## News from Radyr & Morganstown WI

Our December meeting took place on one of the coldest days of the year and we had our party. The tables were laid and were decorated with flower arrangements and crackers. Our first course was a buffet prepared by Anne-Marie Phillips with help from other members which was delicious. It included salmon, ham, various salads and hot potatoes. On the tables was a quiz for us to try and in the break between the courses, Ruth Jackson read the answers and there was a prize for the table with the most correct answers and wooden spoons for the table with the least. The desserts had been prepared by various members and we had a choice of Eton Mess, fresh fruits, trifle, tiramisu and more. To end the evening, we were entertained by Jan Doody as we all sung the 12 days of Christmas.

The Gardening Group are not meeting during winter, as the

weather is so awful with so much rain, it is difficult to get out and do any gardening at the moment or go on any visits.

In January, we had a talk from Sian Donovan from "Pedal Power" who are based in Pontcanna, they mend and hire bicycles and trikes for disabled people. They cater for all ages and abilities and give one to one lessons in confidence building for those who haven't ridden for a while and would like to return to riding a bike. They also provide tandems, either side by side or one behind the other for those who are partially sighted. It was a very good and interesting talk.

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

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

## Festival 2023

It's hard to believe that the next edition of the Chain will carry the full programme for the Radyr and Morganstown May Festival.

Organisers say that it is lining up to be one of the best in recent years. It starts on Saturday 29th April with the usual Fete in Park Road but will have many new features.

The Radyr Drama Society will be performing a comedy thriller, *Murdered to Death*, in Morganstown Village Hall between the 26th and 28th of April to get the Festival off to a good start.

The Festival will contain a mix of classical and light music, choir concerts, games, quizzes, open gardens, a cookery demonstration and the ever popular dog show. One change, the Concert in the Parc - now known as Party in the Parc - will move to Sunday 7th May as Saturday 6th is Coronation Day. It will still be a day of good music, the ever popular BBQ and Real Ale Bar.

## You raise me up

Christ Church very kindly hosted a superb concert by the Cardiff Arms Park Male Choir to start our 2023 fundraising year. The concert, wonderfully compered by local personality Frank Hennessey, included pieces by rising star, soloist Matthew Baldwin.

A capacity audience enjoyed a wide-ranging repertoire, including Welsh classics Men of Harlech, Calon Lan and Cwm Rhondda interspersed with Mozart, Verdi and songs from musical theatre. However, the most moving piece was the singing of 'Your raise me up' which the choir dedicated to those in our community who are living with dementia.

The concert was generously supported by the Radyr and Morganstown Community Council, Tesco and the Blakemore Foundation.

Plans are afoot to hold another concert by the choir in 2024. In the meantime, look out for other events organised by the Alzheimer's Society fundraising group, including a stall at the Radyr Festival Fete and coffee morning at Radyr Golf Club.

You can, of course, continue to support us by choosing us as your nominated charity when shopping at the Co-op or by dropping any unwanted jewellery in to Gaynor at 5, Bryn Coed or Pat at 25, Drovers Way.

Thank you  
Radyr and Morganstown Alzheimer's Society fundraising group



Frank Hennessey (left) the well known BBC Wales presenter and Matthew Baldwin the two guest performers at the concert.



## Radyr Rangers FC

### A view from the touchline

It's said that a week is a long time in football, and so it holds that a heck of a lot can happen between issues of the Chain! So while the last update from the football club was toasting the success of one of our 'old boys', Tom Lockyer, being selected for the Cymru squad for the Qatar World Cup, the football club has unfortunately faced a disappointing and frustrating spell over the winter. While the kids loved watching the exploits of their heroes in Qatar (it felt like Lionel Messi was on our TV screen more than Father Christmas this December!), unfortunately this was the closest our kids could come to actually playing themselves.

Radyr Rangers has over 300 junior and youth members, the vast majority of which are local children from Radyr & Morganstown, as well as a senior men's team, which means there are up to 36 Radyr Rangers teams taking to the pitches across Cardiff every Saturday. The club holds its winter training at Radyr Comprehensive, and the astroturf pitch couldn't cope with the wet weather this year. The heavy rain in November & December meant the pitch was deemed unsafe and unusable, so our 300+ players, the vast majority of which are local children from Radyr & Morganstown, have been left with nowhere to train for over a month. The school pitch has been showing its age for quite some time, and so whilst this was exasperating for the club, coaches and players, it was not a major surprise to many. It does, however, highlight a paucity of sporting and play facilities for the local children. The vast majority of

similar alternative facilities, at other schools and the local universities, are heavily booked up during the peak weekday-evening slots. It has meant that any budding Tom Lockyers, or indeed Gareth Bales, have been forced to sit at home and watch football, rather than having the opportunities to get out and play. This has been accentuated by the icy weather leaving many matches cancelled due to frozen ground making grass pitches unplayable. Whilst many other high schools in Cardiff enjoy modern 3G/4G astroturf pitches, and other areas of the city benefitting from all-weather games arenas for community use, Radyr has seemingly been overlooked. Whilst Radyr is undoubtedly blessed with excellent facilities for tennis, cricket and golf, we have been left behind our local neighbours in the city when it comes to suitable and practical facilities for football (and rugby) for the biggest participation sports in the country.

If you feel that our youngsters deserve better, then please lend your voice and share your views with our local councillors and MP to highlight this issue. The club is actively engaging the Community Council, the local authority and other stakeholders (such as TfW) with longer-term plans, but any additional support from within the community itself can only strengthen the chances of securing any future funding for our area. This will allow the children in Radyr & Morganstown to have great sporting opportunities in the future and allow Radyr Rangers FC to carry on giving our youngsters opportunities to play and to build friendships and bonds that contribute to our local community.



# Radyr Primary School

**Wow, what an end to the term at Radyr Primary!**

On December 22nd we held our annual Christmas Fun Day. Pre- covid, we would always take the pupils on a trip to pantomime for younger pupils or New Theatre for KS2. We changed what we did following Covid when we were conscious of contact groups and bubbles and created an in house fun day which has developed every year.



It was amazing to see this in full flow. Every pupil across the school had a series of fun activities, ranging from Reception pupils partnered up with their year 6 buddies for a visit to see Santa, have a present and convince him they were on the good list. In the playground there were miniature donkeys from a local Donkey Sanctuary that children could visit and ask questions about. In school, there was a nativity puppet theatre that enacted the story of the Nativity and on top of all this there was a bouncy castle for younger pupils, a reindeer rodeo (yes- you did hear correct) for pupils in the older classes and also a snowboard simulator hiding in the year 2 classrooms for pupils to test out their balance and see how long they could stand up for.



We initially changed all this as a result of Covid but it was amazing to go around and observe the children having a truly fabulous time with their friends and classmates. If the pupils had as much fun as the staff did then some special memories will have been created.

It was great that we were able to hold our Christmas Concerts this year. In total we held fourteen Christmas Concerts as well as our wonderful



Winter Showcase. The children did an amazing job showcasing their singing, dancing, acting and musical talents and we were extremely proud of them. Donations from parents enabled us to raise money towards this year's festival charity Headway.

On Friday 2nd December we enjoyed joining together as a community for the turning on of the Radyr Christmas Tree Lights event. Our choir and orchestra performed beautifully with Bryn Deri primary.

**Football Congratulations!**

We were thrilled to be visited by ex-pupil Tom Lockyer when he returned from his exploits with Wales during the World Cup. Tom came in, spoke to pupils about perseverance and the knocks he had before making it as a footballer which gave all pupils valuable life lessons that they can take moving forward. He also took questions, shared his experiences when away with Wales and spoke about his inspirations growing up. We had such an amazing morning with Tom and cannot thank him enough for giving up his time. The impact his visit has had on some pupils will I'm sure be felt for years to come. He also presented the school with his jersey from when Wales played England which will soon be on display for all pupils and staff to see. A massive thank you to Tom!



## Dare to dream

*Our County Councillor Helen Lloyd Jones dreams.*

Imagine sitting on the veranda of Radyr Rangers Club House on Mound Field watching your youngster playing football, while your older child practises his kickflips in the skatepark which has been moved slightly and upgraded.

Imagine a small children's playground beside the fenced part of Mound Field. And an all-weather training pitch with floodlights just beyond, finishing near the Mound that was the base of the Keep in the Norman castle that gives the field its name.

There's been a lot of dreaming recently but more important there has been action. I, like Cllr Davies have put in for the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and we have both chosen to aim for funds into this part of Morganstown.

Radyr Rangers have put in for a grant from the FAW. We are working together towards providing our community with facilities it needs.

And we will keep working together. Radyr Rangers has done quite a bit of consultation and all the feedback has been positive.

On other matters, very soon there will be parking restrictions outside Radyr Comp. If your child goes to school at the comp, do explore the walking options. There are ways of avoiding Heol Isaf if you know the short cuts. I have asked if the bus service in and out of Morganstown can be altered to synchronise with the school day but that is not going to happen overnight.

Most of my time recently has been linked to drainage issues. There have been some improvements. More to come, we hope. And the good news is that work is due to start on the drainage scheme for Drovers Way Playground in January. Whether or not, they can start in the monsoon we have been having is another issue but all being well by the time you read this, work will be underway.



## 40 Years On!



On Saturday 14th January, three young ladies, Kate Llewellyn, Sarah Pratley and Claire Wicks visited Mrs. Eva Tattum now 93 who had taught the girls at Radyr Primary when they were just 7 years old, they are now in their 50 year!

Kate Llewellyn has resided in Brisbane, Australia for 16 years and has two children. She was visiting her family, mum Sue and brother

Jonathan as well as longterm school friends Sarah and Claire.

The girl's and Mrs. Tattum had a good chinwag catching up on memories, together with primary school photos.

Kate returned to Australia shortly after their visit to Mrs. Tattum who was delighted they found time to visit and reminisce with her.  
Sue Thomas.

## Welsh Cheese Company



Many of our readers used the Welsh Cheese Company in Taffs Well to send gifts of cheese to friend and family at Christmas. Cheese can be ordered either for personal use or as a gift throughout the year. This is best done via e-mail. Unfortunately we printed the wrong landline number in our last edition. The correct number is 029 2236 2375.

## Casino Royale

The ADSHG (Addison's Disease Self- Help Group) will hold a charity event entitled Casino Royale at Radyr Golf Club on Saturday 22nd April at 7 p.m. They don't say if they expect James Bond to be present.

All proceeds are going to the development and implementation of a better delivery system for Addison's emergencies -much like an Epi-pen. Currently, if a person with Addison's disease is going into adrenal crisis, they have to prepare a needle and syringe, break open a vial of hydrocortisone, draw up the fluid and inject themselves, whilst feeling more and more unwell and confused.

For more details or to book tickets contact Christine Walters on:  
[cwalters@addisons.org.uk](mailto:cwalters@addisons.org.uk)

## From County Councillor Calum Davies

### Drover's Way Park.

It is great news that the park on Drover's Way will finally get refurbished. After budgetary issues, pressure for the park to be restored has succeeded in making the Council find the funds. The Council envisages work on the underlying drainage works starting soon and taking three months to complete. Contractors will then install the park – funds for which should already be ringfenced for this purpose – and I will also ask that lighting on the path to Plymouth Drive is put in place. I will also be asking Royal Mail to bring the ward's first King Charles post box to the park.

### Gelynys Railway Bridge

As many residents may know, the railway crossing at Gelynys Farm is to be removed as part of the South Wales Metro and electrification works by Transport for Wales, and replaced with a bridge. I have told

the Council that permission to build the bridge (and, thus, replace the existing right of way) must be contingent on it being suitable for those with disabilities and mobility issues. Therefore, the bridge should be constructed in a manner that someone can independently use a wheelchair to cross it. The bridge must be compliant with equalities legislation. I also believe a halt near the site would be extremely beneficial for the area and would bear relatively little cost to construct.

### Neighbourhood Renewal Scheme Programme

As a councillor, I have a chance to bid for funds for projects that help regenerate parts of the ward (in accordance with strict criteria). I have decided to use my bid to help refurbish the facilities for Radyr Rangers at Mound Field. Ideally, this would mean bringing an all-weather pitch to Mound Field, addressing current drainage issues, and building a new clubhouse with community facilities. At least getting parts of this

project financed would be positive. I look forward to updating residents on the bid's progress. Separately to the bid, I have provided my support for upgrading of the all-weather pitch at Radyr Comprehensive School which is in dire need of restitution.

### Local Development

I was pleased to attend the latest meeting of the RMA where the Radyr & Morganstown Local Development Group gave a presentation on potential development in Cardiff West. As promised during my election campaign, I will be supporting efforts – and making my own representations – to object to building in the ward's last patch of green as well as in the rail station car park. Keep an eye out for the Cardiff Council's consultation on the replacement Local Development Plan in early 2023 and use the RMLDG's talking points as inspiration if you are so minded.

# Radyr Cricket Club

The end of 2022 brought a bit of cheer and a tad of disappointment to those involved in the club. Leading up to Christmas it was decided to arrange a collection for those less well off and Jonathan Wilson



organised a collection for the local Food Bank. I was amazed at the kindness of all the members and the photograph shows the amount collected. A few days later however the warm glow disappeared somewhat, as it was discovered that a pipe in the pavilion had frozen and subsequently burst. That however didn't stop the club enjoying ourselves, though as the Festive period dawned with cries of Happy Christmas, it became clear that some of the members had gone down with the lurgy; some with the flu and a couple catching Covid. For yours truly, whilst I stayed fit and well, my ninety six year old father fell, broke his hip and spent his Yuletide in the Heath Hospital.

Moving into the New Year there has already been a great deal of activity, primarily around the arrangements for the indoor nets, as a preparation for the forthcoming season.

Unfortunately this did not prove as straightforward as one would imagine. For as long as I can remember the club has used the nets at Sophia Gardens, but over the last few years the demand from all parts of the cricket fraternity for these facilities has increased exponentially. As we have to accommodate seven senior sides it proved almost impossible to match our requirements with the available space. So in the end a decision was made to split the nights with certain teams on a Wednesday and others on a Thursday. It is not the ideal solution, as the club has always prided itself on being one entity, but we have become the victim of our own success. So it is a pragmatic answer

and we should be thankful, as we are only one of four clubs to have been allocated space in the Sophia Gardens indoor net facility this year.

The interesting thing about this saga is that South Wales and Cardiff in particular, has a lack of these facilities. With the interest in playing cricket having increased enormously, as more youngsters and especially girls discover the joy of the game, Cricket Wales and Glamorgan are desperately trying to figure out how to put the proverbial pint into a quart pot. This lack is also mirrored in the fact that there are virtually no spare pitches in the whole of the city, which means that new sides have to travel some way to play their home games. Our 5th and 6th XIs are based at Pontcanna, which while acceptable in terms of distance, means a disconnect with the other parts of the club. As I've said before in these articles, there is a Radyr based solution, but it will require the public bodies and the cricket authorities, together with RCC to make it happen. The joy of sport and the benefits it brings to society should never be ignored and my hope is that the powers that be realise that too.

Another feat of organisation currently being managed is the club's Winter Luncheon that has always taken place on the last Sunday of January. Covid unfortunately intervened with the tradition and this year will be the first time since 2019 that we've been able to meet for this most convivial of gatherings. It is an opportunity for the Vice Presidents to mingle with the players and it's an interesting fact that the older you get the better player you were!!!! This year will be more poignant than most, as the intervening four years has seen the passing of a number of people who were stalwarts of the club and the Luncheon. It will also be the first opportunity for the new President, Nick O'Neil, to speak to the VPs, who are such an integral part of the club's DNA.

The next big event will be the issue of the fixtures by the League. This is later than usual as the number of teams who have to be incorporated, has this year increased by over ten. This means that these sides need to

be accommodated at the appropriate level, ensuring that there are as few mismatches as possible.

Unfortunately it is not the easy task it once was with only thirty teams: today it is one hundred and thirty, and arrangements have to be made regarding ground availability, who will play on Bank Holidays or Sundays and where can additional games be fitted into the calendar. However the frisson of excitement when one knows who your first opponents are, still leaves a few butterflies in the stomach, even at my age.

Youth cricket today is so important to the development of the game and the clubs themselves, that there is a constant need to ensure that those that coach are also improving. It is the sporting equivalent, I suppose, of CPD. The way RCC does this is by a series of master classes run by one of our very talented young coaches. The aim is to show best practice and to ensure that what the coaches are saying is relevant to the youngsters in their charge. To RCC it is not just about the technical side of the game but also to impart information on routines that the juniors find fun. So for a number of weeks at the Comp the club's coaches will be put through their paces: at RCC no-one is allowed to rest on their laurels.

Finally a trip down Memory Lane. It is now just a few days from the third anniversary of Storm Dennis, when on February 20, 2020, South Wales suffered its worst flood in decades. For RCC it meant complete devastation, with the main ground severely damaged and the second destroyed. It is only due to the complete dedication and staggering hard work of the members and our friends that the club is as it is today. As the rain pours and the level of the Taff ebbs and flows, nervous glances are directed at the gurgling mass that thunders past the rear of the clubhouse. For some of us the Natural Resources Wales website has become essential viewing, as we look through our fingers at the hourly changes in river levels, with the dearest wish that the 2020, forty year flood, is just that.

**Christopher Hitchings**

Radyr Cricket Club - Chairman



# News from Bryn Deri Primary School.

Children in Bryn Deri have had a very busy December not only performing in their Christmas concerts but also completing their year group enterprise projects to help raise money for the PTA. Each year took part by making various seasonal desirables to sell. Everything from scented, magic candles through to handmade christmas tree decorations and edible treats. Children of all ages were encouraged to design, make, and promote their products to be purchased by fellow pupils, parents and carers. The project was enormously successful not only as a rewarding, seasonal education project but also in raising over £400 for the PTA!

At the beginning of December, Dosbarth 3 enjoyed a visit from The Dogs Trust who delivered a session to the children for them to learn how to be safe around dogs. Radyr & Morganstown is an area full of dog lovers and dog walkers which means that these sessions are particularly relevant. As you can see, the children were thoroughly engaged, which may not have been the case had a *real* cute puppy been on the stage. Thank you Dogs Trust!



By the middle of December our Christmas Concerts, supporting Headway, were in full flow with all hands to the pumps for rehearsals, costumes and learning of lines. The sound of music and little voices singing had filled our hall for weeks and it was now time for the big day/night.

Progression Stage 1 children enjoyed their performance of "Lights, Camel, Action!". Singing melted the hearts (and on occasion ears), of the entire



audience. Their first introduction into the world of performing arts was a joy to see, not withstanding great support from the PTA in co-ordinating a costume swap amongst parents, thereby not only saving parents' money but also the environment. The children not only performed superbly but also looked fantastic and not a tea towel in sight!

Progression Stage 2 delivered an array of fantastic individual performances in "Count Down to Christmas" where the singing was noticeably better and the humours, tailor-made costumes were obviously appreciated by the audience evident from the fits of laughter experienced.

As a reward for all their hard work throughout the festive period, Progression stages 2 and 3 enjoyed a trip to Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime during the last week of term. A good day was had by all, as 2022 came to a close everyone, including the children, was very much looking forward to a well deserved christmas break. Alas it is all over far too soon and now we must turn our attention to a new year ahead full of fun learning experiences.

There are currently spaces in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. If you are interested in having a look around our school please email the school [brynderiprm@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:brynderiprm@cardiff.gov.uk) and visit our website [www.brynderiprimaryschool.co.uk/](http://www.brynderiprimaryschool.co.uk/)



## Radyr Hub

formerly known as the Library is your community space offering a wide range of activities and services. Not only can you borrow books we also provide a Housebound service for those who can't reach the Hub. Free pc access, printing and photocopying.

Storytime for the under 5s, and a range of groups including Knit and Natter, the Wellbeing café, Walking and digital assistance.

If you'd like to access the Cardiff Wellbeing Support Service for Benefit advice, 121 support or are looking to join a group but would like someone to go with you they can be reached on 02920 871071 or [wellbeingteam@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:wellbeingteam@cardiff.gov.uk).

We are also part of the government's warm spaces initiative so tea and coffee is provided free of charge every day that we open.

Please call in or telephone us on 02920 780996 for more information. We are opposite Radyr Primary school on Park Road.

Opening Hours – Monday – 10-1 2-6 Tuesday and Wednesday – 10-1 and 2-5.30 Thursday- Closed Friday 2-7 Saturday 10-1

## WANTED - VAN DRIVERS

The Festival Committee have put out an appeal for van drivers. Do you have a small to medium size van? Could you spare a couple of hours at the weekends to help move equipment from the Old Church Rooms to various venues around R&M. If you think you can help, please contact David Silver on 079 8804 4419.

The Committee would like to thank Ceri Morgan for his help and support in moving equipment over the years.

## Merched y Wawr, Bro Radur



Kevin Davies oedd ein gwestai ar 7 Rhagfyr. Mae e'n dod yn wreiddiol o Lanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth. Aeth i goleg yn Llaneurgain (Northop) i astudio garddwriaeth. Wedyn fe newidiodd ei gwrs i astudio blodau. Am 15 mlynedd roedd ganddo siop flodau lwyddiannus ar Ffordd y Môr, Aberystwyth. Yna cafodd alwad i'r weinidogaeth Gristnogol ac aeth i'r Coleg Diwinyddol yn Aberystwyth i baratoi. Wedyn gwasanaethodd gapeli yn ardal Llangeler am 10 mlynedd cyn dod yn weinidog ar gapel y Tabernacl, y Barri, a Bethel, Penarth.

Braf oedd gwylio'r siaradwr yn rhoi pedwar gosodiad o flodau at ei gilydd. Roedd yn rhannu nifer o storïau difyr yr un pryd. Roedd e'n defnyddio brigau a phlanhigion fel celyn, iorwg, dail pinwydd, moch coed a mwsogl i roi siâp ac i lenwi'r trefniant. Defnyddiodd hefyd orennau wedi eu sychu mewn ffwrn, ac afalau mewn un trefniant. Hefyd roedd wedi prynu rhai blodau fel carnasiynau a



Gwen Emyr, Kevin Davies a Mary Nicholas (y llywydd).

rhosyn y Nadolig gwyn i roi lliw i'r trefniannau.

Cawsom noson ddifyr, ac mae lliwiau hardd y trefniannau yn aros yn y cof.

Ar 1 Chwefror am 7.30 yr hwyr, Beti George, Radur, fydd yn siarad, a'r testun fydd 'Heriau'r Daith'.

*Geirfa*

garddwriaeth – horticulture  
lwyddiannus – successful

cafodd alwad – he was called  
gweinidogaeth – ministry  
Coleg Diwinyddol – Theological College  
gwasanaethodd – he served  
gosodiad / trefniant – arrangement  
brigau – twigs  
celyn – holly  
iorwg – ivy  
pinwydd – pines  
moch coed – cones

*Gwen Emyr*

## Pentyrch Bowling Club

We are looking for both experienced and new players for the new season which will be starting in April. New players will be provided with free coaching from the outset with club bowls available for use.

By way of background information Pentyrch Bowling Club was established in 1991 and our green is at Parc Y Dwrlyn playing field in the village. We have both women and men's teams playing in competitive leagues - the women play on a Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. The men's matches are played on a Wednesday evening and a Saturday afternoon and the club's practice night is on a Monday evening. Subscriptions

are reduced to £40 for the first year's membership.

We have a very good social calendar too with regular monthly coffee mornings, quiz and race nights, a cheese and wine do and not forgetting the annual club tour - this year to Devon in June.

So if you are an experienced or new player you will be very welcome. If you wish to join, or require more information please contact Brian Ilbery our Membership Secretary on Tel : 07979 658481.

If you have any questions at all on the above please let me know. Many thanks.

John Cahill Dickenson  
Recruitment Committee  
Pentyrch Bowls Club.  
Tel 07757 694726.

## Miss Wales



It is with regret that we hear that Dacey Corria, the current Miss Wales, had had a serious accident on the M4. Dacey was a big hit when she switched on the lights in Station Road in early December.

We wish her a rapid recovery.



# Christmas in Radyr & Morganstown

The event was a wonderful success. Thanks to the Community Council and the Association's wonderful planning, Christmas lights were switched on in Morganstown, Lychgate Gardens, Windsor Gardens and Station Road. Christmas trees were also placed at the three sites. At Granny Park in Morganstown, children from Ysgol Gynradd Gwaelod-Y-Garth (Gwaelod-Y-Garth Primary) sang carols around the newly displayed Christmas tree.

Radyr Comprehensive School sang carols at Lychgate Gardens around the tree.

In the Methodist Church, village school children from Radyr and Bryn Deri sang carols to a large audience, including family and members of the community eager to join in with the festivities.

After the merry carols, a large crowd surrounded the tree in Windsor Gardens for the switching on ceremony. The crowd in Station Road was able to enjoy several charity and commercial stalls, including a mulled wine stall and a barbecue, with burgers and sausages proving very popular. Additionally, the shops were open, providing services to the large gathering. Music provided by Chris Dale kept spirits high and the party going.

The main event got underway with Darcey Corria (Miss Wales 2022) alongside David Silver and Allan Cook announcing the arrival of Father Christmas. Father Christmas did not appear after Darcey introduced him, and Allan informed the crowd that Father Christmas' sleigh had been delayed and everyone should look upwards and encourage a safe landing. Fortunately, Santa arrived, parked his sleigh, and went on to greet the many excited children who had been waiting for his arrival.

The crowd was one of the biggest since COVID, and it was lovely to see everyone having fun at a traditional Christmas lighting ceremony. Thank you to the wonderful council staff and the three police officers who assisted in traffic

control and the safety of the public so that the event could go by with ease.

We look forward to another Christmas event in 2023.

*By Bethan Cargill*



## Santa's Visit

Santa made a second visit to R&M on Friday 16th December with his magically lit sleigh. Unfortunately the temperature was below zero. "I thought it was quite warm said Santa, "nothing like as cold as Iceland which I'm used to."

