

RADYR CHAIN



Number 270

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown

February 2024

Christmas in Radyr and Morganstown

Santa made more than his usual number of visits to Radyr and Morganstown at Christmas. He attended the street market on Dec 1st to light up the Christmas Tree in Windsor Gardens. The lighting of the tree was accompanied by carols sung and played by the choir and orchestra of our two Primary Schools.

A little earlier children from Gwaelod y Garth School had entertained those attending the lighting of the tree in the Granny Park in Morganstown, and young people from the Comp entertained those attending the lighting of the tree in Radyr Sidings.

The street market was a great success. The cold frosty night brought out larger numbers of people than usual. Shoppers were offered everything from locally produced honey and fudge to knitted and quilted goods and as usual the BBQ and mulled wine stall did a roaring trade.

The Community Council had been worried by Cardiff Council's withdrawal of permission to sling lights across Station Road. In the event the lighting of the trees in Station Road was very successful as is seen in one of our photographs, and many of the shopkeepers in Station Road had decorated their shops beautifully.

The Community Council are promising to improve things further for next year.

Morganstown around the Granny Park was also brightly lit, as was The Old Church Rooms, the Church tower and the junction of Windsor Road and Heol Isaf.

On Dec 9th Santa took time in his lunch hour to open the new play area in Parc Radyr. We have waited a long time for this play area because of drainage problems, but the final outcome was worth the wait. As Santa said "I won't be able to give the local children half as good a present



The Street Market in Station Road



Santa helps some young supporters to cut the tape at the opening of Parc Radyr play area. Watched by (from left to right) Tyrone Davies, Chair of the R&M Community Council; our two County Councillors Helen Lloyd Jones and Calum Davies, and Anthony Jenkins of the Parc Radyr Management Company.

this Christmas."

The play area was largely funded by the County Council, for which we are really grateful, with additional donations from residents through Crowdfunding organised by Jamie Grundy.

Finally on the 15th Santa toured the whole village in his brightly lit sleigh. This year he started in Parc Radyr

and ended in Morganstown. From now on the intention is to start in Morganstown one year and in Parc Radyr the next. Another crisp cold night brought out the children once again especially in Parc Radyr and the Sidings.

Santa is also rumoured to have visited the two Primary Schools, but he didn't send us photographs of that.



The Parc Radyr play area.

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

Thur 1 Dec **Probus Club of Cardiff West**
"FIVE BOYS AND A PASTY" - a humorous and illustrated talk being given by actor John Sheen 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/directory/probus-club-of-cardiff-west/

Sat 10 Feb **R & M Litter Pickers Group Pick**,
Morganstown Village Hall, 10 am, refreshments at The Hub 11.15.
Details [rmlitterpickers@outlook.com](mailto:rm litterpickers@outlook.com)

Wed 14 Feb **Railway and Correspondence and Travel Society (RCTS)**, 7.00 for 7.30
Old Church Rooms :14 February
RCTS South Wales 7.00 for 7.30
OCR: Derek Cross's Diesels. Contact rctssw@gmail.com

Thur 15 Feb **14:00 Probus Club of Cardiff West**
GUIDED VISIT & AFTERNOON TEA AT THE FAMOUS NANTGARW CHINA WORKS. For more information please phone Geoff Foot on 07780 990 847.
radyr.org.uk/directory/probus-club-of-cardiff-west/

Thur 7 Mar **10:30 Probus Club of Cardiff West**
HOLD THE FRONT PAGE- a talk by raconteur Dean Powell of hilarious & strange tales of being a news journalist, editor & BBC researcher - At Radyr Golf Club. For more info please phone Geoff Foot 07780 990 847. Coffee & 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 too.
radyr.org.uk/directory/probus-club-of-cardiff-west/

Sat 9 Mar **R & M Litter Pickers Group Pick**
Radyr Station Car Park 10 am refreshments at The Hub 11.15.
Details [rmlitterpickers@outlook.com](mailto:rm litterpickers@outlook.com)

Wed 13 Mar **RCTS South Wales** 7.00 for 7.30
OCR: The Great Train Robbery 1963.
Contact rctssw@gmail.com

Fri 15 Mar **19:30 Friends of Tenovus Fashion Show** by Samantha B
Morganstown Village Hall, Bar and Raffle £10 per ticket

Contact for tickets - Maggie on 02920842995 or Rosanne on 02920 401872

Thur 21 Mar **10:30 Probus Club of Cardiff West**
A CONDUCTED VISIT AROUND LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL. For more information please phone Geoff Foot on 07780 990 847.

radyr.org.uk/directory/probus-club-of-cardiff-west/

Wed 10 April **RCTS South Wales** 7.00 for 7.30
OCR: Newport : The South Wales Main Line Recalled

Sat 13 April **R & M Litter Pickers Group Pick**,
Radyr Hub 10am, refreshments at The Hub 11.15. Details
rmlitterpickers@outlook.com



British Heart Foundation

As many of you will know the R&M Association changed the dates of their annual charity to the end of each calendar year. Last year - 2023 - the charity was the British Heart Foundation and we are happy to announce the the RMA raised £11,060 for the charity.

For 2024 the Alzheimers Society is the charity and they will be the charity from the May Festival. Arrangements for the May Festival are well underway and you should receive your Festival brochure in your next edition of The Chain.

Radyr Chain is looking for a new Editor

Jeff Davison, The Receiving Editor of The Radyr Chain, has decided to retire after 23 years of involvement with the Chain and having produced some 138 issues. He and his wife Hildy will continue up to and including the August Edition.

It is hoped that a new team can be brought together to take over the production of the Chain from the October edition onward. Most of the present production team are happy to remain in position and to see the new team properly established.

The work involves producing 14 pages of copy for the printer every two months. Most of this copy is material and photographs sent in by various contributors in Radyr and Morganstown.

3,300 copies of the Chain are produced every two months, they are delivered free to all homes in Radyr and Morganstown and the Chain is financed from the charges made to advertisers.

Jeff's retirement opens up an opportunity for a new generation person or team to revamp The Chain.

If you think you might be interested contact Jeff, by e-mail in the first instance, the e-mail address is davison.litho@gmail.com

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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E-Mail address - lturmer4@btinternet.com

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

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

Update on the Radyr & Morganstown Hand Knitted Poppies

... from back cover

Health and Wellbeing Service Manager at the Centre and also an ex Radyr girl!

After speaking to Gaynor Leaf (Radyr W I) ...who was not only a huge part of this project but an amazing 'knitter' we agreed it would be very fitting that we give some of our many poppies to this very worthwhile cause. I'm sure you will agree that the display in North Wales is beautiful! Well done Jo and your team...we were very happy to help! Incidentally, we have kept our 'church tower' netting of poppies ... just in case we may be able to use it again!!

Ruth Diment (WW1 Committee Member)

Stanford School Radyr

Did you attend Mrs. Stanford's school at 64 Heol Isaf?

If you did you will now be a pensioner but hopefully a few former pupils still live in the area and have memories or photos of their early school days or may still be in contact with some former pupils who may have moved away.

I was a pupil from the age of 4 to 8 and can remember lessons in the first floor front room, standing in the corner (as punishment) looking at a large globe, music lessons, sports days, bottled milk for mid-morning break, the smell of boiled fish for the cats (!)

If you or your friends have any memories or photos you can share please contact

Mike Clarke at 20 Junction Terrace or wmcllandaff@aol.com

As well as running a private school on Heol Isaf, Mrs Stanford was a legendary wartime Warden. Peter Stuart said of her, "Mrs Stanford, who was a Warden, did not have a capital W on her helmet. She felt that for an

important exercise she should carry this form of identification. Being resourceful, she duly painted a large W in whitewash on her helmet. Later in the day it started to rain and I will never forget the sight of her face and hair streaked with whitewash." Editor.

Changes in the Garth Ministry Area



Firstly, Rev. Steve Willson has retired as Ministry Area Leader through ill-health and Rev. Sandra Birdsall has been appointed to take up the position. Rev. Sandra had been acting as Ministry Area Leader since January 2023 and in addition to her new role will continue as the vicar with pastoral responsibility for St Fagans, Tongwynlais and Taffs Well. We wish Rev. Sandra every success in her new role.

Secondly, the Rev. Ian Yemm has been appointed as the next Canon Precentor of Llandaff Cathedral and will formally be taking up his post in February. This means that he will no longer be the vicar with pastoral care for Christ Church, Radyr and St John's Church, Danescourt. The Cathedral has clearly recognised Rev. Ian's wealth of musical experience including as a professional singer, with, among others, the Welsh National Opera. At the Cathedral, Rev. Yemm will be replacing the Rev. Canon Mark Preece who has been appointed as the Archdeacon of Margam. All of us in the Garth Ministry Area thank Rev. Ian most warmly for his excellent, but all-too-brief, ministry with us and wish him well for the future.

The process of recruitment for two new vicars - to replace Rev. Steve and Rev. Ian is now underway and we look forward to appointments being announced in the Spring and our clergy team being finally up to full-strength. If you need to contact a member of the clergy in the meantime, please email Rev. Sandra Birdsall on sandrabirdsall@cinw.org.uk or telephone on 07539 716581.



Save Our Hub!!

You will be aware by now that Cardiff Council has produced a range of measures to cut costs in 2024/25. One of these is to reduce even further the opening hours of Radyr Hub. Currently our Hub is only open for four days out of six, being closed all day Thursday, Friday morning and Saturday afternoon. No other Hub in Cardiff has such short hours.

Partly due to the sterling efforts of Suzanne Baskerville, our Hub has a wide range of activities including a bridge group, knit and natter, a book club, a lego club, baby yoga, a walking group and the litter pickers and sessions with the Ageing Well Officer. It is the only secular warm space in Radyr and Morganstown.

We must stop this run down of our Hub. The Council's budget consultation runs until 4 February so please complete the consultation online.

By the way, other proposals include charging for green bins, reducing the black bin collection from two to three weeks, removing some waste bins on residential streets and charging for the shoppers car parks in Llandaff and Whitchurch, and elsewhere. We know the deadline is tight but if you don't give the Council your views then you can't complain afterwards.

News from Radyr & Morganstown WI

We hope you have all had a good Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone.

On 1st December, our WI had a chocolate tombola stall in the village at the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony. It was very popular and we sold out very quickly so thanks to all who bought a ticket the proceeds of which went to the British Heart Foundation who were the charity for 2023.

The other events we had in December was a meal in Cote in town which was very good and well attended by members. We also had our annual Christmas Party the catering was organised by Anne-Marie and the members brought or made food which was delicious. This year the committee decided there would be entertainment which led to the "Dancing Santas" performing on the stage with a Zumba teacher who led us through our paces. Unfortunately, they have now retired and will not be performing again.

The New Year started with a session of chair yoga where we were split into small groups and tossed bean bags between us. This was great fun and had us all laughing, followed by sitting down and doing breathing exercises and laughing which, we

were told, gives us all many health benefits. It was very relaxing and calming evening.

As well as the very successful Gardening Group, who are having a break in the winter months, we have two Book Groups. These occasions give members a chance to have a social get together with refreshments and a chat. This year we will be organising trips and other events such as visits to the theatre/cinema as well as lunches.

So, if you are interested in joining us, we meet on the second Monday of each month at 7.30 in the Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr, CF15 8DG. We would be very pleased to see you and if you need any more information, please email us at

radyrandmorganstown@yahoo.co.uk

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

**Radyr and Morganstown
Friends of Tenovus are holding
a Fashion Show by Samatha B
on Friday March 15th at 7.30 in
Morganstown Village Hall with
a bar and raffle tickets
£10 from Maggie
02920842995
or Rosanne 02920401872.**



CHAIN COOKERY CORNER

Smoked mackerel fishcakes

A quick supper or lunch dish - serve with a salad or vegetables. You can also use tinned fish such as salmon, sardines or mackerel instead of the smoked mackerel.

Ingredients

- 1 medium potato (approx.300g)
- 250g smoked mackerel fillets
- 2 hard boiled eggs
- 2 tbsp fresh herbs (dill, parsley, tarragon)
- 2 gherkins
- 1 tbsp capers
- Zest of 1 lemon and 2 tsp juice
- Plain flour
- 1 tbsp oil and knob of butter

Method

- Peel and cut the potatoes then boil in salted water, drain and mash them.
- Drain the liquid from the tinned salmon and mash to a paste.
- Combine the potatoes and salmon. Chop the eggs, capers, gherkins and herbs and add to the salmon.
- Add the lemon zest and juice and mix well. Season with salt and cayenne pepper. Form into 6 fishcakes and dust with the flour. Chill for at least 30 minutes or overnight.
- Heat the oil and butter in a frying pan over medium heat and fry the fishcakes until golden on both sides.
- Serve with tartare sauce and a wedge of lemon.

Nerys Howell
ARBENIGWR BWYD FOOD SPECIALIST

Talking Rubbish!

Radyr & Morganstown
Litter Pickers

MGY SPONSORS THE LITTER PICKERS!!

We are absolutely delighted that MGY in Radyr has agreed to pay for the insurance for the Litter Pickers for 2024. In addition they have agreed to take part in future litter picks. James Hayes, Branch Manager and Peter Fortune are shown below. The image also clearly shows the effect of the branch's clean pavement; MGY paid for the pressure washing themselves.

Perhaps the Community Council could spend some money on cleaning up the rest of Station Road, which in lots of ways is the heart of our community. It is certainly the heart of a lot of the litter pickers' work with our volunteers collecting half a bag of rubbish, twice a week from the pavements and the gutters.

Our work elsewhere continues with our volunteers spending 43 hours of their time collecting 73 bags of litter over the last couple of months. A highlight was a litter pick after the Lighting the Christmas Tree on 2 December, cold and foggy day enlightened by the hot chocolate provided by Slice.

Thank you to MGY and Slice, and to Cicchetti who have also provided refreshments to us in the past..

It continues to be a really difficult time as the Council refuse workers



have gone back on strike especially with the green bags not being collected regularly. Please try to ensure that all your recycled waste is clean to stop birds and other animals picking at these bags.

You may have also noted that Cardiff Council has outlined a number of measures to try to save £30 million next year, one of which is to reduce the number of waste bins on pavements. We do not understand this measure which sends the wrong signal if we are trying to tidy up our city and we will be lobbying the Council to review this. Please go online and complete the Council's survey seeking views on the proposals, not just on litter but other issues.

Please come along and join us, new members always welcome. The dates of our group picks are shown in the calendar on page 3. Don't forget we meet afterwards for refreshments kindly provided by Suzanne and the team at the Hub, to whom many thanks.

Contact us at
rmlitterpickers@outlook.com or
follow us on Facebook.

David, Jeanette, Martin, Peter and Roger: the Committee of the R & M Litter Pickers.



News from Treforgan WI

... from back page

Glamorgan in the banner parade at the Federation Centenary Service at Llandaff Cathedral. We were represented at the Remembrance Sunday when our committee member Sue Winfield laid a wreath on our behalf. In November we enjoyed the Hensol Castle Gin Experience where we learnt all about the history of Hensol Castle, the origins of gin, the wonders of botanicals and the distilling process, and of course tasted the gin!

Our speakers this year have included Rita White who took us on a virtual trip to Paris accompanied by photographs and music, John Enticott with useful tips and advice

on car maintenance, The Welsh Cheese Company who told us of the development of the company and brought delicious samples of their cheese, Colin Parsons, an author of children's and teenage fiction, Kathryn Roberts the resident glass maker at The Gate Gallery in Brecon and, in a return visit, John Richardson who this time told us tales from his experiences as an extra in TV dramas. In December we celebrated Christmas by making floral table decorations and tea light houses while enjoying fizz and mince pies and carols accompanied by the bongo drum.

We meet on the third Thursday of every month in Morganstown Village Hall at 1:15 pm. We also have a walking group, a craft group, two

book groups and once a month a lunch at a local venue. We have a few spaces for new members so if you would like to have more information or to join us please get in touch via treforgan19@btinternet.com. TC

Discussion Group

I'm exploring the possibility of setting up a current affairs discussion group.

Likely to be held in the Radyr Library/Hub either Wednesday pm or Friday pm. fortnightly.

If you think you might be interested in joining such a venture please get in touch with me.

Martin Jeeves

martin.jeeves@ntlworld.com
Tel 02920 842956.

Merched y Wawr, Bro Radur



Daeth mwy nag arfer ynghyd ar nos Fercher 6 Rhagfyr 2023 wedi i'r gair fynd ar led fod Ruth Davies yn camu i'r bwlch ar y funud olaf. Rhoddodd gyflwyniad ar sut i ddefnyddio'r adnoddau sydd ar gael yn ein cartrefi wrth i ni baratoi ar gyfer y Nadolig.

Roedd hi wedi paratoi losin siocled i'w rannu â ni, a dangosodd sut i ddewis defnydd lliwgar neu sgarff i lapio anrhegion, a sut i ddefnyddio hen gardiau Nadolig i wneud cardiau newydd sbon. Wedyn fe ddangosodd sut i wneud addurn i'w osod ar fwrdd bwyd neu yn y neuadd. Defnyddiodd gannwyll goch yn y canol a dail bythwyrdd a blodyn gwyn o'r ardd o'i amgylch. Wrth inni fwynhau cwpanaid o de, rhoddodd Ruth yr addurn bwrdd i Glenys Thomas, aelod hynaf y gangen, a hithau yn dathlu ei phen-blwydd yn 95 oed ar drothwy'r Wyl.

Geirfa

mynd ar led – get around
 camu i'r bwlch – stepping in
 cyflwyniad - presentation
 adnoddau – resources
 i lapio – to wrap
 newydd sbon – brand new
 kannwyll – candle
 bythwyrdd – evergreen
 neuadd – hallway
 ar drothwy – on the verge

Ar nos Fercher 3 Ionawr, daeth Leah Owen-Griffiths i sgwrsio â ni. Mae Leah yn un o gyn-ddisgyblion Ysgol Gyfun Glantaf, a hi oedd un o arweinwyr y gyfres deledu Ffit Cymru ar S4C. Esboniodd Leah iddi raddio mewn Drama ym Mhrifysgol Aberystwyth cyn gweithio i'r Urdd, Cwmni Theatr Arad Goch a'r Amgueddfa Werin. Yna, yn 2015, aeth yn ôl i'r coleg i hyfforddi fel athrawes gynradd.

Cafodd swydd ym Mro Allta, lle clywodd ei bod wedi cael ei dewis yn un o'r pump arweinydd ar raglen Ffit Cymru. Yn fuan wedyn symudodd i Ysgol Llwynycelyn lle y cofiwn ei gweld yn ysbrydoli'r disgyblion gyda'i rhedeg dyddiol.



L. Ruth Davies, R. Glenys Thomas

Cawsom ganllawiau a chip ar sut y newidiodd agwedd meddwl Leah yn ystod yr wyth wythnos gan ragori ar golli pwysau. Cawsom restr o gynghorion sy'n werth eu clywed gan Leah ei hun sy'n barod iawn i rannu'r neges â chymdeithasau eraill.

Bydd ein cyfarfod nesaf y tymor hwn yng nghwmni Ifan a Margaret Roberts, Pentyrch. Felly dewch aelodau hen a newydd i ymuno â ni ar nos Fercher 7 Chwefror am 7.30

yn Ysgoldy Eglwys Crist, Radur.

Geirfa

cyn-ddisgyblion – former pupils
 arweinwyr – leaders
 esboniodd – explained
 ysbrydoli – to inspire
 canllawiau – guidelines
 a chip – and a glimpse
 agwedd meddwl – attitude
 rhagori – to excel
 cynghorion – tips
 cymdeithasau - societies

Gwen Emyr



Leah Owen-Griffiths

3rd Radyr Brownies is 50 years old!

Last autumn, 3rd Radyr Brownies celebrated the 50th anniversary of the group's first meeting back in 1973. The leaders arranged a very special Brownie meeting with a sleepover in the Radyr Guide Hall and a birthday party the following day. The highlights included toasting marshmallows and singing songs



around a campfire and making an impressively long paper chain to decorate the hall for the party. For some girls, this was their first night staying away from their families preparing them for more Girlguiding adventures in the future and earning a sleepover badge. Thank you so much to all the leaders for giving up their valuable time and organising such a super event.

Special thank you to leader Claire Morse, affectionately known as Tawny Owl, who had her last meeting with the Brownies before Christmas. If your daughter is interested in joining Rainbows, Brownies or Guides or you would like to find out about volunteering for Girlguiding please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk.

The Radyr Guide Hall is available to hire for birthday parties and family get togethers (from £40 for three hours) and regular or occasional hire for £15 per hour. Please email radyrguidehall@gmail.com or contact Katherine on 07927 020037.



Brown Owl with the 50th Anniversary Birthday Cake

Radyr Cricket Club

'Bah! Humbug', said Mr.Scrooge, and with that phrase I felt my Christmas had truly begun, as I saw Christopher Ecclestone (the ninth Doctor Who) at the Old Vic, playing the part of the despised money lender who ultimately finds redemption. Now you might ask what has this got to do with cricket? Well to be honest, absolutely nothing, except to say that the previous day I had attended, along with the President of RCC and our wives, the MCC Christmas Luncheon in the Long Room at Lord's. The event was as one would expect wonderfully organised with great hospitality, though undoubtedly the highlight of the event was a speech by Dr. Sarah Fane MBE, the Director of the MCC Foundation, who is an incredibly impressive individual. This section of MCC is not very well known but it plays a great part in allowing the most deprived individuals in the U.K. and abroad to play and learn to love the game of cricket. Setting up one hundred and twenty inner city hubs has made a great contribution to the numbers playing cricket in this country, whilst their work in Afghanistan, Kenya and Nepal has been quite remarkable. Often MCC is unfairly criticised as people don't realise what great work the club does to spread the gospel of cricket, with the Foundation being a typical example.

A few days before my trip to London I had attended a quiz, organised by the Youth Section of the club, at Radyr Golf Club, which was without doubt one of the most fun evenings I have experienced in a long while. The questions were testing, (myself and my team mates managed to correctly answer only one of the three related to cricket), the competition was fierce but the highlight was unquestionably the 'quiz master', the one and only Martin Lamb. His outfit was extraordinary and he carried the whole evening with the aplomb of a ringmaster. The photograph shows some of the people who attended the event, with Martin in his bow tie in the middle of those standing, though unfortunately being in black and white doesn't do any justice to his outfit. He was the perfect foil for such an event and I know all the people I spoke to can't wait for the next one. Earlier that day the club had finalised



its food bank collection. This is the second time the club has become involved in such an appeal, trying to help the less fortunate in Cardiff and I'm delighted that it again proved such a great success. It was organised by Jonathan Wilson who stayed at the club throughout the day co-ordinating all the donations brought by members and non members alike. It shows the generosity of spirit of the people at RCC and the village that at such a joyous time their thoughts were focused on others. I have no doubt that this event will become a feature of pre Christmas at RCC for as long as it is required.

So we move into 2024 with the season beckoning and the start date becoming closer every day. Already availability is being sought for the friendly fixtures in April and like some animal awaking from hibernation the members are realising that cricket is only a few weeks away. The indoor nets at Sophia Gardens will start this week and for the first time in a few years the club will take up the whole venue for much of Wednesday evenings prior to the start of the season. It will be the time to meet new members who are being signed up as we speak, and loosen those stiff joints in advance of the combat to come. For a club with well over a hundred playing members the need to fill seven senior sides over a weekend is still a daunting task to say the least and great organisation is required to ensure that the appropriate resources are placed in the correct location. All of these logistical matters are now being discussed and agreed, with the captains talking to their trusty lieutenants, to ensure that come the first league weekend of the season all of the sides will be ready for action.

Already playing and having done so since virtually the end of last season are those who play indoor cricket. A game that is so fast and intense it

takes the breath away, but keeps the hand and eye in operation through the close season. Also currently indoors are the youngsters who take part in the RCC Academy, which operates out of the gym at Radyr Comprehensive School. Under the overall guidance of the new Youth Head Coach, James Williamson, the participants are put through their paces by the various coaches at the different ages, learning the skills which will create good habits and give them more chance of runs and wickets not only next season but for as long as they play the game. However one thing that is made crystal clear is whatever happens during these sessions, having fun is paramount.

As I've said on many occasions in these articles, women and girls cricket is vitally important to the development of RCC. Last year's amazing achievements with the First XI winning the Women's Welsh Championship and the Second XI finishing in the runners up spot in the second division, along, let's not forget with the Soft Ball team's success, will take some beating. However this year has already begun well, with three RCC women, Lydia Clements, Bethan Gammon and Cerys Griffiths being selected to tour South Africa with Wales Women. This is of course a great honour and I have no doubt that they will acquit themselves brilliantly, bringing credit to themselves, the club and Welsh cricket.

Finally it was a delight to welcome approximately eighty guests to the club's Winter Luncheon at the end of January where players, family and friends, officials and Vice Presidents mingled in the most convivial of atmospheres. This event to me is the start of the season and truly made me realise what a wonderful club we have. The countdown has begun and here's to a truly great 2024.

Christopher Hitchings - Chairman.



Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024

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

Whilst there is much to look forward to in 2024, before we look forward we do hope that you enjoyed Santa's visit to Radyr & Morganstown as well as our three Christmas trees and festive decorative lights which were organised and paid for by the Community Council. We also played a part in helping to organise the Remembrance event.

Like other years, 2024 will be a busy one for your Community Council. For example, we are currently developing plans to install a lift at the Old Church Rooms to help our building's accessibility. We are also minded to further improve the building and its environment in other ways, though before we do this we shall be seeking the views of our residents. Don't forget, we have three well equipped and attractive rooms for hire at a very competitive rate – more details can be found at radyrandmorganstowncc.org/old-church-rooms/book-old-church-rooms/.

We are also hoping to fill any vacancies we still have. At the time of writing we have two vacancies for community councillors. If you want to play an important role in your community's future we would be delighted to hear from you and perhaps see you join us. If you are interested please contact our clerk via email - clerk@radyr.wales

We have also been looking for a new clerk and by the time this article is published we hope to have appointed a new clerk. Our previous clerk, David Collins, has left us to work for One Voice Wales. We wish him well and thank him for his work for us!

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 this year, the Council will be 50 years old! More news on how we might celebrate "our birthday" will be revealed later this year.

Please note that details of all our meetings can be seen on our web pages at radyrandmorganstowncc.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. You can also follow us on X/Twitter via @RandMCCouncil. It would be great to hear from you!

Councillor Tyrone Davies

Chairman, Radyr & Morganstown Community Council

From County Councillor Calum Davies

Drovers' Way Park

A Christmas miracle! It may have taken a while, but Parc Radur is again open for the enjoyment of local families. I was pleased to attend its official opening on 8th December and am very grateful to all those who played their part in getting here. Given we had an initial opening date in January, I also appreciate the efforts taken to complete it early. This was one of my main campaign pledges and I am proud to have delivered on that promise.

Bin collections

I was informed near the end of November that garden waste would

resume in Radyr & Morganstown on Tuesday 28th November. The strike action in Cardiff has come to an end but union members are being re-balloted on whether to continue action for a later date. Whilst this development is welcome, it is essential that the Council leadership bring industrial action to a permanent end. Waste Collection Services undertook one garden waste collection in each ward prior to Christmas starting from 5 December. As a further update, leaf fall cleaning on public roads takes place every other Thursday.

Danescourt Woods

As a councillor for a ward that borders this area, I was pleased to speak to the Planning Committee against devastating Danescourt Woods to deliver 36 new

properties. I was delighted that the Planning Committee took my comments on board and refused planning permission. As I said while making my case, Cardiff desperately needs more homes and the economies of scale that the vast Plasdwr site has makes it far easier for all concerned to plan for that social housing provision there.

Roadworks on Llantrisant Road

Following a meeting with Redrow and Plasdwr representatives, I am pleased that assurances that Llantrisant Road and Clos Parc Radur will be free of roadworks in the first half of December were realised. It took far longer than usual but the infrastructure is necessary to cope with the Plasdwr development.

I also attended a meeting between developers, councillors, and residents of the Parc Radur development. This was a useful opportunity for residents to express particular frustrations and developers to respond. I am pleased progress has been made on certain issues, like the aforementioned roadworks, but there is more to do on others. This forum will reconvene soon and I am looking forward to hearing more about plans of action.

I have also been in touch with officers regarding the need for adequate and proportionate lighting as part of landscaping works at the bottom of St Philpert Street now that work has commenced on installation of a new attenuation tank. This includes naming this public open space Parc Bach (Pocket Park) on official maps/documents.

Traffic management

I have written to the Chief Constable of South Wales Police regarding the enforcement of traffic laws – whether that be tailgating, speeding, or illegal parking – in the ward and await a response. I have also been made aware of long queues near Pugh's and am aware of efforts to resolve this situation. I will support means to do this in the most community- and business-friendly way possible.

Surgery

My next surgery will be on Thursday 15th of February between 5.30 and 7 p.m. in the Wier Room of the Old Church Rooms.

Cllr / C yng Calum Davies

Radyr & Morganstown / Radur & Dreforgan
Welsh Conservative / Ceidwadwr Cymraeg

Facebook: @CllrCalumDavies
Twitter: @calumtjd

Radyr Drama Society

Ben Hur ... from back cover

Peter Griffiths as the self-important Daniel Vale, who's named the theatre troupe after himself and wants most of all, for his mum to come to the show, was the wonderfully natural Judah Ben Hur. His timing was impeccable, the relationships he builds with other characters onstage feel authentic, his characters are real, and his command of the most enjoyable audience participation bit I've ever seen is quite impressive.

Jonathan Wheeler is excellent as both villain and Messiah, equally earnest as Omar, Messala, Angel Gabriel, a Wise man and Jesus himself, but completely transforms his looks to fit each role.

Mel McLeod pulled out all the stops in equal parts as Virgin Mary, a self-righteous slave, and a sexy Spanish belly dancing lady of the night. She expresses as much with her eyes as she does with her body and voice. She even managed to get baby Jesus to wee on cue.

Tony Allen was simply brilliant as the Jewish mother, Sara, as well as the hillbilly narrator and the campest Admiral of the Roman fleet - not to mention a fay Pontius Pilate. He brought so much creative hilarity to each character and each moment the audience were enwrapped.

Together they were a fabulous ensemble, utterly convincing in their plethora of roles, inspiring genuine laughter in the most surprising places and delightful ways.

It has to be said that this really was an almighty piece of ensemble theatre. Every single person was spot on with their roles.

The set used both stage and hall floor - an excellent choice given the needs of the play, I'm sure there was a lot of discussion about the chariot race! Scene changes were simple but very effective, as were the lights and sound, all adding to the epic feel.

Costumes, armour, tunics, robes, dresses, wigs, hats, were all superb - it must have been very busy backstage, the speed at which some of those changes were made seemed nigh on impossible, but they did it!!

I have to mention the props - they were incredible, from plates of food, camels, slaves on a ship that actually rowed and of course the chariots themselves - it took me a while before I realised they were cleverly masked shopping trollies, made to look like chariots - right down to the horses! Ingenious!

This play, which should have received larger audiences, has really put the Society on the map as one of the most talented groups around Cardiff. I hear that the play and cast have been entered into a NODA competition - here's hoping they do well. I look forward to seeing their next production.

Open Gardens 2024

The "Open Gardens" is always a popular event at the Radyr and Morganstown May Festival. This year we are looking for your help. There are so many beautiful gardens locally that I would like to extend a warm welcome to anybody who would join us and open their garden on Sunday 12th. May.

New gardens, in a variety of shapes and sizes, are really needed to keep our event fresh and exciting.

I know there are people out there who enjoy gardening, who could share their enthusiasm and knowledge (or lack of) and show off the results of all their hard work.

You do not need to be an expert so if you are willing or can be persuaded to participate, please call me for more information.

Sunny skies.

Gill Evans. Tel :- 07881 206745



Fighting Hidden Hunger Restoring Hope
Brwydro Newyn Cudd Adfer Gobaith

Diolch yn fawr! The Christmas collection in December raised a tremendous 286.3 kg of food - over a quarter of a ton! -and £60 in financial donations which were passed to Cardiff Foodbank. Thanks as ever to the community for their continued support. A real testament to people's generosity and a very worthwhile contribution to what is unfortunately still a considerable need. The next collection is very soon. 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 Saturday 17 February -

30 Pentwyn, Radyr CF15 8RE,

20 Walnut Tree Close, Radyr
CF15 8SX,

13 Heol Roald Dahl, Radyr
CF15 8GT,

17 Cuckoofield Close, Morganstown
CF15 8FR

The foodbank currently needs the following:

- SPONGE PUDDINGS AND LONG LIFE CAKES
- TINNED SOUP (MIXED FLAVOURS)
- FRUIT JUICE (1 LITRE, LONG LIFE)
- TINNED CUSTARD
- LONG GRAIN RICE
- TINNED TOMATOES
- MICROWAVEABLE RICE/EASY COOK PASTA
- SWEETS AND CHOCOLATE
- SQUASH

They will always accept good quality carrier bags too. They currently have plenty of PASTA, BAKED BEANS. TEA. CEREALS, SWEETCORN

The foodbank is unable to accept fresh, home-made or perishable food. Every donation, of whatever amount, is appreciated so please consider whether you can help. Thank you so much.

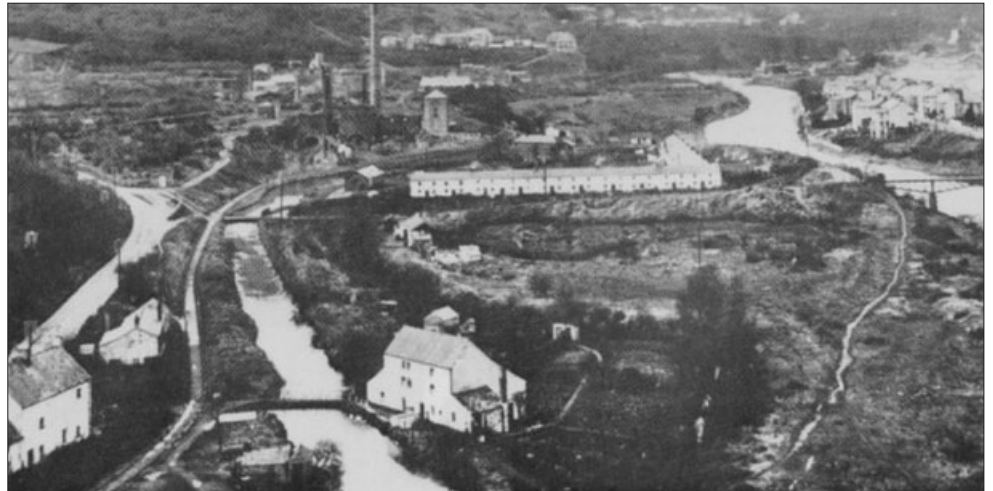
Pentrepoeth

We had quite a large response to the article about Pentrepoeth. Pentyrch History Society lent us two photographs of the village around the Pentyrch iron works.

The first shows the houses around the works which could have been known as Pentrepoeth, we can see the canal dug from the Taff to enter the ironworks with the river in the background and Taffs Well on the other side of the river.

The second shows a view, taken from the Viaduct, showing the works, the canal and the river with Taffs Well to the right and the houses of Gwaelod y Garth in the background.

Unfortunately the whole of this area is lost under the Gwaelod y Garth Industrial Estate and a newish development called Riverglade. Both in Pentyrch parish.



Cardiff Youth Activities

By County Cllr Helen Lloyd Jones
Great news. There are going to be Youth activities in Radyr Hub on Mondays and Thursdays, starting 5th February. The time to be confirmed, details re. age groups also to be confirmed. Details will be published on the Community and Council web sites. Cardiff Youth Services will be running it.

We used to have a Youth Club in Radyr and Morganstown but it stopped. Don't know why because everyone tells me it was successful.

The Community Council is still aware that we have a lot of youngsters who would welcome activities and a safe place to meet their friends after school.

Using Cardiff Youth Services the Community Council is supporting these activities. One of which was our Halloween event. All those wonderful pumpkins in Windsor

Gardens had been decorated by pupils at Radyr Comprehensive.

Cardiff Youth Services (CYS) have been and are quietly reaching out to our youngsters to find out what they would welcome in the community.

Members of the CYS already visit Radyr Comprehensive so their faces are familiar to our teenagers. They also talk to young people walking home from school*. The CYS staff all wear identification lanyards. They have all been trained to work with youngsters and have their DBS checks.

It will be interesting to see what our teenagers would appreciate in our area. One thing they had asked for was a safe meeting place in the evenings. Here's hoping collectively we can make at least some of their ideas work. The initiative at the Hub is a first step. Thank you CYS for your hard work and thank you to Radyr and Morganstown Community Council for wanting to support youth provision.



**Some parents have expressed concern about the white van parked near the Windsor Gardens with adults talking to young people. These will normally be members of CYS and will always wear a means of identification. Ed.*

New Cookbook celebrates food fresh from the garden

This week sees the publication of a new cookbook by food expert Nerys Howell. *Harvest – Recipes from the Garden* is a beautiful bilingual book, full of mouth-watering recipes and photographs.

Nerys Howell, who has been cooking for the viewers of S4C's *Prynhawn Da* for the last 25 years, says: "I am a cook who gardens and enjoys growing and harvesting fruit and vegetables. Harvest time provides a huge sense of achievement, enjoying the freshest food from the garden full of seasonal flavour.

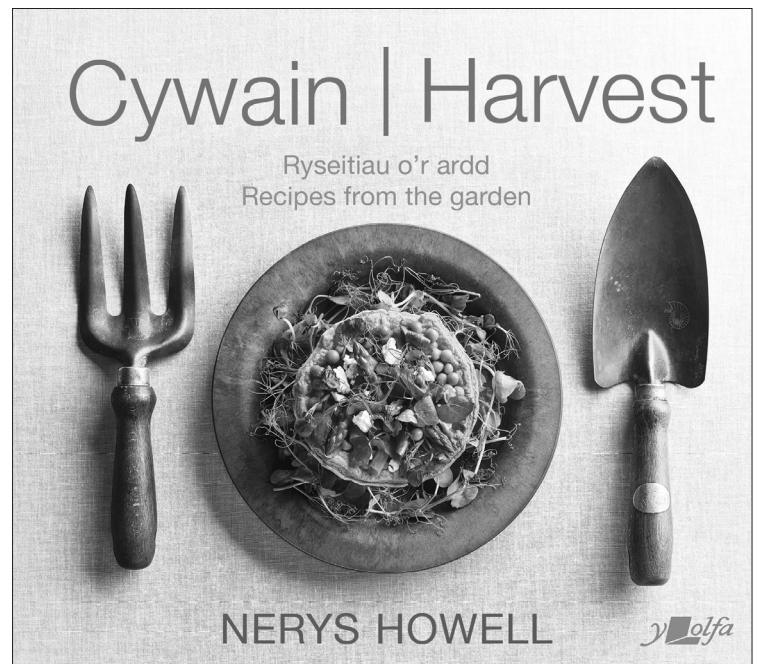
"This book is a natural progression from my previous book *Welsh Food by Season* (2020), which was about eating locally and seasonally. Nothing is more local, more seasonal or more sustainable than using what we grow, which is the central message of *Harvest*."

Harvest includes recipes that use parts of the plants usually discarded, such as the *Carrot top pesto*. The book also contains tips on how to start gardening, how to harvest and store, how to reduce waste, and a calendar showing what fruit and vegetables are in season when. The book is divided into five sections – Alliums, Brassicas – leaves; Root vegetables and pumpkins, Summer vegetables

and Fruit with an introduction at the beginning of each chapter. Nerys Howell is the owner of the food company Howel Food Consultancy, and she has many years of experience working in the food, drink and hospitality sector. She has travelled around the world to promote food and drink from Wales, and says, "I feel passionate about the fact that we need to look at what's at

its best at particular times of the year – produce tastes so much better when it's enjoyed in the right season. Gardening brings the added benefit of being able to connect with the earth and nature, as well as being good for the body and the mind."

The book is full of photographer Phil Boorman's beautiful photographs.



Wind Damage

The winds in early January brought down a tree in Park Road by the pedestrian crossing outside the Primary School. It was around lunchtime. Luckily the school and the nursery were still on holiday.

The tree blocked Park Road and a 63 bus had to be assisted by a policeman to reverse back onto Heol Isaf so that it could find another way of dropping its passengers.

Luckily Cardiff County Council were very quick to remove the tree. The tree seems to have snapped near to its base, as the pavement around looks undamaged, which would have been the case if the roots had been torn out.

We are grateful to Victoria from Salon Nia for this photograph taken from inside the salon.





The team with Cllr Calum Davies. Calum is on the extreme left.

Radyr Comprehensive Rugby

Radyr Comp's year 11 Rugby team are a particularly successful one. Previous winners of the Cardiff schools 7's they won a resounding victory over the Cathedral School,

triumphing 34-12 before Christmas. They will compete in the next round of the competition over the next few weeks.

They are the latest recipients of Persimmon Homes Community Champions scheme, who donated £1,000 to the team which they used for new kit. Perhaps it was the new kit the helper them to such a resounding win.

Persimmon is developing "The Parish", a site in Capel Llanilltern which will ultimately see over 1,000 homes built there.

Said Calum Davies, one of our County Councillors, "It's fantastic that the Comp were successful in applying for funding, especially when schools are needing to diversify their funding sources."

Codi arian i Eisteddfod Rhondda Cynon Taf!

Fel y gwyddoch, mae'r Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yn dod i Rhondda Cynon Taf ym mis Awst, 2024. Fe fydd yr Wyl yn cael ei chynnal ym Mharc Ynys Angharad - ac mae'n siwr o fod yn achlysur penigamp! Pan ddaeth yr Eisteddfod i Gaerdydd, yn 2018, aeth nifer ohonom ati i godi arian ar gyfer yr Wyl. Codwyd dros £30k mewn dim amser - ac fe gafwyd llawer o hwyl wrth wneud hynny.

Gan fod Eisteddfod 2024 ar ein stepen drws, fe benderfynwyd mai braf fyddai codi arian unwaith eto. Rydym, felly, yn anelu at godi £2,000 cyn mis Awst.

Er mwyn gwneud hyn, rydym wedi trefnu dau ddigwyddiad bach digon difyr!

Bydd y cyntaf i'w gynnal am 7.30yh

ar nos Wener, 15 Mawrth, yn Hen Ysgoldy'r Eglwys, yn Radur (sef The Old Church Rooms). **Datrus y Dirgelwch** yw enw'r digwyddiad, sef *Murder Mystery!* Fe fydd actorion o gwmni Cwm Ni (o Gaerffili) yn perfformio o flaen ac ymhlith y gynulleidfa. Fe glywn fod llofruddiaeth wedi digwydd!

Gwaith y gynulleidfa, wedyn, fydd dyfalu pwy yw'r llofrudd. Fe fydd ambell i gliw i'w ddarganfod yn ystod y perfformiad - ac fe fydd modd i chi holi'r actorion ar ôl y ddrama, er mwyn dod o hyd i fwy o gliwiau.

Bydd diod a *nibbles* ar gael - a gwobr i'r tim buddigol. Cost y tocyn fydd £12 - ac fe fyddent ar gael gan y tri ohonnom (wele isod).

Yna, ar 12 Ebrill fe fyddwn yn croesawi **dau berson o Rhondda Cynton Taf sydd wedi gwneud cymaint dros y Gymraeg**, Rhuanedd Richards (Cyfarwyddwr BBC Cymru a, chyn hynny, SPAD Alun Ffred adeg cyflwyno'r Mesur

Iaith i'r Senedd - a llawer mwy). Hefyd fe fyddwn yn croesawi Cennard Davies. Brodor o Dreorci yw Cennard Davies. Bu'n Bennaeth Adran Ieithoedd Prifysgol Morgannwg ac mae ei gyfraniad fel darlithydd, tiwtor ac awdur ym maes addysgu a'r Gymraeg wedi bod yn bellgyrhaeddol.

Fe fydd y ddau yn cael eu holi gan Cyril Jones ac fe fydd, wrth gwrs, cyfle i chi i'w holi hwy hefyd.

Eto, fe fydd y digwyddiad yn cychwyn am 7.30yh yn Hen Ysgoldy'r Eglwys, Radur. Ac eto, y gost fydd £10. Ac, wrth gwrs, fe fydd diod a *nibbles* ar gael.

Fe fydd y tocynnau'n mynd ar werth cyn bo hir - felly edrychwch allan amdanynt!

Diolch yn fawr!

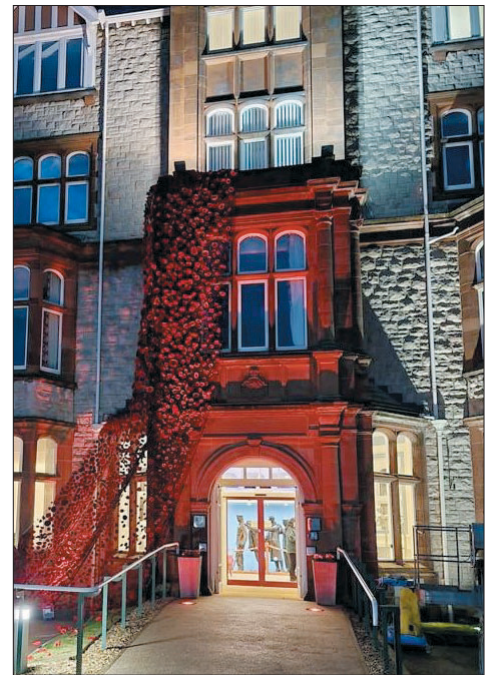
Huw Onllwyn Jones
Allan Cook
Angharad Lewis

Update on the Radyr & Morganstown Hand Knitted Poppies

The poppies which were made to commemorate 100 years since the end of World War 1 represented a huge community effort by members of the two Women's Institutes based in Radyr and Morganstown (2018), and other members of the community who came on board. Alongside the poppies which dramatically graced the tower of Christchurch we also covered the whole of the grass area around the War Memorial, and the grass area in Morganstown Granny Park....it was a huge undertaking!

Some of the poppies have now had another life...I was approached by Lynne Brotherton (a member of Morganstown WI), and also one of the many knitters, who asked if we would be willing to gift some of our poppies to the charity "Blind Veterans UK" for a Remembrance poppy display at their Llandudno Centre of Wellbeing. Each November the Centre hosts a Military Week culminating in an Act of Remembrance. Knitted poppies made by its members, volunteers, supporters and staff decorate the building and are displayed as a 'Field of Remembrance' in the grounds. Lynne's daughter Joanne is

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News from Treforgan WI

The photograph shows members of Treforgan WI at our (slightly belated) celebration held to commemorate King Charles III's coronation where we enjoyed a splendid tea, prosecco, a photo quiz and plenty of chat! Earlier in the year two groups visited the new BBC studios in Central Cardiff with one group being lucky enough to meet Wales' famous weatherman, Derek Brockway. Our walking group has had another full programme of walks both local and further afield including a walk on Old Castle Down led by the enthusiastic and knowledgeable Dot Williams in search of the very rare High Brown Fritillary butterfly. In May we ran a bottle stall jointly with Radyr and Morganstown WI at the RMA Festival Fete and in September joined other branches from across

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Radyr Drama Society

Ben Hur

Radyr Drama Society pulled out all the stops for their latest production "Ben Hur" by Patrick Barlow. The stage version was as epic as the film, but thankfully not as long! The premise of the play is an amateur theatre group's attempt to put on

Ben Hur, on a low budget, with passion and rivalry amongst the cast. A play within a play if you will.

It required 4 actors capable of changing character within seconds of their previous role, by a simple change of hat / costume or even voice. The cast, made up of used all these skills and attributes wholeheartedly.

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Treforgan Women's Institute 2023