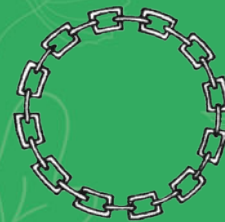


Radyr Chain



Edition 279

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown

Summer 2026



In this edition

Help save Radyr Post Office, Festival highlights and photos, a walk around industrial Radyr, music memories of a local composer, and much more!

From the Editors

Welcome to the Summer 2026 edition of the Radyr Chain.

This edition arrives after a busy few months in Radyr and Morganstown. The Festival has once again brought people together across the community, and these pages include reports, photographs and reflections from some of the schools, clubs and groups who took part.

It is always good to see how much energy, goodwill and practical effort goes into making local events happen, and we are very thankful to the RMA and Festival organising committee for their hard work and dedication to such a fantastic event.

Help save our Post Office

We have been informed that the Morrisons shop and Post Office on Station Road will close on 1st August 2026. This is a serious loss for Radyr, particularly for older

residents, people with mobility difficulties, those without easy access to transport, and anyone who relies on having essential services within walking distance.

There is still work being done to try to retain Post Office provision in Radyr, but we need to make our voice heard quickly. The best thing we can do is email comments@postoffice.co.uk and explain why Radyr needs a local Post Office.

We have a number of articles in this edition from across the community. The latest update was written by Cllr Helen Lloyd Jones shortly before going to print and can be found on page 11.

It has been encouraging to see so many people paying attention, asking questions and trying to find a way forward.

Younger voices

We are also pleased to include contributions from younger writers. Mari and Gwen have written about the community meeting to save the Post Office, and pupils from Radyr Primary share their Festival poem and residential trip reports. The Chain should reflect the whole community, so it is especially welcome to hear younger voices in these pages.

Looking back and looking around

There is a strong sense of local memory in this edition too. Nicholas Olsen writes warmly about growing up with music in Radyr and Morganstown, while Allan Cook takes us on a walk around industrial Radyr, tracing the railway, canal, ironworks and older landmarks that shaped the area.

Alongside these pieces, our regular local groups continue to show just how much is going on: the W.I., Mothers' Union, Probus, Scouts and Guides, our local schools, theatre groups, sports teams, fundraising groups and many others. Thank you to everyone who sends in news, photos and updates.

We hope you enjoy this edition and have a good summer.



Upcoming Events

Saturday 11th July, 10am

Radyr and Morganstown Litter Pickers. Meet at Radyr Station Car Park. Refreshments afterwards in Radyr Hub, Park Road

Thursday 6th August, 10.30am

Probus Club of Cardiff West at Radyr Golf Club. "Wildlife Crime". An illustrated talk by Mark Goulding.

Saturday 8th August, 10am

Radyr and Morganstown Litter Pickers. Meet at Radyr Hub, Park Road. Refreshments afterwards in Radyr Hub, Park Road

Thursday 13th to Saturday 15th August, 11am

Radyr Methodist Church Urban Beach

Thursday 3rd September, 10.30am

Probus Club of Cardiff West at Radyr Golf Club. "Scoundrels of Welsh History". Sit back and enjoy these tales of knaves, cads and varlets as told by the renowned author & broadcaster Graham Lovelock Edwards.

Saturday 5th September, 10.45am

Cllr Helen Lloyd Jones surgery at Ty Nant, Morganstown

Wednesday 9th September, 7pm

RCTS South Wales at Old Church Rooms, "40 Years on the Footplate," by Lee Davies

Saturday 12th September, 10am

Radyr and Morganstown Litter Pickers. Meet at Morganstown Village Hall. Refreshments afterwards in Radyr Hub, Park Road

Thursday 24th September, 10am

Probus Club of Cardiff West "Trip to Cyfarthfa Castle, Art Gallery & Park". A visit to what is possibly the best-preserved and grandest Ironmaster's house in Wales.

Thursday 1st October, 10.30am

Probus Club of Cardiff West. At Radyr Golf Club. "Ability Net - For Internet Advice & Support". Lucy Walsh talks about IT advice & support offered to older & disabled people too.

Wednesday 7th October, 7pm

RCTS South Wales at Old Church Rooms, "Steam around South Wales in the 1960s." Cine and still photography from the Jim and Michael Clemens Collections

Saturday 10th October, 10am

Radyr and Morganstown Litter Pickers. Meet at Radyr Station Car Park. Refreshments afterwards in Radyr Hub, Park Road

Thursday 5th November, 10.30am

Probus Club of Cardiff West. At Radyr Golf Club. "Care & Repair - For Your Independent Living". Emily Laker of Care

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& Repair talks about their support to help older people.

Wednesday 11th November, 7pm

RCTS South Wales at Old Church Rooms, "70 Years Chasing Trains at Home and Abroad" Peter Fortune

Saturday 14th November, 10am

Radyr and Morganstown Litter Pickers. Meet at Morganstown Village Hall. Refreshments afterwards in Radyr Hub, Park Road

Thursday 19th November, 10am

Probus Club of Cardiff West "Trip to Bristol River Ship Basins & Waterways", including a visit to the 'M' Shed history museum to explore Bristol through time.

Winter edition

The next edition of the Radyr Chain will be published in November 2026.

If you would like to contribute an article or advertise your business, our deadline for new submissions will be Thursday 15th October.

You can send all submissions and enquiries to chain@radyr.org.uk

News from the Community Council

by Julia Charles, Chair

I was extremely proud to be asked to continue as Chair for another year and I am looking forward to carrying on with the projects already in the pipeline for our community.

The Civic Ceremony was another success and thank you to all who attended. I would like to express my gratitude to Iona Shariff for her tireless work as Vice Chair in the past year, especially on the Station Road upgrade work and proposed improvements to the Co-op/Spar area.

Allan Cook will now step in as Vice Chair this year and we all welcome his continued support to our community, especially on Environment issues and Christmas activities.

As a council, we will continue to focus on our environment, possible upgrade to Station Road and working with the Co-op to improve the Spar area, and also looking at long term development of the Old Church Rooms. Progress and updates will be on our website.

It was also great to be involved in the Fete, and the fine weather held out for the afternoon. The children loved the Bug Boxes and our stall was popular throughout the afternoon. Thank you to Forest Farm Rangers for their innovative work. We must do the same or something similar next year. A huge Well Done to the RMA for organising another successful year.

There have been some changes to Council members and the team of Clerks in recent weeks.

We say goodbye to James Spencer-Matthews who has taken the decision to step down as a Council member due to work commitments. Thank you, James, for your contribution, and we hope you can re-join us in the future.

We welcome Esther Winter to the team who will be taking the role of Senior Clerk. Esther comes to us highly recommended and we are sure she will be a valuable asset to our Council and Community.

We also welcome Lauren Fear who has joined us as a council member. Lauren has close ties to Radyr and Morganstown and we look forward to working with her.

A community meeting was held at the New School Rooms at Christ Church on Friday 5th June to discuss the closure of Morrisons and the Post Office. More than 60 people turned up to support and to express the need for a Post Office in the village.

A sign of the importance of this meeting was the number of our local representatives who were able to attend. Our M.P. Alex Barros-Curtis, three of our six newly elected Senedd members, Joe Martin (Reform), Anthony Slaughter (leader of the Green Party), Huw Thomas (Labour), and our two County Councillors,



Calum Davies and Helen Lloyd Jones. We will keep you informed of what is happening over the Post Office.

Have a great summer everyone and we will see you in the autumn.

Eva Tattum

Eva Tattum, a resident in Radyr and a teacher at Radyr Primary School during the 70's and early 80's, passed away recently at the age of 96.

Mrs. Tattum was a nature lover who also took a very keen interest in birds, her knowledge was passed onto her pupils over the years.

She will be remembered for the 'Eva Tattum Cup For Nature' which is awarded annually to the pupil who has shown a keen interest in the school nature programme.

Mrs. Tattum passed away peacefully at home.

*Written by Sue Thomas
on behalf of the family.*

Meet our newest councillor: Lauren Fear

I am proud to be a member of Radyr and Morganstown Community Council. Radyr has been my family base for the past 25 years, and I have lived here for six years with my two young daughters. We plan to remain here for the long term, and I am deeply committed to supporting and strengthening our community.

I applied to join the Community Council because I am passionate about making a meaningful contribution locally and recognise the vital role the Council plays in shaping and supporting our community.

In my professional role, I am a Board Director at Velindre University NHS Trust, where I lead on Place, Portfolio and Partnerships. The Trust delivers specialist cancer services for South Wales and operates the Welsh Blood Service, responsible for collecting, processing and distributing blood and blood products across Wales. My responsibilities include overseeing our estate and buildings, leading our portfolio of organisational change programmes, and developing strategic partnerships, such as the recent launch of Cardiff Health Partners.

Prior to joining the NHS, I spent 15 years in finance and banking. During that time, I managed branches and business banking customers; worked as Chief of Staff to a Chief Risk Officer; and led large-scale, industry-wide



change programmes.

I also serve as a Non-Executive Director of Down to Earth, an award-winning social enterprise based in Gower that delivers sustainable construction projects in an inclusive and community-focused way. I am also a Governor at Mary Immaculate High School, serving as a foundation governor for our church, Holy Family in Fairwater.

Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family and embracing new challenges. Our latest adventures have been in our VW campervan, Seren, which is helping us create lasting memories. Inspired by my

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father, I am also walking the Camino Francés, an 800k pilgrimage across Spain, via several stages. I am looking forward to completing my third stage this summer.

As a new Community Councillor, I am focused on listening and learning. Over the coming months, I will be connecting with local community groups and residents to better understand priorities and how the Council can best serve everyone. I have also set up a Facebook page and welcome anyone to get in touch and share their views.

My parents and two sisters, a local teacher and GP, all live in Radyr. As three sisters, we have six little girls growing up here. This gives me a strong personal motivation to contribute positively, ensuring that our wonderful corner of Cardiff continues to thrive for current residents and future generations.

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Councillor Helen Lloyd Jones



Morrisons and the Post Office

Things are moving quickly here. Please see my separate article on the Post Office for the fuller picture. The Community Council has set up a group to work on finding a solution, and if anyone is interested in helping, we would welcome extra support. Please tell me and I will pass your details on.

Buses

Please remember that if the buses don't get used, I will have no case to fight when the funding runs out for the extra bus. So please use it.

Really pleased to receive a photo of Radyr and Morganstown W.I. returning from their trip out by bus. They looked great standing in lovely summery clothes by a bus stop in Cathedral Road. And they looked so happy.

It does help. All these little jaunts using the bus improve our statistics and give us a better chance of retaining the

service. Thank you R&M W.I. for being a great example.

Junction between Drysgol Road and Windsor Road and Windsor Avenue.

You've asked for a zebra crossing. I've heard there's going to be a scheme where zebra crossings can just be painted onto a road. Haven't managed to track the details down yet. No new progress.

The Sidings

Issues with bikes and knock-on effects of the attacks in Hailey Park. If you are a walker, you will know you can walk from the bottom of De Clare Drive onto an old cart road and then onto the old Taff Vale railway bridge into Hailey Park. So, it won't surprise you to know we are having complaints from residents at that end of De Clare Drive about people on e-bikes and people covered up in black.

Following a post I made, the police have started patrolling Hailey Park and I have been in touch with them and asked if they could also patrol the cart road both down to Radyr Court Road, known as Spooky Lane, and to the Sidings.

Radyr Rangers Football Festival

This was a very well-run event held at Radyr Comp over the weekend June 13th and 14th. Brilliant to see the girls also playing in tournaments. Great feeling of the community pulling together to deliver magic moments for our children. It isn't just the medals, which everyone seemed to get and wear with pride and rightly so, it isn't only the football they will remember or the hot dogs or the burgers or the ice cream. It's the freedom they were allowed within the space to play with their friends, the sound of laughter and feeling happy.

Thank you so much for all the hard work the grown-ups put into delivering the Football Festival, and to all the sponsors who give their support. It is worth the effort and it is appreciated.

Bryn Deri's PTA Summer Fete

Was able to go along to the fete on Saturday 27th June. It was a very well run, very happy event. They just didn't expect such a run on hot dogs. I gather more supplies had to be rushed in. But that's great news, because it means a lot of parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles and friends turned up to support the event. Well done Bryn Deri PTA.

Councillor Calum Davies



Post Office

The Post Office has confirmed its branch on Station Road and the Morrisons Daily shop that hosts it will close on 1st August. This is a huge blow to the community, but I am glad to be part of a collective effort – exemplified at the public meeting at the start of the month – to find ways of preserving Post Office provision in the ward. I am awaiting responses on grant funding opportunities and scoping details that would allow a new vendor in the ward or for an existing business to host one. Once known, I will share with you.

Resurfacing Petition

I was pleased to present a petition to the Council signed by residents of Dan y Bryn Avenue and its off-shoot cul-de-sacs requesting resurfacing works. Knowing the roads in Radyr & Morganstown pretty well, this is one of if not the worst for potholes that have

not been addressed over the council term. I am looking to do this in other parts of the ward too, so if your street is badly affected do let me know.

Public bins

With the improving weather and people spending more time outside, I have been made aware of overflowing public bins in both Radyr and Morganstown. I have reported these to the responsible parties who then actioned them. If you see overflowing public bins near you, do let me know.

Radyr Festival

Another year, another successful festival. I was pleased to go to some events and do so in good weather with excellent attendance. I want to pay tribute to all those hard-working volunteers behind it. Do offer to lend a hand next year as otherwise it's a lot of work on too few shoulders. I don't have the final figures at time of writing, but at least £5,000 has been raised for City Hospice because of the Festival this year. Not only is the Festival something that brings the community together time after time, bringing fun to all the family, it is an excellent way of supporting local charities. Well done to all involved!

Senedd election

That you are getting a new Councillor report from me means that I was not successful in my bid to represent our constituency

in the Senedd. I was proud of the campaign I ran and delighted with the high levels of support I received in Radyr & Morganstown. I picked up a lot of local casework and am working on those cases.

Whilst I was obviously disappointed by the result, I was not surprised – and remaining your local councillor is not a consolation prize but a greater reward. I have written elsewhere a more political piece about the election, but here I will just say my record of working with others to deliver on all my pledges during the last Council election is something I hope to build on going forward in this area.

County Councillor updates

Regular updates from our County Councillors are made available every month on the community website at radyr.org.uk

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Alex Barros-Curtis MP

I recently attended the public meeting in Radyr, kindly organised by my colleague Cllr Helen Lloyd Jones, where residents shared strong and deeply felt concerns about the potential closure of the Station Road Post Office. The strength of feeling in the room made clear just how important this service is to our community.

Following that meeting, I took these concerns directly to the Minister with responsibility for the Post Office, Blair McDougall MP. In our discussion, I emphasised that the possible loss of the branch is not simply a matter of convenience; it risks removing a vital local service that many residents rely on.

Following our meeting, the Minister was meeting with the leadership of the Post Office, and he reassured me that he would raise Radyr directly with them at that meeting.

During my meeting with the Minister, I highlighted the limitations of the current national framework governing Post Office provision. While the Government requires that 99% of the population is within three miles of a branch, I made clear that this metric alone does not reflect the realities faced by communities like ours.

Although Radyr technically meets this requirement due to the nearby branch in Danescourt, I believe accessibility cannot be judged by distance alone. For many residents—particularly older people, those with



mobility challenges, or those without access to a car—travelling to another branch is not straightforward. Public transport links, terrain, and day-to-day practicality must all be considered.

In my subsequent correspondence with the Post Office, I have pressed for clarity on how these local factors are being taken into account. I have also asked what steps they are taking to explore a replacement service within Radyr, whether through a new retail partner or an outreach model.

I have been informed that, even though this closure may result from a private business decision—namely the potential closure of the Morrisons store—the Post Office is still required to notify the public and invite comments on any proposed changes to its network. I have written to the Post Office to ensure that this process is properly carried out, so that residents have a genuine opportunity to make their voices heard.

While there is no absolute

legal requirement for every community to retain its own Post Office branch, the Government has recognised the importance of maintaining a network that is accessible and responsive to local need. Decisions should not be based solely on national averages, but on the real ability of residents to access services.

The message from the public meeting was clear: the Post Office is a valued and essential part of life in Radyr. I will continue to press both Ministers and the Post Office to ensure that these concerns are properly considered and that every effort is made to secure a solution for our community.

I would encourage all residents to engage with any Post Office consultation process when it is announced and to share your experiences. The more evidence we can provide about the real impact of this closure, the stronger our case will be.

I remain committed to standing up for Radyr and will keep residents updated as this situation develops.

Community Meeting to Save our Post Office



by Mari (9) and Gwen (8)

There was a community meeting in the church hall on the 5th of June. It was the first community meeting that we had ever attended.

We think it was a good community meeting and that there were some interesting questions and answers.

We enjoyed taking notes and understood the key points but we didn't quite understand some of the complicated statements and sentences.

We liked listening to the ideas on how we can make some changes and work it all out. We also liked looking at the letters at the back of the room and listening to the interesting facts.

We also think that maybe if Morrisons does close that the Post Office could move to another place. We think it is crucial to save the Post Office because it is important for retired people and their pensions. It wouldn't be nice



for them to have to walk to Danescourt every week.

Overall, we believe that the Post Office should not be forced to close just because Morrisons isn't making enough money.

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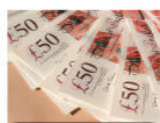
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Radyr's Probus Club

by Barry Clarke

We have recently had some amazing speakers come along to our club meetings to talk to us. From one speaker, we heard about the British 'Home Children' programme that sent over 100,000 disadvantaged British children to Canada and other colonies.

He described the plight of the children who, between the late 1860s and the 1970s, were given up by their poverty-stricken parents to the charity Barnardo's and other organisations. While there, lots of the boys were asked if they would like to go to Canada.

After they were away from those organisations, once in Canada and hoping for a better life, many were treated badly and used as a source of cheap full-time labour until they legally became men. Only about 2 percent of those children shipped over were actually orphans.

Apparently, a total of about 115,000 British Home Children took the journey, and now about four million Canadians (Yes, 1 in 10) are descendants of British Home Children.

From another speaker we heard about cross border booze smuggling, bootlegging and speakeasy joints on the Canada-USA border after World War I. Wild times. Did you know that it was normally the ladies who did the bootlegging - using a pantomime puss-in-boots style of boot which was of a larger diameter than the



leg. This was so that, once the boots were on, the liquor containers could be put into those boots (between the boot and the lady's leg). The boots would then be worn hidden under a long dress, prior to the lady crossing the border.

And, here in the UK, our trips away have started again, with the first one this year only going as far as the Royal Mint in Llantrisant, where we each had the opportunity to lift a real full-size 24-carat gold bullion bar (it was surprisingly heavy). The next trip is going away on a comfy charabanc to enjoy the National Botanic Garden of Wales.

Our men's Radyr Probus club

(which is formally called the "Probus Club of Cardiff West") welcomes new members and meets at 10.30 on the first Thursday morning of each month at Radyr Golf Club to hear entertaining speakers (tea, coffee, lunch, etc. are available too), as well as other times when we go away on trips (including those open to wives and family).

If you think you'd like to join our men's club, you are very welcome to come along to find out more.

Further details can also be had by phoning Geoff Foot on 07780 990 847, or email geofffoot@gmail.com.



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Radyr Post Office: where are we now?

by Cllr Helen Lloyd Jones

I wonder what it will be like when you read this. Will it still be very hot? Will we still be able to use hosepipes in the garden? And what will have happened to our Post Office on Station Road in Radyr?

When I first drafted this article, the question was whether Morrisons could be persuaded not to close its Station Road shop, or at least to delay closure. Things have moved on since then.

At the moment, we have been told that the Post Office will close on August 1st, but the good news is that the Post Office is now advertising the Radyr opportunity, and **the urgent task is to ask them to keep that vacancy open for longer so that there is a proper chance of finding someone who can run a local service.**

We have all learnt a lot very quickly. I did not realise that Morrisons operates more than one kind of shop. Some are run directly by Morrisons, while others use the Morrisons name but are owned independently. Morrisons is owned by Clayton, Dubilier and Rice, an American private equity firm, but the arrangements around Morrisons-branded franchise shops are not the same as those for shops run directly by Morrisons. That is one reason why this has not been a simple case of asking one company to change its mind.

The first step, agreed with the Community Council and

helped enormously by the work Lauren Fear has done, was to make the case for keeping the Station Road shop open and giving it a proper revamp. There has been very little, if any, investment in upgrading the old McColls into the kind of Morrisons Daily that could serve Radyr well. New homes in and around Radyr will also increase the number of potential shoppers if there are good local shops to use.

We held a well-attended public meeting, bringing together residents and local representatives, including MSs, Huw Thomas, our MP Alex Barros-Curtis and both County Councillors. Lauren drafted email templates, and more than a thousand people signed a petition asking Morrisons to delay the closure and look seriously at the shop's future.

We are still trying to understand the options around the shop, but we also have to move quickly on the Post Office itself.

Please email comments@postoffice.co.uk if you want Radyr to keep a Post Office. Copy me at Helen. LloydJones@cardiff.gov.uk and copy Alex Barros-Curtis MP at alex.barroscurtis.mp@parliament.uk so that he can continue to raise the issue with the Minister responsible for the Post Office.

In your email, please say why Radyr needs a Post Office, how you or people you know use it, and why the suggested alternatives are not good enough for many

residents, especially older people or anyone who does not drive. Please also ask the Post Office to extend the closing date for applications on www.runapostoffice.co.uk.

One thing is certain: our community wants and needs a Post Office, and it was well placed in Morrisons. Residents of Cwrt Brynteg regularly use their trundlers to walk as far as the Post Office to collect their money, and perhaps have a coffee from Cicchetti's afterwards. We have a high proportion of elderly people in our ward. Most are incredibly active for their age, but many are not comfortable doing everything online. They need trusted staff and a familiar local counter.

We are also looking at other possibilities. Pugh's Garden Centre has said it would let us use a space, but that is a long way from Station Road, with steep hills for older residents and those using mobility scooters. I have also asked whether we could have a Bank Hub with a Post Office service in it, though that would take time.

The immediate aim is still to keep a Post Office in, or very close to, Station Road. What is encouraging is the number of offers of help and the feeling that we are working as a team. We have not given up. We are still fact finding, still following up suggestions from the public meeting, and still looking for practical solutions. If you have expertise, contacts or time you can offer, please let us know.

Celts Explorer Scouts

The Great Tommy Sleep Out



In 2024 The Celts Explorers took part in the Great Tommy Sleep Out (GTSO) for the first time, raising over £300 to support homeless veterans. The aim of the GTSO is to give up one night, or more, of comfort to raise awareness and vital funds – helping provide safe homes, mental health support, and a pathway back to independence for those who once served our country.

We decided to do it again in 2026, with the goal of raising more money than we did last time. We combined the Sleep Out with a site service day at the Cardiff & Vale Scouts Campsite in St. Brides-super-Ely on 21st March.

An amazing job was done by Explorer Scouts from the Celts (Creigiau), Phoenix (Pontcanna) and Beast (Barry) Units in getting some really labour-intensive jobs done at Jubilee Scout Campsite. The payoff was that the newly created tomahawk area was put into use for the

first time, as well as archery and laser clay shooting.

The Great Tommy Sleep Out itself was a nippy one, but the 4 Explorers and 2 Leaders that slept out now know what it feels like to be sleeping out on a cold March night with little protection from the elements. We weren't in cosy tents; we made shelters from 3x3m tarps and walking poles. When we awoke on Sunday morning our tarps had ice on them.

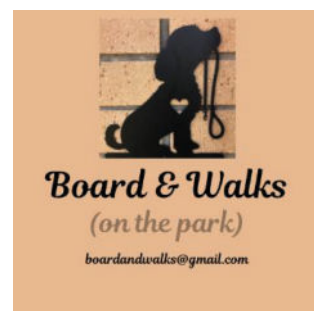
So, did we beat what we raised last time? No - we smashed it, raising a whopping £1,435 for Royal British Veterans Enterprise, coming 71st out of almost 1,000 fundraisers.

Explorer Scouts are aged 14 to 18. If you have a young person interested in joining in with the adventure or participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, please email celts@cardiffwestscouts.org. uk. To see more of what we do, check our Instagram by searching for @celts_esu.

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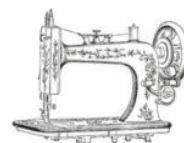
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R&M Litter Pickers



Keep Wales Tidy recently reported that the vast majority of litter collected in Wales was thrown from moving vehicles - a result of our increasing use of take away food and drinks. This is certainly our experience in Radyr and Morganstown, where Heol Isaf, Bryn Derwen, Ty Nant Road and Ffordd Treforgan require almost daily collections of the remnants of fast food from bags from McDonald's and KFC and sandwich packets and drinks from supermarkets. The worst was a whole Happy Meal with most of the fries left uneaten.

Please, please don't just throw your waste from your car or van. Not only does it not look nice but it can also be a problem for us to pick up.

Radyr & Morganstown Litter Pickers was formed with the help of Suzanne Baskerville at the Hub, in

July 2021, immediately after lockdown. In the past five years our 40 volunteers have collected almost 3,500 pink bags of rubbish - over 10 tonnes of waste.

This is a super achievement but not one any of us are proud of. Our most successful litter pick would be where we didn't collect a single bag.

We have also helped Radyr Rangers in their annual festival, both local Primary Schools in their awareness of the effects of dumping waste on the environment and the Radyr Brownies and Cubs.

We should also like to applaud the efforts of Bryn Deri Primary School whose pupils have produced posters asking people not to drop their dog poo bags, such as the example below.



If you would like to join us, we can provide kits (given to us by Cardiff Council and the Community Council) and instructions. You will also be fully covered by our insurance. The dates of our group picks are shown in the diary on page three.

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Let's make yoga work for everybody

Did you spot us on the ITV Wales news in May? We were filmed doing an outdoor yoga class at Insole Court, and one of my brave Radyr students shared how beneficial yoga has been for her body as she recovered from being unwell.

I've been teaching yoga in Radyr since I moved here 3 years ago, but this is no ordinary yoga class!

In my 25 years practising yoga I struggled with many of the physical postures because of back, knee and shoulder injuries, but found that I was often told by teachers to just skip the posture or leave the class! I realised that there were plenty of yoga teachers for people who are fit, thin and flexible, but far fewer teachers taking the extra time and effort to adapt the practice for those who struggle with the physical postures.

I undertook Accessible Yoga training to learn how to make yoga work for students with injuries, bigger bodies and movement challenges - which includes giving students the option to practise on a mat or in a chair or a bit of both! During my training I discovered how many people feel confused, uncomfortable or left behind when trying yoga, and made it my mission to make sure no one feels that way in my classes! It's heartbreaking that so many people are put off by the physical side of the practice, which is actually a very



small part of the traditions of yoga, and this stops them benefiting from the naturally more accessible practices like working with the breath (pranayama) and meditation.

In my Radyr classes, I welcome everybody regardless of age, size, gender or mobility, and most of my students have never done yoga before or are coming back to yoga after injury, illness or just getting older and stiffer! We love our regular end of term socials, often over a coffee or meal at Cicchetti's, which helps students get to know each other and builds a sense of community in these classes.

It's not easy getting people to give yoga a try, especially if they've been made to feel that they can't do yoga in the past. Unfortunately many people end up believing they don't have a 'yoga body', are too old, too big, too inflexible, or just can't do yoga. But seeing the joy in my students' eyes when they realise they CAN do yoga makes it all so worthwhile

- all they needed was a few simple adjustments and a bit of support and encouragement.

Here's what one of my regular students, Jo Phelps, says:

"What a fabulous experience Anna's yoga classes are! They are exactly as described and suitable for all! I hadn't done yoga for 30 odd years, was out of shape and nervous about attending classes. How wrong I was! Anna explains everything, gives lots of options and encouragement, no judgement at all. The room is filled with lots of people like me. I'm now signed up ready for my third term and loving every week."

You can join my Beginners Courses or regular Yoga for Everyone classes, in Radyr Methodist Church or New School Rooms Christchurch. We start a new term in September or you can join outdoor classes at Insole Court over the summer. See my website for all the details: www.annabananayoga.com

Radyr & Morganstown W.I.



Our W.I. meetings take place on the second Monday of the month at the Old Church Rooms Radyr at 7.30pm and we have speakers on a variety of subjects. We have recently had a talk from Dr. Graham Cope about "A Right Royal Scandal" no, not the current one but an earlier Duke of York who created a scandal in the 19th century which was very interesting.

We have several sub-groups, including two reading groups as well as a thriving Gardening Group which is growing in numbers. We also have a Meet up Monday at the Golf Club at the end of each month which gives members a chance to have a social get-together with refreshments and a chat. All

these groups meet monthly.

At the festival fete, we had a bottle tombola stall where £108 was raised for City Hospice, the village charity this year. A photograph is attached of our stall.

Our Garden Group has been busy lately. In April, we had a trip to Cefn Onn Park to see the gardens there, unfortunately, it was very wet and we had to spend some time sheltering under the motorway bridge to keep dry and safe from the thunderstorm. Some of our members went to the Malvern Spring Show which was organised by the W.I. and at the end of May a group of us

went to Dyffryn Gardens to see not only the Gardens but the exhibition of the dresses made for the programme "The Other Bennet Sister". Again, a photograph is attached of some of the clothes on show. At the beginning of June, we went to Tongwynlais to see a garden which is open for the National Garden Scheme but we had a private showing. The gardens were beautiful, but, unfortunately, we all got very wet in the downpour.

We have very interesting speakers coming to talk this year, so why don't you come and join us. In September we have Emma Jane who does Cake Decorating. In October Tessa Jobbins will be giving us a talk on "The History of Insole Gardens" and in November, John Sheen will give a talk on "Christmas Crackers". Our contact details are shown on the Radyr & Morganstown Community website and Facebook. You will have a warm welcome.

Contact us on <https://radyr.org/clubs/radyr-wi/>



A walk around industrial Radyr

by Allan Cook

Richard Llewellyn's 1939 novel "How Green was my Valley" describes how the Welsh valleys were blackened by industry in the early 19th century. Perhaps we need a new novel, "How Green is my Valley", describing how the blackened valleys have been greened during the later part of the 20th and the 21st centuries; even the river Taff supports a population of salmon for the first time in a century.

If you start at Radyr railway station you are looking at Brunel's "crooked little line in Wales". Although the Taff Vale Railway (TVR) is what is nowadays considered standard gauge, it is narrow gauge by Brunel's standards. Brunel favoured a gauge of a little over 7ft for his Great Western Railway.

Walk a few metres to your right and you come to Junction Terrace. The cottages on the right of Junction Terrace are the first houses in modern

Radyr built as homes for those who worked in the marshalling yard, now Radyr Sidings estate. While the transportation of iron from the Merthyr area was the original purpose of the TVR, the rapid growth in demand for Welsh "steam" coal in the middle of the 19th century quickly overcame Cardiff docks. It became necessary to build Radyr Sidings as a holding area for coal wagons either waiting to get into the docks or to be returned to the mines. A second line was opened from Radyr Sidings to a new port that grew up at Penarth.

The Taff Vale Railway opened from Crockherbtown (modern Queen Street Station) to Navigation House (now Abercynon) on the 8th of October 1840. The original line was single track and had two intermediate stations, Llandaff and Pontypridd. Passenger trains travelled between Crockherbtown and Pontypridd in 31 minutes, not very different to modern timings.

It was decided early on to have two tracks and the necessary access to Radyr Sidings makes the railway very wide at this point. Walk the underpass under the railway bridge and you can see the various stages of the building of the underpass, none of the bridges quite match.

Cross the bridge over the Taff and head south towards Llandaff North. Take the right-hand path. Immediately to your right as you emerge onto the road is the vast Melingriffith wheel, used to pump water from the river to the canal. There was also an iron works of the same name here.

Melingriffith or Melyn Gruffydd was an ancient corn mill, named after Gruffydd, a son of the ruler of the kingdom of Senghenydd, Ifor Haul. It was the local corn mill for most of the medieval period and was converted into an iron works and linked to Pentyrch iron works in the 18th century.

The road you are now standing on, Ty Mawr Road, was once the canal; follow it to the left until it joins the section of the Glamorganshire canal which is still in water and which contains a few of the 51 locks once on the canal. The Glamorganshire canal ran from Merthyr to Cardiff and was opened in 1798. The canal was very successful at first and as profits to investors were restricted to 8%, users were often given periods without tolls or periods of reduced tolls. This section of the canal is now part of the Forest





Farm nature reserve where a variety of wildlife, including kingfishers, can be spotted.

Follow the canal to its end and follow the path around to the left and across Longwood Drive. This will bring you to the Taff Trail, follow the path for about half a mile, under the M4 until you reach the remains of a toll house on your right. This is the latest project by the Tongwynlais Society. At one time a narrow gauge tramway linked Pentyrch iron works with Melingriffith. To your left is an iron bridge where it used to cross the Taff. The tramway clearly split at this point and one section headed to the canal at Tongwynlais. Tolls were collected at this point.

Cross the iron bridge and you come to Gelynis Farm. Gelynis Farm is the oldest building in modern Radyr and Morganstown. It was built in the reign of Elizabeth I as the home of an ironmaster from Kent, Huw Lambert, who

came to Radyr to establish the Pentyrch ironworks. It is a typical Welsh long house, where people lived on one side and livestock on the other. During the reign of Queen Elizabeth I the iron industry in Kent was dispersed to preserve the oak trees which were needed to build warships.

Follow the road around Gelynis farm across the bridge over the railway. Follow the stream to Morganstown playing fields. At the top of the playing fields next to Pugh's Garden Centre, is the remains of a motte and bailey castle. This is the best preserved of a series of such castles and marks the original border between the Normans and the Welsh.

Pugh's Garden Centre is built in the garden of Ty Nant House, two giant redwoods can still be seen. Until the later part of the 20th century, Ty Nant House stood next to the pub of the same name. It was built for

a mine owner, Henry Lewis, and was a strange building. Only one room deep, the back nestled into the Lesser Garth and its outbuildings, stables and potting sheds were across the main road.

You might like to have a drink or something to eat at the Ty Nant, standing at the bar, look up and you can see the original frontage of the inn, with its upstairs windows directly above the bar.

Radyr Mothers' Union

by Angela Dart

We are coming to the end of this year's programme, amid lots of celebrations of Mothers' Union celebrating 150 years.

In April, several of our members went by coach to Margam Abbey to meet Kathleen Snow, our Worldwide President. It was a lovely day and we enjoyed socialising with other members from South Wales.

We have had lots of interesting speakers this spring, with Derek Quilter telling us how he had helped build facilities for lepers (including houses) in Tanzania. Chris Dale gave a very well-researched talk about early Christians in Britain. Mary Watkins gave a very passionate talk about her work with educating children in Rwanda.

On 18th May, we hosted a Deanery Festival in Christ Church which took the form of a Eucharist service led by Rev. Mary Evans with Mr Dai Thomas playing the organ. Banners from the various MU branches of the deanery were exhibited.

At the end of the service everyone was invited to the



Church hall to share in the refreshments that had been provided by our members. Mrs Janet Williams had made and decorated a beautiful cake celebrating 150 years of Mothers' Union.

In June, a few of us will be going to visit the caravan at Porthcawl, which is provided and maintained by MU members. It is part of our "Away from it all" project which gives respite to people who would not otherwise be able to have a holiday. It is always booked up.

We have two more meetings before I, Angela Dart, will stand down as Branch leader and Mrs Liz Davies will take over. I wish Liz and her committee all the best for the future.



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4th Radyr Guides



On Friday 1st May, 4th Radyr Guides held an official opening of the memorial bench for our amazing unit leader Allison Loder.

Allison had guided in Cardiff for over 30 years and passed suddenly in 2024. It was a shock to everyone, especially the Guides. They all attended her funeral and wrote some beautiful words about how important she was to them.

They decided they wanted to get something permanent at the Guide Centre so they could always remember her and the amazing help, support, advice and instruction she gave to them. She taught them skills they will never forget and took them on incredible adventures that they will remember for a lifetime.

We planned to have a stall at the Christmas lights event in Radyr to raise money for a bench but not only was it rained off in 2024 but in 2025 too! So we set up a GoFundMe and were overwhelmed by the massive response. We raised enough to get a beautiful blue bench to match the new door

on the Radyr Guide Hall.

Our four patrol leaders cut the red ribbon with a pair of comedically large scissors and Jess and Emma (current unit leaders) read a short poem and explained how the money was raised. Our county commissioner attended as well as members of Friends of Guiding, some of her work colleagues, Guides' parents and a local photographer (Nick Morrish from Morrishandco) kindly gave up his time to take photos of the event.

Afterwards we had tea, coffee, squash and of course doughnuts in the hall. Everyone shared memories of the wonderful lady who will always be missed. People who didn't know her will sit on the bench and know her name.

Here is the poem Jess read.

The Campfire is never out

"A leader never truly leaves the circle, they just step beyond the glow of the campfire.

The light they kindled in us – our skills, our confidence and our friendships –

continues to burn bright.

Though we cannot sing with them tonight, the memories we made will keep us warm forever.

We promise to carry their guiding light forward and pass it on to others."

As well as this event Radyr's Guiding units have been busy at the May Day fete at Radyr Primary School. Once again Friends of Guiding (who voluntarily run the Guide Centre) ran their infamous biscuit Tombola stall. They were busy for weeks collecting donated biscuits from the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and leaders.



The stall was extremely popular again this year and along with their successful Beetle Drive helped to boost funds for the Guide Centre.

4th Radyr Guides also raised money towards their unit's funds by selling books, toys and games donated by their unit. The Guides also made fantastic beaded jewellery and beautiful suncatchers that sold very successfully.

If you are interested in volunteering for Girlguiding please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk and click on "join us".

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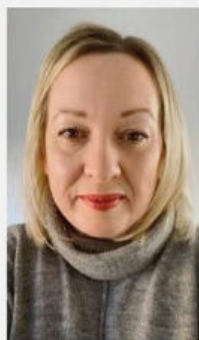
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Foodbank collection

Donations may be left at the following locations on Saturday 25th July between 10am and 12pm

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- 30 Pentwyn, Radyr CF15 8RE
- 13 Heol Roald Dahl, Radyr CF15 8GT

Donations will also be accepted at Radyr Methodist Church from 9.30am on Sunday 26th July and at the morning service at 10.30am. All are welcome.

As of 1st June 2026, the most needed items were as follows:

- Tinned fruit, tomatoes and rice pudding
- Long-life juice
- Tomato sauce

- Sponge pudding
- Coffee
- Sweets and chocolate
- Cleaning spray
- Deodorant, bars of soap and toothpaste

They have plenty of nappies and pasta. The foodbank is unable to accept fresh, home-made or perishable food. Every donation, of whatever amount, is appreciated and donations tend to dip in the summer so please consider whether you can help. If you have a query or would like your donation collected, please ring 07925 090672.



Treforgan Ladies Group Begins

by Anne Silver

Treforgan Ladies Group came into being in April 2026, after Treforgan W.I. voted to leave the Women's Institute and strike out on our own. We already have over 50 members, many from the W.I. group plus some new faces.

So far we've been busy with our monthly meetings; Rosemary Chaloner was both our last speaker as a WI and our first as the Ladies Group – and she came with us on our first trip abroad, to Paris, in April. I think she likes us!

As well as Rosemary, we have a whole variety of speakers throughout the year. We very much enjoyed a concert by the

Ukulele Nights which raised money for Alzheimer's Cymru, and they were impressed that we joined in enthusiastically with the singing. Coming up we will have a summer tea and later in the year a Christmas craft session. We also have book groups, a craft group and a walking group, and a monthly lunch, usually at Cicchetti's in the village.

We had a stall at the Radyr and Morganstown Festival Fete in May, where we sold all sorts of bric-a-brac donated by members, in aid of the City Hospice. We should also be running a stall for children at the Christmas Lighting Event in December and are looking to get more involved



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in the local community as the group evolves.

By the time you read this, some of our members will have been to the Penderyn Distillery near Brecon, and we're already thinking about next year's trip abroad.

If you're thinking of joining us, our main meeting is on the third Thursday of the month, 1.15pm in Morganstown Village Hall. To find out more contact Anne: secretary@treforganladiesgroup.org.uk

Radyr & Morganstown Festival

by David Silver, Chair of the Festival Committee

This year's Festival was an enormous success. We were worried about the weather for all three outdoor events, which are those that attract the highest number of people. During the week there was the threat of rain on each Saturday, but when the days came they were fine.

The Fête started the Festival as usual, and we were treated to the orchestras, choirs, and maypole dancers from our local primary schools. The BBQ was a roaring success and there were around thirty stalls in attendance. A fun time was had by all.

During the first week of the festival we had an art exhibition in the Methodist Hall which featured works from a number of local artists. The exhibition lasted for three days and had a good attendance and charity collection.

The Wine and Cheese night on the Thursday was a great success with just



about every ticket sold. Tom Pinder of Welsh Cheese returned again with a new selection of cheeses.

The middle Saturday once again hosted the Party in the Park where the weather was perfect and the music great. It was started by the Radyr Comprehensive School Big Band and was followed by a number of local bands including a performance by Sally's Angels community Choir. The Party concluded with a set by our headline act, the Radyrcals. The BBQ was serving all day and the bar, with its real ale, was working non-stop.

During the second week there was an exceptional lunchtime concert at Christ Church by organist David Thomas. This is the second year in a row he has performed for us, and the audience really appreciated the works he performed.

Science with a Pint was excellent again and we learnt about climate change and dinosaurs from the scientists

from Cardiff University and the National Museum.

The Festival targets the whole community and on the final Saturday there were two performances of Dinosaur Explorers, an interactive story-telling session from Louby Lou's. This was aimed at children under the age of four. On the same day we had the Val Allen dog show, the first time this had been held since Val passed away.

The final event of the Festival was the closing concert by Côr Caerdydd, organised by our charity, the City Hospice.

Overall the festival was highly successful. Everyone seemed to enjoy the events which were varied and aimed at all sections of the community.



The raffle, where all proceeds go directly to the charity, and where ticket sales had been dropping over the last few years was a remarkable success. This was mainly due to the volunteers from the Hospice selling them at all the outdoor events. Ticket sales for most event were also strong.

The community raised over £6200 during the Festival for the Charity, and with money still coming in, this should rise further. The City Hospice have already expressed their thanks for all the work done on their behalf.

The one sad aspect which I now seem to comment on every festival, is the lack of volunteer helpers from the community. Whilst we did see a few fresh faces this year, thank you! we still need more people to help us to set up events, to close them down when they finish and to help on the bars or BBQs. With 3500 properties in R&M, 400-500 people coming along to the Party in the Park, surely ten people should be willing to give a couple of hours of their time during the Festival to help these community events to continue. If you can help, please contact me at info@RMFestival.org.uk

The City Hospice are our charity for the year, not just the Festival, so please come along to the Christmas events - the lighting event and Santa's Run - and please give generously once again for a very worthwhile charity.



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Radyr & Morganstown Festival



Maypole dancers at the Fete



Bryn Deri School Choir



Castell Coch Choir Concert



Civic Service at Christ Church



Pugh's Garden Question Time



Cube Jazz Band Concert



Radyr Comprehensive School band



Sally's Angels Choir



Alzheimers Coffee Morning



The Boozy Bards



Science with a Pint



Val Allen 2026 Dog Show

in aid of City Hospice



City Hospice Concert



Prize Winners at Radyr Primary



Prize Winners at Bryn Deri



Prize Winners at Bryn Deri



Civic Service at Christ Church



City Hospice Fundraiser event



Staff of Radyr and Bryn Deri Primary Schools



'Nurture' Art Exhibition organising team



Probus Club members at the Festival Fete



RMA Chair Richard Wales and Festival Chair David Silver
Together with the Festival BBQ staff: Nick Cook, Nick Holmes, Ian Thomas, John Nichols and Richard O'Brian

Alzheimer's Society



We are delighted by the ongoing support shown by the Radyr and Morganstown community with over £6,000 raised for Alzheimer's Society since January.

Our year began with a sell-out concert by the ever-popular Cardiff Arms Park Male Choir at Radyr Parish Church. The choir has supported our work for many years, and this spring they not only performed for us again but also enabled a bucket collection before a Welsh rugby international, where they sang as part of the pre-match entertainment at the Angel Hotel in Cardiff. Together, these activities raised £3,000.

We have also received many donations from families wishing to support the Society in memory of loved ones who lived with dementia.

More recently, our fundraising activities have focused on the Radyr Festival, where we ran the tea and coffee stall at the fete and also hosted a coffee morning. Together, these events raised more than £1,300 and it was nice to see many familiar and some new faces there.

Some of our committee and volunteers at the coffee morning are pictured above.

Our fundraising group has recently been strengthened by several new members, alongside the ongoing commitment of volunteers who help us deliver our events. We truly could not do it without you. If you would like

to help turn our future plans into reality, please contact Mark on 07713 684088 or Gaynor on 07769 704247.

We are always grateful for donations of jewellery of any kind, including gold, silver, and costume pieces. Items can be dropped off with Pat at 25 Drovers Way or Gaynor at 5 Bryncoed.

Looking ahead, we will be holding a coffee morning at Radyr Golf Club at 10.30am on 19th November 2026 and a stall at the Christmas Tree lighting in December. We have also secured a repeat concert with the Cardiff Arms Park Male Choir at Radyr Parish Church on the evening of 30th January 2027. We hope to see you at one or all of these events.



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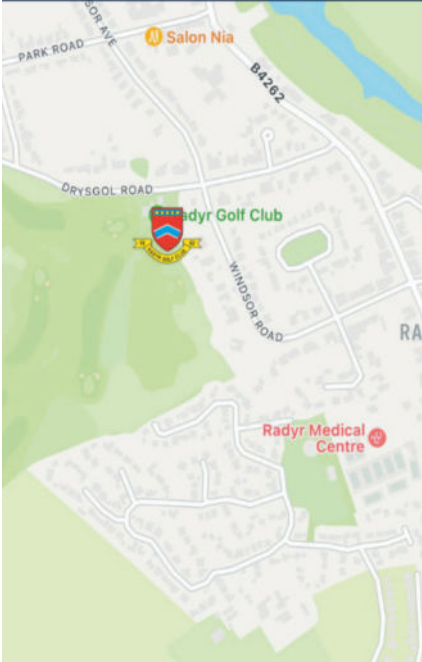
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Radyr Primary School

Following the celebration of Radyr Festival, three of our year 6 pupils wrote this poem based on the maypole dancing celebrations. Well done to Isla, Amelia and Tilly. A lovely poem and special way to celebrate our community events.

Skipping Through The Rainbow

At the luscious green grass,
The village children slowly pass.
Over and under round they go,
With rhythms fast and steps so slow.

The music starts a lively beat,
With tapping shoes and skipping feet.
Now every ribbon in place,
Wrapped around with style and grace.

A rainbow spun from silk and light,
Is braided now with all our might.
The ribbons stand for all to see,
A crown upon the maypole tree.

A tangled web of red and white,
Tied together holding tight
We twist and turn around the pole,
To make a pattern is our goal.

We weave the colours high and low,
It's funny how the patterns grow
The crowd is clapping along to the song,
We skip and cheer and we dance along.



This term, both our year 5 and year 6 pupils have been away on residential trips. Year 6 have gone on their annual trip to Stackpole, whilst year 5 have gone to Storey Arms outdoor centre in the Brecon Beacons. The following accounts have been written by the children attending.

Stackpole

Stackpole is an amazing opportunity to learn key life skills, such as independence, being brave and collaboration. We will tell you all about our experience of everything in Stackpole.

Accommodation

In Stackpole, there are varying room sizes from 2 people to even 8! In the rooms, there were bunk beds and single beds and there were toilets

and showers very close to all of the rooms which were very accessible including some disabled toilets and showers.

The food was delicious and was different every day from chicken nuggets to lasagne. There were also equally good vegetarian options for every meal.

Activities

We did a whole range of activities, including raft building, surfing, coasteering, stand-up paddle boarding, bushcraft and a really muddy assault course. The raft building was new for this year and we worked in teams (boys vs girls) to create and race our rafts in a freshwater quarry. Surfing was on Freshwater West beach and they taught us the best strategies for surfing and coasteering was in rocky Stackpole Quay. It showed us that we could do anything if we put our minds to it! SUP (stand-up paddle boarding) was also in the quarry and was a great opportunity to relax as it was one of the calmer, easier activities. Bushcraft



and kids can have a break from electronics as well.

Storey Arms

by Flo and Lexi

From 29th April to 1st May, Year 5 had the amazing opportunity to go on their residential trip to Storey Arms. Whilst there, we took part in activities such as caving and canoeing which were really fun, however, it really tested our resilience. By the end of the activities, we were exhausted and ready to go back to the centre for our evening meals. On the first night at Storey Arms we had pizza for dinner and on the second night we had pasta. We also did night activities, which were really good team-building activities. We were split into two groups, one group did the Drovers Walk where we were dropped off about 3 miles from the centre and we had to find our way back to Storey Arms with our friends. The other group stayed at the centre and participated in team games. Then we swapped over the next night. Little did we know that late on the second night a wildfire would break out in Brecon and the smoke would cause us to flee late that night by minibus. Although our trip ended early, it was a great experience and one that we will remember forever. Thank you to all the teachers who came with us and made our Storey Arms experience amazing!



and the assault course were the two dry activities and were both outside in nature. We learnt how to survive in the wild by learning how to light fires, make bread and build shelters. In the assault course we had to navigate through a muddy course and then guided each other through it blindfolded. We had to trust our partners and their abilities to complete this activity. All of the activities helped us to become more courageous and resilient learners.

Evening Activities

On the first evening, we went to the manor house gardens for a run around and to play cricket/football and on Tuesday, we went to the beautiful Barafundle beach where we saw lots of jellyfish, big and small. On the third night, we went back to the manor house and half of us did orienteering in the woods by the house and on the last evening, the other half did the orienteering.

Overall, Stackpole is an incredible experience for Radyr Primary School pupils

and we learnt so much about ourselves, our peers and our environment.

Our experience of Stackpole

by Sophie and Abeeha

I think Stackpole was really fun for all of our year 6 students. We learnt all of the key competences including collaboration, resilience, independence, resourcefulness, curiosity in all the activities. Stackpole has really beautiful landscapes such as the eight arch bridge, golden beaches like Barafundle and Broadhaven and the tranquil quarry. School residential at the National Trust's Stackpole Centre in Pembrokeshire include bunkhouse-style dormitories (sleeping 2-8), separate boys and girls washing facilities, and common rooms.

Stackpole in my opinion was really fun because I had really good fun with my friends and the activities were the best. Stackpole is a really good place for your children to learn to adapt to the wild. Overall I feel that Stackpole is a great residential area

Radyr, Morganstown and Music

Cornets, choirs and childhood

by Nicholas Olsen

If you grew up in Radyr and Morganstown in the 1990s or early 2000s, you'll have your own memories of village life. Maybe it was racing up the golf club hill, exploring the woods around our imposing water tower, taking part in the Radyr Fun Run, or picking strawberries at Gelynys Farm. Whatever your experience, Radyr and Morganstown have probably left you with a strong sense of nostalgia – with a hint of lasting affection for the place!

Many of my own childhood memories are tied to music. I can still hear the Melingriffith Brass Band rehearsing in the Old Church Rooms, and can vividly remember the atmosphere of the Radyr and Morganstown May Festival. Music was a big part of my childhood: singing in the school choir, performing with the Radyr Big Band, and even touring Paris with them. Not to make it all sound too grandiose, but those experiences really have stayed with me.

Looking back, I can see just how much those early musical experiences shaped the path I went on to take. Today, I am a classical composer, with my music published and performed internationally. My music has been performed by the BBC National Orchestra of Wales in Cardiff, and in concerts from San Diego to Germany and South Korea. My music

is often rooted in storytelling, space and place, and in recent years, I've found myself reflecting more on the sounds, places, and experiences that defined my childhood.

I remember rehearsals with the Melingriffith Brass Band in the Old Church Rooms, where I played cornet. I can still picture myself sitting in the back row of the cornet section, coats and instrument cases piled high on the stage behind the band, with music swirling around the hall's ceilings. I returned to the Old Church Rooms recently for a wreath-making class, the first time I'd been back in many years. The building has been beautifully renovated, but as soon as I stepped inside, I was struck by a powerful sense of familiarity. Despite the changes, the character of the space remained, and with it came a flood of memories. I could almost hear the Olympic Spirit by John Williams (a Melingriffith Band favourite of mine). It was a reminder of how deeply places can hold our stories, and how the sounds and experiences of childhood continue to resonate long after we leave them behind.

I had piano lessons just around the corner from my house and trumpet lessons down by the station. At the time, successfully learning scales and pieces almost felt like mini-milestones in a weekly routine (although I'm sure my parents would perhaps challenge this – I would imagine they felt I did everything other than practice!). Looking back,



these lessons shaped my early musical understanding and it is so lovely to think about how the skills I first learned in a neighbour's front room in Radyr have travelled with me into concert halls, cathedrals, and festivals around the world.

The Radyr and Morganstown Festival is another vivid childhood memory. I can still remember the nervous anticipation of waiting in Radyr Methodist Church before we were due to cross the road and perform a maypole dance. I can almost feel the excitement mixed with chaotic energy backstage before I, inevitably, got all my ribbons tangled. Those who know me well will be amused to hear that dancing the maypole was part of my childhood; they will readily confirm that dancing has never been one of my talents. Nevertheless, it was an experience that brought people together and gave me a sense of belonging to something.

As I grew older, music continued to be a constant presence and a comfort

blanket for me. Like many teenagers, though, I'm not sure I appreciated what I had at the time. School choirs, orchestra, and big band rehearsals did not necessarily read as traditionally 'cool', but they were where I made some of my longest-lasting friendships and I am so very grateful for the safe and fun spaces they gave me. I can now also see that they gave me a real confidence as well as a place where I could create something alongside other people. They taught me that music is not simply about performance; it is about community, collaboration, and shared experience.

When I was thirteen, I had the incredible opportunity to join the children's chorus for a touring production of *Otello* with the Welsh National Opera. At the time, I was mostly excited by the novelty of it all and the opportunity to miss quite a bit of school and travel around the UK on tour with my friends – it was really fun. What this really was, was my first real glimpse into the world of professional music-making. To stand alongside professional singers, musicians, and production teams and witness the extraordinary effort that goes into bringing a performance to life was a formative experience. It remains one of those core childhood memories that helped shape some of the decisions I would go on to make.

Today, my work as a composer is rooted in storytelling. Every piece begins with a simple idea of a place, a story, a memory, a person,

or a question that I want to explore through music. I have written music inspired by history, landscapes, literature, personal experiences, politics, and whatever stories I tell, they are inevitably filtered through my own perspective and experiences. So, in that sense, Radyr and Morganstown are never very far away. The places where we grow up leave their mark on us in countless subtle ways: the sounds of brass bands rehearsing in our community hall, festival celebrations, school concerts, living room music lessons, and village traditions all become part of who we are.

I'd like to hope that my music is my music because it carries within it traces of those early experiences. Somewhere in its DNA are the sounds, spaces, and memories of Radyr and Morganstown, a community that has nurtured a love of music, creativity, and community long before I could have imagined where that journey might lead.

www.nicholasolsenmusic.com

New trains herald intensive service from Radyr



The first of a new fleet of trains which will provide 12 trains an hour from Radyr to Cardiff next year entered service on Tuesday 23rd June.

Peter Fortune captured the first service running, the 7.09 to Cardiff Bay at Radyr Station.

Radyr is a vital hub in the new South Wales Metro network, connecting the northern valleys and local communities directly into Cardiff city centre.

The station will benefit from many more services as trains serving both the Merthyr/Treherbert/Aberdare Lines and the City Line pass through.



Radyr Methodist Church

Many of you will remember walking past our car park last summer and seeing a very large sand pit in the corner. The number of people driving by doing a double take was hilarious. Yes, we did indeed put 5 tonnes of sand in a big sand pit on the car park alongside bubble machines, a craft table, face painting and many snacks.

I was asked the question many times: why?

Well, one of our newer members, Laura, said, 'shall we try an Urban Beach?', and I do like to be able to say yes whenever it's at all possible so I did. We are fortunate that we have so many folk in the church who are willing and able to help us to put something like this on and so many folk distributed sand or moved chairs or cooked hot dogs or made crafts that it was really a special week. We met over 100 people on our first day alone.

'Are we ever doing it again?', I hear you ask Yes, we are but we have shifted to a Thursday, Friday, Saturday so that those working get to



be involved too. We will be back on 13th August, the car park will be closed for a week or so before and after this in order to put things in place and put them away again. We will run from 11am-3pm.

We will have drinks and snacks for sale and also

the opportunity to do some craft, hear some stories and play at the water station.

And then of course there is the sand pit...!

All children and their carers are warmly welcome.

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Rydym wedi parhau i dyfu ac ym mis Medi 2026, bydd gennym dros 200 o ddisgyblion yn yr Ysgol ond mae gennym ddigon o leoedd

yn ein Meithrinfa o hyd. Mae'r twf yn dangos y galw a'r diddordeb sy'n bodoli yn yr Ysgol. Mae'r model yn parhau i fod yn unigryw ond rydym wedi partneru yn ddiweddar ag Ysgol yng nghanolbarth Cymru i'w helpu ar eu taith i ddod yn ddwyiaith.

Roedd yn wych cael y newyddion bod ein disgybl wedi derbyn y 3ydd wobwr yn Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yr Urdd am Gelf 2D, canlyniad gwych! Mae ein cysylltiad â phartneriaid allanol yn parhau wrth i Rygbi Caerdydd ddod i ymuno â ni ar gyfer gweithgaredd gyda rhieni ac rydym wedi parhau i adeiladu ar ein perthynas â thîm Pêl-droed Dinas Caerdydd a Thîm Criced Morgannwg.

Mae ein hymroddiad i'r gymuned yn parhau i dyfu ac rwy'n falch o rannu bod côr cymunedol, rygbitots a chlwb pêl-droed Gwyliau yn defnyddio ein cyfleusterau ar ran cymuned ehangach yr Ysgol.

Wrth i ni barhau i dyfu, mae'n braf gweld bod y gymuned wrth wraidd ein gwaith! Eleni bydd Gŵyl Plasdwr yn cael ei symud i fis Medi (dyddiad i'w gadarnhau), felly cadwch lygad ar agor am ddyddiadau digwyddiadau yn y dyfodol. Mae gwaith yr Ysgol yn llwyddo dim ond oherwydd ein bod yn gryfach gyda'n gilydd.

A huge Radyr thank you to Jasonic!

Radyr Comprehensive School is proud to celebrate the incredible support of one of our local community champions, Jasonic, whose generous donation has helped breathe new life into an important part of our sporting facilities — the long jump pit.

For some time, our long jump area had been in need of renovation, and thanks to Jasonic's thoughtful contribution of fresh sand, it has now been completely revitalised. This upgrade means that our students can once again train, compete and develop their athletic skills in a safe and high-

quality environment.

We are incredibly grateful to Jasonic for their generosity and commitment to supporting young people in our community. Acts of kindness like this truly make a difference and highlight the strength of partnerships between local organisations and our school.

On behalf of all staff and students, we would like to say:

A HUGE RADYR THANK YOU!

Your support has helped us jump further, reach higher, and continue striving for excellence.



Contribute to the Chain

If you would like to contribute an article, photograph, event listing or community update for a future edition, please email:

chain@radyr.org.uk

Round and Round the Garden



In April the Drama Society presented Alan Ayckbourn's play *Round and Round the Garden*. Ayckbourn has become the backbone of English Theatre, both professional and amateur. Most of his 91 plays were written for the Stephen Joseph Theatre in Scarborough, where Ayckbourn was Artistic Director from 1972-2009. The smallish casts and simple sets make them ideal for small professional theatres and amateurs alike.

Round and Round the Garden is one of a trilogy of plays called *The Norman Conquests*, which take place

in the home of Annie, a house which she shares with her invalid mother - a character we never see. The other two plays in the cycle are *Table Manners*, which takes place in the dining room and *Living Together* which takes place in the living room. All three plays take place at the same time, so when a character leaves the garden you must assume that they have reappeared in the dining or living room. Despite this, all three plays stand up as individual plays.

Round and Round the Garden involves Annie, who looks after "mother". Annie has arranged a dirty weekend with

her brother-in-law Norman, and has asked her brother and sister-in-law to look after mother. For some reason Norman turns up at the house as does his wife Ruth. The sixth character is Annie's neighbour and ineffectual would-be lover, Tom. Cue a very funny romp.

A full-length play with only six characters is quite an undertaking for any amateur company, but at the performance I saw - the Friday - the cast were on top form. It would be unfair to single out any character in this excellent cast, but I feel I must mention Pete Stickler as the ineffectual Tom, for his unusual interpretation of the part. He played Tom as a kind of middle-aged version of Frank Spencer in "Some Mothers do 'Ave 'Em".

The backstage crew were equally good. An excellent well-disciplined production by Phil Sage was complemented by a lovely garden set, some delightful lighting, sound and excellent costumes. A thoroughly enjoyable evening and the audience roared their approval.

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Life on the campaign trail

by Cllr Calum Davies

As many readers will know, alongside my usual duties as a councillor, I stood as a candidate for our constituency in the recent Senedd election. I was obviously disappointed not to be elected but proud of the campaign I ran and the issues raised.

This article is to give some insight into what I – and countless other candidates – experience on the campaign trail. It is certainly a mixture!

I was heartened by the support I had from you. Those unfamiliar with an election count may not know what all the political observers do there. One aspect is seeing what the vote breakdown is from each polling station. It was clear I had significant support in this area despite falling short across the constituency, for which I am very grateful.

It shows what I have done locally as a councillor, working with the community to deliver on all the election pledges I made when elected in 2022 – from increasing bus services to protecting green spaces to refurbishing the park – is appreciated. We should share a lot of pride in these because we achieved these accomplishments together and, like you, I want to do much more.

The downside to campaigning is, naturally, the unforgiving British weather. Winter demands a puffy, waterproof coat that will leave us sweating

if there's an outbreak of sun. A sudden downpour in springtime can mean your shorts are instantly insufficient and your leaflets are at risk of turning into mulch. But the campaign must go on.

A more recent phenomenon is the trauma experienced from repeated exposure to the Ring doorbell. During the more intensive parts of campaigning, I was hearing it in my sleep! I may have to revert to the traditional door-knock to preserve my sanity going forward.

However, it is not all doom and gloom. It is a chance to hear how your neighbours feel about their public services and servants. It's incredibly valuable for understanding what drives people and there is always the opportunity, in my case as a councillor, to collect some important casework.

Whilst campaigning from September to May, I still undertook my duties, taking your concerns to Cardiff Council. I know potholes are a staple of local complaint across the UK, but I am struck at how much worse this has gotten in recent years. Something has gone wrong here, and I will continue to raise the matter with the local authority. Potholes, pavements, and public transport are my priorities – and not just because I like alliteration.

Elections are also a great way to learn about the geography of your area. During my efforts



to be elected to the Council, I knocked on all doors in this ward more than once. I am pretty certain I know every street name in Radyr & Morganstown. My knowledge of many other areas in Cardiff and Penarth is now greatly enhanced. If all else fails, a job as a taxi driver beckons!

Getting the chance to pet people's animals across the constituency is also a bonus. If pushed, I would say the corgi I met in Groesfaen was my favourite – and any cat, of course. Many years ago, I canvassed a house only for a sheep to be on the other side of the door. I can also confirm you are more likely to be chased away by a person than a dog!

This is not an exhaustive experience, but may it serve as a quick guide of what to expect should you put your name in the ring to represent your county or country. The main thing to remember is that this is the easy part.

To quote a line from the musical Hamilton: "Winning is easy young man, governing is harder."

Support for people with hearing loss in Radyr



RNID, the charity supporting people who are deaf, have hearing loss or tinnitus, is running local drop-in services to support people with hearing loss in Radyr.

Sessions are taking place at The Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr, CF15 8DF on the second Monday of the month 10am until 12pm.

This project is funded by The National Lottery.

RNID offer drop-in sessions at local community venues across Cardiff and the Vale, where people with hearing loss can access free hearing aid maintenance, including new batteries and tubing. The service also offers hearing checks, information and support on living with hearing loss.

The sessions are run by trained RNID volunteers, many of whom have hearing loss themselves.

Zoe Engstrom, RNID Coordinator for Cardiff and Vale said:

"We are really pleased to run this much needed service across Cardiff and the Vale to support local people with hearing loss. We welcome anyone to drop in from the community to meet our friendly volunteers, receive free hearing checks, hearing aid maintenance and information."

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Friends of Radyr Association

Friends of Radyr Association was established in the autumn with a clear aim: to support the school community. As a small group of parents who have come from primary school PTA settings, we have been learning to adjust to a different way of fundraising at a secondary school.

We have attended almost all school information evenings to provide support as well as selling refreshments and snacks; we have also introduced events not previously run at the school, including two discos for Years 7 and 8, which proved extremely popular. We have also attended our first community event at the R&M festival fete where we

sold uniform and made new connections with families past, present and future!

In just a short time, the group has already celebrated a number of early successes including securing a £500 grant from the ParentKind/ Cardiff Endowment Fund to support the Drama and Arts department; supporting the upcoming Year 11 prom with a donation towards decorations and refreshments and we are purchasing 2 ski ergs for the school fitness suite.

If you would like to support us and make a donation please use the QR code opposite or contact friendsofradycomprehensive@gmail.com.

We would like to appeal to a very small group of parents who had previously been donating £1 monthly or £12 yearly into the PTA bank account as part of a draw the school used to do. We are unable to cancel these payments, and do not have any contact details to get in touch. We kindly request that you arrange to stop the payments, but if you still wish to make a monthly contribution please get in touch with us and we can arrange for a monthly donation.



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Bryn Deri Primary shines at the R&M Festival



Bryn Deri Primary School played a vibrant and memorable role in this year's Radyr and Morganstown Festival, with pupils showcasing their talents, enthusiasm and community spirit across a wide range of events. Blessed with perfect summer weather, the festival provided an ideal backdrop for the school's contributions, drawing large crowds and creating a joyful atmosphere for all involved.

A highlight of the celebrations was the performance by the Bryn Deri school choir, whose beautiful singing captivated the audience. Supported by the expertise of the Vale of Glamorgan Music Academy, the choir delivered a polished and uplifting set of songs. Their performance reflected not only the children's hard work and dedication but also the strong partnership between the school and specialist music providers. The clear vocals, confident delivery, and evident

enjoyment from the pupils left a lasting impression.

Equally impressive were the Year 4 Maypole dancers, who upheld a cherished tradition with remarkable confidence and skill. Performing two intricate dances in front of a large and appreciative crowd, the pupils demonstrated excellent coordination and teamwork. Their routines were executed to a very high standard, with colourful ribbons weaving beautifully as the children moved in

harmony. It was clear that a great deal of practice had gone into the performance, and their success was rewarded with warm applause.

Beyond the stage, Bryn Deri pupils played an important role in the civic service, acting as flag bearers for local organisations including Rainbows and Brownies. Carrying their flags with pride, the children demonstrated a strong sense of responsibility and community engagement, highlighting the strong links between the school and the wider community.

Creativity was also on full display through the festival's writing, art and colouring competitions. Bryn Deri pupils submitted a wide range of imaginative and high-quality entries, making the job of judging particularly challenging.

This year's festival success comes at an exciting time



for the school, which has recently celebrated the official opening of its brand-new outdoor facility, the "Daisy Trail." Designed and named by the pupils themselves, the Trim Trail reflects both the creativity of the children and the strong sense of ownership they feel towards their school environment.

The name was inspired by the daisies growing nearby and also honours the legacy of former Head Teacher Claire Davies, who began the work of enhancing outdoor learning and nature spaces at Bryn Deri.

Following its completion and safety inspection, the Daisy Trail was officially opened to great excitement, providing pupils with new opportunities for physical activity, teamwork and confidence-building. The project was made possible thanks to the collective efforts of the PTA, staff, governors, community partners and supporters, demonstrating the power of collaboration within the Bryn Deri community.

Together, these achievements highlight the school's commitment not only to academic success, but also to creativity, wellbeing and community engagement.

Whether performing on stage, representing local groups, entering competitions or enjoying new facilities like the Daisy Trail, Bryn Deri pupils continue to make their school proud.

Happy birthday Bryn Deri!

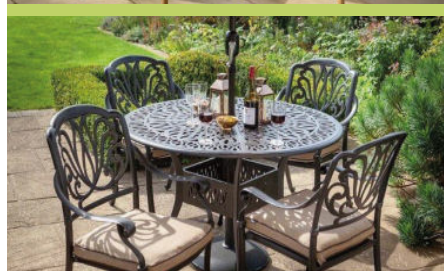
Bryn Deri Primary School is delighted to celebrate its 50th anniversary throughout the autumn term, marking half a century at the heart of our community. We warmly invite anyone who has attended the school, worked with us, supported us over the years, or who may have photographs or memories to share, to get in touch. We would also love for past pupils and community members to take part by answering questions from our current learners. If you would like to be involved, please contact us at brynderiprm@cardiff.gov.uk. Thank you, and we look forward to hearing from you!

Radyr Chain 279 - Summer 2026

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Shine Theatre School

by Hannah Williams. Photos by Andrew Rouse @wildmanrouse

It has been another successful year for Shine Theatre School as children and young people from 15 different schools came together to shine through musical theatre performance! In March 2026 we performed the musical Shrek Jr to sold out audiences at the Savoy Theatre, Tonyrefail. The audience feedback was overwhelmingly glowing with comments about how talented the performers were, the amazing costumes and set plus the attention to detail.



In the summer term, we reinstated our pre-Covid age groups; MINI Stars, for years Reception to 4, Sunshine, for years 4 to 6, and Diamonds, for year 7 to 6th Form.

All these young people have worked hard on acting, dancing and singing to bring together a spectacular selection of musical theatre excerpts from 19 different popular musical theatre shows in our Summer showcase, Sparkle and Shine at Bedwas Workmen's Hall on 11th and 12th July.

After the summer we look forward to being back in September with performance opportunities for all ages. To achieve that aim, our primary school members will have their



own show, Disney's Aladdin Jr being performed at the end of January 2027, and our high school aged members will perform Legally Blonde Jr at the end of March 2027. Both of these shows will be presented at the Savoy Theatre in Tonyrefail. By producing Shrek Jr at this venue, it has enabled us to provide more comfortable raised seating for friends and family and more advanced tech to our performers including more microphones, not to mention more impressive lighting and scene changes due to this being a professional theatre. We don't want to give away any spoilers but let's just say that we are looking forward to some really exciting surprises in both shows to really WOW our audiences!

As we have a large number of our current MINI Stars in Years 3 and 4 graduating to the Sunshine group for Aladdin, we will have a lot of places available in our Monday group for children in Reception to Year 4. We look forward to welcoming new members for a FREE TRIAL. We start back for the "new shine term" on Monday 14th September at Radyr Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen 4:15-5:45pm.

For anyone wanting to join us for these shows, we have audition preparation workshops at the start of September before auditions start. Theatre school members in Sunshine and Diamonds meet on Tuesdays in term time at the Old Church Rooms. The audition preparation workshops are an opportunity to explore the characters and story of each show plus learning new choreography and getting audition tips. The Disney's Aladdin Jr workshop is for children who will be in our Sunshine group (ages 8-12) and the Legally Blonde Jr workshop is for young people from Year 7 to sixth form. We also have the scripts available to purchase from July so that performers have a chance to explore the show and be ready to give the best at auditions.

Contact us at shinecreativearts@me.com to register your interest for Shine Theatre School. Here's to continuing to bring high quality theatre opportunities for young people in the area with high standards, hand in hand with inclusivity and kindness. See your child shine!

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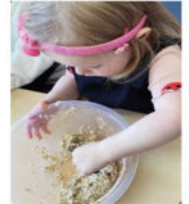


During the spring and summer months, children enjoy spending more time outdoors, connecting with nature and exploring the world around them. Our outdoor learning includes activities such as gardening, nature walks, water play, obstacle courses, and sensory exploration.



Inside the nursery, children are provided with a wide variety of enriching experiences including arts and crafts, storytelling, music and movement, imaginative play, construction activities, and early literacy and numeracy opportunities. Every activity is carefully planned to support learning through play while encouraging creativity, independence, and self-expression.

We believe healthy eating plays an important role in children's wellbeing and development. Award winning, nutritious meals and snacks are freshly prepared each day, offering balanced choices that children enjoy while encouraging positive eating habits and independence at mealtimes.



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This page sets out information about advertising in the Chain. If you would to advertise please email chain@radyr.org.uk

We work to produce 3 editions per year in November, March and July.

There are 4 sizes of advert available for new advertisers:

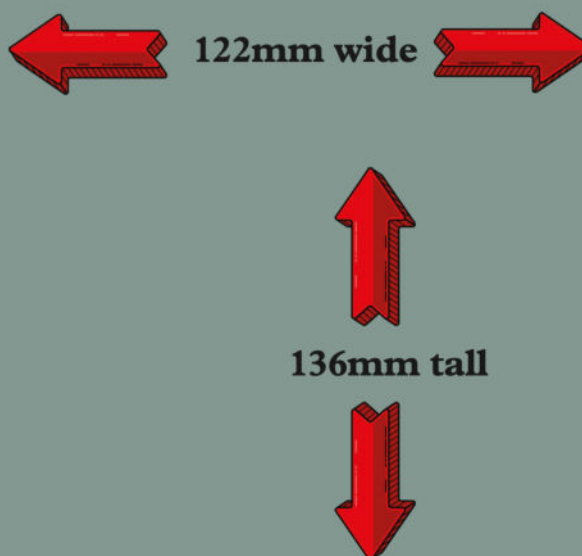
- Size A: £25
- Size B: £50
- Size C: £50
- Size D: £90

We are no longer able to accept larger adverts (e.g. half-page) and the advertising team will confirm with current advertisers all size and price details to ensure consistency.

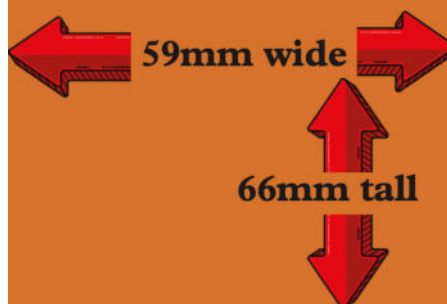
Advertisers are responsible for producing their own print-ready artwork for initial publication. If updates are required then revised print-ready artwork must be supplied by the copy deadline for each subsequent issue.

Advertising is currently invoiced on a per-issue basis in arrears.

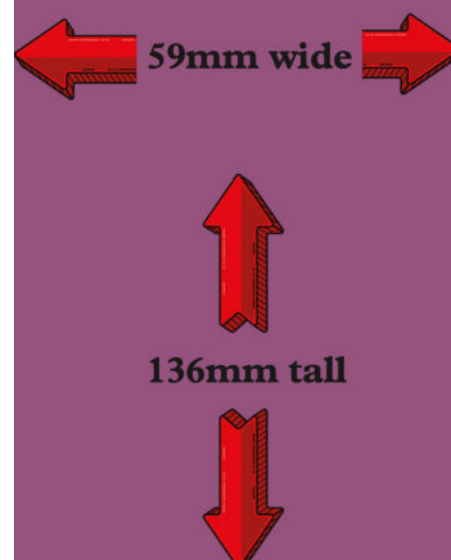
Advert Size D



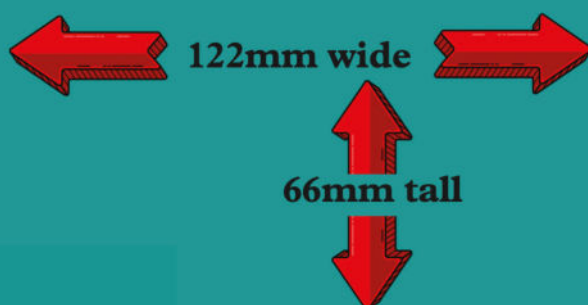
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Eleni daeth Chantelle Moore sy'n byw ym Mhlasdwr atom i sôn ychydig am ei hanes a'i thaith i ddysgu'r iaith. Mae ei chefnidir teuluol yn cwmpasu ynysoedd Antigua, Jamaica a St Lucia yn y Caribî a Chwm Rhondda. Cymru a'r Caribî yn uno'n un teulu agos o ganlyniad i'r genhedlaeth Windrush a ddaeth yma i chwilio am waith wedi'r Ail Ryfel Byd. Magwyd Chantelle yng Nghaerdydd a chafodd ei haddysg yn ysgol uwchradd St Teilo ond yn dilyn geni ei phlentyn cyntaf y penderfynodd ymroi i ddysgu'r iaith a hynny er mwyn bod yn fodel rôl dda. O ganlyniad y mae wedi gallu helpu ei thri phlentyn gyda'u gwaith cartref ac wedi gallu datblygu ei sgiliau proffesiynol ei hun.

Erbyn heddiw y mae'n gweithio rhan amser mewn dwy ysgol uwchradd yn y ddinas, ac un o'r rhain yw Ysgol Glantaf, er mwyn ymbweru merched i wireddu eu potensial. Y mae hefyd



yn awdur llyfr Cymraeg i blant, Granchie a'r Dderwen Fawr. Trwy ei sgwrs roedd ei brwdfrydedd at yr iaith a'i gwaith yn amlwg.

Yn ail hanner y noson cafwyd cwis er mwyn rhoi cyfle i'r siaradwyr newydd sgwrsio gyda Chymry Cymraeg rhugl. Cafwyd un rownd ar driciau Ffŵl Ebrill gan i'r noson gael ei chynnal ar 1 Ebrill ac un rownd ar fwydydd y Pasg gan fod yr Ŵyl honno yn digwydd o fewn ychydig ddyddiau.

Cafwyd noson hyfryd a chymdeithasol a dylem ni sydd â'r Gymraeg yn iaith gyntaf werthfawrogi'r rhai sy'n ymroi nid yn unig i ddysgu ein hiaith ond i ddod yn rhan o'n cymdeithas gan gofleidio ein hetifeddiaeth.

Arwel Ellis Owen

Braint arbennig oedd cael croesawu Arwel Ellis Owen i'n hannerch yng nghyfarfod mis Mai, a oedd yn rhan o ddathliadau Gŵyl Radur. Heb os daeth mab y mans o Lansannan yn Nyffryn Clwyd yn un o wŷr mwy dylanwadol y BBC yn ystod ei yrfa.

Tra'n astudio Gwleidyddiaeth Ryngwladol ym Mhrifysgol Aberystwyth cafodd y cyfle i deithio i Moscow ac fe enillodd ysgoloriaeth addysg i ymweld ag ysgol Gatholig yn ninas Santiago, Chile. A dyna ddechrau degawdau o deithio i fannau na fyddai'r mwyafrif ohonom byth yn ymweld â hwy.

Wedi dyddiau coleg ymunodd â'r BBC fel gohebydd ifanc



ar y rhaglen heddiw, cyn troi at olygu a chynhyrchu rhaglenni Week In Week Out, Panorama a Newsnight.

Wedi cyfnod yn Llundain fe'i dyrchafwyd yn bennaeth rhaglenni y BBC yng Ngogledd Iwerddon a hynny yn ystod blynyddoedd cythryblus y wlad honno. Fe hefyd a ddaeth i'r adwy i fod yn brif weithredwr S4C yn dilyn ymddiswyddiad y deiliad cynt. Wrth wrando arno yn sgwrsio'n hamddenol a diymhongar iawn â ni daeth yn amlwg fod gan y BBC barch mawr tuag ato a'r gorfforaeth honno yn ei anfon ledled byd i hyfforddi a datrys problemau mewn corfforaethau darlledu gwladol a rhyng-wladol eraill megis Al-Jazeera. Treuliodd hefyd dri niwrnod yn Doha, Qatar yn hyfforddi'r Sheik ar sut i wneud cyfweiliadau ac annerch yn gyhoeddus.

Soniodd hefyd am ei brofiadau yn Dakka yn yr India, Siera Leone, De'r Affrig, a theithio ar Trans Siberian Express a daeth yr ymweliadau hyn ag ef i gysylltiad â nifer o Gymry Cymraeg. Ar ymweliad ag Eglwys Gadeiriol ar ynys yng nghanol yr afon Volga darganfyddodd Feibl Cymraeg yno.

Cafodd brofiadau amrywiol iawn, yn llawn o'r digri a'r dwys a'r digalon a mawr yw ein diolch iddo am eu rhannu â ni mewn noson i'w chofio.

Radyr Tennis Club

Radyr Tennis Club has the best slice during Wimbledon – 25% off memberships.

Federer had the best forehand at Wimbledon. Wawrinka had the best single-handed backhand. And Sampras had the best volleying.

But Radyr Lawn Tennis Club will have the best slice during Wimbledon 2026 – and it's not even close.

During this year's Wimbledon, Radyr Lawn Tennis Club is offering 25% off membership fees – even Steffi Graf couldn't slice like that.

Plus, we've got our own finals day on the 11th July – starting at 2pm where the slicing continues – with various limes,

lemons and fruit being placed in all manner of delicious summer drinks from our bar.

If you can't get along but want to give tennis a try, you can register for membership at <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/RadyrLawnTennisClub/Membership/Join>.

Alternatively, contact membership at radyrltc@gmail.com if you have a question or admin@tennissquad.co.uk for advice on coaching courses.

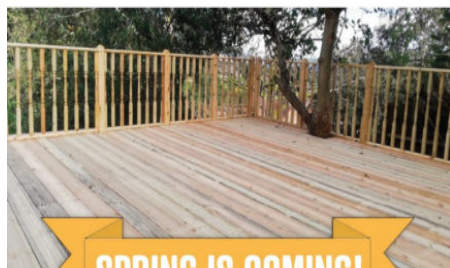
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Radyr and Morganstown History Society

by Paul Davies, Chairman

May I invite all Radyr Chain readers to come along to your local History Society evening meetings.

Spread throughout the year we have a host of speakers presenting their specialist subjects. The talks are never too long, never too technical but always fascinating.

Recently we have enjoyed a wide range of subjects including Cardiff Hospitals through the ages, the tragedy of Welsh coal-mining disasters and the mind-boggling attempts of laying the first transatlantic cable.

Last September the Society members boarded a coach to explore the delights of the City of Wells, including the Cathedral and the adjoining Bishop's Palace and gardens. A great day out.

This year a similar visit to either Hereford or Worcester in late September is under consideration.

Autumn talks are arranged, and will include "The Battle of St Fagan's" and "The Life and Times of Edward Evan", the "first" Welsh Bard.

We normally meet in the Methodist Church Hall on the third Thursday of the month; 15th October and 19th November 2026, 7.30pm.

Full membership is £5 per annum.

You don't need to be a member to give it a try. Feel free to contact me on peedee1955@gmail.com

Hoping to meet you soon.



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A view from the boundary

by Christopher Hitchings

When you read this article the 2026 cricket season for RCC will be almost halfway through: nine weeks of concentrated league action, the outcome determined often by luck, skill, availability and sometimes umpiring decisions. The players, whether young or old, are playing "for the Plough", the emblem on all the club's shirts and the "cri de coeur" often heard prior to the commencement of battle. As with all seasons, there have been ups and downs with the highlight for the Seniors being the comprehensive triumph, in the early round of the Welsh Cup, at Usk, who were last year's beaten finalists. The best-placed side at this stage are the Fourth XI, who have continued on from last year's promotion and sit top of the Eighth Division: another trophy in the offing? Closely behind are the Fifth XI who sit second in their division and are helped by two of the club's younger players, Bobby Burnell and Evan Lloyd: the former with seven wickets and the latter averaging 57 with the bat.

On Friday nights during the first half of the season the club is taken over by the All Stars and Dynamos, the five-to eleven-year-olds, boys and girls, who come along to learn about the great game of cricket. They bring their parents/guardians/aunts and uncles along to enjoy the evening and make RCC a place of noise, entertainment and above all else, fun. This year the club welcomed over two hundred youngsters registered

with the ECB and watching the mayhem ensue brought a tear to my eye. In fact it's not that long ago that the club were amazed at signing up one hundred boys and girls but this programme, which started in just 2017, appears to have caught the zeitgeist of youngsters who want to give cricket a try. The wonder is how much more growth is there and what are the number of individuals, clubs like RCC can accommodate?

As has always been said about the club, nothing stands still for long. If it does it is likely to be repainted, repaired and/or renewed and given the "tlc" it needs to make the ground an even better place. The latest item to get the Radyr treatment is the score box in the pavilion. For years this area has been in desperate need of care as it was part of the original 1970s building and comprised features reminiscent of an earlier age. The electronic scoreboard erected some years ago, on the other side of the ground, meant the old manual version was hastened into redundancy and duly fell into disrepair. It was also accepted that the significant sum required to undertake the improvement works was beyond the budget. That changed, however, when we approached Plasdwr, who are the developers on Llantrisant Road. They worked with us to produce a modern-day score box, which gave us a second electronic board which is synced into the original, a new door, window, interior and an electric roller shutter.



RADYR
CRICKET CLUB

The club is eternally grateful for their advice plus funding, which has meant yet another major project at RCC has been completed. The formal opening will take place shortly and the club are delighted to welcome Plasdwr as a much-appreciated sponsor.

On Sunday 19th July from 1.00pm onwards, RCC are playing MCC. The latter are the world's most famous cricket club, based at Lord's and it is a privilege to have them visit Radyr for the biennial game. Also that day the club will be holding its annual Vice-Presidents' Luncheon so it will make for a wonderful occasion and showcase Radyr at its best.

So that's it from me for today, and I wish everybody a wonderful summer and if you are at a loose end, please do not hesitate to pop under the railway bridge, down the path and join us at RCC.

Friends of Tenovus



We wish to thank all our friends and helpers for their support, especially during the festival quiz.

We are happy to announce that we made over £1,100 that evening. We were pleased to see many new faces there. Why not come to next year's event and enjoy our bar and a plough's platter.

Our biannual bag drop took place on 20th May.

We collect donated good, unwanted items to be sold in our Tenovus shops. Our collection point is usually the Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen where we annually fill two large vans. Our next date for collection is 25th November, 11am until 1pm.

Our next event is a Coffee Morning held at Radyr Golf Club during breast cancer awareness month, on 22nd October from 10:30am to 12pm where we will be selling homemade cakes, Christmas cards etc.

If you would like to join us in raising funds for cancer care, contact Rosanne, tel. 02920401872.



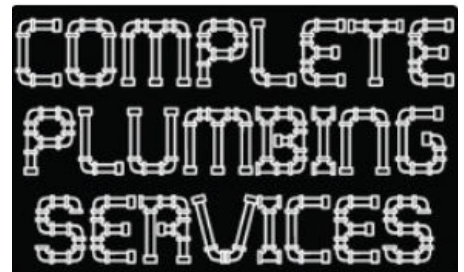
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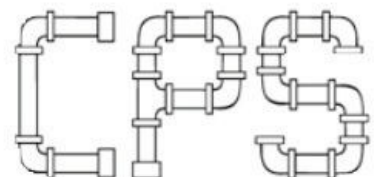
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Title Glory for Radyr Rangers



Radyr Rangers Blacks U12s Win the A League

What do the legendary Arsenal team of 2003/04, of Thierry Henry et al, and Radyr Rangers have in common? Well we both now count 'Invincibles' among our club!

Radyr Rangers U12 'Blacks' were unbeaten in what was their first season of competitive football, with the team navigating multiple friendlies, their first league campaign and two tournaments and were undefeated.

The team began the year strongly winning the 'trial A League', as teams are streamed into competitive divisions for the full league action after Christmas. The team performed excellently across both leagues and won every game against the toughest opponents from across Cardiff. Despite the strength of the opposition, the Blacks proved themselves to be capable of turning many a game around in the 2nd half with the players showing real team-spirit, resilience and belief. The team was

blessed with goals from their strikers and midfield, but also a backline and goalkeeper that celebrated a clean sheet as much as a last-minute winner! Every single player made a telling contribution at some point during the title campaign. The title was clinched with a 2-1 backs-to-the-wall win against Grange Albion in the penultimate game, which allowed the players to relax and let some 'champagne football' flow in the final match, in which they beat title rivals Clwb Cymric 4-0, and celebrations went long into the night in the Ty Nant!

The team have also tested themselves further afield, the highlight of which was competing in the Western ICI

tournament in Brean against sides from across the West of England and Wales. Over two days, their record was played 8, won 8, as Radyr blew away all-comers to see the young captain, Eric Harries, presented with the tournament trophy by former England striker and Premier League legend Kevin Phillips.

The coaching team of Iain, Dan H, Dan B, Ian, Ross and Walid couldn't be prouder of the players' achievement, also noting the players have been a delight to coach and deserve all the success and plaudits that have come to them.

As Cardiff & District A League champions, the team will now have the honour of representing Radyr and Cardiff in the Welsh Cup next season; if the club get a home fixture it would be marvellous to see the community of Radyr coming down to the Mound to support the team!

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Learning Without Limits



Radyr Rangers Blacks U16s Clinch Division B Title in Dramatic Finale

Radyr Rangers U16 Blacks were crowned Division B Cardiff & District League champions after a thrilling final-day victory over their closest rivals, Whitchurch Gold, in a season that went right down to the wire.

It had been a stop-start campaign for much of the year, with the persistent rain and bad weather causing disruption and making it difficult for teams to build momentum. But once the fixtures began to flow in April, the title race came alive - and it quickly became clear that the main challenge to Radyr's hopes would come from a strong Whitchurch side.

The turning point appeared to come with just four matches left, when Whitchurch edged Radyr 2-1 at Hailey Park in a controversial contest that handed them the advantage in the race for the championship. That result left Whitchurch in pole position and heading into

the final game of the season they sat one point clear at the top of the table. The equation was simple: Whitchurch needed only a draw to take the title, while Radyr had to win on home ground.

What followed was exactly the kind of occasion youth football is all about. The decisive match, played at the Mound field, attracted a great crowd, with family members and supporters turning out in force to back the team in their biggest game of the season.

After some understandable early nerves, Radyr settled and found the breakthrough to grab a precious 1-0 lead. With the tension rising as the clock ticked by, Radyr made changes to inject fresh energy, and one proved decisive. Top scorer Harry Calnan-

Thomas came on and struck the team's second goal - a finish that would ultimately secure the championship.

Whitchurch pulled a late goal back in injury-time, setting up a tense finish, but Radyr Rangers held firm to seal a 2-1 victory and snatch the title by a solitary but all-important point!

It was a fitting end to a remarkable season and a memorable achievement for a talented and determined group of players. To win the league in such dramatic fashion, against direct rivals in a winner-takes-all final match, made the moment even more special. Coaches Nathan Smith, Kristian McCallum and Mark Cooper are extremely proud of the boys' achievement, recognising the hard work, resilience, and togetherness they had shown throughout the campaign.

This triumph is also significant because it comes in the players' final year of grassroots football before many move up to Youth level next season. It gives their title a little extra meaning: a final chapter, written together, with a storybook ending.



Festival Fete Wordsearch

How many of these things did you spot at the Radyr Festival Fete?



Stalls
Maypole
Dancing
Choir
Owls

Cakes
Ice Cream
Charities
Crafts
Plants
Bunting

Burgers
Toys
Smiles
Balloons
Community

