

THE RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN ASSOCIATION

(A Civic Society affiliated to the Civic Trust for Wales)

GENERAL MEETING

Old Church Rooms on Monday 19th November 2012 at 7.30pm

Present: David Silver (Vice Chairman), Bob Roberts (Treasurer), David Cargill, Allan Cook, Wyn Phillips and 31 members.

Apologies: Cyril Williams (Chairman), Nick Hawkins (Secretary), Sue Thomas and Rhys James.

A Talk by Dr. Rhys Jones on his BBC Wales programme "Rhys Jones Wildlife Patrol"

Dr Rhys Jones informed the meeting that his journey leading to his "Wildlife Patrol Programme" started when he left Canton High School at the age of 16 and started working in local pet shops where he learnt how to care for reptiles and fish. Gradually he introduced himself to other animals both tame and wild to such an extent that he could understand what the animals were thinking and doing. Dr Jones decided that he needed qualifications and studied at Cardiff University. Whilst at University he gave talks about his experiences with animals and visited Australia, Kenya and other countries to encounter and study the wild animals and reptiles particular to those countries. He recalled, whilst in the Maasai Mara area of Kenya, approaching a young Rhino, who the Maasai are terrified of, talking to it calmly and tickling it behind its ear. Dr Jones said that the Rhino trusted him because of his calm and non aggressive approach. Another encounter he recalled was, when he was on the banks of a crocodile infested river, five crocodiles approached him. He spoke to them calmly, fed them and then indicated to them to return to the river. The Maasai were amazed by Dr Jones's ability to approach the rhino and crocodiles that they called him a 'Medicine Man' and made him a member of the Tribe and gave him a hut in their village. Dr Jones recalled many other encounters with wild animals, reptiles and snakes and stated that his job entailed rescuing people from animals and also rescuing animals from animals. Dr Jones' talk was most interesting, fascinating and informative.

At the conclusion of the talk, the Vice Chairman thanked Dr Rhys Jones for the very interesting talk and presented him with a bottle of whisky.

Minutes of the previous General Meeting on 3rd September 2012

The minutes were approved. Minutes were approved there were no matters arising.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that there was virtually no financial activity since the previous General Meeting held on 3rd September apart from payment of expenses amounting to £275. He mentioned that the cost of the leaflets advertising the General Meeting and the talk by Dr Rhys Jones amounted to £30.

Christmas Tree lighting Ceremony

The Vice chairman reported that three large Christmas Trees to be respectively erected in Morganstown, Lychgate Gardens and Windsor Gardens, have been ordered by the R&MCC and that all three trees will be decorated with lights.

Festival 2013

David Cargill stated that there would be a meeting of the Festival Committee on Wednesday 21st November at the OCR. He reported that the chosen Charity for the Festival is Tenovus and that the

theme for the Festival is "Colours of the World". The Primary Schools are taking the responsibility for creating and organising the Parade and that the Comprehensive School has agreed to be involved.

Hall Matters

The Vice Chairman informed the meeting that the new curtains had been hung in the Weir Room.

David Cargill reported that the Old Church Rooms is very well used and that there is a demand for its use by play and nursery groups. If anyone wishes to use the OCR it is recommended to book well in advance of the event. David commented that "all is looking good" for the OCR.

Any Other Business

It was reported that with regard to the possible development along the Llantrisant Road the Community Council is looking at the infrastructure which, if the development goes ahead, will serve the development and in particular the traffic and road system.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 4th February 2013 at 7.30pm in the Old Church Rooms when the speaker will be Mr Chris Partridge who will speak about his work as Keep Wales Tidy's Tidy Towns Project Officer for Cardiff.