

# THE RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN ASSOCIATION

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

## GENERAL MEETING

Old Church Rooms on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2012 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cyril Williams (Chairman), Nick Hawkins (Secretary), Bob Roberts (Treasurer), David Cargill, Allan Cook, Wyn Phillips, Sue Thomas, Cllrs Bethan Cartwright, Mike Diment, Judith Marsh, Chris St Leger, David Suthers, and 30 members.

**Apologies:** Cllr David Silver (Vice-Chairman), Cllrs Rod McKerlich and Clive Morgan, Julie Davies, Marion Drake.

### **A Talk by Jill Jones, Production Manager of the BBC Programme ‘Crimewatch’.**

Mrs Jones talked about the history, purpose and effectiveness of Crimewatch. The programme started in London in June 1984 and moved to Cardiff in January 2011. Since the move she has been responsible for 300 programmes involving 4000 cases. One in three of the featured cases generates leads to the Police and one in five results in an arrest - an impressive statistic. The programme has an average audience of 4.5M - boosted quite significantly by the prison population! The format of the programme was devised by a German, Eduard Zimmermann (who died recently). Whilst intended to be a Community Services programme, it is very much a TV programme - a marriage between fact and drama.

Mrs Jones explained how the featured cases are selected and how the programme is put together. There are many challenges - selected cases can be solved just before transmission (which is live); there are significant legal issues as the judicial process must not be prejudiced; it must blatantly cover the whole of the UK; whilst needing to be realistic in the dramatisations, viewers must not get upset by the content; and it needs to be produced within budget. She related the timetable for a typical transmission day from the production crew getting into the studio at 11:00 to the fast-moving broadcast at 21:00 and the update following the 22:00 News. 30 phones (manned by 30 Police Officers) are there for incoming calls and five for outgoing. Normally around 300 phone calls are received, as well as numerous text and email messages.

The talk was wonderfully illustrated by three video clips showing the history of the programme, a recent episode concerning an assassination attempt in London (which was very complex to film), and an extract from a spin-off programme concerning the long-term impact on the victims of crime. Can survivors of violent crime ever truly recover? Mrs Jones also talked about her work experience in the broadcasting industry, noting that producing Crimewatch is the most rewarding work she has ever done.

At the conclusion of the talk, the Chairman thanked Jill Jones for a very interesting talk and presented her with a presentation pack of wine.

### **Minutes of the previous General Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

Approved. The Chairman reported that a series of 12 specific actions had been determined subsequent to the meeting, as reported in the July Newsletter and in Radyr Chain. All were being progressed; further details would be included in the September Newsletter.

### **Treasurer’s Report**

The Treasurer reported that, at the ‘wrap up meeting’ for the Festival, the nominated Charity, George Thomas Hospice Care (GTHC), had been presented with a cheque for £4,350. Since then, he

had received a further cheque of £100 for the Charity, and he was aware that further monies had been donated following the Jubilee celebration. He was therefore pleased to note that the total sum received by GTHC now exceeded £4,500. As far as the Association was concerned, the Festival had produced a surplus of £1,634 - considerably in excess of the budgeted £1,000. Consequently, the Association's reserves now stood at £6,752, in excess of the Reserves Limit of £6,000. However, the Association was not yet at its Financial Year End (31<sup>st</sup> December) and there would be Christmas expenditure.

## **Christmas Tree lighting Ceremony**

The Chairman noted that all was proceeding well for this event, organised jointly by the R&MCC and the Association. The date for the ceremony had been set as Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> December (a change from previous years) and it was still hoped to have three trees (paid for by the R&MCC) if a new location can be agreed on the Sidings. There would be more lights in Station Road (again paid for by the R&MCC); a new Santa's sleigh was being constructed; and plans were in place for a full set of stalls and entertainment.

## **May Festival 2013**

David Cargill reported that planning had started for next year's Festival and that Tenovus was the nominated Charity (for the second time). He looked forward to working with the Tenovus Committee in establishing yet another successful event. The first formal planning meeting had been scheduled for Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> September at 19:30 in the Old Church Rooms.

## **Hall Matters**

David Cargill reported that the Weir Room and corridors in the Old Church Rooms had been decorated over the summer and that a new digital projector (used for the current meeting) had been purchased for OCR use (a charge is involved). Additionally, wifi (to which the projector can be connected) was now available throughout the building, thanks to help from Cllr Mike Diment. Mr Cargill said it was recognised that the OCR needed significant upgrade work and this would be done over the next two to three years.

Maggie Roberts said that all was well with Morganstown Village Hall; the kitchen was currently being retiled.

## **Any Other Business**

**Marketing Plan** The Secretary explained that one action arising from the last General Meeting was the need to develop a 'Marketing Plan' for both the Association and the R&MCC 'to promote awareness and understanding of the roles and responsibilities'. He requested that anyone who could contribute to this task should get in touch with him.

## **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in the Old Church Rooms when the speaker will be Dr Rhys Jones of 'Rhys to the Rescue'.