

## NEWSLETTER TO MEMBERS – May 2018

Welcome to our regular Newsletter.

### FESTIVAL 2018 – DAVID SILVER REPORTS



I can't remember when we have had such good weather for the whole Festival. It started in glorious weather for the Fete and Parade and continued until the last event. At the Fete this year we had a Punch and Judy man which was thoroughly enjoyed by the young children. We said goodbye to our librarian and had an introduction to the charity by local broadcaster Beti George. We have been trying for a number of years to get our community charity to set up a local group but this was the first time it had happened. A group was set up under the chairmanship of Mark Richards and they were highly successful in raising funds.

There were some new events this year, notably the well-attended "Summer Kitchen", given by International chef Angela Gray. The samples she gave us showed why she has already written three books. There was also a Barn Dance with a Hog Roast, organised by the Twinning Fellowship at the Comprehensive School. The French visitors from St Philbert were here again during the Festival, though I am told it will not happen again in the next five years.

The Concert in the Parc attracted the usual large audience, especially in the fine weather. This year we had a Real Ale bar with two firkins of ale kindly provided by the VOG brewery. Of course we sold out of beer and lager and the BBQ also sold out. The bands were also brilliant yet again.

We had 34 events and both the Open Gardens and Alzheimer's coffee morning each raised over £1000 for the charity.

At the final event, the charity concert for Alzheimer's Society Cymru, the Chair of the Festival committee, David Silver, presented a cheque for £18,500 to the charity, being the sum of all contributions raised by the community and the local group so far. This will increase as more funds are received from Festival events. A final figure should be available in July. A tribute was paid to David Cargill, Festival Committee Chair for the first 30 years of the Festival, and he was presented with both the Ken Innes trophy and an engraved tankard to recognise his contribution to the community.

From the feedback we have received, this year's Festival was a great success. If anyone has any ideas for new events next year, or wishes to help us with the next Festival, please let us know on [rma@radyr.org.uk](mailto:rma@radyr.org.uk).

Finally I would like to thank the Festival Committee, our Festival Queen and her attendants – Joy, Ella and Indiana – the RMA Executive and all the people who helped us to set up the events, notably Chris Dale who provided the sound for many of them. Without you, the Festival would not take place. Thanks also to all those who sold tickets for the Box Office, especially Radyr EyeCare who sold nearly £2000 worth!

We look forward to the 32<sup>nd</sup> Festival next year.

### RADYR RECORDED

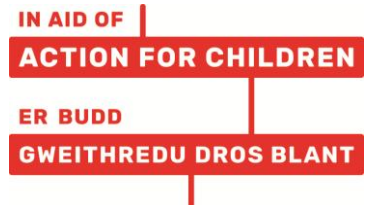
Can you help future generations to enjoy the festivals you remember? Have you got photos, slides, home videos, etc? We want to make a record of the history of Radyr past and present. Upload material you have of Radyr to our Flickr group (see below), tag it with the relevant decade and let us know a little something about the image. Perhaps you have photos from the 2018 Festival or something earlier? We want **Radyr Recorded** to continue alongside the website to become a record of who the people of Radyr are and what we got up to! We need your input to help fill the gaps in our "official" records and make as full a Record of the community in Radyr as possible. Get in touch if you need technical help.



<https://www.flickr.com/groups/radyr/>

## CHARITIES

We have enjoyed working with this year's Charity, Alzheimer's Society Cymru and we were delighted when a local fund raising group was formed for them. Not only has that group raised a huge amount of money – around £15K – but they will go on to continue to raise money in the future. As mentioned in the last Newsletter, our Charity for the next year, 2018/19 (starts in July) is 'Action for Children'. Would you like to be part of a local group raising money for them? Please get in touch if you think you would like to be involved or would like more information.



## PLANNING

Do you remember this picture which we featured in last November's Newsletter? It is an artist's impression of the 36 affordable housing units that we now know will be built on land at the Sidings (De Clare Drive). We accept the need for affordable housing but this planning application was a step too far in terms of the number of units, its placing with respect to existing housing, the number of parking places being provided – and we could go on. Despite over 150 objections (including our AM and MP) and no favourable submissions, Cardiff Council Planning Committee have given it the go-ahead. What is the purpose of Planning Consultation if decisions are simply going to be steam-rolled through anyway?



Can we also say that we note the action being considered by a group of residents in trying to force through early adoption of traffic calming on Heol Isaf. We were impressed with the calling of the public meeting and the response. If you would like to know more about the initiative, there is an active thread on the Forum of the R&M Website – follow [this link](#).

## A VISIT FROM OUR FRIENDS FROM ST PHILBERT

Recently you may have noticed a spruced up French Twinning plaque in Windsor Gardens, a new wine press in the Jardin de St Philbert at the Old Church Rooms, and a French flag or two fluttering in the breeze. All part of the preparations for the 44 French visitors who arrived on 18<sup>th</sup> May for the biennial Radyr and Morganstown-St Philbert Twinning weekend. The fellowship bond between the two communities is as strong after 32 years as it was at the heyday of town Twinning. Following an al-fresco reception on Friday, the group visit underground to Big Pit was an effective and much enjoyed flavour of local Welsh industrial history. At the Saturday evening 'Pignic' (a hog roast with additional courses and liquid refreshment provided by the 96 attendees), everyone became one community as French visitors, host Twinners and a number of local residents combined to execute the seemingly complex barn dance routines under the tri-lingual direction of the ever entertaining Goronwy Jones. Sunday evening saw 84 Twinners scattered around the Parish for a progressive supper; a very popular event with the French visitors who sampled the catering skills of a variety of Twinning hosts. The Monday, 7.45am gathering at the Golf Club to board the French coach was, as always, an emotional merry-go-round of kissing and handshaking with everyone expressing their desire to meet up in St Philbert next year. Whatever transpires with the European political landscape, the longstanding fellowship between our two communities will continue to transcend national differences and promote true mutual understanding and affection. If you are interested in joining the Twinning Fellowship, please contact Maggie Roberts (Secretary) on 029 2084 2995.



The Twinners at Big Pit

## BURGLARIES

Here is a copy of a recent message from Neighbourhood Watch:

There has been a spate of burglaries in the village – three in Dan y Bryn Avenue and a particular nasty incident in Lychgate Gardens. Particularly in this warmer weather, everyone is warned to keep vigilant in looking out for suspicious vehicles and people and keep windows and doors locked, especially at night.

Let us know if you would like to receive alerts such as this. We will pass on your details to the NW co-ordinator.

## **FUNDING FOR MUSICAL ACTIVITIES**

Sadly, the Radyr & Morganstown Choral Society had to close recently due to a diminishing membership. The resolution at the last meeting of the RMCS was:

*'That the RMCS is dissolved and that the funds are transferred to the RMA. RMCS would request that the money would be held and used by the RMA as a designated fund for the purpose of supporting music for all ages in the Radyr and Morganstown Community'*

We have now received this money and are considering how best to place it within the R&M Community. Please get in touch if you have a specific suggestion. The money has been placed in a separate part of our accounts and we will report back at our General meetings how it is being spent.

## **NEW MEMBERS – AND THE PURPOSE OF THE RMA**

We would like to add a short note welcoming the new members who have joined the RMA over the course of the Festival, as this will be your first Newsletter. You are very welcome and we hope to see you at our General Meetings (see next) and at other activities.

We thought we would remind you – and, indeed, our longer-term members – that this Newsletter is just one part of our Communications. It is designed to provide a general update and comment on what is happening in R&M, with an emphasis on encouraging people to be more social. As we only issue it every two months it can only deal with longer term issues. If you really want to know what is happening on a day to day basis, then do keep a watch on the [R&M Website](#) (where there is calendar of events) and also subscribe to our [Facebook Page](#) and [Twitter account](#).

On a related topic, we have had a number of conversations with various people during the Festival about what events we run, who attends, and how we generally try to meet the needs of a changing and growing R&M population. It is a fact that our Community is still well served by a lot of local organisations, something that is very rare nowadays. However, we are acutely aware that many of those organisations are run by, and serve, an increasingly elderly section of the Community. We would love to think that, in ten or twenty years time, R&M will still be a vibrant community – led, for obvious reasons, by a totally different set of people.

**What should we be doing now, what organisations or activities should we be starting or encouraging to meet those future needs? Please let us know your thoughts – however vague or loosely phrased – and we will see what we can do.**

However, be assured, if we simply let things run without any thought for the future, one by one the present organisations will fade away and we will be left – as in most other communities – with no local activities at all.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next General Meeting of the Association is on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June when Ian Giblett, Head Officer of the Cardiff Conservation Volunteers will be talking to us about the work they are doing in the local environment. The Volunteers' primary aim is to promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment anywhere, whilst having an enjoyable time doing so.

Should be an interesting talk!

As usual, as well as the talk we are happy to talk about any matter which is of concern to our members. All that we ask is that, if possible, we have an idea in advance of topics that will be raised. Contact details below.



**If you would like to comment** on any aspect of this Newsletter or require further information, then either email the Secretary, Nick Hawkins ([rma@radyr.org.uk](mailto:rma@radyr.org.uk)), or the Chairman, David Silver ([rmachair@radyr.org.uk](mailto:rmachair@radyr.org.uk)).

**And here is a little postscript:**

## **HISTORY SOCIETY**

The History Society has a few spare places on its coach to Worcester on 28<sup>th</sup> June and would welcome members of the Association to join them – leaving Radyr at 8.30am and returning from Worcester at 5pm. Coach £11, entry to Cathedral and the Worcester China Works and Museum £5 each. Both visits are optional. If interested, please phone Allan Cook on 029 2084 3176.