

NEWSLETTER TO MEMBERS – November 2018

Welcome to our regular Newsletter.

WORLD WAR I COMMEMORATION



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The weekend of 8th to 11th of November was reserved for the Peace Celebration and the end of World War One. The film of Oh! What a Lovely War was sold out as was the tea party in the Methodist Church on the Friday, when pupils from Radyr Primary, Bryn Deri and the Comprehensive School entertained those taking an excellent tea.



The outstanding concert given on the Saturday evening, by the Cardiff (Meltingriffith) Community Band, a singing group and soloists from the Comprehensive School and some excellent readers did not quite sell out, probably because the Welsh Rugby team was playing in Cardiff that evening.



Sunday 11th November saw changeable weather, but the sun came out at the important moment and the ceremony at the War Memorial took place in sunshine. For the first time a drone (organised by the WWI Committee) flew overhead taking photographs of the ceremony – one of the photographs is included with this article – and you can see the beautiful autumn colours in Radyr.

Congratulations to the R&M WWI Committee who organised all the events and thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund for providing the funds.

ITV STAR TO TURN ON THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

This year's lighting ceremony will be on Friday 7th December – weather permitting – and we are delighted to report that ITV News Reader **Kate Lewis** will be with us to turn on the lights. Kate is a journalist who has worked for ITV Wales for almost a decade. During this time she has worked as a reporter and producer on Welsh language programmes but over the last few years has become a familiar face both presenting the weather and reporting for Wales at Six.



We are especially pleased to report that Kate will be joined by the '**RCT Young Carers Choir**' (also known as '**Young Carers Aloud**'). Our Charity this year is 'Action for Children' and the choir is made up of a group of young carers aged 8 to 18 from Rhondda Cynon Taff whose lives are affected by their caring responsibilities for another family member. They will be singing a number of carols.

The three main trees will be lit as usual by the Festival Queen and her attendants and the Comprehensive School band will be playing Christmas music at the lighting of the trees in Morganstown and Lychgate Gardens. The Station Road lights will be lit by Kate at 7:00pm precisely and Santa will arrive shortly afterwards to talk to the young children. The stalls will be open from 6:00pm selling all sorts of goodies – crafts, gifts, jewellery and much more. Burgers, hot dogs and mulled wine will be available at the R&M Association stall and the WI will be dispensing tea and coffee. Our new refreshment outlets, Slice and Radyr Tap, will also be open. Come along and enjoy the festivities, arranged jointly between the R&M Association and the R&M Community Council. It is a lovely way to start the Christmas Season and entrance is free.

THE R&M FILM CLUB

A quick reminder that our next film (on 22nd November in The Old Church Rooms starting at 7.30pm) is "**The Leisure Seeker**". This is a great light-hearted comedy starring Donald Sutherland and Helen Mirren designed to chase away the winter blues!

A runaway couple go on an unforgettable journey in their faithful old 1978 Leisure Seeker RV (recreational vehicle). With Ella as his vigilant copilot, John steers their RV along the forgotten roads of Route 66 toward Disneyland in search of a past they're having a hard time remembering. Yet Ella is determined to prove that, when it comes to life, a person can go back for seconds, sneak a little extra time, grab a small portion more; even when everyone says you can't. Not to be missed.

You can get tickets (£4) locally at Ener chi, from Nick Hawkins and Allan Cook, or online at [TicketSource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/).



8-80+

Have you been watching the Channel 4 programme 'Old People's Home for 4 year olds'? It has just finished and reflects the benefits of getting the young and the old together. On 12th October, Radyr Primary School started something similar and called it '8-80+'. They brought together pupils and some more elderly members of the R&M community to chat about 'Life before Computers'. Here is a picture of the discussions taking place. The children were fascinated in hearing about life used to be back in the 1940s and 50s and some even said it was the 'best afternoon ever'!



If you are of 'a certain age' then Radyr Primary Pupils are again inviting any grandparents, neighbours, community members or family friends to join them for a cup of tea to talk to them about 'Christmas' Past'. The event is in the Old Church Rooms on **Friday, 30th November** starting at 2:00pm. You will find it a fascinating experience, particularly if you don't get out a lot.

FUNDING FOR MUSICAL ACTIVITIES

Mentioning Radyr Primary School prompts us to report that they and Bryn Deri School made a successful joint bid for the money given to us by the now-closed Radyr & Morganstown Choral Society. The money will be put towards forming orchestras at both schools, including the purchase of additional musical instruments and music stands. We are delighted to have been able to help them in this way.



COMMUNITY CHARITY 2019/20

Another quick note to say that we have now decided on the Charity we will be working with in 2019/20 after our current Charity, *Action for Children*, which takes us up to July 2019. After considering a number of bids we have chosen to work with Tenovus over the year. We look forward to working with the local Committee.



SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE

Our two platforms, Facebook and Twitter, are very successful and are both still growing. Followers on Facebook have gone up by 17% in the last year to 1585 and by 38% on Twitter to 840. We now get around 42,000 views a month which goes up to 100,000 during the May Festival. Views of our posts have increased by 27% in the last year. We are now getting roughly twice as many views on Twitter as we do on Facebook.



We post on events, classes and on local issues but will not advertise businesses or events outside our local area as we would be inundated with adverts which is something we do not want.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank David Cargill, who supplies a lot of the photos we post and also Anne Silver, David Hardman and Mike Sullivan.

If you have not had a look at our pages just go to @RadyrAndMorganstownHub on Facebook and @RMHub on Twitter.

RADYR WOODS

If you go down to Radyr Woods today you will be in for a big surprise. Work is underway to remove old and dead trees in the woods, and pruning to others to assist their longevity. This is part of an ongoing maintenance programme, which follows a detailed arboricultural survey of all trees in this location. Up to 30 trees are being worked upon in the first contract.

Additionally we have been awarded a Certificate for the RHS 'It's Your Neighbourhood' initiative, managed by Wales in Bloom. The Assessor described our group as 'Thriving'.

Sadly, the Keep Wales Tidy Green Flag Assessor heaped much praise on the Wardens' work, but was unable to give us an award.



Great activity in the Woods

Further work to coppice old Hazel trees will be undertaken on Sunday 18th November by the Cardiff Conservation volunteers. They have undertaken similar work over the past year, to successfully guarantee Hazel regeneration.

Finally we always welcome new recruits to our group. Our next Working Party is **Saturday 1st December**; meet at 9.00am Top Car Park Taff Terrace. Do come along and help.

FESTIVAL 2019

Plans for the Festival are now at an advanced stage. Most of the events have been agreed with the usual mixture of old and new. Both lunchtime concerts are booked with one, as usual, singers from the Wales Academy of Voice. Our Festival Theatre this year will be produced by Fluellen and will be "Night Must Fall", a psychological thriller by Emlyn Williams.



All help will be welcome.

We are currently looking to have another "cookery" evening after last year's very successful evening and we are awaiting a response from a few Chefs. On the final Saturday we will be having a Gilbert and Sullivan evening showing an excellent Australian film version of Pirates of Penzance.

All your usual favourites, the Fete, Concert in the Parc, Vintage Tea Party, Twinning Jazz concert, Open Gardens, Tenovus Quiz and the Choir concert organised by Rotary are in the Programme. This year the Railway Correspondence and Travel Society are joining the Festival with "Railways of Glamorgan and the Valleys"

More details on all events will be provided at a later date.

If anyone wishes to help with any event please contact me on rmachair@radyr.org.uk

NEXT MEETING

The next General Meeting of the Association is on **Monday 19th November** when our President, Kevin Brennan MP, will talk about The Palace of Westminster – what it is like to work there and the restoration plans. This will be a fascinating talk, so do, please come along.

To attract you further, Cllr Rod McKerlich has agreed to come and lead a brief discussion on the very topical issue of 'Improving road safety in Radyr and Morganstown'. He will be using the map recently produced by Cardiff Council. If you have not seen it, you can view a copy of it via [this link](#).

*[Please note that the topic of road safety in R&M will be more fully dealt with at a meeting the following day, **Tuesday, 20th November** starting at 6:30pm in the Drama Studio at the Comprehensive School. That meeting will be addressed by Rod King MBE (20's Plenty for Us and Dr Sarah Jones (Public Health Wales)].*



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), or the Chairman, David Silver (rmachair@radyr.org.uk).

Finally, as this is our last Newsletter before Christmas, the RMA Executive would like to take this opportunity of wishing everyone a very happy forthcoming Festive Season and a successful New Year.