



ALASTAIR JONES

There is a new name on the International Honours Board at Radyr Golf Club. Nineteen year old Alastair Jones became the latest addition to the list of distinguished golfers from the club to represent Wales, when he was selected to play in the Home Internationals at the end of August. He is the eleventh Radyr Golf Club member to represent his country and only the fifth since the Second World War.

Alastair, a former pupil at Radyr Comprehensive School, is currently studying in America after winning a golf scholarship at Texas State University. His Wales selection came at the end of an outstanding summer during which he won the prestigious Welsh Open Youths Championship (held at Radyr in June), the Club Championship at Royal Porthcawl and reached the quarter finals of the Welsh Amateur Championship. Top ten finishes in a number of Welsh Order of Merit events sealed his selection. Alastair had also represented Wales at Under 16 and Under 18 levels and played for Glamorgan County at all levels.

The Home Internationals were played at Hillside, Southport and the Welsh team got off to a fantastic start beating the defending Champions, Ireland, with Alastair securing a vital win in his singles match. Wales were beaten by England and Scotland to finish third in the Championship with Alastair narrowly losing both his singles matches to strong Great Britain Walker Cup players. It was a great effort watched by a number of supporters from Radyr, including the Club Professional, Simon Swales, who has helped him so much with his game over the past few years. Alastair has now returned to San Marcos to continue his studies in the States and play for the Texas State Division I University team in the Southland Conference.

MY THREE ANGELS

Radyr Drama Society's next production will be the delightful comedy *My Three Angels*, translated from the French by Sam and Bella Spewack. The Drama Society will begin the year-long celebration of things French to coincide with the 25th anniversary of the twinning of Radyr with St. Philbert de Grande Lieu. In February, the Music Group will continue the celebration with Offenbach's delightful operetta *La Belle Helene* and it is hoped to stage Pam Gem's play with music "*Piaf*" during the 2010 Festival.

Many of you will know *My Three Angels* as the firm *We're No Angels* which starred Dirk Bogart and Peter Ustinov. It is also appropriate to start the Christmas season with this delightful comedy as it takes place during Christmas 1910. There the similarities end because it takes place in a French South American colony and it is 105 degrees Fahrenheit in the shade.

The play involves Felix Dulay, a rather inefficient shopkeeper, who is expecting a visit from his unpleasant relative and owner of the shop. Nothing is ready for Gaston's arrival; the books to put it bluntly, are a mess. Marie Louise, Felix's daughter, is however looking forward to the visit because Gaston will bring his nephew, Paul, with him and Marie Louise is engaged to Paul, or at least she

thinks she is. Suffice to say that nothing goes right for the Dulay family until the three angels take over.

It seems that convicts from the local jail are allowed to wander around the colony quite freely working for the inhabitants. Alfred, prison number 4707; Jules, 6817 and Joseph, 3011, are working on the roof of Felix's house. Although murderers and the "financial genius", they are by far the most moral people on the stage and put wrongs to right with the help of Adolphe, a tiny

venomous snake that they keep in a small cage.

In addition to the Drama Society regulars, there will be three new members in this production directed by Pauline Watson. *My Three Angels* can be seen at Morganstown Village Hall on Thursday 26th, Friday 27th and Saturday 28th of November at 7.30pm. Tickets from Allan Cook, 20843176, Sheila Phillips 20842585 or Veg Vendor, Station Road.



Rehearsal of My Three Angels, Charlotte Rees and Zoe Pearce are watched by the "Three Angels" - George Carson, Martin Jeeves and Jim Cowan

RADYR CHAIN

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown

Number 184

October 2009



MEDIEVAL MAYHEM



Over the last few weeks, visitors to Radyr library will have noticed the transformation of the children's library into a castle, complete with flags, moat, studded doors, medieval tent and throne. These preparations led up to our "Knight's Tale" event held on the 24th July promoting this year's National reading scheme "The Reading Quest". Children were challenged to:

Join the Reading Quest

Listen to stories

Feed the ferocious dragon

Take part in tournament games

Join in craft activities and last but by no means least

Take part in Sir Andrew of Castell Coch's fantastic "Knight School"

The event was well attended and enjoyed by staff and visitors equally. The medieval theme was also a good excuse for the staff to dress up and invite the children to do the same. Daniel and Molly McKerlich won the fancy dress competition. Well done!



Special thanks must go to Cadw for allowing Sir Andrew time off from his duties to do a tremendous job with the "young squires". For those wanting to brush up on their damsel saving skills, Sir Andrew will be in action at Castell Coch on the 31st August.

We would also like to thank Maia Harvey for the wonderful certificates she made and also for supervising the feeding of the ferocious dragon. As part of the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, Maia volunteered her services to the library and has been helping us on a regular basis. Lastly, thank you Cllr McKerlich for attending our event. Your support was much appreciated. Children finishing the Reading Quest will get their certificates and medals presented in school sometime in September.

COMING EVENTS



N.B. Details of all coming events can be found in the Diary section of the website www.Radyr.org.uk

OCTOBER

- 3 An Evening of Music with Cowbridge Male Voice Choir and Soprano Soloist Iona Jones. In support of the Christ Church Tower Repair Fund. Christ Church, Heol Isaf, Radyr. A guaranteed feast of music in support of much-needed repairs to Christ Church. Tickets just £8 from Allan Cook, 2084 3176 or Nick Hawkins, 2084 2561. 7:30 pm
- 5 Radyr and Morganstown Women's Institute. To be advised. Our annual Birthday Party. Details will be revealed at a later date. 7:30 pm
- 14 Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club, New School Rooms, Christ Church. "Aquilegias - An Obsession" : speaker Carrie Thomas 7:30 pm
- 15 Treforgan WI Morganstown Village Hall. The Art and Skill of Spinning. Jane Nicholls. Contact Sue 20843920 1:15 pm
- 22 Radyr & Morganstown Community Council, Old Church Rooms. Clerk : 20842213 clerk@radyr.org.uk 7:30 pm
- 24 Horse and Pony Rescue Society. Fund-raising Evening with cheese and wine, Christmas Makers Market, Christ Church, Heol Isaf. Tickets £5.00 in advance from Val Allan (029 2084 2579) or £5.50 on the door. 7:00 pm

NOVEMBER

- 2 Radyr and Morganstown Women's Institute. Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr. Our Annual Meeting will include Officer's Reports, election of Committee members and coverage of the year's events. 7:30 pm
- 7 Radyr & Morganstown/ St. Philbert Twinning Fellowship will hold a QUIZ NIGHT with Alan Doe as QUIZ MASTER ..the famed ex Golf Club Quiz Master....out from retirement by special request. Garth Room Old Church Rooms Park Road Radyr Open to All (non members welcome). Teams will be made up of 8 people. The evening will include a hot supper and there will be a licensed bar Tickets £8.00. Tickets from Maggie Roberts e-mail bobandmaggieradyr@hotmail.com or phone 2084 2995 or any Twinning committee member. 7:30 pm
- 11 Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club. Gelynis Farm. "Gelynis Farm Harvest" with Edward Watt. 7:30 pm

- 12 R&M Local History Society, Radyr Methodist Church. Terry McCarthy will give a talk on THE GWR AT WAR. All are welcome. 7:30 pm
- 19 Treforgan WI. Morganstown Village Hall. National Treasures and what they mean to us. Dr Mike Tooby, National Museum of Wales Contact Sue 20843920 1:15 pm
- 25 Tenovus Concert, Christchurch Radyr. Details to follow 7:30 pm
- 26 Radyr & Morganstown Community Council, Old Church Rooms. Clerk : 20842213 clerk@radyr.org.uk 7:30 pm
- 26 NSPCC Coffee and Mince Pie Morning at Radyr Golf Club. All welcome. Tickets from Jan 20842478 or pay at the door. 10.30am

DECEMBER

- 5 Twinning Fellowship Christmas Dinner Dance, Radyr Golf Club Dancing to Cube. Contact Maggie Roberts 2084 2995 Further details will follow. 7:30 pm

SAD NEWS

We had news of the death of Alan Crawshaw a Radyr resident for many years and a member of Radyr Golf Club. Since the death of his wife Nora, he had lived with his daughter in Faringdon.

He received the Radyr Chain regularly and enjoyed reading from cover to cover.

In gratitude for keeping him in touch with Radyr, Janet sent a generous cheque to the Radyr Chain, which was greatly appreciated.

FOUND

ON THE MOUND FIELD
A GIRLS/YOUNG LADIES
BRACELET.

PLEASE CONTACT
029 2021 1657

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

To distribute Radyr Chains.
Several rounds available.

Please contact
Carol Geen on 029 2084 4080

DO YOU WISH TO SEND GREETINGS TO FAMILY & FRIENDS THIS CHRISTMAS?

Why not use Scouts Christmas Post, 2009.

Once again this year, Radyr Scouts are providing the opportunity for you to send Christmas Greetings through the Scout Post to family and friends living in the Cardiff Cowbridge, Penarth and Barry areas.

Scout Post stamps will be available at 16p each. If you wish to support scouting in Radyr and Morganstown, please purchase your scout post stamps from the local area outlets :

**Cafe Latina,
Station Road, Radyr**

**Pugh's Garden Centre,
Morganstown**

**Pzazz Hair Designers,
Castle Court, Caer Graig.**

**Veg Vendor,
Station Road, Radyr.**

Stamps will be on sale from the beginning of November.

We are grateful to these local businesses who support scouting in Radyr and Morganstown by selling stamps during such a busy period.

Can I take this opportunity to thank all those people who have supported Scout Christmas Post in the past. By purchasing your stamps locally, you are providing your local scout group with its largest source of funds during the year.

The last date for posting this year is Monday, 7th December, 2009. Please use the post boxes provided at the outlets and the scout hall.

Be prepared to post early and save money by using Scout Christmas Post, 2009. JBT.

Letters, articles, reports and other contributions are invited and should be submitted by November 15th. Submissions may be subject to editing at the Editor's discretion. The views expressed in the Radyr Chain are not necessarily those of the Editors.

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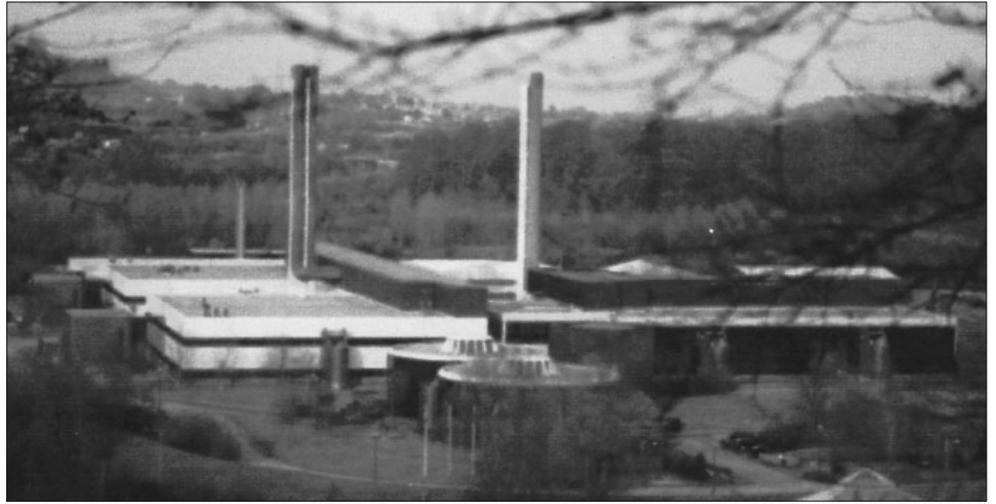
Distribution - Carol & Steve Geen, 87 Pentwyn, Radyr CF15 8RE. 2084 4080

GE SEEKS TO VARY AUTHORISATION

GE Healthcare (formerly Amersham) announced earlier this year that it would be moving out of the nuclear business. Residents were delighted, as the radioactive discharges from this plant had caused public concern, linked as they were with perinatal mortality and other detrimental health effects. Levels of radioactivity measured at Radyr Allotments were in the critical group (though deemed safe by the company); levels of radioactivity in estuary fish led WAG to enforce the company to retain its liquid tritium on site. A plan to recycle this liquid tritium, Project Paragon, was invested-in by the company, but was never up-and-running.

GE has now applied to the Environment Agency to vary its nuclear Authorisation to allow it to create and transfer additional nuclear waste. Decommissioning is a complex process that inevitably creates nuclear waste that will have to be stored on site or taken to other sites for incineration or storage. The company seeks permission to do this and also asks to be relieved of its obligation to recycle tritium waste via Project Paragon. It is of great concern that the nuclear waste store on site will remain on the flood-plane of the Taff long after the company ceases its nuclear activities, possibly creating an 'orphan site' – a term used in the USA for toxic sites left behind by companies.

Towards the end of June, it was reported that Cambridge-based Quotient Bioresearch plans to create a "world class" technology centre at Trident Park in the city. GE (Amersham) may be quitting the nuclear side of their business but they are selling to Quotient – so Cardiff will still have a nuclear site. The deal involves the transfer to Quotient of 75 scientists and other GE Healthcare employees and the company plans to recruit up to a further forty support and other staff at its new site in Trident Park. This could mean that radioactive waste storage and discharges are to continue in Cardiff, rather than cease, as we hoped.



So, residents of Cardiff may not be free of the radioactive discharges that have caused so many health concerns – and residents near to the Quotient site in Ocean Way may have questions to ask. While we celebrate the potential removal of the stacks that will be highly contaminated with the radioactive isotopes as radioactive substances they have released continuously, day and night, we may not be free of nuclear discharges – Ocean Way is not far away. And in our immediate area, we are left with a nuclear waste store on the flood plains of the Taff,

[The Legal Notice of this Application was published in the Echo. Residents had until 31st August [1] to comment to the EA –bex-read@environment-agency.gov.uk]

Norma Procter for Community Concern

The Real Radiation Risk? For the public to assess the real radiation risk from the Intermediate Radioactive Level Store on the site at GE Healthcare, Maynard Centre site at Forest Farm, Whitchurch, Cardiff, Radyr resident, Dr. Trevor Jones, has written a detailed assessment of the issues. This is held by Kevin Brennan, MP, the Community Council and Radyr Chain. In this document, Dr. Jones details facts that are needed for the public to assess the radiation risk from the Intermediate Radioactive Level Store on the site at GE Healthcare. He itemises radionuclides used and stored on site, including reference to 283 sea drums (each with 21 cans) of radioactive waste from Harwell received at the Maynard Centre in 1988, which were re-compacted, pointing out that compaction may

reduce the volume but will concentrate the radioactive materials with resultant increased radiation and radiotoxicity. Since there is no climatological control in the storage buildings at the Maynard Centre, the seals of the stainless steel drums will deteriorate over time due to oxidation and hydrolysis.

The interactions of such a variety of chemicals and radioactive materials will produce an extremely toxic "cocktail". If such escaped into the environment, it would have devastating effect on public health and the environment.

Dr. Jones points out that there is no information available to show that there are boreholes, needed for analysis of any leakage of radioactive isotopes and toxic chemicals from the waste store. This information must now be made available in order to assess the risks of decontamination and decommissioning but more importantly, how it may affect the health of the public and the effect on the environment.

He questions how the regulatory authorities can categorically state that there is **no** radioactive or chemical contamination of the site at the Maynard Centre and that it has not spread to areas bordering the River Taff and the Cardiff Bay Barrage.

Dr. Alfred Korblein, a German environmental scientist who has studied world-wide links between Tritium and health effects, has sought the still-birth data for Cardiff but has been refused access to such data to date.

PEGGY WOODS

(1910-2009)

Peggy Woods was one of the pillars of the Methodist Chapel when we arrived in the 1970's. I have looked back on the Minute Books and her name is shown attending a meeting on 27th June, 1969.

Some of the names at that meeting are of interest and will be remembered by a few of the older Radyr people. Rev. Brian Duckworth, Mrs. Cardy, Mrs. Thelma Everden, Mrs. Joan Peacock, Mrs. Peggy Woods, Dr. Sidney Copp, Mr. Jack Everden and Mr. Harold Peacock.

All great stalwarts of the Chapel and the village and Peggy lasted longer than all of them.

Peggy (Margaret) Gibbon came with the family to Radyr in 1917 and lived in the house next door but one to the chapel in Heol Isaph. She joined the Sunday School aged 7. Her memories of those early years were quite clear. She vividly remembered sitting next to old Mr. Lear and hearing his "Hear Hears" as he approved of points in the Sermon. He would have been 89 in that year. She had no memory at all of Mrs. Lear.

The Lear's were the founders of the Chapel; they originally started a Methodist Society in their home at 6 Junction Terrace in the 1870's. There is a photograph of them in the vestry. So Peggy had contact right with the very roots of Methodism in Radyr.

She was still on our Membership Roll despite, in her latter years, being away because of her health.

I will always remember Peggy as that lovely, lively elderly lady who lived at the "Cottage" just across the road. You see as newcomers in the 1970's we weren't yet part of the establishment with a key to the premises, but Peggy had one hanging on the hook in her porch.

"Can I have the key to the Chapel, Peggy?" "Yes Ray, of course you can, but do bring it back".

Thank you Lord for the life and witness of Peggy over so many years.

TREFORGAN WI

Since the last issue of Radyr Chain, we have, in addition to our scheduled meetings, enjoyed relaxed lunches together and been on a guided tour of Dyffryn Gardens where the gardener who took us around infected us with his passion for trees.

We went with the Radyr book club to "Stacks". Not just the repository for old and obscure books, this building houses maps, magazines, newspapers and miscellaneous documents. We were welcomed and taken on an eye-opening tour by Caroline, who many of you will remember from our local library. She now has the daunting task of cataloguing these treasures.

The visit by Waitrose to our scheduled July meeting had to be cancelled at the last minute but our intrepid minutes secretary upheld the good food theme by baking us lemon cake and scones. Only thick cream and jam, also thoughtfully provided, could do them justice! Luckily, Dr. Neville Evans was available for a talk and reminded us of the changing face of our street life to sighs from members as memories were rekindled or amazement expressed.

Your next opportunity to join us will be on 15th October to learn about the art and skill of spinning. If you have to miss that, come on 19th November when Dr. Mike Tooby will be telling us about National Treasures.

1.15pm at Morganstown Village Hall.

On both occasions, there will be our usual bookstall, refreshments, lots of chat and a warm welcome for you.

For more information, contact Sue - 029 2084 3920 or sue@billandsue.co.uk

MORGANSTOWN MEMORIES

We received this interesting account of the building of Morganstown Village Hall from Clive Thomas.

I was a schoolboy at the time at Penarth County Grammar School and a member of Christ Church Choir and during the construction of the hall, I and other school pupils would help in any way we could. The bricklayers and other helpers let us do hard work, shovelling and using the cement mixer.

I would hurry home from school and whatever the weather, rush to the construction site, making any excuse to our parents so that we could take part in this exciting project.

Before this time, I would go to bell ringing practice and act as a server helping the Rector, but this was put on hold whilst the hall was being built.

I have fond memories of the various events to raise funds, especially the Carnival and taking part in the Fancy Dress. It's probable that I only remember the sunny days.

At other times, we schoolboys would sneak up to the Barry Railway Line to look at members of the Morganstown Village Hall Jazz Band rehearsing during the summer.

Not many of those who remember the building of the Hall are still resident in the village, but apart from eleven years in the RAF, I have lived all my life in Morganstown and my wife Janet is very involved in the running of the Hall and also a committee member.

Editors' Note : We wonder if any other residents have local memories they would like to share.

SAUSAGE BOMBS

I recently tried this at my sister's house. They were designed for the BBQ, but yes, you've guessed it – it rained so we put them in the oven – delicious hot or cold, whole or sliced.

1 lb. pack of sausage meat
8 oz. sweet potato (peeled, boiled and mashed)
1 tsp. of Cajun spice (optional)
1 onion (peeled and grated)
1 Granny Smith apple (peeled and grated)
Fresh herbs (finely chopped)
Salt and pepper to taste
12 slices of bacon (back or streaky)

Mix all ingredients in a large bowl (except bacon which is for wrapping). Cover and chill for several hours in fridge (or overnight).

Divide into patties six large or twelve small. Wrap in bacon with join underneath (two slices for large, one for small).

BBQ or bake in a medium hot oven, turning several times until sausage meat is cooked right through, approximately thirty minutes. Delicious!

If anyone would like to contribute to a regular recipe section in the Chain – send your ideas to Carol Geen, 87 Pentwyn, Radyr.
carolgeen54@hotmail.co.uk

GARDEN CENTRE COFFEE MORNING RAISES £655 FOR CHARITY

-Helping the British Heart Foundation (BHF) keep vulnerable hearts beating-

A recent coffee morning in Pugh's Garden Centre, Morganstown, exceeded all expectations by raising more than £655. for the British Heart Foundation's Cardiff Heart Nurse Appeal.

Glenda Meakin, Fundraising Volunteer Manager, said "We are thrilled to have raised so much money and are thankful to everyone who came to the coffee morning to support the appeal. This money will help us reach our target amount of £125,000. to fund a BHF Heart Failure Specialist Nurse based in Cardiff. The nurse will help patients and their families cope with this debilitating condition and adapt to life with heart failure. We are very grateful for the support from Pugh's Garden Centre for hosting the event, Western Power Distribution for their

kind donation of £300. and to all those who donated raffle prizes".

Last year's Lord Mayor, Kate Lloyd, who nominated the British Heart Foundation as one of her chosen charities during her twelve months in office and came along to give her support to the event said "I am keen to continue to raise money for such a worthwhile charity and will help the BHF in whatever way I can".

Before the winners of the raffle were announced, local teacher, Seimon Edwards told of his recent achievement, raising almost £2,000. for the Cardiff Heart Nurse Appeal by cycling from Cardiff to Geneva. Glenda said "It's people like Seimon who are invaluable to us, they continue to find new ways to raise money and capture the imagination of everyone".

For information about organising your own fundraising event for the BHF, volunteering and other opportunities in your local area, please call Glenda Meakin on 029 2089 0148 or email meaking@bhf.org.uk

For more information about the BHF, please visit bhf.org.uk



GARDENING CLUB PROGRAMME 2009-2010

Venue : New School Rooms,
Christ Church, Heol Isaf, Radyr
Time : 7.30pm

**Wednesday, 9th September,
2009.**

“Green Roofs”
Aisling Judge

**Wednesday, 14th October,
2009.**

“Aquilegias –an Obsession”
Carrie Thomas

**Wednesday, 11th November,
2009.**

“Gelynis Farm Harvest”
Tom and Edward Watt
Note : This Meeting will be held
At Gelynis Farm

Wednesday, 13th January, 2010
“Fascinating Fungi”
Linda Nottage

**Wednesday, 10th February,
2010**

**“Winter Interest in the
Garden”**
Kevin Thomas

Wednesday, 10th March, 2010
“Roses”
Ivor Mace

Wednesday, 14th April, 2010
Annual General Meeting
To be followed by
“Britain in Bloom”
Jim Goodwin

Annual Membership
£8.00. Visitors £1.50.

Evenings commence at 7.30pm and
are followed by refreshments

Please check Village Notice Boards
or Radyr Web Site
(www.radyr.org.uk) for changes to
venue or programme.

HISTORY NEWS

A great deal has been happening on the history front over the past few months.

Morganstown Motte

The County Council has commissioned an appraisal of the condition of the Motte in Morganstown as an ongoing part of the development of the “mound” field. The work was undertaken by the mid-Wales firm of Cambrian Archaeology.

The current thinking is that Morganstown Motte is the best preserved of the series of mottes along the base of Caerphilly mountain. A motte is a piled up mound of soil on which the Normans built an early castle, in the case of Morganstown almost certainly made of wood. You can also see the remains of the outer wall of the bailey, a small fortified township where the local residents would have sheltered in time of danger. The motte and bailey date from the Norman invasion of Glamorgan in the 1090's and would have fallen out of use as the Normans conquered further inland; or at least that is the current thinking – we wait to see the results and conclusions of the survey with interest.

Gabby Yorath

A phone call in early September alerted us to the fact that BBC Wales are making another series on genealogy. The celebrity that involves Radyr is Gabby Yorath, the BBC sports presenter. According to the researchers for the programme, her Great Grandfather, Charles, was the bailiff at Radyr Farm in the 1870's. He was injured by some kind of hook, part of the agricultural equipment and took five days to die. Radyr Farm and its barns still exist, although its land has been developed. We look forward to the programme which should appear on your screens in the New Year.

Roald Dahl

On 14th September, the Llandaff Society unveiled a plaque at 11 High Street, the location of Mrs. Pratchett's sweetshop, which he immortalised in his autobiography “Boy”. This is the second blue plaque to be set up in Llandaff over

the past two years commemorating Dahl's connection with Llandaff.

It is hoped to create a Dahl trail by the centenary of his birth in 2016, which will take in the two buildings in Radyr which have a Dahl connection. Ty Mynydd House, where he lived as a boy and the parish church where his father and sister are buried.

GWR

The next meeting of the History Society is on Thursday, 12th November at 7.30pm in the Methodist Church, when well-known railway historian Terry McCarthy will give a talk entitled *The Great Western Railway at War*. All are welcome.



Radyr & Morganstown Indoor Bowls Club (The RAMS)

This club meets every Wednesday and Saturday afternoon and evening at Morganstown Village Hall. We are a very friendly club for both men and ladies.

We play occasional matches against local indoor clubs, have our own competitions and special fun nights where sometimes we are prepared to make fools of ourselves.

Previous experience of bowling is not necessary – there are plenty of members willing to let you borrow their bowls and give advice – not always necessarily the best!

Why not come and try your hand at a new experience – you may even enjoy yourself. Why not try before you buy!

The only thing we ask is that you wear shoes (slippers) without a deep heel.

If you would like any further information give our secretary Jerry a ring at 029 2084 3387. Or you could have a look at our web page at www.ibc.radyr.org.uk

We look forward to seeing you soon.

NEWS FROM RADYR & MORGANSTOWN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

It is probably true to say that there are few people in the UK who have NOT heard of the Women's Institute. Whether they have any idea of how the organisation is run and of our aims and aspirations is another matter. Those of us involved know only too well how the WI is sometimes held up as a representation of so called middle class, stuck in the mud, staid and reluctant to change values. There may be some truth in that from certain quarters and in the right place, a maintenance of high standards is to be admired, but the Women's Institute of today is so much more than a set of traditions and historical habits. In fact, t'was ever thus. Whilst each Institute operates its own agenda, the structure and proceedings are pretty much determined by the guiding principles set down by the National Federation. This means that locally, each Institute has a certain amount of autonomy but at the same time, adheres to the procedures that mould us all into one organisation. This is best demonstrated at the AGM held each June at either the Royal Albert Hall in London or at a regional venue – as long as it has the capacity to cope with up to 6000 members! There is no doubt that the sound of William Parry's Jerusalem, sung with feeling by so many female voices, is a 'hair on the back of the neck' moment and without exception, those who have witnessed this spectacle have described it as a very emotional experience.

Each year a delegate is chosen to attend the AGM as a representative of their own or of a group of local Institutes and can be joined by fellow members, who have no voting rights, but are there just for enjoyment. In June, Maureen Morgan from Radyr and Morganstown was present at the Royal Albert Hall to vote on behalf of ourselves and the other members of our local Link group – Pontcanna, Tongwynlais and Taff's Well; Treforgan Women's Institutes. Afterwards, she sent written reports

to Pontcanna, Tongwynlais and Taff's Well Institutes but in our respective July meetings both Radyr and Morganstown and Treforgan were delighted to hear her personally describe a full and fascinating programme of the events in London. As well as informing us about the diverse range of speakers, the message conveyed to us by Maureen was that the WI is not only an organisation providing friendship and social activities at a local level, it also takes on serious campaigns of national and indeed, international importance. Recent issues have tackled the fight against climate change and the concerns about 'care not custody' regarding the inappropriate imprisonment of the mentally ill. More recently the WI highlighted the SOS for the survival of honeybees to maintain the pollination of flowers, trees and plants.

It is this combination of national and local that binds the WI into a cohesive and flexible organisation that, in the UK, is enjoyed by 205,000 women of all ages. At Radyr and Morganstown our meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Old Church Rooms. Although these monthly get-togethers provide the focus of our attention, we have also formed four book groups who meet on a monthly basis, a walking group and a Canasta group who each meet weekly, plus a lunch/supper club which convenes three to four times a year. From September this year, Mary Thompson, shall we say one of our more senior members, has worked amazingly hard to organise an art and craft group which promises to produce all manner of delightful and beautiful objects and plans are afoot to start a flower arranging class.

Besides this, we like to maintain a high profile in the village and many of you supported us at the Spring Market we held to raise funds for the Dan-y-Bryn Cheshire Home. We were delighted to hand over the amazing sum of £2,300. to this local charity to assist in their renovation works. Our usual annual contribution during Radyr Festival week is to provide May Day teas and

a stall at the Fete and this is much appreciated.

The pattern of our meetings is fairly well established. Since the last edition of Radyr Chain, we have welcomed Brian Davies, the Curator of Pontypridd Museum who gave us a very entertaining insight into the life and times of William Edwards, Bridge Builder. Then in July the meeting was organised by two of our newer members, Sarah Rogers and Emma Thomas. This traditionally (yes, even we can get stuck in a rut!) has a social element and includes refreshments of some kind or another so, after hearing Matt Wyatt from the National Leadership and Innovation Agency (NLIAH) speak about "Passing the Baton" concerning effective hospital discharge planning, we were treated to some pink bubbly liquid and nibbles!

After a break in August, we returned in September to hear Beverley Humphreys, the singer, delight us with amusing stories and anecdotes from her career and those of other famous personalities. She spoke about how many of the opportunities in her life, personal as well as professional, seemed to have occurred by happy chance or as she described it, under the influence of serendipity. Although Beverley also included some more thought provoking and serious points in her talk, the mood of the evening was decidedly light-hearted.

We are again looking forward to holding our Birthday Party at Radyr Golf Club at the beginning of October. Institute business will of necessity precede the celebrations but will not impede too much on our enjoyment of what promises to be another successful evening.

Ladies, should any of the aforementioned whet your appetite we are always pleased to welcome new members. Please telephone either Lesley Hall (President) on 029 2084 3630 or Val Convery (Secretary) on 029 2020 6130. Details of our meetings can also be found on the Radyr and Morganstown website at www.radyr.org.co.uk

SHEILA ADAM



RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S COLUMNS

Radyr & Morganstown Community Council, The Old Church Rooms, Park Rd., Radyr, Cardiff, CF15 8DF.
Tel: 029 2084 2213. E-Mail: clerk@radyr.org.uk
Clerk/Clerc: Helena Fox

Wales International Business Park at Junction 33 of the M4 and Shuttle bus from Radyr Station to IBP

You may be aware of a planning application for a Wales International Business Park (IBP) to be built just north of J33 of the M4. The scheme includes offices, shops, hotels and a public transport hub for buses. The Community Council registered objection to the plans two years ago, and again recently in our submissions on Cardiff's draft Local Development Plan. We have objected to the development on the grounds that it is a green field site and will generate more traffic than local roads and communities can cope with. We have recently heard that there will be a shuttle bus from Radyr Station to the IBP, running every 15 minutes between 7am and 8pm on all the days that the IBP is operating. We have objected to the lack of consultation over the shuttle bus and the effect it will have on local traffic.

As a result of our and other's objections the decision to approve or refuse the IBP will be made by the Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing, a process that may take up to a year.

The Community Council is minded to hold a public meeting to pass on all the information we have and to gather your views. We will give plenty of notice of that meeting when arrangements are complete.

For those of you interested in the detail of the planning process, the situation is as follows. The planning application for the IBP was recommended for approval by Cardiff Council. Since the IBP is not part of the current development plan for Cardiff the application, as a 'departure' from that plan, went to the Assembly for ratification and a decision on whether it was for the Assembly or Cardiff Council to give final consent. Jane Davidson, Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing, has 'called in' the application for determination by the Welsh Ministers. The Minister considered that the application's scale and location may conflict with national policy on development in the open countryside, sustainable development and the siting and impact of new retail and office developments. It may also have an effect on regional traffic and neighbouring local authorities' development plans and is causing controversy beyond the immediate locality. The purpose of calling in the application is to ensure that these issues, which appear to the Minister to be of more than local importance, can be considered by an independent planning inspector who, after considering the application's merits, will make recommendations in due course.

As part of any large planning application there is a Section 106 Agreement. This legally binding agreement between the developer, landowner and planning authority compensates a community for any losses caused by the development. For a scheme as large as the IBP you can imagine that there is a significant S106 agreement.

For Radyr & Morganstown the S106 agreement states that a shuttle bus must be provided from Radyr Station to the IBP to enable people to travel by train and bus to and from the IBP. The S106 agreement requires a similar shuttle bus from Pontyclun and other bus services between the IBP and Cardiff, Swansea, Barry and the Valleys. However, should a service have no value in terms of passenger numbers and/or traffic management, then it may be cancelled.

Helena Fox – Clerk



The weather summary - by John Trenchard

The twentieth century climatologist, Professor Hubert Lamb, demonstrated that, averaged over a large period of years, anticyclones (high pressure systems) and the settled weather they bring occur more frequently in September than at any time after May. Even more remarkable, the incidence of low pressure over the British Isles reaches its lowest point of the year just before the middle of September. The second week of September is one of the driest of the year in central and eastern England. This year's September has given us a perfect example of this pattern.

Here in Cardiff our rainfall was 32.6mm spread over the first three days, then a mostly dry spell. Writing this article on the 15th September, these three wet days were followed by only one rain day with 1.9mm on the 6th, with the prospect of more dry days to come as high pressure is likely to continue to affect the British Isles.

But what about our 2009 summer? Quite a good start with only ten rain days in June (109.1mm 133%), however a very wet July (217.6mm 272%) with 24 rain days, but a better August (91.1mm 89%) with eighteen rain days where 25.4 millimetres (mm) = one inch. A very wet day on 6th June with 68.0mm. July was the wettest month since before 1990, wetter than the 211.5mm in 2007 and only thirteen wetter months since October 1989. The summer rainfall (June, July and August) was 417.8 158% in 2009, 395.0mm 150% in 2008 and 424.5mm 161% in 2007, whilst the 1971-2000 average is only 262.0mm.

Summer temperatures have been below the 1971-200 average for the last three years. What has happened to global warming! It is linked to the low sunspot activity. Taking the average of the day time maximum temperature and the night time minimum air temperature, there was 16.7C minus 0.5C in 2009, 16.5C minus 0.7C in 2009 and 16.9C minus 0.3C in 2007.

TY HAFAN

Imagine you've just been told your child will die before adulthood. What would you do? Who would you turn to? How would you cope?

Unimaginable isn't it? It's every parent's unspoken nightmare that for some becomes a dreadful reality. But for life-limited children, young people and their families in Wales, there is comfort and a helping hand.

It's called Ty Hafan.

Ty Hafan is the family hospice for young lives. We offer comfort, care and support for life-limited children and young people and we are dedicated to improving the quality of life of the whole family. From diagnosis to bereavement and beyond, we take our support right into the heart of the family home, completely free of charge to families from across Wales who need it.

None of the children and young people who use Ty Hafan's services are expected to survive beyond 19 years old. Some of their conditions are diagnosed at birth; others learn of the diagnosis after perhaps many years of a life-limiting condition. Some conditions remain undiagnosed.

Ty Hafan also accepts children with cancer where the child is no longer responding to treatment. However, fortunately very few of the children and young people who visit Ty Hafan have cancer, due to the success of current treatments.

Ty Hafan currently cares for 177 children, young people and their families from all parts of south Wales. We offer short breaks at our hospice in Sully to give families desperately-needed time out and relief, as well as support outside the hospice, at home and in the community. We also provide bereavement support to a further 130 families whose children have sadly died.

The hospice creates a home-from-home environment where children, young people and their families can feel "normal" and free to talk about their common experiences and fears.

Each of the ten bedrooms at the hospice are set up to the liking of the child or

young person, with suitable duvet covers, pictures and toys, so that each time they visit they feel they are coming back to their own room. All the bedrooms have their own facilities and access to the rear garden which overlooks the sea.

We also offer accommodation for the rest of the family should they wish to stay, including siblings and even grandparents.

Other facilities include a family-sized hydrotherapy pool, soft play and multisensory rooms. The music room is equipped with almost every instrument you can think of including a machine called 'sound beam' where a child can make music from the smallest movement like the flutter of an eyelid.

The computer room is well used, particularly by teenagers, who also have their own den equipped with the very latest in games consoles, flat-screen TV and pool table. This is their own space where they can "hang out" with their friends just like other young people.

But Ty Hafan is more than just a place. The Family Support team has been the fastest growing of all the services offered by Ty Hafan. Increasingly, we are providing more and more family support at home and working with other professionals, special needs teachers and social workers. Since 2002 the team has grown from one person to a team of six who each look after approximately 50-60 families.

This year is very special for Ty Hafan as we are celebrating our tenth birthday since first opening our doors to families in 1999.

We have worked with hundreds of families over the past ten years and seen the service develop from one which is purely hospice-focused to being a holistic, whole-family support network. We are able to reach out to families wherever they are in Wales and the number of families needing our help grows all the time, making Ty Hafan more vital today than ever before.

This year we would like to commemorate the lives of those we have helped, celebrate our success in enabling so many children and young people to live their lives to the full –

however short – and say a huge thank you to the tens of thousands of people who have made our work possible through their fundraising, volunteering and donations, without which there would be no Ty Hafan.

Furthermore, with costs increasing every year, no guaranteed statutory government funding and an annual running bill in the millions of pounds, the generosity of individual donors, schools, businesses and organisations is essential to the survival of Ty Hafan.

We are therefore delighted to have been chosen to benefit from next year's Radyr Festival and look forward to working with the committee to ensure another successful event.

Lorraine Rees

Head of Community Fundraising
Ty Hafan

For more information on Ty Hafan or how you can help, visit
www.tyhafan.org

Dear Editor,

During April and May, on my visits to the Library I was intrigued to see beautiful fabric banners, a tent, a throne, suits of armour, a moat and many other medieval artefact appearing.

On Friday 28th May all was revealed – a Medieval Happening. The Library had become a castle and fort. In the grounds were stocks enabling the miscreants to be pelted by lumps of foam rubber, and a huge dragon, which could be fed with foam pieces. There were two splendid horses for jousting. All these were made by Anne and Debbie, mostly from cardboard boxes.

There were activities, eg. Making a medieval hat, shield and sword, also story sessions. The 'Pièce de résistance' was a real live knight in his chainmail armour.

Many mums, dads and children had a wonderful time, some children coming in costume for which there was a prize for the best.

Debbie and Anne were also in costume which they had made. At the end of the morning the children were issued with a 'Vellum' scroll and seal, listing their activities.

The whole 'happening' represented a lot of hard work, flair and enthusiasm on behalf of Anne and Debbie in giving their own free time to the project.

Are we not lucky to have such dedicated and inspiring girls in our library? Congratulations for a fantastic project.

Your faithfully, M. G. Thompson (Mrs.)

"Christmas Cards"

*I have a list of friends I know all written in a book,
And every year at Christmas time I go and take a look.
And that is when I realize that these names are a part
Not of the book there written in, but of my heart.
For each name stands for someone who has crossed my path
sometimes,
And in that meeting, they've become the "rhythm in the rhythm".
And, while it sounds fantastic for me to make this claim,
I really feel I am surprised of such remembered names.
And while you may not be aware of any special link,
just meeting you has shaped my life more than you can think.
For once you've met somebody, the years cannot erase
the memory of a pleasant word or a friendly face.
So never think that Christmas Cards are just a mere routine,
Of names upon a Christmas list, forgotten in between.
For when I send a Christmas card that is addressed to you,
It becomes you're on the list of folks I'm indebted to.
For you are part of the many folks that I have met,
And you happen to be one of those I prefer not to forget.
And whether I have known you for many years or few,
In some way, you have had a part of shaping things I do.
And every year when Christmas comes, I realize even,
The biggest gift that life can give is meeting friends like you.
And may the spirit of Christmas that for me and me endures,
Lend its richest blessings in the hearts of you and yours.*

(found on one of last years Christmas cards, author unknown)

BATTERY RECYCLING

As many of you will know there has been a collection service for used domestic batteries from two shops in the village. The response to this service has been outstanding and is obviously filling a gap that is not provided by the authorities. The batteries are collected by a volunteer and taken for re-cycling at the Waungron Tip.

Despite approaches to the City Council, no steps have been taken to incorporate the collection of these batteries into the weekly collection of refuse and re-cyclables; indeed, their response has been condescending and indifferent.

On various visits to the continent, we have noticed that many shops have facilities for the collection of used batteries, indeed on one of the more remote Greek Islands, such facilities existed.

We quite fail to understand why such facilities are not available here and we invite a response from the appropriate County Councillor as to why this should be so.

Letter to the Editor...

re: Battery Recycling

A response from Cardiff City Council

Dear Editor,

It is disappointing to here that the Radyr Chain feels Cardiff are not tackling the use of battery recycling seriously. We have made facilities available at the HWRCs, not only do we collect the domestic batteries and car batteries, we also collect all electronic equipment that contains batteries. It is not practicable or currently financially viable to such a tiny element (grams per household per year) of the waste stream. A recent Waste Resource Action Programme study into methods of collecting batteries for recycling found that doorstep collections and post back schemes were not a viable method of collection due to such small volumes collected. Also, once separated from the domestic waste stream, batteries are classed as "hazardous waste" and require strict licensed controls for the storage, transport and disposal, hence restricting the options for collection to HWRC sites.

The batteries directive places the onus for recycling squarely with the producers and not the local authority. However, the legislation is still under debate and once this has been completed the Council will be able to formulate a future strategy as we are committed to diverting waste from landfill.

Responsible householders can take their batteries to the HWRCs or check with their local electrical retailers on what take back schemes are available.

Green shoots of recovery as ethical retailer expands

Switching from disposable to real nappies can help save parents up to £500 a year.

Local mum, Rhian Green from Radyr became aware of the environmental issues concerning disposable nappies when she had her first child 5 years ago. She set up mamigreen in 2007 to help advise parents who wanted to use cloth nappies on their children.

Mamigreen has expanded over the last year and Rhian, who is now expecting her third baby has now made it easier for new Mums and Dads by setting up www.mamigreen.co.uk which provides nappy advice and an opportunity to buy online cloth nappies and related products.

Siân from the Real Nappy Development Officer for Sustainable Wales said:

'It's great to see a local green business making it easier for local parents to save money and be kind to the environment by showing just how washable nappies have changed into cute, cool, fashionable nappies that are easy to use and wash'.

Parents are no strangers to the expensive world of bringing up babies, but some parents are proving that there are opportunities to reduce waste and save money during these gloomy economic times. At a time when many families are looking for extra ways to save money mamigreen is there to help and advise on cloth nappies and related products.

Catrin Thomas, mum to 2 month old Alys comments, 'After a really useful cloth nappy demonstration at my home, Rhian helped me choose the right nappy for Alys and our lifestyle. I will save hundreds of pounds over the next few years, with the added benefit of being environmentally friendly too'.

Real Facts on Real Nappies

In Wales an estimated 200 million



disposable nappies are thrown away each year - 400 nappies every minute

A potty trained baby will have got through around 4,000-6,000 nappies

Using cloth nappies can be up to half the cost of disposables - and they can be reused with subsequent children to save even more

Families with one baby could cut their waste in half by choosing to use cloth nappies

One baby's disposable nappies from its nappy years will fill around 156 black rubbish bags

Rachel Jowitt, spokesperson for Waste Awareness Wales said:

"Convenient and easy to use, real nappies have come a long way since towelling and safety pins. They're nappy shaped, fasten with poppers or fabric fasteners and are available in bright colours and designs including animal prints, hearts, and even the Welsh flag. There's also no need to boil wash or tumble dry them - they can be put in the washing machine and hung on

the line, making them very easy to use."

Why not visit www.mamigreen.co.uk or contact Rhian on 029 20842038 or at post@mamigreen.co.uk for more information.



RADYR CRICKET CLUB YOUTH ACTIVITIES AT THE RIVERSIDE GROUND.



Under 7s Tuesday 5.30pm



Under 11s Tuesday 6.30pm



Under 9s Friday 6.30pm

Under 13s Thursday 6.30pm

Under 15s Monday 6.30pm

One has to admire the dedicated youth policy at Radyr Cricket Club. Youth numbers are now in the hundreds. They cater for all age groups of 7 year olds to Senior level. Every weekday evening a host of youngsters enjoy their cricket. The photograph shows some of the youngsters that enjoy their cricket, under the guidance of trained coaches, who freely give up their time to ensure that correct cricket skills are taught at an early age. If you would like to know more contact the Youth Secretary Bethan Devonald Email devonald@bdl-europe.com Or ring Tony Butlin Tel No 07734 151147 Email tonybutlin@btinternet.com

RADYR CRICKET CLUB ~ A HISTORY

The Cricket Club was founded in 1890, played in Morganstown and in a field behind the church in Radyr before obtaining a permanent home.

Mr. H.F. Grover of "Fairfield", Heol Isaf, a Solicitor, he was a very keen cricketer who probably did more than anyone to establish cricket in Radyr. He played for Radyr for many years and was club captain. The picture below shows him as captain of Radyr in 1907.



The present ground and the pavilion were opened on Whit Monday in June, 1908 by courtesy of the Earl of Plymouth, who leased land for the Club. Miss Peggy Grover, a pretty young girl and daughter of H.F. Grover, opened the pavilion with a silver key presented to her by the builder, Mr. J. Harry. Mr. H.F. Grover provided an excellent lunch in a large marquee on the ground. Colonel Oakden Fisher of "Ty Mynydd" presiding thanked the Earl of Plymouth for what he had done for Radyr, Mr. H.A. Pettigrew responding to the toast of the St. Fagan's Cricket Club, regretting the absence of the Earl. The Rector, the Rev. David Phillips, proposed a toast to the Chairman. The first game on the new ground was held on the Whit Monday. Radyr XVI (60) v St. Fagans (66).

With H.F. Grover's death in 1922 membership dwindled. A meeting was held in 1928 at the Radyr Church Rooms, which resulted in a merger with the Garth Cricket Club who had lost their ground at Morganstown when the Lewis family sold Tynant House about 1926/27.

The new club was known as Radyr and Garth C.C. and was formed under the chairmanship of the Rector of Radyr,

the Rev. J. Edwards. The club flourished until disrupted by the 1939-45 war.

After the war, the club became Radyr Cricket Club again and played friendly cricket for a number of seasons.

Memories of the cricket club some fifty years ago: The club ran only one team. There had been a rule that only people who lived or had been born in Radyr and Morganstown were able to be

members, then two outsiders were allowed just before I joined and the club became open to anyone. You entered the ground on the way to the pavilion by way of a potholed track, on the line of the present driveway, to the right of which you could still see the outline of the bowling green which had been abandoned after the 39/45 war. There were still members playing who had reclaimed the ground from a field used by cows during the war - the pavilion had been a cowshed. The machinery was so ancient that it was dark by the time they got it to work.

The pavilion was the original building. It was wood framed with wooden panelling inside and outside corrugated walls and roof. It was one long area inside, one end of which had been partitioned off as two changing rooms which were divided by a wood partition which didn't go up to the roof, so one had to be careful what one said about the opposition as it was possible to hear what was said in the other dressing room.

The changing rooms barely held a team and their kit. The main room was furnished with wooden tables and chairs. One of the tables had a draw in which was a letter from the great W.G. Grace in answer to a letter asking for advice regarding the pitch, in which the great man advised rolling and more rolling. Sadly this letter was lost in the fire.

There was a lean-to at the back where teas were prepared by a wonderful team

of ladies throughout the years. The walls were painted white and were lined with old photographs, all of which and other records were destroyed in the later fire. In the front was a veranda supported by wooden pillars, with a concrete floor.

The pavilion inside had a wooden floor, the floorboards had been turned and replaced due to wear. Not long after I joined, the floor was replaced with a base of railway sleepers on which new floorboards were nailed. At the rear of the building a toilet block in brick had recently been built, which could be entered from the corner of the pavilion. This block was the only part of the pavilion standing after the later fire. The outside of the pavilion was painted white with a red (rusty) roof.

There were no washing facilities - hence the players had to dry themselves just with towelling.

This old building grew on you. It had a character of its own and was, over the years, beloved by a host of players. Gallons of paint had been painted on its walls, roof and floor over the years, no doubt helping to add to the later fire.



All that remains is the chard piece mounted on the wall of the new pavilion above the honours boards.

No history would be complete without a tribute to those wonderful tea ladies, who have made and served teas at Radyr. We thank them all. The picture shows the ladies of '52.

Mrs. A. Smith, F. Lowrie, P. Sampson, Aldridge, Holland, Kinsey and M. Leaves.

The above photo appears in the book "Cricket in Wales. An Illustrated History" by Andrew Hignell and in *The Radyr Cricket Club Centenary Brochure*.