

## BRYN DERI PRIMARY END OF TERM REPORT

Another hectic term for everyone here at Bryn Deri.

The snow at the beginning of the term caused problems (but was greatly enjoyed by the children).

### Events

We have had a number of visitors and events in school. These have been Scientific Drama productions "Funky Junk" and "Robokids", the Infant children enjoyed Chinese New Year with workshops on Chinese life and culture. XL Wales also ran workshops for all our children to help develop their Science and Technology skills. Year 6 visited GE Healthcare and found out all about fingerprinting.

Our St. David's Day Eisteddfod was a great event – the children and staff worked so hard – it was a really exciting morning. Another highly successful occasion was a Music Marathon. Miss Berry, our music co-ordinator organised a very full day of events involving all the children, these included visiting ensembles and workshops arranged by students from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama as well as our own musicians showcasing their talents and the orchestra and choir performing. Everyone enjoyed the day and money raised will go towards buying new musical instruments.

### Charitable Giving

Bryn Deri has not been idle also in fundraising this term. £331.03. was raised for the Haiti Appeal when we had an "Odd Socks Day", £386.89 to Danybryn Cheshire Home for the readability challenge, £128.20 selling daffodils for Marie Curie Cancer Care and £150. for selling Easter Chicks for Velindre Hospital.

### Travel to School

We now have a green cone system operating out side school and have a bike shelter constructed with the help of a grant from Sustrans and the PTA. We hope more children will leave the car behind and cycle or walk to school whenever possible.

### ECO News

Our ECO committee have not been idle. They have been encouraging us to save energy and consider the environment. They have been organising everyone involved in school life to make pledges on how we can do something to be more ecologically friendly.

*So you can see we have had yet another action packed and enjoyable term.*



## SWEENEY TODD

Members of the cast gather around Hector the dog as he attacks Sweeney Todd (Roger Page). The Life size puppet has been made and operated by puppet master Dave Burgess.

Hector plays an important part in the early part of the story as he is owned by a seaman, Thornhill, who is the first person the audience know to have been "polished off" by Sweeney Todd. It is the dog that prompts the search that brings in the magistrate and the police and ultimately leads to the detention of Sweeney Todd.

The version to be performed at Morganstown Village Hall has been especially adapted by Allan Cook from the original "penny shocker". The novel first came out in instalments which were sold for a penny, hence the name "penny shocker". Written in the 1850's, it is officially attributed to Anonymous and scholars can see the hands of at least three hacks in its writing. It became an overnight success and was adapted for the theatre very soon after it was completed. It still holds a favoured place in theatre today and it has been adapted into a musical by Stephen Sondheim, which has recently been made into a film starring Johnny Depp.

In some ways a "who done it" gives a wonderful insight into the London of the

1850's, from magistrates to privately owned mental asylums; from pudding shops to the Inns of Court. Some scholars compare it favourably with the work of Dickens, which has many similarities, although Sweeney Todd has a dark humour rarely found in Dickens.

There will be four performances of Sweeney Todd at Morganstown Village Hall – Wednesday to Friday, 21-23 April at 7.30pm and on Saturday, 24 April at 2.30pm. Tickets £7.00., concessions £6.00., students £5.00. from Veg Vendor, Station Road, Radyr; Allan Cook 2084 3176 or Nick Hawkins 2084 2561.



# RADYR CHAIN

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown



Number 187

April 2010

## A NEW LIBRARY FOR RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN

An opportunity exists for a purpose-built 21st century library for Radyr and Morganstown. The project is being led by Cllr. Rod McKerlich with the support of the Community Council (R&MCC) and Radyr and Morganstown Association (RMA).

The purpose of this article is to give you as much information as we have and ask you to let us know where you would prefer the new library to be. There are two possible sites and both have pros and cons which we set out below. The choice is between the existing site in Park Road, Radyr and a new site on the designated 'Community Plot' on De Clare Drive, Radyr Sidings.

Cardiff Council has £600,000. in its capital budget for a new library and there is another £400,000. in community gain money from the developer of the Sidings. This should cover almost the whole cost. The community gain (or S106) money must be spent by October 2012 which means that any decision should be made quickly so that we do not lose the £400,000.

A little background on the Radyr Sidings site: when planning consent was given for the housing development at Radyr Sidings, a plot of land was set aside for either a health centre or library

and cannot legally be used for anything else. With a new health centre open, we know that this land can only be used for a library. If not, it will revert to the developer and be used for housing. With some 530 households at Radyr Sidings this new part of our community makes up one in six of all households in R&M.

Below are the pros and cons for both sites:

### Existing : Park Road, Radyr

#### Pros

- The library has been on this site for some thirty years and is well established in the centre of the community.
- Convenient for use by Radyr Primary School opposite.
- On a bus route.
- Cardiff Council has a costed plan for a building a little over half as big again as the existing library.
- Village Plan Questionnaire: most respondents wanted the library to stay at Park Road.

#### Cons

- During construction of a new library there will be no library service for fifteen months at least.
- During construction traffic congestion in Park Road will be severe.
- No new parking will be provided with the new building.

## FIND YOUR FREE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME INSIDE...

- Planning objections may be raised by neighbours which could delay construction.
- The existing site constrains the new building because of its limited size and shared ownership with the NHS who own the old health centre.
- Does not spread R&M's facilities into a major new part of our community at the Sidings.
- The community plot at the Sidings will be lost to the community and returned to the developer for more housing.

### Community plot at De Clare Drive, Radyr Sidings

#### Pros

- Clean clear site for faster construction.
- Bigger site than at Park Road with opportunities for a larger library with more community facilities: approximately two to three times the size of the old library.
- Parking spaces will be included.
- A new facility in a new part of the community will help to integrate the whole of R&M.

*Please turn to page 5*



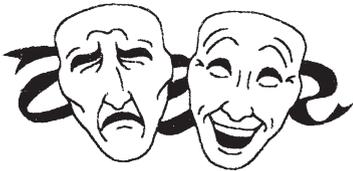
## Ellis, Laura, Catherine and Mia Fundraise for Haiti

On Sunday 28th February Ellis O'Connor, Laura Chappelle, Catherine Liguz and Mia O'Connor rode their bikes from Radyr to Cardiff Bay and back to raise money for the Haiti Earthquake Appeal, a round trip of 14 miles. On the way passers-by threw money into their bucket. So far they have raised £124.00.

### Want to Sponsor us?

Visit [www.justgiving/ellis-and-katie](http://www.justgiving/ellis-and-katie). We are collecting for the D.E.C. Disasters Emergency Committee.

## COMING EVENTS



**N.B. Details of all coming events can be found in the Diary section of the website [www.Radyr.org.uk](http://www.Radyr.org.uk)**

### APRIL

- 9 Treforgan WI Craft Group, Morganstown Village Hall (Back room) Wander in any time between 9.00 and 12.00. Bring your own mug. Craft of your choosing. Info Sue Scanlon 029 20212651 9:00 am
- 14 Radyr and Morganstown Conservatives. The Thatch, 128 Heol Isaf Radyr. Coffee morning in the home of Mrs Mary Read; tickets £2 from Lorna Clarke or Louise Rigby or Sue McKerlich (20842764) 10:30 am
- 14 Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club. New School Rooms, Christ Church. Annual General Meeting to be followed by "Britain in Bloom" with Jim Goodwin. For more information contact Richard Gregory: richardjgregory@btopenworld.com or tel 02920842084. New members always welcome 7:30
- 15 Treforgan WI. Morganstown Village Hall. Working with words' Sale of Usborne books. Warm welcome Info Sue Smith 029 20843920 1:15 pm
- 19 RMA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. Old Church Rooms, at the junction of Heol Isaf and Park Lane, Radyr. secretary@rma.radyr.org.uk Refreshments to follow. 7:30 pm
- 21 to 24 Radyr Drama Society presents Sweeney Todd. An adaptation from the original "penny shocker" by Allan Cook. Morganstown Village Hall. Wed-Fri at 7-30 Saturday at 2-30. Tickets. £7, £6 concessions, £5 students. from Veg Vendor, Station Road, Radyr, Allan Cook 20 843 176 Nick Hawkins 20 842 561
- 30 Twinning Fellowship present an evening of FESTIVAL Jazz in Rene's Cafe' Time to be announced shortly. Old Church Rooms Park Road Radyr Live Jazz Band 'Cube' light supper and licenced Bar. Tickets from: Maggie Roberts 2084 2995 and Caroline Williams 2084 2250 details will follow shortly

### MAY

- 1 Festival Fete Celebrity opening by Dave Brookes (Real Radio) and Festival Queen. Old Church Rooms, Park Road, following the Roald Dahl procession which starts at the Methodist Hall at 11:30. Come and enjoy the Fete. Lots of stalls, food, music, displays, competitions, games, bouncy castle, activities by Radyr Youth Club, and much more. Free entry. 12:00 pm
- 1 City of Cardiff (M&G) Brass Band present a Festival Gala Concert with guest Artists ...details to follow At Morganstown Village Hall...7.30pm. Doors open 7pm. Tickets priced at £7.00 and £6.00 for concessions from: Colin Evans 2084 2381 or Maggie Roberts 2084 2995
- 3 FESTIVAL CROWNING CEREMONY. Windsor Gardens, Windsor Road (opposite the Methodist Church). Come and see the R&M Festival Queen crowned. Maypole dancing and other performances. Have a go yourself! Refreshments provided by the WI available in the Methodist Hall. 2:00 pm
- 3 MORGANSTOWN VILLAGE HALL Childrens Festival Tea Party. Morganstown Village Hall Heol Syr Lewis with professional childrens entertainer. A small entry charge will be made, to this will be announced soon..open to all children of Primary School age and under, Mums and dads welcome More details phone Janet Thomas 2084 4522 4:30
- 4 Twinning Fellowship Festival Boules Tournament. Radyr Comprehensive School Hockey Pitch. 6.30pm for 7pm start. Teams of 4 people £6.00 per team. Licensed bar on site. Register before 7pm or

- phone Maggie on 02920 842995 to book in advance or e-mail team details to jumelagestphilbert@hotmail.co.uk 6:30 pm
- 5 FESTIVAL THEATRE. BURTON. Rhodri Miles brings his highly acclaimed show about Richard Burton from the 2009 Edinburgh Festival and immediately prior to a visit to the first Hollywood Fringe Festival. Morganstown Village Hall. Tickets £8, concessions £7, those in full time education £4, from Allan Cook, 2084 3176, Nick Hawkins, 2084 2561, or Veg Vendor, Station Road. With the support of the Arts Council of Wales Night Out Scheme. 7:30 pm
- 6 Tenovus Quiz. New School Rooms, Christchurch, Radyr. Tickets £6 to include light supper. Bar. Please tel marilyn Wills 20842197 7:30 pm
- 7 AN EVENING WITH GILLIAN CLARKE. Gillian was born in Cardiff and is the current National Poet for Wales. Old Church Rooms, Park Road. Tickets. £5, concessions £4, from Allan Cook, 2084 3176, Nick Hawkins, 2084 2561, or Veg Vendor, Station Road. With the support of Academi. (10% reduction to full price tickets to Academi members) 7:30 pm
- 8 SIDINGS SIZZLER. Come and join in with all sorts of activities, including Dance, Drama, Graffiti, Circus Skills, Craft and loads of food for 11-18s plus wine tasting and other activities more specifically for over 18s. Events throughout the day. Community Area, Lychgate Gardens, Radyr Sidings. A new Festival event. Free entry. (Note that parking at this venue is limited; you are encouraged to walk if at all possible.) Sponsored by Taylor-Wimpey. 12:00 pm
- 10 Radyr & Morganstown Women's Institute Resolutions Meeting. Old Church Rooms. Please note the date meeting date changed to accommodate Radyr Festival events. 7:30 pm
- 11 Festival Cool School Boules. Start time 4pm between teams from Bryn Deri & Radyr Primary Schools. Bryn Deri School playing field. Children, parents, staff and Govenors teams needed from each school. No charge. Spectators welcome. Details from jumelagestphilbert@hotmail.co.uk 4:00
- 12 LUNCHTIME CONCERT, with ZOE TODD, mezzo-soprano, and Christopher Gould piano. Methodist Church, Windsor Road. Tickets £7, concessions £6, from Allan Cook, 2084 3176, Nick Hawkins, 2084 2561, or Veg Vendor, Station Road. With the support of the Arts Council of Wales Night Out Scheme. 12:45 pm
- 12 Beetle Drive. Radyr Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen. Tickets £1 to include refreshments. Pay on the door. 6 -7.30pm. Further details contact Julie Davies 20842923 6:00 pm
- 15 CONCERT IN THE PARK. Repeating last year's popular open air concert, kicking off with Radyr Big Band and supported by local youth bands including the new Forte Rock Band and the all girl band 'Funky Dragons'. Until dusk! Play Area, Parc Radur. Free entry. Bring a rug. Soft drinks bar and BBQ available or bring your own picnic and join the party. Sponsored by Taylor-Wimpey 2:00 pm
- 16 SKATE-OFF. Come and see a fantastic demonstration of skateboarding and BMX biking skills. Skateboard Park, Mound Field, Morganstown. Free entry. For details, contact Clare Barnett, 2084 3177. 12:00 pm
- 16 FAMILY FUN AFTERNOON. An afternoon of fun for families, incl organised games, Junior 5 a-side football and netball competitions, and the Festival Dog Show. 'The Arena' (MUGA), Morganstown (access from Maes y Fioled). Free entry to the field. Contact Val Allen, 2084 2579 for Dog Show details. 2:00 pm
- 21 Bi -Annual Twinning Exchange with St.Philbert Du Grand Lieu Friday 21st until Monday 24th May 2010 Join us to celebrate 25 years since the signing of the Friendship Charter between our communities. St Philbert De Grand Lieu Jumelage visit Radyr for the Bi-Annual exchange If you are interested in hosting please contact Maggie 2084 2995 To join the Twinning Fellowship contact Maggie 2084 2995 or Caroline 2084 2250 6:30 pm

## EDITORIAL



The current 'Hot Topic' being the proposed removal of the Library to a site on the Sidings Development, we wonder what are the advantages to the community in so doing.

The present library is much used by pupils of Radyr Primary School, Bryn Deri, The Latch Key Club, Park Road Nursery and the residents of Danybryn Cheshire Home, amongst others.

Access to the proposed new building can only be by car or on foot; so far as we are aware there is no likelihood of a bus service being introduced in the immediate future and it is quite a daunting walk from the centre of the village, particularly during winter.

It may be that when a new building is up and running that a fresh community of library goers will evolve, but that is in the realm of speculation. Despite the result of the Survey in The Village Plan, there is a voting form accompanying this edition, so do make your preference known.

There is a letter in our correspondence regarding the fouling of streets and public places by dogs. We urge dog owners to clean up after their pets and avoid the unpleasantness of coping with such insanitary mess.

## CARELESS PARKING

*Dear Editor,*

I am writing to ask the residents of Radyr, when parking on the roadside, please do not park on the pavements as this is obstructing pedestrians.

Every day I walk down Heol Isaf to the Nursery at the Old Church Rooms with a pushchair and a walking toddler and very often because of the cars that park on the pavement, I cannot get through and have to walk on the very busy road.

I am sure no-one is doing it on purpose, but please in future, park legally and think of those poor mums trying to safely get their little ones to nursery!

Thank you! Diolch!  
Rhian Green

Letters, articles, reports and other contributions are invited and should be submitted by May 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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## A NEW LIBRARY FOR RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN

*continued from front cover:*

- No loss of library service during construction.
- Convenient for Radyr Comprehensive School.
- Cardiff Council will still own the Park Road site which might have a new use or be sold.
- Village Plan Questionnaire: most respondents wanted a new community space which this larger building could provide.

### Cons

- No costed plans to date.
- Currently, no bus service planned.
- Not central to the whole community and far to walk for some residents.

If you would like to express your preference for either of these sites, please complete the reply with this article and return it to the Old Church Rooms or email to the address provided.

The Community Council and the RMA have discussed these alternate sites and feel that the better site is at the Sidings. It is important to spread our community facilities throughout R&M and there is a chance to do that. R&M has grown and changed dramatically in the last ten years and both the RMA and R&MCC strongly encourage the integration of the new areas with the long-standing ones. As a community we have outgrown Park Road library and a much larger library would be used the widest range of community members and could provide meeting rooms and exhibition space for everyone to use. The community plot at the Sidings will become housing if the new library is built on Park Road and the RMA and Community Council feel that this would be a serious loss to the community as a whole and the people who live at the Sidings in particular.

We have an exciting opportunity for a 21st century library and community space and we look forward to the official opening as soon as we can make it happen.

Please complete the reply slip in this issue of *Radyr Chain* to let us know what you think by 1st May.

**Radyr & Morganstown Community Council**

**Radyr & Morganstown Association**

*Dear Editor,*

## Relocation of Radyr Library

I wonder if you and most of your readers are aware that on 25th February, 2010 Radyr Community Council resolved unanimously to support the building of a new library on the community site at Radyr Sidings.

The Minutes of that Meeting also state that "It is recognised that the reasons for this decision will need to be explained fully to the local community".

Well, yes – I think that's right. After all, the Community Council's own Village Plan Survey recently asked residents if they were in favour of a new library being built, or whether they preferred the existing one to be refurbished, or whether they had no preference. 71% (that's 529 out of 739 respondents) were in favour of refurbishment. The other 210 were evenly split between new build and no preference.

When these preferences were broken down into local areas, it emerged that 76% of the respondents from the Sidings were in favour of refurbishment of the existing library. So even the people who live there do not think it would be a good locality for a library.

Why then are the Community Council and the Community Association both in favour of relocating the library away from the existing Primary Schools, away from the great majority of adult users, to a site on the periphery of the built up area?

Well, from what I can gather from the Council and Association Minutes, it has something to do with the Local Health Authority, which shares the existing library's site, putting obstacles in the way of refurbishment, for which Cardiff County Council has already earmarked a budget of £950,000. (Association's Minutes of 30th November, 2009).

It also has to do with the fact that there is no other permitted community use for the "community Plot" down at the Sidings development under our arcane Planning Laws. As I understand it, this is a plot of land that the Developer, Taylor Wimpey plc is required by Planning Regulations to put aside for a pre-determined community use. They will also contribute £400,000. towards its development for community purposes. In this instance the pre-determined use was a Library or a

Health Centre. But – and it's a big But – if the community doesn't use it for one or other of those purposes, Taylor Wimpey plc get the land back to build more houses on and keep their £400,000.

Now, I can see that it is very galling to have to wave bye-bye to a plot of land and £400,000. But it would be even more galling to wave bye-bye to our magnificent new library down there on the edge of the village because not enough people were using it. For, mark my words, in the harsh financial environment that Public Services will have to exist in as we struggle our way out of economic depression, any Branch Library that is not used will be closed, or mothballed, or suchlike.

So is it really worth spite-ing the Developer's face by cutting off our own nose? Will our Primary School children learn the value of libraries and books and other publicly held learning resources if their nearest library is a coach trip away? Is there no other approach to the problem?

Maybe there isn't. Perhaps when the reasons for the Community Council's decision are fully explained to us we will applaud their far-sightedness. I do so hope that they haven't just been mesmerized by the little pot of gold waiting to be dug up on that plot of land down at the Sidings.

*Yours sincerely,*  
**Graham Pearce.**

### A WISE MOVE?

Having lived in Radyr when we had a visiting mobile library for two hours a fortnight, the opening of Radyr Library was a most welcome event.

It is a child friendly place where one can browse, use the reference section and computers and read the newspapers.

Most importantly, it has become a centre of our community; a move to the Sidings would make it inaccessible for many regular users who do not have their own transport.

E.P.

# TREFORGAN WI

We have celebrated our first birthday! In January, we had a cake with a candle, reminisced about the past year and looked forward to the next one. Through 2009, we have grown slowly but steadily, allowing time for new members to be welcomed and absorbed into our friendly atmosphere. The activities, visitors and events we have planned will ensure this continues in our second year.

In 2010, we have already been on a day trip to Denman College (the 'university' of the WI) shuddered as Ralph Vaughan told us about anaesthesia, walked the Taff Trail with other local WIs, lunched at the Tynant and continued with our craft group.

You are welcome to join us at our meeting on 10th April for a talk about 'working with words' and a sale of Usborne children's books. That will be in Morganstown Village Hall starting at 1.15pm, finishing in time to collect children from school.

Or you could meet some of us on 6th May for our informal lunch date – 12.30 at the Tynant. Or why not try our very informal craft group on 16th April or 7th May between 9am and 12 noon? It takes place in the back room of Morganstown Village Hall.

Treforgan WI is particularly looking forward to being part of the Radyr Festival in 2010. See you there on 1st May.

If you have any questions about Treforgan WI, ring Sue on 029 2084 3920.

## THE RADYR & MORGANSTOWN ASSOCIATION

*Hear what's going on. Join in. Help  
your community  
A better place to live.*

### Annual General Meeting

Monday, 19th April, 2010 7.30pm  
Old Church Rooms. Refreshments  
afterwards.

All posts open for election. Please  
send your nominations to:

Nick Hawkins (Tel 2084 2561,  
[nh7@o2.co.uk](mailto:nh7@o2.co.uk))

Liz Fraser (Tel 2084 4403,  
[secretary@rma.radyr.org.uk](mailto:secretary@rma.radyr.org.uk))

## RE-CYCLING OF BATTERIES

The collection of used batteries for re-cycling from the newsagents in Station Road will cease on 1st April.

As from then, batteries must be taken to re-cycling points in major shops such as Tesco, Sainsbury, Boots etc.

The Council will not provide a bin in the village.

### Dear Editors,

There has been, of late, an increase in illegal activities in the Radyr and Morganstown (R&M) areas. These activities have ranged from damage to property, theft, attempted burglary and email scams. The police and other bodies find it very difficult to deal with all these activities as they are all very stretched.

Many of these activities are reported at the Partnership and Community Trust (PACT) Meetings due to the link with the R&M Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. These activities are subsequently distributed very rapidly to Watch Scheme Members by email. This network has proved very advantageous to residents. In addition, several insurance companies give a discount to those who participate in the Scheme. It seems, therefore, that participating in the Scheme has many advantages.

The main reason for writing this letter is to encourage residents of R&M to join the Scheme. All that is required is to register your email with the current secretary of the Scheme or with PACT at the following email addresses

[d.cargil@ntlworld.com](mailto:d.cargil@ntlworld.com)

[ralph.vaughan@btinternet.com](mailto:ralph.vaughan@btinternet.com)

It would also be very advantageous if one resident of a street or close would be prepared to act as the coordinator. I hope that all residents will sign up as the results are of considerable advantage.

*Yours sincerely,*

**R.S. Vaughan** - Chairman of PACT.

## NSPCC

### Spring Coffee Morning

at Radyr Golf Club

on Thursday 28th April at 10.30am

Plants – Cake Stall, etc.

Tickets from Jan Doody 2084 2478  
or pay at the door.

*All Welcome*



## ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY CARDIFF CARERS INFORMATION SUPPORT AND WELLBEING BUS

Are you or do you know anyone who is caring for someone with dementia-related needs in Cardiff?

If you are, please contact me. My name is Julia Lever and I am the Information and Support worker on a very special project, the Cardiff Carer's Well-being Bus.

Our bus is funded by Cardiff City Council via the Cardiff Carers Mental Health Grant Fund and because of this, is only available to Cardiff Communities.

The Carers bus visits sixteen areas of Cardiff, Monday to Thursday on a weekly rotation basis. We cover north, south, east and west Cardiff in any one month.

The aim of the bus is to provide information and support to the carers of anyone with dementia/memory problems. Together with the advice and support we offer a course of FREE Reflexology or Indian Head Massage to the Carers, promoting stress relief, relaxation and well-being and giving them some precious time for themselves.

Anyone is welcome to come to the bus, pick up information and get support if needed, or you can just have a cup of tea and a chat. However, appointments must be made in advance for any of the treatments. The treatments are given in one of the two private and comfortable rooms on the bus. This service has been running for three years and the Carers who use the service have found it invaluable.

The dates the bus is in your area are shown below – please come and meet with us and have a look around, or book in for a treatment or just have a chat.

To book a treatment, call Julia Lever on 07872 174 336

Or 0845 24 10 987/ 029 2043 4960

Week 1

MONDAY

12 APR	9 JULY
17 MAY	16 AUG
21 JUNE	27 SEPT

OLD CHURCH, ROOMS, RADYR

# FESTIVAL 2010

## LUNCHTIME CONCERT



Zoë Todd

Continuing a series of concerts by artists who have a strong connection with Radyr and Morganstown started in 2003 by Helen Field and Jeremy Huw Williams, this year's special guest is Zoë Todd. Zoë was brought up in Pontypridd but her parents – Brian and Linda Willis – live on Heol Isaf. Zoë studied Italian and German at St. John's College Oxford before enrolling on the postgraduate opera course at the Royal Northern College of Music where she won the Annie Ridyard Scholarship.

Mezzo Soprano Zoë loves performing in opera and has performed the title role of Carmen, Cherubino in Mozart's Marriage of Figaro and Rosina in The Barber of Seville for Holland Park Opera. She is also a regular performer at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, where she created the part of Florian in Clockwork by Stephen McNeff. She has also toured with the WNO.

Zoë is an experienced concert and oratorio performer and many residents will remember her singing with the Radyr Choral Society in Mendelssohn's Elijah at Llandaff Cathedral. She has also sung in Karl Jenkins' The Armed Man at the Wales Millennium Centre and the Mozart Requiem at St. Martin's in the Field. Zoë lives in Greenwich and has two young children aged 3 and 1. She will be accompanied by Christopher Gould, piano.

The concert can be heard at Radyr Methodist Church at 12.45pm on Wednesday, 12th May. Tickets £7.00., concessions £6.00. from The Festival Box Office.

## FROM RADYR TO HOLLYWOOD

2009 was an eventful year for actor Rhodri Miles; he took his one show about the legendary Welsh actor Richard Burton to join the hundreds of other hopefuls at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. *Burton* struck a chord with critics and audiences alike at the Festival, became a total sell out and claimed a number of five star reviews.

Rhodri was born only six miles from Burton's Pontrhydyfen, so the accent should be similar, yet critic after critic went out of their way to comment on how accurately Rhodri has caught Burton. *As much as the accent, the poise and the dry Welsh humour of Rhodri Miles's performance stays with you ... [his] excellent performance struggles to remove itself from the memory*"; said the Scotsman, while the British Theatre Review called it "A masterful performance".

*Burton* follows the life of the actor in his own words, Rhodri is on stage for the whole of the 75-minute performance, rarely stopping except to recharge his glass, which he does many times during the evening. "It is the way that he cradles a glass part-filled with ice and a brown liquor in his fingers, as he would the head of a baby or a spouse in a romantic moment".

Miles' *Burton* speaks fondly of his friend Dylan Thomas and regrets the £200. he didn't lend him just weeks before Thomas' death. "His performance is wistfully rooted in earthiness of his origins. His *Burton* is full of Hollywood charm and wit".

Burton was whisked away to Hollywood as will Miles be. Just days after performing at the Radyr and Morganstown Festival, Miles will fly to Hollywood to perform *Burton* at the first Hollywood Fringe Festival. Tickets are selling fast and are £8.00., concessions £7.00. from the Festival Box Office.



Rhodri Miles

## NATIONAL POET FOR WALES



Gillian Clarke

Ann innovation to the 2009 Festival was the very successful poetry evening. In an attempt to reproduce that delightful evening, we have succeeded in persuading Gillian Clarke, one of the central figures in contemporary Welsh poetry and the current National Poet for Wales, to visit Radyr and Morganstown. The Listener said of her "There is no gaudiness in her poetry, instead the reader is aware of a generosity of spirit which allows the poem's subject their own unbullied reality".

Listening to a Gillian Clarke poem is an intensely sensual experience; her use of language "concrete as it is musical". [Times Literary Supplement].

Her poetry has widespread critical acclaim and her *Selected Poems* has gone through several editions and is studied by GCSE and A level students throughout Britain.

Gillian was brought up in Cardiff and studied English at Cardiff University. She currently lives with her architect husband on an organic smallholding in Ceredigion.

Gillian is president of Ty Newydd, the writers centre in North Wales, which she co-founded in 1990 and teaches on the M.Phil course in creative writing at the University of Glamorgan. Recent works include the poems *A Recipe for Water* (2009) and the prose collection *At the Source* (2008).

Why not come and join us for a relaxed evening with an ever-open bar, at 7.30pm on Friday, 7th May at the Old Church Rooms. Tickets £5.00., concessions £4.00., from the Festival Box Office.

## News from Radyr and Morganstown Women's Institute

February may have been short, but it was an extremely busy month for Radyr and Morganstown WI. We began with a colourful slide show entitled 'Britain in Bloom', by professional gardening expert Jim Goodwin, who initiated the Cardiff in Bloom Campaign. Our Tuesday book group was fortunate enough to hear the novelist and cookery writer Prue Leith speak at Calcot Manor and not to be outdone, the craft group made some beautiful bead necklaces after a demonstration by Kaye Edwards. President Lesley Hall was also delighted to represent us all at the official opening of the first phase of the Dan Y Bryn Cheshire Home refurbishment.

Moving on into March, representatives of our WI were invited to both Bryn Deri and Radyr Primary Schools to present the Millennium Cups at their respective St. David's Day celebrations. The enthusiasm shown by our local children for their Eisteddfod was delightful. As tradition rightly dictates, our March meeting also had a very Welsh flavour; the National Anthem being sung in place of Jerusalem and refreshments of Bara Brith and Welsh Cakes being served. We were also treated to a riveting talk by the writer and lecturer Simon Rees, who currently works as a dramaturg at the Welsh National Opera.

Our thanks go to Tongwynlais WI who we joined, along with our link group members from Pontcanna, Treforgan and Taffs Well on 3rd March for a walk they had organised to Cardiff Bay, some ladies joining the entire walk and some at strategic points along the way! Events planned for the remainder of this month include a lunch-time social meeting at the Gwaelod-Y-Garth Inn and a further craft group event on felt-making.

Meetings are usually held on the first Monday of each month at the Old Church Rooms, Park Road, Radyr, but due to the Easter Bank Holiday, our April meeting will be held on Monday, 29th March. We shall be hearing from Peter Shaw about his kidnap and time as a hostage in Georgia and would be pleased to welcome you as a guest if you would like to hear his interesting talk and learn a little more about us.

**Contact Lesley Hall (President) 2084 3630 or Val Convery (Secretary) 2020 6130.**

## ROTARY CLUB



The legend to Rotary wheel. The emblem of Rotary used throughout the world, from an original design made in 1905 that represented a wagon wheel in motion.

What is Rotary? Do you recognize the Rotary logo?

Rotary International is the world's first service club organization, with more than 1.2 million members in 33,000 clubs worldwide. Rotary club members are volunteers who work locally, regionally and internationally to combat hunger, improve health and sanitation, provide education and job training, promote peace and eradicate polio under the motto "Service Above Self".

*Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland (RIBI)* has over 55,000 members in 1,840 clubs. It is an integral part of Rotary International, the world's first service organisation. Each member enjoys business as well as social networking opportunities, whilst giving something back to those less fortunate, learning new skills and having a huge amount of fun!

Rotary hits halfway mark! At the end of December, 2009, Rotarians had raised 105 million dollars towards the 200 million dollar challenge that must be reached by the end of June, 2012.

Rotarians are committed to the driving to wipe out polio from the world. Since Rotary became involved in polio eradication in 1985, the number of reported polio cases has fallen from 350,000 a year to 1,000; 125 endemic countries have been reduced to just four – Afghanistan, India, Nigeria and Pakistan; and two billion children have been protected from the disease. With nearly 33,000 clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas, Rotary reaches out to national governments worldwide to generate crucial financial and technical support for polio eradication. Since 1995, the advocacy efforts of Rotary and its partners have helped raised more than \$3 billion in vital funding from donor governments. Bill and Melinda Gates have recently awarded a challenge

grant of \$355 million with Rotary committed to raise another \$200 million to raise the total to \$555 million to finally eradicate this crippling disease from the world.

Clubs all over Great Britain and Ireland have ambitious plans, so there looking for more men and women aged over 30 to bring their energy, business skills and sense of humour to make a real difference to the lives of others.

Every Rotary Club has a different 'personality' and offers a different range of benefits so it's well worth trying out a few of your local clubs and meeting their members to find the one that suits you best.

There are seven Rotary Clubs in Cardiff, but the club I belong to is Llandaff, as it has a good number of local Radyr and Morganstown members. Llandaff Rotary Club has around thirty members and has recently welcomed two new lady members. The membership is mixed with business people, engineers, lawyers, doctors, teachers, pharmacists, dentists and clergy. We meet every Tuesday either for an evening meal or lunch at Fairwater Conservative Club in Ely Road, but we also use Radyr Golf Club for several meetings.

If you are interested in finding more about Rotary then please look at our website – just do a Google search for Rotary Club of Llandaff and the website will be there for you to browse – it could change your life and help change the lives of millions throughout the world.

**Rotarian Ron Eccles**  
Llandaff Rotary Club

## FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE

Tickets for Zoë Todd, Burton, Gillian Clarke and Sweeney Todd can be obtained from The Festival Box Office which is Veg Vendor, Station Road, Radyr; Allan Cook on 2084 3175 or Nick Hawkins 2084 2561.

# History of Radyr Cricket Club

...continued

In the early 1960's came the flood, when a wonderful row of large trees and 36 feet of the west bank along the river adjacent to the pavilion disappeared overnight and the ground was under water. Next summer the wicket broke up after an hours play, with the ball either turning at right angles, shooting along the ground or flying above your head.

Not long after a licence was granted, members could feel from then on that their pint after the match was adding to the club's funds.

By 1970 the club was in trouble again due to lack of membership and another amalgamation occurred with the nomadic Royal Overseas League Cricket Club, which saved the cricket club yet again. The inaugural meeting took place at the Bluebirds Club room at Ninian Park, the then home of Cardiff City Football.

The pavilion was painted yet again inside and outside, with one of the painters managing to fall off the roof.

On 1st July, 1973, disaster struck when the old original wood and corrugated pavilion was destroyed by fire and the late Trevor Leaves recalled the story.

"In the early hours I was called out by the Cardiff Fire Brigade only to see the old pavilion in flames. The fire chief explained the problem that had prevented his brigade from extinguishing the fire.

The fire brigade could not get under the rail bridge at the bottom of Station Road

The hoses would not reach the scene from the hydrant in Station Road

Using the River Taff as an alternative water supply, his firemen forgot to fit the filter to the pick-up hose so the pick-up pipe became blocked.

One can imagine the chaos".

"The Cricketer", a national magazine covered the story as follows :



Returning from their Oxfordshire Tour members of Radyr CC learned that their beloved 67-year-old pavilion had been burned to the ground. The feeling was one of complete despair. To club members of Radyr, a village of about 3,000 inhabitants a few miles north of Cardiff, any possibility of rebuilding seemed out of the question. However, a small band of dedicated members began to raise funds. First, an auction of items donated by residents, friends and members was opened by Barry John, the famous Wales and British Lions rugby star, which raised £800.

Then encouraged by these proceeds, the foundation of a new pavilion began. Next a grant of £5,121. was received from the Sports Council, plus £1,750. from the insurance of the old wooden pavilion. The forming of Radyr Athletic Club, with Cardiff Corinthians FC, a Welsh League football side, ensuring all-round use of the ground, brought a further £1,000. into the funds and then followed a negotiated grant of £2,000. from a brewery to be written off over ten years. Debentures of £25. were offered, which raised £1,625. in four weeks; a 200 Club draw was formed which netted £1,000. a year; clubs that played against Radyr subscribed £200. and so against overwhelming odds, the target was reached and by 25th March, five weeks before the following season commenced, the new pavilion was completed.

Due to frequent burglaries, a new more secure Apex type roof was added later, together with

the professional-standard mechanical score box

After many years of friendly cricket, the club finally started playing league cricket in the South Wales Conference in the 1979s. A second eleven was started in 1976, followed by a third eleven in 1994. The club had entered a period of increased a successful membership.

In 1990, the club celebrated its 100 birthday. A cricket week was held, when as in 1908, a marquee was erected on the football field. This highly successful centenary celebration continued with a game against Glamorgan, a Past and Present match and various other games and the celebrations ended with a centenary dinner.

These celebrations marked the start of a very successful period for the club. Successful fund raising dinners were held in the winters, with well known cricketers speaking. The juniors began to produce players for the future years.

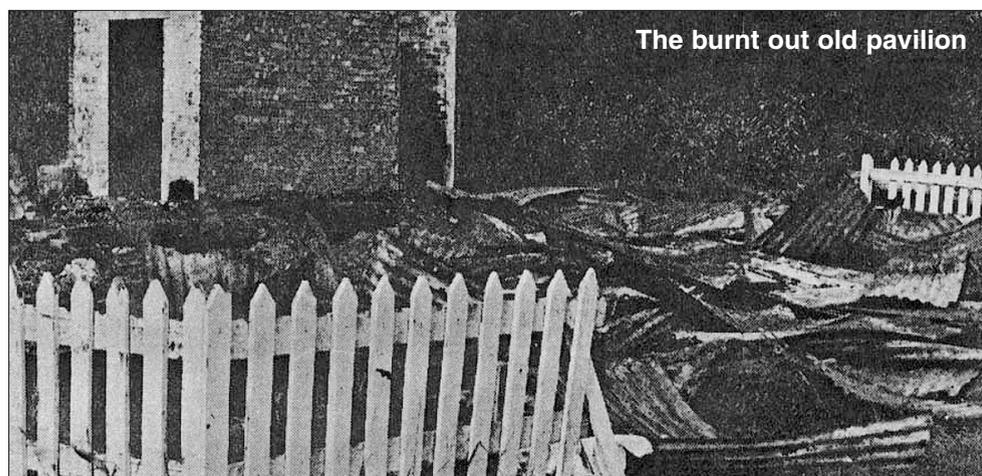
How things have changed since 1908. The club runs three senior league sides with a fourth to start next season on Saturdays and a Sunday side. Successful junior teams from ages 8 to 15 years. There are often over 100 juniors on the ground on practice evenings.

The pavilion has a bar and lounge, kitchen, store room, machinery area, score board, three changing rooms, umpire/referee changing room, showers and toilets. Modern machinery, two grounds, a new drive and a car park - all thanks due to the hard work of many club members over the years, which will continue hopefully for many years to come.

The change is best illustrated by the car park - fifty years ago a grass car park and barely more than one car. Today, a larger Tar macadam car park with an overflow hardcore car park both full of cars on a Saturday!

In ending this history of Radyr Cricket Club, tribute must be paid to all those from Mr. Grover onwards who have and are still working for the Club. Grateful thanks.

The compiler of this history would like to express his gratitude to all who have helped him.





## 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](mailto:clerk@radyr.org.uk)  
Clerk/Clerc: Helena Fox

Elsewhere in this issue you will see an article on a new library for our community. I urge you to read it and to contact me with your views : the more feedback from residents, the better.

I am delighted to say that ten people came forward to join our new Friends of Danybryn Woods. By the time you read this we will have met for the first time and started to plan activities. Small woodlands like this are increasingly valuable as green space and oases of biodiversity; something that is recognized in the Welsh Assembly's Woodland Strategy. Keeping woodlands in good condition does not always involve a lot of management and we will act on good professional advice to maintain and enhance the woodland.

In the spirit of improving our environment, we have planted four fruit trees in the Granny Park in Morganstown. The two apples, a quince and a medlar will be attractive and, we hope, fruitful. I would like to thank the neighbours of the park who have supported our plans and generously provided coffee when we have been working there.

I would like to remind all of you that there is local support if you have a query or objection to a planning application. I am sent copies of all applications with drawings and you are welcome to contact me to arrange to look at them. Each week, I update the list of planning applications on the Community Council's pages of the website ([www.radyr.org.uk](http://www.radyr.org.uk)). The Community Council considers each application and generally does not object to extensions unless they seem unreasonably large. If a resident has an objection the Community Council will give its support. Support is also available from RMA. If you wish to object to an application it is particularly important to let our County Councillor, Rod McKerlich, know because he can give you advice on Cardiff's planning process.

Cllr Sarah Thomas is our new Community Councillor for Radyr South and we welcome her to the council. One vacancy remains so please contact me if you are interested.

**Helena Fox -**  
Clerk



### The weather summary - by John Trenchard

Northern Canada experienced a 2010 winter with temperatures 8F to 12F above normal. One likely cause for this overall warm pattern was the same as the cause for abnormal cold over the central and southern United States, namely the frequent occurrence of what forecasters call "blocking highs". One persistent blocking high set up over eastern Canada and Greenland for much of the winter. It shunted the usual eastward flow of cold air across the continent further south than usual. At the same time, it steered mild air off northern seas into much of Canada where arctic air would normally be more dominant.

This pressure pattern over eastern Canada and Greenland was also the cause of the coldest winter for the British Isles for a good number of years. Our last four winters have been becoming colder. Winter is defined as the months of December, January and February. Taking the average of the daytime maximum temperature and the minimum night time air temperature we have (using the 1971-200 averages) for 2010 3.4C -2.2C compared with 7.6C + 1.8C in 2007, whilst for the years 2002 to 2006 there was a range of 6.2C +0.7C to 7.0C +1.4C. In this 2010 winter (2009 winter in brackets) Cardiff had 30 (26) nights of air frosts, 52 (40) nights of ground frosts, 17 (9) days of snow or sleet falling and 22 (2) days of lying snow at 0900 hours.

Cardiff 2010 winter rainfall was 307.8mm 85% with 84.8mm 88% in February whilst in the 2009 winter it was 259.6mm 71%. But compare our 2010 winter rainfall with the 1379.1mm (54 inches) in Gibraltar in the western Mediterranean making it their wettest winter since records began in 1947, the previous wettest winter was in 1963 with 913.0mm (37 inches). Note Cardiff's annual average rainfall is 1281.0mm with the average winter rainfall of 364.0mm. For the years 2002 to 2008 Cardiff's driest winter has been 228.6 63% in 2005 and in the wettest winter there was 496.9mm 137% in 2007. Cardiff's rainfall so far this year up to 8th March has been 173.6mm 73% compared with 418.9mm 167% for the same time in 2007.



## RADYR SCOUTING NEWS

### Contacts

Beavers (Simba) 2084 4463

Cubs (Akela) 07952 470414

Scouts (Skip) 2084 2757

### Scouts "Camp" at Miskin Mill

On Friday, the 16th February, I, like many other scouts left my house with eager anticipation to reach Miskin Mill at 7pm. We unpacked and settled down to a supper of hot-dogs. After which, we had activities to enjoy. One of these was the Ring Game where you had to pull a small ring across a course, some string was looped onto the ring and the direction of the string determined the course. The fastest time won. After that, we played another game which involved two teams, one person from each team was blindfolded and the rest of the team spread out and had to guide the blindfolded person down the line of people and back up. The fastest team to do so won.

Once we had finished the outdoor activities, we went upstairs above the dining area, to play blind man's bluff, where the aim was to get the keys from the blindfolded person without being pointed at. Some went for the stealthy creep, others tried to lunge themselves at the keys. Later we retired to bed, how late could the leaders keep us up? Most of us got to bed at about eleven o'clock, whereas some of the more chatty people didn't get to sleep until about twelve!

Fortunately, most of us had a good sleep and had cooked breakfast to look forward to. Unfortunately, my patrol was cooking and I was on toast duty, with only two toasters! Complaints soon came flooding in. But the rest of the breakfast was perfect and on time: bacon, eggs and sausages.

Later, we packed our lunch to go on a long walk. The leaders said we'd be going on a twenty mile walk. Yeah Right! We left for the walk, seeing loads of different things including a field with a bull in it, even though we didn't see the bull. We also saw a skeleton of an animal. At first, one scout thought it could have been a giant rat, but in the end we settled that it must have been a rabbit.

While we were having lunch, some of the people who finished their packed lunch sooner than the others found a muddy, steep slope. Almost vertical! And decided to climb it – it was just smaller than a two-storey house. When

people were told to get down, one of the old scouts took a tumbling fall down half of the slope!

When we got back, we had dinner to look forward to – spaghetti bolognaise with dessert of fruit tart. We also made our small-scale rafts made out of things like juice cartons and string.

Now it was getting dark and we were going to race – using our rafts which three groups had made on the small river next to the mill.

After we had done that, we played a wide game. Glow sticks were placed together with leaders guarding. We had to try and get a glow stick to win some chocolate. One funny incident was when a scout who can't be named, broke wind and gave away his position!

We got a good night sleep and had another cooked breakfast to look forward to on our last day. After getting ready for a similar walk to the one on the previous day, this time three people were given matchboxes and told to collect small, natural things to put in them.

We had a lunch similar to the one on the previous day and started packing, thinking of the great time we had. When we finished packing we were allowed to buy things from the shop. They sold things like notepads, pens, mugs and small teddy-bears.

We had a brilliant time and it won't be forgotten for a while.

Fraser Smith-Jaynes, 11.



# News from Radyr Library...

It looks like spring is finally here in Radyr (well, it is as we write this article!). We have had a lovely couple of months in Radyr Library as we have started planning for the up-coming Radyr Festival.

In February Anne and Jen wore their silly socks to work and raised £20. for Velindre Hospital. Thank you to everyone who donated money that afternoon. We also had an enjoyable day on 1st March offering everyone who visited us a cuppa and a Welsh cake to celebrate St. David's Day.

We still have some copies of "Wartime Memories of Radyr and Morganstown people" to give away to local residents. If you would like a copy, please call in.

Our Language and Play sessions are still going strong. If you have a pre-school child and would like to pop along to our session feel free! They are on Wednesday mornings 11-12 term time only. We'd be more than happy to welcome you!

In preparation for the forthcoming festival and in keeping with the Roald Dahl theme this year, we are renting our children's area out to the BFG. He doesn't seem to be around much but he's definitely started to make himself at home. His cave is not looking very homely at the moment, so we would like children to draw him a picture to stick on the cave wall.

We are starting to prepare for this year's summer reading game which will be called the "Space Hop". Children have to read six books over the summer holidays. More details will be available in the next Radyr Chain.

There has been a lot of concern raised by our borrowers recently about the possible relocation of the library to the Radyr Sidings site. We are unable to comment, but we urge everyone to make their feelings known by completing the reply slip enclosed in this issue by 1st May.

## KEY ISSUES FACING OUR COMMUNITY

We are faced by three different issues, each important to most people in Radyr and Morganstown; I will set out the key points but will gladly give further information to those who want more detail.

**Library:** At present Council officers are working to a Cardiff Council Executive decision which was made in 2005 and was based on community representations at the time. The position has altered in two respects; it is clear that the developer, Taylor Wimpey, is not willing to allow the half acre of "community land" to be used for any purpose other than a library; secondly, the shared ownership of the Park Road site imposes limitations on a new library development located there. Before proceeding with the original 2005 plan, it is sensible to consult our entire community to ascertain if the plan should stand or the library should be located at Radyr Sidings. I urge you to express your views if you have any.

**Local Development Plan (LDP):** I have previously advised that the proposed Cardiff plan would virtually preclude the development of some 4000 homes on the Waterhall site which is situated beyond the southern end of Heol Isaf. It takes little imagination to see the impact this development would have on our local infrastructure and on traffic. The Inspector, appointed by the Welsh Assembly Government, has listened to arguments mooted by local landowners and the Welsh Assembly planning department and he has obliged Cardiff Council to withdraw the LDP. A key plank of the LDP was to direct developers to Brownfield sites, protecting green fields and encouraging regeneration of derelict land; it is lamentable that an LDP produced after intense democratic consultation should be thrown out peremptorily.

When a new plan, deemed likely to win approval in Cardiff Bay, is produced it is likely to accept the need to build about 8000 homes on Greenfield sites. I will fight and I ask for local support to minimise the effect on our community of this folly.

**Electoral Boundaries:** Cardiff County Council has 75 Councillors, the maximum recommended number and on average each serves 3295 electors. The target level for Wales is 1:1750 which is clearly unachievable in Cardiff but, in Wales as a whole, many

electoral divisions are far below this level. Radyr and Morganstown have about 4800 electors and this is rising steadily.

Without action, R+M will become the largest electoral division in Cardiff and possibly in Wales. Despite this, the Community Council and I proposed no change for the following reasons:

R+M is a fairly homogenous community with clearly defined boundaries

It is served entirely by its own Community Council

We would not be big enough to justify two Councillors on our own

Best local representation is gained by a single member representing a ward rather than multiple members representing disparate communities spread over a wide area.

The Boundary Commission has recommended that R+M become part of a new electoral division comprising R+M, Creigiau, Pentyrch and Gwaelod y Garth; this would be called Pentyrch and would elect three Councillors. Objections must be lodged by early May and I shall object for the reasons set out above, even though the proposal probably favours my political party who stand to gain a seat. I hope that local representative bodies will also object.

**Councillor Rod McKerlich**  
March, 2010.

## FESTIVAL 2010 DRAMA EMYR EDWARDS

Mi fydd Cwmni Cwm Ni,  
Caerffili, yn perfformio drama  
Emyr Edwards, Dringo Yn Yr  
Andes fel rhan o Wyl Radur ar  
nos Lun 10fed o Fai am 8 o.g. yn  
Neuadd Eglwys Crist, Radur.

Dringo Yn Yr Andes enillodd y  
brif wobr am ysgrifennu drama  
yn Eisteddfod Casnewydd 2004.  
Mi fydd y Cwmni yn ymddangos  
yn Radur yn syth a Wyl Ddrama  
Corwen. Tocynnau £3. ar gael  
gan Allan Cook 2084 3176 neu  
wrth y drws.

## RADYR PARISH MUSIC GROUP

celebrates 25 years of  
Community music-making!

Following several successful concerts by the Christ Church Folk Choir/Youth Fellowship in the early 1980's, an idea developed to stage a full musical at the Church. This was intended to include as many parishioners as possible, with particular encouragement to family involvement.

A handful of enthusiasts managed to coerce and rehearse a cast and crew of 85 adults and children for "Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" performed in Oct 1985. Staging comprised 27 tables taped together, with temporary lighting hung on scaffold bars from the Church rafters and a small group of young musicians as orchestra. Costumes materialised from a host of seamstresses.

In following years the Group staged "Captain Noah & Swingin' Samson" and "Jesus Christ Superstar" at Christ Church. This latter production perhaps being the most evocative for many of the cast – some of whom are still



*"Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"*

"treading the boards" for R.P.M.G. At that time the New Schoolrooms had not been built and up to four caravans were parked in the grounds as dressing rooms.

In 1988 the Group moved to Radyr Comprehensive School, Drama Studio for a combined production with Radyr Drama Society of "Oliver!" (cast of 103!). Then followed 19 years of R.P.M.G. musicals at Radyr C.S. ranging

through most of Gilbert & Sullivan's operettas and popular English and American shows. The rest is history and continued acclaim!

**Christine Davies**

President:  
(Musical Director  
1985-2003)

### La Belle Helene



# HISTORY SOCIETY

The History Society has planned a busy season for the coming year, so large have recent attendances been that they have moved their meetings to the Old Church Rooms.

Thursday, 15th April at 7.30pm. Broadcaster, historian and journalist, Gwyn Griffiths will speak about his book *Sioni Onions*. The book celebrates the Breton onion sellers, so much part of many Welsh towns for the greater part of the twentieth century. This event is organised to coincide with the 25th anniversary of Radyr and Morganstown becoming twinned with St. Philbert de Grand Lieu.

Wednesday, 12th May at 7pm. Festival Walk. This year, we will be looking at the developments in Morganstown. Start at 7pm at the entrance to the Quarry on Ynys Bridge Road. We will look at the new tunnel in the quarry. We will then take a look at the newly cleared Motte at Morganstown, which is probably the finest

remaining motte of the series built by the Normans along the foot of Caerphilly Mountain. We will finish with a look at Gelynis Farm House, built in the 1570s. This is a free but ticketed event. Tickets from Allan Cook.

Thursday, 20th May at 7.30pm. Hilary Thomas will speak about her book *The Gardens of Glamorgan*.

Thursday, 1st July. Oxford and Blenheim Palace. We plan to leave Radyr at 7am and visit Oxford, with its newly restored Ashmoleum Museum. After lunch in Oxford we will travel the short distance to Blenheim Palace, home of the Churchill family. After a guided tour of the state rooms, members will be free to visit the numerous other exhibitions and to visit the gardens and grounds landscaped by Capability Brown. There will be a few seats for non members on a first come basis. Tickets £20.00 to include coach, driver's tip and entry to Blenheim.

*For more details, contact Allan Cook on 2084 3176.*

## Radyr & Morganstown/St Philbert Twinning 25th Anniversary.

Back in the early 1980s, our Community Council conceived the idea that Radyr & Morganstown should be twinned with a similar type of town in France. Accordingly, after much hard work by the Council and steering committee, on 28th September 1985, a Friendship Pact was signed in St Philbert de Grand Lieu by the then Chairmen of the respective Councils and the Twinning Fellowship Committees.

Time passes swiftly and in 2010, we find ourselves already in the 25th Anniversary year of this signing. In May, our French friends will visit us once again and special celebrations are being planned. We are expecting some 60 visitors this year and, as a measure of the success of this association, both sides will sign a Re-Affirmation of the Friendship Pact, much like re-affirming one's wedding vows at a silver anniversary.

A short Ceremony will take place at noon in the Old Church Rooms on Sunday, 23rd May and will be attended by one of our MEPS, Kay Swinburne, our Community Council Chairman and Councillors, our County Councillor and the French Consul for South Wales as well as the French Mayor and Councillors, and the former French Mayor who signed the original document. The Fellowship and Community Council would like to extend a welcome to all residents of Radyr & Morganstown who wish to attend.

A similar type of ceremony will take place in St Philbert when we visit in May next year.

It is acknowledged that our twinning is one of the most successful in the country, due in no small measure to the hard work of the Welsh and French committees over the years and to the dedication of our membership. Our ties and friendship are stronger than ever, long may they thrive. Vive la jumelage!



# TENNIS CLUB

If you are bored of your gym membership already but want to get out and exercise as well as meet local people, come and see what Radyr Lawn Tennis Club has to offer. And, best of all, the club has waived its joining fee so you can take advantage of its fabulous facilities, right on your doorstep.

As well as three grass courts, four floodlit courts and the opportunity of year-round tennis, there is a packed social events calendar for members, including the infamous beer and wine tournament and progressive supper, as well as quiz and race nights. And if you have never experienced the thrill of watching the likes of Andy Murray, Rafael Nadal or Serena Williams playing on the hallowed turn of Wimbledon, every member has the opportunity to be entered into the annual Wimbledon draw.

Whether you are a budding player yourself or simply want the chance to give tennis a go, there are plenty of opportunities to enjoy the game with club nights and social tournaments throughout the summer.

Juniors have their very own club night on Mondays, while the women enjoy tennis on Tuesdays (as well as curry night on the first Tuesday of every month). Wednesday night is Improver's Night and the opportunity to brush up on those skills with the help of the club coach, Dean. Men's night is on a Thursday (and they too enjoy a curry every first Thursday of the month). Fridays is general play and Saturday afternoons are for social tennis, with the bar open for all on Friday evening and

our illustrious teas are available every Saturday afternoon at 4.30pm.

This year, the club has four men's teams and five ladies teams in the South Wales Doubles league, as well as the Open and Handicaps tournaments and various fun-filled social tournaments throughout the year.

The season starts on Saturday, 3rd April and we will be holding our annual Play Tennis Day during Festival Week on Saturday, 8th May – where you can start

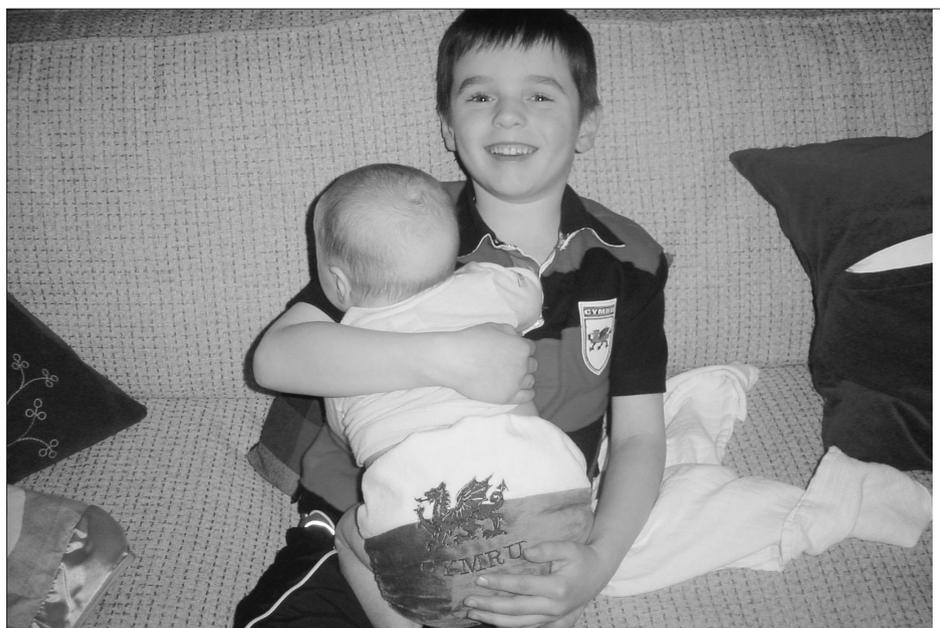
the day with a bacon butty and cup of coffee-tea and then have a go on one of our courts, as we will be to non-members of all standards, both senior and junior on that day. There will also be mini-tennis and fun games for the kids in a relaxed environment. If you are tempted to join in the fun, it's well worth a visit and there will be plenty of members available to tell you all the enjoyment you can have by joining Radyr Lawn Tennis Club.

# FOR SALE

## RETAIL/COMMERCIAL UNIT

### WITH A SELF CONTAINED FIRST FLOOR FLAT 7/9 PARK ROAD, RADYR

Contact Mark Hiron  
At Hiron Morgan and Yapp  
029 2038 8988



Local Radyr children supporting their country! Bethan 8 weeks old wearing a mamigreen ([www.mamigreen.co.uk](http://www.mamigreen.co.uk)) welsh dragon nappy whilst watching the rugby internationals and having a cwch from big brother Gruffydd.

**Come on Wales!**

Plant lleol Radur yn cefnogi Cymru. Bethan 8 wythnos oed yn gwisgo cewyn golchadwy mamigreen yn gwylio rygbi y chwe gwlad ([www.mamigreen.co.uk](http://www.mamigreen.co.uk)) ac yn cael cwch gan brawd mawr Gruffydd.

**Cym on Cymru!**