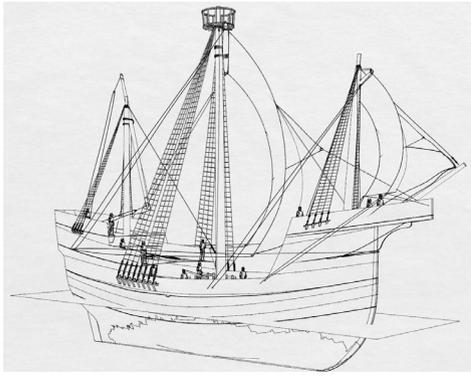


The Newport Medieval Ship



In October of this year Historic England, formerly known as English Heritage, announced that it was “taking steps to protect and investigate a shipwreck in Hampshire that is believed to be the second of four “great ships” built for Henry V's royal fleet. Experts from Historic England believe the wreck that lies buried in the mud in the River Hamble near Southampton, is the Holigost (Holy Ghost).

The announcement was geared to coincide with the six hundredth anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt fought in October 1415. But the Holigost can not have taken part in the preparations for that battle as it was not commissioned until November of that year.

Of interest to us in south Wales is the fact that the Holigost bears many resemblances to the Newport Ship. She had been captured from the Spanish around 1413/14. Formerly known as the Santa Clara, she was clinker built (overlapping planks), weighed about 750 tons was 30 metres + long and 12 metres in breadth and carried a single mast; which makes her remarkably similar to the Newport Ship, also built in Spain. The Santa Clara was a few years old when captured so she would probably date to around 1400, which would make the Newport Ship (1450) the missing link between the Holigost and the Mary Rose (1510). Both would have carried “cannon” on their upper

continued on page 7



Diorama created to allow visualisation of medieval Newport, with our Ship in its side ‘pill’ under repair. This is currently in the University of South Wales, Newport Riverside Campus.



Frames from the ship - some weighing over 1,000kg



A new painting recently completed by Peter Power – prints of this at original size (24” x 36”) and reduced size (20” x 30”) are for sale from the Friends of Newport Ship.

RADYR CHAIN

Number 221

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown

December 2015



Epiphany - 'Twixt Chain and Gorge - Sylvia Middleton



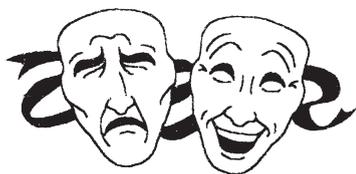
St. John Cymru Wales reopens in Radyr

Two years after the closure of the St John division in Radyr, new life is being breathed back into the division as it opens its doors again.

The division originally closed down following leadership changes which saw the long-standing and committed leaders move away from the area. Now, new volunteers are leading the

continued on page 5

COMING EVENTS



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

- Fri 4 Dec** 19:00 **Christmas Tree Lighting**
Celebrity switch on of lights in Station Road by The Lord Mayor of Cardiff. Stalls, food, bar, entertainment & Santa in his sleigh. Lights in Morganstown and Lychgate Gardens switched on at 6.00pm. Details from Nick Hawkins 2084 2561
- Sat 5 Dec** 19:30 **Twinning Fellowship**
The Twinning Fellowship Christmas event. Dine and be entertained by Karl Daymond and his Christmas Show. At the Old Church Rooms. Tickets £20 from Maggie Roberts, tel: 029 2084 2995
- Sat 5 Dec** 19:30 **Radyr and Morganstown Choral Society Concert** Vivaldi's Gloria and a Feast of Advent Music Christ Church. More details to follow
- Mon 7 Dec** 19:15 **Yoga Class** Radyr Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen. Drop in price £7.00. Mats can be provided.
- Wed 9 Dec** 19:30 **RCTS - The Railway Society** Rails in the Rhymney Valley 1980 - 2010 Jeff Morgan Methodist Church, Windsor Road
- Thur 10 Dec** 10:30 **Christmas Coffee Morning** Radyr and Morganstown Conservatives are holding a coffee morning at St Elmo, 36 Heol Isaf, Radyr by kind invitation of Cllr. and Mrs Rod McKerlich. Cake Stall/Tombola/Raffle Tickets £2 from committee members or phone 20842764
- Mon 14 Dec** 19:30 **Radyr & Morganstown WI** Christmas celebration evening. OCR
- Thur 7 Jan** 10:00 **Yoga Class** Free taster session. Theme "Out of the Chair" The Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen. Contact Sarah Tovey, Tel: 07593 597425 sarah.tovey@btinternet.com
- Mon 11 Jan** 19:15 **Yoga Class** Free taster session. Theme "Out of the Chair" Radyr Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen. Mats can be provided. Contact Sarah Tovey, Tel: 07593 597425 sarah.tovey@btinternet.com

- Wed 13 Jan** 19:30 **RCTS - The Railway Society** Retracing the Cardiff Railway - Kris Carter
- Thur 14 Jan** 10:00 **Yoga Class** Radyr Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen. Theme "Out of the Chair". Drop in price £7.00 Term price £50 Contact Sarah Tovey, Tel: 07593 597425 sarah.tovey@btinternet.com
- Mon 18 Jan** 19:00 **PACT Meeting** Come and meet your local police officer and County Councillor to discuss local issues.
- Mon 18 Jan** 19:15 **Yoga Class** Radyr Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen. Theme "Out of the Chair" Drop in price £7.00 Term price £50 Contact Sarah Tovey, Tel: 07593 597425 sarah.tovey@btinternet.com
- Thur 21 Jan** 10:00 **Yoga Class** Radyr Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen Theme "Out of the Chair" Drop in price £7.00 Term price £50 Contact Sarah Tovey, Tel: 07593 597425 sarah.tovey@btinternet.com
- Mon 25 Jan** 19:15 **Yoga Class** Radyr Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen. Theme "Out of the Chair". Drop in price £7.00 Term price £50 Contact Sarah Tovey, Tel: 07593 597425 sarah.tovey@btinternet.com
- Thur 28 Jan** 10:00 **Yoga Class** Radyr Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen. Drop in price £7.00. Contact Sarah Tovey, Tel: 07593 597425 sarah.tovey@btinternet.com
- Sat 30 Jan** 19:30 **Ceilidh (organised by RPMG)** Come and celebrate Burns night! RPMG hosts an evening of Scottish Dancing. All welcome. A light supper will be provided. Bring your own drinks. Tickets £10. Places limited. Contact chriseshill13@hotmail.co.uk to secure your place.
- Mon 1 Feb** 19:15 **Yoga Class** Radyr Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen. Theme "Out of the Chair" Drop in price £7.00 Contact Sarah Tovey, Tel: 07593 597425 sarah.tovey@btinternet.com
- Mon 1 Feb** 19:30 **R&M ASSOCIATION General Meeting** in the Old Church Rooms. Our speaker will be Peter Vaughan, Chief Constable. All welcome.
- Thur 4 Feb** 10:00 **Yoga Class** Radyr Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen. Drop in price £7.00 Contact Sarah Tovey, Tel: 07593 597425 sarah.tovey@btinternet.com
- Mon 8 Feb** 19:15 **Yoga Class** Radyr Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen Drop in price £7.00 Contact Sarah Tovey, Tel: 07593 597425 sarah.tovey@btinternet.com

- Tue 9 Feb** 18:30 **Festival Auditions** Auditions for Queen & attendants will be held in Radyr Guide Centre. Open to girls of 10 years and older who live in Radyr & Morganstown. Must be available for Festival duties from Saturday 30th April until Sunday 14th May inclusive More details phone Maggie 2084 2995 or Julie 2084 2923
- Wed 10 Feb** 19:30 **RCTS - The Railway Society** An SLS/Alan Jarvis Evening of Photographs - Noel Thompson
- Thur 11 Feb** 10:00 **Yoga Class** Radyr Guide Centre, Bryn Derwen. Drop in price £7.00 Contact Sarah Tovey, Tel: 07593 597425 sarah.tovey@btinternet.com
- Thur 17-20 Feb** 19:30 **RPMG presents Kiss Me, Kate** Radyr Parish Music Group presents Cole Porter's Kiss Me, Kate at Bishop of Llandaff High School. Tickets £10 (£8 concs Weds/Thurs only) available from: www.ticketsource.co.uk/rpmg Sue Thomas on 029 2031 0894 Maggie Roberts on 029 2084 2995

Christmas Services in the Parish of Radyr

- At Christ Church Radyr**
Sunday 20th December
6.00pm Nine Lessons & Carols followed by refreshments
- Thursday 24th December**
Christmas Eve
4.00pm Carols round the crib & nativity play
11.00pm First Eucharist of Christmas - 'Midnight Mass'
- Friday 25th December**
Christmas Day
8.00am Holy Eucharist
11.00am Family Eucharist - bring a toy or a gift to show everyone and make us smile!
- At St John's Danescourt**
Fri 18th December
6.00pm Carols round the crib followed by refreshments
- Thurs 24th December**
Christmas Eve
9.00pm First Eucharist of Christmas
- Friday 25th December**
Christmas Day
9.15am Family Eucharist- bring a toy or a gift to show everyone and make us smile!

Letters, articles, reports and other contributions are invited and should be submitted by January 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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St. John Cymru Wales reopens in Radyr

...from front cover

the division starting with an Open Day on November 28th in the Radyr Golf Club..

Divisional Officer in Charge, Aled Treharne has been a volunteer with St John for the last 6 years and ran a division in Cardiff before being asked to take time to restart the Radyr division. "The community around Radyr has supported St John for such a long time, it was very sad to see the division close its doors," said Aled. "It's been a priority in the County and in fact for St John as a whole to re-establish the division here. It's particularly gratifying that we are holding our Open Day within days of the division's 95th anniversary of its original establishment."

There are 4,000 St John Cymru Wales volunteers across Wales who provide first aid cover to a huge range of events every year and without them, many events like church fetes, fireworks displays, carnivals, rugby and football matches, athletics meets and even events as big as the Six Nations and Cardiff Half Marathon wouldn't be able to take place. Last year, St John volunteers spent around 215,000 hours attending 4,500 events and treated almost 10,000 people for everything from cuts and bruises to delivering a baby.

The division will be holding their open day in the Radyr Golf Club on Saturday, November 28th from 10am until 4pm. Volunteers from the division and the area will be on hand over tea and coffee to answer questions about first aid, becoming a new member or the work that St John does.

Regular meeting nights will start on Tuesday December 1st at the Golf Club from 7pm until 9pm. Anyone who wants to join is



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OPENING TIMES FOR THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

Christmas Eve - 8am to 8.30pm
Christmas Day - CLOSED
Boxing Day - 10.00am to 1.00pm

New Years Eve - 8am to 8pm
New Years Day - CLOSED



welcome and volunteers will provide first aid training to everyone on Tuesday nights, providing members with all the skills and information they need to attend duties.

"I'm very excited to see the division starting again," continued Aled. "We've already had expressions of interest from several potential new members and we've even had a request to provide cover for events in the

village. I'm hoping that St John will become a valued part of the community in Radyr and Morganstown."

For more information on becoming a member or for first aid cover for events, see:

<https://sjaw.org.uk/register>
or contact Aled Treharne at
aled.treharne@radyr.sjaw.org.uk or
on 01633 533103

The Newport Medieval Ship

...from back cover

decks – it was a particularly dangerous period for shipping, piracy was rife. Expert opinion says that it is impossible to cut gun ports into clinker built vessels. That is one reason why, by the early 16th century, Henry VIII had abandoned clinker built ships in favour of carvel built ones such as the Mary Rose, where gun ports were possible.

The Newport Ship was found in the mud of the Usk in 2002 while foundations were being built for Newport's Riverfront Theatre. An emergency dig was organised and the majority of the timbers were removed. The timbers had to be removed one by one as the piles for the new theatre were already in place, pinning the ship to the mud.

It became clear very quickly that the Newport Ship had been brought into Newport for repairs, where a thousand or so artifacts were found – including an archers leather wrist-guard currently on display in London as part of the Agincourt exhibition and stone cannon balls. Compare that with 19,000 items found on the Mary Rose which sank fully equipped and with all hands. It was also possible to lift the Mary Rose in one piece.

This has advantages and disadvantages. Only in the winter of 2015/16 has the process of drying out the Mary Rose been completed. The Mary Rose Museum is closed until the summer of 2016 while major work is completed. Compare that with the fact that the majority of the pieces of the Newport ship have been cleaned, conserved and freeze dried, a process that will be completed within the next two years. It has also given archaeologists important information as to how ships were built at a time of rapid change in shipbuilding. The downside is that the Newport ship will have to be rebuilt in the new purpose built museum, once that has been agreed.

The Newport Ship can be seen on



A pallet of preserved timbers, all destined for the climate controlled store that we have created to ensure that these will last another 500 years.



Visitors to the Ship Centre around our entrance display.

Fridays and Saturdays from February 2016, in its warehouse/ship centre at Newport, which gives an excellent understanding of the processes that have been used to conserve the ship and the detective work undertaken to date this priceless find. To check opening times look on the Newport Ship web site www.newportship.org Schools can

make bookings at other times. Entry is free. The touring Newport Ship tent, with a real pirate who helps you to make a copy of a coin found on the Newport Ship, will be visiting the Old Church Rooms as part of the Fete on the first Saturday of the Festival, April 30th.

Hope to see you in Newport or at the Fete.

Captain Charles.

News from Radyr Library

We will be holding a charity Christmas coffee morning on Monday, 7th December from 10.15am. Please join us for a cuppa and a chat and have a look at what our knitting and crochet group get up to in their weekly meetings. We are hoping to raise money for the Trinity Centre and would be grateful for your support. The Trinity Centre serves refugees and asylum seekers in the local community.

Story and rhymes times have continued to great success this autumn. They are held on Tuesdays at 10.15am and 2.15pm and are suitable for under 5s and their carers. Our Amser stori continues to run on Wednesdays at 10.30am and all under 5s and their carers are welcome.

We have Scout stamps on sale again this year. You can buy these at the library and the last posting day is Monday, 7th December. Just ask in the library for more information.

Lost property continues to be found in the library. We've found a number of children's toys, hats and a coat! If you think you have left property in the library, please check if it is here.

Anna will be leaving in mid-December as she's expecting a baby in January. She would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome she had in Radyr and extends her best wishes for the future.

The library will be closed during the holidays from 24th December and will reopen on 29th December. We will then be closed on 31st December and 1st January. When the library is closed you can still access many services online at ibistro.cardiff.gov.uk. You can renew and reserve books as well as borrow eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines on your PCs, tablets or smartphones. You will need your library card and PIN to access these. If you need your PIN or more information just ask in the library.

Finally, we would like to wish

everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Anne, Jen and Anna
Radyr Library 2078 0996
radyrlibrary@cardiff.gov.uk

News from Radyr & Morganstown WI

Since the last report, our Centenary celebration and our birthday dinner have taken place. Both events were very enjoyable thanks to the work of the Committee and helpers. On Centenary day, special mention must be made of the displays from the archives. Marion John's beautiful flower arrangements and Ros Bray's entertainment. Her combination of music and fun rounded off the day accompanied on the keyboard, which seemed to have a will of its own!

The Autumn Federation Walk took place on 27th October. Over a hundred walkers completed a walk along the Taff Trail and our members provided a wonderful afternoon tea in Morganstown Village Hall with a great variety of sumptuous cakes.

Our speaker for the October meeting was Marjorie Page, a retired English teacher and former Iestyn inspector. She had also been a member of our WI many years ago when she had been involved with the Drama Group. Her subject was Clarice Cliff, born in 1899 and her distinctive pottery. Marjorie's main aim was to tress Clarice Cliff's determination and diligence in order to succeed in the male dominated world of the late nineteenth century potteries. The talk was very well received and members enjoyed looking at a selection of pieces from Marjorie's personal collection.

We are now into November and the Annual Parade and Service of Remembrance took place on Sunday the 8th. Our WI was represented by our President, Enid Brooker, who laid a wreath on our behalf.

Our November meeting took place on the following evening, the 9th and we were taken back in time to Cardiff in the days of World War 1 when many American GI's were stationed in the city. Though

actually from Barry, our speaker had an American sounding name – Glenn Booker and was dressed in an American GI uniform. His audio0visual presentation included press cuttings and photographs from the period. We learnt that the site of the University Hospital was once home to an enormous American GI base.

Later this month, on 18th November at 7.30pm, Treforgan WI will be hosting a link group event which will take the form of an evening of music and song with Karl Daymond. This event will take place in Morganstown Village Hall.

Moving on to our plans for December, on Tuesday, 1st December, a trip to Bath will take place in order to browse the Christmas Market and to visit the American Museum at Claverton where the rooms will be decorated for Christmas. This should be a beautiful introduction to the festive season.

As part of the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony in Station Road, members of the Committee with helpers will be running a stall selling a variety of hot drinks and mince pies. This "Winter Fete" which involves many of the businesses and organisations of Radyr is always a festive community event which gets everyone in the mood for Christmas.

Our final meeting of 2015 will take place on Monday, 14th December in Christchurch School Rooms. It will be a special evening hosted by the Committee, the details of which are secret so it will be "a surprise".

Plans for the New Year include a lunch at the Beech Tree on 19th January, 2016 and a trip to the New Theatre on 17th March to see "Last Tango" with Vincent Simone and Flavia Cacace of "Strictly Come Dancing" fame.

As this is the last Radyr Chain edition of 2015, Best Wishes to everyone for Christmas and the New Year from Radyr and Morganstown WI.

We can be contacted by visiting our website at radyrandmorganstownwi@gmail.com or phone our President, Enid Brooker on 029 2084 3412. **L.H.**

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TREFORGAN WI

Autumn has given us a colourful if damp experience at Treforgan WI and we are now skilled at avoiding the showers.

Our monthly meetings have been busy. We have enjoyed talks on the weird wills of the rich and famous and found out about what it was like to be a Bluebell girl. The book groups continue and those in the craft groups are busily preparing for Christmas. Whilst our regular monthly meetings in the warmth of Morganstown Village Hall have informed us, those venturing out on trips and walks have had to be intrepid due to the weather.

Groups from Treforgan have joined the Glamorgan federation visits. They went to the apple festival at the

www.radyr.org.uk is...a one-stopshop for local information

National Botanical Gardens, following which the two coach loads of WI ladies filled up all the coffee shops in Llandeilo! It was a very enjoyable day and with over 500 varieties of apples at the National

Botanical Gardens, it is little wonder that their café menu had a very strong apple theme! Nearer to home we also enjoyed the Autumn federation walk along the Glamorgan Canal and Forrest Farm. The clouds however seemed to know when we were stopping for lunch and decided to empty over us!

We have also organised our own trip, visiting the Autumnal colour of Westonbirt Arboretum. True to form it was also a wet day, making a pub lunch medicinal (or that's our excuse and we are sticking to it!). The walking group has been to Cosmeston Lakes on what they called a "mystery tour", otherwise known as so much chatting that they got a little lost!

The role of hostess for our link group, the Taff Trailers, has now past to us for the next year and we started with an evening of entertainment from Karl Daymond and his choir – The Singing Club. It was a lovely early taster of Christmas.

Around Radyr and Morganstown we have attended the Remembrance Sunday parade and laid a wreath and are busy preparing for a stall at the Christmas Tree Lighting event. Our December meeting will be creative, making Christmas table decorations and in January, we are going to learn about the Insoles of Llandaff.

Treforgan WI meets at 1.15pm on the third Thursday of the month at Morganstown Village Hall. Visitors Welcome.

For more information, look us up on Facebook.

You are invited!

We are running a series of talks called "**Alpha** (Catholic content)". Alpha is based on a cafe style format with a meal or snack followed by a DVD talk and then small group discussions. It is informal, relaxed and friendly. It is also free!

Who is it for?

Alpha is for anyone who has asked themselves these questions:-
Is God for real? Why is there so much suffering? Is there more to life than this?
Plus many more questions about life. Alpha is for those who are searching for meaning to life.

Start: Tuesday 12th January 2016 **Time:** 18.30

Venue: Holy Family R.C. Church Hall

Keystone Road, Fairwater, Cardiff, CF5 3NP

For further information or a booking form please contact:

Deirdre Barker 01446 793224

email: barkerdids@aol.com

(Please return booking form **no later than 4th January 2016**)

Radyr & Morganstown Community Council

Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan



TR&MCC deferred the updated Village Plan Questionnaire until the OCR project finishes in the New Year. The OCR project is going well and work is now underway on the new main entrance and continues on the roof of the new extension. We have had a site visit from our grant funder, the Aggregate Levy Fund Wales, and they are very pleased with progress. There is a weekly update of progress on the front page of the R&M website. Overseeing the project has been largely the work of members of the OCR Management Committee which comprises members of the RMA and R&MCC. We are very grateful for the RMA members' unflagging support.

We submitted a further response to the recent planning application re Land N/S Llantrisant Road, with strong points on traffic management contributed by Danescourt Community Association. We felt that the detail in this application alone shows the weakness of the infrastructure planning for our

communities and NW Cardiff as a whole. Copies of our letters are on the LDP pages of the R&M website.

We are working on responses for R&MCC and the NW Cardiff Group to the consultation running until November 26 on the LDP's Matters Arising Changes. This has to focus on very specific issues that arose from the recent extra LDP Hearings. A key issue is Welsh Government's persistent opposition to a Green Belt for the land north of the M4 that forms a green backdrop to Cardiff. Cardiff Council proposed the Green Belt and earlier consultations show 90%+ of residents supported it. Green Belts are relatively new to Wales and there is only one: a small area west of Newport. If Cardiff does not warrant its own Green Belt, it's hard to imagine where else in Wales one might be approved. Our support of the Green Belt is shared by Mark Drakeford, AM and Kevin Brennan, MP.

The whole LDP process is complex and involves vast quantities of

documentation. It is not easy for communities to respond but we are putting up a very good fight: one of the best ever community responses to an LDP, we have been told. It is worth noting that the very large applications in NW Cardiff (LDP Strategic Sites C, D and E) will be submitted in due course with the accompanying long-term monitoring of what is delivered. We are told that these sites may take 20-30 years to develop completely.

Once again, the community of R&M had a big attendance on Remembrance Sunday and we were impressed, as always, by the super turnout from our young people.

Helena Fox
Clerk and Proper Officer.
The Old Church Rooms,
Park Road, Radyr, Cardiff CF15 8DF

Tel. 029 2084 2213
Email : clerk@radyr.org.uk

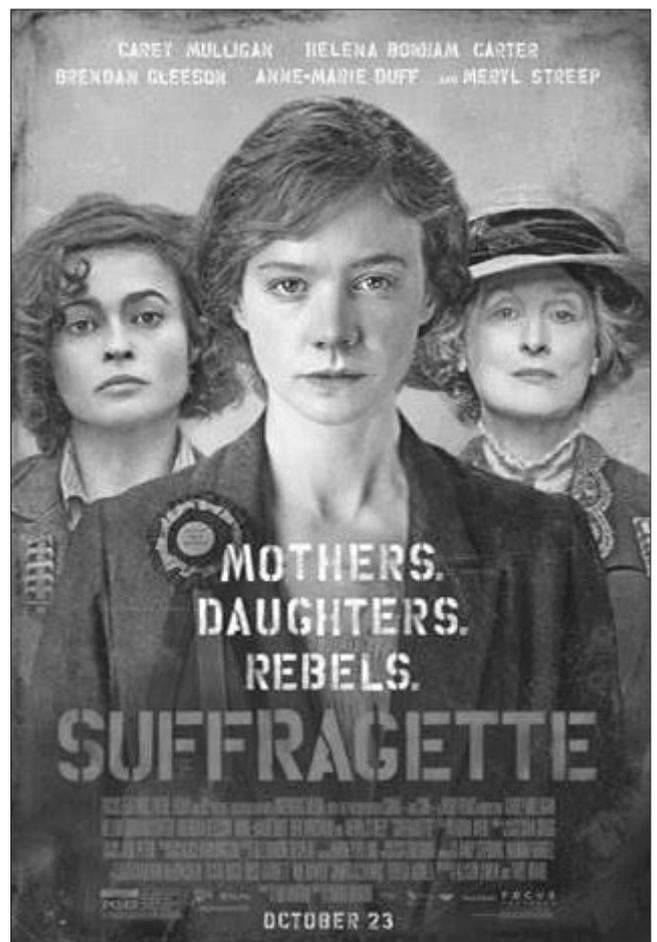
FILM NIGHTS

Suffragette

The January film to be shown at the Old Church Rooms is Suffragettes. Rarely has a film gathered momentum as quickly as Suffragettes. Chosen to open the 2015 London Film Festival it had gone on to garner plaudits from the press. The Telegraph gave it 4 stars and called it 'hot-blooded, riveting'.

Like many major films it puts a fictional character into an historical situation. Fictional laundress Maud Watts. Played by Carey Mulligan, mixes with the likes of the Pankhursts.

As well as Carey Mulligan it stars Helen Bonham Carter, Meryl Streep and Ben Wishaw. You may have registered Ben Wishaw as star material in the recent BBC Monday night thriller London Spy. Suffragettes can be seen at the Old Church Rooms on Thursday January 28th at 7.30 pm. By then work on the Old Church Rooms should have been completed. Tickets are still £4 from Nick Hawkins 2084 2561, Allan Cook 2084 3176, ener-chi Station Road, Radyr or at the door.



Radyr & Morganstown District Gardening Club

Autumn is all but over, the colours were short lived but brilliant; winter is starting to show itself but this does not mean that we should forget the garden. Now is the time to get on with planning for next year and our programme of talks can help with this as noted below.

Our programme continued through October and November with two interesting talks. In October, Bob Priddle (Ex Neath/Port Talbot College) spoke about Ralph Hancock, a successful Welsh Garden Designer. Little was known about him until recently as most archive material was referenced under a different Christian name; this unlocked a wealth of material. Ralph, whilst starting in the UK, made his name in the USA as designer of the Rockefeller Centre roof gardens and followed this with many other USA gardens. Back in

the UK he designed the gardens for the Derry & Toms Store, was a Chelsea medallist and designer of a number of other high profile gardens. Mr. Priddle concluded by showing some of the few remaining Welsh "Hancock" gardens.

We welcomed Aisling Judge to our November meeting, the last for 2015 and she gave an entertaining and thought provoking talk "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle". As gardeners we all reuse and recycle materials (composting, reusing pots etc.) but Aisling discussed from the eco friendly viewpoint why this should and can be taken further and illustrated it with many different and unusual opportunities, many of which easily translate to the garden. We recommence in the new year.

13th January

"Fragrant & Aromatic Plants"

An illustrated talk by Sheena Crossley. Although scent is a matter of personal preference she will look at the wide range of scented plants and consider and recommend some suited to the garden.

10th February

"Mosses"

An illustrated talk by Dr. Ray Tangney who will discuss and illustrate this wide genus of plants that has survived and flourished since before the dinosaurs.

Meetings are open to all and take place on the second Wednesday of each month from September to April (with the exception of December).

Visitors and New Members will be made very welcome. We share an interest in gardens, plants and generally growing things. So come along - you will be very welcome.

All meetings (apart from visits) are at the New School Rooms, Heol Isaf starting at 7.30pm and are followed by refreshments.

Please see village notice boards and Radyr website (www.radyr.org.uk) for programme details and any changes or contact any committee member or our Chairman, Richard Gregory (029 2084 2084).

RADYR CHAIN

FREE TO EVERY HOME IN RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN

CHRISTMAS 1980



Members of the W.I. and supporting cast showing a leg at the Pantomime Drama rehearsal. Photo: M. Sullivan

RADYR AND MORGANSTOWN W.I.'s

Community Pantomime is in full swing as we go to press and some 500 children of all ages will have experienced the delights of the boos, hisses and cheers of traditional Panto. Local comedians may have difficulties in filling the theatre, but not so the intrepid ladies of the W.I.!

All seats for the three performances were sold out weeks before the event in anticipation of a repeat of last year's success. The cast have practised diligently since last September, mastering their lines, their steps and their songs. The professional stage could not hope to match the enthusiasm, giggles and chatter of their rehearsals.

Our Drama Critic writes:

"A delightful microcosm of village activity, enthusiastically portrayed in song and dance.

The ladies and production crew can be justly proud of the standard achieved. Can this be the embryo of a Dramatic/Operatic Society in our community?

Meanwhile, I have booked my seat for next year's Panto!"

FLASH, BANG, WALLOP, WHAT A PANTO!

CHAIN COOKERY CORNER

Celeriac is that very bumpy, fairly dirty vegetable with the most delicious flavour. I have attempted to grow it this year and although the green foliage above the ground looks very healthy, I am not sure what has grown underneath!

Here are three recipes worth trying.

Celeriac Remoulade

(Mayonnaise)

Celeriac

Squeeze of lemon juice

Good quality mayonnaise

1 tbs capers or grainy mustard (optional)

Peel celeriac

Cut into matchstick size pieces (Julienne)

Place immediately into saucepan of cold water with lemon juice

Add salt and cook for a few minutes to blanch

Tip into bowl with mayonnaise with extra ingredients and pepper

Cool to serve

Puree of Celeriac and Potato with Garlic

(serves 8)

1kg (2lb) celeriac

450g (1lb) potatoes

2 fat cloves of garlic

50g (2oz) butter

150ml (5 fl oz) crème fraiche salt and pepper

Peel celeriac and cut into 2cm (3/4 ") cubes

Place immediately into cold water

Peel and cut potatoes into slightly large cubes

Place in large pan with garlic and salt

Pour over enough boiling water to cover

Boil until tender

Drain and cream together with butter and crème fraiche and pepper

Puree until smooth

[Can be prepared in advance and reheated]

Celeriac, Pancetta and Hazelnut Soup

(serves 4)

100g (4oz) pancetta diced
Knob of butter

1 medium onion finely chopped

1 celeriac (750g (1 1/2 lb) peeled and chopped

1 large floury potato peeled and chopped

1 bay leaf

1 litre (1 3/4 pint) fresh chicken stock

25g (1 oz) hazelnuts

Crème fraiche to serve

Extra virgin olive oil to serve

Fresh chives to serve

Fry pancetta in large pan with butter until crisp

Remove most and place on kitchen paper

Add onion to pan and fry for 5 minutes

Add celeriac, potato, bayleaf, stock and seasoning

Simmer for 15 minutes or until tender

Grill or toast hazelnuts in dry pan (care!) then coarsely chop

Remove bayleaf and whiz soup

Taste

Serve topped with dollops of crème fraiche, hazelnuts,

Reserved pancetta, oil and chives

AMP



RADYR PARISH MUSIC GROUP

invites you all to join us at a

Ceilidh

at Morganstown Village Hall
on Saturday, 30th January, 2016
at 7.30pm

Alison Jackson and fellow Scottish
Country Dancers
will lead us in Scottish Country
Dancing

*[You don't need to know how to dance
– just come along
to enjoy yourselves and blow those
winter cobwebs away]*

Tickets will be £10. and will
include supper.

Please bring your own drinks.

Kilts are not compulsory!!

Contact chrisehill13@hotmail.co.uk

Or phone 029 2084 2205

Radyr Methodist Church Charities Fair & Coffee Morning

Thanks to everybody who
contributed to the success of the
Charities Fair on 31st October,
which raised the following
amounts

Christian Aid	£230.21
George Thomas	
Hospice	£120.00
Tenovus	£200.25
Traidcraft	£588.85
Guides	£96.00
Scout stamps	£192.65
Operation Christmas Child	£145.50
PONT	£90.00
Church funds	£33.90
TOTAL	£1697.36

Operation Christmas Child

[CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES]

Once more there has been an outstanding response to the shoebox appeal from Radyr and Morganstown community. The brightly coloured boxes have been arriving constantly at my home and were all taken to Christchurch for Shoebox Sunday on 15th November, when many more arrived. What a sight they made! A coloured patchwork wall devoted to spreading love, joy and hope at Christmas to children living in war torn regions or areas of desperate poverty.

Everyone has thought most carefully about the contents and we can be assured they will bring great happiness to children in Eastern Europe, many parts of Africa and hopefully this year some refugee camps.

From these children A HUGE THANK YOU! You are all to be thanked most sincerely and I must select a few by name. Once again, our 'super knitter' Gill Davies gave me a bag bursting with brightly coloured beanie hats. Despite moving to Wells, Hilary Kitcher

delivered a bag full of knitted bags, hats and mittens. Marion John knitted many sets of scarves, hats and mittens for older children. Rose King whilst being very poorly inspired her friends to fill eleven boxes. The Wives Register persuaded by Maureen Edmund sent fifteen boxes and Marilyn Morgan encouraged her friends to fill eleven boxes.

The Church communities and various groups at Christ Church and St. John's contributed generously along with Radyr and Morganstown WI, Ladies of Radyr Golf Club, Radyr Parish Music Group, French class Rhiwbina and individuals who gave donations. We are again delighted that the children from Bryn Deri School have joined our collection.

Tony McCarthy our local collection organizer joined us this year and following the service, we formed a human chain from the Altar to the van parked at the church gate. It was a sight to behold. Young and old handing the huge number of shoe boxes towards the van, it was fairly speedy and very noisy!

Our total number this year is ????

Well done to you all.

Anne-Marie Phillips

Messiah comes to Radyr

Handel's best known work the MESSIAH and possibly his greatest will be performed by the Radyr & Morganstown Choral Society on Saturday 19th March 2016, 7.30pm in Christchurch, Radyr.

First performed in Dublin, Ireland in April 1742, the newspapers were full of reports of a premiere of 'the finest composition of musick that ever was heard'. The work's London premiere in March 1743 had a mixed reception, however by the time of Handel's death in 1759 it had become the most popular of all his works. By the second half of the nineteenth century, the celebrated performances at London's Crystal Palace involved thousands of performers. In the 1950's though the tide began to turn and successive generations have increasingly sought to recreate the 'leaner' sound that Handel himself had imagined.

The RMCS will be supported by a distinguished line up of soloists and the Welsh Chamber Players under the baton of their Musical Director Peter Esswood to recreate this 'leaner' sound. So going back in time this will be a performance to remember, even for those who are familiar with this great work.

Rehearsals start in earnest on Wednesday 6th Jan in the New School Rooms at 7.30pm.

New members to the Choral Society would be very welcome especially if they have sung Messiah before.

On behalf of the current members of the RMCS I look forward to welcoming you.

Peter Esswood - Musical Director RMCS



Radyr Parish Music Group
presents

KISS ME, KATE

Music and Lyrics by COLE PORTER
Book by BELLA & SAMUEL SPEWACK

Weds 17th to Sat 20th February 2016 at
7.30pm

Bishop of Llandaff High School

Tickets £10 (£8 concs Weds/Thurs only)

An amateur production by arrangement with MusicScope and Stage
Musicals Limited of New York



Tickets available soon from:

- www.ticketsource.co.uk/rpmg
- Sue Thomas on 029 2031 0894
- Maggie Roberts on 029 2084 2995

Thank-you

I'm ashamed to admit that I had not heard of Radyr prior to starting work at Forbuoys in January 2005. My poor husband was dragged out of the house the day before I was due to start work to show me the route to Radyr! I have no sense of direction and an even worse ability to interpret spoken directions. I was so pleased that it's just two roads from Nelson to Radyr - not even I could get lost.

I found that the majority of my customers were very friendly but there were a few grumpy old men who thought that a grunt sufficed as a greeting. Now I had a challenge. Could I get these grumpy old men to speak. In all fairness it only took a couple of months before everybody was speaking to me. Now I can't even remember who the "grunters" were!

Over the years those that were once customers have become my friends. We have shared a lot of laughs and a few tears. We've welcomed new arrivals - both into our families and into the village. We've, sadly, said our last good-byes to others. You've welcomed me into your community with open arms and I've really appreciated it. The only time I ever had any issues with you was when England played Wales at rugby. I guess you all know by now that I'm English - well somebody has to be!!

I want to say a big **THANK-YOU** to everybody who marked my recent departure with warm wishes, cards, gifts and hugs - especially the hugs! I know that my life will be the poorer without you all.

The picture is of a gingerbread shop that Marie made for me. She said it wasn't gingerbread because she had run out of ginger and had to use mixed spice instead - but it both looked and tasted wonderful all the same.

Thank-you and I hope, one day, to be back with you all.

Dee



Volunteering Opportunities in Radyr

Have you ever sat in an interview and been asked when you have thought outside the box? Well at Radyr Cubs we think outside the box every Tuesday and Thursday evening! Despite the careful planning of the activities by the leaders over cheese, biscuits and wine things have a tendency to take a turn for the unexpected which often makes the evening all the more fun! Like any sixth form student studying for A-levels I am very busy however I never miss a Cub evening. I have been volunteering with Radyr Scout Group for the last four years after being a Beaver, Cub and Scout myself. At Radyr Cubs we get up to lots of things including camps; water sports; orienteering and first aid. This week we are having a 'curry evening' where we will be cooking, doing some blind taste tests and learning about different cultures. This year the Cubs were lucky enough to have a volunteer from the South and Mid Wales Cave Rescue Team visit and chat to very excited Cubs. The rescue kit was a highlight especially the stretcher and Cubs were eager to participate. But nothing could beat the Land rover Rescue vehicle kitted out with a blue flashing lights and siren! Through my volunteer work in Cubs combined with my volunteer work in Dan-Y-Bryn Leonard Cheshire Home I have gained invaluable skills. My leadership; problem-solving; time management and inter-personal skills have improved and I really enjoy working within a team. These skills will be a huge asset on my CV but will also help me "be prepared" when I leave school and enter the 'big wide world.' If you fancy having a laugh and don't take yourself too seriously then pop along to Radyr Scout Group and see for yourself the fun we get up to! You will have a warm welcome and both you and your local Scout organisation will benefit.

Young Leader, Thursday Cub Group, Radyr

Elin Bird



Who is using the stretcher?

A willing volunteer



Neighbourhood Watch and Policing



The Radyr and Morganstown Neighbourhood Watch is made up of residents who receive alerts from the police by email, regarding local crimes and advice to prevent crime. Although crime in the area is relatively low, mainly

Radyr and Morganstown is part of a police beat area which includes all the villages North and West of Cardiff from Gwaelod y Garth to St Fagans - a very large area. The beat officer, who is new to the our area, is PC Sam Willis. He has previously covered the Whitchurch area. He is supported by two PCSOs, Laura Smith and Jess Southam. There details can be found on the village website.



PC Sam Willis

A PACT meeting is held every two months in the Old Church Rooms, chaired by the police and supported by our County Councillor Rod Mckerlich. The next meeting is to be held on Monday 18th January. You can raise issues at this meeting which concern you over crime and safety matters.

theft from cars, there has been an increase in computer and cold canvassing type crimes occurring in our area. If you wish to join this group of residents in receiving email messaging from the police please contact - d.cargill@ntlworld.com and request a link. There are new door notices which are available on request.

The local police from time to time set up property marking in Radyr library and this gives residents the opportunity to have computers, iphones, ipads etc to be registered with the police in order that they can be tracked if stolen. Once registered it enables the resident to property mark any other valuable item in the home through a computer link to the police. Notice of these sessions appear on the website.

There is an umbrella organisation in Cardiff - Cardiff West Neighbourhood Watch which meets on a bi-monthly basis with a speaker. All residents are welcome to these meetings, which are held at Whitchurch Rugby Club. Notice of these meeting will appear on the R&M website diary.

The slogan for Neighbourhood Watch is *"Building a safer community"*

David Cargill

I find Ty Gwyn farm very special, this is because there are lots of horses there and I adore horses, they're my favourite animal. Also I care for wildlife and there is plenty of wildlife to find within the two large fields. I find different types of bugs, beetles, rodents and insects or even amphibians, best of all birds. I find heaps of different species, Grey Wagtail, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Jays, Swallows, Sparrows and the rarest of all the Green

Woodpecker. Even though half of the time you're carrying buckets around or brushing the horses. When you do get to relax it can be very scenic when the sun starts to set and you hear birds chirping away, singing their hearts out and buzzards gliding away into the peaceful wilderness.

The farm also has a conservation area where beautiful wild flowers grow such as daisy's, wild blue bells, buttercups, cowslips and lots more. My favourites are the foxgloves because they are so colourful and pretty. Some of the trees have also been growing for hundreds of years!

However the bad thing is that on the big field there is a sinkhole! There is a giant ditch in the ground it is colossal! A geologist has been out on the field to confirm that there is a sinkhole. We also know this as the sinkhole was refilled with mud once but has ditched again! The rock supporting the farm is limestone which increases the chances of having a sinkhole as limestone is affected by chemical weathering and the limestone can actually dissolve overtime! As years of collected rain water in the field gathers up it results in corrosion.

I'm hoping that when I'm older I can still visit Ty Gwyn and I won't turn up to a field full of houses. Maybe news of the sinkhole will change their minds? Overall I think Ty Gwyn farm is the best place for me, Ty Gwyn farm is where every horse not house should be.

By Isaac age 11

Will houses "grow" on Ty Gwyn Farm?

In a geography lesson Year 7 pupils wrote about a place they knew well and was special to them. I expect many Chain readers will empathise with Isaac's sentiments expressed in his account. This is the unabridged version, well done Isaac.

The place I know well is Ty Gwyn farm on Llantrisant Road. Ty Gwyn farm means white house farm in Welsh; it is based in the rural village called Radyr on the outskirts of Cardiff. It's not far from my school The Bishop of Llandaff High School.

My favourite part about the farm is that there are no buildings there... yet! It's so tranquil with only 1 farm house and 10 old cow stables that are now horse stables, however like it or not all this is about to be changed and ruined. When I'm older, with an estimation of 2026, the two lush green rich fields will be destroyed and have houses put on them instead. I'm ever so disappointed about this and hope that I'm talking nonsense and this will not happen. It would be such a shame to demolish those old stables; in fact they are over 100 years old!