

# RADYR CHAIN



Number 233

Free to every home in Radyr and Morganstown

December 2017

## Bob Pearce (1931 – 2017)

### *A Personal Tribute*

Bob and Mary Pearce were mainstays of the *Radyr Chain* from its early years. I was aware of Bob only as a quiet presence, a foil to Mary's vivacity, until they persuaded me to join *The Chain* as Editor in 2000. Over the next two years I gained an appreciation of Bob as a colleague and a friend. He was an enabler and together, and with some help from Bob and Mary's family, we were able to steer the production of *The Chain* away from manual cut-and-paste and towards modern technology.

Bob was a man of ideas backed by action – and so his ideas worked. It was at this time that Bob and Jerry Bray moved *The Chain* on to a financially independent footing, a rare status for a community-produced newspaper but one which it retains to this day. In 2002 Bob and Mary took over as Editors and remained at the helm for the next fourteen years.

The quality that especially endeared Bob to me, even more than his shrewdness, kindness and utter dependability, was his unexpected sense of humour – droll and sometimes trenchant.

Bob and Mary were a redoubtable team. Along with many members of the community which they served so well I extend my heartfelt love and sympathy to Mary, their three lovely daughters and their partners, and the grandchildren who brought them so much joy.

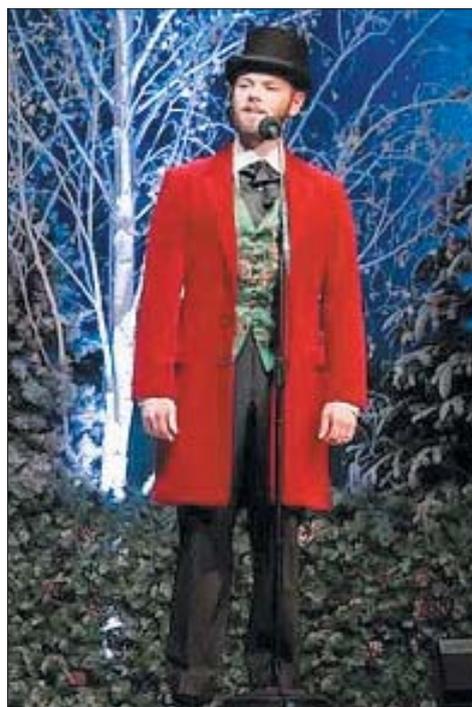
**Zoe Pearce.**



## 'Only Men Aloud' star to turn on the Christmas lights

This year's lighting ceremony will be on Friday 8th December – weather permitting – and we are delighted to report that Aled Powys Williams, Classical Brit Award Winner and former member of Only Men Aloud will be with us to turn on the lights. Aled has been a great supporter of Alzheimer's Society Cymru, our Charity for the year, in recent years and it is great that he has agreed to be part of the festivities. Aled recently performed the World Premiere of 'Mr. Dahl' alongside Michael Sheen and Cardiff Philharmonic Orchestra at St. David's Hall and also reprised the role

*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](http://www.Radyr.org.uk)

**Sat 25 Nov** 11:00 Get Ready for Christmas. The Radyr Parish fun filled family event. Seasonal stalls, gifts to buy, childrens craft activities, entertainment for all the family, food & drink on sale and much, much, more. at Christ Church, Radyr from 11.00 to 14.00 Adult Admission only £2, Children free.

**Sun 26 Nov** 11:00 Scandinavian Christmas Market. Welcome to the NEW Scandinavian Christmas Event 11.00 – 15.00. Wonderful opportunity to find those special gifts and enjoy fresh homemade cakes, open sandwiches and other delights! FREE Entry! If you'd like a stall, please get in touch. [eglobaly@btinternet.com](mailto:eglobaly@btinternet.com) FB/Scandi Events.

**Tue 28 Nov** 19:30 Imaging 2000. Leigh Woolford AWPf is presenting a display of prints and a digital colour show of Hong Kong. Old Church Rooms - Castle Room. All welcome.

**Fri 1 Dec** 10:00 Christ Church, Christmas Tree Festival. Radyr Parish is holding it's first Christmas Tree Festival at Christ Church, Radyr. A number of church and community groups have been invited to prepare a tree for the event. The church will be open to welcome all to view the displays 10.00-18.00 on Friday, Saturday and again 13.00-16.00 on Sunday.

**Sat 2 Dec** 19:30 Twinning Fellowship. Twinning Christmas Dinner at Radyr Golf Club. Open to members and friends. Entertainment by the ever popular Dave Escott. Price per person £30.00 from Maggie 20842995.

**Thur 7 Dec** 10:00 Probus of Cardiff West, Radyr Golf Club. An illustrated talk by Ian Lewis on "Stroke Prevention". New members welcome. Contact Mike Thomas 20408056

**Thur 7 Dec** 10:30 Christmas Coffeee Morning. Cardiff West Conservatives at 36 Heol Isaf by kind invitation of Cllr and Mrs McKerlich. Cake Stall/Raffle/ Tombola

**Fri 8 Dec** 19:00 Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in Morganstown, Lychgate Gardens, Windsor Gardens and Station Road.

**Mon 11 Dec** 19:30 Radyr and Morganstown WI. Tonight is our Christmas party evening, hosted by the Committee.

**Wed 13 Dec** 19:30 RCTS South Wales. An illustrated guide to the Barry Docks and Railway OCR.

**Sun 17 Dec** 18:00 Lessons and Carols. Come and celebrate the Christmas story at Christ Church with the annual service of Lessons and Carols, led by the Parish Choir. at Christ Church, Radyr. A retiring collection will be taken.

**Wed 20 Dec** 12:15 Goldies! Join us in Radyr Library for a sing-a-long...and if you're feeling energetic, a jig about too!

**Thur 4 Jan** 10:00 Probus of Cardiff West. Radyr golf Club. An illustrated talk by Eric Smith on "IT Size Matters". New members welcome. Contact Mike Thomas 20408056.

**Wed 10 Jan** 19:30 RCTS South Wales. The Alan Jarvis Show OCR

**Wed 10 Jan** 19:30 Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club. Edwardian Parks of Cardiff. An illustrated talk by Rosie James (Cardiff Parks Dept.). New School Rooms, Christ Church. All welcome. Contact Richard Gregory 20842084.

**Sat 20 Jan** 19:30 Barn Dance. RPMG hosts their annual Barn Dance. Open to all. Morganstown Village Hall. Ticket details tbc.

**Thur 25 Jan** 19:30 R&M Film Club - To be Announced. Old Church Rooms. Tickets £4. Join our Mailing List - Email [rmfilmclub@btinternet.com](mailto:rmfilmclub@btinternet.com)

**Thur 1 Feb** 10:00 Probus of Cardiff West. Radyr Golf Club. An illustrated talk by Ritchie Wood on "World War 1". New members welcome. Contact Mike Thomas 20408056.

**Mon 5 Feb** 19:30 RMA GENERAL MEETING. Come along to the R&M Association meeting in the Old Church Rooms to hear what is happening in your community. The speaker will be Roy Noble, the well-known broadcaster. All Welcome. Contact 2084 2561 or [rma@radyr.org.uk](mailto:rma@radyr.org.uk) for further details.

**Wed 14 Feb** 19:30 Radyr, Morganstown & District Gardening Club Plans for Dyffryn's Arboretum. An illustrated talk by Rory Ambrose (NT Dyffryn). New school Rooms, Christ Church. All welcome. Contact Richard Gregory 20842084

**Wed 14 Feb** 19:30 RCTS South Wales. Great Railway Journeys: Germany, Switzerland and India

*Mary Pearce and her family wish to thank everyone for their sympathy and kindness during their recent bereavement.*

## Christmas Services in the Parish of Radyr

AT CHRIST CHURCH, RADYR

**Sunday 17 December**  
6pm Nine Lessons & Carols

**Sunday 24 December**  
Christmas Eve  
4pm Carols Round the Crib

11pm First Communion of Christmas  
'Midnight Mass'

**Monday 25 December**  
Christmas Day  
8am Holy Communion  
11am Family Communion

AT ST. JOHN'S DANESCOURT

**Friday 22 December**  
6pm Carols Round the Crib

**Sunday 24th December**  
Christmas Eve  
9pm First Communion of Christmas

**Monday 25th December**  
Christmas Day  
9.15am Family Communion  
[www.parish.radyr.org.uk](http://www.parish.radyr.org.uk)



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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THE FEBRUARY EDITION OF THE CHAIN WILL GO TO PRESS PROMPTLY ON THE 15th OF JANUARY. WE CANNOT GUARANTEE TO INCLUDE ITEMS THAT ARRIVE AFTER THAT DATE

## Road Changes

Work is scheduled to begin on major road works at the junction of Heol Isaf and the Llantrisant Road at the end of this month. Traffic lights will be installed to control the flow of traffic both from the Llantrisant direction and from Radyr.

While a designated lane for traffic turning left towards Llandaff should help the flow of traffic at most times of the day, at peak times this too will need to be controlled as one of the objects of the exercise is to hold back the traffic entering Llandaff and so cut the pollution levels in Llandaff. Llandaff is over the European Union maximum levels of air pollution at some times of the day.

Other plans agreed or being discussed are traffic lights at the entrance to the Radyr Farm Estate, again to hold back the flow of traffic entering Llandaff at peak times; a bus lane on parts of the Llantrisant Road, a roundabout at Radyr Comp, a cycle lane along Heol Isaf, several new pedestrian crossings, and a 20 mph. speed limit in parts of Radyr.

### 'Only Men Aloud' star to turn on the Christmas lights

*... from front cover*

of Dewi in The Hidden Valley with Operasonic.

There will also be a few changes! The three main trees will be lit by the Festival Queen and her attendants. A brass ensemble has been hired to play Christmas Carols prior to the lighting of the tree in Morganstown at 6:00pm; we hope that will give a lovely festive feel. The tree in Lychgate Gardens will also be lit at 6:00pm, and Carols will be sung by pupils from both Primary Schools. The action will then move to Windsor Gardens where the brass ensemble – fresh from Morganstown – will start playing at 6:30m and the tree will be lit at 6:40pm, accompanied by carols sung by the Primary Schools, conducted by Peter Esswood.

The lights will be lit in Station Road by Aled at 7:00pm precisely.



STATION ROAD, RADYR  
TELEPHONE 029 2084 2437

**JEFF, JANET, STEPHEN AND STAFF  
WISH ALL OUR CUSTOMERS  
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS  
AND NEW YEAR**

AND

**WE ARE HERE FOR YOU OVER  
THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD  
WITH MANY SPECIAL OFFERS**

**COME AND CHECK OUT OUR  
OFF-LICENCE  
PRICES THIS CHRISTMAS**

**SEE INSIDE STORE FOR  
OPENING DETAILS**



Providing everyone has been good, Santa will arrive in his sleigh to talk to the young children. There is bound to be a bit of a queue so Santa will have some helpers around to keep everything in order. Every child visiting Santa will be given a satsuma!

The Station Road stalls will be open from 6:00pm selling all sorts of goodies – crafts, gifts, jewellery and much more. Burgers, hot dogs and mulled wine will be available at the R&M Association stall and the WI

will be dispensing tea and coffee. Many of the shops will also be open, as will Cicchetti, so you will be able to do some shopping and even stay for a meal. Alzheimer's Society Cymru, the RMA's charity for the year, will have a stall and will be collecting during the evening.

Do come along and enjoy the festivities, arranged jointly between the R&M Association and the R&M Community Council. It is a lovely way to start the Christmas Season and entrance is free.



Radyr Parish  
Music Group  
presents

## Me and My Girl

This super family show contains amazing dance routines, familiar songs to sing along with and a talented cast - all to be arriving next February (Wednesday 21st - Saturday 24th) at the Bishop of Llandaff School, Rookwood Close, Llandaff. This great venue has full disabled access.

This show is sure to be a sell-out. The cast are currently hard at work rehearsing dance routines and music and the principals are being put through their paces by our talented producer Bev Jones and musical director Ben Pinnow.

Tickets are available from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/rpmg](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/rpmg) or the RPMG Box Office telephone 029 2084 2995/029 2031 0894, competitively priced at £12 with a concessional rate of £10 available for over 60s and those in full time education on a Wednesday and Thursday only. Look out for posters in the New Year, and join us in the Eastend of London for this most enjoyable musical production.

Why not join the Friends of RPMG and support the group, for a £20 donation, which includes a free show ticket? Contact our publicity team by telephoning 029 2031 0894 or email

[friendsatradyrparishmusicgroup@outlook.com](mailto:friendsatradyrparishmusicgroup@outlook.com) for more information on becoming a 'Friend'.

On Saturday, January 20th the group are holding a Barn Dance at Morganstown Village Hall and extend an open invitation to all to join in the fun tickets available now priced at £10 including light supper. Email [music@radyr.org.uk](mailto:music@radyr.org.uk) or telephone Sue Thomas on 029 2031 0894.

The group are always looking for volunteers to become involved and are currently recruiting a Treasurer and Chairman as well as backstage crew. Please get in touch with our secretary Judith Jones by emailing



[music@radyr.org.uk](mailto:music@radyr.org.uk) if you are interested in volunteering.

We, the cast, look forward to performing 'Me and My Girl' and hope you will come along and ***"Do the Lambeth Walk with us. Oi!"***

To find out more, check our web page [rpmgweb.weebly.com](http://rpmgweb.weebly.com)  
Follow us on Twitter @RPMGweb  
Like us on facebook  
[@radyrparishmusicgroup](https://www.facebook.com/radyrparishmusicgroup)  
RPMG Publicity Team.

### Radyr & Morganstown Festival 2018 Art and Craft Competition

Following on from the success of the photography competition and the colouring competition for primary schools there will be an extra art related competition in next year's festival. It is aimed at adults and high school age students, of all abilities. Entries can be in **any** medium (apart from photography) the only restriction being that painted surfaces should not exceed 30cmx40cm (excluding any frame) and craft entries (excluding any frame) should not exceed 30cm x 40cm x20cm in volume.

So, dust off your paintbrushes, sharpen your modelling knives, find your needles, knead your clay and

collect your collage materials and think what you could create in line with the theme of "Memories".

Entries (£2 per entry) will need to be ready by the end of April and further details will be provided in the new year about how to deliver them. A selection of entries will be displayed at Radyr Methodist Church during part of the Festival. Redrow Homes have generously supported the competition by funding the prizes.

For more information please contact Mark Partridge tel 07925 090672; email [partridges08@googlemail.com](mailto:partridges08@googlemail.com).



# News from Radyr & Morganstown

## WI 60th Anniversary Report

On October 14th 1957, the first meeting of our WI was held in Radyr Primary School. A ballot was held and 10 committee members were elected, from which three officers were chosen. By 1968 there were 125 members.

In our October meeting 60 years later, our President expressed pride in the present 65 members who continue to uphold the traditions and values of the WI and are active in the community. To remind members of our past, scrap books and photo albums were on display, some of which displayed the creative talents of past members and were works of art.

The reasons the WI as a national institution has survived so long are its traditions and its adherence to formats and procedures. We still open our meetings with the singing of "Jerusalem" and, as a local institute, tend to follow the established pattern for meetings. It was with some trepidation therefore that the committee decided on "something completely different" for our 60th Birthday party. It was a masterly decision and the evening was a roaring success.

The entertainment was "The Porthcawl Ukulele Band", seven talented musicians who played popular music from the 50's, 60's and 70's. Soon everyone was singing and dancing. It was a joyful celebration of friendship. The buffet supper was superb, the celebration cake (baked and iced by members) was delicious and the wine was graciously served by committee members. Our thanks and congratulations go to these hardworking ladies who organised it all, even down to the "diamond" tiaras

which we were given to wear. They make lovely souvenirs of a very happy occasion. Long may our institute prosper.

To revert to other matters, our speaker for the October meeting was Dean Powell, a former newspaper editor and very accomplished speaker, who talked on "The Incredible Life of Dr. Price", primarily known for being the "Cremation Pioneer". The speaker for November will be Gwerfyl Gardner, her subject being "William Goscombe John - Welsh Sculptor". The last meeting of the year will be on December 11th and, as is tradition, the committee will be hosting it. One wonders what "surprise" they will come up with.

So, the year marches on, the Remembrance Day Parade took place on Sunday 12th November and a wreath was laid on behalf of our institute by our President, Enid Brooker.

Also in November, there will be a trip to Tredegar House on 29th November to see its "Christmas Traditions" which should get everyone in the mood for the Radyr Christmas community events which are fast approaching. A working group, led by Liz Bryant, is preparing the WI's tree for the Christ Church Christmas Tree Festival on 1st to 3rd December and our usual stall will be serving hot drinks and mince pies at the tree lighting ceremony on Friday 8th December.

It seems strange to be writing of Christmas events in mid November but the deadline for the December Radyr Chain is 15th November so the next edition will be in 2018. So, on behalf of the WI, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

For more information, contact us on email at: [radyrandmorganstownwi@yahoo.com](mailto:radyrandmorganstownwi@yahoo.com).

LJH

## CHAIN COOKERY CORNER

### TRAY-BAKED CHICKEN WITH TOMATO AND FENNEL

Serves 4

This goes really well with rice and steamed greens. Best prepared the day before.

- 1 large fennel bulb cut into 1/2 cm slices
- 1 red onion cut into 1/2 cm slices
- 4 garlic cloves sliced
- 2 Tab.spns. melted butter
- 4 Tab.spns tomato puree
- 3 teaspns. ground cumin
- 2 teaspns. fennel seeds
- 8 sprigs fresh thyme leaves finely chopped
- or 1 teaspn. dried thyme
- 1 mild red chilli, finely chopped
- 2 bay leaves
- freshly ground black pepper
- grated zest and juice 1 lemon
- 400g. chopped tomatoes
- 300ml. chicken stock
- 8/10 chicken thighs
- For Topping
- 2 Tabspns. chopped fresh parsley
- 2 Tabspns. chopped capers

Place all ingredients apart from chicken and toppings in large bowl.

Add 1 teaspn salt, stir well.

Add chicken, cover and leave to marinate in fridge. overnight.

Heat oven 180 C / Gas 4

Using large dish or roasting tin

30cms x 22cms or 12" x 8 1/2"

spread out chicken and marinade mixture.

Roast for 50 mins. taking out halfway to baste chicken.

Remove from oven and sprinkle over parsley and capers.

Serve hot.

A.M.P.



# Morganstown and the Lan Colliery Disaster

In the December of 1875, there was an fatal explosion at the Lan Mine in Gwaelod y Garth. With Christmas just a few weeks away, Morgan Llewellyn from Springfield Gardens, Morganstown would have risen early, walked through the cold and dark as usual to his work in what was then Lower Pentyrch. His father, also a miner, was probably by his side. Moses had started work as a door boy when he was eleven. His job was to open and shut ventilation doors letting pit ponies and coal drams through. He will have sat alone underground in darkness every day, seldom seeing daylight. Rats would have run round him, stealing his snap. He had to buy his own candles so would have used them sparingly. His parents, Samuel and Kindness Llewellyn, had four other children. Times were hard. As the third oldest child, he had to work - school wasn't an option. His sister Margaret was five, little Lydia, just one. They had been born at the Old Mill on the banks of the Taff and only recently, moved to Springfield Gardens.

Work at the Lan started at 6 o'clock. It was a twelve hour day and fair walk from Pentre -Poeth to Lower Pentyrch. On December 6th, 1875, snow was falling. Two hours earlier, William



*John Davis, a Welsh boy miner the age of Moses. (Mining Museum, Port Talbot)*



*Grave of Moses Llewellyn at Bethel Chapel, Morganstown.*

Llewellyn, the fire man had inspected the mine as usual. He found gas at the work face of Brass Vein.

Abraham Phillips, Overman at the Lan, had been warned that coal had to come up if the Lan was to survive. When Will Llewellyn met him with news of gas, Abraham faced a dilemma: no coal, no jobs -the pit could close if they didn't go down, yet if they went down, gas was imminent danger. Three days earlier, men had died in a gas explosion at Eliot's pit in New Tredegar, one of them a family member of a miner at the Lan. At New Tredegar, the Overman had ruled against going down, but with children to feed, the men had ignored him. Abraham had to make a decision. The men were waiting. Either ways, the future of 300 men and boys lay in his hands. He decided to go down - they had worked in gas before. When the gas exploded, he died with his men

Moses had left his post at the ventilation door to play hide and seek with another boy. He had run into Brass Vein to hide. He died of

fire-damp - Methane poisoning. The other little boy, David Reece, suffered dreadful injuries, the back of his head sliced off. Dr Edwards of Taffs Well and Dr Franklen Evans from Tynant House tended to dreadful injuries of miners lain in straw in the Lan yard. Moses will have been carried home shoulder high, covered in brattice cloth (tarpaulin) - only the dead were carried home shoulder high.

Investigating the explosion for the Coroner, William Galloway noted the pit was in bad repair. Ingress of gas from a breach into old workings had been ignited by a pipe smoked by collier Evan Davies. Galloway had researched underground explosion. The Lan disaster proved his theory - coal dust explodes with methane, dust carrying flames far from the initial blast. He recommended damping the air during blasting (a method that became world mining law). Abraham Phillips was found guilty of negligence while the pit owner, TW Booker, got away with a mild reprimand. Galloway was subsequently knighted, becoming the first ever Professor of Mining. He was situated at Cardiff University, where his portrait hangs. The Lan was the first pit to practice his method.

Lan Mine's entrance is in Gwaelod y Garth, just off the Main Road. The remains of the Mill where Moses Llewellyn was born is visible on the banks of the Taff. (R. Hand side of train just after Radyr Station before it goes under the M4). Moses was buried at Bethel Chapel. Lydia Llewellyn, born at the Old Mill, 1874, grew up and married Albert Newman, a baker. She died December 1952. Like Moses Llewellyn, she is buried at Bethel Chapel. Dan Evans, another Lan miner, also lies there in an unmarked grave.



*Tynant House, home of Dr Franklen Evans*

# Scouting in our Community

There are many fantastic elements to being part of the scouting movement, whether you are a helper, leader or young person, any involvement can be very rewarding. From my own experience the rewards are endless (I won't ramble on about all of them here today) however I would like to share with you the overwhelming pride we as Leaders feel for our colonies, packs and troops – when we see so clearly the level of commitment shown. This was wonderfully demonstrated on Remembrance Sunday – our GSL David Bird counted over 100 children and Leaders on parade at the war memorial, but it's not just about turning up – we endeavour to guide our members in understanding the importance of remembering our fallen and how we can all come together as a community in our moment of contemplation.



Community, community spirit and helping other people is at the very core of scouting, we strive to help our cubs on their journey in discovering the Local and wider community. This year 1st Radyr Cubs have been involved in various community projects. In May we helped deliver envelopes for Christian Aid, again they didn't just deliver the envelopes, the Cubs learnt about the charity and how important their help was in raising money for this very good cause. 1st Radyr Cubs have also been working closely with Derek Bateman - Volunteer Co-ordinator, Danybryn Leonard Cheshire Disability (now retired), Derek suggested the Cubs made bird feeders which apparently went down very well with the residents who enjoyed watching the birds (and squirrels!) eating the peanut buttered pine cones.



Through the Millions Hands Project the cubs wanted to help the residents of Dan Y Bryn enjoy their environment and help weed and clean up the grounds of Danybryn – this was achieved over several visits - they were joined by one of the residents who was once a scout himself and I'm sure spending time with the cubs helped bring back happy memories for him. The cubs were able to reflect on the work they had done by speaking to one of the residents about how important it is to have a nice place to sit and enjoy nature.



Our current project involves decorating a Christmas tree for the Christmas Tree Festival which starts on the 1st December, the Cubs will be able to personalize their own decorations in preparation for display in the Church Hall. The cubs will be able to “visit” the tree (and all the other trees on display) knowing they have played their part in our communities festive activities. This sounds like lots of fun and I can't wait to see everybody's efforts on display!

Finally, it would be remiss of me not to mention Scout Post, Scout Post is a scheme that offers the public of Cardiff and most parts of the Vale of Glamorgan an opportunity to send Christmas Cards at a fraction of the cost of Royal Mail. Our Cubs and Scouts have been busy posting leaflets detailing where you can drop off your cards and the areas covered.



**Please help us raise funds** - If you have friends or relatives that live locally perhaps you would consider buying a stamp or two from our cubs or scouts (they will be selling them door to door come rain or shine) or one of the outlets listed on the leaflet.

**Taken from the scouting website:**  
*“we help young people get jobs, save lives and even change the world”*

# FILM CLUB

The film club will take a break over Christmas returning on Thursday 24th January. At the time of going to press the film to be shown has not been decided upon. Posters will go up around the village once the title has been agreed.

Can we remind readers that although it is called a Film Club it is open to everyone. Tickets at £4 are available in advance from ener-chi in Station Road or come along and buy them at the door.

## Treforgan v Pentrepoeth

The debate about which is the correct Welsh name for Morganstown has had some interesting knock-on effects. I was given the Williams/McAllister archive to look at with some interesting results.

(a) Bethel Chapel is on a 999 year lease from the estate.

(b) We had been discussing the origin of Teaman's Row. Clan McAllister had been told by members of the family that the tea was some kind of tool used by iron workers.

A search through the archive brought to light a lease on part of Tyn y Berllan Farm to one of the David family from St Fagans – probably related to the David family who held Radyr Court in the 19th century – Tea merchant. As simple as that.

A search of late 19th century maps has produced a lovely name. Caer-idwen Cottages, which stood opposite the present houses on the main road in Morganstown. Interestingly they stood just above Mortganstown Motte, is this a folk memory of the name of the Motte? Caer in Welsh is a fort or a castle. If so who or what was Idwen? We'll never know. The name has been used for one of the streets on the Cwm Farm Estate at the back of Morganstown.

On Thursday 15th February at 8 p.m. I shall be giving a short talk on the History of Morganstown, in the Old Church Rooms. All those interested are welcome to join us for this talk.

**Allan Cook,**  
Chair of the History Society.

## We Never Win Anything!

Or at least that's what we used to say. Then in May, we won first prize in the Radyr & Morganstown Festival Draw. This was a voucher for two to visit the James Sommerin Michelin Star restaurant in Penarth to attend their 'Chef's Table'. This was such an unusual experience, we thought others might like to hear about it.

We arrived at 7pm to be greeted with glasses of sparkling wine before being escorted into the kitchen. Here we were seated at a sort of breakfast bar actually within the kitchen. From this vantage point we were able to chat with the three chefs and watch and as they prepared dishes for us and for the diners seated in the main restaurant area. The immediate impression was one of calm, professional control. No shouting, no tension and certainly no Gordon Ramsey bravado here! We were here to enjoy fourteen, yes fourteen courses, of some of the finest cuisine in Wales. The ten savoury courses included venison, lobster, sea bass, brill and Welsh Lamb interspersed with a range of vegetarian dishes. One signature dish was a pea raviolo served with Serrano ham and foam. The chef explained that for this a pea veloute was prepared and frozen before being encased in pasta. When the cooked raviolo was cut, the delicious creamy sauce flowed onto the plate.

By our 9th course we were really beginning to struggle so we asked to share each of the four dessert courses. And we turned away the cheese board! The final dessert course, a raspberry soufflé was probably our favourite. Right in front of us the chef prepared the mixture, decorated the inside of the ramekin with freeze dried crushed raspberries and baked it in the oven just next to our seats. Minutes later a perfectly risen soufflé appeared. We were so sorry that after so many courses we really could not do it justice.

So our thanks go to Aled Treharne and Sean Sabbage from St John Ambulance for so generously donating the superb prize to use in the Festival Draw. We will certainly be buying tickets again next year!

**Martin & Sue Coysh**

## Operation Christmas Child

(Christmas Shoe Boxes)

Once again I am delighted to report that we've had a wonderful response to the shoebox appeal. We held Shoebox Sunday in Christchurch on November 19th. The Sunday-School children and congregations of Christchurch and St. Johns Church carefully offered their boxes to build the 'wall of love' along with the other boxes from various organisations.

The following day the boxes were collected along with contributions from Bryn Deri and Radyr Primary Schools and taken to the huge warehouse at Llantrisant. Here they were sorted and crated ready for delivery to disaster areas in the world.

Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest Christmas project devoted to spreading love, joy and hope to children living in war torn regions, areas of desperate poverty, or disaster regions.

You are all to be thanked most sincerely for your generosity.

This year we had two super knitters, Gill Davies and Marion John. Once more Rose King and Marilyn Morgan persuaded their friends to fill boxes. Other groups to be thanked are the Sunday Schools and congregations of Christchurch and St. Johns, the Mothers Union, Radyr and Morganstown W.I., Radyr National Women's Register, Rotary Club of Llandaff, ladies of Radyr Golf Club, Radyr Parish Music Group, French class Rhiwbina and individuals who gave donations, Bryn Deri and Radyr Primary Schools.

The total number of shoeboxes collected will be announced in the next issue of *Radyr Chain*.

Thank you all for your continued enthusiasm and support.

**Anne-Marie Phillips**

# Radyr & Morganstown Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan



## A REPORT FROM RADYR & MORGANSTOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The candidates who stood during the last election to the Community Council were elected unopposed. It is sad to report that, as no other residents stood for election, the Council found themselves short of five members. Consequently, these vacancies were widely advertised and the Council were delighted by the response. Four candidates were co-opted following the first set of interviews. They bring to the Council expertise across many areas. Ms Angharad Richards is a civil servant with the Welsh Government, Mr Kevin Ullah is involved with property matters and Kieran Webster has been involved with many varied local activities within the both villages. All reside in Morganstown. Mrs Julia Charles, who resides in The Sidings, brings to the Council experience in the training and conduct in business. Following the second interview Mr Myles Vatsaloo, who resides in Radyr, was co-opted and adds to the Council experience in law and conservation. Our new Community Councillors have all agreed to serve on the various committees.

There are several activities underway concerning both villages. It is a pleasure to report that the Council have been able to support local youth projects. The Radyr Rangers and Cricket Clubs plus the Pony Club have all received financial support to assist with their developments. The Council members were very impressed by the commitment of parents and coaches alike who give their services voluntarily. Our financial contribution to the Teeny Tots was featured in the last edition. Other organisations, who are concerned with local youth development, are encouraged to submit a reasoned case to the Community Council for future financial support.

The World War 1 Commemoration Committee have met to consider how best to mark the ending of the Great War in **NOVEMBER 2018**. Numerous ideas were put forward but one suggestion in particular stood out. It was to cover the grassed area around the Monument with knitted poppies. To date, over 800 knitted red poppies have been produced by local volunteers and both Womens Institutes. Many more are needed and the committee would appreciate further volunteers. The knitting pattern will shortly be published on the R & M Website and copies will be available at the Council office in the Old Church Rooms. If you wish to claim the costs of the red wool and black centre button, please contact the office but you will need to produce receipts.

Councillors Huw Jones and David Suthers, ably assisted by Mr Martin Smidman from Age Connects, are trying to resurrect the Lunch Club for our more Senior Residents. The possible venues and costs are being investigated before any decision is made. Some of our senior residents will require transport to and from the final venue. The Council would therefore much appreciate if volunteers would come forward to pick up these residents, take them to the venue and return them to their homes.

At a recent meeting of the North West Cardiff Group [NWG] where your Council is represented, several topics arose. The Charter between Cardiff County Council and the Community Councils was discussed and several alterations were proposed. When the proposed modifications to the Charter are agreed, it was hoped that a meeting could be arranged with the Chief Executive of the Cardiff County Council. The other major decision was to examine all existing planning and reserved matters pertaining to the Cardiff Local Development Plan.

Finally, on behalf of the Radyr & Morganstown Community Council, I would like to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Dymuniadau gorau am 2018.

Councillor Ralph Vaughan - Chairman

## Community Fundraising –

### Alzheimer's Society

The Radyr and Morganstown Association have selected Alzheimer's Society Cymru as the supported charity for the next 12 months, to raise awareness and funds for those living with dementia, and their carers. A fundraising group of volunteers has now been formed and has had three meetings so far.

All are welcome to join us, and new group members will be very much welcomed. The fundraising group is led by Mark Richards, a Radyr resident. Mark says:

“Dementia doesn't care who you are; it could affect us all. Every three minutes someone is diagnosed with this disease and so many people are facing it alone. This means that someone we know in the community of Radyr and Morganstown is likely to be affected.

Alzheimer's Society Cymru is there for anyone affected by dementia. The charity carries out vital research as well as providing information and assistance to make sure people know where to go for support.

Our new volunteer group aims to raise as much funding as possible to help people in our community, across Wales and beyond. We meet monthly and have already started to make approaches within the community for support. If you would like to join us either by being part of our group or feel you could help us in anyway, then please do get in touch. Together we will make a difference.”

The group hopes to work with local community groups and businesses over the next 12 months to develop a range of fundraising initiatives, including setting up collection points for the donation of foreign coins (one has now been agreed in Radyr and Morganstown Library), and the sale of 'forget-me-not' badges. There will be events and fundraising activities

targeted around the annual May festival, and we hope to run a series of Dementia Friends workshops to provide training in dementia awareness for people in the community.

Over 3,700 people have dementia in Cardiff. Alzheimer's Society Cymru exists for anyone affected by dementia, and provides information and support to people living with dementia and their carers. A national support helpline is available on 0300 222 1122 or visit [alzheimers.org.uk](http://alzheimers.org.uk)

Please contact Cheryl George at [cheryl.george@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:cheryl.george@alzheimers.org.uk) if you are interested in getting involved, attending a meeting, or would like to suggest a fundraising activity.



## Spend an Evening with Fair Do's!

Fair Do's/Siopa Teg is one of Cardiff's hidden treasures! It is possible you might not yet know about this small but very well-stocked fair trade shop in the heart of Canton, but for twenty years now, they have supported and promoted the fair trade cause throughout South Wales.

The shop is full of beautiful, colourful things – fair trade toys, clothing, jewellery, crafts and of course, food – but that's not where their work ends. The team at Fair Do's are passionate about outreach work and engaging with the local community. To this end, they welcome groups of school children in to the shop for educational activities, hold stalls at local festivals, and equip volunteers to hold their own stalls in their churches and groups. Fair Do's currently employ Aled Pickard as an outreach worker, thanks to a grant from Hub Cymru Africa, and he spends his time visiting schools, businesses and community groups to present research carried out by Fair Do's into the impact of buying fair trade in Wales.

Aled says, "I've always known that fair trade is helping to transform the lives of farmers and producers behind some of our favourite products, but having done this research and met fair trade

producers, it's very encouraging to know that every single purchase is helping people in some of the world's poorest countries meet all their needs. Just 55 people drinking one cup of fair trade coffee a day could sustain a coffee farmer in Uganda. And through selling Kenyan crafts, we at Fair Do's have enabled mothers there to earn what they need to pay for their children's education, amounting to more than 13 years of education so far."

One of the unique services that Fair Do's offers all year round, is a free 'Evening with Fair Do's' opportunity. Groups can book their own time at the shop for an evening of free refreshments, private browsing and buying, and an optional talk on fair trade. This service is especially popular at Christmas and is the perfect way to socialise with friends while ticking off a few names from your gift list without the stress of crowded shops! It's also a fantastic opportunity for those who are usually at work during Fair Do's opening hours and would like to be able to visit the shop. When you do visit them, you're sure to be overwhelmed by the range of fair trade goods for sale – the largest on offer in Wales! Fair Trade isn't just for coffee, chocolate and bananas!

[www.fairdos.com](http://www.fairdos.com)  
[www.facebook.com/fairdoscardiff](https://www.facebook.com/fairdoscardiff)  
Twitter: @fairdoscardiff Email: [info@fairdos.com](mailto:info@fairdos.com)  
Tel: 029 2022 2066



## Radyr Drama Society

It was with regret that the Radyr Drama Society had to cancel their autumn production of A Chorus of Disapproval because they were unable to replace one older man after the first actor had to withdraw. This highlights the perilous state of many Societies within the two villages, most societies would welcome new members with open arms and contact details of all the Societies are on the Web site.

Radyr Drama Society are looking for both acting and backstage members for their spring production in April. Lord Arthur Saville's Crime is a play based on a story by Oscar Wilde with all his customary wit. Lord Arthur is engaged to the lovely Sybil Merton, but a palm reader tells her that he will commit a murder. To ensure his married bliss Lord Arthur decides to get the murder out of the way with some hilarious results. They are looking for five men and five women between the ages of eighteen and eighty, so no excuse on age.

They will meet for the first time at 7.30 on Jan 8th and auditions for Lord Arthur Saville's Crime will take place at 7.30 on the 15th January, both events taking place at the New Schoolrooms next to Christ Church.

It was with sadness that we recorded the closing of the Radyr Branch of the NSPCC because the membership was getting too old. Come on Radyr and Morganstown don't let Societies go to the wall because of lack of support.

### Nora Starkey

It was with deep sadness that the Drama Society heard of the death of Nora Starkey. Nora was one of the backstage crew that you could always depend upon, usually involved with costumes or make up. Not only was Nora the backbone of the Drama Society she also helped the Radyr Parish Music Group with their musicals and was involved in many other activities. She will be greatly missed.

## National Eisteddfod

... from back cover

Wales. Marion hopes that the quilt will raise around £2,000 towards Radyr and the Garth's total.

As well as spending the greater part of her waking hours sewing the quilt, much of it by hand, Marion also organised a fashion show at Radyr Golf Club which raised £2,500 towards the fund. With the help of boutique owner Kathy Gittins from Cowbridge they organised a highly successful show using local ladies as models.

Since she opened her first boutique in Pwllheli, Kathy has gone on to open further boutiques in Cowbridge, Haverfordwest and her most recent venture in Welshpool. Marion will be organising another fashion show in the Golf Club in the spring.

Other events to raise money for the Eisteddfod was a highly successful afternoon tea party in the Orchard, in Park Road, which raised a further £350 towards the total.

The last major event this side of Christmas, will be a Choral Concert of Christmas Music in Bethlehem Chapel, Gwaelod y Garth on Thursday 7th December at 7.30. Artists taking part will be the Cariff Choir Chordydd, soloists Steffan Jones and Efan Arthur Williams, and Children from Gwaelod y Garth School. A lovely way to get into the spirit of Christmas with music from many countries in many languages.

## Radyr and Morganstown Lunch Club

"The Radyr and Morganstown Community Council, working with Age Connects(Cardiff and the Vale) are relaunching the Lunch Club for those who are 60+. It is widely felt that it would be a much needed addition to the provision for older people in the area and that the Lunch Club that used to operate is sorely missed.

The location, initially, is to be at the Ty Nant pub on a Friday. This is known to be a popular venue. The price of a main meal will vary from £3.99 to £6.50 with a charge of between £1 and £2 for an additional course.

This is to be launched in the New Year. If you would like to attend, know of someone who would, or would be interested in helping out as a volunteer, please contact Martin Smidman. Telephone 07870 088381. Email martin.smidman@ageconnectscardiff.org.uk"

**Martin Smidman**  
**Volunteer Manager Age Connects(Cardiff West)**  
**Tel:07870 988381. Usual Working Days Monday, Tuesday, Thursday. Radyr Lunch Club Work Wednesday**

## Community Council supports Radyr Cricket Club

Radyr & Morganstown Community Council have this year launched a new Youth fund allowing anyone who offer activities to children in the local community to apply for funding of up to £1,000.

During the summer Radyr Cricket Club made an application to the council for monies to support our junior winter net sessions at Radyr Comprehensive and the SWALEC stadium. We are delighted that our application was successful and would like to thank everyone involved at R&M Community Council for supporting Radyr Cricket Club.

Our winter nets will now start in the New Year and will initially be available to children in our U11, U13 and U15 age groups. We are hoping to also run sessions for our younger members in the Spring. Anyone interested in more information on junior cricket at Radyr Cricket Club can contact email Emma Clegg at the following address [peteemarch@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:peteemarch@hotmail.co.uk).



# Merched y Wawr Bro Radyr

## Coginio gyda Liz West

Cafwyd noson hwyliog a difyr yng nghwmni Mrs Liz West o Efail Isaf, fu'n tynnu dwr o'n dannedd wrth iddi baratoi nifer o ddanteithion. Daw Liz yn wreiddiol o Abercraf, ac ar ôl addysg uwchradd yn Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera, hyfforddodd fel athrawes yng Ngholeg Addysg Llandâf. Bu'n athrawes Economeg y Cartref yn Ysgol Gyfun Llanharri, ac yna yn Rhydfelen a Gartholwg lle daeth yn bennaeth Dylunio a Thechnoleg ac yn y man yn aelod o uwch dîm rheoli'r ysgol gyda nifer o gyfrifoldebau gwahanol.

Cawsom wybod sut i wneud basgedi 'wonton' o grwst ffilo a roulade sawrus yn cynnwys sbinais ac wedi'i lenwi â chaws hufennog ac eog wedi'i fygu. Y seigiau melys 'roedd Liz yn eu harddangos yn gelfydd iawn oedd roulade siocled a gâteau siocled arbennig ar gyfer y Nadolig wedi'i haddurno gyda choed Nadolig siocled tri dimensiwn! Digon o syniadau newydd i aelodau'r gangen eu paratoi ar gyfer yr wyl. Gwrthododd Liz dderbyn unrhyw gydnabyddiaeth am



Ruth Davies  
gyda'i  
chyn-ddisgybl  
Liz West

ei gwaith gan ddymuno i ni fel cangen roi'r arian at Gronfa Apêl Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Caerdydd 2018.

Gwerthwyd y gâteau deniadol ac fe â'r arian hynny hefyd i'r apêl. Ar ddiwedd y noson cafwyd cyfle i flas'u'r danteithion, hyn yn ychwanegu at fwynhad yr aelodau.

Byddwn yn dathlu'r Nadolig yn ein cyfarfod nesaf ar y 6ed Rhagfyr. Paratowyd rhaglen arbennig gan Mrs Rhiannon Evans a bydd nifer o'r aelodau'n cymryd rhan gyda lluniaeth ysgafn i ddilyn. Noson arall i edrych ymlaen ati.

ystafell eang â goleuadau disgo a chwareuwyd cerddoriaeth yn y cefndir. Kathy Gittins ei hun oedd yn rhoi sylwadau ar y dillad wrth iddynt gael eu harddangos gan y modelau. Roedd rhai o'r rhain wedi hen arfer a modelu i Kathy, ond fe ddewiswyd pedair o gangen Bro Radur yn arbennig ar gyfer y noson - Marian Evans, Rhiannon Evans, Carys Tudor Williams a Shirley Williams. Cafodd y bedair y cyfle i wisgo amrywiaeth o ddillad mewn sawl steil a lliw gwahanol. Roedd yr eitemau lliw a gafodd eu harddangos yn chwalu'n llwyr y gred mai dim ond dillad du, gwyn neu arlliwiau o hufen sydd ar werth yn siopau Kathy. Hyd yma ni wyddom faint o'r dillad a brynodd y modelau hyn, ond gwyddom fod ambell i eitem wedi ymddangos ar un neu ddwy o aelodau eraill y gangen yn ein cyfarfod ar ddechrau Tachwedd.

Cafwyd noson hwyliog ond yr un mor bwysig yw bod ymhell dros £2000 o

bunnoedd wedi ei godi tuag at apêl pwyllgor Radur a'r Garth. Diolch i bawb a gynorthwyodd mewn unrhyw ffordd gyda'r trefniadau

## Sioe Ffasiynau yng Nghlwb Golff Radur

Ar nos Iau, 12 Hydref, daeth yn agos i 200 o ferched o bob oed ynghyd yng Nghlwb Golff Radur i fwynhau Sioe Ffasiynau a drefnwyd gan Jean Salisbury a Marian Evans er mwyn codi arian tuag at Eisteddfod Caerdydd 2018. Dillad o siopau Kathy Gittins oedd yn cael eu harddangos,

a'r dillad hynny wedi eu cynllunio gan sawl un sydd eisoes wedi ac ambell un sy'n brysur gwneud enw iddynt eu hunain yn y byd ffasiynau. Bellach mae gan Kathy Gittins bedair siop ledled Cymru, a'r agosaf i ni yn Y Bontfaen ym Mro Morgannwg.

I greu naws arbennig a phroffesiynol adeiladwyd *catwalk*, goleuwyd yr



Marian Evans, Rhiannon Evans, Carys Tudor Williams a Shirley Williams yn modelu

## More Flats & Houses Proposed for The Sidings, Radyr

Taff Housing Association has begun a pre-application consultation for a development of social housing on land at the south-eastern end of De Clare Drive, Radyr.

The proposal is for two blocks of flats, comprising 18 one-bed and 10 two-bed flats, and 8 three-bed houses — a total of 36 dwellings, plus 34 car parking spaces. The full draft planning application is available at

<https://www.wyg.com/consultations/declare-drive-radyr>.

The deadline for comments is 8th December. Taff Housing Association is obliged to give consideration to all feedback, and report to the council on the comments received as part of its planning application. It is anticipated that a formal planning application will be submitted before the end of this year.

There is a Sidings Residents' Association, which has been working over the past few years to represent the views of residents on the whole development and advocate on their behalf. It is currently liaising with Sidings' residents to collate feedback, and aims to co-ordinate a collective response to this consultation and the planning application.

Given the inevitable impact on local infrastructure and amenities, such as traffic, schools and the medical centre, the Sidings Residents' Association is very keen to hear the views of all residents of Radyr & Morganstown, as well as those on the Sidings.

Please contact the Sidings Residents' Association at [sidings@radyr.org.uk](mailto:sidings@radyr.org.uk) if you have any comments about the proposed developments or if you would like to be added to our mailing list and kept up to date with further news.

## Armistice Day Service



### Radyr Methodist Church Charities fair & Coffee morning

Saturday 4th November 2017

Another successful event where the following amounts were raised by the various charities.

Christian Aid (Tickets)	£130.90
Christian Aid (Cakes)	£ 82.70
Scout stamps	£170.00
Guides	£ 90.00
City Hospice	£178.00
Traidcraft	£200.00
Tenovus	£320.00
Operation Christmas Child	£200.00
PONT	£ 82.00
Church funds	£ 60.34
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 1513.94</b>

*Many thanks to all who made it happen.*



The ending of the First World War was commemorated with its usual solemnity at Radyr's War Memorial on Sunday 12th of November. A good turnout included Scouts, Guides and the presence of St John's Cymru for the first time, as well as service personnel and veterans. The presence of St John's Ambulance made up for the absence of the Air Cadets who couldn't be with us for the first time in many year's. The Queen's representative was Col. Guy Clarke, whose childhood home overlooked the War memorial. More details in the next edition of *The Chain*.

## Treforgan WI Fashion Show



The ladies of Treforgan WI held a Charity Fashion Show on October 5th to raise funds for the R & M association Charity for 2016/17 *The Alzheimers Society* and the *Salt Peter Trust*.

We will be handing £260.00 to the Charity representatives. The wonderful

Samantha B from Ewenny again gave her time and knowhow to allow members of Treforgan to show off some wonderful outfits. We thank Sam and photographer Mick Sullivan for their help and expertise.

## National Eisteddfod



Work continues to raise money for the National Eisteddfod in Cardiff Bay next August. One of Radyr and the Garth's most hard working members of the fundraising committee is Marion Evans, pictures centre of the photograph, who has spent the last six months working on a traditional Welsh quilt, showing various aspects of the Eisteddfod.

In a welcome new departure the Community Council is to bring a professional Panto to the Old Church Rooms. *Once Upon a Time* is a professional company based in Llanelli. Formed in 2002 this is their 16th Panto.

*Once Upon a Time* put their own special twist on the *Cinderella* story, along the way you will meet the ugly sisters Driselda and Griselda, their mother Madam Trevain, Prince Charming, the fairy, Buttons and of course Cinderella. The show is full of slapstick, laughter, music and magic, an evening of good old family fun.

*Cinderella* will take place in the Old Church Rooms at 6.30 p.m. On Wednesday 20th of December. Tickets 50p are available from Park Road Nursery, Radyr Primary School or the Clerks to the Community Council. Children should be accompanied by an adult.

**Once Upon a Time Theatre Company**  
 SPONSORED BY  
**RADYR & MORGANSTOWN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Wednesday  
 20th December 2017  
 6.30pm

Tickets priced at 50p each  
 All proceeds to charity

**Cinderella 2017**

BOX OFFICE DETAILS  
 Karen at Park Road Nursery, Old Church Rooms  
 Julie/Ceri on Tel: 029 20842213 Email: clerk@radyr.org.uk  
 Louise at Radyr Primary School on Tel: 029 20842228  
 Tickets sold on first come first served basis

Call now for information about how to book our future productions to your venue.  
 Once Upon a Time Theatre Company, 26 Railway Terrace, Llanelli, Carmarthenshire, SA31 2BB  
 E-Mail: bookings@onceupontime-theatrecompany.co.uk Visit www.onceupontime-theatrecompany.co.uk 01454 79472

The four centre panels, all in the Eisteddfod colours, show aspects of the Eisteddfod, drama, music, poetry and the Eisteddfod symbol. Marion is pictures with Jim Parc Nest, the former Archdruid – also a Radyr resident - who wrote some poetry to be embroidered into the quilt and Mari Lewis who paid for the materials. The quilt also includes some designs from traditional Welsh quilts and even designs borrowed from native American Indians, the First Peoples.

The quilt is far too intricate to be placed on a bed, it should be on display on the wall of a public building or on the bed of one of our grander hotels in a room which celebrates

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