

RISCA

DIRECTORY



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SW DIRECTORIES

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Hopefully, the weather will be kind to us over the next couple of months and we'll all be able to take a walk in our beautiful countryside and benefit from some summer sunshine.

Best wishes

Susan



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Be Aware When You Visit Historic Twmbarlwm

AFTER THE LONG WINTER most people are desperate for some sunshine and outdoor activity. So pack a picnic and get the family out into our beautiful countryside – and if you want somewhere local and FREE, there's nowhere better than the historic mountain of Twmbarlwm.

Note that I said 'historic' – it's amazing how many people don't realise its historical significance. So this year CTS has arranged to erect signs to remind people that the hillfort at the summit of Twmbarlwm is, in fact, a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM). As the signs say, Twmbarlwm is considered to be of National Importance and is protected by the *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act of 1979* and updated by the *Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016*.

But what exactly is "Scheduling"?

"Scheduling" is the UK's oldest form of heritage protection. It began in 1913, although its roots go as far back as 1882 when through the Ancient Monuments Protection Act, a 'Schedule' of mainly prehistoric monuments deserving of state protection was first compiled. Twmbarlwm was added to the list in 1939.

In Wales, "Scheduling" is the responsibility of Cadw (the Welsh word for 'keep') an Executive Agency within the Welsh Government.

The term "Ancient Monument" is applied to a wide variety of archaeological sites. From ancient burial sites and standing stones to the far more prominent and well known medieval castles and abbeys.

At the other end of the spectrum, there are industrial remains which continued in use into the twentieth century. Indeed the eastern edge of the Mynydd Maen ridge at Penyrheol and Cwm Lickey is also classified as a SAM because of its rich industrial heritage.

The aim of scheduling is to ensure the long-term preservation of a site. Any proposal to carry out works at a SAM which might have the effect of damaging it must be approved by Cadw. Even if the works are beneficial to the monument, Scheduled Monument Consent must be applied for – a thorough process that CTS has been involved with several times.

The full extent of SAM designation cannot be explained in such a short article and I would advise you to visit the Cadw website (www.cadw.gov.wales) for more details.

For the casual visitor to the site you should remember the basic rules such as: Take all litter home with you; Do not light fires or barbecues; Do not damage undergrowth or structures; Do not dig into the ground surface.



Aerial photo of Twmbarlwm Hillfort taken after the wildfires of 2018
© Mark Walters / Cadw

Twmbarlwm
Mound and Bailey Castle (MM044)

This site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and is protected as being of National Importance under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

DO NOT: Leave Litter, Light Fires, Damage Undergrowth or Dig Into the Surface of the Landscape – Offenders will be prosecuted

NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES
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PLEASE KEEP TO THE PATHWAYS

The ground surface of this area is very fragile after the wildfires of 2018 – please respect this area while it recovers naturally.

Motorised vehicles are forbidden and the riding of horses and bicycles is not allowed.

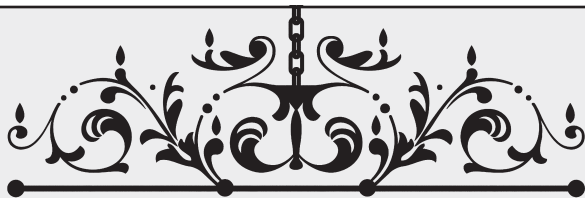
Also, metal detectorists should note that it is an offence to use a metal detector on a SAM without prior consent from Cadw and the landowner.

However, a general rule of thumb might be – if you wouldn't do it at Cardiff Castle, Stonehenge or Tintern Abbey, then don't do it to Twmbarlwm.

Finally, please remember that at the moment the ground surface on Twmbarlwm is still extremely fragile after last year's wildfires, **so please respect the landscape and give the area time to recover naturally.**

Terry C. Evans, Chairman CTS

CTS meet at the car park below Twmbarlwm's summit for a litter pick and volunteer workday on the last Sunday of every month to which everyone is invited, it's not all hard work and it's a great opportunity to find your way around up there. We organise walks and other events up the mountain and at Crosskeys RFC throughout the year so watch our website and Facebook page for details.
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Welcome to

Risca East Community Council

Newsletter

The Community of Risca East covers an area stretching from Risca Community Comprehensive School in the south to almost Fernlea in the north. Risca East Community Council was formed in 2012 as the result of a referendum held to decide whether residents were in favour of having a community council and here we are, seven years later, going from strength to strength!

There are over 700 'community and town councils in Wales serving approximately 70% of the population and a research study by Aberystwyth University identified several key benefits of having community councils' (source: One Voice Wales)

Representation of Local

Interests: We're fortunate in having three Caerphilly County Borough Councillors sitting on Risca East Community Council, Cllr Nigel George, Cllr Philippa Leonard and Cllr Arianna Leonard, all of whom share their knowledge to help improve our community. The Community Council is apolitical and is accountable to the residents of Risca East, not to a particular political party.

Mobilisation of Community

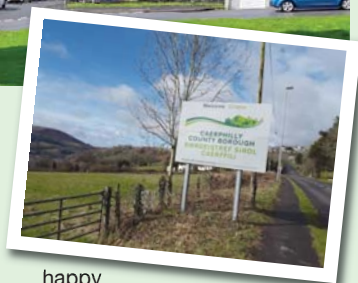
Activity: The Community Council supports local activities by sponsoring events to raise funds for charity; donating grants to groups and organisations including Black Vein Memorial Society and Cylich Meithrin Dewi Sant and hosting events to showcase local entrepreneurs, such as the



summer and Christmas craft fairs held at Channel View Community Centre.

Accountability: The County Borough Councillors and several of the Community Councillors were elected by the residents of Risca East in the 2017 local election and will serve for a period of five years. If a vacancy arises, we're able to co-opt members of the public who show an interest in becoming community councillors, to which our latest recruits, Cllr Deb Crahart and Cllr Christine Thomas, can testify. Welcome both and we look forward to working with you!

Stability and Continuity: The Community Council receives an annual precept of approximately £25,000 which means we can plan for the long-term rather than having to worry about funding being withdrawn. This was a key factor in agreeing to fund Risca Skate Park to the sum of £20,000, as we could do so over several years. We welcome groups and organisations based in Risca to apply for financial support; please contact us for an application form and we will be



happy to discuss your request.

Promotion of Public Services:

Community Councillors can access training on subjects such as Code of Conduct, Health and Safety, Community Engagement and Equality Diversity, etc. This 'training ground' provides us with the necessary tools to support our local community and also to stand for higher political office if we so wish.

Risca East Community Council relies on groups and residents sharing their hopes and concerns in order for us to help, so please don't hesitate to contact us on:

riscaeastcommunitycouncil@outlook.com

We meet the third Thursday of the month, apart from August, at 5.30 pm, St David's Church, Thistle Way, Ty Sign and residents are welcome to observe proceedings. You can also find us on Facebook!



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Local Place Names



In his introduction to his book on place names in Wales, Ifor Williams quotes the north Wales academic John Morris Jones as having said that “only the foolhardy try to explain place names!” That being so, Wales must be full of the foolhardy as the interpretation and translation of place names in Wales seems to be a national pastime. As a result, there sometimes seems to be as many variations on the meaning of some towns and villages in Wales as there are of inhabitants. This often leads to some quite heated debate as proponents of one interpretation argue their case against those suggesting a different derivation.

The situation in Wales has been complicated by several factors. Firstly, there are the various Welsh dialects. As with all languages, dialects vary from region to region where that language is spoken; this may be because a different word exists in different regions for describing the same thing or just a difference in pronunciation or spelling. In Wales we have the added complication of Anglicisation. In

the 19th Century, large numbers of English speakers moved into Wales, especially south-east Wales, to work in the iron works and coal mines. They were unable to spell or pronounce Welsh words correctly and so we see a change in the spelling to English orthography. Other times, the incoming English speakers resulted in a significant growth in the population of an area and a completely new (English) name

was given to an existing Welsh community, hence resulting in both a Welsh and English version of a place name. The picture is further complicated by the mapping of Wales which took place during the 19th Century. This was largely undertaken by monoglot English speakers with the remit seeming to have been to record place names as best as possible using English orthography. This has resulted in some quite bizarre outcomes such as the 6th Century Welsh saint Illtud becoming a Twit (Llanilltud becoming Llantwit)! In 2018, at the behest of Oxford House Industrial History Society, Cymdeithas Enwau Lleodedd Cymru / Welsh Place Name Society (CELIC) undertook to provide an interpretation of some of the place names in the Risca area.

RISCA MUSEUM

In the past, there has been quite some head-scratching concerning the names of local areas. One such example is Ochryth, where some have tried to interpret the meaning by resorting to a dictionary and come up with the meaning of 'the eighth side' and wondering what happened to the other seven! This, of course, is a misspelling of the Welsh word 'chwith' (left) or 'chwyth' (blast of air) based on the South Wales dialect 'with' or 'wyth' (both pronounced 'weeth'). As with the Latin, the Welsh for 'left' can also mean something sinister or wrong which lends the first interpretation of 'Ochryth' as 'the wrong side' and the second as 'the windy side'. Having completed their work on a sample of place names local

to the Risca area, CELIC commissioned a set of five interpretation boards which were displayed on the CELIC stand at the Eisteddfod in Cardiff in August 2018. During the week of the Eisteddfod, these boards attracted considerable attention from visitors to the CELIC stand along with some interesting conversations around these and other local place names. Following the success of this display at the National Eisteddfod, Risca Museum were presented with a set of boards which are now on display in the Museum. The research into the derivation of the place names was undertaken by a renowned expert in the field, Richard Morgan. So, has his research into local names been accepted

by everyone and has the heat been taken out of the arguments? Of course not! And of course, we would not expect this to be so. However, what we have is what may be considered to be an expert view of the meanings of local place names which still remain open to (reasoned) debate. We also have a set of interpretation boards which local residents can refer to and can be used as the basis of future research. With our work with local schools, we also have something which can help local children understand something of their culture and heritage. Perhaps the final word should be left to John Morris Jones because after all, it is only the foolhardy who try to understand the meaning of place names in Wales!

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Cuckoo Town News **No.1**

By Bernard Osment

RENOWNED MATHEMATICIAN

Inscribed on the head-stone of a grave in the Bethesda Chapel grave-yard in Rogerstone,

are the words
**RENOWNED
MATHEMATICIAN.**

The grave is that of ROSA MORRIS, who passed away on the 15th October 2011.

Rosa, born on the 16th July 1914, was the youngest child of John and Mary Morris of the School House, Rogerstone, where her father was the Headmaster. Sadly

some three months later, at the age of 31, her father died. Fortunately her mother, with four children to support, was allowed to return to teaching at the school, where she taught for many years.

After attending Rogerstone School, in 1926 Rosa passed the scholarship examination for entry to Pontyvaun County School, Pontymister. Rosa attended Pontyvaun between September 1926 and July 1932, when she passed her exams with Distinctions in Pure and Applied Maths and was awarded a State Scholarship to Cardiff University. In 1936 Rosa gained her B.Sc. with first class honours in Mathematics and a Research Studentship at Cardiff University. During July 1938, newspapers, local, national and abroad,

carried the story of Miss Rosa Morris, aged 23, of Rogerstone, Monmouthshire, a keen hockey player and accomplished

dressmaker, who had found a method of solving problems in Aero-dynamics that had previously defied all other mathematicians. She was described as a 'Girl Mathematician Genius', for devising a formula that made plane design easier. Problems relating to stability which had hitherto

involved laborious calculations could be speedily solved. Rosa said she owed much of her success to the headmaster and staff of Pontyvaun County School.

In 1938 she was awarded a University of Wales Fellowship and a place at Girton College, Cambridge, in the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. It was there with her work and research in aerodynamics that she became involved with the Spitfire aeroplane, and contributed greatly to the war effort. In 1940 she was awarded a Ph.D. for her work. After returning to her home at 19, The Uplands, Rogerstone, in late 1940 Rosa joined the Maths department at Cardiff University as a senior lecturer.

One of her pupils was another

Pontyvaun County School girl, Kathleen Morton, many will remember her as the late Mrs Kath Niblett.

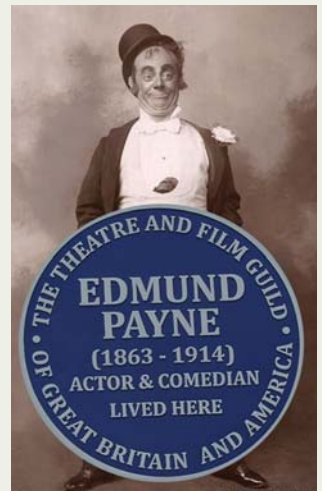
THE THEATRE ROYAL

In early July 1914 the following article was published in our local and national newspapers. PAYNE'S FIRST APPEARANCE Mr Edmund Payne, the famous Gaiety comedian, whose funeral took place last Saturday, made his first appearance in RISCA, at 3/- a week. In later days he was paid £100 a week.

Mr. Edmund 'Teddy' Payne, one of London's most popular comedians, died on the 1st July 1914. Born in London in 1863, he was a 'playgoer' from his youth. His first engagement, at the age of 15, was at the Theatre Royal in Risca, in what he described as "a shed or barn-like building, attached to a licenced house".



ROSA MORRIS,
BELOVED DAUGHTER AND SISTER.
RENOWNED MATHEMATICIAN.
PASSED AWAY 15. OCTOBER 2011.



For a weekly wage of 3/-, he was employed not only as a comedian and actor, but was also the stage manager, door-man, bill poster and even scenery maker. Fortunately this only lasted for a few weeks. His talents were spotted by the manager of the Victor Theatre (later known as the Lyceum), in Newport, who took him on as 'comedian and actor', at a salary of £300. These were his first steps on the ladder that led him to fame and fortune. In his will he left estate valued at £21,257. 10s. 8d. - about £2,500,000 today. In December 1884 the Theatre Royal, Risca was advertised as To Let. It was described as a WOODEN BUILDING, 80ft by 40ft complete with stage scenery and seating. - Apply Wm. Davies, Tredegar Arms.

Tredegar Street. Today No. 74 is Rhajees, an Indian Takeaway, and No. 75 is part of the ground floor sitting area of Risca Library.

In July 1890 the Monmouthshire County Council Surveyor was instructed to locate a site and prepare plans and estimates for a new Police Station at Risca, to include accommodation for superintendent, sergeant and constables.

In February 1892 local newspapers reported –
"Lord

road was being widened". In April 1893 members of the Police Committee visited the new station at Risca and stated that they were "perfectly happy with the building". The cost was £3,108. 9s. 11d. As there was ample accommodation in the building, in October 1894 permission was granted for holding occasional police-courts there. "Risca people who transgress will now enjoy the added luxury of being tried in their own parish. Hitherto they have to be conveyed to Newport".

At a Police inspection in August 1895 on parade there was one superintendent, one inspector, three sergeants, and thirty constables.

There is no number on the door, but 1899 is on the roof.



THE POLICE STATION

In October 1877 the Chief-Constable was authorised to purchase the leases of two cottages at Risca for use as a Police-station. Conveyances of the leases were completed in January 1878 at a cost of £335; at a yearly ground rent of £1. 5s. 3d. A further £80 was spent on 'cell accommodation' and £11. 19s. 6d. for alterations and repairs.

No longer a Police Station, in 1911 the two cottages were known as Nos. 74 and 75

Tredegar is civilising Risca. He has given the inhabitants land for a police-station and a chapel. In this way all classes will be accommodated".

The half an acre of land given for the Police Station cost the Council £350 (£700 per acre). It was previously let as pasture land at 30/- per acre per year. In January 1893 newspapers reported that "the station at Risca is rapidly nearing completion, and that the road from the new police-station to the railway-station approach



COUNCIL CAPERS NO.1

February 1930 - Tenders are invited for the erection of A GYMNASIUM and LABORATORIES and MINOR ALTERATION at the PONTYWAUN COUNTY SCHOOL, Risca. The contractor will be required to pay Trade Union rates, and observe the hours of labour and other working rules in force in the district and employ local labour as far as possible.

February 2019 - The Council announced that the old Pontywaun Grammar School Gymnasium and Science Laboratories building are to be demolished.



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Gwerinwyr Gwent Diary

On Wednesday 6th March we had our first booking of 2019 (nothing on St David's day this year which is most unusual). This took place at Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed (Newport's first Welsh medium secondary school), and came about as a result of an email from L'Ecole d'Education International de Laval, near Montreal in Canada to the Welsh Folk Dance Society. A group of 62 students (16-17 years old) and five teachers was visiting the UK, including a two day visit to Wales, and they were keen to watch and take part in some Welsh dancing.

Under the auspices of Gwyl Plant Gwent (the children's dance festival involving schools established by GG members in 1981), the visit to Ysgol Gwent Is Coed was arranged. With the help of the head teacher and pupils of the school, a programme was put together by Barbara Griffiths to give the Canadians a 'flavour of Wales'. This started with pupils giving their visitors a tour of the school, followed by refreshments and a short power point presentation about the landscape and famous places of Wales. Then they were treated to a demonstration of clog dancing by Mr James (maths teacher), a pupil harp quartet and a Welsh language solo. GG gave a display of some traditional Welsh folk dances, and finally a mini



twmpath with GG demonstrating the dances and the Canadian and Gwent Is Coed students joining in enthusiastically. We didn't have to encourage them onto the floor, the 14-17 year olds were up on their feet, eager to join in and determined to enjoy themselves and it certainly looked as though they did! They were returning to Canada on the following Saturday and we hope they left the UK with happy memories of their time in Wales.

Our next booking was Monday 25th March at Lodge Farm Church in Caerleon where, dare I say it, the age group was at the other end of the spectrum! This was a reprise of an evening put together by Barbara Griffiths telling the story of Gwerinwyr Gwent and Welsh

folk dancing, made up of dance displays interspersed with the audience guessing what was inside a series of boxes by answering clues read out by GG dancers. At the end there was time for just one easy ceilidh dance for those who wanted to join in. March was a busy month, as on 31st March we paid our annual visit to Llanover for the NGS open garden day. It is always a lovely event and raises such a lot of money for charity. The weather was dry although very cold, but that didn't stop people flooding in. We were again joined by the Lloyd family, so had a super band of musicians (they were frozen), and a lot of people watched and enjoyed our performances. We had some very nice feedback. Gwerinwyr Gwent is always seeking new members, and beginners or experienced dancers/musicians are very welcome. Practice night is Thursday 8pm-10pm at the Graig Community Hall Bassaleg, opposite the Ruperra pub.



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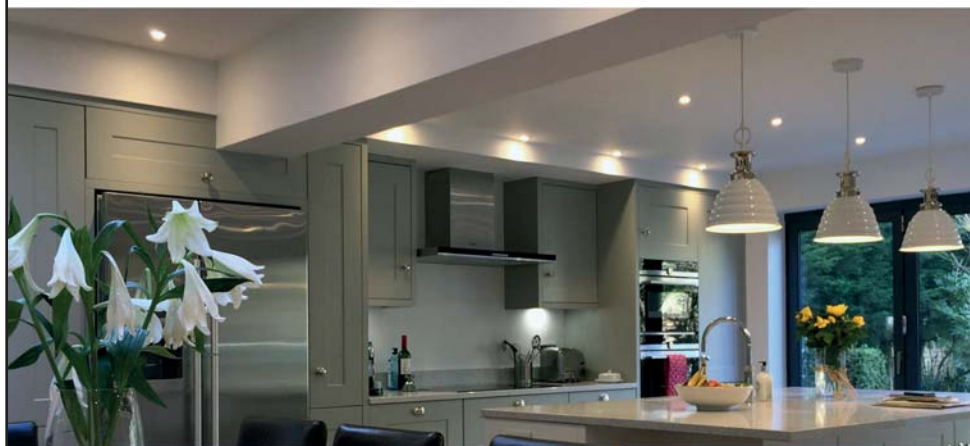


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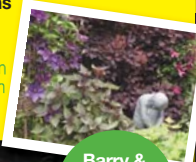
The National Gardens Scheme has donated over £42.5 million to nominated beneficiaries since it was founded in 1927. Please come along and support the NGS.

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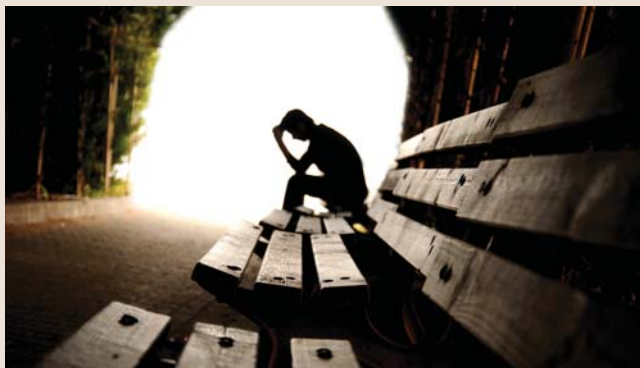
By Paul Minton

In my regular articles for the Directories, I always endeavour to recount a story with a local flavour, preferably one laced with jokes and quirky asides. I will not do so on this occasion as I have a simple plea to make. But first, I want to tell you about one of my dearest friends.

I met Rick at university: we lived in the same halls of residence, me on the top floor and he on the ground. I can't even recall how I got to know him but Rick was at ease talking to everyone. As he got older, his waistline might have expanded and his hair might have abandoned its coppery flame of youth but his sense of fun and infectious enthusiasm remained undiminished. He was loved and respected by all, including my parents who, I am sure, would have liked to have adopted him!

After graduating, Rick moved around with work but he was regular visitor to our home in Newport, often dropping in on his way down to the West Country where his family lived or en route to Cardiff if he had meetings there. He drove a red Chrysler for many years, which he christened "Scarlet O'Cara" and he would frequently bring along some of his delicious homemade bara brith: another reason why I always looked forward to seeing him.

Rick worked for various environmental organisations and was also a volunteer for different charities, often making long drives across Europe to Romania in order to deliver donated supplies. Each



Christmas Day would be spent, in part, at a homeless shelter that provided hot dinners for those in need. He was also a magistrate and on one occasion, I had the pleasure of watching him in action. Once the court was in session, this gentle giant, who would more likely than not, greet you with a big bear hug, became a formidable presence. Defendants and solicitors quivered as Rick unleashed withering reprimands but as soon as we were outside together, he reverted to his normal, placid demeanour, much like the Hulk shrinking back into Bruce Banner.

As if to counterbalance his enviable accomplishments, Rick lost his mum when he was still in his twenties and more recently, his father suffered a stroke and lived in a nursing home. Having no siblings, Rick sold his own property and moved back to the family house to be closer to his dad. When I saw him last, he mentioned finding it difficult dealing with his dad's condition but he quickly steered us into more light-hearted waters. It was a

momentary glimpse beneath his happy-go-lucky exterior but the thing about Rick was that he was a very private person, never wanting to burden anyone with his own problems.

His dad died earlier this spring and tragically, Rick took his own life the same week. He was 48 years old. It is particularly tragic that Rick had given so much support to those with mental health issues but when he needed it most, we - his friends - were oblivious. So I have an appeal to make. No matter how bad things get, whether there is a personal tragedy, a relationship breakdown, financial worries, or concerns about exams, it is crucial to talk to someone before doing something that cannot be undone. Similarly, if you are aware of somebody who might be at risk, don't wait to be asked for help. It is better to offer and be rebuffed than to delay and discover it's too late to intervene. There was never a more beloved, cheerful, and outgoing character as Rick and if it can happen to him, then given the right circumstances, we are all at risk.



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A Tribute to The Alcan Singers

An appreciation of 40 years of community service

In 1978 a group of three, Malcolm Pritchard, Mervin Jones and Ray Norris were having a little sing song of their own. As a result they thought 'Why don't we start our own choir'. Thus the seeds were sown and people were asked if they were interested. There was a tremendous response and the seeds 'ripened' with the formation of The Alcan Singers. Special thanks go to Malcolm Pritchard, Sheelagh Young (pianist), Derek Terry and Terry Browning (treasurer) who were key members of the group.

Having now got enough interest the Alcan Singers were formed. However at first things were not easy! The choir realised they badly needed a piano. A piano which was available was found and provided by the Alcan Club Committee but was located in the Tydu area of Rogerstone. In the absence of any transport the piano was pushed down the main road to the Alcan Club. There was a pause in front of the Alcan main Office block where some 'tinkling of the ivories' took place together with a few renditions for the office workers. Having the piano in place the Singers realised that they needed someone to play it! To the rescue came Ray Norris who was the first pianist for the Singers followed by Bill Davies in later years and then Sheelagh Young who had previously been conductor. Some of the



The Alcan Singers in the early days



The singers at Wednesday night practice

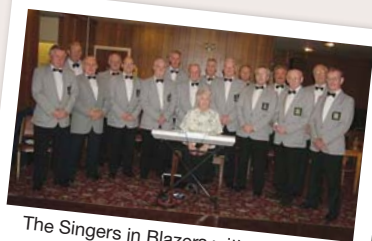
members who acted as 'comperes' over the years were Peter Faulkner, Andre Claridge and Jimmy Williams.

It is impossible to name all of the many members who were members of the group over the forty years but some of the earlier members were Les Reed, Edward Lee, Brian Jones, John Maybury, Cecil Wilcox and many more, while some of the newer members were Des Andrews, Mike Powell, Robert Bassett and Keith Lee. Over a period of exactly 40 years the singers performed at well over 1000 events which included concerts, visits to old people's homes, weddings, hospitals and funerals.

The singers provided a fantastic voluntary service

to Rogerstone and the surrounding communities. Sadly however, due to dwindling numbers, all too common these days in sports organisations and other bodies, the Singers had to stop functioning in 2018 after 40 years of voluntary service to the community. There were many others involved with the Singers who are not named but are equally appreciated. Finally, a special word for Malcolm Pritchard who is the only person who started from day one and was present to the end. Malcolm had many roles from one of the founders, singer and conductor when needed. Thank you Alcan Singers for 40 magnificent years of voluntary community service!

Rogerstone Resident



The Singers in Blazers with Sheelagh Young.

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Average Property Prices in Newport Increased in 2018 to £175,447.

John Newell, owner of Kingston Newell Estate Agents is not surprised by the continued increase in demand for properties in the area. He said, "It was only last year that Newport was named as the UK's fastest moving property market and sales of houses throughout the region have remained very strong with many houses selling on the same day they are listed and going to sealed bids.

Whilst some have been sceptical about the impact of the abolition of the Severn Bridge tolls, we have sold a lot of houses to private buyers and investors who are keen to take advantage of the comparative cheaper house prices here."

Risca is One of the Most Popular Areas

Commenting on the local market, John said, "Looking at our own sales figures, we know that Langstone in the east of the city and Risca in the north are areas in high demand with properties being snapped up very quickly not only by those looking to move to the area from Bristol but also from Cardiff where again the house prices here provide much better value for money.

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A New Slant on Territorial Disputes – Warring Cygnets

Even after almost 40 years of involvement with swans, we continue to be surprised by some of the things which happen. On 7th March it was reported from the Pond at Brynmawr (overlooked by Asda), that the 5 cygnets were under pressure from the adults. At this time of year, with the start of the new breeding season just round the corner this is normal; the adult male in particular is serving notice on the young birds that it is time to leave. Failure to do so is potentially fatal.

The following day, on arrival at Brynmawr, all was peaceful, except that, by this time, there were only four cygnets. Over the years we have had significant involvement at the nearby Machine Pond so we decided it was worth checking to see what if anything was going on there. Good job we did, as we were met with an extraordinary situation. Clearly, this is the territory of another swan family into which, it appears the missing 'Asda' cygnet had strayed, but there was only one adult present, assumed, based on our observations from some distance, to be a female. The intruder had been chased up onto the far bank by one, quickly followed by another of the resident cygnets. The intensity of the chase increased as all three birds re-entered the water, and were fast coming our way. Very soon, we lost sight of them as they beached on the near shore somewhere far below us at the bottom of a very steep bank. Clearly it was time to intervene. Equipped with just a swan hook



and a swan wrap, the descent of the bank was a hazardous business, it being both steep and slippery in places, combined with the fear of a turned ankle or worse. Approaching the bottom, there was no obvious sign of swans, apart from the adult and two cygnets on the water, but the immediate view was restricted by a number of gorse bushes near the water's edge. And then, one's eye was caught by sizeable smudges of grey and white under one of those bushes. The feeling of something approaching panic was all too apparent as it was not at all clear it would be possible to intervene effectively, especially as the terrain was pretty challenging. Somehow we managed to move to the far side of the bush to discover one cygnet on top of the other and gripping its neck in its beak. They separated on my appearance, the assailant escaping onto the water, and the victim secured by the swan hook. Phew!!! What a relief! Despite the ferocity of what had happened, the cygnet we had



caught seemed unhurt, and from long experience, we do know they are very resilient, with what seem like almost immediate powers of recovery. We have no doubt therefore we did the right thing in taking him for release at The Knap in Barry. Almost immediately, he was surrounded at close quarters by a bevy of mainly juveniles, but a couple of adults as well; all very friendly, so this combined with the witnessing of a cygnet on cygnet attack was a totally new experience for us. You can never tell what's going to happen next!

Story by Peter, photographs by Ellen. For swan and all other wildlife problems please contact Peter & Ellen on 01633 895241 or 07802 472788

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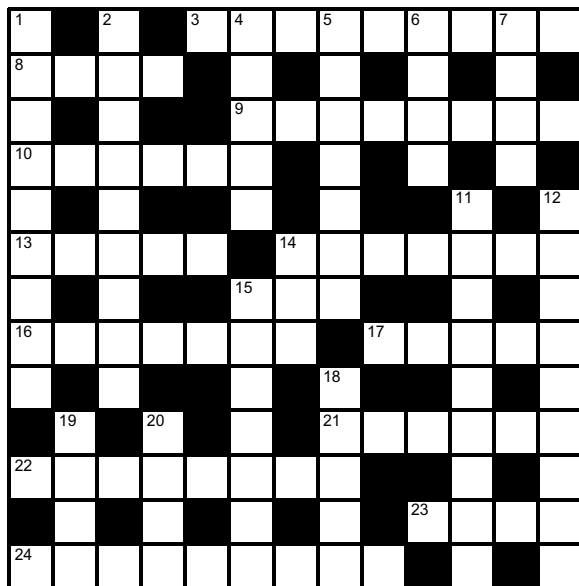


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H2SJP31686 04/19

Crossword



Across

- 3 Pre-decimal coin worth two shillings and sixpence (4,5)
- 8 British county dissolved in 1996 (4)
- 9 Natives or inhabitants of Greece (8)
- 10 Breakfast food of untoasted dry cereals and fruits (6)
- 13 Country on the Iberian Peninsula (5)
- 14 Swiss cheese with small holes (7)
- 15 Nocturnal mammal (3)
- 16 London-based international news agency (7)
- 17 Same again (5)
- 21 Expensive white fur (6)
- 22 Line of longitude (8)
- 23 Bird symbolising peace (4)
- 24 Personification of icy or wintry weather (4,5)

Down

- 1 Telling fortunes by the lines on the hand (9)
- 2 French part of the Riviera (4,5)
- 4 Small plant-sucking insect (5)
- 5 Hazelnut (7)
- 6 Lively Scottish dance (4)
- 7 Tiny, common UK bird (4)
- 11 Aviator hired to fly experimental aeroplanes in designed manoeuvres (4,5)
- 12 Instrument for recording the number of steps taken (9)
- 14 Nitrogen, for example (3)
- 15 Metal container in which coal or charcoal is burned (7)
- 18 Roman goddess of love (5)
- 19 Salty Greek cheese (4)
- 20 Mammal having partially webbed feet; valued for its fur (4)

Sudoku

2	3				5	1	6	7
		7	6		1			
6					3	5	4	9
		3						6
				8				1
7					9	3		
8		9				4	1	
	1				2			8
		2				6	7	5

The object of sudoku is to insert the missing numbers in the boxes to satisfy just one condition: each row, column and 3x3 box must contain the digits 1 through to 9 exactly once. This can be done by applying logic – you do not have to guess.

Solution on page 36

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Puzzle Solutions

Crossword

Solution

Across: 3 Half crown, 8 Avon, 9 Hellenes, 10 Muesli, 13 Spain, 14 Gruyère, 15 Bat, 16 Reuters, 17 Ditto, 21 Emma, 22 Meridian, 23 Dove, 24 Jack Frost.
Down: 1 Palmistry, 2 Cote d'Azur, 4 Aphid, 5 Filbert, 6 Reed, 7 Wren, 11 Test pilot, 12 Pedometer, 14 Gas, 15 Brazier, 18 Venus, 19 Feta, 20 Mink.

Sudoku

2	3	4	8	9	5	1	6	7
9	5	7	6	4	1	8	2	3
6	8	1	7	2	3	5	4	9
1	9	3	2	5	4	7	8	6
4	6	5	3	8	7	2	9	1
7	2	8	1	6	9	3	5	4
8	7	9	5	3	6	4	1	2
5	1	6	4	7	2	9	3	8
3	4	2	9	1	8	6	7	5

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Missing Dog

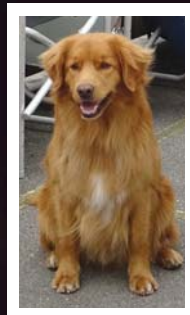
Archie

Archie is a Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever, a smaller version of a golden retriever except ginger and a white flash on his chest. Archie went missing 10th

March from Sirhowy Country Park, where he was swept down river. He has been seen several times since in Crosskeys and latterly 26th and 27th March in Cwmcarn by the park and the mountain.

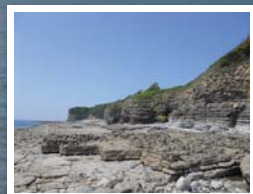
Please phone 01495 271181, 07738 001950 or through www.facebook.com/heatherjohnstone.buckingham if you have any information.

Thank you for looking for him, your help is appreciated.



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