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Rhiwbina Society 2023 Programme

16 May: Tales from Wales – Storytelling including Welsh myths and legends – Debra John

20 June: Coed Caerdydd – expanding our tree canopy Christopher Engel

18 July: Parc Cefn Onn - Mr Prosser's Garden - Rosie James

3 August (NB a Thursday): Tour of Cardiff City Hall, 2.30 to 4 pm.

19 September: Iron and Steel in South Wales – Bob Jones

For further information, please see our website or Facebook page

All meetings at Canolfan Beulah at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated

or phone 07811 509490.



The Rhiwbina Society members attending the launch of the Rhiwbina Community Wellbeing Hub on Friday 24th March where many local groups were represented (see inside for more on Rhiwbina Eco Group)

Rhiwbina Summer Festival

The event will be spread over two days, Friday 30th June and Saturday 1st July based at Parc Y Pentre. Unlike previous years, there will be no road closures.



Society's Annual Lunch

Once again a good time was had by all who attended an enjoyable meal at Caffe Fach on 18th April.

Whitchurch Parish War Memorial Rededication, 16th July 2023.

A special event will take place in the Library Park and Gardens in Whitchurch on Sunday 16th July 2023 at 11am. The Parish War Memorial will be rededicated, one hundred years to the weekend after the original ceremony in 1923.

Then, just four years after the formal end to the Great War, several thousand people packed the park and gardens, with hundreds more outside of the gates watching on as the Earl of Plymouth unveiled the monument of the brooding soldier, assisted by Sir J. Herbert Cory M.P. The memorial was dedicated by the Bishop of Llandaff, Joshua Pritchard Hughes.

Council members and other local dignitaries attended, plus church leaders, ex-servicemen, the Whitchurch Boy Scouts, the Melingriffith Cadets and the band of the Glamorgan Royal Garrison Artillery.

The names of 116 of the fallen were listed on two sides of the monument, together with the inscription: "In Proud & Honoured Memory of the men of Whitchurch who laid down their lives in the Great War, 1914-19. Semper Fidelis (Always Faithful)."

Between both World Wars, there are now some 280 names on the memorial, covering service and sacrifice across the globe, on land, sea and air. A century on, the time has come to rededicate the memorial for the Whitchurch citizens of tomorrow.



A working group was set-up at the start of the year, including Father John Davis of St. Mary's Church, Whitchurch, with others representing the Royal British Legion, the Earl Haig Club, AWEN at the library, council representatives, service personnel and schools.

The service of rededication will begin at the war memorial at 11am on Sunday 16th July. During Ceri's research for his book, the original order of service was found and much of that will be incorporated into the 2023 version.

Members of AWEN at the Library will be on hand to help host the event. The Tongwynlais Temperance Band will be playing, with students from Whitchurch High School participating in the service. Many ex-servicemen are expected to attend from the Royal British Legion, the Earl Haig Club in Penlline Road and further afield. It is planned that members of the armed services and cadets will be able to parade to the memorial.

The organisers hope that people will come and be part of this unique occasion and give thanks to those who made the ultimate sacrifice in two World Wars.



The Rhiwbina Eco Team was formed in March 2019 by some local residents and constituted as a small charity in December 2020. We are all volunteers and have a committee who run and collaborate with projects, events and campaigns within the Rhiwbina and Pantmawr area. Campaigns include raising awareness and involving the local community in issues regarding water pollution, heavy traffic in the village and the use of harmful chemicals. We work in partnership with other local organisations, including Keep Rhiwbina Tidy, Rhiwbina against Plastic and Coed Caerdydd.

So far we've planted trees, herbs and fruit bushes, cleared weeds and Himalayan Balsam, collaborated with local councillors and council park officers on environmental issues, teamed up with Friends of Rhiwbina Library, Siop Sero and the Repair Cafe, and the local PTA, amongst others. We have also set up an Eco Kids group and a Community Gardening project. All of our actions and activities centre around our three main aims:

Environment - To increase biodiversity and protect local habitats, encourage nature and enrich our outdoor spaces.

Climate Change - Working to combat climate change by bringing global issues to people's attention and making changes on a local level where possible

Output - Increasing the knowledge about, use of, and availability of reusable items, zero waste options, and recycling, and thereby decreasing waste and littering.

See the pictures here to give a flavour of some of what we do.

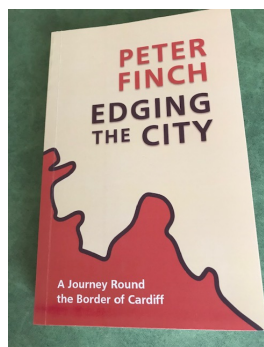
If you want to find out more, or to get involved, please email us on rhiwbinaecoteam@gmail.com or find us on Facebook or Instagram.



Summary of Recent Meetings by Roger Wright

January 2023

In January the author Peter Finch gave a presentation on his new book called *Edging the City* – a journey round the border of Cardiff. Peter distributed a card showing the route he took: a great lozenge shape about eight miles bottom to top and nearly 12 miles wide. The city's area is about 140 square kilometres or 54 square miles with a projected population of 400,000 which has not been reached yet.



Most of the research for the book was done during the pandemic. The directive that citizens had to remain within the confines of their local authority for exercise meant: 'Stay local'. Peter noted the different types of landscape on his walks: factories, industrial estates, new-build housing estates (lacking infrastructure), dumping grounds, the more pleasant open fields and woodland to the north and the levels in the east towards Newport.

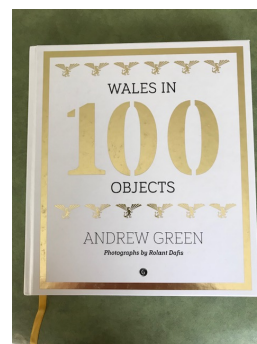
He noticed the different attitudes of the local people: some made every effort to talk to him taking an interest in what he was doing whilst others eyed him with suspicion. Of particular interest was a reference to Splott beach!

Attendees were able to buy the book as well as others by the same author, e.g. *Walking the Valleys* and *Walking Cardiff*.

February 2023

In February Andrew Green gave us an illustrated talk on his book *Wales in 100 objects*. A Welsh language version also exists called *Cymru mewn 100 gwrthrych*.

In words and pictures it explored different aspects of the history of Wales through objects that have survived. Some were familiar, others less so, but they all told stories about their times. Examples were very varied and included Roman coins (in such good condition), a statue of Llewelyn and Owain Glyndwr in Cardiff City Hall, school reading cards, a Corgi toy, a slate quarry in North Wales, a Welsh dresser, the first atlas of Wales, anti-slavery pamphlets, the arrival of evacuees at Newtown station, a Laura Ashley dress and a very colourful quilt – and more.



March 2023

In March we had a presentation called *Getting Cardiff Cycling: Pedal Power and Cardiff Cycle City*. Paul Streets of Cardiff Cycle City started off with a video featuring Chris Boardman (Olympic and World cycling champion) showing the extent to which the Dutch make good use of a bicycle for everyday life in the town of Utrecht. He then pointed out the transport challenges that Cardiff faces in terms of global warming, traffic congestion, air quality, mental health, sedentary lifestyles, noise, etc. He went on to demonstrate how the use of a bicycle can help in many of these respects.



Cardiff Cycle City is a pressure group (not a cycle club) aiming to make Cardiff the best cycling city in the UK.

This was followed with a talk by Sian Donovan of Pedal Power, a cycle hire charity to enable everyone to enjoy the benefits of cycling. It offers learn-to-ride sessions, confidence building and cycle skills for children and adults who might be struggling to cycle or have a disability. Sian pointed out how an extra wheel as in tricycles can make all the difference. Pedal Power are located in Pontcanna Fields and Cardiff Bay.