

## **January 2025**

The talk in January was given by Anne Bell on Roath Park. The park was officially opened just over 130 years ago, on 20 June 1894, the occasion being marked with a parade and ceremonies. Anne described the events of that day and went on to show images, mostly from historic postcards, of the early park and its features. These included the bandstand, an aquarium, the bathing facilities and its iconic tree collection. While many early features are now long gone, Roath Park still has trees that were planted when the park opened, or were present before it was created.

## **February 2025**

In February Ted Richards gave us a richly illustrated presentation called *Captain Scott and the Cardiff Connection*. Captain Scott and his team left Cardiff in June 1910 in their attempt to be the first people to ever reach the South Pole. This talk looked at the surprising reason why Cardiff was chosen as their port of departure, the story of the expedition itself and the legacy that remains in Cardiff to this day, especially the memorial clock tower in Roath Park and the sculpture situated in Cardiff Bay next to the Norwegian church.

## **March 2025**

An audience of between 60 and 70 people attended the March meeting when Richard Carter gave a talk called *A journey through time: Cardiff since 1800*. He focused on the pressures of population, housing and public health in the early 19th century and how these were dealt with. He referred to the game-changing roles played by the Marquises of Bute and the importance of coal and the port. He went on to describe Cardiff's rapid expansion in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. His many illustrations produced some nostalgic memories and he frequently tested the knowledge of the audience!