



Cathays PACT – Monday, 2nd February 2015

7pm at Cathays Methodist Church Hall (Basement room: Blue door on side of building)

Please do attend – this is your Cathays district – your voice counts !!!

This newsletter is produced on a voluntary basis by residents and local people with no political or religious affiliations, nor financial support from industry or charities. We rely on small donations to cover printing costs.

Your newsletter – Your Cathays

The past two to three years have been an insightful experience (after living in Cathays for almost twenty years.) and speaking to neighbours and businesses, undertaking local interviews with residents, attending PACT meetings; it is very evident that many resident/locals do not have internet access, nor do they know about positive local events happening on a regular basis in Cathays. This newsletter is one small step forward to help spread the word about Cathays events, local businesses and things that benefit your Cathays community. Please get involved.

In successive newsletters we hope to have residents come forward and talk about their experiences of Cathays, current concerns yet also your ideas on how to improve and support Cathays. Issues of noise, waste, litter, graffiti we hope to continually tackle between all of us; as with residents feeling part of the solution by actively getting involved in Cathays activities will make us a greater cohesive district.

The first 2014 newsletter was a small A4 sheet with basic information, yet the feedback from Cathays residents has helped us to expand this one to have more information to help you. Please look at the 'independent living services' piece on the right; it may be able to help one of your elderly neighbours who needs support.

It is hoped later on into the year, that a regular Cathays litter picking activity can be organised amongst residents and volunteers to help clean up alleys, cutback overgrowth etc. This is more an exercise to help you meet your neighbours; other districts such as Grangetown have begun regular litter picking activities and it has been very beneficial to help make their district feel more socially connected after meeting their long term neighbours. More on this in successive newsletters, if you are interested in volunteer litter picks, please contact *Your Cathays*.

Please contact us by phone or email (ask a family member to contact us if you are unable to) and tell us about your thoughts on what you would like to see, tell us about your clubs (everyone loves bingo – is there a bingo club in your part of Cathays) know, or tell others about your district. **Your Cathays – your voice counts!**

Although the website has only been up a short time, it still requires much ongoing work adding new entries about all the great things about Cathays. We also wish to thank all those that contacted us with feedback and recommendations. If you wish it, you will be referenced with your idea; recognition of your efforts is important.

Cathays Brass

The idea of Cathays Brass was conceived at the start of 2014 by a small group of former Cardiff Students. The purpose of the band is to allow all members of the community an opportunity to socialise through the medium of Brass playing.

Community is key to the objectives of the band, we aim to give an opportunity for all brass players in the heart of Cardiff to come together to play fun and exciting music. Performing regularly at concerts and events throughout the area.

Cathays Brass is based in St Joseph's Sport and Social Club on Whitchurch Road, Cardiff, and is now holding weekly rehearsals from 7.00pm - 9.00pm on Monday nights (with any late comers always welcome.) Do come hear them play.

Cathays Brass had their first concert on 24th January at Cathays Methodist Church with 50 people in attendance. The first of many orchestral events in Cathays.

Religious establishments in Cathays

There are many religious establishments in Cathays and we have our fair share of Churches, Mosques, temples and other religious establishments. A small yet strong following supports each of these religious establishments. The initial contact with several of these important establishments has resulted in several leaders having expressed an interest in growing contacts with the other establishments.

If you are a religious figure or a manager of these religious buildings/establishments; please get in touch with Your Cathays. It would be good to map out all the religious centres (and community centres/volunteering groups) to apprise all the residents, local businesses and interested parties of your establishments presence and your many functions; supporting greater social inclusion.

Are you running a workshop for the community? What about a bingo night being run once a week for the locals of your community? If you tell us about your activities - It would help bring people together in Cathays.

Independent Living Services:

Helping our senior citizens

Independent Living Services was set up recently by the council to support our vulnerable Senior Citizens.

This is a FREE service so our Senior Citizens of Cardiff and they may be able to get help with e.g. broken television, perhaps some help with cleaning, repairing shelves or something else that needs attention in your home.

If you are, or know a Cathays senior citizens who may be vulnerable, isolated, or needs help then please telephone 029 2053 7380 and enquire to what Independent Living Services can do to help our senior citizens.

St Teilo's Church

Woodville Road, off Crwys Road

St Teilo's holds on the first Saturday of each month an open café (11am to 2pm) for everyone to enjoy some tea and cake and it is always refreshing to see the people you may bump into there.

This is an excellent opportunity to meet your neighbours and find out about things happening in Cathays.

Al Manar Centre

Glynrhondda Street, off Senghennedd Road

The Al Manar Centre actively engages with the local community, leading by example by cleaning the streets outside their establishment and working alongside several local volunteer groups.

The Muslims are very welcoming off non-Muslim people and the Your Cathays volunteers have engaged with Al Manar Centre staff many times on discussions of how to improve the local environment and local community links.

We look forward to working with all voluntary, religious and community groups.



Senghennydd Road & Gardens Project:

Senghennydd Road and gardens coming off it, has become a 'back road' instead of the main street it was initially planned to be. Work is quietly being started by local people who will see what feasibility exists for residents, local businesses and students to make improvements to Senghennydd Road as part of several re-greening Cathays voluntary efforts.

This is not just about mid/south Cathays. *Your Cathays* has interviewed residents and students over the years and are all too aware that many people are unhappy with the state of the alleyways across Cathays as well as the front gardens all over your district.

Could you set up a business or a social enterprise (for the homeless perhaps) to clean up the front and back gardens as well as the Cathays alleyways? Would voluntary efforts with teams of ten to fifteen men and women working 2 hours each help make a dent in cleaning up these areas which we are all concerned about? What can you do?

.... Watch this space for more information.

www.yourcathays.org.uk

Home Sweet Home:

Many families, professionals, postgrads and students suffer the indignance of living in poor quality housing.

The 'Home Sweet Home' initiative is being spearheaded in Cathays by the 'Movement for Change' group to stop this poor quality of housing in Cathays.

This will give a voice to people who suffer bad letting agencies and other negative setbacks. It is hoped that a platform will be established to praise and recognise good landlords and encourage families, professionals and students to procure their services.

Residents understand the plight that many students suffer from living in bad accommodation and we all fully recognise that healthier houses make for better living conditions and inevitably healthier neighbourhoods.

The Cathays boundary:

One issue that kept arising from ongoing discussions was that many residents, families and professionals had no idea what the exact boundaries of Cathays are.

The Cathays boundary is a mystery to many people Many of us do not realise how far it expands and in one respect this gives us some loss of autonomy and feeling of community. To recognise how far this district reaches will highlight to use what actually does go on in our fair district.

Having procured a map from the voting register, in successive newsletters (and the website) we hope to define the boundaries (pictorially and by street names) *on a new map*; and more importantly highlight the locations of various events, organisations, local businesses and community work in the Cathays district to encourage more people to get involved.

PACT dates for 2015

Each few months the PACT meetings are held for residents to raise their concerns. In December 2014 the local councillors visited every shop on Salisbury Road to ask them what improvements they wished to see made on their street. Activities like this help people get the word out and express concerns or positive ideas to keep our district moving forward. What are your concerns of your street?

- | | |
|---|--|
| Monday, 2nd February 2015 | The recent years PACT meetings have seen a real resurgence in a voice of Cathays being established. People who were disappointed in the past Cathays PACT meetings of mid 2000's have seen significant improvements in how the PACT meetings of the 2010's are now run. |
| Monday, 30th March 2015 | Everybody is given a fair opportunity to speak and the meetings are conducted in a very proper manner. |
| Monday, 1st June 2015 | |
| Monday, 27th July 2015 | The feedback has generally been very good as residents, students and professionals are shown to be working better together in Cathays as a community than compared to ten years ago. You make the difference – please come to the PACT and make your voice heard. <u>Your opinion on tackling local issues is important.</u> |
| Monday, 21st September 2015 | |
| Monday, 16th November 2015 | |
| Monday, 14th December 2015 | |

Each event at **Cathays Methodist Church, Crwys Road (Blue door on side entrance)**

Next issue of *Your Cathays*:

Tell us what you want !!! - Is there some regular event going on that you think would benefit the residents of Cathays? Bingo? Music classes? Health workshops? Who would be interested in seeing a Cathays Community Garden being created? What is happening on your street? What realistically would you like to see happen?

Volunteering Groups – What would you be interested in getting involved in? What local activities would you like to see around Cathays? Tell us what you think.

Cathays Summer economy – is there such a thing in Cathays? What do local residents/businesses/volunteers say? What would you recommend and think we should do?

Tell us what you want to appear in your newsletter/website: Putting on a regular event in the area? Please get in contact and request an interview if you want your opinion/story/project heard or recommended something you'd like to see in the successive newsletters. Is there something missing on the website you'd like to see added about Cathays community groups? Local businesses? Local volunteering?

101 – your non-emergency number to the Police services (for reporting noise, break-ins, stolen vehicles etc.)

C2C – Connect to Cardiff
029 2087 2087

Your PCSO contacts in Cathays:

PCSO David Lloyd

Email: david.lloyd6@south-wales.pnn.police.uk
Telephone: 07584 003 999

PCSO Loren Saunders

email: Loren.Saunders@south-wales.pnn.police.uk
Telephone: 07825 262 391

PCSO Paul Baker

Email: Paul.Baker4@south-wales.pnn.police.uk
Telephone: 07584 771 175

PCSO Chris Payne

email: Christopher.Payne@south-wales.pnn.police.uk
Telephone: 07825 455 538

PCSO Joe Hinsley

Email: Joe.Hinsley@south-wales.pnn.police.uk
Telephone: 07584 770 877

Your Councillors in Cathays:

Cllr Elizabeth Clark

Tel: 029 2063 0311
Email: EClark@Cardiff.gov.uk

Cllr Sam Knight

Tel: 029 2037 2783
Email: sam.knight@cardiff.gov.uk

Cllr Sarah Merry

Tel: 029 2037 2301
Email: sarah.weaver@cardiff.gov.uk

Cllr Chris Weaver

Tel: 029 2039 7149
Email: Christopher.weaver@cardiff.gov.uk

Your weekly Councillor surgeries:

Talk to your councillors and bring up your concerns on your street or local community.

Each Saturday at 11am until 12 noon:
Cathays Community Centre 1st Saturday of each month. Cathays Library on all the other Saturdays.

This is YOUR opportunity to raise issues and continue things moving forward in your district.

All the paper, printing, distribution and work is done on a voluntary basis – if you can donate@yourcathays.org.uk (using PayPal - or call us on the main number) just £1 or £2 will help us get the next 500 newsletters out.