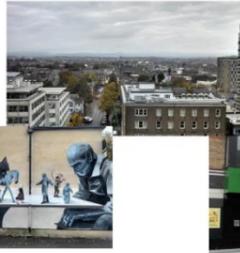


Your Cathays



Cathays Compass presents: Cathays Fair on Sunday 2nd April 2017 2pm – 5pm

Pentyrch Street – 30 stalls, bouncy castle, music and activities to bring the Cathays community together – please get involved!

This newsletter is produced on a voluntary basis by residents and local people with no political affiliations, no financial support from industry or charities. We rely on small donations to cover printing costs. Please help us? We hope for Newsletter #7 or #8 to put out A2 size 1200 copies (to every resident and local business) across Cathays.

Launch of Cathays Compass

www.facebook.com/cathayscompass www.twitter.com/cathayscompass



After building up relationships with 100's of families across Cathays, the last 5 years a lot of themes have been identified with overall arcs of hundreds of residents willingness to engage with each other and help improve Cathays – yet many of you unsure where to start. With some push from Woodville Baptist Church, local businesses and Davius / Your Cathays encouraging residents and local business to partake in a pilot meeting. On September 16th 2016; sixteen representatives from across Cathays gathered at Woodville Baptist Church to begin discussions on how can we all help Cathays to be a stronger, better connected community again. The majority of you are crying out for this; you want to know your neighbours; you want local trust, social connection and peace.

The potential is significant and as I personally speak to (800 families and counting) the vast majority of you each time Y/C goes out – I am in awe of being surrounded by so many of you. We need to do a survey of Cathays with up to date info, which we can distribute this data to all of you, showing the demographic of age, gender, ethnicity, showing what shops, skills, support mechanisms, clubs are available to you – I think you'll see Cathays in a much more positive light!! You'll think I'm crazy- yet when I walk around this area now I don't even see the students – just families, professionals and a lot of forward thinking business, faith groups, voluntary bodies and other groups in Cathays – on every street!

From first Compass meeting, several sub groups were created which would report back at the 2nd meeting on Monday 10th October which had 40 people in attendance; word was getting out of this holistic/systemic bottom up entity being developed to help get Cathays community better re-connected. A communications group was formed, as was a sub group to see the feasibility of re-establishing a yearly Cathays Fair. A committee was sought to help get the group become constituted and support the development of more subgroups; like finance/lobby groups.

One thing that has made significant gains due to multiple collaboration of the schools, local businesses, Cathays library, faith groups and residents is the development of the 'Cathays Fair' - something that happened decades ago which many would like to see re-established. So far the date has been set for Sunday 2nd April 2017 (the majority of students will be gone for Easter recess) which we hope to encourage all families and local businesses, faith groups and volunteers across Cathays and beyond to get involved with the Cathays Fair which will be held on the pedestrianised zone of top end of Pentyrch street near to Cathays Library with St Monica's Primary school providing some space and toilets for our Cathays Fair's attendees. The Compass is still looking for more volunteers to helping get this event set up; everyone please get involved; if just 1/3rd of the 800+ families showed up on 2nd April it would show you what a massive resident and socially rich community we have here.

The goal is to set up approximately 25-30 stalls which will help raise awareness of the local activities, local businesses, new ventures, and much else besides. This is your time to enjoy as a resident and an opportunity for local businesses/volunteers groups and clubs to improve their outreach to you all. So far interest from several shop include Satellite TV (a cross section of a tv) Cathays Brass (live music on the day) and the side panel will show you which other groups 'Compass' are encouraging to set up stalls so far. The Compass group still want to hear from you – so please either contact Mrs Beacon (see side panel) Y/C (see orange bar above) or message Cathays Compass directly on their Facebook page.

The 3rd Compass (Nov) community meeting held elections to begin the Compass Committee; a chair (Anne Smith) and vice-chair (Elizabeth Clark) have been elected and a secretary who will distribute the information to whoever wishes to be on the monthly email list. Your details will be delivered by BCC so no-one else will know your email and your privacy will be respected. If you do want to be added to the email list so you can see minutes from meetings, updates and news of regular events across Cathays each month – please email Paulus@davius.co.uk and ask for your email to be added to the monthly outreach list. For those of you not on email we are looking at other alternatives to reach you all!

Massive thanks to a significant amount of residents and local businesses who have built up towards all this. There are now a regular 50 people who are from all over Cathays who are helping the Compass outreach to you all. In 2017 it is aimed that Cathays Compass meetings will happen every second Monday of the month 5:30pm at Woodville Baptist Church (coffee/informal discussions) with a formal 7pm start (9pm finish)

Recent progress and issues in Cathays:

I did want to call this section the misinterpretation of Cathays' – yet that is for another timeThis is something that winds a lot of people up – with the false image of Cathays being some sort of student ghetto when it is in fact a thriving residential community. Do you even believe me that as you see litter, hear noise etc. One of the larger issues is locals don't know what is available to them in Cathays and neighbourhood links are not that strong (please do prove me wrong!) so – as a community - we need to raise awareness of all local services and opportunities, – something perhaps between local café's (Elmer's, Ramones, Embassy Cafe, Café 37) shops, chemist, clubs (Community Centre, Cathays Sports & Social, The Cons Club, Dalton Lunch Club), the local social media (Connect Cathays, Cathays Compass, Your Cathays) and most importantly resident word-of-mouth recommendation of all the positive things that happen in Cathays. Success stories should be reported.

90 Minny Street – these flats proposed for 27 rooms would have inevitably put more pressure on the already overburdened local parking system, waste and many other problems besides. It is because of likes of Clare who spearheaded the awareness raising of this, mobilising the neighbours, got people involved and worked with the councillors together to get this absurd development halted.

One little anecdotal story from this – the amazing Addam (see new post office) volunteered to have one of 'stop the 90 Minny Street development' petitions in his shop which many residents signed up to show their annoyance about 90 Minny street development. Two 20 something young men came into the shop, grabbed the petition and ran off with it; to this the councillors responded by going up the various streets alongside the anti-90 Minny Street residents and door knocked until they got a huge amount of signatures to compensate for the ones stolen by the two young men. If you find out about unrealistic development plans and you wish to spearhead a campaign (of signature collecting, or residents contacting planning dept to object) then tell the Cathays Compass, and they'll add it on the monthly email that goes out to residents. You can use it as one source (of many) to stop these outlandish developments. Let's all work together in 2017 !!

The same goes for The Gower Pub proposed development; Harriet, Julie and many other Gwynedd Road (and adjoining streets) residents lobbied hard to stop the 4 storeys being built once the Gower pub had been razed to the ground. Yet all is not so brilliant. This London architecture firm are trying to sneak in an appeal challenge to the review – yet again the residents opposed and stopped the appeal. The bottom line is when you all stick together on these things we can protect Cathays together and keep it in a stable community orientated place where we can all enjoy living. Please do get your email on the monthly outreach list (see above) so we can mass apprise all of you when we must stand!

With Alexander Street and Norman Street families successfully pushing to stop the kitchen emissions from produced by a restaurant on Crwys Road. With persistence of complaints/lobbying by all parties, that place was unable to fund appropriate extraction fans for their commercial kitchen and ceased to trade. Blackweir Terrace residents are also facing a similar situation. I bet a few families have been able to smell fresh air in their back yards the last few months now after all their efforts! These are just some of the positive stories we've heard from our neighbours – including the Daniel Street nightmare of two troublesome houses which the families are now gone!! Keep reporting & informing the councillors/C2C/police. Please get involved – I know it's easier said than done for a lot of isolated people, yet if you get involved in the monthly litter pick, compass meetings, volunteer for other local groups you'll be amazed the positive characters and amazing neighbours around you!! Together Cathays can deliver so much more! Just a few hours of your time each year - helping your neighbours out can speak volumes of good!

The Cathays Boundary

www.yourcathays.org.uk/mapping-cathays

Many of you have commented that you are unsure of the boundary of Cathays and how far it reaches (including the City Centre) so a very basic example has been placed up on the Your Cathays website and we hope it is of some use to you.

Cathays Fair - Set a free stall up?

Top of Pentyrch Street near to Cathays Library/St Monica's

With Cathays Compass being developed and already spinning out three sub groups – one of main focuses is re-establishing a Cathays Fair, to highlight the great things about Cathays!

At present we are working towards establishing approx. 25-30 stalls, a bouncy castle and other activities which we hope local groups will set up a stall each. Compass are collaborating with Cathays Brass, NewLink Wales, Satellite TV, TrixieLixie, Scouts, Repair Café, Keep Cathays Tidy, Friends of Cathays Cemetery, Friends of Bute Park, Activist Café, and many others. Setting up a stall up is free, a table and chair will be loaned yet you must be responsible for your own Gazebo (April showers etc.)

We are looking for more local skills, crafts, knowledge groups and are aware that we have residents who are: glass stainer/designer, Knitting volunteer group, photographers, keen gardeners etc. would any of you be interested in setting up a stall? Build stronger links to the locale? Interested? Contact Abigail.beacon@cardiff.gov.uk for more info.

The Cathays Compass team

The New Crwys Post Office

110 Crwys Road (Next to Pring's Butchers)

After two decades the Post Office closed and we all wish Jan & Jeff a happy retirement. They were very supportive of the transition of the new post office being set up opposite them.

Please do pop into DKR convenience store and visit your new Post Office. It is a very community driven shop and we are keen to support stronger connections in Cathays. The usual postal services will be available to all of you and longer opening hours will be more convenient for many residents.

Addam – manager DKR Store/Post Office

Sing for your Supper - 9th Feb

7:30pm – 10pm: Embassy Café – Cathays Community Centre

A monthly event starting on Thursday 9th of February; a micro funding group which will award the winning pitch of 2-4 presenters that wishes to set up an entity that will provide some common good for communities. Check out the FB page!

Tickets will be on presale (Eventbrite) at £5.90 or pay on the door. We'll attempt to recruit more team members and volunteers at the event. singforyoursuppercardiff@gmail.com

Cody, Cardiff Transition

RIP: Mr Paul Byers

www.connectcathays.co.uk

Regrettably Paul died in November 2016 from a five year battle with cancer. He created the original Cathays website (see above) with a view to help empower your district with information and use it as a tool to help improve your district and that we worked on facts and not assumptions.

Many of you don't know local legends in their own right like (Billy Chinnock or) Paul Byers. They both did so much for Cathays yet none of it was ever recognised, nor did they seek any recognition for their honourable efforts. They just wanted to keep Cathays as a connected community - because they always believed in the Cathays community!

Paul was always about helping the people: 'Connect Cathays' was built to get information out to everyone; HMO licensing, history of each street, reporting events and he was keen to help local improvements for the residents! Paul will be missed by many of you that he supported in Cathays!

The Connect Cathays website and efforts will be maintained by the residents that have volunteered to continue Paul's efforts.

Encouraging domestic CCTV in Cathays?

Can we Cathaysians all be responsible with it?

One of the first things our Cathays Police always ask us as residents and local businesses when a local incident has occurred is; "Do you have surveillance cameras outside your house?"

Many residents have discussed with the Y/C distribution of last newsletter the prospect of installing surveillance equipment in their homes or shops. This cannot be taken lightly as there is a danger of abuse of the data collected. Please see the Government guidance on responsible use of CCTV (see bottom of this article).

Imagine 50 more cameras all across Cathays – giving you the much needed evidence of people breaking into adjacent properties, or idiots trying to dump their rubbish on someone else's property, or God forbid – you may have the evidence if some nasty character tries to jump one of your neighbours! I'm writing this anecdotally as there is real issue of the CCTV owners becoming obsessive with their systems and jumping to wrong conclusions over something you have recorded.

Some residents have used their surveillance systems wisely and very responsibly. One example is they have collared the bin men who just throw the kerbside caddies back at the floor once the food is emptied out of them – Go Eno!! Is this evidence that some council workers perceive Cathays as a student ghetto and not a socially enriched environment with almost 900-1000 families that live here! We need the evidence hence a survey by the residents for Cathays could give us up to date real figures to prove we are becoming a proper family orientated community again.

Regarding installing cameras - Have a chat in places like Maplins; some residents claim they paid £150 for cameras to be installed, more to the point – do we have a camera installer in Cathays who could benefit from installing such CCTV AND build a relationship with residents/local businesses for reliability, trust and integrity of their work? One young professional couple paid £1000 for a state of the art surveillance system, where they can check live feeds of their house security when they are away from home – via using their mobile phones to get live feeds! Very futuristic!!!

But you must understand there is **no** evidence that defines that increased use of CCTV reduces crime rates. There is some evidence that people modify their behaviour if they are aware they are in a CCTV zone. Would people be so quick to fly tip?

I never knew where I stood on domestic CCTV, yet with recent events of student girls being attacked, as well as the franchise delivery van that rammed a resident's [parked] car 45° then tried to drive off thinking they wouldn't get caught. Due to evidence for prosecution required – maybe more cameras will help Cathays.

Massive thanks to Mr. Henry 'Eno' Booth for letting me take picture of his CCTV set up, and also Cerian & Luke for meeting me to discuss their experience of having CCTV set up in their home!

For more information – please look at www.yourcathays.org.uk and the 'positive action' at the top which you'll see the CCTV link.

Ripping off the vulnerable residents!

Some of you may have read in Decembers local papers about these cowboy builders who were conning our elders in Cathays (and other districts) where they would quote e.g. £100 to fix a window, or gabling or something – then when they came to collect the money; prices would shoot up. A lot of our elderly residents were approached and they fell afoul of these tricky terrible rip-offs. We ask that you try and build relationships with the seniors (and everyone else) on your own street and just be weary that we still have con men predators actively watching our residents. Ready to rip them off!!

Help each other – build a communication line per your street. Thanks to Mr Bartlett (Cosmeston St) for informing everyone via the social network site Next Door (175 Cathays families signed up - so far!) which led to a few of us discussing the issue with the police. Culprits were arrested. Whenever we have stronger communications lines between us all – the community works a lot better. Cathays Compass is quietly working on the development of a trusted builder's/TV repair/plumbers/babysitters/electrician/seamstress and tailors/skilled worker database that all our residents can access – particularly to help the vulnerable, low income and those not confident to tackle specific tasks and need reliable, honest and professional help.

Fly tipping/dumping in Cathays (and UK)

There are a lot of Cathays residents who claim not only just to clean outside their own homes – yet take car loads of rubbish to the skips – as part of the anti on the broken windows syndrome.

We all wish 'Keep Cathays Tidy' every success in their clean ups, street improvements etc. yet there are some jobs which are just too big for volunteers. This fly tipping is horrendous – however many residents are stepping up, recording the people doing the dumping (in alleys that are soon to be gated – hence more reduction of the problem) and using the digital phone evidence to inform the council of the irresponsible fly tippers!

Cranbrook Street saw a shameful example of the **eight** sofa's being dumped outside, one large fridge freezer, office chairs etc. on top of usual gluton of bags thrown on the other side of street where bin-men won't pick up from – this was October when students returned!

The residents, as usual, reported everything – yet they will be extra vigil to take pictures of bins going out on wrong days, further dumping etc. taking pictures as evidence will help get more fines distributed in the area. We actively encourage every street to report!

We all recognise its just 5-10% of students/residents who can't be bothered to do the bins properly – the other 90% do a pretty good job on bin days. Some residents claim that when they pretend to take pictures of the bins, the student see them –and the bins get collected quick and taken back onto their houses. Result!

Rat infestations is something that many of you have observed, yet more importantly many of you are setting traps in order to minimise the rat infestation impacts (and helping the more vulnerable neighbours around you)! Oddly enough – one resident on Salisbury Road claims their open compost heap (no food on it) attracts a lot of rats – however it helps them focus the traps there and the local cat's turn up very regularly and sit their patiently!!

Keep Cathays Tidy

Facebook/Twitter search: **Keep Cathays Tidy** – please follow our pages

On Thursday 15th and Friday 16th September two litter picks were held for residents of Cathays. The Thursday one had a strong turn out near Gelligaer Street of residents (including almost 20 pupils/staff from St Monica's) and the Friday event has neighbours from near Salisbury Road who litter picked the area, added wildflowers to the green island whilst the council staff cleaned up bases of the trees and chopped back the overgrowth.

This has also been a link to the 'Blitz Cathays' where families were asked what they wanted improved on their streets in terms of identifying pot holes, trees that needed cleaning up at the trunk base, putting new trees in where previous ones have been needlessly damaged/torn out. Mr David King of 'Cardiff Rivers Group' and 'Dusty Shed' apprised us they needed input from Cathays neighbours which we targeted 10 streets, spoke to our neighbours to find out what they wanted cleaned up/fixd.

Mr Ceri Davies has quietly been pushing to get Cathays its own 'tidy group' established in 2015. A meeting was held in September at the Cathays Community Centre by Keep Wales Tidy, your four councillors and a few residents (3 from Cardiff Rivers Group) including Governor Murray – a long term advocate for getting Cathays cleaned up, all attended. A date was agreed for Saturday 22nd October at Coburn Park.

Come that Saturday it was very low turn out at 9:50am – until approximately 40 of your neighbours turned up from different corners of Cathays. The 2nd outing was on Saturday 26th at Cathays Cemetery which was done in partnership with 'Friends of Cathays Cemetery' where volunteers cleaned up the cemetery area and learned some history from John Farnhill and co. of FoCC. The next event in January targeted Cathays Terrace – as usual pictures are taken to raise awareness and encourage residents to partake! **Next one is Feb 11th !!**

Already more residents have been encouraged by these activities and clean up more outside their own streets now. Smaller KCT groups are developing such as the potential 'Tidy Quartet' consisting of Richard, Harriet, Coburn and Rhymney Street (and adjoining streets) residents will focus their efforts on maintaining that area. Families are already clearing other streets on a regular basis. I'm amazed how many people stop and talk to me when I do little patches on Lowther Road and bottom of Salisbury Road on the green space/island.

It is hoped in 2017 the group will be constituted, which could help gain better standing for having more clean up's – not just of litter, yet clear out of overgrowth, possibly develop more murals around Cathays. What about cleaning/painting railings – could we do one street over the course of a few weeks to improve the frontages? Maybe add some planting boxes made from recovered scrap wood etc. Keep Cathays Tidy will need to procure equipment for cleaning equipment, hedge cutting equipment etc. so that we can all partake in cleaning up the area. We are not insensitive to the fact that quite a few of our residents have mobility issues, to this we strongly encourage you just to *clean outside your own houses* or do a street collaboration between a few of the nearby families to you. We want to hear from our neighbours on what areas need targeting for clean-up which we may put on a Cathays map to encourage whole area to get covered.

For a **monthly** larger scale clean up; **usually we'll aim for 2nd Saturday; a 10am-12noon** (40 neighbours = 80 hours of intense clean up) and hopefully everyone will go to a local café/pub afterwards to celebrate your achievements and make more friends across Cathays.



Next issue #7 of Your Cathays: - *tell us what you want in your community newsletter? Who can be nominated to be added to a trust Cathays database of plumbers, babysitters etc.*

Tell us what you want !!! - At present Cathays Compass are working on trying to build a business, voluntary and community group database for Cathays to highlight all the positive things that regularly happen in your area, yet what do you want to see in the next newsletter? Please contact us and tell us.

Please help - can you donate@yourcathays.org.uk (using PayPal – or cash in person) to help with the next 1000-1200 newsletters!!

Cathays Seniors Wednesday Club

Cathays Community Centre (lower) Cathays Terrace

Every Wednesday from 10am-12noon we invite our seniors from across Cathays to the Embassy Café where you can enjoy very cheap and healthy food (a £1-00p deal for a meal if you like!) tea/coffee with board games/music and other activities!

Bud, Josh, Jasmin & Emily

Fair Trade Cardiff – 13th Birthday

www.fairtradecardiff.co.uk / #CdfFairTradeFortnight

Fair Trade Cardiff are celebrating their 13th birthday with 13 events throughout the day of 8th March – culminating in an informal gathering from 8pm (venue tbc). The Fair Trade Cardiff group have their quarterly meetings which are held at Temple of Peace, Cathays and are always looking for more volunteers to join their expanding efforts. Look at their website for details of 8th March events. Please support Fair Trade Cardiff!

Next Door

www.nextdoor.co.uk

Resident Mr Jon Aylwin has introduced this free website to many of you in Cathays (many of you got those postcards) Next Door has already had approximately 175 families (just in Cathays) already signed up to it.

This has been a good digital noticeboard for residents (and local groups) to put up requests for babysitters, plumbers, basic information or offers (mentions of bin fines, dodgy builders ripping our elderly off etc). This has been a good platform to get information out quickly across Cathays (you can also write on the message board where your messages will go to the immediate 7 surrounding districts in Cardiff).

Visit my Mosque (Open Day)

www.almanar.org.uk

The Al-Manar Centre invites you to 'visit my Mosque' open day on Sunday 5th February from 10am-5pm at 2-4 Glynrhondda Street (lower end) Senghennydd Road.

Elias – Outreach officer

New Co-Op Food shop

Senghennydd Road

Your new Co-Operative Food store has opened now on Senghennydd Road (near to Sherman Theatre) open 7am-11pm for you. Please check out our FB page Co-Op Senghennydd and we look forward to meeting the residents soon, supporting the Cathays community and please do bring your co-op dividend card!!

Kim – Store Manager

STOP the nuisance and Cold callers!

www.tpsonline.org.uk

No – we don't mean Paulus!! Get registered with TPS: Telephone Preference Service – call **0845 070 0707** or TEXT **85095** and reduce the nuisance calls.

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.merry@cardiff.gov.uk

Cllr Chris Weaver

Tel: 029 2039 7149

Email:

Christopher.weaver@cardiff.gov.uk

Your weekly Saturday Councillor surgeries:

11am until 12 noon: Held at [Cathays Library](#)

Cathays PACT

Police and Community Together

Cathays Methodist Church (Halfway up Crwys Road) look for the blue doors on right of building: 7pm start!!

Monday, 6th February 2017

Monday, 3rd April 2017 – **No PACT (Cllr elections!)**

Monday, 5th June 2017

Monday, 7th August 2017

Your Police contacts in Cathays:

PCSO David Lloyd

email: david.lloyd6@south-wales.pnn.police.uk

[@south-wales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:david.lloyd6@south-wales.pnn.police.uk)

Telephone: 07584 003 999

PCSO Grace Hopkins

email: grace.hopkins@south-wales.pnn.police.uk

[@south-wales.pnn.police.uk](mailto:grace.hopkins@south-wales.pnn.police.uk)

Telephone: 07 tbc