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# Cathays Monthly Update – November 2021

Check out the regular events on the Y/C calendar: ***www.yourcathays.org.uk***

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## November 2021 comments:

### Neighbours helping each other out:

Fred had his water butt STAND (no – not the actual water butt) stolen last month, when he came running out the house when the thud of 200 litres of water (still in the toppled water butt) came crashing down; he saw some idiots running off with the water butt stand (if only we had resident's cameras up on every street – eh?)

A shout was made out on the Cathays Residents group out – and Dawn stepped up and offered a water butt stand from her own garden: thank you Dawn!!

### Acid attack on cars, brutal door kicking, theft, drink spiking and local vandalism across Cathays!!

Dear me – it reads like bedlum, yet once you peel away the layers – there is the potential of a silver lining. It is important that people deal in fact – not gossip, biased opinion and poor sources of information.

An acid attack on the Catherine Street residents cars, was a an act of rebuke as this pocket of close knit residents have pulled together and stopped the drug dealing via showing community presence, putting cameras up and regularly reported the problems to Police etc.

Obviously it would be scary for anyone to have their vehicles damaged, when I was contacted by 5 of the Catherine Street residents, a small info sheet was produced and shared out to 50 of the residents there.

Just the 'small things' like the local Police mobile numbers, guidance on domestic surveillance, details of the FB residents group (to support street by street connection amongst the families) to improve the mutual support amongst Cathays – will help everyone across Cathays proactively improve upon the safety of this amazing district. The power is in all your hands ….. it's up to all of us to report problems, gather evidence (with cameras/diary of anti social activity happening) to share with the Police.

Elsewhere some of the 18-22 year student young women have suffered multiple incidents of drink spiking in town (and sadly the Union too) which has caused some paranoia amongst the student community. There has been some effort made to walk home quietly (in groups for safety) as to not attract undue attention.

Additionally many incidents of people kicking front doors for prolonged amounts of time, shouting through the letter boxes attempting to intimidate the younger women in Cathays, resulted in them locking themselves in their rooms and calling the Police.

This sort of behaviour has happened, repeatedly for a month now) in 'The Village' part of Cathays; with Rhymney Street being targeted a lot. These door kickers are not lost, nor are they drunk – they have been deliberately attempting to scare the occupants of these houses in Cathays.

On one street a resident has gone out & spoken to all the students and residents about this, giving them basic information to encourage a safer street practice. If you are woken by someone knocking/kicking doors – please try and get the video evidence on your phones to share with the Police. The more families/students collecting evidence – the better.

## Nov: Foodbank across Cathays

Deposit in Foodbank Boxes at Sainsbury's, Lidl, etc. – Cardiff Foodbank are short of many things: ***please donate!!***

- **JARS OF COFFEE (110G-250G)**
- **MILK (UHT LONG LIFE 1 LITRE)**
- **FRUIT JUICE (LONG LIFE) 1 LITRE**
- **SPONGE PUDDINGS**
- **TINNED TOMATOES**
- **MICROWAVEABLE RICE**
- **CONFECTIONERY (CHOCOLATE/SWEETS)**
- **SAVOURY SNACKS (CRISPS, CRACKERS ETC)**
- **RICE PUDDING**
- **SHAMPOO**
- **DEODORANT**

Please be aware this could change very quickly in February – so please check out the Cardiff Foodbank link: ***https://cardiff.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/***

Every single donation in 2021 will help a great deal in these difficult times!

Thank you to all who contribute!

Gauri – Cardiff Foodbank

## Community meetings ….

In 2022, the families, faith groups, local businesses, charities and volunteers will re-start meetings to discuss the potential projects many of you have been gently progressing in recent years.

It is hoped that a Cathays Fair 2022 will happen in June or July 2022, which has become part of the Cathays community staple which many of you have contributed significantly to over 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Rest assured, things will pick up again – Cathays is ready to fully embrace the 2020's with all it's project and ventures!!

Massive thanks to Co-Op Community Fund for their contributions to Gladstone Primary School and Cathays Compass.

The funds will be put to good use to benefit the children/pupils and the wider community.

## Feedback from Little Monstas Halloween Party!

The Little Monsta's Halloween Party at independent venue 'The Vulcan Lounge' at Wyeverne Road/Salisbury Road was a great thunderous success. ***Massive praise to Kyle Harris – manager (and his team) of the Vulcan Lounge for putting this event on!!!***



You all made this happen – helping to spread the word of this event – with a lot of happy & content families walking away after 3 hours hoping it becomes an annual event. ***Wonderful that so many came <u>so near & so far</u> to celebrate Halloween in Cathays!***

Families from (not just Cathays) yet all over Cardiff, Newport and Rhydyfelin (who were grateful someone put a kids/family Halloween event on!) – with many commenting what a great venue Vulcan Lounge was and enquiring what other events they put on.

It was great to see the local families coming together and catching up too – as their little monstas enjoyed the activities that Chante put on; singing/dancing games for your 3-to-9-year-olds, which they loved – and of course the children beat-up on the middle aged resident who held up the Halloween Piñata – and a good thrashing he received off the children too !! Then the 40 children shared out the sweets!

**This image has been deliberately blurred for sake of privacy of our families.**



Working together – we can create stronger localised links and make Cathays a destination, which many outside parties are welcome to partake in our community events.

The local parents praised the event – and showed gratitude that it brought some of them together for a long overdue catch up!!

……. There are whispers of a potential Easter family gathering for Spring 2022 …….

## Student ask residents to partake in documentary on local residents in Cathays:



# Connor Doran

Hello Cathays Residents,

I am Connor Doran and I'm a student at the University of South Wales currently studying Documentary Photography.

I am working on a project looking at the long-time residents of areas around Cardiff that have had increase in student living and its effects. I am looking to interview all different ages of people about their experiences and memories of living in those areas and to photograph them inside their homes.

The aim of the project is to emphasise the issues or gentrification, more specifically the rise in student accommodation, and to remind everyone of the residents that have lived here for years.

If anyone is interested or knows of anyone that would like to partake in my this project then please message me on here or send me an email at ***connorjdoran1999@hotmail.com***.

Many thanks,

Connor.

Age Cymru: Do you know any older people who could do with some help?

# Would you like to help others and do something interesting in your spare time?



Age Cymru's HOPE project needs your help to support older people (50+) and their carers in your community.

HOPE is making a huge difference to the lives of many older people who currently don't know how to deal with their concerns or don't have the confidence to speak up about what they really need.

Our trained Independent Volunteer Advocates help older people and their carers access services like utilities, GP, housing and benefits. We're also helping people to reconnect with their community now Covid restrictions are easing.

If you know anyone who could use the help of one of our Volunteer Advocates, please let them know about our project. People can get in touch with us via email or phone. If you would like to join us, we'll train you to provide support to local older people and carers so they can help shape the key decisions affecting their lives and avoid getting into a crisis situation.

HOPE works across Wales and is a partnership between Age Cymru, Age Cymru local partners and Age Connects Wales partners.

If you or someone you know needs support, or if you'd like to volunteer, please call Bryony Darke on ***07943 186 780*** or email **bryony.darke@agecymru.org.uk**

Bryony – Age Cymru

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## Repair Café Cathays @ Sherman Theatre - Saturday 6th November @ 10am.

Link: ***repaircafecathays@gmail.com***

Email: ***www.facebook.com/repaircafecathays***

REPAIR CAFE WALES

CATHAYS

Come to Sherman Theatre to get your broken belongings repaired !!!





If you live in the local area and are interested in getting a household item fixed or you are interested in helping out and volunteering your services to fix things; then please get in touch with repaircafecathays@gmail.com!

## COP 26 March – starting at City Hall @ 12 noon – Saturday, 6th November:

Link: ***https://www.facebook.com/events/1636303676563859/***




This will be a peaceful demonstration – starting at City Hall from 12 noon and walking down to the Senedd.

All banners & flags supporting a message of a sustainable future welcome!!

With all parties ranging from concerned families, businesses, charities etc. from all over the area, Cardiff Peoples Assembly, Friends of the Earth Cymru, XR Cardiff (and many more!) …….. & Organisers: COP 26 Cardiff !!




Clare – COP 26 Cardiff

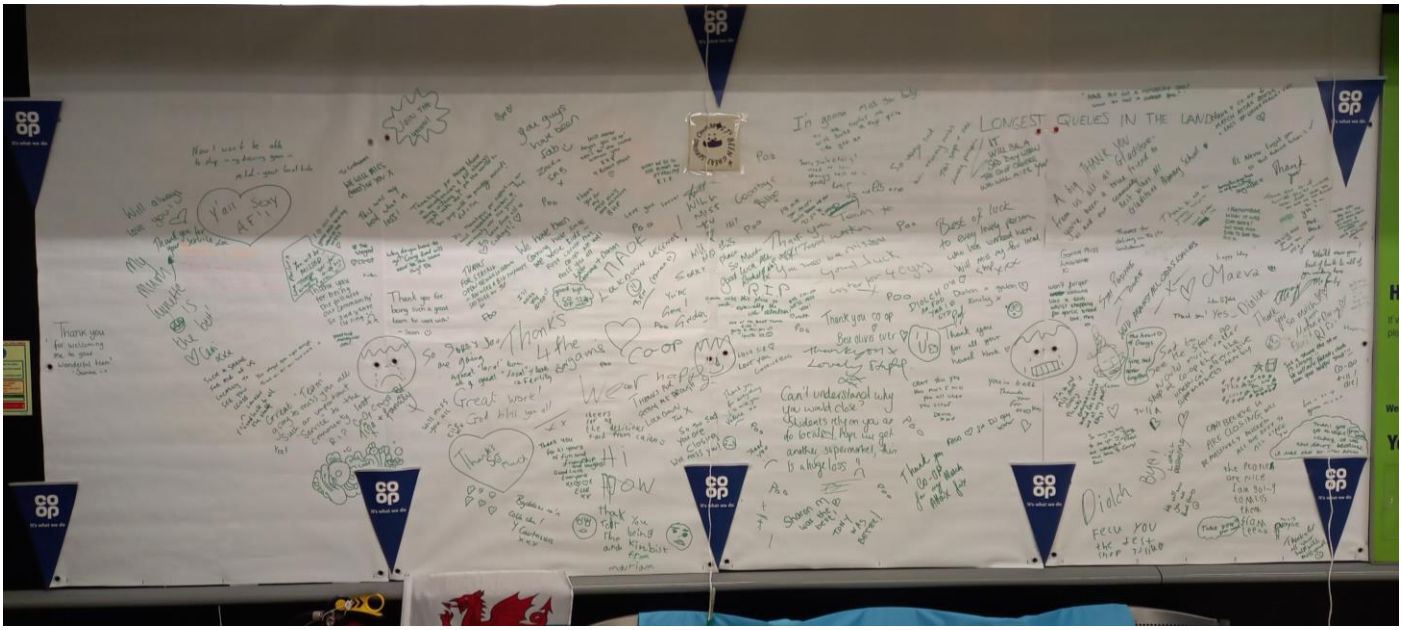
# Co-Op Crwys CLOSES DOORS for last time (then pub!) Saturday 13th November – 1pm!

***BAD NEWS (you already knew)*** Very sadly Co-Op Crwys will shut it's doors at *1pm on Saturday 13th November 2021*

***GOOD NEWS*** – the 40 strong team have been gained new jobs or transfers, 3 promotions – so a positive end to such a wonderful community shopping era!

Then the team (and all welcome customers) can join us for a quiet drink in Crwys from 1pm after the store closes…..

The end of an era – of a Shop that supported Cathays a great deal over it's time at Medallion House.




The 'goodbye Co-Op wall' has been filled with love and appreciation by many of Co-Op Crwys regulars – there is still 10 days to get your messages down Cathays!!!

THANK YOU to all Co-Op Crwys Staff – you will all be missed !!!!

See you 1pm on Saturday after the store closes for the last time; for a quick / quiet drink in Crwys Pub.

Lindsay – Co-Op Crwys Manager

CATHAYS & CENTRAL YOUTH AND COMMUNITY PROJECT www.cathays.org.uk | www.ConnectCathays.org.uk | davius.co.uk www.davius.co.uk | Cathays Compass www.CathaysCompass.org | Your Cathays Community Newsletter www.YourCathays.org.uk | Cathays Partneriaethau a Chymunedau Ynghyd PACT Partnerships and Communities Together search: Cathays PACT

## Cardiff Social Group – BOARD GAMES EVENT @ Flora Pub - Tuesday 16th November

## 6:30pm start – 10pm finish

Cardiff Social Group: ***https://www.facebook.com/groups/139179209516815/***

Facebook event link: ***https://www.facebook.com/events/579911176550921/***




**TUESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER 2021 FROM 18:30-22:00**

### Board games evening

Flora Hotel

Come and get involved in the monthly Board Games Evening – at the Flora Pub/Hotel on Cathays Terrace.

Sylwia - Cardiff Social Group

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## Co-Op Crwys – Leaving Party (booked half of Crwys Pub) – Thursday, 18th November

# From 1pm

***LINK:*** we are deliberately NOT putting FB invite up – just word-of-mouth invitation – please tell your immediate neighbours to come and join us !!

This event may well run all afternoon into the evening – the early start is for the elder customers who wish to come in earlier, to say goodbye to the 40 staff of Co-Op Crwys!!

## ***Cathays community – please do stop by and say goodbye***




Starting 1pm – specifically for our elderly (and very cherished) customers to turn up whilst it is lighter – and we hope to see the rest of you after you've finished school, work and volunteering.

The Co-Op Cryws team will miss our valued customers!!

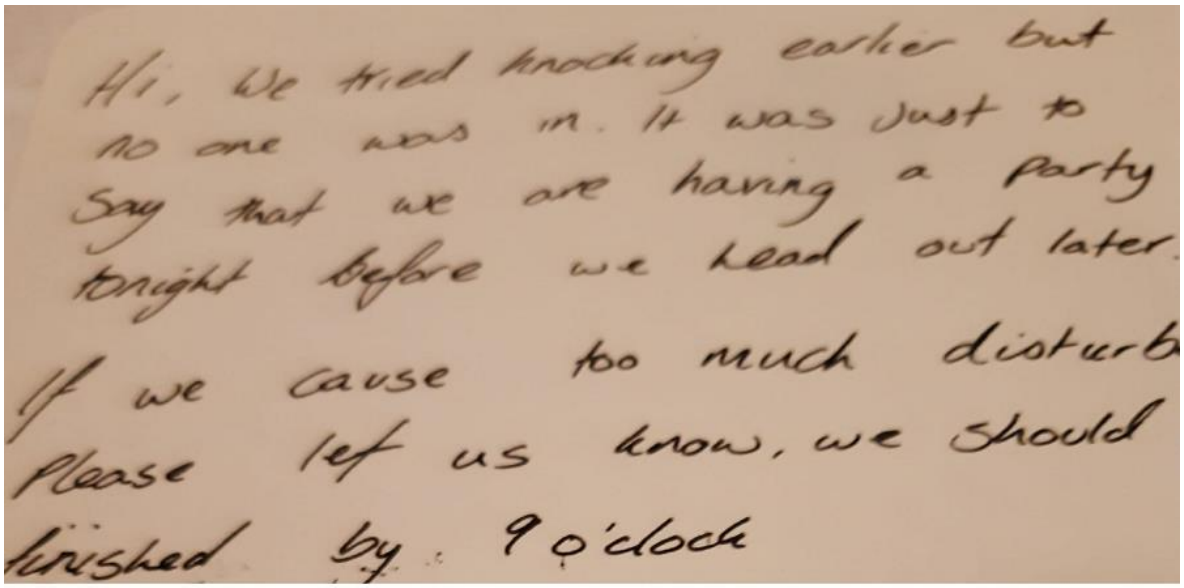
Lindsay – Manager – Co-Op Crwys

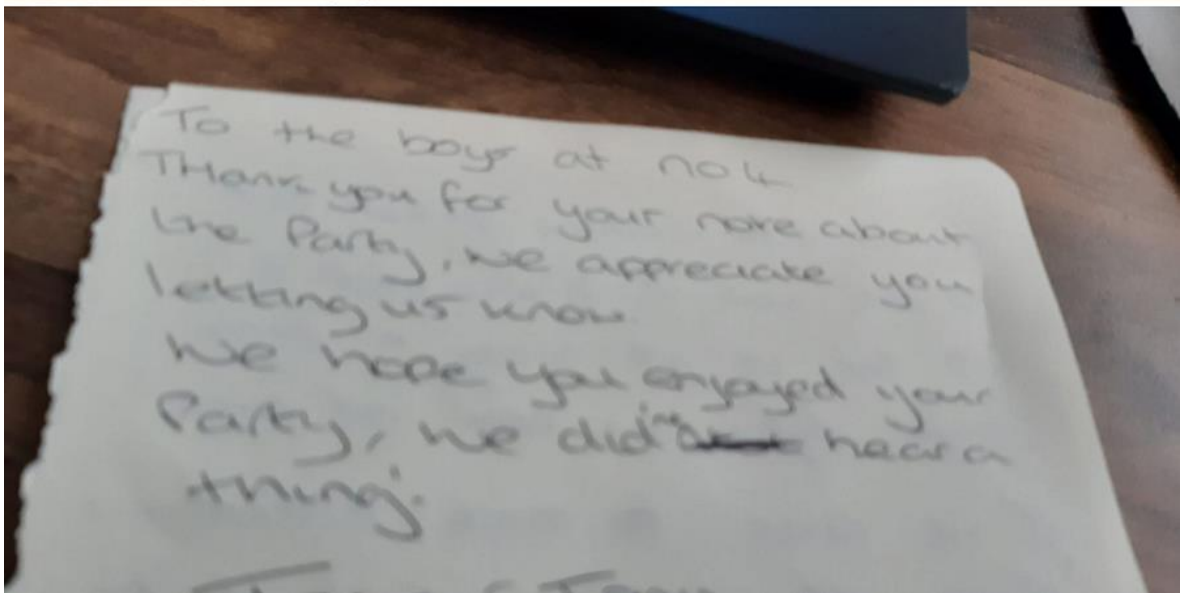
Danny – Manager - Crwys Pub

## Having a house party – a polite heads up & good communication with our residents!!

The majority of the student/youth population do not have house parties – given the size/quantity of personal belongings they have (laptops, branded clothing, bikes, mobiles, tablets, personal belongings etc) compared to a generation ago; it is not worth the risk of damage or thefts that are the backlash of too many house parties.

Yet sometimes – a minority of our students do hold a house party. An example praised by Flora Street residents – is when the students have reached out to our local families with a heads up *'we plan on having a house party'* and generally they will leave a phone number to text for the neighbours to contact if it gets too loud.




This is actually an atypical example of good practice the student population do lead by example, we (as Cathays families) just need to encourage more of this good practice.

Special thanks to Trish & Tony

## Autumn Leaves – please gather some and compost them??

This is a grovel, for which some people may think they are above doing – yet in Cathays dozens of you have been gathering up the leaves for years!



We should not take for granted the natural resources seasonally offered to us all. The autumn leaves that begin to fall have very valuable nutrients - which often get swept up by the council trucks/cleansing teams (when the services are running in times of austerity and post COVID recovery).

I actively encourage you to sweep up the ones on the street and:

- Place them in your composting spaces.
- Add them to your bare soil in the gardens / frontage.
- Add to top layer of larger plant boxes you may own.
- Put them in bottom of planting pots to create a nutrient base
- Storing them in plastic bags (keeping them damp).

This (last step) goes a long way to breaking down healthy nutrients back into the soil, or charging up the compost heaps with healthy microbes etc when you put a bag of leaves in the compost bins.

For many of you who wish to condition the soils, you can pick up the fallen leaves, put them in a green recycling bag (naughty of me to say!) and this will keep the leaves damp well into Spring 2022; which you can use for putting in the bottom of your pots, before you add the soil etc. to stop the soil falling through.



Adding a few worms to your pots will help them build up their population levels (in such a relatively small plastic environment)

With the cuts in council services, the more people across Cardiff who can do a bit of leaf collecting, leaf bagging, composting and dealing with this organic waste locally (from road to your backyard!) will help reduce the burden on council strained services.

It will reduce emissions of less council transport being required. If this goes towards council savings too – I hope the wider communities can benefit from this.

PLEASE use this natural resource that growing systems (organic and human utilised) have used for many centuries ….. for all our sakes – all local activities will help save our futures!!




## December 2021 – Cathays Monthly Update – please get your posters/invites in!

Where did the year go when 2020 dragged out so much, for the entire planet!

2021 seems to have shot by !!!

……

Please do get your Christmas Posters / events / Party invitations into December's Cathays Monthly Update !!!

……..

***Happy BONFIRE NIGHT Cathays !!!!***

Regards,

Paulus