Cathays Monthly Update – July 2026

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

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July 2026 comments:

Water Butt's – how many can we fit into Cathays?

It goes without saying with the schools closing, adults told to work from home, multiple events cancelled etc. in the region a few weeks ago with the 36° degree heat was overwhelming for many.

The land in South Wales was blasted with heat and a mini-drought which many have commented decimated their gardens, and it may take a year to get every thing growing properly again.

To this, I write yet again to you all – to see what prospect we can have of adding several 100 water butts across Cathays. We will need this resource as there will be the predicted increased in hotter summers – and we have built very little resilience into our locale as residents.

There will be more heat warnings, then we will forget – as life gets in the way and other problems happen the next week to distract us all.

Overheating cities is a real problem in the early-to-mid-21st century. A power hungry city with back-up battery banks, major IT servers (AI is driving much of this) requiring a lot of space and a lot of water to cool down when they are running at peak ….

How can you contribute to cooling down Cathays? Growing a tree in your back yard (feasible)? If you painted the flat surfaces of your Victorian home in white to help reflect heat quicker out the city (10,000 white facades would help reflect a lot of heat) – yet we all need to start thinking about this now.

Our neighbours who work in retail had 100's of customers going through Cardiff superstores asking to buy large FANS – yet they sold out too quickly – and the power increase on 5,000 – 100,000 fans being on in homes, offices, shops etc.

We've been in crisis – yet equally in denial for too many decades – yet a bit of shake up always makes us all incubate our situations – and progress things (albeit under a bit of duress) – so what have you done recently to grow your 1% of your own diet?

You all need to think about keeping your homes cool in the summer, and comfortably warm in the winter ….. time you all built a bit of resilience in Cathays people!

The Cathays Boundary!

A few people have mentioned this, and are confused where & what space the Cathays district border encapsulates. This page has been on the newsletter for the last 10 years: ***https://www.yourcathays.org.uk/map-of-cathays/*** - hopefully you will be able to see where within the Cathays boundary you live! …. And what if town became its own district?

Parking tickets going missing?

So a few neighbours have complained about getting a £70 parking fine – as they did NOT pay the £35 fine …… when they had no idea they had even received the initial infamous yellow sticker slapped on their windscreen!

You MUST complain about this. It is a horrible cliché where some idiot thinks it is okay to steal people's parking tickets form the owner's cars.

So it is a shock when the letter arrives, you did not pay – when you had no idea the parking fine had been issued, as the yellow ticket has been removed by some deviant! Write and appeal, and explain where it happened, it may help the enforcement lot, or the police, to see patterns of 'missing tickets' – and if you get 50% back on the parking fine – then great!

Word-of-mouth supporting a stronger community

Please do keep making positive referrals for a good hair dresser, decent mechanic, reliable plumber, awesome tutor etc.

Some residents have queried in recent weeks people door knocking looking for manual work on houses – and a few people like Kevin on Rhymney street got badly stung by this …..

Remember – a reliable decent tradesperson does not go looking for work, they get overwhelmed with proper word-of-mouth referrals from the neighbours, local businesses etc …..

People who go door knocking looking for work – just please use a modicum of a cynical stance – and if you do get conned please do contact the Police just so they are aware about the con's going down in our locale.

More nasty pasty opportunists ….

One of our young mum's lost her mother recently, due to a few peculiar operation that her mother, based on Woodville Road; was encouraged to go abroad to have this 'operation' to help her illness.

The 'doctor' who managed to pull this off, has borrowed money off many people around Cathays and wider Cardiff …. Promising to make people better …. and a pattern has emerged of a con job happening.

When the resident contacted the newsletter, they were immediately referred to the Police contact's page: ***https://www.yourcathays.org.uk/cathays-police-cathays-pcso/*** and it was encouraged that perhaps contacted a lady PCSO may make the surviving daughter more open to discuss this tense issue.

Gwynedd Street redevelopment:

CHAA – Cardiff Community Housing Association to demolish a disused building on the lower end of Gwynedd Street (the same stree the Gower pub used to be!) Link: ***https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/cardiff-warehouse-set-demolition-despite-34067516***

Some residents have obviously objected, with ongoing fears of even more overdevelopment.

Yet please remember, ALL across the UK, an ageing population – a lot of divorced, or single childless 60-100 year old's live in the UK, many never got onto the housing ladder in the 1970's onwards,

Social housing will help a lot of people in the 60-100 year old age group ….. that is if this is the end result to provide the housing for ……

Cathays Beer House – another award !!!

I was NOT jealous – MUCH !!!! No poor dad joke aside – this is wonderful news that ***Cardiff Camra*** have awarded Cathays Beer House the *Cider Pub of the Year 2026* (that is two in a row now – which is just incredible!!)

With Martin and Diane being long term residents and the last 7-8 year's local business owners too – just one of many examples of you all leading by example.

Keep it up Cathays people!!! Just well done both of you still running a locally owned, locally run, locally frequented venue!! More examples like this on every business street in Cathays please ….

What else ….

So this next section was taken out last minute given the sensitivity of the topic. Scaremongering is not appropriate – solutions are the things we should all seek – and work in a unified communal empowerment!

We can fix all our local problems together. Yet like it or not gangs, cycle trio's, human coercion and exploitation is very much real in Cardiff….

There is a great deal that must be done to fix the significant decline that too many of you believe that Cathays has gone downhill in the last 10 years.

…. Dear me!

RIP dear lady

Again, permission has not been gained, namely as the family have a lot to deal with at present. Yet this is just to wish one of our lovely families our condolences as a lady-resident has shed her mortal coil and joined the angels above in the last week.

Deepest condolences to the dear husband.

Unfair 'moving-out-fines'!!

Come on!! Like you have not heard about it before!!

Thank you to one of our Malefant Street residents for bring this up …….

"I know on the council team they told me that if a student house dumps extra black bags the council will charge them about £2.50 to collect.

If a landlord dumps extra bags the charge is £10-00p. The bottom line is [a certain nasty percentage of] landlords are charging student's the £10 and paying the council £2.50 per bag.

I do not know the scale of this; but it is happening in Cathays apparently. The council apparently know, the rubbish collectors know, but I guess the students do not know. Obviously not fair and possibly a reason why students dump rubbish as they are being ripped off, by landlords!"

This is a contentious issue, yet the precursor to this is efforts the amazing Cathays residents and the better end of our landlords doing more positive actions to deter the annual waste stream spike in late Spring!

Much praise should be levelled to certain landlords, stripping down the mattresses, leaving the metal frame outside for it to be recovered, responsibly getting rid of the damaged textiles etc…. Or the landlords who give the housing products to local-people-in-need.

Yes a minority of the dodgy landlords that make the rest of the more professional end of landlords look bag, who are doing this £10 dodge on the waste output …. It is horrible!

Similar stories I was recording in the 1990's around here …. So much work needs to be done. Or have the solutions been created – yet nothing will be declared until things really shape up around here!

The other end of it ……

Thank you to certain wonderful residents who have been jumping on the waste issue, particularly on certain streets in Cathays.

To this, although a certain 5 websites on draft mode, which are not-in-any-way representing approximately 30 different residents projects (or maybe they are!!) …… just keep it up! It can all get broadcasted in a better Cathays … at a later point!

For those in the know, just keep it up – the positive causal in effect is an integral part of this community. Just be patient with the results – it is all we can ask!

We can share everyone's efforts in successive years. For now please just get on with it quietly …. Because it is the right thing to do!

Cathays Local Businesses

The 'Your Cathays online CALENDAR' in July 2026:

Links: ***https://www.yourcathays.org.uk/***

Scroll down the front page or click on internet link here: CALENDAR – What's on this month – enjoy!

Get your entries in please!

Please help to repopulate this monthly online Cathays Calendar – for those with entries on the calendar, please ensure the information is updated with times, links etc.

Basic/Uncategorised | Health, Fitness & Sports | Local Business | Volunteering & Activism | Social & Recreation | Art, Music & Culture

July 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
29	30	1 10:00 am: Bute Park - Plant Sales EVERY Wednesday 6:45 pm: Cardiff Greenpeace @ Temple of Peace - 1st Wednesday of each month	2 2:00 pm: Heritage FAN [Friends And Neighbours] 2pm at Cathays Library 7:30 pm: Blues Dragon & Blues - First Thursday of each month	3	4 10:00 am: Repair Cafe Cathays - every 1st Saturday of the month 11:30 am: XR Cardiff - Monthly Meetings - first Saturday of each month @ Quakers - Charles Street	5
6 7:00 pm: Cathays Brass - every Monday evening!!	7 10:30 am: Baby & Toddler Group - EVERY Tuesday @ 'The Table' - Pentyrch Street 10:30 am: Weekly Tuesday 'Cathays Cemetery Walk' (Walk for Health) 11:00 am: Tea & Cakes - The first Tuesday of each month @ Ffotogallery	8 12:00 pm: Home Grown Vegetable for sale - EVERY Wednesday	9	10 6:30 pm: IYP - Youth Club @ Cathays Community Centre EVERY Friday	11 11:00 am: Foodbank @ Woodville Baptist Church - EVERY Saturday	12 1:00 pm: United Community Social - EVERY Sunday @ Brodies Cafe (North Road)
13 9:30 am: Story Time for Under 5's - English 7 Welsh Medium - EVERY Monday	14 2:00 pm: Memory Lane (Dementia support group) EVERY Tuesday	15 10:00 am: Coffee Morning - EVERY Wednesday @ Cathays Community Centre	16	17	18 10:00 am: Plant sales @ Bute Park - every Saturday	19
20 6:00 pm: Embassy Youth Club - EVERY Monday early evening	21 12:00 pm: Free Meals - every Tuesday at Cathays Community Centre	22 6:00 pm: Zumba Class EVERY Wednesday @ Community Centre	23 12:00 pm: 'Cuppa with a Copper' - Bi-weekly @ Cathays Library 2:00 pm: Memory Lane (Dementia Support) EVERY Thursday	24	25 10:00 am: Family Craft Group - EVERY Saturday morning @ Cathays Library	26
27	28 1:00 pm: Foodbank @ Woodville Baptist Church - EVERY Tuesday 1pm to 3pm	29	30	31		

Cathays Local Businesses

Foodbank in Cathays – donating and collection for July 2026

Just like any week of the year – 10,000's of people are still going hungry in a 100km radius of you!

Link: ***www.cardiff.foodbank.org.uk***

This list changes EVERY MONTH – so see what shortage/excess the Foodbank is experiencing and please help out by depositing in Foodbank Boxes at Sainsbury's, Lidl, Co-Operative etc. Thank you everyone for donating!

- **BARS OF SOAP**
- **CLEANING SPRAY**
- **DEODARANT**
- **SPONGE PUDDING**
- **TINNED FRUIT**
- **TINNED TOMATOES**
- **TOOTHBRUSH**
- **CHOCOLATE**
- **COFFEE**
- **LONG-LIFE-MILK**
- **SWEETS**
- **TINNED RICE PUDDING**
- **TOMATO SAUCE**

Please be aware this could change very quickly each month – so please check out the Cardiff Foodbank link to view our wants/excess list on:
https://cardiff.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/

At present we have plenty of:

- **NAPPIES**
- **PASTA**

Please check the link weekly.

To quality for Foodbank – you need to get referred by your GP, our housing association, the Citizens Advice group or a Social worker!

Here you will be assessed and see if you qualify for the Foodbank voucher to use at the nearest Foodbanks to you!

Many residents, local businesses have asked how to help out – please do help to donate, or if you are a faith group, local business, school etc who wish to set up a foodbank – please contact Cardiff Foodbank and see how you can help out! Every donation (in the panel it highlights what we are short of!) welcome!



Deposit in Foodbank Boxes in various part of Cathays including:

→ ***Al-Manar Centre*** – Glynrhhonda Road

→ ***Dar Ul Isra Mosque*** – Wyeverne Road *(please do drop off Saturday's between 11:30 and 12:30)*

→ ***Sherman Theatre*** – Box is on the right of entrance (also Warm Places)

→ ***Sainsburys*** – Woodville Road (regular opening hours)

→ ***Tesco*** – Cathays Terrace (regular opening hours)

We are grateful to learn that Dar Ul-Isra Foodbank has been nominated for the Co-Op community Fund 2022/2023 this year! Congrats!

Please do give where you can spare one thing on the right list box!

19,253

three day emergency food supplies were provided to local people in crisis by Cardiff Foodbank - of this number 7639 (39%) went to children.

£863

Average rent for a two bed in our city

MORE THAN 1 IN 5

of the UK population live below the poverty line

Thank you everyone who donates!

Felicity – Cardiff Foodbank, ***Gauri*** – Cardiff Foodbank, ***Barak*** – Al-Manar Centre, ***Mo*** – Dar Ul-Isra, ***Simon*** – Sherman Theatre

Places available at Fairoak Primary School (3 to 11 year old's) – All welcome to apply!

Link: ***www.fairoakprimary.co.uk***



Mrs Weston – Teacher
Fairoaks Primary School – Whitchurch Road

Sunday Skating @ Cathays Community Centre – Most Sunday's in the month!!

Link: ***https://www.cathays.org.uk***



Please check with the Cathays Community Centre, in advance to ensure it is running ….
It is most Sunday's; *just not every Sunday!!* Please check in advance!

Bridie – Infrastructure Manager
Cathays Community Centre (Cathays Terrace)

Family Craft Group @ Cathays Library – EVERY Saturday 10am to 10:45

Again – this will run through the summer, hence I am putting this advert up again!



Patrick – Organiser
Family Craft Group – Fairoak Road

Lark Design Make launch CIC:

Heyyyyy! Lark has officially launched a CIC (community interest company) called 'Finch' - can you see what I did there

Having a CIC is something I've always wanted to do, I love doing community and charity workshops but it's always been so hard to figure out how to do it fairly and to ensure it isn't at a loss to Lark, previously when I was approached by charities looking for workshops I would just make up discounted prices but now it will be so much easier to offer subsidised workshops to those who really need it as we will be using profits from corporate events we host (which are super popular at Christmas time).

Being a CIC will also hopefully mean we will be able to secure funding for some of the fab community events we'd love to host, many of you will remember the drama I had last year with the Craftfest Cathays funding! The focus for our community events would be providing life skills, sustainability and helping combat loneliness - 3 things we strongly believe creative sessions can help with.

I have been super lucky to secure a lush team to help with all sort of things that will come our way as we open the up to events - from clockwise from the right we have myself Gemma, Helen, Kerry & Beth in the centre.

I have set up a few pages on our website explaining all the events we offer, we have been sharing the news with existing corporates we work with and they have been thrilled to be part of the initiative and we are in talks with a few charities about offering some rewarding sessions for different groups - exciting times!

Do give our social media pages a follow : **@finch_cic**

or if you think you have an event that needs a bit of Finch action visit our webpages here - **www.larkdesignmake.co.uk/finch**



Games afternoon @ St Michael's Church – Saturday, 4th July

Link: ***https://www.parishofcathays.org/***

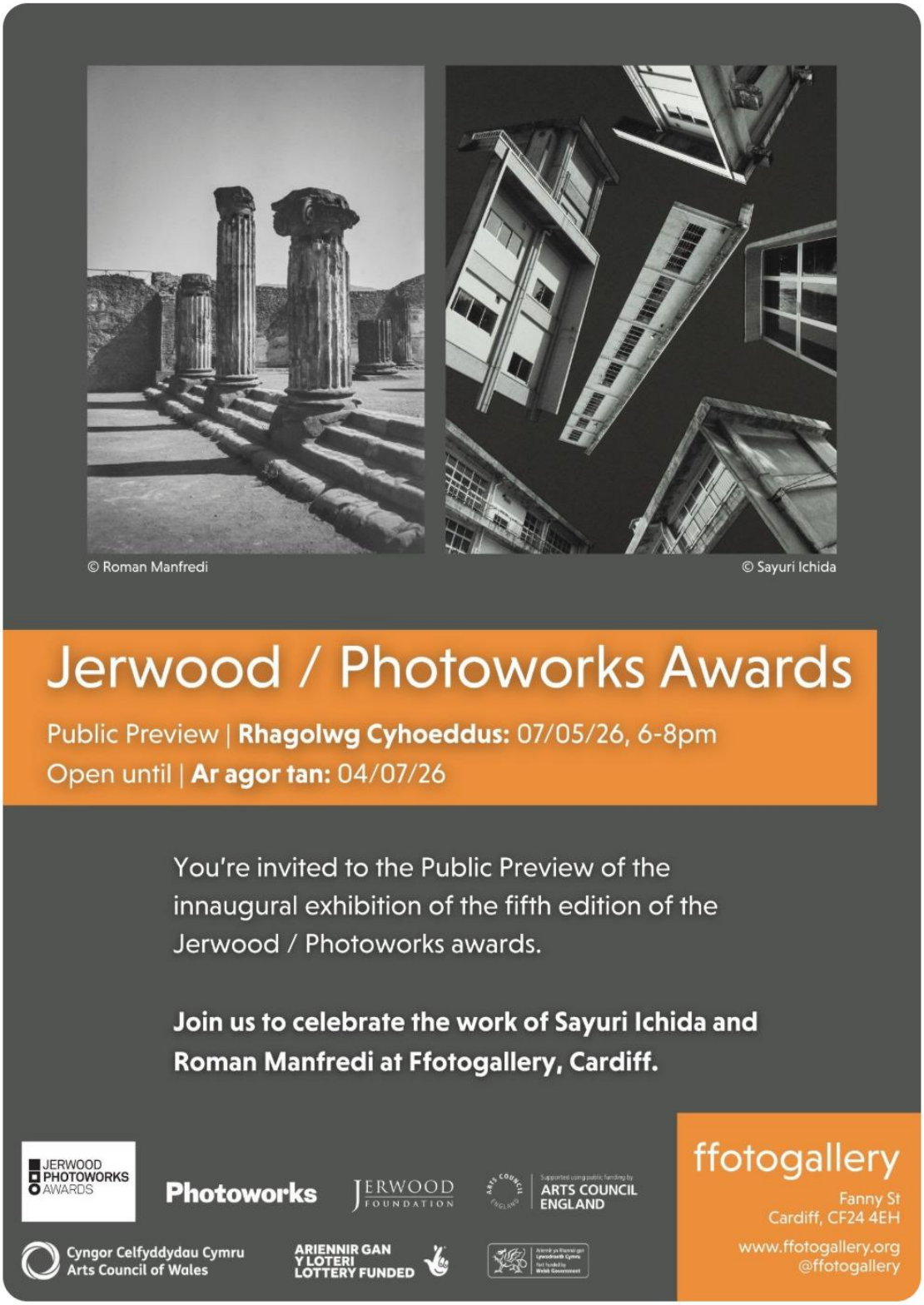


Rev Caroline – Faith Leader
St Michael's Church – Gelligaer Street

Jerwood / Photoworks Awards @ Ffotogallery – ends on Saturday, 4th July:

Link: ***https://www.ffotogallery.org/whats-on-listings/jerwood-photoworks-awards-5***

ffotogallery



Kate, Grace et al - The staff
Ffotogallery, Fanny Street

1000 days of genocide – demonstration @ Queen Street – Saturday, 4th July

Link: ***www.instagram.com/cardiffpeoplesassembly/***



Adam – Organiser
Cardiff Peoples Assembly

Graveyard Voices (A48 Theatre) @ Cathays Cemetery – Tuesday, 7th July

Ticket link: ***https://www.ticketsource.com/a48-theatre-company/graveyard-voices-2026/e-zklkzv***

In collaboration with Cardiff Bereavement Services, Living Lines and A48 theatre company are enhancing a guided tour around Cathays Cemetery on: **3 dates in July, 2026 - at 7 pm on**

- **Tuesday 7th July – 7pm**
- **Thursday 9th July – 7pm**
- **Sunday 12th July – 2pm**

An extra performance - to be held indoors in The Chapel - will also take place at *7pm* on Wednesday 8th July.



We have 10 new scripts and characters for you to enjoy - the same content for all 4 performances.

Meet outside The Chapel - as usual - about 30 minutes before the walk/ performance begins.

The walks and performances will last for about 90 minutes. This is an extremely popular event and usually sells out very quickly and early.

Ticket prices for this year: £10.

Please note: Car parking is available around the chapel.

A48 Theatre / Friends of Cathays Cemetery / Bereavement Service – Fairoak Road

Comedy Festival - Four weekends of events (starting 7th) @ Rhostio Speciality Coffee

Link: ***https://www.rhostio.co.uk/***



Imogen – Marketting
Rhostio Speciality Coffee – Crwys Road

Microwoven (Author Anna Fiteni) @ Book Space Cardiff – Wednesday, 8th July

Book Space Cardiff Newsletter Link: ***https://www.bookspacecardiff.co.uk/pages/newsletter-sign-up***



Lily – Manager
Book Space Cardiff - Crwys Road

Gothic Poetry Night (Barbara Hughes-Moore) @ Book Space Cardiff - Thursday, 9th July

Book Space Cardiff Newsletter Link: ***https://www.bookspacecardiff.co.uk/pages/newsletter-sign-up***



Lily – Manager
Book Space Cardiff - Crwys Road

Meeting Room Café @ St Michael's Church – Saturday, 11th July:

Link: ***https://www.parishofcathays.org/***

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Rev Caroline – Faith Leader
St Michael's Church **–** Gelligaer Street

David Grace – Singer @ CSAS: Cathays Sports & Social – Saturday, 11th July:



Josh – Deputy Manager
John - Committee
Cathays Sports and Social – Cathays Terrace

Poetry Slam Night @ Book Space Cardiff – Wednesday, 15th July:

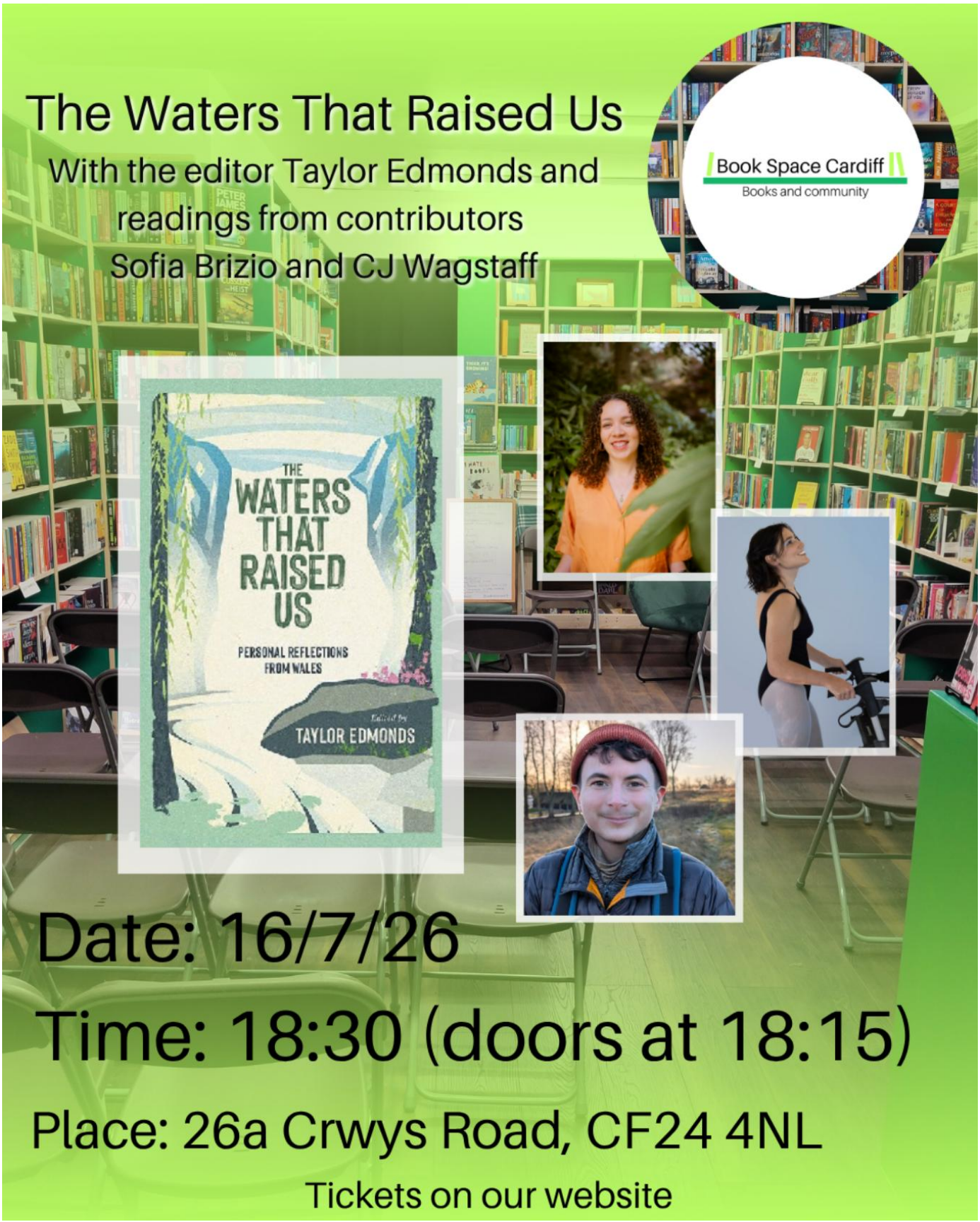
Book Space Cardiff Newsletter Link: ***https://www.bookspacecardiff.co.uk/pages/newsletter-sign-up***



Lily – Manager
Book Space Cardiff - Crwys Road

The Water that Raised us @ Book Space Cardiff – Thursday, 16th July

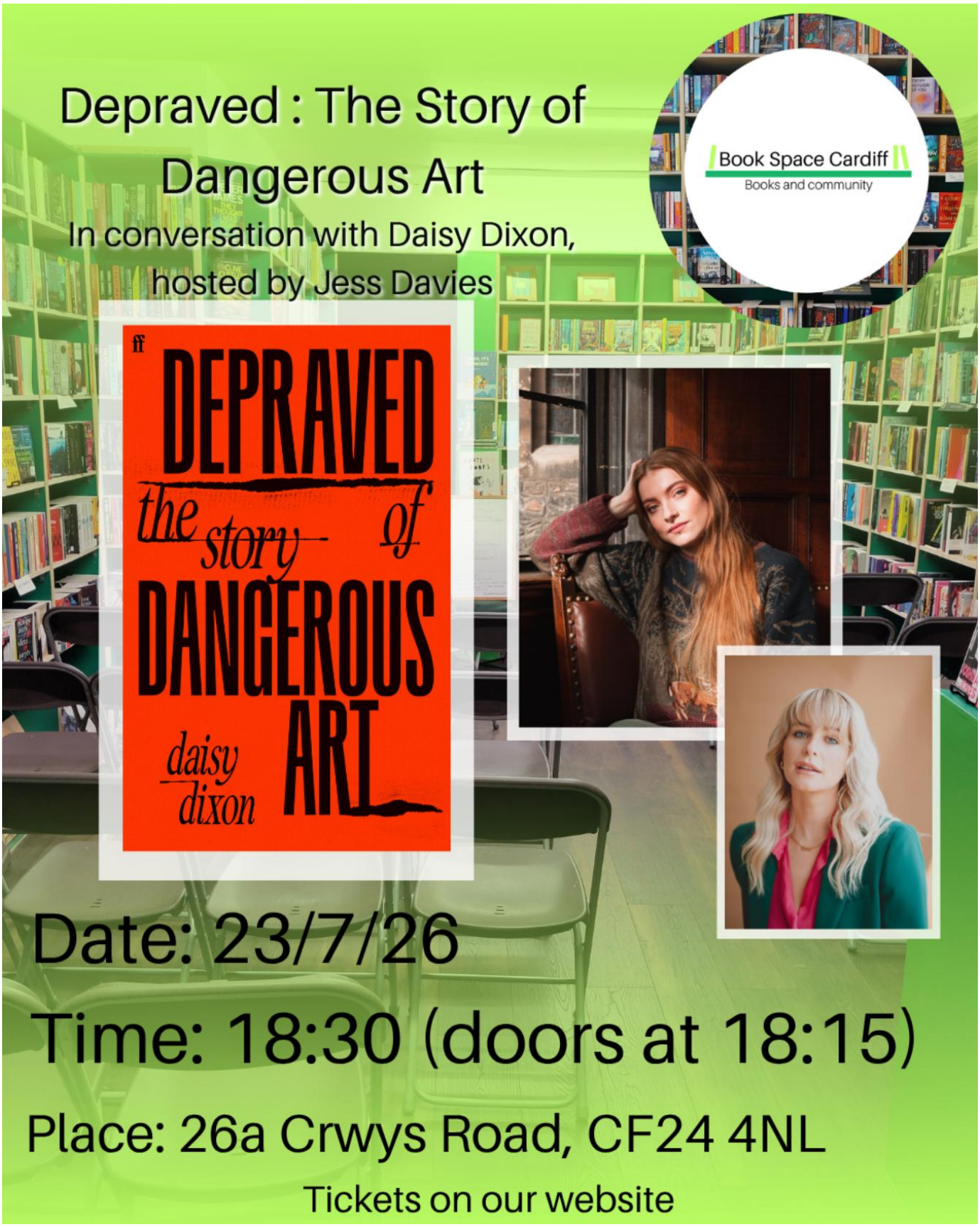
Book Space Cardiff Newsletter Link: ***https://www.bookspacecardiff.co.uk/pages/newsletter-sign-up***



Lily – Manager
Book Space Cardiff - Crwys Road

Depraved: The Story of Dangerous Art @ Book Space Cardiff – Thursday, 23rd July:

Book Space Cardiff Newsletter Link: ***https://www.bookspacecardiff.co.uk/pages/newsletter-sign-up***



Lily – Manager
Book Space Cardiff - Crwys Road

Bex – Female Vocalist @ CSAS: Cathays Sports & Social – Saturday, 25th July:



Mark – Manager
Fran – Committee
Cathays Sports and Social – Cathays Terrace

Wine Tasting @ Rhostio Coffee Roasters - Wednesday 29th July

Link: ***https://www.rhostio.co.uk/wine-club/***



Rhostio Wine Tasting Club

Join us for an unforgettable evening at the Rhostio Wine Tasting Club! Indulge in a delightful selection of 6 different exquisite wines, perfect for wine enthusiasts and novices alike. Get ready to sip, savor, and socialize with fellow wine lovers.

Imogen - Marketting
Rhostio Coffee Roasters, Crwys Road

Cathays Local Businesses

Meet the Author: Bethany Handley @ Book Space Cardiff – Thursday, 30th August

Book Space Cardiff Newsletter Link: ***https://www.bookspacecardiff.co.uk/pages/newsletter-sign-up***



Lily – Manager

Book Space Cardiff **-** Crwys Road

Cathays Local Businesses

August 2026 – Cathays Monthly Update

Get your August event posters in please!!

What summer events, stalls, activities,

It is but interesting times we all live in …….

Regards,

Paulus