Cathays Monthly Update – November 2026

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

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November 2026 comments:

Almost didn't go out!

This community update almost didn't go out - the 2017 Laptop died – which has caused a lot of setbacks in recent weeks.

How this one went out, I'll put it down to bloody minded perseverance!! Next April 2027 will be 10 year's of Cathays community updates! So I hope this does not all fall apart when we are so near to a milestone!

If errors, typo's or anything off is in this update – apologies in advance!

FAN back in 2027:

The FAN (Friends and Neighbours) will recommence in early 2027 so please do not think it has been discontinued recently.

We will see you in 2027.

Janina – FAN Cardiff Co-Ordinator

Giving thanks to Dora and Liz

Talk about a proper girl's night out. It is rare that Liz, Dora and I are in the same space at any point in the year – and this resulted in a significant conversation for a prolonged amount of time.

So much gratitude to these two of these ladies (Cathays girls when they were tearing about here, as kids in the mid-20th century).

We discussed various streets and the changes over the decades of the shops on Woodville Road, Crwys Road etc yet what really blew my mind was the off-the-cuff comments they both made about multiple incidents – we managed to figure out a few things that still have ramifications to this day.

It tied into so many things discussed with retired police, retired social workers, retired teachers and a lot of residents now in their 60's to 80's.

Thank you both. These sort of conversations remind us why we all must keep trying every single day. All these tiny positive steps are like microns all making up a larger global constant trying so hard to move forward – even if it feels like nothing is moving forward – it really is!

Seasonal work – thinking about applying?

Whether you are 16 or 96, all the shops will be hiring for the Christmas seasonal manic buying seasons – so many of the shops all over Cardiff will be hiring temporary positions of 3-6 weeks of seasonal work.

I know a lot of semi-retired people do enjoy this a great deal, and the learning arc many of them go through of learning new technologies etc has been quite exciting.

Think about it – you may actually enjoy a seasonal job!

See it? Enjoyed it? Then please share it!!

Personal recommendations and word-of-mouth referrals from people who know you are the best forms of supportive advertising.

Having seen a band playing in Granny Mac's (Thanks Jayne – Rhymney Street Reunion FB Page) for the head's up on the band.

Upon seeing them, I did contact Bar 105, CSAS: Cathays Sports and Social, and Rhostio to give them the bands details – hopefully they will play a gig in these venues in 2027. Get the word out folks – please do help local talents.

Micro-grids – your own home?

The internet (global) glitches in recent weeks is a reminder how vulnerable we are as individuals, families, neighbours, a street, a district, a county, a country and a planet; how easily we can be brought to a full stop!

Please do not play into 'panic buying' (hopefully everyone learnt their lessons from the pre-1st Covid lockdown – with all that food purchased nationally/internationally and it went to the waste mound – not eaten!

It is a reminder for a need to grow 1% or 2% of our own food (runner beans and potatoes are not impossible to grow for the majority of you!) yet a week's worth of bottles of drinking water; a battery in your house that can keep the fridge running in blackouts, keep the boiler going for warm (not hot) water for a few hours.

Supply lines will be intermitted in the coming decades (it's okay some Fecker higher up will profit from it all) like a 21st century version of a spiv) to build resilience into your own home would put you in better standing.

What if pubs or faith buildings, schools, libraries all had a mega battery each – which can feed street lighting; water pumps when we have a few interrupted electricity services. Insulating your home would reduce dependence on heating costs. Not scare mongering – it is just good practise to ensure if anything cuts off temporarily – you can still get on with it.

You do not want to be in a critical video meeting interview – and for it all to cut off – which could put a dampener not getting that job in your future.

Obviously a laptop, phone or tablet has a (semi-decent) battery and if the local 6G, 7G local towers (yes jumping a bit to the 2040's or 2050's) have their own in-built battery back ups so they can run for 24 hours if a blackout occurs – you can still conduct the full video call job interview and you get that precious job in the next decade …… just a few thoughts to share with you.

Cathays Local Businesses

The 'Your Cathays online CALENDAR' in November 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

November 2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
						1
2 7:00 pm: Cathays Brass - every Monday evening!!	3 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	4 10:00 am: Bute Park - Plant Sales EVERY Wednesday 6:45 pm: Cardiff Greenpeace @ Temple of Peace - 1st Wednesday of each month	5 2:00 pm: Heritage FAN [Friends And Neighbours] 2pm at Cathays Library 7:30 pm: Blues Dragon & Blues - First Thursday of each month	6	7 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	8 1:00 pm: United Community Social - EVERY Sunday @ Brodies Cafe (North Road)
9 7 Welsh Medium - EVERY Monday	10 group) EVERY Tuesday	11 EVERY Wednesday	12 n: Youth Cathays Community Centre - EVERY Thursday	13 6:30 pm: IYP - Youth Club @ Cathays Community Centre EVERY Friday	14 11:00 am: Foodbank @ Woodville Baptist Church - EVERY Saturday	15
16 6:00 pm: Embassy Youth Club - EVERY Monday early evening	17 12:00 pm: Free Meals - every Tuesday at Cathays Community Centre	18 10:00 am: Coffee Morning - EVERY Wednesday @ Cathays Community Centre	19	20	21 10:00 am: Plant sales @ Bute Park - every Saturday	22
23	24 1:00 pm: Foodbank @ Woodville Baptist Church - EVERY Tuesday 1pm to 3pm	25 6:00 pm: Zumba Class EVERY Wednesday @ Community Centre	26 12:00 pm: 'Cuppa with a Copper' - Bi-weekly @ Cathays Library 2:00 pm: Memory Lane (Dementia Support) EVERY Thursday	27	28 10:00 am: Family Craft Group - EVERY Saturday morning @ Cathays Library	29
30						

Cathays Local Businesses

Foodbank in Cathays – donating and collection for November 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! Not too different from September's list – so please keep an eye on the necessary bare essentials!!!

- **CLEANING SPRAY**
- **COOKING SAUCE IN JARS**
- **JAM**
- **PEANUT BUTTER**
- **SPONGE PUDDINGS**
- **TOMATO SAUCE**
- **COFFEE**
- **DEODARANT**
- **LONG-LIFE MILK**
- **SHAMPOO**
- **TINNED FRUIT**

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:

- **BAKED BEANS**
- **PASTA**
- **NAPPIES**
- **TINNED SOUP**

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

General Book Club Notice @ Book Space Cardiff

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



Lily – Manager
Book Space Cardiff - Crwys Road

Cathays Local Businesses

2nd REMINDER: Autumn Crafts – free sessions @ Cathays Library - Every Saturday



Gemma – Cathays Community Centre
Olivia – Cathays Heritage Library

Independent councillors put forward some points …….

CARDIFF INDEPENDENT GROUP

PEOPLE BEFORE PROFIT. COMMUNITIES BEFORE COMMERCIAL INTERESTS. CARDIFF RESIDENTS FIRST.

Keep Cardiff's Public Assets in Public Hands

AN OPEN LETTER TO CARDIFF COUNCIL

We are calling on Cardiff Council not to sell council-owned land for data centre development unless and until it can be clearly demonstrated that doing so is in the best long-term interests of Cardiff residents.

Public assets belong to the people of Cardiff. The Council is their custodian, entrusted with protecting them for current and future generations. Decisions to dispose of public land should be guided not simply by commercial opportunity or immediate financial return, but by what delivers the greatest overall benefit for local communities.

Under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, the Council has a responsibility to consider the long-term consequences of its decisions, involve communities and act in the interests of future generations. Cardiff has also declared itself a Human Rights City, committing to placing human rights at the heart of decision-making and giving residents a greater voice.

Yet many residents question whether these commitments are being reflected in the approach to proposed data centre developments. At recent public meetings, local people have voiced genuine fears about the future of their communities. One moment stood out. **A 14-year-old resident rose to speak and simply said: "I'm scared." No child should feel fear about the future of their community, and no Council committed to human rights should dismiss those concerns lightly.**

Residents are repeatedly told by developers there is no evidence of harm, Cardiff Council appears willing to accept this and dispose of a valuable public asset despite continued uncertainty around the long-term impacts on communities, infrastructure, energy demand, water resources and the environment.

If the disposal of public assets is being justified on financial grounds, residents deserve to understand exactly what those benefits are and whether they outweigh the permanent loss of publicly owned land.

WE ARE ASKING CARDIFF COUNCIL TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC RESPONSE ON:

1. **Financial value:** What financial return will the Council receive, and how has this been assessed against the wider public value of retaining the land and can the council publish the full financial, social, economic and environmental case for any proposed disposal of public land for data Centre development.
2. **Economic benefit:** What measurable long-term benefits will Cardiff residents receive through local employment, apprenticeships, business opportunities and investment?
3. **Environmental impact:** What independent assessments have been undertaken into energy and water consumption, carbon emissions and impacts on local infrastructure?
4. **Alternative uses:** What consideration has been given to retaining the land for housing, community facilities, green infrastructure or other future public needs?
5. **Public accountability:** How have residents' concerns and the Council's commitments under the Well-being of Future Generations Act and Human Rights City declaration influenced the decision-making process? With thousands of residents having raised concerns about the proposed disposal, what evidence demonstrates that selling this public asset will deliver a lasting public benefit for Cardiff, how has that benefit been assessed, and why does Cardiff Council believe it outweighs both the strength of public opposition and the loss of a strategically important public asset?

We request a formal written response within 21 days, addressing each of the five questions above. We ask that the response be made publicly available so residents can see how their concerns have been considered.

We are not opposed to investment or economic development. We are simply asking for transparency, accountability and evidence. Public land has value far beyond its sale price. Once sold, it is no longer under public ownership or direct public control.

The question is whether selling this public asset is genuinely the best long-term choice for the people of Cardiff.

Cllr Peter Littlechild
Peter.littlechild@cardiff.gov.uk Cardiff Independent Group

Cllr Emma Reid-Jones
Emma.ReidJones@cardiff.gov.uk Cardiff Independent Group

Ffoto Cymru 2026 @ Ffotogallery – All through November 2026

Link: ***https://www.ffotogallery.org/ffoto-cymru-2026-about***

ffotogallery

Ffoto Cymru is Wales' international photography festival, bringing together artists, photographers, communities and audiences across the country for a month-long celebration of contemporary photography and image-making.

Taking place throughout November (and early December) across **17+ locations** throughout Wales, **Ffoto Cymru 2026** will bring together exhibitions, events, talks, workshops and opportunities to connect with photography in new and unexpected ways.

FFOTO CYMRU

2026: There's More to Life

This year's festival explores the theme There's More to Life — an invitation to look beyond the everyday pressures of productivity, progress and constant acceleration, and to consider different ways of being, creating and connecting.

Through photography, **Ffoto Cymru 2026** explores the possibilities of alternative futures: ways of working and living that value care, curiosity, creativity, community and imagination. The festival asks how we might make space for play, reflection, belonging and new perspectives in a changing world.

Bringing together artists from Wales and beyond, Ffoto Cymru celebrates photography as a tool for storytelling, questioning and imagining — creating spaces where different experiences, ideas and conversations can come together.

Join us throughout October 2026 as we explore the images, ideas and possibilities that remind us: **There's more to life.**

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

Singer: Gabriel Marshall @ Cathays Sports and Social – Sunday 8th November:



Mark – Manager / ***Josh*** – Chairperson
John – Committee
Cathays Sports and Social – Cathays Terrace

Llandaff Cathedral Cemetery @ Friends of Cathays Cemetery – Tuesday, 10th Nov

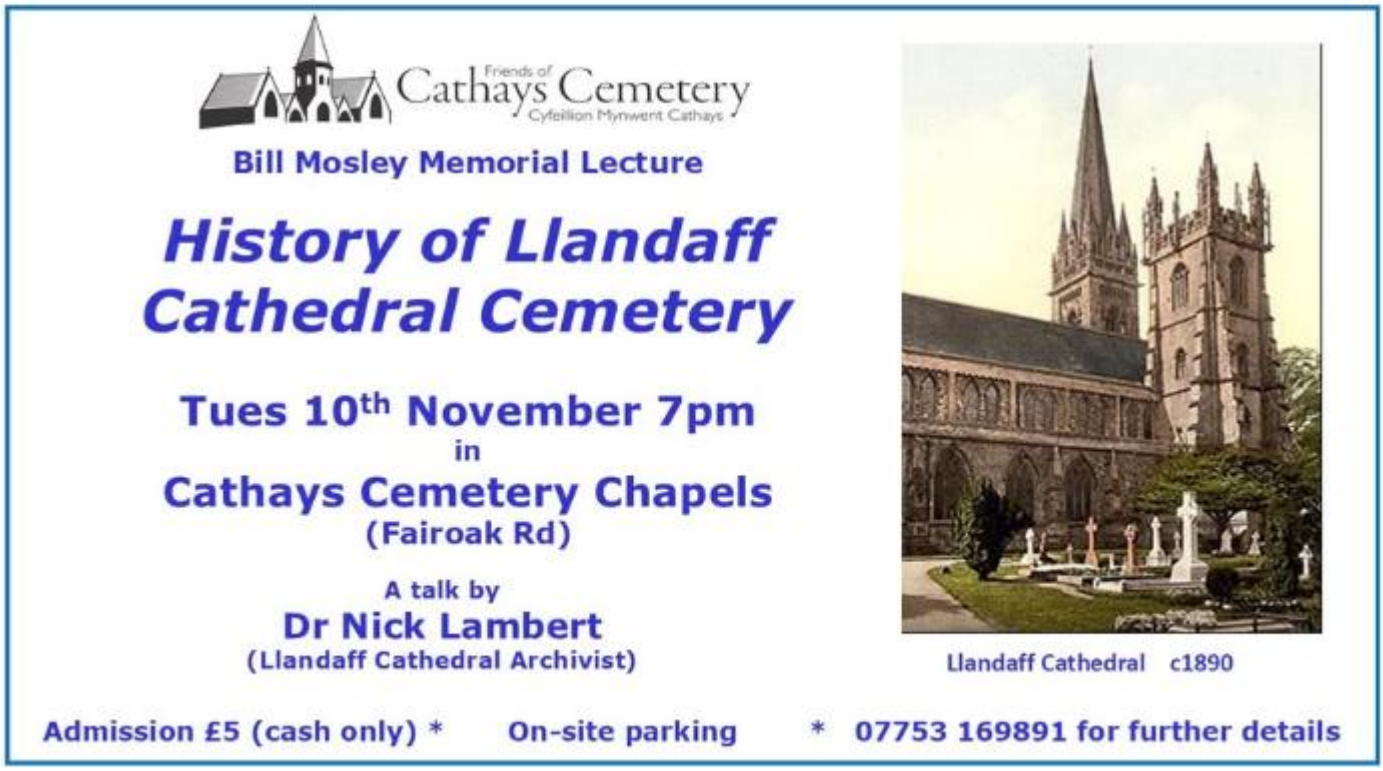
Link: ***http://www.friendsofcathayscemetery.co.uk/***

A date for your diaries...

Our next talk, the Bill Mosley Memorial Lecture, will take place on 10th November at 7pm in the cemetery chapels when Dr Nick Lambert will present 'The History of Llandaff Cathedral Cemetery '.

Nick, who is the cathedral's archivist, tells us: "Burials at Llandaff Cathedral go back to medieval times and perhaps even earlier. There are fine examples of memorials from all periods both within and outside the Cathedral. This talk will focus on the graveyard that was established in 1860 and operated until 1922, which has parallels to Cathays and charts Cardiff's Victorian expansion."

Should be a good talk. Admission £5 (cash only please)



John, Paul & co – Committee members
Friends of Cathays Cemetery - Fairoaks Road

Poetry Open Mic Night November @ Book Space Cardiff – Wednesday, 11th November

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



Lily – Manager
Book Space Cardiff - Crwys Road

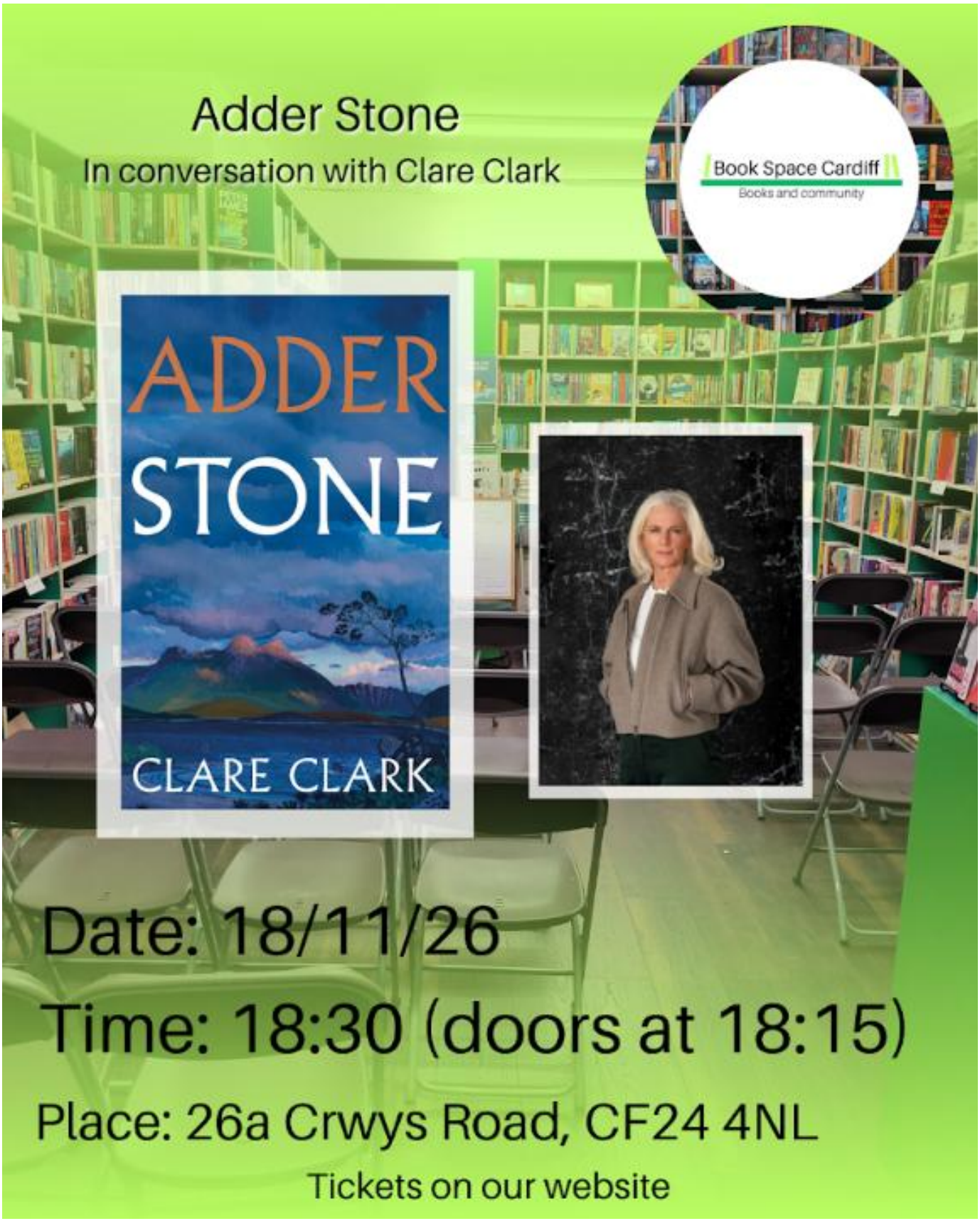
Singer: Luke Stevens@ Cathays Sports and Social – Saturday, 14th November:



Mark – Manager
Josh – Chairperson
John – Committee
Cathays Sports and Social – Cathays Terrace

Meet the Author: Clare Clark @ Book Space Cardiff – Wednesday, 18th November

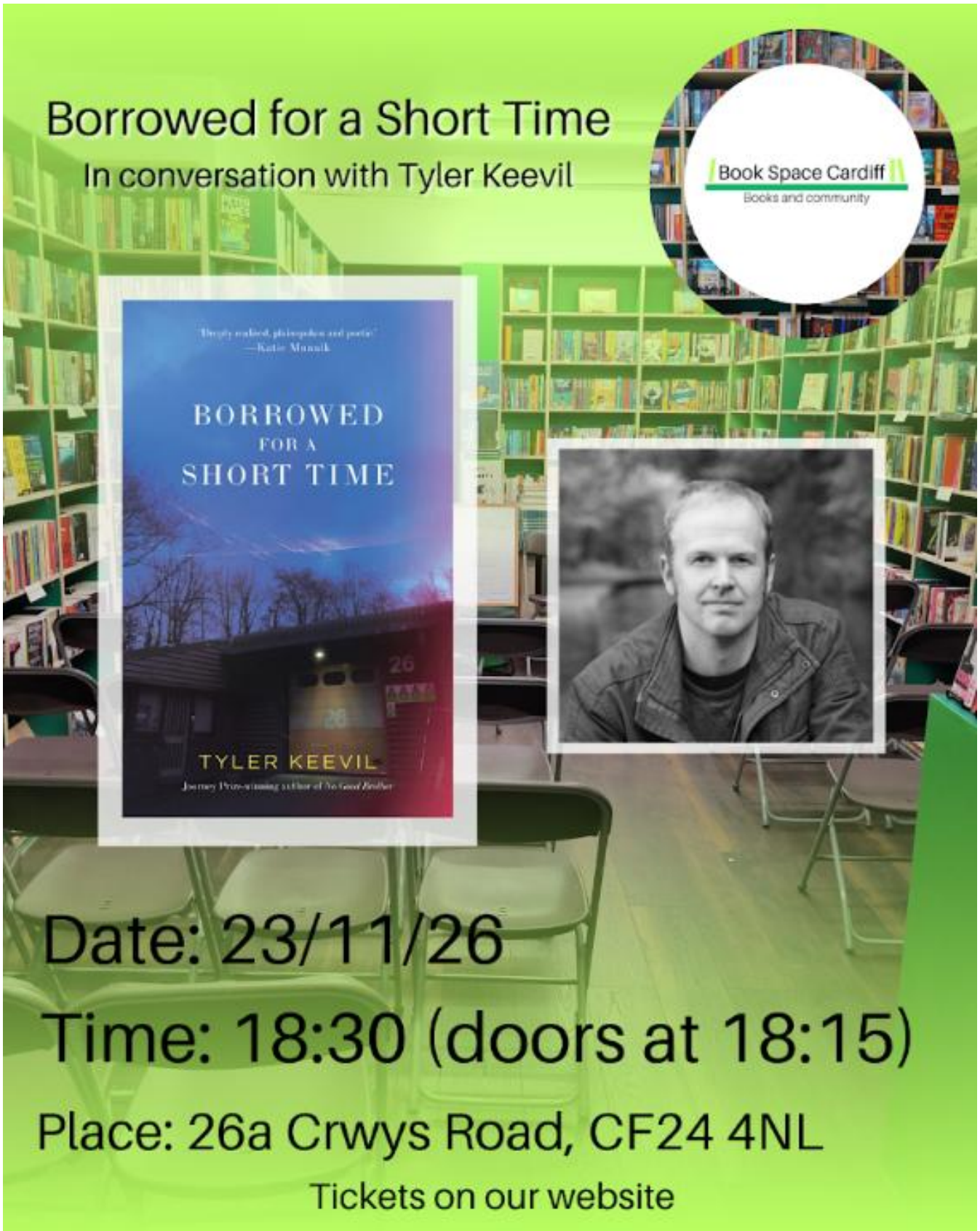
Book Space Cardiff Newsletter Link: ***https://www.bookspacecardiff.co.uk/pages/newsletter-sign-up***



Lily – Manager
Book Space Cardiff - Crwys Road

Borrowed for a short time @ Book Space Cardiff – Monday, 23rd November

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



Lily – Manager
Book Space Cardiff - Crwys Road

Christmas Fayre @ St Michael's Church – Saturday, 28th November:



Rev Caroline – Faith Leader
St Michael and All Angels Church – Whitchurch Road

Singer: Shazelle @ Cathays Sports and Social – Saturday, 28th November:



Mark – Manager
Josh – Chairperson
John – Committee
Cathays Sports and Social – Cathays Terrace

December 2026 – Cathays Monthly Update

Christmas already? What happened to 2026?

Let's make it a good one – after the year some of you have had !!

Christmas parties

Xmas Shopping deals

Restaurant specials

Carol Services

New Year Eve events

Can we all pray for a bit of snow around Friday 25th December

If we get it – it'll enforce a bit of faith that we are reversing global warming ….. or do we have to wait until December 2041 – I'd rather your little one's experience what a white Christmas is!

Regards,

Paulus