

### Sickness-hit pool ready to reopen

A LEISURE centre swimming pool at the centre of an outbreak of an infectious disease is to reopen.

Merthyr Tydfil Leisure Centre was closed in mid-September following an outbreak of the stomach bug cryptosporidium.

Dr Gwen Lowe, consultant in communicable disease control for the National Public Health Service for Wales and chairman of the multi-agency outbreak control team, yesterday announced the reopening of the main pool.

The leisure and learner pools are not likely to reopen until the end of November.

She said: "Following an investigation into an outbreak of cryptosporidium at Merthyr Tydfil Leisure Centre, the multi-agency outbreak control team is satisfied that the main pool can reopen."

"The outbreak control team had agreed a range of measures in response to the situation which have now been completed for the main pool."

"The timescale for works on the leisure and learner pools will take longer."

"It is anticipated that these pools will reopen by the end of November."

"Our priority is to protect public health and so we will only advise on the reopening of the leisure and learner pools once work has been completed."

"We would continue to urge people who have symptoms not to swim in any pool for two weeks after their symptoms have settled."

## Call of the wild has centre staff on song for a concert



Leading the way on the steps of Capitol Tower are, from left, Lizzie James, Joanne Gore, and Shelley Davies PICTURE: Richard Swingler ©

CALL centre staff will find a different use for their vocal chords next month.

More than 40 Admiral Insurance workers from Cardiff are preparing to take part in a star-studded concert.

Next month, the corporate giant's choir will sing at the Royal Albert Hall in London – on the same bill as Canadian rocker Bryan Adams.

The talented employees will perform a medley of pop hits for wildlife charity, Born Free.

The Wild and Live show on November 14 will see them walk the red carpet with former X Factor judge Sharon Osborne and model Rachel Hunter.

Until then, the group will perfect their pitch during rehearsals in their meal breaks.

Choir leader Andrea Beardshaw said: "They have been working really hard on their harmonies for the concert. Everyone is really excited."

Andrea, of Sing and Inspire, a Cardiff-based corporate motivation group drafted in to whip the singers into shape, said: "It's incredible to think that a few months ago many of these office staff didn't realise that they could sing, and now they're preparing to perform at one of the most famous venues around."

The show will see Cuts Like A Knife star Adams – and the choir – try to raise enough funds to help 25,000 animals.

## Jury shown CCTV film of fatal post office raid

THE moment a Cardiff-born sub-postmaster was shot dead as he tried to fight off armed raiders with a cricket bat was shown to a jury yesterday.

Graphic CCTV footage showed a gunman cocking a handgun before shooting Craig Hodson-Walker, 29, as he tried to defend his parents at their shop.

Mr Hodson-Walker, who died after being shot through the heart as he stood in an aisle, was seen on the footage striking out at the raiders while wearing just his underwear.

The images also showed Mr Hodson-Walker's father Ken and mother Judith attempting to fight off the raiders at their post office and general store in Fairfield, Worcestershire.

The footage, which was filmed by cameras at the store on January 9, was shown at Birmingham Crown Court.

After the images were shown, prosecutor Timothy Raggatt QC told the jury: "You've just seen a man fatally shot."

The prosecutor added that the gunman could be seen cocking the pistol used to kill

Snape, of Camelot Way, Small Heath, Birmingham; Christopher Morrissey, of El-may Road, Sheldon, Birmingham; Declan Morrissey, of Shirley Park Road, Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands; and Ribera, of Topfield House, Druids Heath, Birmingham, further deny possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life.

Mr Raggatt told the jury: "You will probably come to the conclusion that this was a planned crime."

The prosecutor said the four defendants worked as a team.

The Crown alleged that Ribera was the gunman, but that the three other defendants knew he was armed with the weapon and was prepared to use it.

Snape has admitted being the driver of the "key vehicle" involved in the raid, pleading guilty to a charge of attempted robbery. The other three defendants deny the charge.

The Crown alleged that two of the defendants, Declan and Christopher Morrissey, had carried out that robbery.

Both deny the charge.

The trial was adjourned until Monday.

**Echo Reporter**  
echo.newsdesk@walesonline.co.uk



Felicity Power prepares to abseil down the Media Wales offices in Cardiff in aid of Tenovus PICTURE: Peter Bolter ©

## Media Wales takes the plunge in charity abseil event for Tenovus

CHARITY campaigners have raised more than £3,000 thanks to volunteers who braved an abseil down the home of the Echo.

Cardiff-based cancer charity Tenovus organised the sponsored abseil from the roof of the six-storey Media Wales building in Park Street, and 20 braved the chilly weather to complete the challenge.

The funds raised by the Big Pink Abseil Challenge will go towards the running of the Tenovus mobile cancer unit which took to the road earlier this year, delivering a range of cancer services to patients in their local communities.

Richard Pugh, the charity's head of community fundraising, said: "We were delighted with the response and thank Media Wales for hosting the event. Funds raised through this will go

# Hunt is on for relations of tragic soldier

## Memorial to Dunkirk survivors killed in raid

IT WAS just one tragic soldier's death among the millions slaughtered in World War II.

But a genealogist is aiming to ensure a Cardiff man killed in a German bombing raid doesn't become a forgotten casualty.

John Samuel O'Sullivan was one of 22 men who died when a plane dropped four high-explosive bombs on his barracks on the Cornish coast.

Aged just 21, the soldier from Grangetown had only just returned from the horrors of Dunkirk when he was killed.

Stuart Gray, 58, is on a mission to find the families of all 22 soldiers in time for a memorial service being held to mark the 70th anniversary of the tragedy next June.

He said: "All I know about John Samuel O'Sullivan is that he was the son of Samuel Mi-

**Clare Hutchinson**  
clare.hutchinson@walesonline.co.uk

France were soon forced to retreat after finding themselves surrounded by German soldiers.

Stuart's father and his friends commandeered an abandoned lifeboat but they were picked up by a French ship and taken back to Dunkirk After being rescued the regiment was posted to Penhale Army Camp, a small barracks near Newquay in Cornwall, to rest and regroup.

But it was not to be. On July 7, 1940, a lone German plane dropped its deadly cargo on them. Nineteen of the 22 victims are buried in a churchyard in the nearby town of Perranzabuloe. It is here that the memorial service will take place.

■ If you have any information or are related to John Samuel O'Sullivan, contact Clare Hutchinson on 029 2024 3642

**THINK YOU KNOW RUGBY?**

Test yourself against our experts and compete with your mates

Predict this season's Magners League and Heineken Cup scores

Click on **WalesOnline.co.uk/rugby**

For full details

**Help your child Shine into the Future...**

**THE STAGE CENTRE**

The Stage Centre is an innovative and independent performing arts school for the complete beginner to the young professional performer (4-16yrs)

"Emma just loves it! She can't wait to come each week" (Mrs Newton, Stage Centre parent)

Due to demand, **NEW Saturday morning session enrolling NOW**

Come along to the **OPEN MORNING** 11am Saturday 17th October @The Cathedral School, Llandaff to find out more

**029 2021 8770**

**www.thestagecentre.co.uk**