

The ROALD DAHL trail

Celebrating his childhood in Llandaff and Radyr
A self-guided trail to walk or cycle accessible by public transport - see map for details.

Take No:63 bus to **Park Road, Radyr** or from **Radyr Station** walk up hill via Station Road to its junction with Heol Isaf. Turn right for 0.5 mile. Ty Mynydd House stood at the top of Maes Yr Awel.

1. TY-MYNYDD HOUSE & LODGE,

RADYR: The Dahl family lived here from 1917 to 1921 in what was then a large Victorian house on a 150 acre farm. Only the Lodge remains. - this is now a private house next to Maes yr Awel.

Catch the bus in Park Road or walk for 1.5 miles along Heol Isaf to its junction with Llantrisant Road, turn left then first left into Danescourt Way. From the **Blethin Close Bus Stop** walk towards the Church (2) via the footway in front of the Radyr Court Inn.

2. ST JOHN'S CHURCH, DANESCOURT: An impressive pink granite cross against the boundary wall marks the grave of Roald Dahl's half-sister Astri (d.1920); father Harald (1863-1921) and Sophie (d.1968).

Walk past the Radyr Court Inn, turning right along Danescourt Way to the roundabout, turn left and walk along Llantrisant Road (1.5mile). Along this road Roald Dahl's **De Dion Bouton car crashed**. Roald Dahl's nose was severed, and had to be stitched back. After junction with Gilian Road turn right onto a public footpath. At its junction with Fairwater Road cross the road and continue for 200 yards. Ty Gwyn [**Villa Marie**] is on your right (3)

3. TY GWYN (Villa Marie), FAIRWATER

ROAD: Roald Dahl was born in this house on 13 September 1916. The Dahl family had lived there from 1907 to 1917. The house was known then as "Villa Marie". Retrace your steps and bear right for 0.5 mile on Fairwater Road to its junction with Cardiff Rd.

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Roald Dahl (1916-1990) spent his early childhood in Llandaff and Radyr. The Llandaff Society and the Radyr and Morganstown Association are celebrating 100 years since the birth of Roald Dahl, the world's greatest storyteller, by publishing this leaflet about a walking trail linking places with which he was associated.

Other places linked to ROALD DAHL's early life which you may wish to visit include :-

AADNESSON & DAHL, PIER HEAD CHAMBERS

NO:3 BUTE STREET (was south of the Packet Hotel, since redeveloped as Mermaid Quay): Harald Dahl moved to the UK in 1900, setting up a business with Ludwig Aadnesson in the then bustling Butetown as ship brokers, importing timber in the form of pit props from Norway and exporting coal. He had lived originally in Barry in a house overlooking the developing port, but moved to the fashionable suburb of Llandaff in 1907.

THE NORWEGIAN CHURCH, BRITANNIA

ROAD, CARDIFF BAY (now overlooking the Inner Harbour, but in Roald Dahl's time in its original location overlooking the southern entrance to Bute East Dock). The Dahl family worshipped here, with others from the local Norwegian community. Roald was christened there.

NOTE: DISTANCES ARE APPROXIMATE. ROUTES USE PUBLIC FOOTWAYS. NO RESPONSIBILITY CAN BE TAKEN FOR ANY ACCIDENTS INCURRED BY THOSE FOLLOWING THIS TRAIL.

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and
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Continue straight across into Heol y Pavin until you reach The Cathedral Green (4).

4. LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL SCHOOL THE GREEN:

Roald Dahl attended the Cathedral School from the age of seven. The Llandaff Cathedral School is now on the Cardiff Road /Western Avenue junction, but when he was a pupil it was housed in a substantial stone building overlooking The Green. The site is now a close of houses known as "The Cathedral Green".

Walk across the Green, past The Cross and the Bishop's Palace, turning right into High Street. 25 yards on your left is **Mrs Pratchett's Sweet Shop (5)**.

5. MRS PRATCHETT'S SWEET SHOP HIGH STREET:

"The Great Wall" Chinese takeaway is the site of the sweet shop which features in Roald Dahl's story "The Great Mouse Plot". This was based on an incident that happened at his Preparatory School.

Turn left into Chapel Street, left into Cardiff Road for 50 yards, cross Western Avenue. Walk along Palace Road past its junction with Howell's Crescent to the house that used to be **Elm Tree House School (6)**.

6. ELM TREE HOUSE SCHOOL,

27 PALACE ROAD: Roald Dahl sped to this Pre-Preparatory School on his tricycle via Howell's Crescent when living at Cumberland Lodge. The former school building has now reverted to its previous use as a private house (please respect occupants' privacy).

Turn into Howell's Crescent to its junction with Cardiff Road. Turn right. **Cumberland Lodge (7)** is the second house on the right.

7. CUMBERLAND LODGE, CARDIFF RD:

The Dahl family lived here after father Harald died, from 1921 to 1929. The Lodge is now the Howell's School Nursery and Infants School. **The Trail ends here. See Inset for public transport options.**

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

START BY TAKING:

CARDIFF BUS NO: 63 (Mon-Sun) to Park Road, Radyr OR

TRAIN (Mon-Sun) from Cardiff Central Station or Pontypridd to Radyr Station.

RETURN TO CITY CENTRE VIA:

BUS NOS: 24, 62, 63, 66; STAGECOACH 122 or 124 from Cardiff Road opposite location (7)

OR TO Radyr Station on the 63 from Palace Road.