

CYLCHGRAWN HANES TEULUOEDD DYFED

CYFROL 15 Rhif 1
Rhagfyr 2023



DYFED FAMILY HISTORY JOURNAL

Volume 15 Number 1
December 2023

Cymdeithas Hanes Teuluoedd Dyfed Family History Society

REGISTERED CHARITY No. 513347

President **Position vacant (tba)**
Llymydd

Chairman **Position vacant (tba)**
Cadeirydd

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cardigan **Mr. Phil Davies** (5741)
Aberteifi

Carmarthen **Mr. Eric Davies*** (3000)
Caerfyrddin

Haverfordwest **Mr. Geraint Davies*** (4553)
Hwlfordd

Llanelli **Mrs. Linda Martin** (5468)

Upper Towy Valley **Mrs. Davina Price*** (2773)
Cwm Tyni Uchaf

London **Mrs. Anna Bructon*** (1806)
Representative

General Secretary **Mr. Colin Potter*** (5576) secretary@dyfedfhs.org.uk
Ysgrifennydd 25 Milton Meadows, Milton, Tenby, Pembrokeshire SA70 8PL

Membership Secretary **David J. Skyrme*** (6232) membership@dyfedfhs.org.uk
Ysgrifennydd Aelodaeth Cherry Gate, Tubbs Lane, Highclere, Newbury RG20 9PR

Treasurer **Mr. Gareth Jones*** (4122) treasurer@dyfedfhs.org.uk
Trysorydd

Editor **Ms Cate Hobbs*** (2872) editor@dyfedfhs.org.uk
Golygydd 25 Milton Meadows, Milton, Tenby, Pembrokeshire SA70 8PL

Webmaster **Mr Gareth Morgan** (53429) webmaster@dyfedfhs.org.uk
Meistr Gwe

Minute Secretary **Mrs. Janice Hughes*** (4750)
Ysgrifennydd Cofnodion

Projects Co-ordinator **Mrs. Janice Hughes*** (4750)
Trefnydd Cymaith

Publications Officer **Mr. Eric Davies*** (3000)
Snyddog Cyhoeddiadau **publications@dyfedfhs.org.uk**

Social Media/
Publicity Officer **Situation Vacant**
Snyddog Cyhoeddusmydd **publicity@dyfedfhs.org.uk**

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

Carmarthen County Archivist

Carmarthenshire Archives, c/o Carmarthen Library,
9 St Peter's Street, Carmarthen. SA31 1LN

Ceredigion County Archivist

Ceredigion Archives, Old Town Hall, Queen's Square,
Aberystwyth. SY23 2EB

Pembrokeshire County Archivist

Pembrokeshire Archives, Prendergast, Haverfordwest.
Pembrokeshire, SA61 2PE.

The Representative of the NLW

National Library of Wales, Penglais, Aberystwyth. SY23 3BU

NON-COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Dyfed Probate **Mrs. Beti M Griffiths** (3566)
Index Researcher **bettygriffiths.geryfelin@sky.com**

Journal **Ms Cate Hobbs (2872), Mr John Paterson (216)**
Indexing Project **Rosaleen Boardman (6495)**

Independent **Caroline Wheeler**
External Examiner **Bevan Buckland, Pembroke**

* TRUSTEES

In accordance with the Charity Commission's regulations
all of the elected Officers are the Trustees of the Society.

Please quote your membership number in any correspondence.

Work on the **April Journal** will begin as soon as this one
finishes but the deadline for copy is **15 February 2024.**

A big thank you to all members who have sent in articles recently, I now have a small surplus, but I can always do with more! You all must have a story to tell, not just my loyal regular contributors. Please try to keep to a maximum of 1500–1800 words, I would also remind authors that all photographs and images, not yours, **MUST** be given an attribution and if necessary, permission to use. If they are your family photographs, please state that. Extracts from published books, articles or websites should also always be acknowledged by way of footnotes and references. So please look through your family archives and let us have your family's stories and your own experiences of family research or local history of where you or your ancestors live(d).

Please let me have any useful sites that you might have found during your research, especially those more obscure ones that could help your fellow members.

Our membership has dipped below 900 for the first time in 10 years, so we are grateful to those who stay with us and look to you for ideas to promote the Society and improve what can be offered to you as members, please let the General Secretary know.

As you will see below we have three positions on the Committee that we need to fill – one of which is as Editor – I am giving my notice at the AGM in April – but will commit to produce the three issues in 2024, this would be a good time for someone who is interested in being Editor to “learn on the job” ready to take over in April 2025!

Editor

Situations Vacant

Chairperson

Leading the committee, ensuring smooth running of meetings, promoting good governance among fellow charity trustees, acting as a figurehead or spokesperson where required.

Editor

Producing the Society's journal 3 times a year. Collating data submitted by members and other authors and submitting them in a timely manner to the publishers.

Social Media/Publicity Officer

Managing the Society's Facebook page (hopefully expanding our social media profiles). Publishing Events on the website and publicising the Society in order to raise its profile and ultimately promote membership.

Volume 15 Number 1

December 2023

2	Editorial and Situations Vacant
4	Branch Meetings and Other Events
6	General Secretary's Report
7	Llandry Church Cemetery Survey
8	Members offering their help to others; Members generosity 'Coshston Remembered' – Bringing social history to life
10	Request from the National Library of Wales
11	Pwll Cogan – A Bygone Village in SW Carmarthenshire
13	Dipping into the Llandeilo-Fawr Workhouse Records (1839–1844) – Part Two
18	The Serendipity of Family History Research: a visiting preacher at Llanwinio and transatlantic emigration
23	Bits & Pieces
24	Reuben Arnold: From Nolton to Arizona in the 1870s
26	My Nash and Bowen ancestry in Pembrokeshire and Carmarthen – Part 2
30	What became of Perrot and Abigail Ap Rice?
35	A 'Pillar of the Community' – The rackets career of my 4G-Grandfather
38	Sandy Haven House
40	Where do I come from?
42	Haverfordwest Family Trees
43	Help Needed
51	Stonemasons in Broad Oak
52	Members Interests
55	Around the Branches
62	New Members
64	Obituaries
Inside back cover	Branch Meetings
Outside back cover	Contacts

The Society does not accept any responsibility for the views and opinions expressed by individual authors.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission from the Editor and full acknowledgement to the author.

Branch Meetings and Other Events

(The venues for branch events are listed inside the back cover, unless otherwise stated)

Cardigan Branch

- 8 Jan Conscientious Objectors in the First World War –
Heather Tomos
- 5 Feb AGM followed by a Research Evening
- 4 Mar Early Criminal Photographs in Wales – Richard Ireland

Carmarthen Branch

- 27 Dec TBC
- 24 Jan TBC
- 28 Feb TBC
- 27 Mar TBC

Haverfordwest Branch

Please check with the Facebook page, website or Secretary.

- 13 Dec William Haggart and his silent movies – Linda Asman
- 10 Jan Archives Afternoon at Pembrokeshire Archives 1–4pm
- 14 Feb To be confirmed
- 13 Mar To be confirmed
- 10 April NO MEETING

Llanelli Branch

- 15 Jan Welsh Folklore – Elizabeth Evans
- 19 Feb General Picton and Waterloo – Bruce Wallace
- 18 Mar TBC

Upper Towy Valley Branch

- 24 Jan Members' Research Meeting
- 28 Feb Speaker to be confirmed
- 27 Mar Speaker to be confirmed

London Branch

- Feb Online meeting via Zoom, speaker and topic to be confirmed.

Online Discussion Group (online@dyfedfhs.org.uk)

- 11 Dec Christmas & New Year traditions & stories
- 29 Jan National Library of Wales Resources with Beryl Evans
- 26 Feb To be confirmed.
- 25 Mar To be confirmed.

Dyfed Family History Society

Annual General Meeting

Saturday 27 April 2024

In person and via Zoom – 11am–2pm
Speaker from 12.30pm, to be announced.
Meeting Room 2, Carmarthen Library, St Peters Street,
Carmarthen SA31 1LN

29 Feb–2 Mar 2024 RootsTech

Registration has opened for RootsTech 2024 which will take place in Salt Lake City Utah and online.

Website: <https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/>

There will be over 200 on-demand class sessions, presentations and speakers. Participation in the virtual event is free. At present we've only identified one Welsh Heritage in person session by Mary McKee (Head of Digitisation at Findmypast) on "Tales of Resilience: Discovering England & Wales Poor Law Union Records" and one online session by Eleanor Ayton (Senior Community Executive at Findmypast) on "Hiking Into The Past: The first steps in your Welsh family history research adventure."

The RootsTech On-Demand Library has over 1500 webinars listed including 38 Welsh Heritage sessions (some are England & Wales and also New South Wales!) but some are specifically for Wales including one from Beryl Evans on "'Til death do us part: Exploring Death in Wales". Link to the OnDemand library:

<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/search>

Where to find out about other Genealogical Events:

Family History Federation

<https://www.familyhistoryfederation.com/events>

GENEVA (**GEN**ealogical **E**vents and **A**ctivities – run on behalf of GENUKI and the FHF)

<http://www.geneva.weald.org.uk/doku.php>

General Secretary's Report

THE NEW Bishop of St Davids has been announced, replacing Bishop Joanna. He is The Archdeacon of Carmarthen, Dorrien Davies, he will be Bishop Elect until the election is formally confirmed at a Sacred Synod service on November 29. He will be consecrated as Bishop at Bangor Cathedral – the seat of the Archbishop – on January 27 and enthroned as the 130th Bishop of St Davids at St Davids Cathedral on February 3. Born in Abergwili and a native Welsh-speaker, Dorrien trained for ministry at St Michael's College, Llandaff, and was ordained priest in 1989. He served his curacy in Llanelli before being appointed Vicar of Llanfihangel Ystrad Aeron in Ceredigion. During that time, Dorrien studied for a degree at the University of Wales, College of Lampeter, graduating in 1995. He was appointed Vicar of St Dogmael's, Pembrokeshire, in 1999 and served there for 11 years. In 2007, he was made a Canon of St Davids Cathedral and in 2010, he moved to St Davids as Canon Residentiary. In 2017 Dorrien was appointed Archdeacon of Carmarthen and priest-in-charge of St Clears. Dorrien is married to Rosie and has two sons, Morgan and Lewies. His hobbies include reading and painting.

We have spent the summer working on some of the website that members don't see. David has completed the summary sheet for South Cardiganshire MIs and has resumed work on Carmarthenshire MIs. I will ask our website supplier to make this information more prominent when the summary sheets are completed. Jan is working on Manorbier, hopefully they will be published soon. A meeting was held between some committee members and Delwedd, our IT specialists, concerning the development of a search program for our records. This was very encouraging. Delwedd had already developed a program for another client which we were informed could be adapted to meet our needs. The security issue, which concerned all of the DFHS committee, appears to be manageable, by automatically issuing a series of warnings for excessive downloads with an automatic suspension of the account should the warnings go unheeded. More updates as and when we get them.

We've changed the system for branch communication and Online Discussion Group Zoom meetings, please check your member details when you log in to the website and tick the boxes for the ones you want to be associated with. Our Zoom meetings are very popular and keeping an email list of 150 members wishing to attend the Zoom meetings was getting very time consuming, hence the change.

Colin Potter (5576)

Llandry Church Cemetery Survey

THE PROJECT marks the culmination of several weeks devoted to a profound project – the documentation of every memorial within Llandry Church Cemetery.

This undertaking involved not only cataloguing everyone interred here but also extending our remembrance to include the names of infants who, although their dates remain unknown, deserved a place among those remembered. This addition felt not just necessary but also deeply fitting.

Throughout this journey, I've been filled with a mixture of humility and pride. The process of resurrecting the memories of those laid to rest here has touched me profoundly. In a way, I've been privileged to breathe life back into their stories, offering families a chance to connect with their ancestors and the narratives that define them.

The opportunity to honour these lives has been both an honour and a humbling responsibility. Allow me to walk you through the path we've traversed.

At the destination of this journey lies a comprehensive list of 770 memorials. This collection stands as a testament to the lives that once graced these grounds, each entry a chapter in the larger story of this place. The document we've assembled is not merely static – it's interactive. Every entry can be opened, revealing the full spectrum of information encapsulated within each memorial.

As we wrapped up this project, it filled me with a sense of fulfilment, knowing that we've done justice to the memory of those who rest here. Their stories, once silenced by the passage of time, now have the chance to resonate with future generations.

It's a privilege to have embarked on this journey, and I hope that, just as I've been moved by this experience, others will find solace, connection, and inspiration in these narratives.

This is the link to the Coflein Llandry Church site with a link to the Cemetery Project 2023: <https://coflein.gov.uk/en/site/310153/>

Graham Tudor Emmanuel (43473)

Tel: 07861 390002

Email: tudor59@gmail.com

Members offering their help to others

I SEE THAT in the latest Journal a couple of people have offered help to others and that you are looking for more people to help.

I have a collection of related family trees for people in the Upper Towy valley area. My interest is centred around Cilycwm, but this has obviously spread to adjacent parishes, including Llanwrda, Llansadwrn, Llanfair-ar-y-Bryn, Conwil Caio, Llanddeusant, Myddfai and Llandovery. My trees contain about 20,000 people and although not all of them relate to the Upper Towy area, about 2,000 are from Cilycwm and probably about 6,000 are from surrounding parishes. I would be happy to help others who are looking in this area. My offer is not entirely altruistic, because I have often found that others I help can often help me with missing information. If you think this would help, then please publish my details.

Bob Watkins (3270069)

bobwatkins10@hotmail.com

Member generosity

A BIG SHOUT OUT to Liz Fryer (4958) for her continued support of the Society, despite as she says, “still no email or ‘smart’ phone”. We are always grateful for those members who don't have the use of technology but who stick with us regardless, you are much appreciated. Many thanks.

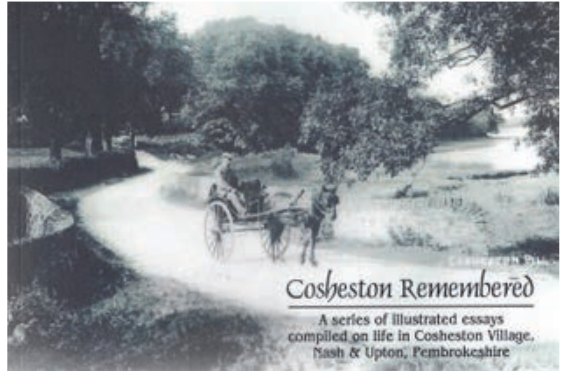
'Cosheston Remembered' Bringing social history to life

COSHESTON Community History Project was set up officially in 2013 following an exhibition to mark the reopening of the church of St. Michaels and All Angels in Cosheston. Residents provided such a wealth of historical material, photographs, documents and memories, that the aim was to preserve them for posterity. After a number of years of hard work, our project was successful in obtaining an Enhancing Pembrokeshire Grant, allocated from the County Council's tax on second homes, so we were able to forge ahead with the publication of the book and a series of events involving the Community.

The Book Launch was held in the Village Hall in Cosheston at the end of June and brought people together to share their memories.

The book, a collection of essays, is divided into Places, People, Industry, Events and Memories. It has lots of observations and memories which chart the

working life of the area. From agriculture to trades for women and the thriving shipbuilding industry of cutters, smacks and schooners. The history of many of the buildings and places in the village are traced in the book. There are longer articles about some of the larger properties and farms and the families who lived there, researched and written by members of the local history group. Woodfield for example was home to members of the Wedgwood family in the late 1800's. Sir Ivor Phillips purchased it in 1903 and changed the name to Cosheston Hall. Lloyd George visited in 1924. Paskeston Hall was home to Nicholas Roch, a prominent figure in Pembrokeshire life. In 1856 he gifted land to the Church for the building of the school.



There are too many interesting stories in events and memories to recall here, but one interesting tradition that has survived at the church to this day is that of wedding day ropes. Children hold a rope across the village street and do not allow the wedding car to go past until the groom has thrown out some coins to the waiting children.

I hope I have given you a taste of the memories captured in the book. It is worthwhile reading, whether you're a local resident or not, charting the social history of Pembrokeshire and many of the people who lived in the village and were influential throughout the county.

You can buy a copy of the book online at www.cosheston.net or from Victoria Bookshop in Haverfordwest and other shops listed on the website.

Janet Howell

Cosheston Community History Project (6300)

Request from the National Library of Wales

Annwyl gyfaill

Rydym ni'n gweithio ar isadeiledd gwefan Mapiau Degwm Cymru ar hyn o bryd. Fel rhan o'r gwaith hwn, rydym yn awyddus i fesur barn defnyddwyr am ddefnyddioldeb y wefan. Beth sy'n ddefnyddiol, beth sydd ddim angen, beth sydd angen gwella ayb. Mi fyddem ni'n felly'n ddiolchgar iawn petai chi'n gallu ein helpu trwy lenwi ein holiadur i roi eich barn.

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=ht7C6Fxu9ka24Cns6Z85_Bi0c7Y5qdpNiXkeZMMSxg9UNkVaOURSVVZGU05ZREpJNVRXV45Q1ZPQS4u&lang=cy-gb

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=ht7C6Fxu9ka24Cns6Z85_Bi0c7Y5qdpNiXkeZMMSxg9UNkVaOURSVVZGU05ZREpJNVRXV45Q1ZPQS4u&lang=cy-gb

Llawer o ddiolch

Y tîm Mynediad a Chynnwys Digidol

* * *

Dear friend

We're currently working on the infrastructure of the Welsh Tithe Maps website. As part of this work, we're keen to measure our users' opinion about the usability of the site. What's useful, what's not, what needs to be improved etc. We would therefore, be very grateful if you could help us by filling in our questionnaire to share your opinion.

If you wish to access the questionnaire via an active link, please go to the DFHS Society Spotlight page, where this is available.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ht7C6Fxu9ka24Cns6Z85_Bi0c7Y5qdpNiXkeZMMSxg9UNkVaOURSVVZGU05ZREpJNVRXV45Q1ZPQS4u

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ht7C6Fxu9ka24Cns6Z85_Bi0c7Y5qdpNiXkeZMMSxg9UNkVaOURSVVZGU05ZREpJNVRXV45Q1ZPQS4u

Many thanks

The Digital Access and Content Team

Pwll Cogan – A Bygone Village in South West Carmarthenshire

Some years ago, whilst searching my family tree I hit a “brick wall” regarding my great-great-grandfather, John Phillips. I was able to trace his son, also John Phillips, through a number of censuses. These gave a number of different birthplaces for him including, Cyffic, Marros, and Eglwys Cummin. My best efforts led me to believe that in 1851 he was living with William James, a shoemaker, in Longhouse Cyffic. John was seven years old and described as an adopted child. Ten years later he was described as a nephew still living in the home of William James. By 1871 he had moved to the Llansamlet area of Swansea.

I was able to obtain a copy of my great-grandfather’s marriage certificate. He was married in The Parish Church of Eglwys Cummin by the rector J. Rees Taylor on the 10th October 1867. From this I was able to obtain the name of his father, John Phillips, and my great-grandfather’s residence at this time was recorded as Pwll Cogan as was that of his wife, Martha Phillips (nee Richards). I then had difficulty locating Pwll Cogan on the map.

It was at this time I contacted the DFHS magazine to see if anyone could help me to 1) Give me a definitive location of Pwll Cogan and 2) guide me to find details of my great-great-grandfather. I had a very helpful response from a fellow member of DFHS, Jim Griffiths from Evesham. Jim sent me a copy of a few pages from a book by Mary Curtis called “The antiquities of Laugharne, Pendine and their neighbourhoods”. The book was published in 1880. She described Pwll Cogan as being in the parish of Eglwys Cummin, besides a few cottages containing the ancient farms of East Pool, Middle Pool and West Pool. She also stated that “It is said there were several forts about Pwll Cogan, some of them Cromwell’s and also castles. She goes on to describe the nearby valley of Scyke as dividing the parishes of Eglwys Cummin and Kiffig. On the website [geography.org.uk](http://www.geography.org.uk) (<https://www.geography.org.uk/photo/1401330>) I also found an area called Pleasant Valley and cottages, Sunnybank, West and Middle Pool which they described as once forming the settlement of Pwll Cogan.

Having established the location of the now vanished village/area of Pwll Cogan, thanks in the main to the help of Jim Griffiths I decided it was time to visit the Parish Church of Eglwys Cummin, Church of St. Margaret Marloes, Eglwys Cymmin. Prior to my visit I obtained a book, “Eglwys Cymmin Epitaphs” by George Gilbert Treherne M.A. published in Carmarthen by W. Spurrel and

son in 1920. Helpfully it contained a plan of the churchyard which included a numbered plan of burial plots and an index to transcripts of epitaphs on the headstones in the churchyard. The transcripts contained details of burials of three deceased persons by the name of Phillips, Elizabeth (1796–1872), Richard (1790–1876) and Benjamin (1823–1866) all from Pwll Cogan. Sadly none of the dates or first names linked to the John Phillips I was looking for. I visited the churchyard in the hope of finding a headstone relating to my g-g-grandfather that might have been missed by Mr. Treherne but to no avail. The churchyard was quite well maintained but obviously the weather and moss had taken their toll on many headstones.

The above book refers to one of his earlier books, “Eglwys Cymmin: The story of an old Welsh Church”, published in 1918. In this book he notes the absence of a register of marriages in the parish between 1757 and 1838. After the publication of this book he received a letter from a B. T. Price who was born in Rhosgoch Fach in the parish of Eglwys Cymmin in 1852. The parents of the writer kept a little grocer’s shop at The Roses. They used to tear out a page or so from a manuscript book to wrap up the groceries of customers. The children also used to tear out pages and chew the stout paper from the manuscript book to make bullets for their home-made pop guns. Before his death the father of B. T. Price confirmed that the paper had been torn from the old register of Eglwys Cymmin. I would be interested to know if any members have had difficulty in accessing marriage records from this period in order to verify this story.

Another story of general interest in the book was that of Tom Morris and his brother Ben, monumental masons. They used The Marros Quarries on the southern fringes of Eglwys Cummin parishes as a material source for their work. Tom Morris considered Pwll Quarry (a few hundred yards from Greenbridge) as being the source of the best material for monumental purposes. It was here he found his favourite “snowdrop marble” which when polished had a lustrous black surface flecked with white shells. It was from this quarry that stone was taken for The Prince Consort’s memorial at Tenby.

After a number of years researching other members of my family tree, I have now resumed the search for my g-g-grandfather John Phillips in the area of Eglwys Cummin. I have just come across a booklet by W. S. G. Thomas B.A., PhD (Principal lecturer in geography, College of Education Bognor Regis) MS received 23rd Jan. 1968. I found this booklet on the website <https://www.jstor.org>. The booklet is called “Lost villages in South West Carmarthenshire”. He gives an

extensive history of the Pwll Cogan area. He confirms that the site of medieval Pwll Cogan is undoubtedly coincident with the West and Middle pool farm houses which adjoin each other and whose owners recall removing huge quantities of building stones in fields adjacent to the farmhouses. The booklet also contains a map of villages in the area, many now lost.

I submit this article in the hope that 1) It will be of interest to members who have an interest in the history of this area and 2) That a fellow member may be able to assist me trace the distant Phillips line of my family tree in this area.

Clive Phillips (6135)

Email: ellenandclive@hotmail.co.uk

Dipping into the Llandeilo-Fawr Workhouse Records (1839–1844)

(Part Two)

In Part One of this dip into the archives of the Llandeilo-Fawr Workhouse I concentrated on how the Workhouse was run, over a short period of time, when my great (x3) grandparents may have lived there. In this respect those records told me little about individuals. So far, so good I thought, until I received help from the archivist about how the records were set out.

Here goes, and let's hope I don't find them in this second set of records ... The Admissions And Discharges Book For Vagrants Of The Workhouse (1872).

The architect of the Llandeilo Fawr Union Workhouse was George Wilkinson. He had hoped to introduce some variations in this workhouse, to his model plan, but, unfortunately for him, the Guardians



Layout of the workhouse

weren't willing to agree with his ideas. They did not want, because of the higher costs involved, to make any changes to his master plan. Consequently, the Guardians took possession of the workhouse before it was complete, which led to recurring problems with a leaking roof for many years.

In 1862, a proposal to link the workhouse to mains water was rejected.

(After 1904, for birth registration purposes, the workhouse was identified as "Abercennen".)

Who entered the workhouse, you may wonder, because would anyone really want the stigma attached to living "in the workhouse". But sometimes desperate times called for desperate measures.

The aged, infirm, people abandoned by their families, including unmarried pregnant women are some examples. Those wishing to enter the workhouse were interviewed. They were then bathed and given a uniform. Men and women, boys and girls were separated. Even families were separated.

They had a strict timetable to which they were expected to adhere, that is if they were able bodied. Rising time in the summer was 5am and in the winter 7am. This was followed by roll call, prayers and breakfast. Bedtime was 8pm. Tasks undertaken included (men) chipping large pieces of stone into chippings to mend roads, sewing and laundry (women).

The food they were given was meant to be better than they would eat outside the workhouse, but worse than they would get if they were in prison.

The Llandeilofawr Workhouse was built between 1837–8 at Ffairfach. It was intended to house 120 inmates. The cost of its construction was £2,243. There was room allowed for inmates and also for tramps and vagrants.

It was demolished in the 1970s and no physical evidence of the building exists today.

On Lady Day 1839, the following parishes had "inmates". Llangathen (6), Llanfynydd (1). These are parishes in which my ancestors lived.

Traditionally there are four "four quarter days" per annum. Lady Day (25th March), Midsummer (24th June), Michaelmas (29th September) and Christmas (25th December).

They are spaced three months apart, on religious festivals, usually close to solstices or equinoxes. They are days on which it is usually contracted that rents

should be paid, houses or lands entered or quitted, servants hired, records kept by institutions and school terms started. Today the significance of quarter days is limited.

On Michaelmas Day 1839, Llangathen (2) inmates and Llanfynydd (5). On Lady Day 1840 – Llangathen (11), including ELEANOR RICE. She was still in the workhouse on Christmas Day 1840. Throughout the 1840s, ELEANOR/ ELINOR was in the workhouse, which is strange, as these records were supposed to list “temporary inmates”.

They were sometimes classed as the “casual poor” and were only supposed to remain in the workhouse for one night. They had their own dietary table, divided into two classes:

CLASS ONE – SUPPER

Males above 15 years – 8 ounces of bread

Females above 15 years – 6 ounces of bread and 1 pint of gruel

Children under 7 years – 4 ounces of bread and ½ pint of gruel

Breakfast – as above

CLASS 2 – those who remain more than one night:

Supper and breakfast – as Class 1

Dinner – males 15+ – 8 ounces of bread and 1½ ounces of cheese

Females 15+ – 6 ounces of bread and 1½ ounces of cheese

Children 7–15 years – as females above

Children under 7 – 4 ounces of bread and 1 ounce cheese

“The gruel was to be made of the same ingredients and in the same proportions as are used in the Workhouse for those articles of diet”.

Provided by the Workhouse, as well as food, were boots, shoes, clothes, tea, sugar, soap, rice, pepper, mustard, starch, soda, meat, potatoes, milk (fresh), flour and oatmeal. Another interesting fact is that the inmates “were vaccinated”.

Returning to ELINOR RICE, in the 1851 census she was living at CAEGLAS, Llandeilo-fawr, with the THOMAS family. JAMES THOMAS (1775) was a magistrate and landed proprietor, as was his son. ELINOR died in 1861, aged 25.

This set of records also lists the work done by the “inmates”. The work included cutting firewood and breaking stones. JAMES JENKINS (aged 63), a painter by trade, was one of the inmates who had to do this work.

EMILY BAKER (22), “tore her clothes” – committed 21 days.

“Inmates” in the Llandeilo-fawr Workhouse included people from Swansea, Senney (sic) Bridge, Llanelly (sic), Neath and Llandovery.

No work was done on Sundays. Everyone was searched when they entered the workhouse. The phrase usually used in the records for this was “searched but nothing found”.

In 1867, work undertaken included the number of bushels (sic) of stone crushed. A Bushel is a measure of about 56 pounds (4 stone) in dry weight, usually referring to dry grains such as wheat or barley. That is a tremendous amount of stones to break, especially as all adults were expected to break stones, whatever their age.

Also noted in the register was the time that inmates were admitted e.g. 5 o'clock (but it does not state whether it was am or pm, in the records), and the time of discharge the following day (for most inmates). This suggests that the workhouse was used as an overnight stopping place, rather than staying at an inn or hostelry, as they probably could not afford to pay.

CHARLES BOWMAN (24) smashed 2 bushells (sic) of stones, but THOMAS BOWMAN could not work because his hammer was broken. It does not state whether he was punished in any way because of this.

In 1867, HENRY RUSSELL (26), a bookbinder, had spent the previous evening in Swansea. When he left the workhouse, after staying overnight, he was going to Llandovery. Even though he only stayed overnight, he broke up 2 bushells (sic) of stones. Was he delivering books or looking for work? We shall never know unfortunately.

CORNWALLIS GRIFFITHS (30), a labourer, slept in Carmarthen the night before he entered the Llandeilo-fawr Workhouse, smashed 2 bushells (sic) of stone and was on his way to Llandovery the following day. I have been unable to trace anyone of this name, so I wonder if there is a spelling error or mispronunciation of his name, and his first name was CORNELIUS?

In 1870 conditions continued as before, in one day, staying overnight, doing some compulsory manual work and then leaving on the following day, on the whole.

On Lady Day 1870, the following tradesmen were paid £5/1/7½ – BENJAMIN PARRY (butcher). The meat provided was often known as CLODS AND STICKINGS i.e. cheap meat; MARGARET PASH (grocer); JOHN GWILLIM (shoes); ELINOR EVANS (weaver) and FREDERICK MICHAEL (slater).

MARGARET PASH was born in Llangendeirne, Carmarthen. In 1861 she was a widow. Living with her were her daughters Ellen (21, born Swansea) and Harriet (18, born Llandeilo) who were both assistants in the shop. In 1871 she lived in Bridge Street, Llandeilo. At the age of 77 in 1891, she was still working as a grocer, with her daughters (both unmarried).

In 1871, JOHN GWILLIN (44) lived in King Street, Llandeilo, with his wife, Sarah (46) and children – Sarah (20), Anne (12), James (8), David (5) and George (2). All the members of the family were born in Llandeilo.

In 1871, FREDERICK MICHAEL was described as a tiler and plasterer. In 1881 he was described as a slater and plasterer, born 1838 and living in 2 Bank Terrace, Llandeilo-fawr. By 1911 he was living at Tyssul House, New Road, Llandeilo (sic) and is described as having “private means”.

This article has been a “dip” into the original ledgers of the Llandeilo-Fawr Union Workhouse, which make fascinating reading. The Llandeilo-fawr

Workhouse was razed to the ground in the mid 1960s. The Awel Tywi care home is now on the site.



Care home on site of workhouse

[My 3x great grandfather, Thomas Griffiths, died on 6th October

1867, aged 72, at Pont Gladys (sic), Llandeilo-fawr, of old age. His occupation was listed as an agricultural labourer and his son, Benjamin, was present at his death.

My 3x great grandmother, Margaret Griffiths, died on 13th October 1871, aged 84, in Ffairfach. Her occupation is listed as “widow of Thomas Griffiths (agricultural labourer)”. Again, her son, Benjamin, was present at her death. He made his mark on both death certificates.

I now understand why I didn't find any of my family in the Llandeilo-fawr Workhouse!

Janet M Neilson (3445)

Email: jmgrenson2014@gmail.com

The Serendipity of Family History Research: a visiting preacher at Llanwinio and transatlantic emigration

In his *Llyfr yr Achan*, the family history notebook kept by my grandfather, the preacher, poet and Archdruid Wil Ifan (Rev. William Evans, 1883–1968),¹ he traced his maternal ancestors back to the late eighteenth century and explored their connections with Cwmbach Methodist chapel in the parish of Llanwinio during the early years of Methodism in Carmarthenshire. His great-great-grandparents were Rev. David Evans, Penhenrhiw (abt. 1750–1808) and his wife Rosamond (abt. 1757–1834), the daughter of Rees Evan Fronisaf. David Evans's uncle, John Davies Penhenrhiw, was one of the three people responsible for building Cwmbach chapel in 1765; Rees Evans Fronisaf was among its leading members from its foundation; and David Evans himself was a powerful preacher known as 'Y Diwigiwr' [the Revivalist] and described in his burial record as 'a pious man'.²

John Davies was renowned for his hospitality to travelling dissenting preachers, and the family continued the tradition. Fronisaf passed to David and Rosamond's son Job (1784–1859), the elder brother of Wil Ifan's great-grandfather, Ebenezer Evans of Cwmbach Mill (1795–1858), while Penhenrhiw became the home of Job's son David (abt. 1809–79). This David Evans Penhenrhiw was described in the *Hanes Methodistiaeth Sir Gaerfyrddin* (p. 189) as a good man, very kind to preachers ('wr da, a hynod o garedig i bregethwyr'), and the obituary of his younger brother, William Evans Fronisaf, also noted his generous hospitality to visiting ministers.³ I was delighted to discover concrete proof of this in the 1851 census for 'Bronyfron', one of the alternative names for Fronisaf: those present in what was then Job Evans's household included 'James Lamb, visitor, married, 29, Grocer and local preacher, born in Fishguard, Pembrokeshire'. Delighted, yes; but at that point I made no plans to follow this up as a new line of research.

However, elsewhere in his notebook, my grandfather recorded what he knew about the ancestry of his wife, in a different part of Wales. Nesta Wyn Edwards (1883–1968) was the daughter of John and Catherine Edwards (née Jones) of Eirianfa, Dolgellau. On one page, Wil Ifan sketched an extensive family tree based on what his mother-in-law, Catherine, told him about her side of the family, and in particular about the two marriages of her maternal grandfather,

Evan Jones, a joiner from the Plough and Harrow, Llanelltyd (abt. 1785–1866). One name which appeared amongst his descendants was that of Alice, the eldest daughter of Catherine's mother Gwen's younger brother, a further Evan Jones (1826–98), a carpenter and wheelwright who also kept the inn known as the Swan in Dolgellau. By the side of Alice's name is written '(America)'. For a long time, I knew nothing more about Alice beyond the facts that she was baptised as Alice Elizabeth in Llanelltyd on 25 May 1856 and appears at the Swan Tavern in Waterloo Street, at the ages of 5 and 14, in the 1861 and 1871 censuses. The breakthrough came when I found a possible entry in the 1881 census for her cousin Catherine Jones (1849–1902), the daughter of John Jones, another joiner from Llanelltyd, and the half-brother of Evan Jones of the Swan. She is a 'visitor' at 2 Lima Villas, Egremont, in the parish of Liscard, Cheshire, in the household of John H. Lamb, 27, a 'Ship and General Broker', born in Fishguard, and his wife Alice E. Lamb, 24, born in Dolgellau.

Sometime later, a search of Welsh Newspapers Online advanced matters significantly. The personal columns of the *Wrexham and Denbighshire Advertiser and Cheshire Shropshire and North Wales Register* (14 Sept. 1878) and *Baner ac Amserau Cymru* (18 Sept. 1878) contained announcements of the wedding in Llanelltyd Presbyterian (or Methodist) chapel on 11 September 1878 of John Harries Lamb and Alice Elizabeth Jones. The bridegroom was described as the youngest son of Rev. James Lamb of Egremont (or of Liverpool, in the other paper), while the bride was the oldest daughter of 'E. Jones, Dolgelly', or, more specifically 'Mr Evan Jones, Skinners Arms, Dolgellau'. Both papers also add the information that the service was conducted by the bridegroom's brother, Rev. George Lamb. It thus gradually emerged that Alice's future father-in-law, by now a minister in the Liverpool area, was none other than the grocer from Fishguard who had preached to the Methodists of Llanwinio some twenty-seven years previously.

Extensive reading of Welsh newspapers, exploration of several family trees on Ancestry and the generous help of Catherine Kenyon, a descendant of James Lamb's whom I contacted through Ancestry,⁴ ultimately enabled me to understand much more about James Lamb, his family and Welsh emigration to America. What follows is a summary of his unusual career.

The son of George Lamb and his wife Mary (née Vaughan), he was born on 2 November 1821 and baptised in the Tower Hill Street Calvinistic Methodist Church in Fishguard on 28 April 1822. In an example of double counting, the 1851 census, which refers to the evening of 30 March (a Sunday), shows him

not only at 'Bronyfron' in Llanwinio, where he had presumably preached that day, but also as a grocer, in Market Street, Fishguard, with his wife Eleanor and children. Subsequent censuses show him in Liverpool: in 1861 he is a boarding-housekeeper living at 41 Union Street, and in 1871 he is a 'Passage Broker', at 35 Union Street. Liverpool was the main emigration port in the country at that time, and James Lamb was closely involved in facilitating Welsh emigration to the United States, Patagonia and elsewhere. Advertisements, in both English and Welsh, for the firm of Lamb and Edwards of 41 Union Street, and later for J. H. Lamb & Co., appeared frequently in the Welsh press from the late 1850s onwards. These advertisements, letters from appreciative travellers and various articles on emigration speak of the firm's experience, its high level of care, and the comfort provided in James Lamb's establishment.⁵ Sometimes under the heading 'Y Swyddfa Ymfudol Gymreig' [The Welsh Emigration Office], they often include endorsements from Welsh non-conformist ministers, some of whom have already travelled with the company, and who offer encouragement and advice to prospective emigrants.⁶ For 'S.R', the Independent minister and prominent radical reformer Rev. Samuel Roberts of Llanbryn-mair, who is mentioned in some of these, emigration was the solution to the problems of the oppression of landlords on Welsh farmers.⁷

James Lamb himself visited America on several occasions. Evidence comes from reports in Welsh and Welsh emigrant newspapers, many shared with me by Catherine Kenyon. He may have crossed the Atlantic even earlier, but it is known that he was granted a licence to preach to the Calvinistic Methodist community in Cattaraugus, New York State in 1853; that in 1854 he 'regularly organized' the church there in 1854; and that he travelled around other Methodist communities preaching and raising money for the Salem Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church which was erected there the following year, and is now a listed historical building.⁸

He then seems to have taken over the passenger broker business in Liverpool from another Welshman, Eleazar Jones, who emigrated to America around this time.⁹ For twenty-one years from April 1856 he was associated with Pall Mall chapel, which in 1787 had been the first Welsh Methodist chapel to be established in the city.¹⁰ Over the next two decades newspapers show him officiating at services, preaching at Methodist gatherings like the annual meetings or anniversary celebrations in Liverpool in 1858, 1859, and 1867, and participating in other events such as the laying of the foundation stone of a new chapel at Spennymoor, County Durham – the report of his testimonial stresses

his exceptional commitment to developing new churches in the north of England, as well as his work with young people and the temperance movement.¹¹

He left Pall Mall chapel in 1877, moving to the Welsh Presbyterian chapel at Seacombe in the Wirral, across the Mersey from Liverpool. The 1881 census shows him there at 1 Austin Terrace in Egremont, in the parish of Liscard, and newspaper references show him conducting services in the area in ensuing years, but it was there that he died on 31 July 1889.¹²

He had made further voyages to America in the 1860s and 1870s, no doubt facilitated by the fact that his eldest son, Thomas Harries Lamb (1844–1914) was by then working in transatlantic shipping: in the course of his career as the Captain of steamships of the Union Line he is said to have crossed the Atlantic 154 times.¹³ Newspapers show James Lamb visiting, or revisiting, Welsh chapels in Rome, in New York State, in March 1864, in Williamsburg in Iowa and Oneida in New York State in the autumn of 1871, and in Oneida again in November 1876.¹⁴ He was also able to visit members of his family, as his son, Capt. Lamb, did during his journeys. Relatives who went to America included three of his sisters and several of his children. His sister Elizabeth, who was born in Fishguard in 1818, emigrated to Cattarauga with her husband John Jones and her family in 1853 and lived there until her death in 1893.¹⁵ Another sister, Margaret, also emigrated in 1853, with her husband John Colley. They settled in Pennsylvania, where the youngest sister, Hannah, and her husband Titus Francis came to live in 1858. James's daughter Elizabeth, who was still living with her parents in Liverpool in the 1871 census, was married and living in Oneida by 1875, but was back with them in Liscard in 1881, after the death of her husband, John Ellis. Another daughter, Martha, who in the 1871 census is listed, with her three young children, as visitors in her parents' home, emigrated to Utica, in Oneida County with her husband William Pierce Edwards later that year.¹⁶ His son George, one of a number of ministers in the extended family, became the pastor of the Welsh church in Remsen, New York State in 1883, later moving to Wisconsin, Indiana, Idaho and Canada before finally returning to Britain where he died in 1930.¹⁷

With his younger son, John Harries Lamb, the story comes full circle, linking families in Carmarthenshire and Merionethshire via a much-travelled minister from Fishguard. John, a nineteen-year-old cotton broker's clerk living with his parents in Liverpool in 1871, is in Utica by 1875, when the American census shows him as a bookkeeper living with his widowed sister Elizabeth. Back in

Britain in 1878, he married Alice Jones, the marriage being conducted by his brother George. He worked, as his father had done, as a passenger broker, and, as shown in censuses and electoral rolls, he and his family lived at various addresses in Liscard and Birkenhead until they too emigrated to the United States in 1893–94. John, Alice, and their children Charles, Lilian, Ernest, and Arthur settled in Utica: another son, Haydn, had died in infancy, and a further daughter, Gwendoline, was born in Utica. John worked as a coal and wood dealer and died as the result of an accident in 1921; Alice died in Boston in 1943.¹⁸

Thus, thanks to the internet, increased accessibility of old records, the help of other researchers – and a little bit of luck – the meaning of the note ‘Alice (America)’ is now very much clearer.

Shirley Wynne Vinall (34297)

Email: s.w.vinall@btinternet.com

Notes

- 1 *Wil Ifan: Llyfr yr Aebau*, Wil Ifan’s notes on his family history, reproduced, analysed and further developed, with an additional chapter on his career and his writings, by Shirley Wynne Vinall, December 2019, which has been accepted into its archival collection by the National Library of Wales.
- 2 See James Morris, *Hanes Methodistiaeth Sir Gaerfyrddin* [The History of Methodism in Carmarthenshire] (Dolgellau, E.W. Evans, 1911), now available online at Hanes Methodistiaeth Sir Gaerfyrddin (familysearch.org), pp. 186–91 (on Cwmbach) and p. 188 on Rev. David Evans. See also the long entry on Rev. David Evans in Josiah Thomas Jones, *Geiriadur Bymgraphiadol o Enwogion Cymru*, 2 vols (Aberdâr, J. T. Jones a’i Fab, 1867–70; now digitised by Google at the Internet Archive), Vol. 1, pp. 311–12. The record of his burial in Llanwinio on 6 April 1808 can be found in Carmarthenshire Burials, available on findmypast.co.uk.
- 3 ‘Lletyodd weinidogion yr efengyl am lawer o flynyddoedd yn hollol rad’: *Y Goleiad*, 24 July 1901, p. 4 and *Carmarthen Journal and South Wales Weekly Advertiser*, 2 Aug. 1901, p. 2. For these and other Welsh newspapers mentioned in this article, see Welsh Newspapers Online – Home (library.wales). The various periodicals referred to can be accessed at Welsh Journals – Home (library.wales) and the English newspapers can be found at the British Newspaper Archive.
- 4 We had an extensive and very fruitful correspondence via Ancestry and email in 2016–17. Unfortunately, I have been unsuccessful in making contact once again more recently, but I would like to acknowledge fully here all the help that she gave me.
- 5 See, for example, *Cronicl y cymdeithasau crefyddol*, Sept. 1856, p. 234; *Seren Cymru*, 5 Sept. 1857, p. 15; *Y Cyffail o’r ben wlad yn America*, Feb. 1869, p. 63; ‘Y Wladfa Gymreig’, *Seren Cymru*, 1 Oct. 1875, p. 3. See also Caleb Rees, ‘O’r Rhosfach i Priairie Union’, *Y Llenor*, vol.12, nos. 1–4 (1 Jan. 1933), pp. 207–15 (esp. pp. 211–12).
- 6 For instance, *The Aberdare Times*, 26 Dec.1863, p. 1; *Y Tyst Cymreig*, 22 April 1870, p. 16; *Y Goleiad*, 18 Feb. 1871, p. 13; *Y Dydd*, 26 July 1872, p. 14.

- 7 See *Welsh Biography on-line*, at <http://wbo.llgc.org.uk/en/s-ROBE-SAM-1800.html>; John Davies, *A History of Wales*, revised edition (London, Penguin, 2007), pp. 399–400; http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/history/sites/themes/society/migration_northamerica.shtml
- 8 See *Y Cyfaill o'r Hen Wlad yn America*, Oct. 1853, p. 396; Aug. 1854, p. 315; Oct. 1854, p. 24; 1 July 1855, p. 25; Salem Welsh Church (saalemcemeterysociety.com); Franklin Ellis, *History of Cattaraugus County*, New York (Philadelphia, Everts, 1879), pp. 397–98, now at History of Cattaraugus County, New York – Franklin Ellis – Google Books; the report of James Lamb's death in *The Cambrian: a National Monthly Magazine published in the interests of the Welsh-American People and their Children*, Vol. IX, Oct. 1889, no. 10, p. 318; now in Google Books: *The Cambrian: A Magazine for the Welsh in America* – Google Books; and the obituary in the *Utica Morning Herald*, 13 Aug. 1899, available via the Internet Archive.
- 9 'Marwolaeth yr Anrhydeddus Eleazar Jones, Middle Granville, America', *Herald Cymraeg*, 28 Feb. 1873, p. 6. Advertisements for the business in Eleazar Jones's name appear in the Welsh press in the early 1850s.
- 10 See the report of the testimonial presented to him in 1882: *Y Goleuad*, 25 March 1882, pp. 12–13, reprinted in the Welsh American paper *Y Drych*, 20 April 1882, p. 2. See also *Y Drysorfa*, Nov. 1863, p. 417.
- 11 *Liverpool Mercury*, 25 May 1858, p. 5; *Herald Cymraeg*, 18 June 1859, p. 3; *Liverpool Mercury*, 14 June 1867, p. 9; *Herald Cymraeg*, 15 Nov. 1872, p. 6; *Y Goleuad*, 23 March 1872, p. 6, and 15 Aug. 1874, p. 5; *Herald Cymraeg*, 3 March 1876, p. 8; *Y Cyfaill o'r ben wlad yn America*, June 1876, p. 247.
- 12 See the announcement in *Herald Cymraeg*, 6 Aug. 1889, p. 5, the obituaries in *Herald Cymraeg*, 13 Aug. 1889, p. 3 and *Y Goleuad*, 15 Aug. 1889, p. 9; and also *South Wales Daily News*, 21 May 1890, p. 2.
- 13 Obituary in the *Utica Saturday Globe*, 21 Nov. 1914, shared by Catherin Kenyon.
- 14 See *Y Cyfaill o'r ben wlad yn America*, April 1864, p. 123; Dec. 1871, p. 374; Feb. 1872, p. 57; and Jan. 1877, p. 36.
- 15 *Y Cyfaill o'r ben wlad yn America*, July 1895, p. 273.
- 16 For much of this information I am indebted to Catherine Kenyon, a descendant of Martha. See also Martha's obituary in *Y Drych*, 13 Nov. 1890, p. 5.
- 17 There are many references to his career in the Welsh and Welsh and Welsh emigrant press.
- 18 See *Utica Morning Telegram*, 4 March 1921, quoted by Catherine Kenyon in her tree on Ancestry, and further information kindly provided by her.

Bits & Pieces

If anyone knows of any documented MIs or Graveyard records that are not on our website, please let me know so that we can try to get hold of a copy or a link to them – Editor

Did you know that the Pembrokeshire Archives holds scrapbooks (26 volumes) of newspaper articles, from all over the UK, relating to notable people of Dyfed, which Francis Green collected in the 1920's?

Reuben Arnold: From Nolton to Arizona in the 1870s

Would you have moved from Nolton, Pembrokeshire over 5,000 miles to ... here, in the 1870s?



Courtesy of Western Mining History.com

Well, that is exactly what Reuben Arnold did. “here” was Mineral City, Mohave County, Arizona Territory, USA.

Reuben was the third child and eldest son of John and Jane (nee Lloyd) of Nolton, Pembrokeshire, and my 2x great uncle. He was born in 1840 (or late 1839) and baptised at St Madoc’s Church, Nolton on 19th January 1840. Reuben, like Tobias, is a name which runs right through the Codd family. His paternal grandmother was Jennet (or Jane) Codd, also of Nolton. Of course, I know very little about Reuben other than the fact that on the 1851 and 1861 census for Nolton, his occupation was given as miner, and this is the job he continued to do until his death.

Day to day life in Nolton must have been very difficult. The Rev. James Tasker, giving evidence to school inspectors in 1847, reported that “labourers in the parish were excessively poor” ... “a sober and industrious group of men”. Labourers earned 8d a day with food and colliers 1s 6d.¹

So, by 1870 Reuben’s siblings had moved to the Swansea area and he had crossed the Atlantic and, along with many other Welshmen, was working as a coal miner in Alleghany, Maryland. However, probably soon after this he headed west, maybe to seek his fortune in gold and silver mining, because in June

¹ <https://www.library.wales/discover/digital-gallery/printed-material/the-blue-books-of-1847> (Pembrokeshire Herald May 5, 1848).

1875 he became a naturalised U.S. citizen at Mohave County Court, Arizona Territory. The 1880 U.S. census records him still at Mineral Park, Arizona, but there are no other Welsh people recorded on the census, although several other nationalities are represented.

	Groves Eugene M. 27 4/1	/	Farmer		Canada	France	Canada
	Conley Frank M. 27 1/2	/	Miner	✓	Maine	Maine	Maine
69 7/4	Maslin John J. M. 46	/	Merchant	✓	New York	N. York	N. York
69 7/4	Nashley Adolph M. 26 3/4	/	Miner	2	Prussia	Prussia	Prussia
	Wheeler Robert M. 26 1/2	/	Miner	✓	Prussia	Prussia	Prussia
	Bynum Edward M. 26 1/2	/	Miner	5	Prussia	Prussia	Prussia
70 7/4	Shell Peter M. 26 1/2	/	Teamster	2	Prussia	Prussia	Prussia
71 7/4	Arnold Reuben M. 27	/	Miner	✓	Mass.	Mass.	Mass.
72 7/4	Morse Frank L. M. 26	/	Merchant	✓	Mass.	Mass.	Mass.
	Goodrich John D. M. 25 1/2	/	Miner	✓	New York	N. York	N. York
	Coyne James M. 25 1/2	/	Miner	3	New York	N. York	N. York
	Tommer Alexander M. 25 1/2	/	Miner	✓	Poland	Poland	Poland
	Sutton Adolph M. 25 1/2	/	Merchant	✓	Poland	Poland	Poland
74 7/4	Hadden Almy M. 24 1/2	/	Farmer	✓	Poland	Poland	Poland

Extract from 1880 US Census

Mineral Park

Mining in the area began in 1871 and a camp was established soon after so Reuben must have been there almost from the outset. The mines in the area produced primarily silver, gold, copper, lead and zinc. The post office was opened on December 23, 1872 and soon Mineral Park grew to be the largest town in Mohave county with a population of around 700. It had the county courthouse and jail, stores, hotels, saloons, shops, doctors, lawyers, assay offices and two stagecoach stations. However, it soon declined when the railway was built further away. Further decline was caused by the fall in the price of silver and by 1912 it was a “ghost town”.

It has been difficult to find out much about Reuben and what happened to him because American records, other than the census, are very patchy. However, not too long ago I randomly typed the name “Reuben Arnold” into Google and found this moving report, which was in the Mohave Miner, a local Arizona newspaper, in June 1886.

There are so many unanswered questions about Reuben’s life? What motivated him to leave Wales when three of his siblings moved only as far as Swansea? Did he communicate

... e on Thursday last, after a lingering illness of many months. A native of Wales, and about 49 years old, he has been a resident of this county for more than fifteen years, and was well and generally known. Sober, industrious, and of a cheerful and genial disposition he Arnold was a friend to everyone, and everyone was proud of his friendship and returned it, which is more than can be said for most people. Peace be to his ashes, and his memory be kept green.—Mohave Miner.

with his family back home? Where did he sail from and to? How did he travel from Maryland to Arizona, a modern driving time is 33 hours? What was his day-to-day life like? Was his death related to his job as he had had “a lingering illness for many months”?

I just hope his parents and siblings knew where he was, how well liked he was, and what became of him. It must be significant that both his brothers named sons, born in the Swansea district in the 1870s, after him. Maybe they knew that he would never return to Wales.

Janet Bradshaw (6359)

Email: Bradshawjanet@hotmail.com

My Nash and Bowen ancestry in Pembrokeshire and Carmarthen

Part 2

(continued from August 2023 journal)

Returning to the NASH line, Richard's father David NASH obtained the degree of Bachelor of Civil Law at Oxford by supplication on 11 February 1527/8 (23), as in those days it was not essential for students to sit examinations, and they could apply for a degree when they thought they had reached the required standard in their studies. After qualifying, David settled in Carmarthen, which was a major administrative and trading centre, the most populous town in Wales. The place where he was living is revealed in a deed of 12 March 1532/3 about a burgage between “*the king's castle on the east, and the king's way, namely the Market Place, on the west, which was leased by David Nashe, bachelor of civil law*” (24). He was therefore living at the centre of commercial life in the borough, between the castle and the later Guildhall Square. David was mayor of Carmarthen in 1550 (25), though he was not included among the burgesses when the town received a charter 4 years earlier, and few town records have survived from that time to tell us of the part he played in council affairs. He also held office under the crown as the King's Bailiff of Llanwenog, where he administered the affairs of the Abbey of Whitland in that area of Cardiganshire west of Lampeter after the dissolution of the monasteries (26).

David NASH appears in the pedigrees of the NASH family of Great Nash in Llangwm parish in Pembrokeshire, south of Haverfordwest, and that is where David appears to have been born. The surname NASH probably originated as a place name from a grove of ash trees as in “Robert atten Ash” and the Latin “Robertus de Fraxino”, since *fraxinus* was the Latin name for the ash tree. The name probably arose independently in different areas of England and Wales, so various families of the same name may not be related. The Pembrokeshire family were usually considered to be of English origin, and they lived in the southern half of the county which had been settled by the Normans. The name appeared in Pembrokeshire at an early date. The Picton Castle papers include a reference to an Adam de fraxino who had a tenement in Haverfordwest in 1285, and to a John de Nasse who witnessed documents there in 1317 and 1323.

The family coat of arms was recorded by Lewys Dwnn in 1597 as “*Sable, on a chevron between three greyhounds courant Argent three ash branches Vert*” (27), i.e. a silver chevron and three running silver greyhounds on a black shield, with three green ash branches, the ash branches being a reference to their surname. The same arms were held by a Nash family in Kempsey in Worcestershire (28), where a Robertus de Fraxino had held lands in the manor in the Domesday Book. There is no direct evidence that the families were related, and it was not uncommon for two unconnected families to bear the same arms, though only one of them would presumably have had the right to do so.

The NASH pedigree was recorded by Lewys Dwnn and in the Golden Grove Book (29). The latter begins with David NASH I, but the former includes two earlier generations: Piers NASH, followed by Arnold NASH. Both pedigrees give Thomas NASH as David I’s only known child.

Lewys Dwnn and the Golden Grove Book agree that David I’s son Thomas NASH married Eva SCOURFIELD, as does Peniarth MS 156 (30). The SCOURFIELDS, who through Eva were my ancestors, lived at New Moat in the parish of that name, north east of Haverfordwest, and John SCOURFIELD III who was mentioned above as the husband of the heiress Catherine BOWEN was Eva’s great nephew. The family appears first in an indenture of 1439 (31), involving “*John Skorfyll senior of Novamota and Isabel his wife, and their son John Skorfyll junior*”. The date fits well with their pedigree, in which John SCOURFIELD I would have an estimated date of birth of 1400, and whose son Jenkin/John would also have been alive in 1439. The earliest parts of the pedigree have been shown to be spurious (32), so it is not clear where they had lived previously. The list of burgesses of New Moat in 1326 contained no mention

of the SCOURFIELDS (33), and it has been suggested that they came from Ecorcheville in Normandy, from which a French surname is known (34).

Thomas NASH continued to live at Great Nash, but Dwnn connected him with Jeffreyton to the south east. He could well have been the owner of property in that parish, because the pedigrees place his sons Philip and Owen and a granddaughter there. Dwnn and the Golden Grove Book name Thomas's children as Walter, David II, Philip and Owen, and since my ancestor David Nash II of Carmarthen appears to have been born around 1500, the others can be presumed to have been born at around that time, implying that their father Thomas and grandfather David I were born during the 15th century.

The Golden Grove Book states that Thomas's son Walter NASH had three children: Richard I, Arnold and Maud, whereas Dwnn only named Maud. They agree that Maud married David SMITH, and Francis Jones recorded that her husband died in 1556, and that Maud was the heiress of Jeffreyton House, where their descendants continued to live until the end of the 18th century, John SMITH being High Sheriff in 1753 (35). The Peniarth MS, which deals only with Richard I's line, shows him as Thomas's son, and omits Walter, but despite the uncertainty about in which generation Richard NASH I appeared in the family tree, it is clear that he lived at Great Nash. The NASH pedigrees agree that Richard married Elizabeth the daughter of Richard BOWEN I, the son of Harry BOWEN of Llwhmeilir, though the BOWEN pedigrees do not show a daughter Elizabeth, only a daughter Margaret and a son Richard BOWEN II.

The pedigrees record Richard NASH II as the only son of Richard NASH I and Elizabeth. He married Mary the daughter of John VAUGHAN of Narberth, who made his will in 1581 (36). His 'woyr' (grandson) John NASH (Richard's son) was bequeathed 2 kine, 2 bullocks, a horse and a mare, together with *'half a dozen silver spoons and a silver ale cup double gilt which was Bishop Morgan's, to be delivered to the said John Naysbe when he shall be of the full age of 21 years'*, and he also made bequests to his granddaughters Ellen and Jonet NASH. After John VAUGHAN's death, his son-in-law John ELLIOT became the owner of Plas Narberth in addition to Earwere in Amroth parish, later known as Amroth Castle, where his family had lived since 1445. Both remained in that family until the 1750s. John was Sheriff of the county in 1585, but he died a year later (37).

Richard NASH II did not survive John VAUGHAN for long either, and an Inquisition Post Mortem was held on 10 November 1582 *"after the death of Richard Nash, of Great Nash ... gentleman"* to determine his property rights (38). He had died on 17 October 1582, four days before John VAUGHAN's

will was proved, and his heir was John NASH who was 12 years old and in the custody of John ELLIOT esquire. None of the pedigrees include the only son, John NASH, and it is clear that he died young, because Great Nash was inherited by his sister Jonet NASH, who married Alban PHILIPPS, the third son of Morgan PHILIPPS of Picton Castle, who was Sheriff of the county in 1621. Great Nash House has since been replaced by an 18th century building, but the vaulted cellar of the original mansion can still be seen (shown here).



Thus the NASH name died out at Great Nash, as it **did** at Carmarthen, but it continued at Jeffreyston with Thomas NASH's sons **Philip** and **Owen**.

Derek Williams (1990)

Email: derekfw@outlook.com

References

23. Foster, J. 1891, *Alumni Oxoniensis 1500–1714*, Nash, David.
24. Cardiff Archives, Carmarthen deeds, no.322.
25. as 9.
26. National Archives, Records of the Court of Augmentations Relating to Wales, Cardigan 1545–8.
27. Merrick, S.R. 1846, *Lewys Dwnn Heraldic Visitations of Wales*, i, 202.
28. Nash, T.S. 1781, *Collections for the History of Worcestershire*.
29. Carmarthenshire Archives, Golden Grove Book, Advenau Pembrokeshire, B, 383.
30. Green, F. 1920–3, *West Wales Historical Records*, ii, p.36.
31. National Archives, Ancient Deeds, E210, 5537, 10848.
32. Williams, D. 1994–5. *Pembrokeshire Historian*, 6, 17–24.
33. Soulsby, I. 1983, *The Towns of Medieval Wales*, p.198.
34. Hanks, P., Coates, R., and McClure, P. 2016, *The Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland*.
35. Jones, F. 1996, *Historic Houses of Pembrokeshire and Their Families*, Jeffreyston House, p.97.
36. NLW, Wills, SD/1582/6.
37. Jones, F. 1996, *Historic Houses of Pembrokeshire and Their Families*, Amroth Castle, p.1.
38. National Archives, Exchequer E150/1217/6.

What became of Perrot and Abigail Ap Rice?

In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries the Ap Rice or Ap Rhys family of Pembrokeshire had considerable estates in the area of Richardston (also known as Rickeston) and Scotsborough near Tenby. The other important landowning family in the area was the Perrots. John Perrot, the last of the family in the male line, died in 1569 and his heir Catherine Perrot married John Ap Rhys of Rickeston, uniting the three local manors in Ap Rhys ownership. Catherine died in September 1614 and the combined manor passed through several generations of the Ap Rhys family. In each of these generations a son was christened with the forename Perrot, acknowledging the debt the family owed to the Perrots. The name “Perrot Ap Rhys/Rice” is very distinctive of this family and very possibly unique to it.

One of these men called Perrot Ap Rice got into trouble in 1659 when he was charged with “speaking and publishing words tending to treason.” He was the younger son of another Perrot Ap Rice of Rickeston in Brawdy and Scotsborough. His wife was Abigail Newsham, daughter of Thomas Newsham of Abersannan, Carmarthenshire. It is known that his prosecutor was William Walter, gent. and that John Ap Rice of Scotsborough (his uncle) and John Sherburne of Tenby stood surety for him. There is no record of any trial or its outcome but we can imagine some alternative scenarios. Treason has always been a capital offence, so at one extreme he could have been tried, found guilty and executed, but if that had been the case there would surely be some written record, so we can probably discount it. More likely, he may have been found guilty of a lesser offence and had his property confiscated; he may have fled and gone into hiding; or he may have been tried and acquitted, but effectively disgraced so that he needed to make a new life elsewhere. But where? There seems to be no further record of Perrot and his wife Abigail, so what became of them? No-one seems to know. My interest in this couple arises from a long-standing mystery related to my own ancestry, which has no obvious connection whatsoever with Pembrokeshire.

I was born in the small town of Desborough in Northamptonshire and right back to the sixteenth century the vast majority of my ancestors lived their lives within a radius of twenty miles of that town. Even in 1571 on the very first page of the Desborough parish register I can find ancestors. As in every provincial parish, many of the same surnames appear through the centuries. The Page, Panter, Yeomans, Coe, Manton, Loake, and Gutteridge families appear on almost every page. When newcomers appear their surnames are usually typical

Midland ones, already to be found in neighbouring parishes, but one new surname that turns up does not fit this pattern and that is Ap(p)rice. It first appears on 28th November 1700 when the Desborough parish register records the baptism of Anne Aprice, the daughter of Parrot Aprice and Mary his wife.

As if the surname Aprice wasn't unusual enough for Desborough, the father's forename was recorded as Parrot! It turns out that his real forename was Perrot and it is recorded correctly in just a few cases, the misunderstanding of his name being repeated frequently in written records throughout his life. No doubt Parrot was the name by which he was known in the town. Although he is not my direct ancestor the sudden appearance of Perrot Aprice in Desborough has always intrigued me and descendants bearing his surname Aprice persisted there for the next 200 years.

It was easy enough to find the marriage of Perrot and Mary. On July 6th 1699 "Parotte Aprice of Thorpe Underwood in the Parish of Rothwell" married Mary Yeomans at Little Oakley. Little Oakley is about four miles from Desborough, near Corby, Thorpe Underwood is a tiny hamlet in the parish of Rothwell a couple of miles from Desborough and Yeomans is very much a Desborough surname. The couple settled in Desborough and had four children baptised there. One of the sons from this first marriage, James Aprice, married Alice (surname unknown) but James died young and his widow then married Richard Page. This couple are my 5xgreat grandparents. Perrot's wife Mary died in 1731 and almost precisely a year later he married Margaret Jenells and over the next ten years they added five more children to the family. "Parrot" Aprice was buried on 11 August 1752 and his widow Margaret was buried on 2 November 1755.

The only other family called Aprice/Apreece in Northamptonshire held the manor of Tansor, a village about twenty miles away near Oundle, and known to be "incomers". The Desborough family were clearly of much lower social status and the Tansor family used very conventional forenames, certainly no Parrots/Perrots among them. Some internet research on various genealogy websites revealed a number of family trees with fanciful theories about the origins of Parrot Aprice of Desborough. Most were plainly blatant guesswork and not a single one had supporting evidence from a credible source. None of them linked him with the Tansor family. Wildcard searches on the name alone, however, produced many hits on members of the Pembrokeshire family

in the seventeenth century. Could there be a connection between them and the man in Desborough? It was tempting to think so when both names would be pronounced exactly the same, but how and why would a member of this wealthy family move to Northamptonshire to live a far more lowly life?

I decided to set this question aside until I had eliminated all possibility of Mr. Aprice having a more local origin so I enlisted the help of Andy North, the in-house researcher at Northamptonshire Archives. I asked him to look for any evidence of Perrot Aprice in the county before 1699, in particular to check the documents they held from the archive of the Aprice family of Tansor for any evidence of a connection with the Desborough family.

His report revealed no such connection. In fact the only significant new information was in the poll tax records for 1698 at Thorpe Underwood, where “Parrat Aprice” and Mary Yeomans had each been assessed to pay four shillings. Significantly they were not mentioned in the poll tax for 1691/2, suggesting that Perrot Aprice had arrived in the county not long before his marriage. Andy also drew attention to the burial in Desborough in 1714 of Abigail Aprice, a widow, and suggested that she could be Perrot’s mother, an idea that had already occurred to me. Abigail is a forename not in wide use in Desborough or even in Northamptonshire as a whole at that period and I could find no baptism of an Abigail in the county in the right period. I was encouraged to resume my research into the Pembrokeshire Ap Rice family and that led me to discover the story of Perrot Ap Rice and Abigail Newsham.

No sooner had I made this discovery than I found that the article by Major Francis Jones that had been my prime source about Richardston and the Ap Rice family seemed to disprove any possible connection between them and Desborough altogether. He states that Abigail Newsham/Ap Rice died in the 1630s “without issue” and this seems to have become the accepted view. Subsequently it has been shown that the article contained significant errors and that the writer had mistaken the date of death of Abigail’s father, Thomas Newsham, for Abigail’s own death. The proof of this lies in Thomas’s will, dated 1637, in which he names his daughter Abigail and an older sister. Both are clearly unmarried and he states that they should not receive their inheritances until the age of sixteen. Abigail’s true age is likely to be no more than twelve and could be even lower. There is no record of her burial in the 1630s in Pembrokeshire, so her death in Desborough in 1714 remains credible.

Her husband Perrot's grandfather was Thomas Ap Rice, who died in 1650, leaving a will made just before he died. In it he reveals that his son Perrot senior had already died, but he makes bequests to Perrot's six children, including "Perrott Ap Rice, youngest son of my son Perrott Rice deceased". If the Abigail Aprice, buried in Desborough, really was this man's widow, then she must have married him in the 1650s and could have had children born up to about 1675. The Perrot Aprice who came to Desborough, was of an age to be married in 1699, so he could easily be Abigail's son or grandson, just possibly her nephew.

He seems to have inherited no significant wealth such as we might expect for a descendant of Welsh landed gentry. In recording the baptisms of his nine children between 1700 and 1742, the Desborough parish register makes no mention of his profession or status and treats him and his two wives just like any other parents having children baptised in the parish. Neither of his two wives can have been of high status. Despite this his name is so distinctive of the Pembrokeshire family that it seems fair to conclude that he must have been one of its descendants.

So how do we account for Perrot and his mother/grandmother turning up in Thorpe Underwood and then Desborough? As we have seen, in 1659 Perrot Ap Rice, very possibly our man's father or grandfather, had been charged with "speaking and publishing words tending to treason". Whatever the outcome we can see why Perrot and his wife Abigail could well have had good reason to move away from Pembrokeshire. But why would the widowed Abigail and her son/grandson choose to take refuge in Northamptonshire?

We do not know where or when Abigail's husband had died and there is no burial record for him in Northamptonshire. Nor do we know exactly when she and Perrot junior arrived in Thorpe Underwood, but, as already mentioned, it was probably not much earlier than 1698. There is a long period where, deliberately or otherwise, they managed to leave no documentary evidence of their whereabouts, but this is not altogether surprising, given the political and religious upheavals of the seventeenth century, when many parish registers have very significant gaps.

At this period, however, the Desborough/Rothwell area was renowned for one thing and that is its strong allegiance to religious nonconformism. On a local scale we know that this attracted a number of families into the two towns from various villages within the surrounding area. These included some of my own ancestors. Add to this the fact that from 1689 the Independent/

Congregational church in Rothwell, which was attended by many worshippers from Desborough, was led by Richard Davis from south-west Wales. So strong was the link with that area that when Richard Davis died in 1714 they invited Matthias Maurice, a Pembrokeshire man, to succeed him. Nonconformism is the area's only claim to fame that seems likely to have attracted fugitives from as far away as south-west Wales and clearly there were contacts between worshippers of that persuasion in the two areas. Where else would be as likely to welcome people at odds with the powerful? That seems the most likely reason for the Aprices coming to Desborough.

No doubt there will be many people, some of them perhaps members of the Dyfed FHS, who are proud to be able to trace their ancestry back to the Ap Rhys/Rice and Perrot families of Pembrokeshire. They may have wondered what became of Perrot Ap Rice and his wife Abigail. They may even have done a DNA test and found unexplained matches with distant cousins in Northamptonshire. If so, they may want to consider my theory and I would love to hear from them.

With thanks to Andy North, researcher at Northamptonshire Record Office.

Robert G. Page

Email: bob@cistuspage.org.uk

Notes

- 1 Jones, F. (1966) Rickeston and Scotsborough. A Study in Family History. *The Pembrokeshire Historian*. *Journal of the Pembrokeshire Local History Society* 2: 19–47
- 2 Jones, F. (1948) Disaffection and Dissent in Pembrokeshire. *Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion for the year 1946*, 206-231 (esp. p. 211 & endnote 26)
- 3 https://www.ancestry.co.uk/discoveryui-content/view/9292372:9198?_phsrc=RAu9294&_phstart=successSource&ml_rpos=5&queryId=fd2485d40959d82a2111d1bd13fb7878 accessed 16/9/2023
- 4 Andy North. Personal communication.
- 5 Justin Durand <https://www.geni.com/people/Abigail-Rice/600000029746998849> accessed 16/9/2023
- 6 National Library of Wales St. David's Probate Records, 1556-1858. Will of Thomas Newsham: 1638 Abersannan, Llanfynydd, Carmarthen (Includes inventory, bond)
- 7 National Library of Wales St. David's Probate Records, 1556-1858. Will of Thomas Ap Rice: 1650. Rickardston, Brawdy, Pembroke, Esq (Includes inventory, bond, miscellaneous document)
- 8 Streather, G.T. (1994) Memorials of the Independent Chapel at Rothwell

A 'Pillar of the Community' – The rackets career of my 4G-Grandfather

On 28th June 1845, James Millard of Wind Hill, Manorbier made a new will. He pointedly left the farm to “my second son” and made careful provision for his third and fourth sons, and for his daughter. He even made a little bequest to his niece. But he made no mention of his first son, George Llewellyn Millard (who we shall call GLM). That son was living with his large family just a few miles away in Haverfordwest. Now it might be that as GLM had made his way in the world, doctor, town councillor, JP and Coroner to the Borough, his father felt no provision was needed: GLM had become a Pillar of the Community. But in the absence of even a remembrance it is more likely that there had been a falling out. The old man, who died the following year, maybe knew his eldest son too well. What follows has the feel of a slice of Ibsen, then just embarking on his literary career.

GLM was born in Manorbier in January 1795 and christened in the little church beside the castle a few days later. His later career suggests he was socially ambitious, wanted to get on, and by 1814 he was a surgeon's apprentice in Haverfordwest. But away from the parental eye he had a fling with a girl from the nearby village of St. Michael's. Mary Mortimer gave birth to their son William Millard in November 1814. GLM likely accepted responsibility, for he was named as the father on the baptismal record. But there was to be no marriage.

On 7th July 1815 GLM was granted the Diploma of the Royal College of Surgeons and began his practice in Haverfordwest as surgeon and apothecary. And while he did so, he made a new relationship. All we know of Anne Edwards is that she was born in 1799 and was illiterate, for she could only make her mark in the register of Brecon Cathedral when the two married in March 1825. Of course, it was the custom to marry in the bride's parish church (and the Brecon register describes her a “Spinster of this Parish”) but she had already borne GLM three children in Haverfordwest, Mary Ann (1820), Elizabeth (1821) and Caroline (1823): and she was pregnant again at the altar, because a fourth child, George Millard, was born that October. All four were christened together on the same day in the parish church at Slebech, out on the Carmarthen Road, though they are recorded as living at Haverfordwest. Why these foreign churches? Why delay the baptism, or indeed the wedding, so long? There feels something higger-mugger here, that old James Millard knew or suspected, and that Haverfordwest did not, or chose to ignore.

Anne died in 1837, aged only thirty-eight. She had given GLM three more children, Augusta (1827), Amelia (1828), and Louisa (1832). A final girl, Ann, lived only a few months and was buried in the same month as her mother; a common enough personal tragedy for the period, though we know the Victorians felt it no less keenly than ourselves. But the 1841 Census shows GLM living in a comfortable menage on Market Street, surrounded by his daughters to fuss over him after a hard day's work; and his new son-in-law too. Francis Scowcroft had married Elizabeth in 1839. He was the son of the town's attorney and Sheriff, and his mother's family owned a fine old house at Llandeloy. There were two servants as well. It was about this time that GLM was elected a town councillor and for 1845/6 chosen the Mayor of Haverfordwest, which carried with it the additional title of *Admiral of the Port*, a relic of the medieval period when the river town was the busiest port in Wales. He was a JP, and the Borough Coroner, a Freemason and surgeon to the Oddfellows. GLM was part of the *crachach* now, a big fish in a small pond. And as part of his ascent, he was appointed in 1843 the Medical Officer of the Poor Law Union and the County Lunatic Asylum. He was to be paid £30 pa for weekly visits.

Haverfordwest set up its paupers' asylum by special Act of Parliament in 1822, when it dedicated to its use the town's old gaol. It was at St. Thomas' Green, at the top of Market Street's steep hill. There's a fancy modern leisure centre on the site now. But by the time GLM took on his new role little had been done to alter it, so it remained in essence a gaol. A visit by the Lunacy Commissioners in 1842 found eighteen paupers accommodated with only sixteen beds, and that it was "deficient in every comfort and almost every convenience". The conditions deserved "almost unqualified censure".

Nationally the tide of Victorian reform was beginning to flow, and the Lunacy Act 1845 driven by the great social reformer Lord Shaftesbury, put the Commissioners on a new footing. And indeed on the first visit by the new representatives that same year it was recorded that under GLM's "judicious direction" there had been distinct improvement, the diet better, the patients well attended. Soon after, there was even glass in the windows.

But the running of these institutions remained the responsibility of the local Justices, ever anxious about the cost to the Ratepayers. The new legislation imposed a duty on the medical officer to keep careful records of his visits, and especially of cases where restraint was used. It transpired that GLM failed to manage this at all over a six month period, and the Commissioners considered this so egregious as to justify the unusual step of prosecution for neglect of duty.

Humiliating as it was, GLM had to appear in the dock of his own court, before his fellow Justices. He tried to plead pressure of work but was fined £5 on each of two offences. It was the minimum the Justices could impose, despite the second offence including an attempt to alter the records, in other words, a failed cover-up. Yet GLM remained in post.

There appears to have been prolonged correspondence in the ensuing years as the Commissioners tried to compel the Justices to improve conditions at the Asylum, which were alleged to be “inferior to many gaols” and “ill-adapted for the treatment and care of insanity”. In 1857 it was discovered that under GLM’s direction illegal restraints had been used on two patients on several occasions, with insufficient checks by GLM on their conditions, and minor injury resulted. GLM was suspended. In the following year the Commissioners recorded that the building had inadequate ventilation, a blocked chimney filled the rooms with smoke, and slopping-out from the open privies was done through the kitchen. Overcrowding continued: there were now thirty-seven inmates. GLM had meanwhile resigned.

There is a dramatic sense of hubris in what followed. We do not know GLM’s reaction to being excluded from his father’s will, but there was a harbinger of what was to come. In 1850 his son George, then a medical student in London, was committed to a debtor’s prison. Such a step should have been social death in Victorian Britain, and it is difficult to believe that GLM would not have prevented this had he the means – or maybe the will. On 25th August 1857, GLM himself was the subject of a Final Order in Bankruptcy.

GLM appears to have struggled on with his medical practice. He advertised his availability for consultation in nearby Neyland. He remained the local Vaccination Officer. The 1861 Census still records his profession as Surgeon, and indeed his son George was back home and working as his father’s assistant. They were living round the corner in Goat Street by then, though only with Mary Anne and her son (her husband was serving in the Royal Navy). Notably, no servants were recorded. In the last Act – for we come back to Ibsen – George Llewellyn Millard died of a heart attack on 29th March 1862. There was a sale of his effects two months later, just a few bits of furniture and some medical books. Not far away his daughter Elizabeth Scowcroft and her husband were Landed Gentry.

Chris Thomas (88565)

Email: yestor@btinternet.com

Sources

- 1 National Library of Wales Wills Archive.
 - 2 Pembs BDM records, for Manorbier, St Mary's Haverfordwest and Slebech.
 - 3 Royal College of Surgeons Register.
 - 4 Brecon BDM records, for St John's Cathedral, Brecon.
 - 5 National Census records.
 - 6 Misc. entries in The Pembrokeshire Herald and The Welshman 1840.
 - 7 Journal of the Pembrokeshire Historical Society Vol 5, 1992/3.
-

Sandy Haven House

Sandy Haven House is situated in the Parish of St. Ishmaels in the Hundred of Rhoose, Pembrokeshire.

The house is a 15th century tower house, that was substantially refurbished in the 17th century.

The building has a complex plan, the main range has three storeys, with crenelated parapets along part of the South East side. It is built of random stone rubble with roughcast facing and some cement

render. It is Grade II* listed and a detailed description can be found on-line at "britishlistedbuildings.co.uk".



It was owned by William Rhys High Sherriff of Pembrokeshire in 1557. At the time of the refurbishment in the 17th century it was owned by Admiral Sir Thomas Button. It continued in the ownership of the Button family into the 1640s. Subsequently and certainly before 1651, the house was acquired by Hugh Philipps, a younger son of Sir John Philipps of Picton Castle, whose descendent William Philipps was also a High Sheriff of Pembrokeshire. William Philipps sold the property to Campbell of Stackpole in 1723.

The house occupies a prominent position on the edge of a wooded valley that falls into Sandy Haven pill. It was later owned by Thomas Davies Lloyd of Bronwydd and occupied by William Cozens. In 1850 a dispute between William Cozens and his landlord arose which resulted in a request from the landlord in April 1850 for William Cozens to surrender the lease by Michelmas 1850. The house and farm were then leased to John Phillips,

formerly of Trefaner Farm, Llandeloy in October 1850 and it continued to be occupied by him and subsequently by his son William until the 1870s. Within a month of moving into Sandy Haven, J W Saunders, the Vicar of St. Ishmaels, sent John Phillips a demand for payment of the Tithe for the half year. The tone of the demand was suggestive of it being overdue, perhaps giving some clue to the reason William Cozens had been asked to surrender the lease. A receipt for payment of £7 6s 5d dated 23rd November 1850 at the National Library of Wales shows that it was paid by John Phillips. A further receipt for payment of the remainder of the Tithe of £10 6s 3d to the Trustees of the “Charitable Trust Fund and Estates of the Borough of Tewkesbury” is also kept at the National Library of Wales.

A number of articles state that John Phillips owned Sandy Haven after 1850, and inferred that he was also a descendent of the Philipps family of Picton Castle. However, this is not correct, John Phillips was not related to the former owners of Sandy Haven or descended from Sir John Philipps of Picton Castle. This error seems to have originated from a book by Major Francis Jones, an eminent Pembrokeshire historian and one-time Herald at Arms, who presumably had not been privy to the fact that Sandy Haven had been sold, long before 1850.

John Phillips and his wife Mary were Baptists and worshipped in the Aenon Baptist Chapel, which is on a restricted site in the valley at the nearby hamlet of Sandy Haven. The chapel was abandoned when a new chapel was built at Sandy Hill where there was more space. The chapel is perched on a steep and very much overgrown slope. The roof and some of the walls have collapsed.



The chapel is on private land without safe access but can be viewed from the adjacent road. The only marked grave on the site is that of Mary Phillips herself, although there may be others obscured by undergrowth and accumulation of soil and debris. Mary was born Mary Morris in Wolfsdale and was married to John Phillips at Camrose. John Phillips was buried at Hephzibah Baptist Chapel in Broad Haven.

Owen Phillips (1508)

Email: owen362phillips@btinternet.com

Where do I come from?

My family is from Liverpool. My sister, my parents, my grandparents and seven of my eight great-grandparents were born in Liverpool but three generations earlier it was a very different story. Only two of the great-great-great-great-grandparents whose birthplace I know came from Liverpool. Almost all those for whom I don't know the birthplace are unlikely to be from Liverpool because their spouse or children were not from Liverpool. Those ancestors came from all over the place – Ireland, Scotland and about $\frac{3}{4}$ of my mother's 5th generation ancestors came from Wales.

Figure 1 shows what a magnet Liverpool was. The red lines show where the great-great-great-grandparents had a different birthplace to at least one of their parents; the orange lines show where the great-great-grandparents had a different birthplace to at least one of their parents and the green lines show where the great-grandparents had a different birthplace to at least one of their parents. The sole blue line refers to Robert Henry Brough (1867–ca.1909), my anomalous 8th great-grandparent mentioned above. His



Fig 1

great-grandparent mentioned above. His father, James Brough (ca.1840–ca.1876), moved from Malton in Yorkshire to Liverpool and worked as 1st mate on the steamship Sabrina. His son, Robert Henry was actually born at sea and his birth was registered when the ship called at port, Cork in southern Ireland. So really he was a Liverpoolian but the circumstances of his birth illustrate why Liverpool was such an attraction. It was a major sea port.

Liverpool as a port had always had a small trade with Ireland but the trade with West Africa and America – the slave trade – grew rapidly in the 18th century. The fine Georgian houses around the docks area, many damaged or destroyed as a result of war time bombing, were testimony to the wealth of the trade. But it wasn't just the slave owners or the sugar tobacco and cotton importers, who benefitted. The labourers who worked on the docks, the builders who constructed the slum tenements to house them, the cigarette makers who catered for their needs and the carvers who decorated the churches and prestigious public buildings around them were all indirect beneficiaries. These were my family.

Figure 1 shows that my ancestors mostly moved to Liverpool in the mid-19th century, but this is emphasised in Figure 2 which shows only the green lines (and that birth at sea!), ie those cases where my great-grandparents had different birthplaces to one or both of their parents. A few came earlier, for example, reflecting the historic links with Ireland. However, the big move to Liverpool had in some cases, mainly on my father's side, been preceded for one or two generations, perhaps more, by more local moves from small villages to larger towns and cities, for example Glasgow or Sheffield. This is more clearly shown in Figure 3 where the green (and blue) lines are stripped out, ie showing only those moves where my great-great-grandparents had a different birthplace from their parents, or their parents did from their grandparents.

My mother's maternal ancestors were entirely Welsh, half coming from Anglesey, a quarter each from the areas covered by the former Clwyd and Dyfed. On her paternal side, a half were from Clwyd, in fact Flintshire. They were woodworkers, shoe-makers, shepherds, farmers, butchers, labourers. In Liverpool, they became mariners, clerks, book-keepers, house-builders, dock-gate keepers. There was much less local movement in the Dyfed branch. But what of that remarkable move from Hampshire to Ceredigion? In the late 1770s the regular army was stationed in America in an attempt to defeat the colonial revolution. This left the British Isles vulnerable to opportunistic attack from the French or Spanish. In 1780 the Cardiganshire Militia was stationed in Portsmouth. The dashing young Sargent John Enoch (ca.1759–1833), from Troed-yr-Aur, obviously made an impression on local girl Anne Cox (1764–1825). They were married in Winchester in 1781 and the regiment returned to Carmarthen in 1782, where their first child was born. After the Americans gained their independence there was less need for the Militia.



Fig 2



Fig 3

Most of the Enoch children were born in the family home in Troed-yr-Aur. This was about 15 miles north of the family's ancestral home at Morlogws (or Wernlogws) in Carmarthenshire on the banks of Afon Cych, which at this point forms the border with Pembrokeshire. The family was perhaps descended from Cadifor Fawr (work in progress!), via John's grandfather, Dafydd Hywel, the bard of Wernlogws. Dafydd had been educated at Carmarthen Grammar School and I have seen several of his poems but I don't speak Welsh and I'm told the translations into English don't really work. The tiny Welsh-speaking village of Troed-yr-Aur must have been quite a culture shock for Anne, coming from the bustling naval town of Portsea. However, with threats from the revolution in France, my 7th generation ancestor, Elizabeth Enoch, was born in Aberystwyth in 1796 because part of the Militia was then stationed there.

In my opening paragraph I mentioned the birthplace of my grandparents, parents and sister – but not mine. As a result of a different war, my birthplace is also anomalous. I was born in Southport, some 20 miles north of Liverpool. In 1942 Liverpool – and its docks in particular – were under constant threat of bombing and, if there was time, women in labour were evacuated to the safer surroundings of a maternity hospital there. By the time of my sister's birth in 1946 there was no longer a need for such emergency measures.

My wife was born in Chesterfield, my children in London, so where does my family come from?

Dr Peter Borrows (6136)

Email: peterborrows@cantab.net

Haverfordwest Family Trees

Haverfordwest branch attendee Idris Thomas (6336) has produced three handwritten local family histories of the following families:

JACKS
CODD
REYNOLDS

If you are interested in seeing any of this research, please contact the Editor who can either scan or post you a copy. Idris says he only does this work when it rains, which proves how wet Pembrokeshire really is!

Help Needed

William Henry Samuel

PLEASE SEE the attached photographs. They are of a grave and headstone located at Old Road Cemetery. I am trying to identify if it is that of my great-uncle, named above. Of course, it may not be his. The details on it appear crudely applied and very weather worn. These photos were taken on 20 September 2021 and the condition, I understand, has worsened significantly since. It may be that a member of your society has an older image in better and more legible condition. That would possibly prove beneficial to further research as there is clearly more detail to be found.

I have tried to do some distant research but drawn a blank in terms of confirming the grave occupants. I am also at a loss to know who Gertrude Williams was. My grandmother was born a Williams but there haven't been any links revealed to a Gertrude.

If Mr & Mrs W. H. Samuel in this grave are my desired family, they should link to the following information.

He was born at Dowlais, Merthyr Tydfil, in November/December 1865 and died at 152 Old Castle Road, Llanelli on 9 October 1924. His widow, Margaret Jane Samuel, nee Richards, survived him for 29 years, dying in 1953. They had married at Trinity Chapel, Old Dock Road, Llanelli, on 13 November 1897. It could be that the black flower container on the grave reflected her long felt loss. She did not remarry. She was his second wife. His first, Mary Jane Griffiths, died of pneumonia at 19 Wern Road, Llanelli, aged 23 on 9 October 1889. That marriage had lasted less than two years but produced a daughter, Hannah Jane Samuel, named after his mother.



I hope you have someone within your membership that will recognise the family and be able to assist me in this matter.

Kindest regards,

T. Ieuan Jones

Email: ieuan29@btinternet.com

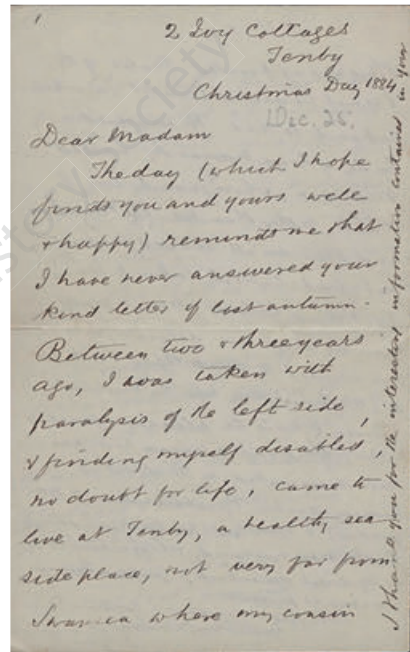
Descendants of Huguenots Pierre Boudet dit Gautier and his wife Anne Manson

I AM A GENEALOGY hobbyist researching the descendants of Huguenots Pierre Boudet dit Gautier and his wife Anne Manson. I live in Jacksonville Florida in the USA. Their daughter Anne Gautier married William Jillard Hort. And their daughter Anne Manson Hort married John Edgar Sr in Cork, Ireland. To them was born John Edgar Jr. who spent his last years at 2 Ivy Cottages in Tenby. A copy of a letter in his handwriting (Christmas 1884) is available at the University of North Carolina in the United States.

The letter was written to my ancestral aunt, a cousin to John Edgar Jr, Lucy Jones Gautier who married Galloway. Last week I learned that John Edgar Jr passed away in Pembrokeshire and was buried in Tenby. But I understand from Pembrokeshire

Archives that there are no burial grounds in Tenby. And he suggested I contact you for help. Perhaps it was just his funeral in Tenby. At any rate, the curate who preached his funeral was the Reverend Sir George Ralph Fetherston.

One of the attachments includes an obit snippet, this (The London Daily Telegraph Wed 13 April 1887 page 1) is the original source: <https://www.newspapers.com/article/the-daily-telegraph-1887-31st-march-john/124954566> It doesn't provide information.



BURIALS in the Parish of <u>St. Mary, Tenby</u> in the County of <u>Pembrokeshire</u> in the Year 18 <u>87</u>				
Name	Abode	When buried	Age	By what authority
John Fordeage	Bridge Street	March 19 th	71 ^{yr}	C. M. Hall Curate
Charles Road	Coff Lane	March 23 rd	74 ^{yr}	C. M. Hall Curate
Elizabeth Reid	Beaconsfield Street	March 27 th	60 ^{yr}	C. M. Hall Curate
Marquetta Henri Anne Sigler	Bywater	March 31 st	11 ^{yr}	W. Morgan Minister
Thomas Road	Coff Lane	March 30 th	64 ^{yr}	C. M. Hall Curate
Henry Thomas	Saltburn	April 2 nd	34 ^{yr}	W. Morgan Minister
John Edgar	Ivy Cottages	April 4 th	77 ^{yr}	W. Morgan Minister
Thomas Evans	Shelton Court	April 6 th	40 ^{yr}	W. Morgan Minister

DYER—On Easter Sunday, at 7, Arkwright-road, Hampstead, Shirley, only son of Bernard and Alice Dyer, aged 4 years.
EDGAR—On the 31st ult., at Tenby, John Edgar, aged 48, formerly of London and Cork.
FOOTE—On the 10th inst., at Aldershot, Louis Barrington, infant

HANDRAIL TO BEACH.

The Town Clerk read a letter from **Mr Edgar** asking permission to place at his own cost an iron rail on the steps leading from Ivy Cottage to the beach. He would then be able to get up and down without assistance, which he could not now do.

The Town Clerk was instructed to reply that the Corporation had no objection to his doing so.

Old Welsh newspapers are more easily available (God bless you for it!) and all I could find on John was this bit published in January of 1887 where John asks the town council if he may build a handrail to the beach: <https://newspapers.library.wales/view/3710505/3710509/25/%22Mr%20Edgar%22>.

I have a copy of the snippet for his will but not his actual will. And it is one in England I believe though there was a reference I saw somewhere to a possible will in Cork Ireland where he was born and where his father was from. Note that the men he names in his will are cousins of his and mine: Walter Reid (1859–1944) and George Herbert Reid (1862–1936), sons of John Edgar Jr's first cousin Edie (Edith) Huxham (1837–1916) who married Samuel Reid II. The Huxham's are cousins who were born and raised in Swansea. George Huxham (1798–1850) married John Edgar Jr's maternal aunt Susan Hort (1804–1868). Dr Edgar Reid (1865–1924, brother of Walter and George) was in some of those Town Hall Meetings, including the one for John's request, but in 1901 and 1911 he's in Swansea. I have not found any other will/probate records for John but for one mentioned or obituaries which is surprising for the time he lived in Tenby. See two images attached pertaining to probate.

EDGAR John.

Personal Estate £9,903 19s. 5d.
Between October 1887 214,147 17s. 2d.

342

2 June. The Will with a Codicil of John Edgar late of 2 Ivy-cottages Tenby in the County of Pembrokeshire Gentleman who died 31 March 1887 at 2 Ivy-cottages was proved at the Principal Registry by Walter Reid of 5 Willow-avenue Edgbaston Birmingham in the County

1887.

of Warwick Secretary to a Public Company and George Herbert Reid of 27 Heath-street Hampstead in the County of Middlesex Gentleman the Executors.

Indeed, in 1881 John Edgar Jr is in a London area boarding in a house ... his young cousin George Herbert Reed is also a boarder – a student – in this house and census record as well.

Would you be so kind as to guide me regarding this question? Where in Pembrokeshire is John Edgar Jr buried? Location name? Address? Section and Plot number? Where would I from the USA find this information?

Christina Hansen

Email: christinahansen@bellsouth.net

11733 Starfish Ave, Jacksonville FL 32246, USA

Llawhaden questions

I HAVE two questions for you in relation to asking for help from the membership of the Journal. I'm not sure how you'd like to process / consider them, but if I list them below, perhaps you can help and advise me?

1) Many moons ago, perhaps over 10 years ago, I was told that a lady called 'Caroline' was researching the history of Gelli / Gelly, near Llawhaden, Pembrokeshire with a view to publishing a book. I was interested because I have so many connections to Gelli and my great great grandfather was one of Gelli Chapel's founders. Anyway, the years passed, and no book was ever published. Does anyone know anything about this? If so, could they contact me please?

2) A query regarding Goshen Chapel, near Llawhaden, Pembrokeshire: Does anyone know what happened to the contents of the church when it was closed and then turned into a residential property. I spoke to the first residents of the church many moons ago, but they had no answer for me. I have asked in many places, but nobody has been able to help. According to my 96-year-old mum, her grandfather, John Lewis the Llawhaden tailor of Aelybryn used to play the organ and help with the church accounts. After he died, there was a light and plaque put up in the church to thank him for his long service to the church. I would love to find this plaque – surely nobody would have thrown it away. Can anyone help me please? (PS For the avoidance of confusion, this is not the John Lewis of Potterslade).

Sarah Reay (3287)

Email: sarahreay28@gmail.com

A Schoolgirl's Autograph Album, Llandovery 1915



Bessie Griffiths in 1915

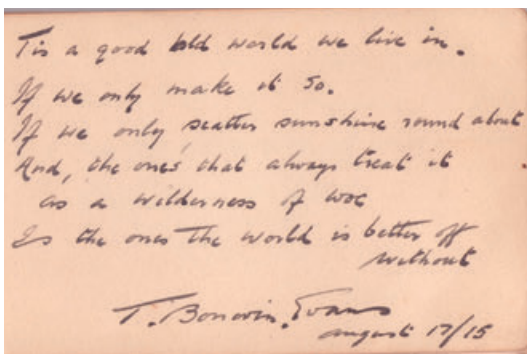
IN JULY 1915 my grandmother Elizabeth Jane Griffiths “satisfied the Examiners in [...] English Language and Literature, Geography, Elementary Mathematics, Drawing and Laundry work” and was duly awarded the Junior Certificate of the Central Welsh Board. In the same month she started the first of three autograph albums, and not surprisingly many of the entries in the first were from fellow pupils at Llandovery County School

Bessie Griffiths, as she was more often known, was born in 1899 in Llandovery, where her parents Thomas Griffiths and Jane (née Jones) kept the North Western Hotel. The hotel was used primarily by commercial travellers and livestock dealers, and her father often acted as an intermediary between the English-speaking dealers and the Welsh-speaking farmers around Llandovery.

In this first album there is no mention of the war, now coming to the end of its first year, although only a few months later the second album would include entries signed by wounded soldiers convalescing at the Red Cross Hospital in Llandovery. Indeed, some of the entries seem staggeringly optimistic in their view of the world:

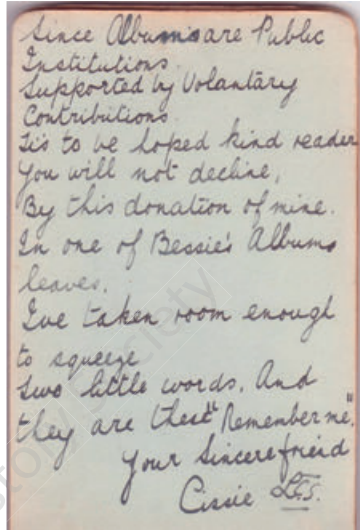
*“Tis a good old world we live in
If we only make it so.
If we only scatter sunshine round about
And the ones that always treat it
as a wilderness of woe
Is [sic] the ones the world is better off
without.”*

Perhaps surprisingly, there no entries in Welsh, even though Welsh was probably the home language for almost all the authors. However, grammatical mistakes in a couple of the entries by older relatives suggest that they weren’t entirely comfortable writing in English, as in the example just quoted.



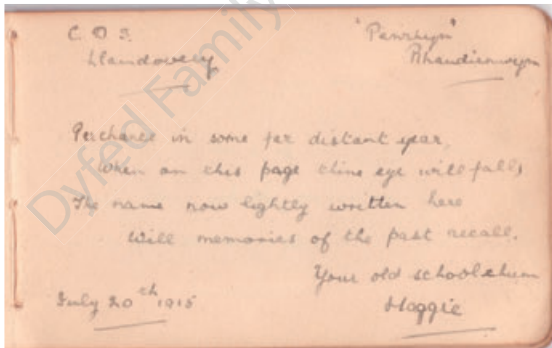
What internet memes are today, autograph albums were 100 years ago: the entries humorous or uplifting, poetic, or moralising. Variations on the subject of friendship and memory were common, from the straightforward: ‘When this you see remember me’ via the fanciful:

*Since Albums are Public Institutions
Supported by Voluntary Contributions
Tis to be hoped kind reader
You will not decline
By this donation of mine
In one of Bessie's Albums leaves.
I've taken room enough to squeeze
Two little words. And they are these
"Remember me."*



to the lyrical:

*Perchance in some far distant year,
When on this page thine eye will fall,
The name now lightly written here
Will memories of the past recall.*



Love and marriage were a common theme, although entries often warned against falling in love:

*"Fall from a house top,
Fall from above,
Fall from anywhere,
But mind don't
Fall in love"*

OR

*“Don’ts
Now Bessie don’t read novels,
Don’t wear too many rings,
Don’t think of nice new dresses,
And other worldly things.
Don’t raise your voice too high,
And pray don’t get enraged,
And please don’t flirt my dear,
And mind don’t get engaged.”*

Like memes in today’s social media, verses and jokes were recycled. Two people turned the album upside down before writing this:

*“When in this book you look,
When on this page you frown,
Think of the girl who spoilt your book
By writing in it upside down.”*

There were quotations from Burns and Shelley, a parody of Longfellow –

*“Lives of all great men remind us
We must make our lives sublime
And departing leave behind us
Footprints in the sands of time.”*

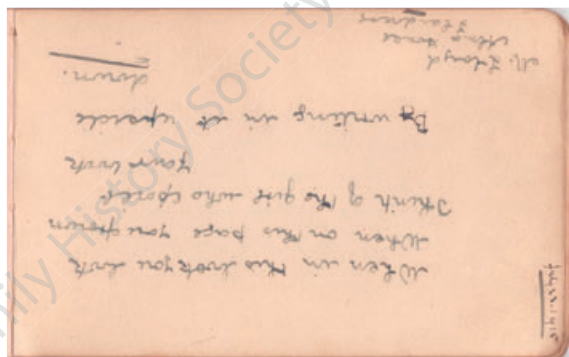
And ...

*“Wives and daughters all remind us
We must make our little pile
And departing leave behind us
Cash for them to live in style.”*

As on the internet today, not all quotations were correctly ascribed to their authors:

“Blessed is he who sitteth on a tin tack for he shall soon rise.” ~ Shakespeare

The album contains contributions from: Jane Griffiths – Bessie’s mother; Johnny Griffiths, either her brother or a cousin; Lucy Handley, her cousin; Muriel, Gwen and either Edith or Ethel Thomas of Penlan, Frondeg Terrace, Llanelli: cousins of Bessie’s; Jane Strange, landlady of the Station Hotel in Llandovery, and her daughter Lucy Strange.



Several of the entries were signed by fellow pupils of Llandovery County School: M. Lily Stephens, 39 Stone Street, Llandovery; Gwendoline Davies, Fountain Hall, Llansadwrn; E. Gertrude Lewis; Maggie Jones, Penrhyn, Rhandirmwyn; Eleanor Morgan, Aberpedwar Farm, Llanfair-ar-y-bryn; Mildred Price; Sisters Celia (Cissie) and Lucy Rees, Penybanc, Llandovery.

I have done my best to identify writers who gave an address but not a surname. However, I haven't been able to identify these people: Lizzie, Ystrad Lodge, Llandovery; Cissy, pupil at Llandovery County School; D. A. Evans (possibly Daniel Arthur Evans, Factory, Cilycwm); T. Bonwin Evans (possibly an older relative of Bessie's); W. Price; S. Williams (possibly Sarah Williams, a fellow pupil who also took the Junior Certificate); M. Lloyd, Alma House; Y N (or Yn.) Williams.

If anyone reading this recognises a name and can tell me more about the person, please get in touch. I am planning to upload the full album to the digital archive of the People's Collection Wales and would like to be able to add as much information as possible, so that anyone searching for their relatives in the future has a better chance of finding them. Meanwhile, if you have already identified a family member and would like a copy of their autograph, I would be happy to send it to you.

Pupils of Llandovery County School who passed the Central Welsh Board exams in 1915 – Senior certificate: Gwendoline Davies, Gertrude Lewis; Lily Stephens; Maggie L. Jones; Maggie Williams; J. H. Davies. Junior certificate: Bessie Griffiths; Madge James; Mildred Price; Maud Phillips; Cissy Rees; Lucy Rees; Eleanor Morgan; Rachel Walters; Sarah Williams; Daniel Evans; Emrys Evans; Phillip Price. When prizes were awarded at the school later in the year, the guest speaker, Lleufer Evans from Pontypridd, emphasised that education in schools in rural areas should be appropriate (as he saw it) to rural life and interests. “Llandovery, being an agricultural centre, should naturally have an agricultural side, and he impressed upon governors who lived in the town to keep this phase of the children's education well in view. They might have every girl mastering French in the school yet 50 or 60% went to farms in the neighbourhood and forgot their French very shortly.” One wonders how Lily Stephens, singled out for her “conversational French”, felt when she listened to this dismissal of her achievement! Source: “Prize Day – Pontypridd Stipendiary at Llandovery County School”, 4 December 1915, Herald of Wales and Monmouthshire Recorder, digitised by the National Library of Wales at <https://newspapers.library.wales/view/4114967/4114973/113/>

I have already uploaded my grandmother's other two albums to the "Lest We Forget" digital archive. "Llandovery to Catterick Camp Military Hospital: from schoolgirl to VAD" contains entries written in Llandovery, including some written by patients at the Red Cross Hospital, and others written at Catterick Camp Military Hospital where Bessie Griffiths worked as a VAD (British Red Cross Voluntary Aid Detachment volunteer) from February 1918 to February 1919. It contains some very interesting sketches and cartoons, and is well worth looking at: <http://lwf.it.ox.ac.uk/s/lest-we-forget/item/12007> In "Catterick Camp Military Hospital: a VAD's autograph book" most of the entries were written by fellow VADs and others at Catterick Camp: <http://lwf.it.ox.ac.uk/s/lest-we-forget/item/7237>

Alathea Anderssohn (2546)
Email: alathea53@yahoo.de

Stonemasons in Broad Oak

BROAD OAK is a small village beside the A40. The Tithe Survey lists just four people there: John Jones, a stonemason; William Morgan, a tailor; Timothy Griffiths, the local blacksmith who occupied the smithy and a farm with several fields to the north of the village and Richard Steele who occupied the local inn and a farm with some cottages near the inn and quite a lot of farmland around the centre of the village. However, it seems Broad Oak numbered at least one family of stonemasons among its inhabitants throughout the nineteenth century. Before John Jones, John Davies, father of my great great grandmother, lived in Broad Oak. Two of her siblings were born there: Rees in May 1808 and Caroline in December 1810. Some families produced more notable members of the building trade. Thomas Pugh Jones, born in Broad Oak in 1862 went on to run a building firm in Llanelli that employed over 200 men. He was responsible for the construction of Llanelli Town Hall. As well as being a champion cyclist he was at the cutting edge of his trade, introducing Terne roofing to Llanelli and patenting a new design of water closet. David Pugh Jones, born in Broad Oak in 1865 trained as an architect and was Glamorgan County architect for two decades. His buildings included the grade II listed St Llan school (formerly Gwyndy Senior Girls School).

Delwen Eirlys Wilkinson (12327)

(Sadly Delwen passed away in June 2023 and did not see her two articles in print – Two Carmarthenshire Stonemasons on page 16 of Vol 14.9 August 2023 and the above, printed in her memory)

Members Interests

(This list contains the details of new members interests added since the August journal was printed)

Member	Surname	Forenames	Occupation	Place	County	Country	Event	From	To
3445	Evans	Mary		Llandeilo Fawr (Ffairfach)	Carms		Death	1852	1862
52424	Rees	Thomas	Farmer	Penllwynuchel Farm, near Llanpumpsaint	Carms	Wales	His baptism & brother Caleb	1730	1760
52424	Rees	David	Farmer	Penllwynuchel Farm, near Llanpumpsaint	Carms	Wales	Marriage Mary Unknown	1790	1805
5098	Rees	George		Nevern/ Newport	Pembr		Married Mary Skeel	1786	
3622	Lan(g)don	Margaret		Llanelli	Carms	Wales	Birth	1836	1840
6131	Rees	William	Farmer Inn Keeper	Cyffig	Carms			1813	1900
25724	Jones	Evan	Farmer/ Victualler	Llangadog	Carms	Monmo	Death	1830	1841
25724	David	Jones		Llansadwrn	Carms			1798	
43176	Francis	Thomas	Ships Carpenter	Cardigan area	Pembr	Wales	1848 Wedding	1825	1875
5994	Evans	Thomas	Farmer	Verwick	Cgn	Wales	Birth	1860	1860
36418	Harry	John	Mariner	Laugharne	Carms	Wales		1760	1839
36418	Hugh	Elizabeth		Amroth	Pembr	Wales		1760	1854
36418	Harry	Frances		Laugharne	Carms	Wales		1795	1861

5699	Evans	Thomas	Shoe Maker/ Collier	Llandybïe	Carma	Wales	Census	1854	1923
71127	Johns/John	Gelly	Blacksmith	Pembroke	Pembr	Wales	All	1725	1825
18739	Devonalds			Llanwnda and Nevern	Pembs				
37666	Murphy	Joseph	Collier	Landshipping/ Marrelwy	Pembr	Wales	Birth	c 1745	
89157	Gronow	Joel			Pembr	Wales		1730	1800
89157	Prosser	Benjamin	Farmer	Nevern	Pembr	Wales		1805	1886
89157	Gronow	James	Mariner	Dinas	Pemb	Wales		1791	1885
81899	George	Helen			Moray	Unite			
41938	Gwynne			Llantood	Pembr	Wales		1600	1870
41938	Davies	David		Talley	Carms			1815	1825
74395	Davies	Evan	Farmer	Llangoedmor later Blaenporth	Cardi	Wales		1823	1901
74395	Davies	Rachel	Wife to Evan above	Llangoedmor	Cardi	Wales	Lived at Felin Dyffryn	1819	1861
74395	John	Davies	Carpenter	Llangoedmor	Cardi	Wales	Lived at Felin Dyffryn	1775	1853
74395	Davies	Benjamin	Iron Miner			Wales	Left Cardiganshire	1871	1881
74395	Thomas	Evans	Farmer	Llanwenog/ Llanfihangel Ystrad	Cardi	Wales	Son Evan who died c1830	1780	1845
12587	Evans	David	Bookbinder	Carmarthen	Carma	Wales		1795	1849
12587	Phillips	Charles	Gardener	Haverfordwest	Pembr	Wales		1820	1900

12587	Davies	John	Mason	Kidwelly	Carms	Wales	c1786	
12587	Bona	John	Carpenter	Carmarthen	Carms	Wales	1772	1827
12587	Davies	Owen	Miner	Llanarth	Cardi	Wales	1794	1866
12587	Evans	David	Bookbinder	Carmarthen	Carms	Wales	1795	1849
12587	Phillips	Charles	Gardener	Haverfordwest	Pembr	Wales	1820	1900
12587	Davies	John	Mason	Kidwelly	Carms	Wales	c1786	
12587	Bona	John	Carpenter	Carmarthen	Carms	Wales	1772	1827
12587	Davies	Owen	Miner	Llanarth	Cardi	Wales	1794	1866
54528	Bartlett	James	Farmer	Wiston	Pembr	Wales	1818	1886
54528	Bartlett	William	Farmer	Wiston	Pembr	Wales	1780	1853
54528	Bartlett	Michael	Farmer	Wiston	Pembr	Wales	1730	1813
56427	Reynolds	David Wm	Weaver	Narberth	Pembr	Wales	1806	1875

COPYRIGHT — PLEASE NOTE

When submitting material for publication in the journal that the copyright of all images and source material used in articles must be attributed, preferably in the caption, foot or end notes.

Where, after considerable research, it has not been possible to identify the original owner of the copyright prior to publication, attribution if later available, should be provided in a subsequent issue.



Around the Branches



Some branches are beginning to meet again,
and some continuing on Zoom.
Please check with your local branches, DFHS
Facebook page or DFHS website for updates.

LONDON

September meeting

On 16 September Thomas Lloyd OBE, Wales Herald Extraordinary, spoke to the London Branch about his role and its history. There was a Welsh Herald in the fourteenth century, but this seems to have been short lived. The post was re-established in 1963, in anticipation of the investiture of the Prince of Wales, with Francis Jones the first appointee. The second herald, Michael Powell Siddons, published an authoritative guide to Welsh Heraldry. Tom Lloyd was appointed as the third office holder in 2010.

The Wales Herald is a member of the Royal Household, though not a member of the College of Arms (hence extra-ordinary) and takes part with other heralds on ceremonial occasions. In modern times the main ceremonial role of a herald is to accompany the monarch in procession at state occasions, such as the state opening of Parliament and the Order of the Garter procession at Windsor. The Wales Herald also accompanies the monarch at the 5-yearly official opening of the Senedd. On these occasions heralds wear their richly coloured and embroidered heraldic tabards. The period from the late Queen's death to the king's coronation has been an unusually intense period of planning and performance of his duties.

In England, the College of Arms was founded by Richard III to record pedigrees. Today they also grant coats of arms and carry out genealogical research, with the Welsh Herald assisting with research into Welsh pedigrees when required.

In medieval Wales the memorialisation of a lord's ancestors was a bardic duty. The basis of Welsh pedigrees was a grouping of the leading Welsh families into 6 royal titles and 30 noble tribes, each with its coat of arms. Each member of the gentry could trace his ancestry back to one of these tribes, and these ancestries were proof of title to lands. Painted coats of arms were proudly displayed in the family home for visitors to see. As many families had established their coats of arms before moving from the patronymic system to a fixed surname, people with

different surnames might bear the same arms, a feature of the Welsh heraldic system which would not arise in England.

Welsh gentry families did not always rely on registering their pedigrees at the College of Arms, regarding their own system as predating it. The stereotypical eighteenth-century cartoon image of a Welshman had him carrying around a lengthy pedigree roll in order to prove his genteel ancestry. Source material for Welsh pedigrees has not been subject to much academic study until recently, when research by Ben Guy of Cambridge University has suggested that in general medieval genealogies were more accurate than had hitherto been supposed (*Medieval Welsh Genealogy: An Introduction and Textual Study*, Ben Guy, Woodbridge, Boydell & Brewer, 2020).

Some might regard the Welsh Herald as an archaic institution, but Tom Lloyd's enthusiasm for the importance of its contribution to a sense of history and ceremony at great occasions of state was evident, and much appreciated by his audience.

Anna Brueton (1806)

HAVERFORDWEST

WITH NO meetings in July and August, we were pleased to finally be back in the meeting room in the Archives Building again for our September meeting when Dave Harries gave us another of his “Now and Then” looks at Haverfordwest through photographs. These always prove to be popular with members and non-members alike as they bring back many memories for those who remember Haverfordwest in its glory days; and for those who did not live here in the past, a glimpse of what we have missed! We are hoping to persuade Dave to continue this series in the future.

In October we had a very good turnout for the usual “Archives Afternoon” at Pembrokeshire Archives, these are always a popular event as we have the archive rooms to ourselves and the undivided attention of the staff, who always give 110% effort in helping members and non-members alike. It is a good time to find out what the Archives holds and to get help and advice from other members as well as the staff – these events are held every 3 months or so (check with the journal, website and Facebook page for details).

Cate Hobbs (2872)

CARDIGAN

DURING THE summer months our branch did not hold any meetings. However, we kept ourselves busy visiting graveyards and recording their Memorial Inscriptions. We completed Antioch Independent Chapel at Crymych also Seion Baptist chapel of the same place. Blaenffos Baptist Chapel was also completed in this period. Newcastle Emlyn Church is near completion, building work on the church preventing access to a small area which prevents us from finalising that survey. Some records held at Cardigan were missing from the DFHS database and Penybryn Baptist Chapel has now been added.

Some other records which were in poor condition have been redone, some of them may also be searchable once the program becomes generally available.

We restarted our monthly meetings in early September with a research evening. We had a few new faces who had problems with their family research, and they went away happy. They were given membership forms, and we are hopeful of some new members soon.

The programme of events for the next year has not been finalised to date but will be published shortly.

We continue to support the Cardigan Castle operations by manning the research room and History Hub, providing assistance to visitors to the castle and assisting those interested in family research. One of our members is also a Cardigan Castle guide. We also support the castle's resident historian by scanning, filing and recording material that is of local interest.

Phil Davies (5741)

LLANELLI

THE BRANCH has not held any meetings recently due to the fire at Llanelli House.

The meeting scheduled in October had to be cancelled as it was at the same time as Madge Witty's funeral, and it was decided that regular members wanted to attend.

Chris Davies (79)

ONLINE DISCUSSION GROUP

IN OUR JULY meeting David Cufley took us through the advantages of setting aside research software and reverting to drawing family charts by hand. This generated a lot of interest from our members.

In August Helen Palmer provided us with an entertaining snapshot of what is available in the Ceredigion (Cardiganshire) archives based in Aberystwyth. She encouraged researchers to get in touch and make personal visits if possible as there is a limited number of records online. They are happy to help with your research via email too. Marguerite Fletcher followed up with Part II of her Discovering DNA talk in September. We went on her journey researching a family member using DNA to break down a long-standing brick wall. In October Claire Orr and Mary Robinson took us through what is available at the Pembrokeshire Archives. Such a wealth of records there.

A Brick Wall submission form has been emailed out to OGD members so that our group can help with research problems. The November meeting will be dedicated to Carmarthenshire but we hope to include a couple from all three counties at the end of every meeting for input the following month. Thank you to those who have responded. Remember you can also use the DFHS Members Interests section on the website for help too.

We are changing the date for the December meeting to avoid conflict with the holidays. Therefore we will meet on Monday 11th December at 7pm to chat about your traditions and stories of Christmas and New Year celebrations. Timings will be back to normal for January when Beryl Evans from the National Library of Wales will talk about the numerous resources available in their collections.

I would like us to be self-sustaining, so I am looking for contributors from within the group to give short presentations (10–15mins) on a topic of their choice e.g. an interesting family member or history of a local house/farm/Chapel? We will be very supportive if this is your first time giving an online presentation. Please email online@dyfedfhs.org.uk. If you would like to be added to the email list, please register by ticking the box for the Online Discussion Group on your membership profile on the DFHS website. Looking forward to you joining us online.

Rosaleen Boardman (6495)

UPPER TOWY VALLEY

OUR LAST speaker before the summer break was Mr Jeremy John, who spoke on Exploring Dolaucothi and Caio. Mr John told us of Sir John Johnes who owned the big house in the area where all the farms and cottages were painted in the estate colour of dark maroon. The original Dolaucothi Mansion was built in 1670 by John Nash. Dolaucothi eventually fell into disrepair and was used to store ammunition during World War Two. It was given to the National Trust who were unable to repair it and all that is left of the mansion now is the Home Farm and the ‘ha-ha’

Judge John Johnes lived from 1800 to 1826. His father, also John Johnes, bought the estate from the Johnes family of Hafod in 1800. The young John Johnes went to school in Lampeter and then to Oxford University. He spoke fluent Welsh. In 1822 he married Elizabeth, the heiress of the Gilestone family of Glamorganshire – of their four children daughters Charlotte and Elizabeth survived. Charlotte married Captain Cookman of Enniscorthy and remained at Dolaucothi after being widowed in her thirties. Elizabeth married Sir James Hills, who added Johnes to his name on his marriage.

Henry Tremble was groom to Charlotte’s late husband. He became gamekeeper and then butler to the Judge. Tremble was married to Martha, and they lived in Myrtle Cottage, Caio with their six children. He was said to have a drink problem and was of a surly nature. His ambition was to have the tenancy of the Dolaucothi Hotel when the incumbent passed on and the Judge had vaguely promised this but the relationship between Judge Johnes and Tremble deteriorated and he was given notice, terminating on August 19th, 1876. The licence for the hotel was given to John Davies of Caio Inn. On hearing this news, Henry Tremble began drinking. On 15th August he wrote his will and a letter authorising Charles Chidlow, the Vicar, to take up the money he had in the bank at Carmarthen to give to his daughters.

On 19th August 1876, the cook was bottling raspberry wine and the maids were cleaning the house ready for a guest, Lady Gardener Wilkinson of Gower and Llandovery, for whom Dolaucothi was a favourite sanctuary – an ordinary Saturday morning. The Judge woke early, reading The Times in the library, enjoying his breakfast. Elizabeth was away and Charlotte was doing the rounds to see all was in place for their visitor. She had words with Tremble after seeing him pocket a silver tray. At 10.00 am Henry Tremble shot the Judge. Lady Wilkinson and her maid Jane Jenkins rushed to the library where they found Judge Johnes in his chair, bleeding, and heard two more shots from the

kitchen where Charlotte was shot, Henry Tremble saying, “Take that for your persecution of me!” Lady Wilkinson took charge. The maid was dispatched to fetch the doctor from Llansawel and Charlotte was laid on a mattress and taken upstairs. Judge Johnes died two hours later.

Tremble made his way to Caio, apparently to murder John Davies the new licensee, but he couldn't be found. Tremble locked himself in Myrtle Cottage, pointing his gun out of the window, threatening Constables Morgan and Davies. A shot was heard and PC Morgan found Henry Tremble – “he died in my presence fifteen minutes later.”

It was the custom for suicide victims to be buried at night with no religious ceremony. Rev. Chidlow blessed the widow and children, and the body was taken to the churchyard. Two months later the body was dug up and taken to Llandulais near Brecon. The villagers objected, dug up the body and placed it on a cart with a notice to Caio to bury their own murderer. Tremble is now buried in an unmarked grave in Caio Churchyard.

Mr John also told us of the murder of Dr Glyn Jones at Blaenrhysglog, and the story of the Doctors Harries, father and son, of Pantcoy, Caio. Our grateful thanks to Mr. John for his extremely entertaining and informative talk.

In the summer we carried on with our transcriptions of the local memorial inscriptions at Llandinat Church which have now been completed and in September we set up a new window display in preparation for the Annual Sheep Festival. We had a busy weekend despite the weather and were very pleased to be awarded second prize for our window display.

Our speaker in September was Mr Terry Norman, who gave us a wonderfully illustrated talk about the Miners' Institutions and cinemas of the Amman Valley and the surrounding area. The Mining Industry Act of 1920 ensured social well-being for the mineworkers with grants for educational, recreational or entertainment purposes.

Terry told us of the six Miners' Halls of the area – Cwmllynfech, now dismantled, Brynamman, which still exists as a cinema, Gwaun-Cae-Gurwen which was the largest, Garnant in Cwmamman which is now derelict, Ammanford which is still in use with a theatre for 400 people, and Llandybie Memorial Hall, also still in use, all built between 1925 and 1934. There were also two commercial cinemas, the Palace in Ammanford built in 1914 with 840 seats and Sioe Sam in Glanamman, built in 1931 with 490 seats. A cinema was also built in Cross Hands, still run by volunteers.

Cwmllynfell was famous for operatic activities and continued into the 1980s. In Brynaman all the villagers were involved in the decisions for building the new hall with its large art deco facade. It was built on a slope with the entrance at the gallery. A lottery grant in 2013 provided a digital projector whereby films were downloaded directly. The cinema has a wrap-around balcony, large proscenium arch, changing rooms and orchestra pit and also puts on plays and concerts. Gwaun Cae Gurwen has gardens outside and a tearoom inside. The first hall, a wooden building, burnt down on 1st April 1928. It was bought for £8 and reconstructed over four years. After World War Two with the gradual rise in the sale of televisions and cars fewer people attended the cinema. It was demolished in 1998. Now it is the site of Cwmgorse football and boxing clubs. Garnant hall was built on a slope on land donated by Gelliceidrim Colliery.

In Ammanford the cinema was built first and opened in 1932, the Institute in 1936. There was also a library and a snooker hall. Lottery money recently helped with the refurbishment of the theatre and the Grade Two listed building was renovated in 1998. Llandybie Memorial Hall, built as a memorial to those who died in the First World War, was the first to be opened in 1925. It was the venue for the National Eisteddfod in 1944. The cinema was installed in 1946 and remained until 1960. There was also a bowling green and tennis courts – Llandybie still has a tennis club. Dinefwr Borough Council eventually took over. Commercial cinemas included Sioe Sam in Glanamman which was a tin shed converted from a roller-skating rink. It first showed talkies in 1931.

The Ivorites Hall in Hall Street was used for concerts, theatricals and public meetings, seating about 1,600, later being used as a cinema. It was open from the 1900s to the 1960s. There was also Poole's Pictorium in Margaret Street and the Palace at the top of the Arcade, with films for children every Saturday morning. It closed in the 1970s with only two in the audience on the last night. Our grateful thanks to Terry for such an interesting and nostalgic talk.

In October we went on our annual holiday to the beautiful Isle of Wight, staying in Ryde and also visiting places such as Shanklin, Godshill, The Needles and the fascinating Osbourne House, as well as having rides on a cable car and a steam train. Our grateful thanks to Nan for organising such an enjoyable holiday. The Museum and Family History Research Room is open until the first week of November when we meet to arrange our Remembrance window display.

Moira C. L. Evans (39)

Editor – the full version of this report can be found on the Upper Towy Valley Spotlight page on the DFHS website.

New Members

This list contains the details of new members who joined since the April journal was printed.

Member Number	Member Name	Address	Email Address
57273	Mr Steven Partridge	Winchester Hampshire UK	compo010170@gmail.com
92517	Mrs Christine Hancock	Crundale Haverfordwest Pembrokeshire UK	
51775	Mrs Gill Long	South Wonston Hants UK	Gilly.long@bropenworld.com
64429	Sue Lindsay	Abergwaun Dyfed UK	sue.lindsay55@gmail.com
11666	Mrs Donna Jones	Heol Cwmawr Drefach Llanelli Carmarthenshire Wales	donna_jones10@hotmail.com
25724	Miss Louise Gee	Manukau Heads Auckland New Zealand	
91411	David Stuart Masterton	Cherry Hill NJ USA	bhmaine@aol.com
23999	Ms M Davies	Cynghordy Llandovery Carmar	
74395	Mrs Melanie Johnson	Duporth St Austell Cornwall UK	
52424	Mr Gareth Kerry Rees	Bush Hill Park Enfield Middlesex UK	
41938	Mrs Sara Griffiths	London UK	Griffithswhite@icloud.com
56268	Mr Jeremy James	Stoke Gifford Gloucestershire UK	jezjames0@gmail.com
33546	Mrs Carol Kennedy	Bedworth Warwickshire UK	carolkennedy@aol.com
75911	Ms Clare David	Carmarthenshire Wales	Ezrolizabeth66@gmail.com
15412	Mr Dewi Owen Jones	Bontnewydd Gwynedd UK	dewicorn@outlook.com
89157	Mrs Marylyn Prosser Pauley	Ketchum Idaho USA	Mpauley4@gmail.com
54691	Mrs Carolyn Thomas	Mumbles Swansea Wales	cmrscuba@gmail.com
66522	Elwyn Baynham	Llandovery Carmarthenshire Wales	maureen.baynham@brinternet.com
63457	Mr Clive Taylor	Crockenhill Kent UK	clivewtaylor@talktalk.net

33574	Thomas Latter	Sir Benfro UK	tom.latter@btopenworld.com
28423	Mr Neville Thomas	Pontyberem Carmarthenshire	
43473	Mr Graham Tudor Emmanuel	Kidwelly Carmarthenshire Wales	tudor59@gmail.com
83833	Mr Kenneth Owen Pritchard	Wistaston Crewe Cheshire United Kingdom	Pritchard.socius@btinternet.com
21413	Norma & Idris Rees	Cardigan Ceredigion	nr15@tubiste-plus.com
84354	Mr & Mrs Jonathan Mackeen	Hubberston Pembrokehire UK	mackeen.jon@gmail.com
46433	Mr Steven Richards	Tregynnrw Carmarthen Carmarthenshire Wales	stevenwjrichards@protonmail.com
15232	Mr Marc Thomas	Ceredigion United Kingdom	marc.t@live.co.uk
18739	Dr Lynn Watkins	Hook Pembrokehire Wales	dr.lynnwatkins@btinternet.com
46174	Mr Antony Grace	Hythe Hampshire UK	xyz.grace@btopenworld.com
56427	Mr Charles Ivins	Ridgeway Ontario Canada	chuck.ivins@gmail.com
68198	Miss Rebecca Shirley	The Orchards Worcestershire UK	
63266	Mrs Amanda Thomas	Llanelli Carmarthenshire Wales	iy1ajac2016@gmail.com
73797	Mr Malcolm Sadler	Minyrafon Carmarthenshire UK	malcolmsadler231@btinternet.com
61799	Mr Gareth Smith	Highworth England UK	
81899	Miss Helen Elizabeth George	The Park Findhorn Moray UK	helenlizgeorge06@gmail.com
21578	Mr Mark Russell Evans	Drews Pond Lane Wiltshire UK	mark.evans@zen.co.uk
62894	Mrs Sian Reading	Streety West Midlands UK	sian.reading@btinternet.com
54388	Mr Dan Gurnos Jones	Llandoverly Wales	jonesdaniel10@sky.com
37666	Ms Sian Thomas	Bristol S. Gloucestershire UK	sian.thomas4@btinternet.com
47542	Mrs Non Davies	Llanelli Carmarthenshire Wales	
36418	Jane Waltho	Lichfield Staffordshire UK	jane@forgefolk.com
34282	Mrs Kathryn Gatt	Bedminster Bristol Avon United Kingdom	kathryngatt@gmail.com
87724	Mrs Joan Wilson	Basingstoke Hampshire UK	joanmwilson@sky.com

86418	Mr Andrew Dennis Linnard	Abertridwr Mid Glamorgan UK	andrewlinnard@outlook.com
18556	Mr David Nicoll	Llandoverly Wales	david_nicoll@hotmail.com
94946	Thomas Daley	Dairy Close London UK	tom.daley@gmail.com
87391	Mr Richard James	St Pauls Bay Malta	sianeleri@aol.com
47346	Mrs Sian Eleri Jones	Penarth Vale of Glamorgan Wales	susanbrockhurst769@gmail.com
18612	Ms Susan Brockhurst	Haverfordwest Pembrokeshire UK	

Obituaries

<i>Membership No.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Joined</i>
766	Mrs Thomas G Owen	1987
1161	Mr Gordon B Griffiths	1990
5926	Mr Glen T Davies	2016
1804	Mrs Marjorie Witty *	1994
1813	Mrs Eirlys M Faulkner	1994
2568	Mr Peter M Ashford	1999
2885	Miss Cathryn Davies	2000

MARJORIE WHITTY 1940–2023

Madge had been a member of the DFHS since the late 1980s. She was the treasurer of the Llanelli Branch for nearly 20 years. She was widowed quite young and was left to bring up her three children alone. She was always ready to help new members and enjoyed doing all sorts of research. If the Branch was let down by a speaker Madge was always ready to step into the breach and talk about a variety of subjects. One I remember was “The history of Vinegar”. Madge left school at sixteen to become a hairdresser, but later in life she passed “O” levels, “A” levels and even a degree in Humanities. Marjorie will leave a vast gap in the Llanelli branch.

Chris Davies (79)

Branch Meetings

Branches organise regular meetings to which all members and the public are invited. Meetings usually take place at the times and venues below, but check with the named contact.

Cardigan Aberteifi

The first Monday in each month at 7.30pm
Tower Room, Cardigan Castle.

Contact Mr Ken James - Tel: 01239 710829. Email: cardigansecretary@dyfedfhs.org.uk

Carmarthen CAERFYRDDIN

The last Wednesday in each month at 7.30pm
Spilman Hotel, Spilman Street, Carmarthen.

Contact Mr. Eric Davies - Tel. 01554 891241. Email: carmarthen@dyfedfhs.org.uk

Haverfordwest Hwlfordd

The second Wednesday in each month 6.00pm until 8.00pm
Pembrokeshire Archives, Back Lane, Prendergast, Haverfordwest SA61 2PE
Contact Ms Cate Hobbs - Tel. 07777 695865.

Email: haverfordwest@dyfedfhs.org.uk

Llanelli

The third Monday in each month from 2pm
Plas Llanelly House, Bridge Street, Llanelli, Carmarthenshire/Sir Gâr SA15 3UF
Contact Mrs. Linda Martin - Tel. 01267 267039. Email: llanelli@dyfedfhs.org.uk

London Llundain

On four Saturdays each year at 2 pm
The Kwanglim Room, Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, London EC1Y 4AU.
Contact Mrs. Anna Brueton - Tel. 0207 9230302. Email: london@dyfedfhs.org.uk

Upper Towy Valley Cwm Tywi Uchaf

The fourth Wednesday in each month at 7.15pm
Our Lady Catholic Church Hall, College View, Llandovery
Contact Miss Moira Evans - Tel. 01269 592278.

Email: uppertowyvalley@dyfedfhs.org.uk

Contacts

www.dyfedfhs.org.uk

You can change your personal details, renew your subscription and make a Gift Aid declaration by logging into the website.

Matters relating to the Management Committee and the AGM

General Secretary: Mr. Colin Potter.
25 Milton Meadows, Milton, Tenby, Pembrokeshire, SA70 8PL
secretary@dyfedfhs.org.uk

Matters relating to membership

Membership Secretary: David J. Skyrme.
Cherry Gate, Tubbs Lane, Highclere, Newbury RG20 9PR
membership@dyfedfhs.org.uk
Contact the Membership Secretary for contact detail of other members.

Matters relating to the journal (articles, photographs, letters, help needed, advertising)

Editor: Ms Cate Hobbs.
25 Milton Meadows, Milton, Tenby, Pembs, SA70 8PL
editor@dyfedfhs.org.uk

Matters relating to the website

Webmaster: Gareth Morgan.
webmaster@dyfedfhs.org.uk

Matters relating to Memorial Inscriptions

MI@dyfedfhs.org.uk

Matters relating to the Online Discussion Group

online@dyfedfhs.org.uk