



GELLIGAER TIMES

NEWSLETTER OF GELLIGAER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Issue No. 52 February 2021

MESSAGE TO READERS OF GELLIGAER TIMES FROM GHS CHAIR

This newsletter including

- **News items**
- **Supplement with items relating to local history and heritage**

has been prepared by GHS committee. I hope it has something to interest you, and, perhaps, some of you will respond with comments and/or questions to www.gelligaerhistoricalsociety.co.uk. And, the news on editing the newsletter is that GHS member and former newsletter editor, David Mills, will be editing the next issue.

VACCINATIONS

By the time you read this, some of you may have had your COVID-19 vaccination(s) and be looking forward to something approaching a return to the life we used to know.

There is much online about the history of vaccination, including [Timeline | History of Vaccines](#) and [Welsh Newspapers Online - Home \(library.wales\)](#). Through a quick search of the latter, GHS member David Mills found the following in reports on meetings of Merthyr Board of Guardians in *Merthyr Telegraph* 1869:

6 March (page 2) *Mr. E. Davies, relieving officer for the Gelligaer district presented a list of eighteen persons living in the hamlet of Britbdir who had not had their children vaccinated, as required by the Act. Mr. Davies was ordered to summon the offenders and prosecute.*

17 July (page 3) Under the heading *VACCINATION FEES: The Clerk stated that Mr. Colthurst had written, asking that he might be allowed the double fee of 3s. for vaccination cases at Vochrin, as that was the statutory distance from his residence, to give him a claim in that respect. A letter to a similar effect was sent to the Chairman. This letter stated that some members appeared to think that he lived out of the district, which he did not, but in the Britbdir district in the parish of Gelligaer.*

The Chairman said, having regard to the desirability of concentrating vaccination districts, he thought it was not advisable to encourage the continuance of the practice of vaccinating at Vochrin.

The Clerk said it would not be much for the people to walk to Pontlottyn, where Mr. Colthurst had a surgery.

Mr. Rhys said if Mr. Colthurst were allowed 3s. for cases at Vochrin, Mr. Webster would be able to claim 3s. for cases at Hirwaun.

No order was made, and the matter dropped.

[NB Dr. James Bunter Colthurst was listed as occupying a house in Tirphil in the 1871 electoral register, but it is likely that he left the area soon after.]

NEWS

At the time of writing, the most recent information on Llancaiach Fawr's website is:

COVID 19 UPDATE 21/12/2020

Due to the latest government announcement the Manor House, Gift Shop and Visitor Centre will remain **closed** until further notice.

Stay home, Stay Safe

You may like to keep up-to-date with the position in Llancaiach Fawr and with Welsh Government COVID 19 Regulations by checking their websites:

<https://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/llancaiachfawr/content/welcome-llancaiach-fawr>

<https://gov.wales/coronavirus>

ZOOM TALKS – thank you to those people who responded to the request in *Gelligaer Times* 48, for opinion about GHS delivering talks via Zoom in place of the usual LFM meetings. Details of any such talks arranged will be circulated together with an invitation to join. In the meantime, a quick internet search can lead to numerous other Zoom talks that might be of interest. This, from Cambrian Archaeological Association in association with Cardiff University, is just one example:




Cambrian Archaeological Association
 in association with Cardiff University
 

DARGANFOD – DISCOVERY:
 a celebration of new archaeological research in Wales

Conference, Saturday 10th April 2021
 To be held online (Zoom)

GHS MEMBERSHIP

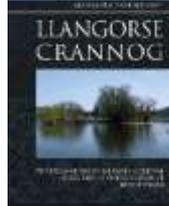
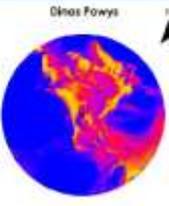
Although GHS has not met since February 2020, the Society’s officers and committee are very grateful to those members who have paid 2021-22 membership (by BACs or cheque). During the past twelve months, GHS has had some online book sales but has not been able to sell its publications in meetings and through local outlets. Thus, the generous donations received from some members and friends of the Society are especially appreciated, as they will help ensure publication of the Diamond Jubilee volume.

Speakers include:

- Dr Oliver Davis and Prof Niall Sharples: Excavations at Caerau Hillfort, Cardiff, 2012-19: from the Neolithic to the Normans
- Dr Toby Driver and Dr Jeffrey L. Davies: The Romano-British villa at Abermagwr, Ceredigion: rarity and innovation at the most remote Roman villa in Wales
- Dr Alan Lane: The Llangorse Crannog: a short-lived Welsh royal site of the Viking Age
- Prof Gary Lock: Moel y Gaer, Bodfari, a small hillfort in the Clwydians, Denbighshire
- Prof Mike Parker Pearson: The origins of Stonehenge: the bluestones and Preseli
- Dr Andy Seaman: Hillforts and power in post-Roman Wales: a GIS-enabled analysis of Dinas Powys

New researchers will also talk about their work on Wales and the Marches; for a list of all talks, summaries and timetable see the conference webpage at <https://cambrians.org.uk/darganfod-discovery-conference-saturday-10th-april-2021/>

The event is free and all are welcome. Advance registration on Eventbrite is required, using the link given [here](#) which is also shown on the conference webpage. Please register by Thursday 8th April. Any enquiries should be sent to Dr Rhianon Comeau at cambrians1846@gmail.com.


If you wish to make a **payment to GHS**, you can

- o Post cheque to the Treasurer (who will send the address to those who ask)
- o BACs payment (Treasurer will supply GHS bank details to those who ask)
- o Set up a direct debit/standing order (Treasurer will supply details to those who ask)
- o Contact chairman@gelligaerhistoricalsociety.co.uk or www.gelligaerhistoricalsociety.co.uk

GHS DIAMOND JUBILEE PROJECT

The majority of submissions for inclusion in the Society’s publication about nineteenth century Gelligaer parish have been received and, currently, editing is taking place.

Hopefully, circumstances will be such that the planned programme of talks for Diamond Jubilee year (September 2021 to June 2022) will proceed, and that the publication can be launched at the first of those meetings.

This photograph (reproduced under licence from GGAT) was taken during GHS’s successful *Roman afternoon* in Gelligaer marking the end of the Society’s Golden Jubilee year. The event was reported in *Gelligaer Times* issue 24, July 2012.

Will GHS be able to close its Diamond Jubilee year in similar grand style?



GHS continues to receive a variety of **QUERIES RELATING TO THE HISTORY AND HERITAGE OF GELLIGAER PARISH AND NEIGHBOURING AREAS.**

Recent enquiries include one from a gentleman who is updating his book on Austin Pedal Cars (all made at the dedicated factory at Glanynant, Pengam), and seeking help on:

- Background history and photographs of main mine in the area
- Why this area was selected as the Grenfell Factory site
- Access to GUDC Council minute books for reference to the factory
- Contacting Paul Matthews, son of local electrical contractor who pedalled the Scissors to the Mayor for the opening of the factory
- Any period photographs of the Factory or of Pedal cars which were bought for children of factory workers
- Any other relevant information

This is not the first time for GHS to receive an enquiry about this factory, and *Gelligaer Times* readers may wish to look back at issues 37 (page 6) and 38 (page 13) for previous items about this factory. If any readers can add more information, please contact www.gelligaerhistoricalsociety.co.uk

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES

You may be aware of recent concern, including a petition to the Welsh Government, about funding and the future of this great national institution.

An update -- Welsh Government has announced £6.2 million for *Funding for our national cultural institutions*, and the statement is here: <https://gov.wales/written-statement-funding-our-national-cultural-institutions>. This confirmed additional money for the National Library and Museum which more specifically will help the National Library to address funding concerns and to progress the recommendations of the tailored review. The work on the tailored review can be found here: <https://gov.wales/tailored-review-national-library-wales>; and the report outlines the need for a continuing journey of reform at the National Library.

For anyone interested, this is link to biography of the first librarian of National Library of Wales [Ballinger, John, 1860-1933. - National Library of Wales Archives and Manuscripts](#)

And this is that of his assistant and successor, William Llewelyn Davies

[DAVIES, Sir WILLIAM \(LLEWELYN\) \(1887 - 1952\), librarian | Dictionary of Welsh Biography](#)

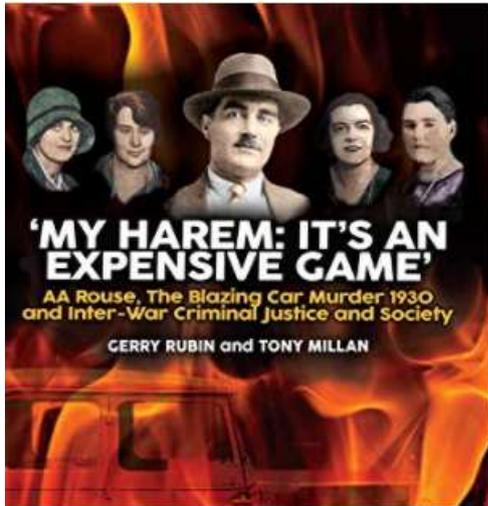
CENSUS 2021

CENSUS 2021

GHS researchers are not alone in making extensive use of the data collected in UK censuses 1841-1911, as well as that of similar population counts in other countries. Many local and family historians may be looking forward to what the 1921 census returns will reveal when, after 100 years, they become available. In the meantime, there is the 2021 census to consider (and, how many *Gelligaer Times* readers cannot believe ten years have passed since the last census?). The way in which information is collected has changed much since 1841, and you can read a useful A4 bilingual (Welsh and English) community handbook of information about the 2021 census here [Census2021 A4 Welsh CommunityHandbook \(bilingual\) CHDE2B-A](#)

GGAT www.ggat.org.uk

Dr. Edith Evans has updated GHS about how GGAT has changed its outreach project from face-to-face engagement to online. While GGAT hopes to run a series of virtual workshops showing people how to use online resources to research landscapes and other things, in the 2021-22 financial year, the following are currently running:



Since the issue of *Gelligaer Times* 51 with the review of a recent article by David Mills, GHS has received news that David's name appears in ***MY HAREM: IT'S AN EXPENSIVE GAME*** by Gerry Rubin and Tony Millan (Mango Books 2019, and currently on sale on Amazon).

Hopefully, a future issue of *Gelligaer Times* will carry a review of the book, which is about the subject of David's article in *Gelligaer* vol. 14 (2004), and includes the placename Gelligaer ten times within its pages.

And, it is worthy of note, and testimony to GHS webmaster, that, during his research, Gerry Rubin used GHS website and contacted the Society – yet another indication of how worthwhile GHS website is.

The most recent issue of the **journal of Glamorgan Family History Society** carries an item with a Gelligaer interest -- **EVAN DAVIES**, who was born in Fochriw and married Nancy C. Everson. of Ystrad Mynach. He tried unsuccessfully to be nominated as the Labour candidate at the 1939 Caerphilly by-election; and in 1943 he was one of the candidates in the University of Wales by election.

But please beware when reading the article as it gives **incorrect details** about his school in Bargoed. For details of the school that started as Bargoed Higher Elementary, see *Bargoed and Gilfach a local history* pp. 228-236

GHS will be very pleased to hear from anyone who can shed light on Evan Davies's work in W.E.A. and Labour party in the Ystrad Mynach and Hengoed area in the 1930s

Not a book, but some *Gelligaer Times* readers may be interested in ***WELSH POLITICAL ICONS*** a series of online talks.

During summer 2020, Hefin David, Member of the Senedd for Caerphilly, wrote and delivered a short talk about Ron Davies, his predecessor as Senedd Member for Caerphilly (then Assembly Member). You can listen to it here <https://audioboom.com/posts/7648911-welsh-political-icons-ron-davies> The same link will take you to the other talks in the series.

THE PROBLEM OF PENDAR: A LOST ABBEY IN MEDIEVAL SENGHENYDD AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE CHURCH IN SOUTH WALES

This is the title of a very interesting MPhil thesis (submitted to the then University of Wales Lampeter in 2015). The thesis opens with

This thesis began life as an investigation of monastic patronage on the Southern Welsh March between the coming of the Normans and around 1300. Investigation of this broad area of research identified a more focused area as the phenomenon of Pendar. Pendar is known to have had association with the Cistercian Order but its precise status within the order has never been fully understood. Indeed, its very location has never been identified. This thesis therefore offers an investigation of what can be known of Pendar and its significance both within the history of the Cistercian movement in Wales and within the geographical area of Senghenydd.

And, further, it continues

[pages 220-1] the thesis has been able to argue for the first time that the house of Pendar was probably not a Cistercian house at its conception but a vehicle designed to reinvigorate an ecclesiastical structure built on the cult of local saints to the lordship of Senghenydd. The resultant development of Pendar from what may have been a collection of hermitage-like church sites embedded in the pre-Norman 'clas' hierarchy of churches, this time centred on Capel Gwladys, displays a native lordship's reaction to – and to some extent against – the new immigrant monastic culture. This interpretation, for the first time, conjectures that the motivation for the foundation of

Pendar marks a resistance to radical change, marked by the preservation, by the native lordship in Senghennydd, of the concepts of the native ecclesiastical heritage.

[page 222] *The hypothesis presented in this thesis is that Pendar was founded possibly by Ifor Bach and/or his son Gruffudd as a collection of hermitages centred on Capel Gwladys. This 'Brotherhood of Pendar' was not Cistercian but evolved into a major constituent of the foundation of the Cistercian house of Caerleon/Llantarnam under the influence and arbitration of the individual Meilyr and probable political instigation of the Lords Rhys.* Clearly, a thesis of great relevance to Gelligaer, and, while its location has not been pinpointed, we must ask, was it on Gelligaer and Merthyr Common?

Those who access the full text of this comprehensive study of Pendar on [Paul Anthony Watkins MPhil FINAL Thesis \(1\).pdf \(uwtsd.ac.uk\)](#) will be well rewarded with much information (text, maps and photographs) relating to GHS's area of study, including a reference to the work of Gethin Thomas, one of the Society's founding fathers.

NEWSLETTER SUPPLEMENT STARTS ON THE NEXT PAGE

SUPPLEMENT TO NEWSLETTER 52

POSTAL BOXES

Currently, some GHS researchers are uncovering information about nineteenth century postal facilities in the area, including post offices, and pillar, lamp and wall postal boxes. *Gelligaer Times* readers will almost certainly have used local postal boxes, but have they ever looked at the box to find its history? or considered why it was in that particular position?



There were interesting developments in style (including some with built-in stamp vending machine). So next time you are posting a letter, or just taking a walk by a box, perhaps you will look at it more carefully than you have in the past.

As many Gelligaer communities originated in the nineteenth century, there are some VR boxes in the area, especially in the north. Judith

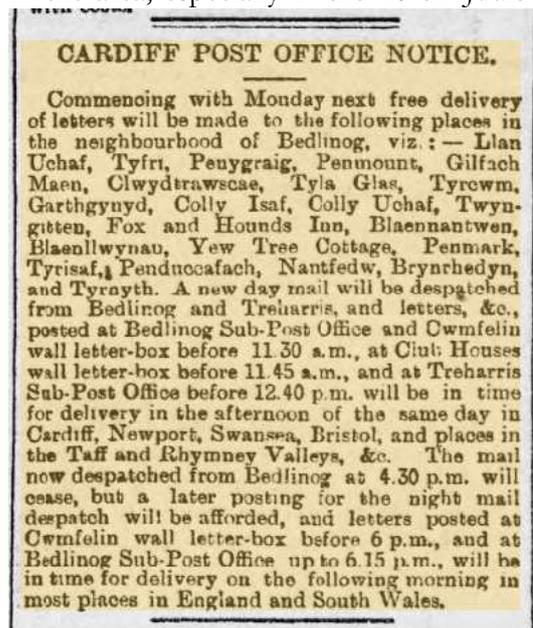
Jones's photograph of this box, in the wall by the now closed Bedlinog post office, shows VR, now blurred under numerous coats of paint.

Sources suggest Bedlinog

had its first post box during 1875. This extract from *South Wales Daily News* 15 November 1895 (page 3) sheds light on the area's postal services in the last decade of the nineteenth century.

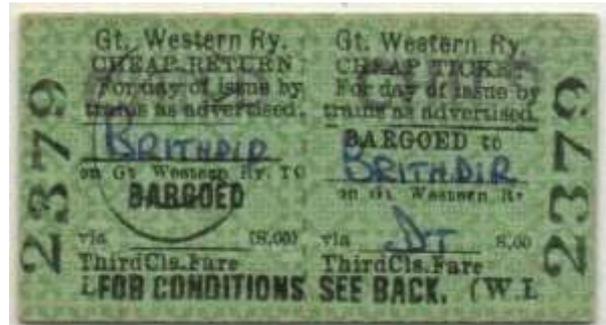
Some boxes originated in the twentieth century --- in the reigns of Edward VII, George V, Edward VIII (and those are rare) George VI, and Elizabeth II. To which reign does your local box belong?

GHS will be pleased to hear what you discover about the location and type of boxes in the area. Photographs for inclusion in a future *Gelligaer Times* very welcome.



A LOCKDOWN SORTOUT

Lockdown has given many people the opportunity to tidy up cupboards and drawers, and to discover long-lost treasures. Sometimes it is difficult to remember why they had not been thrown away long ago, as in the case of these two railway tickets recently discovered by a *Gelligaer Times* reader.



GHS will be pleased to hear of any other *finds* by readers, and any story behind the reason for keeping them.

COMMUTING 1862

David Mills draws attention to this letter from *A Pontlottyn Ratepayer* published in *Merthyr Telegraph* 25 October 1862 (page 3):

Would you please to allow me to express my views, through your valuable paper, upon a point of importance, that is the bad communication between Pontlottyn [sic] and Tirphil, which places are without a road to go from one to the other, though the connections in work and traffic are so great, and where there is necessarily so much walking from one place to the other? It is a shame for the Hamlet of Brithdir that there is no road for the public, and especially for the poor work man, who, after a hard day's labour, is forced to walk through mud and water, wood and bog, ditches, gutters, and thorns, up to his knees, with his very often bad shoes and thin clothes, after a day of hard toil. It is, indeed, heartrending for him when he puts on his clothes to think of his way home, after a day of hard work, that he is forced to walk without a path to guide him, and which he must do as the rent of houses at Tirphil is five or six shillings a month dearer than at Pontlottyn. But one might ask have you not a railway to convey you to Pontlottyn? Yes, sir, we have, but the workmen will say, "I am forced to work often after the train has gone, and I cannot afford twopence a-day out of my little earnings for the railway fare." You liberal ratepayers of Brithdir why do you not call a parish meeting and communicate with W. L. Williams, Esq., Maesrhyddid [sic], D. Lawrence, Esq., of Troeddyfunch [sic], and the Rhymney Company, and have a general meeting, well published (not as the last one), and before your combined influence all opposition would vanish? Do you remember your victories in the parish meeting? Are you lost to your own interests as ratepayers? Are the farmers to get roads as they think proper, and you and the poor workmen who pay the rent of your cottages to walk from Tirphil to Pontlottyn without the pretence of a highway? Permit me to suggest that a preliminary meeting of the ratepayers at Pontlottyn and Tirphil be immediately called, and if anything like unanimity be obtained, then depend on it the Brithdir farmers will not oppose, and the work would soon be carried out.

GELLIGAER'S WIMBLEDON IN 1876

David Mills draws attention to this report in *South Wales Daily News* 17 October 1876, page 6:

On Saturday afternoon the tennis match between Peter Price (Gelligaer) and Charles Lawrence (Caerphilly), for £5 a side, was played out on the Harp Inn tennis court. This match was began Saturday 30th, on the Masons' Arms tennis court, Caerphilly, when Lawrence scored 40 balls, against Price's 29, so that Lawrence had a lead of 11 balls, and the "house." On Saturday, however, Price soon began to show his superiority as a player, on what may be termed "his own court," and after some sharp play the match was decided in his favour, he having made 52 balls, against 29 balls for Lawrence, whose total on both days was 69, against Price's 81, and the "house." A large number of persons witnessed the play. Messrs Jones and Gibbon were the referees. As soon as the above match was over, a scratch match was played between Peter Price and R. Andrews, known better as "Dick Ted" (Nelson), for a 10s stake, the game of 41 balls. Price led off sharp, and got ahead 18 balls, when his opponent commenced in earnest, and "so many all" was cried at 40 balls, when "Dick Ted" went in and got the finishing ball, giving him a total of 41 balls and the "house," against 40 balls for Price. The game was watched with great interest.

REV ROBERT ORTON JONES (1841-1899)

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTER, NELSON AND BEDLINOG

Robert Orton Jones was a native of Merionethshire. Sources studied to date have not shed any light on his family background or his life before, in 1871, he was enumerated as an *Independent Minister*, a visitor in the home of John Price in Deri. In 1873, he married Jane Lewis, daughter of James Lewis and Sarah, of Brynrhe farm. He remained in the ministry in the local area for the rest of his life.

When the 1881 census was taken R. O. Jones headed a household in Nelson Village that included his wife, 7 year old son, three daughters, a live-in female domestic servant, as well as a visitor, his mother-in-law. A decade later, the 1891 census shows him heading a household at Shingrig Road that included his wife, 16-year-old son (James Lewis Jones, a pupil teacher), five daughters attending school, as well as his mother-in-law.

During his time in the local area, Robert Orton Jones not only served his congregations but also played a part in public life in the wider community in Gelligaer civil parish as well as neighbouring areas. He was a member of Gelligaer School Board from 1889 to his death, and served a term as chairman.

It is not clear when the family moved to 2 Station Terrace, Bedlinog, where, on 29 April 1899, he died. He was buried in Craigmargod. Probate was granted to his widow, Jane, on 17 July 1899 with his effects being valued at £220 8s 4d.

South Wales Daily News 1 June 1909 reported the following:

Immediately after the demise of the late Rev. R. O. Jones, a little over a year ago, a movement was set on foot with the view of making some acknowledgement of the services he had rendered to the parish of Gelligaer as member and chairman of the School Board. The list of contributions has now been closed, and at a meeting of the committee, held at Hengeod on Monday last, at which the Rev. J. T. Jones, M.A., presided, it was decided to present Mrs Jones, the widow, with a cheque for £50. The committee desire to express the warmest thanks to all the friends who kindly contributed.

REV EVAN OLWERN EVANS (1873-1910)

MINISTER, MORIAH WELSH CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, BEDLINOG

Born in Pandy, Llanbrynmair, Montgomeryshire, on 8 October 1873, Evan Olwern Evans was son of labourer Evan Evans and his wife, Hannah. Aged 7, he was living in the family home when the 1881 census was taken and, like his older siblings described as a *scholar*, presumably, attending a local school. He was just 12 years old when he left school and started work as a farm hand on Tymawr farm, near Dinas Mawddwy. There he proved a faithful member of the congregation at the local Bethesda Congregational Chapel. About three years later, he became an apprentice wheelwright in Tafolwern, Llanbrynmair, and, when the 1891 census was taken, he was a 17-year-old apprentice wheelwright in the household of wheelwright Evan Lewis at Drefach, Tafolwern, Llanbrynmair. He soon took part in the chapel competitive meetings in the area and, using the nom-de-plume *Olwern* (an abbreviated version of Tafolwern) he won awards. Shortly before his twentieth birthday he moved to Merthyr Vale, where he earned a living as a carpenter and was not only a faithful member of the congregation in Bethania Chapel but he preached his first sermon there. His future was in the ministry and in January 1895 he became a student at Gwynfryn College, Ammanford.

In April 1898 *The Llangollen Advertiser* reported that Rev. E. Olwern Evans of the Gwynfryn Academy, Ammanford, commenced his ministry as pastor of the Penllys and Pontrobert Congregational Churches (in his native Montgomeryshire) and that *special services are being held this week in connection with his ordination to the ministry*. At the turn of the decade he received a call to succeed late Rev. Robert Orton Jones at Moriah Welsh Congregational Chapel, Bedlinog. He arrived in Bedlinog shortly before the 1901 census was taken and that census return shows him as head of a household of two, living in two rooms in 50 Lower High Street, Bedlinog. Like him, his lodger, Evan Richards, some twenty years his senior, was also described as a *Congregational Minister*.

Presumably after he arrived in Bedlinog, Rev. Evan Olwern Evans met Rosetta Green (1879-1949), and they married 6 April 1905. The couple suffered the heartbreak of the death of an infant daughter in 1906, before children Ieuan, Aldwyn and Menna were born in Bedlinog (1907, 1908 and 1909). The family faced further heartbreak when 37-year-old Rev. Evan Olwern Evans suffered a mystery illness. After several months, he was admitted to a private hospital in Cardiff where, attended by Dr. Cornelius Griffiths, blood poisoning was diagnosed. He was transferred to Cardiff Infirmary where he died on Tuesday 6 September 1910.



His widow Rosetta and their three young children occupied a four-roomed dwelling, 56 High Street, Bedlinog, when the 1911 census was taken. The family income was augmented by a boarder, 20-year-old school teacher, Blodwen Violet Hughes, a native of Swansea. In addition, Rosetta and

the children may have benefitted from the support of Rosetta's siblings and their families who lived nearby.

An obituary in *Merthyr Express* 10 September 1910, reflects on his short, but successful ministry in Moriah. He had earned a reputation as an eloquent preacher and was widely respected as a member of Glamorgan County Association of Welsh Congregational Union. In politics, he was a staunch Radical who had taken an active part in local and parliamentary elections.



FLY ON THE WALL ILLICIT STILL ON MOUNTAINSIDE NEAR FOCHRIW

This is based on reports in some 1887 newspapers including
South Wales Daily News 9 July (page 4), 11 July (page 3), 12 July (page 3)
South Wales Echo 8 July (page 2), 9 July (page 3)

Rumours about some illegal activity have brought me north to a little glen in the mountainside near Fochriw, far above Mountain Hare, where I buzz around an old and dilapidated cottage, an adjoining shed, and the waste land alongside. The premises are sheltered on one side by *friendly trees* and on the other by *ponderous tips*, and regular travellers on the nearby road from Merthyr Tydfil towards Fochriw pass by without knowing there is a cottage here. It is the ideal spot from which to operate in secret. Follow this link [Mountain Hare – an Early History – The Melting Pot \(merthyr-history.com\)](http://merthyr-history.com) to see what Carolyn Jacob, former librarian in Merthyr Tydfil and a good friend to GHS, has written about the area. This extract from a 6 inch to the mile map (surveyed 1868-75), with Mountain Hare Pit marked by a red rectangle and Fochriw with a green rectangle, may give you an idea of the local terrain.



It is about 11 p.m., Wednesday 6 August 1887, and 73-year-old David Richards is lying on a couch in the cottage's one habitable room. But, I will tell you more about him later, as I can hear men outside. David Richards does not stir, and James R. Thomas, excise officer, and Police Sergeant Davies enter the cottage and strike a light.

James R. Thomas: *Hello David Richards. We have reason to believe that you are operating an illicit still here, and we have a warrant to search the premises.*

I stay quietly on the window and watch them search the cottage. They find a cooler, the worm, and several jars. Then, I follow them to the shed where they see the still (set on top of the fireplace), a mash tun with brass taps, and two fermenting vats (each containing about five gallons of wash). After that, out to the waste piece of ground, where they find about ten yards of iron tubing running from a well (no water in it now) to the shed, and, when one of the men turned on the brass tap at the end of the tubing, clear water runs through, and there is a large tub, suitable for holding a supply of water. Back in the cottage, they find more jars (some stamped with the names of local brewers such as Messrs Giles and Harrap), and I can tell from the expression on their faces when they hold them to their noses, that they can smell alcohol. They seize the equipment.

Well, I am just a fly, but even I can tell that everything is in order here for a distillery, so this is not the end of the matter.

Needless to say, the local rumour-machine was soon working to capacity, and, as I buzz around next morning, all I could hear from the men at work and their womenfolk, many holding babies in shawls, and with toddlers tugging at their skirts, was chat about David Richards and what his visitors had found last night.

So, I had better tell you about David Richards, a 73-year-old man who lived alone and was generally so feeble that he could barely rise from his couch. His neighbours were sympathetic and supportive, and some called with him every day to offer help. These are some of the things I heard them say about him:

We should not be surprised at what happened any day [I think, in reference to his seemingly-tenuous hold on life itself].

Poor old man, he has not been able to get about lately. I am sure he never did anything with those articles which were seized. They have lain idle in the outhouse for years.

And, David Richards, with tears in his eyes, offered the following about himself:

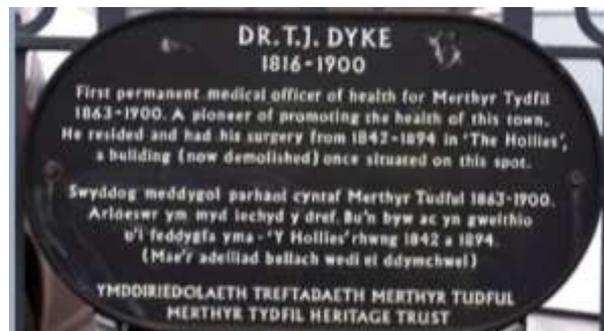
My father, William Richards, was a butty of Richard Trevithick, maker of the first locomotive at Penydarren. I worked nearly fifty years with winding and other engines at Penydarren and Dowlais. I have a brother, John, but my sister died a few years ago, and then my wife died. I became too ill to follow my usual work and I had to remain at home. I have been alone most of the time for some years. A few months ago, I had medical treatment, but lately, I have not been treated by a doctor.

On Thursday, David Richards was taken to Merthyr where, at 10 p.m., he was brought before the magistrate, Dr. Dyke, and charged with possession of an illicit still. Formal evidence about the items seized by the excise officer was given, and David Richards was remanded to appear in Merthyr police court on Monday. Although he was able to raise the £30 bail, he could not return home until some conveyance was available on Friday morning.

I made sure I had a good position on the window of Merthyr police court on Monday, when David Richards (defended by solicitor John Plews) appeared before magistrates, Dr. Dyke and Walter Smyth, charged with being concerned in the manufacture of spirits in private premises on mountainside, Fochriw.

I am only a fly, so I cannot use the internet, but my human friend searched online to find the following information about these people:

Dr. Thomas Jones Dyke (1816-1900) was son of a pharmaceutical chemist who had moved from Bristol to Merthyr Tydfil in the early nineteenth century. This photograph of a plaque sited on the fence of the disabled car park at Swan Street, Merthyr Tydfil is taken from [Dr Dyke – The Melting Pot \(merthyr-history.com\)](http://merthyr-history.com)



A staunch Conservative in politics, **Walter Smyth (1826-94)** was born near Llantwit Major and stated his business (chemist) in Merthyr Tydfil in 1850.

Yorkshire-born solicitor, **John Plews (1835-1916)**, who arrived in Merthyr Tydfil in 1860, was called to the Bar in 1891.

The court heard the evidence of the excise officer. Several other people, including David Richards's brother, John, were called to give evidence. This is what Thomas James (a cripple) told the court:

I have lived near David Richards since 1868. His old shed is very dilapidated. I never heard his old boiler called a still before. The water in this locality was condemned some years ago, and to save David Richards carrying water from a distance, a pipe was laid down, and the water was boiled as a precaution.

After retiring to consider the evidence, the magistrates concluded thus:

Not only could the articles found at David Richards's premises have been used for distillation of spirits, but also that they had been used for that purpose, and David Richards had knowingly aided and assisted such distillation. David Richards be fined £,5 for having the appliances on his premises and £,5 for using them.

When Mr Plews submitted that only one offence was charged, the magistrates resumed discussion before announcing:

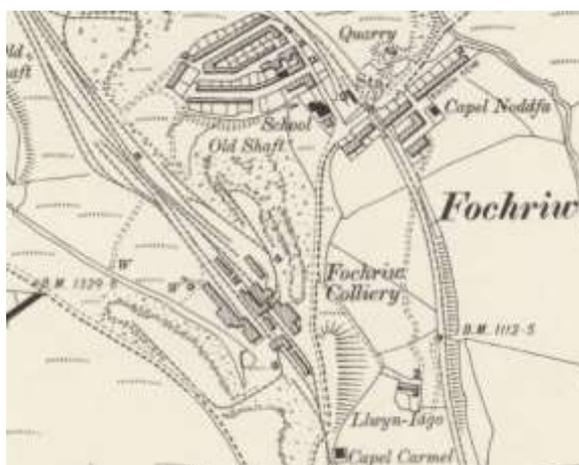
Fine £,10 for the one offence. If it was not for his age and the condition of his health, we would have imposed a heavier penalty. The alternative is one month's imprisonment. The apparatus is forfeited..



FLY ON THE WALL CARMEL CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL BAZAAR

Based on report in *Merthyr Express* 9 July 1892 page 7

I hope readers of *Gelligaer Times* will be pleased to know that I sometimes buzz in and observe pleasant and happy events such as the grand two-day bazaar in Fochriw on 29 and 30 June 1892, days of glorious weather. Organised by Carmel Congregational Chapel, it was held in Fochriw schools. This map will help you get your bearings in Fochriw at that time.



I arrive in Fochriw early that morning (Wednesday). If the Union Jacks waving in the Fochriw breeze and the bright festoons stretched across the terrace-lined streets nearby did not tell me something special was going on, I was left in no doubt when I went inside the school building. There I found the rooms all beautifully decorated with yet more flags and colourful streamers. The bazaar itself is arranged in the main room. There are three stalls laden with pretty articles of all sorts; a sweet stall; a toy stall; a fortune-telling booth; a lucky sack; and a table holding *two electric batteries*. I buzz off into the next room where I find a large tent housing an exhibition by Fochriw Baptist chapels (English and Welsh chapels), and into a third room where Professor Blavatsky (aka Evan Evans), a phrenologist, will give consultations. Then, into two more rooms where the refreshments will be served later today and tomorrow. The tables are all prettily decorated with flowers. When I popped back into these rooms later on I notice that the ham, cooked to perfection by Mrs. Davies, of Brook Row, was proving especially popular.

I found myself a quiet place to rest on the window frame. The VIPs, namely Mrs H. W. Martin, of Dowlais; Rev. O. Jones; and Dr Eleazer Davies, were all lined up for the opening ceremony.

Mrs Martin: *I am very pleased to be here today, for such an interesting occasion. Everything around me looks so pretty. I wish the bazaar the success it deserves.*

This was greeted with much clapping and cheering by the large number already present.

Rev O. Jones: *On behalf of the bazaar committee, I thank you Mrs Martin for your kind words, so gracefully delivered. We are honoured by your presence, and that of your husband and young son who have accompanied you today.*

Dr. Eleazer Davies: *I am delighted to associate myself with the words of Rev. Jones. On behalf of Carmel bazaar committee, I present you with this pretty terra-cotta vase, made to order by Watcombe Potteries, and inscribed "A Memento of Fochriw Bazaar, opened by Mrs. H. W. Martin, June 29th, 1892". I hope that you will find a little corner for it in memory of a happy event.*

Mr. H. W. Martin: *On behalf of my wife, I thank the bazaar committee for inviting us to be present at this splendid event, and for this pretty vase, which will have a place in our home.*

There was more clapping and cheering before the bazaar started in earnest, with Mr. and Mrs. Martin being among the first customers at several stalls.

In the afternoon, I buzzed back and fro between outside, where Fochriw Brass Band, led by Mr. W. S. L. Berry of Merthyr, was playing, and inside, where Fochriw Glee Party, led by Mr. A. Angell, and accompanied by Miss Kent-Jones, performed. I am no musician, but it is clear to me that there is much musical talent in Fochriw. Most of the men were coal miners, but I can tell that, between shifts, they spent much of their leisure time at band or choir practices.

On Thursday, I returned to my place on the window frame for the opening ceremony.

Rev. James Jones (pastor Carmel Congregational chapel): *I am honoured to be invited to open the second day of Carmel's bazaar.*

Rev. Elias Joseph (of Goshen Welsh Congregational chapel, Rhymney): *On behalf of the bazaar committee, I thank you, Rev. Jones, for opening this second day of the bazaar.*

Dr. Eleazer Davies: *I am delighted to associate myself with the words of Rev. Joseph. On behalf of Carmel bazaar committee, I present you with this beautiful terra-cotta vase, made to order by Watcombe Potteries, and inscribed "A Memento of Fochriw Bazaar, opened by Rev. J. Jones, June 30th, 1892". I hope that you will find a little corner for it in memory of a happy event.*

On Thursday afternoon, there were more performances from the band and choir, with Miss M. J. Harries of Fochriw as the accompanist. James Davies also performed a recitation, but the highlight of the afternoon's entertainment was the performance of *The Japanese fan* by a party of little girls, trained by Miss Harries, assisted by Miss Mantle of Penybank School. The girls, all dressed in white, held Japanese fans while they sang.

The bazaar was a huge success. During the two days, it is estimated that more than a thousand people attended. The stall holders, always cheerful, were constantly busy, as people gathered round to look and buy the lovely items, and by the end of Thursday, all the items had been sold. After paying all expenses, the proceeds were in excess of £100.

LOCAL LAND WRANGLES, 1862

Wealthy estate owners with land in Gelligaer parish but who lived elsewhere may not have been particularly bothered about small encroachments onto their land or incursions into their mineral reserves – until those lands and underlying minerals became worth fortunes!

This can be illustrated by a report in the *Cardiff and Merthyr Guardian* of 22nd March 1862 which described two Cardiff Court cases.

The first case involved disputed land which was described as *portion only of a piece of waste rocky ground, known as the Darran.*

This was a section of the brow of the hill, Tarran Ysgwyddgwyn, part of Ysgwyddgwyn Mill to the west of Deri village, and shown on this extract from the tithe map as field 408, twenty four acres of pastureland called *Graig*.

The plaintiff, Charles Herbert James, solicitor of Merthyr, alleged owner of this land which he rented to the Watson family, brought an action against the defendant, nominally a bailiff for the Marquess of Bute. The Marquess was represented by his retained counsel, William Milbourne James Q.C. (cousin to Charles Herbert James) who maintained that the land formed part of Gelligaer and Merthyr Common, *part of the manor of Senghenith, of which the Marquis [sic] of Bute is Lord.*



The judge summarised the evidence for the jury, beginning by pointing out that the case had been brought, *Nominally to recover damages for loss sustained in consequence of the breaking down by the defendant of a wall built by the plaintiff— the real point in dispute being as to the right to the possession of the land on which the wall was built.*

The report continued,

The plaintiff undertook to prove that the land in question was his property in two ways. He alleged, in the first place, that it had belonged, from time immemorial, to the person from whom he bought his property [and had not formed part of the Senghenydd Manor], in the second place, supposing that he should fail to prove this he alleged that he had been in the actual possession of it 20 years, which would give him a legal right to retain it as his own.

On the other hand the defendants stated that this piece of land lay in the very midst of a large estate, the whole of which, with one trivial exception, belonged to the Lord of the Manor, the Marquis of Bute . . . inasmuch as the Lord of the Manor received chief rent for the land which surrounded it, the presumption prima facie was that this part which lay in the midst of the manor, and for which nobody paid any rent, belonged to him also; and until some plain proof should be given to the contrary, this would be the conclusion of the law and of common sense. With respect to the plaintiff's second point, that of 20 years adverse possession, the defendant replied by denying the fact. It was, he admitted, true that the plaintiff had done certain acts upon the ground, but he said they were not such acts as proved possession.

The judge found it somewhat strange that the plaintiff claimed only a portion of the Darren [sic] and that portion totally unseparated, either by a fence or wall, or any other boundary, from the remainder. One or two witnesses had indeed said that Mr. Phillips (a former owner of the land) once pointed out to them a boundary. One of these witnesses described that boundary as running up from his house to the top of the hill, where it was lost to his sight; and the other described the boundary on the other side of the hill. This was the only evidence that had been offered of the existence of any boundary whatever. It was certainly rather surprising that no more distinct boundary was shown, because one would have thought that when a man became possessed of land, he would build a wall, or dig a ditch, or do some thing else to divide it from his neighbours' ground.

As regarded his written title to the land in question the plaintiff proved that, in 1786 a man named Williams bought a mill, "called [Ysgwydd] Gwyn Mill, and certain lands thereunto belonging." In 1817, there was a mortgage made on the property, which was then described as in the occupation of George Watson and Thomas Williams. In 1819, the property was sold to the father [William James] of the present plaintiff, and the land in dispute was distinctly mentioned as included in it. It was particularised both by description and by acreage, and (supposing it to be the property of the person who sold it) seemed to establish a plain title on the part of the plaintiff to the land.

Well, the plaintiff possessing a proper title to the land, how did he act? He said, "I built upon the land," [the new Mill House, built 1847] and produced a great deal of evidence to show that there was a saw-mill erected upon the land, a coal shaft sunk, and a stable and pig sties built there. The defendant's answer to that was this: "Very likely you did build there, and very likely the part you built upon belonged to you." [the house had not been built in the area of the land under dispute]. The plaintiff replied, "It is very well for you to give up your claim to a little bit of land, in order to gain a much larger piece." If what the defendant said was right, what the plaintiff asserted was nothing at all. A good deal turned upon the view the jury might take of the point. If they did not consider that the part upon which the stables and pig sties were built (being but a corner of the land), was really a true part of that now claimed, of course the evidence that that corner had been built upon amounted to nothing. If, on the other hand, they considered it as part of the Darren, it was natural to suppose that the surrounding land belonged to the person who thus built upon it.

George Watson, tenant of the plaintiff gave evidence "I have not only built upon the land, but I have quarried stone, I have dug coal, and I have pastured my sheep upon it." The pasturing, the judge said, had been proved abundantly, and was not denied. But that proved nothing, because it was the defendant's case that the plaintiff was entitled to pasture there, not indeed exclusively, but in common with surrounding tenants to the manor. Watson confirmed "But I am not a tenant to the manor, nor have I ever paid chief rent,"

The judge continued saying that *this was an important subject for consideration. With respect to the pasturing, there was a strange feature in the plaintiff's case. He did not rest his case upon the allegation that he had a right to*

pasture upon the Darren, and that nobody else had. His evidence, on the contrary, showed a sort of general pasturage, shared by him with his neighbours. The tenants of a neighbouring farm, called [Ysgwydd] Gwyn-issa, appeared to have enjoyed the right of pasturage jointly with himself; and it was plain from the evidence that the sheep were not confined to the part of the Darren which was claimed by the plaintiff, and to the remainder respectively, but that they mixed together, and grazed where they pleased.

It had been proven that the defendant drove a coal shaft upon the Darren, that he had paid men for working it, and that he carried away and sold the coal. The defendant had replied [to Watson's evidence] "So far from the coal belonging to you, it was common to all the neighbours" This Watson explained by saying that he gave the cottagers permission to take the coal. A man named Edwin Lewis, it appeared, first opened the coal-pit and Watson availed himself of it. This had been variously argued upon by the learned counsel on either side. The plaintiff said "The taking of the coal in the face of the Lord of the Manor; if the land was his why did he not stop it?" "And," rejoined the defendant, "the coal was taken in your face, who claimed to be the owner, why did not you stop it?"

Then as regards the taking of stone. The plaintiff appeared to have quarried there for stone and to have used it for building his house, and that no steps were taken to prevent it. Stone was also taken for the purpose of building a chapel [Ysgwyddgwyn, south of the Mill], and mending a road.

After setting out this main evidence, the judge left the matter with the jury who decided in favour of the plaintiff. The land was therefore left in the ownership of Charles Russell James – who later loaned £10 to George Watson who (with his father and son) had been subpoenaed to attend court. The £10 was to be repaid at 15s pa, including interest, payment for quarrying stone on the property. Dr White, retired doctor at the Dowlais Works, alleged owner of the remainder of the brow of the hill, however, was not successful the next day. This case had been brought by the Marquess of Bute and defended by Dr White. The judge again summarised the evidence, *The simple question for trial was, whether a piece of mountain land, called Tarran Ysgnyddgwyn was the freehold of the representatives of the late Mr. William Meyrick, solicitor, Merthyr, who had become the purchaser of Ysgnyddgwyn and Tir Tnyppa farms, in the year 1825, [bought] of Mr, Lewis Edwards.* Dr White, however, had not exercised any rights of ownership beneath the surface of the soil and the newspaper report concluded, *Evidence having been adduced on both sides, the judge summed up in favour of the plaintiffs for whom verdicts were given by the jury.*

A GHOST CALLED CEDRIC

Many police stations are said to be haunted, and that in Bargoed is no exception. Over the years, officers, especially when on night duty, reported hearing footsteps on the upstairs corridor. Cedric, the ghost in Bargoed Police Station, is sometimes around in the daytime, but people in the building do not need to worry about him as he is a friendly character.

There is some information in *Bargoed and Gilfach a local history* pp102-4 about Bargoed police station and the adjoining police court.

When Glamorgan Constabulary was established in 1841, the Bargoed area, like most of the rest Gelligaer parish (excluding the northern parts running from Rhymney to Dowlais and Merthyr Tydfil) was rural, little changed from what it had been at the time of the seventeenth century Civil War. That changed dramatically as the industrial revolution rolled southwards through the parish during the nineteenth century.

This is the 1881 census return listing P.C. Boobyer, Bargoed's first policeman. If anyone is interested in a Bargoed-related research project, the life and work of the town's pre-World War I police force would make an interesting study.

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the										
City or Municipal Borough of	City or Municipal Borough of	Municipal Ward of	Parliamentary Borough of	Town or Village or Hamlet of	Urban Sanitary District of	Rural Sanitary District of	Municipal Parish or District of			
Gelligaer				Bargoed		Merthyr Tydfil				
No. of Houses	ROAD STREET, ALLEY, LANE, or NAME of HOUSE	NAME and Residence of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	SEX	AGE last Birthday or Date of Birth	Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	<input type="checkbox"/> Dead and Death Date <input type="checkbox"/> In Prison at Date <input type="checkbox"/> In Lunatic Asylum		
11	St. Michael's Church	William Boobyer	Head	Male	28	Police man	Llanvillina, Glam.			
		Isabel	Wife	Female	25	Police man's wife	do do			
		Edward	Son	Male	2	School boy	Gelligaer, Glam.			
		Edwards	Daughter	Female	1	do	do do			
		Charles	Son	Male	1	do	do do			
		David Thomas	Head	Male	24	Coal miner	Merthyr Tydfil			

Before there was a police station in Bargoed, anyone arrested was taken to Caerphilly police station. In 1904, Hanbury Villa was purchased, for £2,400, and opened as Bargoed's police station, and so there was a permanent police presence in what was by then, a fast-growing new town. As the population expanded, so did the criminal activities, and building work on the police court (adjacent to the police station cells) started in 1910. The first cases were heard in the court in December 1911, and sittings continued to 1997. Further work on the police station saw more cells being added, as well as living accommodation for the police inspector and his family. In 1920, there were twelve police officers stationed in Bargoed. During the 1980s, there were 29 in the station.

The area was under the administration of South Wales Police before, in 1996, the whole of the newly-formed Caerphilly County Borough was transferred to the jurisdiction of Gwent Police. Bargoed police court is now Bargoed Town Hall and houses Bargoed Town Council.

And, on the subject of Bargoed Town Hall, David Mills has sent the extract below from *Evening Express* 28 November 1907 (page 2). The same drawing, taken from a pre-World War I Bargoed town directory, appears on page 252 *Bargoed and Gilfach a local history* (GHS 2011). It was one of two places of entertainment on either side of Lower High Street.



What do readers of *Gelligaer Times* remember about the building, and the fire shown in the photograph?

And, for anyone looking for a little research project, what about investigating the life and work of Llewellyn Thomas, contractor, and/or Philip Vivian Jones, architect.

WILLIAM REES BEDDOE (1867-1948)

Born in Rhymney on 8 June 1867, William Rees Beddoe was oldest child of coalminer Henry Beddoe (1847-1916) and his wife, Mary (1847-1904). The family moved to Troedrhifwuch before the 1871 census was taken. By the time of the 1881 census, the family was living in Pontlottyn and William Rees Beddoe had started work as an engine tender. Later, he became an agent in the insurance industry. His hard work soon attracted the attention of the company's general manager, Thomas Neill, and he was offered some of the best positions with the company. Sometimes that meant moving away from Pontlottyn, as in the case of his appointment, in summer 1895, as London, Edinburgh and Glasgow Assurance Company's superintendent in the Brynmawr district. For twelve years, from 1908, he was local council rates collector, and such was the respect and affection for him that, on his resignation, Gelligaer Council recorded their appreciation of his services and his fellow officers presented him with a chair made by the London firm, Berkeley. He married Elizabeth Jane Evans in 1896, and the couple appear to have lived in Pontlottyn for most of their married life, and in Blodeuen, Farm Road, from prior to the 1911 census being taken.

Family life was marred by heartache. Of their four children, Mary Ann and Bronwyn Augusta, died in infancy, and John Henry, died, aged 19, in 1917, leaving only Catherine Mary (1905-87) to survive to adulthood. William Rees Beddoe's youngest brother, Owen A. Beddoe was a casualty of World War I, and, his niece, Marie Beddoe Thomas, was victim of a murder that horrified the Pontlottyn community in December 1925. (see *Gelligaer Times* 35 10th anniversary issue January 2016 for more on this murder) However, William Rees Beddoe, loyally helped and supported by his wife, continued to work hard, as well as devote time to matters that helped their community in Pontlottyn.

From an early age, William Rees Beddoe was keen to help enhance the well-being of the people with whom he came into contact, and, over the years, that earned considerable respect.

His father and grandfather were pioneers in the work of friendly societies in the Rhymney valley, and William Rees Beddoe was eager to follow that work. He became an enthusiastic member of the Independent Order of Rechabites occupying, at various times, all the "chairs" of the district before being elected a district trustee, and, after being unanimously elected secretary on the death of T. Jones Parry in 1906, he proved more than capable in that post. For many years, from 1909 onwards, he was a representative at Rechabite conferences. Unfortunately, when he was offered the post of Order auditor, he was forced to decline due to his heavy work load combined with a sad family bereavement. He represented the Rechabites on Glamorgan Insurance Committee. His careful attention to detail meant that his advice on the workings of the National Insurance legislation was much sought after. A staunch temperance advocate, he set a fine example to others. He was a chapel man whose faith meant much to him through all stages of his life. As a youth, he was a lively presence in the Band of Hope. Aged 17, he was appointed organist in Moriah Welsh Congregational chapel, and in that role he met such eminent musicians as Dr. Joseph Parry, when they conducted local music festivals. After he settled in Pontlottyn, he attended Nazareth Welsh Congregational chapel where he became treasurer and deacon, and his faithfulness and integrity were highly respected by fellow members.

As the first recognised Pontlottyn correspondent for *Merthyr Express*, he met H.W. Southey, the newspaper's founder, and had close contact with contemporary stalwarts in Pontlottyn and across Gelligaer parish. He paid careful attention to promoting the interests of Pontlottyn and consequently ensured considerable benefits for the community. His skills as an organiser were evident in his work as one of the secretaries of the Library Eisteddfod and his hard work was an important factor in over £300 being added to the Library funds. He was in considerable demand as a platform speaker.

PROCRASTINATION - THE THIEF OF TIME

I think it is about time that this adage was changed, at least in my case, to "the internet is the thief of time". I would refine that to reading "old Welsh newspapers online". I set out with good intentions to confine my research to just one or two words, usually place names, but inevitably I stray from my task by noticing other matters on the same page that has been highlighted with the words I should be looking at.

However, I now confess that I sometimes deliberately look for disreputable or salacious comments in respect of towns or villages where some of my friends were brought up, just to remind them of their heritage. In case you think I have a "weird" sense of humour- if anyone wants to reciprocate, I was born and brought up in Aberbargoed. Please feel free to remind me with any facts you can find.

For a friend who lived in New Tredegar, I delighted him with:-

22nd November 1879 *On Tuesday George and Abner Rose and Steven Jones charged with fighting at New Tredegar were bound over for three months - Peter Mitchell, Mike Connor, John Carey and Mary Ann Griffiths were charged with being drunk and riotous at New Tredegar. P. C. Middleton gave evidence in all the cases and Dr. Coles remarked that the times must be good down there as the people seem ripe for drunkenness - the Defendants were respectively fined half-a-crown and costs.*

The same report also mentioned Matilda Hart who was fined for being drunk and incapable at Tredegar. The Police officer said she was too drunk to stand up. When she arrived at the Police Station the Sergeant said, "It was hard to tell her from a collier after a hard day's work in the pit."

For my friends in Blackwood, I came up with a report from 1835:

Sale of wife by Public Auction

A short time since the following disgraceful exhibition took place at Blackwood. A man named W. Evans sold his wife to John Thomas, a constable, for the sum of five shillings. On the following week at the same place W. Davies also put his wife up to the highest bidder, she was knocked down to George Souch, a saddler for a gallon of ale. It is high time that the authorities interfered in order to put a stop to such disgraceful proceedings.

There are websites that calculate the present-day value of monetary amounts from the past by using mathematical formulae. However, in this case I think I have found a more practical way. A gallon of ale was paid for one of the wives. A gallon is 8 pints and the present-day cost of a pint (if pubs were open for one to be bought) is approximately £3 to £4. Hence that wife cost £24 to £32.

It was quickly pointed out to me that selling wives was not just a Blackwood custom, so if anyone has examples please let me know.

David Mills

WHERE IN GELLIGAER?

To resume this once-popular part of *Gelligaer Times*, here are a few photographs for you to identify. No prizes, but we will be pleased to hear what you think.

A



B



C



A FEW ADVERTISEMENTS WITH A MEDICAL LINK

**BORN IN CARDIFF.
A NATIVE CARDIFF MAN
CURED BY
Doan's Backache Kidney Pills**



A TRUE STORY OF DOAN'S BACKACHE KIDNEY PILLS. FORGIVE WITH A BOIL, OR EARLY TROUBLE WILL BE SENT FREE TO ANY BRITISH MAN WILL SHOW THE TRUTH AND HOW THIS PILLS HAS HELD HIM THE BEST OF HIS HEALTH.

BLOOD HUMOURS

**Skin Humours, Scalp Humours,
Hair Humours,**

**Whether Simple Scrofulous or
Hereditary**

**Speedily Cured by Cuticura
Soap, Ointment and Pills,**

**When All Other Remedies and
Best Physicians Fail.**

Complete Treatment, 4s. 9d.

**Measles, Bronchitis,
Congestion of the Lungs,
and Whooping Cough.**

**"She has now taken four bottles
and is looking a bonny, bright baby,
with a fine colour."**



Do any *Gelligaer Times* readers have any they would like to add? Or any remedies they remember from their childhood days? We will be happy to include them in a future newsletter.

AND FINALLY, A QUESTION FOR YOU TO THINK ABOUT

What settlement was built in the parish of Gelligaer in the 20th century that could only be accessed from a neighbouring parish-and for that matter a different county?
Can you find the answer before it appears in next issue of *Gelligaer Times*?

If you have information about **publications that may be of interest to *Gelligaer Times* readers, please send details for inclusion in a future newsletter.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF GHS.

IF YOU HAVE COMMENTS AND/OR QUESTIONS ON THIS NEWSLETTER SUPPLEMENT, OR HAVE SOME INTERESTING FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS OR STORIES FOR INCLUSION IN A FUTURE SUPPLEMENT PLEASE CONTACT

www.gelligaerhistoricalsociety.co.uk or chairmen@gelligaerhistoricalsociety.co.uk