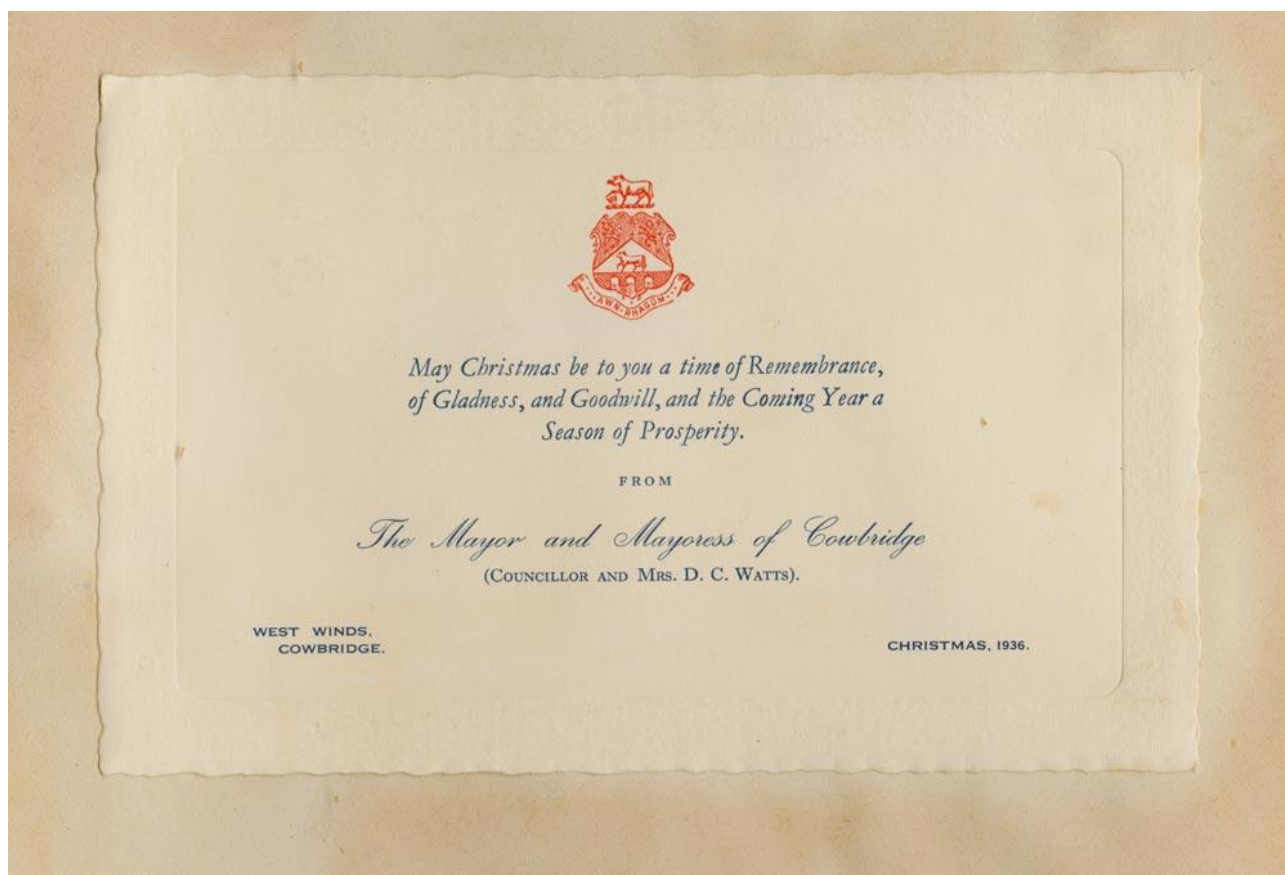


# NEWSLETTER

of Cowbridge History Society

*Christmas 2021*



*How many of us remember Christmas 1936?*

## Another apology

Once again I begin this edition of the newsletter with an apology. After holding a successful in-person meeting in October, the committee felt obliged to call off the planned in-person meeting for November and December because of rising numbers of COVID-19 infections and the recent experience of other groups meeting at the Lesser Hall.

The historic document on the cover of this month's issue was taken from the People's Collection Wales website. You can find similar photographs and other records by searching on keywords such as "Cowbridge Christmas" here: <https://www.peoplescollection.wales/> This will throw up content from our own CHS archive and other sources such as the Vale of Glamorgan Libraries.

People's Collection Wales seems to go from strength to strength. Recently I've been inundated with enquiries from local people either wanting to know how to access the content or



wanting to contribute their own collections of photographs and documents. Naturally I have advised them to go through Cowbridge History Society as far as possible, as some of this material may be suitable for our archive. (See Betty Alden's article in this issue.)

Even if you were not around in 1936, there will be a number of people reading this who remember the mayor and mayoress who sent out this Christmas card - Councillor and Mrs D C Watts, who are shown in this photo from our archive. Mr Watts passed away in 1966. The *Glamorgan Gazette* said "The Town of Cowbridge and the Vale of Glamorgan are poorer with the passing of one of its most respected and well-liked personalities". He was an auctioneer and estate agent and of course his name survives in the company Watts & Morgan, still to be found in Cowbridge's High Street. He was known for preserving the Christmas Fat Stock Show, run by Cowbridge Farmers' Club.

Sadly for Mr & Mrs Watts, their son Roy was killed in an accident while serving with the RAF. Their younger daughter, Judy, who was born in 1925, recorded her memories for Betty Alden and these can also be found in our archive. They tell us that the family lived in West House, Westgate, and later at West Winds in Love Lane, Llanblethian. After Mr Watts' death, his wife Mary, who was originally from the Forest of Dean, moved to Four Winds on Broadway.

*Deb Fisher*  
*Publications Officer*

## Talks of the season

1st October 2021 was the first time for over a year that most members of Cowbridge History Society have had the opportunity to meet in person to listen to a talk, and attendance was excellent. The subject was "The World whistled their Melodies", and after resolving a few technical issues, Griff Harries entertained us with anecdotes about some famous Welsh songwriters, such as Harry Parr Davies and Mai Jones - as well as a few tunes!

On 5th November, the monthly meeting was held on Zoom (see my note above). Veteran speaker Gwerfyl Gardner spoke about the traditional role of the Welsh - including her own grandfather - in the dairy industry, particularly in the London area. The talk, entitled "My grandfather was a milk courier", included many titbits of information that came as a delightful surprise to many members. If you were unable to attend the talk, you can still access it via Youtube, using this link: <https://youtu.be/g3ZOefmrQlo>

On 3rd December, the final meeting of the year was held via Zoom, as the committee decided it was too risky to return to the Lesser Hall at this stage. Martin Johnes gave us a seasonal talk called "A History of Christmas in Modern Britain". This can now also be seen on Youtube: <https://youtu.be/pCZ5FnwkoaY>

Gradually - very gradually - we are becoming more expert in recording some of our speakers and making them available on platforms such as Youtube and Zoom, for the benefit of those members who either cannot, or prefer not to, venture out on cold winter meetings and have IT access at home. As you can imagine, the committee has missed seeing you in person during the past 18 months and we hope that 2022 will bring a return to normality.

## Become a Cowbridge Tour Guide!

For groups interested in hearing more about Cowbridge's long, unique and fascinating history, Society members have provided guided tours. Such tours perform an important part of the Society's charitable objective to pass on the history of the town and its district and are very well received. Tours usually last for anything between 45 and 90 mins and fees received help with the Society's finances.

Dick Buswell and Dick Tonkin have fulfilled this role for more years than they are prepared to admit. Dick Tonkin's retirement from it creates an opportunity for a new tour guide. Practical guidance, suggestions on route, places to include with thumbnail sketches of their history, helpful reading matter, even a tour guide's lapel badge and more are available to get you started on a very pleasant and rewarding new career!

If you would like to find out more please have a word with Dick Tonkin or call him on 01446 772704.

## The "Twt Beech"

It was with some trepidation that the Cowbridge History Society decided to get involved in the Twt Beech Project. Many will remember that there were two beautiful old beech trees adjacent to Twt Park and that one of them had to be felled because it was diseased. A plan was launched to invite various local groups and carvers to use some of the felled wood and to exhibit the artefacts.

We were keen to support the project but blanched when we discovered that our contribution was to carve an approximately 50mm x 50mm panel to express how we felt about the tree and Cowbridge - no mean feat when none of us had carved anything and there was no discernible artistic merit apparent in any of us!

I had put my hand up so it was up to me to find people. Happily Deb Fisher and Hawys Pritchard volunteered to join in on the basis that we would have considerable help from Ami Marsden, a sculptor who has done some lovely carvings, and Betty Alden said she would help with



finding any images we needed. It was more or less at this point that COVID struck and we were forced onto Zoom meetings where it emerged that we had artistic talent after all, in the shape of Hawys, who proved to be an excellent sketcher and came up with several possible designs which saved our bacon in that department! We were not actually able to get together until last spring when we arranged to meet in our garage and we had our first sight of the panel. We finalised the design and Ami took it away to enlarge it and trace it onto the panel.

At this point, COVID struck again in the form of Ami being ill for most of the summer and, with a deadline fast approaching, we eventually met up to start the actual carving. After a short lesson we were let loose and it quickly became apparent that we would not be able to get the panel completed in the time, so it was the moment to call in the cavalry in the form of Dick Tonkin who, up to that point, had been in the role of tea-maker and brow-mopper and my brother, Rhys Davies, who has a kind heart. So Deb, Hawys, Dick, Rhys and I set to, and, while being fed cake by Ami that she insisted she had bought “by accident”, we actually produced something within a couple of weeks!



We wanted to represent the history of Cowbridge and its setting so used the tree rings as time lines and the wavy edge to represent the hills around, and carved the Thaw through the middle on a diagonal. The history represented was the statue of the lion from Roman times, the Charter document from 1254, Holy Cross Church, Iolo Morganwg and the Standing Stone, the Grammar School, the Town Hall and the Physic and Old Hall Gardens. It was important too that there was some expression of the community so we added the clasped hands.



The exhibition of all the work was held on 2-3 October, a wet and windy weekend at “Forage”. This picture of our efforts is not very helpful as, instead of the panel being on the wall, it was displayed lying flat with the light falling in an unhelpful way so that the definition was lost. When we know where it will be on permanent display we will let you know so that anyone interested can have a look. One of the delightful surprises we had when we went to the exhibition was that several members of the Society were represented in other parts of the project. Oh that we had known there was such talent! Roger Bradshaw had been involved with

the panel that was carved by the Cowbridge Male Voice Choir and there was a lovely exhibition of individual wood carvings made by Frank Hartles.

This was an interesting project which took us out of our comfort zones, and working with Ami was a delight.

*Beverly Tonkin*

## History of Llantrithyd

*In the previous issue, we featured a fascinating article by Don Gerrard about the Aubrey family of Llantrithyd, the fruits of a research project Don had been carrying out during lockdown.*

Llantrithyd and its neighbouring hamlet of Tre-Aubrey occupy a secluded position in a well-wooded valley, watered by a small rivulet, and there is a spring in each village. A clue to their early settlement, at least since the Early Bronze Age, can be found in the two visible round barrows, one just to the east of the villages, and the other, a much larger one, to the north west between Ty Ganol Farm and Pentre/Ty Uchaf Farms. There is also evidence of what may have been a larger Iron Age hilltop fortification just to the west of Tre-Aubrey. The moat remains today, and the nearby farm has the name Wren's Castle, which may be significant. (Further to the east, of course, there was earlier settlement, the Neolithic long barrow burial chambers.)

The church has 12th century origins, and was probably built after the Anarchy<sup>1</sup>, which affected South Wales and the West of England badly, and only ended in 1154, when the country was brought under Angevin control.

The chancel, nave, and tower were rebuilt in the 14th century, with additional improvements by the Basset, Mansel and Aubrey Families in the 16th and 17th Centuries. Further restoration and renovations were carried out in 1839, 1897, and 2016. The church lies in a leafy hollow, surrounded by mature trees and well-manicured lawns. Outside the church is a large carved stone, thought to have been the base of a medieval cross, and to date from approximately 1200. One gravestone records the death of the 36th child of a man from Neath!! The churchyard is still used for burial purposes. There is a yew tree on the north side of the church which is said to be 3,000 years old.



A massive 16th century family tomb dominates the tiny interior of the Church. It retains the colourful paint and gilded detail of the Reformation, when it was constructed around 1550. The two figures kneeling in prayer above the tomb are those of John Basset (d 1554) and his second wife Elizabeth (d 1596). (John Basset had built Llantrithyd Place in approximately 1545.) The figures on the coffin tomb, a man in armour, lying next to his wife, both with their hands together in prayer, are Anthony Mansel (d 1604), and his wife Elizabeth Basset Mansel (d 1607), and around the base are images of their seven children – Elizabeth (d 1567), Edward (d 1573), Mary (d 1570), Anne (d 1570), Ryce (d 1583), William (d 1573), and Cissill (no date). (Photo overleaf.)

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<sup>1</sup> A Civil War in England and Normandy 1135-1154, which resulted in a widespread breakdown of law and order. The conflict was a succession crisis on the death of Henry I between two claimants, Stephen, who took the Crown, and Matilda, Henry I's daughter.

The monument is capped by an impressive family coat of arms.

The font (approximately 1560) has a goblet-shaped bowl. On the North Wall there is an unusual coffin tomb, with an arched recess containing the 14th century effigy of a priest, hands folded in prayer, head tonsured, with a greyhound at his feet. The East Window is dated 1656, and the glass was re-installed in 1875.

Two of the wall monuments or armorials are unusually made of alabaster and were “rescued from Llantrithyd Place and date from the early 17th century. My guess is they were removed by 'G.E. Halliday' when he oversaw refurbishment of the church in 1897. He was in fact responsible for the re-design of the pulpit with its Penarth Alabaster cross. The larger of the two armorials was originally over a fireplace in the Long Hall of the Place.” (John Newman - *Guide to Glamorgan* [Pevsner Architectural Guides]).



The restoration grant in 2016 amounted to £110,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund, with a further £10,000 being raised by the Parish. Of that, £15,000 was spent on renovating the tomb.

## *Llantrithyd: The Bassets and the Mansels*

The Anglo-Saxons had left Wales very much alone; they were content to allow the Welsh to rule themselves as long as they were disunited. The Normans, however, were different. They have been described as “colonists of genius”<sup>2</sup> having originated in Scandinavia, they created the Dukedom of Normandy, and invaded much of the Mediterranean as well as Britain.

By 1070 all England was under their control, and by the end of the Conqueror's reign in 1086 all the landowners in England were Norman, 75% of lands being in the hands of the King and his family (20%) and the barons (55%). The other 25% was given to the church and the monasteries.<sup>3</sup> William I had no intention of annexing Wales, although he did create the Marcher Lordships, in order to control the border and the 'unruly Welsh', and an uneasy relationship ensued. William II was less able than his father to maintain control of the Marches, but in 1093 Glamorgan fell to the invaders.

The leader of the assault was Robert Fitzhamon, Earl of Gloucester, but “so many legends have gathered round the conquest that it is difficult to distinguish between truth and fable”.<sup>4</sup> Fitzhamon had been created Lord of Glamorgan as early as 1075. He did not fight at Hastings and does not appear in Domesday Book, but he was certainly intensely loyal to the Conqueror, Rufus and Henry I. The Lowlands as far as the River Ogwr were easily assimilated, and in much of this area, what might be termed Welsh/Norman Knights held sway.

Near to Llantrithyd around 1102, Robert Fitzhamon bequeathed the lands of Llanblethian to Herbert St. Quentin who is thought to have built the castle. The Lordship remained in the St. Quentin family until 1233 when the land was seized by Sir Richard Siward. However, then it was seized by Richard de Clare in 1245. Llantrithyd may well have been given to Sir Reginald de Sully, to

<sup>2</sup> John Davies, *History of Wales* (1995), page 102

<sup>3</sup> William I introduced the Feudal System, by which all land belonged to the King and land 'given' to the Barons and the Church entailed performance of services to the Crown. The peasants worked the land on all 6,000 manors in England.

<sup>4</sup> (a) The 12 Knights of Glamorgan, a legendary group of followers of Robert Fitzhamon, first appear in 1561 in the writings of Sir Edward Stradling. Most of the knights stand historical scrutiny but not necessarily the lands given to them by the Stradling account, which may have been one of his fantasies.

(b) Meredydd ap Rhys ap Gruffydd in Llantrithyd.

whom Fitzhamon gave “the castle and town to be called Sully, and with it the manors of St. Athan and Dinas Powys”. Llantrithyd appears on tithe maps as being a Hundred in the manor of Dinas Powys. It is interesting that Fitzhamon kept “the castle and Town of Cowbridge” for himself “and with it the corn and provisions”.<sup>5</sup>

The area controlled by Sir Reginald de Sully, as far north as the Hundred of Dinas Powys, was regarded as having “fair orchards and gardens, and from them fruit was carried to the King's House”.<sup>6</sup> Then we find that in 1102 “to Howel ap Iestyn he gave the Castle and Manor of Llantrithyd, which castle was demolished by Meredydd ap Rhys ap Gruffydd ap Rhys ap Tewdwr ----- and the place was never afterwards built Castle fashion, but in form of a Great Place, as it is to this day to be seen (i.e. 1591), though it is not owned by the descendants of Howel ap Iestyn. It is a fair place, with parks and warrens and gardens and orchards and trees in abundance, and is seated in a goodly country for corn and grazure”.<sup>7</sup>

Bewper was given “to a great Welsh Lord, who took part with him,<sup>8</sup> and Sir Philip Basset was descended from him by marriage ----- he built the castle at Bewper, a fair place ----- and also the goodly manor at Beiswal hard by Bewper” (possibly New Beaupre).<sup>9</sup>

It is interesting to note that in the 12th century Llantrithyd possessed what was termed 'a castle'. This may well have been more of a medieval defended enclosure, certainly with a gateway and internal structures defined by a bank and ditch, broadly dated 1100-1130/40, and demolished certainly by about 1151. On these foundations what was to become Llantrithyd Place was built.

The most significant event of the Middle Ages in Glamorgan, as in the rest of Britain, was the coming of the Black Death. It reached Wales by March 1349, although “evidence of the course of the plague in Wales is scarce”.<sup>10</sup> It does seem probable however that it killed about a quarter of the inhabitants of lowland Glamorgan, where serfs were more numerous (and it was the serfs who suffered disproportionately).<sup>11</sup>

Hidden away behind the large, rather overgrown hedges bordering the churchyard lie the now obscure, ivy-clad ruins of Llantrithyd Place. The house, grounds and garden were the setting from the late 16th century for the wealth of the Aubrey Family, and before them the Bassets and the Mansels. The house was built by John ap Thomas Basset in 1545-46 (“John Basset built ye house of Llantrithyd in ye yeare 1546” – *Diary of John Aubrey* 1674), probably on the site of a 12th Century single storey manor house, which may in turn have been built by a Norman/Welsh knight, Meredydd ap Rhys ap Gruffydd.

By the mid 16th century the gentry were beginning to assume great importance.<sup>12</sup> (8) They had become rich in early industrial ventures and overseas trade, and with their new-found wealth they were able to buy large estates from land released by the Dissolution of the Monasteries. They flourished in the Vale of Glamorgan, where a good deal of land had been obtained from the Abbeys of Neath and Margam. The poet Dafydd Rowland described the Vale in 1500 as being “a pleasant and agreeable place, and is very populous”. The gentry often owned estates in England as well as Wales.

We have seen that John ap Thomas Basset built what became Llantrithyd Place in 1545. He was a member of the family who owned Beaupre Castle, built by Sir Philip Basset. The Basset

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<sup>5</sup> 'The winning of Glamorgan: Documents', in *Cardiff Records: Volume 4*, ed. John Hobson Matthews (Cardiff, 1903), pp. 6-47. British History Online <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/cardiff-records/vol4/pp6-47>

<sup>6</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>7</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>8</sup> Possibly the invasion of Glamorgan 1093.

<sup>9</sup> 'The winning of Glamorgan: Documents', in *Cardiff Records: Volume 4*, pp. 6-47. British History Online

<sup>10</sup> John Davies, *History of Wales* (1995), page 186

<sup>11</sup> Evidence for this is that in the Lordships and Manors covering East Glamorgan (from the Taff to the Ogwr) manorial rolls show that only one third of rents could be collected due to de-population.

<sup>12</sup> Tawney, R.H., “The Rise of the Gentry 1540-1640” (*Economic History Review*, 1941, pp. 1-38)



family were of English origin, and had been in Wales since the 13th century. They had estates at Peterston-Super-Ely, Bonvilston, and Talyfan, near Cowbridge. Sir Thomas had entered the service of Catherine Parr, and rose to be her Surveyor of Lands. He was, in fact, responsible for the managing of some monastic lands, and as a result he was able to secure considerable property after the Dissolution of the Monasteries. He was a lawyer; a Member of the Inner Temple and Attorney General of Glamorgan. He died in 1554, while representing Glamorgan in Parliament, leaving money in his Will for the “reparation of my house at Llantrithed”.<sup>13</sup>

He gave Llantrithyd to his daughter Elizabeth (Elizabeth Basset Mansel 1531-1607), a member of another prominent Glamorgan gentry family. The Mansel family had settled in the Gower Peninsula from England in the early 14th century, with estates they had acquired at Oxwich and Penrice. Anthony's father, Rice Mansel, had bought the monastic lands at Margam Abbey at the Dissolution in 1536.

It was Elizabeth who was responsible for having part of the imposing monument in the church built to commemorate her parents. Five of Anthony and Elizabeth's children died young, including crucially all three male heirs. Their two surviving daughters, Mary and 'Cissill', were co-heiresses of the huge Llantrithyd estates. Mary in 1586 married Thomas Aubrey, second son of Dr. William Aubrey of Breconshire, and henceforth Llantrithyd and Llantrithyd Place would be associated with the name Aubrey –



until 1910. The crumbling bones of the mansion, the remains of a noble and eminent past, still to be seen and admired next to the church at Llantrithyd, are a part of our past.

To read more about the Aubrey family, see Don Gerrard's article in Newsletter vol 7 no 1.

*Don Gerrard*

## ***New book: Patronage and Power in the Medieval Welsh March: One Family's Story, by David Stephenson***

University of Wales Press, 160 pages;

Paperback - 9781786838186; eBook - epub - 9781786838209; eBook - pdf - 9781786838193

On 25 November, the Mortimer History Society and University of Wales Press jointly launched a new publication. The author is David Stephenson, a well-known Welsh historian and lecturer, who is currently Honorary Research Fellow in the School of History, Philosophy and Social Sciences, Bangor University. The family of the title are the Clanvowes, the descendants of Hywel ap Meurig of Radnorshire. They were one of the first Welsh families to make their fortune in the environment of the Anglo-Norman Marcher hierarchy.

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<sup>13</sup> Wales Online - Welsh History Month (2012), page 2



Hywel ap Meurig (d. 1282) claimed descent (probably falsely) from The Lord Rhys. He lived in the castle of Cefnlllys, not far from present-day Llandrindod Wells, which was originally built by the Mortimer family to help enforce the rule of the Norman lords of Maelienydd over the local population. Though Welsh, Hywel was not a supporter of the princes of Gwynedd, who were relations by marriage of the Mortimers. He was one of the first Welshmen to have a coat of arms and was knighted by King Edward I. His descendants gradually spread and settled in Herefordshire, but retained their connection with Wales for several centuries.

The poet and diplomat John Clanvowe (died 1391) served King Edward III of England and his grandson King Richard II. He became a close friend of Geoffrey Chaucer, and it has even been suggested that he was one of the inspirations for the Knight's Tale. He had Lollard sympathies, but had been on crusade in the service of the Earl of Hereford (the father-in-law of King Henry V) and eventually died while on a pilgrimage to Constantinople. Thomas (died 1410), one of the younger generation of the family, married one of the queen's ladies-in-waiting and fought on behalf of King Henry IV against Owain Glyndwr. He inherited John Clanvowe's literary talent and is believed to be the author of *The Cuckoo and the Nightingale*, a work that was once attributed to Chaucer. Thomas was the last of the Clanvoves in the male line.

Dr Stephenson explained how the family represented a stratum of Welsh society that succeeded in breaking out of the restrictions imposed on the Welsh following the Norman conquest. He also gave an interesting insight into the work of a researcher engaged in attempting to study the history of a family who left no archive or family papers. I believe that anyone who is interested in Welsh medieval history, or indeed family history, will find this an enjoyable read. If you don't want to pay £14.99 for a paperback, I would suggest requesting it from the library, and I understand it is also available as an e-book.

This is the first time I have attended a book launch on Zoom, and it was extremely well-subscribed, with nearly 90 people present, which would probably not have been achievable by a live event even in normal times, particularly on a cold, dark winter's evening as this was. And it was very refreshing to see the speaker pausing now and again to take a sip from a glass of ruby-red wine.

*Deb Fisher*

## Glamorgan Agricultural Society - 250th anniversary

Our President, Brian Ll. James, has written to remind us that 2022 will be the 250th anniversary of the Glamorgan Agricultural Society's first meeting at The Bear. So members can look forward to an article by Brian on the subject in one of our 2022 issues.

## Local History Studies Room (Old Hall)

The Local History Studies Room re-opened from the beginning of October 2021 on Wednesday mornings between 10 and 12 noon. This room, unlike the one we were previously using, is quite large and airy, so easy for people to keep a reasonable distance from each other. Two computers are available for use, plus an A3 scanner and a laser printer. Two new volunteers will soon undertake training in how to record metadata after scanning and to upload new material onto 'Peoples Collection Wales'. Up-to-date copies of the archive have been deposited in the library and Cowbridge Museum. Please remember there are some interesting books in the History Room available for people to borrow and enjoy.

A large quantity of photographs and documents have been received over the past year, including several box-loads from the Bird family, whose Cowbridge business dates from the late 1700s. All will eventually be passed to Glamorgan Record Office, but meanwhile I have had the privilege of sifting through everything, scanning and recording anything felt to be of particular value and interest to Cowbridge. Another pile of material came in from the late George Haynes. Photographs have been taken for our records of metal-detecting finds - buttons from the Cowbridge Volunteers and beer tokens issued from the original Horse and Groom, and also of a coin issued for the first Cowbridge Eisteddfod of 1873, all of which have turned up in local fields.

Emails and telephone enquiries have been coming about subjects such as the St Hilary lead mines, local wells, the loyalists from the American War of Independence renting in this area, the Cowbridge Book Society of the 18th century, the pump by Llanblethian mill, council housing in Aberthin, the Edmond's coat of arms, one of the benches by the St Hilary 'clump', Y Bontfaen primary school in the 1940s and 1950s, Crossways as a children's orthopaedic hospital, Tom Bessant's market garden (now the Brookfield Park estate), the history of the Cowbridge fire service and the building at 44 High Street.

Descendants of local families seeking information have included those of Christopher Bradley, former landlord of the Bear Hotel; of Abraham Verity, who owned much property in the town and was influential in the construction of the current Town Hall; of the Revd. Robert Owen Jones of Bala, educated in the 1800s at Cowbridge Grammar School; of the Donne family (particularly relating to Great House, Llanblethian); of William and Rebecca Morgan of Great House, Llanblethian, Porth y Green and 50 High Street; and of the Gunter and the Carter families in the town. In delving into our archive to help with such queries we tend to turn up all sorts of interesting additional bits and pieces ..... so the archive continues to grow and grow and, thanks to the 'Peoples Collection Wales' website, is clearly being used across the globe.

*Betty Alden*

## 2021-22 Subscriptions

Please note: Membership fees for 2020-21 were waived, but we have already collected many subscriptions (£7.50 per person) for the current year. For those who have not yet paid their subs, we would appreciate it if you could either send a cheque, payable to "Cowbridge History Society", to Beverly Tonkin at Porth y Felin, Town Mill Road, Cowbridge, CF71 7BE, or transfer the fees by BACS to Cowbridge History Society account no.00034614 at Barclays Bank UK PLC, sort code 20 12 25 **using their surname and first initial as a reference.** A standing order could be set up if preferred.

*Beverly Tonkin, Treasurer*

## PROGRAMME FOR 2022

Yes, that's right, 2022 will be with us in just a few weeks.

Talks in the spring and summer sessions will be either in person or by Zoom invitation on the first Friday of each month, starting at 7.30pm. The speakers and topics for the next few months are:

**7th January**                    "The Plant Hunters"  
Anthea Guthrie  
**via Zoom**

**4th February**                "The Pettigrews: The family that landscaped Cardiff"  
Rosie James  
**via Zoom**

Links for the Zoom meetings will be sent out to members a day or two before the meeting.

We hope to be able to return to our usual venue, the Lesser Hall, for our March meeting. Details will be confirmed to members as soon as possible.

**4th March**                    "Parties, Passion and Politics in 1950s Wales"  
Gareth Thomas

**13 th March (Sunday) Charter Day Celebration: TBA**

**1st April**                    "A Brief History of Medical Practice in Cowbridge"  
Chris Turner

**6th May**                    AGM at 7.00 followed by: -  
"Toll Roads and Trusts in South Wales"  
Dick Buswell

This newsletter is issued approximately three times a year. Local history news items can be sent to [dicktonkin@btinternet.com](mailto:dicktonkin@btinternet.com) for potential publication in the next newsletter.

**TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS, PLEASE: -**

ONLY attend meetings at the Lesser Hall if you have no Covid-19 symptoms (e.g. cough, temperature, loss of sense of taste/smell etc.)

ONLY attend meetings if you have had TWO covid jabs.

USE the sanitizing gel available at the door.

Maintain 1 metre or more distance where possible.

The use of face masks is obligatory.

Doors and windows will be open to promote ventilation where possible.

## Photos from our archive

Here are a few photos we could not squeeze into the body of the relevant articles.



*Top:* Members of Cowbridge Cricket Club (First World War)

*Middle:* Birds workshop, 14 High Street, c.1956 *Bottom:* Birds showroom, 14 High Street, c.1956