



ISSUE 81

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Introducing The Forum

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Editorial

Brecknock History Festival is approaching which means that Hanes and the Festival have many events to look forward to over the next 3 months. The theme is Pubs and Inns but there are many and various events across Breconshire within the Festival period. I hope that you can get to some of them. The Festival programme will appear in hard copy soon.

Hanes is published every 3 months. The next edition is to be published November 1st 2023. Please email any articles or information about events etc. with the heading "HANES" to alan.j.nicholls@btinternet.com by October 30th 2023.

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NEWS AND EVENTS

Breconshire Local & Family History Society

August 15th 2023 Railway Themed Walk around Brecon with Glen Harris and Margaret Sommers. Meet at 2.00pm at Kensington Car Park. Walk will be about 1 mile with gentle slopes on hard surface/roadway. Places must be booked in advance. Members and friends welcome. No charge.

September 12th 2023 Brecknock History Month topic: Pubs, Inns and Hostelries. Steve Morris will give a presentation of the research they have carried out to produce the book on the pubs of Brecon and Llanfaes to be published for the History Festival. Kensington Baptist Church. 2.00pm. £1.00 for non-members

November 8th 2023 Commonwealth War Graves Commission will give a presentation in Brecon Cathedral. Evening. This is a joint event with BLFHS, Brecknock Society & Museum Friends, Regimental Museum of the Royal Welsh and Brecon Cathedral. Full details will be advertised locally and in the next edition of Hanes.

November 14th 2023 Talk on Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal. Jane Collier from Mon & Brecon Canal Trust. Kensington Baptist Church. 2.00pm . £1.00 for non-members

If you would like to join us, please contact the Society on blfhsenquiries@gmail.com

Brecknock Society and Museum Friends

The Cambrian Archaeological Association are visiting Brecon on the weekend of 22 - 24 September. This will be the sixth visit since their foundation in 1846, the last being in 1974. There are two public lectures both in Brecon Guild Hall. Details will be available in August.

Y Gaer Saturday Morning Talks

9th September 2023 Gracie Price and William Gibbs on Artists of the Llanthony Valley

14th October 2023 David Morgan on Roman Remains in Breconshire Both talks at 11.30 in y Gaer Organised by BS&MF

Cadw

Open Doors events on the Cadw website now - https://cadw.gov.wales/visit/whats-on/open-doors-events?region=57&date_from=&date_to=

You can search by region/county as well to narrow down where you are looking.

Hay History Group

The Hay Historical Society invites you to

Dr Hope of Hay-on-Wye

Dr. James William Hope, F.R.C.P., J.P. born in Hay-on-Wye in 1851, navigated his way from humble beginnings to become the highest ranking medical man in the Swans River Colony, Western Australia. He became the first Commissioner of Health for WA in 1911. Mike Bryant from Yorks Western Australia joins will share his research and describe how Dr. Hope made it big and how he connects with Jack the Ripper!

Tuesday 22 August 2023
6pm - 7pm

Hay Castle
Oxford Rd. Hay-on-Wye
Hereford HR3 5DG



Tuesday 22 August 2023 6.00 - 7.00
Talk at Hay Castle by Mike Bryant about Dr Hope of Hay on Wye, Commissioner of Health for Western Australia in 1911. Free entry.

Llangynidr Local History Society

Saturday 9th September 2023 - 10.00am

A walk around the Public Houses and Inns of Llangynidr

Join us for a Walk and Interesting Talk around the village to look at the two public houses that are still in use today and six that are now private dwellings.

The walk is approximately 2.3 miles and may have three stiles to negotiate although there is a longer walking route that avoids them. Other points of interest will be pointed out on the way. We will end up at The Red Lion next to the car park which will be open!



The Coach and Horses 1905 with the owner and his granddaughter, who later owned it.



The Coach and Horses as it is today.

The Coach and Horses started life as a stabling stop for coaches using the ancient Brecknock Way. Probably dating from the 1600's, it has been an inn since the 18th century.



The Red Lion Inn about 1900



**The Court Leet meeting about 1900
outside the Red Lion.**

The Church of St Cynidr and St Mary will also be open from 10.00 am and the old registers will be available for inspection. Meet at the Village Car park (Opposite Llangynidr Village hall, Cwm Crownon Road, NP8 1LS)

For more information-
<https://llhsblog.wordpress.com/>
Ann Jessopp tel: 01874 730431
Rosemary Evans tel: 01874 730112

National Library of Wales

Digital Exhibition

Our digital exhibitions introduce a wide selection of items from our collections.

Come with us to the world of the Mabinogion in the White Book of Rhydderch, or venture down to the beach on a moonlight night to meet a smuggler. Travel with David Lloyd George to Versailles during the First World War or marvel at some of Wales' earliest photographs. The story of Wales is waiting for you.

See webpage for more info:

[Discover & Learn - National Library of Wales](#)

The Radnorshire Society



Friday, September 15, 7.00pm

A talk by Dr. David Stephenson.

For some two hundred years, from the late eleventh century onwards, the Mortimer family struggled to assert mastery over much of the land between Wye and Severn – which consists of modern Radnorshire and

parts of Brecknock. This brought them into collision with the native dynasty, descendants of the shadowy figure of Elystan Glodrydd, as well as with those Welsh princes who aspired to control over a polity of Wales. The eventual triumph of the Mortimers was the backdrop for the control of much of Wales which they achieved in the early decades of the fourteenth century. 7pm jointly with Penybont History Group.

y Gaer – Brecon Library & Brecknock Museum



'Hill-Rhythms' **David Jones + Capel-y-ffin**

1st July - 29th October 2023
Mon-Fri - 10am-4:30pm
Sat-Sun - 10am-3:30pm

Free Entry

David Jones was one of the great British artists of the twentieth century: a painter, printmaker, illustrator, poet and essayist. This exhibition centres on his time spent at Capel-y-ffin in the 1920s, which he described as 'a new beginning' in his art. It is a rare opportunity to see a large group of David Jones' original works on display at y Gaer. Made up of around 70 paintings and drawings, the exhibition focuses on the artist's work in the Black Mountains during the 1920s, just a few years after his devastating experiences in the First World War.

Artists of the Llanthony Valley



1st July - 19th November 2023
Mon-Fri - 10am-4:30pm
Free Entry

Running along the Welsh border, the Llanthony Valley provides a route through the Black Mountains. Its' wild, closed-in landscape and evocative

monastic ruins have been a source of inspiration for many prominent artists and writers. This exhibition brings together works from the artists who have found inspiration in the Valley, from 1800 to 2023.

The work of David Jones and other artists in the Llanthony valley.

The Black Mountains encompass parts of Breconshire, Monmouthshire and Herefordshire. Part of their fame lies in the importance they have held for the artists who have visited them since the eighteenth Century, attracted by their wildness and romantic beauty. The ruins of the former Augustinian Priory of Llanthony have held a special attraction.

Two relevant exhibitions have opened at y Gaer, Brecon and run until the end of October. They are 'Hill-rhythms: David Jones + Capel-y-Ffin', curated by Peter Wakelin and 'Artists

of the Llanthony Valley', showing works from the Museum's permanent collection. The bringing together of works for the former exhibition has been made possible by funding from the Brecknock Arts Trust and it is accompanied by a beautifully-illustrated catalogue.

The opening of the exhibition 'Hill-rhythms: David Jones + Capel-y-Ffin'. From the left: Powys County Council leader James Gibson-Watt, exhibition opener, Rowan Williams and curator Peter Wakelin

Rowan Williams, who opened the Jones exhibition on 8 July, commented: *A really groundbreaking exhibition that illustrates a watershed period in the career of one of the great artists of the twentieth century. This show includes, as well as some familiar pieces, a great deal of material from private collections that will be new even to seasoned admirers of David Jones, and confirms the importance of his time spent in Capel-y-Ffin. It is a very significant event indeed.*

A successful David Jones study day was held at y Gaer on 9 July, led by experts from the David Jones Center in the USA and UK. This included a powerful rendition of Jones's poem 'The Sleeping Lord' by actor Tom Durham. On 16 July, St Bridget's Church, Llansantffraid and the Brecknock Society & Museum Friends held a concert 'Starlight Order'. This



comprised readings by Chris Meredith and Hilary Jones of poetry by David Jones, in particular of extracts from 'in Parenthesis': his poem based on his experiences as a private in the Royal Welch Fusiliers during the First World War. The poetry was accompanied by selected harp music from Wales played by Martha Powell

Further events are planned during the autumn. Details will be available on the Brecknock Society website and at y Gaer. They include a guided walk on 7 September and another David Jones study day on 7 October.

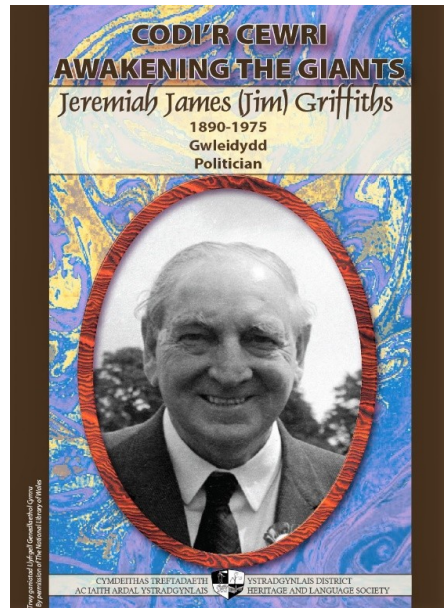
Elizabeth Siberry and John Gibbs

Ystradgynlais Heritage and Language Society

The Society is pleased to report that it has published the fifteenth pamphlet in its notable persons series. The persons featured in the series were either born in Ystradgynlais or lived in Ystradgynlais.

The subject of the fifteenth pamphlet is the late James Griffiths MP. He was born in Ammanford and after his marriage in 1918 he and his wife Winifred moved to live in Burry Port before moving, in 1926, to live in Station Road, Ystradgynlais. The family lived there for nine years until his election as MP for Llanelli (then Llanelly) in 1936. In 1945 he was

appointed Minister for National Insurance and so the family moved to live in London.



He was responsible for creating the modern state benefit system including family allowances, retirement and sickness benefits. He held a number of positions in the Government of the day and was appointed to the post of the first ever Secretary of State for Wales in Harold Wilson's Government in 1964. He passed away in August 1975 and was laid to rest at the Christian Temple Church, Ammanford.

The Society has also taken delivery of a further 3' by 2' lectern style interpretation panel. The panel outlines, using bilingual text and photographs, the early history of the Glantawe Electric Company. The panel

is located adjacent to the original building of the Company. The building was officially opened on 22nd December 1910 by Miss Lena Lewis the Company's Managing Director and, in the absence of Madam Adelina Patti, her husband Baron Rolf Cederstrom, was invited to 'flick the switch' to light up the whole town and satellite villages.

The Society acknowledges the support and financial assistance provided by Ystradgynlais Town Council in the completion of these projects. Copies of all pamphlets in the series are available free of charge from Ystradgynlais Library and Ystradgynlais Welfare Hall.