



# BRECKNOCK HISTORY FESTIVAL

**SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2017**



## The Great Houses & Estates of Brecknockshire

A range of events across the historic county of Brecknockshire  
organised by members of the Brecknock History Forum.

**Events are being held at the following locations:**

Brecon  
Hay on Wye  
Llandew  
Llangynidr  
Llanhamlach  
Penpont  
Treholford

## **Brecknock History Forum**

An informal gathering of groups interested in local and family history across Breconshire.

For more information please contact Elaine Starling (01874 711484 or [evstarling@lineone.net](mailto:evstarling@lineone.net))

Some events are part of **OPEN DOORS** which celebrates the architecture and heritage of Wales.

For a full list of the events being organised for **OPEN DOORS** across the whole of Wales in September please see the Cadw website.

**Cover Illustration:** Robert Johnson, Survey of the manors of Crickhowell and Tretower, 1587 (National Library of Wales, Badminton Estate Maps, Volume 3, f. 68v)

**This brochure is kindly sponsored by the Usk Valley Trust**

# 'JUSTICE AND JOY'

## BRECONSHIRE ESTATES FROM THE PERSPECTIVES OF LANDLORD AND TENANT

**Saturday, 9 September 2017**

**9.30 am - 4.00 pm**

**The Stables Conference Centre, Penpont, Brecon, LD3  
8EU**

**Cost: £10 (£8 Brecknock Society Members)**

The title of the conference comes from the statement by a 19<sup>th</sup> Century tenant that paying the rent was an act of justice but securing the freehold was an act of joy. No doubt landlords also have their experiences of justice and joy!\_

Refreshments are not included but tea and coffee can be purchased and a light lunch (cost around £8) will also be available. Please let us know when registering (or by 4 September) if you require lunch.

**For more information and to book online please visit**

**<http://iswe.bangor.ac.uk/events> or post a cheque payable to the 'Brecknock Society' to: Dr. Shaun Evans, Institute for the Study of Welsh Estates, College of Arts and Humanities, Bangor University, Gwynedd, LL57 2DG. Local enquiries can be made to Dr Elizabeth Bickerton (01874 636926 or [liz.bickerton@btinternet.com](mailto:liz.bickerton@btinternet.com))**



**Brecknock Society  
and Museum Friends**



**PRIFYSGOL  
BANGOR  
UNIVERSITY**

## **PROGRAMME**

- 9.30-10.00** Registration
- 10.00** Welcome – John Gibbs, Chair of the Brecknock Society
- 10.05** **Session 1: The influence of estates**
- Researching the history, culture and landscapes of Wales through the prisms of estates – Shaun Evans, Bangor University
  - The History of the Penpont estate – Jonathan Williams
- 11.15** **Session 2: Family, power and image**
- Joseph Cobb of Brecon: entrepreneur and castle owner – Glyn Mathias
  - The Raikes family of Treberfydd – David Raikes
  - Leaving their marks on the landscape: the Macnamaras of Langoed (1796 – 1847) – Miriam Griffiths
- 12.45** Lunch – Exhibition including photographs of Breconshire estate landscapes by Simon Harpur
- 2.00** **Session 3: Archives, maps and local history**
- The Beaufort estate in Breconshire and the importance of its maps – Huw Thomas, National Library of Wales
  - Insights into local history using the Beaufort estate maps – John Gibbs
  - Highlights from the archives of Breconshire’s estates – Roz Williamson, Powys Archives
- 2.50** **Session 4: Landlords and tenants**
- Memories of tenancy: a compilation – Alison Noble
  - The 1915 disposal of the Breconshire part of the Tredegar estate: impacts on landlord and tenant – Nigel Clubb
  - Employment on a Breconshire estate – Rosemary Evans
- 3.50** Concluding remarks
- 4.00** **Departure**

## Saturday 2 & Sunday 3 September



### Llanhamlach Church

**Sat. 2 Sep. 11.00am to 4.00pm**

**Sun. 3 Sep. 11.00am to 4.00pm**

Pleasant refurbished Victorian church interior, including angel wall paintings in chancel and access to rooms and squint in 14<sup>th</sup> C tower. Exhibition of church and village records.

Refreshments will be available. Nice location overlooking River Usk with a view to the Brecon Beacons. Llanhamlach, LD3 7YB (Turning off A40 signposted to Peterstone Court). Park behind church at end of lane.

## Saturday 2 & Sunday 10 September

### St Mary & St Cynidr Parish Church, Llangynidr



**Sat. 2 Sep. 10.00am-12.00 noon**

**Sun. 10 Sep. 2.00pm - 4.00pm**

#### Llangynidr Local History Society

This walk around Llangynidr involves visiting our two chapels and the parish church. Parking at Llangynidr car park opposite the village hall GR SO 156196.

Registers available will be those for Baptisms, Banns, Marriages and Burials. There is also a last-century plan of the graveyard which may help to identify the position of graves.

**Friday 8 September**

**Brecon Cathedral Tower Tours - 10.00am & 11.00am**



We look forward to welcoming you to the Cathedral to view Brecon and the beautiful scenery from the Cathedral Tower. Climbing the tower is well worth the effort for the wonderful views of the Brecon Beacons National Park, the inside of the Cathedral and the bells. Climbing to the roof is an adventure – not just a simple spiral staircase.

Booking has to be made through the Cathedral Office. Tel: 01874 623857 or email: [admin@breconcathedral.org.uk](mailto:admin@breconcathedral.org.uk) There will be a charge of £5 per head. There is a visitors car park and disabled access to the Cathedral. Pilgrims Restaurant is in the Cathedral Close and can be contacted on 01874 610610 or [pilgrimstearooms@gmail.com](mailto:pilgrimstearooms@gmail.com) for refreshments. Brecon Cathedral, Cathedral Close, Brecon, LD3 9DP.

Notes: The tower was not built for tourists and photographers; There is only one way up and down. Steps are steep and small. Passages are low and narrow. All people over 5 feet tall must wear a hard hat. Sensible shoes must be worn (the steps may be dusty and the duckboards on the roof may be slippery). No child under the age of 8 is allowed to climb the tower. Each child aged 8-15 must be accompanied by an adult. Climbs are not permitted in heavy rain, strong winds or when the temperature is below freezing. If you have been diagnosed with heart or lung illnesses you are strongly advised NOT to attempt the tower tour as the climb is physically demanding which could potentially place you at risk.

**Monday 11 September**

**St. David's Church, Llanddew**



**Open Church and Exhibition**

10.30 am - 3.30 pm: The church in Llanddew is the oldest church in Breconshire, dating from the 13th century.

There will be an exhibition and sale of work by the members of Llanddew Craft Group in the church.

Bishop Gower's Well is in the village and there are some ruins from the bishop's palace. The palace was the residence of Giraldus Cambrensis, Gerald of Wales. There will be a cake stall; and tea/coffee and refreshments will be available. Disabled access; toilets and car parking at the Village Hall, a short distance from the Church. St. David's Church, Llanddew, LD3 9SS

For those feeling energetic, there is a walk from Brecon Cathedral to Llanddew through Priory Groves alongside the River Honddu - it's about 4 miles (there and back) but includes a steep climb up to the village.

**Saturday 16 & Sunday 17 September**

**Llyn Syfaddan History Group**

# **Treholford House and Gardens**

**11am to 3pm. Free entry to house and gardens.**



A rare opportunity to see a hidden gem. Treholford House has been owned by the Blackham family since 1948, formerly part of the Buckland Estate. It is thought to be the Dower House of the Gwynne Holford family. The Buckland estate extended to around 30,000 acres at its peak before it was sold off after the death of

J.P.W. Gwynne Holford in 1919. The Holford family also owned Westonbirt in Gloucestershire, now the home of the National Arboretum. Specimen trees from there were brought to Treholford at the same time as the Regency remodelling of the house was taking place in 1837

Now an estate in its own right of 3000 acres, Treholford encompasses Llangors Lake, Blaenllynfi castle, agricultural and forestry land. It is listed as "a fine late C18 and early C19 country house...with strong connections with county estate owning families. There are beautiful views of the lake, landscaped grounds and a listed and complete early C19 walled garden. The house retains many of its original fixtures and fittings.

Cake and refreshments on sale with all proceeds going to support volunteer work at Blaenllynfi Castle under the direction of Cadw.



Directions; A40 to Bwlch. At the war monument take the B4560 to Llangors. Drive for one mile to Cathedine. Turn right into narrow lane for parking and house. Limited disabled parking at house. Sloping paths and grounds. Reasonable access to most areas.

Event run by Llyn Syfaddan History Group by kind permission of Christine and Anstie Blackham

**Saturday 23 September**

## Hay History Group

# The Welsh Country House an Illustrated talk by Dr. Mark Baker



Dr. Mark Baker is an architectural historian based in Wales. He read History and Archaeology at Bangor University, and Medieval British Studies at Cardiff University, where he also completed his doctoral thesis on *The Development of the Welsh Country House* in 2015. As a freelance architectural historian, researcher and writer, Mark has worked with organisations such as the National

Trust, Cadw and the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales.

Dr. Baker will talk on Welsh Country Houses and the work he is undertaking at Gwrych Castle (illustrated above) in north Wales.

**7pm - 8.30pm.** Cusop Village Hall, Lower Mead, Cusop. HR3 5RW.  
£4 including tea or coffee - book online at [www.Hayhistorygroup.co.uk](http://www.Hayhistorygroup.co.uk)

## **Saturday 23 September**

**Hay Tours - Hay Railway Tour** 10.30am - 12.30am

**Hay Tours - Hay Bookshop Tour** 2pm - 3.00pm

both walks are free (normally £5) - donations welcome - see more details and book online at [www.haytours.org](http://www.haytours.org) - limited numbers.

## **Sunday 24 September**

**Hay Tours - Hay Heritage Tour** 11am - 12am

**Hay Tours - Armstrong Murder Tour** 2pm - 4.00pm

both walks are free (normally £5) - donations welcome - see more details and book online at [www.haytours.org](http://www.haytours.org) - limited numbers

**Pop-up Museum** - Hay Castle Archaeology; Documents, artefacts and pictures of Hay's wonderful history. During this event is an illustrated talk on "Old Gwernyfed Estate since 1600" by Colin Lewis, author of "Under the Black Mountains, the History of Gwernyfed since 1600"

Parish Rooms - Lion St. Hay. 12 - 4pm Free entry

All events can be booked online at: [www.Hayhistorygroup.co.uk](http://www.Hayhistorygroup.co.uk)

**Sunday 15 October - 9.30am to 4.30pm**

# Brecon Beacons National Park



## Bringing our Heritage to Life Brecon Beacons Heritage Day



**at Theatr Brycheiniog**

***Celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Park.***

Speakers will give an expert perspective on key heritage projects – find out more about the Glyn-neath Gunpowder Works, the Brecknock Museum, and much more.

**This event is free of charge, but ticketed.**

See [www.theatrebrycheiniog.co.uk](http://www.theatrebrycheiniog.co.uk) - for tickets

See [www.breconbeacons.org/events](http://www.breconbeacons.org/events) - for details of the programme

**Saturday 28 October**

# Church Monuments Society Informal study day at Brecon



Brecon Cathedral (formerly the parish church, and before that the Priory of St John) is ledgerstone heaven. Restoration by Scott in the 1860s and 1870s saved an outstanding collection of early modern floor slabs including about 60 of the characteristic Welsh cross slabs. The cathedral also has medieval cross slabs and effigy tombs.

This study day begins with lectures in Christ College, Brecon, on the site of a medieval Dominican friary. Talks will explore the rich heritage of commemorative verse in Welsh and the survival of the traditional cross slab in sixteenth-

and seventeenth-century Wales.

There will be an opportunity to visit the College chapel to look at medieval and post-medieval tombs and some remarkable misericords. After lunch (not included – Brecon has a range of restaurants, pubs and cafés) we reconvene at the Cathedral to explore its collection of tomb carvings.

For those who want to make a weekend of it, on Sunday we will offer a self-driven tour of some more local churches: a chance to explore the gorgeous painted wall monuments of the Brute family of stonemasons with their gilded cherubs and swags of fruit and flowers.

The charge for the day is £17.50 members, £22.50 non-members. This includes admission to the College chapel, tea and coffee on arrival but not lunch. There is no additional charge for the Sunday.

Further details will be on the website, or from the organiser, Prof. Madeleine Gray, 5 Wellington Street, Tongwynlais, Cardiff CF15 7LP, email [madeleine.gray@southwales.ac.uk](mailto:madeleine.gray@southwales.ac.uk) .



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### *Editorial*

This special edition of Hanes features Brecknock History Festival, above, and all the local history societies are involved in some aspect. There are several special events which this year spread across the months of September and October so there is no excuse to miss one. **This online edition gives additional information which could not be included in the publicity booklet for the Festival.**

Hanes is published every 3 months. The next edition is to be published November 1<sup>st</sup> 2017. Please email any articles or information about events etc. with the heading "HANES" to [alan.j.nicholls@btinternet.com](mailto:alan.j.nicholls@btinternet.com) by October 28th. 2017.

### *Introducing The Forum*

#### **BRECKNOCK MUSEUM**

Contact: Nigel Blackmore, Senior Curator  
Tel. 01874 624121

#### **BRECKNOCK SOCIETY AND MUSEUM**

**FRIENDS** Contact: Elaine Starling  
Tel. 01874 711484  
email: [evstarling@lineone.net](mailto:evstarling@lineone.net)

#### **BRECON LIBRARY**

Contact: 01874 62334

#### **BRECONSHIRE LOCAL & FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

Mr Robert Eckley, 42, Pendre Close,  
Brecon, LD3 9EW. Email:  
[r.eckley@btinternet.com](mailto:r.eckley@btinternet.com)

#### **BUILTH WELLS & DISTRICT HERITAGE SOCIETY**

Contact: Anna Page  
Tel. 01982 553376

#### **CHRIST COLLEGE ARCHIVE**

Contact: Felicity Kilpatrick  
Tel. 01874 615440

**CRAI & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY  
ARCHIVE**

Contact: Frances Jenkins  
Tel. 01874 636990

**CRICKHOWELL DISTRICT ARCHIVE CENTRE**

Contact: Angela Waring  
Tel. 01873 810922

**CRICKHOWELL & DISTRICT HISTORY  
SOCIETY**

Contact: Carol Jenkins  
Tel. 01873 812184

**HAY HISTORY GROUP**

Contact: Peter Ford  
Tel: 01497820676  
email: pcford1@hotmail.com  
[www.Hayhistorygroup.co.uk](http://www.Hayhistorygroup.co.uk)

**HAY TOURS**

[www.haytours.co.uk](http://www.haytours.co.uk)

**LLANGAMMARCH WELLS LOCAL  
HISTORY SOCIETY**

Contact: Sue Lilly  
Tel. 01591 610792  
Email: [suelilly52@gmail.com](mailto:suelilly52@gmail.com)

**LLANGYNIDR LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

Contact: Ann Jessopp  
Tel. 01874 730431  
email: [dfjessopp@btinternet.com](mailto:dfjessopp@btinternet.com)

**LLANTHONY HISTORY GROUP**

Contact: Oliver Fairclough  
Tel. 01873 890 540  
[oliverfairclough@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:oliverfairclough@yahoo.co.uk)

**LLANWRTYD & DISTRICT HERITAGE  
& ARTS CENTRE**

Contact: Rob Thomas  
Tel. 01591 610661  
email: [r.w.thomas@talk21.com](mailto:r.w.thomas@talk21.com)  
[www.llanwrtydhistorygroup.com](http://www.llanwrtydhistorygroup.com)

**LLYN SYFADDAN HISTORY GROUP**

Contact: Roger Reese  
email: [rogerreese2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rogerreese2002@yahoo.co.uk)

**PONTNEATHVAUGHAN LOCAL  
HISTORY SOCIETY**

Contact: Stephen Morris  
Tel. 01639 720728

**POWYS COUNTY ARCHIVE OFFICE**

email: [archives@powys.gov.uk](mailto:archives@powys.gov.uk)  
[www.powys.gov.uk/archives](http://www.powys.gov.uk/archives)

**POWYS FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

Contact: Sheila Leitch  
Tel: 01497 847354

**REGIMENTAL MUSEUM OF THE ROYAL  
WELSH**

Contact: Richard Davies / Celia Green  
Tel. 01874 613310

**TALGARTH AND DISTRICT  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Contact: Sheila Lovell  
Tel: 01874 711096  
Email: [atalovell@btinternet.com](mailto:atalovell@btinternet.com)

**WELSH HISTORIC GARDENS TRUST**

Contact: Elizabeth Siberry  
Tel: 01873 812169

**YSTRADGYNLAIS FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

Contact: Caryl Jones Tel. 01269 825306

## NEWS AND EVENTS

### *Brecon Beacons National Park*

#### *Young Archaeologists' Club*

The Brecon Beacons Young Archaeologists' Club is part of a network of Young Archaeologists' Clubs across Wales, and the UK, administered by the Council for British Archaeology. YAC is the only UK-wide club for young people up to the age of 17 interested in archaeology. YAC's vision is for all young people to have opportunities to be inspired and excited by archaeology, and to empower them to help shape its future. The Brecon Beacons Young Archaeologists' Club was established by a group of local volunteers in order to fill a gap in the provision of YAC branches in the Brecon Beacons and the Usk Valley. Brecon Beacons YAC is supported by the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority.

You can find out more about the Brecon Beacons Young Archaeologists' Club by visiting our blog

<http://bbyac.wordpress.com/>

### *Brecknock Society & Museum Friends*

**9 Sep 2017** - "Justice and Joy"  
Breconshire Estates from the viewpoints of landowners and tenants. One Day Conference at Penpoint (10.00 – 4.00) jointly with the institute for the Study of Welsh Estates and involving local and visiting speakers.

**13 October 2017 - 7.00pm**

#### **Forward look - the renovated Brecknock Museum & Art Gallery**

An introduction to the interior features and galleries, including discussion on the Society's and individual member's involvement in the future operation. The Muse, Glamorgan Street, Brecon.

**15 November 2017 - 6.00pm**

#### **The Brecon and Abergavenny Canal and its lime-kilns.**

David Viner and David Morgan of the Canals and Rivers Trust. The Muse, Glamorgan Street, Brecon.

### *Brecon Cathedral*



**1 Aug 2017** Saint Eluned Festival.  
Brecon Cathedral will celebrate local saint, Eluned, with guided walks to her well, children's activities, a hog roast, and crafts and stalls within the Cathedral grounds. Everyone welcome and free to all. See:

<http://www.breconcathedral.org.uk/watson/events/st-eluned-summer-fair/>

## *Breconshire Local & Family History Society*

Meetings are held at Brecon Library (Upstairs) at 2.00pm. All are welcome, non-members pay a £1 entry fee.

**1 Aug 2017** Memories of the Cwmtaf Valley - Gwyneth Evans will give this talk about life in the Taff Fawr Valley.

**5 Sep 2017** Walter Wilkins Part 2. Walter Wilkins Old Banker, Entrepreneur and Politician - Ken Jones will continue the story of Walter Wilkins, one of the notable Brecon residents of his time.

**3 October 2017** Drivers' Roads. Using family research and artefacts, Rob Stephens will tell the story of sheep dealing and droving within his family at the start of the 20th century.

**7 November 2017** "Show and Tell" Afternoon - Come along with a favourite item or story and share it with us as we wind down following another hectic year. Light refreshments will be available.

We continue to hold a "Help with your Family and Local History Research" session, at Brecon Library, on the third Saturday in the month (Bank Holidays excluded) – 11.00 am to 12.00pm. For more details about our activities, contact Hilary Williams (Secretary) at [enquiries@blfhs.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@blfhs.co.uk) or telephone 01874 624432

## *Builth Wells Heritage Society*

**8 Sep 2017** - Jill de Grey Birch - A Childhood in Rhodesia/Zimbabwe.

**13 Oct 2017** - - Sue Lilly - The Preseli Blue Stones and Stonehenge

**10 Nov 2017** - Andrew Hinall - The History of Cricket in Builth Wells

## *Crickhowell & District History Society*

Talks held in the Parish Hall, Church Lane and commence 7.30 pm.

**20 September 2017** - Chris Barber "The Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal"

**18 October 2017** - Geoff Williams "Penheolrhyn, A House on the Margins"

## *Hay History Group*

All meetings are on Fridays at Cusop Village Hall and start at 7.30.

**29 Sep 2017** - Matilda de Braose - Myths and Legends. Talk by Mari Fforde

**3 Nov 2017** The Cistercians, particularly in the western areas of Britain. Talk by Gil McHattie



## *Llanwrtyd Heritage and Arts Centre*

Our Heritage and Arts Centre will be open throughout the summer and autumn months between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. from Thursdays to Sundays.

As a result of these changes, in addition to providing “heritage facilities and information”, the added interest this year will be provided by a series of month-long exhibitions by different artists and crafts people who will usually be present to demonstrate their work and discuss their interests. Each of the forthcoming Exhibitions, through to October, will be advertised on our website - **history-arts-wales.org.uk** - or simply search by typing in **ldhac**

Should you require more information regarding our facilities, items for sale, nature of interactive displays, wall panel display material, etc. please contact 01591 6100167 or [ldhac2016@gmail.com](mailto:ldhac2016@gmail.com).

[www.llanwrtydhistorygroup.webs.com](http://www.llanwrtydhistorygroup.webs.com)

## *Powys Archives*

Powys Archives has recently relocated to a new home at Unit 29 Ddole Road Enterprise Park in Llandrindod Wells , LD1 6DF

We will be open as normal for researchers on Tuesday to Friday, 10.00am-5.00am. Please see our website:

[www.powys.gov.uk/archives](http://www.powys.gov.uk/archives) for details of our collections. Booking is essential either by email: [archives@powys.gov.uk](mailto:archives@powys.gov.uk) or telephone: 01597 826088.  
[Update from Powys Archives](#)

The construction work at the new Archive facility at Unit 29, Ddole Road Industrial Estate in Llandrindod has now been completed and the new mobile shelving has also been installed. It has taken around six weeks for the contractor to install the shelving in both stores, which reaches just under five metres high. In total it can accommodate 14,954 linear metres of records.

At the beginning of June the removal company started to move all of the records from temporary storage into the new facility. This has now been completed and the records from the Archive building at County Hall are now being relocated, along with the furniture and other equipment. Our public searchroom will reopen in our new facility on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

Please see our website for details of our new location and opening hours (<http://www.powys.gov.uk/en/archives/find-archives-local-records/archives-office-location-opening-hours/>). Please also see our Twitter ([@PowysArchives](https://twitter.com/PowysArchives)) and Facebook ([@powysarchives](https://www.facebook.com/powysarchives)) pages for further updates on the relocation.

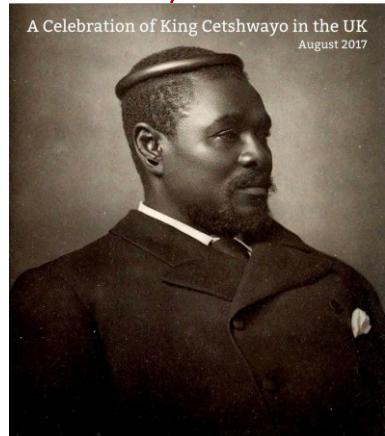
### Recent accessions to Powys Archives

Collection of photographs mainly from the Planning and Highways Departments of various places in Powys including Llandrindod, Knighton, Newtown, Welshpool, Hay on Wye and Llanidloes taken for publicity, reports, plans and as stock photographs, C20 [Acc 2396]

Records from the British Records Association including deeds for Rhandegynwen, 1712, Newtown, Montgomeryshire, 1805 & property in Llanstephan, Radnorshire, 1868-1948; sales particular for Boughrood Castle, Radnorshire, 1921 & birth, marriage and death records of the Pritchard family of Cefn Coed, p. Vaynor, Breconshire, 1783-1886 [Acc 2397]

Breconshire County Council: plans of proposed secondary grammar boy's technical school at Penlan, Brecon, 1955 & plan of proposed new accommodation at the girls' grammar school, Brecon, 1960 [Acc 2404]

## *The Regimental Museum of the Royal Welsh*



### **Sibanye, Brecon welcomes the Zulus**

The Anglo-Zulu War took place in 1879, provoked by the British invasion of Zululand as part of a plan to create a confederated state in southern Africa. The British were led by Lord Chelmsford who seriously underestimated the skill and prowess of the Zulus. His forces were caught unprepared at Isandlwana where the Zulus won a famous victory. A few survivors fled to Rorke's Drift to warn the mission where a heroic defence took place. The main regiment involved at Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift was the 24th whose headquarters were in Brecon. Nowadays, the Regimental Museum of the Royal Welsh in Brecon is the proud protector of many VCs awarded to the soldiers of the 24th, and contains a display room dedicated to artefacts from the Zulu War.

The Friends of the Regimental Museum were established to provide support to the Museum; they carry this out through fund raising and running projects which fit with the museum's objectives. Their current project is Never Forget Your Welsh Heroes (NFYWH), which digitises letters and diaries of Welsh soldiers. In 2016, NFYWH came to the attention of parties in KwaZulu-Natal who had an interest in commemorating the bravery of warriors from both sides in the Anglo-Zulu War and in the shared historical heritage of Zululand and Wales. Initial contacts resulted in a visit by the South African High Commissioner to Brecon in November 2016. The Friends established a project team which was invited to visit KwaZulu-Natal in January 2017 where they attended the annual re-enactment at Isandlwana and were warmly welcomed by King Goodwill Zwelithini.

Out of these visits and meetings, a project was established, called Sibanye, meaning "we are one", to show that the way forward for these past adversaries is to acknowledge the events of the past but to move on in a spirit of support and co-operation. Our prime focus will be on the next generation so that they have a greater understanding of the past to inform a better future. The Sibanye project will be split into sub-projects, each with a different annual theme. We plan to focus on heritage aspects in 2017 to get the project off to a high profile start. Further themes are

- Agriculture
- Education
- Arts and culture
- Sport
- Business

We will be welcoming 80 Zulus to Brecon in August. It will be a wonderful opportunity to meet some of the descendants of the Zulu warriors who fought at Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift. We will be presenting a variety of events for all the family, please come and support this unique occasion.

11 August 2017 Gremlin, Brecon, Dreamteam performance.

12 August 2017 Theatr Brycheiniog, Dreamteam performance.

23 August 2017 Theatr Brycheiniog, Grand Opening.

23-25 August 2017 Theatr Brycheiniog, King Cetshwayo Musical.

26 August 2017 Cathedral Concert.

27 August 2017 Study Centre, The Barracks. Lecture by John Young.

28 August 2017 Colosseum Cinema - Film, Zulu Dawn.

29 August 2017 Theatr Brycheiniog, Workshop for children.

29 August 2017 Study Centre, The Barracks. Lecture by John Young.

31 August 2017 Cardiff Castle. Re-enactment of the battle of Isandlwana.

## *The National Library of Wales*

**Wednesday 23 August 2017**  
**2pm – 4pm Story-maps, Welsh Folk  
Tales, and Children's Book Illustration.**



Join Valeriane Leblond, artist and illustrator of the book *The Four Branches of Y Mabinogi*, and Peter Stevenson, storyteller and author of *Welsh Folk Tales*, for an afternoon workshop where you'll create and illustrate a children's book based on Valeriane's new illustrated map of Welsh Folk Tales specially created for the National Library. Event suitable for families and children aged 7 and above.  
*Admission by ticket £5.00*

**Tuesday 29 August 2.00pm**  
**Treasures of Legends**



Come and listen to the legends behind our treasures, and if you prove yourself worthy, become a legend yourself by being painted as a Celtic warrior, dragon or fairy. Come and join in the fun with our friends from Castell Henllys, the Iron Age village in Pembrokeshire. Event suitable for children aged 3-12.

*Admission by ticket £4.00*

**Wednesday 20 September**  
**10.00am – 4.00pm**

### **Open Doors**

Date for the diary. A day full of interesting talks and tours organised by the National Library and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales. Further details will be included in our Autumn events programme.

**Wednesday 6 September 1.15pm**  
**Williams Pantycelyn trwy Lygad ei**  
**Lythyrâu** - Talk by Professor E. Wyn James.



This talk is an opportunity to see the life and works of William Williams of Pantycelyn, one of Wales' cultural giants and an author of international status and significance, through his own letters, in the year that marks 300 years since his birth.

*Free admission by ticket*

### *Elan Valley Visitor Centre*



**22 August 2017 - Dam Patrol**  
**9.30am - 1pm**

Meet Elan Valley Visitor Centre.  
Join our Rangers at one of our big Dam Open Days - an exclusive chance to venture into Pen y Garreg Dam and up to the central tower. You'll enjoy a bird's-eye view of the dam – and learn about the feat of engineering that made Elan. Park at Penbont car park and take a walk through the woodland, up the steps to the dam entrance. There are steps inside the dam which may be wet and in some areas there are low light levels. Children should be carefully supervised at all times. Minimum donation £1 for adults and children

**3 September 2017 - Cwm Elan Mines**

Walk starts at 10am  
Nantgwyllt Church car park



Day Walk : Starts at 10am - With further stabilising works completed at Cwm elan Mines, join Elan Valley Trust Trustee; Bob Vaughan, on a 5 mile walk to explore the history and remains of remnant Lead Mines. Meet at Nantgwyllt Church SN 909639

**4 September 2017 10am - 3pm**

**Roman Camp Walk**

Penbont car park. An 9.5 mile fairly strenuous hill walk with four climbs and two streams crossings.

You'll pass the site of an old Roman Camp and visit Maen Serth standing stone used by Cistercian Monks and the site of a medieval murder.

Meet at Penbont Car Park.

**9 September 2017 2.00pm - 3.30pm**

**Village Tour**

Meet Elan Valley Visitor Centre



Learn about the history of Caban Coch Dam, the workers' village and other stories on this easy one mile walk.

Meet at the Visitor Centre

**10 September 2017 Walk starts at 10am**

**Ancient Sites of the Elan Valley**

Llannerch y Cawr Car Park

Join local enthusiasts David James and Vic Pardoe as they venture around the cairns of Garn Llwyd and Gro Hill plus visit the Crugiau Bach prehistoric



site. This moderate 6.5 mile walk will take in the cairns, stone circles and stones of this part of the Claerwen Valley.

Bring a packed lunch. Meet at Llannerch y Cawr Car Park SN 901616 (Editor says - I did this last year - a wonderful walk)

For all these events and more - most of which are free - See:

<http://www.elanvalley.org.uk>