

“Merthyr Express” 4 January 1958

Christmas Service The annual Christmas service of the Noddfa and Nazareth Chapels was held at Nazareth Chapel on Christmas morning and evening. The morning service took the form of a carol service and the singing of the children was really excellent. Mr. W. A. Davies was the conductor in the absence of Miss Edna Jones. The devotions were led by Miss Rita Jones and Master Lyn James. A recitation was given by Marilyn Hollifield. Mr. W. A. Davies again conducted in the evening. Mr. T. J. Jones presided. A duet was sung by Miss Jean Owen and Miss Ann Hughes and a solo was given by Miss Rosemary Jones. The devotions were led by Terrence Chanklans and Miss Eunice Jones. Mr. Willie Edwards was organist at both services.

Carmel On Christmas evening at Carmel, the service took the form of hymn singing. The conductor was Mr. Meirion Shankland and the devotions were led by Miss M. Jones and Mrs. Lewis. A solo was sung by Nurse Mimi Lewis. The organist was Mr. T. Walters. On Sunday evening the service was conducted by Nurse Mimi Lewis. The theme of her address was Mary Jones and her Bible. She was thanked by Mr. T. Walters.

Nativity Play A service in which the story of Christmas was presented as a play was held at Carmel. An address was given by Nurse B. Davies. Taking part were: Nurse M. Lewis, Allison Davies, Delphine Chapman and Neville Hann. Mr. T. Walters was the organist. Others taking part were: Jennifer Thomas, Barnara Robertson, Jeannette Kolaskinski, Robert Thomas, Diane Robertson, Wendy Hann, Carol Powell, David Osborne, Ralph Cochrane, Carl Blunt, Derrick Hann, Malcolm Lewis, Lawrence Blunt, Tony Martin, Ian Lewis, Paul Challenger, Robert Powell, Ian Robertson, Lily Lewis, Maldwyn Gittens, Emrys Parry, Jean Davies, Ann Challenger, Neville Hann, Margaret Shankland, Sonia Dummett, Martin Williams, Gwenda Richards, Christine Tyler, Joyce Lewis, Lynn Martin, Brian Cochrane, Alvin Kolaskinski, Christopher Powell, Terasa Kolaskinski. The play was produced by Miss Maria Jones assisted by Mrs. E. Rees.

“Merthyr Express” 11 January 1958

Music Examination At the London College of Music examination at Cardiff in December, the following were successful in pianoforte section (junior): Marilyn Hollifield, Council Houses; Avril Morgan, Glanynant; Ken Williams, Heol Iago; all 1st class.

Labour Club The Club entertained the children to a fine Christmas tea at the New Hall. After tea, each child was given a gift of money.

Successful Dance The long dance at the New Hall on Friday proved a success. Tea was served by Mesdames Hettie Evans, Marian Gittoes, M. Watkins & C. Shankland.

Successes in Music In the December music examinations held in Cardiff, Jane Sedgemore, The Vicarage, and Corinne Morgan, Aelybryn, both secured first class certificates.

N.S.P.C.C. The house-to-house collection made on behalf of the Society realised the sum of £15 10s. The collectors were Miss M. Jones, Mrs. I. Evans, Miss E. Evans, Mrs. A. Davies, Mrs. H. Morgan, Mrs. Small, Mrs. J. Davies, Miss Rosemary Jones and Mrs. Jenkins. The secretary wishes to thank the honorary workers for the help given so willingly, and those friends who so kindly contributed.

School Parties Fochriw Infants' School children had a Christmas party, when the headmistress, Miss Olive Payne, and her staff, entertained them to an excellent tea. After tea, carols were sung, and then Father Christmas arrived and presented each child with a gift. Fochriw Junior School headmaster, Mr. Bryn Davies, and staff entertained the children to a fine tea. After tea, a film show was given at the New Hall. Penybank School children were entertained by the headteacher, Miss L. Vaughan, and staff to the usual Christmas tea and festivities. Pantywaun School, under headmistress Miss Eluned Lawrence and staff, enjoyed a fine Christmas tea and the usual Christmas fun.

“Merthyr Express” 25 January, 1958

Late Mr. D.J. Thomas The funeral of Mr. David Joshua Thomas, 20, Brook-row, the husband of Nurse P. Thomas, and son of Mrs. J. Thomas, took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Monday, January 13. The officiating ministers at the house and graveside were Mr. T.J.

Jones, Rev. G.A. Evans, vicar, and Rev. J.A. Thomas, Pontlottyn. The bearers were Messrs. J.R. Walters, David G. Parry, Robert & Crad Thomas, Will Pierce & Richard Price. Mr. Thomas was formerly a fireman at Groesfaen Colliery. He had been organist at Noddfa Baptist Chapel for 27 years, and the Superintendent of the Sunday School for many years. He had been the conductor of the Noddfa and Nazareth Gymanfa Ganu for a number of years. The mourners were: Tom & Bryn (brothers); Josh, Tom & Jim (uncles); George, Tom, Eddie & Alec (brothers-in-law); John. Frank. Iorwerth, W. Rowlands, Bargoed, T. Matthews, Abertysswg (cousins); Leighton, Gerald, Gwyn, Willie, Don (nephews); Messrs. T. Davies & W.E. Thomas (representing Groesfaen Colliery officials). At the house were: Phoebe (wife); Susan (daughter); Mam, Auntie May, Olwen, Eluned. Sal, Cei, Rach & Meg (sisters-in-law); Non, Fanw, Eileen, Kathleen (nieces); Iris, Winnie, Liz, Dilys, Edna, Mary, Ceinwen, Eunice and Mary (cousins); Ivy and Gwenda (friends). There were numerous floral tributes (listed) including ones from Members of Noddfa Chapel; Nazareth & Noddfa Gymanfa and Groesfaen Colliery officials.

Welfare Association Coun. W.J. Payne presided over a meeting at the New Hall on Thursday evening, supported by the secretary, Mr. Cyril Davies, and treasurer, Mr. Frank Jenkins. After the minutes had been accepted, several matters came up for discussion. The treasurer gave a detailed financial report of both indoor and outdoor schemes. The members stood in silence as a tribute to Mr. D.J. Thomas, who had been secretary and librarian of the Welfare and Institute for some years.

“Merthyr Express” 1 February 1958

Examination Success Miss Jayne Lewis, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Evan Lewis of Swinton, formerly of Fochriw, was one of 45 children successful in the recent entrance examination for the Canon Slade Grammar School, Bolton. Her father is an ex-pupil of Lewis School Pengam.

“Merthyr Express” 8 February 1958

Death The death has occurred of one of Fochriw’s oldest and highly respected inhabitants, Mr. David Davies, Brook Cottage. He was 82.

“Merthyr Express” 15 February 1958

Dr. Barnardo Collection The receipt of £12 5s 2d. - realised from the recent collection - has been acknowledged by the secretary. The organiser, Nurse M. Lewis, wishes to thank the collectors who were: Mrs.. D. Edwards, Brook Row; Miss Myra Lloyd & Miss Marie Williams, Martin-street, Dynevor Street, Williams-row, Railway-terrace; Mrs.Hannah Thomas, Station-terrace; Mrs.. Hilda Morgan, Mrs.. F. E. Lewis, Glanynant; Mrs. B.lod Evans & Mrs. Gwyneth Mantle, New Council Estate; Miss Cassie Chankland, Guest-street; Miss M. Jones & Miss M. Evans, Plantation-terrace & Glyn-terrace; Mrs. E. Rees & Mrs. Powell, Heol Iago, Coronation-terrace, Rhodfa Ganol; Mrs. E. Thomas, Moore’s-row, Pleasant View & Villas.

“Merthyr Express” 1 March 1958

Beddoe - Dummett The wedding took place at St. Tyfaelog’s Church, Pontlottyn, of Mr.. Kendrick Beddoe, son of Mr.. & Mrs.. J. Beddoe, 3, Martin Street, and Miss Gwyneth Dummett, daughter of Mr.. & Mrs.. George Dummett, 20, Dynevor Street. The Rev. W. R. Hughes officiated. The bride was given away by her father, and wore a gown of white satin brocade with full-length veil and a coronet of orange blossom and seed pearls. In attendance were Miss Gail Beddoe, cousin of the groom, chief bridesmaid, who wore lavender brocade with flowered head-dress to tone; Gloria Dummett, cousin of the bride, and Sonia Hudson, cousin of the groom, who wore dresses of pale green brocade with head dresses to match, and carried bouquets of lemon and white freesias. The flower girl was Thelma Hudson, and the page-boy Robert Hudson. The best man was Mr.. Royston Dummett and the groomsmen were David Lewis and Percy Hall. The reception was held at the New Hall. The couple left for Tupsley, Hereford, for their honeymoon. The bride wore a black and white two-piece suit with black accessories.

Football Fochriw lost their Rhymney Valley Senior League game to Fairview Rangers 5-0.

“Merthyr Express” 15 March 1958

Funeral The funeral of Bronia, baby daughter of Mr. & Mrs. S. M. James, 37, Glanynant, took place last Tuesday at Pentwyn Cemetery. The funeral of Bronia, baby daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Syl M. James, 37, Glanynant, took place at Pentwyn Cemetery on Tuesday last. Rev. T.J. Jones officiated. Present were Syl M. James (father); Lynn (brother); T.J. James & Thos. Morris (grandfathers); R. Thomas, G. Williams, Len Trollop (uncles); J. Watkins, W. Evans. At the house were Mrs. Gwenfil James (mother); Mrs. L. James & Mrs. E. Morgan (grandmothers); Jean, Mesdames E. Thomas, G. Williams, M. Morgan (aunts). There were numerous floral tributes. (listed)

“Merthyr Express” 22 March 1958

Wedding: Hulse-Marshallsea The wedding took place last Sturday at St. Mary’s Church of Mr. Albert Hulse, only son of Mr. & Mrs. S. Hulse, Rhymney, and Miss Iona Marshallsea, of Brynteg, Fochriw. The Rev. E. Adams Evans officiated, with Mr. Norman Palmer at the organ. The bride was given away by her father, and wore a model gown of white Italian lace, with a short circular veil held in place by a coronet of pearls and diamante. She carried an ivory prayer book decorated with red roses and lily of the valley. In attendance was Miss Sandra Marshallsea, the bride’s sister, who wore red embossed nylon velvet and carried a white ermine muff trimmed with red carnations and trailing fern, and a coronet of white feathers trimmed with white velvet rosebuds. The best man was Mr. Jack Williams, and the groomsmen were Messrs. Colin Marshallsea, Bryn Mosely and Gordon Coggan. A reception was held at the New Hall. Later, the couple left for a honeymoon in London. To travel the bride wore a powder-blue coat and dress with stone accessories. The bride’s mother wore a suit of French figured brocade in coffee and cream, with a mink marmot stole and matching accessories. The groom’s mother wore a two-piece ensemble of beige and coffee with marching accessories.

“Merthyr Express” 29 March 1958

Records, Records, Records Why not call at the “Relay,” 15, High-street, Rhymney. All makes in stock.

Late Mrs. L. Evans The death has occurred of Mrs. Lean Evans, Martin’s-street, widow of Mr. Richard Evans. Mrs. Evans had lived in Fochriw for 40 years and was 73. The funeral took place on Saturday at Pentwyn Churchyard. Rev. E. Adams Evans officiated at the house and graveside. The mourners were Messrs. Fred Dummett (son-in-law); Glanmor & Baden Dummett, Leonard Evans, Roy Tucker (grandsons); Frank Wilton (brother); Ken Wilton (Deri), Billie Wilton (Bedlinog), Howard Beddoe, Archie Bate (Deri), Tom & Glyn Jones, Cliff Greenaway, Ken Hamblin (Trelewis) nephews; Oliver Davies (Tirphil), Royston Dummett. At the house were Edie Dummett & Cissie Evans (daughters); Audrey, Gloria, Sonia, Betty Dummett (grand daughters); Alice Wilton (sister-in-law); Vera Gwen, Winnie Beddoe, Dolly Bate, Ethel Scriven Freda Wilton, Mesdames Iles, Watkins and Morgan.

“Merthyr Express” 5 April 1958

Anniversary The 16th anniversary services were held recently at the Pentecostal Church, Penybank. The special preachers were Mr. Wallace and Mr. Locke, both of Bristol. Many district assemblies were represented.

Bradley - Jones The wedding took place on Saturday week of Mr. Ronald Bradley, son of Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Bradley, Glanynant, to Miss Mary Jones, youngest daughter of Mr. & Mrs. S. Jones. Plantation-terrace. The Vicar officiated, with Mr. N. Palmer at the organ. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. John Jones. She wore a full-length gown of Brussels lace, trimmed with diamante and pearls. Her full-length veil was held in place by a coronet of seed pearls and diamante and she carried a shower bouquet of red carnations. The bridesmaids - Miss Marilyn Evans (niece of the groom), and Miss Margaret Mantle (niece of the bride), wore dresses of blue nylon, with head-dresses to match. Miss Mair Bradley (sister of the groom) wore a gown of pink tulle with head-dress to match. The chief bridesmaid, Miss Pat Edwards, wore a gown of lavender nylon. They all carried bouquets of tulips and anemones. A reception was held at the New Hall.

“Merthyr Express” 12 April 1958

Nazareth On Good Friday, united services were held at Nazareth. Prayer meetings were held in the morning and evening. The preacher was Mr. Haydn Jones. Rev. T. J. Jones presided. The organists were Mr. T. Walters & Mr. W. A. Davies.

Labour Party The Ward meeting took place on Thursday. The chair was taken by Coun. W. Poyntz. Coun. W. E. Davies gave a report of council activities. Several questions were asked and answered.

Parish Church Services were held on Good Friday and Easter Day. The Church was decorated with Easter lilies and other flowers. The preacher was the Vicar, and at the Sunday evening service, Mr.. John Palmer. The organist was Mr.. Norman Palmer.

“Merthyr Express” 3 May 1958

Death It was with regret that the many friends of Mrs.. Annie Wood heard of her sudden death at Llanbradach. She was the wife of Mr. Vincent Wood, licensee of the Wingfield Hotel, Llanbradach. They had lived at Fochriw for some years, before moving to Llanbradach.

Easter Vestry The annual Vestry meeting was held at St. Mary’s on Wednesday, the Vicar presiding. Mr. J. Palmer, parochial secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were accepted. Coun. W. J. Payne submitted a detailed account of the church’s financial position and this was accepted. He stated that a considerable amount of money was needed to put the church in order. All officers were re-elected.

“Merthyr Express” 10 May 1958

Film Shows A film showing the work done by Dr. Barnado’s Homes was given at Nazareth Chapel by the Rev. J. O. James, organiser for Wales. Mr. James gave a very interesting and graphic talk on the films shown, and on the work done in the Homes. Mr.. W. A. Davies, Railway Terrace assisted, and was the organist for the evening. Mrs. Mitchell and Nurse M. Lewis thanked the speaker. Miss Eliza Evans, secretary, arranged the programme. Rev. Jones appealed for practical sympathy, chiefly handkerchiefs and gloves, as the Homes depended on voluntary help and contributions.

“Merthyr Express” 17 May 1958

Deaths Two well-known personalities of the village died during the week. They were Mrs.. Margaret Davies, wife of Mr. George Davies, Brynteg Street, and Mr. Octavius Richards, who was for many years organist at the Parish Church, before his removal to Pengam.

“Merthyr Express” 24 May 1958

Successful Examination Miss Jayne Lewis, daughter of Mr.. & Mrs.. Evan M. Lewis, formerly of Fochriw, now of Swinton, Manchester, has been successful in the county examinations. She will enter Canon Slade Grammar School, Bolton.

Late Mrs. M. Davies The funeral of Mrs. Margaret Davies, wife of Mr.. George Davies, Brynteg-street, took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Wednesday. Aged 64, Mrs. Davies had lived for many years in the village, and was highly respected. Rev. Father Lawlor officiated at the house and graveside. Mourners were: Mr.. G. Davies (husband); Messrs.. Jack, Ivor & Len Davies (sons); Jim & Bernard Brown (brothers); J. Brockwell (grandson); B. Brown (uncle); Will Morgan, Bryn & Gomer Davies, W. Lewis, G. Harris (brothers-in-law); Alun & Gwyn Davies, Terence & Gordon James, L. Goode, J. Lewis, L. Jarman, T. Greaney (nephews); W. William & Stan Watkins (sons-in-law); J. Brown, G. Meredith, T. Mantle, W. Phillips, D. Gittens, B. Rees, Ben Rees, W. Rees, W. & D. Pope, T. E. Davies, V. Davies, M. Davies, R. Evans, R. Jones (cousins). At the house were: Glenys, Jenny, Megan (daughters); Hannah, Annie Mary (sisters); J. Davies, M. Davies, B. Brockwell (daughters-in-law); B. Brown (aunt); M. Lewis, C. Harris, D. Brown, J. Davies (sisters-in-law); M. James & A. M. Goode (nieces); H. Pinch, R. Morgan, H. Pope (cousins); Mrs. H. Watkins. The bearers were Messrs.. C. Williams, E. Jones, N. Williams, F. Jenkins, J. Bell, M. Edwards, T. Shankland. Funeral arrangements were by Mr.. D. J. Davies, Fochriw.

“Merthyr Express” 31 May 1958

Death Mr. Daniel James, Martin's Street, who had been very active in several movements in the village, including St. John Ambulance, Carmel Chapel and the Institute, has died.

"Merthyr Express" 7 June 1958

Old Inhabitant The death has taken place after a long illness of an old inhabitant, Mr. Thomas Shankland, Aelybryn-street.

St. John Officer The funeral of the late Mr. Daniel James, 14, Martin Street, took place at Thornhill on Saturday. Aged 66, he had been ill for a long time. He had always been active in the life of the village. Mr. James was a superintendent of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, a deacon of Carmel Chapel, and a member of the Welfare Committee. Pastor D. Thomas, Rev. T.J. Jones, and Rev. E. Adams Evans officiated. Bearers were members of the Order of St. John: Messrs. Joshua Evans, Tom Thomas, I. Morgan, Willie Parry. The coffin was covered with the flag of St. John, and cap and bet of Mr. James. The mourners were: Mrs. M.M. Davies (daughter); Mr. Ben James (brother); Mr. James Davies (grandson); Miss Eirwen Thomas (sister-in-law); Messrs. Ivor Ballard, Islwyn & Edryd Jones (cousins); Mr. & Mrs. Danny Rowlands, Mr. Aneurin Thomas, Mr. & Mrs. Enoch Lewis, Miss Hilda Morgan and John Morgan. At the house were Martha James wife); Esther Thomas (sister-in-law); Iris & Betty Jones, Miss Elsa Evans (cousins). Among the general public present were: Coun W.J. Payne, Messrs. S. Lewis, J.P., Daniel Jenkins, Frank Jenkins, J.R. Thomas, David Evans, R. Rees, D.C. Jones, Wm. Lewis, A. Marshallsea, D. Morris, E.W. Jones, Thomas Walters, Iorwerth Evans, W.A. Davies, S. Iles, D.H. Lewis, Gwyn Lloyd, Dewi Morgan, Bryn Rees.

"Merthyr Express" 14 June 1958

Supporters' Meeting On Thursday evening at the New Hall, the old age pensioners' ladies' supporters committee held a meeting. The present aim is to give the O.A.Ps. a day at the seaside. A "Mile of Pennies" will be organised, appealing for generous support.

Ward Meeting A Ward meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday evening, Coun. Payne presiding. A very warm welcome was extended to Mr. Sam Lewis who attended after illness. Correspondence included a letter of thanks and good wishes from Mrs. H.L. Farley for the presentation cheque received from the Party. Coun. Poyntz gave a detailed report of Council activities. Mrs. E.J. Rowlands was appointed treasurer of the local party.

Late Mr. T. J. Shankland The funeral of Mr. Thomas James Shankland of 22, Aelybryn, took place at Glyntaff Crematorium in June 4. Mr. Shankland was 67 and had lived in the village the whole of his life where he was held in high esteem. The officiating minister was Rev. Lilly, Nazareth, Pontlottyn. The mourners were: Mrs. Elspeth Shankland (wife); Mrs. Catherine Way (sister-in-law); Messrs. Benjamin & David John Shankland (brothers); Tom Idris, Emrys, Roy Shankland, Glanmor and Noel Williams, Harry Evans, Tommy Cockram (nephews); Thos. John James, Syl James, Myrddin Hughes, John Evans, Dai Morris, Meirion Shankland, Frank Jenkins, Willie James, Tudor & Alben Adams, Will & Evan Harris (cousins); William Lewis (uncle). The bearers were Messrs. Bob John, Jack Lawrence, Attwell Woods, Bert & Nick Cumpstone. Friends: David Evans, Norman Withers, Idris Griffiths. At the house were Mesdames Emily Shankland, Nellie Angell, Edith Lewis, Nell Lewis (sisters-in-law); Gwladys, Mavis, Enid, Megan, Joan, Thelma (nieces); Bella Harris, Mary Alice Lewis (aunts); Sarah Millward, Eliz. Ann Evans, L. Macaulay.

"Merthyr Express" 21 June 1958

Death Mr. Percy Edwards, Pontlottyn Road, late of Brook Row, has died aged 70.

Noddfa Sisterhood On Saturday, the members journeyed by motor coach to the Elan Valley, and spent a happy day. The secretary is Mrs. Gwenda Pearce and the treasurer, Miss Edith Lewis.

Carmel Chapel The yearly meetings were held on Sunday and Monday and large congregations were present. The preacher was the Rev. W. T. Pennar Davies. The organist and conductor was Mr. T. Walters, A.L.C.M.

Fochriw Driver Acquitted In Dublin On the Judge's direction, Norman Withers, aged 37, mining engineer, of the Rising Sun, Fochriw, was found not guilty at the Circuit Criminal Court, Dublin, on Monday, of the manslaughter of Frederick Bradley (32), and Leslie

Trollope (44), both of Fochriw. The case arose out of a road crash at 1 a.m. on March 11 involving a party of Welsh supporters who were in Dublin for the rugby international match between Wales and Ireland.

“Merthyr Express” 28 June 1958

Late Mr Edwards The funeral of the late Mr. Percy Edwards, 3. Pontlottyn Road, took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Thursday last. Mr. Edwards was 69, was born in Fochriw, and lived in the village throughout his life. He was a miner until his retirement. His wife died 14 years ago. The Vicar officiated at the house and graveside. The bearers were Messrs. Gwyn Davies, Len Davies, Noel Williams, Emrys Shankland, Frank Jenkins, Idris Williams. The mourners were Messrs. Bedford & Melvy Edwards (sons); Jack Babb, Alan Jury, Alfred Palfrey (sons-in-law); Coun. W.J. Payne, Messrs. Mordecai Williams, Wm. David Jones (brother-in-law); Malcolm Edwards (grandson); Benjamin Evans (uncle); Aldwyn Edwards, Trevor Edwards, John Elwyn Edwards, Edryd Jones, Islwyn Jones, Gwyn Morgan, Wyndham Jenkins, Charles Edwards, Jack Jones, Wally Davey, Tom Sullivan. At the house were Glenys Edwards, Doris Jury, Betty Palfrey (daughters); Mary Edwards (daughter-in-law); Pam Edwards (grand daughter); Mano Jones (sister-in-law); Iris Jones, Esther Sullivan, Phyllis Jones, Carrie Davies, Nan Humphries, Mary J. Davey, Margaret Williams, Mrs. Price, Mrs. Cartnell. Mrs. E.J. Williams, Mrs. M.H. Jones (sisters-in-law) were unable to attend due to illness. Among the public were P.C. Southworth, Messrs. Norman Withers, Roy Shankland, Idris Shankland, Wm. Lewis, Mervyn Hughes, Walter Jones, John Slimmon, John Bibby, John Pullen, Ron Bradley, Gwyn Mantle, Cecil Llewellyn, Victor Davies, Wm. Morgan, S. Lloyd.

“Merthyr Express” 12 July 1958

School Outing The pupils of Fochriw Primary School, accompanied by the headmaster, Mr. Bryn Davies and staff, had a most enjoyable day in fine weather on Friday last, when they toured the Wye Valley by motor coach.

Pensioners' Outing The O.A.P. annual outing took place on Tuesday to Porthcawl. The weather was beautiful, and the old folks had a fine days enjoyment. The event was organised by the Ladies Support Committee.

“Merthyr Express” 19 July 1958

Shankland – Davies The wedding took place at Siloh Chapel, Penybank, on Saturday, July 12, of Islwyn Shankland, son of Mr. & Mrs. Shankland, 2. Pleasant View, Fochriw, and Evelyn Rose Davies, second daughter of Mr. & Mrs. T.E. Davies, Danywern, Penybank. Pastor Griffiths, uncle of the bride, officiated. The organist was Mr. J. Nicholls, cousin of the bride. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a ballerina white gown of rucked nylon, and a circular veil held in place by a coronet of orange blossom. She carried an ivory bible with red rosebuds trimmed with white ribbon. The bridesmaids were Miss Letty Davies, sister of the bride, and Miss Margaret Shankland, sister of the groom, who wore lilac gowns of figured nylon with white flowered head-dresses and full length gloves. They carried posies of anemones. The best man was Mr. Glanmor Jones, and the groomsmen were Mr. Clifford Goulden Hann and Mr. Windsor Chapman, uncle of the bride and groom respectively. On leaving the chapel, the bride was presented with silver horse-shoes by Miss Rose Griffiths and Miss Ruth Jenkins, cousins of the bride. A reception was held at Bargoed Café. The honeymoon is being spent in Weston-super-Mare, and to travel the bride wore a blue two-piece with beige accessories.

“Merthyr Express” 26 July 1958

Musical Successes The following pupils of Mr. T. Walters were successful in the pianoforte examinations of the London College of Music held at Cardiff: Grade VI Senior, William T. Edwards (1st Class); Grade VI Intermediate, Jean Davies (1st Class); Grade II Elementary, Gerald Williams (1st Class); Susan Thomas (1st Class); Rosemary Tippet (1st Class); Barbara Robertson (1st Class); Jennifer Thomas (pass).

Sunshine Homes The result of the door-to-door collection for the Sunshine Homes realised £11 4s 9d. Mrs. Evans wishes to thank the collectors.

“Merthyr Express” 9 August 1958

Wedding: Jarman-Lewis Mr. Peter Jarman, elder son of Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Jarman, Gilfach, Bargoed, and Miss Muriel Lewis, only daughter of Mrs. M. A. Lewis, Guest-street, Fochriw, were married on Tuesday at Bethania Presbyterian Church, Bargoed. The Rev. Godfrey Jones officiated. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. Derlwyn A. Lewis. She wore a gown of white Nottingham lace embroidered with diamente and seed pearls, a head dress of witchcraft lace embroidered with seed pearls and a short circular veil. She carried a bouquet of crimson rosebuds. Mrs. Pat Johnson was matron of honour, Miss Cynthia Wellsman, bridesmaid, Glenda P. Hopkins, flower girl, and Mark Lewis, page-boy. The matron of honour and bridesmaid wore primrose nylon gowns and white floral head dresses, and carried posies of sweet peas. The flower girl, in a pale blue nylon dress with a blue floral head-dress, carried a posy of deep cream carnations and stephanotis. The page-boy was attired in ivory short trousers and blouse with a pale blue bow. Among the 90 guests at the Hanbury Hotel, Bargoed, was the chairman of the Glamorgan County Council, Coun. W. J. Kedward, O.B.E., J.P., and Mrs. Kedward, also, Messrs. W. Adams Jones of Trelewis Primary School, and David A. Jones, M.A., (uncle and cousin respectively of the bride). The bride's mother wore a turquoise ensemble with dusky-pink accessories, and the groom's mother an orchid-pink ensemble with black accessories. To travel for her honeymoon - touring in Devon and Cornwall - the bride wore a mid-night blue suit with shell-pink accessories.

“Merthyr Express” 16 August 1958

Late Mrs. Elsie Ballard The death has occurred of Mrs. Elsie J. Ballard, wife of Mr. Wm. Ballard, Plantation Street, at the age of 63. She had lived in the locality for nearly 40 years. The funeral took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Thursday. The Rev. E. Adams Evans officiated. The bearers were Messrs. E. Thomas, J. Jones, J.G. Gittins, G. Davies. The mourners were: Mr. W. Ballard (husband); Penry & David Ballard (sons); S. Ballard & Caroline, Mr. & Mrs. J. Richards (brothers & sister-in-law); Mrs. C. Saunders, Mrs. W. Green (sisters); Miss M.A. Ballard (sister-in-law); Messrs. C. Ballard, I. Ballard (brothers-in-law); Mr. & Mrs. J. Ballard (brother & sister-in-law); Mrs. Ballard Davies (aunt); Mr. & Mrs. S. Ballard (uncle & aunt); Mr. E. Cumpstone (uncle); Mr. & Mrs. I. Cumpstone, Messrs. B., W., & C. Cumpstone, G. Baldwin, G. Davies, Mrs. E.H. Lewis.

“Merthyr Express” 23 August 1958

B.Sc. Degree Mr. Tudor Rowlands, son of Mrs. Ethel Rowlands, and the late Mr. Tom Rowlands, 6. Glyn Terrace, has been successful in obtaining his B.Sc. Degree. He is on the staff of the Technical School Cheltenham. Formerly, Mr. Rowlands was on the staff of Bargoed Secondary Boys' School and Bargoed Technical School.

“Merthyr Express” 6 September 1958

Two Injured In Collision Near Cwmbargoed A Fochriw man and woman were rushed to St. Tydfil's Hospital, Merthyr, on Monday morning after two cars collided on the Fochriw-Dowlais road near Cwmbargoed. The injured man was Mr. Leighton Millward, Glanynant, an employee of the National Coal Board. He was returning to Fochriw in his Ford Consul from Merthyr, where he had taken his wife to work. The injured woman was Mrs. Maude Clark, Plantation Street, who was a passenger in a Morris car, being driven to Merthyr by Mr. Gordon Lawrence, Glyn Terrace, who owns a greengrocery store in Dowlais. Also in Mr. Lawrence's car were his niece, Miss Shirley Lawrence, also of Glyn Terrace, and Mrs. Pat Greeney, Aelybryn. The crash occurred at 8.20 a.m. Both cars were extensively damaged. [with photograph]

Football Fochriw have opened the season in good style in the Rhymney Valley League. They have played three, won two and drawn one. They have the making of a good team. Their home match with Jubilee on Saturday was a treat to watch, the final score being 4-4.

“Merthyr Express” 13 September 1958

Teachers Retire Two Fochriw teachers, Miss M. Jones and Miss E. Ballard, have retired.

Noddfa A baptismal service was held at the Chapel on Sunday morning. Four young people were baptised by Mr. T.J. Jones. The service was conducted by Mr. Gwylfa Davies, B.A., Rhymney, who also received them into the church at the communion service held in the evening. The organist was Willie Edwards.

Sisterhood A meeting was held at the Vestry on Thursday evening. Miss Edna E. Jones was the president. Taking part were Mrs. Dilys Edwards, Miss Gretta Evans, and Mrs. Richards, Heolgerrig, Merthyr Tydfil. Thanks were accorded by Nurse Lewis and Mrs. Mitchell. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist. Election of officers: president, Miss Edna E. Jones; vice president, Nurse M. Lewis; secretary, Mrs. G. Pearce; treasurer, Mrs. Edith P. Lewis.

Festival of Wales A public meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday evening, to discuss holding an event to mark the Festival of Wales. Coun. Payne was elected chairman; Miss Lorna Rees, secretary; Mrs. M. Jenkins, treasurer. It was decided to hold an afternoon of sports for school children on the football field, and a fancy dress ball in the New Hall in the evening.

Party Meeting A Labour Party meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday evening, Coun. Payne presiding. A report of Council activities was given by Coun. Poyntz, and numerous matters came up for discussion.

“Merthyr Express” 20 September 1958

Library and Institute Coun. Payne presided over a committee meeting at the New Hall last Wednesday. The treasurer, Mr. Frank Jenkins, gave the financial position and this was regarded as very satisfactory. It was with regret that the resignation of the secretary, Mr. Cyril Davies, was accepted. It was decided to advertise the post. It was also decided to advertise for a caretaker.

“Merthyr Express” 27 September 1958

Three Fochriw Miners Die After Being Taken From Gas Polluted Levels Three Fochriw miners, a father and son and the owner of the coal level, died in Redwood Memorial Hospital, Rhymney, on Wednesday afternoon, soon after being taken from a gas-polluted coal level overlooking Fochriw. The men were the owner of the level, known as Cae Glas Level, Mr. Idris Shankland, aged 32, of 3, Brynteg, Fochriw; Mr. Wilfred Hollister, aged 56, and his son, Mr. Charles Hollister, aged 32, both of 3, Pit Row, Fochriw. The men were working with two others about 250 yards inside the level when Idris Shankland was overcome by gas fumes. Seeing him in difficulties, Charles and Wilfred Hollister rushed to his assistance and they were overcome as well. The two other workmen in the level, David Evans of Guest Street, and David Gittens of Glanynant, Fochriw, gave the alarm about 10 a.m.

P.C. Ralph Southworth was the first to arrive on the scene. He was joined a few minutes later by firemen from the Glamorgan Fire Service at Bargoed under Chief Fire Officer Moon. Firemen wearing breathing apparatus cautiously made their way into the level. They managed to bring two of the miners out of the gas-filled area with the help of a rope held by P.C. Southworth, before their oxygen supply ran out. Mines rescue teams from New Tredegar and Porth then arrived. Artificial respiration was given on the spot, and then the third miner was brought out. Two hours after the men had succumbed to the gas, they were brought to the surface, and carried on stretchers to the waiting ambulances. On the four mile journey to Rhymney hospital artificial respiration was applied, but the miners died half an hour after arrival at Rhymney. While the rescue operations were in progress, groups of relatives and villagers gathered at the entrance to the level. Relatives of one of the dead miners, Misses Cassie and Nellie Shankland, kept themselves occupied by serving tea to the rescuers as they came from underground. Miss Pamela Yeomans of Dynevor Street assisted them. Mrs. Amy Shankland, mother of the dead miner, has suffered her second loss through a mining tragedy. Last year, her husband, Mr. Crad Shankland, died of injuries received in an accident at Ogilvie Colliery, Deri. Mr. Idris Shankland, who was married last year, opened the Cae Glas Level just over five months ago. Normally six men work the level, which is licensed by the National Coal Board. It forms part of the old Fochriw Pit.

Sisterhood A meeting was held at Noddfa on Thursday. The reading was taken by Mrs. F. Wright and Nurse M. Lewis led in prayer. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist.

Death The death has taken place of a well-known and highly respected old inhabitant of the village, Mr. Stephen Lewis, 5, Dynevor Street.

“Merthyr Express” 4 October 1958

Thousands At Fochriw Miners’ Funeral Thousands of Fochriw villagers and miners from nearby valley pits walked in silence to Pentwyn Churchyard, on the hillside above Fochriw, on Saturday last, to pay their last respects to the three local miners who died the previous Wednesday at Redwood Memorial Hospital, after being taken from the gas-filled workings at the Cae Glas Level, Fochriw. The owner of the Level, Mr. Idris Shankland, aged 32, of 3, Brynteg, Fochriw, was buried next to the two men who worked with him, Messrs. Wilfred Hollister, aged 56, and his son, Charles Hollister, aged 32, of 3, Pit Row, Fochriw.

Before the burial, hundreds of people packed St. Mary’s Church to hear the Vicar of Fochriw, Rev. E. Adams Evans, and the Vicar of Pontlottyn, Rev. W. R. Hughes, conduct the funeral service. They were assisted by Coun. W. J. Payne and Mr. John Palmer, lay readers. Mr. Norman Palmer was the organist. Many more villagers and miners waited outside the church, lining the road and hillside. More than fifty cars brought miners from the nearby pits of Ogilvie, Deri, Groesfaen and Taff Merthyr, and neighbouring coal levels.

After the church service, the miners walked in procession to the Pentwyn Churchyard. There they stood around the graves while the Vicars conducted the Anglican burial service. Rev. David Thomas of the Gospel Hall, Fochriw, told the crowd of sympathisers: “Three men in this village in the prime of their lives have been cut down in good health. It is beyond human understanding. We have been touched deep in our hearts by this tragic event. But sudden death brings sudden glory to man.” The Rev. David Thomas and the Rev. T. J. Jones took part in services at the homes of the three miners.

The three miners at Caeglas drift colliery, Fochriw, died from inhaling poison gas, said Dr. I. L. R. Evans of Rhymney, at the inquest at Bargoed on Friday evening. Dr. Evans said when he went to the mine on Wednesday, two of the men had already been brought out and artificial respiration was being applied in ambulances at the pit top. He was sure they were dead then, but artificial respiration was continued, and they were taken to Rhymney Hospital where they were found to be dead. A third man was brought out after the other two, and he was also found to be dead on arrival at hospital. Dr. Evans said all three men died from asphyxia due to inhalation of poisonous gas - carbon dioxide. Leslie Francis Hollister, a colliery surface worker of Glynderw, Deri, said he saw his father and brother being carried out of the mine, and he went to the hospital in the ambulance with them.

The North Glamorgan coroner, Mr. Alwyn John, was told by police that tests were being carried out by mines’ experts. The inquest was adjourned until Friday, October 17.

Late Mr. Stephen Lewis The funeral of Mr. Stephen Lewis, aged 73, the husband of Mrs. Annie Lewis, 5, Dynevor-street, took place on Tuesday, September 23, at Pentwyn Cemetery. Rev. Thomas J. Jones officiated, assisted by the Vicar. The bearers were Messrs. D. Davies, J. G. Gittens, Gwyn Davies, D. Greany, A. Davies, M. Thomas. The mourners were Thomas, David Hughes and William (sons); Dave, Glyn and Des (sons-in-law); William, Dan and David Elfed (cousins); Thomas E. Davies (nephew); J. S. Edwards (cousin). At the house were Annie (wife); Eluned, Ceinwen, Hannah, Mary, Letty (daughters); Muriel, Kitty, Marion (daughters-in-law); Ann, Gwyneth (grand daughters); Harriet, Bessie (nieces); Mrs. M. A. Lewis, Bessie Jones (cousins); Mesdames A. Davies, D. Brown, E. Davies (friends). Funeral arrangements were by Mr. V. Powell, undertaker, 19, Dynevor-street, Fochriw.

“Merthyr Express” 11 October 1958

Noddfa Sisterhood A meeting was held on Thursday, and was a harvest service. Miss E. E. Jones was president. The reading was taken by Nurse M. Lewis, and Miss G. Evans led in prayer. An inspiring address was given by Mrs. Matthews of Abertysswg, and she was

thanked by Nurse Lewis and Miss Evans. A vote of sympathy was passed with the bereaved families of the village.

Fochriw Miners' Funeral The joint interment of father and son, Mr. Wilfred Hollister and Mr. Charles Hollister took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on September 27. Mourners were Messrs. Vincent, Leslie & Glanville Hollister (sons of Mr. W. Hollister); Messrs. W. Evans, H. Watkins, D. Gibbon, R. & J. Kendrick, N. Kelly (brothers-in-law); W. Davies, L. Evans, E. Evans, D. Evans, W. Davies, F. Thomas, A. Jenkins, G. Jenkins, C. Cook, W. Cook, J. Lawrence, J. Henry, R., V. & G. Edmunds, D. & J. Rowlands, J. & K. Beddoe, R. & L. Smith (cousins of Mr. W. Hollister). Relatives of Mr. W. Hollister at the house were Mrs. Phyllis Hollister (wife); Bronwen & Audrey (daughters); Beatrice & Phyllis (daughters-in-law); Nigel Hollister (grandson); Annie, Morfydd & Rhoda (sisters); Maggie, Harriet, Charlotte, Lizzie (sisters-in-law); Eileen, Ann, May, Edith, Annie, Man (sousins).

Mourners at the funeral of Mr. Idris Shankland were: Messrs. Emrys & Roy [brothers]; Henry Davies (father-in-law); G. & N. Davies, Billy Davies, Idris Robert, Albert, John & Garfield Davies, Haydn Price, T. Garry and T. Armstrong (brothers-in-law); B. Shankland, I. Griffiths, J. Evans, T. Jones (uncles). At the house were Megan (wife); Mrs. Emily Shankland (mother); Gwladys, Mavis & Enid (sisters); Ann Davies (sister-in-law); Bella, Margaret, Sally, Joyce, Beryl, Eileen, Daphne (sisters-in-law); Laurie, Elizabeth, Alice, Beatrice, Margaret & Ruth (aunts). Funeral arrangements for the three funerals were by Mr. D. J. Davies, undertaker, Fochriw.

“Merthyr Express” 18 October 1958

Ambulance Awards Div. Supt. T. Thomas of the Fochriw St. John Ambulance Division has been awarded a fourth bar to his long service medal for 35 years service. Mr. Ivor Morgan has been awarded the first bar to his long service medal for 20 years service.

Harvest A harvest thanksgiving service was held with the Free Church Council at Nazareth C. M. Chapel on Monday, October 6. The guest preacher was the Rev. Glanffrwd Edwards. President and organist was Mr. W. A. Davies.

Community Hymn Singing On Sunday evening at Noddfa Baptist Chapel, a successful community hymn singing was held, and reached a very high standard. Coun. W. J. Payne presided, and referred to the loss the village had received by the sudden death of the Vicar, Rev. E. Adams Evans, and the three miners. The congregation stood in silent tribute. Rev. T. J. Jones opened the service in prayer. Mr. Thomas Walters was the conductor, and Mr. Willie Edwards was at the organ. The choir responded in excellent style. All the hymns on the hymn sheet were sung. The chairman thanked all for making the evening such a memorable one. Rev. Jones closed in prayer.

“Merthyr Express” 25 October 1958

Noddfa Sisterhood Miss Edna Jones presided over the meeting on Thursday. Mrs. A. Davies took the reading, and Miss Greta Evans led in prayer. An address was given by Mrs. M. A. Lewis, Glyn Terrace and she was thanked by Nurse Lewis and Miss Evans. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist.

Coroner Praises Heroic Efforts of Fochriw Rescue Workers The Coroner and jury at a Bargoed inquest on Friday evening praised the heroic efforts made by firemen, a police constable, miners and mine rescue teams to save the lives of three miners who collapsed in a drift mine at Fochriw. A verdict of “Accidental death from asphyxia due to inhalation of carbon dioxide” was returned on the three miners - Thomas Idris Shankland, Wilfred Hollister, and his son, William Charles Hollister. They died on September 24. Desmond Evans of Guest-street, Fochriw, one of five men at work in the mine on the day of the tragedy, said that when he heard Wilfred Hollister shout that Shankland had collapsed further in the drift, he and the two Hollisters rushed to help. As he was trying to lift up Shankland, he saw the two Hollisters collapse. “I was partly overcome. I knew something was wrong and I held my breath. The next thing I knew was when I saw David Gittens standing over me. I heard after that he had pulled me out.” When he recovered he went to telephone for help, and Shankland’s two brothers and other men arrived. John Llewellyn of

Glenview, Fochriw, a small mines owner, said he went into the drift. He could see the three men who had collapsed, and then the lamp went out. He realised it was impossible to get the men out without breathing apparatus. P.C. Southworth said it took four men to pull out one of the men. After a mishap to the breathing apparatus of the firemen, it was too dangerous to get to the third man until the mines rescue teams arrived. Appreciation of "outstanding bravery" by two Glamorgan firemen is to be recorded by the County Fire Service Committee, and letters of congratulation will go to Leading Fireman R. W. J. Smith, and W. G. Sims of Bargoed Fire Station. The two officers are to be presented with the Chief Fire Officer's Commendation.

"Merthyr Express" 1 November 1958

Death Mrs.. Elizabeth Jane Price, Dynevor Street, has died at Ystrad Mynach Hospital after a long illness. The funeral took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Wednesday. Pastor D. Thomas officiated.

"Merthyr Express" 8 November 1958

Carmel The half-yearly meeting was held last Sunday when the preacher was the Rev. D. J. Thomas, Machynlleth. The organist and precentor was Mr. Thomas Walters.

Parish Church The preacher on Sunday morning was Mr. Jenkins, Tirphil, and in the evening, Coun. W. J. Payne. Mr. John Palmer read the lessons, and Mr. N. Palmer was at the organ.

Obituary Mr. Ronald Walters, son of Mrs.. Eunice Walters, and the late Mr. Thomas Walters, Aelybryn, has died after a long illness. He was 41.

Welfare Association A meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday. The chairman was Coun. W. J. Payne. He was supported by Mr. Frank Jenkins, treasurer, and Mr. Cyril Davies, secretary. Among the matters discussed were the Christmas snooker competition, and repairs to billiard tables. The secretary reported on the visit of Mr. John, welfare organiser. The financial report was given by the treasurer.

"Merthyr Express" 15 November 1958

Remembrance Day Remembrance Day services were conducted at the Parish Church on Sunday by the Vicar. Mr.. John Palmer preached in the evening, and Coun. Payne read the lessons. Mr.. N. Palmer was the organist.

Labour Party A ward meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday, Coun. Payne presiding. Nominations for the next urban council elections were taken. The present member, Mr. W. Ewart, Deri, was nominated for re-election.

"Merthyr Express" 22 November 1958

Fochriw Cars in Collision: N.C.B. Clerk Fined £20 A collision between two cars on the Ponllytyn – Fochriw road, in which two motorists were injured, had its sequel at Pontllytyn Court on Friday. Leighton Cole Millward, aged 32, an N.C.B. clerk, of Glanynant, Fochriw, and Gordon Lawrence, aged 44, grocer, of Glyn-terrace, Fochriw, were found guilty of driving their cars without due care and attention. The Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr. Joshua Davies, Q.C., imposed a fine of £20 on Millward. Lawrence was given an absolute discharge on paying costs of £2 1s 6d. The Stipendiary said that it was obvious from the nature of the road, Millward had driven like a "road hog." P.C. B. Jenkins said that the car driven by Lawrence was a complete wreck, and the front off side of the other was damaged. Lawrence said he had been driving for 27 years, and had not previously been involved in an accident. At 8.30 a.m. on September 1, he was driving in the direction of Dowlais at 15-20 m.p.h. He had three passengers in the car. As he was taking the turn into Dowlais road, he saw a car about two hundred yards away. He pulled over to his correct side, but the other car was on top of him before he had a chance to do anything. A collision occurred. He had bruising to his chest, and cuts on his left hand. Millward said he was travelling at about 40 m.p.h. He sounded the horn once as a warning gesture, and saw no reason to diminish his speed. A few yards from the junction, a car pulled towards the middle of the road. It was hopeless to apply the brakes, so he attempted to take the only avoiding action by turning the car to the right into the mountainside. Before he could do this, the other car caught the rear side of his car. He

sustained cuts to his head and had concussion, and was taken to Merthyr hospital, where he remained for a week. Mr. Russell Evans, Merthyr, appeared for Lawrence, and Millward was represented by Mr. Alan Withers, Bargoed.

Old Inhabitant The death has taken place of one of the oldest inhabitants of the village, Mr. David Evans, Chapel-row, Penybank. He was 89 years old, and was held in high esteem by his large circle of friends.

Ward Party A meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday, Coun. Payne presiding. Among the matters discussed was the appointment of a representative in place of Mrs. H.L. Farley to serve on the Divisional Health Committee. Mrs. Gwyneth Yeoman was selected.

“Merthyr Express” 29 November 1958

Noddfa Sisterhood A meeting was held last Thursday week. The reading was taken by Mrs. Doris Jones, and Miss Edna E. Jones led in prayer. An address was given by Miss Hancock of Pontlottyn and he was thanked by Miss M. Lewis and Mrs. Mitchell. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist.

“Merthyr Express” 6 December 1958

Noddfa Sisterhood At the weekly meeting, Miss Mitchell took the reading, and Nurse Lewis led in prayer. Mrs. E. Thomas, Pontlottyn, gave an address. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist.

“Merthyr Express” 13 December 1958

Funeral The funeral of Mr. Ronald Benjamin Walters, son of Mrs.. Eunice Walters, Aelybryn, took place at Pentwyn Churchyard. He had been ill for a number of years. Before his illness, he was a faithful member of Noddfa Chapel and Sunday School. The officiating ministers were Rev. T. J. Jones and Pastor D. Thomas.

“Merthyr Express” 20 December 1958

Concert A concert in aid of the Christmas School Fund was held at the New Hall. The concert party was the Dowlais Works Male Voice Party, conducted by Mr. Elwyn Morgan, accompanied by Mr.. D. Glyn Jones, B.A. Coun. W. J. Payne extended a hearty welcome to the party. After the performance, the party was entertained to tea by the head and staff of the school.