

## **“Merthyr Express” 2 January 1932**

St. Mary's Church Well-attended services were held at the Parish Church. Celebrations of Holy Communion were held at 6a.m. and 11a.m., the celebrant and preacher being the Vicar. Mr. Octavius Richards was the organist, and Mr. Berkley Angell conducted the singing.

Address At Nazareth Chapel, the Rev. Crwys Williams, an organiser of the British and Foreign Bible Society, delivered an address in connection with the work of the Society. The Rev. J. L. White presided.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Star of Fochriw Lodge of the International Order of Grand Templars (I.O.G.T.) was held at Carmel Vestry on Tuesday evening, presided over by the Sister Bessie Ballard. The programme was entitled, "Looking Backwards and Forwards," and the following took part: Sisters Lewis, Bessie Ballard, Beryl Ballard, Walters, Morgan and Thomas.

Singing Festival On Christmas Day, the annual local singing festival was held at Noddfa Chapel, when Noddfa and Nazareth chapels were strongly represented. A good programme of music had been arranged and the singing reached a very high standard. The conductor throughout the day was Mr. William Morris with Messrs. Wyndham Lawrence and Joshua Thomas as accompanists. The presidents of the morning, afternoon and evening meetings were, respectively, Miss Katie J. Davies, Mr. John Jones and Rev. R. Evans.

Wedding Bells: Richards-Jones A large number of friends assembled at the Parish Church on Boxing Day on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. Octavius Richards, who has been the poplar church organist for 25 years, and Miss Mary Elizabeth Jones, Pengam. The service was fully choral, with Mr. Berkeley Angell conducting the singing, and Miss Nellie White at the organ. This ceremony was conducted by the Vicar. The bride was attired in a navy costume with blue hat. She was attended by her three sisters - Olwen, Gladys and Nancy. The bride was given away by her uncle, Mr. Horton, and the best man was Mr. Osborne Parry. The wedding breakfast was taken at the home of the bride's parents. They were the recipients of many presents.

Cymanfa Ganu A singing festival was held at Carmel Chapel on Christmas Day, when the conductor was Mr. D. T. Davies, Dowlais. The singing of hymns, anthems and chants reached a very high standard. The accompanists were Miss Mona Ballard and Mr. Thomas Walters, A.L.C.M. The morning session was for juveniles, and they were chatecised by Mrs. Sam Lewis. The introductory part was taken by Miss Hannah Mantle and Master Gethin Jones. The president was Nurse Ballard Davies. The afternoon session was presided over by Mrs. Sam Lewis and was opened by Miss Mary Lewis Thomas. The evening meeting was opened by Miss Beryl Ballard and Mr. David Lewis was president. During the day, the following recited: Eliza Evans, Jenny Davies, Mary Morgan and Griff Thomas. An appropriate quartet was rendered by a party consisting of Mrs. T. Walters, Miss Doris Lewis and Messrs. David H. Lewis and Cyril Cook.

Yuletide Wedding: Slimmon-Evans At St. Mary's Church on Boxing Day, two well known local families were united in marriage, namely, Mr. Alfred Pellard Slimmon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Slimmons, Fochriw Farm, and Miss Nesta Evans, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Evans, and the grand-daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Evans, Aelybryn. The service was fully choral. The Rev. J. L. White officiated, with Miss Nellie White at the organ, and Mr. Berkley Angell conducting the singing. The bride looked charming in a beige dress with hat to match, and was given away by her uncle, Mr. Stephen Ballard. She was attended by Miss Addie Slimmons, sister of the bridegroom, who wore a saxe blue dress with hat to match, and Miss Gwen Nash, who wore a pale blue dress. Mr. Jack Lawrence was best man. Mr. Robert Slimmons, father of the bridegroom, and Mr. Gomer Evans, uncle of the bride, were also present. After a reception at the home of the bride's grandparents, the happy couple left for Clapham, London, their future home. They were the recipients of many useful presents and the good wishes of their friends.

Football Fochriw entertained Deri in a league match on Boxing Day, and a keen game ended with Deri winning by one goal to nil.

Hospital The many friends of Miss Bessie Shankland who is a patient at Merthyr General Hospital, wish her as speedy recovery.

Vocal Success Miss Mary Lewis, Pentwyn, added another prize to her long list of successes by winning first prize in the girls solo competition at the Rhymney Eisteddfod on Boxing Day.

Billiards The final of the Christmas Handicap was played last week between Mr. Tom Idris Evans and Mr. Windsor Rees. After a keen game, Evans proved the winner, securing the first prize of a turkey.

Musical Tour The Fochriw Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, made a tour of the village on Christmas Day, and played a programme of seasonable music which was greatly appreciated.

Christmas Entertainment at Fochriw At the Church Hall on Christmas Eve, the children spent a happy time with a tea, entertainment and Christmas Tree. The entertainment was presided over by Mr. W. J. Payne. Mrs. White and a willing band of workers served at the tables. Miss Olive Payne took the part of Santa Claus. Games were played and a musical programme was given by the following: Mary Lewis, Eirwen Williams, Sarah Williams, Gwladys Harris, C. J. Williams, Myra Archer, Betty Edwards, Ethel Lewis, Lettice Lewis, Joan Mills, Mary Ballard, M. J. Evans, D. Tyler, Ellen Way, E. Thomas, Loyal Evans and T. Edwards.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 9 January 1932**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the chief Templar presiding. Brothers D. James and B. Davies were responsible for the programme.

Watch-Night Service St. Mary's Church was well-filled on New Year's Eve, and a most impressive service was conducted by the Vicar. With the ringing in of the New Year, a communion service was held, a large number taking part.

Mothers' Union Supper The annual supper was held at the Church Hall on Tuesday evening, when about eighty sat down to a sumptuous feast. The tables had been nicely decorated and laden with good things. After the cloths were removed, there was a fine programme of music and games. The Vicar presided. The following artistes contributed to the programme: Messrs. Tom Walters, W. J. Payne, Mrs. M. A. Tyler, Mrs. Tom Walters; duet, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Walters. The winner of the competition was Mr. Rod Jones. Mrs. Henry Thomas had charge of the games. The accompanists were Mr. Octavius Richards and Mr. Tom Walters.

Obituary It is our sad duty this week to record the sudden death of Mrs. Watkins, School House, Penybank, who passed away after a very short illness. She was well-known and highly respected in the village, where she will be sadly missed. To the sorrowing family great sympathy is extended. A short service was held at the house conducted by the Rev. Richard Evans, after which the solemn cortege wended its way to Pentwyn Churchyard for interment. The service at the graveside was conducted by the Vicar. Among the floral tributes was one from St. Mary's Mother's Union. The chief mourners were: Messrs. W. T. Watkins (son); John Matthews, D. J. Owen (sons-in-law); David and Thomas Jones (brothers); W. J. Richards (nephew); J. R. Morgan, R. Jones, W. Roberts, Tom Roberts, Kenneth Owen, Daniel Edgar Evans, Hughie Lewis, Willie Morris, W. Jones and Latimer Evans (cousins).

"Princess Chrysanthemum" The annual production of an operetta by the children of Noddfa Baptist Church is eagerly looked forward to in the village. This year's effort was a striking success. Great praise is due to the conductor, Mr. David Joshua Thomas, on his first venture, for the high standard of this singing attained. Tribute must also be paid to the producer, Mrs. Tom Evans, whose efforts have been untiring, and were crowned with success. The following took part: Mrs. M. Humphreys Mr. W. A. Davies, Misses Ceinie Thomas, Dilys Evans, Bethune Gregory, Iris Evans, Gwenda Thomas, Mr. John Williams, Mr. R. J. Price, Mr. D. G. Parry, Mr. T. J. Jones. The Spirits of the Night,

Courtiers, Attendance and Fairies produced the same excellence of vocal quality. They also had the splendid services of the brilliant accompanist Mr. Thomas Walters. The dresses, scenery and stage effects were very effective.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 16 January 1932**

Concert A Children's Concert, organised and presided over by Mr. Ken Phillips, took place at Siloh, Penybank, on Friday evening, when a large number of laughable lantern-slides were shown. The following contributed to a miscellaneous concert: Phil Mantle, Dennis Harding, Victor Davis, David Jones, Richard Sullivan, Ivor Small, David Prouse, Tom Sullivan, Phyllis Prouse, Douglas Small, and Stanley Jones. The accompanist was as Mr. Ken Phillips.

Wedding: Dobson-Llewellyn A very pretty wedding was solemnised at Gellygaer Church on Saturday last, when Miss Edith Maud Dobson, Deri, was married to Mr. John P. Llewellyn, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Llewellyn, Ffynonau Duon Farm, Pentwyn. The bride was attired in a blue silk dress, with hat to match, and was given away by Mr. Fred Amos. The bridesmaids were Jessie and Gwen, sisters of the bridegroom. They were attired in ivory dresses and carried beautiful bouquets. Mr. Alvin Llewellyn, brother of the bridegroom, was best man. The reception was held at the bride's home, after which the bride and bridegroom motored to Wenvoe. They will make their future home at 5, Rees-row, Pentwyn.

Welfare The annual meeting in connection with the Fochriw Welfare Association was held at the Old Library on Friday evening, and was well attended. Mr. Tom Jones took the chair. He paid tribute to the work of officers and committee members during the past year. Councillor Minhinnick also addressed the meeting. The statement of accounts was read. Mr. Tom Jones was re-elected chairman, with Mr. J. Lloyd Jones as vice-chairman, Mr. W. A. Davis as secretary, and Mr. J. Williams as treasurer, in place of Mr. W. J. Payne, who resigned. Mr. D. I. Evans was re-elected collector. A representative committee was elected, and prospects for the coming year are very promising.

Hospital Concert The Fochriw Glee Party, under the able conductorship of Mr. Tom Walters, with Mr. Wyndham Lawrence as accompanist, paid a visit to the Merthyr General Hospital on Wednesday evening last and entertained the patients and staff to a first-class programme of music. This party, always ready to give their services for the cause of charity, are to be highly commended for their spirit of self-sacrifice. The chairman was Mr. W. J. Payne. The following programme was given: overture - Mr. Wyndham Lawrence; "The Soldiers Chorus" - the Party; tenor solo, Mr. W. A. Davies; recitation, Mr. Lewis Jones; "The Little Church" - the Party; solo, Mr. Meirion Shankland; "In Absence" - Party; solo, Mr. W. A. Davies; "O, Peaceful Night" - Party; solo, Mr. Evan Evans; "The Jolly Roger," "Mafanwy" "Pen Calfaria" - the Party. Alderman Lewis Jones, on behalf of the matron, staff and patients, thanked the Fochriw party for providing such an excellent musical treat. The evening was brought to a close by the singing on "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau."

Pits Idle The workmen of the Ogilvie and Groesfaen Collieries are experiencing very hard times owing to the frequent stoppages at these pits.

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting of the lodge, Sister Mary Morgan gave a recital both in English and in Welsh which was much appreciated and enjoyed by all present.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 23 January 1932**

I.O.G.T. The vice-templar presided at over the weekly meeting of the lodge. The programme was "The Best Item." The following contributed: Brothers Sam Lewis, D. James, Sisters D. Jones, Thomas, Beryl Ballard and Bessie Ballard. Brother W. Davies acted as the adjudicator, and the prize won by Sister Bessie Ballard.

Concert A very enjoyable time was spent at Siloh, Penybank, on Friday, when the Children's Concert was organised and presided over by Mr. Ken Phillips.

British Legion Under the chairmanship of Comrade H. Thomas, the usual meeting of the branch was held on Monday. It was decided to send a protest to the P.A.C., who had disqualified one of the members from unemployment insurance benefit. At the close of the meeting, new members were accepted.

### **“Merthyr Express” 30 January 1932**

Pits Idle Ogilvie, Groesfaen, and Brithdir Levels are again experiencing short time owing to trade depression in the coalfields.

St. Mary's Church The pulpit on Sunday was occupied by the Rev. Maddocks of Abertysswg who preached very appropriate sermons. The Vicar occupied the pulpit at Abertysswg.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday evening. The programme for the evening was "Welsh Night." Readings were given by Sister Walters, Brothers D. Jones and S. Lewis. Folk songs were rendered by the Sisters Ballard and recitations by Sister S. Lewis and B. Ballard.

Welfare Mr. Tom Jones presided, at the Old Library on Friday, over the first meeting of the recently appointed committee. He extended a hearty welcome to the new members who were representatives of the various employers and employees of the different colliery companies and outside contributors. He gave a very interesting review of the work already accomplished, and of the cause of the delay of a grant coming through. He regretted to inform them that he had received the resignation of Mr. Sam Lewis, who was one of the trustees, and a valuable asset to the committee. It was unanimously decided to ask Mr. Lewis to reconsider his decision.

Library The annual meeting in connection with the Library and Institute was held at the Old Library on Wednesday. The chair was occupied by Mr. Sam Lewis who has occupied the chair for a number of years, and was highly complimented for his work. During the past year, a large portion of the Co-operative building and grounds has been purchased and paid for, and it had been the intention this year, to proceed with the scheme for converting the same into a first class Hall and Institute. The auditors' report was given by Messrs. Willie A. Davies and John Henry Evans, and revealed a splendid year's work, with an excellent balance on the right size. The auditors reported that a large number of books had been purchased during the past year. The new chairman is Mr. Evan M. Davies, and a committee was appointed. Mr. H. Ballard was appointed librarian, Mr. David I. Evans secretary, and Mr. Stephen Ballard treasurer.

### **“Merthyr Express” 6 February 1932**

Mothers' Union A special service was held on Tuesday evening when an address was given by Miss Parsons, organising secretary for rescue and preventative work in the Diocese of Llandaff.

Glee Party Mr. W. J. Payne presided at the annual meeting of the Fochriw Glee Party at the Library. The auditors' report was presented by Mr. J. Lloyd Jones and Mr. Tom Jones. Mr. W. J. Payne was re-elected chairman; Mr. John Lloyd Jones vice-chairman; Mr. W. A. Davies secretary; Mr. D. J. Davies assistant secretary; Mr. John Phillips treasurer. Mr. James Gregory resigned the post of secretary. Mr. Tom Walters was unanimously re-elected conductor and Mr. Wyndham Lawrence was re-elected accompanist.

Entertainment A Children's Concert was held at Siloh Chapel, Penybank, on Saturday last, organised and presided over by Mr. Kenneth Phillips.

Fochriw British Legion A welcome visitor to the Fochriw branch on Monday evening was the Rev. J. C. Payne, formerly Vicar of Fochriw and Deri, who was presented with a framed certificate of appreciation as a token of gratitude for all the work he had accomplished on behalf of the Legion over many years. An excellent musical programme followed the presentation, which included contributions from the Fochriw Brass Band.

### **“Merthyr Express” 13 February 1932**

Obituary The death occurred of Sarah Davies, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Davies, 9, Glyn-terrace.

Football Fochriw Hotspur's entertained Cwm Toffs on Saturday in a league match, the result being a draw, four goals each.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday, Brother W. A. Davies presiding. The election of officers took place. Brother David Jones was elected Chief Templar. The programme for the evening was "A Night with Robert Burns." Burns'

biography was read by Mrs. Sam Lewis and Misses Bessie and Beryl Ballard sang and recited a number of his compositions. Brother W. A. Davies gave a short address, and thanked the Sisters for the programme.

Services Recognised At the Church Hall on Shrove Tuesday, a tea and presentation took place. The Vicar presided. Mr. Octavius Richards, who has been church organist for 25 years, was the recipient of a beautiful mirror to mark the occasion of his recent marriage. Mr. Richards very feelingly responded. Others who paid tribute to Mr. Richards were Mrs. Henry Thomas, Mr. George Evans, Mr. W. D. Davies and Mr. Gordon Lawrence. Contributors to the musical programme were Messrs. G. Tyler, W. J. Payne, G. Lawrence and Windsor Rees.

"The Crystal Queen" St. Mary Church Operatic Society gave three excellent performances of the above operetta at the Church Hall on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. The Vicar presided. The conductor was Mr. Berkley Angell, who was assisted by an orchestra - piano, Mr. Octavius Richards; violins, Mr. T. Horton and Miss Mary Morgan; cello, Mr. Tom Walters; cornet, Mr. Albert Mantle. The following took part in the operetta: Nellie White, Lilian May Mills, Gwendoline Llewellyn, Betty Hiscox, Gladys Harris, Mary Lewis, Ursula Harris, Doris Edwards, Mr. Goronwy Tyler, Mr. Gordon Lawrence, Mr. Windsor Rees, Mr. Rod Jones, Mr. Archie Adams, Miss Audrey Wood, Olwen Morgan. The dancers formed some striking tableaux. They were: Mary H. Ballard, Mary J. Evans, Thelma Thomas, Patricia Small, Eirwen Williams, Marion Evans, Frances Way, & Pearl White. The stage manager was Mr. C. Ballard, and the electrician Mr. W. J. Davies.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 20 February 1932**

Obituary One of the oldest and most highly respected inhabitants of the village in the person of Mr. William Ballard, Aelybryn, has passed away at the age of 81 years.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was presided over by Brother Berkley Davies. Sisters Beryl Ballard, Mary Thomas and Mary Morgan were responsible for the programme, giving interesting readings and solos.

Funeral Amidst signs of sorrow, the late Sarah Davies, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Davies, Glyn-terrace, was laid to rest on Saturday last. She was a bright, intelligent girl. After a short service at the house, the cortege proceeded to Pentwyn Churchyard for interment, the Rev. Richard Evans officiating. The chief mourners were: Messrs. William Martin Davies (father); Alun Morgan Davies (brother); Evan Morgan Davies, David Davies (grandparents); George Davies, Morgan Davies, Bryn Davies, Gomer Davies, Tom Davies, David John Davies, Ben Davies, William Lewis, Gilbert Harris, Bert Evans, Albert Wright, Sydney Evans, William John, Rhys Rees, Robert Davies (uncles); Edward Davies, W. Martin Davies, Habaccuc Morgan, Tudor Davies, Tudor Evans, Thomas John, Robert Haydn Jones, Daniel John, Evan Morgan Lewis (cousins); Bob Rees, Edward Evans, Harry Jones.

Concert At Noddfa Vestry on Sunday, a concert was held under the auspices of the Fochriw Brass Band. The Band, which was reorganised about nine months ago with Mr. Albert Mantle as band-master, delighted everyone. The band was assisted by the following: soprano, Mrs. Hannah Cole Davies; tenor, Mr. Willie Angell Davies; baritone, Mr. John Williams; accompanist, Mr. Tom Walters. The programme was as follows: hymn, "Lead Kindly Light" - Band, and audience joining in; march, the Band; soprano solo; tenor solo; selection by the Band - "The dawn of Spring;" baritone solo; cornet solo, Mr. Bob Rees and Band; tenor solo; march, the Band "Sons of the Soil;" baritone solo; soprano solo; final hymn, "Abide with me," accompanied by the Band. A vote of thanks to all was proposed by Mr. W. J. Payne. He appealed to the public to give their wholehearted support to the Band. Mr. D. J. Davies seconded.

Indecent Language Thomas M. Davies, aged 39, of Fochriw was fined five shillings for using indecent language in the street.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 27 February 1932**

St. Mary's Church A special Lenten service was held on Wednesday evening, the Rev. D. J. Davies, Rhymney, preaching an appropriate sermon.

I.O.G.T. Brother David Jones, Chief Templar, presided over the weekly meeting of the lodge at Carmel Vestry on Tuesday evening. The programme was an instrumental evening, the following taking part: violin, Sister Morgan; cello, Bro. Thomas Walters; cornet, Bro. B. Rees. Bro. W. A. Davis was at the piano.

Link with the Past: Mr. William Ballard, Aelybryn, aged 81 Amid signs of deep sorrow, Mr. William Ballard, Aelybryn, was laid to rest last week at Pant Cemetery. He was 81 years of age, and came to Fochriw over 50 years ago from Penydarren. He worked at the Fochriw Colliery until its closure in 1924. He was hale and hearty until the last few weeks of his life, and his genial countenance will be sadly missed. He was one of the stalwarts of Carmel Congregational Chapel, and one of the oldest deacons. He could be seen until the last, faithfully wending his way to the House of God. He could give very interesting reminiscences of the life of the village in the days of long ago. Sincere sympathy is extended to the family. After a short service at a house, the solemn cortege wended its way to Fochriw station, and thence to Pant. Rev. J. R. Salmon officiated. The chief mourners were: Messrs. William J. Thomas, Stephen, Caradoc and Arthur Ballard (sons); Ernest Cumpstone (son-in-law); Willie, Crad, and John Ballard, Idris, Nicholas, Bert and Arthur Cumpstone, Gwilym Davies, H. Ballard, G. Thomas (grandsons); T. Sayce (brother-in-law).

#### **“Merthyr Express” 5 March 1932**

St. Mary's Church The special preacher at the Lenten service on Wednesday evening was the Rev. Redvers Evans, Merthyr.

Gwyl Dewi Headteachers and their staffs entered wholeheartedly into the spirit of the festival of St. David's Day. Welsh folk songs, plays, and addresses were enjoyed by all present at the Fochriw Mixed and Infants' and Penybank Schools.

Lest We Forget! Merthyr General Hospital S.O.S. self-denial week will be observed from 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> March, when an opportunity will be afforded to the inhabitants of the village to support this great institution.

Personal Miss Margaret E. Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howell Thomas, Station-terrace, who is at present a pupil at Bargoed Secondary School, has been admitted to Bangor Training College.

Football The large circle of friends of Bombardier Willie Roberts, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Roberts, Glyn-terrace, were delighted to see the Fochriw boy obtain his Welsh international cap against England at Swansea on Saturday, playing in the amateur international match. The critics gave him an excellent report.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday evening, the chief Templar presiding. The evening was set apart for "Questions and Games." Sister Ballard was responsible for the games.

Funeral The funeral of Glyndwr, the young child of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wright, Pentwyn, took place on Saturday at Pentwyn Churchyard amidst manifestations of deep sorrow. The funeral, which was for gentleman only, was well attended. The Vicar officiated.

Gymanfa Ganu At Noddfa Chapel on Sunday, the United choirs of Nazareth and Noddfa chapels, under the conductorship of Mr. William Morris, rendered a fine programme of hymns and anthems. The organists were Messrs. Joshua Thomas and Wyndham Lawrence. The afternoon meeting was presided over by Mr. John Jones, and Mr. Evan Jones presided in the evening.

Obituary Quite a gloom was cast over the village when it became known that Mrs. S. Phillips, wife of Mr. Sydney Phillips, Pentwyn, had passed away. Deceased had suffered for a long time, but bore her sufferings with great Christian fortitude. She was a faithful member of Noddfa Chapel, where she will be sadly missed as well as by her large circle of friends. To the sorrowing husband, children and family great sympathy is extended. The funeral, which was for gentleman only, was well attended. A service was held at the house, conducted by the Rev. Harris Jones and the Rev. D. Jones, Deri, after which the solemn cortege wended its way to Pentwyn Churchyard for interment. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Sydney Phillips (husband); Kenneth Phillips (son); T. Morgan

(brother); Rees Jones and S. Jenkins (brothers-in-law); T. J. and E. Uzzell, J. Jones, A. Tedd (nephews); D. Roberts (uncle); J. Jones, W. Morgan, W. & T. Jones, T. Evans, T. Matthews, T. Pugh (cousins).

#### **“Merthyr Express” 12 March 1932**

Hospital The many friends of Mr. Idris Evans, Mr. Henry Archer, and Mrs. Margaret Jones, who are patients at Merthyr Hospital, join in wishing them a speedy recovery.

Obituary Mrs. Mary Ann Jenkins, wife of Mr. Thomas John Jenkins, an official at the Bedwas Colliery, was laid to rest at Pentwyn Churchyard on Saturday.

St. Mary's Church The special preacher at the Lenten service on Wednesday was the Rev. E. P. Jones, Tredegar. The service was taken by the Vicar with Mr. Willie White at the organ.

I.O.G.T. The chief Templar presided over the weekly meeting of the lodge. The following contributed to the Welsh programme: Sisters Bessie Ballard, Beryl Ballard, Mona Ballard, Mary Morgan, Brothers David Jones, Thomas Walters, and Sam Lewis.

Ambulance At the Great Western Railway Divisional Ambulance Competition held at Cardiff, the Fochriw team won the second prize - the Sven Hanson Cup, out of 14 teams. Individual prizes were also won. The following were in the team: Mr. R. G. Wood (captain), Mr. Tom Jones, Mr. S. G. Thomas, Mr. R. Jones, Mr. B. J. Thomas.

Musical At the Deri Eisteddfod on Saturday, the Children's Choir, which had only been formed a week, under the conductorship of Mr. D. J. Davies, gave a splendid account of themselves. The accompanist is Mr. W. Lawrence. Another successful competitor was Mr. J. J. Lewis ("Ap Morlais").

#### **“Merthyr Express” 19 March 1932**

I.O.G.T. The programme for the evening was "Topical Talks." Sister Thomas was responsible.

St. Mary's Church The special preacher on Wednesday evening was the Rev. D. J. Davies, Pant.

S.O.S. Thanks to the untiring efforts of the following ladies, who undertook the work of distributing and collecting the self-denial envelopes in aid of the Merthyr General Hospital, the sum of £8 11s. was realised: Mrs. Howell Thomas, Mrs. W. J. Payne, Mrs. J. L. White, Mrs. Lewis, Misses Annie Mills, Cissie Evans, Gwen Davies, Jessie Llewellyn, Lizzie Watkins, Marjory Jones, Eirlys Evans, Nellie White, Edna Edwards, May Cook, Phyllis Davies, Margaret Thomas, Addie Slimmons, Eironwy Richards, and Mrs. Palmer.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 26 March 1932**

Football A very exciting league match was played at Fochriw on Saturday when the home team beat Penallta by 3 goals to 1.

Hospital The numerous friends of Mr. Frank Strang, Pentwyn, who is a patient at Merthyr Hospital, join in wishing him a speedy recovery.

Nursing The many friends of Mrs. Rose H. Thomas, Plantation-street, will be glad to learn that she has recently been successful in passing her C.M.B. at Bristol.

Palm Sunday Large crowds visited the Old Churchyard on the hill on Sunday last, to lay flowers on the graves of loved ones. A service was conducted in the afternoon by the Rev. J. L. White, Vicar, and the Church was well-filled. The organist was Mr. Octavius Richards.

Meeting At the Old Reading room on Monday evening, a public meeting was held in connection with the Dowlais Co-operative New Members Campaign. The chairman was Mr. William Evans, Dowlais. A striking address was given by Mr. W. Williams, Co-operative Organiser, Manchester. He gave an interesting account of the aims and growth of the Co-operative movement.

Concert At Noddfa Vestry (kindly lent) on Tuesday and Wednesday, a miscellaneous concert was given by the juveniles and adult lodges of the I.O.G.T. The children gave Japanese songs and dances, all of which were well done. Miss Bessie Ballard was responsible, and deserves praise for such a splendid performance. Solos were rendered by Messrs. W. A. Davies, Dan James, and Mrs. C. Walters; violin solo, Miss Mary

Morgan. A sketch, entitled "Uncle John from Yorkshire," was performed, the characters being Miss Mary Morgan, Miss Beryl Ballard, Mr. B. Rees, Mr. B. Davies, and Mr. W. A. Davies. The accompanists were Miss Mona Ballard and Mr. Thomas Walters. The presidents were Mr. Sam Lewis and Mr. D. Jones.

**“Merthyr Express” 2 April 1932**

St. Mary Church On Easter Day, the vicar dedicated a beautiful altar frontal, and several other gifts, given by members of the Mothers' Union and members of the Women's Sunday School Class.

Concert On Sunday evening, at Siloh Chapel, Penybank, the Fochriw Brass Band, under bandmaster Albert Mantle, gave a pleasing programme of music assisted by the following artistes: Miss Mary Lewis, soprano; Madame Hannah Cole Davies, contralto; Mr. Willie Angell Davies, tenor; Mr. Tom Lewis, bass. Mr. Willie Williams occupied the chair. The accompanist was Mr. Wyndham Lawrence.

Wedding: James-Jones On Saturday morning at St. Mary's Church, a pretty wedding was solemnised by the Vicar, with Mr. Octavius Richards at the organ. The contracting parties were Miss Margaret A. James, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas James, Council Houses, and Mr. David John Jones, Deri. The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in an ankle-length dress of ivory satin, and wore a bridal veil. She carried a sheaf of the lilies and white heather. She was attended by Miss Betty Jones (cousin of the bridegroom), who wore a dress of pink crepe jappe with hat to match, silver shoes, and carried a bouquet of pink tulips, and Misses Jenny M. Wright and Dilys Jones, who were dressed in pale green net over gold, with caps to match and posies of narcissi. The best man was Mr. Bert James, whilst Mr. W. James acted as groomsman. After the ceremony, a reception was held at the bride's home. They were the recipients of numerous presents.

Wedding: Morris-Perkins A pretty wedding was solemnised at St. Mary's Church on Saturday, when the Rev. J. L. White officiated. The contracting parties were Miss Nellie Morris, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Morris, Brynteg-terrace, and Mr. Reginald Perkins, Deri. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore an ankle-length dress of champagne crepe suede, lace coatee, picture hat with shoes to tone, and carried a bouquet of pale pink tulips. She was attended by Miss Frances M. Jones, who wore an ankle length gown of peach silk taffeta, with coatee, picture hat and shoes to match, and Miss Olwen Harries, who wore an ankle-length dress of Lido-blue crepe de chine, with hat and shoes to tone. The flower girls were Miss Beryl Morris, sister of the bride, and Miss Myra Perkins, sister of the bridegroom, who looked very pretty in pale pink and cherry, which Juliet caps. The duties of best man were carried out by Mr. George Perkins. After a reception at the bride's home, the happy couple left for Swansea, where the honeymoon is being spent. The bride's travelling dress was of brown and orange, tweed coat and hat to match. They were the recipients of numerous presents.

Musical Success Miss Mary Lewis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Lewis, Pentwyn, won the girls solo competition at Pontypridd on Saturday.

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting of the Lodge, Sister S. J. Jones delivered a sermon, taking for her text the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter of St. John.

**“Merthyr Express” 9 April 1932**

St. Mary Church The Patronal Festival was held on Sunday and Tuesday and was well-attended. The special preachers were the Rev. Rhys Davis, Rector of Bedwellty, and the Rev. Canon R. W. Jones, Chief Diocesan Missioner, whose discourses were listened to with rapt attention. On Tuesday afternoon, the Missioner addressed a large gathering of members of the Mothers' Union.

Fochriw Vestry The Vicar, Rev. J. L. White, presided over the annual vestry on Tuesday evening. He was supported by Mr. W. J. Payne (People's Warden), and Mr. Tom Jones (Parochial Secretary). The vicar thanked all for their splendid loyalty and co-operation. He paid tribute to his predecessor who had accomplished great work in the parish, yet there was still much to be done. The vicar thanked Mr. W. J. Payne for his great work, and made touching references to the passing of the late Mr. H. C. Payne. Mr.

Payne presented the financial statement, and was unanimously re-elected people's warden. The Vicar elected Councillor John Edwards as vicar's warden. The following were elected as members of the Parochial Council: Mrs. White, Mrs. W. J. Payne, Mrs. (Dr.) Williams, Mrs. John Bevan, Mr. Berkley Angell, Messrs. Tom Baldwin, Jack Lawrence, Tom Jones, W. D. Davies, Frank Way, Octavius Richards, and Charles White. The following sidesmen were appointed: Messrs. Ernest Jones, Henry Thomas, F. Way, W. D. Davies, Charles White, A. Palmer, Rod Jones, and D. J. Williams. Other officers appointed were: superintendent of the Sunday school, Mr. W. J. Payne; choirmaster, Mr. Berkley Angell; organist, Mr. Octavius Richards, auditor, Miss R. Davies.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 16 April 1932**

Hospital Miss Frances Adams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Adams, Guest-street, was removed to Merthyr General Hospital on Sunday. Her many friends wish her a speedy recovery.

Nazareth Chapel On Sunday evening, the service was conducted by Mr. Trevor Lawrence, whose sermon was listened to with rapt attention. The organist was Mr. Wyndham Lawrence, and the singing was conducted by Mr. William Morris.

Noddfa Chapel On Sunday, large congregations attended special services conducted by the Rev. David Griffiths (the blind preacher), whose addresses were most edifying. Mr. D. J. Thomas was the organist, and Mr. T. Evans conducted the singing.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday evening, and was presided over by Brother James. The following contributed to a miscellaneous programme: solos, Sisters Beryl Ballard and C. Jones; recitations, Sisters M. A. Lewis and M. Morgan; pianoforte solo, Brother Walters; readings, Sisters Bessie Ballard, Mary Thomas and Beryl Ballard.

Lecture The Rev. David Griffiths (himself blind) delivered a striking lecture entitled "The Blind at Work and Play," at Noddfa on Monday evening. At the close, he was thanked on the motion of Mr. William Morris, seconded by Mr. Sam Lewis.

Vestry The Easter vestry in connection with St. David's, Pantywaun, was held on Saturday afternoon. The Vicar presided, supported by Mr. W. J. Payne, churchwarden. The statement of accounts was presented by Mr. R. Mitchell and Mr. J. T. Kings, and accepted. The vicar thanked all who had worked so hard during the year, and asked them to carry on the good work. The Churchwardens also spoke. The following officers were appointed: secretary, Mr. R. Mitchell; treasurer, Mr. J. T. Lloyd; sidesmen - Messrs. D. J. King, J. Ralph, W. H. Williams, W. H. Bradley, W. J. Bradley; organist Mr. D. J. King; caretaker, Mr. R. Mitchell.

Pontlottyn Court David Jones, Fochriw, was summoned for stealing coal, value 6p. He pleaded guilty. A large lump of coal was found under his overcoat and he was fined five shillings.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 23 April 1932**

Musical Miss Mary Lewis, Pentwyn, the well-known girl singer, scored yet another striking success at Llanbradach Eisteddfod on Saturday last in the girl's solo competition.

Essay Award Master Glyn Mantle, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Mantle, Pentwyn, a pupil at Bargoed Secondary School, has been presented with a wristlet watch for writing the best essay on the pupils' recent tour of Cardiff factories.

Brass Band The band is making splendid progress. The great need is a new set of instruments, as the present ones have served the band of 40 years. At a general meeting, it was decided to appeal to the public for weekly financial help.

Personal The Rev J. C. Payne, vicar of Ystradowen, will be pleased to hear that the church of Welsh St.. Donat's has been placed under his charge. The amalgamation of the parishes took place on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 30 April 1932**

Football Much interest centred on the match between Fochriw and Aberbargoed on Monday, when the latter won by 4 goals to 2.

Pits Idle Both collieries were idle again on Saturday.

Scholastic The many friends of Miss Beryl Ballard, Morris-row, will be pleased to hear that she has commenced teaching duties at Sully.

Obituary Fochriw mourns the loss of its oldest inhabitant in the person of Mrs. Margaret Jones, Guest-street, who has died in her 84<sup>th</sup> year. Deceased passed away on Sunday.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Star of Fochriw Lodge was held at Carmel vestry, presided over by Brother David Jones, chief Templar. Hymns written by the following were sung: Ann Griffiths, Dr.. George Matheson, Elfed, Francis Havergal.

Welfare At the Old Library on Friday, Mr. Tom Jones presided over a well-attended meeting. A review of progress was given. It was explained that the lease difficulty had now been overcome, and the lease would be for 60 years. The financial position was stated by the treasurer, and the secretary dealt with much correspondence. It was decided to commence work again on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May. The levelling of the ground was to be continued, and work was to commence on the children's corner. This is good news for the unemployed of Fochriw. About 10 men will be employed each week.

Ambulance The second of the series of competitions, organised for Cadets under the auspices of the Dowlais Corps League of the St. John Ambulance, was held at Noddfa Vestry on Saturday. Fochriw finished last of the seven teams that competed.

Dramatics Appreciative audiences witnessed splendid performances of the drama "The Unknown Quantity," given by the Noddfa Dramatic Society at Noddfa Vestry last week. The following took part: Miss Elsa Matthews, Miss Iris Evans, Miss Gwyneth Parry, Mr. Thomas J. Jones, Mr. John Rees Walters, Mr. David George Parry. Mr. Trevor Rees, Pontlottyn, was the producer, and Mr. J. R. Walters, the scenic artist and electrician.

Obituary Fochriw mourned the passing of one of its highly respected citizens by the death of Mr. Walter Walters, Moore's-row, at the age of 72 years. Deceased was very widely known. Before the closure of the Fochriw Collieries, he held an official position, and was held in high esteem, as was evidenced last Saturday, when a large number of friends assembled to pay their last tribute. A short service was conducted at the house by the Rev. Esaiiah Williams, Cardigan, a family friend, after which the large cortege proceeded to Pentwyn Churchyard. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Tom M., John and George Walters (sons); Robert Thomas (son-in-law); Idwal and Idris Walters (grandchildren); Ben, George and David Jones (brothers-in-law); W. and E. Davey, T., D. W., and J. R. Walters, R. Hall, Dan Jones, Thomas H. Jones, Thomas J. Jones, A. Ballard, T. Harris, T. Miles, O. Parry and D. Lewis (nephews).

Presentation The Old Library was the scene of an enjoyable function on Monday, the occasion being a presentation to Mr. John Lloyd Jones, Supply Stores, in recognition of his great services as secretary of the Fochriw branch of the British Legion, and also, secretary of the Benevolent Committee, U.S.F.. A capital musical programme was provided by Miss Mary Morgan (violin), Mr. W. A. Davies (tenor), Mr. Tom Lewis (baritone), Mr. Tom Walters (elocutionist). The accompanist was Mr. Wyndham Lawrence. Mr. Jones was presented with a writing bureau suitably inscribed.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 7 May 1932**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was presided over by Brother David Jones, chief Templar. Sister Williams, Bedlinog was responsible for the programme. She gave edifying papers entitled "Temperance," "The Privilege of Living," and "The Welsh poet, Islwyn."

Lecture A lecture was delivered at Carmel Chapel on Thursday by Dr. Crosbie Roberts, Cardiff. The subject was "The British Water Spider: a study in biology and ethics." The chair was taken by Nurse Ballard Davies.

Laid to Rest The funeral of Mrs. Margaret Jones, Guest-street, took place on Thursday, amid signs of deep sorrow. Deceased was highly respected. She was a faithful member of Nazareth Church and was the oldest inhabitant of the village, having reached the age of 85 years. She had resided in the same house for sixty years. After a service at the house, conducted by the Rev. R. Evans, the cortege proceeded to Pant Cemetery. The chief mourners were: Messrs. David Davies (brother); E. I. Griffiths (nephew); Rev. J. I. Jones

(nephew); Messrs. William Powell, R. Slimmon (cousins); T. Jones, Edward Jones, P. Jones (brothers in-law).

Baby Show An enjoyable evening was spent at the Church Hall on Monday, the vicar presiding. The adjudicator of the baby show was Dr. Williams; for singing, Mr. Tom Walters; for hat trimming, Mrs. White, Mrs. W. J. Payne, and Miss Rosie Davies. The awards were as follows: baby not over 14 months: 1. Melville Edwards, 2. Annie May Dummett; baby not over seven months: 1. Leslie Morris, 2. Jean Morgan. Girls solo: 1. Doris Edwards, 2. Maria Evans and Gwennie Lewis. Hat trimming competition from men: Messrs. Willie Evans and Edward G. Price. Great interest was taken in the choral competition. Four choirs competed, all from St. Mary's Sunday school. Mrs. Henry Thomas choir was declared the winners, and the vicar's choir was placed second. A short sketch "Muggins' Home," was then performed, followed by dancing tableaux. The programme concluded with a screaming farce entitled "Next Door."

C.E.M.S. A meeting was held at the Church Hall on Thursday presided over by the Vicar, to discuss the formation of a branch of the Church of England Men's Society. Messrs. W. J. Payne, T. Baldwin and W. D. Davies took part in the discussion.

Brass Band The Brass Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Mantle, held a parade on Sunday. The Band was joined by the band officials, the British Legion, St. John Ambulance Brigade, the Cadets and the Fire Brigade. They paraded the streets playing appropriate music and proceeded to the Parish Church where the Rev. J. L. White preached a powerful sermon.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 14 May 1932**

Personal Congratulations to Mr. Gwendoline Llewellyn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Llewellyn, Pentwyn Farm, who has been chosen one of the ladies-in-waiting in attendance to the Queen of the Carnival at the Merthyr Fate and Gala on Whit Tuesday

First Prize Winners Congratulations to the Fochriw Juvenile Choir, under the conductorship of Mr. David John Davies, who won first prize at the Treharris Eisteddfod. Also, to Miss Mary Lewis, who was successful in the girl's competition.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held at Carmel vestry on Tuesday evening. Bro. Thomas Walters presided. Brother David Jones was elected Chief Templar, Sister M. Morgan vice-templar, Sister M. L. Thomas secretary, and Sister M. James deputy marshal. The programme for the evening was "Speeches on Given Subjects." Sister M. L. Thomas was responsible.

Cricket Fochriw Cricket Club, by a well-earned victory over St. Matthew's Church, Rhymney, on Saturday last, was successful in winning both the League Championship and Knock-Out Cup for the season 1931. The club has a remarkable record of success to its credit since joining league cricket as the following table will show: 1925 - third; 1926 - first; 1927 - second; 1928 - first; 1929 - first; 1930 - second; 1931 - first and knock-out Cup winners. At a successful meeting, it was decided to enter the Rhymney League again this year. The following have been elected to the Committee for the coming season: Messrs. Con Edwards, Sid Lewis, Ab. Ballard, and Will Rees; Captain, Jack Davies; treasurer, Ivor Evans; secretary, Jack Davies, Rock Cottage, Fochriw.

Concert On Thursday evening, at Nazareth Chapel (kindly lent), the Fochriw Juvenile Choir gave a first class concert. The choir, which was formed just two months ago, surprised the large audience by their fine singing. They were assisted by: Master Denvoir Bowen and Master Sydney McGrath (Bargoed), and Miss Mary Lewis, Pentwyn. The chair was occupied by Mrs. Sam Lewis. The programme was as follows: choir, "Duw a'i Gwnaeth"; solo, Master McGrath; solo, Miss Lewis; solo, Master Bowen; Choir, "Suo Gan"; duet, Masters Bowen and McGrath; solo, Miss Lewis; choir, "Today and Tomorrow"; solos, the three artistes; choir, "Peace, be Still." The accompanists were Mr. Wyndham Lawrence and Mr. Bowen.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 21 May 1932**

Outing All the Sunday schools in the village journeyed to Barry Island on Tuesday, when about 700 took advantage of the fine weather. The train arrangements were made by stationmaster, Mr. Walter Davies.

St. Mary's On Whit Sunday, the services were conducted by the vicar and were well attended. On Wednesday, the vicar read a most interesting paper on "The Psalms," at the Guild.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was held on Tuesday evening. The juveniles had their annual tea. An entertainment followed, when members of the adult lodge entertained the children with folk tales, instrumental solos and recitations. A particular item that pleased the children was the dancing doll of Brother B. Rees. The members are now looking forward to the annual outing that takes place in July, when Brecon and Craig y nos will be visited.

Band Supper A very pleasant time was spent at the Bandroom of the Rising Sun Hotel on Saturday evening, when about fifty sat down to a sumptuous feast prepared by the genial host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jones. The happy gathering included bandsmen, officials and committee. Mr. W. J. Payne presided, and complemented Mr. Albert Mantle on the rapid strides the band has made in just 10 months. Their beautiful playing has been praised by all who have been privileged to hear them. Mr. Mantle stated that he hoped the time was not far distant when the band would have a new set of silver instruments. Mr. J. J. Lewis gave a spirited address, and Mr. John Phillips and Mr. D. J. Davies also spoke. The musical programme was then opened, Mr. W. Price, chairman of the band, presiding. The following artistes took part: Messrs. W. J. Angel, D. M. Thomas, J. J. Lewis, Percy Mantle, D. Griffiths. A very pleasant function was also performed, when a life-like, enlarged photo was hung up in the room of the late Mr. Thomas Jones, known to all as "Tommy Dean."

**"Merthyr Express" 28 May 1932**

Fire Brigade The local brigade was successful in winning first prize and a shield in the two-man drill at the Gellygaer Fire Brigade Sports at Tirphil on Saturday. The successful members were Messrs. Ernest Jones and Sydney Briffitt.

Death It is with regret that we record the death of Mrs. Baker, Chapel-street, Penybank, who passed away after a painful illness.

St. Mary's Guild Mr. W. J. Payne presided at a meeting of the Guild on Wednesday evening, when Mr. T. Baldwin read a very interesting paper on the life of the prophet Daniel.

Doctor's Departure The large circle of friends of Dr. D. C. Williams regret very much his departure to take up duties at Bedlinog. Since coming to Fochriw, he has endeared himself to all by his devotion to his duties, and his association with all good movements for the welfare of the village. He has now been appointed to the medical staff of the Merthyr General Hospital, a position all feel he will fill with distinction. Fochriw's loss will be Bedlinog's gain. All join in wishing Dr. and Mrs. Williams every happiness in their new sphere of labour. He will be succeeded at Fochriw by Dr. W. Monnelly. L.M.R.C.S., L.M.R.C.P. (Ireland).

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge and was held on Tuesday, the chief Templar presiding. Mr. Thomas, Deri, addressed the lodge on Leviticus, chap. 10, v. 9-11.

Obituary: Mr. John Morgan, Stoney Houses, Penybank, aged 59 It is a sad duty to record this week the death of another well-known figure in the life of the village in the person after Mr. John Morgan, at the age of 59 years. He was taken to Merthyr Hospital on Tuesday evening, where he died shortly after admission. The funeral, which was for gentleman, was well attended. A short service was held at the house, after which the solemn cortege wended its way to Pentwyn Churchyard for interment. The Vicar officiated. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Wyndham Morgan, Idris Morgan (sons); Evan Morgan (brother); George Jones, T. Williams (uncles); Tom Morgan, Thomas Henry Morgan, Willie J. Morgan, J. G. Gregory, M. Davies, J. M. Thompson, F. Thompson Fleece, W. J. Rees, W. J. Thomas (nephews); Idris Williams, John Evans, W. J. Jones, D. W. Strang (cousins).

**"Merthyr Express" 4 June 1932**

Nazareth Chapel The half yearly meetings were held on Sunday. Inspiring sermons were preached by the Rev T. H. Creunant Davies, Llansamlet. The singing was conducted by Mr. William Morris, with Mr. Wyndham Lawrence at the organ.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was held on Thursday. The programme was "Your Whitsun Holidays." All members responded.

Welfare Mr. Tom Jones, headmaster, presided over the meeting at the Old Library on Friday. A report on the deputation's visit was given by Mr. J. I. Williams and Mr. D. R. Jones. Mr. David Davies, foreman, reported on work done.

Obituary The funeral of the late Mrs. Baker, Penybank, took place on Wednesday. Deceased was well known in the district, and highly respected. Sympathy is extended to the sorrowing family. The Rev. J. L. White conducted a short service at the house, before the cortege proceeded to Pentwyn Churchyard for interment. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Henry Baker (husband); P. Jenkins, T. Jenkins, G. Baker (sons); Miss A. Baker (daughter); Mr. and Mrs. Rowlands, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lewis (daughters and sons-in-law); Mr. and Mrs. G. Blake, Mr. and Mrs. J. Blake, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Blake (brothers and sisters-in-law); Mrs. Dobson (sister); Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Llewellyn (niece and nephew); Messrs. T. Lloyd, O. Saunders, D. Jenkins, F. Drayton (brothers-in-law); J Butts (uncle); Master C. Blake (nephew).

#### **"Merthyr Express" 11 June 1932**

Pits Idle The Fochriw Levels of Messrs. Guest, Keen are experiencing a number of stop-days owing to trade depression.

Cricket Fochriw entertained Rhymney in the Cup round on Saturday and were defeated by 9 wickets. Several substitutes had to be found to make an eleven.

Mothers' Union On Tuesday, the Rev. W. S. Pontin, vicar of Pontlottyn, addressed members.

Obituary The death has occurred after a short illness of Mr. Albert Walters, 3, Pleasant View, who passed away on Monday. He was a deacon and trustee of Noddfa Chapel. To the wife and family sincere sympathy is extended.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was held on Tuesday. Brother T. Jones, Dowlais, conducted a religious service.

Band Mr. William Price presided over a meeting of the band Committee at the Rising Sun Hotel on Tuesday, when the question of purchasing a new set of instruments was under discussion. Mr. Rollingson, London, the representative of Messrs. Boozey and Hawkes, was present, and gave a report, and explained in detail, the prices of various sets of instruments, and terms of purchase. The present set of instruments has been in use for 40 years. A new set will cost from £400 to £500. The Secretary is Mr. Arthur Coggan who will be pleased to give any information.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 18 June 1932**

Pits Idle The Ogilvie and Groesfaen Pits of the Powell Duffryn Co. and the Levels of Guest, Keen were idle on Wednesday owing to trade depression.

Congratulations Master Vernon Davies, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Davies, Brynteg, a pupil at Bargoed Secondary School, gave a fine display as an all-round athlete at the recent school sports, gaining the highest number of points, and was awarded the Victor Ludorum Shield.

I.O.G.T. Brother Thomas Walters presided over the Lodge meeting on Tuesday. The following contributed items: Brother Sam Lewis, Sisters Walters, Lewis and Ballard. Brother Walters also spoke in Welsh.

Obituary: Annie May Dummett, Glyn-terrace We regret to record the death of Annie May, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. Dummett. The funeral took place on Monday at Pentwyn Cemetery, the vicar officiating. The chief mourners were: Messrs. G. Dummett (father); Thomas I. Owen, E. Ll. Owen, Fred Dummett, Charles Dummett, Alfred Dummett, Percy Dummett, Evan Watkins, David Parry (uncles); Edward George Price, Thos. J. Jones, E. A. Davies, Evan J. Parry, D. J. Parry, Walter Parry, Willie Parry, David James Williams, William J. Williams.

Laid To Rest: Mr. Albert Walters, 3, Pleasant-view, aged 64 The funeral of the late Mr. Albert Walters took place on Thursday last amidst manifestations of sorrow. Deceased was 64 years of age, and had resided in the village for the greater part of his life. He was a deacon and trustee of Noddfa Baptist Chapel, where he will be sadly missed. The funeral was well attended and was of a representative character. After a short service in the house, conducted by the Rev. Esaiiah Williams, a former minister of Noddfa, the cortege wended its way to Pentwyn Churchyard for interment. The following deacons acted as bearers: Messrs. J. Bevan, J. Jones, T. Evans, J. Evans, T. Walters and J. Thomas. The Rev. E. Williams and Rev. Isaac Evans, Deri, officiated. The chief mourners were: Messrs. David W. Walters, John R. Walters (sons); Syd Evans and J. O. Parry (sons-in-law); Edward Jones, D. R. Johns, David Edwards (brothers-in-law); Thomas Walters, John Walters, George Walters, Robert Thomas, I., W., D., J. Davey, G. Davies, J. Jones, L. Jones, Tom Jones, Lewis Jones, Stanley Jones, William Jones, Tom Evans, W. J. Evans, T. Harris, R. Hall, David Jones, W. McCarthy, Arthur Ballard (nephews).

**“Merthyr Express” 25 June 1932**

Cricket Fochriw displayed their prowess as a cricket team on Saturday when they entertained St. Matthew's, Rhymney, and scored a decisive victory.

Band The Band, under their conductor Bandmaster Albert Mantle, played an open air programme of music on the green on Wednesday evening to the delight of the large number attracted by the music. There was dancing on the green, and everyone enjoyed an open-air musical treat in glorious weather.

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting, Sister Williams was responsible for a competitive programme. The following were the winners: Sisters C. Jones, B. Ballard, Brothers G. Evans, Sam Lewis and Tom Walters.

**“Merthyr Express” 2 July 1932**

Deaths This week the deaths are recorded of the young son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Simpson, Martin-street, and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Adams, Guest-street, which occurred after a few hours' illness.

School Outing The schools of Fochriw and Penybank held their annual outing on Friday last, when a large number of children, accompanied by their Headmasters, Mr. Tom Walters and Mr. Arthur Ballard, and teachers and parents, left Fochriw Station for Bristol, where many wonderful sights were seen.

Accident The many friends of Mr. John Williams, Plantation-street, will regret to know that he received injuries whilst working at Taff - Merthyr Colliery, and is now a patient at Merthyr General Hospital. His large circle of friends join in wishing him a speedy recovery.

Brass Band On Thursday evening, the Brass Band gave an excellent programme of music on the green. There was dancing, and a large number were present. Musical chairs and waltzing competitions were held, and a most enjoyable time was spent.

Children's Choir At Bedlinog on Saturday last, the Children's Choir scored a brilliant success in the open singing competition by securing first prize. Mr. David John Davies is the conductor, and Mr. Wyndham Lawrence the accompanist.

Employment Notices Quite a number of workmen residing in the village and employed in the neighbourhood collieries received their notices to terminate contracts a few weeks ago, and these have now taken effect. It is hoped that they will be shortly reinstated, as the percentage of unemployed in the village is already very high.

**“Merthyr Express” 9 July 1932**

Cricket On Tuesday, Master William J. Jones of the Fochriw Mixed Council School, was presented with a cricket bat, by the headmaster, amidst the cheers of his schoolmates, for making a brilliant 54 not out in a cricket match last Saturday.

Carmel Chapel The yearly meetings in connection with the chapel were held on Sunday and Monday, when the Rev. W. E. Jones, Bethania, Dowlais, preached powerful sermons to large congregations. The singing was conducted by Mr. Thomas Walters who also presided at the organ.

Obituary The sudden death has taken place of John F. Simpson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Simpson, Martin-street, after a short illness. The Rev. J. L. White officiated at the house and graveside. The interment took place at Pentwyn Churchyard. To the bereaved, sincere sympathy is extended.

Hospital The many friends of Mr. William Henry Jones, Martin-street, will regret to know that he is a patient at Merthyr General Hospital, where he has undergone an operation. Also, Miss Rona Lewis, Aelybryn, who is a patient at Aberbargoed Hospital. All join in wishing them a speedy recovery.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the lodge was held on Tuesday evening, Brother D. James, Chief Templar, presiding. A hearty welcome was given to Sister Beryl Ballard who has returned from a short stay at Sully. The programme was impromptu speeches, all sisters and brothers competing. The adjudicator was Brother G. Thomas. The prize, which was given by Sister Williams, Bedlinog, was divided between Mrs. Sam Lewis and Brother B. Davies.

Concert On Wednesday evening at Noddfa Vestry, a concert was given by the Fochriw Juvenile Choir, assisted by the following artistes: violin, Master Ronald Evans, Dowlais; elocutionist, Master Glanmor Williams, Dowlais; Masters Tegwyn Short, Dowlais; and Miss Eirlys Rees, Bedlinog. The chairman was Mr. W. J. Payne.

Brass Band Mr. Wm. Price presided over the meeting of the band committee at the Bandroom of the Rising Sun Hotel on Tuesday evening. The secretary, Mr. Arthur Coggan, dealt with the correspondence, and the collector, Mr. Seaborne Williams, gave his monthly report. The bandmaster, Mr. Albert Mantle, commented on some helpful suggestions for the welfare of the Band. Several important engagements have been filled during the last few months, and a splendid impression has been created. It has been decided to get another set of instruments, and it is hoped the public will rally and give wholehearted support.

Obituary We regret to record the death of Doris Muriel Adams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Adams, Guest-street, who passed away after a short illness. The funeral took place on Saturday. After a short service in the house conducted by the Vicar, the cortege proceeded to Pentwyn Churchyard for interment. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Arthur Adams (father); Jack and Archie Adams (brothers); W. Curtis, F. W. Webb, James Curtis (uncles); G. Thomas, Eddie Powell, W. Webb, Reggie Curtis, J Williams (cousins).

#### **“Merthyr Express” 16 July 1932**

Cricket Messrs. J. O. Roberts and Iorwerth Evans, playing for the Rhymney Valley League against Newport District on Saturday, gave a splendid display with both bat and ball.

Welfare Mr. Tom Jones presided over a well-attended meeting of the committee at the Old Library on Monday evening. Future developments in connection with the scheme were discussed.

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting of the Lodge, the topic for the evening was "Fashions."

Mothers' Union On Thursday last, about 14 members of the branch journeyed to Llanishen by charabanc and took part in the rally. A most enjoyable day was spent.

Scholastic Congratulations to Miss Phyllis Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Evans, who has passed her Inter B.A. examination. She is a student at Cardiff University. Also, Mr. George White, son of the Rev. and Mrs. J. L. White, who has passed his examination at King's College, London, where he is a student for Holy Orders.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 23 July, 1932**

Scholastic Congratulations to Miss Pearl White and Miss Winnie Evans, who passed their entrance examination for free places to the secondary schools, each receiving a high percentage of marks.

Outing On Saturday last, the members of the Star of Fochriw Lodge journeyed to Swansea for their annual outing. Excellent arrangements had been made, and all enjoyed a perfect day.

Obituary The village mourns the loss of a well-known and highly respected citizen in the person of Mrs. Mary Jane Morgan, 6, Plantation-street, who passed away on Sunday morning, after a short illness, patiently borne, at the age of 51. Great sympathy is extended to the family.

Welfare Mr. Sam Lewis presided over a well-attended meeting at the Library on Friday evening in connection with the Welfare Scheme. A report was given by the surveyors on the work already done. It is very gratifying to know that the first Welfare Grant has been received, and work will soon be resumed.

Pontlottyn Police Court Derwyn Davies of Fochriw was summoned for travelling on the GWR without paying his full fare, and with intent to avoid payment. A fine of 10 shillings was imposed.

### **“Merthyr Express” 30 July 1932**

Obituary Quite a gloom was cast over the village when it became known that Mrs. Thomas Harris, Aelybryn, widow of the late Mr. Tom Harris, had passed away.

Scholastic Congratulations to Mr. Willie Morgan, son of Mr. John Morgan and the late Mrs. Morgan, who has passed his final examination at Exeter College.

Cricket The local club spent a very happy weekend gathering league points at the expense of Deri, Rhymney and Abertysswg. They beat Deri at Deri on Wednesday by five wickets; Rhymney at Rhymney by two runs, and Abertysswg by eight wickets. All members of the team wore black rosettes on Saturday in sympathy with two very popular members of the club, Messrs. T. J. and W. Morgan, in their recent sad bereavement.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was held on Tuesday. A very instructive and inspiring address was given by Mr. Hyams, Newport, whose subject was "Jewish Customs." He dealt chiefly with the Feast of the Passover. A vote of condolence was passed with Sister Mary Morgan in the loss of her mother.

Obituary: Mrs. Mary Jane Morgan, Plantation-street, aged 51 The funeral of the late Mrs. Mary Jane Morgan, wife of Mr. John Morgan, took place on Wednesday. Deceased, who was 51 years of age, had resided in the village the whole of her life, and was the daughter of the late Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Mary Lewis. She was a faithful member Carmel Chapel. She leaves a husband, Mr. John Morgan (Superintendent of the St. John Ambulance Corps), two sons (one of whom, Mr. Willie Morgan, has just completed his course at Exeter College), and one daughter, Miss Mary Morgan. There was a large attendance at the funeral, which took place at Pant Cemetery. The officiating ministers were the Rev. J. R. Salmon, Pontlottyn, Rev. Richard Evans, Fochriw and Deri, and the Rev. Williams, Port Talbot. The chief mourners were: Messrs. John Morgan (husband); Willie Morgan (son); Miss Mary Morgan (daughter); Mr. and Mrs. Thomas John Morgan (son and daughter-in-law); Messrs. John, Edward and William Lewis (brothers); Thomas Evans, W. Griffiths, John Evans (brothers-in-law); Evan Morgan, Taliesin Jones, Evan Jones (brothers-in-law); Arthur Jones, David Jones, David Lewis, Johnny Lewis, Daniel Lewis, Emrys Lewis, Bob Rees, John Walters, W. J. Jones, Bryn Jones, Idris Jones, Evan Jones, John Bevan (nephews).

### **“Merthyr Express” 6 August 1932**

Pals' Outing Club The 24 members of the Pals' Outing Club journeyed to Blackpool on Friday. The secretary is Mr. T. I. Evans, and Mr. Davies is the treasurer.

Gospel Hall Enthusiastic meetings have been held at the Gospel Hall during the week. Addresses were given by Mrs. A. H. Williams, Llanelly, and Mrs. Whiteford, Dowlais.

Musical At a recent examination of the London College of Music, Miss Hannah Mantle, Pentwyn, was successful in pianoforte playing in the elementary grade.

Scholarship As a result of the recent examination for admission to the Bargoed Junior Technical Day School, out of the 28 scholarships awarded, Master Edgar Mantle, Pentwyn, occupied the 9<sup>th</sup> place. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Mantle.

I.O.G.T. Brother D. James presided over the weekly meeting of the Star of Fochriw Lodge on Tuesday.

Hospital The many friends of Mr. George Way and Master Griffith Pugh, who are patients at Merthyr Hospital, join in wishing them a speedy recovery.

Brass Band The Fochriw Band has received a set of silver instruments to replace their old ones. Mr. T. Jones, Rising Sun Inn, has placed a room at their disposal

Obituary: Mrs. Margaret A. Harris, 2, Aelybryn, aged 58 There was a large and representative gathering at the funeral of Mrs. Margaret A. Harris on Thursday. She was 58 years of age, and a faithful member of St. Mary's Church. After a short service at the house conducted by the Vicar, the cortege proceeded to St. Mary's where a most impressive service was conducted. Mr. Octavius Richards played the Dead March, and as the body was carried out of the Church, the choir sang the "Nunc Dimittis." The bearers were members of the Church - Messrs. W. J. Payne, William D. Davies, Ernest Jones, and George Evans. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Harold Harris, Gilbert Harris (sons); W. R. Thatcher, S. J. Morgan (sons-in-law); J. E. Jones (brother-in-law); A. Greenslade (nephew); Master T. B. Thatcher (grandson).

**"Merthyr Express" 13 August 1932**

Hospital Mrs. Tom Davies, Hill-row, Pentwyn, and Miss Katie Thomas, Dynevor-street, are patients at Merthyr General Hospital. Also, Mr. W. H. Jones, Martin-street, Mr. Griffith Pugh, Guest-street, Mr. George Way, Aelybryn, and Mrs. Margaret Jones, Pit-row.

Band Mr. William Price presided at a meeting of the Fochriw Silver Band on Tuesday. The bandmaster reported on the silver instruments just received, and spoke very highly of their quality of tone. The committee agreed to organise a community singing open-air concert in aid of Merthyr General Hospital.

**"Merthyr Express" 20 August 1932**

Presentation to Dr. D. C. Williams On Thursday evening at the Church Hall, there was a very happy gathering, the hall being crowded to pay tribute to Dr. D. C. Williams, and Mrs. Williams, the former having recently taken up an appointment at Bedlinog. The occasion was the presentation of a beautiful oak writing bureau, suitably inscribed, purchased from contributions by Dr. Williams' host of admirers from Fochriw and District. A first-class programme of music was given by the following artistes: Madam H. C. Davies, Mr. James J. Lewis, Miss Mary Lewis and Mr. Jones (elocutionist). Mr. Wyndham Lawrence was the accompanist. The Chairman was Police Sergeant W. Howells, who spoke of the high esteem in which Dr. Williams was held. Mr. W. J. Payne made the presentation on behalf of the people, stating that although Dr. Williams had been with them for just fifteen months, he had endeared himself to all. What he liked in Dr. Williams was the human touch and his kind words of comfort to the sick and suffering, and that, in his opinion, did more good often than the medicine. Mrs. S. J. Jones, Mr. John Lloyd Jones, and Mr. Evan Morgan Davies also spoke. The evening terminated with the singing of "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau," by Mr. J. J. Lewis.

Stop Trucks The Fochriw Levels of Messrs. G.K.N. Ltd., are experiencing depressing times of late.

Gospel Hall Sterling meetings were held this week when most inspiring sermons were delivered by the Rev. Johnson Edwards. Services have been well attended.

Hospital The many friends of Mr. Thomas Francis, Pit-row, will regret to know that he is a patient at Merthyr Hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Cricket The local "Derby" took place at Fochriw on Saturday, when Deri and Fochriw met, and excitement was at fever pitch. Deri batted first and were dismissed for 59. Fochriw scored 62 for nine wickets, thus winning by one wicket.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was held on Tuesday, the Chief Templar presiding. The topic for the evening was "My Chief Interest in the Lodge." The following contributed: Brothers D. Jones, T. Walters, W. Davies, and S. Lewis.

**"Merthyr Express" 27 August 1932**

Outing On Saturday, the children of the Cwlwm y Brodoriaeth Lodge of the R.A.O.B., visited Abergavenny, where they spent a very happy day. The secretary was Mr. C. R. Mills.

I.O.G.T. Brother Dan James presided over the weekly meeting of the Lodge on Tuesday evening. The programme was a devotional one. Brother D. Jones opened the service with a prayer and a Bible Reading was given by Sister Lewis.

Community Singing At a well attended meeting of representatives from the various churches held at the Library on Wednesday, Mr. William Price presiding, Mr. W. J. Payne spoke of the possibilities of holding a community singing festival on Sunday evening next. He explained that Mr. Robert Slimmons, Fochriw Farm, had kindly allowed a field near the farm to be used for the occasion. The conductor will be Mr. Thomas Walters, A.L.C.M., and the Fochriw Silver Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Albert Mantle, will lead the singing. A collection will be made for the Merthyr General Hospital.

Unemployed A well-attended open air meeting of the unemployed persons living in the Fochriw District was held on Wednesday evening last, Mr. R. Clark presiding. The chairman explained that the meeting had been called with the object of forming an unemployed lodge at Fochriw. County Councillor R. Roberts, Rhymney, gave a very interesting address on the problem of the unemployed, and pointed out how important it was that the unemployed should become more organised in the interests of themselves and their dependants. It was decided to form a Lodge, and the following officers were elected: secretary, Miss R. Clark; treasurer, Mr. S. Phillips.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 3 September 1932**

Community Singing About 2,000 people attended a community singing festival under the auspices of the "Western Mail and Echo" on Sunday. The large gathering assembled on the Brynteg Field, kindly lent by Mr. Robert Slimmons, and outside, on the surrounding hills, many hundreds more were gathered. Mr. W. J. Payne presided. The hymns sung were: "Cwm Rhondda," "Eventide," "Gertrude," "Sandon," "Crygybar," "Aberystwyth," and "Pentecost." The sum of £5 5s 6d was realised for the Merthyr General Hospital.

British Legion A meeting of the branch was held on Monday under the chairmanship of Mr. Hy. Thomas. The secretary, Mr. James Lloyd Jones, dealt with the result of the recent appeal on behalf of the Children's Welfare Fund. To administer the Welfare Fund, a committee has been appointed, and the following have been co-opted to act in conjunction with the branch in the work: Mr. W. J. Payne, Mr. J. Phillips, Mrs. S. J. Jones and Miss R. J. Davies. An interesting report on the proposed drum-head service at Pontlottyn on September 25<sup>th</sup> was given by the delegates. Messrs. E. Puddle and J. Symmonds are to be congratulated on a good effort in this direction. It was decided to send a protest to the Glamorgan P. A. committee against the operation of the means test, which had seriously affected some of the unemployed ex-servicemen. Gifts had been sent to several members who were patients at Merthyr General Hospital. Relief was also afforded to many from the B.L.R.F. (Poppy Fund). Several children had received grants under the educational scheme of the United Services Fund.

Concert A happy meeting was spent at Noddfa Vestry on Thursday, when Mr. T. J. Jones, vice-president of the local branch of the British Legion, presided over a concert organised to support the newly established Fochriw British Legion Children's Welfare Fund. The programme was under the direction and of the Fochriw Juvenile Choir.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 10 September 1932**

Show Successes At the Blackwood Show, Messrs. David Lewis and William Lewis won the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> prizes in the timbering competition.

Musical Miss Mary Lewis, Pentwyn, carried off the first prizes at the Cefn Forest and Deri Eisteddfodau.

Central Welsh Board Congratulations to the following who were successful in the recent examination: Willie D. Howell, Glyn Thomas (Matriculation); Senior: Miss Mona Ballard, Emrys Davies, Tudor Davies and Vernon Davies. They are pupils of Lewis' School, Pengam and Bargoed Secondary School.

Juvenile Choir The Fochriw Juvenile Choir, under their conductor Mr. David John Davies and accompanist Mr. Wyndham Lawrence, scored a fine success at the Deri Eisteddfod, capturing the first prize in the Juvenile choir competition on Saturday.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was held on Tuesday, the chief Templar presiding. Two interesting papers were read by Brother D. James: biographies of Sir Christopher Wren and John Wesley. The following commented on the papers: Brothers Sam Lewis, D. Jones, W. A. Davies, Griff Thomas, Sisters M. A. Lewis, E. and B. Ballard, C. Jones.

British Legion A large number of ex-servicemen assembled at the branch headquarters on Monday, under the chairmanship of Mr. Henry Thomas. Reports were given by Mr. Puddle on the Drum-head Service Committee at Tirphil, and by the Secretary on the recent meeting of the Children's Welfare Fund Committee. It is proposed to give the children an outing to Barry Island on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> September.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 17 September 1932**

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting was held on Tuesday evening, Bro. D. James, Chief Templar, presiding.

Outing On Saturday last, the young people of Noddfa Sunday school journeyed to Tenby by charabanc and a happy time was spent.

Football The Fochriw Hotspurs played the first home league match on Saturday against Brithdir and won by five goals to two.

Accidents On Monday, while following their occupations at Ogilvie Collieries, two Fochriw men were severely injured. Mr. Edward Chapman, Williams-row, was conveyed to Merthyr General Hospital, and Mr. David Tyler, Hill-row, Pentwyn, was also injured.

Band The monthly meeting of the Fochriw Silver Band was held at the Rising Sun Hotel on Tuesday, presided over by Mr. Wm. Price, chairman. Mr. Seaborne Williams gave his report of the weekly collections, and it is still felt that better support should be given if a first class band is to be retained. About 20 young recruits have joined the band and are being taught the rudiments of music by Bandmaster Albert Mantle.

Wedding: Price-Thomas A pretty wedding was solemnised at Zoar Congregational Chapel on Saturday. The contracting parties were Mr. Samuel Price, Bedlinog, and Miss Margaret Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Thomas, Gwalia House. The bride, who was given away by her father, was prettily attired in an ankle-length dress of ivory georgette with Chantilla lace, with veil and wreath of orange blossoms, and silver shoes. She carried a bouquet of cream and white gladioli. The train-bearer was Rona Jones (niece of the bridegroom), who was attired in peach with a Juliet cap and champagne shoes. The bridesmaids were Miss Jessie Thomas (sister of the bride), and Miss Mimi Lewis and Miss Peggy Lewis (nieces of the bride). Miss Thomas was attired in a dress of blue crepe to chine, with hat and shoes to match, and carried a bouquet of bronze chrysanthemums, whilst the younger bridesmaids wore peach coloured dresses, Juliet caps and champagne shoes, and carried posies of sweet peas. The best man was Mr. Glyn Thomas, brother of the bride. The reception was held at the bride's home, after which the happy couple left for Bournemouth, where the honeymoon is being spent. They were the recipients of numerous presents. The bride was a former member of the teaching staff of Penybank Council School.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 24 September 1932**

Ambulance Congratulations to the Fochriw Cadets Ambulance team, who carried off the first prize at Pontlloyn Eisteddfod. The winning team was: Messrs. J. Morgan (captain), Reggie Gittoes, Archie Adams and Tudor Rowlands. The team had been carefully trained by Mr. John Morgan.

Outing On Saturday, about 100 children of members of the Fochriw branch of the British Legion, accompanied by a number of adults, journeyed to Barry Island. This was at the first outing organised by the Legion Welfare Fund, and was a decided success. The committee wish to thank all for their splendid help and donations.

St. Mary's Church An address was given on Tuesday by the Rev D. J. L. Griffiths, Cardiff.

Unemployed At the Old Reading Rooms, Councillor W. J. Kedward, Bargoed, addressed a meeting of unemployed on "The Means Test."

I.O.G.T. An interesting debate took place on "Single and Married Life." Sister Ballard opened the debate by taking the negative side, and Brother Thomas opposed. The voting favoured married life.

**"Merthyr Express" 1 October 1932**

Sheep Sale A large crowd was attracted to Pentwyn on Wednesday, when Mr. John Herbert conducted the 5<sup>th</sup> annual draft ewe sale. There was a fine collection of hardy mountain ewes, fat and store lambs, weathers, rams, etc.

Fire Brigade Congratulations to District Officer Ben Evans of the Fochriw section of the Gellygaer Fire Brigade, who was presented with a long service medal for 20 years faithful service at the drum-head service at Pontlottyn on Sunday.

Hospital The many friends of Mrs. Edward Lewis, Brook-row, who is a patient at Ponsarn Hospital, and Mr. David Tyler, Pentwyn, who is a patient at Merthyr General Hospital, join in wishing them a speedy recovery.

Personal The many friends of Miss Margaret Helen Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howell Thomas, Station-terrace, and Mr. John Gwyn Lewis, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Lewis, Glyn-terrace, will be interested to know that they have taken up residence at Bangor and Carmarthen Colleges to pursue their studies.

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting of the Lodge, a paper entitled "The grain of mustard seed," was read by Mr. E. R. Thomas, Dowlais. Brothers Sam Lewis, D. Jones, and Bob Rees commented on the paper. Sister Ballard proposed, and Brother Walters seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Thomas.

Welfare Mr. Tom Jones presided over a meeting of the Welfare Association at the Old Reading room on Friday evening. During the week, the Welfare ground had been visited by Captain Mason and Mr. Albert Thomas, miners agent, Bargoed. Reports on the visit and interview were given by Messrs. W. J. Payne, S. Lewis, H. Thomas, Evan M. Davies, Edward Lewis and the chairman. Important correspondence was read by the Secretary. It was eventually agreed to act on the advice of Captain Mason: first to complete the children's playground, and then proceed with the completion of the football and cricket ground.

Another Unhappy Home Brynmor Lewis, aged 33, unemployed collier, of Fochriw, was summoned for being guilty of persistent cruelty to his wife, Amy Lewis, who lives at Tirphil, and for desertion. Mrs. Lewis said they were married on 19<sup>th</sup> February 1919, and there were three children. Defendant had treated her cruelly ever since marriage. They first lived in apartments at the defendant's mother's house. He had given her black eyes on many occasions. She had summoned him before, and obtained a maintenance order, but they made up their quarrel. They then lived in apartments, but defendant continued to ill-use her. He beat her many times, even in front of his mother. He had threatened her with a knife and also a poker. Her body was very much bruised. Defendant accused his wife of being the cause of the quarrels. Hannah Mary Harris, Tirphil, gave evidence supporting Mrs. Lewis' story. Elizabeth Williams, complainant's sister, corroborated. Police Constable George Fraser told the Bench that the defendant drank, and was a violent man. He had treated his wife very brutally. On the 10<sup>th</sup> September, he was called to the house and saw the defendant with a knife in his hand. Defendant was told to pay 15 shillings a week and costs. Mrs. Lewis was to have custody of the three younger children.

**"Merthyr Express" 8 October 1932**

Success Miss Mary Lewis, Pentwyn, won the girls solo at the Abertysswg Eisteddfod.

Football Fochriw entertained Penallta on Saturday in a league match before a good crowd. The game was one of the best played on the home ground this season. Fochriw were winners by the only goal scored.

Obituary It is with regret that we record the death this week of Miss Esther Thomas, daughter of Mrs. Thomas, and the late Mr. Thomas Thomas, Guest-street, who passed away at the age of 43.

Nazareth Chapel The annual meetings were held on Sunday last when the Rev. D. L. Jenkins, Bargoed, preached to large congregations. The singing was conducted by Mr. William Morris, with Mr. Wyndham Lawrence at the organ.

I.O.G.T. Brother Dan James, Chief Templar, presided over the weekly meeting of the Lodge at Carmel vestry on Tuesday evening. A competition had been arranged entitled "An Ode to Summer." Twelve compositions were submitted and the adjudication was given by Mr. Sam Lewis. He complimented the members on their efforts, and the successful competitor was Miss Bessie Ballard, who was awarded the chair prize. The charring ceremony was conducted by Brothers Sam Lewis, Bob Rees, and Dan James. Thanks were accorded to Brothers Dan James and Willie Angell Davies for arranging the programme, and also for the valuable prize given.

Harvest Festival The harvest services in connection with St. Mary Church commenced on Thursday morning with a celebration of Holy Communion by the Vicar. The special preacher in the afternoon and evening was of the Diocesan Missioner, Rev. Canon R. W. Jones, whose eloquent sermons were greatly appreciated. On Sunday, the preacher was the Vicar of Llanbradach, Rev. D. J. Wills. On Monday, the preacher was Canon T. E. Griffiths, St. Nicholas, near Cardiff, who was a curate at Rhymney some 30 years ago, and is well known in the district. A true festival spirit was manifest in all the services. The Church had been beautifully decorated with fruit, flowers etc. The singing was conducted by Mr. Berkley Angell, and Mr. Octavius Richards presided at the organ.

Concert A concert in aid of the fund for providing footwear for school children was held at Noddfa vestry on Thursday last. This was the first of a series of entertainments it is planned to hold during the coming winter, and it is hoped that the public will rally round and support such a worthy cause. The chair was occupied by Mr. Sam Lewis, school manager. An excellent programme had been prepared, and all the artistes gave their services free. The artistes were: soprano, Miss Eirlys Watkins; contralto, Miss Mafanwy Richards, Pontlottyn; baritone, Mr. James Brown, Deri; tenor, Mr. Isaac Jones, Pontlottyn. Solos and duets were also rendered by Megan Brown and Dilys Haines, Deri; Harry Oliver and Phyllis Haines. The Juvenile choir rendered choruses in fine style. Mr. Wyndham Lawrence was the accompanist, and the organising secretary Mr. Willie Adams Jones. A most enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the singing off "Hen Wlad fy Nhadau" by Miss Eirlys Edwards, Deri.

Obituary It is with regret that the death is announced of Mrs. Margaret Davies, wife of Mr. William M. Davies, Glyn-terrace, who passed away on Thursday last. She had been ill for some time. She was of a bright and cheerful disposition and will be sadly missed by a large circle of friends. Before her marriage, she was on the teaching staff of the Penybank School. She was 36 years of age and leaves a husband and three young children. Great sympathy is extended. After a short service at the house, conducted by the Rev. Richard Evans, the solemn cortege proceeded to Pentwyn Churchyard, all blinds en route being drawn as a silent tribute. The chief mourners were: Mr. William M. Davies (husband); Alun Davies (son); Messrs. David Davies (father); Evan M. Davies (father-in-law); Tom Davies, David J. Davies, D. Davies, Benjamin Davis (brothers); Bert Evans, David G. Evans, Albert Wright, Sydney Evans, Samuel Thomas, George Davies, William Lewis, Gilbert Harris, Morgan Davies, Bryn Davies, Gomer Davis (brothers-in-law); Tudor Evans, Willie Evans, Ewart Davies, Tudor Davies (nephews); J. B. Jones, Robert Davies, William Davies, Thomas C. Davies, William John, Thomas Davies, Joseph Williams, William Williams, Rees Rees (uncles); Stanley Jones, Henry James John, Tom John, Robert John, Dan John, Dan Davies, William M. Davies, David J. Meredith, John Davies, Glyn Davies, Morgan Williams, Stanley Jones, Bertie Jones, C. Ballard, Bob Rees, William Rees, Thomas J. Morgan, H. Morgan (cousins).

#### **"Merthyr Express" 15 October 1932**

Success Miss Mary Lewis scored another success at the Ystrad Mynach Eisteddfod on Saturday last by winning two first prizes.

MPs Visit Mr. Morgan Jones, M.P., paid a visit to Fochriw on Tuesday and addressed a meeting at the Old Library. The chair was occupied by Mr. R. Clark.

Football Fochriw played at Penallta on Saturday in a league game. It ended in a draw two goals each.

Personal The many friends of Mr. Wyndham Lawrence, A.L.C.M., and Mr. Patrick F. Keane, White Horse Inn, will be glad to know that they have been admitted into Cardiff University to pursue their studies.

Noddfa Chapel The annual preaching services were held on Sunday and Monday. The Rev. T. J. Hughes, Morriston, occupied the pulpit, and his very interesting discourses were much appreciated. Mr. Thomas Evans conducted the singing, and Mr. David Joshua Thomas presided at the organ.

Bible Society At Nazareth Chapel on Wednesday evening last, a well attended meeting in connection with the British and Foreign Bible Society was held. The chair was occupied by the Rev. J. L. White, vicar. An address on the work of the Society was given by the Rev. T. Alban Davies, Ton Pentre. The local secretary is Mr. William Morris, and the treasurer is Mr. Jenkin Pugh.

Funeral The funeral of Miss Esther Thomas, Guest-street, took place on Wednesday last week. After a short service at the house conducted by the Vicar, the solemn cortege proceeded to St. Mary's Church, of which deceased was a member. The cortege then proceeded to Pentwyn Churchyard. The chief mourners were: Mrs. Thomas (mother); Miss Mary E. Thomas (sister); Mr. David Daniel Thomas (brother); Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Rees Lewis (sister and brother-in-law); Master T. J. Lewis (nephew); Mr. and Mrs. Rees Thomas, Mr. Bowen, Mrs. Williams, Mr. David Thomas (uncles and aunts); Mrs. Lynch, Mr. T. J. Thomas (cousins).

#### **“Merthyr Express” 22 October 1932**

Fire On Saturday, about midday, the Fochriw Fire Brigade received a call to a fire at 18, Martin's-street. It was discovered that some rafters were alight. The fire was soon put out.

Supper At the club room of the Rising Sun on Saturday, the members of the Fochriw football team sat down to an excellent supper. The meal was followed by a concert.

Success Miss Mary Lewis scored another success at Bargoed Eisteddfod on Saturday by winning two first prizes - the girls solo under 14 years, and a cup for the solo under 16 years.

Glee Party Mr. W. J. Payne presided over a meeting of the Fochriw Glee Party on Sunday, when Mr. Thomas Walters tendered his resignation as conductor. It was accepted with regret, and Mr. Walters was thanked for his services. Mr. Griff Jones was elected as his successor.

Harvest Festival Services were held at St. David's, Pantywaun, on Sunday and Monday. The preacher on Sunday was the Rev. L. D. Jones, Deri, and on Monday, the Rev. D. J. Davies, Pant.

I.O.G.T. On Tuesday, the members had a competitive programme. The prize bag winners were: 1. Miss Margaret Ballard; 2. Miss Bessie Ballard; 3. Mrs. Elsie Rees. Singing, Miss Beryl Ballard; reciting, Mr. Sam Lewis. The adjudicators were: bags - Mrs. Nellie Evans; singing - Mr. J. Morgan; elocution - Mr. T. J. Jones. Miss B. Ballard, Mr. D. James and Mr. W. A. Davies gave the prizes.

British Legion Under the chairmanship of Mr. Evan Davies, the annual meeting of the Fochriw branch was held at the Old Reading Rooms on Monday. A report of the year's work was given by the Secretary, Mr. J. L. Jones. Relief afforded to ex-servicemen and their dependants in the area amounted to approximately £140. Patients in hospital had been provided with clothing, and many children attending secondary schools, had been successful in obtaining grants under the educational scheme of the United Services Fund. Grants received during the year from the Poppy Fund totalled £48, and this had been distributed to unemployed servicemen. The area special relief fund had sanctioned a total of £15 19s, whilst from the United Services Fund the figure was £42 3s 6d. From regimental funds and other sources, a sum of £22 6s 8d had come in. Also, £5 10s had been granted to one member in order to purchase dentures. Dealing with the work of the children's welfare committee, he was proud to say that all that had been aimed for had

been accomplished. The following were elected as officers for the year: president, Dr. D. W. Monelly; vice-presidents - Mrs. S. J. Jones, Mr. T. J. Jones (headmaster), Mr. W. J. Payne, Mr. J. Bevan, M.E., Mr. T. Lloyd Jones, Councillor A. T. Minhinnick, M.E.; chairman - Mr. Sydney Phillips; vice chairman - Mr. J. Lewis; treasurer - Mr. E. Williams; secretary - Mr. J. Lloyd Jones; assistant secretary - Mr. W. T. Pegg.

Scholastic Miss Olive M. Payne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Payne Glyn-terrace, has passed her final examinations at Barry Training College. She has now been appointed on the teaching staff of the Essex Education Authority

#### **“Merthyr Express” 29 October 1932**

Lest We Forget Self-denial week in aid of the Blind is being held this week.

Musical Miss Mary Lewis won the girl solo at the Abertillery Eisteddfod on Saturday.

Football Fochriw entertained Ystrad Mynach in a league game on Saturday. Result: 4 - 4.

Harvest Festival Harvest Thanksgiving services in connection with Nazareth chapel where held on Sunday and Monday.

Laid To Rest On Sunday, at Bedwellty Churchyard, Mr. William Mantle, Pentwyn, was buried. He had been solo cornet player in the old Fochriw Brass Band. His brother is the present conductor. Surviving members of the old band were present at the funeral.

Motor Accident Two well-known residents were involved in a motor-cycle collision on Thursday in the persons of Mr. Vivian Powell, Dynevor-street, and Mr. Alvin Llewellyn, Pentwyn Farm. The accident occurred between Pentwyn and Bedlinog on the main road. Both were badly injured and were conveyed home after receiving medical attention.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was held on Tuesday, the chief Templar presiding. Solos were given by Sisters B. Beryl and M. Ballard, Brothers Willie Angell Davies, D. James, L. Ballard and S. Lewis; pianoforte solos, Brother Tom Walters, Sister M. Morgan; recitations, Sisters S. Lewis, M. Morgan, M. L. Thomas, Brother Bob Rees; readings, Sisters Walters and Thomas.

Concert At Church Hall on Friday, a Children's Concert was held. Mr. W. J. Payne was the chairman, and the following contributed to the programme: Betty White, Gwendoline Llewellyn, Catherine J. Williams, Mair Evans, Betty Cumpstone, David Mantle, Denis Harding, Norman Thomas, Cecil Llewellyn, Victor R. Davies, Harry Evans, Douglas Clark, Freddie Williams, Jack Davies, Evan Lewis, Alun Davies, Trevor Edwards, David R. Jones, Alfred Lester. The Vicar adjudicated the singing competition and recitations. The singing competition was divided between Howell Lewis and Jackie Davies. Recitation: Catherine Jane Williams. Mr. W. White was the accompanist.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 5 November 1932**

Carmel Chapel Harvest Festival Services were held during the week and were well-attended. Mr. Thomas Walters conducted the singing and presided at the organ.

Football Fochriw were away to Derwendeg in a league encounter on Saturday, and after a hard game, under distressing weather conditions, won by two goals to nil.

St. Mary's The festival of All Saints was observed on Tuesday morning, the vicar celebrating Holy Communion.

Scholastic Miss Adelaide Lawrence, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Lawrence, Pleasant-view, has been appointed on the teaching staff of the Caerphilly Education Authority.

Obituary A well known personality in the life of the village, where he had resided until the closing down of the collieries, in the person of Mr. Thomas John Wright, late of Aelybryn, passed away on Sunday last at Trethomas.

I.O.G.T. At the weekly meeting of the Lodge, the juveniles entertained the adult Lodge. Superintendent Brother Samuel Lewis was in charge of the programme. The following contributed: solos - Maudie Jones, Jennie Davies, Rhoda Price, Jimmy Lester, Freddie Williams, Jackie Davies, Douglas Clark, Ernest Lester, Evan Davies, Ewart Davies, Alun Davies; recitations - Betty Simpson, Ernest, Jimmy and Graham Lester.

British Legion Mr. Sid Phillips presided at a branch meeting on Monday. It was decided to hold the annual remembrance parade and service on Sunday next, November

6, when the Rector of Bedwellty will officiate, assisted by the branch chaplain, Rev. J. L. White, Vicar. The co-operation of all organised bodies and friendly societies is sought. Mrs. S. J. Jones was appointed Poppy Day organiser. The Secretary had communicated with the urban authority on the matter of bus services to Fochriw, also drawing their attention to the state of the roads in the locality. At the request of the Pantywaun ex-servicemen, he had also appealed for the installation of electricity at that hamlet. The branch was pleased to know that Mr. F. C. Miller had been selected by the District Committee, as a member of the Welsh Area Council for 1933.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 12 November 1932**

Obituary Mrs. Bessie Jones, 17, Martin-street, wife of Mr. Richard Jones, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hughes, died this week.

Musical On Sunday, the Fochriw Juvenile choir, under their conductor Mr. David John Davies, gave a concert at Abertysswg, assisted by the eminent Juvenile artistes, Mrs. Mary Lewis (Fochriw), Miss Eirlys Rees (Bedlinog), and Miss Walters (Bargoed).

Mothers' Union On Tuesday, a service was held at St. Mary's Church. An inspiring address was given by the Rev. D. J. Davies, Pant.

I.O.G.T. The following were elected officers at the weekly meeting of the lodge: chief Templar, Sister Mary Morgan; secretary, Sister Bessie Ballard; vice-templar, Brother Thomas Walters. The installation was carried out by Brother Sam Lewis, lodge deputy. Brother Dan James, on vacating the chair, thanked all for the help given during his term of office.

Ambulance The re-examination of the Great Western Railway Ambulance Brigade took place last week. The examiner was Dr. Monnelly. The instructor is Mr. R. G. Wood, who is to be complemented on the work of the class. The names are as follows: Messrs. R. G. Wood, W. Davies, B. J. Thomas, T. J. Jones, L. T. Bell, P.C. Sanson, G. Richards, R. Griffiths, J. T. Davies, S. G. Thomas, W. J. Rees, S. R. Haines, J. Franks.

Concert At the Church Hall on Friday, the vicar presided over a children's entertainment. The following contributed: Mary H. Ballard, Jennie Davies, Betty White, Mary Chapman, Cecil Llewellyn, John Davies, Howell Lewis, Douglas Clark, Denis Harding, Berkley Angell, James Lester, Jackie Davies, William John Jones, Victor Rees Davies, Maggie Slimmons, Mair Evans, Dorothy Way, Betty Edwards, D. R. Jones, Gertie Adams, Norman Thorne. A keen competition took place in the singing competition which was won by Master W. J. Jones. The recitation competition was won by Master Willie Walters. Another competition winner was Miss Pearl White.

Remembrance Sunday This was observed on Sunday, when a parade of ex-servicemen was organised by the local branch of the British Legion, headed by the Fochriw Silver Band (Bandmaster Albert Mantle). Ex-servicemen, members of the recently formed Women's Section of the Legion, St. John Ambulance Brigade, Fire Brigade, Cadets and other bodies, marched to the Parish Church. The Vicar conducted the service and the address was given by Rev. Rees Davis, Bedwellty. Poppies and flowers were laid at the foot of the memorial window, as the organist, Mr. Octavius Richards, played the Dead March. Mrs. S. J. Jones laid a wreath on behalf of the British Legion branch, Mrs. Lewis on behalf of the women section, Mrs. Morgan on behalf of the Mother's Union, Mrs. Edwards in memory of her son, Mrs. F. Way in memory of her son, Miss Wynda Edwards in memory of her father, Mrs. N. Slimmon in memory of her father, Mr. O. Richards in memory of his father. The shrill notes of the "The Last Post" were sounded by Bugler Bob Rees. The procession then re-formed and marched to the Legion headquarters for dismissal.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 19 November 1932**

Hospital Mrs. Mordecai Williams, Dynevor-street, and Miss Moira Ballard, Railway-terrace, are patients at Merthyr General Hospital; also, Mr. David Tyler, Pentwyn. All join in wishing them a speedy recovery.

St. Mary's Church Armistice Day was observed with customary solemnity at St. Mary Church. At 11 o'clock, two minutes silence was observed.

Welfare On Tuesday, Mr. Tom Jones presided over a meeting at the Old Library. It is very gratifying to know the lease has been extended to 60 years, which will greatly add to the development of the scheme.

Poppy Day A number of sellers were busy on Friday disposing of poppies. They were: Mrs. G. Jones, Mrs. S. Slimmons, Mrs. L. Slimmons, Mrs. G. Edwards, Mrs. T. Jones, Mrs. S. Davies, Mrs. C. Way, Mrs. R. Wood, Mrs. S. Jones, Mrs. Williams, Miss Rosie Davis, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. T. Idris Evans, Mrs. D. Thomas.

For The Blind The results are now to hand of the house-to-house collection in Fochriw and District on behalf of the Merthyr Institution for the Blind. The organiser was Mrs. S. J. Jones, Brynteg. The envelopes were opened in the presence of Mr. Sam Lewis and Mr. Ieuan Jenkins. The ladies who undertook the collection were as follows: Miss Eiluned Lawrence and Miss Doris Davies; Miss S. Jones and Miss M. Jones; Mrs. Rowlands and Miss M. A. Griffiths; Mrs. Pope and Mrs. Harding; Miss Eironwen Richards. The total collected was £4 5s 11d.

Funeral: Mrs. E. Jones, 17, Martin-street, aged 33 The funeral of Mrs. E. Jones, wife of Mr. Richard Jones, took place last week. Deceased was 33 years of age, and had suffered much for a long time, but bore her sufferings with great Christian fortitude. The funeral was for gentleman only, and was well attended. A short service was held at the house conducted by the Rev. Richard Evans, after which the cortege proceeded to Fochriw station, and thence to Pant cemetery for interment. Great sympathy is extended to the family. The mourners were: Messrs. Richard Jones (husband); John Hughes (father); Harry, Willie and Wyndham Hughes (brothers); Nicholas Hughes, David Jacob Price, Tom Edwards, John Evans, John Walters (uncles); David J. Jones, Emrys Jones, Willie Jones, Rees Jones, David Lloyd (brothers-in-law); Thomas Edwards, George Davies, John Bennett Williams, Dan Jones, Clifford Davies, Lewis Evans, John H. Evans, Latimer Evans (cousins).

#### **“Merthyr Express” 26 November 1932**

Band Whist Drive The first annual whist drive and dance under the auspices of the Fochriw Silver Band was held at the Astoria Ballroom, Pontlottyn, on Thursday evening, and was well attended. The music was supplied by Mr. Walter Grey's Arcadians' Band.

British Legion A very happy time was enjoyed by the newly-formed Women's Section of the Legion at the headquarters last week, when the members sat down to an excellent meal. There are about 50 members at present. Amongst the company was the president, Mrs. Jones, Supply Stores, Mrs. S. J. Jones, chairman, Mrs. R. Slimmon, treasurer, and Mrs. Jones, Glenview, secretary.

Glee Party The Fochriw Glee Party, under the conductorship of Mr. Griff Jones, are making splendid progress for their forthcoming contests. At a meeting presided over by Mr. W. J. Payne, the resignation of the secretary, Mr. Willie Angell Davies, was accepted. Mr. Davies has commenced duties in another sphere at Cardiff. He was thanked for his excellent services. Mr. D. J. Jones was appointed his successor.

Noddfa Young People's Guild The revival of the Guild has been very encouraging and meetings are well attended and thoroughly enjoyed. Last week, Mr. Bert Edwards read a very fine paper on "Robert Raikes." Mr. G. Thomas, Pontlottyn, also read an interesting paper on "Mohammed and his religion." A hearty vote of thanks was moved by Mr. T. J. Jones, and seconded by Mrs. T. Evans. The officers are: president - Mr. Joshua Evans; treasurer - Mr. D. Thomas; secretary - Mr. David Emlyn Evans.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was presided over by Sister Mary Morgan, chief Templar. During the evening, a sermon was delivered by Brother David Jones, and afterwards, a very interesting paper entitled "Music and Nature" was read by Sister Bessie Barnard. Splendid drawings were shown by Sister Ballard. She explained facts as she proceeded. It was very instructive. Sister C. Jones and Mrs. Sam Lewis thanked Sister Ballard, and Brother Sam Lewis also commented.

Poppy Day Poppy Day was organised again this year by Mrs. S. J. Jones, and the following ladies disposed of poppies: Mrs. G. Jones and Mrs. S. Davies; Mrs. Griffin and Mrs. Mitchell; Mrs. Tom Jones and Mrs. S. Davies; Mrs. G. Jones and Mrs. S. Lee; Mrs.

Lewis and Miss Rosie Davies; Mrs. G. Edwards and Mrs. L. Slimmon; Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. T. I. Evans; Miss C. Way and Mrs. R. Wood; Mrs. S. Jones and Mrs. H. A. Williams. The sum of £8 4s. 7d. was realised. Collections at churches - £1 11s 9d. Sale of wreaths - £1 9s. 6d.

Concert A well attended concert was held at Church Hall on Friday evening, presided over by the vicar. The following contributed to the programme: Hannah Mantle, Mary H. Ballard, Betty White, C. J. Williams, W. J. Jones, D. J. Williams, Cecil Llewellyn, Stuart Davies, Jackie and John Davies. The prize for the recitation was divided between Hannah Mantle and Mary Ballard. The programme was brought to a close with a sketch, "The Mysterious Lady," when the following took part: Messrs. W. J. Payne, D. J. Williams, R. Llewellyn, W. J. Jones, Jack Davies, Douglas Clark, T. J. Lewis, J. Lester, D. R. Jones. Mr. Willie White was the organist.

Ambulance The annual presentation of awards to the members of the Fochriw Division of the Dowlais Corps took place at Noddfa Vestry (kindly lent) on Friday. A fine programme of music was given by Mr. Thomas Walters, Madam H. Cole Davies and Miss Mary Lewis. The presentation of prizes to the Cadet winners of the Pontlottyn Eisteddfod, 1932, was made by Mrs. Lucas, wife of Mr. Arthur Lucas, staff officer, Merthyr Centre. She presented the following winning members with biscuit barrels: Ivor Morgan (captain), Reggie Gittoes, Archie Adams and Tudor Rowlands. A demonstration was given by the cadets under the instruction of Divisional Superintendent John Morgan. Mrs. S. Lewis presented Sergeant Howell Thomas with a serving medal and bar for over 20 years service; Corps Inspector of Stores W. J. Ballard and Corporal Thomas Evans with second bar for 25 years service.

### **"Merthyr Express" 3 December 1932**

Glee Party The Party gave a fine performance at the Bedlinog Eisteddfod on Saturday.

Lecture The Rev. D. M. Phillips, Tylorstown, delivered a fine lecture entitled "The Prophet" at Nazareth on Thursday. Rev. Richard Evans was in the chair.

Hospital The many friends of Mrs. Howell Thomas, Station-terrace, who is a patient at Bath Hospital, and Miss Mary Palmer, Council Houses, who is at Cardiff Hospital, wish them a speedy recovery.

St. Mary's The pulpit on Sunday evening was occupied by the Rev. W. S. Pontin, vicar of Pontlottyn.

Noddfa Young People's Guild Mrs. Tom Evans presided at a meeting of the Guild last week. The devotional part was taken by Mr. Joshua Thomas. The subject for discussion was "Should Church officers be elected for a lifetime or for a period?" Mr. Chris Evans and Miss Gwenda Thomas took the side of a lifetime, and Mr. David George and Mr. Brinley Thomas took the period side.

Obituary Her many friends heard with deep regret of the death of Mrs. Ann Davies, who passed away at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. G. Thomas, Aelybryn. She had celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on 5<sup>th</sup> November. Always of a genial and happy disposition, she was hale and hearty up to a few weeks ago. She was a native of Talybont, Cardiganshire, but had resided at Fochriw for the last 15 years. A service was conducted at the house by the Rev. Richard Evans, and of the Rev. R. Bell, Abercynon, after which the cortege preceded by road for interment at Talybont. The chief mourners will work: Messrs. Gwilym Thomas (son-in-law); Nehemiah Thomas, John G. Davies (grandsons); William Williams, Jess Williams, John Bevan, John Jones, Mordecai Evans, William Morris. As the cortege arrived at Talybont, it was met by the following members of the family: Mr. John Morris and family, Australia; Mr. Lewis Morris and family; Mrs. K. Slater and family (cousins).

Supper The annual supper in connection with the local branch of the Mothers' Union took place at the Church Hall on Tuesday. About 70 sat down. A miscellaneous programme followed. The following took part: Mr. W. J. Payne, Mr. Tom Walters, Mrs. Tom Walters. Winners of the unpunctuated reading: Mrs. Cumpstone and Mr. Octavius Richards. The accompanists were Mr. Tom Walters and Mr. G. Richards.

Concert At Church Hall on Friday, the vicar presided over the Children's Concert. The following contributed: Gladys Shankland, Marion Gregory, Thelma Williams, Jennie Morgan, Betty White, Mary Ballard, Hannah Mantle, Mary J. Evans, Agnes Baker, Jack Davies, W. J. Jones, Freddie Williams, Victor Rees Davis, Douglas Clark, Stuart Davies. The winners of the singing competition were Jack Davies, Mary J. Evans and Mary Ballard. The programme was brought to close with the sketch entitled "The New Invention," played by W. J. Payne, James Lester, Jack Davies, W. J. Jones, Robert Llewellyn and David C. Jones.

**"Merthyr Express" 10 December 1932**

Scholastic Congratulations to Mr. Willie Morgan, son of Mr. John Morgan, Plantation-terrace, who has been appointed to the staff of Hanham School, near Bristol.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was held on Tuesday, Sister Mary Morgan, chief Templar, presiding. A paper entitled "Friends" was read by Mr. W. A. Davies.

Confirmation Twenty seven candidates from the Parish of Fochriw and Deri were presented for confirmation to the Lord Bishop of the Diocese at the Parish Church, Pontlottyn, on Thursday evening. The candidates had been prepared by the Rev. J. L. White (vicar) and Rev. L. D. Jones, curate.

Carmel Chapel The half yearly meetings took place on Sunday and Monday, when the Rev. T. Alban Davies, Bethesda, Ton Pentre, preached most inspiring and edifying sermons to the large congregations present. Mr. Tom Walters conducted the singing, and Miss Mona Ballard presided at the organ.

Concert A children's Concert was held at the Church Hall on Friday evening, the vicar presiding. The following contributed to the programme: Nancy Morgan, Megan Davies, Betty White, Thelma Williams, Jennie Morgan, Mary Ballard, Cecil Llewellyn, Jack Davies, David Howells. The winners of the choral competition were The Music Lovers, conducted by Mary J. Evans, and the whistling competition was won by Robert Llewellyn. A pleasant evening was brought to a close with a sketch "The Pantry Ghost," played by Pearl White, Maggie Slimmons, W. J. Payne, W. J. Jones, James Lester and Tudor Rowlands. Mr. Willie White was the accompanist.

**"Merthyr Express" 17 December 1932**

Gospel Hall Inspiring services were held during the last week at the Gospel Hall and Nazareth Chapel, when the Rev. Johnson Edwards, the coloured missionary from India, was the special preacher. Large congregations attended and the services were hearty and devotional.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Lodge was held on Tuesday, the Chief Templar presiding. The programme consisted of a series of competitions for the juveniles. There were many competitors and considerable talent was shown. The winners were: Masters Ewart Davies and Willie Walters, Miss Jennie Davies, Miss Eliza Evans and Miss Betty Simpson. The prizes were given by Miss Williams, headmistress, Graig School, Bedlinog, who takes a keen interest in the Lodge.

Hospital Effort Great praise is due to the willing ladies who undertook the selling of prize drawing tickets for the Merthyr General Hospital. Even though tickets were sold at the collieries, the splendid sum of £8 4s. was realised in the village, thanks to the organising abilities of Mrs. W. J. Payne (secretary) and Mrs. Howell Thomas (treasurer), and the following band of workers: Mrs. H. Thomas, Mrs. A. Ballard, Mrs. W. J. Payne; Mrs. Pullen and Mrs. C. Ballard; Mrs. O. Richards and Miss Palmer; Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Morgan; Mrs. S. Lee and Mrs. H. Jones; Miss Gladys and Miss Alice Mills; Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Griffin; Mrs. Cissie Evans and Miss Annie Mills; Mrs. C. White and Mrs. T. Jones; Mrs. Palmer and Mrs. S. Jones.

Hospital The many friends of Mr. D. H. Thomas, Aelybryn, who was conveyed to Merthyr General Hospital with a fractured leg above the ankle, received whilst playing football for Fochriw against Pontlottyn, will be pleased to know that he is making satisfactory progress. Special mention should be made of the excellent first-aid rendered on the field by members of the St. John Ambulance, particularly Messrs. Walter Parry, Rufus Wood, and Dan James, who set the limb in splints and saw to his convenience

home on a stretcher, where he was examined by Dr. Monnelly, and then conveyed to hospital. His host of friends wish him a speedy recovery.

British Legion A special meeting of both sections of the British Legion took place on Thursday, when Mr. W. G. Davies, Administrative Agent, Benevolent Department, Wales Area, Cardiff, gave a splendid address. Prior to his arrival, Councillor Minhinnick spoke on the subjects which had been raised by the branches and the Gellygaer Urban District Council respecting roads, buses and electric light. On Monday, the usual meeting of the local branch was presided over by Mr. J. Lewis. The branch unanimously agreed to co-operate in a joint social with the Women's Section. This is expected to be held on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January. It was announced that another grant was available from the Poppy Fund, and this would be distributed in the course of the week.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 24 December 1932**

British Legion At the weekly meeting of the Women's Section, held at the Library, Mrs. Johnson of Newport delivered an address. Mrs. S. Jones presided.

Billiards The final of the Christmas Handicap in connection with the Fochriw Institute was played last weekend. The first prize was won by Mr. G. Davies and the second by Mr. R. Jones. Semi-final prizes went to Miss C. Shankland and Mr. G. Morris.

Dramatics Excellent performances of three sketches were performed by the Carmel Dramatic Society at Noddfa Vestry on Thursday and Saturday, with a children's matinee on Saturday. The producers were Mr. Willie Angell Davies and Mr. J. I. Williams. Mr. Jenkin Pugh was chairman on Thursday, and on Saturday, Messrs. D. Rowlands and A. Ballard. The following took part: "The Factory Girl:" Mr. Tom Jones, Gomer Evans, W. Angell, Dan James, Griff Thomas, Martha James, Beryl Ballard, Margaret James; "Why Men Don't Marry" - Mr. T. Howell Jones, Miss B. Barnard, Miss J. Thomas, Miss E. Edwards, Miss S. Jones, Miss M. L. Thomas, George Cole and Rita Cole; "Minding the Baby" - Mr. W. Angell, Mrs. M. A. Lewis, Mr. W. A. Davies, Mrs. Millward, Mr. Bob Rees, Mrs. Nellie Evans, Mr. Tom Walters, Miss Maria Jones. Nurse Ballard Davies proposed, and Mrs. Addie Jones seconded, a vote of thanks to the Church for the use of the vestry.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 31 December 1932**

Football On Boxing Day, Fochriw played Penrhiwceiber at home in the friendly match which was drawn.

St. Mary's Church The services were well attended on Christmas Day, commencing with an early communion service at 6:00a.m. The preacher and celebrant was the vicar; the organist Mr. Octavius Richards, and the singing was conducted by Mr. Berkley Angell.

Silver Band On Christmas Day, the Fochriw Silver Band, under Bandmaster Albert Mantle, paraded the streets playing very appropriate music, which delighted the villagers and added to of the festive spirit.

I.O.G.T. The weekly meeting of the Star of Fochriw Lodge was held at Carmel Vestry on Tuesday evening, the chief Templar presiding. Brother and Sister Lewis were responsible for the programme.

Noddfa Chapel The united singing festival of Noddfa and Nazareth chapels attracted large congregations to Noddfa Chapel on Christmas Day, when the choirs of both chapels, under the conductorship of Mr. Thomas Evans, rendered hymns and anthems in fine style. The chairmen were Mr. David Thomas, Miss Katie Davies, and Mr. John Jones. The accompanists were Messrs. Wyndham Lawrence and David Joshua Thomas.

Carmel Christmas Tree On Friday evening at the Vestry, a very happy time was spent, when the junior department of the Sunday school were given a Christmas tree and entertainment. The role of Santa Claus was taken by Mr. J. Idris Williams, and splendid work was performed by the superintendent, Mrs. Sam Lewis, and the following teachers: Miss Maria Jones, Miss Catherine Jones, Miss Doris Lewis, and Mrs. Elsie Rees.

Cymanfa Ganu The annual Christmas Gymanfa Ganu in connection with Carmel Chapel was held on Christmas Day, and large congregations attended. The singing reached a very high standard and was conducted by Mr. David Jones, Bargoed. Solos and

recitations were rendered by Madam H. C. Davies, Mr. Meirion Shankland, Nurse Ballard Davies, Betty Evans, Betty Simpson, Jennie Davies, Eliza Evans and Evan M. Lewis. The presidents were Mr. Evan M. Davies, Mrs. Sam Lewis and Mr. David Lewis, and the accompanists were Mr. Thomas Walters and Miss Mona Ballard.

British Legion Quite a red-letter day in connection with the Fochriw branch of the British Legion took place at the Old Library on Thursday evening, when both the women's and men's sections provided the children with a treat. The room had been gaily decorated, and a huge Christmas tree was laden with presents. About 200 children sat down to a sumptuous tea. After tea, Santa Claus visited the building, the role being played by Mr. W. J. Payne, who presented a gift to every child. Splendid arrangements had been made by the joint secretaries, Mr. J. Lloyd Jones and Mrs. S. Jones, the chairmen, Mrs. S. J. Jones and Mr. Sydney Phillips, with plenty of willing workers from both sections.