

### **“Merthyr Express” 1 January 1949**

The Cymanfa The annual Gymanfa Ganu of the Noddfa and Nazareth was held at Noddfa Chapel on Christams Day. The conductor was Mr. D.J. Davies, and the singing reached a high standard. Mr. D.J. Thomas and Mr. Tom Davies were the organists. Miss Doris Davies presided at the morning service, when Mary Cumpstone read a portion of Scripture, and Phyllis Hughes led in prayer. Herbert Jones gave a recitation, and Muriel Lewis, Margaret Edwards, Katie and Phyllis Hughes, and Jessie Ann Davies sang. Mr. T.J. Jones presided at the afternoon session, when Mr. Tom Thomas took the devotions. A solo was sung by Mrs. Phyllis Jones. The evening service was presided over by Mrs. Katie Walters. Mrs. Mattie Lewis took the devotions. A quartette was sung by Miss Millie Williams, Mrs. M. Lewis, Mrs. W.A. Davies and Mr. Crad Shankland.

Christmas Party The children of the Parish Church Sunday School were entertained to tea on Thursday. The tables were supervised by the women of the Church. After tea, a cinematograph show was given by Mr. J.P. Llewellyn, Pentwyn. A number of carols were sung. The Vicar thanked all who helped. On Christmas Day, a service was held at which the Vicar officiated.

Helped Hospital The Fochriw Youth Club members went out carol singing on Christmas Eve and collected the sum of 3-15-0 towards the Gellygaer Hospital.

Carmel Festival The annual Gymanfa was held at Carmel on Christmas Day. Mr. T. Thomas, Penywern, conducted.

### **“Merthyr Express” 8 January 1949**

Whist Winners Mrs. A. Pritchard was the winner at the progressive whist drive held at the New Hall on Tuesday evening. Mr. D. Morris and Mrs. D. Cox were second and third. The knockout was won by Mr. D. Morris and Mrs. E. Fisher. Mrs. Burrows won the consolation prize.

Legion Social On New Year's Eve, an enjoyable time was spent at the Old Library by the children of the Women's Section members. An excellent meal was provided by the women members. Afterwards games were played.

Fochriw Writer to Broadcast Amongst the programmes which the B.B.C. Welsh Region hope to feature early in the New Year is one by Huw Ballard Thomas of Bryn Gwyn, Aelybryn. The programme entitled “Teresa'r Diwydiad,” will be in Welsh, and is a study of the life and work of Ann Griffith, the famous Welsh hymn writer. It is the outcome of an article which Mr. Thomas published early in 1948, and which aroused considerable interest in Welsh circles. Aged 20, Mr. Thomas will be one of the youngest writers ever to have work featured by the B.B.C. He is an old boy of Lewis' School, Pengam, and recently graduated with honours at the University of Wales, Cardiff. He assisted the Rev. Moelwyn Merchant with the broadcasts of Welsh Compline from the Welsh Region last year. Many of his articles and short stories have previously been published. At the National Eisteddfod at Bridgend, he was initiated into the Gorsedd, and subsequently became a member of the Council of the National Eisteddfod.

### **“Merthyr Express” 15 January 1949**

Whist Winners The chief prize-winner at the progressive drive held at the New Hall on Thursday evening was Mr. Eddie Thomas, Penybank. Mr. Evan W. Jones had the second highest score, and Mr. Harry Jones had top score for the second half. The M.C. was Mr. I. Evans.

Noddfa Sisterhood Mr. Phyllis Jones was the chairman at the meeting on Thursday. Miss Gretta Evans gave an address, and sang a solo. She was thanked by Mrs. S.G. Parry and Mrs. Jones. The eventide hymn was sung at the close of the meeting. Mrs. Dilys Edwards was the organist.

Week-end Sport The Fochriw Senior team entertained Abertysswg in a Rhymney Valley League game on the Welfare Ground on Saturday. Fochriw were winners 8-0. Scorers were: David Evans 5, Berkley Griffiths 2, Glanmor Dummett 1. The junior team was away to

Cascade in the Rhymney Valley Cup, Fochriw winning 4-1. Fochriw scorers: John Ballard 2, Melville Edwards and Deraint Hollifield.

**“Merthyr Express” 22 January 1949**

Music Success At the recent examinations in pianoforte playing held at Cardiff, Master Michael Emlyn Evans, son of Mr. & Mrs. Emlyn Evans, Post Office, was successful in passing the Junior Grade.

Soccer Teams: Both On Top Both Senior and Junior teams are going great guns. Both are top of the various leagues in the Rhymney Valley, Div. I & II. There is splendid harmony amongst the players, officials and committee, and favoured with a fine football field and splendid gates, football has reached a high standard. On Saturday, the Seniors were away to Gilfach Y.M.C.A. in a League match, Fochriw winning 3-0. David Evans scored two, and there was a Gilfach own goal. The juniors were at home to Abertysswg in a Rhymney Valley league first round Cup game, and won 4-0. Scorers: Melville Edwards 2, Gwyn Davies & John Ballard.

Whist Winners At the progressive whist drive at the New Hall on Thursday evening, the winner was Mrs. Lena Morgan, Deri. Mr. Ronal Llewellyn was second, and Mr. N. Powell, Deri, third. Mr. J.B. Thomas and Mrs. Doreen Brown won the knock-out. Mr. Emlyn Evans was also successful. Mr. I. Evans was M.C.

New Chairman At the annual meeting of the Fochriw O.A.P. Association, the chairman during the past year vacated the chair, and installed the vice-chairman, Mr. J.J. Lewis. Mr. Lewis responded, and asked for the support of all members of the branch during the coming year. The following were elected as officers: vice-chairman, Mrs. W. Cook; treasurer, J. Davies; secretary, T. Ballard; committee re-elected viz. T. Ballard, J. Davies, J.J. Lewis, D. Harris, W. Cook, D.J. Griffiths, Tom Evans. It was decided to thank the Institute Committee for their kindness in granting the use of the Old Reading Room as a meeting place free of charge. The chairman made reference to members who had died during 1948, and asked for a vote of sympathy with relatives.

**“Merthyr Express” 29 January 1949**

Septuagenarian Dies: Mr. David Harris, Martin-street, aged 72 The sudden death has occurred of Mr. David Harris, a well known inhabitant of the village.

Legion Supper The annual supper of the Women’s Section was held at the Old Library on Wednesday. Good wishes were passed to Mrs. I.J. Harding, the secretary, who is in Merthyr General Hospital.

Carmel Services The preacher at Carmel on Sunday was Rev. Eurof Jones, late of Fochriw, now of Cilfynydd. Mr. T. Walters was organist, and Mr. Meirion Shankland conducted the singing.

Week-end Sport The Senior team were at home to Pontlottyn on Saturday, winning 4-2. Fochriw scorers: G. Dummett 2, J. Davies & Edryd Jones. The Juniors were away to Fleur-de-Lis in a League game and won 7-2. Scorers: D. Hollifield 3, J. Ballard 3, M. Edwards.

Whist Winners Mr. A. Cumpstone was the winner of the first prize in the weekly progressive whist drive at the New Hall on Thursday. Mr. J. Harding was second, and Mrs. M.H. Morgan third. Knock-out winners were: Mr. Jack Evans (Penybank) and Mr. Bryn Rees. Mrs. Tydwen Nicholas was also a prize-winner.

Noddfa Sisterhood Mrs. Phyllis Jones presided on Thursday last. The reading was taken by Mrs. W. Sheen and Mrs. Irene Jones led in prayer. An address was given by Mr. D. Thomas, Dowlais, who was thanked by Misses D. Davies and Edna Jones. Mrs. Dilys Edwards was organist.

Cockram - Way The wedding was solemnised at St. Mary’s on January 17<sup>th</sup> of Mr. Thomas Andrew Cockham of Dawlish, and Miss Joan Way, eldest daughter of Mr. & Mrs. W. Way, 10, Aelybryn. The service was conducted by the vicar, Rev. E. Adams Evans, with Mr. Huw B. Thomas at the organ. The bride wore a navy costume with pale blue accessories, and was given away by her father. She was attended by her sister, Miss Thelma Way, who wore a blue costume with navy accessories. The best man was Mr. W. Cockram,

brother of the groom. A reception was held at the New Hall, a large number of guests attending. Later, the couple left for a honeymoon in London. The bride travelled in a brown dress and tweed coat.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 5 February 1949**

Whist Winners Mr. W. Fox had the highest score at the weekly progressive whist at the New Hall on Thursday. Mrs. Lena Morgan, Deri, had second highest. Highest in the second half was won by Mr. Maldwyn Williams, Pentwyn. The knock out competition was won by Mr. A. Cumpstone and Mrs. D. Cox. Mr. Iorre Evans was M.C.

Late Mr. David Harris, Martin-street, aged 72 The funeral of Mr. D. Harris took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Monday. He had lived in the village all his life, and was held in high esteem. He was closely connected with the Committee of the Male Voice Party, and was always present at their practices. He was also a member of Carmel Church. Revs. Eurof Jones, E. Adams Evans and T.J. Jones officiated. Chief mourners: Messrs. D.L. Harris (son); W. James (son-in-law); Rees, David & Tom Lewis, C. Quick, Tom Shankland, Bryn Cumpstone, G. Cumpstone, G. Angell, T. Cockram, David, J.R., Simon & W.J. Harris, E. Davies, T. Rees, J. Jones, A. Robotham, E. Morris (nephews); J., W. E. & T. Harris, D. Williams (cousins); W. Jones (brother-in-law). At the house: Mesdames B. Harris (wife); R. James (daughter); M. Davies (sister); M. Jones (sister-in-law); G. Owen, Way, S. Clarke; Mesdames R.M. Cumpstone, C. Way, W. Angell, T. Shankland, C. Quick, D. & T. Lewis, J. Matthews, J. Deakin, W.J. Harris, Cockram, Phillips and Miss B. Jenkins (nieces); Mrs. Easterbrook, Mr. & Mrs. J. Davies, Mr. & Mrs. D. Jones.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 12 February 1949**

Welfare Association Coun. W.J. Payne presided over a meeting at the New Hall on Friday, supported by Mr. R. Rees, secretary, and Mr. I. Evans, treasurer. The financial position of both indoor and outdoor schemes was given by the treasurer. Several important matters were discussed.

Whist Winners Mr. Bob Rees was the M.C. at the weekly progressive whist drive at the New Hall on Thursday. The winners were: W. Jones (Deri), A. Cumpstone, Bryn Rees, Evan W. Jones and C. Cox. Knock out: Mr. Leslie Jones and Mrs. Harry Jones. Also Mr. Emlyn Morgan.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 19 February 1949**

Death: Mrs. Amelia Rowlands The death has occurred of an old and respected inhabitant, Mrs. A. Rowlands.

Football The Juniors were at home to Cascade in a cup competition of Saturday, winning 4-1.

Noddfa Sisterhood Mr. T.J. Jones was the speaker on Thursday, Mrs. P. Jones presiding. Mrs. Doris Jones took the devotions. Mr. Jones was thanked by Miss G. Evans and Mrs. S.G. Parry. Mrs. Dilys Edwards was organist.

Whist Winners Mr. Bob Rees was M.C. at the progressive whist drive at the New Hall last Thursday. First prize: Mrs. B. Hughes, Deri; Mr. Emlyn Morgan and Mr. E. Thomas shared second prize; Mr. Harry Jones third. Mr. J. Evans, Penybank, was another winner.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 26 February 1949**

Noddfa Sisterhood Mr. G. Sibley was the speaker last Thursday. Mrs. Dilys Edwards presided, and Mrs. Mattie Lewis led the devotions. Thanks were accorded the speaker by Mrs. G. Evans and Miss Doris Davies. The organist was Mrs. D. Edwards.

Chairman Honoured At a meeting of the Women’s Section of the British Legion on Tuesday, regret was felt at the resignation of Mrs. M. Phillips as chairman of the Section after fourteen years faithful service. To mark her retirement, Mrs. Phillips was presented with a bedroom clock. The presentation was made by Mrs. Mantle. Mrs. Phillips thanked the members for the kindness and respect shown her.

Whist Winners At the weekly progressive drive at the New Hall on Thursday, the winner of the chief prize was Mr. J. Thomas, Bedlinog. Mrs. M. Burrows and Mr. A. Cumpstone

were second and third. Knock out winners were Mr. Emlyn Morgan and Mrs. M. Jones. Mr. A. Ballard was another winner. The M.C. was Mr. Iorwerth Evans.

Student's Success Mr. T.J. Jones of Martin-street, passed his final non-collegiate examination for the ministry. He is employed at Ogilvie Colliery and is well known as a preacher. Mr. Jones is a faithful member and deacon of Noddfa Baptist Church.

Lantern Lecture On Wednesday at the New Hall, a lantern lecture was given by Mr. David Blatchford, Gilfach, on "A Trip to the Continent." It was in aid of the O.A.P. Fund. The chairman was Coun. W. J. Payne. Thanks were accorded by Mr. J. J. Lewis and Mrs. S. Lewis. The secretary was Mrs. Farley, and the treasurer Mrs. S. Jones.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 5 March 1949**

Whist Drive Mr. D. Way was the winner of the chief prize at the weekly progressive whist drive at the New Hall on Thursday. Other winners were Mr. Leslie Jones, Mrs. L. Powell and Mrs. Lena Morgan, Deri. The knockout competition was won by Mr. Jim Harding and Mrs. M. H. Morgan. Mr. Bob Rees was M.C.

Ambulance Promotions At a Corps meeting at Bargoed First Aid Station recently, Supt. T. J. Powell was appointed as Corps Inspector of Stores to the Riches Corps. This position was previously held by Corps Officer T. Evans, H.S.B. On the position of Div. Supt. becoming vacant by this appointment, Non. Sgt. and Div. Secretary T. Thomas was appointed Div. Supt. at a brigade meeting held at the brigade headquarters on February 22. The appointment was made under the supervision of Corps. Supt. T. Jones, Deri. A miscellaneous concert will be given by Pontlloftyn Co-operative Children's Choir at the New Hall on March 23, proceeds in aid of Fochriw Ambulance Division.

Ward Meeting The annual meeting of the Ward Labour Party was held at the New Hall on Thursday. Coun. W.J. Payne presided, and was supported by Coun. S. Lewis, J.P., Mr. Rees Jenkins, treasurer, and Mrs. H.L. Farley, secretary. Representatives were present from Deri, Pantywaun and Fochriw. The chairman stated that they were all pleased to learn that Coun. A. Bate had returned from hospital and was in good health. The auditors' report was presented by Messrs. W. Bate and Jones. Council reports were given by Councillors S. Lewis, J.P., and W.J. Payne. Area reports were given by Mrs. Farley. All the officers were re-elected; delegate, Mr. Rees Jenkins.

Champions' Medals A pleasant evening was spent at the New Hall on Wednesday, on the occasion of the presentation of the cup and medals to the Fochriw team for winning the Rhymney Valley Div. 2, 1947-48 season championship. Music for dancing was supplied by the Rhymney Dance Band with Mr. J. Lewis as M.C. The presentations were made to the players by Mr. E.T. Pritchard, president, and Coun. W.J. Payne. Mr. H. Wood, vice-president, thanked Mr. Pritchard and Coun. Payne. Mr. A. Davies, secretary, and Mr. C. Edwards, treasurer, also spoke. The following received medals: Ron Morris (captain), Mel Edwards (vice-captain), Gwyn Davies, John Ballard, Ellis Davies, John Morgan, Elwyn Davies, Ieuan Morgan, Maurice Welsh, Derrant Hollifield, Noel Williams, Haydn Watkins, Leslie Hollister, John Evans, Billy Cumpstone, Emrys Shankland, Tudor Powell and George Williams. The cup was handed to the captain, who thanked all for the good wishes expressed. One of the players, Elwyn Davies, has been given a trial for the schoolboy international.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 12 March 1949**

Whist Drive The first and second prizes were shared between Mrs. Gwen Watkins, Deri, and Mr. J. Thomas, Bedlinog, who tied for the highest score in the weekly progressive whist drive at the New Hall on Thursday. Mr. Iorwerth Evans was M.C. Mr. J. Gittens was another winner, and the knock-out was won by Mr. Emlyn Evans and Mr. Idris Cumpstone.

Welfare Meeting Coun. Payne presided at a meeting on Friday at the New Hall. The chairman welcomed Coun. S. Payne, J.P., who was present as a representative of the Gellygaer Urban District Council. The Secretary reported on several matters, which were then discussed. Terms and conditions for keeping the billiard tables in repair were agreed to. The Treasurer gave the financial report.

Williams - Martin The wedding took place at the Parish Church on Feb. 26 of Miss Phyllis Martin, Mount Pleasant-row, and Mr. Jenkin Ivor Williams of Glen View, Pentwyn. The service was choral, and the Rev. E. Adams Evans officiated, with Mr. Wyndham Lawrence at the organ. The bride, who was given away by her brother-in-law, Mr. Glyn John, wore a blue costume with matching accessories. The bridesmaid was Miss Catherine J. Williams, and Mrs. B. Harding was matron of honour. The best man was Mr. Islwyn Williams, Pontlottyn. On leaving the church, the bride was presented with silver horse-shoes by Joyce Evans and Gaynor Harding. The reception was held at a Bargoed café, thirty guests being present. The couple will spend the honeymoon at Fulham. The bride's going away dress consisted of a new look mustard dress with brown hat.

St. David's Day To celebrate St. David's Day, the members of Noddfa Sunday School organised an eisteddfod that was well attended. Adjudicators were: Music - Mr. D.J. Davies; elocution, Mr. T.J. Jones. Miss Edna E. Jones presided, and Mrs. Dilys Thomas and Mr. D.J. Thomas were the accompanists. Recitation under 7: 1. Willie Edwards and Gwyn Hughes; 2. P. Jones & Ann Ballard; Solo under 7: 1. Phyllis Jones; 2. P. Jones & M. Shankland; Recitation 7-10, girls: 1. Mary Cumpstone; 2. Edna Hughes; Solo 7-10: 1. Jeanette Burrows; 2. M. Morris & Edna Hughes; Recitation 7-10, boys: 1. H. Jones; 2. Alan Shankland; Solo 7-10, boys: Shared between W. Ballard, H. Jones & A. Shankland; Recitation 10-14: 1. Muriel Lewis; 2. David Ballard; Solo 10-14: 1. Phyllis Hughes; 2. Brian Pearce and Jessie Ann Davies; Whistling solo: 1. Brian Pearce; 2. Jessie Ann Davies & Phyllis Hughes; Whistling party: Nazareth party; Open Recitation: 1. Muriel Lewis; 2. Herbert Jones; Party of six: Nazareth party; Soprano Solo: Miss P. Jones; Contralto Solo: Miss Edna E. Jones; Duet: Miss S.G. Parry & Mrs. Dilys Edwards; Veteran Solo: Mrs. Lydia Williams & Mr. Ben Thomas; Impromptu Speech: 1. Brian Pearce & H. Jones; Ladies' Party: Nazareth; Essay under 10: Margaret Morris and Mary Cumpstone; Essay over 10: 1. Margaret Morgan; 2. Brian Pearce.

Late Mr. Gordon Llewellyn, Pentwyn Farm, aged 18 The death has taken place of Mr. Gordon Llewellyn, youngest son of Mr. & Mrs. G. Llewellyn. He had been ill for a long time.

Nurse's Death Nurse Rachel Williams, Gilfach Goch, has died as a result of a road accident. Before going to Gilfach Goch, she had lived at Fochriw for many years, where she was well known and widely respected.

Noddfa Sisterhood Mrs. Dilys Edwards presided last Thursday. The devotions were led by Miss Gretta Evans. An address was given by Mrs. J. Jones, Bargoed, formerly of Fochriw. A solo was given by Mrs. Herbert, Bargoed, accompanied by Mrs. A. Davies. Thanks to speaker and soloist were given by Miss Evans & Mrs. S.G. Parry. Miss Edna Jones closed the meeting with prayer.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 19 March 1949**

Nazareth The preacher on Sunday was the Rev. Eurof Jones, Cilfynydd, formerly of Carmel, Fochriw. The organist was Mr. D.J. Davies and the singing was conducted by Mr. W.A. Davies.

Parish Church The services in the morning were conducted by the Vicar and by Rev. H.J. Richards, Deri, in the evening.

Missionary Society The quarterly meetings of the Rhymney Valley Auxiliary of the Baptist Missionary Society was held on Monday at Nazareth Chapel. The afternoon meeting was opened by Miss Doris Davies who gave a reading, and by Mrs. Irene Jones led in prayer. Mrs. M. Lewis rendered a solo. The Rev. Islwyn Beynon, Rhymney, gave an address. The evening meeting commenced with a reading by Miss Edna E. Jones, after which Miss Gretta Evans led in prayer. A duet was rendered by Mrs. P. Jones and Mrs. D. Edwards. A recitation was given by Nurse Ballard Davies. Rev. Beynon again addressed the meeting. Mrs. Aneurin Thomas, Pontlottyn, presided. Mrs. A. Davies was the organist.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 26 March 1949**

Whist Winners The winners in the weekly progressive whist drive at the New Hall on Thursday evening were Mrs. M. Burroughs, first, Mr. Stuart Jones, second, and Mr. D. Way, third. The knockout was won by Mr. H. Jones & Mr. W. Davies. Another winner was Mr. Arthur Cumpstone. Mr. Bob Rees was M.C.

Late Mr. Lewis Gordon Llewellyn The funeral took place on Monday at Gwaelodybrithdir Cemetery of Mr. L.G. Llewellyn, aged 18, of Pentwyn Farm, youngest son of Mr. & Mrs. G. Llewellyn. He was a bright, intelligent young man. The Rev. J.C. Payne, and the Rev. E. Adams Jones officiated. The bearers were Messrs. David Way, Mal Williams, W. Pope, Crad Shankland, V. Davies, Derek Evans. Also in attendance were Messrs. Fred Amos, V. Coggan & A. Price. The mourners were: John, Alvin, Ronald, Robert, Cuthbert, Hughie and Cecil (brothers); Ivor Davies and L. Bengough (brothers-in-law); T. Llewellyn, Rufus, Vincent and Hartwell Wood, Crad Skyme (uncles); Hopkin, Elwyn, William, John, Stuart, Vernon & Ed. Llewellyn, W. Williams, Joe, John, William & David Pullen, Lewis Watkins, John Lloyd, J. Willis and Edward Slimmons. At the house: Mr. & Mrs. Llewellyn (father & mother); Jessie and Gwen (sisters); Edith, Beryl, Tydwen, Hetty and Mary Llewellyn (sisters-in-law); Mrs. E.J. Williams, E.A. Llewellyn and Elsie Skyme (aunts); S.J. Pullen, Sarah Bates, Jane & Mary Llewellyn, C. Williams, M.J. Watkins, Winnie Slimmons, Gracie Edwards, Doreen Pullen, V. Llewellyn, Mrs. Amos, Mrs. N. Williams & Mrs. Williams. Among the numerous floral tributes was one from 'Fellow Workmen of the Level.' Funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs. S. Llewellyn & Nicholas, Bargoed.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 2 April 1949**

Election Meeting In support of C.C. W.J. Kedward for the forthcoming County Council Election, a meeting was held at the New Hall on Wednesday, Councillor W.J. Payne presiding. The speakers were Coun. Fred Evans, Bargoed, O. Henry and Phillip Eynon Jones, Rhymney.

Whist Drive Mrs. Gwen Jones won the first prize at the weekly progressive drive held at the New Hall on Thursday. Mr. Bob Rees was M.C. The second prize was won by Mr. Emlyn Morgan. Mrs. M. Pritchard, Mr. W. Davies, Mr. C. Cox, Mr. J. Harding and Mr. Banfield, Pontlottyn, shared third prize. Knock-out winners were Mrs. V. Davies, Pentwyn, and Mrs. D. Cox. Another winner was Mr. D. Morris.

Precentor's Death The funeral took place on Saturday at Pentwyn Churchyard of Mr. Thomas Evans, Gwynfe, Aelybryn. He was aged 78, and was senior deacon, treasurer and precentor at Noddfa Chapel for 50 years. The bearers were Messrs. Richard Jones, Robert Thomas, W.T. Lewis, D.J. Davies. Mourners were Messrs. Bert Edwards (son-in-law); D. Eynon, Abertysswg, Wm. Evans, Isle of Wight, (brothers); Joshua Evans, Jim Evans, Penydarren, Ben Wathan, Pontsticyll (cousins); I. Evans, J. Evans, Port Talbot, Tom & D.J. Thomas, Will Fox, Ieuan Griffiths, Wm. Rowlands, Bargoed, Wm. Chapman, Syl Jenkins, Ynystawe, Islwyn Jones, Deri (nephews); Jack Jones, Tom & Evan Morris, Ben Thomas, D.R. Jones, John Davies, Gwilym Thomas, Richard Evans, T.D. Morgan, Dowlais, W. John, Pontlottyn. Mr. John Evans, brother, Mr. Tom Matthews, and Mr. & Mrs. Jenkins Thomas (cousins), were unable to attend through illness. At the house were: E.A. Evans, Dilys Edwards (daughters); Edna E. Jones (grand daughter); W. Edwards (grandson); Mary Evans, Port Talbot, May Evans, Isle of Wight (sisters-in-law); M. Matthews, A. Rowlands, Deri, A.H. Evans, Annie Evans, Penydarren, B.Wathan (cousins); R. Fox, Joan Smith, Mary & Eunice Evans, Olwen Thomas, Mary M. Matthews, Abertysswg, E. Rowlands, Bargoed, H. Phillips & E. Jenkins, Ynystawe, M. Chapman (nieces); J. Edwards, Phyllis Jones, Lizzie Morris, Hilda Morgan, J. Morris. Revs. T.J. Jones, Eurog Jones and E. Adams Evans officiated.

Choir Concert At the New Hall last Wednesday, a concert was given by the Co-operative Children's Choir under the conductorship of Mr. W. Davies, with Miss Sheila Gough and Miss Joan Morris as accompanists. They were assisted by Madam M. Humphries, Mrs. W. Davies, the Misses N. Twoomey, A. Mosley, Jean Davies, Janet Griffiths and Mena Davies. The concert was in aid of the Fochriw Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. Coun.

Payne, president of the brigade, presided, and thanked choir, conductor and artistes for providing a musical treat. He appealed to young men to join the Brigade, who were sadly in need of recruits. All stood in silence in memory of Corps Officer Tom Evans who had died recently. Thanks were also accorded by Div. Sec. & Div. Supt. T. Thomas, and Corps Officer T.J. Powell. Conductor W. Davies responded and said it was proposed to enter the Choir in the National Esteddfod at Caerphilly in 1950.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 9 April 1949**

Whist Drive The winner of the big drive held monthly at the New Hall was Mrs. L. Powell. Mr. Cliff Slade, Deri, was second, and Mrs. H. Morgan, Deri, third. The knock-out winners were Mr. M. Williams, Pentwyn, and Mr. John Matthews. Mr. A. Ballard was also successful. Mr. Iorwerth Evans was M.C.

Won Competition At the Riches League Ambulance Competition at Bargoed on Saturday, Fochriw Division were the winners. The Fochriw team was: L. Mantle, capt., T. Powell, S. James, D. Phillips. Scores: Fochriw, 158, Brithdir, 151; Bargoed A, 149; Bargoed B, 144½; Pontlottyn, 128. Judges: Div. Supt. E. Jones, practical; Ambulance Officer J. Bromley of the Lindsay Corps, theory.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 16 April 1949**

Sunday Services Palm Sunday was celebrated at the Parish Church with services conducted by the Vicar. Mr. W.P. Lawrence was the organist.

Weekly Whist At the progressive whist drive at the New Hall on Thursday, the winner was Mr. Stuart Jones, Pentwyn. Mrs. M. Pritchard was second, and Mrs. Eirlys Morris third. Mr. Ronald Llewellyn and Mrs. Eirlys Morris won the knock-out. Mrs. L. Powell was also successful. The M.C. was Mr. Iorwerth Evans.

Welfare Association The annual meeting took place at the New Hall on Wednesday, presided over by Coun. W.J. Payne, who gave a review of the past year. The balance sheet, audited by Mr. T.D. Evans, Bargoed, was accepted. Officers appointed were: chairman, Mr. A.H. Wood; vice chairman, Coun. Payne; secretary, Mr. R. Rees; treasurer, Mr. I. Evans; librarian, Mr. R. Gittoes, assistant, Mr. Gwyn Davies; trustees, Rev. E. Adams Evans, Mr. Arthur Palmer, Coun. Payne, Mr. D. James; committee, Rev. E. Adams Evans, Messrs. A. Palmer, C. Shankland, S.V. Powell, John Lewis, C. Cumpstone, T. Ballard, J.J. Lewis, Aneurin Jones, T. Morris, B. Brown, E. Lewis, G. Taylor, J. Davies, Coun. Sam Lewis, J.P.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 23 April 1949**

Parish Church The three-hours' service on Good Friday was conducted by the Vicar. On Easter Day, the Vicar officiated at Holy Communion in the morning and at Evensong. A children's service was held in the afternoon conducted by Miss O.M. Payne. The organist was Mr. W.P. Lawrence.

Whist Winners At the weekly progressive whist drive held at the New Hall on Thursday, Mrs. L. Owen, Deri, was the winner. Mrs. V. Andrews, Deri, was second, and Mr. J. Rees Thomas and Mr. Emyln Morgan shared third prize. Knock-out winners: Mr. Terence Kelly and Mrs. Tydwen Llewellyn. Mr. Charlie White, Bargoed, was another winner. Mr. I. Evans was M.C.

United Services The Free Church Council held services at Nazareth on Good Friday. At the morning service, readings and prayers were offered by Mrs. Mattie Lewis and Miss Greta Evans. Communion was given by Nurse Ballard Davies, assisted by Mr. J. Lawrence, and Mr. Sam Lewis, J.P. The preacher at the evening service was Rev. Andreas Williams, Moriah, Dowlais. The organists were Mrs. Katie Walters and Mr. W.A. Davies. Mr. T.J. Jones presided.

Gymanfa Ganu A repeat of the Noddfa and Nazareth Christmas Gymanfa Ganu was held at Nazareth Chapel on Easter Day. The conductor was Mr. D.J. Davies, and the singing reached a high standard. Mr. D.J. Thomas and Mr. Tom Davies were the organists. Miss Doris Davies presided at the morning service, when Mary Cumpstone read a portion of Scripture, and Phyllis Hughes led in prayer. A hymn was sung by a party of girls consisting of Muriel Lewis, Margaret Edwards, Katie & Phyllis Hughes and Jessie Ann Davies.

Herbert Jones gave a recitation. Mr. T.J. Jones presided at the afternoon session, when Mr. Tom Thomas took the devotions. A solo was sung by Mrs. Phyllis Jones. The evening service was presided over by Mrs. Katie Walters. Mrs. Mattie Lewis took the devotions. During the service, reference was made to the death of Mr. Thomas Evans, who had been a conductor of the gymanfa for many years. As a tribute of respect, the congregation stood and sang the hymn, "Bydd canu yn y Nefoedd." The hymn "Whitford" was also sung in memory of him. A quartette was sung by Miss Millie Williams, Mrs. M. Lewis, Mrs. W.A. Davies and Mr. Crad Shankland.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 30 April 1949**

Children's Tea at Carmel Last Thursday, the children of Carmel Primary Dept. were given a tea. After tea they went to the chapel, where a programme of songs and recitations took place. The following took part: Songs: Yvonne Davies, Jill Farley, Gillian Jones, Ann Trollope, Margaret Shankland, Dilwyn Evans; duet, Miss M. Jones and Mr. T. Walters; recitations, Mr. Dan Jones, Miss M. Jones, Rosalind Russell, Alun Jones, Howard Davies, Gillian Jones. The accompanist was Mr. T. Walters.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 7 May 1949**

Football Fochriw Juniors were away to Abercanaid on Saturday and won 8-1. Scorers: J. Bradley 4; Mel Edwards 2; D. Hollifield; I. Morgan.

Progressive Whist The winner of the monthly big drive held at the New Hall on Thursday was Mr. John R. Thomas. Second was Mr. L. Burrows, and Mr. Harry Jones was third. Messrs. D. Morris & D. Cox were knockout winners. Miss Z. Oliver, Deri, was another winner. M.C. was Mr. Bob Rees.

Welfare Association Mr. A.H. Wood presided at the meeting on Friday. Regret was expressed at the illness of the caretaker, Mr. Dan James, who is a patient at Merthyr General Hospital.

Councillors' Report A Ward meeting was held by the Labour party at Pantywaun on Friday. Coun. W.J. Payne presided, supported by Coun. A. Bate, Mr. Rees Jenkins, treasurer, and Mrs. Farley, secretary. Reports were given by the councillors and Mr. Jenkins, and several questions were answered.

Bible Society A meeting in connection with the British and Foreign Bible Society was held at Nazareth Chapel on Thursday last, Mr. Trevor Lawrence in the chair. The devotional part was taken by Mr. T.J. Jones. During the evening, the Rev. Huxley Thomas, Treharris, formerly a missionary in India for 25 years, gave an address. He was thanked by Mr. T.J. Jones and Mrs. Sam Lewis. The organist was Mr. W.A. Davies. The amount collected for the Society was £11 12s 8d.

Variety Show The Fochriw Youth Centre staged a fine variety show at the New Hall on Tuesday. The show, which was produced by Mr. Derlwyn Kent and Belly Cumpstone, was received with applause. The programme was as follows: "Memories," a one act play, starring Pat Sullivan, Sibyl Jones, Stan Davies and Derlwyn Kent; the guest stars, Eddie Thomas, the Welsh Welter-weight title holder and party, including Gene Lyn (pianist), Tom Harding (tenor); acrobatics, Audrey Jones and Maureen Morgan; P.T. Display, David Mantle and John Ballard; comedy, D. Kent and B. Cumpstone. In the Minstrel Show, the Corner Men were D. Kent and B. Cumpstone. Also taking part were: Ken Roberts, Connie Wood, Gwenfil Thomas, Ellis Davies and Sybil Jones. The pianist was Ellen Millward. The proceeds were in aid of the Youth Centre.

"Nobody's Daughter" On Wednesday at the New Hall, the Glyn Amateur Dramatic Society, Deri, under their producer Mr. D.J. Phillips scored another triumph in their performance of "Nobody's Daughter" (George Paxton). Coun. W.J. Payne presided welcomed the company that had been instrumental in raising hundreds of pounds for good causes. On this occasion, the effort was for the Llandaff Cathedral Appeal. A capacity audience were delighted with the performance, being loud in their praise. The Vicar thanked the company for their fine effort.



Births The total number of births registered in the great towns of England and Wales for the week ended April 23 was 8,671 - an increase of 1,793 over the previous week.

**“Merthyr Express” 14 May 1949**

Nazareth The half-yearly meetings were held on Sunday. The Rev. I.G. Rees Jones, Troedyrhiw, was the preacher and Mr. Tom Davies was at the organ, with Mr. W.A. Davies conducting the singing. The Sisterhood held their meeting on Thursday, Mrs. E.P. Lewis presiding. The devotional part was taken by Mrs. G. Pearce and Mrs. S.G. Parry. Miss Muriel Jennings, Pant, gave an address. Mrs. W.A. Davies was organist.

Mothers' Union On Monday, members journeyed to Cardiff to the Mothers' Union Festival held at St. John's Church. The address was given by the Lord Bishop of Llandaff.

Whist The first and second prizes were divided between Mrs. M. Pritchard and Mr. Terrence Kelly. Mrs. Lena Morgan, Deri, won third prize. Mr. Harry John and Mr. Walker Jones were the knock-out winners. The M.C. was Mr. Bernard Brown.

“Merry Quips” At the New Hall on Wednesday, a concert was given by the “Merry Quips Variety Party.” The proceeds were in aid of the Welfare and Institute. The chairman was Mr. H. Wood. The acts included: The Merry Quips in Harmony; a whistler; comedian; The Boy from the Valleys; guitarists; character studies; the Mystic Major; Ernie Spencer, piano tuner.

**“Merthyr Express” 21 May 1949**

Late Mrs. S.A. Griffiths The death has occurred of a well known Fochriw lady, Mrs. S.A. Griffiths, Dynevor-street, wife of Mr. David Griffiths. Aged 76, Mrs. Griffiths was a faithful member of Carmel.

Silver Band When are we going to hear the music of the famous Silver Band again? A fine set of instruments has been lying idle for many months, and there is no lack of bandsmen or conductors in the village. If the band were re-formed it would enjoy strong public support.

**“Merthyr Express” 28 May 1949**

Nazareth Sisters The fortnightly meeting of the Sisterhood was held on Thursday. Mrs. E.P. Lewis, who presided, read a portion of Scripture, and Mrs. I. Jones conducted prayers. Mrs. S. Lewis gave an address on “The Love of Christ.” Mrs. Eluned Lawrence thanked the speaker.

Welfare Association Mr. A.H. Wood presided at the New Hall on Friday, supported by Coun. W.J. Payne, vice-chairman, Mr. R. Rees, secretary, and Mr. Iorwerth Evans, treasurer, who presented the statement of accounts for the indoor and outdoor schemes. The meeting was informed that Mr. Dan James had returned from hospital. A discussion took place about improving the playing field during the close season, and it was agreed that the committee should meet at the ground. Attention was also paid to the children's playground. It was decided to purchase some new equipment.

Whist At the weekly progressive drive held at the New Hall on Thursday last, winners were Mr. Bryn Rees, Mrs. Margaret Jones and Mr. Stuart Jones. Knockout winners were Mr. John Matthews and Mrs. L. Owen, Deri. Mr. A. Cumpstone was another winner. M.Cs. were Mr. B. Rees and Mr. I. Evans.

Late Mrs. S.A. Griffiths The funeral of Mrs. S.A. Griffiths, wife of Mr. David Griffiths, 4, Dynevor-street, took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Tuesday. She was 70 years of age, and had lived in the district all her life. She was a faithful member of Carmel and will be greatly missed. The rev. T.J. Jones officiated at the house and graveside. The chief mourners were Messrs. David J. Griffiths (husband); Bernard Brown (son-in-law); Henry Griffiths, Willie G. Davies (brothers-in-law); Emrys Lewis, David D. Griffiths, Albert Griffiths, Sid Griffiths, Charlie Pugh, Crad Ballard, Will Fox (nephews). Mourners at the house: Mesdames Doreen Brown (daughter); Pat Brown (grand daughter); Mary A. Williams, Sarah Davies (sisters-in-law); Alice, Blod, Ruth Fox, O. Jones, Doris Pugh, Liz Davies, Eirlys Harris, Margaret Burrow, Sal Davies (nieces); Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. A. Davies.

**“Merthyr Express” 11 June 1949**

Parish Church Rev. E. Adams Evans was the celebrant and preacher on Whit-Sunday.

Carmel The pulpit was occupied on Sunday by an old Fochriw boy, Mr. Tom Mitchell, who left the district about 30 years ago. The organist was Mr. T. Walters and the singing was conducted by Mr. Meirion Shankland.

Whist Drive The winners this week were 1. Mrs. E. Gittings; 2. Mrs. M.H. Morgan; 3. Mrs. Tydwen Llewellyn. Knock-out: Mr. O. Perry, Pontlottyn, and Mrs. M.H. Morgan. Mrs. D. Cox was also successful.

Deacon's Funeral The funeral took place on Saturday at Pentwyn Churchyard of Mr. Jenkin Thomas, 20, Brook-row, late signalman Fochriw G.W.R. He was 73 and was a deacon and treasurer of the Sunday School at Noddfa Welsh Baptist Chapel for many years. The bearers were Messrs. Richard Jones, Robert Thomas, Will Pearce, Crad Thomas and J. Rees Walters. The mourners were Messrs. Tom, D. Joshua and Bryn Thomas (sons); David Thomas, Pontypridd, Mog, Richard and John Meyrick, Abercynon (brothers); Joshua Evans (brother-in-law); James Evans, Penydarren D. Evans, Abertysswg (cousins); Aneurin Thomas, Frank Jenkins, D.J. Williams, Iorwerth Evans, Bert Edwards (nephews); T.H. Millward, John Edwards. At the house were Anne (widow); Olwen, Phoebe, Eluned (daughters-in-law); Non, Cynthia, Susan (grand daughters); Iris Williams, Winnie Jenkins, Ceinwen Jones, M.M. Matthews, Annie Evan, E.A. Evans, Dilys Edwards, Edna E. Jones, Mary Evans (nieces); Mary Evans (cousin); S.A. Cole, Sarah Millward, Ivy Walters, Gwenda Pearce, Lilian Evans. There were a number of floral tributes. (listed)

#### **“Merthyr Express” 18 June 1949**

For “National” A mile of pennies effort was made in the district in connection with the 1950 National Eisteddfod to be held at Caerphilly. £9 10s 3d was realised. The following officers wish to thank the public for their ready response: chairman, Coun. S. Lewis, J.P.; secretary, Miss Bessie Ballard; treasurer, Mr. Emlyn Evans, Post Office.

Whist Winners The progressive whist drive held at the New Hall on Thursday was won by Mrs. M.H. Morgan. Mr. Jack Evans, Penybanc, was second, and Mr. Ron Llewellyn third. Mr. David Morris and Mrs. M.H. Morgan won the knock-out. Mrs. M. Burrows also won. Mr. I. Evans was M.C.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 25 June 1949**

Nazareth Sisterhood The members met on Thursday, Mrs. E.P. Lewis presiding. The devotional part was taken by Miss D. Davies and Mrs. Dilys Edwards. A paper on “Ways” was given by Mrs. D.T. Davies, Dowlais. She was thanked by Mrs. E. Lawrence and Miss G. Evans. The organist was Mrs. D. Edwards.

Whist Drive Mr. Watt Jones was the winner of the progressive drive held at the New Hall on Thursday evening. Mr. Bob Rees was the M.C. The second and third prizes were won by Mr. Emlyn Evans, Mr. Len Burrows, and Mrs. L. Owen of Deri. Mr. Terence Kelly and Mrs. M. Burrows won the knock-out. Another winner was Mrs. L. Powell.

Welfare Meeting Mr. A.H. Wood presided over the meeting at the New Hall on Friday. It was agreed to renovate the tables in the billiards hall. A report was also given of the progress of the football field. It was reported that the room at the Old Library had been painted voluntarily. The ladies were thanked for their work. The treasurer gave the financial report. This was satisfactory.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 2 July 1949**

Sunday School Outings The scholars of the various Churches joined forces for their annual outing to Barry Island. The weather was ideal and the journey was made by rail.

Noddfa Sisterhood Mrs. Phyllis Jones presided at the meeting on Thursday. Miss Edna Jones read the lesson, and Miss G. Evans led in prayer. The speaker was Mrs. Griffiths, Abertysswg, who read a paper on “The King’s Garden.” She was thanked by Miss Evans and Mrs. T. Lawrence. The organist was Mrs. Dilys Edwards.

Carmel The yearly meetings were held on Sunday last. The special preacher was Rev. Gwilym Morris, Gwaelodygarth. The organist was Mr. T. Walters and the singing was conducted by Mr. M. Shankland.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 9 July 1949**

Whist The weekly whist drive was held on Thursday, when the M.C. was Mr. E. Ross. The winners were 1. Mrs. D. Morgan, Deri; 2. Mrs. O. Conner, Deri; half time score, Mr. Emyln Morgan.

Sewing Class Outings On Saturday, the members of the Evening Sewing Class held their annual outing to close a successful season. They journeyed to Weston-super-Mare by motor coach with their tutor, Mrs. F. Evans. Carmel Sewing Class journeyed by coach to Carmarthen and Llanstephan.

Ward Meeting On Thursday at the New Hall a Ward meeting was held, when representatives from Pantywaun, Deri and Fochriw were present. Coun. Payne presided. Reports were given by the Councillors, the Ward Secretary and Ward Treasurer. It was unanimously agreed to ask the Member of Parliament to fit in meetings in the ward at a convenient date as soon as possible. The arrangements were left to the organiser, Mr. J.D. Jones.

O.A.P. Outing Fund A film show was given at the New Hall on Wednesday under the auspices of the N.C.B. A splendid number of films were shown. The proceeds of the show are a donation to the O.A.P. outing fund. Mrs. Farley thanked all who had helped. On Friday, a mile of pennies was organised at the village in aid of the outing fund. An excellent sum was realised.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 16 July 1949**

Noddfa Sisterhood Sunday was observed and was well attended. During the day the speaker was Miss T.J. Jones of Beaufort. Miss Millie Williams rendered a sol at the evening service. The services were presided over by Mrs. Phyllis Jones, and the organist was Mr. David J. Thomas.

Mrs. P. Jones also presided over the meeting on Thursday last. Miss Edna Jones read, and Mrs. S.G. Parry led the devotions. Miss Evans of Rhymney was the speaker, and gave a paper on “Faith, Hope and Charity.” She was thanked by Miss G. Evans and Miss E. Jones. The meeting was closed in prayer. The organist was Mrs. D. Edwards.

On Saturday, the Sisterhood and friends had their annual outing on the Gower Coast, where an enjoyable day was spent.

Sisterhood Rally An united Sisterhood Rally was held at Nazareth Chapel on Wednesday. A large number of members from Sisterhoods in the valley attended. Miss M. Evans, Dowlais, presided, and the speaker was Miss Sybil Roberts of the Indian mission fields, who spoke of her life in India. Mesdames M. Lewis and E. Lawrence rendered a duet. Rev. R. Thomas proposed a vote of thanks, seconded by Mrs. J.R. Rees Jones, Aberfan. The organist was Mr. W.A. Davies.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 23 July 1949**

Fochriw Man Confirmed Mr. Huw Ballard Thomas, a former scholar of the Church in Wales, and late chairman of the Cardiff University Church Society, was received into the Roman Catholic Church earlier this year, was confirmed at Ampleforth Abbey, York, by the Auxiliary Bishop of Middlesborough.

A Fine Start The Fochriw football teams met last week, and much enthusiasm was shown for the coming season. They closed their first season in a blaze of glory. The first team won the Victoria Cup, finished third in the league, and also, were runners-up in the Senior Cup. The Juniors were champions of their league, and were undefeated throughout the season. The meeting was presided over by Mr. W.A. Davies, supported by vice-chairman, Mr. A.H. Wood. The auditors' report was given by Mr. Desmond Kelly, and showed a splendid year's working, with a good balance in hand. An earnest appeal is made for support is made to build up funds, as commitments are heavy. The teams will be playing in the South Wales Amateur and Rhymney Valley Leagues. All the old players remain, but new players are welcomed. A Women's Supporters' Club has been formed which will function independently, and the first meeting will be on July 25. All interested should attend. Officers elected were: president, Mr. E.T. Pritchard; vice presidents, Mr. Farley, Coun. Payne, Rev. Adams Evans, Mr. Dan Jenkins; chairman, Mr. W.A. Davies, vice chairman, Mr. A.H.

Wood; secretary, Mr. Alfred Evans; treasurer, Mr. Glyn Thomas; committee, Messrs. B. angell, H. Ballard, J.E. Edwards, Ivor Morgan, John Morgan, Bryn Rees, Crad Thomas, W. Williams, Gomer Williams. The first trial match will take place on Saturday, July 23.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 30 July 1949**

Noddfa Sisterhood Mrs. P. Jones presided at the meeting on Thursday last. The Scripture was read by Mrs. M. Mantle and Miss G. Evans led in prayer. The speaker was Miss Jennings of Dowlais, who addresses the meeting on the text, “I am the bread of life.” She was thanked by Mrs. S.G. Parry and Mrs. T. Lawrence. Mrs. Dilys Edwards was the organist.

Whist At the New Hall on Thursday, the winner of the progressive whist was Mrs. Owen, Deri. Mr. Idris Morgan was second, and Mr. Terence Kelly third. The knock-out winners were Mr. W. Morgan, Fochriw, and Mrs. B. Hughes, Deri. Mrs. D. Cox was also successful.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 13 August 1949**

Whist Winners Mrs. Eira Gittins won first prize at the progressive whist held at the New Hall on Thursday. Mrs. Cox was second, and third prize was divided between Mrs. L. Owen and Mrs. B. Morgan, both of Deri. The knock-out winners were Mr. C. Cox and Mrs. Steve Jones. Mr. Allan Burrows was also successful. Mr. Iorwerth Evans was M.C.

Late Mr. W.J. Davies The death has occurred of a well-known Fochriw inhabitant, Mr. William John Davies, aged 54, of 13, Martin-street. He had lived in Fochriw all his life, and made his home with his brother, Mr. J.M. Davies, and sister, Miss Rosie Davies, who is on the teaching staff of Penybanc school. Another sister is Mrs. Annie Jones, Martin-street. The funeral took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Monday, the Rev. E. Adams Evans officiating. The chief mourners were Messrs. James M. Davies (brother); Bryn Rees, Windsor Rees, David Lloyd Jones, Kenneth Rees, Williams Morgan (nephews); D.J. Price, Edwin Davies, J., T., F. & A. Price, D. Bengough, J. Davies, T. Davies, B. Morris, H. Ballard, J. Sheen, A. Kent (cousins). The bearers were Messrs. R., C. & G. Dummett, David J. Evans, D.R. Jones, Elwyn Edwards, T. Yeoman, W.G. Davies. At the house were Miss Rosie Davies, Mesdames Annie Jones (sisters); Lena Morgan, Eva Rees, Lorna Rees, Linda Morgan, Jean Morgan (nieces); Sarah A. Davies, Miriam Price, Gladys Davies (cousins).

#### **“Merthyr Express” 27 August 1949**

Football Everything points to a successful football season. Teams will be run in the S.W. Amateur League and the Rhymney Valley League. There is a good selection of players available.

Old Age Pensioners Outing On Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>, the Fochriw O.A.Ps. will hold their annual outing to Porthcawl by motor coaches. Officers of the outing fund are: Coun. Payne, chairman; Mr. R. Thomas, vice-chairman; Mrs. Phyllis Jones, treasurer; Mrs. H.L. Farley, secretary.

Whist At the New Hall on Thursday evening, the progressive whist drive was won by Mr. D. Way, Pentwyn, with Mrs. D. Cox second, and Mr. Evan W. Jones third. Knockout: Messrs. H. Morgan and Ted Puddle. Mr. A. Burrows was also a winner. Mr. Hartwell Wood (chairman of the Institute Committee) was M.C.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 3 September 1949**

Retirement of Rev. J.C. Payne The Vicar of the parish of Penydarren, the Rev. J.C. Payne, goes into retirement this week. Mr. Payne will nevertheless take services at various times throughout the Llandaff diocese. Some time ago, Rev. Payne suffered the loss of his wife, and he will now live with his son, the Rev. J. Vernon Payne, who has been curate of Beddau, Llantrisant, for the past nine years, and who has now accepted the living of Cwmbach, Aberdare. Presentations were made to the Vicar on Sunday afternoon at St. John’s Church. A native of Fochriw, Mr. Payne was for some time vicar of Fochriw and Deri. He was then vicar of Ystradowen and Welsh St. Donats for seven years before moving to Penydarren.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 10 September 1949**

Fochriw Children on Strike: Will Not Walk To Pontlottyn Seventy-three children at Fochriw and Pentwyn were stopped going to school at Pontlottyn on Tuesday by their parents. The “strike” will continue until the children, state their parents, until they are

provided with transport to Pontlottyn. Formerly, 46 of the children went to Fochriw Mixed School, and 27 to Penybank School, and their ages range from 11 to 15 years. They were due to go to Pontlottyn for the first time on Tuesday under the new arrangements for 11-plus pupils to attend secondary modern schools. The parents claim that the new route, which is over open mountain country, is too unprotected and trying for boys and girls to make on foot, especially during the winter months. The parents held a meeting at Fochriw on Monday night, when it was realised there would be no transport. They claim that the distance is about two miles, and that if the children had to walk, it would result in absenteeism. In July, the divisional executive forwarded an application to the Glamorgan County Council, urging that transport arrangements were made. The Council, it is understood, provides transport for distances of over one and a half miles.

Welfare Association Coun. W. J. Payne presided at a meeting on Friday at the New Hall. The secretary (Mr. R. Rees) reported on several matters, which were then discussed. A new piano had been secured and would shortly arrive. A deputation, consisting of Coun. Payne, Mr. A. Palmer (trustee) and the secretary, was appointed to wait upon Messrs. Bruce and Nicholas, solicitors, Pontypridd. Complaints were received about the way some of the older people are using the children's corner, and action was decided upon. A book committee was appointed, the members being Mr. E. Lewis, Mr. V. Powell and Mr. Ballard. It is hoped to improve the readers' side of the Institute. The caretaker, Mr. D. James, has resumed duties after a long illness. The treasurer, Mr. I. Evans, gave a detailed report. The entertainments committee will meet soon to organise some events.

Veterans' Outing The O.A.P. annual outing took place on Tuesday to Porthcawl. The journey was made by motor coaches and a large number of friends accompanied the old folk.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 17 September 1949**

Evans - Gittens The marriage took place on September 8th at Fochriw Church of Mr. Desmond Evans, second son of Mr. & Mrs. Evans, 96, Heolddu Grove, Bargoed, and Miss Hetty Gittens, youngest daughter of Mrs. M. Gittens, and the late Mr. Edward Gittens, 4, Guest-street. The service, which was fully choral, was conducted by the Rev. A. Evans, vicar, and the organist was Mr. N. Palmer. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. Stanley Gittens. She wore a gown of white figured satin with full length embroidered veil, which was held in place with a head dress of orange blossoms. She carried a shower bouquet of deep red carnations and maidenhair fern. She was attended by two bridesmaids, Miss Margaret Evans, sister of the groom, wearing a blue satin dress trimmed with sequins; and Miss M. Gittens, who wore pink satin trimmed with sequins. Both wore feather head-dresses and carried bouquets of pink carnations and gladioli. The flower girls were Yvonne Davies and Jacqueline Gittens, nieces of the bride, wearing butter-coloured, ankle length, taffeta, and carrying posies of bronze chrysanthemums. The page-boy was John L. Gittens, nephew of the bride, dresses in white satin. On leaving the church, the bride was presented with silver horse-shoes by Shirley Evans, Norma Gittens and Cynthia Conelly. The reception was at the New Hall, Fochriw. A large number of guests attended. The bride's bouquet was placed on her father's grave. The bride has been on the staff of John Evans since she left school.

Whist Winners The winners of the big drive held at the New Hall on Thursday last was Mrs. B. Morgan, Deri. Mr. C. Cox was second, and Mrs. M. H. Morgan third. Knockout: Mr. D. Way and Mrs. Beryl Davies. Mrs. L. Morgan was also successful. Mr. Bob Rees was M.C.

Parents View of School "Strike" The week old "strike" at Fochriw continued on Tuesday. The parents have applied to Glamorgan County Council for transport facilities for the children to travel the mountain road to Pontlottyn School. It was stated on Monday that the Council had not acceded to the request. At a meeting of parents on Monday evening, it was decided to ask members of the County Council, and the School's Medical Officer to visit the mountain road. The parents were perturbed that they had to make their children absentees,

but claimed that temporary transport could be provided until the complaint had been fully probed.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 24 September 1949**

“Strike of Fochriw School Children: Today’s Important Meeting at Cardiff The “strike” involving 62 children had been in progress for nearly three weeks. It will be considered by the finance and general purposes committee of the Glamorgan County Council today. At Monday’s meeting of Gellygaer and Caerphilly executive committee for education at Ystrad Mynach, it was decided to appeal to the County Council to waive the regulation which permits transport for children only when the distance to school is more than two miles. The executive officer, Mr. D.W. Davies stated that, “According to correspondence received from parents in the Fochriw area, it remains their intention, in view of the exposed and lonely mountain road, to keep their children from attending Pontlottyn Mixed School until conveyance is provided.” The chairman, Coun. George Richards, said that while he regretted the fact that children were not attending school, he felt that parents were justified in claiming transport, in view of the route over which the children would have to walk. The mountain road was very lonely and exposed. “The circumstances at Fochriw are very abnormal,” said Coun. Richards “Some children lost their lives on the mountain during a blizzard some years ago.” Coun. W.J. Payne said that he had difficulty crossing the mountain in wintry weather, and on wet days the children would be drenched after walking only a short distance. “I don’t condone the strike, but I am in sympathy with the parents and children.” Coun. W.J. Kedward, J.P., said the regulation was “too stringent on a place like Fochriw” and that the County should reverse the decision. Ald. W.A. Hancock, J.P. and Ald. Tom Evans, J.P., spoke in opposition to the parents views, and stressed the importance of upholding the regulations. Parents were urged to send their children to school while negotiations were proceeding. The committee deferred until the next meeting consideration of a report concerning the number of children who had gone hop-picking. The attendance officers reported that 398 children had gone - fewer than last year.

Whist Winners At the New Hall on Thursday, the winners in the progressive whist was Mr. D. Way, Pentwyn. Mrs. L. Owen, Deri, was second, and Mrs. Eira Gittings third. Knock-out winners were Mr. Will Way and Mrs. L. Morgan, Deri. Mr. I. Evans was M.C.

Harvest Festival Services were held at St. David’s, Pantywaun, on Sunday and Monday. The preacher on Sunday was Rev. H.T. Richards, curate of Deri, and on Monday, the Rev. T.M. Carr, Pontlottyn. The services were taken by the Vicar. The organist was Mr. A.J. Kings and Miss Ralph.

Two Draws, One Defeat Fochriw were away to Abercwmboi on Wednesday in a South Wales Amateur League game. The game ended in a draw, 2 goals each. Burkley Griffiths and Allen Davies scored for Fochriw. On Saturday, Fochriw visited Wattstown. They travelled with six reserve players. They lost 3 – 1. On Monday, Fochriw were at home to Trelewis in a Rhymney Valley League game. The result was a draw 1 – 1.

Flag Day The flag day held in Fochriw in support of The Soldiers’, Sailors’ and Airmen’s Families Association realised £3 16s. The organiser was Mrs. W.J. Payne. The collectors were: Mrs. T. Lawrence and Mrs. I. Cumpstone; Miss Pat Newman and Miss Yvonne Davies; Mrs. W. Foz; Miss Sheila Lewis and Miss N. Jones; Mrs. G. Mantle; Miss Shirley Lawrence and Miss Ray Hurley.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 1 October 1949**

Whist Winners The winners of the progressive whist drive held at the New Hall on Thursday evening were: first, Mr. J.R. Thomas; second, Mrs. V. Jones, Deri; third, Mr. Terrence Kelly and Mrs. L. Powell. Knockout: Mr. Ted Puddle and Mrs. B. Hughes. Also successful was Mrs. E. Morris. The M.C. was Mr. Bob Rees.

Nazareth Sisterhood On Thursday, the Rev. O. Jeffreys, Ystrad Mynach, addressed members. Mrs. M. Lewis presided. Mrs. E. Lawrence read a portion of Scripture, and Mrs. M. Lewis offered prayer. Mrs. A. Davies was organist. Mrs. E. Lawrence and Mrs. J.J. Jones thanked Rev. Jeffreys.

Wedding Gift On Monday at Noddfa Vestry, a wedding presentation was made to Mr. J.J. Jones, as a mark of appreciation for his services to Noddfa Chapel. He was presented with a heat-resisting teapot and hot-water jug, the presentation being made by Mrs. J. Edwards, one of the oldest members, who praised Mr. Jones's work. Mr. & Mrs. Jones suitably responded. Mr. T. Thomas presided.

Parish Harvest Services were held at St. Mary's on Sunday and Monday. The church had been decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables. The preacher and celebrant was the vicar, Rev. E. Adams Evans. The children's service was taken by Mr. W.J. Payne. On Sunday evening the vicar of Pontlottyn preached and on Monday the vicar of Ystrad Mynach.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 8 October 1949**

Whist Winners The winners of the progressive whist drive held at the New Hall on Thursday evening were: first, Mr. Will Way; second, Mrs. D. Cox; third, Mrs. Eira Gittens. Knockout: Mrs. Rudd, Deri and Mrs. D. Cox. The M.C. was Mr. Iorwerth Evans.

Football Fochriw entertained St. Athan in a South Wales Amateur League match at the Welfare Ground on Saturday. An excellent game was witnessed, with football of a high standard. Fochriw were winners 5-1. Scorers: G. Dummett 3; G. Matthews 2.

Nazareth Harvest Services were held on Monday and Tuesday. Mr. Trevor Lawrence presided on Monday, when the following took part: Mrs. Mattie Lewis, Mr. T.J. Jones, Mr. Meirion Shankland. Mr. W.A. Davies was the organist. On Tuesday, the preacher was Rev. I.G. Rees Jones, Troeyrhiw. On Sunday last, the preacher was Mr. W. Adams Jones, headteacher of Trelewis.

Noddfa Sisterhood Mrs. P. Jones presided at the meeting on Thursday. Mrs. H. Price read the Scripture and Miss G. Evans led in prayer. Miss A. Davies, Dowlais, gave an address on "Joseph," and also rendered a solo. Thanks were accorded by Miss Edna Jones and Miss Evans. Mrs. Dilys Edwards was the organist.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 15 October 1949**

Football On Saturday at the Welfare Ground, Fochriw beat Gelli Hibernians 2-1 in a S.W. League match.

Whist Winners The winners of the progressive whist drive held at the New Hall on Thursday evening were: first, Mrs. Eirlys Morgan; second, Mrs. Lena Morgan, Deri; third, Mrs. L. Powell. Knockout: Mr. I. Cumpstone & Mrs. T. Llewellyn. Also successful was Mr. Ned Evans, Pontlottyn. The M.C. was Mr. H. Wood.

Nazareth Sisterhood On Thursday, Mr. B. Francis, Pontlottyn addressed members. Mrs. M. Lewis presided. The devotional part was taken by E. Lawrence, S.G. Parry and I. Jones. Mr. Francis was thanked by E. Lawrence and D. James. Mrs. A. Davies was organist.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 22 October 1949**

Whist Drive At the New Hall on Thursday, the winner of the progressive drive was Mrs. V. Jones, Dei. Second and third prizes were won by Mr. Emlyn Morgan and Mr. D. Cox, respectively. Knock-out winners were Mr. Emlyn Morgan and Mrs. M. Morgan, Deri. Mr. Bob Rees was M.C.

Noddfa Sisterhood Mr. P. Jones presided over the harvest thanksgiving on Thursday evening. Mrs. S.G. Parry read the portions of Scripture, and Mrs. Irene Jones offered prayer. A paper was read by Mrs. Dilys Edwards on "Harvesters Dependence upon God." Solos were rendered by Mrs. D. Edwards, Mrs. M. Lewis and Mrs. P. Jones. Recitations were given by Mrs. S.G. Parry and Mrs. I. Jones. Hymns were read by Miss Edna Jones, Mrs. E. Thomas and Mrs. D. Evans. Mrs. A. Davies was at the organ. Miss G. Evans closed the meeting in prayer.

Welfare Meeting Mr. A. Wood presided over a meeting at the New Hall on Friday. Coun. Payne gave a report of the visit to the offices of Messrs. Bruce and Nicholas, Pontypridd. A request from Deri Welfare for the loan of the chairs for an eisteddfod was granted. It was reported that a billiards tournament had been arranged for Christmas. Improvements at the children's corner were discussed, and a person responsible for keeping it under supervision was agreed to. A financial report was given.

Price – Kent At Noddfa on Saturday, the wedding took place of Miss Elsa Kent, only daughter of Mr. & Mrs. T.A. Kent, Iscoed Villa, and Mr. Rhys Price, 61, Bailey-street, Deri. Mr. T.J. Jones officiated, and the organist was Mr. W.A. Davies. The bride was given away by her father. She wore an ivory figured satin gown with train and veil held in place by a coronet of orange blossom. She carried a bouquet of pink carnations. The bridesmaids were Miss Vera Pope and Miss Jenny Sullivan. Both wore dresses of blue satin with elbow length mittens, and blue flowered head dresses with shoulder veils. The flower girls were Miss Jillian Parry and Miss Ann Ballard, cousins of the bride. They were dressed in pink flowered silk with gloves to match, and pink poke bonnets. They carried silver baskets of mixed flowers. The train-bearer was David Price, cousin of the bride, dressed in a suit of white satin. The best man was Mr. Derrant Hollifield, and the groomsman was Mr. Derlwyn Kent, brother of the bride. On leaving the Chapel, the bride was presented with three horse-shoes from Linda, Annie and David, with a wooden spoon from Jill. The reception was held at Noddfa Vestry. There were 90 guests. It was also the silver wedding of the bride's parents.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 29 October 1949**

School Buses for Fochriw? - Chairman Invited to the Area Monday's special meeting of the Gellygaer and Caerphilly Divisional Executive Committee for Education at Ystrad Mynach, decided to press the Executive's claim for transport to convey children from Fochriw and Pentwyn to school at Pontlottyn. The Executive also decided to invite the chairman of the County Council Finance and General Purposes Committee to inspect the mountain route to Pontlottyn. In September, the parents refused to send their children to Pontlottyn for several weeks. The Divisional Executive Officer stated that the County Administration Committee would discuss the matter next week. Coun. Payne stated that there was quite a lot of unrest at Fochriw and Pentwyn. Coun. (Mrs.) Sargent : “We should ask these chairmen to come up on a rainy day - leaving their cars behind.” The Executive Officer stated that since the end of the “strike,” attendance at Pontlottyn from Fochriw and Pentwyn had been good, though last week it fell to 50%.

Death: Mr. C. Ballard, aged 65 The funeral of Mr. C. Ballard took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Wednesday. The Vicar officiated. Mr. Ballard was a well-known and respected citizen.

Football Fochriw were at home to Caerphilly Athletic in a Rhymney Valley League game on Saturday, winning 7-3. In a S.W. Amateur League game, Fochriw were away to Gwynfi, also winning 2-0.

Nazareth Sisterhood Mrs. M. Lewis presided on Thursday. Mr. George Sibley gave an address. The devotional part was taken by Mrs. T.J. Jones. Thanks to Mr. Sibley were given by T.J. Jones & E. Lawrence.

Whist Winners The winner of the progressive whist drive held at the New Hall on Thursday evening was Mr. Ron Llewellyn. Other winners were Mrs. E. Morris, Mrs. M. Pritchard & Mr. S. Jones. Knockout: Mr. S. Jones & Mrs. L. Powell. The M.C. was Mr. I. Evans.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 5 November 1949**

Winners and Losers Fochriw were away to Pontlottyn in a Rhymney Valley League match on Saturday and were winners 5-1. Another Fochriw team was away to Cardiff in a cup round, losing 2-1.

Whist Winners The winner of the progressive whist drive held at the New Hall on Thursday evening was Mrs. L. Owen, Deri. Other winners were Mrs. D. Cox, Mr. I. Cumpstone, Mrs. E. Jones. Knockout: Mr. Haydn Jones and Mrs. M. Pritchard. The M.C. was Mr. Iorwerth Evans.

Noddfa Sisterhood The meeting was presided over by Miss Edna Jones (vice-president) on Thursday last. Mrs. Irene Jones read the lesson, and Miss G. Evans offered prayer. A solo was given by Mrs. L. Evans, Dowlais, Miss M. Payne, Dowlais, addressed the members. Thanks were accorded by Miss Evans & Mrs. I. Jones. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist, The meeting closed with prayer.



### **“Merthyr Express” 12 November 1949**

Football The Juniors beat Cascade 1-0 in a League match at the Welfare Ground on Saturday. The Seniors were away to Pengam Pals in a cup round, and drew 1-1.

Late Mrs. Annie Jones The death has taken place of an old and respected inhabitant of the village, Mrs. A. Jones, Hill-row, Pentwyn, wife of Mr. Tom Jones. She was a faithful member of St. Mary's and of the Mothers' Union.

Free Church Council A prayer meeting was held at Noddfa on Monday, when Mr. T.J. Jones presided. Messrs. T. Lawrence, G. Sibley and T. Thomas took part. Mrs. Dilys Edwards was the organist.

Nazareth Sisterhood On Thursday, the Sisterhood was addressed by Mrs. E.P. Lewis. Mrs. E. Lawrence presided, and the devotional part was taken by Mrs. I. Jones and Miss Gretta Evans, who also thanked Mrs. Lewis.

Remembrance Service A Service was held at St. Mary's on Sunday afternoon when members of the various organisations were present. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. Adams Evans and Rev. H.T. Richards, Deri. Wreaths were laid at the memorial window by the Men's and Women's Sections of the British Legion and Mothers' Union. Flowers were also placed at the altar in memory of loved ones.

### **“Merthyr Express” 19 November 1949**

Their Help A smoking concert was held at the Rising Sun Inn recently to raise funds for the assistance of young Eddie Morgan, who received spinal injuries while working at Ogilvie Colliery. The concert was organised by Mr. S.V. Powell and Mr. Stan Davies.

Nazareth The half-yearly meeting was held on Sunday, when the preacher was the Rev. O.L. Jeffreys, Ystrad Mynach. The organist was Mr. Tom Davies, and the conductor Mr. W.A. Davies.

Whist Winners The winner of the progressive whist drive held at the New Hall on Thursday evening was Mr. Walter Jones. Other winners were Mr. David Way, Pentwyn, and Mr. B. Hughes, Deri. Mrs. Hughes, Deri, and Mr. E. Jones beat Mr. R. Rees and Mr. D. Way in the knockout. The M.C. was Mr. Emrys Lewis.

Ward Meeting Coun. W.J. Payne presided at a ward meeting at Pantywaun last week, at which representatives from Deri, Fochriw and Pantywaun were present. Coun. A. Bate reported on Council activities, and Mr. Rees Jenkins gave the executive report.

The Health Service Under the auspices of the Labour Party, a public meeting was held at the New Hall on Wednesday, presided over by Coun. S. Lewis, J.P. The speaker was County Councillor W.J. Kedward, J.P., who dealt with a number of important subjects relating to the health service. He also dealt with the subject “Transport of School Children.”

Offenders Beware! Mr. A.H. Wood presided at a meeting on Friday at the New Hall. In his report, the caretaker complained of the conduct of some boys. It was decided to take stern action in future. The question of better heating at the hall and billiard room was considered.

Cup Win The Seniors were in fine form at the Welfare Ground on Saturday, when they entertained Pengam Pals in a cup round, winning 2-0. Scorers: John Evans & Ivor Davies. Fochriw now play St. Athan or Pontyclun in the next round. The Juniors played Cefn Hengoed away in a League match, and drew 3-3.

Noddfa Sisterhood Mrs. Phyllis Jones presided over the Sisterhood on Thursday. A portion of Scripture was read by Miss Edna Jones and prayer was offered by Mrs. Irene Jones. The speaker was Mrs. Tyrrell, Rhymney, who also rendered a solo. Thanks were accorded by Mrs. G. Evans. A vote of sympathy was passed with the family of Mrs. A. Rowlands, Deri. Mrs. Rowlands, at the age of 81, had rendered solos at the Sisterhood, each time she was present. The organist was Mrs. Dilys Edwards.

Septuagenarian's Death: Mrs. A. Jones The funeral of Mrs. A. Jones, Hill-row, Pentwyn, aged 73, wife of Mr. Tom Jones, took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Tuesday. A native of Rochdale, Lancs., Mrs. Jones had lived at Pentwyn for many years and had been a member of St. Mary's and the Mothers' Union. The funeral was very representative, and included a number of women members of the British Legion, of which Mrs. Jones was a member. The

Vicar, Rev. E. Adams Evans, officiated at the house and graveside. The mourners were: Mr. Tom Jones (husband); John, Ernest & Richard Jones (nephews); Wm. Cook & Albert Mantle (cousins). At the house: Mrs. M.A. Jones, Brenda Jones, & May Lawrence (cousins); Mrs. E. Sullivan, Mrs. Davies, and the Misses Goddard. Mrs. Mantle, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. G. Williams & Mrs. E. Jones represented the Women's Section of the British Legion.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 26 November 1949**

Football Both teams were away at Caerphilly on Saturday. Both lost: Seniors 3-1; Juniors 2-1.

Whist Winners The winner of the whist drive held at the New Hall on Thursday evening was Mr. Habacuc Bellars. Other winners were Mrs. D. Cox, Mr. R. Llewellyn and Mrs. M. Pritchard. Knockout winners were Mrs. L. Owen and Mrs. B. Hughes, Deri, who defeated Mr. Tom Morris and Mrs. D. Cox. The M.C. was Mr. I. Evans.

M.Ps. Visit The Rt. Hon. Ness Edwards, M.P., visited Fochriw on Sunday evening and addressed a meeting at the New Hall. Questions were answered at the close. The Chairman, Coun. W. J. Payne, thanked Mr. Edwards. The following councillors were also present and addressed the meeting: S. Lewis, J.P.; A. Bate, Deri; G. Richards, Pontlottyn. On Sunday afternoon, Mr. Edwards visited Pantywaun and addressed a meeting. He was given a fine reception. Coun. Bate also spoke.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 3 December 1949**

Health Visitor Miss J. H. Lewis of Fochriw was appointed health visitor at a meeting of Merthyr Corporation on Tuesday.

Football Fochriw were at home on Saturday to Newport in the S.W. Amateur League, and were in fine form, winning 6-0. Scorers: G. Matthews 4; Jack Davies & Roy Morgan.

Weekly Whist The winner of the progressive whist drive held at the New Hall on Thursday evening was Mrs. D. Morgan, Deri. Other prize-winners were Mrs. M. Pritchard and Mrs. W. Morgan, Deri. Knockout: Mrs. B. Hughes, Deri, and Mrs. M. Pritchard. The M.Cs. were Mr. H. Wood and Mr. Emrys Lewis.

Ward Party Meeting Coun. Payne presided over the Labour Party meeting at the New Hall on Thursday, supported by Mrs. Farley, secretary. Nominations were invited for the forthcoming District Council election, the only name submitted being Coun. S. Lewis, J.P., the present member, who was unanimously adopted. Reports of meetings were given by the delegates, Mr. Rees Jenkins and Mr. Bryn Williams, who were thanked. Councillors A. Bate and W.J. Payne gave the Council reports.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 10 December 1949**

Whist Winners The chief prize-winner at the progressive whist drive held at the New Hall on Thursday evening was Mr. Will Morgan. Second and third were Mr. Evan W. Jones and Mrs. Elsie Jones. Knockout: Mr. D. Morris and Mrs. M. H. Morgan. The M.C. was Mr. Bob Rees.

Late Mr. Leyshon Rowlands The death has occurred of a well-known and highly respected person of the village, Mr. Leyshon Rowlands, Aelybryn, son of the late Mr. & Mrs. D. Rowlands.

Nazareth Sisterhood A meeting was held on Thursday, when Mrs. M. Lewis presided. Mrs. B. Jeffreys, Ystrad Mynach, gave an address. The devotions were taken by Mrs. I. Jones and Miss G. Evans. Mrs. E P. Lewis was organist. Mrs. S. Lewis, Mrs. E. Lawrence and Miss G. Evans thanked the speaker.

Carmel the half-yearly meetings were held on Sunday evening and were well attended. The Rev. D. J. Thomas, Llangennech, was the preacher. Mr. M. Shankland conducted, and Mr. T. Walters was organist.

#### **"Merthyr Express" 17 December 1949**

Whist Winners The winner of the progressive whist drive held at the New Hall on Thursday evening was Mr. H. Bellars. Other winners were Mr. Bryn Rees, Mrs. D. Cox, Mrs. A. Morgan, Deri, & Mr. I. Cumpstone. Knockout: Mr. Stuart Jones and Mr. M. H. Morgan. The M.C. was Mr. H. Wood.

Noddfa Sisterhood Mrs. P. Jones presided on Thursday last. Scripture was read by Mrs. E. Thomas and Mrs. S.G. Parry offered prayer. A paper was given by Mrs. Edith P. Lewis of Nazareth and she was thanked by Mrs. E. Lawrence and Miss G. Evans. Mrs. Dilys Edwards was the organist.

The Late Mr. Leyshon Rowlands The funeral of Mr. Leyshon Rowlands, son of the late Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Rowlands, Aelybryn, took place on Monday at Pentwyn Churchyard. Rev. Eurof Jones, Cilfynydd, officiated at the house and graveside. The mourners were: Messrs. Thomas, Daniel and John Rowlands (brothers); David & Lewis Evans, W.A. Davies (brothers-in-law); Tudor Rowlands and Eiros Evans (nephews); Rd. Evans & C. Hollister (uncles); J. Francis, David Jones, W.A. Davies & W. Rowlands (cousins); Brinley Cumpstone, Dd.J. Thomas, James Davies & Thomas Jenkins. At the house: Mesdames Eliz. A. Evans, Blodwen Evans, E. May Davies (sisters); Edith Rowlands (sister-in-law); B. Cumpstone (niece); N. Rowlands (aunt); Miss Catherine Jones, Mesdames Annie Evans, Morfydd Watkins, Rhoda Gittens, Annie Davies, Eunice Rowlands (cousins); Miss Elaine Thomas and Mr. Douglas Small. Funeral arrangements: D.J. Davies, undertaker.

Colliery Victim: Mr. Stanley Gittens, aged 26 The funeral of Mr. Stanley Gittens took place at Rhymney Cemetery on Tuesday. He was killed by a fall of roof at West Bromwich Colliery where he had recently gone to work. Mr. Gittens was a widower with a son of four. The body was brought home to his mother's house, Mrs. M. Gittens, 4, Gusest-street. Aged 26, he was held in high esteem. Rev. G.R. Lloyd of Penuel, Rhymney, and Rev. T.J. Jones, Fochriw, officiated. Mourners were: Messrs. Eddie, Edwin, Elwyn, John Gwyn, Merddyn and George Gittens (brothers); Alun Davies, Trevor Handley, Desmond Evans (brothers-in-law); David Gittens (nephew); Edwin & John Davies, D.W. Morris, J. Jenkins (uncles); Bryn Davies, Vivian Davies, Tom, Bryn, John I. Jones, G. Evans, Willie, David and F. Eynon (cousins). At the house: John Lynn (son); Mrs. Gittens (mother); Mrs. Jones (mother-in-law); Beryl, Mair, Hetty & Sal (sisters); Gladys, Sarah, Eira and Eirwen (sisters-in-law); Esther, Edith, Mrs. Jones & Mrs. Morris (aunts); Harriet, Phyllis, Muriel, Nora May (cousins). The bearers were Messrs. Derek Jones, Ross Morgan (West Bromwich), Windsor Chapman, Trevor Edwards, John Williams, Jacky Elias, W. Shankland, Ernie Sibley, Dewi Morgan, Evan Evans, Ken Evans. Funeral arrangements: Mr. V.S. Powell, Fochriw.

#### **“Merthyr Express” 24 December 1949**

Late Mrs. A.M. Evans The death has occurred of Mrs. A.M. Evans, wife of Mr. Joshua Evans, Brynteg-terrace.

Nazareth The members met on Thursday with Mrs. M. Lewis presiding. Mrs. E. Lawrence gave an interesting talk and the devotions were led by Mrs. Dilys Edwards. Mrs. Lawrence was thanked by Mrs. Edith P. Lewis and Miss G. Evans. The organist was Mrs. E.P. Lewis.

New Hall A concert was given at the New Hall on Thursday by the Tredegar Amateur Variety Party presenting “Variety Time,” produced by Mr. T. Ball, with the well-known Welsh international accordion band-leader, Mr. Rupert Reynolds. The chairman was Mr. Atwell Wood, who thanked the party for “a wonderful performance.”

#### **“Merthyr Express” 31 December 1949**

Holiday Football In the Amateur League, Fochriw played Aberbargoed at home on Saturday and lost 4-2. On Boxing Day, they played Aberbargoed away and won 4-1. The Rhymney Valley League team played Gilfach way on Saturday and lost 3-1, and on Boxing Day played Pengam at home and won 3-1.

Guest Organist Mr. Huw Ballard Thomas of “Bryn Gwyn,” was the special guest organist at a special performance of Handel's “Messiah” given by the Leyburn (York) Choral Society last week. Mr. Ballard-Thomas is at present a tutor in literary studies at Ampleforth College, York, and assistant organist at the Abbey Church.

Church Services Christmas was observed at St. Mary's with celebrations of Communion. The Vicar officiated throughout the day. Carols were sung by Master Michael Evans, Post Office, with Mr. W.P. Lawrence at the organ.

Welfare Committee Mr. A.H. Wood presided at a meeting at the New Hall on Friday, supported by Coun. Payne, vice-chairman, Mr. I. Evans, treasurer, and Mr. Bob Rees, secretary. Several important matters were discussed, including a report from the book committee. Steps are being taken to re-organise the lending library. The accounts were submitted by the treasurer and were satisfactory.

Carmel The annual gymanfa was held on Christmas Day under the conductorship of Mr. Price, Rhymney. Mr. David Price presided in the morning, and those taking part were Delfryn Jones, Islwyn Shankland, Howard Davies, Morfydd Owen, Ann Trollope. Mr. Dan James presided in the afternoon, and Mrs. M.A. Lewis in the evening, when Miss Nellie Shankland took part. The singing reached a high standard. The accompanists were Mr. Meirion Shankland and Mrs. Annie Davies.

Children's Concert On Friday, the children of the Penybank Mixed and Infants' School celebrated the end of the Christmas term when they enjoyed a Christmas concert under the guidance of the teachers, Mr. T. Lawrence, Miss R.J. Davies and Mrs. E.M. Davies. The children performed nativity plays, sang carols, and gave solos and recitations. During the festivities, "Santa" arrived, complete with a sleigh and bells, and his sack of toys. Following the concert, the children had tea in the dining hall. Preparations had been made by the canteen staff, Mrs. E. Williams and Mrs. P. Williams. Two members of the Divisional Executive Committee, Coun. S. Lewis and Coun. W.J. Payne, were guests and both spoke to the children. They thanked the teaching and non-teaching staff. Albert Evans, one of the school prefects, thanked everyone, and wished all a merry Christmas.

The Late Mrs. Annie May Evans The funeral of Mrs. A.M. Evans, Brynteg-street, aged 61, wife of Mr. Joshua Evans, took place on Friday. Mrs. Evans had lived in the village almost the whole of her life. She was a faithful member of Noddfa Chapel of which Mr. Evans was a deacon. The funeral was at Pentwyn Churchyard, the Revs. T. J. Jones, T. Morse and E. Adams Evans officiating. The mourners were: Messrs. J. Evans (husband); D. J. Williams, F. J. Jenkins (sons-in-law); Lyn Williams (grandson); T. Thomas, D. J. Thomas, B.J. Thomas (nephews); C. Thomas, L. Thomas, J. Evans, B. Edwards, T. Morris (cousins); D. S. Williams, J.C. Jenkins, W. Humphries, W. John, W. Lawrence, T. Jenkins. At the house: Iris & Winnie (daughters); Lorna Williams (grand daughter); Mesdames A. Thomas (sister-in-law); Olwen, Eluned & Phoebe Thomas (nieces); Lizzie Morris, Gwenda Pearce, Edith Thomas, Misses E.A. Evans, Edna E. Jones, Mrs. Dilys Edwards (cousins); Mrs. Mary Evans, Mrs. Ceinwen Jones, Mrs. Morgan, Cardiff; Miss C. Thomas, Skewen; Mrs. M. Clarke, Miss C. Jones.

Christmas Gymanfa: Noddfa and Nazareth The annual Gymanfa was held at Noddfa Chapel on Christmas Day. The singing reached a high standard under the conductorship of Mr. D. J. Thomas. Miss Katie Walters and Mr. T. Davies were the organists. The morning service was presided over by Mrs. Phyllis Jones, when Muriel Lewis read the lesson, and Margaret Morris led in prayer. Herbert Jones gave a recitation, while a party of girls from Nazareth sang. Miss E.G. Jones was president in the afternoon session, at which the devotions were taken by Mrs. S. G. Parry. A duet was sung by Mrs. Phyllis Jones & Mrs. Dilys Edwards. Mrs. Irene Jones gave a recitation. Mr. T. J. Jones presided at the evening session, when Mrs. M. Lewis took the devotional part. A duet was sung by Mrs. M. Lewis and Mr. W. A. Davies. During the service, Mr. D. J. Davies, Youngstown, Ohio, U.S.A., a native of Fochriw, conducted a hymn which he had composed. The hymn "Rhys" was sung in memory of the following: Mrs. A. M. Evans, Messrs. Thomas Evans, Jenkin Thomas, and David Davies, Llanbradach.