

“Merthyr Express” 6 January 1951

Carmel Gymanfa The annual Christmas Gymanfa was held at Carmel recently, and this year, the 50th anniversary was celebrated. The morning service was devoted to the children, and the following took part: Gill Farley (reading), Brian Davies (prayer), Nesta Russell (poem - “A Christmas Carol”), Delfryn Jones, hymn. In the afternoon, the devotions were taken by Mr. David Lewis and Nurse Mimi Lewis. The conductor throughout the day was Mr. Emlyn Evans, and the organist Mr. Thomas Walters, A.L.C.M. The presidents were Miss Eliza Evans, Mr. David Lewis and Mr. Meirion Shankland.

Cymanfa Ganu The United Gymanfa Ganu of Nazareth and Noddfa Chapels was held at Noddfa, when the conducting was done by Mr. David J. Davies, and the organists were Mrs. G. Walters and Mr. Tom Davies. The morning session was presided over by Mr. T. J. Jones, and recitations were given by Willie Edwards and Herbert Jones. In the afternoon, a party of six girls from Nazareth sang, and the president was Mr. E. P. Lewis. In the evening Mr. T. J. Jones presided. Miss Mary Cumpstone recited, and Miss Mattie Lewis rendered a solo. The devotional parts were taken by the following: morning - Jessie Ann Davies; afternoon - Mr. Richard Jones; evening - Mrs. Dilys Edwards.

Noddfa Tea On Tuesday of last week, 60 children of Noddfa Welsh Baptist Sunday School were entertained to a Christmas tea at the vestry. The tray holders were Mesdames E. O. Thomas, E. Thomas, S. G. Parry, E. Jones, G. Pearce. M. Sheen and I. Jones, who were assisted by Misses June Games, Ann Burrows, Linda Prosser, Ismary Jones, Efon Griffiths, G. Dummett, A. Thomas, S. A. Davies, B. Harris and A. Jones. After the tea, the children took part in games supervised by Mr. T. J. Jones. At the close of the evening, every child present was given a Christmas gift given by Mrs. Edwards, and presented by Mrs. E. O. Thomas, Sunday School superintendent. All the children wished their teachers, Miss E. E. Jones and Mr. D. J. Thomas, a speedy recovery.

Late Mr. David Rees Jones The death has occurred of a well-known inhabitant of the village, Mr. D. R. Jones, Martin’s-street, aged 78. He was an official for many years at the Fochriw collieries. He was a faithful member of Noddfa, and an active member of the Old Age Pensioners movement. The funeral was private and took place at Pant Cemetery on Monday. Representatives of the various organisations were present. The Revs. J. Summers, Dowlais, and T.J. Jones, Fochriw, officiated at the house and graveside. The mourners were: Messrs. Edward Jones (brother); Howell Jones (brother-in-law); John Matthews, Lewis Hopkins, Trevor R. Jones, Lloyd Jones, Dan Mutlow, John Summers (nephews); W. J. Payne, Mordecai Williams, P. Edwards (cousins); J. Sullivan. At the house: Mesdames Sarah Pugh, Janet Jones, Beatrice Mutlow (sisters); S. A. Jones (sister-in-law); Magdeline Hopkins, Esther Matthews (nieces); Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. Farley. The bearers were Messrs. John Davies, Joshua Evans, Tom Thomas, Seaborne Williams, Gomer Williams, Bertie Edwards.

Carmel Tea On Thursday week, the scholars of Carmel were entertained to a tea at the vestry by the teachers, Mr. T. Walters, Miss M. Jones and Mrs. E. Rees. Games were played and there was singing. Each child was presented with a Christmas gift.

“Merthyr Express” 13 January 1951

Death of Former Resident The death has occurred at Barry Island of Mrs. Margaret Cook, who was well known by the older people of the village, where she lived with her people in her younger days. Her parents kept the Rising Sun Hotel and were held in high esteem.

Noddfa Sisterhood Mrs. T. Lawrence presided on Thursday when the devotional part was taken by Mrs. E. P. Lewis. A paper on “Weariness” was given by Miss G. Evans who also rendered a solo. She was thanked by Mrs. E. P. Lewis and Mrs. M. Lewis. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist. Best wishes of a speedy recovery were extended to Miss Edna E. Jones, president, who is a patient at Merthyr General Hospital.

Football Fochriw entertained Aberfan in the fourth round of the S.W. and Mon. Amateur Cup on Saturday. The conditions were most adverse, the ground being very muddy. However, a thrilling game was played, Fochriw winning 2-1.

“Merthyr Express” 27 January 1951

Late Mrs. Esther Jane Williams, Pentwyn The death has occurred of Mrs. E. J. Williams, wife of Mr. Watkin Williams, Pentwyn. The funeral took place on Saturday at Pentwyn Churchyard.

Died in Bedwas Mr. Thomas John Jenkins, an old inhabitant of the village, has died. He was an official of the old Geust, Keen and Nettlefolds, Fochriw Pits, and in his younger days was a well-known rugby player in the village team.

Welfare Association Councillor W.J. Payne presided over a meeting on Friday. Supporting him were Mr. A. Palmer, vice chairman, Mr. Iorwerth Evans, treasurer, and Mr. R. Rees, secretary. Members expressed their satisfaction at the return from hospital of the Treasurer and Mr. Cadfan Cumpstone, committee member, also the caretaker who had been ill. Complaints about the behaviour of some of the young members of the Institute were reported, and suspension was imposed.

“Merthyr Express” 3 February 1951

Noddfa On Sunday, the following children of the Sunday School were presented with a gift of a book each for their good work in collecting for the Baptist Missionary Society: Willie Edwards, Philip Jones, Peter Morgan, Phyllis M. Jones, Win Morris, Delphine Chapman, Eunice Jones, Ann Ballard, Shirley Thomas, Elizabeth Evans, Yvonne Davies, Irene Games. Mr. T. Thomas made the presentations. During the evening, a paper was read by Mrs. S. G. Parry.

Late Mrs. E. J. Williams, aged 74 The funeral took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Saturday of Mrs. Esther Jane Williams, wife of Mr. Watkin Williams, Pentwyn. Mrs. Williams was born in the village where she lived all her life. She was the daughter of the late Mr. & Mrs. John Llewellyn. She was a member of Carmel Church, and of the British Legion Women's Section. She will be missed by a wide circle of friends. The Revs. E. Adams Evans and T. J. Jones officiated. The mourners were: Messrs. W. T. Williams (son); Joseph Pullen (son-in-law); Gwilym & Thomas Llewellyn (brothers); Ben & T. G. Williams (brothers-in-law); J. C., W. H., and D. G. Pullen (grandsons); John, Ronald, Cuthbert, Cecil, Edward, Vernon, Hopkin and Stuart Llewellyn (nephews); George, Idris and Glanmor Williams (nephews); Thomas Powell and Les Bengough. Grandsons and nephews acted as bearers. At the house: Mesdames S. J. Pullen (daughter); C. Williams (daughter-in-law); Doreen Pullen (grand daughter); Mesdames E. A. and J. J. Llewellyn, H. A. & Nancy Williams (sisters-in-law); S. A. Bates, G. Bengough, S. Davies, E. & O. Llewellyn, B. Williams, Jean Williams, L. A. Williams, Cardiff, Mary Williams, Bedwas, M. Llewellyn, Mary, Esther, Ceinwen, Abertridwr, Mesdames S. Jones, Pope, and Amos. Funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. Tom Jones, Pontlottyn.

“Merthyr Express” 10 February 1951

Late Mr. Peter Jones, Guest-street, aged 80 The death has taken place of Mr. Peter Jones, an old and respected inhabitant of the village.

Motor Club's Dance A successful dance was held at the Mayfair Hall, Pontlottyn, by the Fochriw and District Motor Club. A good crowd enjoyed a pleasant evening. The M.Cs. were Mr. Gordon Lawrence and Mr. John Lewis.

President Welcomed Miss Edna E. Jones presided over the Sisterhood meeting on Thursday, a warm welcome being extended after her recent illness. The reading was taken by Mrs. T. Lawrence and prayer was offered by Miss G. Evans. The speaker was Mrs. Tyrell, Beulah, Rhymney, who gave a paper on “The Resurrection.” She was thanked by Miss Evans and Mrs. Lawrence. Mrs. D. Edwards was organist. The meeting closes with prayer.

“Merthyr Express” 17 February 1951

Fochriw and District Motor Cycle Club The first annual supper took place at the Rising Sun on Saturday. Mr. E. Evans stated that he was proud there was such enthusiasm among the members. Mr. T. Lloyd Davies, Pontlottyn, spoke of the good days he enjoyed as a member of the Ebbw Vale Club, and hoped that the membership of this club would increase.

Mr. J. Davies said he hoped that the formation of the club would be the beginning of motor sport in the area, and he mentioned that some members were hoping to tour the Continent. Officials appointed were: President, Mr. E. Evans; vice-presidents, Mr. T. Lloyd Davies and Mr. Gordon Lawrence; chairman, Mr. N. G. Thomas; hon. Secretary, Mr. T. Idris Shankland; treasurer, Mr. W. Abbey; captain, Mr. Jack Davies.

Late Mr. Peter Jones, 32, Guest-street, aged 80 The funeral of Mr. Peter Jones took place on Tuesday at Pentwyn Churchyard. He had lived almost the whole of his life in the village, coming from Tredegar when young. He was a faithful member of Nazareth Church, and had been treasurer for many years. He was also the local treasurer of the South Wales Miners' Federation, and was a member of the O.A.P. Association. Revs. E. Adams Jones and T. J. Jones officiated at the house and graveside. The bearers were Messrs. W. Cook, W. G. Davies, C. Shankland, W. Davies, T. Lawrence, J. Matthews, W. J. Angell. The mourners were: Messrs. W. Cleeves & D. Martin Thomas (sons-in-law); Trevor Holifield (grandson); Sam & Thomas Jones, E. J. Thomas & O. Prichard. At the house: Beatrice Mary Jones, Jennie Cleeves, Margaret Maud Thomas (daughters); Edna May Cox, Amy M. Holifield, Doris Jones (nieces); Gwen Baker, Jane Jones, Maggie Davies, Mrs. Griffiths, Mrs. Prichard.

Personal Mr. Huw Ballard Thomas of Ampleforth College, York, the only son of Mr. & Mrs. T. G. Thomas, Aelybryn, is making good progress after an operation at a York nursing home.

“Merthyr Express” 24 February 1951

Death: Mr. T. Puddle The death occurred at Merthyr General Hospital of Mr. Ted Puddle of Railway-terrace, after a long illness.

Death: Mrs. Knight The funeral has taken place at Penarth of Mrs. Knight, wife of C1-Qt. Master Serg't Knight, and the daughter of Mrs. N. Williams, and the late Mr. James Williams, Rees-row, Pentwyn. Mrs. Knight had lived at Fochriw until her marriage.

Sisterhood Miss E. E. Jones presided at the meeting on Thursday. The devotions were taken by Mrs. M. Sheen and Miss G. Evans. A paper was given by Sister S. G. Parry. Thanks were accorded by Mrs. I. Jones and Miss Evans. A vote of sympathy was passed with the bereaved families of the district. Mrs. Edwards was the organist.

“Merthyr Express” 3 March 1951

County Youth Club Players At the New Hall on Thursday evening last, the Youth Players presented three one-act plays. The chairman was Mr. Emlyn Evans.

Late Mr. E. Puddle The funeral took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Saturday of Mr. Edward Puddle, 3. Railway-terrace. Mr. Puddle was 58 years of age, and had been ill for some time. He died at Merthyr General Hospital. He was a member of the British Legion and of the R.A.O.B.. The Vicar officiated. The bearers were brothers of the R.A.O.B., namely Messrs. Wm. Lewis, J. Emms, Bert Evans, Stan Jenkins, A. C. Williams and S. Clavin. The service of the Order was conducted at the graveside by the chaplain, Rev. E. Adams Evans. The mourners were: Messrs. T. J. Meredith, G. Puddle (sons); T. Puddle (brother); J. Fell & T. J. Davies (sons-in-law); W. Norman, W. J. Thomas, I., F. & E. Prosser, T. Beale, J. Clevey, T. Bailey (brothers-in-law); D. Beale, T. S. Prosser (nephews); J. Davies. At the house: Mrs. B. M. Puddle (widow); Mesdames G. Fell, M. Davies, S. E. O'Sullivan (daughters); J. Bowen, F. Norman, A. Prosser, M. Beale, E. Clevey, O. Bailey, Ann Prosser (sisters-in-law); F. Davies.

“Merthyr Express” 10 March 1951

St. David's Day The Fochriw Council Schools had their usual programme, and the scholars had been carefully trained under the care of the head teacher, Mr. D. Jenkins, and staff. At Penybank Council School, the children gave a very fine miscellaneous programme. They had been trained by the acting head teacher, Mr. T. Lawrence, and staff. The new head teacher, Mr. B.M. Griffiths, commenced his duties on St. David's Day.

Sisterhood Miss Edna E. Jones presided over the meeting on Thursday. Mrs. E. Uzzell, Deri read the portion of Scripture, and Miss G. Evans offered prayer. A paper was given by

Mrs. Carter of Tabernacle, Deri, on "Human Sacrifices." She was thanked by Miss Evans and Mrs. T. Lawrence. A duet was rendered by Mrs. Uzzell and Mrs. B. Lee, Deri. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist. The evening closed with the Benediction.

"Merthyr Express" 24 March 1951

Former Resident The death has occurred of Mrs. Eleanor McArthur, wife of the late Mr. Gerald West McArthur, who lived at Fochriw for many years before removing to Newport.

Social Evening After the completion of the sewing class under the tuition of Mrs. F. Evans, a social evening was held at the Fochriw Primary School on Thursday last to mark a successful session. The catering was arranged by Mrs. E. Rowlands, Mrs. E. Rees, and Mrs. L. Evans.

Flag Days In aid of the Lord Mayors Thanksgiving Fund, flag days were held on Friday and Saturday, when the following ladies were busy disposing of flags: Mrs. A. Jones, Mrs. W. Davies, Mrs. Rowlands, Mrs. S. Evans, Shirley Lawrence, Pat Brown, Jean Paul, Dona Marshallsea, Jean Williams, Evelyn Jones.

Late Mr. Levi Pritchard The funeral of the late Mr. Levi Pritchard took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Wednesday. Mr. Pritchard was aged 64 and he had lived at Fochriw almost the whole of his life. The Rev. E. Adams Evans officiated. Bearers were Messrs. C. Edwards, Tom Sullivan, Reg Gittoes, David Way, Aneurin Evans, Arthur Palmer. The mourners were Messrs. Desmond Pritchard (son); George Watkins, W.R. Roberts (sons-in-law); V. Coggan, J. Rist (nephews); Idris Williams, Noel Higgins, Wm. Jones (cousins). At the house were: ...[lost]..... Bath (sister); Muriel, Clarice, Mavis, Linnie (daughters); Mrs. Ann Pritchard (daughter-in-law); Mary Hannah, Rhymney (sister-in-law); Mrs. J. Higgins, Hirwaun (aunt); Mrs. Edwards, Hirwaun, Mrs. V. Powell, Mrs. P. Cumpstone.

"Merthyr Express" 31 March 1951

Free Church Council The Fochriw Free Churches held their annual Good Friday services at Nazareth. The morning service took the form of a prayer meeting, with Mr. Trevor Lawrence (chairman, Free Church Council) presided. Those taking part were Mr. Richard Jones, Nurse Davies and Mrs. M. Lewis. The organist was Mrs. Annie Davies. The evening service was conducted by the Rev. Latimer Williams, Deri. Mr. T.J. Jones presided, and the organist was Mr. W.A. Davies.

Training Scheme The Fochriw Motor Cycle Club, presided over by Mr. W.G. Thomas, held a meeting recently at the Old Reading Room to discuss the prospects of running the R.A.C. – A.C.U. scheme for training learner motor cyclists. Mr. A.A. Thompson, motor cycle manager, R.A.C., explained the scheme, and said it was backed by the R.A.C. Auto Cycle Union, Ministry of Transport, the police, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, the local Education Authorities, as well as the Road Safety Committee. Mr. T. Idris Shankland, hon. Secretary, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Thompson, which was seconded by Mr. Jack Davies, captain.

Gymanfa Ganu A repeat of the Christmas Gymanfa was held at Noddfa on Easter Sunday. The singing reached a high standard under the conductorship of Mr. D.J. Davies. The organists were Mrs. K. Walters, Mr. T. Davies and Mr. D.J. Thomas. The children's service was held in the morning, when Mrs. Doris Jones presided. Taking part were Jessie Ann Davies, Phyllis Hughes, Willie Edwards and Herbert Jones. Mrs. Edith Lewis presided in the afternoon, when Mr. Richard Jones took the devotions. A hymn was sung by a party of girls consisting of Jessie Ann Davies, Phyllis Hughes, Yvonne Davies, Katie Hughes and June Games. The president at the evening meeting was Mr. T.J. Jones. Mrs. Dilys Edwards led the devotions. A recitation was given by Mary Cumpstone, and Mrs. Martin Lewis sang a solo.

"Merthyr Express" 7 April 1951

Ward Meeting A meeting was held at the Pantywaun Institute on Thursday, presided over by Coun. W.J. Payne, with representatives from Fochriw, Deri and Pantywaun. The ward secretary, Coun. Poyntz, dealt with the correspondence. A report on Council activities was given by Coun. S. Lewis, J.P. Sympathy was extended to Coun. Lewis on the death of his

sister, and best wishes for a speedy recovery was extended to Mrs. H.L. Farley and Mr. Rees Jenkins, Deri.

Presentation A presentation, to which the teachers, children and kitchen staff contributed, was made recently to Mr. Trevor Lawrence, who for the past two years has been acting head teacher of Penybank School. The gift of a wallet and money was given to Mr. Lawrence by Miss R.J. Davies, a member of staff, who said he had won the respect of staff and scholars during the two years he had spent at Penybank. Mr. Lawrence said he appreciated their kindness. He wished the new headteacher, Mr. B.M. Griffiths, Bedlinog, every happiness.

Williams – Shankland At Noddfa Chapel on Monday week, Mr. Noel Williams, son of Mr. & Mrs. Gomer Williams, Aelybryn, was married to Miss Mavis Shankland, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Crad Shankland, Guest-street. Rev. T.J. Jones officiated, and Mr. D.J. Thomas was the organist. The bride was given away by her father, and wore a dove blue two-piece with navy accessories, and carried a bouquet of cream and pink roses. She was attended by three bridesmaids – Miss Charlotte Cleave, cousin of the groom, attired in a lemon floral dress with flowered head dress, and carried a posy of pink tulips; Miss Violet Abbey and Miss Anita John, who were dressed in dove blue floral dresses with flowered head dresses, and also carried posies of pink tulips. The best man was Mr. D.J. Evans, and the groomsman was Mr. D.J. Davies. On leaving the chapel, the bride was presented with two horseshoes by Enid Shankland, sister, and Raymond Williams, nephew. The reception was held at the New Hall. Many telegrams were received, including two cables from the groom's two sisters in Canada. The bride's going away outfit was a turquoise dress and a cherry coat, with navy accessories. Before leaving for their honeymoon, which was spent in Swansea, the couple visited the bride's brother, Mr. Emrys Shankland, and her cousin, Miss Cassie Shankland, who are patients at the Merthyr General Hospital. The bride's bouquet was given to her brother, and the bridesmaids, to her cousin.

“Merthyr Express” 14 April 1951

Welfare Association Coun. Payne presided over a meeting at the Institute on Friday. The financial report was given and proved satisfactory. The caretaker reported on the conduct of some of the youths attending the billiard hall. It was decided not to allow them into the billiard hall. A discussion followed about organising events for the Festival of Britain week, also the week of the miners' holiday. The chairman said he hoped the village would organise a day's programme, if not more, to entertain people that week or some other week. It was agreed to call a public meeting on Friday, April 20, at 7 p.m. in the hall to discuss the matter.

“Merthyr Express” 21 April 1951

Sisterhood Miss Edna E. Jones presided over the meeting on Thursday. The devotions were taken by Mrs. G. Pearce and Mrs. S. G. Parry. A paper was given by Mrs. Sheen on “God Answers Prayers,” and she was thanked by Mrs. Edith Lewis and Mrs. Parry. A duet was rendered by Mrs. Uzzell and Mrs. B. Lee, Deri. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist. The evening closed in prayer.

“Merthyr Express” 28 April 1951

New Hall Drama A first class drama, “Interference,” was given on Thursday at the New Hall by the Masque Players, Bargoed. The chairman was Coun. W.J. Payne, who thanked the company and producer. The event was organised by the Institute Committee.

Festival Plans A meeting was held at the New Hall on Friday to organise Fochriw's Festival of Britain celebrations. It was decided to hold events from July 7. Officers appointed: chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; secretary, Miss Eliza Evans, 22, Martin-street; treasurer, Miss M. Davies, Brynteg-terrace. The chairman hoped the Silver Band would reform, which would add to the success. Members of the Youth Centre had decided to contribute events. It was decided to appoint a festival Queen and her Court. Entries for Queen, attendants, flower girls, page boy and herald, are to be sent to the secretary. An evening for judging will be chosen. On the Sunday, a gymanfa ganu will be held, and other days will be devoted to carnival, sports, displays, etc.

“Merthyr Express” 5 May 1951

Bible Society The annual meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society was held at Nazareth Church last week. Rev. T. Alban Davies, Ton Pentre, gave the address. The chairman was Mr. T. J. Jones, and the organist, Mr. W. A. Davies. Mr. T. Ballard and Mr. T. Lawrence moved and seconded the vote of thanks.

Noddfa Sisterhood Mrs. E. E. Jones presided on Thursday. An interesting address was given by Mrs. S. J. Jones of Bargoed, late of Fochriw. Devotions were taken by Mrs. G. Edwards and Miss G. Evans. Miss Evans gave a solo. The speaker was thanked by Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Evans. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist.

Late Mr. W. T. Parry, Cwmbargoed The death has occurred at St. Tydfil's Hospital, Merthyr of Mr. W. T. Parry, after a short illness. The funeral took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Wednesday, with Rev. Evans, Twynyrhodyn, officiating. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Clifford & Glyndwr Parry (sons); David A. Parry, Donald Jones, Denzil Jones (grandsons); David Jones, David Barnett, Cyril Keane (sons-in-law); Wm. Davies, Edward Davies, Wm. Pope (brothers-in-law); Douglas Pope (nephew). At the house: Mrs. Mary Gwen Parry (widow); Doris, Margaret, Ann and Joyce (daughters); Lilian M. Parry & Phyllis Parry (daughters-in-law); Mrs. H. Pope (sister-in-law); Mrs. Megan Pope (niece); Mrs. C. Ballard & Mrs. M. A. Lewis (cousins); Mrs. W. Evans, Cwmbargoed, Mrs. Jenkins, Pentwyn.

Football: Fochriw are Div. II Champions By virtue of their 4-0 victory at Treharris, Fochriw are assured of the championship of Division II of the S.W. Amateur League, and as a result will play in Division I next season. Although they finished with two players injured - J. Evans twisted knee, & E. Jones fractured collar-bone - Fochriw played well. The scorers were G. Matthews 2, W. Chapman and J. Davies.

Football Pontlloftyn Youth Club Seniors were victors over Fochriw Y.C. Seniors by 5 goals to 2 in the match played last Thursday.

“Merthyr Express” 12 May 1951

Flag Day In aid of the Playing Fields, a Flag Day was held on Friday, organised by Coun. Sam Lewis, J.P., who wishes to thank all who supported it. The total was £3 7s 3d.

Nazareth Church The yearly meetings were held on Sunday, when Rev. T. Maddocks, Abertridwr, preached to large congregations. The choirmaster was Mr. W. A. Davies, with Mr. T. Davies at the organ.

Sisterhood: Guest Speaker Mrs. G. Gittoes, Merthyr, gave an address at the Nazareth Sisterhood on Thursday last. Mrs. E. Lawrence presided and the devotions were led by Mrs. D. Jones and Miss G. Evans. Thanks to the speaker were given by Miss G. Evans, Mrs. D. Jones and Mrs. I. Jones. The organist was Mrs. A. Davies.

Home Again A warm welcome awaited Mrs. Marian Clayton, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Tom Sullivan, when she arrived home with her children from America on Monday, on a three months' visit. Mrs. Clayton was met from the “Queen Mary” by her parents, and the streets were gay with flags and bunting when the party arrived home. A large crowd was there to receive them. Mrs. Clayton met her husband while he was serving with the American forces during the war, and afterwards went to America.

“Merthyr Express” 19 May 1951

Noddfa Sisterhood The members met on Thursday, presided over by Miss Edna Jones. Mrs. Salmon of Rhymney gave the address. The devotions were taken by Miss G. Evans and Mrs. Sheen. Miss Evans also thanked Mrs. Salmon for her able address. The organist was Mrs. Dilys Edwards.

At the Festival Coun. W.J. Payne, vice-chairman of the Gellygear U.D. Council, in the absence of the chairman, was one of the civic heads invited to attend the Festival of Britain dedication service performed by the Archbishop of Canterbury at St. Paul's Cathedral, at which the King and Queen were present. After the dedication, the King declared the Festival open. On Friday, Coun. Payne, accompanied by Mr. Rhys Williams, accountant, in the absence of the Clerk, was among the guests at the South Bank Exhibition.

Concert At the New Hall on Wednesday, a concert was given by the Pontlottyn Senior Mixed School Choir, conducted by Mr. Graham Barrar, and accompanied by Miss Jones. Coun. Payne presided. The proceeds were in aid of the Fochirw O.A.P. Association. The choir was assisted by the following soloists: Mr. Malcolm Burnell and Miss Shirley Jenkins. Thanks were given to the party and all who helped by the chairman and Mr. T. Ballard, secretary of the O.A.P.

Annual Meeting The annual meeting of the Welfare and Institute was held at the New Hall on Thursday. The vice-chairman, Mr. A. Palmer, presided. Officers elected: chairman, Mr. Arthur Palmer; vice-chairman, Mr. Robert Thomas; The audited balance sheet was presented and was very satisfactory. (Auditor: Mr. T.D. Evans, accountant, Bargoed) The secretary Mr. Bob Rees, and the treasurer, Mr Iorwerth Evans, were re-elected. The committee was re-elected with the addition of Mr. Pearce.

Late Mrs. M. Williams The death has occurred of an old inhabitant of the village, Mrs. Mary Williams, Plantation-street. Mrs. Williams, aged 83, had lived the whole of her life in the village, where she was held in high esteem. The funeral took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Saturday, the Rev. E. Adams Evans officiating at the house and graveside. The chief mourners were Messrs. John & Stanley Williams (sons); Lesley Williams (grandson); Leslei Davies, David Williams, Trehafod, Tom Williams, Porth, Willie Adams Jones, Griffith Pugh. Mourners at the house were: Mrs. Tucker, Abercynon (niece); Mrs. Maggie Williams (daughter-in-law); M. Davies, Annie M. Evans, Gretta Evans (grand-daughters); Mrs. Mary Evans, Port Talbot.

“Merthyr Express” 26 May 1951

Festival of Britain Preliminary arrangements are well in hand for the week of events in July in the village. Various committees are hard at work arranging for an eisteddfod, sports, cymanfa ganu etc. On Friday week, the ladies were busy with a mile of pennies, and this was a great success, a good sum was realised. The secretary is Miss Eliza Evans, and the treasurer is Miss Marie Davies. The chairman is Coun. W. J. Payne.

Blaze of Glory Fochriw finished their season in a blaze of glory by winning the Second Division of the Amateur League. On Saturday, a Cardiff City XI was defeated 3-2 by Fochriw. After the match the visitors were entertained to tea at the New Hall, which had been prepared by the Ladies' Supporters' Club. Speakers from Cardiff City spoke well of the standard of play of the Fochriw team.

Queen Selected At the New Hall on Friday before a crowded audience, the selection of the Carnival Week Queen took place. The judges were Councillor Mrs. S.L. Williams (Gilfach), Coun. Mrs. A. Hamer (Ystrad mynach), and Miss M. Moore (head teacher of Brithdir School). The M.C. was Mr. Gomer Jones, Groesfaen, and Coun. W.J. Payne presided. The awards of the judges were: Queen, Miss Jean Wood; Deputy Queen, Miss Jean Price; Attendants, Rosylyn Russell, Shirley Davies, Jill Parry and Nesta Russell; Flower Girls, Yvonne Davies, Delphine Chapman, Susan Lawrence and Phyllis Jones; Herald, Herbert Jones; Page Boy, Lyn Gittens. Coun. Sam Lewis, J.P., also attended. The secretary is Miss Eliza Evans and the treasurer is Miss Marie Davies. Several committees are busy with the week's events, which will start on July 7, with the Crowning of the Queen, a carnival and sports.

New Council Chairman In Rhymney Valley: Gellygaer and Caerphilly Hold Installation Ceremonies Referring to former members of the Council who had achieved high position in other spheres, Mr. W.J. Payne, J.P., of Fochriw, after being made Chairman of Gellygaer Urban Council on Tuesday, said: “To young members especially, let me say that you can build up a reputation from the Chamber. You can learn much here, and let me urge you never to be too old to learn.” Mr. H.H. Williams, Brithdir, was elected vice-chairman. Mr. Richard Williams, the retiring chairman, in a letter expressing regret for his inability to attend, thanked fellow members and officials for the help they had given him during his year in office. He hoped Mr. Payne would have a happy and progressive year. Mr. Payne was welcomed by Ald. W.A. Hancock, J.P., “father” of the Council, who was chairman ‘pro

tem.' After offering prayers, Mr. Payne said his first duty was to thank the retiring chairman, who had carried out his duties conscientiously, as far as his health would allow him. He thanked the meeting for the honour of being made "Chief Citizen" of the Gellygaer area, and felt he was following in the footsteps of worthy men. The Council, he said, was happy to see the new Housing Manager (Mr. D.J. Hopkins) present, but regretted that the Surveyor (Mr. Ben Preston, B.Sc.) would not be with them much longer. The Council had made a very good choice in appointing Mr. W.T. Luke as Mr. Preston's successor.

Mr. Payne went on: "Housing is progressing, and with roads and private streets, and other things, much has been done – but much remains to be done. We would like to make a big sweep in private steel works, but the money is not available, and there you are. No men could have put up a better advocacy for greater sums of money than did members who met the Welsh Board of Health a fortnight ago about this matter. We made a plea, but it is not so easy. However, we came away a little more satisfied than when we went down. May this year," he concluded, "be a year of progress. There is only one way to do that and that is for all members and officials to give their co-operation." Mr. Payne also said that Mr. Williams, the new vice-chairman, had the hallmark of sincerity stamped on him. Mr. Payne also welcomed new members.

An employee of the Wales Gas Board, Mr. Payne has been associated with the religious, industrial and social life of the Deri Valley for more than 40 years. A prominent Churchman, he not only enjoys the distinction of having been a Churchwarden for 35 years, but is a member of the Diocesan and Ruri-Decanal conferences, and represents the Fochriw and Deri parish on the Patronage Board of the Church in Wales. His connection with Merthyr General Hospital in the capacity of Governor, Executive Board member, and Chairman of the House Committee, extended for 32 years, and he is now a member, and was last year's chairman of the House Committee for the Rhymney and Abertyswg Hospitals. He is the present Chairman of the Divisional Health Committee for the Gellygaer and Caerphilly areas, and President of the Fochriw section of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

A life long Trades Unionist, he represented his colleagues on the Area Executive Committee of the Enginemen and Craftsmen's Association prior to the closing down of the Fochriw Collieries in 1924. He is a former chairman of the Fochriw Institute and Welfare Association; of the Fochriw Male Voice Party and Fochriw Silver Band; and he was District Officer in the Gellygaer Council's fire fighting service for 20 years. Mr. Payne is a member of the Rhymney Valley Water Board; Gellygaer and Caerphilly Divisional Executive Committee for Education; the local tribunal under the National Insurance Act; and the Consultative Council of the Wales Gas Board.

Mr. Payne will attend a civic service at Fochriw Church on Sunday afternoon next, when the Assistant Bishop of Wales (the Rt. Rev. R.W. Jones) will preach.

"Merthyr Express" 2 June 1951

N.S.P.C.C. A flower day collection was made on Thursday when the sellers were Mesdames A. Evans, G. Jones, J. Lawrence, M. Davies, L. & M. Evans, G. Edwards, M. A. Ballard, A. Davies, D. Jones, Misses E. Evans & L. Jenkins. The amount collected was £4 14s.. The president, Mrs. A. Evans, and the secretary of the local branch, Mrs. M. Jenkins, thank all collectors and the public for their response.

Noddfa Sisterhood Miss E. E. Jones presided over the meeting on Thursday. Mrs. E. Lawrence gave the reading, and Mrs. Irene Jones offered prayers. A paper was given by Mrs. Edith P. Lewis and she was thanked by Miss G. Evans and Mrs. S. G. Parry. The organist was Mrs. D. Edwards.

Festival of Britain A meeting was held at the New Hall on Friday evening, Coun. Payne presiding, and supported by the secretary, Miss Eliza Evans, and the treasurer, Miss Marie Davies. Coun. Sam Lewis, J.P., was appointed vice-chairman. Reports of the various committees were presented by the secretary. The eisteddfod, sports, musical and carnival committees have drawn up a first class programme and prizes will be awarded. The carnival and sports will take place on the afternoon of July 7 after the crowning of the Queen. On

Sunday there will be a cymnafa ganu. During the week, events will be held each day including plays and various exhibitions by members of the Youth Club. The financial report was given by the treasurer.

Council Chairman Welcomed Coun. W. J. Payne, chairman of the Gellygaer Council, was sworn in as a magistrate at Pontlottyn Court on Friday. He was welcomed by Mr. Joshua Davies (Stipendiary) who wished Mr. Payne a successful year in office.

“Merthyr Express” 9 June 1951

Carmel Annual Meetings These were well attended on Sunday last. Rev. A. E. Grant, Rhymney, officiated. The organist was Mr. W. A. Davies and the singing was conducted by Mr. Meirion Shankland.

Nazareth Sisterhood The members met on Thursday when Mrs. E. P. Lewis presided. Devotions were taken by Mrs. G. Edwards and Miss G. Evans. Mr. T. J. Jones gave a timely address, and was thanked by the President, Miss G. Evans and Mrs. E. Lawrence.

Silver Band Again? All committees are working well to make the festivities a success. A fine one-day programme is drawn up for Festival Week. There are also good prospects of re-forming the Fochriw Silver Band and this would add greatly to the event. The secretary and treasurer are very busy.

“Merthyr Express” 16 June 1951

Noddfa Sisterhood The members met on Thursday, and Miss Edna E. Jones presided. The devotions were taken by Mrs. G. Price and Miss G. Evans. A paper was given by Mrs. S.G. Price on “The Prodigal Son.” The speaker was thanked by the president and Miss Evans. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist.

A.F.C. Supper On Saturday at the New Hall, Fochriw A.F.C. celebrated their winning of the 2nd Division Championship for Season 1950-51 with a supper, which was provided by the Ladies’ Supporters’ Club. The guest of the evening was Mr. A.J. Thomas, Cardiff, who presented the shield and medals. He said it was a great achievement to win the league in only their second season after admission. He also congratulated the ladies for the excellent fare. Other speakers were: Mr. E. Pritchard, president; Coun. Payne, Rev. E. Adams Evans, vice-presidents; Mr. W.A. Davies, chairman; Mr. A.H. Wood, vice-chairman; Mr. D. Kelly, secretary; Mr. F.G. Jenkins, treasurer. Miss Eliza Evans, secretary of the Ladies’ Supporters’ Club, also spoke, and presented the club with a cheque for £20 on behalf of the ladies.

Blackwood Court Three youths, disturbed by a police officer while they were playing ‘pitch and toss’ in the street at Argoed, ran away and left three half-pence in the road, it was alleged at Blackwood Court on Friday. The three, Grahame Lloyd, John Hook, and Terence Botchett, all of Argoed, did not appear, but wrote letters to the court in which they pleaded guilty. Each was fined 5s, for gaming in a public place.

“Merthyr Express” 23 June 1951

Fochriw A.F.C. Get Their Shield: A.F.C. Supper On Saturday at the New Hall, Fochriw A.F.C. celebrated winning the 2nd Division Championship of the South Wales Amateur League with a supper which was provided by the Ladies’ Supporters’ Club. The guest for the evening was Mr. A. J. Thomas of Cardiff, secretary of the League, who, in presenting the shield and medals to the players, spoke highly of the club, saying it was a great achievement to win the honours in only the second season after being admitted to the League. A photograph was taken of the presentation of the Shield to the team captain, W. Chapman. Mr. Thomas also congratulated the ladies for the excellent fare they had prepared. Also present was the chairman of the Gellygaer Urban District Council, Coun. W. J. Payne, J.P., who is a vice-president of the club. Speakers were: Coun. Payne; Mr. E. Pritchard (president); Rev. E. Adams Evans (vice-president); Mr. W. A. Davies (chairman); Mr. A. H. Wood (vice-chairman); Mr. D. Kelly (secretary); Mr. F. G. Jenkins (treasurer). Miss Eliza Evans, secretary of the Ladies’ Supporters’ Club, also spoke, and presented the Club with a cheque of £20 on behalf of the ladies.

“Merthyr Express” 30 June 1951

Late Mrs. J. (Captain) Edwards, The Anchorage, aged 81 The death has occurred of a well known and highly respected citizen, Mrs. J. (Captain) Edwards.

Eisteddfod Success Miss Mary Cumpstone, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Cumpstone, has again added to her long list of successes by winning two first prizes at the Llanharran semi-national eisteddfod - under 12 years and under 14 years of age.

Carmel: Student Welcomed On Sunday afternoon, a welcome was extended to Mr. Albert Williams, a student at Brecon Memorial College, who is taking a three months' vacation at Carmel. Mr. T. Ballard presided, and welcomed the new pastor. Greeting and best wishes were extended on behalf of Carmel by Nurse Ballard Davies, on behalf of Nazareth by Mr. W. A. Davies, of Noddfa by the Rev. T. J. Jones, and of the Church in Wales by Coun. W. J. Payne. Mr. Williams suitably responded. Rev. Latimer Williams preached the sermon. Mr. Thomas Walters was the organist, and Mr. Meirion Shankland conducted the singing.

“Merthyr Express” 7 July 1951

Sisterhood The members of the Nazareth Sisterhood were entertained last Thursday by members of the Emanuel Sisterhood, Rhymney, who took the evening's programme. Mrs. E. Lawrence, Mrs. D. James and Miss Greta Evans thanked the visitors.

“Song of Norway” Mr. Claerwyn Davies, son of Mr. & Mrs. Davies of Brook-row, who is well known by the stage name of Jack Havard, is the producer of the “Song of Norway,” at the Open-Air Theatre, Scarborough. Mr. Havard has had considerable experience of open-air theatre work. As a young man he worked in the mines, and by hard work has become a well-known singer and producer. He appeared in “Maritana” in 1946, “Hiawatha” in 1947, and was stage director for “Faust” in 1948. He was the producer of “The Vagabond King” last year. This year's production is the most ambitious to date. The story is set in a Norwegian village to the music of Grieg. As darkness falls, a curtain of water sprayed into the air, illuminated with coloured lights, it achieves a Northern Lights effect.

Late Mrs. Captain Edwards, The Anchorage, aged 81 The funeral took place on Wednesday of an old and highly respected inhabitant, Mrs. Captain Edwards. In her younger days she was a school-teacher and had associated herself with many movements for the betterment of the village. The funeral took place at Glyntaff Crematorium. The bearers were Messrs. T. Lewis, John R. Walters, W. R. Lewis, T. Thomas, W. Lewis, G. Williams and S. Williams. The officiating ministers were Revs. Godfrey E. Davies, Eurof Jones (Cilfynydd), E. Adams Evans, T. J. Jones and A. Williams. The chief mourners were: Messrs. Bert Edwards (son); C. Edwards (brother); J. Jones, G. Edwards, J. S. & C. Edwards, W. H. Edwards, Charles Edwards, A. Mantle, T. Sullivan, D. Williams, Coun. Sam Lewis, W. Forward, J. Mantle, Tom Mantle, J. & E. Davies, J. W. Jones, D. Bailey (nephews); D. Jenkins, B. Thomas, T. Ballard, D. Lewis, J. & T. Evans, G. Davies, R. Evans, W. John, Mr. Evans, stationmaster. Those who attended the service at the Crematorium were Mesdames P. Jones (daughter); Dilys Edwards (daughter-in-law); M. A. Lewis (cousin); A. Davies & Esther Sullivan (nieces); Mrs. Griffiths. At the house were: Mesdames W. Forward, D. Williams, W. Rees, C. Edwards, W. H. Edwards, J. Sullivan, M. Clayton (nieces); Mrs. Bailey, Brynmawr, P. Williams, C. Way, I. Walters, Evans, & R. M. Cumpstone.

“Merthyr Express” 14 July 1951

Procession at Fochriw Mrs. S.A. Payne crowned the Fochriw Festival Queen before a large gathering. The Queen was Miss Jean Wood, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Hartwell Wood. Aelybryn. Mrs. Payne congratulated the Queen, and said that she, and her Court, were a magnificent sight. The carnival procession was marshalled by Mr. Frank Jenkins and was led by the Fochriw Silver Band, conductor Mr. Albert Mantle, assisted by his deputy, Mr. A.H. Wood. After the parade, the joint Pentwyn and Fochriw processions marched into the football field where the final judging took place. The judges were Mr. Howell Owen, Misses Moore and Mayne, and Mrs. Clayton. During the evening, there was a programme of sports, with Mr. Frank Jenkins as M.C.

Joint Singing Festival Sunday was devoted to a singing festival at Noddfa Chapel. The conductor was Mr. D.J. Davies, and the organists Mr. W.A. Davies and Mr. Tom Davies.

The afternoon session was devoted to the children and Master Hughes Jones presided. It was a combined service of children from Fochriw, Pentwyn and Penybanc. The children from Pentwyn and Penybanc were trained by Miss Marie Davies who accompanied them at the organ. It was a service to be remembered: the young voices were most inspiring. The reading of the Scripture and devotions were taken by Brian Davies, Enid Shankland and Neville Hann; and recitations were given by Marie Williams and Mary Cumpstone. At the evening service, Rev. E. Adams Evans presided. Mr. A. Williams, Carmel, read the Scripture and prayed. Solos were given by Mrs. Mattie Lewis, and recitations by Nurse Ballard Davies. The officers of the Festival were: chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; vice-chairman, Coun. S. Lewis, J.P.; treasurer, Miss Marie Davies; secretary, Miss Eliza Evans.

Pentwyn and Penybanc Festival Week A carnival at Pentwyn marked the beginning of Pentwyn and Penybanc Festival of Britain week. The crowning of the Queen took place at Pentwyn Church green before a large audience. The Queen, Miss Eirlys Meade, was crowned by Mrs. E. Maggs, wife of Mr. E. Maggs, M.E., colliery manager, who was accompanied by Mrs. A. Bates. The Queen was attended by her Court comprising Pentwyn and Penybanc children. Court ladies were Doris Meade, Edith Thomas, Mair Jones, Valerie Davey; flower girls, Pamela Lewis, Amy Thomas, Linda Meade, Lena Davies, Avril Small, Gillian Jones; page boy, Brian Lloyd; herald, Colin Jones. After the crowning ceremony, the procession proceeded to Fochriw, led by the Fochriw Silver Band, and joined the Fochriw carnival procession. Afterwards, tea was given to the children. Later in the evening, a grand display of fireworks was given. Mrs. I. Bowen, Jenkins-row, Deri, provided the flowers for the Queen and her Court. The chairman, Mr. F. Amos, secretary, Mr. G. Williams, treasurer, Mrs. W. Pope, and committee were greatly relieved that the weather did not spoil the occasion. The Queen's crown was made by Mr. Ivor Small of Davies-row, Pentwyn. Others who assisted with the arrangements were Mr. Ll. Jones, Mount Pleasant Inn, and Mr. T. Davies, New-road, Deri.

Mrs. M. Davies's Funeral The funeral of Mrs. Margaret Davies, who for many years kept the Cwm Farm near Penybanc, took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Saturday. She was the widow of Mr. James Davies who died many years ago.

Late Mrs. C. Edwards The following names were omitted last week from funeral report of Mrs. Captain Edwards: Messrs. Gwilym Thomas and William M. Davies.

“Merthyr Express” 21 July 1951

More Successes Mary Cumpstone, the Fochriw elocutionist, has won a number of new laurels during the past two weeks. She had successes at Abertysswg and the New Hall, Bargoed, in the juvenile competitions, and at the Church Hall, Tirphil, and the New Hall, Fochriw, in the open competitions. She was also successful at Bedwellty Park, Tredegar, in a juvenile event.

“Merthyr Express” 4 August 1951

Festival Week A meeting was held at the New Hall on Friday evening to close accounts, give the reports of the secretary and treasurer, on the successful week of events held in the village. Coun. W. J. Payne presided. The chairman thanked all who had helped, and complimented the secretary, Miss Eliza Evans, and the treasurer, Miss Marie Davies, on their services. Several members spoke in praise of the weeks' events. After meeting all liabilities, it was decided to present the Festival Queen, and her Court, with a photograph of the crowning events that took place on the opening day, and a presentation to each child of 15 years of age - a souvenir to mark the Festival of Britain occasion in the village.

Ward Meeting Coun. Payne presided over a ward meeting of the Labour Party on Thursday evening at the New Hall. Coun. Poyntz, secretary, dealt with the correspondence. Mr. George Jones and Coun. S. Lewis, J.P., gave reports on party and Council activities.

“Merthyr Express” 11 August 1951

Organist's Departure The Vicar was the preacher at the Parish Church on Sunday evening. The lessons were read by Coun. W.J. Payne and the organist was Mr. W.P. Lawrence, Mus.Bac. The vicar said they regretted losing the services of such a distinguished musician

and organist as Mr. Lawrence. This was his last night as organist of the Parish Church, as he was getting married and leaving the district. Mr. Payne said he had known Mr. Lawrence from childhood, and he had reached brilliant heights as an accompanist both on piano and organ. He had also reached a very high standard on a number of occasions at Eisteddfodau and first class concerts.

Welfare Association A meeting of the Association took place at the New Hall on Friday. Mr. A. Palmer presided. It was decided to enter a billiards team for the Welfare competitions. An appeal by the Youth Movement under 14 years, and by the football team was considered, and it was agreed to repair the pavilion and fence the football field. The question of library lending books came up for discussion. The treasurer gave the financial report and this was very satisfactory.

“Merthyr Express” 18 August 1951

Lawrence – Thomas The wedding took place at Gorphwynfa C.M. Chapel, Skewen, of Mr. Wyndham Lawrence, B.Mus., only son of Mr. & Mrs. J. Lawrence, Emlyn House, and Miss Ceinwedd Thomas, second daughter of Mr. & Mrs. J. Thomas, Penschanel, Skewen. The Rev. W. Lloyd Jones, M.A., B.D., officiated, and Mrs. Evans was the organist. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. Dilwyn Thomas, wore a two-piece suit of sea-mist wool georgette with hat to match and navy accessories. Mr. Idris Williams, brother-in-law of the groom, was the best man. A reception was held at the Caewern Guest House, Neath. Both are members of the teaching profession. Mr. Lawrence is music master at Cyfarthfa Castle Grammar School, Merthyr, and his wife is on the staff of Jersey Marine School, Swansea. Following the reception, the couple left for Bournemouth where the honeymoon is being spent. The bride travelled in a plum-colour corduroy ensemble with grey accessories. Mr. Lawrence was for a number of years the organist of St. Mary’s Church, and has taken a keen interest in the many musical activities of the village. He will make his future home at Skewen.

“Merthyr Express” 25 August 1951

Pensioners at Porthcawl The O.A.P. annual outing was held last Wednesday, and they journeyed to Porthcawl by motor coaches. Favoured with sunshine, they had a most enjoyable day. The secretary is Mr. T. Ballard; treasurer, Mr. W. Cook; secretary, Mr. A. Marshallsea.

Well Balanced Fochriw, who won promotion to the First Division Amateur League last season, played their opening match at home last Saturday before a good crowd. The visitors were Guest, Keen and Baldwin, Cardiff, and the result was a draw, 1 – 1.

Golden Memories Mr. & Mrs. David Davies, Brook Cottage, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Friday week. They were married at Zoar Chapel, Merthyr, on August 17, 1901, by the late Rev. James Jones, Carmel. They have six sons, two daughters and eight grand children. Mr. Davies is a native of Newcastle Emlyn, and Mrs. Davies of Fochriw. Prior to her marriage, Mrs. Davies was the first organist of Carmel Chapel, and was the popular accompanist of the Choral Society, and the then-noted Children’s Choir, conductor Mr. Burkley Angel, when they won the first prize and gold medal at the first semi-national eisteddfod at Mountain Ash. Most of the children and grand children were present at the family party. Mr. & Mrs. Davies received several congratulatory telegrams, cards and gifts. The sons are: Mr. Jack Davies, Craigoyston, Tredegar; Mr. Claerwyn Davies, London; Mr. Iorwerth Evans, Picton House, Fochriw, adopted son; Mr. Islwyn Davies, Metropolitan Police, London; Mr. Garfield Davies, Deri; Mr. Stuart Davies, Fochriw. The daughters are Mrs. Megan V. Jones, S.R.N., S.C.M.T.A., of St. Ives, Cornwall; Mrs. Pearl Howells, S.R.N., who recently flew to Northern Nigeria to join her husband who is in the Colonial Service. Under the stage name of John Havard, their son Claerwyn was a principal tenor with the Sadlers Wells Opera Company. He is now the stage director and producer with Emile Littler, and last year brought “Lilac Time” to the New Theatre, Cardiff. This year he produced “Song of Norway” at the Open-Air Theatre,

Scarborough, and was responsible for the record-breaking production of "The Vagabond King" there last year.

"Merthyr Express" 1 September 1951

Sandhurst Graduate Roy C. Pillidge, grandson of Mrs. & the late Mr. W. Cole, and Mr. & Mrs. S. Pillidge, Cardiff, formerly Fochriw, has recently passed out of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, gaining a prize for the third military paper. Second Lt. Pillidge attended Fochriw Mixed Junior School, and later Latymer Upper School, Hammersmith. He has been commissioned into of the School of Artillery, Lark Hill, Salisbury.

"Merthyr Express" 8 September 1951

Noddfa Sisterhood Miss Edna E. Jones presided at the meeting on Thursday when the speaker was Mr. A. Williams, pastor student at Carmel Chapel. Mrs. Irene Jones read a portion of Scripture, and Miss Gretta Evans led in prayer. Thanks were accorded the speaker by Miss Evan and Nurse Ballard-Davies. The meeting was closed with prayer. The organist was Mrs. D. Edwards.

Sisterhood Sunday The annual Sisterhood Sunday was held at Noddfa Chapel when the preacher was the Rev. D. Jones, New Tredegar. Miss Edna E. Jones presided at each meeting. The children took part at the morning service. Hymns were read by Phillip Jones, Yvonne Davies, Joynce Evans and Irene Games; Willie Edwards read a portion of Scripture and Jeanette Burrows led in prayer. Hymns were sung by two parties consisting of Rosemary Jones, Anne Ballard, Phyllis Jones, Eunice Jones, Irene Games, Shirley Thomas and Annette Jones. Herbert Jones closed the meeting with prayer. At the afternoon service Mrs. M. Sheen and Miss Gretta Evans took the devotional part, and at the evening service Mrs. Dilys Edwards read a portion of Scripture, and Mrs. Irene Jones led in prayer. The organist was Mr. Dd. J. Thomas

"Merthyr Express" 15 September 1951

Football A good crowd witnesses the home fixture with Hirwaun Welfare on Saturday, the home side winning 3-0. Scorers: Don White 2, Glyn Jones.

"Merthyr Express" 22 September 1951

Noddfa Sisterhood The meeting on Thursday was presided over by Miss Edna E. Jones (president), who was re-elected to the office for the coming year, with Mrs. T. Lawrence as vice-president. The reading was taken by Mrs. Lawrence and Miss G. Evans offered prayer. The speaker was Mrs. M. Parsons, New Tredegar, who addressed the meeting on "Broken Things." Thanks were accorded the speaker by Mrs. S.G. Parry and Miss Evans. Mrs. Dilys Edwards was the organist. The meeting was closed with prayer.

"Merthyr Express" 29 September 1951

Late Mr. G. Sibley Mr. George Sibley of 43, Aelybryn, who was a popular figure in the life of the village, has died. His wife pre-deceased him a short time ago.

Silver Band On Friday at the Hall, a meeting was held with the object of "re-building" the Fochriw Silver Band. Coun. W.J. Payne presided. The Band, which was recently re-formed, gives promise of developing into a fine band. Mr. Albert Mantle, bandmaster, Mr. J.J. Lewis and Mr. A.H. Wood, also spoke. Several schemes were discussed to place the band in a sound financial position. The officers appointed were: President, Mr. E.T. Pritchard; vice-presidents, Messrs. Emlyn Evans (Post Office), Stan Williams and S. Farley; bandmaster, Mr. A. Mantle; chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; vice-chairman, Mr. A.H. Wood; secretary, Mr. J.J. Lewis; assistant secretary, Mr. D.J. Thomas; treasurer, Mr. Frank Jenkins; librarian, Mr. Will Edwards; with a very representative committee.

"Merthyr Express" 6 October 1951

Window Dressing Among the winners in the window dressing competition at Merthyr Festival of Britain events was Mr. Dd. Ballard, Plantation-street, who is an employee of Morgan Harris, and works at their Court-street, Twynnyrobyn, shop.

Dr. Barnardo's Homes The recent house-to-house collection raised £6. The collectors were: Mesdames Wright, Mantle, G. Edwards, L. Evans, M. Watkins, C. Shankland, E.

Matthews, G. Pearce, Misses E. Evans, N. Jones, L. Rees. The organiser was Mrs. T. J. Jones.

Noddfa Sisterhood Miss Edna E. Jones presided at the meeting on Thursday. The reading was taken by Mrs. M. Sheen and Miss C. Evans offered prayer. A paper was given by Mrs. E. P. Lewis on "Peace," and she was thanked by Mrs. E. Lawrence, Mrs. I. Jones, and Miss Evans. Mrs. Acreman of New Tredegar gave a recitation. A vote of condolence was passed with the family of the late Mr. George Sibley. Mrs. Dilys Edwards was the organist.

Parish Church Harvest Thanksgiving Harvest festival services were held on Sunday and Monday, when the Church was decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables. The preacher and celebrant on Sunday morning was the Vicar, and the preacher at the evening service was the Rev. W. R. Hughes, vicar of Pontlottyn. Coun. Payne read the lessons, and the organist was Mr. Octavius Richards. The children's service on Sunday afternoon was conducted by the Vicar and Miss Olive Payne, with the following children taking part: Sheila Lewis, Mair Jones, Valerie Davey, Brenda Small, Pamela Lewis, Gillian Jones, Jean Williams, Gaynor Clarke, Mary Jones, Jessie Ann Davies, Avril Small. On Monday, the preacher was the Rev. J. Washington Jones, Rector of Eglwysilian, with the vicar taking the service. The lessons were read by Mr. J. B. Palmer, with Mr. Norman Palmer at the organ.

"Merthyr Express" 13 October 1951

Settling Down Mr. & Mrs. Evan Morgan Lewis, who with their family recently left for Swinton, have now settled down in their new home. Mr. Lewis is the son of Mr. & Mrs. W. Lewis, Brynteg-street. He is an excellent all-round athlete, and has now joined Swinton Rugby League Club. Both Mr. & Mrs. Lewis are school teachers and have appointments in Swinton.

Social Evening A social evening in connection with the Evening Sewing Class, under the direction of Mrs. F. Evans, Deri, was held at the school on Monday. Year after year, this class grows in popularity, and the teacher has made it a great success. Assistance at the tea and social was given by Mrs. Ethel Rowlands, treasurer, Mesdames C. Shankland, Mildred Evans and Elsie Rees.

Election Preparations A Labour Party Ward meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday, Coun. Payne presiding. The special speakers were Mr. Fred Evans, B.A., Councillors John Davies and R. Yates. They outlined the procedure for the election campaign and answered several questions. The officers appointed for the election campaign for the ward are: chairman, Coun. W.J. Payne; secretary, Mrs. H.L. Farley; transport officer, Mr. Tudor Evans; literature secretary, Mr. Iorwerth Evans.

"Merthyr Express" 20 October 1951

Election Campaign An election meeting was held at the New Hall on Monday, when Coun. Payne presided. The speakers were Mr. Ness Edwards (accompanied by his wife), County Councillor W.J. Kedward, J.P., and Councillors D.J. Francis and E. Burgess. Thanks were accorded the speakers by Mr. Iorwerth Evans and Mrs. T. Rowlands.

Noddfa Sisterhood A harvest thanksgiving service was held on Thursday last, Miss Edna E. Jones presiding. Miss Jones read the Scripture, and Mrs. Irene Jones led in prayer. The address was given by Miss Gretta Evans. Hymns were read by Mesdames E.P. Lewis, G. Edwards, M. Clark and D. Edwards. Thanks were accorded Miss Evans by Mrs. Sheen and Mrs. Lewis. A recitation was given by Phyllis Jones. Mr. D. Edwards was the organist. The meeting closed with prayer.

"Merthyr Express" 27 October 1951

New Hall A public meeting was held at the New Hall on Monday in support of Mr. Ness Edwards. The speakers were Councillors W. Jones, Towyn Jones, R. Yates and C. Thomas.

Nazareth Meetings The yearly meetings were held on Sunday and were well attended. The Rev. Watkin Williams, Ferndale, preached the sermons. Mr. Tom Davies was the organist, and Mr. W. Angell Davies conducted.

United Harvest Festival The united festival meetings of Carmel, Noddfa and Nazareth were held at Nazareth and were well attended. The service on Monday evening took the

form of a prayer meeting, Mr. Trevor Lawrence presiding. The devotional parts were taken by Miss Edna E. Jones and Messrs. Tom Thomas and D. James. On Tuesday evening, Mr. T. J. Jones presided, and the Rev. D. Islwyn Jones, Penuel, Rhymney, preached. The organist throughout was Mr. W. A. Davies.

“Merthyr Express” 3 November 1951

More Successes Miss Mary Cumpstone, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Cumpstone, was again successful at the Rhymney Festival Eisteddfod. She won three events in elocution and one in pianoforte selection.

Annual Supper The Women’s Section of the British Legion (Fochriw Branch) held their annual supper at the Old Library on Wednesday. The arrangements were carried out by Mrs. G. Williams, and Mrs. I.J. Harding, secretary.

Noddfa Sisterhood Miss Edna E. Jones presided over the meeting on Thursday. The reading was taken by Mrs. E.P. Lewis and Mrs. S.G. Parry led in prayer. In the absence of the speaker, Miss G. Evans gave a paper, and was thanked by Mrs. E. Lawrence and Mrs. Lewis. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist.

“Merthyr Express” 10 November 1951

Fatal Accident Mr. Evan John Jones met with a fatal accident last week while working in a Cardiff timber-yard. Before moving to Cardiff a few years ago, he lived at Fochriw, where he had spent the whole of his life. He was a member of Nazareth Chapel. He was 59 and married. Mr. Jones was a keen musician, and was a member of many well-known choirs.

Silver Band A meeting was held at the New Hall on Friday, Coun. Payne presiding. It was reported that some young musicians were anxious to join the band. It was decided to hold a dance on Dec. 6 at the New Hall.

“Merthyr Express” 17 November 1951

Eisteddfod Success Miss Mary Cumpstone obtained first prize at the Workmens’ Hall Eisteddfod, Tredegar.

Remembrance Sunday This was observed at St. Mary’s on Sunday, when various organisations attended. The Vicar was the preacher and the service was taken by Mr. J. Palmer with Mr. N. Palmer at the organ.

Noddfa Sisterhood Miss E. E. Jones presided at the meeting on Thursday. Mrs. E. Lawrence gave the reading, and Miss G. Evans offered prayer. A paper was given by Mrs. S. G. Parry. Thanks were accorded by Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Jones. A vote of sympathy was passed with the family of Mr. Evan J. Jones, formerly of Fochriw.

“Merthyr Express” 24 November 1951

Poppy Day Results The Women’s Section of the British Legion (Fochirw Branch) organised a Poppy Day on Friday last week. Collectors were Mesdames J. Harding, Jean Hughes, Dwynwen Thomas, S. Davies, E. Jones, Audrey Hollister, Jean Paul, Mary Jones, Jessie A. Davies, Phyllis Hughes. Sum realised: Church collection 10s; sale of poppies £5 1s 2d. The organiser was Mrs. J. Harding.

Welfare Association A meeting took place at the Welfare Hall on Friday evening. Mr. A. Palmer presided, supported by Mr. Robert Thomas, vice chairman, Mr. R. Rees, secretary, and Mr. Iorwerth Evans, treasurer, who gave the financial statement. A vote of condolence was passed with the secretary in the death of his sister. Best wishes for a speedy recovery were expressed to Coun. S. Lewis, J.P., who has been ill for some time.

“Merthyr Express” 1 December 1951

Late Mrs. E. Jones A well-known inhabitant, Mrs. E. Jones, wife of Mr. Walter Jones, Glyn-terrace, has died after a long illness.

Carmel On Sunday, the preacher was the former minister, Rev. Eurof Jones. The organist was Mr. T. Walters, with Mr. M. Shankland conducting the singing.

More Eisteddfod Successes At Deri Eisteddfod, Peter Cumpstone won awards in the recitation and the boys’ solo competition. Mary Cumpstone won the first prize and medal for recitation, and second prize in the junior champion recitation. They are children of Mr. & Mrs. A. Cumpstone.

Noddfa Sisterhood Miss E. E. Jones presided on Thursday. Mrs. M. Mantle gave the reading, and Miss G. Evans offered prayer. The speaker was Mrs. Matthews, Abertyswg, who gave a paper on "Friendship." A solo was rendered by Mrs. King and a recitation by Mrs. Rawlings, both of Bargoed. Thanks were accorded the visitors by Mrs. I. Jones, Miss Evans and the president. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist.

Ward Meeting Coun. W. J. Payne presided at a ward meeting of the Fochriw and Deri Labour Party at the Social Hall, Pantywaun, on Thursday week. The ward Secretary, Coun. W. Poyntz, was also present. The Chairman reported on Council activities. A discussion took place on the conveyance of school children from Pantywaun, and a further meeting has been arranged. In the forthcoming elections, C.C. W. J. Kedward has been nominated for the County Council, and Coun. W. Poyntz for the District Council. A vote of sympathy was extended to Coun. Sam Lewis in his illness and best wishes expressed for a speedy recovery. "To Have And To Hold" Drama lovers were entertained to a fine play on Monday at the New Hall, when the St. Margaret's Amateur Players, Gilfach, presented "To Have and to Hold," a drama in three acts by Lionel Brown. The Hall was full and the audience appreciative. Coun. W. J. Payne presided. The proceeds were in aid of Church funds. The Vicar thanked the Company for their wonderful performance, and for their kindness in coming to Fochriw in aid of the Church. Afterwards, the company was entertained to tea by the ladies of the Church.

"Merthyr Express" 8 December 1951

Churches' Tribute At the monthly meeting of the United Churches of Fochriw on Monday evening, tributes were paid to Mr. Trevor Lawrence, the chairman, on his departure, in the New Year, to take up his new post. Mr. Lawrence has been appointed headmaster of Elmley Castle Mixed and Infants' Primary School by the Worcestershire Education Committee. Before this, he had served as senior assistant master at the Deri Mixed Primary School, and Headmaster of Penybank Junior and Infants' School. Several speakers congratulated him on his success, and wished him and his family happiness in the future, at the same time regretting the great loss his departure means to the churches in the village.

"Merthyr Express" 15 December 1951

"Go-as-you-please" Caerphilly's Father Christmas presented Mary Cumpstone with third prize in the juvenile section of the "Go-as-you-please" competitions during the Shopping Week.

Carmel Special Services were held on Sunday, when the Rev. T. Alban Davies was the preacher. Mr. M. Shankland conducted the singing, with Mr. Tom Walters at the organ.

Band's Dance A successful dance was held at the New Hall last Thursday under the auspices of the Fochriw Silver Band. Mr. A. Mantle conducted. Messrs. Gordon Lawrence and A. Cumpstone were M.C.s. The secretary is Mr. J. J. Lewis. The prize winners were Mr. & Mrs. Pearce.

Sisterhood's Gift Miss Edna E. Jones presided over the meeting on Thursday. Peace and prayer was offered by Miss G. Evans. The speaker was Mrs. E. Lawrence, who was thanked by Miss Jones, Miss Evans and Mrs. E. P. Lewis. A presentation of a silver cake basket was made by Mrs. S. A. Davies, the oldest member of the Sisterhood, to Mrs. Lawrence on her departure from the village. Mrs. D. Edwards was the organist.

"Merthyr Express" 22 December 1951

Another Success Miss Mary Cumpstone was again successful at the go-as-you-please competition at Deri, winning first prize in the open-junior competition, under 15 years.

Former Resident The death has occurred of Mrs. E.M. Jones of Luton, late of Fochriw. The funeral will take place from the home of her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. & Mrs. T.J. James, Brynteg-terrace.

Xmas Plans A meeting of the Fochriw Labour Party was held at the New Hall on Monday. Coun. Payne presided, supported by Mr. Iorwerth Evans, secretary, and Mr. Tudor Evans, treasurer. It was unanimously decided to erect the Christmas tree in front of the School House for which permission had been kindly given. It was hoped ladies would assist to

decorate the tree, which will be officially opened at 5 p.m. on Christmas Eve by Coun. W.J. Payne, Chairman of the Council. The singing will be conducted by Mr. D. Joshua Thomas. "Santa Claus" will pay a visit.

"Merthyr Express" 29 December 1951

New Headmaster Mr. Trevor Lawrence and family will be leaving the district in the New Year, to take up the headship of Elmley Castle School, near Evesham. Regret will be felt at Mr. Lawrence's departure from the village where he was born, and has live all his life. He has been an active citizen, and together with his wife, stalwart members of Nazareth Church, where Mr. Lawrence is a deacon. He followed his father as secretary of the Church. He has been on the teaching staff of Deri Mixed School for 20 years, and acting head of Penybanc School for two years. His wife is also on the teaching staff.

Late Mrs. E. M. Jones The funeral took place last week of Mrs. E. M. Jones, daughter of the late Mr. & Mrs. D. J. James of Dynevor-street, and familiarly known as "Nellie May James." After her marriage, Mrs. Jones lived at Luton. The funeral took place from the home of her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. & Mrs. T. J. James, Brynteg, and was at Pentwyn Churchyard. Rev. T. J. Jones officiated at the house and graveside. The bearers were Messrs. E. Evans, R. Rees, T. Morris, B. Brown, W. Lewis & W. A. Davies. A large number of friends met at the grave. Among the mourners were: Messrs. T. J. James (brother); A. Hornsby (son-in-law); Syl James, John Jones, R. Lewis (nephews); Tom & Crad Shankland, C. Lewis, Bill Ross, Ray Cook, D. Evans (cousins); John J. Davies, R. Pritchard (uncles). Mourners at the house: Mesdames Lina Hornsby (daughter); Lil Jones, Jenny James, N. M. Hiscox, Amy Morris (sisters-in-law); Rachel & Beattie Lewis, Maggie J. Owen (aunts); Nellie Evans, Annie Davies, Len Cook, Eirlys Morris, Maureen Ross, Gladys Lewis, Annie Williams, Martha Beckler, Jean Paul, Elspeth & Emily Shankland, Mabel Davies & Evelyn Lewis (cousins)