

COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Officers and Committee 1975-1976

President Councillor Norman Williams,

The Poplars, Town Mill Road, Cowbridge 2107

Life Vice-President Miss Maud Gunter,

Limes Cottage, Cowbridge 2201

Honorary Vice-President Mrs. Patricia Moore,

2 Salisbury Avenue, Penarth 707754

Chairman Mr. J. Hollings,

26 High Street, Cowbridge 2734 (3835 day)

Hon. Secretary Mr. J.L.S. Miles,

9 Cardiff Road, Cowbridge 2270 (Barry 3101, ext. 45 & 68)

Hon. Treasurer Dr. I.P. Griffith,

Dochdwys House, Castle Precinct,  
Llandough, Cowbridge 3408

Programme Secretary Mrs. G. Keay,

Bali Hai, Cae Castell,  
Llanblethian, Cowbridge 2879

Excursions Secretary Mrs. Y.M. Weeding,

Kimberley, Cae Castell,  
Llanblethian, Cowbridge 2878

Publicity Officer Mrs. L.J. St. John,

~~29~~ Town Mill Road, Cowbridge 3418  
25.

Committee Mr. A.J.L. Alden, 1 Mill Park, Cowbridge 3373

Mr. D. Hopkin, Maendy Newydd, Bonvilston 237

Mrs. P. Owen, 8 Cardiff Road, Cowbridge 2359

Mrs. J.P. Phillips, 7 Slade Close, Cowbridge

Mrs. B. Williams, The Poplars, Town Mill Road, Cowbridge 2107

COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Dear Member,

To keep you up to date with the tail end of our Summer 1975 activities I would inform you of the following dates for your diary :

COWBRIDGE SHOW (SOCIETY EXHIBITION) 20th AUGUST 1975

The Society will be mounting an exhibition at this years Cowbridge Show. It is planned as a service to the community and will hopefully prove useful as a vehicle through which we can enrol new members.

Each study group will be taking a share of the exhibition and each study group will be responsible for manning the exhibition during the day. If anyone is available on that day perhaps they would be kind enough to get in touch with their Study Group Leader to see if they can be of assistance.

FAMILY PICNIC AND TRIP TO BEAUPRE CASTLE

Mrs. Weeding, our Excursions Secretary has planned an informal trip to Beaupre Castle on Sunday 31st August.

It is suggested that members should meet at Beaupre Castle at 3.30 pm with a picnic tea. Young people who wish to walk to Beaupre should meet at the Town Hall at 2.45 pm. Given good weather, I am sure that this will prove to be a very enjoyable afternoon, to which we extend an invitation to relatives and friends.

Our first formal meeting of the Winter Season will be held in the Library on Friday 5th September 1975. Our speaker will be Mr. I. Flett, M.A., Assistant Archivist, Glamorgan Records Office, who will speak on "A History of Glamorgan".

Yours sincerely,

JOHN HOLLINGS,  
Chairman.

15 August 1975

Next Group Meeting at Mrs. June Phillips 7, Slade Close.  
8 pm Thurs. 20th Feb.

COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

TRANSPORT AND INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP.

The Group at present consists of:

Mr. & Mrs. Eveleigh.  
Mr. & Mrs. Keay.  
Mr. D.J. Strivens.  
Mrs. Phillips.  
Mrs. Haines.

The first meeting was held on 9th January, 1975, and the following list of possible subjects for discussion agreed.

1. Transport.

Llantrisant - Cowbridge - Aberthaw Railway.

Western Welsh and predecessors.

N. & C. Coaches.

Any other omnibus company? Cowbridge Road Car Co.

Stage Coaches and Horse drawn Transport.

Were any other Railways built or envisaged?

To what extent was the River Thaw navigable?

ROADS: When were they tarred?

When was road over Stalling Down diverted.

Any other notable road changes.

2. Industry.

Gas	)	
Water	)	To what extent were these pumped or
Electricity	)	produced locally?
Sewage	)	

Engineering/Agricultural Implements/Traction Engines - Any works locally?

Mills - Water) Did any of these have Oil, Gas or  
Mills - Wind ) Steam Engines?

Weaving/Textiles.  
Mineral Mining.  
Printing.  
Timber/Saw Mills.

Was there ever a local newspaper in Town?

Brewing.

Any other industries?

After some discussion it was agreed that the members would like to work on the following projects.

1. The River Thaw with particular reference to Navigation and Mills and other industries based on the river.
2. The Llantrisant - Cowbridge - Aberthaw Railway and the early history of Omnibus Companies in the district.

A second meeting was held on 30th January and members reported on and discussed generally the progress they had been able to make so far.

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development is the very feature which this region does not want.

There are no facilities at Aberthin except two public houses and a telephone kiosk, Bus services are poor and the shop has just closed. Llansannor Court was converted into flats for retired clergymen but was disposed of for the very same reason - the lack of facilities.

For the number of houses planned, a variety of designs to cater for differing needs would be highly desirable. A close watch on the situation should be maintained. (Policy 9)

As observed by the Society in its comment on 26th July, 1980, Llandow Industrial Estate should be developed (Policy 10). The Society strongly supports measures which would divert from the area of the town and roads listed at 3.9 heavy vehicles en route to and from quarries, industrial estates and other works. (Policy 12)

The Society would most strongly deprecate charging for off-street parking, as this action would have a detrimental effect on the trade of the town. Towns which charge for parking find that shoppers all too often go elsewhere. Cowbridge has already reached saturation point in provision of shops. Deterrents to visitors (and to residents in the area) would inevitably result in the diversion of trade to supermarkets and superstores elsewhere which have free parking, with particular detriment to Cowbridge trade (Policy 15). Parking meters in the street would be a most inappropriate eyesore: traffic wardens are a sufficient deterrent.

Despite the increased population, public transport provision has worsened, and those living in surrounding villages find it impossible to visit Cowbridge for evening classes unless private transport is available (Policy 16) as stated in the Society's 1980 observations (page 3).

Preservation of old footpaths is important as is the need to respect and honour public rights of way. (Policies 18 and 42) (e.g. The path to Bowmen's Well and the well itself are in danger)

Play areas for children where new houses are constructed are

Cowbridge District Plan : Draft Plan

very important, as the recent clover-leaf housing estates without such facilities bear witness.(Policy 26)

The Society would support and offer every assistance to the involvement of a 'Town Trail'.(Policy 28)

The Society has always been conscious of the importance of Cowbridge as a key centre for the rural Vale, and advocates most strongly (as it did in its 1980 recommendations) that the Vale of Glamorgan Council Offices at Cowbridge be maintained and that copies of planning applications relating to the area be made available for inspection in Cowbridge as a matter of course : otherwise the spirit of the law is not fulfilled and justice is not seen to be done. Availability of such notices in the Council Offices and the Cowbridge Library is most important.

The Society is also perturbed by the tendency not to preserve local lane or road names. Bear Lane which runs east and west behind the High Street is now termed 'North Road', a most inappropriate and unnecessary name, since North Roads run north and this road patently does not. Malthouse Lane, where a malthouse did stand until it was demolished, is now termed 'Cooper's Yard', again a most unsuitable name. It is to be hoped that new and projected developments in the area preserve the old names which are a part of the history of Cowbridge instead of inventing new and meaningless ones.

COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING held at 'Fyrlings', Broad Shoard, Cowbridge, on Thursday, 24th July, 1975, at 7.30 p.m.

Present : Councillor N. Williams (President) (for part of the meeting), Mrs. G. Keay, Mrs. P. Owen, Mrs. J. Phillips, Mrs. L. St. John, Mr. J. Hollings (Chairman), Mr. D. Hopkin, Mr. J. L. S. Miles (Hon. Secretary).

1. New Committee Members The Chairman welcomed Mrs. G. Keay (Programme Secretary) and Mrs. June Phillips to their first Committee Meeting.

2. Confirmation of Minutes The minutes of the Committee Meeting on Tuesday, 1st April, 1975, were confirmed.

3. Matters Arising The Chairman commented favourably on the success of the Cowbridge Walkabout on Thursday, 5th June, 1975, and on the high quality of the Society's displays at the Leisure in the Vale Exhibition in Llantwit Major early in April, 1975 : they set a pattern for exhibition. The exhibition on local history in Cowbridge Library in June had been very good.

RESOLVED : That letters of thanks be sent to Mrs. Patricia Moore, County Archivist, and her colleague Miss Thomas, and to the Welsh Folk Museum, St. Fagans, for their great kindness in lending exhibits and equipment.

4. Correspondence The Hon. Secretary reported that the Society's application to the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council for financial assistance during 1975-76 had been unsuccessful.

RESOLVED : That an application for financial assistance during 1976-77 be made in due course.

The Hon. Secretary reported receipt of a letter from Cardiff enquiring about the fate of the Town Hall Cross which stood before the Guildhall and about the disappearance of the brass studs marking its position in the road. The Mayor, Councillor Norman Williams, stated that nine years previously during road excavations the brass plate was removed; the County Council had promised to replace it.

The Chairman had received a letter from Coventry asking about Cowbridge railway station and availability of photographs. Mr. Bishop of Westgate had produced photographs of the station, and a reply would be sent, probably by a member of the Transport and



Industry Study Group. Mr. Carswell might also be able to help.

5. Treasurer's Report on Membership In the Treasurer's absence, consideration of this matter was deferred.

6. Study Group Reports

(i) Transport and Industry Mrs. Phillips reported that Mr. Strivens, the Group Secretary, had left the district and had not passed the Group Records on. Membership of the Group now stood at three.

(ii) Traditions, Customs and Reminiscences Mr. Miles reported a very successful meeting in Llanblethian on 20th April when Mrs. Owen Phillips recounted her experiences as a newly-arrived teacher in Cowbridge in the early 1920's.

7. Programme, 1975-1976 Mrs. Keay, Programme Secretary, reported that Wynford Vaughan Thomas could not accept an engagement more than a few weeks (six weeks) ahead for the special meeting in the Town Hall. Mrs. Keay was keeping in touch with his secretary.

On 5th September, Mr. Iain Flett of the Glamorgan Record Office would speak on 'A history of Glamorgan'.

On 3rd October Canon Mogford would speak on 'Llanblethian Church'.

For 7th November, Miss Maud Gunter had agreed to address the Society on 'Norman families in the Vale'.

The meeting on 5th December would be given an account of 'Folk Medicine in Wales' by Dr. Peter H. Thomas.

On 9th January Mr. Gwilym Punter, it was hoped, would consent to speak.

The meetings in February and March would be addressed by a speaker from the National Museum of Wales (Dr. Elud Anthony, Geraint Jenkins or Richard Keen, on costume and buildings, material culture, or the industrial archaeology of Wales, respectively) and Mr. E.R. Baker on the early history of the Glamorgan Police. Final arrangements were still to be made.

8. Cowbridge Show Arrangements for Society publicity at the Show on 20th August were discussed. Mr. Fred Thomas had provided for display of three fascia boards for the Society, each six feet high by four feet wide. The total cost to the Society would be £14. The history of transport and industry seemed a promising theme.



The next meeting of the Exhibition Committee was on 29th July. Dr. Iolo Griffith and other volunteers would man the stand to provide information on membership, and Mr. Miles was to furnish 200 membership forms.

9. Other Business

(i) Study Groups

RESOLVED : That Study Groups should inform Mrs. St. John of their meetings so that the information might be displayed in Cowbridge Library and should also be available to each Study Group meeting.

(ii) Excursions

It was considered that members desiring information about excursions should send a stamped addressed envelope to Mrs. Weeding (Excursions Secretary).

(iii) Newsletter

The production of a regular newsletter was considered to be a possible means of publicising the Society's activities, as many members felt out of touch.

(iv) Monthly Meetings

RESOLVED : That monthly meetings start at 8 p.m., the first fifteen minutes being reserved for Society business, so that the speaker's address would be timed to begin at 8.15 p.m.

COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING held at the Southgate Restaurant, 41 High Street, Cowbridge, at 8 p.m. on Thursday, 22nd January, 1976.

Present : Councillor N. Williams. (President), Mrs. G. Keay, Mrs. Y.M. Weeding, Mrs. B. Williams, Mr. D. Busher, Mr. J. Hollings (Chairman), Dr. I.P. Griffith (Hon. Treasurer), Mr. Lane, Mr. J.L.S. Miles (Hon. Secretary).

1. Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Mrs. J.P. Phillips and Mr. A.J.L. Alden.

2. Mr. Lane The Chairman welcomed Mr. Lane (from the Archaeology Study Group) to the meeting.

3. Confirmation of Minutes The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 30th October, 1976 were confirmed.

4. Matters arising Commemorative plaques were further discussed and the matter left open.

5. Letters A letter from Mr. D.J. Francis dated 27th September, 1975 and addressed to the Chairman, was read concerning a projected history of the Border Vale in the hope of securing the assistance of the Society. The Committee decided to invite Mr. Francis to its meetings and suggested that Mrs. Ann Arnott of Ty Gwyn, Maendy might be able to assist him.

A letter from the Chief Executive of the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council inviting Society representation on the Cowbridge and Llanblethian Conservation Area Advisory Committee was read.

RESOLVED : That Mrs. Pam Owen should represent the Society, and attend the meeting of the Advisory Committee at 79 Eastgate, Cowbridge on 29th January, 1976.

6. Treasurer's Report Dr. I.P. Griffith reported that the Society's funds now amounted to £80, and current membership was about ninety.

7. Study Groups Archaeology Mr. Lane reported that the Group would meet on 9th February, 1976 at 8 p.m. at 41 High Street. He thought that there were some thirty-seven members.

Buildings Dr. Griffith reported that Mr. Eurwyn Williams of the Welsh Folk Museum, St. Fagans would speak on 16th January at 8 p.m. Group membership stood at twenty-eight. The next outdoor meeting would be on 14th February at 2.30 p.m. at St. Athan Church. At the

suggestion of Eurwyn Williams, a group visit would be made to the Welsh Folk Museum on 20th March, 1976 at 2 p.m.

Traditions, Customs, etc. The Group hoped to meet in February or March. Mrs. Keay and Mrs. Lesley Busher thought that there was some scope for research on children's games.

Transport and Industry The Group had no report to make, but was still in being.

8. Excursions Mrs. Weeding reported that a visit would be made to the National Museum of Wales on 31st January at 10 a.m., under the tutelage of Mr. Donald Moore.

9. Newsletter Mr. Busher stated that the second number was well under way and would be completed after the visit to the Museum for issue at the next general meeting.

The Committee voiced its thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Busher for the production of the Newsletter.

10. Annual General Meeting The Committee agreed that the Annual General Meeting should consider the amendment of the Consitution in order to extend the Society's current year to the autumn, with future Annual General Meetings from 1977 taking place in September so that the year would run from September to August. The present officers and committee agreed that those elected in April should serve until September, 1977, provided that the Annual General Meeting approved.

Next winter's programme should be well-nigh completely arranged by April next.

11. Charter Day The Charter Day gathering of the Society would be held in the Town Council Chamber on Friday, 12th March at 8 p.m. A fork supper would be arranged and Mrs. Griffith would co-ordinate contributions of food. Twelve bottles of wine would be provided, and each member was invited to bring a guest.

12. Walkabout (Cowbridge Week) The Committee agreed that a guide should be produced in a single-sheet format incorporating an outline map and keyed thumbnail sketches, for sale at the start of the Walkabout. A small committee (Mrs. Weeding, Mrs. Keay, Mrs. Pam Owen, Jeff Alden, John Miles) would organise details.

A stall would be run by the Society on the Carnival Field on the Saturday of Cowbridge Week.

## COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at Cowbridge Library on Friday, 2nd April, 1976, at 8 p.m. Fifty-five people were present.

1. Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Mrs. A. Arnott, Mrs. Margaret Hawkins, Mr. A.J.L. Alden and Mr. S. Lane.

2. Confirmation of Minutes The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Society held on Friday, 4th April, 1975 were read and confirmed.

3. Hon. Secretary's Report The Honorary Secretary (Mr. J.L.S. Miles) reported that the Society's Committee had met three times during the year, on 24 July and 30 October, 1975, and on 22 January, 1976.

The Local History display by the Society at the 'Leisure in the Vale' exhibition in Llantwit Major early in April, 1975 had been a great success. In June, the Society organised an attractive exhibition in Cowbridge Library, and an excellent display at the Cowbridge Show in August. The County Archivist (Mrs. Patricia Moore) and her staff had helped enormously with the Library display.

A County Treasures Survey had been carried out in Cowbridge by members for the County Director of Environment and Planning.

Charter Day had been delightfully celebrated by the Society in the Council Chamber on the evening of 12 March, 1976.

150 people had participated in the Cowbridge Historical Walkabout organised by the Society on Thursday evening, 5th June, 1975.

A newsletter had been started under the editorship of Mrs. Lesley Busher.

4. Hon. Treasurer's Report The Honorary Treasurer (Dr. I.P. Griffith) presented the balance sheet and statement of accounts for the past year. The Society had nearly 100 members and an income from subscriptions of £92-20 for the year. Cash in hand was £69-22. Mr. Alec Jones



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1976

was thanked for his services as auditor.

5. Excursion Secretary's Report The Excursion Secretary (Mrs. Y.M. Weeding) reported that a most instructive visit had been made by members to the National Museum of Wales on 31 January when Mr. Donald Moore presided. Old Beaupre had also been visited.

Forthcoming excursions included a visit to the South Wales Police Museum at Bridgend on 8 April, led by Mr. Baker, to be followed by dinner at the Police Club ; transport would be by coach.

On 13 May Mr. Donald Moore would lead a visit to the Iron Age hill fort at Dunraven. Richard Keen would conduct an all-day expedition along the old tramway from Maesteg to Porthcawl on Sunday, 13 June. In September, Mrs. Moore would lead a visit to Penrice Castle, and thence to Oxwich Castle.

6. Proposal to Amend the Constitution After due discussion following previous distribution of the proposal, IT WAS RESOLVED

'That in paragraph 6 beginning 'The annual subscription shall be £1, payable within 28 days from 1st April', the date be amended to read 'from 1st September',

and

That in paragraph 7 beginning 'The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held in the month of April each year', the words 'April each year ' be deleted and the words 'September each year from 1977' be substituted'.

Committee, 5th July, 1976

of the Walkabout programme afterwards, and £7-40 from commission on sale of books at the Exhibition in the Council Chamber (from D. Brown & Sons). £12-85 had been taken in entrance money : of this sum, £4 had been given to the Entertainments Committee.

5. (a) Cowbridge Week, 1976 - Retrospect It was agreed that variety had been provided. 150 people had appeared for the Walkabout, and Mrs. Keay's Children's Walkabout had been an excellent innovation. Mr. Alden's questionnaire, new in content for the second year, had been again instructive and thought-provoking. The Committee were grateful to the Council for use of the Council Chamber. Mr. David Thomas 'Sorrento', had been most helpful with transport and had received £3 towards petrol costs. The Chairman had already thanked Mrs. Moore for the time and expertise she and her staff had devoted to the exhibition.

(b) Cowbridge Show, 1976 The Committee heard that in 1975 the Society had to pay £16 for the hire of a tent.

RESOLVED : That the Show be left out of the Society's activities.

The Society stall on the Carnival field had been forgotten.

RESOLVED : That the Society continue to do so (i.e. forget it).

6. Study Groups RESOLVED : That in future the Study Groups be known simply as 'Groups'.

Archaeology The Committee decided to leave this Group dormant for the present.

Buildings The Group continued to flourish. Visits had been made to St. Athan Church (21 May), Llanilid Church (2 July) and to Ewenny Priory. The next visit would be to Llandaff Cathedral in September or early October.

Documents/Archives The Committee considered that acquisition of a glass-topped exhibition case and a filing cabinet was essential if this Group were to achieve its purpose. Access to the cell area of the Town Hall for storage purposes had been promised to the Society.

Traditions, Customs and Reminiscences It was considered that Mr. David Prosser, Mrs. Prichard, Mrs. Hopkins and Mr. Bryn Edwards might make valuable contributions to the Group in the period until Christmas.

Transport and Industry The Group was in being, but there would be

no meetings until September. The four members had set up the exhibition on mines and the railway station during Cowbridge Week. It would henceforth be known as the Industrial Archaeology Group. The excavation at Aberdulais by Richard Keen might need help. Mr. Keen was to deliver a series of six lectures sponsored by the Group at St. Donats Arts Centre.

RESOLVED : That non-members present at meetings of the Society, whether monthly or otherwise, pay a charge of twenty pence (20p) a meeting.

7. Excursions RESOLVED : That participation in excursions of the Society be restricted to members with their families only ('family' to signify husband or wife and children and interested friends).

The industrial archaeological excursion with Mr. Richard Keen on 13th June was a success. Excursions planned included :

Saturday, 11th September : Llanblethian Church, with guidance by Canon Mogford. A walk from Cowbridge Town Hall, starting at 2.30 p.m., would enable the visit to begin at 3 p.m. at the Church; a picnic would follow afterwards for those inclined.

Saturday, 18th September : Penrice Castle, with Mrs. Moore as guide, numbers to be limited to sixty people; then Oxwich Castle, with Bernard Morris of the Ancient Monuments Commission as guide.

May, 1977 : Tour of the Vale, guided by Mr. and Mrs. Moore.

Another archaeological expedition with Richard Keen was projected, and a visit to Brecon Museum.

8. Charter Day A variation in the celebration of Charter Day was considered, and a dinner suggested. The Chairman (Mrs. Weeding) suggested that the large room upstairs in Old Hall might be suitable. This discussion was adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING held at 'kimberley', Cae Castell, Llanblethian at 8p.m. on Wednesday, 26th January, 1977.

Present : Mrs. Y. M. Weeding (Chairman), Mrs. G. Keay, Mrs. E.M. Collins, Mrs. V. Whythe, Mr. & Mrs. D. Busher, Mr. A.J.L. Alden, Mr. J.L.S. Miles (Hon. Secretary).

1. Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Mr. Norman Williams (President), Dr. I.P. Griffith (Hon. Treasurer), Mrs. M. A. Eveleigh and Mrs. J.P. Phillips.

2. Confirmation of Minutes The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 30th September, 1976 were confirmed after insertion of the name of Mrs. L. Busher among those present.

3. Matters arising (6) Mrs. Phillips had obtained a quotation for insurance of the Society against risks to members on excursions at a premium of £25. The Committee considered that members would have to undertake their own personal insurance if the premium were too high for the Society to insure collectively. Mrs. Collins was asked to obtain a quotation for such insurance, to include risk of food poisoning.

4. Miss Maud Gunter The Committee recorded with regret the passing of the Society's Life Vice-President, Miss Maud Gunter, on 11th January, 1977. Some members had attended the memorial service for Miss Gunter at Ramoth Chapel on Monday afternoon, 17th January, 1977. Miss Gunter's dynamic personality and her contributions to the Society's activities and knowledge would be greatly missed. The Honorary Secretary reported that he had sent a letter of condolence to Mrs. E.M. Jones, Miss Gunter's friend and companion, on behalf of the Society.

Mr. Miles also reported that friends of Miss Gunter who were members of Ramoth or of the Cowbridge High School Old Girls' Association were contemplating some form of memorial to Miss Gunter, as yet undecided, and wondered whether the Society were interested. RESOLVED : That the Honorary Secretary inform Mrs. Betty Whyatt that the Committee of the Society was interested; any definite proposal would be put to the members.

5. Correspondence A letter had been received from the Society's President, Mr. Norman Williams, announcing progress in the endeavour



to replace in the road opposite the Duke of Wellington a brass plaque marking the site of the old Town Cross.

The President had received from the directors of S.A. Brain and Company (owners of the Duke of Wellington) a reply to his enquiry, in which they stated that they would be delighted to assist in paying for a plaque to be affixed to the wall of the Duke explaining that opposite once stood the Town Hall and Town Cross. The directors were less pleased when a quotation of £225 for a plaque was obtained from Cardiff, and replied that they would be prepared to assist only to the extent of £25.

RESOLVED : That the Society's present economic state limited to £5 the amount that the Committee was prepared to contribute towards the cost of such a plaque : the Chairman was to reply on behalf of the Committee.

Mr. Norman Williams proposed in his letter that the Society incorporate into its programme for the year a Maud Gunter Memorial Lecture to cover a topic of local history and that the Committee allow him to give his lecture (already scheduled for next session) as a tribute to Maud Gunter.

RESOLVED : That the Society institute a Maud Gunter Memorial Lecture and that Mr. Norman Williams deliver the first.

(6) Treasurer's Report It was reported, in the absence of Dr. Griffith, that the Society's funds stood at between £60 and £70.

7. Group Activities A talk had been given by Mr. Brooksby of the Ancient Monuments Commission at Pen-yr-Ardd (Miss Morgan's house). The Buildings Group had not met in January, but a visit to Castell-y-Mynach was to take place in the near future.

8. Excursions Mrs. Collins reported that the following excursions had been arranged : The Normans in the Vale (Mr. and Mrs. Donald Moore) ; Local Castles (Mr. J.M. Lewis), especially Llanblethian ; Mr. Lewis might conduct another excursion on Early Christians in the Vale. Richard Keen, it was hoped, would conduct an industrial archaeology tour, including the Merthyr Tydfil area ; a reply was awaited.

The Maritime Museum was due to open in Cardiff in May : Mrs.

Collins suggested a joint visit, guided by Ray Bowen and Richard Keen ; confirmation by them was awaited. A picnic in the grounds of Usk Castle was planned for August or September, to include a visit to Usk Priory with David Petersen as guide.

9. Future Venue of Monthly Meetings In accordance with the resolution of the Committee on 30th September, 1976, the Honorary Secretary had secured a discussion lasting 45 minutes with the County Librarian of South Glamorgan (Mr. G.A.C. Dart) on Friday 1st October, 1976, to present the case of the Society for the use of Cowbridge Library for its monthly meetings. At Mr. Dart's request, the case had been put by letter on 4th October, 1976 with a follow-up letter on 28th October, 1976. No reply had yet been received.

RESOLVED : That a letter on the matter be sent to Mr. W.P. Davey, Chief Executive, South Glamorgan County Headquarters marked 'Attention of Mr. G.A.C. Dart', that a copy be sent to Councillor R.G. Thomas and that the Chairman sign the letter.

For the next monthly meeting (on Friday, 4th February, 1977) there was not only a change of speaker ; the place would also have to be changed. Mr. G.N. Hopkin was unable to speak on 4th February but would come on 1st April, 1977. Mr. E.R. Baker would kindly speak at very short notice on 'The Peelers of Glamorgan' in the Lower School Dining Hall of the Comprehensive School instead of the Lesser Hall. In view of the very short notice of these alterations, it was RESOLVED that the Honorary Secretary post a notice of the change of programme to every paid-up member of the Society at first-class postal rate (8½p).

10. Charter Day The gathering would be held in the Council Chamber on Friday, 14th March, 1977 at 8 p.m. Excursion speakers (including Canon Mogford, Richard Keen, Mr. and Mrs. Moore, Mr. Berard Morris of Swansea and Mr. Brooksby) would be invited as guests. One guest per member would be allowed, and each member would be asked to bring a plate of food, its nature to be decided by telephoning Mrs. Vera Griffith. This information was to be included in the notice to be sent to members about the February meeting. Provision for drinks would be as follows :

Glasses for 100 people, 2-litre bottles of wine (4 of red, 3 rose, 3 white), 6 75-cl. bottles of wine, 2 x 5 pint cans of beer, 20 1-pint cans of beer (the beer being on a sale or return arrangement).

RESOLVED : At every monthly meeting, wine should be raffled to raise funds.

11. Publicity A letter had been received from a lady in Waterton enquiring about the age of her house. Mrs. Busher suggested that the enquiry be referred to the County Archivist or to Mr. Brooksby.

The Chairman then declared the meeting closed.

Tel: Cowbridge 2107

The Poplars,  
Cowbridge,  
Glamorgan,  
CF7 7BD

16th February 1977.

The Worshipful The Mayor,  
Councillor P. Chappel,  
Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council,  
The Town Hall,  
Barry,  
Glamorgan.

Dear Mr. Mayor,

The Cowbridge and District Local History Society enjoyed for several years the privilege of meeting in the Cowbridge Library for their winter meetings at 8.00 p.m. on the first Friday of each month, September to April. This facility was greatly enjoyed because of the surroundings and was easily administered because one of the staff was a member of the society, but regrettably this privilege has been withdrawn for this year because Mrs. Busher has taken up an appointment in a different locality.

We are now like the proverbial wandering jew endeavouring to meet wherever possible and our membership is suffering as a result, may we trespass on your kindness and ask you to investigate on our behalf whether an alternative arrangement can be made with the Head Librarian, Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council and the staff at Cowbridge for the session starting in September 1977.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Norman E. Williams  
President  
Cowbridge & District  
History Society





# County of South Glamorgan Sir De Morgannwg

COUNTY HEADQUARTERS NEWPORT ROAD CARDIFF CF2 1XA Tel : Cardiff 499022

Chief Executive W. P. Davey

My ref

1/LJR/LA24A/MHD

Your ref

Tel Ext

3469

Date

2nd March, 1977

Mrs. Y. M. Weeding,  
Chairman,  
Cowbridge and District Local History Society,  
"Kimberley",  
Cae Castell,  
Llanblethian,  
COWBRIDGE.

Dear Madam,

COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

I refer to your letter of 29th January and my acknowledgement of 31st January.

Your request to be allowed to use the Cowbridge Library for monthly meetings of the Society has been sympathetically considered, but there are certain difficulties which arise.

The main problem arises on the matter of supervision. It is not doubted that members of the Society could and would adequately do all that is necessary. However, if there were an accident causing injury to a third party or, following a meeting of the Society there were a break in or fire, and there was no Council officer present or the building had not been closed by an officer, then the Council's insurance cover might be jeopardised.

There is a further difficulty in that it is not possible to clean the library if a meeting is in progress as the time of the meeting coincides with that of the cleaner's duty schedule.

For these reasons it is thought that permission should not be given for use of the library for other than library services. However, if you wish to press the matter it can be raised at a meeting of the Libraries and Amenities Committee but the officers would not be able to support your application.

If you wish to seek alternative accommodation applications to the Director of Education or for the use of the Town Hall or a church hall might prove fruitful.

Yours faithfully,

W P Davey

Chief Executive

# COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

*Treasurer:* Dr.I.P.Griffith *Hon Secretary:* J.L.S. Miles

## Programme for 1977-1978

Monthly meetings are held on the first Friday of the month from September to April in the Lesser Hall of the Town Hall (entrance on East side) at 8 p.m.

### 2nd September

Annual General Meeting

### 7th October

Furniture in Wales (Mr. T. Alun Davies,  
Assistant Keeper, Welsh Folk Museum)

### 4th November

Sound and Fury

(Mr. Arthur Flint and Mr. Hamlyn Simon)

### 2nd December

The Freedom was given : the Maud Gunter  
Memorial Lecture (Mr. Norman Williams, Society President)

### 6th January

Folk Customs

(Dr. Richard Shilton, Squire of the Cardiff Morris Men)

### 3rd February

History of Cardiff

(Mr. G.A.C. Dart, County Librarian )

### 3rd March

Glamorgan in the Early Christian Period

(Mr. J.M. Lewis, Assistant Keeper, Department of Archaeology,  
National Museum of Wales)

### 7th April

Nantgarw Pottery ( Mr. J. Jones)

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COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING held at 'Kimberley', Cae Castell, Llanblethian, at 8 p.m. on Thursday, 22nd September, 1977.

Present : Mrs. Y.M. Weeding (Chairman), Mrs. E.G. Keay, Mrs. E.M. Collins, Mrs. Ginn, Mrs. V. Whythe, Mr. Norman Williams, Mr. AJL Alden, Mr. D. Busher, Dr. I.P. Griffith (Hon. Treasurer), Mr. A. Jones, Mr. J.L.S. Miles (Hon. Secretary) *and Mrs. Ann Arnold.*

1. Confirmation of Minutes The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 11th July, 1977 were read and confirmed.

2. Matters Arising The Chairman suggested that the matter of the Town Hall cells allocation be raised again next year, so that the Welch Regiment uniforms and other material could be stored there : the Committee agreed to this proposal.

3. Correspondence A letter was read from Mr. Philip Riden, newly appointed Lecturer in Local History of the Department of Extra-Mural Studies, University College, Cardiff, inviting members to join the extra-mural class on the theme 'Discovering Cowbridge' to be held in Cowbridge Community College on Tuesday evenings, and asking for the support of local people. Notice was also given of the Local History Conference under similar auspices to be held at University College, Cardiff on Saturday afternoon, 22nd October, 1977.

The Committee agreed that a co-operative answer should be sent and that the Society should be as helpful as possible.

4. Treasurer's Report Dr. I.P. Griffith reported that the Society already had over fifty subscribing members.

5. Publicity Mr. Alden's proposal to publicise meetings by means of Ramoth's magazine, the Llanblethian with Cowbridge parish magazine (Mr. Colin Adams), the Library, the Health Centre, shops and Llanblethian Church Hall was approved.

Mr. Norman Williams reported that he gave the Glamorgan Gazette reporter regular reports on the monthly meetings.

It was proposed to produce the Newsletter bi-monthly if possible and perhaps an annual booklet with reports.

6. Group Activities and Excursions Suggestions for 1978 included St. Donats Castle with the chapel of St. Donats, an evening visit to the Maritime Museum, Cardiff, guided by Richard Keen, with perhaps

Committee, 22nd September, 1977

2

a meal, the Welch Regiment Museum; Porthcawl (Nantgarw porcelain), Caerphilly Castle, Raglan and Chepstow Castles, Caerleon, a weekend visit to Craven Arms and Stokesay with Mr. and Mrs. Moore as guides, Pwll-y-Wrach near Bonvilston (Matthew Prichard), Great Frampton and Llanmihangel Place.

7. Other Business (a) Charter Day Venues other than the Council Chamber for Charter Day meeting were considered, including Old Hall and the Duke of Wellington. IT WAS RESOLVED to endeavour to reserve a room upstairs in the Town Hall for the purpose.

Recruiting forms would be provided. Mr. A.J.L. Alden suggested that a slide show be part of the meeting.

(B) Glamorgan History Society Autumn School Mr. J.L.S. Miles (Hon. Secretary) drew the attention of the Committee to the excellent one-day school which was to be held at the Atlantic College, St. Donats on Saturday, 15th October, 1977.

*Y.M. Weeding*

*10<sup>th</sup> March, 1978*



COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY was founded in October, 1974. Its aims and purpose are to foster interest in the history of Cowbridge and district; to promote research into its history, customs and traditions ; to recover and preserve documents and other records of the area ; to make and preserve a visual, written and sound record of the region's past and present for posterity ; and to encourage the preservation of ancient rights, sites, buildings and footpaths.

The business of the Society is managed by a General Committee consisting of its officers and five other members. All these are elected at its Annual General Meeting in September each year.

From the Society's inception until her passing on 11th January, 1977, the Society was honoured in the person of its Life Vice-President by Miss Maud Gunter of Limes Cottage, Cowbridge who was passionately devoted to Cowbridge and its history and wellbeing. Miss Gunter is commemorated in the Society's annual Maud Gunter Memorial Lecture.

The Society meets on the first Friday of every month from September to April, the September meeting being devoted to the election of officers and committee and discussion of Society activities of the previous year and the programme for the new season. At the other monthly meetings, the members are addressed by speakers on a variety of themes concerned with local history.

A regular feature of the Society's winter activities is a series of visits to buildings of historic interest in the area. In the summer, more ambitious excursions are arranged, such as industrial archaeology day tours of areas in Glamorgan and Gwent,

the castles of the Vale of Glamorgan or Roman sites in the region.

The Society is regularly represented at the South East Wales Local History Conference and on the Cowbridge with Llanblethian Conservation Area Advisory Committee of the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council, is affiliated to the Glamorgan History Society and is in correspondence with the Department of the Environment's Historic Buildings Section.

The Society has organised public exhibitions about the local history of the area, has conducted a guided tour of some of the historic features of Cowbridge or Llanblethian during Cowbridge Week in the summer for the past four years, and has performed a similar service on request for Cowbridge Contact Club. A warm welcome is given to all who are interested in local history, and visitors are welcome to attend any of the Society's meetings before deciding whether to become a member. Members took an active part in the recent emergency excavations of the Roman and medieval site at 75 High Street, Cowbridge during the winter of 1977-78.

3rd June, 1978.

John L.S. Miles,  
Honorary Secretary.

COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Officers and Committee 1977-1978 *and Season?*

President

Mr. Norman Williams,

The Poplars, Town Mill Road, Cowbridge 2107

Honorary Vice-President Mrs. Patricia Moore,

2 Salisbury Avenue, Penarth 707754

Chairman

Mrs. Y.M. Weeding,

10 Mill Park, Cowbridge 2878

Hon. Secretary

Mr. J.L.S. Miles,

(also Barry 733101, ext. 236.  
ext.

32 Pentre Gardens, Cardiff 36490 (Pontypridd 405133, 2482

Hon. Treasurer

Dr. I.P. Griffith,

Hafod y Coed, Greenwood Lane,

St. Fagans, Cardiff 561118

Programme Secretary

Mrs. E.G. Keay,

Bali Hai, Cae Castell,

Llanblethian, Cowbridge 2879

Excursions Secretary

Mrs. E.M. Collins,

67 Eastgate, Cowbridge 3662

Publicity Officer

Mr. A.J.L. Alden,

1 Mill Park, Cowbridge 3373

Committee

Mrs. A. Arnott, Ty Gwyn, Maendy, Cowbridge 3258

Mr. D. Busher, 9 Geraint's Way, Cowbridge 2231

Mrs. Ginn, Tan-y-Coed, Welsh St. Donats, Cowbridge

3058

Mr. A. Jones, 12 St. Quentin's Close, Llanblethian,

Cowbridge.

Mrs. V. Whythe, Flat 3, Somerset House, Eagle Lane,

Cowbridge.

Hon. Secretary's Report, 1977-78

75 High Street, Cowbridge. Malthouse Lane, Nov-March.

Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust, Ltd. David Allen. November

Approach from Cowbridge Town Council about a plaque.

Miss Olwen M. Jenkins, Senior Investigator of Historic Buildings, DoE.  
20/27 July, 1978. Latter half of August.

U.C. Cardiff Dept. of Extra-Mural Studies. Staff Tutor in Local History

Philip Riden Discovering Cowbridge, 4th October, 1977. 22 Oct p.m.

25 Feb, SE Glam local history conference

Rural communities under the Tudors and Stuarts All day.

23-25 June, Dyffryn. Do. a guide to sources and techniques.

Cowbridge 26 Sept, (Tue) 24 Feb, 79 15-17 June, 79

SE Wales Local History Newsletter

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Glamorgan History Society AGM Bridgend Technical College 20 May

15 Oct 8th Day School St, Donats Castle

JB Hilling : Some Glam archs and their buildings

Roger Capp on restoration and conversion of tithe barn at SDC

Peter Smith RCom on Anc & Hist Mons in W

Regional domestic architecture in Eng & W

4 Dec Grt Ho LL Ma Late Mr. Baxter-Jones

12 May Sir Leslie Joseph porcelain collection, Coed ar Graig, Newton,  
Porthcawl.

4 June Caerleon & CAerwent. Donald Moore

30 June Caerphilly Castle Mr. H.P. Richards

4 July Cowbridge Walkabout 100 adults + children

Jeff Alden, Norman Williams Mrs Keay JLSM

Extra monthly meeting 5 May Members' miscellany

Charter Day celebrated Saturday, 18 March, 1978





EXCURSIONS \* 1978-79

September

- 3 Margam Abbey and Orangery  
14 Penlline Castle

October

- 29 Llancarfan Church and Trewalter Fawr

January

- 27 Pendoylan and Welsh St. Donats Churches

April

- 22 Coity Castle and Church  
28 Cardiff Military Museum in Cardiff Castle

May

- 19 St. Fagans and Michaelston Churches

June

- 8 Llangynwyd Church  
24 Tudors and Stuarts in the Vale (Donald and Patricia Moore)  
Llantrithyd , Old Beaupre and Nash Manor

# COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Treasurer:

Hon Secretary:

## PROGRAMME FOR 1979 - 1980.

1979

Sept. 14th. A.G.M. & Film "BEFORE THE ROMANS."

Oct. 5th. "THE ENGINEER AND THE IRON CAPITAL.  
An introduction to Brunel in South Wales."  
Mr. Stephen K. Jones. L.R.P.S.  
S. Wales Representative of the Brunel Society.

Nov. 2nd. "JOHN MONTGOMERY - TRAHERNE 1788-1860."  
Lady Rowena Traherne.

Dec. 7th. THE MAUD GUNTER MEMORIAL LECTURE,  
"SOME LOCAL CLERGYMEN - THEIR TIMES & DIFFICULTIES."  
Rev. Canon S.H. Mogford. M.A., R.D.

1980

Jan. 4th. "MEDIEVAL POTS & PANS."  
Mr. Nigel Kerr. B.A.

Feb. 1st. "MERCHANTS & MARINERS - CARDIFF 1660-1800."  
Mr. Philip Riden. Staff Tutor in Local History.  
(Dept. of Extra-Mural Studies,) University College  
Cardiff.

Mar. 7th. "THE STUDY OF CHURCH HISTORY."  
Rev. T.G. Hughes.  
Warden of St. Michael's College, Llandaff.

April 11th. "THE ARTIST & TOURIST IN INDUSTRIAL WALES."  
Mr. Richard Keen.  
Asst. Keeper of Industrial Archaeology,  
National Museum of Wales.

May 2nd. MEMBERS EVENING.

## COMING EVENTS

Friday, May 4: Final meeting of the year for the Society in the Lesser Hall at 8pm - Members' Evening - talks, photographs, tape recording, slides. It should be a very varied and interesting evening.

Saturday, May 19: Buildings Group meeting at St Fagans. Meet at 2.15 at the Plymouth Arms car park. Visit to St Fagans and Michaelston churches, followed by tea at Dr Iolo Griffiths' house.

Tuesday, June 5: Cowbridge Week Walkabout, led by some of our members.

Friday June 8: Buildings Group meeting at Llangynwyd Church ( of Maid of Cefn Ydfa fame), followed by food at the inn - Chicken in the basket (£1) or Scampi (£1. 20). Please let Mrs Margaret Hawkins (Cowbridge 2172) know your order for food by May 31.

Llangynwyd Church - turn left off Bridgend-Maesteg road (A 4063) about 7 miles north of Bridgend. The old village is less than a mile along the minor road.

Sunday June 24: Coach tour - Tudors and Stuarts in the Vale, with Mr and Mrs Donald Moore. The coach will leave the Town Hall, Cowbridge, at 2pm. Please book this with Mrs Nona Ginn, Cowbridge 3058.

\*\*\*\*\* No articles this time, but did you know that.....

The old building at the back of the Bear Hotel has been demolished, and the stone dumped in that part of the Bear Field belonging to the hotel. To resite a drinking trough for cattle, a trench had to be dug, but it wasn't very deep and there was no sign of settlement - no Romans, no town wall!

Part of the building next to the Spread Eagle has been rebuilt. Fresh hopes for the Eagle?

The article in Intercom on 'Griffiths The Chemists' or Great House, Cowbridge, has aroused interest, and provided more information.

A Roman villa has been unearthed at Llandough near Penarth - apparently an important find.

The Bath Stone on the Institute and some other buildings in Cowbridge was severely weakened by the frosts this winter. Most of the Institute stone has fallen - will it be replaced?

Jeff Alden, C 3373



# COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

*Treasurer:*

*Hon Secretary:*

## PROGRAMME FOR 1981-82

### 1981

- 11th September     Annual General Meeting and 'How well do you know the Vale ?' : illustrated talk by Mr. Jeff Alden
- 2nd October        'Cowbridge : anecdotes of the ancient Borough'  
Mr. John Richards, author of 'The Cowbridge story'
- 6th November      'The history of the town of Llantrisant'  
The Rev. Canon Edwin Davies
- 4th December      THE MAUD GUNTER MEMORIAL LECTURE  
'Cowbridge trades and tradesmen, 1660-1730'  
Mr. Philip Riden  
Department of Extra-Mural Studies, University College, Cardiff

### 1982

- 8th January        'Watermills and windmills'  
Mr. John Perkins  
Department of Extra-mural Studies, University College, Cardiff
- 5th February      'Cardiff docks'  
Mr. Jeff Morgan
- 5th March          'Remembered in the Vale'  
The Rev. Canon S.H. Mogford
- 2nd April          'Medieval houses'  
Mr. John Blair  
Queen's College, Oxford
- 7th May            Members' evening  
Please bring something of interest

COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY  
Officers and Committee 1981-1982

President Mr. Norman Williams,  
The Poplars, Town Mill Road, Cowbridge 2107

Life Vice-President Rev. S.H. Mogford,  
19 Plas Treola,  
The Common, Whitchurch, Cardiff 618839

Honorary Vice-President Mrs. Patricia Moore,  
2 Salisbury Avenue, Penarth 707754

Chairman Mrs. Y. M. Weeding,  
10 Mill Park, Cowbridge. 2878

Hon. Secretary Mr. J.L.S. Miles,  
9 Cardiff Road, Cowbridge 2270 (also Pontypridd  
405133, ext. 2483)

Hon. Treasurer Mr. S.J. Nicol  
2 The Broadshoard, Cowbridge 3842

Programme Secretary Mrs. E.G. Keay,  
Bali Hai, Cae Castell,  
Llanblethian, Cowbridge 2879

Excursions Secretary Mrs. V.I.M. Nicoll,  
2 The Broadshoard, Cowbridge 3842

Museum Curator Mrs. M. Eveleigh,  
White Ladies,  
Broadway, Cowbridge 2495

Committee Mr. A.J.L. Alden,  
1 Mill Park, Cowbridge 3373  
Mr. G.H. Burrows,  
Culvery, Llancaiwan, Barry Bonvilston 310  
Mrs. L. Carthew,  
Benacre, Broadway, Llanblethian, Cowbridge 2680  
Mrs. J.M.A. James,  
12 Mill Park, Cowbridge 2028  
Mrs. D. Sewell,  
Biernfels, 15 Cae Rex, Llanblethian, Cowbridge 2689  
Mrs. V. Whythe,  
Flat 3, Somerset House, Eagle Lane, Cowbridge 4347

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday, 10th September, 1982 in the Lesser Hall, Town Hall, Cowbridge, at 8 p.m.

1. Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Canon S.H. Mogford and the Rev. Gwilym Williams.

2. Confirmation of Minutes The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 11th September, 1981, were read, confirmed and signed.

3. Matters Arising Mr. R. Toogood drew attention to the drastic alterations in the Cowbridge Plan, particularly in the matter of the proposed housing estate to the east of St. Athan Road, the area of which had been considerably enlarged. Members were urged to take appropriate action in the period for observations after the plan was published.

4. Honorary Treasurer's Report Mr. S.J. Nicoll reported that the Society had 113 members in the year 1981-82, and had £231-71 in hand. The coming year would be the fourth year that the subscription was at the level of £1-50 for full membership, and half that sum for senior citizens and students.

5. Museum Curator's Report Mrs. M. Eveleigh, the Curator, reported that during the Society's year 1,286 paying visitors had seen the Museum. There had been twelve group visits since April. After payment of £30 insurance, the sum of £6 was in hand. Mrs. Eveleigh appealed for help in Museum duties on the first Saturday of the month. Warm thanks was expressed by the meeting to Mrs. Eveleigh and her helpers.

6. The Buildings Group Dr. Iolo Griffith had organised visits to Merthyr Mawr House and Llanharan House, and would arrange more outings during the year.

The President of the Society, Mr. Norman Williams, now took the chair, after the Chairman, Mrs. Y.M. Weeding, had thanked the Officers and Committee for their work during the year.

7. Officers and Committee for 1982-83

The following were elected :

<u>Chairman</u>	Mrs. Y.M. Weeding
<u>Hon. Secretary</u>	Mr. J.L.S. Miles
<u>Hon. Treasurer</u>	Mr. S.J. Nicoll
<u>Programme Secretary</u>	Mrs. E.G. Keay
<u>Excursions Secretary</u>	Mrs. B. Toogood

Museum Curator

Mrs. M. Eveleigh

Publicity Officer (ex Committee) Mr. J. KeayEditor of 'The Newsletter' (ex Committee) Mr. A.J. AldenCommittee

Mr. G.H. Burrows

Mrs. P. Coxhead

Mr. L. Davies

Mrs. V.I.M. Nicoll

Mrs. D. Sewell

Mrs. V. Whythe

8. Other Urgent Business'The Year of the Castles'

The proposal that Mr. Ray Toogood should present a sound and picture programme on the theme of Cowbridge and its history on 30th September, 1983 in the Town Hall, Cowbridge was warmly approved.

Enthusiastic approval was also given to the proposal that Mrs. Pat Coxhead should organise an evening at Talygarn on the theme of costume and history.

Much concern was voiced about the state of the Llanblethian Castle gatehouse. It was agreed that as much pressure as possible be brought on the owner to take constructive action. The Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council had written to him, and some action from the Welsh Office was expected. Mrs. Weeding and Mrs. Eveleigh had represented the Society at a County meeting in Cardiff on 'The Year of the Castles' activities.

The meeting was reminded that the Society had a representative on the Vale Conservation Advisory Sub-Committee.

The meeting then closed with an illustrated talk by Mr. Jeff Alden on 'How well do you know the Vale ? ' Part 2.



MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING held at 8 p.m. on 19th October, 1983 at

Present : Mrs. Y.M. Weeding(Chairman); Mrs.M.Eveleigh;Mrs.D.Lloyd; Mrs.V.I.M.Nicoll;Mrs.D.Sewell;Mrs. B.Toogood;Mrs.V.Whythe; Messrs. L.Davies,N.H.Shannon,S.J.Nicoll(Hon.Tresurer),J.L.S.Miles(Hon.Sec.).

1.Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from the Rev. N.Williams,and from Messrs.A.J.L. Alden,G.H. Burrows and G.H.Pratt.

2. Confirmation of Minutes The Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting, held on 8th October,1982, were confirmed and signed.

3.Correspondence. A letter from the Cowbridge and District Entertainments Society was read. It seemed inevitable that the Society would close down, and it was considered that a fresh start after a suitable interval might be the most hopeful course for the movement.

A letter From the Mayor (Councillor J.Jones)to Lord Parry (Chairman of the Wales Tourist Board) about 'The Road to Bovium' and Lord Parry's reply were read.

4. 'The Road to Bovium' Another showing of this fine production was to be arranged in the Village Hall,Colwinston in the New Year. A third performance later in the Lesser Hall,Cowbridge was thought feasible by some members.

5. Treasurer's Report Mr. S.J.Nicoll reported that the accounts for 'The Road to Bovium' were on the point of being closed, and a profit of nearly £280 was probable. One of the wine-makers had refused payment.

The Society had only 61 paid-up members at present(20 fewer than at the same time last year).

6. The Year of the Castle The Talygarn presentation had been a great success.

It was understood that a proposal would be laid before the Secretary of State for Wales in the next few months for approval of the compulsory purchase of Llanblethian Castle.

On Monday,24th October,1983, the Society's Chairman,Secretary, Curator and one other member would meet representatives of the Town Council to discuss the future of the Castle and,perhaps,the Cowbridge Museum.

7. Cowbridge Museum Mrs. M. Eveleigh, the Curator, reported that the insurance premium for the Museum had been suddenly raised from £30 to £55 (minimum billing). The Museum was open only 12-15 times a year. The Hon. Secretary agreed to write to the insurance company about the remarkable increase.

The lowest number ever in Museum attendance occurred for the last opening (on 1st October). More items were coming in for the Museum and it seemed prudent to investigate the practicability of another show case. Mrs. Eveleigh would look into the implications (The first show case cost £120).

8. Charter Day The celebration last year had been almost self-financing. The Town Hall had already been reserved for 10th March, 1984, the Day after the Mayor's Ball. The same arrangement for wine as before had been made with Eric Sewell and Jimmy Keay (about six gallons), and an attendance of about 120 people was envisaged.

9. Other Business

Excursions and visits planned by Mrs. Toogood included Fonmon, the Police Museum at Bridgend, Tredegar House, St. Fagans, Pwll-y-Wrach and Bowood (National Trust) in Wiltshire (probably at the end of May).

Mr. Len Davies proposed a tour of Barry Dock guided by himself, and an historical tour of Barry (possibly in April).

Members were reminded to bring a dozen mince pies each for the December meeting.

The Committee Meeting then ended.

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING held at 8 p.m. on 24th October, 1984 at 10 Mill Park, Cowbridge.

Present : Mrs. Y.M. Weeding (Chairman); Mrs. L. Carthew; Mrs. M. Eveleigh; Mrs. D. Lloyd; Mrs. D. Sewell; Mrs. B. Toogood; Mrs. V. Whythe; Rev. N. Williams; Mr. L. Davies; Mr. and Mrs. N. Shannon; Messrs. A.J.A. Alden, G.H. Burrows, J.L.S. Miles.

1. Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Mr. and Mrs. J. Keay and Mr. G.H. Pratt.

2. Confirmation of Minutes After a necessary amendment (the name of Mrs. V. Whythe being added to those present), the Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting, held on 27th April, 1974, were confirmed and signed.

3. Correspondence Letters were read from (i) HTV, concerning the 12-programme series 'The Dragon Has Two Tongues';

(ii) The Glamorgan/Gwent Archaeological Trust, thanking the Secretary (Mr. J.L.S. Miles) for representing their views as well as those of the Society at the Public Enquiry into the Cowbridge Plan, in the absence of Mr. Gareth Dowdell;

(iii) The Glamorgan Archive Service requesting information about graveyard surveys in the area. Mrs. Weeding possessed an incomplete folder of inscriptions within Cowbridge Church, of which the Society had almost completed a survey. It was hoped to start recording the inscriptions in the graveyard in the spring : forms would be needed.

4. Treasurer's Report Mr. Shannon reported that the Society had 61 fully-paid members, and had £372 in hand. The insurance premium for the Museum was about to be paid.

5. Cowbridge Museum Mrs. Eveleigh (Curator) reported that Mr. Laing from the Museum Council would meet representatives of the Society and the Town Council in the Museum at 11 a.m. on 3rd November, 1984. Seven members were to visit Glamorgan/Gwent Archaeological Trust Headquarters to have instruction in reconstructing pottery. Two boots in plaster casts, one in mud, were to be made available. One of the three extra cells in the Town Hall (the last in the row) was to be used as a workshop. Mrs. Weeding was to create a display on the de Clares. A display on Iolo Morgannwg was to be organised with the co-operation of the Headmistress of the Welsh

School. Llanblethian Women's Institute was to be approached for a display on Llanblethian.

6. The Public Enquiry into the Cowbridge Local Plan

Mr. Miles (Hon. Secretary) reported briefly on his representation of the Society at the Enquiry on 26th and 27th June, 1984. Several other members had taken part, but attendance of local people had been disappointing.

9. Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust It was reported that most of the ditches discovered in the Bear Field were soakaways or drainage ditches for buildings which had disappeared. There was evidence of ironworking.

Ten members had joined the Friends of the Trust. It was resolved that the Secretary write to the Trust to arrange corporate membership for the Society.

10. Glamorgan History Society It was resolved that the Society become an affiliated member of the Glamorgan History Society.

11. Other Business (i) Buffet Supper Six letters of invitation had been sent to invite guests to the Tenth Anniversary celebration after the November meeting (including Mr. Phil Lewis, President of Cowbridge Rotary, and Mrs. Lewis, to Councillor and Mrs. John Roberts (mayor and Mayoress)). Canon and Mrs. Mogford were unable to come. Members were to bring a glass, knife, fork, spoon and plate and sweet and savoury dishes, and to arrive at 7.30 p.m.

(ii) Kneelers A Book Sale would be held after the December meeting to raise money for the kneelers for Holy Cross Church. Mrs. Sewell reported that six people had offered to make kneelers. Designs were shown to the Committee.

(iii) Charter Day Charter Day would be celebrated on 9th, 16th or 23 March, 1985 on the Saturday after the Mayor's Ball and the same caterers as previously would be used.

(iv) Excursions Mrs. Carthew reported that excursions for 1985 would include visits to the Houses of Parliament (April?), Carreg Cennen Castle, Sudely Castle, Pershore and Tewkesbury Abbeys. A possible date for the Tewkesbury visit was 8th June, 1985.

The meeting then closed.



# COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## 1990-91 Programme

1990

14th September

Annual General Meeting & 'The Galapagos' : Mr. & Mrs. Alan Hey

5th October

'The Iron Industry in South Wales' 1560-1760 ' :  
Philip Riden

2nd November

'The Last Invasion of Britain' : Ray Bowen

7th December

The Maud Gunter Memorial Lecture

'Charlemagne and the 'Chanson' of Roland : Arthur Peplow

1991

4th January

'Local History and Music' : Nick Treharne

1st February

'The History of Earthenware and Porcelain in South Wales' :  
Dennis Heal

1st March

'The Talbots of Margam 1750-1918' : John Adams

12th April

'Politics and the Media - Past and Present' : David Rogers

The Society's monthly meetings are held in the Lesser Hall  
of the Town Hall, Cowbridge, at 8 p.m. All are welcome.

## COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday, 14th September, 1990 at 8 p.m. in the Lesser Hall, Town Hall, Cowbridge

1. Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Mr. & Mrs. A.J. Allen, Mr. & Mrs. Brett, Mr. L. Davies, Mr. & Mrs. J. Keay, Mr. & Mrs. Parker, Mr. & Mrs. E. Sewell & Mrs. V. Whythe.
2. Confirmation of the Minutes The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday, 9th September, 1990 were read, confirmed and signed.
3. Correspondence Llantwit Major Local History Society had sent a copy of their programme of meetings for 1990/91. The Royal Air Force, St. Athan invited members to its At Home Day on 15th September.
4. Chairman's Report Mrs. Weeding conveyed the apology of Mr. & Mrs. Keay for their absence, caring for a relative in Scotland. In a review of the year, the Chairman thanked Bruce and Rita McGovern warmly for their expert organisation of the Society's Christmas social event and the Charter evening which were very successful.
5. Hon. Treasurer's Report An increase in members and visitors had resulted in greater income. The Charter Night had made a profit. The annual presentation of accounts was accepted, as were proposals to keep membership fees at £3-00 and £2-50, and to increase the payment to speakers to £15.
6. News from Cowbridge Museum Mrs. N. Eveleigh (Curator) stated that a seventh cell had been open since July, and the Museum was now a member of the Council of Museums. Visits had been made by 20 groups. Donations included shoemaker's tools, First and Second World War medals and Bronze Age quorns. The Friends of Cowbridge Museum would visit Tenby Museum on 29 September.
7. Report on Llanblethian Castle Mr. V. Eveleigh reported that in June CADW had accepted the owner's proposals for work on the Castle. Nothing had happened. John Smith (MP for the Vale) had asked questions in Parliament. The local group had kept a watching brief and pressure was being increased.

**COWBRIDGE AND DISTRICT  
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

***September 1995 - May 1996***

1995

September 8th

AGM and "Edward Williams and the Faking  
of History"

Brian Davies, Director, Pontypridd Historical  
& Cultural Centre

October 6th

"The Welsh in China"

Ena Niedergang, Dip.Chinese Studies, Cert.Ed.

November 3rd

"William Thomas's Diary"

Barry Davies

December 1st

The Maud Gunter Memorial Lecture

"Kilpeck and the Herefordshire School of  
Stone Sculpture"

Arthur Peplow      Vice President

1996

January 5th

"History of Clockmaking in Wales"

T. Alun Davies

February 2nd

"John Petherick, 1787-1861

A Cornish ironmaster and artist in Glamorgan"

Donald Moore

March 1st

"The Architects of Victorian Cardiff"

Philip Riden

April 5th

To be announced

May

To be arranged if requested

The above meetings are held in the Lesser  
Hall of Cowbridge Town Hall at 8.00 p.m.

New members are welcome

Visitors £1.00