

26.3.2000

Dear Mr Alden,

As discussed at the recent pre-retirement course I enclose a photocopy of the article which appeared in the Llanmorogan Gazette regarding my grandmother. As my gran was 92 when she died in 1959 the article would have been printed around 1957.

Note the reference to the park!

Many thanks for an extremely interesting talk.

Regards

Mrs D. Curtis
(nee Royce)

A Charming
Birthday Smile



Cowbridge Lady Celebrates Her Ninetieth Birthday

ON Tuesday, Mrs Elizabeth Burley, one of the district's oldest inhabitants, celebrated her ninetieth birthday at her home, 44 Westgate Street, Cowbridge.

Mrs Burley, who is a native of Wellington, Somerset, was brought to the Vale of Glamorgan when she was four years of age, and except for a brief period when she returned to her birthplace to work she has lived in Glamorgan ever since.

The family first settled near Llantrisant, but 10 years ago they moved to Cowbridge. In those days education was not compulsory, and Mrs Burley was taught by her mother.

1957
NEWS CUTTING

NURSEMAID AT ELEVEN

When she was eleven she started work, her first appointment being as nursemaid to a family in Wellington, who paid her ninepence a week, plus her keep. She remained in Wellington for two years and then returned to her family in Glamorgan.

While she was working for the Bassett family at Beupre, she met and married Mr George Burley, who by trade was a blacksmith but who preferred to work on the land. Describing her work at Beupre, where she was a parlourmaid, she said that each Sunday the servants would be driven up the long hill to St. Hilary Church in dog carts, all the maids being dressed in black.

STILL ACTIVE

The newly-weds moved to Cowbridge. They had five children three of whom are still alive. The youngest son was killed during the first world war. Mrs Burley has 11 grand-

She Once Worked For Ninepence A Week

(Continued from Page One)

children and eight great-grandchildren.

During the construction of the Aberthaw Railway Mr Burley worked as a blacksmith's striker, and during this time he made a long toasting fork out of a piece of rail.

Mrs Burley is still active and although she no longer goes into Cowbridge because of the traffic, she often picks the vegetables for dinner in her garden at the rear of the house.

She is a great reader and each day studies the newspapers to keep abreast of current events.

HER 'RECIPE'

Until recently she attended church regularly and has always taken keen interest in the affairs of Cowbridge Church.

Instead of having a birthday party on Tuesday, the celebrations for her birthday have lasted a week starting on Sunday with a dinner.

When asked to what she attributed her great age she replied, "Hard work, hard living and a contented mind."

"Do not meet trouble halfway" is her advice, "It will come on its own without being met."