Cowbridge and District notes 1900s

Cowbridge and District notes - 1900s

1900, 26th January  Amongst several applications for patents - Walter Jones of Talbot Road & John Roberts, Cowbridge for a paraffin oil can       Western Mail

1900, 6th March  A member of the Cowbridge Volunteers, who sailed in the steamship ‘Greek’, wrote to Sgt-Instructor Bradbury under date ‘Off Tenerife, February 20th’, informing that the detachment were all in the best of health after overcoming sea-sickness. ‘We are having a splendid time, so far having very little to do, plenty to eat, & the best of food’.
South Wales Daily News

1900, 7th April  Sale of the Horse & Groom hotel, the adjoining dwelling house, gardens, bakehouse occupied by Mr H Goulden; and also the freehold dwelling house, shop, garden & premises in High St adjoining the last lot, known as Town Hall House, now untenanted.
South Wales Daily News

1900, 14th April  An unknown man died suddenly at noon on Saturday on the Llantwit road near Cowbridge. He appeared to be about 48 years of age, was 5ft 8 inches in height, of fair complexion, with light brown hair, sandy moustache & very full, round face. He was dressed in a black rough serge coat, black cloth vest, black cloth trousers with blue stripes running through, and wore underneath a grey flannel shirt with a woollen singlet; brown woollen stockings and elastic-side boots. There was a blue muffler round his neck with a white border. He had a black cap with the name ‘William Woodman’ written on the lining inside. The man had the appearance of a ship’s fireman. The only property found on him was a tobacco-box & a clay pipe.
Weekly Mail

1900, 21st April  Henry Goulden, miller, Llandow, facing bankruptcy. Had taken Treeve Farm, Llandow, managed by his son, but gave it up 3 years ago.
Weekly Mail

1900, 26th May  Death of Alderman Thomas Rees, born Cowbridge 1837, son of Mr Richard Rees, educated at the Eagle School, served his clerkship with Charles Redwood, and articulated to the late Mr John Stockwood. Was director of the Taff Vale Railway etc. Had been laid up since Sunday with heart disease, with which he suffered. Was 63 years of age.
South Wales Daily News

1900, 5th June  The principal attraction at Cowbridge was the annual sports in connection with the Cowbridge Football Club, held on Monday in the cricket field. Prizes were handed out by Mrs Ebsworth of Llandough Castle       Evening Express

1900, 21st July  Boer War – killed at Pretoria, Lieutenant E.F.R. Prichard, fourth son of Mr O.J.C. Prichard of Pwllywrach, Colwinston       Weekly Mail

1900, 22nd August  ‘No trains today’ wired our Cowbridge correspondent on Tuesday. A little excitement has been caused by an attempt on the part of the pickets to induce a signalman not to return to the station box where he spent yesterday and remains today
waiting for work. A T.V.R. driver, whom the pickets have had under observation, has left Cowbridge under mysterious circumstances, & it is rumoured he has been fetched in a trap by the T.V.R officials for the purpose of utilising his services elsewhere.

_South Wales Daily News_
1900, 25August  A driver from Cowbridge, Tom Williams, ran the first train after the strike.

_Weekly Mail_
1900, 7September  Applications for the patenting of new inventions included ‘improvements in measures for milk vendors – D John, Cowbridge’; also ‘the premier folding clothes horse – A S Wilkins, Bristol, improvements in folding tables for railway carriages – W H Lindsay, Bristol, improved lifebuoy – T Whitmore, Swansea, improvements in carrying city street traffic & the like – R C Sayer, Bristol, & fuel for burning – E J Nation, Bristol’

_Barry Dock News_
1900, 24September  Sale of estate of Thomas Rees – freehold fields & pasture lands in Llanblethian parish, freehold shops, offices, dwelling houses, cottages & gardens at Cowbridge, leasehold public house (the Greyhound Inn), leasehold dwelling houses, shops etc at Cowbridge, also a number of fully paid ordinary shares in the Cowbridge Gas Company.

_South Wales Daily News_
1900, 26October  Mrs Jane Lewis of Llanblethian died aged 101 years

_South Wales Daily News_
1900, 10November  Alderman E John of Cowbridge is in his 59th year. Has already filled the office of mayor once. His first active participation in public life was in connection with Friendly Societies. Has been an alderman since the formation of the council in 1887. Has been a member of Cowbridge Board School for 12 years, member of Cowbridge & Bridgend Board of Guardians for 19 years, a governor of the Welsh University, governor of the Ashford Girls’ School in Kent & of the Cowbridge Girls’ Intermediate School. He is an ardent Liberal.

_Evening Express_
1900, 14December  On Thursday about midday a little lad living at Langham Cottage, Cowbridge, was admitted to the Cardiff Infirmary suffering from fracture of both thighs & bruises on the lower part of his leg. It appears that the unfortunate youth’s clothes were caught by the machinery of a local mill, with the result that he was violently swung round on the wheels. He was attended to by Dr Williams & detained.

_South Wales Daily News_
1900, 31December  Body of a woman from Cowbridge found in the lake of Thompson’s Park, Cardiff near the Roman wall. She was Emma Clark aged 39. She had come to Cardiff to visit friends. Possible suicide.

_South Wales Echo_
1901, 8February  Only £636 is wanted to make the £10,000 debt for the Cardiff Infirmary a thing of the past. Eight days remain before the 2 funds are closed. Cowbridge fund is now close on £200.

_Evening Express_
1901, 29th April (*i.e during the Boer War*) Amid all the delirious joy of the enthusiastic home-coming, there was one intensely pathetic incident. A sad-faced woman had come from East Village, Cowbridge, to meet her son, Private T H Bennett, & she brought the depressing news that his father had lately died. For at least one of the hundred heroes it was an unhappy home-coming. *Evening Express*

1901, 4th May Cowbridge men who sailed on the ‘Tagus’ to South Africa: William John, East End, E.A. David, Millfield, T.H. Bennett, East Village (the latter was listed amongst the dead) *Weekly Mail*

1901, 11th May A daughter of Mr Thomas Watts of Llanmihangel Place, got entangled in some machinery & received fatal injuries. The father & mother had both gone to Cardiff market. *Evening Express*

1901, 7th August Ellen Roberts, wife of John Roberts tailor of East Village, Cowbridge, was found dead on a couch in her house by her daughter Ethel. *Evening Express*

1901, 18th September Some fine, well set-up young men presented themselves at Penllyn Castle, the beautiful home of Colonel Wyndham-Quin M.P. yesterday, to undergo the riding test preparatory to enrolment in the new regiment of Glamorgan Yeomanry, which will be under the command of the gallant member for South Glamorgan….the officers had adopted for their levee uniform the picturesque blue with white braid & facings worn by the old county Yeomanry in the early part of the century….Nor will the uniforms of the rank & file be wanting in attractiveness & serviceableness. For fieldwork khaki is to be the colour, & it will be relieved of its plainness by white stripes, & probably with the chain epaulettes in vogue with cavalry regiments. The cap will be after the pattern of those worn by officers of the general staff – circular, with a peak. It is convenient & serviceable…..The men who passed the test were all, more or less, enthusiastic riders to hounds. Names of the Cowbridge troop (Vale of Glamorgan Squadron): William Hopkin, Tregurnog Farm, St Fagan’s, William Small, Mill Farm, Monknash, D T Spencer, Flemingstone, Henry D Thomas, Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, T J Yorwerth, saddler, Cowbridge, A E Mortimer, Walla Court, Stoke Gifford, C E Jackson, Llanblethian, G Spencer, Picketstone, L Williams, Duffryn Terrace, Llantwit Fardre, D Jenkins, Flemingstone Court, Thomas Ll. Thomas, Boverton Place, Llantwit, William Thomas, butcher, Aberthin, C Yorath, Tyn y Cai Farm, St Brides Major, T R Thomas, draper, Cowbridge, Watkin Richards, St Donats, E Lloyd, Boverton Court, Llantwit, A Arthur Evans, Wick, G Hopkins, Rosedew, Llantwit Major, W H Cooksley, Graig House, Miskin, Arthur Morgan, Cowbridge. These are the first men to be formally enrolled as members of the Glamorganshire Imperial Yeomanry….. *Evening Express*

1901, 14th November The body of a young man, William Beere of Llysowroney, son of Captain Beere, about 28 years of age, was found in the Bowman’s Well field on Wednesday morning. He was an employee of the National Telephone Company, erecting poles near the spot, & it was thought he met his death on his way to work, although the cause of death was not apparent. He was found by two young grammar school boys. Dr Torney involved. *Western Mail*
1901, 22nd November  Mr H B Widdows, master at the Cowbridge Grammar School, was fined 25 shillings for ‘furious riding on a motor tricycle’. PC Jones, Cowbridge, said he passed through Aberthaw at the rate of 16 miles per hour. The defendant claimed he was riding at 9 mph.  

1902, 1st January  Alderman L Jenkins, mayor of Cowbridge, distributed upwards of 100 tickets to the poor of the town to procure meat or provisions up to 2s.6d. from any of the tradesmen in the town. In addition to this, the mayor received 100 rabbits & a cheque for £10 from Mr E H Ebsworth of Llandough Castle. The rabbits were distributed last week, & the £10 divided today, enabling the holders to by coal, meat etc.  

1902, 4th February  Discovery of a man handcuffed & unable to speak English in a field at St Athan near Cowbridge. Well-built, 6ft in height & 23 years of age. Said he was a Russian seaman & ill treated by his captain who had placed him in handcuffs. Taken to the Russian Consul in Windsor Place, Cardiff. After leaving the ship (at Cardiff) the man travelled towards Cowbridge & passed the night in a coppice. Meanwhile the ship has left for Cadiz & the man will temporarily be provided for by the Consul.  

1902, 10th March  Alexter Gibbon, a Mulatto, aged 18 of Briton Ferry, was riding from there to Cardiff on a road racer. Just outside Cowbridge there is a dangerous hill, called the Darran. He lost control of his machine & dashed into the wall at the bottom. He was picked up unconscious & taken to the Westgate Inn. Dr Torney attended.  

1902, 12th April  The whole of the Vale from St Nicholas to Cowbridge was en fete last Tuesday when Sir Henry & Lady Fletcher paid their first visit to the Llantrithyd estates., which passed into their hands last December on the death of Mr Aubrey Aubrey. From 9 o’clock in the morning the tenantry assembled, some on foot & some in vehicles, until by mid-day they numbered 500 or 600 in the pretty little villages. The estates cover over 6000 acres, some portions lying adjacent to Stalling Down near Cowbridge.  

1902, 28th June  During the late hours of Friday evening, Cowbridge Railway Station was broken into & £8.11s taken from a safe. On the Saturday morning the cash bags were found lying ripped open on the desk & the money gone. It is thought that the burglars must have a skeleton key to the safe.  

1902, 7th November  Among the list of new inventions – an improvement in photographic apparatus by Francis Gwyn Griffith, Cowbridge  

1902, 20th November  Sale of household furniture, carriages, harness, meadow hay, greenhouse plants etc. – The Manor House, St Hilary, instruction of Colonel Hobart Tyler, who is leaving the neighbourhood.
1903, 12th January    Dramatic entertainments given at the Pontyclun National Schools on Friday & Saturday in aid of the Llantrisant & Pontyclun District Nurses’ association. The programme was arranged by Miss Masters, Lanelay Hall; the orchestra was conducted by Miss Culverwell of Cowbridge. Evening Express

1903, 2nd March    Death at Cowbridge of Margaret Ellen, beloved wife of T J Yorwerth, saddler, aged 29 years. Evening Express

1903, 24th March    Mr Stewart, a Canadian farmer delegate, is meeting a number of young farmers in Cowbridge (after recruiting at least 23 families from the Bridgend district). He was in Aberavon yesterday, & anticipates that by the end of the month at least 200 families will try their fortunes in Canada. Evening Express

1903, 8th June    At a meeting of the Bridgend & Cowbridge Union, there was discussion about the rivalry between the mining and agricultural districts of the union. Mr Edmund Lewis of St Mary Hill said, ‘Who knew but that science would soon find a substitute for coal & be the means of doing away with the colliers’? He hoped it would soon come to pass. He certainly had no desire to see their ‘peasants, who were the best class of men in the world, turned into a lot of sickly, bandy-legged colliers’. Laughter. Evening Express

1903, 23rd June    Ely Paper Mills employees, with over 120 entries, having a contest walking on Saturday from Victoria Park, Cardiff at 3.30pm, with the turning point being the bottom of the hill into Cowbridge, then back to Victoria Park. Evening Express

1903, 7th November    ‘A Glamorganshire Artist – Mark Anthony’. Wolverhampton has a fine art gallery bearing the name of Mark Anthony. His birthplace was Cowbridge. Alderman Edward John has been searching local records to discover his ancestry. The father of Mark Anthony, he has discovered, owned a large garden in Cowbridge which to this day is called ‘Anthony’s Garden’. He died aged between 50 & 60 years of age, having apprenticed his son Mark to an apothecary names Wilson, who had businesses at Cowbridge & Llantrisant. Even at that time the boy spent much of his time painting & sketching. Early in his life he left the district, & has been lost to Cowbridge until a short time ago. (See more on Mark Anthony in chs00316 - 5th January 1887) Cardiff Times

1903, 7th December    Henry Trott, 53, well-known & respected Cowbridge coal merchant who keeps a lodging house in Eagle Lane, made an attempt on his life….suffering with bronchitis & depressed over his daughter’s recent marriage…used a razor…but was able to walk to Dr Meller’s surgery. South Wales Daily News & Evening Express

1903, 18th December    Death of Mr C J Prichard, solicitor, of Pwlywrach aged 75. He practised for some years in Bristol & was a member of the city council. He was a brother of Captain H C Prichard JP of Cowbridge. Evening Express

1903, 23rd December    Samuel Yeo, 30, a groom employed by Dr Meller of Cowbridge, found dead in bed. Had been unwell for some time. Evening Express
1904, 4th January  The 15 year old son of the Rev. E Evans, pastor of Carmel Chapel, Bonvilston, was working for his grandfather, Mr John Morgan, Penrheol Farm, St Mary Church, when he got jammed between a heavy farm cart, of which he was in charge, & a gatepost. The died of his injuries soon afterwards.  

1904, 14th January  Mr W A James, Cowbridge, won the tender for improving the main road near Bonvilston Old Toll House - £62.10s.2d

1904, 23rd January  In the late Mr Thurstan Bassett (he died late November 1903 aged 53), the Cowbridge race meeting has lost its keenest supporter. Mr Bassett in fact practically managed the meeting, & his death made it necessary to call a meeting of the committee to consider whether the races should be held this year.

1904, 2nd March  At Llandow mills, Cowbridge – death of Henry Goulden aged 64

1904, 20th April  There was a considerable crowd going to the Cowbridge Races yesterday, when the train (already very late) drew up about a mile from Cowbridge & was there for an indefinite period. A remarkable sight was witnessed of all the male passengers alighting & streaming off across country to Cowbridge, which they reached long before the train itself. It appeared the engine had been detached to shift a goods train out of the way somewhere up the line.

1904, 8th June  Inquest held at Llantwit Major on Henry James Evans, a rural postman at Cowbridge, who died on the beach after bathing on Sunday. Had complained of his heart & had stayed in the water too long.

1904, 11th July  A large rick of hay, the property of the Taff Vale Railway Company, was set on fire at St Mary’s Road Station (St Mary Church) this morning by a spark from a passing locomotive. The Cowbridge Fire Brigade were summoned, & with a plentiful supply of water at hand managed to save a portion of the hay.

1904, 30th July  Cowbridge Great House School – prize distribution.

1904, 12th November  Councillor W L Jenkins the new mayor of Cowbridge, is the eldest son of Alderman Lewis Jenkins, Graig House, Cowbridge. Born 1866, educated Cowbridge Grammar School & College, Gower Street, London. He carries on the business of wine & spirit merchant & aerated water manufacturer at Cowbridge. Is married to the eldest daughter of Mr John Lewis of Brigam, & has 2 sons etc.
1904, 17th December  Amos Powell, a Penmark youth, was charged by Great Western Railway with failing to pay his fare. He had been found at Tondu at 1.15am by the railway foreman. He was seeking work, had been to Port Talbot & got in the truck thinking it was going to Cowbridge. He was destitute. He was bound over to be of good behaviour & given the fare to get home  
*Evening Express*

1905, 20th May  Sudden death of Mrs Mary Jane James, wife of Mr William James, Cowbridge mason.  
*Evening Express*

1905, 23rd May  As a party from Pontypridd were driving near Cowbridge about 10.30 on Sunday night, the collided with a trap driven by Mrs Thomas, Druids Hotel. Both vehicles were upset & completely smashed. Dr Moynan, Cowbridge, arrived soon after….Mrs Thomas conveyed home suffering from a bad shaking. *South Wales Daily News*

1905, 27th May  A labourer named Thomas Lloyd, 50, employed by Mr Thomas of Llwynhelig Farm, was knocked down by a motor car on Thursday night near the old West Gate at Cowbridge. He was rendered senseless, & the motor car passed on towards Cardiff. Lloyd did not regain consciousness for two hours after being carried to the Pelican Inn. In the morning he was assisted home to Llwynhelig Farm.  
*Cardiff Times*

1905, 10th June  Quoits – Cowbridge met Tondu on Saturday at Cowbridge. The contest between several of the players was very even, whilst others were hopelessly left out of the hunt. Cowbridge team & scores: R.L. Thomas 21; D. Maddy 20; G. Dawe 21; J.S. Warren 21; J. Gibbs 21; B. Maddy 21; T.L. Powell 8 – total 133  
*Evening Express*

1905, 24th June  The annual walking race in connection with the employees at the Ely Paper Mills took place today, the course being from Ely to Cowbridge & back again. Glorious weather, but the roads were very dusty & dry. There were 42 turning out.  
*Evening Express*

1905, 13th July  Marriage at St John’s Church, Canton, Cardiff between the Rev. Isaiah Roberts, vicar of Cowbridge, & Miss Winifred Evans, daughter of Dr John & Mrs Evans, Cowbridge Rd., Cardiff.  
*Evening Express*
1905, 21st July  Death of Mr George May at his Penarth home aged about 64. He was a native of Cowbridge. His father was one of the old drivers in the coaching days before the Great Western Railway was built, his position being between London & Haverfordwest & his ‘dropping’ station at Cowbridge. Later on, Mr May senior took the Cross Keys Inn, Cowbridge, where his family was born. George, with the others, was sent to the Eagle School....

Evening Express

1905, 11th November  Mayor – Councillor John Pickard, born Cardiff 1859. His parents moved to Cowbridge when he was ten. He has remained there ever since & now carries on the business of a grocer & provision merchant. He is highly respected in the town & has been a member of the Council for 8 years. He is a Wesleyan. The Mayoress is a daughter of the late Mr William Lewis of the Eagle School.

Cardiff Times

Councillor John Pickard

1905, 22nd December  A timber sale (growing timber) was held on the Beaupre estate – 39 oak timber trees, 36 ash timber trees, & 117 oak & ash poles in the Crabla Wood, together with 60 larch poles in the Cot Wood, realised £80, & 167 oak timber trees, 46 ash timber trees & three elm timber trees in the Coed-y-Seler Wood went for £330

Evening Express

1906, 12th January  Two brothers at Cowbridge, who had been at feud for some time, quarrelled on Sunday night over the possession of a ferret, and one shot the other fatally with a gun. Then placing the muzzle of the weapon in his own mouth, the murderer blew out his brain. The murderer was Edward David, labourer aged 34, and his brother Arthur by name was a working mason aged 30, married with two children. They were next-door neighbours.

Western Mail

The remains of Edward David were buried in a corner of the Cowbridge church yard at 9 o’clock in the morning – a short committal service instead of the Church of England’s burial service, read by the vicar & the Rev. R J Lewis. All the relatives were present & some of the townspeople

Evening Express

1906, 16th March  Death of Harry Johns, a native of Cowbridge, landlord of the Old Inn, Penllergaer. Aged 69, he was formerly a butler at Dunraven Castle, and with the late Mr Llewellyn Dilwyn, MP for Swansea Town. He was married twice & had 4 children.

The Cambrian
1906, 12\textsuperscript{th} April  Dr Moynan was injured while riding ‘Mars’ in the Glamorgan Hunt Cup at Cowbridge Races. He broke his collar bone & a small bone in his wrist. Was taken to his Cowbridge home after the races.  \textit{Evening Express}

1906, 20\textsuperscript{th} April  Quoits – a match will be played between Cowbridge & Tondu at Cowbridge on Saturday. The Cowbridge team will be selected from the following – W. Brown (captain), B. Maddy, D. Thomas, R L Thomas, J Gibbs, D Maddy, J Warren, E Rees, T Powell, A Jones, H Goulden and J Tyler  \textit{Glamorgan Gazette}

1906, 21\textsuperscript{st} April  Mr W Martin, ex-sergeant of the Glamorgan Constabulary, died very suddenly at Brecon on Saturday. He was formerly stationed at Canton, Llandaff & at Cowbridge. About 15 years ago, he played a prominent part in the sensational murder case at Cowbridge, arresting the murderer Roberts. Soon after this, he was engaged in an affray on the roadside when he had his eye gouged out. His assailant was sentenced to 15 years’ penal servitude for the offence.  \textit{Weekly Mail}

1906, 27\textsuperscript{th} April  The death at Cowbridge of Maria Louisa Davies, widow of Edward Davies & eldest daughter of the late Alderman Thomas Llewellyn.  \textit{Glamorgan Gazette}

1906, 28\textsuperscript{th} April  Mrs Ebsworth of Llandough Castle accompanied Captain G.S.C. Swinton (a member of London County Council) & Mrs Swinton to be shown over Cardiff’s new Town Hall & Law Courts by the Lord Mayor & Mr Howell, clerk of the works. Captain Swinton was interested in view of plans for a new county hall on the Thames Embankment near Waterloo Bridge.  \textit{Weekly Mail}

1906, 19\textsuperscript{th} April  Perfectly delightful weather favoured the annual Cowbridge Steeplechases & Hurdle Races, held on the prettily-sited Penllyn Course this afternoon. There was an excellent attendance, with many people travelling from the Rhondda, Cardiff & other places.  \textit{Evening Express}

1906, 12\textsuperscript{th} June  A trotting match took place from Ely to Cowbridge between Mr Griffiths’s Alice, driven by the owner, & Mr R Downey’s Busy, driven by A. Smith. The distance was 12 miles for a £20 stake. Busy made the pace until Cowbridge was reached, when Alice, who held the race in hand throughout, easily overhauled his opponent & won by about 50 yards in 43 minutes.  \textit{Evening Express}

1906, 13\textsuperscript{th} July  The Glamorgan Travelling Dairy School terminated its course of lessons at Cowbridge yesterday. Mr R Hedger Walace, county lecturer on agriculture, judged the butter made by the pupils & made the following awards : Miss M Kelly, County Intermediate School; 2\textsuperscript{nd}. Miss Gwen Llewellyn, Hollybush; 3\textsuperscript{rd}. Miss Lottie Watts, Llanmihangel; 4\textsuperscript{th}. Miss M Saines, Windmill Farm.  \textit{Evening Express}

1906, 15\textsuperscript{th} June  Cowbridge being on the main road from Cardiff, the motor traffic is very heavy & the tradespeople & other residents have suffered much inconvenience and loss by the dust caused. The Town Council has been considering the question of dust-
lating, & experiments are being carried out by Mr W.D. Alexander, borough surveyor. A large portion of High Street has been painted with tar, and then covered with a rough gravel. So far this has been successful.  

1906, 15th June  The aunt of Mrs Jones, Duffryn House, Llanblethian, died suddenly whilst visiting her there from Newport. She was 87.  

1906, 14th July  A rural postman, William Spickett, was charged with stealing a cheque & other letters containing Post Office orders. He stated he had hidden the cheque under a galvanised iron roof at Colwinston, one of the villages he passed through & was sorry for what he had done.  

1906, 19th July  Cowbridge Town Council had experimented with roads in their districts (tarring for dust laying) with satisfactory results. They offered to treat with tar the county road running through their district for twelve months free of cost to the county. Permission granted. Alderman Mathias mentioned a French invention which it is claimed could treat a mile of road in this fashion in one day. The chairman of the Glamorgan Bridges & Roads Committee, Mr Blandy Jenkins, remarked that the cost of the treatment at Cowbridge was seven-eighths of a penny per yard.  

1906, 19th July  There were 16 entries for the speed judging competition of the Cardiff Motor Club on Wednesday. The competitors were required to drive over a course of twenty miles, as nearly as they could at a regular speed indicated in a sealed envelope, which they picked at random before starting. The course was from the first milestone on the further side of Ely to the sixth milestone beyond Cowbridge & back to the last milestone before reaching Cowbridge.  

1906, 29th August  Sudden death of Mrs Bertha Thomas, wife of builder Mr Wybert Thomas (internal haemorrhage)  

1906, 5th October  Archdeacon Thomas Williams of Merioneth, a native of Cowbridge, was found hanging in outbuildings at Llanystumdwy Rectory, Caernarvonshire. He had suffered with ‘despondency & insomnia’. For some years, he had been a prominent figure in the National Eisteddfod & Gorsedd circles. Born in 1850, he was the son of Thomas & Gwenllian Williams of Cowbridge – Thomas Williams the father being a deacon of the Cowbridge Calvanistic Methodist church. His children, Thomas & Anne had however transferred to the parish church in protest against treatment their father seemed to be receiving.  

1906, 6th October  Mr Friel Lyons, of the Lyons troupe of acrobats, had an accident when his chauffeur-driven car was upset on the railway embankment near Pyle. He had been performing at Cardiff Empire. When he returned to Bridgend later, he told the reporter that he had pulled up in his pony & trap at the Horse & Groom, Cowbridge, on route between Cardiff & Swansea, and there was introduced to the chauffeur. He only knew him as ‘George’, & he understood that he was taking the car from the garage at Cardiff to Cardigan and offered to take him (Mr Lyons) as far as Swansea. The pony &
Cowbridge and District notes 1900s

trap were left stored at Cowbridge. When the car was crossing the Pyle railway bridge, something went wrong with the steering gear, and ‘the wheels went all shapes’. Mr Lyons was thrown out, & he supposed he escaped well because he was an acrobat. The car broke in half.  

*Cardiff Times*

1906, 25th October A meeting of the Cowbridge & County Farmers’ Club was held at the Bear Hotel. With regard to the upkeep of roads on Sundays, very often 30 or 40 cars were driven through at a furious rate. Their owners had no respect for God or man. (Mr J W Hall reported).  

*Evening Express*

1906, 15th November Miss Gwen Llewellyn of Holly Bush Farm won a junior dairy prize from Glamorgan County Council – a £9 scholarship for one month at a dairy college, another winner was Miss L M Hek of Llanblethian.  

*Glamorgan Gazette*

1906, 17th November Article on Cowbridge poets by ‘Cadrawd – Welsh Tit Bits’. He writes about David Prichard, draper (of 50 High Street), William Verity and Christopher Norton (Ballards Court). Of the latter he writes ‘a tailor by trade, who had a weak & withered leg…a small collection of his poems was published in 1862’ 

*Cardiff Times*

1906, 24th November A wheelwright names William Williams was alleged at Cowbridge Police court to have broken the leg of Mordecai Jenkins, farmer of Herbert’s Farm, near Cowbridge. The two men were engaged in a dispute outside Williams’s workshop, & the defendant is alleged to have kicked Jenkins, breaking his leg in two places. Was remanded on bail.  

*Evening Express*

1906, 22nd December A serious accident befell Miss Alice Lewis of St Mary Hill Court whilst driving through Cowbridge. The horse slipped & fell on the road, the shafts of the trap snapped, & she was thrown out, with serious injuries to her head, face & wrist. Conveyed to Dr Meller’s surgery. Was able to go home some time later. This is one of many accidents in the district owing to the special tarring process that has been applied to the road to allay the dust.  

*Evening Express*

1907, 5th & 7th February Sir Edward Strachey, Bart., M.P. is to visit Cowbridge tomorrow & address a meeting of agriculturalists, & General Sir James Hill-Johnes, V.C. will open a miniature rifle range. The latter has been constructed in the Town Hall buildings. The idea was to try to prevent conscription should war or an invasion occur. At the meeting, those attending were told that the channel tunnel scheme posed a serious danger to the nation.  

*Evening Express*

1907, 1st March Sale of a number of freehold, leasehold & copyhold properties at the Commercial Hotel – 2 f/hold dwellings & gardens at Aberthin sold to Mr D Thomas of Nantymoel for £310; a lse/hold dwelling house in East Village sold for 99 yrs from 1882 purchased by Mr R Aubrey for £215; a similar house adjoining sold to Mr D Tilley for £200; a shop & dwelling with bakehouse etc, held for a similar term, was bought by Mr D Williams, Goodrich, for £360; a lse/hold dwelling in Aubrey Terrace, similar lease,
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sold for £140 to Mr E Williams of Cowbridge; 5 properties were withdrawn; 2 dwellings in Trerhyngyll sold to Mrs Williams, Priolk (Prisk) Farm for £422.10s – all the estate of the late Mr Richard Aubrey

Glamorgan Gazette

1907, 4th March Julia O’Neil, 43, from Cowbridge, was charged at Cardiff for being drunk & disorderly. The court was told she came in from Cowbridge once a month and ‘is locked up pretty well every time’. There were 117 convictions against her. She said she had no lodging & no place of any kind to go to - ‘I am not allowed to stop anywhere, although I am willing to pay. I sat down for a rest & a sleep & was pulled off the stool’. Fined 10s & costs or fourteen days.

Evening Express

1907, 18th March Bostock & Wombwell’s Menagerie will visit Cowbridge on Wednesday, after being in Cardiff & then Barry Dock. A special feeding of the animals at 4 o’clock for no extra charge.

Evening Express

1907, 4th May William Stone, a Cowbridge coal merchant, fined 20 shillings for selling coal without a weighing machine, & also without metal labels attached to the sacks indicating their correct weight.

Evening Express

1907, 19th July Sidney Jenkins aged 12 had come to Barry Island to spend a day with a party from Cowbridge & went bathing at Whitmore Bay. The tide was a long way out, & Jenkins getting beyond his depth. He cried out for help. A schoolmate (Stanley Jones of Cowbridge) swam out to assist & held him above water. Jenkins was brought to shore in a lifeless condition & did not regain consciousness till at the town Accident Hospital in Kingsland Crescent. Stanley Jones later awarded an honorary parchment of the Royal Humane Society

Barry Dock News & Evening Express

1907, 2nd August On Wednesday, July 24th, the Calvanistic Methodist & Wesleyan Methodist churches of Llantwit Major combined with the Wesleyans of Cowbridge to have a school & general treat at Barry Island. The Cowbridge party joined the Llantwit group at Aberthaw. Luncheon & tea at the Dorothy Restaurant. Open air service on the beach. Then some went for drives to Barry Docks, others boating, the younger folks enjoying games, some the switchback & other amusements provided for visitors to Barry Island.

Glamorgan Gazette

1907, 30th August Patrick Macdonald (known as Jim, from Radcliffe, Lancashire), aged 25, gave himself up at Cowbridge Police Station, confessing to having knifed & killed a lady the other night in Cardiff. He was a fireman on the steamship ‘Larne’ at Cardiff, had then walked to Barry & visited a public house near the docks, later wandering through fields till he reached Cowbridge. On receiving information on the capture, Inspector Evans immediately cycled from Bridgend to Cowbridge. From there, the prisoner was conveyed to Cardiff by the 8.30pm train. There was a huge crowd to see him off.

The Cambrian

1907, 6th September Verdict of death from heart failure returned on Samuel Hayter, cycle agent of Cowbridge – found dead in bed on Wednesday morning. Was apparently
in his usual health yesterday & was taking photos of exhibits at the Cowbridge Show. He took an active part in all sports connected with the town, was about 57 years of age & was a regular attendant at St Mary’s Church where he acted as sidesman.

*Evening Express*

1907, 5<sup>th</sup> October  General H E Watson of Pantequesta, Pontyclun was driving into the fair at Cowbridge on Monday, when his horse slipped on the bridge of that town. He was thrown out of the trap, sustaining a broken arm & dislocating his shoulder. Dr Torney attended. It appears the horse slipped on the tar preparation which has been laid on the roads to prevent the dust caused by the moto car traffic.

*Weekly Mail*

1907, 11<sup>th</sup> October  The Intermediate School, Cowbridge, meeting of the governors - proposal that an application be made for the travelling French teacher to visit; it was also decided to purchase reference books for the use of candidates preparing for the honours’ certificates; recommendation that the present tennis lawn be extended in the direction of the railway, & that tennis court, croquet lawn etc. should be provided in the new school grounds. The footpath passing through the County Council field and the Taff Vale Railway to be diverted.

*Glamorgan Gazette*

1907, 8<sup>th</sup> November  Blanche John of Church Street, Cowbridge brought a paternity suit against George Singer of Bridgend, prominent local footballer. She claimed she had met him whilst she was in service in Bridgend. He had admitted paternity & offered to pay 3s. a week, but had declined to settle the doctor’s bill. Ordered to pay the bill & ongoing expenses.

*Glamorgan Gazette*

Ca 1907

One long street, Cowbridge. After walking some distance I came to an insignificant looking little bridge which crosses an insignificant little river. The bridge gets the chief attention of the inhabitants. “So far from the bridge” is the distance to everywhere. A number of public houses come into sight, a few places of worship keep out of sight. I turn from the long street into an old-fashioned hotel where I shall stay a few days.

Saturday morning. A great storm swept over the Vale last night. The street has been washed by the rain and swept by the wind. Signs of another storm before long.

Let us have a look at Cowbridge then. Standing in front of the hotel I could see the whole of Cowbridge nearly. It is one long street with a green hill at each end of it. The road is clean and wide. Enough room to hold fairs and to accommodate crowds going to the races. Not any of the people were however willing to admit that this was the only street although they looked upon it with pride considering it enough of a town of itself. “But” they say “there are two other streets.” And seeing my thoughtful gaze, they persuade me to go and see them by saying there is a Methodist chapel in one and the Church in the other.

The first walls built around Cowbridge were raised in 1090 and its charter dates from the time of Charles II. It has a Mayor and Councillors. Its inhabitants still consider Cowbridge a place of great importance. It left to a stranger to perceive the decay
spreading over its ancient glory. Opposite I noticed an empty house with ‘To Let’ in the window which shows that newcomers need not ask and wait for a dwelling place. I walked on the left side towards the bridge. I was filled with astonishment to see the large number of public houses, nearly all of the small and poor to look at. I wonder that so many can make a living with so much temperance in the country. A similar decay is to be seen upon the people too. Among the old people who have been under the discipline of conversions we found intelligent and thoughtful faces. But coming to those of the middle aged, a certain deterioration is noticeable. The face is heavy and dull – the bovine sodden face – as if the flesh dominated the soul. But what will become of the children?

Here I am at the bridge with a street across to the right. This leads to a square called The Limes, where the Methodist chapel is, and where there is no English now. I turned back and followed the other street into the Church. I found the door open as the door of every place of worship should be. After my eyes had become accustomed to the semi-darkness, I could see a man on in years, but as light-footed as a squirrel, dusting the seats. He gave me a military salute and a word of welcome. He seemed very energetic despite his age. One of the old inhabitants. “Welsh?” said he “Speak Welsh – I can – I am a Welshman”. “Are you the sexton?” I asked him. “Yes, I ring the bells”. And to my delight as he gave me his history he spoke the Welsh of the Vale. He was born 76 years ago, married 49 years. Bellringing for fully 15 years. His wife is a Welshwoman from Cowbridge and at home they speak Welsh “And there are my children” he said “I’ve got nine. The eldest can speak a little Welsh but the others can’t speak any.” He said that there were many in Cowbridge who could speak Welsh well: Mr Yorwerth, the Mayor, Mr David and many others. But he added sadly that he could remember a lot more Welsh. “Show o hono yr amser fu” (Lot of it in times gone by). It was easy to get him to speak of bygone years. When a young lad he joined the 23rd Regiment of Foot (Cowbridge Volunteers) – later the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. He was at Inkerman, Alma, and before Sebastopol. He was wounded three times. In the attack upon Sebastopol he was struck in his side and severely wounded. His friend by his side, a young man from North Wales was mortally wounded. Here he is an old man, proud of his duties, particularly that of doling out the bread to the poor on the following day.

He showed me what he considered the glory and wonders of the church: the new windows, the seats where the college boys sit, the vestry, the brass candlesticks which are only lit on Christmas night, the William Carne memorial and his wonderful history. I asked if there was any Welsh carved anywhere and he answered in the negative. But near the door there is a Welsh phrase on the crest of Jenkins of Hensol: Fe dal am daro – It will pay to strike. A suitable motto for the hot old Judge who spoke at the parliament of Oliver Cromwell and declared that he would hang, if they would hang him, with the Bible under one arm and Magna Carta under the other. Very suitable to the quarrelsome nature and the garrulity of the family is the sign of the Cock.

There is now no Welsh service in the Church. “I’ve heard many a Welsh sermon in this Church” he said, “but now you only get them in that Methodist chapel. The old man seemed grieved to think that the language of his youth had been consigned to the moles, the worms and the Methodists. And worse than all, neither of these three can speak it. Mixture of names in the churchyard. He advised me to look for the walls and gates of the town “where they could neither come in or go out after eight o’clock at night.” After getting rid of me at the gate he drew my attention to a list of sermons and
addresses on moral topics, suggesting that to hear them would do me good. He then turned back abruptly as if, his whole duty as sexton fulfilled, he had nothing further to add.  

*Unknown source*

1908, 1st January   A new Parliamentary register of voters has been completed for the untitled boroughs of Cardiff, Cowbridge & Llantrisant. The total number of voters is 28,760, as compared with 27,896 the previous year. The total electorate of Cowbridge is 198, one less than the previous year; Llantrisant has 612, an increase of 15.  

*Evening Express*

1908, 24th January   Last August there was a collision between a straying horse & a motor-car. The horse was owned by Morgan Leyshon, licensee of the Farmers Arms, Stalling Down. It was found on the common & had to be destroyed after the accident.  

*Glamorgan Gazette*

1908, 9th March   Death at Cowbridge of Mr William Russell, the professional cricketer attached to the Glamorgan Gypsies Cricket Club. Had been ailing for some time. He was 37 year old & leaves a wisow & two children. He came to Wales about 12 years ago to prepare a ground which was played on for several years by Mr Ebsworth’s XI at Cowbridge. Until that club was disbanded, he acted as their professional & then was engaged by the Glamorgan Gypsies. His fielding at cover-point was probably superior to that of any other cricketer who has played for any South Wales XI…..  

*Evening Express*

1908, 24th April   Death of Mr John Lewis, Brynawel, Colwinston, in his 76th year – late of Trallwyn Farm. Had been one of the leading agriculturists in the county. He was the uncle of Mr E D Lewis of St Mary Hill Court.  

*Glamorgan Gazette*

1908, 5th June   Meeting of Glamorgan County Sanitary Committee – the medical officer emphasised the need of a public water supply for Cowbridge & the neighbouring villages. The Clerk remarked that its provision would not be difficult, but the Cowbridge Council refused to join in action with the adjacent authorities. Estimate for a Cowbridge scheme was £5000. It was decided to write to the Local Gvt. Board asking whether they would regard such a cost as reasonable.  

*Evening Express*

1908, 13th June   The Farmers’ Club, Cowbridge had a talk by an agricultural inspector of the Board of Education about farming in Holland, Finland, Denmark & Hungary, seen on a visit to those countries by parties of Essex farmers. Those present were urged to visit Holland & Denmark themselves.  

*Weekly Mail*

1908, 26th June   Fee & gala held at Cowbridge on the 17th June in aid of funds for the District Nursing Association. A large procession of people in fancy dress costumes, in the front being Miss Mary Swinton, the little daughter of Captain & Mrs George Swinton (a ‘King’s Herald’). Then came the band of Cardiff Post Office (conducted by Mr Sansome), next the Fire Brigade under the command of Capt, David Tilley; an ambulance wagon followed – the ‘doctors & nurses’ with ‘a patient’, & a quartet of little girls as nurses etc. There was a group of comedians with a donkey, consisting of Mr C. Davies as
‘Pat’, Mr W. Powell as ‘a Cymric woman’, Mr Watkins of the Horse & Groom in female attire; and Mr David Thomas as a clown. Mr S. Lane, the little grandson of Alderman Edward John caused a good deal of laughter by his droll behaviour. The Grammar School Cricket XI also marched. Near the end was a decorated lorry belonging to Messrs Edward John & Co., crowded with children waving flags. At the rear were, on horseback, Mr W Griffiths as a cowboy, Mr Chard as a highwayman, Mr Lovett as a yeoman & Mr Robert Thomas as an old English gentleman. The proceeded to the cricket field.

(See photographs: chs04991, 00151, 00153, 05684, 05685, 05687, 05688, 05690)

Glamorgan Gazette

1908, 11th July  Bridgend & Cowbridge Union stated that owing to the increasing number of tramps, it had now been decided to detain them for two nights, giving them 13cwt. of road stone to break. (In Aberystwyth they were detained one night & broke up 3cwt of stone).

Weekly Mail

1908, 15th July  The Countess of Plymouth’s garden party at St Fagan’s – the mayor of Cowbridge Mr TJ Yorwerth (on right) & the Earl of Plymouth

Weekly Mail
1908, 25th July  Case heard at Swansea, Glamorgan Assizes – Henry Edward Watson, 76, a retired major-general of Pontyclun, suing the mayor, aldermen & burgesses of Cowbridge for damages in respect of personal injuries sustained last September 30th when his horse slipped & fell on a tarred road in central Cowbridge. Alleged that the tarring improperly done. On a fair day, the defendant had been driving quietly an old & steady horse, when a drove of bullocks came along. He drew his horse to the off-side, & just as he passed them the horse slipped & fell. He sustained cuts & a broken right arm. The Corporation had apparently tarred the Cowbridge streets in 1906 ‘in order to obviate the discomfort & annoyance arising from the dust, due to the motor traffic’. Court found in the defendant’s favour.  

Cardiff Times

1908, 10th August  Mr T J Parsons, secretary of Cowbridge Gas Company for many years, died today. Up to last November he had been a member of the Town Council since its formation in 1837.  

Evening Express

1908, 5th September  Vale of Glamorgan Agricultural Show, Cowbridge – prize winners included Dr Meller (brood mare), J Llewellyn, Hollly Bush (pair of heifers), Eddie Morgan of Cowbridge (honey), N German of Llandough Castle & A Bowen of Landough Cottage (apples), also for apples was W C Norton of Llanblethian. The tent in which the buttermaking was held was blown down and the utensils had to be taken into the town hall.  

Weekly Mail

1908, 17th October  Newspaper article about Miss Berry’s Journals, written in 1799 – she describes her impressions of Cardiff, ‘a small ugly town’, and later Cowbridge: the road (from Cardiff) stony & hilly but in general good. Cowbridge is a wretched little town, or rather village, with one bad Inn which keeps post horses…  

Cardiff Times

1908, 7th December  The antiquated lighting arrangements of the Cowbridge police-court were considered by the Glamorgan Standjoin Committee when the clerk wrote to the magistrates pointing out that the provision for lighting the hall was the same as existed forty years ago. He said they occasionally had to resort to using candles. General Tylar (a member of the Cowbridge bench) said the defect was partly structural & they had had to light candles occasionally at eleven o’clock in the morning. The county surveyor was instructed to put in proper gas fittings.  

Evening Express

1908, 18th December  The Vicar of Cowbridge (Rev. Isaiah Roberts) conducts services for men at St. Mary’s Church on Sunday afternoons. Last Sunday he spoke on the curses of England. It has been decided to have a new vestry at the Limes Chapel because of limited accommodation for Sunday School work.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1908, 28th December  Marriage of the mayor of Cowbridge, Councillor R.E Watkins, to Elizabeth, daughter of Mr Thomas Lewis, Cowbridge. Married at the Calvanistic Methodist Church by the Rev. Emrys Davies, where the bride was organist.  

Western Mail
1909, 2nd January  Wedding at the Calvanistic Methodist Chapel, Cowbridge, between the mayor, Councillor R E Watkins, & Miss Bessie Lewis, daughter of Mr Thomas Lewis. A quiet one, owing to the rent death of the mayor’s father.  

Cardiff Times

1909, 12th February  A concert was held in the Village Long Room, Llysworney on Feb. 3rd., to meet expenses of the recent treat given to the schoolchildren & their parents in celebration of the jubilee foundation of the Parish Church School.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1909, 26th February  The extensions at the Cowbridge County School for Girls were formally opened on Thursday afternoon by Mrs T. Mansel Franklen. Alderman Edward John (chairman of the governors), headmistress (Miss Renaut) & the clerk (Mr W.T. Gwyn). The number of scholars is now between 70 & 80, whereas in 1900 it was just 16. There are three new spacious classrooms, a gymnasium, laboratory & a dormitory added to the hostel. The cost was £4000, the contract having been let to Mr W.H. Evans of Cardiff. The architect was Mr R.S. Griffiths, Tonypandy.  

Evening Express

1909, 8th May  Following the triplet birth of three sons to Mrs Louisa Evans, wife of Francis Evans, labourer living at Siggingstone, the father asked the rector of Llanmihangel, Rev. E Jenkins, to appeal to the King for his Majesty’s bounty. Received £3.  

Evening Express

1909, 21st May  Wedding at Bethesda Congregational Chapel, Boverton, between Miss Annie Thomas of The Parroch, Boverton, to Mr Reginald Tucker, son of Mr Tucker, the General Stores, Cowbridge.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1909, 8th July  Alderman Edward John to be presented with a testimonial – gradual recovery from a long & serious illness. Recognition of his long, useful & unselfish service to the public.  

Evening Express
1909, 17th August  Daniel Bowen & Morris Hughes, miners of Clydach Vale, were bound over to keep the peace for engaging in a prize fight on the 9th inst. at Newton Moors, near Cowbridge. Evening Express

1909, 8th October  Death of Mr John Aubrey, Tymawr, Hirwain, who was 86. Born near Cowbridge, he became at an early age associated with the Crawshay family, & had for 60 years been agent to Messrs. Crawshay. He was the oldest mining engineer in South Wales. Evening Express

1909, 4th December  Bridgend County Court – Mr S.D Evans, solicitor of Cowbridge, applied on behalf of Arthur Thomas Mills, carrying on the business as a motor engineer at Cowbridge, for a committal order against John Wilkinson, mechanic of Cowbridge, for failing to comply with an injunction granted at the previous court restraining him from carrying on business as a motor engineer within a radius of ten miles of that place. The defendant’s wife said that since 1899 she had been interested in motor cycles & had repaired them. She had got to keep the children, & could not understand why her husband should not be allowed to follow his work. Order granted. Western Mail

1910, 8th January  The death occurred suddenly of the vicar of Ystradowen, the Rev. John Rees, formerly well-known in the Rhondda. Aged 69, he leaves a widow & three children. He became vicar at Ystradowen in 1902. Evening Express

1910 - Cowbridge Wanderers Cricket Club season:
President : E H Ebsworth Esq
Vice Presidents : Cllr David Tilley (Mayor), F W Dunn Esq,
W G Griffiths Esq, Dr Moynan, Major Pritchard, Col Homfray,
Major Edmunds, Dr Torney.
Captain : Rev Owen Jones
Vice Captain : Mr F E Dunn
Hon Secretaries : Mr F E Dunn and Mr A T Spencer
Committee : Messrs D Brown, F W Dunn (junior), V S Gwyn,
F Groom, B S Bird, A Beetham, A S Evans and A I Dunn.

1910, 25\textsuperscript{th} February  Case before the court at Dublin to prove the lost will of Mrs
Elizabeth Perona, who died April 25\textsuperscript{th} 1909 at Brighton Buildings, Rathgar, Dublin.
General Booth was the plaintiff. The deceased was said to be very eccentric – had been
seen burning Chippendale furniture, he clothes & her sheets, for example. One of the
executors stated he had met the deceased at Cowbridge. On reaching Dublin, it was said
that she had sent clothes to Mrs Rees, the wife of a Cowbridge clergyman. She had made
a bequest in her will to General Booth – was said to carry his photograph & cry over it,
saying he was her son’s favourite & that he came next to the King. Her sister was
disputing the will, but it was proven.  \textit{Glamorgan Gazette}

1910, 2\textsuperscript{nd} March  The Bishop of Llandaff dedicated the new Welsh Church of St David’s,
Tylorstown on Tuesday. The site was presented by Mrs Edmondes of Cowbridge. The
church is built on a most difficult site on the side of a steep hill on the west side of the
valley, and is practically a mountain church.  \textit{Evening Express}

1910, 4\textsuperscript{th} March  St David’s Day celebrations at Cowbridge – mayor Councillor. David
Tilley invited all the children attending council schools to tae in the Town Hall’ After the
cta, the children gave songs, recitations, drill & action songs, parents attending this. The
mayor gave a short address. Mrs Franklen spoke to the parents on the importance of
regular & punctual school attendance. Magic lantern views were exhibited at intervals.
Mrs Ebsworth (of Llandough Castle) spoke to the children on the privilege & duty of
patriotism, and t the close she gave each child a bun, an orange & a bag of sweets.
\textit{Glamorgan Gazette}

1910, 29\textsuperscript{th} April  Marriage at Brynmenin of Miss Annie Jones, daughter of Mrs Jones,
Hong Kong Stores, and Mr J Highmore Tucker, The Bridge, Cowbridge.
\textit{Glamorgan Gazette}

1910, 8\textsuperscript{th} June  Photograph of Glamorgan dairymaids bound for Holland – includes Miss
Hecke of Cowbridge.
1910, 15th July  Cowbridge carnival – The procession started at the top of the town & made its way to the cricket field. Mayor Mr David Tilly, the Talygarn Band, members of the Fire Brigade. Two of the best juvenile entries were the troupe of Red Indians (sent by Major Edmondes), with Master Morgan Edmondes as the chief, riding a pony bare back, & the party ‘Mistress Mary’ from Llandough Castle. The work of the Nursing Association was depicted in a tableau with doctor & nurses by the bedside of a patient. Mr Vivian Gwyn was a lifeboatman etc etc

Glamorgan Gazette

1910, 16th July  Article, with photograph, on William Adams, engineer, geologist & naturalist. He was born at Ebbw Vale in 1813, & attended Cowbridge School, before being articled at Newport as an engineer. He became chief in control of the Ebbw Vale collieries, retired early, and with Mr Thomas Vachell, became joint manager of the Nantyglo & Blaina ironworks. In 1866 he delivered a speech in the House of Commons on the Welsh coalfield, and succeeded in his demand for a Royal Commission etc.

Cardiff Times

1910, 20th July  Wedding at St Mary’s Church, Cowbridge between Thomas John of Pentre & The Verlands, Cowbridge & Miss Mollie Llewellyn, niece of the Misses Llewellyn, Heath House. The honeymoon to be spent at New Quay, Cornwall.

Evening Express

1910, 5th August  Funeral of Mr John D Evans of Church street – at Ramoth Baptist Church. Attended by the principal inhabitants of the town. Leaves a widow & daughters.

Glamorgan Gazette
1910, 12th August  A Cardiff motor-cyclist met with an accident on Tumble-down-Dick (presumably the Tumble) between Cardiff & Cowbridge. In turning a corner he took too wide a curve & was thrown off.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1911, 23rd June  Some of those at the Coronation Celebration Committee Tea (given by the Mayor, David Tilley) :
Mr and Mrs George Morris, Eastfield House
Emrys J Davies, the Manse
L D Gwyn, Lynthurst
Rev and Mrs Jones, the Manse, Maindy
Mr William Davies, 16 High St.
Mr and Mrs Bassett, Llanblethian House
Mr and Mrs Griffiths, National Provincial Bank

1911, 4th March  Plans for the proposal of the new bridge were prepared by R G Clark, Civil Engineer, Cardiff, and approved by the Town Council, then forwarded to the Road Board through the Roads and Bridges Committee of the County Council. (The blueprint for the bridge is contained in chs02995, one of the Tilley scrapbooks for this date.)

1911, 4th March  The death occurred in a London nursing home, after a long illness, of Major C.G.J Edmondes. He was 41 years of age. He was the son of the late Archdeacon Charles Edmondes of St Davids and Mrs Edmondes of the Old Hall, Cowbridge. His widow is a sister of Mr J J D Nicholl of Merthyr Mawr. Major Edmondes studied engineering in the Rhondda Valley. He lived in Colwinston. In 1889, he received a commission as lieutenant in the 5th Battalion Worcestershire Militia (Infantry) and joined the Glamorgan yeomanry as a captain on September 25th 1901, becoming a major in the November. After the death of Col. Wyndham Quin, he became second in command of the regiment and retained this position till his death.
He was a keen sportsman etc.

The Herald

1911, 4th April  A recent branch of the Boy Scout movement was formed in Cowbridge by Scout Master V S Gwyn. They have had bugles and side drums down, and the boys are busy practising under the able tuition of Mr D. Brown, Cowbridge.

Glamorgan Gazette

1911, 11th August  The baths continue to be well patronised and during this week large numbers have been seen cooling themselves whilst the sun shed its hot rays overhead.

Glamorgan Gazette

1911, 3rd November  
Mrs John of Marlborough Grange
MOH - Dr R M Moynan
1912, 29th August A memorial was held in Llanblethian church, and the presentation made of oak furniture, in memory of Mr F W Dunn J P who died 8th August 1911

1913, 9th May Old Hall Estate - Emma Edmondes of 32 Charles St Cardiff

1913, 26th September Rev. Gilbert Thomas, curate for seven and a half years, has been promoted to be Vicar of Bonvilston.

1914, 13th March James Barkway, licensee of the City Inn, Llansannor, summoned for having kept the premises open for the sale of intoxicating liquor. John Marsh, labourer of Llansannor, & Frederick Kevil, quarryman of Penllyn, summoned for being on the premises. They were found there at 11.10 pm, but the landlord (who had a gunshot wound & could not walk) said they had just returned from Cowbridge, having gone there for meat for Mrs Barkway. Case dismissed

1914, 20th March A lively suffrage meeting was held in Cowbridge town hall – Councillor C.M. Davies presided & Miss B. Foxley, M.A. of Cardiff University delivered an address. It was ‘brimming with fun’ and ‘it was evident at the outset that a very large section of the crowded audience had taken the “non-militant” plea with a very big pinch of salt’. Mrs Ebsworth of Llandough Castle several times appealed for a fair hearing for the speaker, but ‘immediately she resumed her seat pandemonium reigned again’. But Miss Foxley ‘stuck to her guns without showing the least ruffle of temper’… Questions asked by Messrs J.W. Hall, T.J. Yorwerth, W.T. Gwyn & A.G. James were not antagonistic to Women’s Suffrage, but against the outrages perpetrated by women – one speaker classed them as ‘lunatics’.

1914, 1st May Sydney Jenkins, Cowbridge, fined 7s. for riding his motor-cycle through Eastgate Street at dusk at about 30 to 35 miles an hour. No lights. Children had to scamper out of the way.

1914, 23rd May Sale of Llansannor House estate – freehold residential & agricultural estate, about 250 acres (includes Ham Farm, Isycoed Farm etc)

1914, 26th June Alexandra Day at Cowbridge was organised by the mayor (Alderman J Llewellyn) & Mrs Tyler of Llantrithyd. It fell on Fair Day, Wednesday, & there were 32 rose-sellers for Cowbridge & district. Business opened at 7 am & only a few refused to ‘buy a rose’. Passing motor cars were held up to contribute, & a tea with entertainment held in the Town Hall. Between £30 & £40 raised. Miss Bertha Williams & Miss Maud Llewellyn main ones involved.

1914, 3rd July Article under the title of ‘Weekly Interviews’ – that of William Aaron James of Stafford House, Westgate, Cowbridge

Glamorgan Gazette
1915, 10th July  Whilst playing on the roadside at Llanblethian, the 5 year old son of Mr & Mrs. H. Ryall of Picton Cottage was kicked by a horse and later died.

Glamorgan Gazette

1914, 24th July  Mr Clay’s subscription otter hounds will meet Tuesday at Cowbridge 10.30 am

Abergavenny Chronicle

1914, 31st July  Mr C A Sheperd, eldest son of the late Dr Sheperd, died while following the Otter Hounds near the swimming baths. Aged 21, he had followed the hounds for some considerable distance, & when crossing a brook was seen to stagger & fall. Mr J Croome who was following behind went to his assistance, & Dr Torney came quickly. But he had died. He arrived home from Oxford only a few days ago for the summer vacation & was due to go to Ireland with his mother.

Glamorgan Gazette.

1914, 31st July  Before Cowbridge Police Court, the following were dealt with in respect of their non-attendance of their children at school: William Sheldon, attendance order made; Margaret Davies 2s 6d; William Organ 5s; Alice Chessell 2s 6d; George Austin, order made; M Samuel, order made.

Glamorgan Gazette

1914, 21st August  Col Prichard of Pwllywrach has initiated a movement for the establishment of a force, ‘The Vale of Glamorgan Defence Corps’. The Mayor & Corporation of Cowbridge are co-operating in the work of organising this, & Scout-master Vivian S. Gwyn has been appointed secretary. The Mayor (Ald. J. Llewellyn) is inviting contributions to the Prince of Wales’ National Relief Fund. Because of the war, the Annual Vale Show has been cancelled this year.

Glamorgan Gazette

1914, 4th September  Letter to The Glamorgan Gazette from Zoe M Ebsworth, Llandough Castle – correcting statement she was reported to have made at the Red Cross meeting that she had said ‘all money collected should be sent to Bridgend’. She feels all money collected in Cowbridge & district should go to the Cowbridge branch of the Red Cross.

1914, 11th September  ‘Cowbridge has responded to the call to arms. The last batch to leave consisted of nine members of the Cowbridge Cricket Club, including their pro. The men had received their uniforms when enlisting, and when they left Cowbridge on Monday morning to join the 5th Welsh at Neyland they looked remarkably fit. They were given an enthusiastic send off. We are proud of ‘the boys’ of Cowbridge and district, many of whom have enlisted at a great personal sacrifice, & even if they are denied the pleasure of having a pop at the enemy, when victory comes they will have the satisfaction of knowing that they helped to gain it by responding to the call of duty. We hope that none of them will be stumped, caught or bowled. May they all have a good innings & all carry their bats out. Bravo Vale of Glamorgan!’.

Glamorgan Gazette

1914, 15th September  Instructions from Col Prichard (who is leaving) to sell cattle, horses, pigs, meadow hay, implements including brougham & household furniture, Pwllywrach, Colwinson.

Western Mail
1914, 18<sup>th</sup> September  A family of Belgian refugees, eight in number, & representing 3 generations, are now being provided for in Cowbridge. A comfortable cottage was secured, useful articles of furniture were put in by many anxious to help, good beds were provided & the walls were adorned with pictures, and the pantry crammed with substantial food. Rabbits, bacon, home-made jam, vegetables & fruit, a good supply of coal in the cellar, firewood chopped ready for use. Among the things provided were needles, cotton, wool & even a couple of thimbles. When Mr A S Evans (who had brought the refugees from Cardiff n 2 of his motor cars) arrived, the poor people, who had suffered so much, were shown into their temporary home….. Miss James (sister of Alderman W A James, JP) who is able to converse with the refugees in their own language, has proved a great help & comfort to them. 

1914, 25<sup>th</sup> September  Mrs Ebsworth of Llandough Castle is also providing for a number of Belgian refugees. They are being well cared for in 2 cottages in Llandough.

1914, 2<sup>nd</sup> October  The Belgian correspondent of the ‘Western Mail’ at Port Talbot reported he had received a letter from Mr James of Stafford House, Cowbridge, who had taken in refugees. He asked if the correspondent could come & see his little crowd of eight who were ‘jabbering round his ears some sort of Chinese dialect out of which he could not make head nor tail’. He wanted to tell them lots of things to make them happy, & could see they wished to do the same, but he felt he was too old to learn Flemish. The correspondent (a Belgian) managed to get a lift on a motor-bike to Cowbridge to meet them all. Apparently, Mr James had gone into Cardiff to collect four refugees, but on hearing there was a family of eight, he took all those. He was banking all the money that well-wishers were handing in for them, so that when they returned to Belgium they would have ‘a tidy sum’. They went out into his garden, and the family gathered readily around Mr James (including four children, and a ‘granny with snow white hair leaning on a stick’). They wanted news of Belgium, and how their town of Malines was faring. They were very grateful for all the kindness being shown to them, especially by Mr & Mrs James, and the eldest child asked to be taught a few English sentences in order to express his gratitude. They felt ashamed that they were consuming two loaves of bread each day – ‘The bread is so good & we like it so much’. When Mr James said they could have four loaves a day, it brought tears to the granny’s eyes. The correspondent promised to return, bringing the children some toys.

1914, 2<sup>nd</sup> October  Tuesday was flag day in Cowbridge. The lady members of the Red Cross Society, in their neat uniforms, were busy in the street from early morning selling miniature flags. The proceeds were in aid of the Red Cross funds.

1914, 23<sup>rd</sup> October  The following is a list of the names of those who have responded to the call of duty at Cowbridge – W G Thomas, T Llewellyn, A Llewellyn, H Cawte, A Niblett, A Gunter, J Bishop, T Brakewell, J Case, C Chard, W Chissell, E Crowley, T David, T E David, O Evans, B Hawkins, D H Harries, V Hopkins, J Hughes, R Jenkins, W H King, E Lane, J Marks, T McCarthy, D Miles, A Morgan, J W Nicholl, A Pates, G

1914, 30th October Among the members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force who have arrived in England & are now in training are four old Cowbridge boys – Rev. B Payne, chaplain (son of the late Mr T Payne, N.P. Bank), Sgt. Edmund Thomas (son of the late Mr Thomas, Cowbridge Arms), Sid Thomas (son of Mr R Thomas, mason) & B Stockwood (son of Mr J Stockwood, magistrates’ clerk).

1914, 30th October The Cowbridge Fire Brigade was inspected by the mayor, Ald. J. Llewellyn & members of the Fire Brigade Committee. Lieut. Spencer put the brigade through their drill, after which, at the request of Capt. Tilley, the mayor made a careful examination of the men’s equipment, the fire engine & the fire station. Three members of the brigade & one probationer (E. Crowley, J. Harris, J. Wilmott & J. Bishop) were absent, having joined the army for the war. Their places would however be kept open for them till their term of service expires. All had supper afterwards at the Duke of Wellington, served by Lieut. & Mrs Spencer.

1914, 30th October An appeal by D C Edmonds, President, Newcastle & Cowbridge Division, War Relief Clothing Guild for Children : seeking boys’ shirts, knickerbockers & jerseys in particular, to replenish the initial stock which has supplied 100 needy children. Any money given will be spent on boots or used to provide needlework for poor women (material supplied & a fair sum of money for the labour). ‘The cold & wet weather is already commencing & many of the children in these divisions are without proper clothes owing to their fathers having been out of regular work for some months’.

1914, 30th October List of names of refugees at Cowbridge (also those at Porthcawl). ‘If refugees in one place have friends in another, they will be able to keep in touch’:

Virginie Vleesschomver, Molenstraat 97, Malines; Gabriel Noeth, Malines; Leonie Noeth, Malines; Francois Noeth, Malines; Louis Noeth, Malines; Achilles Noeth, Malines; Mathilde Aerts, Malines; Virginie Aerts, Malines.

1914, 30th October At Cowbridge Police Court, Harry Hoffman, a German, charged with having disobeyed an order to surrender his resident permit & to leave the country. Had previously been charged with being an unregistered alien. He admitted to saying in a Barry barber’s shop ‘All Britishers ought to have their hands cut off’. Sentenced to 6 months imprisonment.

1914, 6th November Second-Lieutenant Hugh Thomas Ackland-Allen, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, killed in action. He was the only son of Mr C Ackland-Allen of St Hilary Manor. 21 years of age.
1914, 6th November  A fancy dress football match took place at Cowbridge last Wednesday. The proceeds were spent on cigarettes & tobacco to be sent to the Cowbridge boys who have joined Kitchener’s Army – sent to each Cowbridge boy at the camps of Dover, Colchester, Shorncliffe, Neyland etc., a fortnight’s supply of cigarettes & tobacco. It is hoped to continue to send a similar supply each fortnight till Christmas. Those at the front will receive parcels.

Glamorgan Gazette

1914, 13th November  The second of a series of Welsh Army recruiting meetings (organised under the joint auspices of the Liberal & Conservative Associations of South Glamorgan) was held at the Town Hall. Col. H.R. Homfray, Penlline Castle, presided – a ‘most extraordinary meeting composed as it were of men representing all shades of religious & political opinions, working together for one common object’. People were urged ‘to respond to a man to the call of the country to fight the gravest menace the world had ever known’. ‘There could be no peace until the Prussian military caste had been defeated’.

Glamorgan Gazette

1914, 13th November  Cowbridge people are greatly indebted to the Vicar (Rev. I Roberts) for providing them with an up-to-date cinematograph entertainment. The first of the winter series was given on Tuesday. The excellent war pictures brought vividly to the minds of the crowded audience the horrors through which the Belgians had passed. The entertainment throughout was very instructive. The Vicar was assisted by the Rev. DR Davies. The musical programme was provided by Councillor WL Jenkins.

Glamorgan Gazette

1914, 11th December  Concern that young farmers of the Vale enjoy themselves on the hunting field ‘while so many of our noblest & best are staking their lives in defence of the homeland’. Talk of the young men who gather in the Lesser Hall every Wednesday evening. I know…. It is absolutely necessary for some to remain at home in order that ‘Business should be as usual’, but that can be ‘an excuse for cowardice’…

Glamorgan Gazette

1914, 18th December  Cowbridge United! The call has come to Cowbridge as it has to the whole of the British Empire, to stand firm, to give of its best, & to sacrifice, & Cowbridge has nobly responded. Parents giving up their sons, wives parting with their husbands, young men responding to the call for England, Home & Duty, ladies busy plying the needle making comforts for our brave lads, raising funds in every possible manner for the relief of the sufferers, providing a home & caring for the suffering, but brave, Belgian Refugees. Bravo Cowbridge! – ‘Cowbridge Siftings by Velox’

Glamorgan Gazette

1914, 18th December  The two authorities of Cowbridge & Llantrisant ‘should sink their jealousies & cooperate in the preparation of a joint scheme – to develop more housing (e.g. in the Glan Ely area, where the mansion & grounds had been acquired by Mr David Davies M.P) for the estimated explosion in population from eighteen to one hundred
Cowbridge and District notes 1900s

thousand. It was proposed to develop a co-operative garden village at Glan Ely, containing 400-500 workmen’s dwellings

1914, 18th December Messrs Edward John & Son of Cowbridge are making a special display of engines suitable for farm work. The one advertised mostly at this time is the Almanco, the Farmer’s Machine. It is a wonderfully brilliant piece of machinery, & will accomplish work that the ordinary rated engine up to 5 or 6 h-p cannot accomplish. The price is only £29.

1915, 5th February The work of converting the cattle market into a depot for the Yeomanry horses has proved that when necessity arises ‘sleepy old Cowbridge’ can be very much awake.

1915, 19th March Notes on the rivalry between Llantwit Major & Cowbridge – some years ago, a proud Llantonian composed this after dinner verse: ‘Llantwit was Llantwit, When Cowbridge Was Not; Llantwit shall be Llantwit, When Cowbridge is Forgot’.

1915, 26th March In Cowbridge Police Court – David L Griffiths, farmer of Welsh St Donats, was fined 7s.6d. for having left a horse & trap unattended; William Fitzgerald of Cowbridge was fined 5s. for having ridden his bicycle without a lighted lamp; Henry Golden of Cowbridge was fined 7s. for having kept a dog without a licence

1915, 2nd April The Cowbridge young ladies are now beginning to look forward to a certain amount of gloom to the time when we shall see the last of the Yeomanry. The C Squadron has arrived, & some of the ladies are wondering why the authorities keep the best squadron until the last.

1915, 28th May Nomination for Cowbridge Town Council following the death of Councillor Edwin Lewis – Mr Edward Williams of Hill Side, Cowbridge, formerly of The Slade. Has lived in the district for many years.

1915, 18th June The number of eggs given in ‘Velox’s’ notes last week as being given by the Penlline School children should have read by the Llangan, St Mary Hill & Penlline schoolchildren. The ladies in the parishes of Llanmihangel, Llannaes & Llysworney have also done good work in this direction. A total of 774 eggs collected for wounded soldiers.

1915, 9th July The Yeomanry are still in the town. When the advance guard left on Saturday it was thought that the main body would have left by now. On Friday an interesting cricket match took place between a team of young ladies & a Yeomanry eleven. The ladies gave the soldiers a thoroughly good game, some of them following in their brother’s footsteps. Of course the ladies won, but the excellent tea which followed took the sting out of the defeat. In the evening the men gave a concert in the Town Hall.
1915, 9th July  A party of wounded soldiers – Canadian & Australian – who are being nursed at Ash Hall, the beautiful residence of Mr & Mrs Tudor Owen, on Saturday last motored through the charming Vale of Glamorgan to Dinas Powis, & were entertained by the president & members of the bowling & tennis club. On their return home they visited Barry Island.

Barry Dock News

1915, 23rd July  Notice given by Joseph Stainen, Coedhills Stud Farm and the Bush Inn, St Hilary – to the public & all whom it may concern : whereas reports have been circulated and statements made to the effect that I am a German, which...are utterly untrue as I am British born of British parents. The place of my birth, and that of my Father & Mother was Stratford-on-Avon, while my paternal Grandfather & Great-grandfather were born in Packington, Warwickshire, and my maternal Grandparents were also born in that county. If, after the publication of this notice, any person or persons circulate reports or make statements to the effect that I am of German or other Alien nationality, I will cause proceedings to be instituted…. (Witnessed by Wm. T. Gwyn, solicitor, Cowbridge).

Glamorgan Gazette

1915, 30th July  Mr John Lewis, late of Breigam Farm & now of Bridgend, has been giving interesting information from his memories – when he was 23, his whole family moved into Brigam, taking the tenancy under Sir Ivor Guest, afterwards Lord Wimborne. John Lewis was associated with the farm until 1912, for about 61 years. Then he retired at nearly 85.

Glamorgan Gazette

1915, 7th August  A military escort arrived at Cowbridge to fetch an absentee. No absentee was there & nothing was known of one. After inquiries, it was found that the escort had come to Cowbridge in mistake for Trowbridge.

South Wales Daily Post

1915, 20th August  A gallant rescue from drowning near the swimming baths on Sunday morning – a horse rescued by someone who removed his trousers before entering the water & there were many looking on.

Glamorgan Gazette

1915, 20th August  The Barry Brotherhood Male Voice Party gave a concert to the 7th Welsh Cyclists at Cowbridge Camp on Wednesday week last.

Barry Dock News

1915, 23rd August  Wedding of Mr H C R Homfray, Glamorgan Yeomanry, son of Col. H R Homfray, Penllyn Castle, Cowbridge, to Miss Franklen, Clemenstone, will take place at Llandow church on September 15th.

South Wales Daily News

1915, 15th October  The cricket field in Cowbridge has now been secured – Mr Ebsworth accepted £700 as purchase money (having paid £1200 for the field in 1895) & Mr S.H. Byass advanced £400 on loan for 3 years free of interest. The remainder has been raised by donations & subscriptions.
Wedding at Cowbridge Church between Mr Sydney Knapton, son of Mrs Knapton, Town Hall Square, & Miss Hilda Anne Weston of Cheshire.

Glamorgan Gazette
1915, 29th October  T E David, son of Mr Edward David of Eastgate Street, joined the Royal Sussex at the outbreak of the war when only 15 years of age, received 9 months’ training, was sent to the front, has seen several warm corners, has been wounded & in hospital, out again in the firing line, spent his 16th birthday in the trenches & has not been allowed a single day’s leave since joining.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1915, 29th October  Death of Lance-Corporal Ronald Wall, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, in the Military Hospital at Warminster on October 14th in his 24th year. He had been associated with Cowbridge Grammar School as a boy & as a junior master for some years. Boundless energy & sympathy. A tower of strength among the smaller boys – a ‘father confessor’. One of the weekly diversions was to walk out into the country on Tuesday afternoon with Mr Wall, when the physical geography lesson of the day was illustrated by visits to spring or quarry. It was not unusual to see him bringing home one of the weary boys on his back. His parade for the swimming bath in the summer term with the boys, all decorated in uniform style with their towels, was a familiar sight, & many stopped to watch it as it swung through the town. Last July, with an enthusiastic send-off, he enlisted in the Northumberland Fusiliers & as was expected, threw himself with all his accustomed energy into his new life, gaining his stripe as lance-corporal. The strain, however, of very hard work in inclement weather proved too much for him, & he had to go into hospital where he died two days after being admitted in the presence of his relatives who had been summoned to his side. He was buried with full military honours at Sutton Veny on October 16th. One month divides his death from that of his greatest friend & companion, Lieut. J.T. Edwards, of the 1st Liverpools, who fell in France.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1915, 15th November  Death of Alderman W A James of Stafford House, Cowbridge – obituary. 

Glamorgan Gazette

1915, 12th November  Sgt. A B Chard of the 5th South Staffs (son of Mrs Chard, Eastgate, was on the staff of the ‘Walsall Advertiser’ before enlisting. His last words to his fellow workmen before leaving were ‘Carry on till I come back’; His last words when leading his company into action were ‘Come on, Staffords’ & he fell a few moments afterwards. Corporal Breakwell of Sunnyside, Llanblethian, a Reservist in the Welsh
Fusiliers, has found a soldier’s grave in France, while his widow & three little children are left weeping in quiet Llanblethian.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1915, 3rd December  Lance-Corporal F W Gibbs of Cowbridge has arrived home from Manchester Hospital. He is one of the 5th Welsh & went out to the Dardanelles last July, returning to England invalided in September. He has been confined to hospital since then, but last Friday was released & returned home for a 10 days’ furlough. He was in the greatest advance early in August. He has a brother serving with the 2-7 Welsh Cyclists.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1915, 3rd December  The Vicar’s Cinema has now become a most welcome institution in the town. Crowded house & excellent entertainment.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1915, 10th December  Funeral at St Mary’s Church, Cowbridge of Mr Charles Jackson Gwyn, brother of Mr W T Gwyn & Mr D J Gwyn.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 25th February  Edward Morgan of Llanblethian charged with being drunk & disorderly. He expressed his regret, and assured the magistrates that it would ‘never, never happen again; no, take my oath, gentlemen, I will go straight from here & take the pledge’. Fined 5 shillings.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 31st March  Ruth Davies of the Crown & Anchor public house, Cowbridge, fined £2 for supplying drinks to convalescent soldiers from the Beaupre Red Cross hospital  

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 5th April Sale of seed oats, petrol engine, sow, pigs etc at Great House Farm, Penllyn (Mr Radcliffe is leaving).  

Western Mail

1916, 12th May  Ystradowen – the new Church Hall was opened with a cinema entertainment given by Rev. I Roberts, Vicar of Cowbridge & his assistants. The proceeds will be devoted towards liquidating the debt which still remains on the building.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 22nd May  Lieut. HAF Dunn of the Royal Monmouthshire Royal Engineers, was drowned in the river Monnow near Monmouth on Sunday afternoon. He went to bathe with D.O. Williams in the river near the camp, & although he was a good swimmer he got into difficulties. Lieut. Williams did all he could to save him, & nearly lost his life in the attempt. The body was recovered about 20 minutes afterwards.  

Western Mail

1916, 23rd June  As well as providing instruction & amusement to crowded houses during the winter, the Vicar has, as a result of his cinema entertainments, been able to hand over nearly £55 to various institutions, among which are included the Y.M.C.A. Hut Fund, the Beaupre Hospital etc.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 30th June  A young lady, arriving at her place of business in High Street one morning, found she had lost the key of the shop. In a few moments, there were at her side
a wine merchant’s manager, an ironmonger, an auctioneer, a grocer, a chemist, an outfitter & a motor mechanic. A newspaper man, who was hurrying up with screw drivers etc arrived too late. By the combined efforts of the lady’s friends, locks, bolts & bars had been burst asunder.

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 18th August  Camp at Ash Hall, near Cowbridge of Ferndale Scouts, who promised to return next year in greater numbers. Were given free use of the Cowbridge swimming baths

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 25th August  There will be a ‘Pound Day’ in aid of Beaupre Red Cross Hospital on Wednesday. All contributions will be gratefully received at the hospital between 2 o’clock & 4 o’clock, or at the depot in Cowbridge.

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 1st September  Death of another Cowbridge boy – Sgt-Major Lane. A further batch of young men left the town this week for service with the colours.

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 22nd September  Private Herbert D Williams of the 12th Gloucesters died of wounds in France. He joined up soon after the outbreak of hostilities. He had been engaged in Lloyds Bank, Bristol. The youngest son of Councillor John Williams & Mrs Williams.

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 29th December  Death of Mrs Chard, quartermaster of the Beaupre Red Cross Hospital & secretary of the local Red Cross Society. 60 years old. Widow of the late Mr Harry Chard, Cowbridge schoolmaster. She leaves 2 sons who are on active service, while another son, Sergt. Cecil Chard, was recently killed in action.

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 20th October  Letter: ‘Wounded & invalid soldiers from the two Red Cross Hospitals near Cowbridge are daily in the town, often accompanied by relatives from a distance. In bad weather it is pitiable to see them walking in the streets without any shelter. They are forbidden the use of licensed houses, & we have no restaurant they could turn into. Besides, while in hospital they receive no pay & are penniless unless supplied by friends. Many charitable ladies & gentlemen living near would willingly contribute to the trifling expense of the upkeep of a room, with a cheerful fire, where the lads who have “done their bit” could meet their comrades & enjoy a smoke and chat free from interference, for the few hours daily during which they have leave, through the dreary days of autumn & winter. Will one or all of the six resident ministers of the Gospel take this matter up? Yours etc, ONE WHO KNOWS THE TOMMIES.

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 27th October  Indignant letter from Sydney H. Byass, Hon. Sec. of Beaupre Red Cross Hospital, Llandough Castle – someone had suggested that no provision had been made in the town for wounded & invalid soldiers. Mr Byass said that the men in the local hospitals were made honorary members of the Cowbridge Institute, with free use of the rooms there as well as of the billiard table. He said the men made constant use of this facility, and that ‘the inhabitants of Cowbridge continue to take the greatest interest in the welfare of the men who have done so much for our country’.

Glamorgan Gazette
1916, 24\textsuperscript{th} November  Mayor’s Sunday in Cowbridge – very large turn out to accompany Capt. T J Yorwerth to the Limes C.M. Church. The procession was headed by a company of County Police, & included the Fire Brigade, railway men, postmen, staff officers of the A.S.C., County & Borough Magistrates, members of the Town Council, a large number of citizens and many of the Vale’s leading farmers, & probably for the first time in the history of Cowbridge a number of wounded soldiers from the Ash Hall Hospital in the charge of Mrs Owen.

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 1\textsuperscript{st} December  Second-Lieutenant Hugh Aubrey Fairfield Dunn, Royal Monmouthshire Royal Engineers, of The Cross, Llanblethian, who died on May 21\textsuperscript{st} aged 28, left property of the gross value of £5,569, to his brother Mr Frederick Evan Philip Dunn of The Cross.

Glamorgan Gazette

1916, 29\textsuperscript{th} December  Death of Mrs Chard of Cowbridge, quarter-master of the Beaupre Red Cross Hospital, after a short illness. She was the widow of the late Mr Chard, Cowbridge schoolmaster. She leaves 2 sons who are on active service; another son, Sgt. Cecil Chard, was recently killed in action.

Glamorgan Gazette

1917, 9\textsuperscript{th} February  Funeral at St Mary’s, Cowbridge of John David, auctioneer – died aged 62, one of ‘Nature’s gentlemen’. Born at Tynycoed, Bonvilston, educated at Llantrithyd School, succeeding to the business of the late Mr John Thomas, auctioneer & valuer; keen judge of all farm stock, agent to the Rayer estate, deacon & secretary of the Limes Calvanistic Methodist Church, Cowbridge. Coffin carried by members of Cowbridge Fire Brigade.

Glamorgan Gazette

1917, 2\textsuperscript{nd} March  Entertainment in the Town Hall given last Saturday to which the wounded soldiers from the Beaupre, Ash Hall, Southerndown, Pontyclun, Bridgend & Coytrahen Hospitals had been invited. After the soldiers had taken their seats, the doors were opened to the general public & the hall was crammed in a very few minutes. The artists were all new to the town – conjuror & ventriloquist, contralto, elocutionist, humourist & accompanist. A presentation of an illuminated address was made to Lieut. F G Evans of Cowbridge by the Town Council in recognition of his winning the Military Cross.

Glamorgan Gazette

1917, 9\textsuperscript{th} March  From ‘Cowbridge Siftings’ : ‘Jingling Geordie’ has come to stay. Mr J. Staien, St Hilary, is to be congratulated upon having secured this noted horse. He has been awarded the King’s premium & has been allocated to this district. Perhaps a word of warning to ‘suffragettes’ to keep out of the way would not be out of place. ‘Jingling Geordie’ ran 5\textsuperscript{th} in the Derby of 1912. He was in the bunch when the unfortunate ‘suffragette’ threw herself on the course & was trampled to death. Also – notice to all whom it might concern. Several young ladies please note. Our boys at the Front still appreciate all the cigarettes they can get. No offence of course but we were wondering whether the growing smoking habit among the young ladies would limit the supply.

Glamorgan Gazette
1917, 13th April   Wedding at St Marks’ Newport on Easter Monday between Miss Gwenllian David, daughter of Mr T. David, Rectory Road, and Mr David Tilley, deputy mayor of Cowbridge. The bride was given away by her brother & was attended by her sister, Miss May David, as bridesmaid. The best man was Mr T. Mills of Cowbridge, cousin of the bridegroom. Officiating clergy – Rev Isaiah Roberts, vicar, Rev W.F Evans, Cowbridge & the Rev W. Griffiths curate, Guests were the mayor & mayoress of Cowbridge, Captain & Mrs T. Yorwerth

1917, 1st June   The open-air swimming bath has just had its annual spring cleaning.

1917, 15th June   Sgt. W Fitzgerald of the Glamorgan Constabulary, who before the war was stationed at Tonyrefail, has been awarded the Military Medal. He took command when his commissioned officers were hit. He is the son of Mr & Mrs J Fitzgerald of 5 Aubrey Terrace, Cowbridge

1917, 13th July   Miss Verley Brown of Caxton House, Eastgate, Cowbridge has obtained her degree of B.A. at Cardiff University. She had attended the High School for girls, & Mrs Forrester, headmistress, has granted the scholars a holiday in honour of the event.

1917, 20th July   Garden fete held at Ash Hall Auxiliary Hospital on July 11th. Opened by Mrs Watson of Llansannor Court – needlework stall, fancy stall, dairy stall, flower stall, hoop-la & jumble stall. In the evening, the Pontyclun Orpheus Glee Society gave a concert on the lawn. Collection divided among the men at the hospital.

1917, 10th August   The Boy Scouts of Ferndale, Wattstown & Treherbert are in camp (about 100) on the Cowbridge Cricket Field. Their presence in the town considerably brightens the place up.

1917, 17th August   Mrs J A Jones (nee Muriel Evans, Eastfield, Cowbridge), wife of Mr J A Jones, Commissioner, Kibi, West Africa, was on the voyage from West Africa when the vessel was torpedoed. Mrs Jones, who was coming home to visit her parents, was for nearly three hours in an open boat before being picked up by a passing yacht. All her baggage has been lost.

1917, 9th November   One of the leading farmers in the Cowbridge district, who has for many years delivered fresh butter to a large number of customers in Cowbridge, refused to deliver on Friday as usual because the local food committee have fixed the price at 2/2 per pound. He expressed his willingness to supply for 2/3 per pound. At present there is a complete deadlock & many families have this week to go short of their usual supply.

1917, 16th November   Herbert Fulljames, steward on board ship, granted a decree nisi because of alleged misconduct between his wife, Florence Lydia, formerly Lewis, & a
co-respondent named Rogers. The wife admitted she was living with Rogers. He had identified her at Llanblethian.

1917, 21st December  Concert given at the High School for Girls in aid of St Dunstan’s Institute for Blind Soldiers. The large audience was delighted with the girls’ dancing, from the stately minuet to the sprightly Scottish reel & the gay gypsy dance of one of the youngest pupils. The chief items were the trial scene from ‘The Merchant of Venice’, & a farce ‘Ici On Parle Francais’…The guests of the afternoon were patients of Ash Hall & Beaupre Red Cross Hospitals.

1918, 22nd February  Cowbridge was long the only district without an allotment society. Now the townspeople & others interested have ‘toed the line’ with other districts & the Cowbridge Borough & Rural District Allotments Society Ltd. Its president is Councillor W L Jenkins, mayor. Strongly supported by railwaymen etc. Membership has reached 70 in less than a week. Mr R C Phelps as representative of the Agricultural Organisation Society is advising on various matters. The secretary is Mr G Webb, Riverside Cottage, Aberthin.

1918, 31st May  Sgt Major R Goulden of Cowbridge, who some time ago was awarded the D.C.M. for gallantry, has again won distinction – awarded the Military Medal. After winning the D.C.M. he was presented with a gold watch & chain by the inhabitants.

1918, 19th June  For sale – Llansannor House (with photograph), including the ornamental grounds (‘The Warren’) & land surrounding, 21 acres, 2 rods & 16 perches, buildings stabling & coach house or garage; & three workmen’s cottages; also the freehold farm, Isycoed Farm, containing 26 acres, 1 rod or thereabouts. The residence – sanitary arrangements are up to date & the house is lit by gas. The water supply, derived from a well on the premises, is pure & never failing.

1918, 12th July  Memorial service at Ramoth Baptist Chapel in memory of Lance-Corporal Gwilym Llewellyn, who succumbed to enteric in France. At the service, Miss Louisa Jenkins, faithful & consistent member of the church, died suddenly in her seat. Aged 42, she had for a quarter of a century been the faithful help of Mrs Thomas of Thorn Villa, formerly of Llwynhelig Farm. The funeral took place at Cowbridge parish church on Tuesday of Mrs Bond, wife of John Bond, West Village, after a long & painful illness at the King Edward Hospital, Cardiff. She leaves a husband and a young family.

1918, 9th August  The Cowbridge branch of the National Union of Railwaymen, supported by members from other branches, held their annual church parade on Sunday. A procession was formed in Eastgate. The rout taken was through the town, then via Crossways, Marlborough, Llanblethian & the Verlands back into Cowbridge. Collections were made en route. Tea for the visitors was provided on the Sons of Temperance Hall, & after a service held in Ramoth Chapel. The Talygarn Silver Band headed the procession.
1918, 13th September  On Saturday, August 31st, five ‘boys’ returned from the war responded to the invitation of the Reception Committee & lined up on the platform of the Town Hall before a crowded & enthusiastic audience. It was a trying experience for them, but Mr W T Gwyn (town clerk) who presided, soon put them at their ease. They were presented with tokens of appreciation. The five heroes were Pte. Morgan Thomas of St Hilary, Pte. Bryn Davies, Pte. W Oakley, Pte. T M Jenkins & Pte. Fred Kelly (not strictly a Cowbridge boy). Pte. T M Jenkins, although no longer a boy, looked as happy as ever. A soldier’s life is not new to him – he has the ribbon of the Boer War…..Cheer after cheer was given & the singing of ‘For They Are Jolly Good fellows’ must have been heard on the Stalling Down……Mrs Birley of Westgate has received information that her son Pte. William Birley has been killed in action. Pte. W Bishop had told his mother that he had assisted at the burial. Also, Lieut. T H Torney has fallen in action; known as ‘Tommy’ he was a ‘blithe & happy lad’. He received his commission on his 17th birthday & had been 2 years in France. The son of Captain Hastings Torney R.A.M.C. & Mrs Torney.

Glamorgan Gazette

1918, 13th September  Mr Frank Sanders, foreman of the Bridge Garage, has lifted 140lbs. of ‘Majestic’ variety from 1lb.1oz seed potatoes. Some of them were of a remarkable size.

Glamorgan Gazette

1918, 4th October  A special meeting of the Cowbridge Soldiers’ & Sailors’ Reception Ctte. In the Council Chamber presented 2 officers with tokens of appreciation. Capt. David Evans R.A.M.C., elder son of Mr & Mrs A S Evans of Eastfield, who is now at homer recovering from a severe attack of gas poisoning, & Lieut. Alun John (son of Mrs W John, Westgate), now in hospital recovering from wounds. Two other Cowbridge lads have fallen – Pte. W Archer, who only seemed yesterday was a schoolboy, & Sgt. Arthur Jones, son of Mr & Mrs William Jones, Paradwys Farm, Aberthin, who only returned from leave about a fortnight ago. Before being transferred to France, he served three years in Egypt. His brother, Sgt-Major D Jones assisted at the last rites. Sgt. Jones was one of 4 serving brothers.

Glamorgan Gazette

1918, 15th November  Peace Day came in reality on Monday. In less than half an hour after the news came, Cowbridge was ablaze with bunting. Cheers for our brave lads at the front, cheers for our wounded at home, cheers for our Allies……Mr A S Evans drove the points of his speech home by mighty thumps on the table.

Glamorgan Gazette


Glamorgan Gazette

1919, 2nd May  Mr D C Watts of Cowbridge held a sale of repatriated army horses at Bridgend, when 40 were offered & a total of £2076 raised.

Glamorgan Gazette

1919, 6th June  Rhoscelyn, 36 Eastgate, sold for £700 to Mr R Thomas of the London City & Midland Bank, Cowbridge. The nine year lease extends from 1878 at a ground
1919, 11th July A mass meeting was held at the Town Hall for the purpose of stimulating the people to invest in the great Victory Loan. Mr Ernest Whone, the local secretary for War Savings, has worked hard in & out of season. Success has crowned his efforts & Cowbridge holds a proud place in the list of subscribers.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1919, 25th July The late Dr Thomas Llewellyn Evans of Penllyn Court, Cowbridge, and 14 Howland St, Tottenham Court Rd, London left property of the gross value of over £7000. 

Glamorgan Gazette

1919, 1st August Sale at Penllyn Court last week, under the instructions from the trustees under the will of the late Dr T L Evans, deceased. Total sale exceeded £2,500.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1919, 5th December Auction & jumble sale held by the Farmers’ Union at Cowbridge market, in aid of the Y.M.C.A. Gifts donated ranging from a cat to a large Welsh cheese. Likely amount raised is £150  

Glamorgan Gazette

1919, 26th December A pretty wedding held at Ramoth Baptist Chapel between Mr William Roberts of Newbridge & Miss Ethel Pickard, eldest daughter of Mr Pickard (Velox) & Mrs Pickard of Cowbridge. The bride wore a navy blue costume, with white fur, & hat to match. Miss Elsie Pickard was bridesmaid. The groom had served with submarines during the war. Rev B T Roberts, pastor, officiated.  

Glamorgan Gazette

1920, 4th March Sale of livestock & implements – Sutton Farm, Llandow (Messrs M & A.E Thomas giving up farming), includes 9 valuable horses, 7 head of cattle, agricultural implements, crops, cart horses.  

Western Mail

1923, 23rd March Lord Swansea was thrown from his horse riding at the Glamorgan point-to-point in Cowbridge …… injuries to his right eye & leg.  

Cork Examiner

1924, 26th November Details of the sale of the remaining portion of Cowbridge estate of Mr Owen Williams of Crossways, Llanblethian. Mr TR Thomas bought the farm ‘The Bridge’ or ‘Llanblethian Farm’, for example; Mr T Thomas of Stallcourt bought Bridge House, Llanblethian; Mr EW Miles bought Great House Farm, Llanblethian, with Old Tudor House, let as 2 residences (17 acres, 1 rod)on behalf of a client; 2 freehold cottages occupied by Mr GW Checketts & Mr G Bradley, were sold to Mr W James of Llanharry; the freehold mixed farm known as Hollybush or Llanquian was sold to Mr J Staieen of St Hilary; the freehold pasture farm known as Pantwilkin, occupied by Mr F Rose, was sold to the tenant privately prior to the sale; copyhold cottage & garden, The Gluepot, sold to the tenant Mr J Parker etc etc.  

Western Mail
Cowbridge and District notes 1900s

1925, 16th March  ‘Avondale’, Cowbridge – sale of household furniture & effects. The estate of the late Miss M. Tutton. Description of the furniture, including 2 ladies’ bicycles.  

1926, 26th April  An auction sale of surplus furnishings from Nash Manor, including oak chairs, inlaid cabinets, bedsteads, carpets, oil paintings, pony cart, saddles, tennis posts etc etc.  

1923, 9th May  Otter hunting appointments : Wye Valley – May 15th, Cowbridge  

1926, 21st July  Photograph of Williamstown miners at Cowbridge, marching through the streets collecting in aid of the miners’ distress fund.  

1927, 11th March  Funeral of Mr William Gunter, late foreman of the engine depot of the Taff Vale Railway at Cowbridge. Mourners gathered at the Baptist Chapel where a service was held, and the internment took place in the church burial ground.  

1927, 27th September  Cowbridge Council has provided a new cemetery because the medical officer of health had repeatedly called attention to the overcrowded state of the parish churchyard. So far there has only been one burial in the new ground, & the circumstances surrounding that solitary interment have served to emphasise a serious issue between the council & the vicar, who has declined to refuse permission for further burials in the churchyard. The vicar’s case is that he has no power to refuse as long as there are still spaces left in the churchyard. Statements have been made that there is not an inch of virgin space in the churchyard, & that every interment there for several years has meant the disturbance of some human remains. This the vicar denies and on October 5th an Inspector of the Ministry of Health will make his own investigations on the spot.  

Mr Wybert Thomas, an undertaker as well as a builder & contractor, said that his ancestor Jacob Horton was engaged as a lad on the weekly boat that traded at Caerleon in the days of the Napoleonic wars. He was ‘pressed’ into the navy & served as a gunner at Trafalgar. He afterwards settled at Cowbridge & kept the Red Lion inn, since demolished. He is buried with his first wife in Cowbridge churchyard, but the original headstone has now been moved to the church wall, and another person buried, with a new headstone, in the same grave.  

1927, 8th November  Sale of farming stock & implements – Vistla Farm, Penllyn (Mr Walter Mayball is leaving the farm).  

1928, 21st January  Mr Joseph William Hall JP of Beech Mount, Pittville Circus Rd., Cheltenham, formerly of Cowbridge and of Cardiff, retired colliery contractor & farmer, who died on October 26th last, left …. a silver medal presented to him as mayor of Cowbridge by Queen Victoria on her diamond jubilee to his brother John Benjamin Hall…..also money for the upkeep of the Cowbridge family graves in the churchyard…

Gloucester Journal
1928, 12th April Photograph with caption – yesterday’s wedding at Cowbridge between Mr J.C Clay, eldest son of Mr & Mrs Charles Clay of Wyndcliff Court Chepstow, & until recently Captain of Glamorgan County Cricket Club, and Miss Gwenllian Mary Homfray of Penllyn Castle

1928, 2nd June Wanted – strong girl as kitchen maid. Must have good references. Mrs Homfray, Penllyn Castle

1928, 7th July Glamorgan Licensing Committee met – five Cowbridge public houses had had their licences referred by local authorities. All had to pay sums of compensation: The Ancient Druid, Eastgate, Royal Oak, High Street, White Lion Inn, High Street, Westgate Inn, & the Maltsters Arms, Trerhyngyll

1928, 1st September For sale – Lot.1 freehold, old-world & picturesquely sited, cottage, garden & outbuildings known as Cimle, Craig Penllyn, about 1 rood 7 15 perches. Three bedrooms, 3 large living rooms, pantries etc., spacious outbuildings including stable with loft over & lean-to coach house, Separate wood 7 iron building suitable for a garage, as well as another similar building used as a fowl-house & pigstye. This cottage would make a charming weekend cottage…; lot 2. freehold parcel of garden ground (about 22 perches) situated near & on the southern side of Graig House in the village & parish of Penllyn (being near lot 1.), fronting the road from Penllyn to City.

1928, 21st September Notice given, in view of the continuance of the emergency which has arisen by reason of the existence of cases of small pox in the area of other local authorities, the council of this borough have …ordered…that chicken pox (to be notified)

1928, 9th October Sale of ‘a grand herd of 39 deep-milking shorthorn cows’ & a rover motor car etc. at New Beaupre, nr Cowbridge (Messrs A.E Wilkins & sons giving up farming).

1929, 22nd October Details of Alderman Lewis Jenkins of Graig House, retired brewer, ‘father’ & for more than 50 years a member of the Cowbridge Corporation, & on three occasions mayor of Cowbridge……. died on July 13th aged 94. Probate of his will to his children, Miss Mary Margaret Jenkins of the same address & Mr George Edward Jenkins of Rosemount, Hillside Park, Bargoed, bank manager. He left his household effects & his freehold premises known as the Post Office, the Old Druids & a cottage & garden in Eastgate street to his daughter…..his shares in the Great Western Railway Company to his son…..;lands known as Little White Moor and lands adjoining in the parish of Llantwit Major, a public house known as The Three Boars Head, Cowbridge, land known as Graigluan, Erw Martin, and a field adjoining the Stalling Down to his grandson John Lewis Jenkins; a farm & lands known as Tymaen, Ystradowen, and lands adjoining Tycapper, & Fox Cottages, Llanharry, & garden ground with the old ruined house near to Brigam Farm to his grandson William Edward Jenkins; & the residue of his property to his son & daughter in equal shares.
1930, 11th February   Photograph with caption – the road near Cowbridge Common is being widened

1930, 5th March   Sale of a freehold house & shop in High Street, to Mr W.E Jones, the tenant, for £310

1930, 26th April   Wedding of Dr John Evans of Woodstock House, medical officer of health for the borough, eldest son of Mr & Mrs A S Evans of Eastfield, to Miss Dilys Myfanwy Thomas, eldest daughter of Mr T Thomas of Boverton Place, Llantwit Major, and of the late Mrs Thomas of Stallcourt.

1931   Death of Joanna Williams aged 84 of ‘Ishondale’, Cowbridge

1931, 6th February   Lieut.-Col. Hubert Cecil Prichard CBE, JP, of Pwellywrach, Colwinston, celebrating his birthday. He retired from the service in 1907, but re-joined during the European war and commanded for a period the 3rd Line South Wales Mounted Brigade.

1931, 12th February   Engagement announced between Mr WV Harman Rees, eldest son of Mr & Mrs Rees of Tre Vychan, Bridgend, to Miss Freda P. Mills, only daughter of Alderman & Mrs A.T Mills of Cowbridge. Mr Harman Rees is associated with his father in the conduct of the quarry & lime works at Southerndown Road, Bridgend.

1931, 15th July   Sale of household furniture & effects of the late Mrs King, Somerset House, Cowbridge

1932, 5th August   For sale daily, 17 gallons of well-cooled milk – Jenkins, Talyfan, Ystradowen, Cowbridge

1933, 1st April   Miss Maud Gunter delivered a speech to the League of Nations in Hengoed on ‘China, Japan & the League’. She reviewed the life of the Japanese & Chinese, tracing their steady advance from a modest mode of living to that of modern industrialism & how Japan, with its fast-growing population, required room …… only outlet was to emigrate and that was required at least at the rate of 50,000 per year

1933, 25th April   Death of Alderman A.T Mills, mayor of Cowbridge, at his home after being taken ill in a church service

1934, 23rd March   Brinley Thomas, a Cowbridge shoemaker of Adpar House, was burned to death in mysterious circumstances in the workshop in the garden of his house. Police investigating said Thomas, an active man of 51, was trapped in a hut from which he could have escaped.
1934, 19th April  The Women’s Institute welcomed a new institute this week – at Cowbridge – the ‘baby institute’ of the East Glamorgan group.  

‘Western Mail’

1934, 25th May  Shooting to let near Cowbridge from 2nd August next till February 2nd 1935. Good rough shooting & covert shooting, some pheasants turned out. Box C 4439, Western Mail, Cardiff

‘Western Mail’

1934, 30th October  Mr Matthew Wayne Morgan, the Cowbridge solicitor, died at his office on Monday. He lived at White Lodge, Cowbridge. He took over the practice of the late Mr EW Miles at Cowbridge 2 years ago.

‘Western Mail’

1936, 1st May  Photograph with caption – Mr Harry Llewellyn on ‘China Sea’, which won the Bassett Plate at Cowbridge races yesterday

‘Western Mail’

1937, 6th April  Sale of 2 freehold villas in Eastgate, Glynberws & Avondale, to Mr A.W Gwyn for a client for £810

‘Western Mail’

1937, 14th August  Cowbridge by-pass proposal- Major Sam Evans, divisional engineer (Wales) for the Ministry of Transport, sought the views of certain business people at Cowbridge. Proposed road would cost approximately a quarter of a million pounds. It would branch off the main road at a point near the here Ashes, between Bonvilston & St Hilary, & proceed in a north-westerly direction passing near the village of Aberthin, & re-join the main road above Cowbridge at a point near Pentremerryck. Conflicting opinions – tradesmen felt it would have a detrimental effect upon the trade of the town. Tremendous growth of traffic.

‘Western Mail’

1937, September  Wedding of Verley Brown, sister of twins Alan and Neil, to Mr J.M Russell, assistant master at Eye Grammar School, Suffolk (took place at Eye parish church). She was an assistant mistress at the same school. Honeymoon in Wales.  

‘Newspaper cutting’

1937, 15th November  Sale of household furniture & effects from Mrs E.E Thomas, Ffermwen, Flemingston

‘Western Mail’

1937, 24th December  Sale of live & dead farming stock – Great House, Penllyn (Mr T.B Griffiths giving up farming).

‘Western Mail’

1938, 21st July  Sale of freehold building ground & freehold cottages etc. & freehold pasture field at Primrose Hill near Cowbridge, and a freehold cottage, 6 The Limes, Cowbridge

‘Western Mail’

1939, 4th February  Advertisement for a ‘betweenmaid, not under 16, some experience – Mrs Nicholl Carne, Nash Manor’

‘Western Mail’

1939, 1st July  Sale of household furniture of the late Mrs Helen Miles

‘Western Mail’
Cowbridge and District notes 1900s

1940, 3rd July  For sale – freehold cottage known as The Herberts Cottage, St Mary Church. Two bedrooms, 2 rooms downstairs, washhouse & coalhouse, tool shed, WC & pig sty, now occupied by Mr F. Kendrick as tenant at will. Good garden at the front of the house & a plot of land at the rear.  

Western Mail

1940, 18th September  Mr Hopkin Thomas selling up his farm and stock (Twmpath Farm, Colwinston) – leaving & giving up farming.  

Western Mail

1941, 20th March  Sale of live & dead farming stock – Llanmihangel Place; instructions from the administration of the late Trevor Watts.  

Western Mail

1941, 24th May  Letter to the paper – Sir, As mistress in charge of the evacuee group in Cowbridge I fail to understand a paragraph in the Western Mail on Wednesday last to the effect that evacuees at Cowbridge said ‘There’s no chance for sneakin’ & pinchin’ here’. In the first place, there are only Rochester children in Cowbridge; the London ones are all in surrounding rural areas. I cannot speak for all the L.C.C. pupils, but the 10 who attend the Cowbridge evacuee school are nice children from good homes & certainly would not speak in the manner quoted by your correspondent. The children evacuees at Cowbridge are very hurt at this reflection on their characters. Yours etc.  

Western Mail

1943/4  Plas-Hen, Cowbridge – son born to William and Catherine Hallett, soldier  

Llandough parish records

1945, July  On Monday, June 21st, Field Marshal Montgomery of Alamein drove through Cowbridge on his way to receive the freedom of the city of Swansea. Boys of the School were permitted to go to the corner of Church Street to cheer him. Greatly to everybody’s delight, he stopped when he saw the boys, called them round him and talked informally for a couple of minutes before driving on.  

‘Bovian’ magazine

1946, 1st June  Sale of Yew Tree Farm, Colwinston, over 21 acres  

Western Mail

1947, March - From ‘Reflections on Cowbridge’  

‘In the beautiful Vale of Glamorgan, tucked away in an almost forgotten valley where proud Roman legions once marched, lies the Borough of Cowbridge. To reach this apology for a town, one must either wait for a bus (seemingly in the company of several million other human beings) or board a train…..One suddenly finds oneself at a Station which is hardly any improvement on one built in 1847. Another alternative is to travel by car…..along a road that winds like a python with indigestion. So Cowbridge may have to wait for some time until a new form of travel is invented, to clear up the traffic problem, before it can enjoy the privilege of being a Mecca to the thousands of ill-informed people who wish to visit it. Having cleared up that problem there still remains the more obvious problem of making Cowbridge look dignified.

When one first comes upon Cowbridge, one is very surprised to discover a hamlet, for it seems so improbable that anything will spring into view to break the monotony of the bus journey. As the bus poises for a second on the summit of the hill, there lies before one the
panorama of a village which seems suddenly to have sprung from the bowels of the earth. Were it not for its interesting approach and situation, Cowbridge would look a very poor sight indeed; for example, if it were suddenly transported into the middle of a plain, the only thing to save it from complete disgrace would be the West side of the town. To sum up, Cowbridge needs a brave town-planning pioneer not afraid to take the law into his own hands.’” S.G.L.T. ‘Bovian’ magazine

1948, July - At last there are signs that our long-awaited temporary classrooms are on the way. Foundations are being dug near the School Canteen. We understand that they are to be no mere ‘pre-fabs’, but something altogether more substantial and durable. Keen gardening members of the Staff watch with considerable wistfulness the good black earth being shifted and carted away. This term, the School gardener being without help, the Lower Sixth undertook to look….

1949, 22nd June Dr Emily Meller of Cowbridge saw to a man who died in her surgery on his way back to Cheltenham from a trip to Porthcawl.

1950, 24th March The pilot & 3 passengers were killed when a Bristol freight plane crashed at Cowbridge, about 8 miles from the scene of the Tudor disaster on March 12th Western Gazette

1950, December One good result of the poor weather this season was the great crop of nuts of all kinds. At the beginning of term, the junior boarders gathered enough hazel nuts to ruin their teeth for good and all. The beech trees in Old Hall garden covered the lawns with a thick carpet of pleasantly-flavoured beech nuts and the walnut tree there (though we say it shouldn’t) produced a phenomenal yield. Conkers were plentiful too, but the firework season began so early this year that hardly anyone had much time for them.

1951, 11th August Sale of the whole of machinery, plant, motor lorries, tractors etc etc at the Timber Yeard, Ystradowen sawmills – Mr William Edwards selling up Western Mail

1954, December The weather has been a major talking point……Cowbridge main road was flooded in the vicinity of the Police Station; Old Hall lawn became a lake for several hours one day, and the cellars of the old school had to be pumped out on more than one occasion……Suggest a covered way, subterranean or other, from Old Hall to the new buildings……poor lighting, insufficient heating and floods outside…after the Old Hall gardens. They have transformed the rockery and fish-pond from a wilderness of nettles and hawthorn to neatness and order. If it were possible to collect rock-plants, this corner of the gardens could be very colourful next Spring. The blast-walls have been removed from the School and Old Hall buildings.

1958, March The body of Miss Enid Walker, headmistress of Cowbridge High School, who had been missing for 17 days, was found on rocks at Porthcawl Western Mail
1958, March & September Advertisement for Llanblethian, Cowbridge – ‘Of special interest to those seeking bungalows & houses in a first-class country position, enjoying all amenities & with delightful views. Houses & bungalows are now under construction on the above estate (i.e. Broadway) and a selection of types are available. As only a limited number of dwellings are allowed on this delightful estate …….’ Powell & Verity, F.A.L.P.A., A.A.L.P.A.

Western Mail

1974 The ‘Gem’ local paper was not produced until 1983, so the Church parish magazine provided most of the local information (cost was 3 pence). The United Free Church ‘Freesheet’ started this year (a competition was held for a better name)

Canon Mogford was the Vicar of Cowbridge and Llanblethian (telephone no. 2302). His curate Graham Francis was living temporarily in Rose Cottage, Southgate Arch with his wife Eleri and baby son Illtyd. The family moved into the newly built Curate’s house in Grays Walk around the time their daughter Catrin was born.

Barrie Petterson was the Free Church minister, and he moved into the new manse in Grays Walk.

Holy Cross wardens included Herbert R Thomas, Milton C Adams, Walter Carswell, and Dulcie Cadwgan. The organist at Holy Cross was Milton Adams, and at Llanblethian Gaynor Woods. Church weddings at the time cost approximately £12.50.

The ‘Young Wives’ had a demonstration of Danish cookery by Mrs. Black of Llanblethian, and a meeting to greet students of Atlantic College.

Cowbridge and District Welsh Society met in the Limes vestry, hearing Elwyn Gibbs (of Glamorgan College of Education, Barry) talk on Folk Life of Glamorgan in the 18th Century.

1973 Plant a Tree year - Llanblethian W.I. planted two rowan trees on the river bank opposite the church hall and held a Whist Drive, and a flowering cherry was planted in Southgate garden by Cowbridge W.I.

Cowbridge and District branch of the British Red Cross held…

The death occurred of J C Clay, who played cricket for England against South Africa at the Oval in 1931, and many times for Cowbridge when not playing for Glamorgan.

Cowbridge Week was held June 1st to 8th.

The Children’s Entertainments Society was chaired by Sandy Greenwood, with other committee members including his wife Margaret, Joan Beech, Dave Rolph, Venetia Sanders, John Hollings and Judith Rosser. Their objective was to raise funds for the provision of a wide range of amenities for the children and youth of Cowbridge and
District, membership being free and unrestricted. In addition to grants to the Guides, the Social Youth Club, Junior Red Cross, for example, they funded a Christmas party in the Town Hall, the firework display, equipment for the playground and a film show (though this had to be cancelled due to the power crisis).

There was much concern about conserving fuel, because of the ‘fuel crisis’.

Funds were raised for modernising the Institute Building at the rear of the Town Hall, central heating being installed. The building was being used by the Young Farmers and one of the Youth Clubs, but it was hoped more groups would make use of it now it was being improved.

The British Legion held a Whist Drive in their hut behind the Town Hall.

Councillor Norman Williams and his wife Betty were elected Mayor and Mayoress in May. The Civic Service was held in Holy Cross on June 2nd.

The W I market was held during the summer months in the Lesser Hall, 10.30 – 12, selling cakes, plants, dairy produce and dairy produce.

In June, CADS performed the old morality play ‘Everyman’ in Holy Cross, produced by Keith Crossman.

Glynne Roach, living in the Verlands, was the secretary of the Christian Aid collection.

The Cowbridge and District Athletic Club, and the junior branch, offered badminton, cricket, rugby, tennis, table tennis and soccer, and welcomed new members.

The Mothers’ Union entertained patients from Morgannwg Hospital, Penyfai to afternoon tea in the Llanblethian church hall.

Dancing classes held Saturday mornings in the Town Hall – pianist required.

Cowbridge Comprehensive School carol service held in Holy Cross church

The Llanblethian church bells said to have been silent too long. Ringers were lost after the grammar school boarders were phased out and Iolo Davies left the school.

Reunion of Old Bovians (former pupils of the Grammar School).

*Notes from parish magazines by B.Alden*