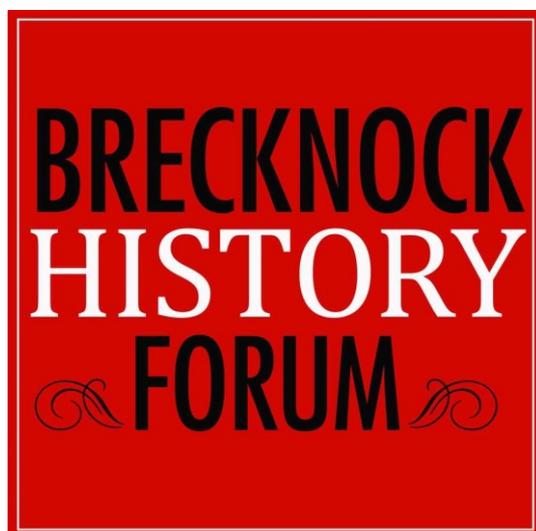




ISSUE No. 45

AUGUST 2014



### *Editorial*

Wow!! An amazing amount of events are happening in Brecknock History Week right across the county. Details of the events are given throughout the newsletter so have a look at what is happening in your local area and further afield and join us in celebrating Brecknock's fantastic history. There is an event for everyone and the majority are free to enter.

This publication will initially be sent by email to associated History Groups and Archives for them to print copies for general circulation. If funding becomes available at a later date it may be printed as previously.

Hanes will be published every 3 months. The next edition is to be published November 2014. Please email any articles or information about events etc. with the heading "HANES" to [alan.j.nicholls@btinternet.com](mailto:alan.j.nicholls@btinternet.com) by October 30th 2014.

### *Introducing The Forum*

#### **BRECKNOCK MUSEUM**

Contact: Nigel Blackmore, Senior Curator Tel. 01874 624121

#### **BRECKNOCK SOCIETY AND MUSEUM FRIENDS**

Contact: Elaine Starling Tel. 01874 711484

#### **BRECON LIBRARY**

Contact: 01874 623346

#### **BRECONSHIRE LOCAL & FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

Contact: Hilary Williams Alison Noble  
Tel. 01874 624432 Tel. 01874 620133

#### **BULTH WELLS & DISTRICT HERITAGE SOCIETY**

Contact: Anna Page Tel. 01982 553376

#### **CHRIST COLLEGE ARCHIVE**

Contact: Felicity Kilpatrick Tel. 01874 615440

#### **CRAI & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY ARCHIVE**

Contact: Frances Jenkins Liz Matthews  
Tel. 01874 636990 Tel. 01874 636797

#### **CRICKHOWELL DISTRICT ARCHIVE CENTRE**

Contact: Angela Waring Tel. 01873 810922

#### **CRICKHOWELL & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY**

Contact: Carol Jenkins Tel. 01873 812184

#### **HAY HISTORY GROUP**

Contact: Clare Purcell Tel: 07717312286

#### **LLANGAMMARCH WELLS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

Contact: Gaynor Williams Kay Coldrick,  
Tel 01591 620368 Tel. 01591 610123

#### **LLANGYNIDR LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

Contact: Jan Bailey Tel: 07766010090

#### **PONTNEATHVAUGHAN LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

Contact: Stephen Morris Tel. 01639 720728

#### **POWYS COUNTY ARCHIVE OFFICE**

Contact: Catherine Richards Tel. 01597 826088

#### **POWYS FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

Contact: Sheila Leitch Tel: 01497 847354

#### **REGIMENTAL MUSEUM OF THE ROYAL WELSH**

Contact: Richard Davies / Celia Green Tel. 01874 613310

#### **TALGARTH AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Contact: Jan Hughes Tel. 01874 711397

#### **WELSH HISTORIC GARDENS TRUST**

Contact: Elizabeth Siberry Tel: 01873 812169

#### **YSTRADGYNLAIS FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY**

Contact: Caryl Jones Tel. 01269 825306

## NEWS AND EVENTS

### *Brecknock History Week 5th—14th September 2014*

A range of events across the county of Brecknock, supported by a grant from Heritage Lottery Fund, arranged by members of the Brecknock History Forum to explore the history of the county. Many events are part of "Open Doors" which celebrates the architecture and heritage of Wales. For a full list of the events being organised for "Open Doors" across the whole of Wales in September please see <http://cadw.wales.gov.uk/opendoors>

### *Powys War Memorials Project 2014-2018 A Mark of Respect*

Powys County Council has received a Heritage Lottery Fund grant to help communities record and research their war memorial heritage. This includes 'toolkits' giving ideas of how community groups, schools and individuals can be involved. This project is also supported by Cadw, Welsh Government and Brecon Beacons National Park

**Contact:**

Cy Griffiths, Built Heritage Conservation Officer (South)

[www.powys.gov.uk/heritage](http://www.powys.gov.uk/heritage)

Email: [cyllene.griffiths@powys.gov.uk](mailto:cyllene.griffiths@powys.gov.uk)

### *Brecon Beacons National Park Young Archaeologists' Club*



The Brecon Beacons National Park Young Archaeologists' Club has now been up and running for 9 months, and what a busy 9 months it has been. After our busy and bustling taster event at the Brecknock Museum in October we have jumped feet first into our hands on exploration of our past...

...We have had our arms amputated and skulls trepanned by a medieval barber surgeon....Explored prehistoric cave art and had a go at creating our own....Tried our hand at games played by the Egyptians, the Romans, the Tudors and the Victorians...Investigated the life of local soldiers fighting in the First World War with the help of the Regimental Museum of the Royal Welsh...Put our lab coats on for a spot of Crime Scene Investigation to solve a medieval mystery...Explored the forgotten lime heritage of the National Park...Got soaking wet and rained off Mynydd Du on our first ever field trip (ah, the lovely Welsh summer!)...Scaled Pen-y-Crug hillfort, channelled our inner celtic warrior and saw off a Roman attack...and, delved into the gruesome world of cesspits, bog bodies and coprolites to understand ancient diet!

The club has been steadily growing month by month, and our membership now ranges from Herefordshire in the east, to Carmarthenshire in the west, and from the Heads of the Valleys in the south to Builth Wells in the north. Our leaders, all volunteers, come from across the National Park and beyond, from various backgrounds and professions, all united by our love of archaeology and desire to share our passion with children and young people who will grow up to be the guardians of our wonderful cultural heritage.

At the end of our first action packed 9 months we are all set to take a short break for the summer before returning for more archaeological fun and excitement in September... so look out for us out and about exploring the Brecon Beacons National Park's heritage. Thanks to our lovely new high vis vests you will be sure to see us coming...

The Brecon Beacons Young Archaeologists' Club is part of a network of Young Archaeologists' Clubs across Wales, and the UK, administered by the Council for British Archaeology. YAC is the only UK-wide club for young people up to the age of 17 interested in archaeology. YAC's vision is for all young people to have opportunities to be inspired and excited by archaeology, and to empower them to help shape its future. The Brecon Beacons Young Archaeologists' Club was established by a group of local volunteers in order to fill a gap in the provision of YAC branches in the Brecon Beacons and the Usk Valley. Brecon Beacons YAC is supported by the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority.

You can find out more about the Brecon Beacons Young Archaeologists' Club by visiting our blog

<http://bbyac.wordpress.com/>

To register an interest in joining the club, or find out about our next session please contact Branch Leader Natalie Ward  
01874 624437

[natalie.ward@beacons-npa.gov.uk](mailto:natalie.ward@beacons-npa.gov.uk)

## *Brecknock Museum*

### *Final Opening Before Redevelopment*

During August, Brecknock Museum's main gallery will be open for a final 5 days before redevelopment work begins as part of a £5 million Heritage Lottery Fund/Powys County Council project.

Over the Brecon Jazz Festival,

**Fri 8th to Sun 10th August 10am to 5pm,**

there is an exhibition of jazz art from the collection and on

**Tuesdays 12th and 19th August,**

there will be

**free children's art and craft activities**

**10am-12pm and 2-4pm.**

**Admission is free on all 5 days**

Children under 8 should be accompanied by an adult for the activities on 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.

For more information contact the Museum on 01874 624121

[brecknock.museum@powys.gov.uk](mailto:brecknock.museum@powys.gov.uk).

## **Friday 5 September**

Theatr Brycheiniog, Brecon, LD3 7EW

**6.00—9.00pm**

**FREE**

### **Brecknock Remembers**

#### **Reflections and Memories of the Great War**

A series of short presentations remembering the lives of some of the men of Brecknock who fought and died in the Great War.

There will be a range of displays on show prepared by local history societies from across the county illustrating some of the research that has led to the information given in the presentations and other aspects of how the people of Brecknock were affected by the War.

Light refreshments available for a donation.

**Sponsored by The Brecknock Society**

## *Brecknock Society and Museum Friends*

**Friday October 17th 2014**

**Artists of the Crickhowell Area.**

William Gibbs and Elizabeth Siberry 6.00pm. Upper House Farm Crickhowell (by kind permission of Paul and Abigail Keane. Supper provided. Please book with Elaine Starling (01874711484) or [evstarling@lineone.net](mailto:evstarling@lineone.net))  
Numbers limited.

**Tuesday November 18<sup>th</sup> 2014. 3 p.m.**

**“Brecon Gaer- Finds from the Frontier”**

Joe Lewis of the National Museum. Brecon Guildhall.

**Tuesday January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015. 3 p.m.**

**“Captain John Lloyd, 1748-1818 of Llanwrtyd and Brecon**

East India Company Maritime Service 1766-96, political, economic and social life in Brecon 1796-1818.”

Ken Jones. The Studio, Theatre Brycheiniog, Brecon.

## *History Week Events*

**Friday 5 — Saturday 13 September**

**The Regimental Museum of The Royal Welsh, LD3 7EB**

**Open Doors:** Open daily (except Sunday) 10.00am—4.00pm. The Museum has a wide range of material and guidance notes on World War I which is available to help individuals find out about members of their family who served with Welsh regiments. Activities for families with World War I uniforms for children to try.

**Saturday 6 September 2.30pm.**

**Brecon Cathedral**

**Open Doors:** The Cathedral will be open with an emphasis on the memorials for the men of Brecon who fell in the Great War.

**Saturday 6 September**

**PLAN Brecon - Practical Heritage Conservation:** Watton Lime kilns, Canal Bank, Brecon LD3 7PL. A practical hands-on session 10.00am — 4.00pm restoring the Watton Lime kilns using traditional lime mortar. No experience necessary but booking essential. Call Gareth Ellis on 01874 611039. You are also welcome to come along and see the work in progress. Talk to Gareth and his team about their plans for this historic site close to the centre of Brecon

**Saturday 6 September & Sunday 7 September**

**The Masonic Hall**

**Open Doors:** Guided tours of the Hall 11.00am. There is one step into the building but a ramp is available and chair lift to the upper floor. Cerrigochion Road, Brecon LD3 7NR

**Friday 12 September - Saturday 13 September**

**Church of St Ffraed, Llansantffraed, LD3 7YF**

**Open Doors:** During the summer the floor of this interesting 19th century church has been carefully re-laid with reclaimed tiles (with support from Heritage Lottery Fund). The grave of Breconshire's most famous poet Henry Vaughan has also been repaired. The church will be open 2.00pm —5.00pm on Friday and 11.00am —5.00pm on Saturday.

**Sunday 14 September**

**The Church of St Ffraed, Llansantffraed, LD3 7YF**

**Concert:** to mark the completion of the work in the Church, there will be an Evensong service at 3.30pm. The choir from St Mary's Priory Church, Abergavenny, will sing at the service together with other music and poetry. There will be refreshments after the service.

**Christ College**

**Open Doors:** Guided tour of the medieval buildings. Tours at 10.30am and 2.00pm. Booking essential 01874 615440. There is disabled access to the ground floors only. Llanfaes, Brecon, LD3 8AF

**Saturday 13 September**

**St David's Church, Llywel, LD3 8RF**

**Open Doors:** The church will be open for visitors to come and explore 10.00am—5.00pm. Church records will be available for those with an interest in local family history. Displays will be exhibited with the theme of 'lest we forget'. Refreshments will be available. Wheelchair access to the church (but not the toilet).

**Saturday 13 September**

## *Breconshire Local & Family History Society*

**Monday 8—Saturday 13 September**

**Exhibition**

An exhibition of material showing the impact of World War I on the town of Brecon—the Home Front. The exhibition will be manned 10.00-12.00am each morning so if you have any family memories to share please come along and tell us your story. There will also be displays from local history societies across Brecknock. Brecon Library, Ship Street, Brecon, LD3 9AE.

See the BLFHS website, <http://www.blfhs.co.uk/>

We have provided regular **Family History 'Drop-in Sessions'** on the third Saturday of each month at Brecon Library, and hope to continue this programme through 2014.

## *Builth Wells Heritage Society Programme*

**Saturday 6th September**

War of the Roses trip - Mortimer's Cross, Wigmore, Clungunford (for refreshments) and Ludlow. Bus leaves the Gro at 9.00 am. Cost £10. Non-members are asked to pay a deposit of £5.00. Contact John Walker on 01982 554765 to book a place.

**Thursday 11 September**

A talk by Richard Rees on the early C20th proposals to flood the Irfon Valley between Builth and Llanwrtyd, to provide water for London. Greyhound Hotel, Builth Wells, LD2 3AR. 7.30pm.

**Thursday 9 October**

Talk by Duncan James on architectural history, with special reference to Builth Wells. 7.30 pm Greyhound Hotel, Builth Wells.

13 Nov 14 - An Evening of Remembrance

11 Dec 14 - Social Evening at the Greyhound

**Saturday 13 September**

**St Mary's Church, Builth Wells**

**Open Doors:** The church will be open 10.00am—4.00pm. Tower Tours where parties of visitors will be taken up the Norman tower by St Mary's bell-ringers. Reasonable fitness required for climbing the stairs.

Volunteers will be on hand to guide visitors who wish to use the Parish Records for family history research, to help find memorials in the churchyard and to explain the stained glass windows in the church.

## *Crickhowell District Archive Centre*

**Saturday 13 September**

**Crickhowell & District Archives**

**Exhibition:** The Clarence Hall, Crickhowell, NP8 1BN. 10.00am—5.00pm. This exhibition will illustrate the impact of World War I on Crickhowell and district (including the villages of Llanbedr, Tretower, Llangynidr, Llangatttock, Cwmdru, Gilwern, Clydach, Llanelly Hill, Glangrwyney, Llangenny and Partrishow). This work has been carried out by volunteers in association with Crickhowell District Archive Centre. Research to uncover the lives of the men of the district who fell in the War has been a vital part of this work and an illustrated listing of 'brief lives' will form a key feature of the exhibition.

Disabled access is from the back of the hall.

**Sunday 14 September**

**Crickhowell & District Archives**

**Exhibition:** The Clarence Hall, Crickhowell, NP8 1BN. 10.00am—4.00pm. For full details see Saturday 13 September. Disabled access is from the back of the hall.

## *Hay History Group*

We have a very full schedule of exciting events for Hay History Weekend - see details below and on our website [www.hayhistorygroup.co.uk](http://www.hayhistorygroup.co.uk)

**Friday 5 September 7.30pm.**

**Booth's Cinema Film Screening of "Resistance"** based on Owen Sheer's novel of the same name. Tickets £8 from Booths Bookshop Cinema, Lion Street, Hay

**Saturday 6th September 9.30am**

Nic Howes will lead a 3.5 mile **"Resistance Walk"** in the Olchon Valley, starting at White Haywood Farm. It will be a gentle walk, and ends with lunch at White Haywood Farm Restaurant, where there is also a small Resistance Museum. Book online at [www.Hayhistorygroup.co.uk](http://www.Hayhistorygroup.co.uk)

**Saturday 6th September 10.00am- 12.00**

**Kids Workshop £10.** - at the Old Electric Shop, Broad Street. Join in to make poppies for the Castle Lawns display.

**Saturday 6th September**

**Hay Castle**

**Open Doors:** Tours, crafts, tools & skills. Experience old-fashioned building crafts from throughout the ages. Tours every hour. **FREE**

**Saturday 6th September 1.00pm - 3.00pm.**

**Hay Theatre Preview**

"Reflections on a train journey home". Hay Parish Hall. **FREE.**

**Saturday 6th September 1.00pm - 3.00pm**

**Adult Workshop with Artist Becky Adams - £15**

Renowned artist Becky Adams will be teaching paper techniques and book art around the theme of "Wartime Hay"

### **Saturday 6th September 7.30pm**

#### **Poetry Event with Owen Sheers - £5**

Poems and work by Owen Sheers alongside a variety of Wartime Poetry through time from WW1 to Modern Day. At Richard Booths Bookshop, Lion Street.

### **Sunday 7th September 10pm - 4pm**

#### **Pop up Museum**

Please bring along your photographs, treasures and mysteries to share and discuss with History Group members and local experts. Hay Parish Hall, Lion Street.

### **Sunday 7th September 1pm - 1.30pm**

#### **Talk - WW2 Aircraft and RAF**

As part of the Pop Up Museum Phillip Jones will be bringing artefacts to illustrate an informal talk about aircraft during the World Wars and drawing attention to some of the aircraft crash sites in the local area. **FREE**.

### **Sunday 7th September 10pm - 4pm**

#### **Vintage Tea Rooms at Hay Parish Hall**

Hay Sweet Cakes will be offering tea and cakes with vintage style.

### **Sunday 7th September 2.30pm**

#### **War Memorial Walk**

Gentle 2 hour walk including War Memorial, Hay Cemetery, and St Mary's Church. Finishing at the Swan Hotel for a drink in honour of Hay's soldiers. **FREE**

### **Sunday 7th September 7.00pm**

#### **Historic Pub Crawl**

Based on the history of the pubs in Hay. Fun tour with a drink and a dose of history. Led by Alan Nicholls and Dave Bennett. Cost £2 plus drinks - max. 20 places.

The full programme is online at [www.hayhistorygroup.co.uk](http://www.hayhistorygroup.co.uk)

#### **Hay Tours**

Hay Tours is now up and running, with a fantastic team of trainee tour leaders, a set of historic routes of varying lengths and a brand new website. To take part in a tour, or to find out more please visit [www.haytours.org](http://www.haytours.org)

#### **Railway Model**

The project to restore the to-scale replica model of Hay railway station is underway.

#### **Hay Buildings**

Alan Nicholls is heading up an ambitious project interpreting the history of all the buildings in Hay. The results of this research project will marry the history of the buildings, their usage and development, with that of the lives of the people who occupied them. See our website for street by street census details.

## *Llangammarch Wells History Society*

### **Wednesday 10 September 10.30am—3.30pm**

**Open Archives:** A chance to see the Society's archives and view the website into the history of the village. Visitors will also be able to look at the research into the local men who took part in World War I and the effect of war on village life. Alexandra Hall, LD4 4EH.

## *Llangynidr Local History Society*

### **Monday 25 August**

**Book Launch:** "*The Stories behind the Stone Cross*". The book tells the stories behind the names of the men who gave their lives in World War I and whose names are listed on the war memorial at The Church of St Cynidr and St Mary in Llangynidr. It will tell of the history and military service of those men from Llangynidr who went to fight in the Great War and didn't return. It has been a fascinating journey, discovering the history of these men and, with it, a glimpse of the social history of our community at that time. We hope you'll get real interest from the book which will be available at the Llangynidr Agricultural Show on Monday 25th August 2014 alongside an exhibition of the project.

## *The Llyn Syfaddan History Group*

The Llyn Syfaddan History Group is slowly but surely taking shape. We have been holding a number of planning meetings and currently forming a committee and agreeing a constitution. We have been ably helped by Janet Bailey of Llangynidr Local History Society who is kindly acting as a mentor.

Our first major undertaking will be to create a digital archive of photographs and personal memories of the railway era in our local area around Llangors Lake and in particular the Talyllyn railway junction.

### **Saturday 13 September**

**Open Doors:** The grounds of The Old Station Talyllyn LD3 7TA will be open 11.00am—3.30pm giving the chance to explore the site of the Old Railway Station. This includes the tunnel entrance and an exhibition of photographs depicting the station in its heyday. The original grounds of the station have been skilfully integrated within a lovely garden. Parking in a field—follow the signs. Disabled access.

## *Powys family history society (Brecknock Group)*

Meetings are held at the new Kensington Church, Watergate, at 7.30, unless otherwise stated. There is free parking in the Watergate Car Park, close to the church.

Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> September. Families of north Breconshire. Talk by Roger Davies.

Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> October. Visit to Brecon Cathedral. Time not yet certain. Details later by telephone from Sheila Leitch. 01497 847354 or from Brecon Group website.

Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> November. The Drowning of Cwm Taf and Bethel Chapel. Talk by Mrs Gwyneth Evans, who has written an article on this subject in the latest volume of Brycheiniog.

Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> January. We will be holding our usual Annual Lunch at Bishops Meadow Motel. Further details will be sent out to all usual attendees and others are welcome to join us.

## *Talgarth & District History Society*

The Society meets ten times each year at Gwernyfed Rugby Club, Trefecca Road, Talgarth on the last Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm (there are no meetings in August and January). The current chair is Sheila Lovell and the Secretary is Jan Hughes. Eight of the meetings are led by invited speakers on a wide range of topics and these meetings are complemented by a visit to a place of historical interest in July and a social event in December. Forthcoming talks are as follows.

### **2014**

September - Richard Walker - *The Life of Edith Cavell*

October - Paul Hanson - *A History of Hedgerows*

November - Brian Davies - *Trams and Trains in Talgarth*

December - Social event

### **2015**

February - AGM + Virginia Brown & Jan Shrivel - *The lives of the men listed on the Talgarth WW1 Memorial*

March - Lt. Col. Rodney Ashwood - *Welsh Regiment VCs*

April - Peter and Jenny Moody - *Joseph Harris, Astronomer of Tredustan (tbc)*

The History Society will have a stand at the *Festival of the Black Mountains* in Talgarth on the 23rd and 24th August, as it will at the Brecknock History Forum event on 5th September at the Theatr Brecheiniog.

The Society's website is:

<http://www.talgarthanddistricthistoricalsociety.co.uk/>

## *Ystradgynlais Family History Society*

### **1 August — 14 September**

**Exhibition:** A display commemorating those from the Ystradgynlais area who sacrificed their lives for their country during World War I. In conjunction with Ystradgynlais Library. Open during Library opening hours.

## *Llanwrtyd & District Heritage & Arts Centre*

The former Congregational Chapel at Llanwrtyd Wells is now getting closer to becoming a Heritage & Arts Centre for Llanwrtyd and District. Over the past year extensive renovation has taken place using local craftsmen and tradesmen. The exterior of the building has been extensively repaired and the adjoining Chapel House totally renovated

and updated to provide a modern family home. The interior of the Chapel has been completely transformed with essential features of importance retained, but new insulated walls, a new floor and modernised balcony area have been completed. An Artist's Studio has also been created upstairs in the adjoining area and this can be utilised as a Workshop and Display Area for local artists. The next Phase, to completion by the summer of 2015, will involve fitting out of electrics, the creation of a resource/media area, a reception and information area and the fitting of exhibition and display material. The History Resource Group, with its developing library of digitised material and oral history recordings will occupy temporary premises before re-locating to the Heritage Centre.

The second Phase of the project, as was Phase 1, is heavily dependent on funding from sources as varied as the Heritage Lottery Fund, the WG Aggregate Levy Fund, the Garfield Weston Foundation, GLASU, and others, including "Friends of the LDHAC" who receive an appropriate Newsletter. It is hoped that appropriate funding will enable the Heritage Centre to be open to the public in 12 months' time. We hope that the new Heritage and Arts Centre will provide an excellent attraction for residents and visitors alike and that the centre can become a community resource for groups to hold meetings, discussion and research. The Centre will enable users to see and hear the past being brought alive by an extensive collection of sound recordings, film, images and artefacts – collected and recorded by our team of volunteers. It is hoped that a wide variety of themed displays and interactive media will provide an extremely interesting experience for the discerning visitor.

A collection of images can be accessed at

[www.peoplescollectionwales.co.uk](http://www.peoplescollectionwales.co.uk) and [www.llanwrtydhistorygroup.com](http://www.llanwrtydhistorygroup.com).

## *Recent accessions to Powys Archives.*

Bundle of colour slides of countryside, snow scenes and various buildings, mostly unknown, but some of Brecon and Elan Valley, Radnorshire, 1960s [Acc 2194]

Records from The United Reformed Church for Plough Chapel, Brecon; Brechfa Chapel, Llandefalle; Ebenezer United Reformed Church, Hay on Wye; Bryn Zion Chapel, Gwenddwr & Bethania Chapel, Talgarth, 1857-2000 [Acc 2205]

Black & white photograph of the Esplanade, Builth Wells, early 1900s [Acc 2206]

Craig y nos Hospital records: House sub-committee minute book, 1923-1931 [Acc 2211]

### **Tuesday 9—Friday 12 September**

#### **Powys County Archive**

The Archive is open 10.00am—12.30pm and 1.30pm—5.00 Tuesday to Friday (4.00pm on Friday). Visitors are welcome to come and do research, if you are coming some distance it is advisable to book before travelling. Telephone 01597 826088. County Hall, Llandrindod Wells, LD1 5LG.