



ISSUE No. 47

FEBRUARY 2015



### Editorial

2015 is here and a several historic events are to be remembered and celebrated this year in Breconshire and throughout the world. The 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo, the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt, and the 800th anniversary of the signing of Magna Carta. Keep a lookout for these events throughout this exciting year.

Hanes will be published every 3 months. The next edition is to be published May 2015. 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 April 30th 2015.

### Introducing The Forum

#### BRECKNOCK MUSEUM

Contact: Nigel Blackamore, 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

#### BUILTH 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

#### LLANWRTYD HISTORY GROUP

admin@llanwrtydhrhg.com ebost.tony@gmail.com  
Rob Thomas r.w.thomas@talk21.com  
Website is: [www.llanwrtydhistorygroup.com](http://www.llanwrtydhistorygroup.com)

#### PONTNEATHVAUGHAN LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Contact: Stephen Morris Tel. 01639 720728

#### POWYS COUNTY ARCHIVE OFFICE

email: ([archives@powys.gov.uk](mailto:archives@powys.gov.uk))  
website: ([www.powys.gov.uk/archives](http://www.powys.gov.uk/archives))

#### 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

### Brecon Beacons National Park Young Archaeologists' Club

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 Society and Museum Friends

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 3p.m. Guildhall, Brecon.**

Unravelling Brecon's Woollen Industry  
An illustrative talk by Weaver Sue Hiley Harris.

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015 7 p.m.**

#### The Sir John Lloyd Memorial Lecture.

"Agincourt and the Brecknockshire contingent".

Speaker – **Professor Anne Curry** of Southampton University

Free but tickets booked from the Theatre Box Office from January 2015, (Telephone No. 01874 611622)

**Theatre Brycheiniog, Brecon.**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2015.** Exhibition officially opened by Professor Anne Curry re Agincourt Theatre Brycheiniog, Brecon 11 a.m.

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015.** Brecknock Society and Museum Friends AGM. 2.30 p.m. The Old Museum (The Muse), Glamorgan Street, Brecon.

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2015.** Annual Memorial event for Henry Vaughan. 3.00 p.m. Llansantffraed Church. Address by Helen Wilcox, Professor of English Literature at Bangor University on Henry Vaughan and George Herbert.

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015.** Medieval Breconshire and the Welsh Poets. Brecon Cathedral and Christ College. A special one day conference held in conjunction with the Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies. If you have any questions, please contact Elaine Starling 01874 711484 or [evstarling@lineone.net](mailto:evstarling@lineone.net).

Appeal for AGINCOURT 600

As part of the Agincourt 600 celebrations in Wales, a Pageant is planned for Brecon on the 20<sup>th</sup> June 2015. If you are interested in taking part, please contact Bryan Davies on 01874 623493. <http://www.agincourt600wales.com/> Bryan would like representatives from different parts of Breconshire to be involved in the pageant.

### Breconshire Local & Family History Society

Our monthly public meetings, are held on the first Wednesday in the month at Brecon Library. Non-members pay £1 admission. The meetings are held upstairs but the Library Lift is available; ask the Library staff for help.

**4<sup>th</sup> March 2015.** As part of World Women's Week activities in Brecon, Hilary Williams will give a PowerPoint presentation of the remarkable life and work of "Dr Mary Epynt Phillips (1875-1956)". Originally from Merthyr Cynog, she was the first female medical doctor to have come from a Welsh University.

**1<sup>st</sup> April 2015.** Harley Simpson will talk about "Brecon Slum Clearance"; the state of housing in Brecon and the efforts made to improve conditions for the inhabitants of the town.

If you have connections with a home for the elderly, or pensioner's group and would like to borrow the box of resources which made up the "Clark Photographic Exhibition", please contact as below.

All enquiries to Hilary Williams at [chair@blfhs.co.uk](mailto:chair@blfhs.co.uk) or telephone 01874 624432. Website is [www.blfhs.co.uk](http://www.blfhs.co.uk)

### Builth Wells Heritage Society

**12 February 2015**

Anna Page - An introduction to Palaeography

### Hay History Group

Hay History Group are going strong, we meet bi-monthly and always have plenty to discuss. Our next meeting will be held on 18th March, 8pm, upstairs in the Three Tuns, Hay. All welcome. We will be commencing the organisation of our September History Weekend in early February.

At our last meeting in January we enjoyed a talk by Bryan Davies about the Agincourt campaign and the preparations

throughout Breconshire and beyond to celebrate its 600th anniversary.

David Bennett, one of the Hay Tours leaders, has published his book about the Hay Poisoner, Herbert Rowse Armstrong, entitled "Major Injustice", which is available on the book publishing website Lulu.com. Major Armstrong, a Hay solicitor, was found guilty of poisoning his wife Katherine and was hanged for murder on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1922. The book attempts to briefly cover details of the case as previously presented but emphasises new information to cover the most significant aspects and introduces a completely new theory about how Katherine might have died. The author suggests that the Criminal Justice Review Commission should review this case and submit the evidence to the Home Secretary who should advise Her Majesty to grant a Royal Pardon. Wherever miscarriages of justice occur they should be rooted out and righted. Our faith in the judicial process depends on that.

Hay Tours is now up and running, with a fantastic team of 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)

## **Powys County Archives**

### **Recent accessions to Powys Archives**

Minute book and register of members of Cymdeithas Cymrodorion Defynog, Pontsenni a'r Cylch, Breconshire, 1914-1927 [Acc 2226]

Records of the Cymdeithas Ddiwylliadol Cray, Breconshire, 1933-1971 & handwritten manuscript entitled 'The History of Education of the Hundred of Devynock from 1624-1972' [Acc 2227]

Account book of Sion Baptist Church, Sennybridge, 1944-1958; accounts and Sunday school record book of Trinity Calvinistic Methodist Church, Defynnog, 1916-2009; accounts and Sunday school record book of Tynewydd Calvinistic Methodist Church, Trecastle, 1912-1992; account book of Salem Calvinistic Methodist Church, Trallong, 1906-1973; appointment of head teacher for Llanfihangel Nant Bran school, 1908 [Acc 2228]

Records of Llanfrynach Church, including register of confirmations, 1902-1917; list of communicants, 1907-1916; churchwardens' account book, 1715-1770; plans, specifications and faculties for building works, 1855-1993 & vestry minute books, 1920-2001 [Acc 2229]

Records from Llanigon CP School, including admission registers, 1878-2013; log books, 1878-1992; medical log books, 1912-1976; annual reports, 1878-1913 & photographs, 1990s-2010 [Acc 2234]

Folder of material, including photographs, newspapers cuttings and letters, concerning Breconshire Girl Guiding

celebrations of the 100th anniversary of Girl Guiding, 2010 [Acc 2238]

Three archaeological reports for properties in Crickhowell and Cwmdru, produced for applications for planning permission, 2014 [Acc 2252]

Volume of sermons by The Rev. Richard Davies addressed to inhabitants of Brecon, 1802-1811 & resolutions, list of subscribers, minutes and reports of the founding of a benevolent school in Brecon, c1810s [Acc 2253]

Additional records of the Brecknock Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs including minutes, 1944-1981; attendance books, 1966-1998; receipt and expenditure books, 1950-1980 & statements of accounts, 1987-1991. Records from Aberhonddu School YFC, 1960-1961; Bwlch & Crickhowell YFC, 1978-1982; Brecon & District YFC, 1948-1979; Beulah YFC, 1949-1983; Builth Wells YFC, 1969-1996; Bwlch & District YFC, 1965-1980; Christ College, Brecon YFC, 1965-1980; Cwmdru & Gilwern YFC, 1962-1969; Duffryn Cwannon YFC, 1949-1964; Erwood YFC, 1940-1981; Gwernymed Park School YFC, 1952-1974; Hay on Wye YFC, 1949-1952; Llandefalle YFC, 1950-1994; Llanigon YFC, 1955-2002; Libanus YFC, 1953-1984; Penderyn YFC, 1940-1982; Penycae YFC, 1955-2000; Pontfaen YFC, 1952-1984; Sennybridge YFC, 1942-1993; Talgarth YFC, 1938-1974; Trecastle YFC, 1948-1989; Troedrihwdalar YFC, 1943-1988; Ystradgynlais YFC, 1946 & Ystradfellte YFC, 1965-1981 [Acc 2254]

## **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 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015.** Speaker Mr Gwyn Griffiths is giving a talk on 'Environmental Disasters, their Impacts and Outcomes'

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015.** Speaker Mr Tony Hibbard (author of Fresh Flowers M'lady) talking on Adelina Patti and Craig y nos Castle.

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015.** TBCpm Maesyronnen Chapel, nr Hay-on-Wye. Rev. Michael Hodgson, Minister of the Plough United Reform Church, Brecon. He will be discussing the history of the Chapel.

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015.** Speaker Mrs. Celia Morgan will give a talk titled 'Penderyn Snippets'

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2015.** Brecknock Group AGM.

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015.** Speaker Mr Arwel Price is kindly talking about 'Arwel and his musical family background'.

## **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.

### **2015**

**February** - AGM + Virginia Brown & Jan Shrivell - *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)*