



# CYMDEITHAS HANES CWM DULAIS CWM DULAIS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter – Cylchlythyr

December 2022

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Hello everyone - Helo pawb

It is with sadness that we acknowledge the passing away of **George Brinley Evans**, our Society President, at the age of 96.

## Obituary

I understand that George became a member of the Society from its very earliest beginnings although it was not until 2019 that he was nominated and appointed President! That nomination however was exceptionally well deserved for such a “son” of the Dulais Valley who in his lifetime contributed to the local community in so many ways. In a sense that colourful life provided a marvellous example for the objectives and aspirations of the historical society itself.

George’s interests in life, family and the military especially as a Burma Veteran along with his wonderful writings reflected his experiences of Valley life and beyond as did his sculptural work now displayed around Wales. This allowed him to contribute positively and from personal experience to the objectives of the Society and thereby encourage study of many aspects of the Dulais Valley history including of course the birth of St Patrick in Banwen. He enthusiastically contributed to several Members’ meetings recalling his memories and beliefs illustrated from film and CD media. He was undoubtedly a fine story teller.

Although I only really knew George during his term as President, I was always made to feel that he was available for advice to an incomer; this was quality thoughtful advice from a sensitive and experienced mentor steeped in the ways of the Valley. He will be greatly missed.

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This season has been rather difficult in terms of creating a full ongoing programme. In common with many organisations seeking speakers for their meetings there has been a lack of personnel to fulfil the dates.

Before COVID there was a substantial list of speakers maintained locally in Swansea and Neath area. While it still exists, an update is desperately needed and a check as to how many or in fact who is still in the business of giving talks! Some I know of have retired but what is more concerning is the apparent lack of replacements – “youngsters” coming in to offer new subject matter and fulfil the traditional 40-to-60 minute talk/ meeting slots.

Therefore, the role of the Programme Secretary has become ever more difficult, and we are very pleased that Mair has managed to keep us going up to now and in addition gather a group for the new year. The outline is shown below, and we are very grateful to Mair for all her efforts.

## 2022

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September

*Henry Coombe Tennant, A Life Story*

Illustrated talk: Bernard Lewis

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October

*Members' Night*

Followed by Resumed AGM

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November

*Cofiwch Dryweryn*

Illustrated talk: Jean Williams

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December

Valley Memories & Members' Social Evening

Slide show: Brian Westall

## 2023

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January

*To be confirmed*

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February

*Swansea 1941*

Enacted talk: Debra John (actor)

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March

*British Policing*

Enacted Talk: Simon Osborne (actor)

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April

*Britain in the 1950's*

Talk: Anthea Symonds

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May

*To be confirmed*

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June      AGM

Our meetings are normally held on the second **Thursday** of the month at 2.15pm at The Music Centre, Station Terrace, Seven Sisters.  
Membership is open to all for an annual subscription of £10, covering admission to all our meetings and access to the Society's archives.  
Non-members are welcome to attend on payment of £2 per meeting.

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**Next edition 2023**