



2014 PROGRAMME

Wednesday 15th January	Rob Steele	Annabels
Wednesday 29th January	Official launch of Society's Website	
Wednesday 19th February	Colin Top	London & Back
Wednesday 19th March	Alun Evans	Penderyn Distillery
Wednesday 16th April	Dr Edith Evans	Sacred mountains of South East Wales
Wednesday 21st May	Annual General Meeting	
Wednesday 18th June	Paul Wigley	Hirwaun & Penderyn
Wednesday 16th July	Pantomime	
AUGUST - NO MEETING		
Wednesday 17th September	Neale Thomas	Penderyn Church
Wednesday 15th October	Brian Davies John Nixon & Welsh Coal to France	
Wednesday 19th November	Derek John	Penderyn Place Names
DECEMBER - NO MEETING		
The Committee reserves the right to change the programme without prior notice		

AIRCRAFT CRASHES IN PENDERYN

A Mustang KH499 aircraft crashed on Mynydd y Glog on the morning of 7th September 1945. Its parent unit was 112 Squadron and it is believed the reason for the flight was air gunnery practice. The crash was blamed on mechanical problems. The pilot attempted to land but he hit a slab of rock, the plane



Dr Hawland D.H. 303 Hornet. Pk273. Pictured at RAF Membury in the Spring of 1946. This is the actual aircraft that crashed near to Wernlas Farm 20th September 1946 (along the path) (photo from book: Swanscombe and the RAF)

crashed, and burst into flames but luckily the pilot, a Mr. Arund was not hurt. On 30th September 1946, another aircraft crashed near to Wernlas farm. On this occasion the aeroplane was a Hornet PX273. The plane was flying from Fairwood Common in Swansea to Norfolk; the reason for the flight is unknown. On hitting the ground the force of impact was so great the aircraft disintegrated, and the engine was imbedded into the ground. Unfortunately the Canadian pilot, Wing Commander Peter Bond was killed.

YOUR COMMITTEE

Chair	Mrs Celia Morgan
Secretary	Mrs Kathleen Forward
Treasurer	Mrs Margaret Thomas
Membership Sec.	Mrs Joyce Morgan
Projects/Publicity	Mrs. Wendy Donavan

Members	Caroline Lawless
	Mr Alan Llewellyn
	Mrs. Debbie Smart



If anyone would like to contribute to the newsletter let one of the committee know. It could be anything, a story to tell, information needed on anything in Penderyn, photographs, etc.

OCTOBER

We didn't have a speaker for our October meeting but we were shown two films. The first was of Gwyn Morgan's account of the incarceration



in the Lamb Hotel of Lewis Lewis, which Gwyn did in the cellar of the Lamb for the Open Doors event back in 2012.

The second film was a documentary made from a combination of old cine and video film of Penderyn Church



together with an audio recording of the late Canon Elwyn Thomas, giving a brief historical account of St Cynog's Church..

An enjoyable evening was had by all.

Raffle prizes were won by Hilary Cuss, Caroline Lawless and Margaret Amos.

NOVEMBER

Our speaker for November was Mrs Brenda Pugh, who gave a talk on John Haydn Davies, the son of Dewi Cynon. She spoke at length about her research into John Haydn and in particular the



fact that he met his death on the small island of Epi. Brenda produced newspaper cuttings detailing reports of his death to which it was



suggested it could have been murder!

Raffle prizes in November

were won by Robert Tay, Menna Davies and Wendy Donovan.

CHRISTMAS BUFFET

Once again we held our Christmas Buffet in the Red Lion and the function was



very well attended. Again the evening proved a huge success and it is hoped we'll do the same next year. This year the society found itself in a financial position where it was



able to subsidise part of the cost. A raffle was held during the evening and raised over sixty pounds, many of the raffle prizes being donated by various people and traders. The food was again superb and was enjoyed by all.

WEBSITE UPDATE

As reported in the last edition of your newsletter our website was in it's final stages of completion, We are now happy to announce that the site is now live, and can be found at:

www.penderynhistoricalsociety.org.uk

Check it out!! The site contains the programme for the current year, back issues of newsletters together with photographs and other publications.

The site also has an exclusive member only section which requires a password to view. Over the next few days members will be sent details on how to access this section, follow the instruction sent and you will be able to access various photo galleries and publications.

On the 29th of January the society will be holding a special "Cheese and Wine" event in the community centre to officially launch the website, please try to attend to support this event.

CALENDARS

The 2013 calendar sold like hotcakes and were a huge success. Our thanks go to Margaret, Caroline and

Wendy for their effort and hard work in making it a successful and profitable venture.

FUTURE FUNDRAISING

The society has enjoyed a great deal of success over the past three years and it is felt that it's now time to look at future fundraising. If you have any suggestions please speak to a committee member. Remember we are still looking for old Welsh recipes to enable us compile a recipe book/booklet. So, if you have anything to contribute speak to a committee member.

PANTOMIME

Pantomime rehearsals began in earnest back in November but due to commitments by cast members and technical issues it has been decided to postpone the



performance. It is now hoped the event will be resurrected and performed at our July meeting. Please

make sure to mark it down on your calendar as it is something that you do not want to miss. Gwyn has done a brilliant job and it is well worth seeing.

WORLD WAR I

The society has been approached by a freelance journalist/producer who is making a series of six programs on World War 1, for BBC Radio Wales. He is interested in the Conscientious Objector Camp which was situated at Penderyn. Anyone who has any information on the Camp is asked to contact Celia.

With the anniversary of World War 1 due later this year we are asking members if they have any idea's to commemorate this occasion. If you can think of anything please approach Celia or any committee member.

RAFFLE PRIZES

The committee would like to thank, The Lamb Hotel, The Red Lion, Penderyn Quarry, W D Lewis, both Tesco and Asda Stores Aberdare, together with various individuals for their generous gifts and support over the past year

Local Hero's

I thought it would be a good idea to carry this theme on to see what other well known people who can be connected to Penderyn

David Davies otherwise known as Dewi Cynon author of Hanes Plwyf Penderyn. Dewi Cynon wrote two versions of the History of Penderyn Parish, one published in 1905 and the other in 1924. Both are written in Welsh with some English also, without these books very little would be known about the



history of the parish.

Dewi Cynon was born in 1854 in a cottage just below Bodwigiad. His father was from Cardiganshire and his mother was the daughter of William Harri of

Pencae. At a young age he took an interest in music and in later life he went on to conduct choirs, compose music, write essays and he also had a quartet which won numerous prizes at the Eisteddfods.

One of his sons John Haydn Davies worked on the plantations in Tonga and when on a visit to the island of Epi, he died. The Western Mail and Y Darian reported his death in their newspapers with conflicting reports. It was first reported that his death was due to natural causes, then it was reported as murder. What really happened we will never know.

Dr Geoffrey Jones

Geoffrey Morgan David Bruce Jones, was born in 1928, he was the only child of Morgan Rhys Jones and his wife Mary Gwen Jones of Penyreithyn. He attended Penderyn CC school and

Vaynor and Penderyn school where he became head boy. He was awarded a state scholarship and was placed first in the county



of Breconshire.

He then went on to Manchester University where he gained a 1st class honours degree in physics in 1949, in 1952 he took his PhD, because of this he was awarded a research fellowship at Harwell to carry on further studies in nuclear physics.

He had only been there three weeks when he was killed on a bicycle, something his parents never allowed him to have when he as a young boy.