

“Merthyr Express” 5 January 1957

Gymanfa Ganu The annual Noddfa and Nazareth Gymanfa took place at Nazareth Chapel. The children’s service took place on Christmas morning, but owing to bad weather the adult service was postponed until Sunday. Mr. D. J. Davies was the conductor, assisted by Miss Edna E. Jones who conducted the children. The organists were Willie Edwards, Mr. Tom Davies and Mrs. K. Walters. Miss Edna E. Jones presided at the morning service, when the devotions were taken by David and Peter Price. Marilyn Holifield gave a recitation and a carol was sung by a party of little girls from Nazareth. The president at the afternoon session was Mrs. K. Walters. Miss Mary Morris read the lesson and Mr. Tom Thomas led in prayer. A solo was sung by Susan Thomas and Angela Owen gave a recitation. Mr. T. J. Jones presided at the evening meeting. The lesson was read by Eunice Jones and Mr. T. J. Jones took part in prayer. Miss Mary Cumpstone gave a recitation and a solo was sung by Miss Rosemary Jones. Best wishes for a speedy recovery were extended to Mr. D. J. Thomas who has been a conductor of the Gymanfa for many years.

Parish Church Services were held on Christmas Day, the celebrant and preacher being the Vicar. Football Cup round: Fochriw at home to Pontlloftyn Buds. Score: Fochriw 10, Pontlloftyn 0.

Gifts To Pensioners The O.A.P. Supporters’ Club wish to thank the New Estate Guild for their donation of £5 out of their jumble sale takings. The committee gave every pensioner 5s. each as a Christmas gift, instead of the usual 2/6. This was made possible because of the generous gift of 25 guineas from the Deri Amateur Boxing Club. In addition to this they received 5s. each from the Pensioners’ Association making a gift of 10s. to every paying member.

“Merthyr Express” 12 January 1957

Parish Church The services on Sunday included a carol service, the producer being Miss Anthea Watkins. Carols were sung by Paul Jenkins, Allison Watkins, Gaynor Harding, Janice Lawrence, Avril Small, Gillian Jones and Carol Jenkins.

“Merthyr Express” 19 January 1957

First-Aid Class Fochriw holds a First Aid Class at Noddfa Vestry every Tuesday morning at 10 o’clock. All interested in first-aid are invited to attend.

Competition The first of a series of competitions was held at Bargoed Ambulance Hall on Saturday. A team consisting of the following represented the Fochriw Division: P.C. R. Southwood (capt.), I. Morgan, T. J. James, S. M. James. Six teams competed. Fochriw gained third place.

First Aid Awards The following members of the Fochriw Ambulance Division were successful in their first aid examinations held in December last: Labels - Supt. T. Thomas, I. Morgan, S. M. James; First Certificate - T. Vaughan, T. J. James, W. Parry, George Kijaic, L. W. Harward. Examiners: D. T. Sheppard (Theory); Commissioner W. J. Skyrme (Practical).

Presentation A large number assembled at the Rising Sun Inn on Saturday evening to make presentations to the host and hostess, Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Pritchard, who are leaving after 20 years in the village. Both are held in high esteem and the conduct of the house is admired by all. Best wishes for their health and happiness were expressed. Mr. A. H. Wood presided over the social evening, and also made the presentation of a biscuit barrel on behalf of the football team, of which Mr. Pritchard was president. One of the oldest inhabitants of the village, Mr. John Davies, made the presentation of a reading lamp on behalf of the many friends of Mr. & Mrs. Pritchard, who responded warmly to the gifts.

“Merthyr Express” 2 February 1957

Deaths Two well-known villagers passed away this week: Mr. Burkley Angell and Mr. Thomas Price, both of Dynevor Street.

O.A.P. Fochriw Old Age Pensioners held their tea at the New Hall on Saturday. The trayholders and servers were the ladies of the supporters’ committee, who are to be complimented on the work they have done throughout the year to provide funds to held the

O.A.P. Coun. W.J. Payne presided. Amongst the guests were Coun. E. Burgess, J.P., and Mrs. Burgess, County Councillor W.J. Kedward, O.B.E., J.P., and Mrs. Kedward, Mr. T. Walters, A.L.C.M., secretary O.A.P., Mr. Walter Jones, treasurer, Rev. E.A. Evans, B.A., vicar, late secretary. The chairman complimented Coun. Kedward on being honoured with the O.B.E., and he also noted that his wife was a Fochriw lady. Others joined in the congratulations to which Coun. Fedward responded. A vote of thanks to all the guests and ladies' committee and supporters was moved by Coun. Payne and seconded by Mr. T. Walters. The committee of the Womens' Supporters O.A.P. Committee are: president, Mrs. H.L. Farley; chairman, Mrs. J.M. Lawrence; secretary, Mrs. J. Owen; treasurer, Miss C. Shankland; committee, Mesdames M. Davies, M.A. Lewis, R. Williams, M. Watkins, E. Jones, M. Evans, Enid Jones, G. Mantle.

After Long Illness Mr. William Thomas Williams, 3, Upper Chapel, Penybanc, husband of Mrs. Catherine Williams, has died. He had been ill for a long time. The funeral, which was a very representative one, took place on Saturday at Pentwyn Churchyard. The vicar, Rev. E. Adams Evans, and Rev. J. Jones officiated. Mourners were Messrs. Joseph Pullen (brother-in-law); John Cambria, Wm. Hayden, David Gareth Pullen (nephews); Thomas & Gwilym Llewellyn, Thomas George, Benjamin Williams (uncles); John Pellard, Alvin Craig, Cuthbert & Cecil Llewellyn, Wm. John, Stuart, Vernon & Edward Llewellyn, Iorwerh, George, Ildrsi & Islwyn Williams, David Jenkins, David Pullen, Wm. Owen, Samuel Elias (cousins); Llew Jones, John Richards, Ben Coleman, Wm. Watts, David Cochrane, John Lloyd (brothers-in-law); Daniel Evans, Thomas Clifford, Leonard Coleman, Ronald & Ernest Jones, James Carthy, Thomas Morgan, Roger Jones, Wm. & Mervyn Owen, Edwin Gittins, Archibald Bevan (nephews). The bearers were Messrs. Thomas, Ernest & Douglas Morgan, Clifford G. Hann, Douglas Pope. At the house were Catherine (wife); Sarah Jane Pullen (sister); Sarah Evans, Esther Ann Coleman, Ellen Coleman, Vanw Cochrane, Kate Jones (sisters-in-law); Jane Jones, Sarah Gittins, Nellie Cochrane, Leah Watts, Patricia & Megan Pullen, Maria Jones, Lizzie Gwen Bevan, Nelli Powell, Doreen Jenkins, Sarah Bates, Eleanor Ann Llewellyn, Margaret Olwen, Ivy Morgan, Margaret Morgan, Ceinwen & Esther, Mrs. Lucas (nieces). There were numerous floral tributes. (listed) The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. Stanley J. Nicholas, The Paddocks, Pengam.

"Merthyr Express" 9 February 1957

Film Show On Thursday at the New Hall, the Fochriw Welfare Association presented a film show in aid of the O.A.P. Fund. Among the films shown was "The Valley of Song." Coun. W.J. Payne presided. The Women's Supporters' Committee had been very active in selling tickets, and in making arrangements for the event. Mrs. Joan Owen thanked the Welfare Committee for giving the show, and their kindness to the organisation.

Late Mr. T. B. Price The funeral of Mr. Thomas Price, formerly of 11, Dynevor-street, took place from his sister's residence last Friday, and was strictly private. The place of interment was Pentwyn Churchyard. The Vicar officiated, assisted by Mr. T.J. Jones. Mr. Price was well known in the village, where he had resided for many years after having lived in Canada and the U.S.A. The service held at Pentwyn Church was attended by the following family mourners: Messrs. James Lawrence (brother-in-law); W.P. Lawrence, G. Smith, Idris Williams, Lewis Jones, T. Jones, Llewellyn Jones, Michael Evans (nephews). Bearers were Messrs. D. Jenkins, W. Fox, W.A. Davies, D. Evans, R. Price, O. Parry, A. Ewins. At the house were Mrs. J.M. Lawrence (sister); Mr. Idris Williams, Miss A. Lawrence, Mesdames J. Driscoll, W.P. Lawrence, L.H. Jones, M. Davies, R.M. Cumpstone. There were a number of floral tributes. (listed)

Late Mr. B. Angell The funeral of Mr. Burkley Angell, 16, Dynevor-street, took place on January 30, at Pentwyn Churchyard, and was well attended. The Rev. E. Adams Evans and Rev. T.J. Jones officiated. Mourners were: Messrs. R. McDonald, K. Evans (sons-in-law); W. & T. Angell (brothers); B. Shankland, J. & W. Parry (brothers-in-law); B.J. & G. Griffiths (nephews); T.H. & F. Jenkins, W.A. Thomas, W.A. Davies, W.J. Powell, O. Thomas, W.A.D. & B. Davies, D. Morris, T. Acreman, G. Thomas, C. Jones, R. Clark, D.

Jenkins, H. Lewis, D.J. Davies, Dan Jenkins (cousins); G. Davies, G. Crane (nephews). The colliery was represented by Mr. Lance Rogers. Bearers were Messrs. M. Jones, M. Hughes, C. Shankland, W. Ross, T. Lewis, T. Lewis (Dowlais). At the house were Mrs. Blod Angell (wife); Eleanor McDonald, Evelyn Evans (daughters); Elaine, Ann, Gary McDonald (grand children); Laurie Shankland, Judith Davies, Mary J. Griffiths, Nellie M. Hiscox (sisters); Win Angell, Mattie & Mary Ann Parry (sisters-in-law); Annie Davies, Laurie Ann Flewitt, Winnie Jenkins, Maggie Griffiths, Blod Parry, Clara Whiting, Maggie Lloyd (cousins); Elinor Davies, Margaret Crane, June Jenkins (nieces); Mrs. S. Lewis, Olwen (Gilfach), Eluned Lewis, Mrs. E. Evans. There were numerous floral tributes. (listed)

“Merthyr Express” 16 February 1957

Late Mrs. Harding The death has occurred of Mrs. Harding, wife of Mr. James Harding, Plantation-street, Fochriw. The funeral took place on Friday at Rhymney Cemetery. Rev. E. Adams Evans, vicar, officiated at the house and graveside. The bearers were Messrs. W. Edwards, John Slimmon, Ivor Williams, John B. Jones, Gwyn Davies, W. Lewis, C. Abbey, R. Vaughan, V. Coggan. The mourners were Mr. James Harding (husband); Desmond, Dennis and Donald (sons); Victor, Erle, Dai (brothers); Ivor & Stan (cousins); Ted. Bev, Jack; Jack Edwards, Jim Collins, Ned Evans (brothers-in-law); John, Ken, Derrick, Coun. W. Poyntz, Messrs. Wilfred Weaver, Phil Poyntz, Phil Mantle, Tony, Harold & John Collins (nephews). At the house were Floss, Gwen & Nesta (sisters); Dora & Bronwen (daughters-in-law); Betty, Elsie, Clara and Agnes (sisters-in-law); Joan Weaver (niece); Elsie, Gwyneth, Gracie & Phyllis.

Late Mr. M. Hier The death of Mr. Melvyn Hier, aged 20, who lived at 11, Heol Iago, Fochriw, occurred on Thursday, January 31. He met with an accident on his motor-cycle on the previous Monday, and was taken to Tredegar Hospital where he died. He was the son of Mr. & Mrs. W. Hier, who until they moved to Fochriw, lived at New Tredegar. Melvyn was closely connected with all the different organisations including the local Darts Club, of which he was treasurer. He was employed by British Railways as a signalman. The funeral took place at Gwaelodybrithdir Cemetery on Tuesday of last week, and was well attended. Rev. E. Adams Evans officiated at the house and graveside. Bearers were members of British Railways Fochriw Station under the directorship of Mr. Boobyer, the Fochriw stationmaster. Mourners: Mr. Wilfred Hier (father); Mr. Wilfred Hier (brother); Messrs. Tom Hier (Rhymney), Hywel McIntosh (London), Tom Hill (Brithdir), Henry Harris (Cwmsyfiog), Charles Reynolds and Vernon Jones (New Tredegar), Kenneth Lester (uncles); Trevor Hier, George Reynolds (cousins); A. Clarke, Bryn Richards, G. Collins, W. Beard, D. Williams, L. Clarke, J. Clarke, D. Beard, T. Sargent. At the house were Mrs. Hill (grandmother); Mrs. D. Hier (sister-in-law); Mesdames S. Harris, D. Reynolds, Dd. Jones, F. Lewis, E. Lester, H. Hier, G. Saunders, B. Phillips, Miss G. Hill (aunts); Mrs. E. Regan (cousin); Mrs. S. Richards. There were many floral tributes. Funeral arrangements were by Mr. D.J. Davies, undertaker, Glanynant, Fochriw.

“Merthyr Express” 23 February 1957

Bad Road Killed Fochriw Man A verdict of “Accidental Death” was returned at the Bargoed inquest on Monday evening, on Melvyn Hier, 20 year old signalman of Heol Iago, who was fatally injured while riding a solo motor-cycle at Fochriw on Jan. 28. The jury sitting with the North Glamorgan coroner said that the accident was caused by the rough and uneven surface of the road. Evidence was given by William Thomas, Bryn Amlwg, Fochriw, and Arthur James Farmer of Pontlloftyn Road, Fochriw. Heir was not wearing a crash helmet. It was reported that since the accident the road had been rolled and lamped.

“Merthyr Express” 2 March 1957

Ambulance Competition On Saturday last at the New Hall, Bargoed, an ambulance competition took place. The result in order of compiling was: Pontlloftyn 193 marks; Bargoed A 208; Bargoed B 193; Fochriw 220. A further competition will be held at Bargoed on Saturday.

Miner Killed A 52 year old bachelor, David John Way of Glenview, Pentwyn, received head injuries while working underground at Pentwyn Level, Fochriw, on Wednesday. He died in the ambulance on the way to Tredegar General Hospital.

“Merthyr Express” 9 March 1957

Deaths Two former inhabitants of the village, Mr. Charles White, Bargoed, and Mr. David Lawrence, Dowlais, have died. Both lived at Fochriw for many years.

Welfare Association A meeting was held on Thursday evening, Coun. W. J. Payne presiding. Best wishes for a speedy recovery were sent to Mr. Sam Lewis, J. P. Mrs. I. Lewis was appointed librarian. Reports were given of the film shows, snooker team, and playing field.

Late Mr. D.J. Way The funeral of Mr. David John Way, 1, Glen View, Pentwyn, took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Monday. Mr. Way was killed whilst following his employment as a miner. He was 52 years of age, and was held in high esteem. He was a member of the Parish Church. The Vicar, Rev. E. Adams Evans, officiated at the house, and at the church of St. Andrew's. The bearers were a number of workmates. The mourners were Messrs. Frank and Fred Way (brothers); Bert Staddon, Stewart Jones (brothers-in-law); Alan Gordon Way, Frederick Way, Cyril Godard, Tommy Cockram, Harry Evans (nephews); Vincent Wood, Hartwell Woods, Bert Yeo, Arthur Way, Will John Way, Frank Way, Crad, Tudor Evans (cousins). At the house were Eliza Jones, Ada Staddon (sisters); Annie Way, Catherine Way (sisters-in-law); Margaret Goddard, Jane Cockram, Thelma Evans (nieces); Nellie Yeo, Elsie Skyme, Mary Way (cousins); Annie Amos, Sarah Jane Pullen, Annie Jones, Celia Ballard and Olwen. There were a large number of floral tributes. (listed)

Ballard – Lewis The wedding took place at The Mission Hall, Fochriw, on Monday, of Mr. John G. Ballard and Miss Mary Lewis, both of Fochriw. The bride was attired in white satin with lace overskirt, and carried an ivory Bible with flowing white satin ribbon, and white carnations. She was given away by her brother, Mr. R. Lewis of Pant, Dowlais. Mrs. R. Lewis, matron of honour, was dressed in pink satin with overskirt of pink net. Miss Dorothy Talbot, bridesmaid, wore blue lace over satin. Both carried ivory prayer books with satin ribbon and sprays of anemones. Also in attendance was Howard Lewis of Pant, a page boy, dressed in blue velvet trousers and white satin blouse, and Jennifer Thomas as flower girl, in pink net over satin, decorated with rosebuds, and carrying a bouquet of anemones. The best man was Mr. David Ballard, and the groomsmen were Mr. Iles and Mr. Morgan. The ceremony was conducted by Pastor David Thomas. The reception was held at the New Hall, after which the couple left for Somerset. The bride travelled in a fawn coat with blue dress and hat. Other accessories were in a mushroom shade.

“Merthyr Express” 30 March 1957

Vaughan's, Church Street, Rhymney - Television Dealers. All leading makes in stock - Ferranti, Ekco, Ferguson, Sobell, PetoScott.

Football Fochriw were away on Saturday to Fairview in a League game. The keenly contested game ended in a 3-3 draw. Fochriw scorers: H. Wood, S. Phillips, B. Jones,

Wedding: Mr. Ivor Bradley & Miss Mary Ann (Mair) Jones The wedding took place at St. Mary the Virgin Church on Saturday between Ivor, third son of Mr. & Mrs. Bradley, Glanynant, and Mary Ann, second daughter of Mrs. I. Morgan, and the late Mr. B. Jones, of 7, Davies-row, Pentwyn. The Rev. E. Adams Evans, vicar, officiated. The organist was Mr. N. Palmer. The bride was given away by her step-father, Mr. T. E. Morgan. She wore a full-length dress of white lace and tulle, and orange blossom head dress, with ankle length veil, white shoes and gloves, and carried a bouquet of red carnations. The bride was attended by the bridegroom's sister, Miss Audrey Bradley, and Miss Mary Jones, who were dressed in pink, and her own sister, Miss Gillian Jones, and Marilyn Evans, the groom's niece, who were in lemon with accessories to match. Two carried posies of blue irises, and two posies of anemonies. Mr. Aldwyn Bradley was best man, and Mr. Ronald Jones and Mr. Ronald Bradley, groomsmen. The reception was held at the White Horse Inn, Pentwyn.

British Legion A meeting of the Women's Section was held on Thursday last at the O.P. Welfare Hall, Pontlottyn. The next meeting will be held on Monday next at 7.30 p.m. All ladies of Fochriw are invited to come along. The Branch Executive meeting was held on Friday, when it was decided to hold a meeting at Fochriw on Friday, April 5. Members and ex-Servicemen are invited to attend.

Golden Wedding Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Lewis, 5, Dynevor Street, celebrated their golden wedding on Thursday. Mr. Lewis was born at Fochriw, and has lived there the whole of his life. He is the son of the late Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Lewis. Mrs. Lewis is the daughter of the late Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Rees, Pentwyn, and so, too, was born in the village. Until his retirement Mr. Lewis worked in the mines. He is not enjoying good health. They have a family of three sons and five daughters, eight grand children, and one great grandchild. A party gathering was held at their home.

Wedding: Grist-Williams The marriage took place on Saturday of Miss Shirley Grist and Mr. John Williams, both of Fochriw. The bride was attired in a navy costume with a white hat, glove and shoes. The best man was the bride's brother, Mr. Bill Grist. Also present at the wedding were Mrs. Ceinwen Williams, mother of the groom, and Mrs. Margaret Grist, grandmother of the bride. The honeymoon is being spent in Bristol.

Indecent Language Clifford Bishop, collier (35), of Coronation Crescent, Fochriw, was fined 10s. for using indecent language on Saturday, March 2. P. C. Southworth gave evidence.

Dog In Street at 1.45 a.m. Iorwerth Lewis Matthews (23) collier of Glanynant, Fochriw, was fined 10s. for not having his dog under proper control during the hours of darkness. P. C. Southworth gave evidence.

Dogs Worried Sheep Thomas Lance, collier (28), and Idwal David Matthews (50) both of Glanynant, Fochriw, were summoned because their dogs had been worrying sheep. Lance was fined £1, and Matthews, who said his dog had been destroyed, was fined 10s. Lance was ordered to keep a dangerous dog under control and to pay 9s. costs. Walter John Williams of Pentwyn Farm gave evidence, saying that a ewe had died as a result of injuries.

“Merthyr Express” 6 April 1957

Crushed By Bogey Underground Caradoc Shankland, aged 56, married, of Guest Street, was injured when a bogey crushed him whilst working at Groesfaen Colliery, Deri, on Monday. He was taken to Caerphilly Miners' Hospital, where he died.

Football Fochriw were away to Pontlottyn in a Rhymney Valley League game on Saturday, and won 5 goals to 2.

Carmel A former minister of the Church, Rev. Eurof Jones, preached at Carmel on Sunday. Mr. Thomas Walters was the organist.

Parish Church On Mothering Sunday the celebrant was the Vicar. The preacher at the morning service was Coun. W. J. Payne. The Sunday School was conducted by Mr. John Palmer and the evening service by the vicar.

Obituary The death has taken place of an old inhabitant of the village, Mrs. Sarah Pugh, Dynevor Street.

Welfare Association Coun. W. J. Payne presided at a meeting at the New Hall on Thursday. It was decided to hold the annual meeting on Thursday, April 11. Reports on the film projectors were given by the film operators, Mr. L. Coggan and Mr. E. Lewis, and suggestions for improvements in the operating room were approved. Mr. Ward and Mr. G. Davies were added to the committee. The committee is presenting good pictures, and they appeal to all film lovers to give them their support. The treasurer gave a detailed financial report and this was satisfactory.

Wedding: Mr. Gwyn Morgan & Miss June Perry The wedding took place at St. Tyfaelog Church, Pontlottyn, of Gwyn, the only son of Mrs. M. H. Morgan, 7, Station Terrace, and the late Mr. Wyndham Morgan, to June, second daughter of Mr. & Mrs. T. Perry, Union-street, Pontlottyn. Rev. Hughes officiated. The bride was given away by her father, and was dressed in a white ballerina length dress of white lace trimmed with seed pearls, and

shoulder length veil held in place by a coronet of nylon leaves and seed pearls. The bride carried a bouquet of red roses and maidenhair fern. The best man was Mr. Melvyn Edwards. The chief bridesmaid was Miss Sheila Perry, sister of the bride, who was dressed in a ballerina length dress of turquoise nylon and pill-box head dress of turquoise nylon trimmed with lace. The other bridesmaids were Miss Margaret Victoria Pittaway of Birmingham, and Miss Carol Pask Lewis of London, cousins of the groom. Both were attired in lilac nylon dresses with pill-box head dresses trimmed with lace. The bridesmaids carried bouquets of pink rosebuds. The reception was held at the Picton Hotel. The couple left for Birmingham by car. To travel the bride wore a shocking pink coat with black and pink accessories.

“Merthyr Express” 13 April 1957

Late Mrs. Sarah Pugh, 14, Dynevor Street, aged 76 The funeral of Mrs. Sarah Pugh took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Thursday last. Mrs. Pugh was the widow of Mr. Richard Pugh, and had lived in the village all her life. The following ministers officiated at the house and graveside: Revs. Jesse Yeomans, Glanville Jones, E. Adams Evans and T. J. Jones. The bearers were Messrs. Gomer Williams, W. A. Davies, David Evans, Tom Thomas, Francis Thomas, Tom Yeoman. The mourners were Messrs. Lewis Hopkins, John Matthews (sons-in-law); Trevor R. Jones, Danny Mutlow, D. Lloyd Jones, W. Adams Jones, Griff Jones, Griff Pugh, Howell Bowen, Harold Wellsman, Ivor Davies, Idwal Williams, J. A. Jones, Derlwyn Lewis (nephews); Coun. W. J. Payne, Messrs. W. Williams, W. Rowlands, R. Rowlands, R. Sinnat (cousins). At the house were Magdalen Hopkins (daughter); Muriel Hopkins, Malvina P. Matthews, Glenda Pugh Hopkins (grand daughters); Beatrice Mutlow (sister); Annie Pugh, Annie Jones (sisters-in-law); Mattie Lewis, Hettie Bowen, Owena Jones, Hetty Carter, Mattie Davies, Evelyn Jones, L. Price (nieces); R. Williamson, M. S. Price, C. Price, A. Evans (friends). Funeral arrangements were by Mr. D. J. Davies, Glanynant.

Ward Meeting A meeting of the Ward Labour Party was held at the New Hall on April 4, Coun. Payne presiding, supported by Mr. Frank Jenkins, ward secretary. Reports of the executive and group meetings were given by Mr. Tom Morgan, Deri. Council reports were given by Councillors W. Poyntz and W. E. Davies.

Evening Classes Social A party was held on Monday to close the session of the embroidery, needlework, and home furnishing classes. Mrs. F. Evans, the teacher, congratulated the students on the high standard of work achieved. The party was provided by Mesdames M. Pritchard, R. James, K. Evans, E. Jones, M. Gittoes, and Miss R. Davies. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mrs. J. Lawrence, seconded by Mrs. B. Davies.

British Legion A meeting of the Pontllytyn and District Branch was held at the Rising Sun on Friday last. The Silent Tribute was observed, those present standing in respect of Mr. Caradoc Shankland. Those present included Coun. A. Williams, vice-president; Mr. E. G. Evans, chairman; Mr. Tyson Tuck, Benevolent vice-chairman; Mr. R. Surtees, Fochriw representative.

“Merthyr Express” 20 April 1957

Fochriw Institute & Welfare Association Annual Meeting The annual meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday last week. Councillor W. J. Payne presided. The chairman said that he would have liked to see more present. The past year had been very successful. For the weekly film shows he wished to thank the operators and all helpers. The football field had been enclosed with new fencing and gates. The billiard and snooker teams had done well, and the reading room was fairly well patronised. The balance sheet had been circulated among members, and was audited by Kilpatrick, Wakeling and Co., Chartered Accountants. The election of officers took place as follows: chairman, Coun. W. J. Payne; vice-chairman, Mr. Cadfan Cumpstone; secretary, Mr. W. Abbey; treasurer, Mr. Frank Jenkins; librarian, Mrs. T. Lewis. The committee was re-elected.

“Merthyr Express” 27 April 1957

Late Mr. Caradoc Shankland The funeral took place recently of Mr. Caradoc Shankland, Guest-street, who met with a fatal accident at Groesfaen Colliery. He was interred at

Pentwyn Churchyard. Crad was associated with all movements in the village - the Silver Band, the Male Voice Choir, Choral Society, Institute and football. He was prominent at every singing festival at Christmas. He was 56, and the large attendance at the funeral was a glowing tribute to the esteem in which he was held. Officiating ministers were Rev. E. Adams Evans, Mr. T. J. Jones, Pastor David Thomas, Rev. Jesse Yeoman. The mourners were Messrs. Idris, Emrys & Roy Shankland (sons); Raymond (grandson); Glanmor & Noel Williams (sons-in-law); Ben, Tom & David John (brothers); Idris Griffiths, Tom Jones (Rhymney), John Evans, Tom Jones (Pontlottyn) brothers-in-law; Thomas John James, Meirion Shankland, Robert Carter, Harry Simpson, Merthyn Hughes, Alan & Michael Shankland, Islwyn Shankland, Gwyn Hughes, Syl James, David Davies, David Morris, F. Peters, W. Crane, Ray Cook, Tudor Adams, Willie & Clifford Lewis, Ken Owen, Bill Ross, Frank and John Cole Jenkins, David, John & Gareth Jenkins (cousins); Gwyn, Dave & Jack Jenkins, Frank & Alwyn Jones, Ernie Burford, Dave & Bobby Evans, Gregory Jenkins, Ken Griffiths (nephews); John Gwyn Gittens, Gwyn Davies, Graham Crane (cousins); David Martin, Thomas, Brian & Philip Hodder, P. C. Cox, Idris Roberts, Albert Davies, & R. E. Jones, Rhymney. Groesfaen Colliery was represented by the Manager, Under-Manager, officials and workmen. At the house were: Emily (wife); Gwladys, Mavis, Enid (daughters); Laurie & Elspeth Shankland, Mattie Mills, Alice Evans, Liz Jenkins, Beat Jones, Maggie Griffiths (sister-in-law); Edith Horton (niece); Nelly, Jenny & Cassie Shankland, Bessie Hughes, Mary Jane Edwards, Sarah Ann Simpson, Nellie Evans, Annie Davies, E. Morris, L. Cook, Mary Jane & Nellie (Treharris), Ruth Jones, Sarah Rees (Newport), Lil & Gwenfil James, Mooreen Ross, Gwladys Lewis, Winnie Jenkins (cousins); Megan Davies, R. Williams, R. Fox, A. Davies, D. Jones, O. Thomas, J. Owen, B. Llewellyn, M. Gittens.

Fochriw Man Was Killed By Runaway Cart Pinned against a ventilation door by a timber cart, Caradoc Shankland of 33, Guest Street, Fochriw, sustained injuries from which he died. At the Caerphilly inquest on Wednesday, the jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death." Mr. G. M. Hughes, colliery deputy, said there had been trouble with the slack rope and winch attached to the cart. As a temporary measure, he cut the rope and knotted it. One journey was completed, but on the second, the cart became wedged against a conveyor. After the cart ran downhill, he found the knot had become untied. He concluded that the jolt of releasing the cart had caused the knot to come apart. We called to Shankland to get out of the way, but the cart caught up with him, pinning him to the ventilation door. Mr. J. E. Hodges, assistant repairer, said Shankland was helping to dislodge the cart, which was stuck 40 yards from the ventilation door. When the cart started to move, he shouted to Shankland to get out of the way. The gradient there was 1 in 1.4.

Death The death has taken place at Gilfach, Bargoed, of a well-known personality of the village, Mr. Burkley Davies, late of Plantation Terrace.

Easter Services Services were held on Good Friday conducted by the Vicar. On Easter Sunday, the preacher in the morning was the Vicar, and in the evening Coun. W. J. Payne. The service was taken by Mr. John Palmer, and the lesson was read by David Rouse. The organist was Mr. Norman Palmer.

"Merthyr Express" 4 May 1957

Funeral of Mr. Burkley Davies Tributes to his great work for the Welsh Presbyterian Churches at Bargoed and Fochriw were paid at the funeral service of Mr. Burkley Davies of Park Place, Bargoed, who was buried on Wednesday at Gwaelodybrithdir Cemetery. A resident of Fochriw for 50 years, Mr. Davies was a deacon and treasurer of Nazareth Church for many years. Since going to Bargoed nine years ago, he had been elected to the diaconate of Bethania Church and also filled the office of treasurer of the Sunday School. Aged 60, and the youngest son of Mr. & Mrs. Elias Davies, Plantation Terrace, Fochriw, Mr. Davies had actively supported the annual hymn singing festivals organised by the Welsh Presbyterian Churches of the upper part of the Rhymney Valley, and had been a member of several choirs in the Bargoed, Fochriw and Deri districts. Mr. Davies is survived by his wife, Dilys, a member of the teaching staff at South Bargoed Girls' School. The Rev,

Godfrey Jones, minister of Bethania., officiated, assisted by Revs. R. V. Jones, Aberbargoed; A. S. Edwards, Bargoed; D. Phillips, Gilfach Goch; H. Jones, Burry Port; E. Adams Evand, Fochriw. The funeral arrangements were by Mr. D. J. Davies, Fochriw.

Rhymney Valley Football League (Table to April 27 - leading teams as follows) Bargoed Y.M.C.A. Played 27 Points 37; Fochriw United P 26 Pts 34; Penydre P 22 Pts 34; Jubilee P 24 Pts 33; Fair View P 20 Pts 31; Trelewis P 24 Pts 28; Bargoed Un. P 26 Pts 24.

Sproates - Jones The wedding took place at the Parish Church on Easter Monday of Miss Gillian Jones, Fochriw, and Mr. Alan Sproates, West Hartlepool. The bride wore a ballerina length gown of Italian lace over tulle and nylon with a half-length veil and a coronet of seed pearls, and carried a bouquet of red carnations and lily of the valley. She was given away by her father, Mr. Samuel John Jones. Her attendants were her sister, Mrs. Sybil Elliott, and the Misses Jean Pegg, Ismarie Jones, Ismarie Wile, Verna Jones and June Palmer. Four of the bridesmaids wore nylon dresses of turquoise blue and pink, with half hats of feathers and pearls. The four others wore white and lemon dresses of organza over satin, with feather head-dresses. They carried posies of tulips. The flower girls were Olive Titcombe and Janice Bedd. The Rev. A. Evans officiated, assisted by Mr. John Palmer, cousin of the bride. The organist was Mr. Norman Palmer, also a cousin of the bride. The reception was held at the New Hall.

“Merthyr Express” 18 May 1957

Vaughan’s Church-street, Rhymney - Television Dealers. All leading makes in stock.

Labour Party A meeting was held at the New Hall on Monday. Coun. W. J. Payne occupied the chair. The Secretary, Mrs. H. Farley read the minutes. Wishes for a speedy recovery from illness were expressed with Mr. D. J. Thomas, treasurer, Mr. S. Lewis, J.P., Mrs. Rowlands, and Mr. Evan Jones, Pantywaun. A report on Council activities was given by Coun. Payne who dealt with housing and improvement grants.

Late Mrs. M. A. Palmer, 13, Council Houses Mrs. M. A. Palmer has died after a short illness. The funeral took place at Rhymney Cemetery. The Vicar officiated. The bearers were Messrs. J. Gittings, A. Evans, D. Jones, C. Dummett, B. Cumpstone and P.C. Southworth. Mourners were Messrs. Arthur & Norman Palmer (sons); S. J. Jones, E. Jones, H. Wile (sons-in-law); Mesdames L. M. Pegg, H. Wile, T. & E. Jones (daughters); A. & N. Palmer (daughters-in-law); J. Palmer, B. Jones, J. Elliott, A. Sproutes, T. & O. Bebb, R. Titcombe, W. H. Joyce, W & W. A. Macdonald (grandsons); Sybil, Nancy, Jean, Dot, Gillian & Ismary Jones, Ismary Wile (grand daughters); Mesdames Elsie Jones, L. Cumpstone & C. Dummett.

Easter Vestry The Vestry meeting of the Parish Church took place on Wednesday last, the Vicar presiding. The Parochial Secretary and Churchwarden gave their reports. The Vestry was reminded that it was 50 years this month that the foundation stone of the church was laid. Officers elected were: Churchwardens - Coun. W. J. Payne & Mr. J. Owen; auditor - Miss K. Davies; envelope secretary - Mr. A. Palmer; parochial secretary - Mr. J. Palmer. The Parochial Council was re-elected with some names added. The sidesmen were re-elected.

Tree Planting At Fochriw Following a report by the Surveyor, Mr. W. T. Luke, B.Sc., about planting belts of trees on common land near Fochriw housing site to improve the appearance of the site, and afford wind breaks, Gelligaer Urban Council decided at last week’s meeting to agree in principle to the proposal, but that further consideration be deferred for a joint report by the Clerk and the Surveyor on the Council’s powers to plant trees on common land, and the effect of the proposal for open-cast coal prospecting and mining in the Fochriw area.

“Merthyr Express” 25 May 1957

Ambulance Cup Winners Fochriw Ambulance Team was successful in winning the Tom Jones Challenge Cup in a competition held at Bargoed Ambulance Hall on Saturday. The cup was presented in memory of Corps Supt. T. Jones, Deri. Members of the winning team

were: P.C. R. Southworth (capt), I. Morgan, T. J. James & I. Shankland. Four teams competed: Bargoed, Fochriw, Deri and Pontlottyn. The scores were: Fochriw, 227 points; Bargoed, 221; Pontlottyn, 212; Deri, 182. The judges were Area Officer E. Phillips, Mr. A. Bisgrove and Mrs. J. Seabourne - all of Tredegar.

Late Mrs. Emily Lewis, 69, Glanynant, aged 57 The death has occurred of Mrs. Emily Lewis. Before coming to Fochriw, she had lived at Gilfach, Bargoed, for 20 years. The funeral was at Pengam Cemetery, the Vicars of Fochriw and Pengam officiating at house and graveside. The bearers were Messrs. E. Gittens, W. Bradley, A. Jenkins, C. Murphy, T. Lance & J. Watkins. The mourners were Messrs. John Haydn & Arthur Lewis (sons); Ken Butlin & Gordon Lewis (grandsons); Walter King (brother); Howard Reynolds (son-in-law); Harry & Albion Jones (cousins); W. Reynolds, Ivor Bank, N. Withers. At the house: Beatrice & Gillian (daughters); Amy King (sister-in-law); Zelig & Emily Lewis (daughters-in-law); Mrs. R. Owen, Mrs. W. Reynolds, Doreen Butlin (grand daughters).

Death Of Three Fochriw Residents Three well-known Fochriw people have recently died - Mrs. Mills, Glenview, wife of the late Mr. Chas. Mills; Mrs. Griffiths, Guest Street, wife of the late Mr. Evan Isaac Griffiths; and Mr. Douglas Evans, now living at Troedyrhiw.

“Merthyr Express” 1 June 1957

Needlework Class Trip On Saturday, the Penybank Embroidery and Needlework class, with their teacher, Mrs. F. Evans, Deri, journeyed to Gloucester by motor coach. Several places of interest were visited.

Late Mrs. S. J. Griffiths The funeral took place on Wednesday at Aberfan Cemetery of Mrs. S. J. Griffiths, widow of Mr. E. I. Griffiths, grover. She was 86 years of age. and a faithful member of the Parish Church. She attended regularly until her health failed. The funeral was private. Rev. T. J. Jones officiated.

Died in London The death has taken place of Mrs. Annie Mills, widow of Mr. C. R. Mills, Glenview, Pentwyn. She was on holiday at the home of her daughter, Joan, when she died. She was 79 years of age, and a faithful member of the Parish Church. The funeral took place at Pentwyn Churchyard, the Vicar officiating. The mourners were Harvey & Norman (sons); Joan & Husband (daughter & son-in-law); Mesdames Brenda & Joan Mills (daughters-in-law); Eileen, Vivean, Graham, Bryan (grand children); Albert & Wife, Hereford, George & Wife (brother & sister-in-law); Harvey & Hilda Jenkins, Mrs. Jenkins, Hedia Jenkins (Crumlin), Newman Rogers & Wife (Newport), Brenda Rogers, Mrs. Gardener, George Baldwin, Bella & Bryn Richards, Deri.

Late Mr. T. M. Evans, Stationmaster Deri And Darran Mr. T. M. Evans, 1, Pleasant View, has died. Mr. Evans was 59 years of age, and had lived at Fochriw for 20 years. He was a staunch churchman and a keen gardener. The funeral took place on Monday at Ystrad Mynach Churchyard. The Vicars of Fochriw and Pontlottyn officiated. The mourners were: Mrs. Winifred Evans (wife); Mr. Aubrey Evans (son); Messrs. Albert & Arthur Evans (brothers); Grenvill Evans, Victor Evans, Mervyn Evans, T. Quinn (nephews); Mr. & Mrs. D. Foster (brother-in-law & sister-in-law); Messrs. J. Phillips, W. Herbert, Reg Herbert, Gwyn Jayne-Rees (cousins). The bearers were members of the Railway Staff at Fochriw and Deri - Messrs. D. Morgan, W. Ross, G. Roberts, D. James, A. Harding, J. Ballard. At the house were Mrs. J. R. Walters, Mrs. J. M. Lawrence, Mrs. E. Owen & Mrs. D. Edwards. Also at the funeral were numerous members of the general public.

“Merthyr Express” 8 June 1957

Ambulance The Fochriw St. John Ambulance Team took part in a competition at Seven Sisters on Saturday. They gave an excellent performance finishing sixth out of fifteen teams. The team was P.C. R. Southworth (capt.), T.J. James, Over Morgan, Islwyn Shankland.

“Merthyr Express” 22 June 1957

Trip The Embroidery and Quilting Class went on a coach tour to Symonds Yat on Saturday, when a very enjoyable day was spent. The organisers were Mrs. M. Pritchard and Mrs. F. Lewis. Both classes are taught by Mrs. F. Evans.

Pensioners Outing Fund A "mile of pennies" was organised at Fochriw and Pentwyn on Friday, June 14, for the Outing Fund. £28 13s 9d. was collected. The Supporters Committee wish to thank all who helped.

"Merthyr Express" 29 June 1957

British Legion The fortnightly meeting was held at the Lord Nelson Hotel, Pontlloftyn. Mr. Desmond Greaney, Dynevor Street, Fochriw, was elected branch assistant secretary. Mr. Greaney will be pleased to give any information to Fochriw ex-Servicemen wishing to join the Legion. The secretary is Mr. C. Gardener, Pontlloftyn.

Young Boy's Funeral: Lyndon Merlin Everett The death has occurred of Lyndon Everett, the young son of Mr. & Mrs. Lyndon Everett. Fochriw. The funeral took place on Wednesday at Gwaelodybrithdir Cemetery. Rev. E. Adams Evans officiated. The mourners were: Messrs. Lyndon Everett (father); Clifford Everett & Aisley Bailey (grandfathers); Lionel & Clive Everett, Clifford Bailey (uncles); G. Tucker (great-uncle); E. Foster (cousin); At the house were: Mesdames Lilian Everett (mother); E. Everett. O. Bailey (grandmothers); June & Janice Everett, Gwladys Bailey (aunts); E. Parsons, D. Tucker, I. Davies (great-aunts); Julie Foster, Avril Tucker (cousins); Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Walters. Funeral arrangements were by Mr. D. J. Thomas & son, Bargoed.

Funeral of Mr. Albert Mantle: Conductor of Fochriw Band The death has occurred after a long illness of Mr. Albert Mantle, aged 65, of Pentwyn. For many years he was the conductor of the Fochriw Silver Band. He was a member of Carmel Chapel. The funeral procession was led by the Rymney Silver Band, conductor Mr. G. Nash. The officiating ministers were Rev. T. J. Jones and Rev. E. Adams Evans. The mourners were: Messrs. John Tom & Phil Mantle (sons); J. Meneer (son-in-law); Geroge Mantle (brother); Brian, David (grandsons); I. Sullivan (brother-in-law); John, Tom, Milward, Percy, Hugh, Leslie, Gwyn, Edgar, David, W. Cook, T. Davies, J. Lawrence, J. Jones, M. Farrant, B. Albrow, T. Moon, Le-Roy Clayton, J. Edwards, J. Sullivan, Roy Lee Clayton (nephews); Messrs. B. Evans (uncle); C. Mantle, E. Jones, R. Jones, W. Davey, E. Evans, W. Bennett, D. W. Evans, Billy Edwards, G. Meredith, W. Phillips, R. Davey, F. Davey, D. Evans (cousins). The bearers were Messrs. H. Wood, E. Lewis, T. Evans, W. Hughes, R. Jones, G. Baldwin. At the house were: Hannah (daughter); Mary, Phyllis, Eira (daughters-in-law); Sandra, Cherrill, Fay, Daphne (grand daughters); Mesdames G. Mantle, W. H. Edwards, T. Sullivan, D. C. Edwards (sisters-in-law); J. Lawrence, J. Jones, L. R. Clayton, B. Albrow, T. Moon (nieces); W. Davey, S. Shaw, Dilys Edwards, Valerie, Sandra & Jenny Davey (cousins); Mrs. P. Davies, Mrs. D. Tucker, Mrs. M. Evans, Mrs. W. Roberts. Funeral arrangements were by Mr. D. J. Davies, Fochriw.

"Merthyr Express" 6 July 1957

Honours Degree The many friends of Miss Morfydd Elizabeth Owen, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Owen, Aelybryn, will be pleased to know that she has obtained Class I Honours in Welsh at Aberystwyth. She was formerly at Lewis School for Girls, Hengoed.

Outing Fund Benefit On Thursday evening, a benefit was held at the Fair Ground in aid of the old age pensioners' outing fund. The result of the dodgems realised £4 10s 6d. The outing is to Porthcawl on July 9.

"Merthyr Express" 13 July 1957

Pensioners' Outing On Tuesday, the Fochriw O.A.P. had their annual outing. They travelled by motor coach to Porthcawl.

Car Accident As the result of a car accident, Lorraine Davies, young daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Davies, Penybank, is a patient at Caerphilly Hospital. She has a fractured leg.

School Outing Fochriw Primary School had a most enjoyable educational trip to Windsor and London Airport, in splendid weather, on Tuesday last week Accompanying the scholars were Mr. Bryn Davies, headteacher, Messrs. W. Davies and A. Fisher, Misses Edna Evans, Myra Jones and Mrs.

Ward Meeting A Labour Ward meeting was held at the New Hall on Thursday last, presided over by Coun. W.J. Payne. Reports on Council activities were given by Councillors W.E. Davies and W. Poyntz. Discussions followed on the reports.

Diamond Wedding Mr. & Mrs. John Davies, 6, Railway Terrace, celebrated the 60th anniversary of their wedding last week. They were married in Merthyr Tydfil. They are both in good health and active. Mr. Davies is 84, and Mrs. Davies 81. Mrs. Davies was born in the village, where she has lived all her life. Mr. Davies was born in Flintshire, but came to Fochriw when he was six years old. Mr. Davies worked in the mines until retiring age. In her younger days, Mrs. Davies was an excellent singer, and even today her voice is good. They are members of Noddfa Chapel. They have three children and 14 grandchildren. They were the recipients of telegrams and letters of good wishes.

“Merthyr Express” 27 July 1957

Holidays Whole families have gone to the seaside resorts of Porthcawl, Barry, and others.

Shankland – Davies The wedding took place at Cardiff on Monday of Mr. Idris Shankland, son of Mrs. E. Shankland, and the late Mr. Crad Shankland of Guest-street, Fochriw, and Miss Megan Davies, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Harry Davies, Greenfield Street, Pontlottyn. The bride wore a turquoise costume with stone-coloured accessories. They are spending their honeymoon at Penarth.

“Merthyr Express” 3 August 1957

Records, Records, Records Why not call at the “Relay,” 15, High-street, Rhymney, and see our selection. All makes in stock.

Music Success William Edwards, son of Mrs. Dilys Edwards, and the late Mr. Bert Edwards, Anchorage, Pleasant View, Fochriw, was successful in gaining a first class certificate in the intermediate grade of the examinations of the London College of Music held recently at Cardiff.

Parish Church On Sunday morning, the preacher and celebrant was the Rev. E. Adams Evans. In the evening, the preacher was Mr. John Palmer, licensed lay reader. The lessons were read by Coun. W.J. Payne and Mr. David Rouse. The organist was Mr. Archie Adams, who is back home for a holiday.

First Class Jean Elizabeth Davies, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Tom Davies, 2, Plantation-terrace, was successful in gaining a first class certificate in the elementary grade of the examination of the London College of Music held at Cardiff recently.

“Merthyr Express” 10 August 1957

Glanynant Child Killed Lynette Johns, aged 2, of Glanynant, was killed in an accident involving a van on the road at Fochriw on Wednesday afternoon.

“Merthyr Express” 17 August 1957

Bridge On Fire Near Fochriw Escaping gas from a fractured main caused a fire at South Tunnel Bridge on Monday. Merthyr, Bargoed and Rhymney Fire Brigades were called to the fire, which was on the bridge that crossed a disused railway line. Ash from a nearby tip had recently been used as ballast to support the bridge that is frequently used by traffic. It is thought that the pressure of the ballast on the gas main, which runs along the disused track, under the bridge, caused a fracture, resulting in seepage of gas through 30 feet of ash. A lighted cigarette end dropped from a passing vehicle may have ignited the gas. Explosions tore up sections of the road surface. Despite turning off the gas supply, gas continued to burn into the night. Traffic was diverted. It is understood the road will open again during the weekend. [with photograph]

Football Members of the Fochriw team have commenced their training and are looking forward to another successful season in the Rhymney Valley League.

Welfare Association Mr. C. Cumpstone presided at a meeting in the New Hall on Thursday week. It was with regret that the resignation of the secretary, Mr. W. Abbey, was received. He was thanked for his services, and Mr. Cyril Davies was appointed secretary. Arrangements were made to start showing pictures on October 1st. Mr. E. Shankland was

appointed cleaner. Mr. Frank Jenkins gave the financial report of the indoor and outdoor schemes.

“Merthyr Express” 24 August 1957

State Scholarship Miss Eunice Harris, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Harris, Brynteg Street, has been awarded a State Scholarship. She is a pupil of Lewis School for Girls, Hengoed. Mr. Keith Walters, son of Mr. & Mrs. J.R. Walters, Pleasant View, has passed his G.C.E. Advanced Level examinations. He is a pupil of Lewis School, Pengam.

British Legion At the local branch meeting, the 1939-45 Book of Remembrance was discussed. This book, which is being compiled in Cardiff, records the names of all Welsh men and women who lost their lives while serving with the Armed Forces of the Crown in the 1939-45 War. It is most important that relatives contact the local secretary, Mr. C. Gardener, 1, Sunny View, Pontlottyn, who will give them all information regarding the Book. A similar book was compiled in 1921, and this book is kept in the Crypt of the Temple of Peace in Cardiff, where a page is turned every day at 11 a.m.

“Merthyr Express” 31 August 1957

Fochriw Child Crawled Under Van – Killed: “Accidental Death” A young Fochriw mother, giving evidence at a Bargoed inquest last week, described how she saw a neighbour's child run over by a van. The jury, sitting with Mr. T. Alwyn John, Coroner for North Glamorgan, recorded a verdict of “Accidental Death” on Lynette Elaine John, aged two, younger child of Mr. & Mrs. Robert T. John, 123, Glanynant, Fochriw. Mrs. Jones told the Coroner that she lived on the opposite side of the road to the dead child's parents. Soon after mid-day on August 7, she handed a coat for dry cleaning to Mr. Douglas Evan Jones, the driver of a dry cleaning service delivery van. The van was outside her house. She returned to her work at the front of her house. Within a few seconds she heard a bump, and saw the back wheel of the van go over a child's body. She had not seen the child before. Mrs. Jones said, “I could not move. I just screamed. The van stopped immediately. A lady living opposite came across to comfort me as she thought my little girl had had it. Both the children were dresses similarly and had blond hair. Mrs. Lucy Mary Howells of 73, Glanynant, said she was on her doorstep when she saw a child playing on the side of the gutter. A van was stationary outside No. ... and the driver was away a few seconds calling at the house. Mrs. Howells said she did not see the child when the driver returned. She went indoors. Later, someone told her husband there had been an accident. The driver, Douglas Evan Jones, said that after calling on Mrs. Jones, he returned to the van. Just when he moved, he felt a bump at the back, when he stopped. He looked out of the van and heard a scream. Mr. Jones said he got out and ran to the back of the van, where he found a child lying in the gutter. Two men came up, and he ran for the ambulance and the police. P.C. Ralph Southworth said he saw the child at her home. She was bleeding from the ears and nose. There was a pool of blood at the scene of the accident, and there were traces of blood and blond hair on the rear near-side wheel of the van. The child's mother, Mrs. Dora May John, said Lynette was in the kitchen with her. The door leading to the road was open, but she had two chairs wedged across the open doorway. “I missed her a few seconds after I had given her something to eat,” Mrs. Jones continued. I was just going out after her, when a lady called to say there had been an accident. I all happened in a matter of seconds.” Summing up, the Coroner said that quite obviously, the child had crawled between the front and rear wheels of the van while Mr. Jones had been collecting the coat. When he returned to the van, the child must have been completely out of sight. The Coroner added that Lynette was dead when examined by Mr. Alan Evans at Redwood Hospital, Rhymney. Dr. Evans found that death was caused by a fractured base of the skull.

“Merthyr Express” 7 September 1957

Welfare Association Mr. C. Cumpstone, vice-chairman, presided over a meeting at the New Hall on Thursday. He was supported by Mr. Cyril Davies, secretary, and Mr. Frank Jenkins, treasurer. Arrangements were made to start showing pictures on October 1. Mr. E. Shankland was appointed cleaner.

“Merthyr Express” 14 September 1957

Late Mrs. S. A. Cole The death has taken place of one of Fochriw’s oldest inhabitants – Mrs. S.A. Cole, Aelybryn.

“Merthyr Express” 21 September 1957

Body In Car On Wednesday afternoon Glamorgan Police were investigating the death of a middle-aged man. He was found dead in a car standing on the side of the lonely road - South Tunnel Road - a short distance from Fochriw. The man was taken to Bargoed Mortuary for post mortem examination. He was identified as William Sidney Thompson of Tamworth, Staffs.

Late Mr. Stuart V. Jones, 1, Glen View, aged 58 The funeral of Mr. S. V. Jones took place at Pontypridd Crematorium on Monday. Rev. E. Adams Evans officiated. Previous to his illness, Mr. Jones was employed by Gellygaer Council, and was in charge of the Fochriw district. He died at St. Tydfil’s Hospital, Merthyr. The bearers were Messrs. Jack Lawrence, Bob John, Bill Biles, Joe Pullen, Edryd Jones, Mervyn Evans. The mourners were: Messrs. Cyril Goddard (son-in-law); Nigel Goddard (grandson); Llewellyn, Tom, Lewis, Will Tudor & Glyn Jones (brothers); Fred Way (brother-in-law); Edward Jones (uncle); Douglas, David & Gwynfor Jones, Albion, Gordon Way, Tom Cochran (nephews); Tommy & Willie Evans, Dai, Will & J. R. Walters, Gareth, Albion Davies, Sid Evans, J. Lawrence, Arthur & W. J. Way, Crad Skyme, Tudor Evans, Llewellyn & Lewis Small, Stephen Ballard (cousins). At the house were: Mrs. Eliza Jones (wife); Margaret (daughter); Carol & Janet (grand daughters); Annie & Mary Jones, Catherine Way (sisters-in-law); Sylvia Jones, Thelma Evans (nieces); J. M. Lawrence, Annie & Ivy Walters, Mary Way, Elsie Skyme, Celia Ballard & Enid (cousins); Sally, Annie & Doreen (friends).

Late Mrs. Sarah Ann Cole, 24, Aelybryn, aged 85 The funeral of Mrs. S. A. Cole took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Wednesday. Mrs. Cole had lived most of her life in the village. Rev. T. J. Jones & Rev. E. Adams Evans officiated. The mourners were: Messrs. George Cole (son); Tom Millward, Edward Gibson (sons-in-law); Leighton, Gerald, Ian, Glyn, Don (grandsons); John Cole, Cyril Cook, Will Edmund Thomas (nephews); E. Davies, Tom Thomas, Gwyn Evans, Edgar Morgan, Tom Shankland. Numerous friends also attended. At the house: Sarah, Phoebe, Ceinwen (daughters); Rachel (daughter-in-law); Megan, Eileen, Kathleen, Myfanwy (grand-daughters); S. Davies (sister-in-law); Lalla (niece); Mesdames M. Davies, E. Shankland, A. Thomas, M. Davies, O. Thomas, C. Davies, G. Watkins, M. J. Philpott. Bearers were Messrs. Will Watkins, Will Fox, Jack Jones, Atwell Woods, Evan Davies, Will Davies. Funeral arrangements were by Mr. D. J. Davies, Fochriw.

Return To America Mrs. Marion Clayton of Newport, Kentucky, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Tom Sullivan, 7, Aelybryn, who has been home for a three-month visit to her parents, with her seven children, started her journey back to the States on Wednesday. They were sailing on the Queen Mary. They were given a great send-off by relatives and friends who had gathered at the station.

“Merthyr Express” 28 September 1957

Inquest: Suicide Verdict Suicide was the verdict at the Bargoed Inquest on a man whose body was found in a parked car near South Tunnel Road, Fochriw. The man, William Sidney Thompson, a carpenter and joiner, of Tamworth, Staffs, died due to carbon monoxide poisoning.

Welfare Association Coun. W. J. Payne presided over the recent meeting. The new secretary, Mr. Cyril Davies was present. The secretary stated that there would be two film show performances on October 1: one for children and one for adults. The future of the old reading room came up for discussion, but the matter adjourned until the next meeting.

Parish Church Harvest services were held on Sunday and Tuesday. The celebrant and preacher on Sunday morning was the Vicar, Rev. E. Adams Evans, and on Sunday afternoon, Mr. John Palmer, lay reader. The preacher on Sunday evening was Rev. R.W.D. Collings, St.

Margaret's, Gilfach. The organist was Mr. Norman Palmer. On Tuesday, the preacher was the Rev. Dewi Bridges, Rhymney.

“Merthyr Express” 5 October 1957

Welfare Association Coun. W.J. Payne presided over a meeting of the Welfare and Institute. The secretary, Mr. Cyril Davies, reported that on October 1, two picture performances would be given, one for children and one for adults. The future of the old reading room came up for discussion, and was adjourned to the next meeting.

“Merthyr Express” 12 October 1957

Late Mrs. Sarah Thomas The death has occurred of Mrs. Sarah Thomas, William Row, after a long illness. She was highly respected in the village, where she was born, and had lived all her life.

Late Mr. Thomas Evans, 2, Dynevor Street The death has occurred of one of Fochriw's oldest inhabitants, Mr. Thomas Evans. He was 82, and had lived in the village almost all his life, and was held in high esteem.

Nazareth Harvest Services were held on Monday and Tuesday. Those who took part were Rev. T. J. Jones, Mr. W. A. Davies, Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Mitchell. The preacher on Tuesday evening was Rev. J. A. Thomas, Pontlottyn. Mr. W. A. Davies was the organist.

Open-Cast Mining At Fochriw Permission of the Ministry of Fuel and Power for open cast mining on the Tunnel Pits' site at Fochriw is to be sought by the National Coal Board. From the prospecting operations it has carried out, the Board is satisfied the site could be worked by open cast means.

“Merthyr Express” 19 October 1957

Scout Award At a jubilee presentation night in St. David's Hall, Rhymney, in connection with the Boy Scouts, Commissioner Artie Morgan congratulated Senior Sixer Robert Carl Blunt, Fochriw, on gaining the Leaping Wolf award. He is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Blunt, The Villas, Fochriw.

Late Mr. T. Evans The funeral of Mr. Thomas Evans, 2, Dynevor-street, took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Saturday, and was a very representative one. Mr. Evans was 82 years of age and lived most of his life in the village. He was an underground official for many years before the closure of the Fochriw Collieries. Officiating at the house and graveside were Pastor David Evans and Rev. T.J. Jones. The mourners ere Messrs. D.L. & Wm. Evans (sons); Ben Evans (brother); Oliver Evans, Desmond Kelly, David Hewins (grandsons); Wm. Hewins (son-in-law); Tom Owen, Walter Jones, Ned Evans, C. Edwards, W. Morgan, T. Sullivan, W. Bennett, D.W. Evans, T.B. Edwards, M. Williams, W.A. Edwards, Coun. W.J. Payne, Messrs. Lewis Evans, J.H. Evans, Trevor Davies, Glyn Davies, D. Davies, W. Davies, W.R. Davey, Rod Jones, Jack Jones, Tudor Moon, Enoch Rees, W.J. Jones, Oliver Hewins, Stan Griffiths. At the house were: Mesdames Elizabeth A. Hewins (daughter); J. Owen, Miss E. Evans, Mesdames B. Kelly, M. Evans, E. Sullivan, M.J. Davey, E.J. Williams, M. Jones, M. Davies, P. Jones, N. Edwards, M. Rees, B. Evans, V. Hewins. There were numerous floral tributes. Funeral arrangements were by Mr. S.V. Powell, 18, Dynevor-street, Fochriw.

“Merthyr Express” 26 October 1957

Late Mrs. Sarah Thomas The funeral of Mrs. Sarah Thomas, Williams Row, widow of Mr. Thomas Thomas, took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Tuesday. Mrs. Thomas was 76 years of age, and was born, and lived the whole of her life in the village. She was highly respected. The officiating ministers were Rev. T. J. Jones, Rev. E. Adams Evans, and Pastor David Thomas. The bearers were Messrs. John Williams, Rufus Dummett, Albert Haydn Dummett, John Matthews, Reggie Gittoes, Burkley Davies, Tom Rees, Enoch Rees, Evan Williams. The mourners were: Howell, David, Francis (sons); Glyn Thomas, Arfon, Gwyn, Glyn, Alan (grandsons); David Cheese, George Panell (sons-in-law); Thomas Walters, Griff Williams, Howell Thomas, David Thomas, Percy Golden Hann, John Henry Edmonds, Vivian Edmonds, Emrys Jenkins, Thomas Davies, Glyn Johns Ivor Williams, Desmond Harding, David James Davies, Howell Lewis, Gwynlais Lloyd, Lindsay Coggan, David Evans, Stanley Watkins. At the house: Mag. Lucy, Ceridwen (daughters); Daisy, Ann. Glad,

Enid, Margaret, Mary, Iris, Maggie, Sarah, Phyllis, Bronwen, Amy, Ceridwen, Annie Gwen, Mair, Mabel, May, Rose, Mimi, Rhoda, Betty, Margaret, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Burrows.

Late Mrs. Lucy Ann Thomas Mrs. L. A. Thomas, Tiryberth, has died at the age of 83. For many years she lived at Penybank, Fochriw. The funeral took place at Pentwyn Churchyard. The service at the house and graveside was conducted by Mr. Ernest Davies of the Methodist Church, Tiryberth, The mourners were: John Thomas (husband); Richard John Thomas (son); Wm. John Sharp, Gordon & Terry Barnett (grandsons); Reginald Barnett (son-in-law); Daniel Thomas, Jim Marshall, David James, George Nixon (nephews). Meeting the funeral at Pentwyn were Messrs. Stan Jenkins and David Taylor, old family friends. At the house were: Mesdames Elizabeth Nay Barnett, Emily Sharp (daughters); Gwladys Salt, Betty Elaine Barnett, Sylvia Sharp (grand-daughters); Jane James, Margaret Nixon (nieces); and Mrs. Frances Brooks.

“Merthyr Express” 2 November 1957

Farewell to Mrs. H.L. Farley A farewell tea was given for Mrs. H.L. Farley in the New Hall on October 21, by the O.A.P. supporters’ committee. Mrs. J.M. Lawrence presented Mrs. Farley with a small gift on behalf of the committee. Mr. Lawrence and Mrs. M. Davies expressed the regret for the loss to the committee of Mrs. Farley who has been president of the present committee for six years. All the committee members joined in offering her their very best wishes for the future in her new business in Southsea.

“Merthyr Express” 16 November 1957

Welfare Association Coun. Payne presided at a meeting at the New Hall on Thursday. Amongst many matters for discussion was the question of the future of the Old Library. Film shows and dancing were also discussed. The treasurer gave a detailed report on the indoor and outdoor schemes.

“Merthyr Express” 23 November 1957

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children The recent annual collection by the local branch realised the sum of £15 16s 4d. The collectors were Mrs. H. Morgan; Mrs. M. Evans; Miss E. Evans; Mrs. B. Thomas; Mrs. A. Davies; Mrs. L. Morgan; Mrs. A. Evans; Mrs. M. Jenkins. Thanks to the collectors and the general public for their help and generosity.

O.A.P. Concert At the New Hall on Thursday, a first class concert was given by the Penywern choir. The event had been organised by the Supporters Committee. The chairman was Coun. W. J. Payne who spoke in praise of the performance. A vote of thanks to the choir was proposed by Mrs. J. M. Lawrence, chairman of the Committee. The choir was entertained to tea after the concert.

Late Mrs. Ann Parry: Fochriw’s Oldest Inhabitant The death has occurred of Fochriw’s oldest inhabitant, Mrs. Anne Parry of Corwen. She was 92 years of age. Widow of Mr. Edward Parry, she had lived at Fochriw for 90 years, and was a very quiet and kind lady, who was held in high esteem. She was a life-long member of Nazareth Chapel. The funeral was private, and took place at Pentwyn Churchyard. The mourners were: Mrs. Edith Lewis, Mrs. E. & Mrs. Edith Lewis, Mrs. E. Ann Evans (daughters); Phyllis Evans (grand-daughter); Mr. R. W. Parry (son); Mr. David Lewis (son-in-law); Idris, Emrys, Derlwyn Evans (grandsons); Emlyn Evans (great grandson). The officiating ministers were Rev. Latimer Williams, late of Deri; Rev. T. J. Jones & Pastor David Thomas. The bearers were Messrs. Wm. Lewis, Jack Lawrence, Gordon Lawrence, W. A. Davies, Tom Davies, Tudor Evans, T. Jenkins, Bryn Cumpstone.

“Merthyr Express” 7 December 1957

Ward Meeting Coun. W.J. Payne presided over a ward meeting of the Labour Party at the New Hall on Thursday evening. He was supported by Coun. W. Poyntz and Coun. W.R. Davies, with ward secretary Mr. Frank Jenkins, and the speaker for the evening, County councillor W.J. Kedward, J.P., O.B.E. The chairman welcomed C.C. Kedward, saying that next year, he hoped to welcome him as Chairman of Glamorgan County Council, for which

he was this year's vice-chairman. The chairman also said that he regretted the absence through illness of Mr. S. Lewis, J.P., and Mr. D.J. Thomas, treasurer, and wished them a speedy recovery. He commented on the departure of Mrs. H.L. Farley, late secretary of the local Labour party, who has gone with her family to Southsea. All members wished her well, and it was decided to show their appreciation in some tangible form. County Coun. W.J. Kedward was nominated for re-election to the County Council, and Coun. Poyntz for the District Council. Mr. Frank Jenkins was elected secretary in place of Mrs. Farley. C.C. Kedward then addressed the meeting, and dealt in a masterly way with County Council activities embracing education, child welfare, children's homes, homes for old people and other subjects. He was asked several questions. He was heartily thanked for a very fine address.

“Merthyr Express” 14 December 1957

Water Main Uncovered: Police Informed While looking for coal near Fochriw, someone uncovered a 14 inch high level water main, the property of Taf Fechan Water Board. This matter was reported by the Engineer at the monthly meeting of the Taf Fechan Water Board on Wednesday. The main supplies water to Twynyrodyn, Fochriw, Bedlinog and Senghenydd. It is the only source of supply for the area. Serious damage could have been caused by exposure. This could have been very costly to the Board, and a grave inconvenience to the local people, stated the Engineer. The matter has been reported to the police.

Late Mr. Thomas Jones The burial took place at Pentwyn Churchyard on Friday of Mr. Thomas Jones, who had lived at Hill Row, Pentwyn, for many years. He was a sidesman at the church before leaving the district some years ago. He died at Aberdare, The Rev. E. Adams Evans officiated.

Late Mr. John Davies, 4, Plantation Terrace One of Fochriw's oldest inhabitants, Mr. John Davies, died last week. Mr. Davies was a faithful member of Carmel Independant Chapel. He was 85 years of age, and had worked as a miner in the old pits until his retirement. The funeral, which was private, took place on Saturday at Pentwyn Churchyard. Rev. Godfrey Jones of Bethania, Bargoed, and Rev. E. Adams Jones, vicar, officiated at the house and graveside. The mourners were: Messrs. W. A. Davies, Tom, Alfred, Ewart Davies, W. A. Howell & G. Thomas, W. Angell, W. Angell Davies, R. W. Pary, George Klajac, Ray Davies. At the house were: Maud Davies (wife); Blodwen Davies, May James, Laurie Parry, Greta Thomas, Mary Jane Jones, E. M. Davies, Annie Davies, Laurie Ann Smith, Jessie Davies, Mary Jane Edwards, Phoebe Roberts. The funeral arrangements were by Mr. D. J. Davies, Fochriw.

First Marriage at Nazareth Church: Hughes - Hall The wedding was solemnized on Saturday at Nazareth C.M. Church, between, Kate Hughes, the second daughter of Mr. & Mrs. D. Myrddin Hughes, 2, Aelybryn, and William Hall, youngest son of Mr. & Mrs. Tom Hall, Rhymney. This was the first wedding to take place at Nazareth, and to mark the occasion the bride was presented with a Bible by Mr. W. A. Davies, the Church secretary. The Rev. T. J. Jones of Noddfa officiated. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a full-length gown of witch-craft lace held in place by a coronet of lace and diamente. Her bouquet was a shower of red carnations and maidenhair fern. Her two attendants, Miss May Hughes, chief bridesmaid, and Miss Pam Thomas, wore dresses of rose pink nylon and head-dresses of flowers and diamente. Ann Hughes, flower girl, sister of the bride, wore an apple green nylon dress and head-dress of flowers and diamente. Each attendant carried posies of chrysanthemums and carnations. The bride was presented with horse-shoes by Geraldine Lewis and David Jones. The best man was Mr. John Prosser. The groomsmen were Mr. Gwyn Hughes and Mr. Emrys Shankland. The reception was held at the New Hall.

“Merthyr Express” 21 December 1957

End Of Three Year Wait: Fochriw's First Labour Club After three years of patient waiting, a committee of eleven men were rewarded on Friday last when Fochriw's first Workingmen's Club was declared open. The club was opened by Mr. C. W. Bridges, J.P.,

who declared that it was now one of the 3,500 clubs in the Workingmen's Club and Institute Union, embracing some two million members of that union. He wished the club a happy and successful future, and stressed the importance the social aspect of the club's activities, for the growing population of Fochriw, which seemed to have limited facilities for those who gave of their best in the industrial field. Mr. Bridges proceeded to deal with certain criticisms levelled at the Workingmen's Club and its organisation, and said that the best way to counter much if this was to conduct the Institute in a way that made it apparent to all in the town that it was well managed. Also present was Mr. J. Penry Evans, treasurer of the South Wales branch of the Club and Institute Union.

Death of Mr. D.J. Jacob The death has taken place of Mr. David John Jacob, 12, Martin-street. He had resided almost the whole of his life in the village, having worked in the mine at South Tunnel and Fochriw Pits. He was 77. The funeral took place on Wednesday at Pentwyn Churchyard. Rev. T.J. Jones and Rev. E. Adams Evans officiated at the house and graveside. The mourners were Messrs. James Davies, Ivor & John Ballard, J.E. Edwards, Edryd Jones, Islwyn Jones, Graham Jones (nephews). Others present were Messrs. James Davies, Rufus Dummett, Albert H. Dummett, Evan W. Jones, Joe Beddoe, A. Marshalsea, John Morgan, Ivor Heath, David Morris, P. Iles, Gwyn Lloyd, L. Coggan, Wm. Lewis. At the house were Esther & Eirwen Thomas, Marth James, Maggie M. Davies, Iris J Jones, Betty Jones, D.I. Evans, Dan James, Hilda Morgan, Mrs. Annie Jones, Mrs. Rose Thomas, Mrs. Annie G. Lloyd.

“Merthyr Express” 28 December 1957

Film Show The scholars of Fochriw Primary School were entertained to a first class film show at the “New” on Thursday. There were two shows and the scholars had an enjoyable time in the charge of their head teacher, Mr. Bryn Davies, and staff.

Carol Service On Sunday evening, the service took the form of a carol service led by Mr. W.J. Payne, who also gave a short address. The lessons were read by Mr. John Palmer, lay reader. The children had been taught by Miss Betty Fox, and did their parts well. Carols were sung by Allison Watkins, Avril Morgan, Susan Bills, Janice Lawrence, Carol Jenkins, Gillian Jones, Nanette Tyler, Sandra & Jenny Davey. Carols were also sung by the congregation.

Awards The following members of the Fochriw Ambulance Brigade have been given the following awards, granted by the Grand Priory for loyal and efficient service in the St. John Ambulance Division: Div. Supt. T. Thomas, 3rd bar for long service medal, making 30 years service; Div. Sec. S.M. James, long service medal, Pte. Ivor Morgan, long service medal, 15 years' loyal and efficient service each; Div. Supt. Has now completed 35 years as a member of the Fochriw Division.