

6 June 2005

Dear Mr Boobyer,

I have taken it upon myself to respond to your letter to Phil Mustoe. I know Phil – I used to teach him – but I do not know his present address, and it is certainly easier for me to go to Llanblethian to check up on the gravestones, as he lives somewhere in NE England!

There is a little book published by the Glamorgan Family History Society on the monumental inscriptions in Llanblethian churchyard, but it is woefully inaccurate as far as your family is concerned. I went to the churchyard this evening and the inscriptions read as follows:

1. In affectionate remembrance of Henry Charles Boobyer of this parish who died 23 Jan 1895 aged 47 years; also of Margaret his wife, died Feb 24 1922 aged 73 years.
2. In loving remembrance of Aaron Boobyer of this parish who died April 5th 1896 aged 40 years; in loving memory of Harriet Boobyer who died September 25 1952 aged 94 years.

We also have some other records mentioning the Boobyers:

In 1874, what reads as CW Boobyer was paying rates for a house in the terrace of Causeway Cottages; (probably HC as James was baptised from there).

In 1881 (census), Aaron is recorded as aged 24, a miller, from Stoke St Gregory, Somerset; his wife Harriet, 22, born Pendoylan, Glam. They lived at a house called Ar y Mynydd.

Henry C Boobyer, 33, labourer, born Stoke St Gregory, with wife Margaret, 33 (b Llantwit Major), and sons James, 6, John, 4 and Noah, 6 months, all born in Llanblethian, lived nearby in Piccadilly.

By 1891, Aaron (then claiming to be 35), Harriet, 31, and George, 9, lived in a cottage which was part of the present-day Leys Cottage in Factory Road; Harriet had a small sweet-shop there ("She kept a sweet shop. Her speciality was toffee, half a slice, same shape as if you were cutting tart, would last all afternoon"). Henry C, 43, labourer gardener, Margaret, 43, James, 16, gardener, John 14, page boy, Noah, 12, Charles 9, lived with three boarders somewhere in the middle of the village.

In 1901, there is no sign of Henry's family; Harriet, a grocer-shopkeeper, now had George Frederick, 19, a wheelwright, and William Ralph, 5, living in part of Leys Cottage.

In 1910, Harriet is recorded as living in Piccadilly, and Noah has returned to live in a cottage (now demolished) in the grounds of Llanblethian House.

There are brief mentions of the Boobyers and photographs of Ar y Mynydd and Leys Cottage in our book, Llanblethian Buildings and people (£6 by post from the Record Society)!

Hope this is of some interest; if there is anything you can add for our records I'd be pleased to receive it.

Yours sincerely,

Jeff Alden
Editor

From: "June & Arthur Boobyer" <[REDACTED]>
Book

To: jeff.alden@talk21.com

Subject: The Boobyers

Date: Wed, 8 Jun 2005 22:29:38 +0100

Dear Jeff,

Many thanks for your letter which arrived this morning.

Henry Charles (the eldest) and Aaron were part of a family of 14 children from Stoke St. Gregory, near Taunton. Three of the Boobyer brothers married three Edwards sisters from Turkey Street, Llantwit Major. My grandfather Worthy and his brother Frederick are buried in Pwllpant cemetery, Ogmere Vale. The last we heard of Eli, he was working as a cleaner on the Rhymney railway. Another brother, Noah emigrated to Birmingham, Alabama to work in the coalmines.

I remember my aunt Harriet as a very old lady when I visited her when I was a boy. She gave my brother and I some marigold seeds which we planted in our garden in Nantymoel.

Brother Frederick had a son Jack who was a Lieutenant during World War. He was in charge of burial parties and subsequently was very fond of his drink as were others who had to perform this very sad task. Jack's daughter, Kathleen taught herself to speak Greek and Latin. She was head of English at Cheltenham Ladies' College and later vice principal at Cardiff College of Education. Sadly she died of cancer at a very young age.

I have met all of Aaron's children. James moved to Trealaw - he was one of the Black and Tans John moved to London. Noah moved to Ogmere Vale - I knew him as my uncle Noah - a big man with a moustache and a firm favourite of my grandmother and Charles moved to Nantymoel.

Like yourself, I was a member of the teaching profession. I have two sons - the elder is an accountant for Nokia and the younger a partner in firm of Northampton solicitors. I have one grandson and there is another one joining the family in November.

There is something in the back of my mind that tells me that Noah was a gardener at Beaupre Castle and that my grandfather was a member of the Glamorgan yeomanry!

My grandmother worked for a time at the Bear Hotel.

The last time I was in Cowbridge was to attend a masonic meeting in the Town Hall when an old schoolfriend was made WM of his Lodge.

Hope that this might be of some use to you

Kindest regards,

David Boobyer.

10th October 2005

Dear Mr. Alden,

While perusing the booklet 'Cowbridge, Buildings and People', I noted that on p.57, Revd. Thomas Edmondson, Vicar of Llanblethian, had 'coal mining interests in the valleys'.

Your article on the 'The Edmondson Diaries', featured in Newsletter No. 7, proved to be of great interest to me. You mention the royalties from mining at Edmondstown and Tyorstown.

My grandfather, Worthy Boobyer, was brought up in Stoke Saint Gregory, Somerset. He came to the Cowbridge area. My grandmother, Elizabeth Edwards, came from Llantwit Major. I understand he worked as a gardener, and she was a cook.

They were married in 1884, at the register office at Pontypridd. At that time my grandfather was a coalminer. Their first child was born in Edmondstown.

I wonder if either of them worked for Revd, Thomas Edmondson and might have been influenced by him to move to the Rhondda Valley. According to the 1881 Census, neither of them is listed in the Old Hall record.

It would be pleased to find out any other information about these 'mining interests around 1884. e.g.

- Did the Edmondson family own any of the houses in these small communities?
- What were the names of the mines?
- How many men were employed?

Without wishing to inconvenience you, I would be obliged if you could help me with my question 'Why did my grandparents go from Cowbridge to work in Edmondstown ?'

Yours sincerely,



Glynne J. Boobyer

From: "JANE BOOBYER" <[REDACTED]>
Details
To: "jeff Alden" <jeff.alden@talk21.com>
Subject: Newsletter NO. 10
Date: Sun, 19 Nov 2006 19:44:52 -0000

Dear Jeff,

Thanks for a very interesting newsletter.

In June Faulkner's article 'Llanblethian - My childhood home, she mentions Mrs. Boobyer who live in a cottage in Picadilly. I am sure that this was Harriet Boobyer, the widow of Aaron. Aaron died at the age of 40, in April 1896.


According to his death certificate, he died of septicaemia, caused by an injured finger. His occupation is listed as 'Manager of a mineral water manufactory'

Do you have any idea where this mineral water works might have been?

I would very much like to obtain of the DVD ' Cowbridge on film'. Please would you let me know how I might obtain one.

Kind regards,

Glynne Boobyer

From: "JANE BOOBYER" <[REDACTED]>  View Contact Details
To: jeff.alden@talk21.com
Subject: llanblethian
Date: Sun, 27 Nov 2005 22:36:11 -0000

Dear Jeff

Thank you for the great effort you have made to answering my questions about the Edmondstown collieries.

I have some letters of condolence sent when my grandmother died (1921) and when my grandfather died (1932). The names and addresses might be of interest to you.

1. In March 1929 and in November 1932 Harriet, (wife of Aaron Boobyer), lived at Jessmine (of Jessamine) Cottage.
2. In November 1932 Lilly and Lottie Jones (and their mother?) lived in Picadilly.
3. Tom and Nellie Elms lived at Glebe Farm, St. Hilary, Nr. Cowbridge. Unfortunately, their letter is undated.

I hope this will be of interest to you.

Glynne J. Boobyer