

## The Limes, Cowbridge

1607 or 1629 (5<sup>th</sup> year of ?) Between John Knapp of Cowbridge gent. and his wife Jane, and William Jenkins of Cowbridge – messuage and yards, 2 orchards and 2 little parcels of land, containing approximately one and a half burgages... a place called the limes within the liberties of the town of Cowbridge, late in the tenure of Thomas ? Booker, and now in the hands of Edward Tirrill ? Booker (or Bodde) *Dunraven 31*

1614 Deed to lead uses of fine, Rice Knapp gent. and wife Jane, with John Knapp gent. and wife Jane, all of Cowbridge, to Morgan Gibbon of St Fagans gent – a mansion house in the occupation of Rice Knapp, with appurtenances including ‘the lymes and 2 orchards’, and a house and appurtenances in the occupation of Lewis Matthew...etc *D/Dyn 179*

1644 Conveyance, Thomas Hales of Westminster gent. to Edward Deere of Llanquian gent. – parcel of land called the limes, and property including a burgage in the east of the town, late in the tenure of David Jones, then of Edward Carne, gent *D/Ed 27, see also D/Dx75 27*

1656 Pre-nuptial settlement, William Knapp of Cowbridge gent. to Walter Morley and others (of Carmarthen and Penlline) on the proposed marriage of William Knapp to Anne Morley – a capital mansion and appurtenances in the town of Cowbridge *D/Dyn 182*

1658/9 Lease for the lives of Samuel Williams, his wife Mary, alias Llewellyn, and his son William; William Knapp of Cowbridge gent and wife Anne to Samuel Williams of Llanmihangel gent.  
– a messuage, garden and old barn, with a way to bring plough and oxen through the garden, in the Pentre, Cowbridge *D/Dyn 188/189*

?1690 Abstract of case, Morgan Williams plaintiff, Charles Mathew (heir of eldest daughter of Robert Williams) defendant – re messuages and lands (48 acres) leased by Rice Knapp to the plaintiff in 1690 in Cowbridge and St Hilary *D/ Dyn 202*

1712 (and 1735) Lease of Charles Talbot to Richard Bates – house and cottage under the same roof with garden and orchard outside the east gate (?72 *Eastgate*) *D/Dyn 206-2011*

1738 John Carne Esq. for half a burgage, the lime pitts,  
Thomas Wyndham Esq. for one and a half burgages called the limes orchard,  
Anne Carne, widow, four burgages and one acre called the Limes (?9 and 10),  
late Alexander Stiddor for a cottage,  
Cann Wilkins Esq. for a cottage in the tenure of Evan Mitchel,  
Francis Gwyn Esq. for one burgage, the Croft,  
Thomas Bates, half a burgage, late of David Davies *Burgage rentals 46-52*

1743 Assignment of mortgage from Anne Carne (widow of John) to John Gibbon –  
messuage called the Lymes, formerly purchased by John Carne from Rymbron Richard  
and his wife Sarah, in the upper village. *D/Ca 20/22*

1743 21 year lease from Thomas Wyndham to John Carne of Cowbridge, surgeon  
– land, three quarters of an acre, called Croft by the Limes *D/Ca 23/24*

1744 John Carne Esq., half burgage, the Lime Pitts,  
Thomas Wyndham Esq., one and a half burgages, the Limes orchard,  
Anne Carne widow owned; Mrs Anne Cadogan occupied, four burgages and one  
acre called the Limes,  
late Alexander Stidor for a cottage *BR 48-50*

1753 Endorsement of memorandum of assignment of residue of lease, Anne Carne  
(widow and executrix of John) to Anne Cadogan of Coychurch, spinster (*?Nos. 9 and 10  
The Limes*) *D/Ca 23.*

1760 Between Charles Wyndham of Clearwell, Glos. and James Morgan of Cowbridge,  
mercator, for £63 and yearly rent of £2  
– all those parcels of land called (the Butts 6 acres, Tyle Rosser and) the Lime Kilns, now  
held by Nicholas Morgan and Isaac Redwood.

*Dunraven 76*

1766 Assignment from Henry Morgan to James Morgan – lease of old lands called the  
Butts 6 acres, Tyle Rosser and the Lime Kilns *D/C 60/61*

1767 Charles Wyndham esq., late Thos. Wyndham, owned; Mrs Anne Cadogan  
occupied, one and a half burgages called the new orchard,  
Mrs Cadogan, late Mrs Anne Carne owned; Mrs Cadogan occupied, four  
burgages and one acre close called the Rock,  
Francis Gwynne esq. owned; Robert Clement occupied, half burgage called the  
Croft,  
Mrs Bates, late Thos. Bates esq. owned; Richard Taylor, late Diana Davies  
occupied, half burgage *BR 47-50*

1772 (12<sup>th</sup> year of George III) Lease for 99 years or the life of Thomas Edmondson for  
the surrender of the previous lease (rent £400 yearly)  
– messuage or tenement called the .... let to Oliver Richard and Jennet Williams  
together, with the court and curtilages adjoining one another (*? The Blue Bell or area*)  
*D/Ed 293*

1773 Charles Wyndham Esq. for the Limes orchard 1s.6d.  
Mrs Ann Cadogan 5s.  
John Edmondson esq. 3s. Jennet Bates, widow, 1/6d.  
David Williams gent. 1/6d *Land tax assessment*

- 1773/4 Jennett William, widow 5 windows 3/- duty  
William Cadogan 7 windows, 3/- duty  
Margaret Thomas 6 windows, 3/- duty  
William Prees 5 windows, 3/- duty *Window/house duty tax*
- 1777 Reference to 'two parcels of land called two acres and croft of Mrs Cadogan',  
which lay west of the lower stumpy (then owned by Thomas Edmondess)  
*D/Ed 143*
- 1779 Lease for 14 years, Thomas Edmondess to Edward Ballard of Aberthin, skinner –  
courtyard and wainhouse called the limes yard and wainhouse, with  
storeroom (formerly occupied by John Thomas) *?Bridge Garage area*  
*D/Ed 146*
- No date Estate formerly of Col. Thomas Edmondess included 'the limes in the  
occupation of Edward Ballard' *D/Ed 308*
- 1784 Owner, Charles Edwin; occupier Thomas Thomas, 2s  
Owner Mary Morgan, widow; occupier Luce Morgan and Mary Pierce 6s.8d.  
Owner Thomas Edmondess; occupier Edward Ballard, and Jennett and Thomas  
Williams, 4s.  
Owner Cann Wilkins esq.; occupier Margaret Thomas, widow, 2s.  
Owner Mr. Edward Bates; occupier William Prees, 2s *(72 Eastgate)*  
*Land tax assessment*
- 1788 Owner Charles Edwin; occupier Thomas Thomas, 2s.  
Owner Mary Morgan; occupier Mary Morgan *(?9 and 10 The Limes)*  
Owner Thomas Edmondess; occupier Edward Ballard, and Jennett and Thomas  
Williams, 4s *(? Bridge garage, Blue Bell)*  
Owner Cann Wilkins; occupier Richard ? Felton (or Totton), 2s  
Owner Edward Bates; occupier William ? Prees, 2s. *(72 Eastgate)* *LTA*
- 1792 (or 1771) Will of Anne Cadogan, spinster leaves to Mary Morgan of Cowbridge,  
widow (her niece), then to her son John Morgan – a messuage called the Limes *(9*  
*and 10 The Limes)* *D/Ca 24*
- 1795 Owner late Thomas Edmondess; occupier Francis Thomas (Blue Bell), 6s.  
Owner late Thomas Edmondess, occupier Edward Ballard and Lewis Llewellyn,  
4s. *(Bridge garage)*  
Owner Mary Gibbon; occupier Thomas Bryant, 2s.  
Owner Edward Bates, occupier Humphrey Salter, 2s. *(72 Eastgate)* *LTA*

- 1796 Owner Charles Edwin (Wyndham/Dunraven family); occupier Thomas Thomas, 2s.  
Owner Mary Morgan; occupier Edward Rowland, 6s.  
Owner Thomas Edmondson, occupier Edward Ballard and Lewis Llewellyn, 4s.  
Owner Dr Bates; occupier Thomas Bryant, 2s. LTA
- 1798 – 1804 Rev. Mr Carne owned; Jennett William occupied, half burgage, Lime Pitts, Charles Edwin Esq. owned; Mr Ballard occupied, one and a half burgages, Limes Orchard,  
Mrs Mary Morgan owned; Edward Richard occupied, four acres called the Limes, Doctor Bates owned – a ruin, one cottage late Alex. Stidder late now of Dr Bates owner; Margaret Thomas widow occupied, Mrs Gwyn widow owned; Dr Bates occupied, half burgage, the Croft, Edward Bates surgeon owned; John Aubrey occupied, half burgage BR 47-53
- Ca. 1800 Four houses in the Limes  
*Mentioned by Iolo Morganwg (Edward Williams)*
- 1800 Owner Charles Edwin esq.; occupier Thomas Thomas, 2s.  
Owner Mary Morgan, widow; occupier Evan Deere, 6s.  
Owner Thomas Edmondson esq.; occupier Edward Ballard, 4s.  
Owner Mr David Williams; occupier John Bowen, 4s. LTA  
(Mary Morgan is marked on a benefactions board in Holy Cross church, having given an annual gift to the poor of the town)
- 1802 Edward Bates, surgeon, to Thomas Griffith, blacksmith  
– conveyance of that piece of land where Thos. Griffith has built a smith's forge  
*Deeds (no 3 The Limes)*
- 1805-1816 Thos. Edmondson esq. owned; Jennett William (and ? Mr Ballard) occupied, half burgage, the lime potts,  
Thomas Wyndham esq., Rev Edward Morris owned; Mr Ballard occupied, one and a half burgages, the limes orchard,  
Mrs Mary Morgan owned; Edward Richard occupied, four burgages, the Limes, Dr Bates owned; John Thomas occupied, one burgage,  
Dr Bates owned; John Aubrey occupied, ?Gabriel Bates, one house.  
Mrs Gwyn widow owned; John Aubrey occupied, half burgage called the Croft, Mrs Morgan owned; J Samuel occupied, half burgage, the stable BR 47-53
- 1815 Owner Rev. Mr Morgan; occupier Rev. Morgan, Limes and orchard, 2s.  
owner Mrs Mary Morgan; occupier William Williams, house and land, 6s (*9 and 10 The Limes*)

- owner Thomas Edmondson; occupier Mr Ballard, house and yard, 4s. (*?Bridge Garage*)  
owner Robert Hillier; occupier Robert Hillier, dwelling house, 4s. (*?72 Eastgate*)  
*LTA*
- 1817 Limes...waste ground, at the north adjacent the shop of Thomas Griffiths, blacksmith 15 ft.;  
at the east end adjacent the garden now held by Gabriel Bates, surgeon, 46 ft.;  
at the west abutting on waste called the Limes 24 ft.;  
at the south-west side abutting on said waste 2 ft.;  
and on the south side abutting on waste 6 ft., at a place called the Limes (*plan given*)  
Bailiffs to Robert Hillier of Cowbridge, shopkeeper, 99 year lease.  
Thomas Hillier to build a cart shed on the property *Borough properties*
- 1819 Lease and re-lease of lands including 'four acres on the Lime Kiln field' (names Hooper, Llewellyn maltster, Nathaniel Young, Simpson innkeeper and Bassett)  
*Aberthin 60/61*
- 1822 Robert Hillier, linen draper, built a cottage and stable, the north pine end of which...was built upon a tenement of Thomas Griffiths in which he carries on the trade of blacksmith, and the back wall of the said cottage was by consent of John Aubrey, auctioneer, built upon the wall of the garden formerly occupied by Gabriel Bates (and that Thomas Griffiths is seized in fee simple of his shop and John Aubrey holds his garden by a 99 year lease granted by Edward Bates in 1800) – assigned to D Howell, maltster  
*Borough properties (area to the east side of the Limes)*
- 1823 Rev. Edward Morgan devised to David John – ground at the Limes where David John and William John lately erected a dwelling house, now in the occupation of Mary Vincent, 99 year lease  
*J R Hughes papers II*
- 1824 99 year lease, Rev. Edward Morgan of Verlands House, clerk, to Thomas Williams of Cowbridge, solicitor – piece of ground near the Limes (24 ft. north to south, 17 ft. east to west) adjoining north the river Thaw, south the carriageway leading to the land of Edward Morgan and the footpath from Cowbridge to Llanblethian, east a building lately erected by David John of Cowbridge, carrier, west a plantation of fir trees and land of Edward Morgan (sketch plan)  
*D/D Tre 74/5*
- 1824 Owner Mary Morgan; occupier sundry tenants, house and garden, 6s.  
owner Thomas Edmondson; occupier Ballard, house and yard, 4s.  
owner David Howell; occupier David Howell, house and premises, 4s.  
owner James Reynolds; occupier David John, house and garden, 4s. *LTA*

- 1825 Town of Cowbridge to David John – all that messuage or dwelling house formerly held by Margaret Preece, widow and now occupied by David and William John, for 99 years or three lives of Ann John (20), David John (18) and Simeon John (12) *J R Hughes II*
- 1825 Building of Sion (Calvinists of Aberthin) chapel at the Limes, referred to as the Limes Chapel. The land was secured by William Howells, the first Cowbridge brewer  
*'The Cowbridge Story'* and *'Cowbridge and Llanblethian Past and Present'*  
Chapel said to seat 370 *Kelly's directory of 1923*
- 1828 Isaiah Verity to David John – stable, garden and premises converted into a warehouse, garden and stable in the east village, now in the occupation of David and William John for a 99 year lease *J R Hughes II*
- 1830 Thomas Griffith to William Weaver of Bristol, ironmaster, and Thomas Wingate of Bristol gent., lease for a year...  
*Deeds (no 3 The Limes)*
- 1830 Owner Isaiah Verity; occupier Mrs Edmondes, house and garden, 4s.  
owner William Lewis jnr.; occupier John Nicholas, house and garden, 6s. (*9 and 10 The Limes*)  
owner Thomas Edmondes esq.; occupied by Mr. Ballard senior, house and yard (*?behind Bridge garage*), 4s.  
owner Mrs Howells, widow; occupier Mrs Howells, house and yard, 4s.  
owner and occupier William James, house and yard, 4s.  
owner and occupier Rev. Edward Morgan, Limes orchard, 2s. *LTA*
- 1831 David and William John of Cowbridge, carriers, mortgage to James Kidman of Cardiff gent – the property as in 1823, 1825 and 1828 ('surrendered' on cover)  
*J R Hughes II*
- Ca. 1840 Abraham Verity (? junior), living in Bridgend, had a freehold house in the Limes, tenanted by Ann Jones *Cowbridge Hundred electoral roll*
- 1843 William Weaver Davies to John Griffiths, reciting indenture (re 1830 and 1802) – piece of land, smith's forge, now used as a timber house occupied by James Reynolds *Deeds (no 3 The Limes)*
- 1843 Owner Thomas Edmondes; occupier Edward Ballard, kiln yard etc (no. 156)  
owner Thomas Edmondes; occupier William Thomas, house and garden (155)  
owner Thos. Edmondes; occupier William James, carpenter's shop (154)  
owner Mrs Morgan; occupier David Morgan, house etc. (151)  
owner Mrs Simpson; occupier John Williams, house and garden (148)

- owner Mrs Simpson; occupier David Morgan, John Reynolds, Michael Donegal, garden (149)  
owner Mary Williams; occupier Thomas Pritchard, Anne Owen, John Perkins, houses and gardens (147)  
owner Mary Williams; occupier Edward Howell, house and garden (146)  
owner Mrs Simpson; occupier Thomas Lewis, meadow (151)  
owner James Reynolds; occupier Richard Aubrey (43)  
owner Mr Samuel; occupier Mathias James (40) *Tithe records*
- 1849 Mortgage for £400 – messuage in the east village and near the Limes, two cottages behind same (names William Lewis, Bates, Reynolds, and Edmondson) *Aberthin 93*
- 1849 Two cottages, formerly a stable, *behind 72 Eastgate*, with one curtilage and one garden, now occupied by William Roberts, tinman, and William Giles, labourer (147 on the tithe map), adjacent to the dwelling house and garden late of David Howells, maltster *Aberthin 93*
- 1850 Assignment of Borough leases of 1817 and 1822 to Thomas Williams of Cowbridge, weaver *B/Cow 152*
- 1851 Gas works constructed on the site of Choice's Court at the Limes  
*'The Cowbridge Story'* by John Richards  
The town's streets were lit by gas about 1855; 20 lamp posts  
*'Cowbridge and Llb. Past and Present'*, James and Francis
- 1851 Elizabeth Davies, laundress with sister Hannah (132)  
David and Mary Morgan, retired farmer, and their three daughters (133)  
Nicholas Williams, maths teacher, with two older sisters (134)  
David ? Gillard, wife, son and daughter (135)  
Nathaniel James, stonemason, wife, son and daughter (136)  
Margaret Jenkins, former housekeeper, pauper, and young granddaughter (137)  
Edmund ?, retired tailor, wife and niece (138)  
John Nicholas, retired timber merchant and granddaughter Emily (139)
- In the Limes chapel row were :  
William Roberts, William Giles, Anne Williams, Thomas Jenkins, Mary Griffiths, William Whitby\* and Hannah Rogers *Census*
- William Henry Whitby charged with stealing coal 1869.  
*Gazette Central Glamorgan*

**Cowbridge Gas Co. - Deed of settlement :**

17.2.1854, between

(1) signatories below, except as in (2) and (3)

(2) Revd Thos Edmondcs, Geo Waugh Toogood, draper

(3) David Rees, draper

said parties have agreed to form a joint stock company, provisionally regd 6.5.1853, and a provisional contract drawn up to purchase a piece of ground, part of a field at the Limes in Cowbridge, the property of Mary Simpson and Jas Simpson.

The business of the company shall be the manufacture and supply of gas for the purpose of lighting the streets and other or public ways and the shops, private houses and public buildings within the town of Cowbridge.

Directors of the company - Thomas Edmondcs, GW Toogood, David Rees, John Parsons of Cowbridge, grocer, and Thomas Miles of Cowbridge, grocer.

Subscribers:

Ballard, Edward, ironmonger, 10 shares

Ballard, James, farmer, Llwynhelyg, 5

Davis, David, bookseller, 5

Edmondcs, Thos, clerk, 5

Edmondcs, Wm, solicitor, 5

Harries, Hannah, widow, 10

Hornsby, Samuel John, bank agent, 5

Howell, Robert Williams, scholar of Jesus College, Oxford, 2

Howells, Samuel, maltster, W Village, 2

Jones, Thomas, maltster, Llanblethian

Lewis, Thomas, grocer, Bridge St, C, 5

Llewellyn, Mary Shaftesbury, spr, 2

Matthews, Thomas, saddler, 10

Miles, Thomas, grocer, 5

Morgan, David, butcher, 5

Parsons, John, grocer, 5

Rees, David, draper, 10

Rhys, Elizabeth, spinster, 2

Roberts, David, dissenting minister, E Village

Simkins, Elizabeth, spinster, 2

Simpson, John, innkeeper, Pyle

Sylvester, Charles, doctor of medicine, 5

Taynton, Francis, clerk, 5

Thomas, Evan, draper's assistant, E Village, 10

Toogood, Geo W, draper, High St, 20

Williams, John, butcher, E Village, 5



Williams, Morgan, wheelwright, High St, 5  
Williams, Thomas, tailor, E Village, 3

- 1861 In the Limes were Richard Watkins, George ? Winder, David Morgan, William Morgan, Denis Haggerty, William Rosser and David John.  
also, Maude Herne, John John, Charles Trotman, William Giles, Joan Thomas, Thomas Jenkins, David Harding, Thomas Thomas, Catherine Watkins, John Jenkins (gas works) and Thomas Nicholas, carpenter and builder employing 15 men. *Census*
- 1867 John Griffiths (son of Thomas Griffiths) to Richard Cory junior of Cardiff gent – property now used as a stable house occupied by David Ithiel Edwards, surgeon \*  
*Deeds no 3 The Limes (see 1802, 1830 and 1843)*
- 1867 Married on 21<sup>st</sup> August at Cambridge, William only son of David Morgan Esq. of the Limes to Harriet Isabella second daughter of Mr Remington Pratt of Cambridge.  
*Bury & Norwich Post*
- 1871 Thomas Jenkins, wife and 6 daughters (*the Bridge, after the Blue Bell*), Mary Morgan, annuitant widow and her granddaughter (*9 and 10 The Limes*), John Jenkins, wife and daughter (*gas works*), Susanna Trotman, James McCartney, William Bailey, Thomas George, William Smith, Robert Stibbs, Elizabeth John, William Giles, John ?, Catherine Looby, Thomas Thomas, Levi Smith, Thomas Nicholas, Grace John (various employments including a sweep, laundresses, basket maker, shoemaker) *Census*
- 1871 Robert Stibbs, The Limes, private resident  
John Oswin, chimney sweep  
Mrs Morgan, private resident *Kelly's*
- 1877 Receipts of rents to the Corporation of Cowbridge for 1876 included Brown, Luby and others – four weekly tenants, cottages, Limes £13 *B/Cow194*
- No date Corporation report on sanitation included : Limes – Johnson and Mrs Eddols...closets and cesspools, slop water drain to river, stopped.  
Chapel House, Limes – William Thomas...notice to owners *B/Cow 192*
- Uncertain date Cardiff coal magnate Richard Cory built a small hall at the Limes for English services \* (see notes below)  
'Horses were kept in the stables, the roof of which was later raised to make the Sons of Temperance Hall'  
Mrs Betty Read, great granddaughter of Mrs Ellen Crowley, who kept the Bridge Inn round the corner, and who has lived all her life in the Limes

1880, 1<sup>st</sup> October A tramp was charged with stealing a waistcoat, shoes etc. from William Morgan of the Limes, a lodging house keeper who lived there and said he had only lent the clothes.  
*Central Glamorgan Gazette*

1881 David Williams, Elizabeth Davies, Morgan Lloyd, Richard Williams, Mary Ann Morgan, John Tidball, Jane Wilde and John Jenkins (*gas works manager*), also, Jenkin Williams, Elizabeth Morgan (*?9 and 10 The Limes*), William Morgan, Catherine Thomas, Ann Whitby, Margaret Whitby, John Oswin, Elizabeth John and Elizabeth Sherwood.

Calvinistic Methodist chapel.

Mary Murphy, Laurence Wilton, William Giles, William Brown, John Nicholas, John John and Grace John

English Baptist chapel

Ann Eddolls, John Williams, Richard Rees and Daniel Collier *Census*

1881 John Howe of Cowbridge had a freehold house in the Limes, and Richard Cory of Cardiff had a freehold chapel, Thomas Nicholas had 4 freehold houses and gardens  
*Electoral roll*

1883, February Death of David Williams, tiler and plasterer, who was lodging with Mrs Morgan at the Limes  
*Glamorgan Gazette*

1883, August Death of Thomas Curran, an Irish tramp labourer, at the Limes  
*Parish records*

1884 Calvinistic Methodist minister Rev, William Lewis  
Cowbridge Gas Light and Coke Company, Ephraim Jenkins manager  
*Kelly's*

1887 Richard Cory to William Booth, general of the Salvation Army – premises, smith's forge, timber house, stable and now a Salvation Army barracks in occupation of the purchaser (see deeds of 1802, 1830, 1843, 1867)  
*Deeds (no 3 The Limes)*

\* *From 'The Cowbridge Story' by John Richards :*

*As the Nonconformist services, with the exception of the Wesleyan, were conducted in the Welsh language, the Cardiff coal magnate, Mr. Richard Cory, built a small Hall at the Limes for English services which were conducted by a modest preacher named David Lewis whose occupation was that of gardener. He was assisted by the Rev. Tyler of Llantrithyd who would walk to Cowbridge on Sundays to deliver the sermons in English to a considerable congregation. Neither of these men received or expected any salary for their religious activities. In the course of a few years the Welsh Methodist Chapel introduced English into the services, and Mrs. Cory then handed the Hall over to the Salvation Army.*

Owing to the small population of the Borough there was little scope for the Army and after a couple of years the members retired.

In the year 1881 the temperance movement became nationwide; numerous meetings were held and these made a deep impression on the young people of Cowbridge. When the Salvation Anny retired the Hall was taken over by the Sons of Temperance Society.

One of the rural postmen entered an early temperance meeting much the worse for drink; he attempted to sit on a seat but was so fuddled that he completed the manoeuvre by falling full length on the floor where he remained for the duration of the meeting oblivious of the proceedings. When he woke at the end of the meeting- he signed the pledge, and remained an active teetotaler for the rest of his days, notwithstanding the taunts of his former comrades at the bar who had sent him to the meeting in the first place.

1890 William Booth to Mathias Davies, painter, Charles Morgan Davies, baker, and Frederick Stibbs, ironmonger's assistant (trustees of the Cowbridge Crusaders' Subordinate Division or Branch No. 717 of the Order of the Sons of Temperance Friendly Society) – piece of land and building erected thereon, formerly used as a smith's forge, then a timber house, afterwards a stable, afterwards a Congregational chapel, and lately as a Salvation Army barracks  
*Deeds (no 3 The Limes)*

1891 *Following on after the Blue Bell records :*  
David Williams (4 rooms), Elizabeth Davies (4 rooms),  
Richard Williams (4 rooms), James Marsh (?3 rooms),  
Charles ? Woolfrey (3 rooms), Frederick ? Cannock (4 rooms),  
Walter Escott (gasworks – 5 or more rooms), David Williams (5 or more rooms),  
John Brown (4 rooms), William Morgan (4 rooms),  
Catherine Thomas (2 rooms), William Williams (2 rooms),  
Alfred James (5 or more rooms), Mansel John (2 rooms),  
Laurence Wilton (5 or more rooms), William Giles (5 or more rooms),  
Edward Roberts (2 rooms), William ?Hagland (4 rooms),  
Henry Johnson (5 or more rooms),  
then follows the Bridge Inn. *Census*

1892 Plan of a stable to be built for Thomas Tucker in the Limes – approved at council meeting *B/Cow 179/147*

1895 – 1906 Thomas Tucker, earthenware dealer, The Bridge (*Bridge garage area*)  
*Kelly's*

1912 The Limes : George Seward, Matthew Hopkins, Mrs Mary Wilton,  
Abraham James  
The chapel  
Mrs Emma Dawe, Reginald Tucker, William Davies, Thomas Bennett, Benjamin  
Watkins, Daniel Owen, Thomas Tucker *Western Mail street directory*  
Bridge Motor Depot, AS Evans

1914 Land valuation to ET Ralls, secretary of the Sons of Temperance Society  
*Deeds (no 3 The Limes) \* see below*

- 1914 and 1923 Reginald Tucker, insurance agent, the Limes *Kelly's*
- 1931 Directors of the Cowbridge Gas Works Company served notice upon the consumers that the Gas Works were to be closed *'The Cowbridge Story'*
- 1946, December Fire at Bridge Garage (owned by Fred Sanders) – 24 cars destroyed
- 1950s Gas works demolished (Limes Court flats now built on the site)  
Two condemned houses pulled down at entry to garage.  
New bridge built and river diverted (1957)  
Garage pumps moved back 12 feet.
- 1958 - 1972 Miss Nancy Cross, hairdresser (her cottage was next to the Temperance Hall) *Wales Trade directory*  
Nancy Cross was an aunt of Dai John, ironmonger  
Gas works house, at entrance to the cemetery – *Iris and Edgar Morgan*
- 1999 Bridge garage (Hugh Bowen)  
Bear Lane Auto Repairs (Taylors) – behind garage  
Joseph's Coat (quilter's shop), and earlier Eastgate Antiques – former Temperance Hall

*Information from Mr Colwyn Jones, current owner of the Temperance Hall (2004):*

During the second world war the building, then vacant, was used for the storage of gas and other equipment in case of invasion.

This was followed by conversion into a hair dressing business by a Mr Davies; this was taken over by Miss Nancy Cross of St Hilary who died in 1999?

The new owners converted it into a gallery with a recessed first floor; occupied first as a quilting business and then 2003 as an art gallery (Red Spot).

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### ***Memories of Mrs Betty Read :***

On the present day garage there were three very pretty cottages, which were run as a laundry business. The original garage was smaller and much closer to the main road; it had a lovely pear tree in the back garden. The garage was owned by Mr Frank Sanders. On the corner, facing the Limes and with the gable end abutting the main road, was Tucker's china shop. This was a large shop, and after its closure it was used as a waste paper store during the war. The original garage was burned down when a petrol delivery tanker backed into a brazier – open devil fire- and the garage was burnt down and all the neighbouring properties were evacuated.

Next to 'Jacob's Coat' is the Old Sand House, which was a council owned yard surrounded by a high wall, where the seat is today.

On the west side of the Limes, where the bungalow has been built (now a house in 2013) was the site of a Water Board shed, and next to that was Tucker's yard and stables.  
**Numbering of Limes cottages etc – @ November 2018**

At entrance from Eastgate – no 1 is the cottage on the corner, no 2 is next door, 3a is the chapel (now Capel Jones antique shop);

The cottage on the corner beyond that, Corner Cottage, is no 3b, next door is no 4, then comes the old chapel (now flats);

Then follows no 5, no 6; no 7, and no 8 (painted orange and newly modernised) is next to that.

On the other side of the road are numbers 10 (bottom right), then 9..

*Information from Roger Barwick, 4 The Limes, 2018*



## **COWBRIDGE GAS WORKS**

I spent a most pleasant and entertaining afternoon with Iris and Edgar Morgan, in my search for information about Cowbridge Gas Works. They had lived in the Gas Works house which still exists as the house at the entrance to Limes Court flats. The photo (the only one I have been able to find of the gasworks) shows the retort house with engine room to the right - this is where the flats are today - and the two gasholders from which the gas was pumped into town.

There were six retorts, made of earthenware, which had to be stoked twice a day. The coal for gas-making was brought from the railway yard by horse and cart - and in fact it was not until the railway was opened that the gasworks was built, in the 1860s. It was of course a privately owned industry - owned by three Cowbridge businessmen - but nationalisation in 1947, and the development of a gas grid, led to the decline of the Cowbridge works, which closed well before the use of natural gas came in..

The coke which was made as a by-product of the process was sold on the spot, local people coming in with wheelbarrows or hand-carts (gambos) to collect it. Iris' dad used to make his own lime by heating up limestone in the retorts - and they were also a pretty useful way of getting rid of old rubbish! During the war, when some vehicles were powered by gas, cars would chug slowly into the yard with their airbags pretty well deflated for the bags to be filled up again. It was rumoured however, that this was a good cover for people who were able to find black market petrol - the sight of the gas-bags suggested a legitimate supply of fuel!

*Jeff Alden - ? Gem article*

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**In the Public Record Office, Kew :**

**BT 41/171/976**

**Cowbridge Gas Company - Regd. 6/5/1853**

Promoters - Thomas Edmondson, clerk, High St.  
George Waugh Toogood, draper, High St.  
David Rees, draper, East Village  
John Parsons, grocer, High St.  
Thomas Miles, grocer, High St.

All these have some residence/ business address ( note at side that “there is no house numbered at Cowbridge”).

Form dated 27/4/1853 - Place of business Town Hall

Forms signed by George Waugh Toogood, secretary,  
Thomas Acton Ballard, wool stapler, Bridge St.

Solicitors : William Edmondson and John Stockwood, High St.

List of 28 shareholders (29<sup>th</sup> crossed through).

£1000 capital in two hundred £5 shares.

Then a long deed of settlement setting out the constitution.

Called “The Cowbridge Gas Company”  
Object – to make gas to light Cowbridge.

Then an alphabetical list of the shareholders and directors.

Edmondson, Toogood and Rees were trustees  
and Edward Ballard, ironmonger, was auditor.

Re-registered 8/1/1856 under 1856 Act with a new list of shareholders.

In 1856 the registered office was the Gas Works, Cowbridge.

***Sources/abbreviations :***

*GRO =- Glamorgan Record Office*

*PRO = Public Record Office (Kew)*

*D/D = deeds in GRO*

*Dunraven deeds are in NLW (National Library of Wales)*

*LTA = land tax assessments (GRO)*

*BR = Burgage rents (GRO)*

*B/Cow = Corporation deeds in GRO*