

# Hanes byr Ysgol Trewyddel

## A brief history of Moylegrove School

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# Social unrest

Nineteenth century Wales witnessed much social upheaval (e.g. Chartists, Daughters of Rebecca) and demands for social and political reform. English newspapers pronounced the root cause to be the ignorance, and lack of education, of the Welsh people exacerbated by an inability to speak, or write in, English. Attendance at schools was voluntary, and remained so until the Elementary Education Act, 1870.

# Aflonyddwch Cymdeithasol

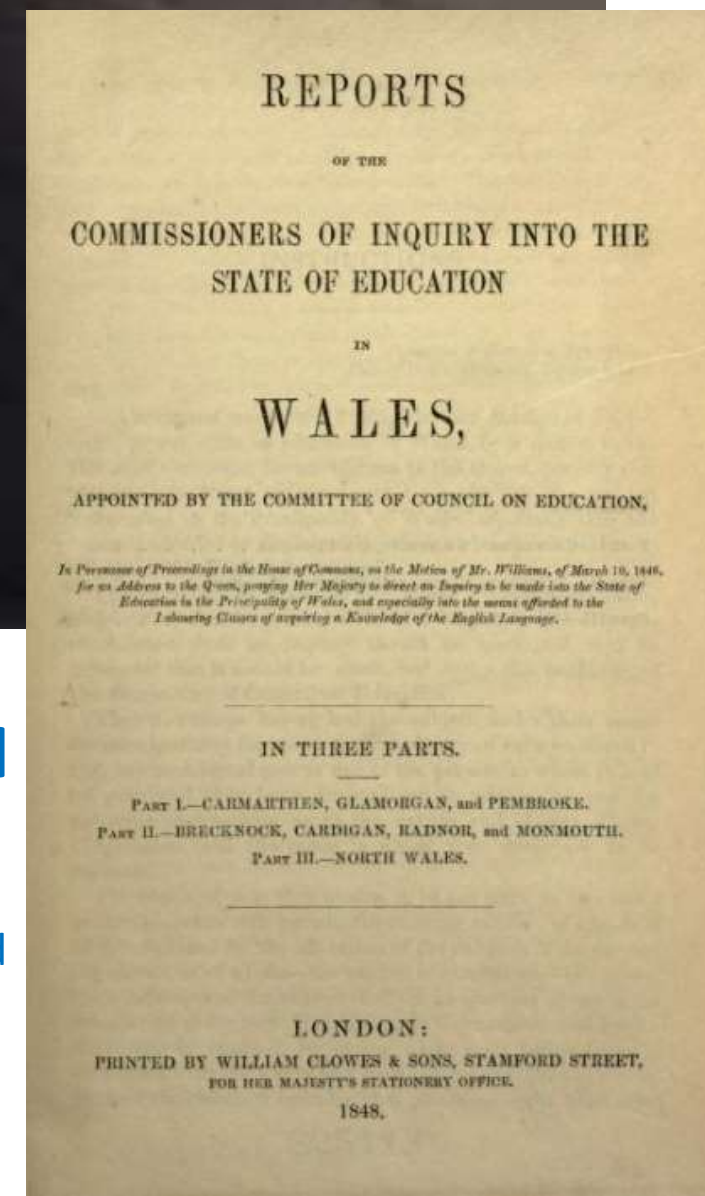
Yn y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg bu Cymru'n dyst i lawer o gyffro cymdeithasol (e.e. y Siartwyr, Merched Rebecca) a galw am ddiwygio cymdeithasol a gwleidyddol. Anwybodaeth oedd wrth wraidd y broblem yn ôl papurau newydd Lloegr gyda diffyg addysg y Cymry wedi'i waethygu gan eu hanallu i siarad ac ysgrifennu yn Saesneg. Roedd mynychu ysgol yn wirfoddol ac felly y bu tan Ddeddf Addysg 1870.



# Inquiry into the state of education in Wales

In 1846, Parliament set up an inquiry into the state of education in Wales and appointed three young English barristers to inspect each school, collecting evidence and statistics, and to report back with recommendations for improvement. Unfortunately, those appointed had no prior experience of Wales, nor the Welsh language. Their work was completed in 1847 and collected into a Report of three volumes ('the Blue Books').

*To direct an inquiry to be made into the state of education in the Principality of Wales, especially into the means afforded to the labouring classes of acquiring a knowledge of the English Language.*



## Yr Ymchwiliad i Gyflwr Addysg yng Nghymru

Ym 1846 cychwynnodd y Senedd ymchwiliad i gyflwr addysg yng Nghymru gan benodi tri bargyfreithiwr ifanc Seisnig i arolygu pob ysgol gan gasglu tystiolaeth ac ystadegau ac i adrodd yn ôl gydag argymhellion ar gyfer gwelliant. Yn anffodus nid oedd gan y gwŷr a benodwyd unrhyw brofiad blaenorol o Gymru na'r iaith Gymraeg. Cwblhawyd eu gwaith ym 1847 a chyflwynwyd adroddiad i'r Llywodraeth mewn tair cyfrol ('Y Llyfrau Gleision').

# ‘Treachery’ of the Blue Books – Brad y Llyfrau Gleision

The Report confirmed the appalling state of the education system in Wales. Unfortunately, the findings had been influenced by the subjective views of the young Anglican inspectors on the religious (mostly nonconformist) and moral condition of Welsh people, and the supposed detrimental effect of the Welsh language. This blinkered approach affected Welsh morale and mentality for many decades and led to the discouragement of the use of the language in Welsh schools. The experience was referred to by those affected as *Brad y Llyfrau Gleision*.

Roedd yr adroddiad yn cadarnhau cyflwr echrydus y gyfundrefn addysg yng Nghymru. Yn anffodus, dylanwadwyd ar ganlyniadau'r ymchwil gan farn oddrychol y tri chomisiynydd ifanc Anglicanaidd di-gymraeg am gyflwr moesol a chrefyddol y Cymry (sef anghydfurfwyr yn bennaf) ac effaith niweidiol tybiedig yr iaith Gymraeg. Effeithiodd yr agwedd gulfarn yma ar feddylfryd ac ysbryd y Cymry am ddegawdau gan arwain at rwystro'r defnydd o'r iaith Gymraeg yn ysgolion Cymru. Enwyd y profiad yn 'Brad y Llyfrau Gleision' gan y rhai a effeithiwyd ganddo.

INQUIRY  
INTO  
THE STATE OF EDUCATION IN THE COUNTIES OF CARMARTHEN,  
GLAMORGAN, AND PEMBROKE,  
AND ESPECIALLY INTO THE MEANS AFFORDED TO THE LABOURING CLASSES OF  
ACQUIRING THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE,  
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON EDUCATION.



Appendix, p. 238:—

This school is held in the mistress's house. I never shall forget the hot, sickening smell, which struck me on opening the door of that low dark room, in which 30 girls and 20 boys were huddled together. It more nearly resembled the smell of the engine on board a steamer, such as it is felt by a sea-sick voyager on passing near the funnel. Exaggerated as this may appear, I am writing on the evening of the same day on which I visited the school, and I will vouch for the accuracy of what I state. Everything in the room (*i. e.* a few benches of various heights and sizes, and a couple of tables) was hidden under and overlaid with children.

Ibid., p. 281:—

The school, as usual, possessed no privy, and the master informed me that the churchyard is generally used by the poor of the town as a privy, few of them possessing at home any convenience of that nature.

But, not to pursue such a subject into further details, I will merely add that this disregard of cleanliness and decency is more observable in the purely Welsh than in the Anglicized districts, as any one may see, who (to take towns) will compare for himself the columns of the parochial tables headed "Outbuildings" for Merthyr Tydfil, with the same columns for Pembroke

themselves. It is still the same people. Whether in the country, or among the furnaces, the Welsh element is never found at the top of the social scale, nor in its own body does it exhibit much variety of gradation. In the country, the farmers are very small holders, in intelligence and capital nowise distinguished from labourers. In the works, the Welsh workman never finds his way into the office. He never becomes either clerk or agent. He may become an overseer or sub-contractor, but this does not take him out of the labouring and put him into the administering class. Equally in his new, as in his old, home, his language keeps him under the hatches, being one in which he can neither acquire nor communicate the necessary information. It is a language of old-fashioned agriculture, of theology, and of simple rustic life, while all the world about him is English.

Thus his social sphere becomes one of complete isolation from all influences, save such as arise within his own order. He jealously shrinks from holding any communion with classes either superior to, or different from, himself. His superiors are content, for the most part, simply to ignore his existence in all its moral relations. He is left to live in an under-world of his own, and the march of society goes so completely over his head, that he is never heard of, excepting when the strange and abnormal features of a Revival, or a Rebecca or Chartist outbreak, call attention to a phase of society which could produce anything so contrary to all that we elsewhere experience.

Cut off from, or limited to a purely material agency in, the practical world, his mental faculties, so far as they are not engrossed by the hardships of rustic, or the intemperance of manufacturing, life, have hitherto been exerted

In this same neighbourhood I asked some questions of a little boy, nearly 7, whom I met on the road. It was in vain that I tempted him with half-pence to answer; he knew nothing of Sunday—of God—of the devil—"had heard of Jesus Christ from Jemmy Wilson," but could give no account whatever about him; he knew neither the then day of the week, nor how many days in a week, nor months in a year; he had never been in any school; his brother and sister were going to St. Issell's school. I had to repeat my questions two or three times over before they seemed to impress anything more than his ears. The first answer *invariably* was, and it was often repeated half a dozen times—"What ee' say?" and the next "Do' know."

# Blue Books: entry for Moylgrove

## Y Llyfrau Gleision: Cofnod Trewyddel

Luckily, the moral character of the inhabitants of Moylgrove was pronounced 'good'. The 'day-school' (as opposed to Sunday school), funded by the nonconformist farming community, was held on the upper floor of Bethel Chapel Vestry (later, 'the Old Vestry') access to which was obtained via the steps at the lower gable end, visible in the 1960s photograph. Following the building of the new school in 1868-9, the trustees met in the former schoolroom until the new Vestry was built in 1931. The Old Vestry was demolished in the 1980s.

Yn ffodus, y ddedfryd ar gymeriad moesol trigolion Trewyddel oedd 'da'. Cynhaliwyd yr 'ysgol ddyddiol' (yn hytrach na'r Ysgol Sul) a noddwyd gan y gymuned amaethyddol anghydffurfiol, ar lawr uchaf festri Capel Bethel (yn ddiweddarach 'yr hen festri') gyda'r fynedfa drwy'r grisiau ar dalcen isaf yr adeilad a welir yn y llun o'r 1960au. Yn dilyn adeiladu'r ysgol newydd ym 1868-9 byddai'r ymddiriedolwyr yn cyfarfod yn yr hen ysgoldy nes i'r festri newydd gael ei hadeiladu ym 1931. Cafodd yr hen festri ei dymchwel yn y 1980au.

**PARISH OF MOYLGROVE.** — *Village Day-School* — On the 26<sup>th</sup> of January I visited the above school. It was held in a loft over a stable belonging to the Independent chapel at Moylgrove. The children were not examined. The room was a wretchedly low place, and the furniture in very bad repair. He took me to see the stable underneath, which was in a most filthy condition. The master had been a gentleman's servant, but, having met with an accident, had taken to schoolkeeping. He told me that a farmer in that neighbourhood gave him his board and lodging for educating his children.

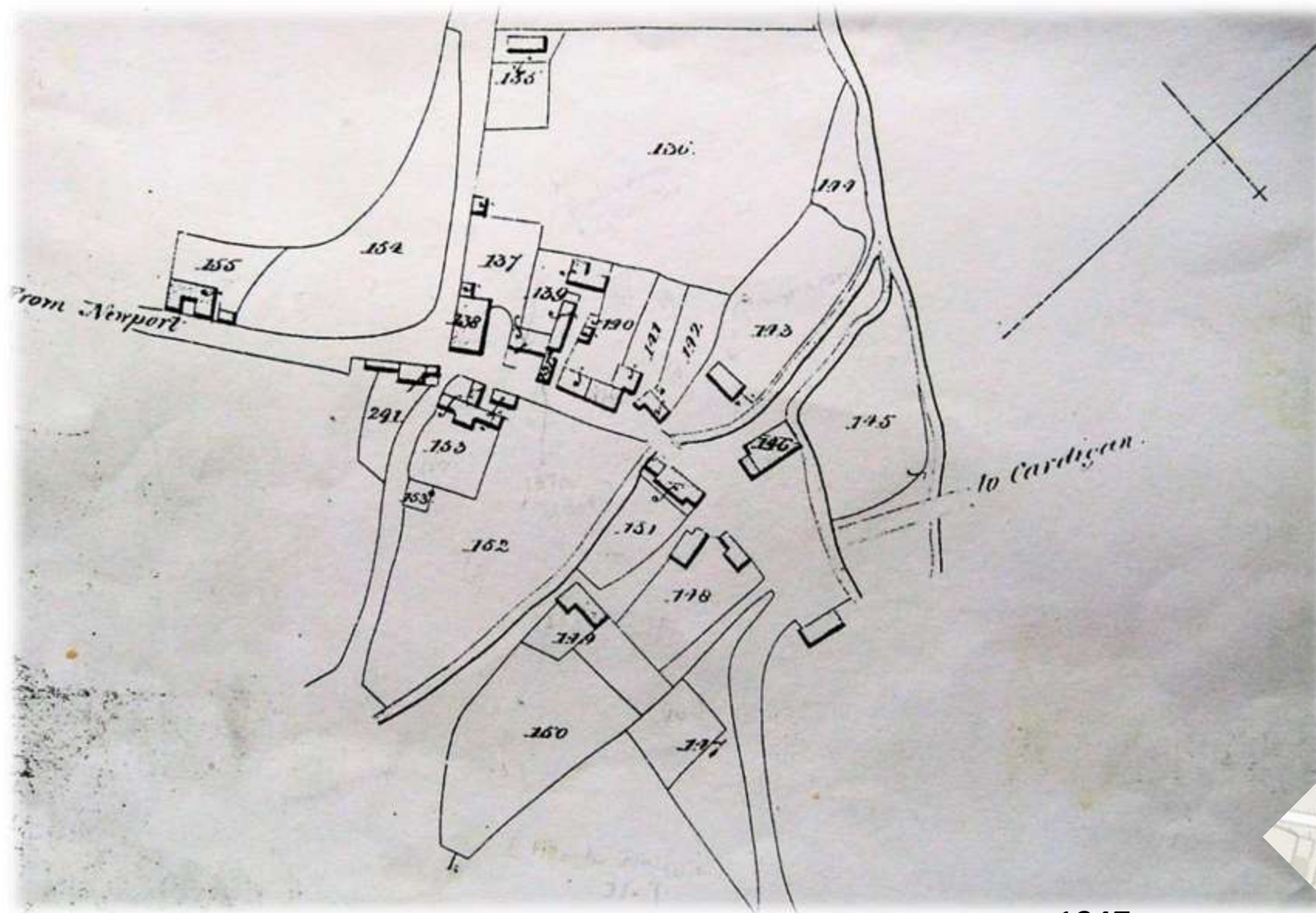
DAVID LEWIS, *Assistant*.



# Tithe Map of Moylgrove, 1847

## Map y Degwm, Trewyddel, 1847

This is how the village of Moylgrove looked in the same year as the Blue Books were published. There have been few changes.



1847

Dyma sut oedd pentref Trewyddel yn edrych yn yr un flwyddyn â chyhoeddi'r Llyfrau Gleision. Bach iawn o newid a fu.



2018

# Deed of transfer of site of new school

## Gweithred Trosglwyddo Safle'r Ysgol Newydd

Notwithstanding their defects, the Blue Books had the effect of forcing improvements, during the remainder of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, to the system of education in Wales. In Moylgrove, nonconformists took the initiative and resolved to build a school under the auspices of the British and Foreign School Society (founded in the early 1800s). They identified a suitable site above, but quite close to, the centre of the village, and its owner, the Lord Marcher (of the Barony of Cemais), agreed to transfer it to trustees by way of gift. Legal transfer took place on 12<sup>th</sup> February 1868.

Er gwaethaf eu diffygion cafodd y Llyfrau Gleision yr effaith o orfodi gwelliannau i'r gyfundrefn addysg yng ngweddill y 19eg ganrif. Yn Nhrewyddel cymerodd yr anghydfurfwyr y cam cyntaf gan benderfynu adeiladu ysgol dan nawdd y Gymdeithas Feiblaidd Frytanaidd a Thramor (a sefydlwyd yn gynnar yn y 1800au). Daethant o hyd i safle addas uwchben y pentref ond hefyd yn eithaf agos at y canol. Cytunodd perchennog y safle, Barwn y Mers, (Barwniaeth Cemaes) ei drosglwyddo i'r ymddiriedolwyr fel rhodd. Trosglwyddwyd yn gyfreithiol ar Chwefror 12fed 1868.

*Deed of Indenture dated the 12<sup>th</sup> February 1868 and made between Sir Thomas Davies Lloyd, Baronet M.P. of the first part and the Reverend George Williams, James Williams, Thomas Griffiths, Thomas Jones, John Rees, David James, John Griffiths and Griffith Jones of the second part All that piece of land situate in the parish of Moilgrove aforesaid ... was conveyed to the said Reverend George Williams and the other persons of the second part Upon trust to permit the said premises and all buildings thereon erected or to be erected to be for ever thereafter appropriated and used as and for a School for the education of children and adults or children only of the labouring manufacturing and other poorer classes in the parish of Moilgrove ~ ~*

The extract is from a later copy of the Deed – the original is lost. The trustees were all nonconformists (mostly local farmers) and were chaired by the Rev. George Williams, minister (1862-70) of Bethel Congregational Chapel. Note that the declared trust was ‘for the education...only of the labouring, manufacturing and other poorer classes in the parish of Moilgrove...’ Successive trustees were in breach of this for much of the School’s history!

Daw’r detholiad yma o gopi mwy diweddar o’r Weithred - collwyd y gwreiddiol. Anghydfurfwyr oedd yr ymddiriedolwyr i gyd (ffermwyr lleol yn bennaf) gyda’r Parch George Williams, gweinidog Bethel, Capel yr Annibynwyr (1862-70) yn eu cadeirio. Nodwch fod yr ymddiriedolaeth a ddatganwyd ‘ar gyfer addysg ... y dosbarthau gweithiol, gweithgynhyrchu a dosbarthau tlotach eraill yn unig ym mhlwyf Trewyddel....’ Roedd ymddiriedolwyr olynol yn gweithredu’n groes i hyn am y rhan fwyaf o hanes yr ysgol!



*Mailgrove British School.*

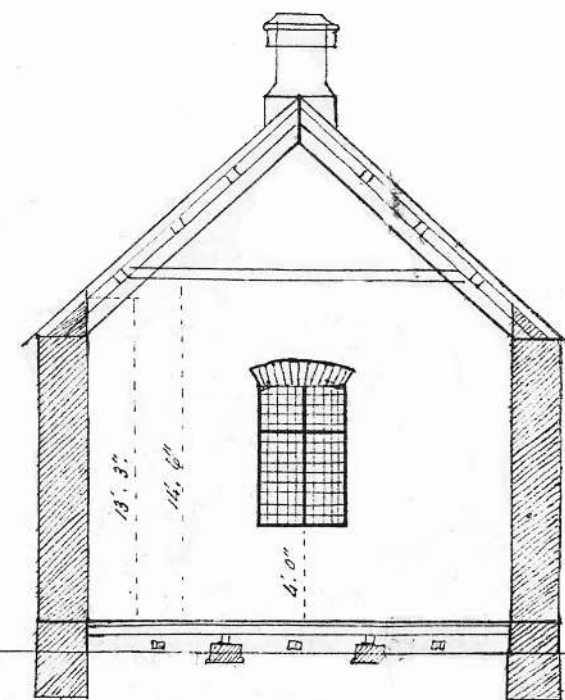
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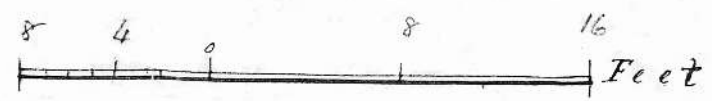
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*Front Elevation*



*Section*







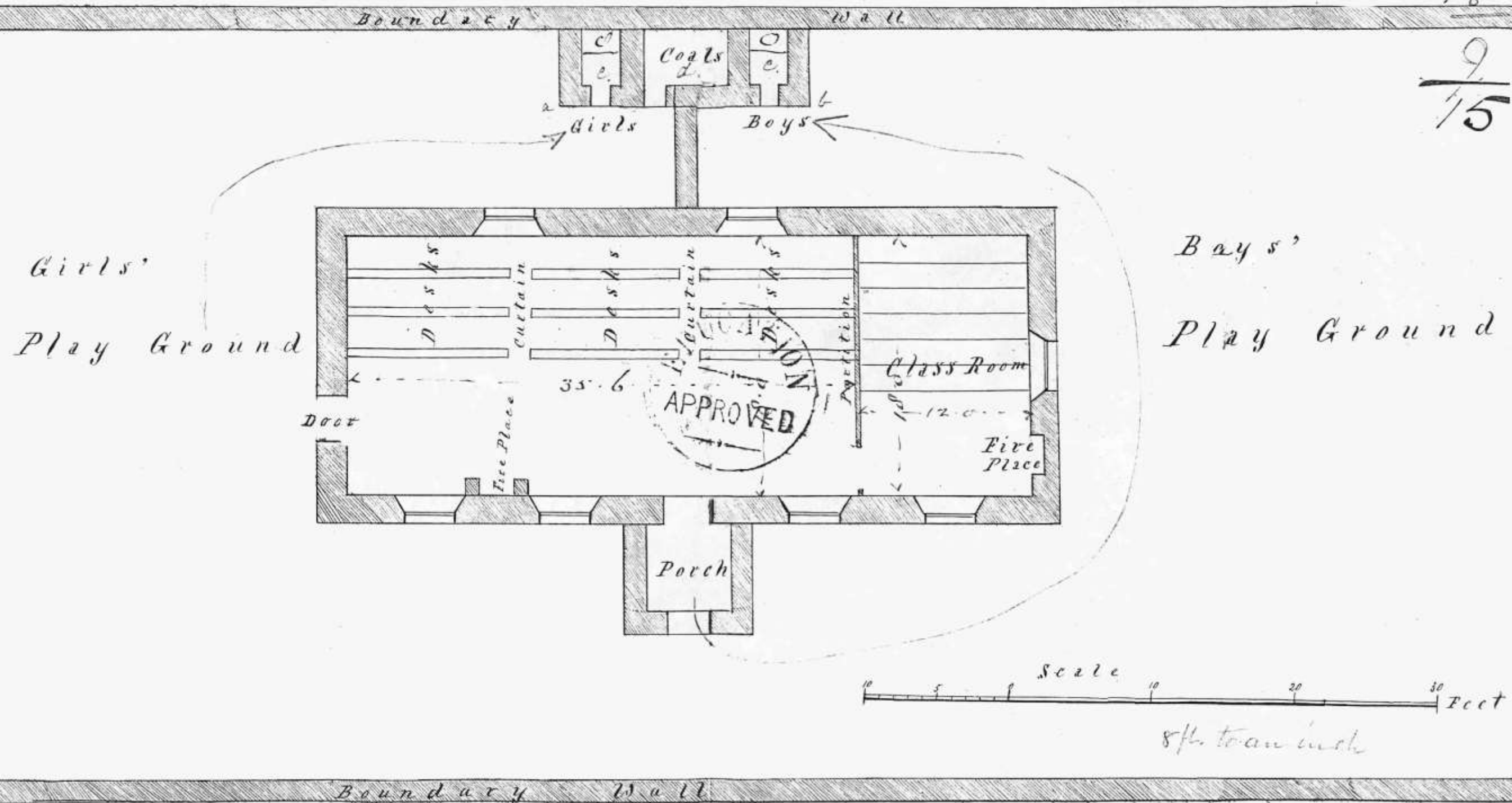
# Moilgrove British School

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## Ground Plan

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18

9  
15



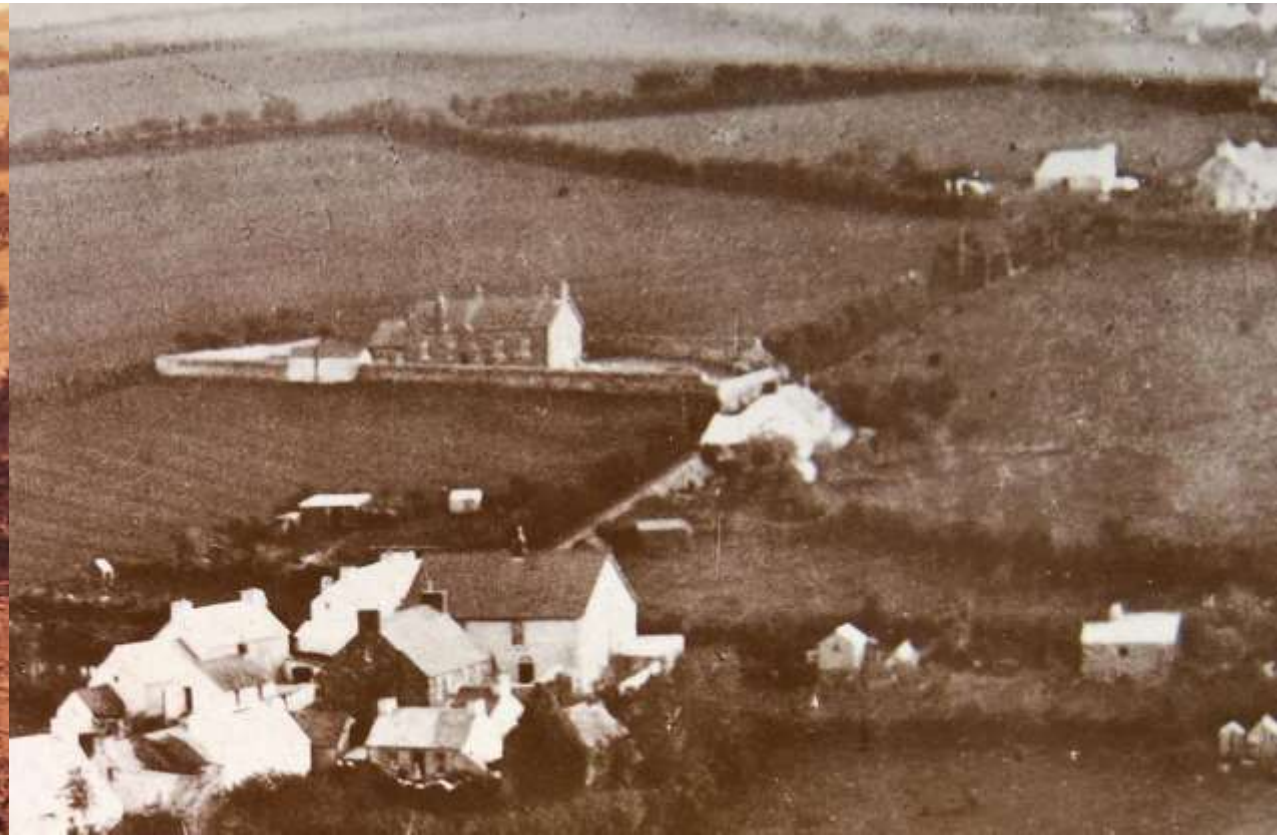
# The new school

Built 1868-9 (and the gable end furthest from the road extended 1895) of random-rubble stone walls and slate roof, and to a British School 'standard' design. The original plan shows the main classroom subdivided by curtain into three sections, probably according to age, whilst a sliding partition is likely to have demarcated the infants' section. In the c.1903 photograph the stone boundary wall is shown limewashed.

The cost of the building work was raised through local subscription. Nonconformist 'British' Schools were in competition with the Church of England 'National' Schools – in Moylgrove's case sometimes literally so: in the **Cardigan Observer** of 4<sup>th</sup> August 1883 it is reported (with indignation and sarcasm) that the Anglican vicar, Rev. J.M. Griffiths, had tried to poach poor children for the National School, and the Church, from the pastoral protection of Bethel Chapel's then minister, and chair of the British School trustees, Rev. William Jones.

# Ysgol Newydd

Adeiladwyd 1868-9 (a'r talcen pellaf o'r ffordd wedi'i ymestyn yn 1895) gyda waliau carreg o gerrig rwbel a tho llechi, ac i gynllun 'safonol' Ysgol Brydeinig. Mae'r cynllun gwreiddiol yn dangos y brif ystafell ddosbarth wedi'i rhannu gan lenni i dair rhan, a hynny gan oed yn ôl pob tebyg ac mae'n debygol fod partisiwn symudol wedi darnodi adran y babanod. Yn y ffotograff c.1903 dangosir y wal derfyn wedi'i gwyngalchu. Codwyd cost y gwaith adeiladu drwy danysgrifiad lleol. Roedd ysgolion anghydfurfiol 'Prydeinig' mewn cystadleuaeth ag Ysgolion 'Cenedlaethol' Eglwys Lloegr- weithiau'n llythrennol yn achos Ysgol Trewyddel: yn y **Cardigan Observer** ar Awst 4ydd 1883 adroddir (gyda dicter a choegni) fod y ficer Anglicanaidd wedi ceisio denu plant ar gyfer yr Ysgol Genedlaethol a'r Eglwys o amddiffyniad bugeiliol gweinidog capel Bethel -a chadeirydd ymddiriedolwyr yr ysgol Brydeinig- ar y pryd, Y Parchedig William Jones.





# The Headmaster

**Joseph Lewis**, Headmaster of Moylgrove School 1874-1919, having been appointed at the tender age of 19. Much respected, and a strong chapel-goer, he educated generations of children from the village and surrounding area.

During his time as headmaster, it has been claimed that no Welsh was taught, notwithstanding it being the first language of his young charges. The School probably had about 50 pupils at this time.

Under the Elementary Education Act 1870 the State assumed responsibility for educating its young and attendance became compulsory, initially between the ages of 5 and 12.

According to the minutes of Moylgrove Board School, Joseph Lewis was being paid, in 1895, the very modest annual salary of £50 (about £4,500 today) although his cottage was provided free.

## Y Pennaeth

**Joseph Lewis**, Pennaeth Ysgol Trewyddel 1874-1919, wedi ei benodi pan oedd ond yn 19 oed. Yn uchel ei barch ac yn gapelwr selog, fe addysgodd cenedlaethau o blant y pentref a'r cyffiniau.

Yn ystod ei gyfnod fel pennaeth, mae rhai wedi honni na chafodd y Gymraeg ei dysgu o gwbl er ei bod yn iaith gyntaf neu'n unig iaith ei ddisgyblion ifanc. Mae'n debyg fod tua 50 o blant yn mynychu'r ysgol yn y cyfnod yma.

O dan Ddeddf Addysg 1870 cymerodd y wladwriaeth gyfrifoldeb am addysgu plant ac fe ddaeth presenoldeb yn orfodol, i blant rhwng 5 a 12 oed yn y lle cyntaf.

Yn ôl cofnodon Ysgol Fwrdd Trewyddel roedd Joseph Lewis yn cael ei dalu'r swm cymharol fach o £50 y flwyddyn (tua £4,500 heddiw), fodd bynnag roedd y bwthyn am ddim.

# Bwthyn y Pennaeth

Adeiladwyd bythynnod Penfynnon a Glenview yng nghanol y pentref gan Ymddiriedolwyr Capel Bethel am ddefnydd yr ysgolfeistr a'r gweinidog.

Roedd y Parch William Jones, gweinidog radicalaidd Capel Bethel o 1871 i 1898, yn byw ym Mhenffynnon o 1881 i 1890.



Rev William Jones, radical minister of Bethel Chapel from 1871 to 1898, lived in Penffynnon from 1881 to 1890.



# The Headmaster's Cottage

The cottages of Penfynnon and Glenview were built in the centre of the village by the Trustees of Bethel Chapel for the use of the schoolmaster and the minister.

Head master Joseph Lewis lived next door in Glenview, from 1881, with his wife Charlotte and five children.



Roedd y pennaeth Joseph Lewis yn byw yn y bwthyn drws nesaf, Glenview, o 1881 ymlaen, gyda ei wraig Charlotte a'u pump o blant.

# Some glimpses of School life over 100 years ago

## Ychydig o gipluniau o fywyd ysgol dros gan mlynedd yn ôl



HOW TO ANGLICIZE TAFFY!—In some of the English schools in Wales, when a scholar is heard speaking Welsh, he is punished by being obliged to carry about with him a wooden pin, until he is lucky enough to catch one of his companions committing the same offence, when he joyfully transfers the detested pin to the fresh culprit.

*Leicestershire Mercury November 7<sup>th</sup>, 1847*

### Cardigan School Attendance Committee

... several [schools] had greatly improved in the attendance of the children and the attendances of others had decreased owing to illness, and many children being employed at **barking**. It was understood that the **barking business** only lasted a short time, and the attendance officer was instructed to caution parents to send the children again regularly. In the case of a family of four children at **Moylgrove** not attending school owing to want of clothes, the father only earning 5s per week as a farm labourer, it was resolved that the matter be brought before the Board of Guardians....

*(Cambrian News 4.6.1880)*

Oak bark was used in the tanning process. Children were also often absent at harvest time.

Defnyddiwyd rhisgl coed derw yn y broses barcio. Byddai plant yn absennol yn aml adeg y cynhaeaf hefyd.

1897



1898



In 1894, headmaster Joseph Lewis was appointed with a salary of £50 annually. Frances Owen the sewing mistress was paid £4 and Maurice Williams got 2 shillings for sweeping the chimney.

In 1895, a new girls' cloakroom was added.

From the School Inspectors' report of 1895:

Mixed School. The work has improved in most respects very much since last year. The weakest subjects are the working of easy problems in the third and fourth standards and mental Arithmetic. The knowledge of English is much less than at similar schools and especially among the Pupil Teachers is this the case. English and Geography were on the whole good. The needlework exercises were fair.

Infants' Class The infants had been well taught.

**Moylegrove** – The second of the winter entertainments was given at the Board Schoolroom at Moylegrove, on Tuesday evening...the overcrowded state of the room testified to the popularity of these gatherings. A number of recitations, trios and solos and dialogues were given, and the first prize for an impromptu speech was awarded to Mr Tom Lloyd, Tregaman and second to Mr Owen James, Pendre. The Moylegrove and Cross roads Glee parties acquitted themselves creditably.

*(Cambrian News 13.11.1903)*





# ADDRESS PRESENTED TO

## Mr Joseph Lewis

### MOYLEGROVE.

#### DEAR SIR

On the occasion of your retirement from the position of Head Master which you have occupied for 46 years, we ask you to accept this Address, & Testimonial as a token of our respect.

It was a long period of service & our hearts are filled with gratitude to the providence of GOD, for the large measure of health, & other qualifications, which you were blessed with during this time.

THE office is an important one, it has great responsibilities, & is laden with precious opportunities, one requiring much wisdom, patience, & tenderness, as you had to deal with young manhood in the most susceptible age.

HERE is a large number of your old pupils in various parts of this country, & some in foreign lands, many of them have reached positions of trust, who owe their entire education to you, & your efforts in their interest, have been an inspiration towards their success.

IN addition to the services which you have rendered to education, we wish to mention with a feeling of great appreciation, the work you have accomplished in the district in connection with religion, & the deep interest which you have taken in temperance reforms & other social movements.

AND now as you pass out from one sphere of usefulness, may we express a wish, that your well earned rest will be a pleasant one.

We are on behalf of the Subscribers  
Yours very sincerely,

J. M. Phillips	Chairman	T. E. Jones	Hon. Secretaries
E. P. Jones	Vice Chairman	L. Davies	
S. Morris	Treasurer		

Officers of the Committee.

1919.







1925

The Education Act of 1902 transferred the school to Pembrokeshire County Council from its founding School Board.

School attendance was mandatory from the age of 5 to 13; and from 1918, to 14. Children of all ages attended the school.



1934

1945



From 1944, education was divided into primary and secondary stages at age 11, and Moylgrove County School became a County Primary School.

From the School Inspectors' report in 1955:

“The school is a delightful little community with a happy atmosphere. The pupils are natural and pleasant; they are also responsive and appear to be keenly interested in the various activities.”



Visitors to the school on St David's Day 1956

2000

## A pupil of the 1960s

My parents were struck (and delighted) by the fact that we were taught to read in Welsh before English in Mrs Rees's class (1965); Welsh is a phonetic language and therefore much easier to learn to read. I remember we worked on little slates, with chalk, rather than paper.

My big memory is, of course, the day Mr Mostyn Thomas came to the school to ask who would like to learn the violin. Nobody knew what a violin was until then, but we all put up our hands, and had free group lessons in school. As a result, three of my family including me have the joy of being professional musicians.

School in those days was hard work. We had virtually no sports in school other than games we made up for ourselves; there was no science teaching at all. On Wednesday afternoons the boys did art with Mrs Daniel, whilst the girls did knitting and sewing with Mrs Rees. Other than this, the only time we diverted from the age-old afternoons, was the year of the investiture of Prince Charles, in 1969. All academic activities were put on hold so that we could put on a school Victorian-style regular pattern of arithmetic in the mornings, writing in the performance in the Bethel Hall, which was life-changing for me (and others). For the first time, we were singing in groups, and acting little plays in public. That year we also held a 'Bring and Buy' sale in the school to raise funds for this, which led to a flowering of creativity for the first time. It was so different all of a sudden. It was before the days of photocopying and such; letters home from school with information about holiday dates, school trips and such were copied out by each of us by hand, copying from the blackboard. The school had a telephone installed in about 1969 or 1970, I think - before that, the only way of getting in touch would have been to knock at the door.

*Jean Paterson*



## Prifarthrawes - a head teacher

‘Roedd yn brofiad arbennig i fod yn brifathrawes yn Nhrewyddel. Pentref gwledig, pobl groesawgar a byddent yn cefnogi unrhyw weithgaredd oedd yng nghlwm a’r ysgol.

‘Roedd yn bleser cydweithio gyda staff ymroddgar a chadw ‘mlaen gyda’r traddodiad o addysg gyflawn i blant y pentref gyda cyngherddau, sioeau, Eisteddfod Gwyl Dewi a chymryd rhan yng ngweithgareddau’r Urdd ym mhob maes – canu, llefaru a chwaraeon. Hoffem fynd am y gwersi nofio wythnosol oedd yn angenrheidiol i blant oedd yn byw yn agos i’r mor.

Plant hapus yn gofalu am ei gilydd mewn cymdeithas glos. Cael ciniawau blasus yn ddyddiol a chefnogaeth arbennig rhieni pan oedd angen unrhyw gymorth – boed yn fwyd, yn set ar gyfer sioeau, symud y piano i Neuadd Bethel am gyngerdd. ‘Roedd y brwdfrydedd yn heintus. ‘Roedd yn brofiad hyfryd cael agor yr Ysgol ar ei newydd wedd a gweld y defnydd arbennig sy’n cael ei wneud o’r adeilad sydd yn rhan annatod o’r gymdeithas o hyd.

It was a very special experience to be headmistress of Moylgrove school – a country village, a warm welcome from people who always supported every school activity.

It was a pleasure to work with committed staff and be part of a tradition of a full educational experience for the children of the village with concerts, shows, St David’s Day eisteddfodau, and of course participation in the activities of the Urdd in all fields – singing, reciting, sports. We used to enjoy the weekly swimming lessons, so essential for children who lived near the sea.

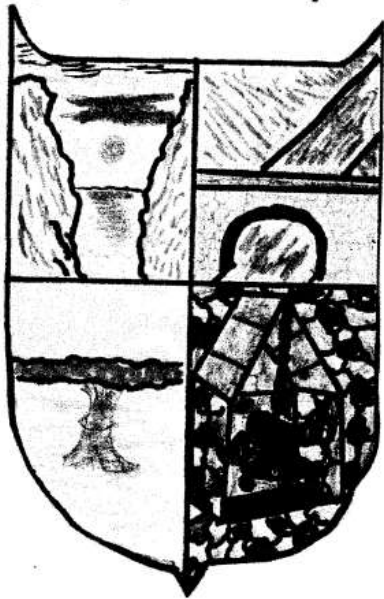
I remember happy children working with and caring for one another in a very close community. I remember tasty dinners. I remember parents who were always there to help – whether with fund raising, building a set for a show, even moving the piano to Bethel Vestry for a concert. Their enthusiasm was infectious.

It was also a very special and happy experience for me to open the School in its new phase and to see that the building has a new lease of life and is still an integral part of the life of the community of Moylgrove.

*Mair Lloyd*

1975

## Ysgriblwr

Cylchgrawn Blynyddol  
Ysgol Gynradd TrewyddelMoylegrove County Primary School  
Magazine  
Scribbler

PRIS : 40c.

## YSGOL GYNRADD TREWYDDEL

Mae'n bleser gennym fel athrawon yr ysgol hon i gyflwyno cyfrol o waith y plant sydd wedi ei wneud yn ystod y flwyddyn. Mae bron pob plentyn sydd yn yr ysgol â rhyw ddarn o waith ynddo. Gobeithiaf y gallwn wneud hon yn fenter flynyddol, fel y gallwn gyfleu peth o'r gwaith sydd yn cael ei wneud yn yr ysgol.

Mae hon wedi bod yn flwyddyn o newid yn yr ysgol. Fel yr aeth rhif y plant i fyny rhaid oedd cael gwell cyfleusterau iddynt. Cafwyd dosbarth symudol newydd ac fe apwyntiwyd athrawes ychwanegol i'r ysgol, sef Mrs. Janet Phillips sydd yn gyfrifol am ddosbarth y babanod, gyda Mrs. Griffiths yn cymryd y dosbarth plant iau o saith i naw mlwydd oed.

Yn ystod y gaeaf, cymerwyd rhan yng ngweithgareddau'r Urdd. ac am y tro cyntaf ers blynyddoedd, cafwyd Eisteddfod Cylch Cemaes yn Nhrewyddel. Fe wnaeth yr ysgol yn eithriadol o dda—yn cael deg gwobr gyntaf. Yn yr Eisteddfod Sir yn Hwlfordd, cafodd yr ysgol bedair gwobr gyntaf ac enillodd yr ysgol y "Tlws" fel yr ysgol a gafodd y mwyaf o farciau yn yr adran gynradd.

Yn yr eisteddfod yn Llanelli cafwyd safon dda dros ben gan y Côr a'r parti recorders dan 12. Pleser mawr i ni oedd yn

## MOYLEGROVE COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

I have much pleasure in writing a foreword to the first Moylegrove C.P. School Magazine which is entirely made up of work written by the children. Nearly every child in the school has a contribution in this magazine. I hope that we shall be able to make this an annual publication, in order that a fuller insight into the children's school work can be obtained.

This has been a year of change for the school. As the number of children increased, it became obvious that more accommodation would be needed. A new mobile classroom was installed and an extra member of staff appointed, Mrs. Janet Phillips, who is now in charge of the Infants Class, Mrs. Griffiths having taken on the duties of the lower 7—9 junior school.

Tremendous success was achieved during the winter when the school took part in the Urdd Eisteddfod activities. For the first time for many years the "Cylch" Eisteddfod came to Moylegrove and here the school took ten first prizes. At the County Eisteddfod four first prizes were won, the Choir and recorder party under 12, solo Cerdd Dant and recitation under 12. In the Urdd Eisteddfod at Llanelli both the Choir and the Recorder Party achieved a high standard. For those of us who were present at Llanelli, it was a proud moment to hear Eirian

ALUN Y. DAVIES (Prifathro).

## Y CEFFYL

Mae y ceffyl yn anifail a phedair coes. Mae un ceffyl gyda ni a'i liw yw frown, yr oedd Joy fy chwaer wedi ei gael ar ei phen blwydd. Mae mwng du a chwt du ganddo. Mae'n dod bob dydd i'r gat i ofyn am fwyd. Honey suckle yw enw hi. Mae'n byw yn y cae. Yr wyf i'n galw Honey unwaith a mae hi'n dod i gael bwyd ac mae'n cysgu gyda'r da. 'Roedd Joy yn mynd ar gefn Honey dydd Sul. Mae'n geffyl pert, Mae het a blodau arno gyda hi. 'Roedd llawer o geffylau gyda'r dyn oedd ni wedi prynnu Honey. Enw'r bachgen oedd wedi reidio Honey oedd Denis.

Dosbarth 1.

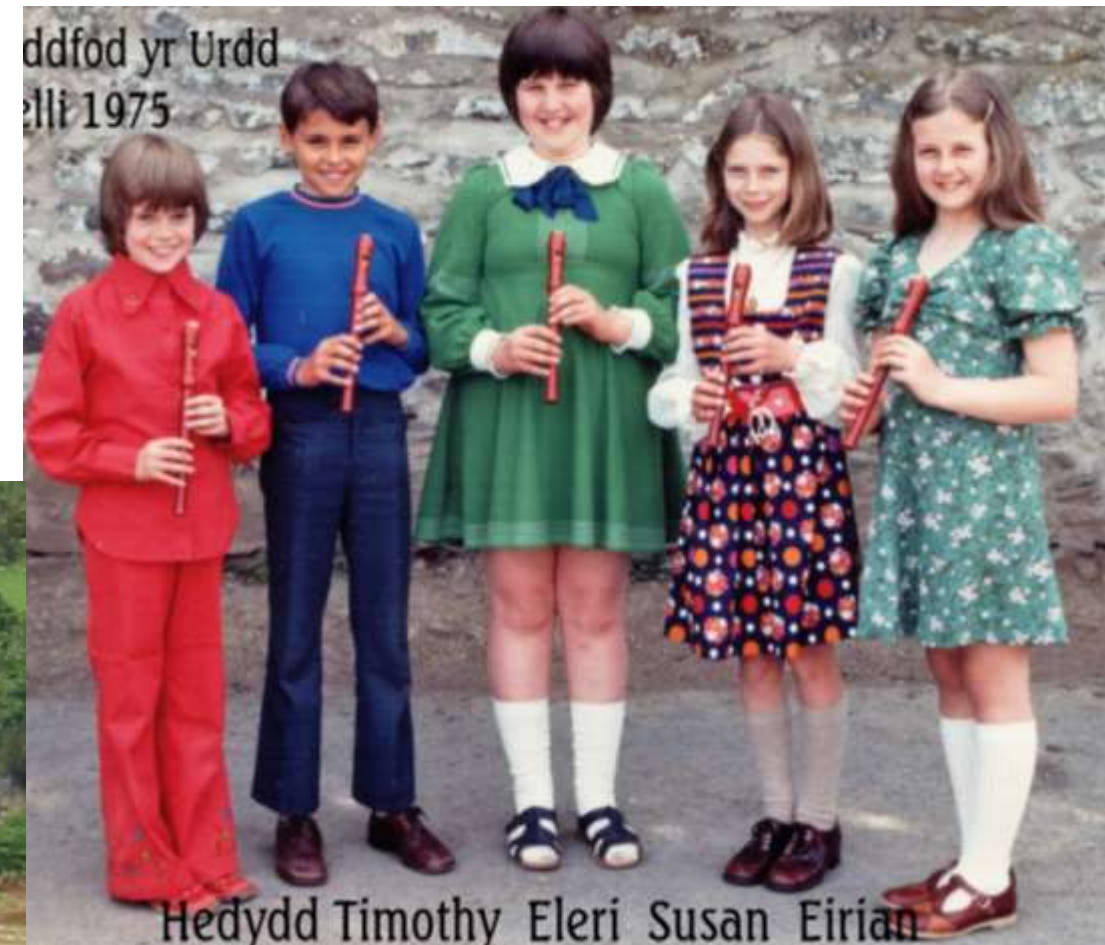
(Enillodd y traethawd hwn gymeradwyaeth yng Nghystaddeuaeth Llyfrau a Diwylliant Llyfrgell Dyfed (Adran Penfro).)

## THE GRASSES

There are thousands and thousands of grasses,  
From the Timothy to the Wild Cat's Foot,  
Including all the Fescues  
The meadow grass and the wild oat.

Lots of grasses are wild.  
The Marram and the Couch.  
Which certainly aren't very mild,  
But swaying about in the wind.

Most grasses are not very tall,  
An exception is made with the rush,  
Because it rather prefers  
To live in a lot of slush.

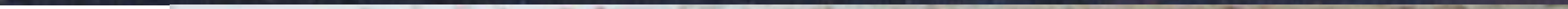
More on the web: <https://moylegrove.wales>

Hedydd Timothy Eleri Susan Eirian

1986



Prif-arthrawon ysgol Trewyddel	
1873-1919	Mr Joseph Lewis
1919-1923	Mr Willie George
1923-1950	Mr David John Morse
1950-1960	Mr Elfyn Lewis
1960-1972	Mrs Martha J. Daniel
1972-1982	Mr Alun Y. Davies
1982-1995	Mrs Mair Lloyd
1995-2002	Mrs Dilwen Smith
2002-2003	Mrs Elin Mai Thomas



2000

# Demise

After faithfully serving the local community for 135 years, Moylegrove School's bell rang out for the last time on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2003. The excited voices and laughter of children trooping down the village hill from the School to rehearse their concerts in the new Vestry had been stilled forever. Locals, parents and past pupils had fought hard to keep the School open, but local government economic efficiency had won over the arguments for community cohesion.



# Tranc

Ar ôl gwasanaethu'r gymuned yn ffyddlon am 135 o flynyddoedd canodd cloch Ysgol Trewyddel am y tro olaf ar Orffennaf 17eg 2003. Tawelwyd am byth chwerthin y plant a'u lleisiau cynhyrfus wrth iddynt heidio i lawr y bryn o'r ysgol i ymarfer ar gyfer eu cyngherddau yn y festri newydd. Roedd trigolion lleol, rhieni a chyn-ddisgyblion wedi brwydro'n galed i gadw'r ysgol ar agor ond roedd effeithlonrwydd economaidd llywodraeth leol yn fuddugol dros y dadleuon dros gydlynid cymunedol.

Friday, 18 July 2003

**The Western Mail**  The national newspaper of Wales

NEWS

# Last bell rings at village school

OVER 100 years of history came to an end yesterday when a small primary school shut its gates to pupils for the last time.

There were misty eyes all round as the 25 pupils at Moylegrove Primary in North Pembrokeshire said their goodbyes at the end of the summer term.

Pupils will be dispersed to four different schools in the area while the school building, which first opened 136 years ago, will be empty.

Yesterday's sadness was tinged with some bitterness at how, despite a hard-fought campaign by parents to save the school, their wishes have been ignored.

Now, even though they have lost their own particular fight, the parents are helping those at other small schools, who face the same closure threat.

"It's extremely sad, I've never experienced anything

**Ceri Jones**  
ceri.jones@wrme.co.uk

like this before," said parent Jonathan Guest, who helped lead the campaign, yesterday.

"When neither the local council nor the National Assembly listen to you, then it doesn't really matter about local democracy any more.

"They had already decided beforehand that the school would close and all this so-called consultation was just going through the motions. They wasted our time and wasted all our hopes.

"We are in touch with Hermon parents and other campaigners throughout Wales. But although we have learnt a lot of lessons through our campaign, so too have the county council, the National Assembly and other bureaucrats, so they are trying to be one step ahead," Mr Guest said.

Hedydd Lloyd, whose two



**MOYLEGROVE:** The last walk home Picture: Tony Paradise

daughters will attend Eglwswrw school from September, said parents were putting on a brave face for the sake of the children.

"It's very hard for everyone, especially for the staff, one of whom has spent 28 years of her working life at the school" she said. "The council say the way forward is having bigger area

schools with more facilities, but it's not area schools that we want but a local school in our own village, not somewhere six miles down the road."

Parent Debbie James, five generations of whose family attended the school, said the closure meant the community of Moylegrove was now left without its heart.

## Axe falls in bid to improve service

SINCE Pembrokeshire County Council was established in 1996, five primary schools have closed, six pairs of schools have merged and four federated under one head teacher in a programme aimed at improving the education service. Costs per pupils for small schools are usually much higher than average.

"We have no shop, and no Post Office. The only place we met together was when we took our kids to school and picked them up and now that is gone."

John Fletcher, chairman of the school's governors, said the closure was not just sad for Moylegrove but for the whole of Wales.

With the closure of Moylegrove the number of closed schools in the county will rise to seven with another two primary schools at Hermon (52 pupils) and Blaenffos (35 pupils) also facing the axe.

Hermon parents are currently in the process of trying to win legal aid for their children to fight closure in the courts.

"They are getting rid of small schools like this all over the country," he said.

Moylegrove School was first earmarked for closure in 2001 when it and several other schools along the northern coastal strip of Pembrokeshire were spotlighted by county education officials.

The move followed a policy

decision by Pembrokeshire County Council to consider closing its small primary schools – those with less than 57 pupils – and create larger units for both economic and educational reasons.

Despite a strong campaign by Moylegrove parents against closure, including demonstrations and lobbying, councillors remained adamant that the Welsh-medium school should shut. An appeal to the National Assembly also failed.

Yesterday, parents and staff were determined not to make too big a fuss of the last day for the sake of the children, some of whom, even though they are as young as four or five, were only too aware it was their last day at the school.

On Sunday villagers will hold a celebration of the life of the school at which hundreds of people, including past pupils now in their 80s, are expected to attend.



*Former headmistress Mair Lloyd re-opens  
Yr Hen Ysgol, together with past pupils.*

# Ail-eni Cymunedol

Unwaith i'r problemau cyfreithiol a gododd yn sgil cau'r ysgol gael eu datrys, cafodd yr ysgol a'i safle eu rhoi gan Arglwyddes y Mers (disgynnydd i roddwr gwreiddiol y safle) yn 2008 i Gymdeithas Trewyddel, elusen a ffurfiwyd gyda'r bwriad o ddal a rhedeg yr eiddo at ddibenion cymunedol. Llwyddodd y Gymdeithas i dderbyn grant o £156,000 ac o ganlyniad adnewyddwyd yr adeilad yn gyfan gwbl a'i ymestyn, gan ail-agor o'r diwedd yn 2011. Caiff yr ysgol ei defnyddio'n gyfan gwbl at ddibenion cymunedol, yn gartref i lawer o ddigwyddiadau a gweithgareddau ac mae ymddiriedolwyr Cymdeithas Trewyddel yn gweithio'n galed iawn i godi arian ar gyfer hyn. Cafodd yr ysgol ei hail-enwi 'Yr Hen Ysgol' ac mae hi unwaith eto wrth galon y gymuned.



## Community rebirth

Once the legal problems consequent upon closure had been disentangled, the school building and site were given, in 2008, by the Lady Marcher (a descendant of the original donor of the site) to Cymdeithas Trewyddel, a charity set up for the purpose of holding and running the property for community purposes. CT was successful in obtaining a Lottery grant of £156,000 and the building was completely refurbished and extended, finally re-opening in 2011. It is used entirely for community purposes, hosting many activities and events, and the trustees of CT work very hard to raise money for those purposes. The School has been renamed 'Yr Hen Ysgol' and is again at the heart of the community.





Diolch yn fawr –

- Research and text by Dr Robert Anthony.
- Old photos collected by Hedydd Lloyd, Julia and Jonathan Guest.
- Translation by Margaret Morgan (Menter Iaith Sir Benfro).
- Recent photos by Patrick Beaumont and others.
- Compositing and printing by Alan Wills.
- Based on an exhibition with tea and cakes in August 2018 arranged by John Roberts.

**More photos on the web:**  
<https://moylgrove.wales>