

Breconshire Local & Family History Society (BLFHS)
Cymdeithas Hanes Lleol a Theuluoedd Brycheiniog



Newsletter 19 – February 2013

Welcome to our nineteenth Newsletter. We invite you to contribute articles, tips, questions and answers for others to share. Feedback is always welcome. Have you missed an edition? Read the archived Newsletters on our website.

February Meeting Review

John Jones "Brynore (Bryn oer) Tram Road".

John gave us a very interesting and well-illustrated history of the tramroad which linked Trefil quarry at the head of the Monmouthshire Valleys with the Brecon and Abergavenny Canal (today called the Monmouth and Brecon Canal) at Talybont on Usk. He had many interesting documents which he gave the audience an opportunity to study.

A free download of the booklet, *Walks and Rides along the Brinore Tramroad*, which he co-authored for the Brinore Tramroad Conservation Forum, is available from:

<http://brinore-tramroad.powys.org.uk/further.htm>

This includes a history of the tramroad and some excellent illustrations.

Prior to the main talk, Helen Whyte continued her series of short presentations on family history resources. She explained the importance of the marriage certificate as a source of family history evidence.

Sound recordings of the talks, plus slide shows of the illustrations used are now available on the Members' section of our website: select 'Meetings' from the 'Resources' drop-down list.

A Good Read

Following on from our autumn talk about Abercamlais, I would like to remind you of the A3 size leaflet entitled *An Unbroken Line in the Upper Usk Valley: The Williamses of Abercamlais*, which deals with the Williams pedigree and the history of the mansion.

Abercamlais is adjacent to another mansion called Penpont, which has also belonged to the Williams family. A glossy 35-page booklet, *Penpont History, Buildings, Landscape and People*, about Penpont and the family pedigree is now available to purchase. There is also an earlier version of the Penpont history called *Penpont History, Buildings, Landscape and People* on the Penpont website at

http://www.penpont.com/uploads/Penpont_history.pdf

The publications are available from the current owners of the mansions. Enquiries should be directed to:

- *An Unbroken Line in the Upper Usk Valley: The Williamses of Abercamlais*
Mrs Susan Balance, Abercamlais, Brecon, Powys, LD3 8EY
Website <http://www.abercamlais.co.uk>
- *Penpont History, Buildings, Landscape and People*
Mrs Davina Hogg, Penpont, Brecon, Powys, LD3 8EU
Website <http://www.penpont.com/>

Brecon men who died in WW1 – an appeal

BLFHS Members Steve Morris and Margaret Davies, together with colleagues from U3A, are producing a brief history of each of the Brecon men who perished in World War One and who are commemorated on the Town's memorials. This will cover the parishes of St John, St Mary and St David.

The information will be collated, published and circulated to churches, schools, museums and others, to enhance our knowledge of those who sacrificed their lives, to ensure they are remembered both now and by future generations, as well as adding to the social history of the period.

If you have any relevant information, documents or pictures we would be very grateful to hear from you.

Contact Steve Morris by email: smorris39@btinternet.com or by phone: 01874 611868

Useful websites

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/arts/yourpaintings> aims to show the entire UK National Collection of oil paintings. The site can be searched by region eg Powys, town eg Brecon, artist, theme or repository.

Images can be saved to your computer. This site is well worth a browse. There are some lovely landscapes and portraits connected with Breconshire.

<http://www.peoplescollectionwales.co.uk/> offers an opportunity to browse photographs, paintings and other works of art from Welsh repositories and items shared by members of the public. The website may be searched in a number of ways, e.g. geographically or by themes. Images may be saved to your computer. The Breconshire items are extensive and well worth exploring.

The Peoples Collection Wales Road-Show will be visiting certain public venues in Wales to ask members of the public to contribute (for scanning) items about those who experienced World War 1 either at home or at the Front. These items will be digitised and shared with the public on the Peoples Collection website. The road-show dates and venues for the whole of Wales are as follows:

5 March	Galeri, Caernarfon	10:00 – 16:00
12 March	Pontardawe Arts Centre	10:00 – 16:00
14 March	Brecon Library	10:00 – 16:00
18 March	Ruthin Library	10:00 – 16:00
20 March	Picton Community Centre, Haverfordwest	10:00 – 16:00

The Great and the Good

On 10 October 1874, missionary Dr. Robert Moffat gave a lecture at the Glamorgan Street Chapel in Brecon. The following year, Rev Roger Price, a local missionary from Upper Chapel, also gave a lecture at the Glamorgan Street Chapel. Dr. Moffat's daughter, Mary née Moffat, married Dr. David Livingstone. Another of Dr Moffat's daughters, Elizabeth Lees née Moffat, was Roger Price's second wife. Rev Roger Price's biography is called *Great Lion of Behuanaland: the Life and Times of Roger Price, Missionary*, by Edwin W. Smith.

The Rev Price's second wife's journals, written in Bechuanaland, were published as *The Journals of Elizabeth Lees Price*: by Lees Price, Elizabeth (edited by Una Long), 1854-1883.

Useful websites for this topic include:

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Moffat_%28missionary%29
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Livingstone
- <http://genealogy.clanmoffat.org/getperson.php?personID=I9648&tree=ClanMoffat>

NEXT MEETING

Date and time:	Wednesday, 6 th March 2013 at 2.00pm
Venue:	Brecon Library
Subject:	In association with the Brecon Women's Festival – 28th February to 10th March 2013, BLFHS Member, Deanna Leboff will speak about a remarkable family whom she is researching. Her talk is entitled "Notable Women in the Ayrton Family - How the Ayrton family helped women get the vote". Deanna will talk about the women – and a couple of men! – who supported or were involved in women's emancipation, including those who took part in the suffragette movement.

BLFHS WEBSITE Our website address: www.blfhs.co.uk

CONTACT DETAILS

If you wish to respond to or comment on an item in this newsletter, or contribute to the next newsletter or to our website, please contact our Chairperson:

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