

Kenfig News



Sept 2009

Programme For 2009/2010

5 Sep 2009	Iolo Morgannwg	Brian Davies
20 Oct 2009	The Romans In South Wales	Andrew Marvell
17 Nov 2009	Welsh Domestic Architecture	Walter Jones
8 Dec 2009	Christmas Dinner	
19 Jan 2010	The Porthcawl Lifeboat	Phil Misson
16 Feb 2010	To be arranged	Keith Morgan
16 Mar 2010	Medieval Kenfig	To be arranged
20 Apr 2009	A.G.M	

Society Evening Meeting

For our summer evening meeting this year a trip had been arranged to visit the Rhondda Heritage Centre near Porth but because of lack of support the it had to be cancelled. This was rather sad and we hpe to have better support next year.

As a result we have no pictures of the visit and so here a a couple fro a few years ago when the visit was one of the highlights of our calendar.



Having a cup of tea during our visit to Twyn yr Hyd, Margam. Everyone is busy reading our first 'new-style' Newsletter."

Forthcoming Meetings

Once again, we have an interesting programme of talks for the autumn and winter. September sees the return of **Brian Davies** from Pontypridd, who is becoming something of a regular. He will be talking about **Iolo Morgannwg** and then October sees a talk (in prose not poetry) by **Andrew Marvell** of the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust on the **Romans in South Wales**. In November we have a talk by **Mr Walter Jones** of Tonyrefail on **Welsh Domestic Architecture**. Mr Jones worked for many years in the museum and St Fagans and I'm sure we will have a scholarly and interesting evening.

In December we have penciled-in a **Christmas Dinner** but this will depend on the amount of support there is from members and this will have to be decided in the next 4 to 6 weeks. In January 2010 there will be a nautical touch to proceedings when **Mr Phil Misson** will talk about the **Porthcawl Lifeboat**.

Publicising Our Monthly Meetings

In spite of attempting to arrange an interesting programme of talks during the year there has been a noticeable fall-off in the number of people attending our meetings. We display notices at the Reserve Centre, the Prince, the post offices in Pyle, Cornelli and Kenfig Hill, the Library and Margam Village and we now get some publicity in the Gazette. If there are any members who are able to arrange for the display of additional notices, please contact Terry Robbins on 01656 782351.

Society Membership

Society Membership subscriptions for 2009-2010 were due in April. However it is not too late to pay them now.

Membership fees are - Full £10; Concessionary £6; Family £12 and a membership form can be obtained from our web site at www.kenfigsociety.org, or you can contact Brian James at 4, Glan y Llyn, Broadlands, North Cornelli Bridgend CF33 4EF. Telephone 01656 741364



Members at Ynysangharad Park , Pontypridd on a wet July evening listening to Brian Davies (our speaker for September) talking about the history of the town.

Additional copies of this Newsletter and of most back issues can be obtained from the Society's web site.

Log on at www.kenfigsociety.org and click the "Newsletter" tab. You will also find a lot of useful information there, including pictures and short article on the history of Kenfig.

For more information about the Society, visit our web site at www.kenfigsociety.org

Kenfig Society Officers 2009/2010

President	Ken Williams
Chairperson	Teresa Robbins
Vice Chairperson	Sandra Harries
Treasurer	Brian James
Minutes Secretary	Vacant
Publications Secretary	Conall Boyle
Programme Secretary	Terry Robbins
Archivist/Librarian	Keith & Janis Edger
Photography	Cyril James
Dig Coordinator	Dennis Jones

We have lost a number of Committee members in recent months and we could do with some new faces.

The Committee meets just once a month and you can be assured that the meetings are short and for the most part enjoyable.

Women members would be most welcome; so don't wait until the AGM but contact Terry Robbins (782351) or Brian James (741364) or any of the Committee - NOW!

What's In A Name - Tytanglwyst

Tytanglwyst farm is, I'm sure, a well known name in the area; particularly so now that it is one of only a small number of farms in the area still keeping a dairy herd and the only one, I think, having their own milk round.

The name of the farm is usually assumed to be derived from the Welsh Ty Dan Yr Eglwys, - "The House Below The Church" and there are the remains of an old building, which could have been a church, up behind the farm in Ballas wood and this may well be the origin of the name.

However, when I first came to live in this area some 45 years ago, having been brought up in the Taff valley south of Merthyr Tydfil, I was already familiar with the name since there were farms called Hafod Tanglwys Isaf and Hafod Tanglwys Uchaf, on the mountainside above Aberfan. The former of these is still occupied today.

These two farms were presumably *hafodydd* or summer residences and would have been used each summer, when the stock from the main farm down in the valley would have been transferred to the uplands in order to take advantage of summer pasture. The origin of the names of these farms is quite different, from that suggested for our farm in Pyle,

The Merthyr story goes like this. In the 5th century, Brychan, who was of Irish origins was lord of Brycheiniog (Breckonshire) and indeed the area was named after him. He was a Christian and seems to have spent a lot

Society Computer

In July, the Society acquired its own computer equipment comprising a laptop computer with additional off-line backing store; a printer/scanner; a film scanner and digital projector. The kit cost just under £2000 but we were able to obtain a grant for the full amount from BAVO (the Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations) and the Committee would like to record our appreciation for their help in this project.

Up until now the Society has depended upon computers belonging to individual members for producing newsletters, booklets and for setting-up and maintaining the Society's web site and dealing with Society minutes and correspondence. This has resulted in our minutes, and other documents including the source files of our booklets being stored in a variety of locations. In addition we have hundreds of photographs and slide stored in a variety of places and badly in need of cataloguing. We are now in a position to bring all this together in one location and are in the process of planning how best to do this. There's a lot of work to do and we welcome anyone with IT skills who would like to be involved. So if you can help give us a ring.

Because we also have a digital projector we are now in a position to set up Power Point presentations, making it relatively easy to produce presentations, slide shows and illustrated talks.

One project we especially have in mind is to try and collect together as many old pictures of the area as we can and get them onto the computer. We are thinking in terms of a series of events (perhaps held in the Library, rather like "The Antiques Roadshow", where people can bring along their photographs, which we can scan and store as part of our photographic data base and perhaps help identify. What we are looking for is a snappy name for it, say like "Kenfig Photocall" - any ideas?

of time fathering children and quite a number of them became famous Celtic saints like Teilo and Cadoc. Two of his daughters were Tudfil and Tanglwst and the latter lived at Hafod Tanglwst. These were troubled times with periodic invasions by 'Picts'. Though why these should have ventured so far south is difficult to fathom - perhaps they were really Irish.

The story is told that while Brychan and a large number of his wider family were gathered at the farm they were attacked by one of these marauding bands and many of the family were killed, including Tudfil, one of Brychan's daughters and her sister Tangwyst. Tudfil's remains were buried nearby, and later a shrine was built on the spot. at what today is known as Merthyr Tudfil. So could this be the derivation of the name.

You may think it a long way from Merthyr to Pyle, but Tanglwst's brothers Cadoc & Teilo made long journeys to found churches in the Vale and all over Wales. Might their sister not be commemorated in Ty Tanglwst, Pyle,?

Terry Robbins

Something To Contribute?

The Editor is always happy to receive contributions to the Newsletter. If you have any material suitable for inclusion or any queries about the Society call Terry Robbins on 01656 782351 or by email at - kenfig.secretary@kenfigsociety.org