

◆ News UPDATE ◆

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Hannah Typed

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OCTOBER 1996

BRYNMAWR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NOVEMBER
8TH 1938

NEW SEASON

The beginning of a new season is a time for looking forward to things to come. Having just enjoyed a season of success it is difficult to believe that 1996/1997 can be as good or possibly better. However, once again, the Committee have put together a first class programme which it is hoped will meet with your approval.

Aria & Chips

By now you will all have had your membership cards and will see the first trip in the new season will be an evening trip to **HARRY RAMSDEN'S FISH AND CHIP RESTAURANT** in Cardiff, this is to be on Monday evening 25th Nov. 1996. the cost including the bus fare will be £15.00 p.p.

On offer three course meal plus an evenings entertainment by the members of the Welsh National Opera Company. Christine will be taking names plus the £15 immediately. The restaurant expects payment "up front" - no cash, no food, no song. Our scouts tell us they will be going again, so that has to be a good recommendation.

Secretary's Quiz

Visits for Summer will be three places beginning with "w".

Porcelain Sauce poured over a **Royal House** digging for **Watery Sources**

Answers on a POSTCARD please.

1st correct answer pulled out of the hat at the November meeting receives a prize.

BRAIN-TEASER !!!!

Answers to July quiz

Hitchmann's Court =
Bailey Street (to the rear of
125 Worcester Street

Morgan's Yard =
Glamorgan Street, left
hand side, looking from
top to bottom, approx. at the
back of the lower block of
flats

Orchard Square/Court =
Lower end Orchard Street
opposite Saxon Court, rear
end Emlyn House



* AND
Bloor's Square
=
Yard to rear of
No 9 Beaufort St
accessible either through
the arch in Worcester
Street or through the door,
next to Danter's the Optician

Rhondda Heritage Park

Evening 9th April, 1996
leave Brynmawr approx 5.30p.m.
After tour bar snack possible
at the Heritage Park,
menu available which looks
quite good from £3.75 upwards.

Fifty-nine years on November 8th 1938 Mr. Alec Holly an unemployed miner from Brynmawr fought all day and night a total of 27hrs to save the life of his comrade Mr. Percy Hayward. The following is a condensed report from the newspaper cuttings published at that time and loaned to us by Mr. Brian Holly who is one of our committee members and son of Mr. Alec Holly.

In a twenty foot deep hole on Rhas Fach Mountain, North of Brynmawr, an area known as "The Patches" Mr. Alec Holly worked in a moving slag heap in a space so small that he could not use a pick or shovel Mr. Holly worked with his bare and bleeding hands digging away the loose slag and heaping it into buckets, which were then drawn to the surface. Once he nearly succeeded, then there was a fresh fall and he had to start all over again. An ambulance, the trapped man's wife her baby, and a doctor all waited anxiously. help was waiting, but Alec Holly knew the life of his comrade depended on his efforts alone.

Although every minute he was down in the hole he faced the risk of being trapped by moving slag

and perhaps smothered to death he never thought of the danger to himself. Because he was small he went into the shaft and, at a most incredible speed, filled the buckets which were handled by a relay of helpers. His eyes red-rimmed for want of sleep, Mr Holly said when interviewed afterwards "Thank God Percy's safe".

Mr Holly 39 years of age was 4ft 10 ins tall and wore size 4 boots, a larger man would not have been able to help Mr. Hayward.

Mr. Hayward was taken to hospital by car, but Brian Holly tells us his father had to walk home. The quote at the end of one report is one that we can all appreciate "It is queer in what humble places life's greatest heroes arise."

ERROR

The wheel on the last issue of "NewsUpdate" should have contained the date JULY not JUNE. This magazine is hopefully, to come out October, January, April and July. Once again, if you have any article you feel would be of interest, please hand it to me Mrs. Pearl Jones, Assistant Secretary.

N.B

We are sorry to hear that Mr. Dene Stephens has been quite unwell, hopefully he will soon make a speedy recovery. In his absence we have had to make other arrangements for the magazine to be printed, and we must thank Miss Hannah Foley who has just entered Brynmawr Grant Main-

tained School for coming to our rescue.



George the IV Hotel, Criccieth on a B.B & E.M basis, cost approx. £150.00 p.p. including insurance and all bus trips throughout the visit, please give your names only in to Christine. The itinerary is in the process of being printed but covers Llechwedd Slate Caverns, Ffestiniog Railway, - Portmerion, Caernarfon, | Beddgelert Forest, Aberglaslyn Pass, Llanysfumdwy - (Lloyd George's home and grave, and of course Portmadog.

FOUR DAY VISIT

The Committee have been persuing the possibility of a four day visit to Portmerion/Criccieth and the surrounding area from 15th-18th May 1997. Our base would be The

ADVANCED NOTICES

Some meetings like the Vice-Chairman's Evening always take the same format. The Christmas Party

on 14th December will also, once again be held at Nantyglo Leisure Centre and will be along the same lines as other years. If you still have copies of issue one of "News Update" it was explained then, if you are a new member, or do not remember procedure our Secretary will give you a leaflet explaining everything.

Names will be taken from the October meeting onwards. The "list" for food contributions will be available at the November meeting.

If you intend being with us, and we hope you do, please give your names in quickly, together with a non refundable deposit of £2.00. It is hoped to hold the total cost, payable before 31st November, to £5.50 the same as last year.

RUGBY PLAYER.

The only Brynmawr Rugby player to be capped by Wales was William George Evans. He was born on 23rd March 1886 and played for Blaina, Aberavon and Brynmawr and it was when playing for Brynmawr he received his one and only cap against Ireland in 1911. Having acted as reserve for several games his lucky break came when Welsh forward Rees Thomas had to call off due to a family bereavement. After his game against Ireland, Will George, as he was known, signed for Leeds Rygby League making his debut against Warrington on 7th OCTOBER, 1911. he then went on to gain two Rugby League caps for Wales

If any members have any further information about this gentleman it would be greatly appreciated.

November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				