



LLANTHONY
VALLEY &
DISTRICT
HISTORY
GROUP

www.llanthonyhistory.wales

<http://llanthonyhistory.genesis-ds.com/>

[LV & D History Group Facebook Page](#)

Newsletter No 8: July 2021



How we have adapted to Covid-19

We have not been able to hold an in-door meeting since February 2020, but we have organised six history walks: four in the last four months of 2020, described in Newsletter No 7, and two in May and June of this year. There is a Two Castles study day (White Castle and Grosmont Castle) on 18th August (see below)

History walks May & June 2021

Partrishow – May

The little parish of Partrishow (or Patricio), about 1,500 acres in area, is on the Western side of the Grwyne Fawr valley. Part of the manor of Crickhowell, it is in Brecknockshire, now Powys. There is no village, and the parish comprises only the church and about twenty scattered farms, some now abandoned. The population was 76 in 1851, and is less than half that today.

Starting from Partrishow Church Oliver Fairclough guided 27 of us on a circuit through North Partrishow which was notable for the views, the walk in the forest past a mossy old stone wall, and Ffordlas Fawr, an extended 17th century longhouse, now nestling in the Forestry. Back at St Issui's we picnicked in the churchyard before setting off on the southern circuit which took us past Tyn-y-llwyn (1598-9 origin), Gwern-y-bustach (1600-50), the ruins of Ty Mawr, an L-shaped house perhaps dating from the 16th century which was abandoned before 1760, and Gelli-welltog (origin C17). Finally, as we returned to the church we passed Yr-Hen Ysgoldy, built or re-built in 1823, where, in the mid-19th century, an elderly tailor ran a small school. The sun shone all day – as it did for our Trewyn walk in June.



Meeting at St Issui's lichgate

Trewyn-Pandy circuit – June



Valentine Walsh talking about Trewyn

27 of us joined a morning talk and outside tour of Trewyn, led by the owner Valentine Walsh with contributions from Oliver Fairclough and some in the audience. Following a picnic in the beautiful gardens most of us set off on a circular walk which took in Trewyn Mill, Allt-yr-ynys, some historical sights in Pandy, and Treveddw.

Bwlch Trewyn, a manor and hamlet of 640 acres, was part of Ewys Lacy lordship during the Middle Ages. There was a house on the site of Trewyn Manor pre-1500. The Delahays of Allt-yr-ynys owned the estate from 1609-1738 and four Jeremiah Roschers owned it between 1775 and 1895. An important local figure, Mrs Molyneux, widowed in 1928, lived in the house between 1927 and 1980. Trewyn Corn Mill was recorded as existing in 1754; a half-mile watercourse from the Honddu drove the wheel, while the water exited the mill into the Monnow. Allt-yr-ynys has a sixteenth century core and was occupied by the Delahay family until 1720 after which it became a farmhouse.

Notable buildings we saw in Pandy included the Police House which was reputedly designed in the 1870s by Isabella Belinda Rosher, Penbidwal House built in the 1870s by Jeremiah Lilburn Rosher, possibly for a 'ladyfriend', Glanhonddu (the Park Hotel) the home of the third wife of Jeremiah Burch Rosher after his death, Zoar Baptist Chapel, the Hope Presbyterian Church, and the childhood home of Raymond Williams, academic and novel writer. Returning to Trewyn a few of us walked from Pandy along the Offa's Dyke path past Treveddw and up to the top of the Bwlch Trewyn pass, descending via the road to Trewyn, while others chose different routes back to the Manor.

Next event – Two Castles Study Day – August 18th, 11 am start at White Castle

Our last event of the 2020-21 History Group year is a study tour of two Monmouthshire castles: White Castle and Grosmont. The castles are different in design and intended use. The tour will be led by John Kenyon, who is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and a leading expert on Welsh castles. Maximum 30, booking essential, members prioritised, more information on the News website. Contact Pip Bevan pbevan@mokoroc.co.uk 01873 890609.

2021-22 Programme

Talks in Cwmyoy Hall at 7 pm (Covid-19 willing)

- September 15 Brief AGM followed by Father Richard Williams of St Mary's Hay-on-Wye and Capel-y-ffin *Beyond the Veil*
- October 20 *Members Evening* – Chaired by Douglas Wright
- November 17 Eddie Procter *The path to the monastery: monastic communication networks of Llanthony Priory and the southern Welsh Marches*
- January 19 Di and Andrea Evans *A history of Capel-y-ffin Youth Hostel*
- February 16 Cath Larkin and Oliver Fairclough *Penycae: a cottage on the Ffwyddog; past, present and future*
- March 16 Rob Gant *Voices from the past: the role of oral history in community studies using local examples*
- April 20 Douglas Wright and Andrea Evans *The history of the Llanthony Show*

Christmas party

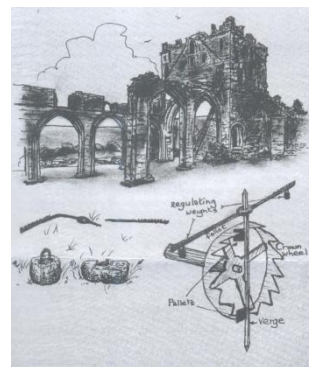
December 11 4 pm – 6.30ish – details to follow

History walks

May, June and July - details in due course

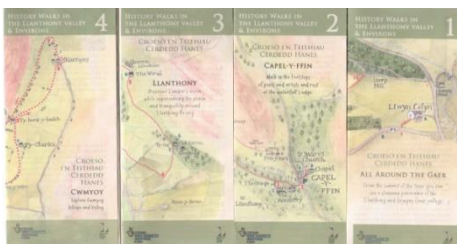
The turret clock at Llanthony Priory

David Knight recently sent in an article from Vol 26 (2020) of the Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion by Christopher Powell 'Dafydd ap Gwilym's "The Clock" and the Turret Clock at Llanthony Priory. It is in our Dropbox folder and you can read [here](#). During archaeological digs at the Priory in 1978/9 four 14th century clock-related items and two stone weights were discovered and the author suggests that this clock was the one described in a *cywydd* by the fourteenth century poet Dafydd ap Gwilym which describes a mechanical clock. Although there is no evidence of the link the archaeological findings are of great interest and we will be following up to see what else was found.



Publications

History Walks Leaflets

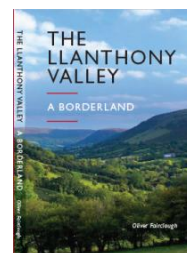


(1) All Around the Gaer (2) Capel-y-ffin (3) Llanthony and (4) Cwmyoy. Designed by Lisa Hellier with text by Pip Bevan. Price £1 each from Pip Bevan pbevan@mokoro.co.uk 01873 890609 and local outlets, including the Skirrid garage and Abergavenny Tourist Information Centre.

The Llanthony Valley: a Borderland by Oliver Fairclough

The history group book costs £10. Contact oliverfairclough@yahoo.co.uk; 01873 890540

This supplementary website <http://llanthonyhistory.genesis-ds.com/> can be accessed directly or from the main website <http://www.llanthonyhistory.wales/>. It has a News page and from the Publications page you can download Black Mountains History 2020, the four posh history walks leaflets, three new unposh draft history walk leaflets, and all past Newsletters.



History Group individual membership for 2021-22 will cost £10. You can join at a meeting or by contacting Oliver Fairclough or Pip Bevan (contact details above)