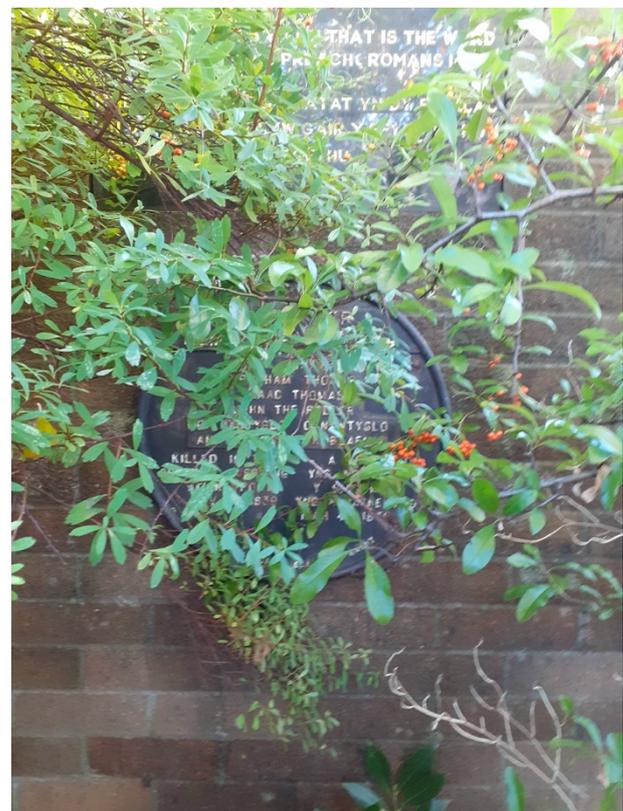


The Blaenau Gwent Chartist Plaques

Following up an email asking about a plaque to the Chartists in Nant y Glo made me wonder about the other plaques as there were four originally planned for Blaenau Gwent. So with the sun shining, a glorious day in November, Friday 6th 2020 to be precise off I went with hope in my heart,

The first to be photographed is the one in Brynmawr on the wall on the corner of Boundary Street and Bailey Street, locals would say on the tump where the Slaughter House used to be. It is fitting that the plaque was placed here as the pub named The King Crispin stood on Boundary Street and the landlord was David Lewis, known as King Crispin who was the leader of the Brynmawr Chartists though he did not take part in the march on Newport. He was eventually arrested and sent to Millbank Prison in London. It doesn't look too bad, needs some cleaning but easy to read the inscription.

Back in the car and quickly down to Nant y Glo, (keeping within the speed limit of course). I knew the plaque was on the wall of what used to be the Medical Centre which was built on the site of Garn chapel. Could I find it? Simple answer is No. A frantic search and there it was though I couldn't get near to take a decent photo, this was the best I could get. The lettering was clear and the



plaque in good condition. Above it is another commemorating the chapel that stood there. I think maybe a bit of undergrowth clearing is called for so both plaques may be clearly seen. Further down the road is the site of the Royal

Oak Inn and this plaque is above the door.



It is not one of the four placed to commemorate 150 years since the fateful march on Newport occurred but good to know it's in good shape. But this is not

what I'm looking for so back in the car and heading towards Cwmtillery where the plaque is placed on an old pit wheel where Cwmtillery colliery once stood. Of course there are no signs but thankfully some helpful locals directed me to the correct spot. It's a shame there were so much rubbish around the pit wheel and the plaque is on the base holding the two wheels. I took two photos and here they are:



Another plaque that needs some TLC, badly rusted and the words are not really clear but readable.

One more to go and that's in Tredegar or to be precise Dukestown. This was placed outside what would have been The Star Inn and the Star Field was where Chartists met. I have to report that this was in a far worse state than the other three. I could not make out one word on the plaque but do have a go.



There's a good video about the Star Field meeting and it also refers to The Chartist Cave on the www.blaenau-gwent-heritage-forum.co.uk website. Use the link then go to MEDIA then scroll down to "The Mystery of the Severed Leg" Part 1 and Part 2.

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