

**Meeting of the Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum to be held on  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 10am in Tredegar Library**

**Agenda**

1. Minutes of the last meeting
2. Matters arising
3. Website report
4. Treasurers report
5. Printing and publications
6. Heritage Day
7. Thursday Talks
8. Visit to Treberfydd House
9. Christmas meal
10. News from the members

## **Minutes of the meeting of the Blaenau Gwent Heritage Forum held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2025 at 10am in Tredegar Library**

**Present:-** Lyn Maloney, Carolyn Jones, Martyn Morgan Jones, Phillip Prosser, Barrie Page, Simon Gregory, Rodger Burchell, Chris Parfitt, Alyson Tippings Janet C. Karn

**Apologies:-** Peter Adamson, Robert Richards, Jeff Darkins, Rhiannon Phillips

After the correction of the spelling of Treberfydd the minutes were accepted as a true record.

There were no matters arising.

### **Website report**

Carolyn Jones has done some more work on the website to improve our position in the returns of a google search. Carolyn has also released the second part of her satisfaction survey; it only has 2 questions and hopefully will be filled in by most people visiting the site. The advertising for the Heritage Day has gone out and so far, 23 tickets have been sold via the website with a further number of tickets sold to members of the forum direct. However, we have not sold many tickets for the trip to Treberfydd House and gardens.

### **Heritage Day**

Martyn Jones has been in contact with the manager of Tabor centre, and is arranging to visit again to check the technology that will be available to us. He will also look at the layout of the building ready for displays and other related material for the Heritage Day. We will now only have the top floor of the building but there will be plenty of room for the displays we are likely to get. We have booked Carl's catering and on checking with him we have been told that the business is now VAT registered and will be charging us VAT for the buffet. Martyn Jones has arranged an outline plan for the day; this is never really accurate to time but it will give us an idea of the running order of the events. So 10am start

10-11 The droving talk

11.00 to 11.15 break for tea and coffee

11.15 to 12.15 Canal talk

12.15 to 12. 50 Roy Mannings presentation (our extra event)

1-2 lunch

2.00 to 3.00 Overtaken by steam

3.00 to 3.15 break for tea and coffee

3.15 to 4.15 Rolls family

Thursday talks.

Les James has been in touch and will be giving the talk in September but the launch of the Chartist magazine has again been delayed. Now expected early 2026.

Richard Lewis of Black Mountains archaeology will be giving the October talk and has said that he will not charge for doing so.

#### Visit To Treberfydd

This will be a morning tour and the possibility of lunch at the Old Ford Inn. We will need to have at least 10 people attending for this to be a success.

#### Printing and publications

We have the history of Llanhilleth that has never been published and this can later be split from the journal into a standalone sale item. Powell's is nearly ready to go to the printer we now have the ISBN numbers and everything is ready except the forward. We hope that both the journal and Powell's will be ready in time for the Heritage Day.

#### News from the members

The Cwm Community archive have had an exhibition in Cwm library to relaunch the archive and lots of people visited with things to be scanned and added to the archive. The event went well and the library would now like to get a school involved Chris Parfitt has also talked to Victor Spinetti's sister and will be writing something on Victor Spinetti's father and his arrival in Cwm. The community would like to see a plaque to Victor Spinetti in Cwm and Chris is looking into the feasibility of arranging this although it will cost the community who will have to pay for the plaque. The community would also like to do something to commemorate the anniversary of the Cwm colliery disaster in 1927 and its appalling loss of life.

St Illtyd's church is possibly going to have a bat box in the belfry. The environmental people are looking at the graveyard and the possibility of removing the ivy from the graveyard and surrounding buildings.

Alyson Tippings reported that:-

1. Town Trails [Blaenau Gwent CBC](#)
2. Steve Jones celebrations – Statue in front of Ebbw Vale Sports Centre and Mural in Town Centre.
3. VJ Day events across Blaenau Gwent better attendance than VE Day. Less 'party' events and more solemn events.
4. Battle of Britain 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary day at Bedwellty Park in September.
5. George Overton – possibility of a plaque linked to tramroad/canal
6. Tour of Britain – preparing commentators notes
7. Lining up of Pen y fan, St Illtyd's, Llantarnum Grange and Caerleon.
8. TV program about Gilburns – perhaps Martin could re do his talk
9. Talk to Life After Stroke Group – promoted Thursday lectures.

A visit was made to Llanhilleth by the grandson of an evacuee. He is trying to locate the BBC film in which his grandfather spoke about his time in the area. The visit was very emotional and very successful with the family where the evacuee stayed being reintroduced and allowed to show the visitor where his grandfather stayed.