

# CRICKHOWELL & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER No. 5~ SUMMER 2012

### President's Introduction

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter. We have had another successful year with the highlight so far being our award of a history prize to pupils from Crickhowell Primary School for a local history project on Victorian Crickhowell. This was a new venture for us and we were very pleased with the result. Some members will have seen some of the pupils' projects on display at either at our April meeting or in the Library.

We are all looking forward to our first joint venture with the Archive Centre in arranging the History Weekend at the end of September. More detail is set out below. I hope to see you and your friends there.

We are breaking new ground with our move to the Dragon Inn for our talks starting in September. We think that this will be a more convenient location for our membership.

The Society depends on its membership. We are very grateful for your continued support. We want to increase our membership and if you know anyone with an interest in local history please encourage them to come along to one of our meetings.

Regards,  
Robin

### Change of Venue

As you know we have been considering a move from the Scout Hall to a new venue for our monthly talks because some members have experienced difficulties in parking in Castle Road. We have spoken to as many members as possible to get your views and we have decided to move to the Dragon Inn in the High Street commencing with our talk by Chris Barber on 19 September. We hope that members will find this more convenient.

### Society's Talks - July to November

We end our programme of talks for this year with the return of two old favourites. On 19 September well known local author Chris Barber will be taking us on a pictorial journey through the Brecon Beacons and on October 17 John Evans will be talking about the tram roads around Llangattock and Brynmawr. Finally, on November 21 Rachael Rogers, the curator of Abergavenny Museum, will be telling us about the history of Abergavenny.

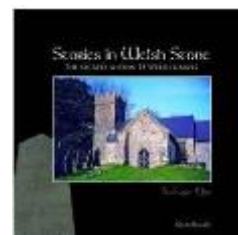
### Society's Activities ~ February to June

Our year began in **March** when we were treated to Robin's talk on "Transport & Industry, Gilwern to Llanfoist".

An **April** we once again welcomed the costumed Bill Cainan and were enthralled with his account of the Battle of Isandlwana.

**May** saw another entertaining regular, Brian Davies, informing us about "Edward Williams & the Celtic Crosses of Llantwit Major".

At the **June** talk, Geoff Brookes of Swansea, presented his fascinating "Stories in Welsh Stone."



### Guided Walk Tuesday 29 May

On a pleasant evening twelve enthusiasts joined our President, Robin Williams, on a walk along the canal starting at Govilon Church.



### Contact Numbers

#### Chairman

Clive Ralph ~  
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#### Secretary

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#### Treasurer

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#### Website

[www.crickhowellhistorysociety.co.uk](http://www.crickhowellhistorysociety.co.uk)

Please visit us and sign our  
guestbook.

### History Weekend 28-30 September

We are delighted to be joining with the Archive Centre in our first joint venture in organising this weekend. Apart from the free exhibition of local memorabilia, the film show on Friday evening will focus on the history of shops and businesses in Crickhowell whilst on Saturday we will be celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the completion of the Brecon-Monmouthshire canal with a series of talks and walks. A copy of the programme is enclosed with this newsletter. Tickets are now on sale. We hope to see as many of you as possible during the course of the weekend. Please tell your friends about it and encourage them to come along.

#### History Prize

In a first for the Society, we sponsored a prize with Crickhowell Primary School for a project on 'Victorian Crickhowell'. Over 60 year 5 and 6 pupils submitted entries. We awarded prizes to the top three entries in each class and also made a small contribution to school funds. We were delighted with the quality of the entries and with the enthusiasm shown by the pupils. We hope to sponsor a similar prize with Llangattock Primary School this year.

#### Visit to the Regimental Museum, Brecon on Sunday 21 October

The Curator, Bill Cainan, who has spoken to our Society on several occasions, has very kindly arranged to open the Museum for a visit by the Society on 21 October. Bill will be on hand to show us around. The Museum is especially well known for its collection of memorabilia from the Boer War. Bill has also arranged for us to park on the barracks square but we will need to provide him with the car registrations of those who intend to go along. The entrance fee to the Museum is £4. If you want to go please let Clive (tel 810262) know by 12 October. We may be able to arrange transport for anyone without a car.

### Neolithic Tomb

Many members will know that near to the entrance to Gwernvale Manor Hotel is the site of a former Neolithic tomb which is identified by a small group of standing stones. These stones have become overgrown with ivy and your Committee was approached by a local resident, not a Society member, to see if we could arrange to get the stones cleaned. Following some detective work by Janice we have been told that the stones stand on land owned by the Welsh Assembly and that Cadw is considering doing some work to tidy them up.



### Llangynidr Road

About 100 yards beyond Crickhowell Bridge on the Llangynidr Road between the oak tree and the road sign there is a stone set in the ground. The inscription is fading but seems to relate to the closing of a footpath. Can anyone give us some background, when was it put there, what is its purpose? Someone has suggested it denotes the closure of an informal footpath to the Glanus Estate. Can you help please?

### And finally.....

It is your Society and the Committee welcomes any comments you may have on the way it is run or any ideas for doing things differently. In particular, if you have suggestions for topics or speakers for our monthly meetings, Janice would be pleased to have them.