

LLANTRISANT TOWN TRUST

[Registered as a Charity]



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FREEMAN'S NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2002

No 22

Valedictions

The Trust has learned with deep regret of the passing of the under mentioned Freemen:-
Ivor POUNDER, Pontypridd, No 1816, Gwyn WESTCOTT, Llantrisant, No 1883, Brinley Montague THOMAS, Llantrisant, No 1898, Dennis H JAMES, Cheltenham, No 1995, Morgan THOMAS, Llandaff, No 1993, Noel Austin LLEWELLYN, Cardiff, No 2050, Leonard DAVIES, Bridgend, No 2200, Glyndwr WILLIAMS, Talbot Green, No 2233, Desmond Gordon JONES, No 2660

GENERAL MEETING 2002

A general Meeting of Freemen of Llantrisant will be held at Llantrisant Guildhall at 7-30pm on Friday, 18th October, to discuss and debate the works of the Trust over the past year and to accept suggestions to improve its effectiveness.

The five-year term of office of Freeman's Trustees Gwyn REES, Noel ISRAEL and Trefor THOMAS expires at the Meeting and, consequently, an election must take place. All named Trustees are eligible for re-appointment.

Any Freeman may stand for election, but he will be required to attend personally and be nominated and seconded by Freemen.

Freemen are again reminded of the importance of supporting the General Meeting. All are most welcome to participate in the proceedings.

COURT LEET AND COURT LEET DINNER 2003

Next year's Court Leet for the enrolment of new Freemen will be held at Llantrisant Guildhall on Friday 16th May, commencing promptly at 6-30pm. The fee is £50.00, inclusive of Freeman's tie. Application forms are now available from the Clerk.

The Court Leet Dinner will take place directly after the adjournment of the enrolment ceremony and will again be held at the "Llantrisant Leisure Centre". The principle speaker will be the famous Welsh actor Mr Glyn Houston. Cost per ticket, will again this year be £15.00 and

Freemen may invite guests should they desire. Tickets will be available from the Clerk on application nearer the due date.

At this year's Court Leet thirty newly enrolled Freemen claimed their heritage and birthright.

LLANTRISANT COMMON – FOOT & MOUTH EPIDEMIC & ANIMAL WELFARE

Restrictions on the movement of animals resulted in a reduction in the numbers of animals grazing the Common. Road traffic accidents resulting in the injury or death of animals are still a major problem to the Trust and the Trustees continue to lobby the local authority in order to provide some form of traffic claming measures along Common Road.

BEATING OF THE BOUNDS

The age old custom of "beating the bounds" will take place on Saturday 7 June 2003, when the Freemen of Llantrisant exercise their historical rights and walk the ancient Borough of Llantrisant's boundary. The beating of the bounds takes place every seven years and the distance to be walked is some 7 miles.

Trustees propose to hold a Thanksgiving Service at Llantrisant Church, at 2.00 pm. Afterwards, civic dignitaries, guests, trustees, freemen, families and well wishers, progress through the Town to Cross Inn, where the ritual of "bouncing" a freeman's son on a boundary stone is preformed. All are welcome to this the Trusts most prestigious event. It is not unusual for the numbers of walkers to be in the hundreds and therefore, "checkpoint marshals with mobile phones, backup car drivers and actual stewards to walk the boundary etc are required. If you are able to assist please contact the Clerk.

Although the actual programme of events has yet to be finalized the following items have been suggested.

Trustee Noel Israel has for many months been copying various items belonging to the Trust held in trust by the Glamorgan Record Office and many of these and other historical items will be on display at the Guildhall. A theme market, and a marquee will be placed on the castle grounds where the St Athan's brass band and Llantrisant male voice choir will, hopefully, be available to entertain.

LLANTRISANT, IMAGES OF WALES,

Freeman and Freemen's Trustee Dean Powell, has compiled a book containing over 200 images of Llantrisant, between the late 1880's and into the 1970's, illustrating both a nostalgic and valuable record of life and the peoples of our old Town, ISBN 0-7524-2497-1. A chapter devoted to the Freemen of Llantrisant has been included. The Trustees have approved the adding of an information/order sheet with this newsletter should any Freeman wish to order. I understand that there maybe a problem regarding orders placed for delivery overseas.

GRAIG COMMON

Informal talks have taken place between the Trust and the Countryside Council for Wales regarding the possibility of reopening the Graig to limited grazing, a management agreement limiting numbers and types of animals would be instigated resulting in possible grant aid to upgrade the fencing introduce a cattle grid etc.

DATA PROTECTION ACT

The Trust holds Freeman's personal information on computer. Should any Freeman wish to have his personal information removed please write to the Clerk requesting removal of said information.