



*Cymdeithas Hanes Lleol
Llandysul a'r Fro
Local History Society*

We have been looking at what records the Society has for some of the public houses in the area. We have chosen three to show here; three public houses which are now private houses but all of which have a rich history of being a hub in their community filled with happy customers enjoying a drink in the company of friends and neighbours. Remember those times?

Hopefully, with the vaccine, those times will return and we can once again meet up at our local hostelries.

In the meantime, stay safe.

Jane

Chairman

**Inn and cottage in Tregroes known as
Ffynonsaer, Ffynonsaer Inn, or Carpenters Arms**



Carpenter's Arms- c2020



Carpenter's Arms - date unknown

There is no sign of Ffynon Saer on the Tythe map, drawn in this area in about 1842.

Ffynon Saer first appears on the 1851 census when it was occupied by Thomas Davies, an Agricultural Labourer and his wife, Ann, both aged 28 years. They had a five year old son, Evan.

There are two entries on the 1861 census, one for "Ffynnon Saer", at its correct location, near to Cwmgeist, and the other for the "Carpenters Arms" in a location close to Tregroes Shop. These could be two separate properties, or the enumerator could have taken the census out of geographical order, perhaps receiving no reply when he called at the Carpenters Arms to record the census, calling back after he had visited the shop. Who knows? But here are the two entries:

Ffynonsaer was occupied by Eleanor Thomas, aged 37, married to an Agricultural Labour, absent on census night, and their children Jane aged 7, at school, and Samuel aged four. They also had a lodger, Margaret Joseph, a widow of 76 years of age.

The "Carpenters Arms" was occupied by Evan Jones, aged 49, a carpenter. His wife, Margaret, aged 28, gave no occupation, but could she have been brewing and serving beer at her home, called after her husband's occupation? Margaret was probably Evan's second wife, as she had twin boys, John and Evan, just 2 months old, whereas another son, David, lived with them, recorded as "Carpenter's son". David was 22 years of age so could not be Margaret's son.

In the 1871 census we have the first signs of Ffynon Saer recorded as an Inn. It was occupied at this time by Benjamin Jones, aged 75 years, who describes himself as an Inn Keeper. Living with him was his wife, Anne, and married daughter, Hannah Davies, and his three grandchildren John, Sarah and David, aged 6, 4 and 2 respectively.

1871 Census

			Mary Jones	Daughter		8	10	10
			William Jones	Son		6	10	10
			Elizabeth Jones	Daughter		3	10	10
61	Glyn	1	William Matthias	Head	Mar	55	Farmer of 2 acres	Llanwenog
			Mary Matthias	Wife	Mar	77	10	10
			Mary Hannah Jones	Daughter	Mar	35	10	10
62	Ffynnon Iach	1	Benjamin Jones	Head	Mar	75	10	10
			Anne Jones	Wife	Mar	52	10	10
			Hannah Jones	Daughter	Mar	28	10	10
			Benjamin Jones	Grandchild		8	10	10
			John Jones	10		6	10	10
			Sarah Jones	10		11	10	10
			David Jones	10		2	10	10
63	Pencaernick	1	James Jones	Head	Mar	62	10	10
			Anne Jones	Wife	Mar	42	10	10
64	Pencaernick	1	Daniel Jones	Head	Mar	70	10	10
			Elizabeth Jones	10		73	10	10
65	Pencaernick	1	Thomas Evans	Head	Mar	54	10	10

In 1879, "Ffynonsaer, Public House and Garden" were put up for sale, being part of the Pantydefaid Estate.

The Welshman 17 October 1879

COUNTY OF CARDIGAN THE PANTYDEFAID ESTATE

Situate in the parishes of Llandyssul and Llanwenog in the above County IMPORTANT SALE OF VALUABLE FREEHOLD FARMS, COTTAGES AND GARDENS

Messrs. J. Howell Thomas & Thompson have received instructions to offer for SALE by AUCTION, at the Porth Hotel, Llandyssul, at One o'clock in the afternoon on Tuesday, the 21st day of October, 1879, in 19 or such other number of Lots as may be determined upon prior to or at the time of Sale, the undermentioned valuable Freehold Farms, containing in all an area of upwards of 1,064 acres of very improvable Land, with substantially-erected Homesteads, Cottages, Gardens, and Premises thereon, in the occupation of respectable tenants at low annual rents viz:-

Lot.	Name of Farm etc.	Parish	Tenant	Est. Quantity	Annual Rent
1.	Pantydefaid Farm, Pwllgravel, and Tynewydd Cottages and Gardens	L'ssul	Mr. John Jones or is under-tenants	201 ac.	£140 8s. 0d
2.	Ffôs Esgob	"	Mr. William Davies	116 ac.	£108
3.	Caerau and Gorllwynbach, comprising also a small part of Rhydyfdrwydd	L'wenog & L'ssul	Mr. Thomas Jones	137 ac.	£70
4.	Cwmarch, and Three Cottages	L'ssul	Mrs. Jane Thomas and her under-tenants	67 ac.	£50
5.	Rhydyfdrwydd, and Blaenwaun Cottage, and Garden, comprising also a small part of Caerau	L'ssul & L'wenog	Mr. Daniel Davies and his under-tenants	102 ac.	£63
6.	Ceginan, and Two Cottages and Gardens, called Maesyfelin	L'ssul	Mr. Edward Jones and his under-tenants	58ac.	£45
7.	Pengraig	"	Mr. Thomas Davies	189ac.	£50
8.	Fronwen, and Glyn Cottage and Garden	"	Mr. John Jones and his under-tenant	48ac.	£40
9.	Rhydyfene, or Bailybach	"	Mr. Simon Jones or his under-tenants	38ac.	£35
10.	Cwmgeist, and Two Cottages and Gardens, called Pencaernickett	"	Mr. John Jones and is under-tenants	66ac.	£48

11.	Prengwyn, and Smith's Arms, Cottage, Garden, and Blacksmith's Shop	"	Mr. Henry Jones	4ac.	£11 10s.
12.	Blaenmene Cottage, Garden and Land	"	Mr. John Jones	4 ac.	£6
13.	Penbank, or Sychdu, and Two Cottages and Gardens	"	Mr. Thomas Jones and his under-tenants	23 ac.	£21
14.	Winllan Cottage, Garden, and small piece of Land	"	Mr. David Jones	0	£3 10s.
15.	Two Cottages and Gardens, called respectively Pwlllygravel, and a Cottage and Garden called Three Cocks	"	Mr. John Davies , Mr. Edward Thomas, and Elizabeth Thomas	--	£2
16.	Ffynnon Saer, Public House and Garden	"	Mr. David Davies	11 perches	10s.
17.	Two Cottages and Gardens called Pencaernickett	"	Mrs. Hannah Phillips Mr. Thomas Evans	--	10s. £1 10s.
18.	Pantydefaid Chapel and Burial Ground, Stable, etc. Lease for 999 years from 30 Oct. 1847	"	The Chapel Trustees	2r 32p	2s.
19.	Carmel Chapel, Dwelling house, and Stable. Piece of Land formerly part of Lot 1. Lease about 52 years unexpired	"	The Chapel Trustees " as under-tenants of John Jones	1r. 3r 9p	£1 12s.

The Welshman

24 October 1879

SALE OF PROPERTY

The sale of the Pantydefaid Estate took place at the Porth Hotel, Llandyssil, on Tuesday last. There was a spirited sale for the several lots, and the result was highly satisfactory. The property, exclusive of a farm withdrawn from sale, realised £22,800 ! The auctioneers were Messrs. J. Howell Thomas and Thompson, of Carmarthen.

The Cardiff Times

25 October 1879

SALE OF THE PANTYDEFAID ESTATE AT LLANDYSSUL

This sale was held on Tuesday, at the Porth Hotel. Mr. John Howell Thomas, of Carmarthen, was the auctioneer. Very great interest was taken in the sale, as Pantydefaid estate is very well known throughout the country, and a great number of people were in attendance, some from a distance. The estate was sold in 19 lots, and each lot was knocked down as follows:

Lot 1, Pantydefaid, for £5,000 to Miss Thomas, of Llanfair, Llandyssul.

Lot 2, Ffos-esgob, for £4,156, to William Davies, the tenant.

Lot 3, Caerau and Gorllwynbach, for £1,920, to Thomas Davies, Henfaes, near Llanybyther.

Lot 4, Cwmmarch, for £2,020, to Evan Lloyd, Clettwr-side, Llandyssul.

Lot 5, Rhydyfdrwydd, was not sold; the highest bid was £1,540 which did not come up to the reserved price.

Lot 6, Ceginan, for £1,830, to Edward Jones, the tenant.

Lot 7, Pengraig, for £1,320, to David Evans, Rhiwlug, Llandyssul.

Lot 8, Fronwen, for £1,260, to T.P. Phillips, Wesin, Llandyssul.

Lot 9, Rhydyfene, for £1,500, to Miss Thomas, Llanfair, Llandyssul.

Lot 10, Cwmgeist for £1,500, to Thomas Thomas, Blaenbronfain, Llanwenog.

Lot 11, Prengwyn, for £470, to Thomas Thomas, Ffoshelig, Llandyssul.

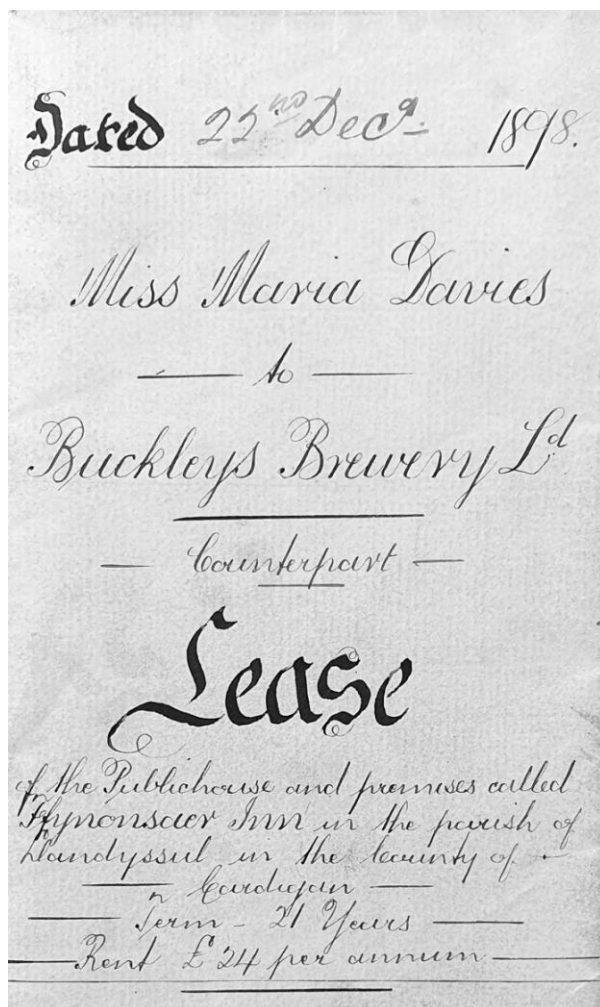
Lot 12, Blaenmene, for £230, to Edward Thomas, Pwllgravel, Llandyssul, road surveyor.
Lot 13, Sychdu, for £610, to John Davies, Pwllgravel, Llandyssul, stonecutter.
Lot 14, Winllan, for £95, to Evan Lloyd, Clettwr-side, Llandyssul.
Lot 15, Pwllgravel and Three Cocks, for £90, to John Evans, Penlanfach, Llandyssul.
Lot 16, Ffynon-Saer, for £130, to John Davies, Cross Inn, Llanfihangel-ar-Arth.
Lot 17, Pencaernickett, for £95, to Hannah Phillips, the tenant.
Lot 18 and 19, Cottages, belonging to Pantydefaid and Carmel chapels, were not sold.

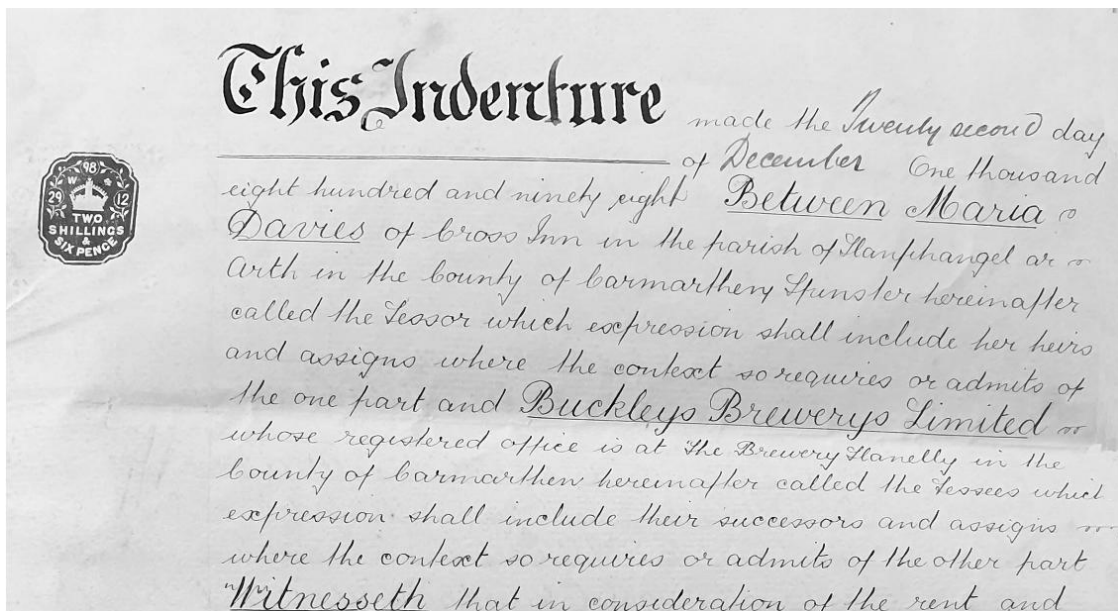
Another change of occupant happened by 1881 when Evan Evans, a 26 year old wool weaver, and his wife, Hannah, had moved in. No mention is made of either working as an Inn Keeper but it is possible that Hannah would have run the Inn while her husband worked in a local mill.

The 1891 census shows two separate entries: No. 1 Ffynnon-saer Inn and No.2 Ffynnon-saer. The Inn is described as a Public House and Lewis Thomas, aged 67 years, is both the Inn Keeper and an Agricultural Labourer. His wife, Anne, is 63 years of age, and also described as Inn Keeper. Their son James is 34 and an Agricultural Labour, and lives with them, together with his 15 year old daughter Anne, who is at school.

In the adjoining cottage, No 2 Ffynnon-saer, lives Mary Walters, whose husband is not present on census night. Mary is 24 years of age and works as a Charwoman. Her daughter, Anne, is two years old.

In 1898 Ffynnon-saer Inn was still owned by the Davies family of Cross Inn, Llanfihangel, but that year it was leased to Buckleys Brewery of Llanelli, for a period of 21 years.





The Register of Licenses granted in the district of Llandyssul, shows that Ann Evans was the innkeeper in 1899, as it was recorded that she was fined £1 for selling on a Sunday!

But the 1901 census shows that Anne Evans is still at Ffynnonaer. She was widow of 43 years of age, who is described as the Inn Keeper. Next door in Ffynnonaer Cottage lives William Thomas, a Cabinet maker; he is a widower of 70 years age. His two daughters live with him; Hannah, age 33, who is a general domestic servant, and Margaret, aged 28, a dressmaker.

In June that year, there appears to have been a bit of a rumpus at the Inn:

Carmarthen Journal & South Wales Weekly Advertiser

7 June 1901

Petty Sessions. On Wednesday, the 29th inst., before Mr. J.P. Vaughan Pryse, Mr. A.H. Jones, Mr. D.J. Lloyd, Mr. J.R. Jones, Col. Lewis, Capt. Stewart, and Rev. Thomas Thomas.

Carmarthen Journal & South Wales Weekly Advertiser

Assault

Anne Evans, Ffynnonaer Inn, Llandyssul, charged one William Jones, alias Kerry, of Pembrey, labourer, with an assault at Ffynnonaer on the 9th May. Fined 20s and costs.

In 1905 the inn was given a full 7 day license, and Anne Evans continued as Innkeeper until February 1909, when the license was transferred to Anne Lewis.

The 1911 census shows Anne Lewis, 55 years, Innkeeper, and her husband, David, a wheelwright, aged 70 years. David's stepdaughter, Rachel Evans, aged 30 years. Anne and David were Welsh speaking, but Rachel spoke both Welsh and English.

But 1911 was not a good year for the Lewis' as the licence was referred to the Compensation Authority, and on 29 June 1911 renewal of the licence was refused. Compensation money for the closure was paid on 29 June 1912, presumably to Buckleys not the Lewis family!

We don't know what happened to this property after 1912 - if you do, please let us know!

FARMERS ARMS
Lincoln Street, Llandysul



Farmer's Arms on right with barrels outside and "David Davies" on the sign



The first references to Farmer's Arms we have are on the 1851 and 1861 census. However, the current building in Lincoln Street looks as if it was built much later. So it may be that an older building stood on the current site which was later rebuilt.

1851 Census at Farmers Arms						
EVANS	David	Hd	Mar	49	Publican	Llandyssil
	Margaret	Wf	Mar	45	Publican's wife	"
	Jane	Dau		14	Publican's daughter	"
	John	Son		12	Scholar	"
	David	Son		10	Scholar	"
	Mary	Dau		3	Public House daughter	"
	Thomas	Neph		12	Scholar	Llanfihangel, Carm.
WILLIAMS						
DAVIES	David	Lod		9	Scholar	Llandyssil

1861 Census at Farmers Arms						
EVANS	James	Hd	M	41	Woollen manufacturer	Llandyssil
	Martha	Wf	M	33		Llangunllo
	Hannah	Dau		10	Scholar	Llandyssil
	James	Son		9	Scholar	"
	Daniel	Son		7	Scholar	"
	Edward	Son		6	Scholar	"
EVANS	Elias	Serv		9	House servant	"
JONES	Eleanor ??	Serv	U	24	Woollen spinner	"
JONES	Eleanor ??	Serv	U	18	Woollen carder	"
DAVIES	Margaret	Serv	U	17	House servant	"

The first census on which we can identify the Farmers Arms being recorded at 7 Lincoln Street is 1871. Evan Jones is the Innkeeper and also a butcher. Evan was born in Henllan, the son of Benjamin Jones, a farmer at Trefbedw, Henllan.

At the time of the 1871 census, Evan was 31 years of age, and married to Elizabeth, aged 35 years. They had five children; John 10, Anne 8, Margaret 7, all at school, and Mary 4, and Elizabeth two.

All the children were born in Llandysul, apart from the eldest, John, who was born in Aberdare, when Evan was coal miner, before moving to Llandysul, the birthplace of his wife, and taking on the Farmer's Arms.

1871 Census at 7 Lincoln Street						
JONES	Evan	Hd	M	31	Victualler & Inn keeper	Henllan
	Elizabeth	Wf	M	30		Llandyssil
	John	Son		10	Scholar	Aberdare, Glam.
	Anne	Dau		8	Scholar	Henllan
	Margaret	Dau		4		Llandyssil
	Elizabeth	Dau		2		"


13 July 1877

PETTY SESSIONS, Wednesday, July 4

Before Colonel Lewes, J.P.V. Pryce, Esq., Captain Thomas, and A.H. Jones, Esq.

A NUISANCE

Thomas Jones, Newcastle Emlyn, Inspector of Nuisances, charged **Evan Jones, Farmers' Arms**, and David Jones* Lincoln-street, Llandysul, butchers, with allowing a nuisance to exist on their premises on the 27th April. The magistrates made an order to abate the nuisance, defendants to pay costs.

 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Cambrian News & Merionethshire Standard*

** David Jones lived at 3 Lincoln Street and had a slaughterhouse at the back of his property, so is it possible that the "nuisance" was connected to this side of their butchery trade?*

2 January 1880


Llandyssul

PETTY SESSIONS, Wednesday, Dec. 24. Before Colonel W.P. Lewes, J.P.V. Pryce, Esq., and C. Lloyd, Esq.

CHARGE OF ASSAULT

John James, Pengraigwen, Llanfihangel-ar-arth, horse dealer, charged **Evan Jones, Farmers' Arms**, Llandyssul, innkeeper, with an assault at the defendant's house on the 24th of October.

Compromised by consent of the Bench.

 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Cambrian News & Merionethshire Standard*

Evan Jones and his family were still living and working at the Farmer's Arms in 1881. His daughter, Margaret, was now working as a Barmaid.

1881 Census at Farmer's Arms, 7 Lincoln Street						
JONES	Evan	Hd	M	41	Licensed Victualler & Butcher	Henllan
	Eliza	Wf	M	46		Llandyssil
	John	Son	U	20	Butcher	"
JAMES	Anne	Dau	M	19		"
JONES	Margaret	Dau	U	17	Barmaid	"
	Eliza	Dau		12	Scholar	"
	Martha	Dau		10	Scholar	"
	Benjamin	Son		8	Scholar	"
	Catherine	Dau		6	Scholar	"
	Sarah Jane	Dau		4		"
JAMES	John	S/law	M	25	Horse Dealer	Llanfihangel, Carms.

5 August 1881

SERIOUS WOUNDING CASE

At the Llanfihangel-ar-arth Petty Sessions, held on Tuesday, before Mr. Vaughan Pryce, Captain L.L. Lloyd, and Mr. A.H. Jones, John Jones and Evan Jones, son and father, butchers, **Farmers' Arms**, Llandyssul were charged with having maliciously wounded Benoni Jones, Blacksmith, Pont-twelly, with a hammer, on the 16th August, at the Wilk's Head Hotel.

The complainant's evidence was to the effect that the defendants felled him to the ground, and while the father held him down the son wrenched complainant's hammer from his hand and struck him on his head with it. Mrs. Somney (sic), of the Wilk's Head; Hannah Davies, servant maid of the same place; Anne Evans, Penddwyallt; and John Jones, coach proprietor, Plas Parke, deposed to having separated the assailants, and also corroborated complainant's evidence.

Mr. D.R. Jones, the surgeon who dressed his wounds, described the nature of them. One was of a semi-circular shape, such as would be inflicted with the round end of the hammer. The two others were contiguous – one of them superficial, the other reached to the bone. They could both have been caused by a hammer.

Evan Jones, the father, for the defence, gave a contradictory version of the affair, but which did not agree with the account given by P.C. Davies, who was present immediately after the attack. Mr. H.H. Davies, surgeon, said the wounds were superficial, and had been inflicted on the strongest part of the skull, and could not injure the brain. In fact there were little or no brains in that part.

Mr. Walters addressed the Bench for the defence, after which the Bench bound the defendant John Jones over to appear at the next Carmarthenshire Quarter Sessions, Evan Jones, his father, and Daniel Davies, his father-in-law, being accepted as sureties. The charge against Evan Jones was adjourned for a month.

 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Cambrian News & Merionethshire Standard*

30 December 1882

LLANDYSSUL

TRANSFER OF LICENCE

The licence of the **Farmers' Arms**, Llandyssul, was transferred from Evan Jones to Evan Evans.

 Ffynhonnell/Source: Weekly Mail

Having moved out of the Farmer's Arms, Evan moved to No 11 Lincoln Street, where he continued in business as a Butcher.

1891 Census

33	10	Do	1	2	Evan Jones	Head	clb	51	Butcher										
					Elizabeth Do	Wife	clb	55											
					Charlotte Do	Daughter	S	18	Scholar										
					Ben Do	Son	S	16	Do										
					Sarah J. Do	Daughter	S	12	Do										

By 1891 the Farmer's Arms was run by David Davies:

1891 Census at Farmers Arms, 17 Lincoln Street							
DAVIES	David	Hd	M	40	Carpenter & Licensed Victualler	Llaneler, Carms.	W
	Jane	Wf	M	38		Llandyssil	W

Later that year, David put two of his properties up for sale:

25 September 1891

LLANDYSSUL

SALE OF PROPERTY

At the Assembly Rooms, King's Head Hotel, Mr. D. Evans, auctioneer, Gorrig, recently sold Dolau Villa for £161 to Mrs. Francis, Teify Villa. Dolau Cottage was withdrawn, the amount bid not reaching the reserve price, but we understand it was subsequently sold by private treaty to Miss Evans, Cilgwyn Arms, Llandyssul, for the sum of £84. Messrs. Evans and Thomas, solicitors, acted for **Mr. David Davies, Farmers' Arms, the vendor of both houses.**

Source: Cambrian News & Merionethshire Standard

1901 Census at Farmer's Arms, Lincoln Street							
DAVIES	David	Hd	M	50	Carpenter & Innkeeper	Llaneler, Carms.	W
	Jane	Wf	M	48		Llandyssil	W

David tendered, unsuccessfully, to build Penybont Chapel. The contract was won by J. Isaac Thomas, who later built the Powerhouse.

7 December 1906

NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL

Tenders for the erection of a new chapel at Penybont were opened in the Committee on Tuesday and were as follows:

Thomas and Lewis, Newcastle Emlyn, £1,158;

Thomas Davies, Pencader, £1225;

J. Thomas, Llanpumpsaint, £1,250;

D. Jones, Carmarthen, £1,499;

J. Isaac Thomas, Llandyssul, £968;

E. Evans, Llanybyther, £1,392;

D. Davies, Farmers Arms, £1,420.

The Committee unanimously decided to accept the tender of Mr. John Isaac Thomas, he being the lowest.

 Ffynhonnell/Source: Cambrian News & Merionethshire Standard

The 1910 Valuation Act gives a description of the Farmer's Arms at that time. It was owned by Buckleys Brewery, Ltd. Llanelli, and the tenant was David Davies. On the ground floor there was a bar, a bar parlour, and sitting room. On the first floor were three bedrooms, and above was an attic, open to the roof. There was also a basement containing a beer cellar, a scullery and a coalhouse. The building was stone with a slate roof, and in fairly good repair. Outside was a 4 stall stable, in stone and slate, in good repair, and accessed from Charles Street. The public house had a six day licence and the annual alcohol sales were 40 barrels of beer, 160 dozen bottles of beer, and 50 gallons of spirits.


In April 1919, at the age of 59 years, David Davies died.

15 April 1910

LLANDYSSUL

SUDDEN DEATH

On Monday morning the death occurred suddenly of Mr. David Davies, Farmers Arms. Deceased had been in good health and had not previously complained of illness. He was highly respected in the place and his sudden death is greatly regretted.

 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Cambrian News & Merionethshire Standard*

22 April 1910

LLANDYSSUL


DEATH

As reported last week, the very sudden death of Mr. **David Davies, Farmers' Arms**, cast quite a gloom throughout the place. On Thursday last week the interment took place at the parish churchyard, when a very large number of people assembled to pay their tribute of respect to the memory of deceased. The service at the house and church was conducted by the Revs. J.R. Jones, B.A. (vicar), and D.A. Jones, B.A. (curate).

Special hymns were sung by the choir in church. Deceased for many years was a faithful member of the choir. Mr. T.S.F. Morgan (organist) played the "Dead March".

The chief mourners were:- Mrs. Davies (widow); Mrs. Macknmeil, Mrs. Keenan, Mr. & Mrs. Evans, Dowlais; Mr. and Mrs. James, Dowlais; Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Davies, Dowlais; Mr. & Mrs. Edward Davies, Rhondda House; Mrs. Jones, Lincoln-street; Mr. D.B. Davies, Ivy Cottage; Mr. Samuel Rees, Pembrey; Mrs. Webster, Pembrey; Mr. James, Aberclettwr; Mrs. Davies, Skewen. Two sisters of the deceased (Mrs. Davies, Lan, Penboy, and Mrs. Davies, Ivy Cottage), and a brother (Mr. Joshua Davies) were unable to be present.

There were also a very large number of nephews, nieces, and cousins representing the several families of those mentioned. Floral tributes were sent by nieces May and Jennie, and Mrs. Webster and family. Deceased was 59 years of age, and a very respectable inhabitant of the place. He had filled the office of a sidesman at the parish church for many years. The greatest sympathy is extended to all the bereaved relatives in their sad hour of sorrow.

 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Carmarthen Journal & South Wales Weekly Advertiser*

David Davies' widow, Jane continued to run the Farmer's Arms:

1911 Census at Farmer's Arms						
DAVIES	Jane	Hd	Wd	58	Tafarnwraig	Llandyssul

The Farmer's Arms continues to be advertised in the Trade Directories. Only two licensees were mentioned in the directory - Mrs Mary Wrentmore in 1920, and Harold Hall in 1926.

Finally, the Farmer's Arms was put up for sale in 1928, having closed as a Public House.

24 May 1928

SALE OF PROPERTY

At the Wilkes Head Hotel on Tuesday, Messrs. J. Francis & Son, Carmarthen, offered for sale the freehold house known as **Farmers Arms**, Lincoln-street, until lately a public house. This was withdrawn at £400.

 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Welsh Gazette*

THE CROWN INN

High Street, Llandysul



Crown Cottage



The Tythe map of c1842 shows a building on the site of the Crown Inn but we cannot identify a building recorded as the "Crown Inn" until the 1871 census.

1871 Census at Crown						
JOSEPH	David	Hd	M	36	Carrier	Llanfihangel, Carms.
	Anne	Wf	M	35	Carrier's wife	Llanfairorllwyn
	William	Son		11	Scholar	Llandyssil
	Anne	Dau		8	Scholar	"
	Elias	Son		6	Scholar	"
	Elizabeth	Dau		4		"
	Jane	Dau		2		"

1881 Census at The Crown Inn						
DAVIES	Benjamin	Hd	M	53	Timber Carrier	Llandyssil
	Sarah	Wf	M	48		Troed-yr-aur
	Tom	Son		15	Woollen factory boy	Llandyssil
	Mary	Dau		13	Scholar	"
	Hannah	Dau		8	Scholar	"

1891 Census at Crown Inn							Lang
JONES	Jane	Hd	S	22	Licensed Victualler	Llandyssul	W

15 December 1892


Inquest

On Thursday of last week an inquest was held before Mr. J.H. Evans, coroner, into the death of David Davies, weaver, who was killed by a sack of wool falling upon him at the Teify Mills, Pontwelly.

Michael Davies*, **Crown Inn**, Llandyssul, gave evidence to the effect that two sacks of wool had been brought from the station to the mills, and he, deceased, Evan Evans, Tom James, Tom Richards, and David Howells, were engaged in taking the wool into the mill and throwing it down into the cellar, a distance of about seven feet. The first sack not getting quite to the bottom, witness and deceased went after it. Evan Evans and Thomas Richards were engaged in bring in the other sack and threw it down, and it fell on deceased.

When pulled out from under the sack by witness, deceased complained of the nape of his head and numbness in his hands. He was taken into the house belonging to the Mill, and Dr. Davies sent for. The wool weighed about 3½ cwt. Evan Evans, Tyssul Rock, said that after the first sack had been taken in, he, Tom James, and Tom Richards, after waiting fifteen or twenty minutes, took the second sack in and let it fall down the stairs. They thought the others had had sufficient time to clear away, but did not call to ascertain whether they had or no. They could not see to the bottom of the stairs even if they looked down.

Dr. H.H. Davies said he found the deceased insensitive from the nape of the neck downwards and concluded that he had received serious injury to the spinal cord. He was taken home about seven o'clock. Witness saw him on the following day and intended going again on Tuesday but heard that he was dead. The jury returned a verdict of "Death by misadventure" and said it would be well if the second party had seen that the road was clear before sending down the second sack.


 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Cambrian News and Merionethshire Standard*

* Michael Davies is recorded in the 1891 census as a Wool Weaver, living in Pentrecagal. Was he lodging at the Crown Inn whilst working at Teify Mills?

27 January 1893

LLANDYSSUL INQUEST

An Inquest was held on Monday, December 23rd, at the **Crown Inn**, by Mr. J.H. Evans, coroner, on the body of Sarah Jones, daughter of David and Margaret Jones. Ann Davies and Dr. E.R. Evans gave evidence. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Cambrian News & Merionethshire Standard*

Cambrian News

8 February 1901

Keeping Licenses Premises Open

David Evans, Crown Inn, Llandyssul, was charged by P.C. James Lewis with having kept his house open during prohibited hours, and M.A. Jones, Llandyssul, was charged with having been on the said premises during prohibited hours. Mr. T. Thomas, solicitor (Messrs. Evans and Thomas, Llandyssul), appeared for the defendants, and pleaded not guilty. The constable gave evidence for

the prosecution and for the defence. M.A. Jones and Mrs. Evans, wife of defendant, D. Evans. Fined ten shillings and costs and five shillings and costs respectively.

 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Cambrian News and Merionethshire Standard*

And on the same day:

8 February 1901

LLANDYSSUL

PETTY SESSIONS. Wednesday, January 30th.

Before J.P.V. Pryse, A.N. Jones, W.C. Bowen Esquires, and Capt. Stewart

TRANSFER

The license of the **Crown Inn**, Llandyssul, was transferred from David Evans to Thomas Thomas of the Blue Bell Inn, Llandyssul.

 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Cambrian News and Merionethshire Standard*

1901 Census at Crown Inn							Lang
THOMAS	Thomas	Hd	M	42	Inn keeper	Swansea, Glam.	W
	Anne	Wf	M	52		"	W
	William John	Son		14		"	W
JAMES	Martha	Vis	U	20	Dressmaker	Llandyssil	W

Drinking after hours seems to have continued after Thomas Thomas took over, and in May 1901 the law nabbed four birds with one stone!

3 May 1901

PETTY SESSIONS

The above sessions were held on Wednesday of last week before Mr. J.P. Vaughan Pryse, Mr. A.H. Jones, Capt. J. Stewart, Mr. D.J. Lloyd, Mr. W. Hope Hall, Mr. Thomas Davies, and the Revs. Thomas Thomas and William James, B.A.

DRUNKENNESS

P.C. James Lewis charged John James, Llandyssul, with being drunk at the Crown Inn, Llandyssul.

Fined 10s. and costs.

REFUSING TO QUIT

P.C. James Lewis charged Henry Welch and William Webb, The Van, Penlan, Llanifhangel-ar-arth, Carmarthenshire, with being disorderly and refusing to quit the Crown Inn, Llandyssul, on the 17th ult. Fined 10s. and costs.

PERMITTING DRUNKENNESS

P.C. James Lewis charged Thomas Thomas, the Crown Inn, Llandyssul, with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the 17th ult. Deputy Chief Constable Williams conducted the prosecution; Mr. J.W. Nicholas, solicitor, Llandilo (sic), appeared for the defendant, and Mr. Thomas Thomas (Messrs. Evans and Thomas), solicitor, Llandyssul, appeared for the owners of the house (Messrs. Buckley Brothers). Fined £1 and costs, and the licence was ordered to be endorsed.

 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Carmarthen Journal & South Wales Weekly Advertiser*

8 August 1901

PETTY SESSIONS

These Sessions were held at the National School, Llanfihangel-ar-Arth, before Captain Stewart, Ev. Thomas Thomas, Messrs. W.C. Bowen, T.R. Jones, and D.H. Jones.

TRANSFER

The transfer of the license of the Crown Inn, Llandyssul, was granted to David Davies, Ty'rbad, Llandyssul, carrier.

 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Welsh Gazette*

The 1910 Valuation Act Survey records the premises at that time. It was owned by C. Fitzwilliams, of Cilgwyn, occupied Buckley's Brewery Co. Llanelli, and had a six day license. On the ground floor was a parlour and kitchen, with a leanto behind, and a cellar and pantry. Above were two bedrooms and a boxroom. The annual alcohol sales were 45 barrels of beer, 120 dozen bottles of beer, and 48 gallons of spirits.


There was another change of licensee in 1910:

10th November, 1910

PETTY SESSIONS

TRANSFER

The license of the Crown Inn was transferred to Mr. David Hughes.

 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Welsh Gazette*

But the new landlord was soon appearing in the local newspaper:

27 October 1910

NONCONFORMISTS AND PUBLICAN

INCIDENT IN CARDIGANSHIRE

Mr. David Hughes, of Abercynon (Glamorgan), has recently taken up the tenancy of the Crown Inn, Llandyssul. Mr. Hughes was deacon and treasurer for eleven years of Bethania Welsh Independent Chapel in Abercynon.

When he arrived in Cardiganshire he handed in the letters of membership of himself and wife to Mr. G.S. Rees, B.A., the pastor of Zion Congregational Chapel. On the following Tuesday, at a meeting of the deacons, the matter was fully discussed, but the only decision come to was that it should be submitted to the church.

Accordingly, on Sunday morning it was announced that a matter of vital importance would come before the chapel in the evening, and members were urged to attend in force. After the preaching service Mr. Rees said that he was “fully convinced in his own mind, from what intoxicating drink had done in Llandyssul recently, that, as people professing religion, they should do their utmost to put down the evil. He had never in his life read a letter to admit a publican into membership of the chapel, and whilst he had a tongue in his mouth he never would do so. This was the first case that had come up since the passing of the resolution at the meeting of the Welsh Congregational Union to exclude publicans from their churches.


He had received a letter from the secretary of Bethania Church, Abercynon, to the effect that Mr. Hughes had been very faithful with the work and a good contributor to the cause at that place. The secretary further wrote that he had advised Mr. Hughes not to take a public house; that he consider the “Crown Inn” a very poor “crown” at the close of an active religious career. If public houses in the country were like public houses at Abercynon, then they were Gehenna*. Mr. Rees then proposed that no publican, nor license holder – whether of a grocer’s license or that of a licensed victualler – should be received as a member of Zion.

A senior deacon, in seconding, said that it was only just what he had been thinking ought to have been done, and he had been longing for it for the last fifty years.

The resolution was passed by a big majority, there being a few abstentions and only two getting up in opposition.

On Monday Mr. Rees called at the Crown Inn and handed Mr. Hughes his letter back in person, at the same time intimating to Mrs. Hughes the willingness of the chapel to accept her letter. This offer she refused, as “man and wife are one”, and demanded the return of her letter also.

Two years ago a motion was brought forward and passed at a meeting of the Welsh Congregational Union to the effect that no person holding a license for the the sale of intoxicatings should in future be admitted to membership of any Congregational Church; such resolution to have no retrospective effect, nor to affect in any way the status of any such persons already members.

 *Ffynhonnell/Source: Aberystwyth Observer*

**Gehenna or Gehinnom is thought to be a small valley in Jerusalem. In the Hebrew Bible, Gehenna was initially where some of the kings of Judah sacrificed their children by fire. Thereafter, it was deemed to be cursed. (Wikipedia)*

1911 Census at Crown Inn (High Street, Llandysul)						
HUGHES	David	Hd	M	57	Public House keeper	Penboy, Carms.
	Mary	Wf	M	57	Assisting in business	Llanfihangel, Carms.
	Mary Hannah	Dau	U	18	Gwinyddes	Ferndale, Glam.

Entries in the Trade Directory continued until 1916 showing David Hughes as the proprietor.

We don't know when the Crown Inn closed - unless you do!

Finally, the death of a past landlord was recorded in 1917:

26 October 1917

LLANDYSSUL

On Sunday last, a well-known figure and a highly-respected one passed away in the person of Mr. David Davies, carrier and haulier, Charles-street, late of Crown Inn. Deceased was a native of Pontshaen, and leaves one daughter to mourn his loss.



Ffynhonnell/Source: Carmarthen Journal & South Wales Weekly Advertiser