



Competition

The winner of the Badge competition is Denny Sandeman whose winning design can be seen above. He has cleverly incorporated the team motto, Yma O Hyd, into the wheel of the Winding Gear.

Thank you Denny for your contribution, there is £10 voucher waiting for you at The Mine. Thank you to the Mine for putting up the money for the prize.

I will try to create a digitised version of the badge from Denny's design



Website link below

<https://gwrahtimeline.co.uk>

Here is the website link so you can find the site easily.

Get Involved

We are looking for people to get involved with the project by providing:

- * old photos of the village
- * their memories of the village
- * War records of their relatives
- * history of associations, e.g. scouts, cubs, cadets, marching bands etc.

Latest News:

As we now move out of the pandemic and people have had their jobs, hopefully in the next month or two the Timeline Team can meet up again in safety. I am look forward to that day.

It is worth remembering that these pandemic have been here before. In Ebenezer Chapel, Pontneddfechan there is a gravestone to a Dr Archibald Alexander Brodie who gave his life in 1851 looking after cholera victims in the area. Luckily the disease did not spread to Cwmgwrach but stopped on our doorstep.

I have recently been in touch with a Michael Cole from South Yorkshire who is writing his degree Dissertation on Pentreclwydau colliery. He has been trying to contact people who worked there to get their experience of working in the mine and the effect of it's closure on the community. We have been able to give him a number of photographs of the mine which Glyn Davies had in his collection, and Michael was very grateful for our support. He said that after he publishes his Dissertation we are quite welcome to have his research material of the mine for use in the website. So a big thank you to Glyn and Michael.

The Team also received 4 cine films and a VHS video taken by a Glynneath gentleman, Gordon Lebon, who took videos of various celebrations in and around the valley. These cine films were held by Glyn Davies who once again has donated them to the Timeline Team. They are being digitised as I write this by, David John Sack of Saturn Films 1969.

There are other "irons in the fire" as they say, and I will explain those in the next newsletter.

50 years Celebration for the Minorettes:

The Cwmgwrach Minorettes will be celebrating their 50th anniversary of being formed this year. Diane Aveyard-Davies has asked members of the band to record their memories so that we can create an article for them in the website.

She has emailed me what she has collected to date, so we can now start writing the article up, they have also uncovered a lost DVD of the band performing, so we will include the DVD as well as a number photos of the band over the years.

I wonder if there is a 50th Anniversary party in the offing?

The Village before photography:

Last month we added an article on the old Corn mill (Melin Clun y Bont) that sat on the patch of land behind Calfaria Chapel until the mill was demolished, sometime in the mid 19th Century.



You will notice a drawing has been created of the Corn mill and surrounding area, which shows the village as it must have looked during the time the mill was working. The drawing was created by David Williams, the idea behind this and other drawings we will make is to show various location in and round the village as they would have looked in their own time.

There is also a little skit which goes with the mill and can be read below.

Mi wela Shiwan Harri
Yn prysur gasglu persli
Wrth Felin Gwrach ar fin y plwyf
Er gwella'r clwyf sydd arni.

I saw Shiwan Harri
Busy collecting parsley
By the Gwrach Mill at the edge of the parish,
To heal her wounds.

I wonder who Shiwan Harri was, any thoughts?

Last but not least:

If you would like to contribute in any way, please let us know. At the end of the day, it's your history we are trying to document, and we can't do it without you.

- **So if you would like to record your memories of growing up in the village, or going to school, or participating in any of the village associations, then please let us know.**
- **If you have any old photos, documents or memorabilia of the village, get in touch and we can scan the photos, documents, memorabilia in, and you can have them back.**
- **Also your relatives memories of the village can be gathered and saved on the website, get your children involved in interviewing Granny and Grandad and capturing their memories.**