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DIRECTORY



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MARCH/
APRIL 2019



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Friday 29th March

**Editor: Susan Woolford
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Hopefully, the weather will warm up a little over the next couple of months and we'll all be able to take a walk in our beautiful countryside and benefit from some spring sunshine.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter.

Best wishes

Susan



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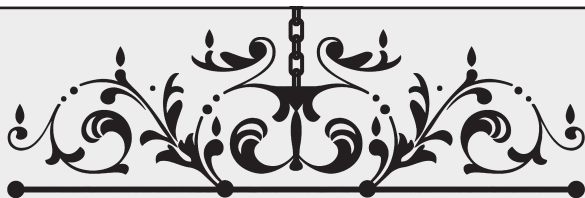


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Optimism for the Future of Twmbarlwm

FROM THE FIRST DAY that the Twmbarlwm Society was formed our motto has been “Dedicated to Research, Restore and Protect Mynydd Twmbarlwm” and here nearly 10 years on, that sentiment is as relevant as ever – and we are hopeful to push forward with that mantra even more this coming year.

Five years ago the Society took part in a survey (along with other local societies) that had been commissioned by Torfaen and Caerphilly County councils to help identify ways in which the area could be developed in the future.

Since the publication of that survey, known as the ‘Twmbarlwm and Mynydd Maen Scoping Study’, funding has been put in place and CTS are now hopeful that some of the proposals we put forward to the survey will be implemented over the next few years.

The overall project is referred to as ‘The Adventure Triangle’, it takes in the mountain ridge running from the A467 Hafodyrynys - Pontypool road to Twmbarlwm and along the Monmouthshire Brecon Canal.

Proposals in this project include the development of ‘physical links and key connections between Cwmcam on Mynydd Maen and Twmbarlwm’ to Torfaen.

To put it simply the idea is to encourage more people to make use of the mountain ridge for recreation by linking the common and Twmbarlwm to the Cwmcam Visitor Centre and Forest Drive and to Blaen Bran in Cwmbran. There will be improved signage and track repairs done to aid cross-common cycling, horse riding and walking routes to link Blaen Bran and Cwmcam.

As far as the Society is concerned, we are now more optimistic that some plans that we have had in place for years will now come to fruition. Indeed some projects have already been put in place.

Projects include everything from landscape repair and erecting new signs to addressing illegal off-roading and anti-social behaviour. To help achieve these aims we will be calling for a great deal of volunteer help in the months ahead. So please watch this space for further information and regularly check out our website and Facebook page.



Improved paths and signs can only encourage more events like the St David's Hospice Twmbarlwm Trek.

If you are interested in volunteering, come along and meet us - there's plenty of opportunity to do so at the other events we hold. For instance, just around the corner it's the annual tradition of tramping up to Twmbarlwm on Good Friday (April 19th) – what we now call our Hot-Cross-Bun Walk. Again this year there will be organised walks from the Story Bridge in Pontymister, Cwmcam Visitor Centre and Cwmbran.

We also have a couple of our popular historical talks planned. There will be a talk at Crosskeys RFC on the History of Newport Castle (TBC) and later in March there will be a fascinating talk on the famous Bowmen of Gwent and the part they played at the Battle of Agincourt.

There are also walks planned - one around the Forest Drive, one to Pwll Tra and another to Llanderfel Chapel. Each of these walks is always very popular so please keep an eye on our website for announcements.

Many members come along to these events, it's always a good time to catch up with news of what the society is up to, and with all the work we anticipate in the future we need all the help we can get.

Terry Evans (Chairman CTS)



Over 40 volunteers helped out with the re-seeding of the Tump last October

Some much needed repair work will need to be done to the Scheduled Ancient Monument after the wild fires of last year



Photos: Terry C. Evans ©

CTS meet at the car park below Twmbarlwm's summit for a litter pick and volunteer workday on the last Sunday of every month to which everyone is invited, it's not all hard work and it's a great opportunity to find your way around up there. We organise walks and other events up the mountain and at Crosskeys RFC throughout the year so watch our website and Facebook page for details.

www.twmbarlwm.co.uk



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 Email: contact@swdirectories.co.uk

What's On

Henllys Community Council

The Council meets on the 2nd Monday of each month (except August) at 6pm in Henllys Village Hall. Contact Laura Grey 07703 194263

Henllys Village Hall

Contact details www.henllysvillagehall.org.uk

Henllys W.I.

1st Monday of the month at 7.30pm
 Coed Eva & Hollybush Community Hall

PACT

Partnership and Communities Together
 Laura Grey 07703 194263
 PC Rowland 01633 642088

St. Peter's Church

Every Sunday 9.15am. 1st Sunday in the month
 6.00pm Service of Wholeness and Healing with the Eucharist
 2nd Sunday in the month
 11.00am Eucharist Service
 3rd Sunday in the month
 6.00pm Evensong
 4th Sunday in the month
 11.00am Eucharist
 If the month has a 5th Sunday
 11.00am Eucharist
 Contact: Reverend Graham Opperman
 Tel: 01633 861978.

Worship Centre

The congregation meets EVERY Sunday at 9.15am in the Hall of Henllys Church-in-Wales Primary School. Contact Details to arrange Baptisms and Weddings: Reverend Graham Opperman. Telephone 01633 861978
 Email: graham.opperman@uwclub.net

1st Henllys Scout Group

Beavers - ages 6 to 7
 Tuesday 6:15pm-7:15pm
 Wednesday 6:00pm-7:00pm
 Henllys Church in Wales Primary School
 Cubs - ages 8 to 10.5
 Monday 6:00pm-7:30pm
 Glen Llwyd Scout Hut, Hollybush Roundabout
 Scouts - ages 10.5 to 14
 Wednesday 7:00pm-9:00pm
 Henllys Church in Wales Primary School
 Full information www.1sthenllysscouts.org

Henllys Rangers AFC

The club runs teams from under 7's through to seniors. See web site for details
www.clubwebsite.co.uk
 Under 16's, please contact Team Manager Huwkear@aol.com for further details.

The Isca Morrismen

Practice most Wednesdays at 8.00pm-9.45pm
 Cwmbran Town AFC, Old Cwmbran Bagman (Secretary) 01633 868707

Cwmni Gwerin Pont-y-Pwl

Welsh Folk Dance Team. Tuesday 8pm-10pm
 New Panteg Rugby Club. Secretary 01633 868707

Cwmbran Netball Team

We are currently looking for new members of all standards to join our club.
 Whether you just want to train in a fun

environment or if you want join the team and play in matches.
 Cwmbran Netball Team @ Cwmbran Stadium Newport

Cwmbran Ladies' Club

Meet every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm Coed Eva Community Club
 New members welcome

Rotary Clubs

Find out more by contacting:
The Rotary Club of Cwmbran Vale
 Tel 01633 483238
The Rotary Club of Cwmbran
 Tel 01633 862329
The Rotary Club of Henllys
 Tel 01633 869303
The Rotary Club of St Woolos Newport
 Tel 01633 258151
The Rotary Club of Pontypool
 Tel 01495 756766
The Rotary Club of Caerleon
 Sec: Gerry Fulcher 07891 390255
www.rotary-ribi.org/caerleon
 email: gerryfulcher369@gmail.com

Whist Club

Come and meet new friends
 Blaen-y-Pant Centre. Tues, Weds & Sat at 6.30pm. For details 01633 853348

Ponthir Canine Society

Croesyceiliog Community Hall. Tuesdays 6.00pm. For details contact
PonthirCanineSociety@hotmail.com

Ponthir Bridge Club

Weds 2pm Village Hall. Experience Payers
 Contact 01633 420104

Gwent Family History Society (Newport Branch)

Help Desk at Newport Reference Library
 2nd Wednesday of each month 2pm-4pm
 Beginners Class at the Civic Centre
 7.00pm on the second Wednesday of each month. Branch Meeting at the Civic Centre
 7.00pm on the Last Wednesday of each month
 Contact 01633 421378

South Wales and Mon. Numismatic Society

meets on the 1st Monday of the month in Newport for anyone interested in coins, tokens, Medals, Banknotes. For details please contact the Chairman on 01633 413238 or Secretary on 02920 561564

Probus Newport

is a club for retired Professional and Business men. Meet every other Tuesday morning at the Greenmeadow Golf and Country Club.
 The formal meeting at 11.00am, but come earlier for a coffee and chat.
 Contact Stuart Murray on 07895695273 or email stuartmurray941@btinternet.com or visit www.probusnewport.org.uk

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Veterans and pensioners Christmas meal 2018



It is hard to believe that this was my eighth year organising and raising funds for Veterans and Pensioners from across South Wales.

On Thursday the 13th December the staff canteen was transformed by volunteers from IPO, the Welsh Government and ONS, as over 60 volunteers descended on the canteen to help rearrange tables and chairs, dress the tables and lay them ready for our guests to arrive. It always amazes me to see how quickly the room is transformed. Our guests started arriving by car, minibus and taxi (some a little earlier than expected (at 14:00 instead of 15:00, but they were given tea/coffee and looked after by the volunteers). The volunteers welcomed all of the veterans and pensioners with a glass of Bucks Fizz or orange and lemonade. With coats and jackets taken, they then chose where they wanted to be seated. Some waited to see friends who they had not seen since last year and eyes glowed and the smiles spoke volumes at seeing each other again.

It was only a short time later that the Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress arrived. Speeches were given by the Deputy Mayor and Mrs Joan Reynolds and I thanked the catering staff and the volunteers for helping make the event possible. A huge thank you must also go to Mrs Joan Reynolds for putting together the list of attendees (no small task, as she worked long and hard to ensure that everyone had the opportunity to attend, even with some very late

replies.) I also paid thanks to our guests for attending and hoped that they enjoyed the afternoon. Everyone stood for the prayers which were read by Mrs Joan



Reynolds of The Royal British Legion, with shivers running down my spine and I am sure that I was not alone in feeling emotional; the room fell silent for the minute's silence. The bugle was played by Mr Bill Baber. Everyone returned to their tables for the start of the festivities. The catering staff provided yet another brilliant meal again this year with a four course dinner that would outshine even a five star restaurant (this coming from so many of our guests), they said that the meal was faultless and that they were all so grateful for the courtesy and kindness shown by the staff waiting on them. John Pullinger, Iain Bell, Jan Jones, Nick Barford and Scott Howell were a huge hit, not only with the staff for joining in, but also the pensioners and veterans. Well done to you all for taking time to come and support all the other volunteers.

The entertainment was provided in the form of The Cats Pyjama's

(from Bristol), three very talented young ladies and the ONS Choir. Again everyone was in awe of the talent and I have been asked for them to come again in 2019. I hope that this will be possible and will be asking to book them both again for 2019. Even though most of our guests had started leaving around 19:00, the canteen erupted when the Welsh national anthem was sung by the choir with everyone left joining in. Scott Howell took charge of the huge free raffle and did an amazing job (maybe he will add this to his busy calendar each year, fingers crossed). He helped wherever he could and did so with great gusto, much to the enjoyment of the veterans and pensioners.

All the veterans and pensioners were presented with a fabulous goodie bag that had been donated by NGARA Media UK, based in Cwmbran.

Lastly, my ever grateful thanks go to all the staff who volunteered to wait on the tables, help set up the canteen, cook and serve the meal and entertain our guests. I know a lot of you said that I did an amazing job again this year, but it would not have been at all possible without your fabulous help and support.

2019 is already in my diary, some invites have already been sent to ensure that dates are marked on calendars and I look forward to seeing everyone there again.

Elizabeth Buttigery

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LLANSANTFFRAED AND THE NARES FAMILY

(Part 5)

We will now continue discussing the Naval career of George Strong Nares, following his progress after his 1869 transit of the Suez Canal, which so upset the French nation.

As previously related he was promoted to Captain in December 1869, then commanding *HMS Shearwater* (1871 – 1872) he continued hydrographical work. This included an oceanographic research of the sea currents around Gibraltar. This experience lead to him being next appointed to *HMS Challenger*, a steam assisted 2,306 ton corvette, which was sent on a three year voyage circumnavigating the world carrying out oceanographic exploration.

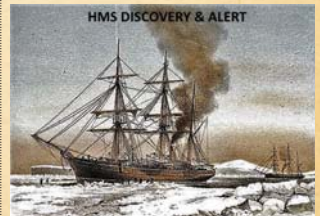
This voyage was the first time that the world's oceans were systematically investigated for scientific purposes. The crew included a team of civilian scientists as well as officers experienced as naval surveyors. *Challenger* spent the first year in the Atlantic, then in 1874, travelling between Cape Town and Australia, she investigated in a southerly direction visiting Marion, Kerguelon and the Heard islands. She next ventured south as far as 66° 40' S, 78° 22' E, where ice prevented further progress. *Challenger* became the first steam-propelled vessel to cross the Antarctic Circle.

On this voyage Nares took his nine year old son, William Grant Nares with him, accompanied by a tutor,

Adam Ebbels, who unfortunately died later in the voyage. Another unique feature of the expedition was the innovative extensive use of photography as a means of recording records, which ensured it a place in history. Nares published a two volume book in 1878, entitled '*Voyage to the Polar Sea*', which is now highly valued for its early photographs.

In 1874, Nares was recalled and appointed to command the *Alert* and *Discovery* vessels during the British Arctic Expedition. He was an ideal choice for this because of his past experience in both Arctic and Antarctic expeditions. He was then in the prime of his life and one of the most experienced surveyors existing at that time. The ships attempted to reach the North Pole by sailing into the Arctic

Ocean, via Smith Sound, which separated Greenland from Ellesmere Island. This attempt failed and the *Alert* only managed to reach Floeberg Beach at 82° N, on the north-east tip of Ellesmere Island, one of the highest Northern Latitudes reached at that date.



This voyage lasted 18 months but was blighted by an outbreak of the highly dreaded disease – scurvy. This outbreak, particularly amongst sledging parties, became so severe that it was decided to make an early return in autumn 1876. This decision probably saved many lives amongst those affected. Nares was severely criticised for



allowing scurvy to develop, he pointed out that he had regularly issued rations of lime juice the recognised preventive. It was later discovered that it had been boiled before being bottled to enhance the storage. The boiling caused the loss of much of the vitamin 'C' content, making it practically useless.

Nares was made a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1875 and in 1877 awarded the gold medal of the Royal Geographic Society and also the Société de Géographie de Paris. In 1876 he was knighted by Her Majesty Queen Victoria, then in 1878 he was appointed again to the *Alert* to carry out further surveying work in the Magellan Strait. After one season, he was recalled and appointed Marine Adviser to the Board of Trade. He served in the Harbour Department from 1879 to 1896. He was a Conservator of the River Mersey

from 1896 to 1910. He officially retired from active Naval service in 1886.

Nares was made a Rear Admiral in 1887 and placed on the retired list of Vice Admirals in 1892. One point of interest is that Nares was a member of the 'Ship Committee' for Captain Scott's ill-fated Antarctic expedition. Nares died in 1915 and his wife, Mary Grant, in 1905. He was buried at Long Ditton Churchyard on the 19th January 1915. Two of his sons also entered the Royal Navy and one of them, Vice Admiral John Dodd Nares (1877 to 1957), became Assistant Hydrographer and Director of the International Hydrographic Bureau at Monaco. Nares certainly left his mark on the world's geography because his name was so frequently used in naming many of the regions that he encountered. Examples of this are *Nares Harbour* in the

Admiralty Islands, *Nares Deep* in the North Atlantic, two Capes in the Canadian Arctic, *Nares Land* in northern Greenland, *Nares Strait* between Ellesmere Island and Greenland and *Mount Nares* in Victoria Land in the Antarctic, etc. etc..
(The End)

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One hundred and seventh Prize: **1p**

One hundred and eighth Prize: **50p**

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One hundred and nineteenth Prize: **1p**

One hundred and twentieth Prize: **50p**

One hundred and twenty-first Prize: **25p**

One hundred and twenty-second Prize: **10p**

One hundred and twenty-third Prize: **5p**

One hundred and twenty-fourth Prize: **2p**

One hundred and twenty-fifth Prize: **1p**

One hundred and twenty-sixth Prize: **50p**

One hundred and twenty-seventh Prize: **25p**

One hundred and twenty-eighth Prize: **10p**

One hundred and twenty-ninth Prize: **5p**

One hundred and thirtieth Prize: **2p**

One hundred and thirty-first Prize: **1p**

One hundred and thirty-second Prize: **50p**

One hundred and thirty-third Prize: **25p**

One hundred and thirty-fourth Prize: **10p**

One hundred and thirty-fifth Prize: **5p**

One hundred and thirty-sixth Prize: **2p**

One hundred and thirty-seventh Prize: **1p**

One hundred and thirty-eighth Prize: **50p**

One hundred and thirty-ninth Prize: **25p**

One hundred and fortieth Prize: **10p**

One hundred and forty-first Prize: **5p**

One hundred and forty-second Prize: **2p**

One hundred and forty-third Prize: **1p**

One hundred and forty-fourth Prize: **50p**

One hundred and forty-fifth Prize: **25p**

One hundred and forty-sixth Prize: **10p**

One hundred and forty-seventh Prize: **5p**

One hundred and forty-eighth Prize: **2p**

One hundred and forty-ninth Prize: **1p**

One hundred and fiftieth Prize: **50p**

One hundred and fifty-first Prize: **25p**

One hundred and fifty-second Prize: **10p**

One hundred and fifty-third Prize: **5p**

One hundred and fifty-fourth Prize: **2p**

One hundred and fifty-fifth Prize: **1p**

One hundred and fifty-sixth Prize: **50p**

One hundred and fifty-seventh Prize: **25p**

One hundred and fifty-eighth Prize: **10p**

One hundred and fifty-ninth Prize: **5p**

One hundred and sixtieth Prize: **2p**

One hundred and sixty-first Prize: **1p**

One hundred and sixty-second Prize: **50p**

One hundred and sixty-third Prize: **25p**

One hundred and sixty-fourth Prize: **10p**

One hundred and sixty-fifth Prize: **5p**

One hundred and sixty-sixth Prize: **2p**

One hundred and sixty-seventh Prize: **1p**

One hundred and sixty-eighth Prize: **50p**

One hundred and sixty-ninth Prize: **25p**

One hundred and seventieth Prize: **10p**

One hundred and seventy-first Prize: **5p**

One hundred and seventy-second Prize: **2p**

One hundred and seventy-third Prize: **1p**

One hundred and seventy-fourth Prize: **50p**

One hundred and seventy-fifth Prize: **25p**

One hundred and seventy-sixth Prize: **10p**

One hundred and seventy-seventh Prize: **5p**

One hundred and seventy-eighth Prize: **2p**

One hundred and seventy-ninth Prize: **1p**

One hundred and eightieth Prize: **50p**

One hundred and eighty-first Prize: **25p**

One hundred and eighty-second Prize: **10p**

One hundred and eighty-third Prize: **5p**

One hundred and eighty-fourth Prize: **2p**

One hundred and eighty-fifth Prize: **1p**

One hundred and eighty-sixth Prize: **50p**

One hundred and eighty-seventh Prize: **25p**

One hundred and eighty-eighth Prize: **10p**

One hundred and eighty-ninth Prize: **5p**

One hundred and ninetieth Prize: **2p**

One hundred and ninety-first Prize: **1p**

One hundred and ninety-second Prize: **50p**

One hundred and ninety-third Prize: **25p**

One hundred and ninety-fourth Prize: **10p**

One hundred and ninety-fifth Prize: **5p**

One hundred and ninety-sixth Prize: **2p**

One hundred and ninety-seventh Prize: **1p**

One hundred and ninety-eighth Prize: **50p**

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Sugarloaf Mountain

It was a dull, dreary Sunday morning in January when we decided to cheer ourselves up by going for a walk.

I was thinking of maybe a stroll along the canal or a quick trip to the Heritage Coast for a meander along the beach, followed by a nice cup of coffee somewhere. I don't quite know how it happened but I was persuaded that it would be a good idea to tackle Sugarloaf Mountain again. It had been at least six months since we first walked up the mountain, it was one of the hottest days of 2018 so it was a different walk this time with the rain, mist and even a smidgen of snow at the top. I was impressed by the number of people we encountered early on a January morning, all enjoying their walk to the summit, some finding it easier than others! As for us, we would most certainly not be classed as mountain walkers, we much prefer the flat. The final ascent to the summit on both occasions proved to be a little challenging but the rewards far outweighed the physical discomfort. I love my regular gentle strolls along canal paths or through pretty parks, often followed by a coffee and slice of cake but the expedition to the top of Sugarloaf Mountain was well worth the effort, mainly for the views but also for the sense of achievement.

My advice is to take it slowly and when you are in desperate need of a rest just stop and pretend that you want to take in the view, even if it is after every 10 steps. A flask of coffee and a snack is a must.



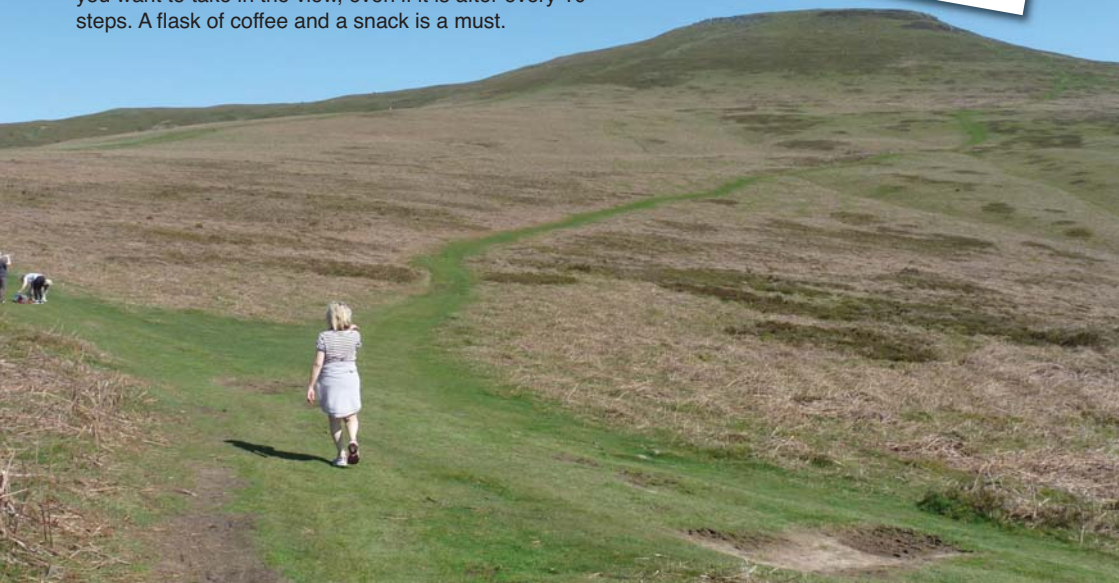
Summer 2018



January 2019



January 2019



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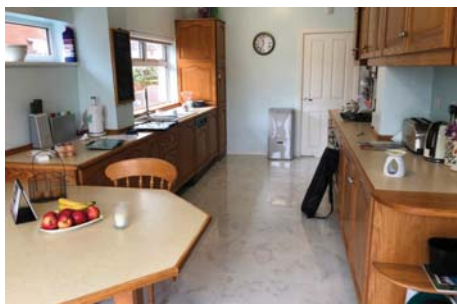
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