
CÆR WENT HISTORIC TRVST

The AGM that Was!

Snow began to fall heavily an hour before our start time. Considering this the attendance was good. We got as far as reappointing our Trustees and confirming that we are still solvent, all the things essential to an AGM, but closed the meeting soon afterwards. The outstanding matters will be included in a special meeting on **Tuesday March 16th** at 7.30pm at the Westgate Barns (especially what activities the Trust should pursue in 2010, identification and appointment of a new secretary, and of a new 'walks and talks' coordinator).

Welsh House Names

Here are some explanations covering St Brides to Caerwent's Brook:

Nant Ty Coch	House in the Red Valley
Nanny Goat Cottage	from a corruption of <i>Nant Ty Coch</i>
Pen y Lan	Top of the Rise
Ty Gwyn	White House
Ty Cefn	House on the Ridge
Ty Melys	Home-Sweet(-Home)
Llangerrig	a village in west Gwent
Bro a Bryn	Dale and Hill
Brockwells	named after Prince Brochwael, a close relative of King Arthur
High Mass	a corruption of <i>Hir Maes</i> i.e. Far Fields - far from Caldicot - the whole area up to Five Lanes was owned by the Church there.

The name of Highmoor Hill may have the same origin – it's not near a very high moor, the 1775 map names it Shimers Hill and Tithe documents have variations such as Highemis Hill. Shirefield was originally the *hir maes* of Caldicot Manor. We have to remember that Welsh was banned for legal business in 1543 and names were often recorded by folk who were foreign to Wales listening to locals who no longer used Welsh in everyday speech.

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