
CAERWENT HISTORIC TRUST

Mrs Dorothy Titcombe

We are sad to lose Dorothy at the age of 92. She came here from the north as a member of the Womens Land Army in 1940, married Frank Titcombe and lived for many years at Brockwells Farm. She soon developed a deep interest in the history and wildlife of our area and started an extensive archive of photographs and drawings which she has kindly shared with our Trust. Dorothy had a happy personality which seemed to find expression in the soft toys which, via Church bazaars, became companions for many children of Caerwent.

Unfortunately she spent most of her time in recent years confined to the Cherry Tree Care Home but her son Colin has extended her archive and become one of the foremost naturalists of Gwent. Colin of course is one of our Founding Patrons and since his mother's death has given us a fascinating lecture on the wildlife of the Neddern – a fitting memorial to Dorothy.

Dinham Castle

Walk: Saturday June 21st 2.30pm

Another opportunity to visit the remains of this ancient castle, accessible only by footpath down the Golden Valley from Shirenewton. The walk will be led by Ian McFarlane, who will point out the "Shepherd's Chapel" and explain other matters of interest.

We will set off at 2.30pm from Cadw's car park, Westgate Barns, Caerwent and drive up to Shirenewton. If you would find it more convenient to join us 2.40pm at Shirenewton please contact us the day before to arrange a meeting place. After the walk it may be convenient to call at the Llanmelin Hill Fort on the way home.

The Royal Naval Propellant Factory Caerwent



The "dillys" glided almost silently around the roads of the factory. At last we have a photograph of one, thanks to the archive rescued by Roger Tollervay and passed on to us by John England. They had at least three variations, this one being labelled "Box Tractor", all with the same front end – the large box behind the driver is the rechargeable electric battery. They were a development of vehicles at the earlier Holton Heath factory which ran on a narrow gauge railway system.