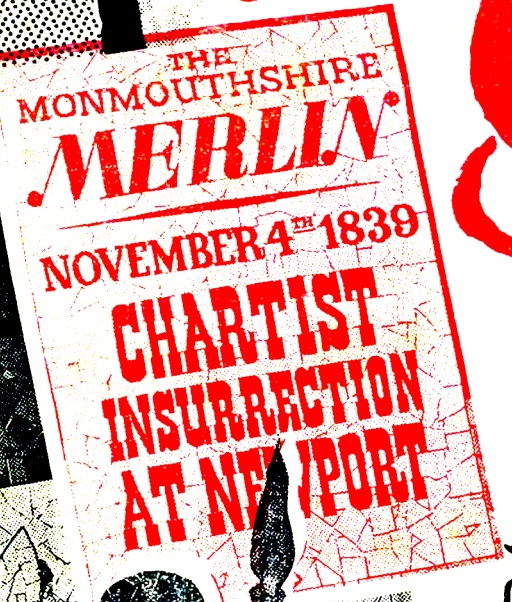


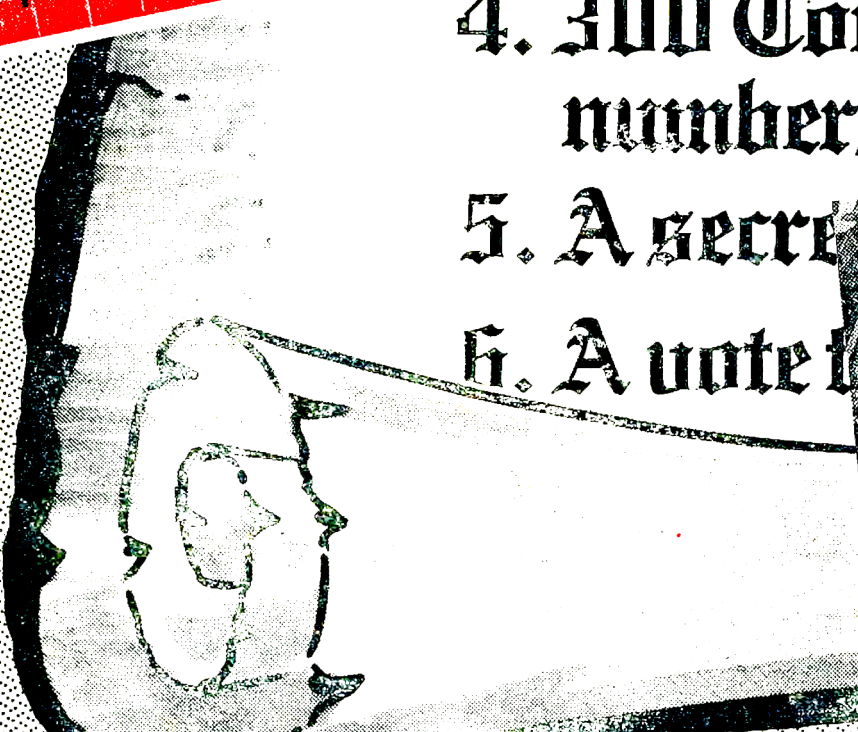
the Chartists

1839 - - 1989

150 th Anniversary



1. Elections to Parliament every year.
2. Abolish property ownership as a qualification for membership of Parliament.
3. A wage for members of Parliament.
4. 300 Constituencies of equal numbers of electors.
5. A secret ballot.
6. A vote for every man.



Slaughter at the Westgate



THE strength that had grown through hard labour since early childhood was, in many cases, offset by diseases which in those days had no names - Silicosis, Pneumoconiosis and countless injuries caused by working at coal faces and furnace charging doors unprotected and uninformed.

Many of those who started out on the marches from the valleys failed to reach their destination. Stormy weather and the miles of muddy tracks that would one day be main roads took their toll on those not in the best of health.

It was fifty years since the French Revolution had changed the face of Europe and rumours were rife on that cold and rain-drenched morning that the same could happen here.

At every village along the way, more joined the ranks. Pikestaves, muskets and clubs were held aloft, pockets were weighed down with home-made ammunition and powder was kept as dry as circumstances allowed.

Much of the ills of the country were, they were convinced, due

Musicland
Newport's Friendliest Music Store
Main Agents For:
Yamaha, Clavinova Electronic Piano's, Yamaha H/S/HE + HC Organs
Also full current range of Yamaha and Casio Keyboards. Reserve your Christmas keyboards now.
Call in for details from:
DENNIS, ANGELA & MARK
16 EMLYN WALK, KINGSWAY CENTRE, NEWPORT. TEL: 840981

The siege of the Westgate Hotel sent the townspeople running for cover on the morning of November 4, 1839. Thousands of men from the valleys of Gwent surrounded the building and exchanged fire with the soldiers inside. The mayor of Newport was wounded twice during the siege which claimed the lives of more than twenty of the marchers.

HEATING AT ITS BEST
★ Central heating
★ Installations and Alterations
★ All Fuel Types
★ Free Estimates and Planning
★ Boiler Replacement and Service
★ 24-hour Emergency Service
★ All Work Fully Guaranteed
J. LONERGAN
Plumbing and Heating
Telephone Newport 855919
279 Malpas Road, Newport

WANTED
ALUMINIUM, STAINLESS STEEL and all other Non-Ferrous metals
NEWPORT SMELTING (1983) LTD
ALBANY STREET, NEWPORT.
Aluminium can re-cycling centre.
Telephone 858827.
Fax (0633) 821805
Opening hours Mon-Fri 8am-5.30pm; Sat 8am-12 noon.

Nursery Time
NOW IN STOCK
Prams, Buggles, Cots, Highchairs, Travel Cots, Pushchairs, all Nursery equipment.
BABYWEAR AND CHILDREN'S FASHIONS
All well-known makes in stock from birth to four years.
Good selection for Boys and Girls.
★ Christening Dresses and Suits ★
We now stock clothes for Premature Babies.
Tel: NEWPORT 255353/255145.
25 Commercial Road, Newport, Gwent.

Ghulam & Sons
★
Off Licence, Newsagents and General Grocer
★
151 Commercial Road, Newport.
Telephone: (0633) 258013.

ISLWYN HAND CUT CRYSTAL
Fine quality, full lead crystal repairs.
Commission Work.
Engraving.
Tel 0495 226308
2 Hall St, Blackwood

C. PIKE LTD
BRICK & BLOCK HAULAGE
Mechanical offloads, tippers and flats available, also artics.
BROADWAY FARM, BROAD ST COMMON, NASH, NEWPORT, GWENT.
Tel NEWPORT (0633) 274663/282082.
Fax 272934

Dave and Julie present the
WEST OF ENGLAND PUBLIC HOUSE
Brunel Street, Newport.
Tel (0633) 265364
PUB SINGALONG WITH RESIDENT PIANIST EVERY SATURDAY
MATCH ROOM SNOOKER TABLE
(Private hire available for the function with a difference)
Weddings, Engagements, Birthday Parties catered for.
FREE Room Hire with FREE Disco with every booking of 50 or over
BAR MEALS SERVED DAILY 11am-9pm - Except Sundays
Roll-up, Roll-up - have a function with a difference - a game of Skittles on one of the best alleys in Newport.
THE FRIENDLY PUB RUN TO PLEASE YOU - OUR CUSTOMERS
Outside Catering and Private Bars are our speciality - ring NOW for details.

STEVENS TRAVEL
Private hire, at competitive rates.
Pye Corner Garage, Nash, Newport, Gwent.
Tel: 272512 & 275010.

KP VIDEO SERVICES
Repairs to video and audio systems and electronic video sales from
£99
All work carries a 3 month guarantee.
Tel: Blackwood (0495) 226438

JAMES & TUCKER
Electrical Contractors
Economy 7 HEATING INSTALLATION.
SHOWERS, RE-WIRES, NEW INSTALLATIONS.
BURGLAR & FIRE ALARMS SUPPLIED AND FITTED.
Free design. Credit facilities available.
James & Tucker, Crashwood Building, Portland Street, Newport.
Tel Now: (0633) 244269

GIBBS BROS LTD
ROOFING AND BUILDING CONTRACTORS
Members of the National Federation of Roofing Contractors
★ Specialists in Slating and Tiling
★ Built-up Felt Roofing and Poly Roof ★ Glass Fibre Roofing.
GRANT WORK UNDERTAKEN ESTIMATES FREE
Our experience is your guarantee
The family firm with the Personal Touch
TELEPHONE TALYWAIN (0495) 772273

to corruption and self-seekers in positions of power. They were asking for the right to vote for their own champions who would be free to fight their causes in parliament.

In a letter to the tradesmen of Newport, John Frost had written, "Much of the evils of life proceed from ignorant, corrupt and oppressive men in authority. The object of the Working Men's Association is to place in the House of Commons able, honest and industrious men."

Those who clung to power had shown themselves deaf to debate. Secure in the knowledge that those who did not own property could not vote, they felt their positions to be unassailable.

The abject misery in which the majority of working people lived was, however, becoming too much to bear and the two camps were on a collision course.

As John Frost said in his letter, "The question is, who is for good and cheap government and who is against it? The time is fast approaching when there must be no neutrals."

Ten days after writing his letter, that time arrived.

THE SIX POINTS OF THE CHARTER

1. The right of all men over the age of twenty-one to vote
2. Voting to be conducted by secret ballot
3. The creation of 300 constituencies based on an equal number of electors
4. Annual parliamentary elections
5. Abolition of the requirement for a member of parliament to own land or property
6. Payment of a wage to all members of parliament

CONTENTS

- Page 4....Anatomy of a leader - The life and times of John Frost
- Page 5....Newport in the nineteenth century
- Page 6....A Day in the Life of an Ironworker by Alexander Cordell
- Page 8....Henry Vincent the reformer
- Page 9....The long march from the valleys
- Page 10...The Westgate Hotel
- Page 12...Legacy of the Chartist's struggle by Neil Kinnock
- Page 13...Events to commemorate the rising
- Page 14...Islwyn remembers
- Page 15...The Forbidden Hymn
-
- Page 18...Stage recreation of the struggle
- Page 19...Scene of discontent - Blaenafon Ironworks
- Page 20...A revolution in Britain

SELF DRIVE HIRE, OF COURSE ITS



KORCROSS

CARS VANS TIPPER PUPS LUTONS MIBUSES

NEWPORT 266690/262454.

154 Commercial Road, Newport.

David and Diana invite you to

THE GEORGE HOTEL

Live Music, Real Ale, Bar Meals available. Comfortable lounge. Family atmosphere.

Chepstow Road, Newport, Gwent.

Telephone Newport 255528



HOLLYWOOD NITES

AT

VIDEOFORGE

Huge selection of films to rent, films for sale from only £4.99.

Large selection of compact discs and video accessories.

1 FAIROAK AVE, NEWPORT. TEL NEWPORT 257412.

26 COOMASSIE ST NEWPORT, GWENT. TEL NEWPORT (0633) 257801 or 257881



TIMBER, SHEET MATERIAL & DIY PRODUCTS

WE CUT TIMBER

Also any Sheet Materials, ie, Plywood, Chipboard, to any size.

* * * * *

DELIVERY SERVICE

* * * * *

Purpose Made Windows and Joinery

Joinery, Security and Door Centre also opening shortly in our adjoining premises

NEWPORT TIMBER SUPPLIES (WE'RE GOOD IN WOOD)

26 COOMASSIE ST NEWPORT, GWENT. Tel (0633) 257801, 257881.

MOTORON

ALL PARTS FOR ALL CARS COME TO US



1st

185 Cromwell Road, Newport.

Tel (0633) 282882.

The Kings Arms

Belmont Hill, Caerleon, Gwent. (Pub on the Hill)

SUE & PETE WELCOME YOU TO TRY OUR

Traditional Ales Bar Snacks Restaurant Friendly Atmosphere Large Car Park For Restaurant Reservations

Tel: (0633) 420329

Powell Tuck & Partners

Cornerstone Commercial

THE SOUTH WALES COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRY PROPERTY SPECIALISTS

Commercial & Industrial Agency; Valuations; Development; Management; Rent Reviews; Investments; Project Management

2 Cathedral Road Cardiff CF1 9LJ 12 Gold Tops Newport NP9 4PH

(0222) 397908 (0633) 214447

I'm afraid we can't offer to do your printing ... We can't help with your VAT return ... And we can't even sell you a CarPhone ... But the one thing we can do for you ...

It's solve your staffing problems. Interested?

Then telephone:

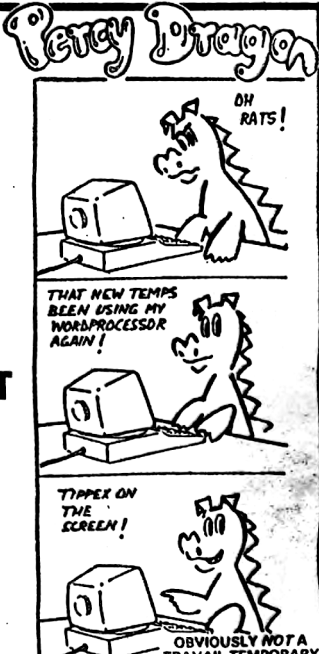
TRAVAIL EMPLOYMENT GROUP

on

NEWPORT 244476

or call in to our offices at

19 STOW HILL, NEWPORT, GWENT.



OH RATS!

THAT NEW TEMPS BEEN USING MY WORDPROCESSOR AGAIN!

TIPPER ON THE SCREEN!

OBVIOUSLY NOT A TRAVAIL TEMPORARY

Workers champion

THE recruit tightened his grip on the musket stock but still the shaking would not go away.

He inserted a finger where the rough tunic collar was making his skin itch with the sweat. Oh God whatever is to happen let it happen quickly.

Outside the closed shutters was pandemonium. From the hotel lobby to his left came sounds of swearing and fighting then suddenly the shutters were thrown aside and he began to fire.

Fire. Load. Fire. Shrieks of anger and pain and drifting clouds of black smoke as he and the thirty other soldiers fired into the scattering crowd.

And then it was all over.

Some of the other younger soldiers who had never seen slaughter before were vomiting but the old hands looked composed enough.

The groans and the screams of the dying masked the sounds of his own retching and his profanities.

On that terrible day November 4 1839 another man was trembling with fear and

remorse. John Frost had urged his small army of Chartists on to the Westgate Hotel with the aim of freeing prisoners and was dazed by the speed and the violence of events.

With an animal's instinct for flight he ran without knowing why or where and later like a wounded animal made for a friend's house; the comfort of the herd. When they came to arrest him as he knew they must he went without a fight.

On January 16 1840 at a special assize court at Monmouth, Frost and the other two leaders of the Chartist uprising William Jones, 30, a watchmaker from Pontypool and Zephania Williams, 44, who kept a beershop at Nantyglo were condemned to hang and their entrails be ripped from them for the crime of treason.

Contentious points which arose during the course of the trial gave grounds for successful appeal despite it is said, the personal wishes of the Girl Queen.

For 15 years Frost endured Van Dieman's Land and although he visited Newport upon his return and was ever after treated as a hero by its working folk he never again lived in the

by Mike Buckingham

town. He instead settled at Bristol where he died and was buried at the age of 93.

John Frost was the son of John and Sarah Frost, who when John was born on May 25, 1784 kept the Royal Oak Inn at Thomas Street, Newport. The young John was raised by his grandparents following his father's death and at 16 became apprenticed to a Cardiff tailor. By 1811 he was back in Newport and in business for himself.

By 1816 Frost was engrossed by the radical politics which had been fanned by the revolutions in America and France and now glowed in London political and debating clubs.

The middle class — and Frost was middle class by this time — was by the early 19th century an increasingly important creator of wealth and hungry for the political status which would reflect this.

Why after all should the Unspeakable in the Shires continue in pursuit of the Uneatable, while those who did the work lacked the power? A vote for all working men, accountability of the Members of Parliament and the government were, as Frost by this time thought, minimum political demands.

But radicalism made a man foam dangerously, so thought the powerful Thomas Pro-

thero, lawyer, banker holder and abuser of public office and a hated foe. By 1822 Frost had fallen foul of this powerful figure and was in jail.

But it was Frost, not Prothero who was in tune with the temper of the times. In 1835 he was made a magistrate and the year after that mayor of Newport.

At the high water mark of radicalism in 1838 Frost was elected to represent Monmouthshire Chartists at the National Convention of the Working Classes held in London just eight months before the Newport rout.

All that year the Chartists with their people's charter demanded recognition for the working and middle classes and plotted and speechified towards such an end.

The argumentative and eloquent Frost with his tongue like a splash of hot metal from a furnace became pre-eminent and as the year went on a conviction that the government would yield only to force, became more fixed.

We still do not know for sure what that Chartist army intended to do upon when reaching Newport.

Perhaps its leaders hoped their show of force would frighten the mayor, Thomas Phillips, into accepting rule in the town by people's charter. Many

historians (and this is more likely) believe the taking of Newport was to have been a signal to insurrectionists throughout Britain. In-criminating papers which might have settled the argument were burned even before the last musket-echo died, so we shall never know for sure.

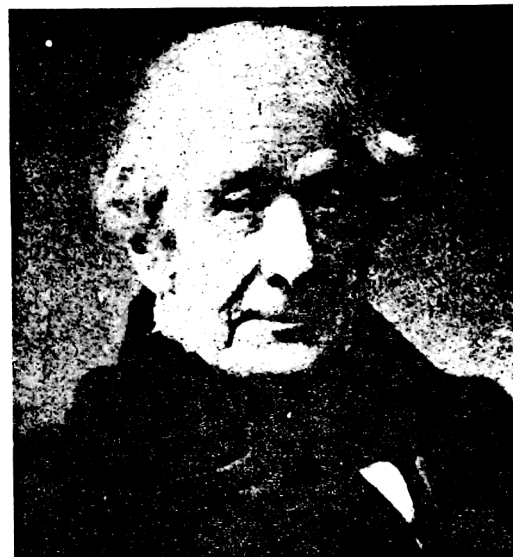
Of the men that died that frightful, bloody day, ten were buried at dead of night and without ceremony at St Woolos churchyard. Others crawled away or else were carried away by friends to die we know not where.

Nowadays, with the exception of annual parliaments we tend to take the demands of the Chartists for granted, but it was not until 1867 that working people in towns were enfranchised and 1884 the vote was given to country labourers. It was not until well within living memory, after the reforms of 1918 and 1928 that women were fully enfranchised.

So what did the Chartists achieve? Very little say some, using the tardiness of subsequent reform as evidence.

Everything, say radicals. Notice was served on all governments that a new idea had found its time.

Those whose labour by hand and by brain were to power the economy as the Victorian industrial miracle forged ahead had served notice that political power could also



John Frost after his return from fifteen years transportation in Tasmania

be theirs. The genie was out the bottle and could not be put back.

The people could be bamboozled, lied to, bribed, robbed and occasionally bullied but they would forever afterwards have to be humoured as well.

We no longer believe in ghosts, but governments do.

And there is not a government on earth that does not shiver at the thought of John Frost and those who may grow to be like him, coming to haunt them.

JACKIE AND PETER
Welcome you to

THE GREENHOUSE

NEWPORT ROAD, LLANTARNAM,
CWMBRAN.

Tel CWMBRAN 2859

Lunches served 7 days a week.
Evening Meals 5.30-9pm
Monday-Friday.

Sunday lunch served 12 noon to 3pm —
Traditional 3-course roast £5.25.
Children £2.50

Weddings, functions and parties catered
for. Up to 60 people.

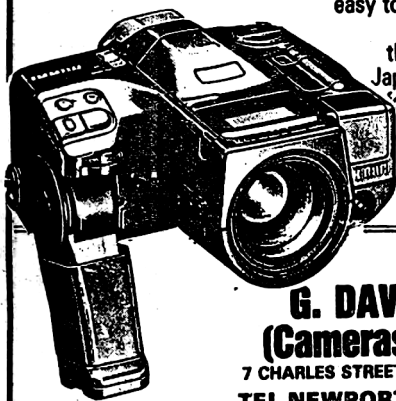
RICOH MIRAI

Look into the future

THE Camera Sensation of 1989! Be first to enjoy the Ricoh Mirai with:

- Self-contained, auto-focus lens with 4x auto power zoom from 35mm to 135mm.

- Auto/programmed exposure.
- Macro capability
- Integral flash
- Simple, user-friendly computerised operations.
- Full monitoring on LCD display.
- Compact, convenient, lightweight, easy to carry, easy to use. See the Mirai (the Japanese word for future) at:



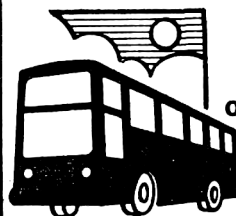
G. DAVIES
(Cameras) Ltd
7 CHARLES STREET, NEWPORT
TEL NEWPORT 262738

GLYN WILLIAMS TRAVEL

For a safe and reliable service
DAILY SERVICE

Service 56 — Ty-Sign, Risca to
Blackwood via Wattsville, every 30
minutes.

Service 51 — Blackwood to Newport, via
Newbridge and Risca, every 15 minutes
SENIOR CITIZEN AND STUDEN PASSES ALSO
WELCOME



EXCELLENT SERVICE
FOR CROSS KEYS
COLLEGE STUDENTS
COACHES FOR ALL
OCCASIONS. FOR PRIVATE
HIRE AND CONTRACTS
FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION TEL
(0495) 270489

SALLY ANN FASHION Lace Bridal Department

FOR THE BEST ADVICE AND
PERSONAL ATTENTION CALL
AND SEE THE BEST SELECTION OF
BRIDAL GOWNS, BRIDESMAID
DRESSES AND ALL FLORAL
ARRANGEMENTS AND
ACCESSORIES.

We also specialise in outfits for
the bride's mother and guests, up
to size 24, hats and shoes
complete the outfit. Evening
appointments available for
consultations.

16 VICTORIA TERRACE
NEWBRIDGE
Tel: 0495 247530



● MARLEY ● SOMMER-ALLIBERT ● NEXT ● LISTER ● CORMAR ● HALIFAX ● AXMINSTER CARPETS LTD ● WOODWARD GROSVENOR ●

MAINDEE CARPET AND FLOOR COVERING CENTRE

Full range of carpets by leading manufacturers in widths from 3ft to 16ft 6in.

Consult the experts for all your carpet & flooring requirements; we are agents for some of the most distinguished manufacturers — including carpets by AXMINSTERS OF DEVON, ULSTER, GOODACRE, WILTON ROYAL, CAVALIER, PENTHOUSE & WOODWARD GROSVENOR and Vinyl Floorings by ARMSTRONG, NAIRN, TARKETT, GERFLOR, MARLEY & AMTICO.

The luxurious ranges of window blinds in vertical, Roller, Venetian, Plisse and Austrian-Festoon — Rushed Roman by Luxaflex, Filtrasol and Virgo on permanent display.

Full measuring and fitting service available by our own qualified fitter.
CREDIT TERMS AVAILABLE (written details on request).

105 Chepstow Road, Maindee, Newport. Tel: 840320.

OXFORD TEXTILES ● LANCASTER ● GEORGIAN ● PENTHOUSE ● CAVALIER ● SHELLEY ● ARMSTRONG ● NAIRN ● GERFLOR ● TARKETT ● AMTICO ● FIRTH ●

WILTON ROYAL ● GOODACRE ● ULSTER

Pride, prosperity and pastures

The injustices and inequalities, which were rife in Monmouthshire and culminated in the Chartist's uprising of 1839, were by-products of an era of great affluence. Many fortunes were made, by fair means and foul and the prosperity and profit-taking certainly did not pass by Chartist leader John Frost.

For Frost, as well as being an able politician, was a very successful tradesman who expanded his drapery business to a shop near the Tredegar Arms hotel, as Newport developed into the shopping centre of West Monmouthshire.

Certainly, the boom-town of Wales in the 1830's was undoubtedly Newport. While the largest Welsh town was Merthyr Tydfil, prosperity, sparked by the twin industrial giants of coal and iron, ensured that Newport outstripped their deadly rivals in the neighbouring market-town of Cardiff.

At the turn of the century, in 1801, Newport's population stood at 1,423, but in just forty years it had multiplied to 13,766, compared with Cardiff's 10,077 in 1841.

Coal and iron (supplemented by timber, corn and slate) provided the solid base for industrial wealth. In 1840, there were exports

of 555,528 tons of coal and 175,420 tons of iron. Important impetus was provided by the thriving port, which was fed by the equally prosperous valleys via the important canal and tramroad systems which converged on Newport.

Commentators of the day, however, pictured Newport in widely differing ways. One called it "A vile town in which I think the lower classes are of the very worst description". In his opinion, their close relationship with the "Men of the hills" symbolised the uncomfortable fact that almost a quarter of a million people across South Wales were dependent for their livelihood on the continued success of two or three major industries.

Another recorder, in 1842, described Newport as a market-town, flourishing sea-port, and borough both corporate and parliamentary, in the parish of St Woollass and lower division of Wentloog. Situated upon the Usk, about five miles from the mouth of that fine and capacious river. The description continued, "A light and elegant stone bridge spans the Usk, adjoining the picturesque ruins of Newport castle. The river is navigable for vessels of the largest size up to the bridge. The tides are high and rapid and the general appearance of the port, with its forest of masts, at high water, im-

Argus Chief News Editor, TOM ELLIS, takes a look back at the very different Newport of the nineteenth century

presses the mind of the visitor with enlarged ideas of its greatness and extensive capabilities."

We are indebted to Alderman H.J. Davies, writing in 1891, for another commentary on Newport about the time of the Chartist riot. As a special constable, he ended up helping to arrest John Frost following a tip-off that the Chartist leader was hiding in a cottage on the Gold Tops.

The Alderman stated that at that time the roadway over the bridge was very narrow, flanked on either side with a foot pavement and stone parapets, whilst at the town end, opposite the Inn, then called the Heathcock, and then the Bridge Inn, was a board showing the tolls then payable to the Lord of the Manor for animals passing over the bridge to the market. Shades of tolls on the Severn Bridge!

Above and below the bridge boats were constantly seen in the season, moored, with nets for catching salmon - obviously before the modern curse of pollution. On the town side of the bridge, to the north, was the old castle, by then converted into a brewery, and a number of old cottages known as the Castle Precincts.

The canal, with its towing-path, was carried under the street

in a tunnel.

The King's Head Hotel was in those days still separated from the Carpenters Arms Inn by a lane and this wide part of High Street was used for holding the monthly Cattle Market and Newport Fairs. The High Street, opposite the entrance to Griffin Street, was very narrow, caused by a projection called Napper's Corner on the one side and some old houses on the other.

In 1838 green fields occupied the site of York Place and Cambria Place and the only houses beyond on that side were Brynhyffrid, the Lamb Cottages and old Caeran House. On the other side of the road the new workhouse had just been erected and below it were the Bull Inn and Belmont Cottage.

Commercial Street could boast of very few three-storied houses. The Corporation had started a town hall but had been unable to finish it. The unroofed, bare walls, with beams and joists green from exposure to the weather remained until 1842 when the hall was eventually completed.

At the end of Commercial Street stood St Paul's Church, only recently built, while opposite was the parish poor-house the paupers having just been moved to the new workhouse on Stow Hill. This poor-house was purchased by

Sir Charles Morgan and converted into National Schools for the whole of Newport.

Where Commercial Road started the Salutation Inn stood but from there to Pillwenny, there was not a single house, whilst on either side of the road were low, wet meadows. The first part of the old dock was then in progress and there were a few houses on Cardiff Road. But green fields occupied the site of Clytha Square, Clytha Crescent, Mountjoy Place and Herbert Street.

The road on the northern side was bounded by a hedge and on the southern side was an unfenced tramroad. The whole of the land to the south west of the Pill Bank tramroad was also pasture, skirted at

Pill by the Mill Parade.

On the east side of the Usk, adjoining the bridge, was the packet slip and offices, from where the old steamer, Lady Rodney, managed to take passengers to and from Bristol, sometimes in four hours sometimes in six, according to the tide. There were many coaches from Newport to a variety of places including Milford Haven and London. But travellers had to go to Monmouth for the "Express" coach of the day, named Mazeppa. This left the Beaufort Arms at 5am and reached the Bull and Mouth in Regent Street, London at 8p.m. the same day. Anyone prepared to travel at break-neck speed on the outside of the coach

could do so for fifteen shillings. A seat inside cost double the money.

Unfortunately, the South Wales Argus was not then around to record the activities of such people as John Frost and one of his arch enemies Thomas Prothero. However, the Monmouthshire Merlin, published on Saturdays, reigned supreme and "Ranked high in circulation and public estimation" The Merlin was ultimately incorporated into the South Wales Argus titles, and, events having turned full circle, the Argus nowadays records another boom-time in Newport's history, with hi-tech industry to the fore, and the possibility of a barrage across the famous Usk.



John Frost's birthplace, The Royal Oak

IF YOUR BODY LOOKS LIKE THIS!
YOU NEED HELP. COME TO THE EXPERTS
ABERCARN BODY REPAIRS
All types of Bodywork Repairs, Re-Spraying, Welding, Sunroofs fitted, etc.



UNIT 5, PRINCE OF WALES INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, ABERCARN.
 Telephone (0495) 243607
 Evenings 248836

Derek and Susan invite you to spend a relaxing evening at

The Upper Cock Inn

We have Real Ales and are open for Lunches 7 days a week.
 Traditional Sunday Lunches and a large car park.
Everyone welcome.
 Telephone: Cwmbran 3218.

Manufacturers of SCAFFOLD TOWERS, CHIMNEY TOWERS, BUILDERS TRESTLES
 Any size made to order.

Prices you can afford for the do-it-yourself handyperson or for the professional.

MADE FOR THE PROFESSIONALS BY THE PROFESSIONALS

J & P FABRICATIONS

UNIT 30, Albany Trading Estate, Albany Street, Crindau, Newport.
 Telephone: 0633 821379 (day), 0633 276613 (evening).

CHARTIST WEEKEND
A special weekend to celebrate the Chartist Uprising

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27
 Gwent Theatre in Education presents 'Treason'

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29
 A two day conference presented by Llanfur (Welsh Labour History Society)

For further details, contact Mr B. Davies, 101 High Street, Blaenavon, Gwent. Telephone (0495) 792093.

SATURDAY EVENING
 Blackwood Labour party are organising their annual rally, national and international speakers.

For any further information on any of these events, please contact: E. John Watkins, B.Ed, The Manager, Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre, Pontllanfraith, Blackwood, Gwent, NP2 2DA. Tel Blackwood 224562.

Est **ARA** 1893

A. R. ADAMS & SON

Coomassie Street, Newport. Tel 62060

ENGINEERS, STEEL FABRICATORS, BOILER REPAIRS AND CRANE HIRE

After 95 years of service to the industry it provides a modern outlook, and still maintains an old fashioned service. For all your engineering requirements contact:

A. R. ADAMS & SON

Tel: (0633) 26060
 PILL BANK WORKS, COOMASSIE STREET, NEWPORT

SHARON'S HEARTS & FLOWERS
 For your Special Day

Exquisite Flowers - Fresh or Silk Designed just for you


Personal Attention From a Family Business
 (City & Guilds Holder)

Also supplies to Offices and Hotels.

Fax or Telephone now for Presentation Bouquets, Sympathy Flowers and Every Special Occasion.

Same day delivery for urgent orders.

2D MALPAS ROAD, NEWPORT.
 FAX (0633) 253124.
 TEL (0633) 259779



A day in the life of Dai Bando

THE inscription on the Crawshay Tablet at Forest House, Treforest, reads, 'I have no God, I heed no summer, I feel no winter, I fear not

death. Certainly the opposite of this would be the accepted creed of a Welsh labourer living in Stack Square, Blaenavon, during

chartist times. Let us follow him over a typical working day.

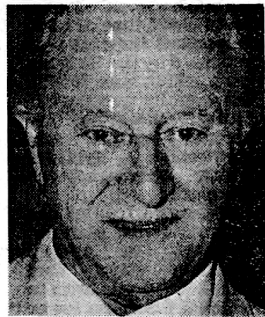
As a single lodger in Stack Square, Blaenavon, he would likely share a bed with another: if not, certainly that bed would be occupied by

an off-shift mate the moment our Dai Bando got out of it. ('The beds were rarely cold...'). The wife of the house, to whom Dai paid about ten shillings a week for bed and full board, including his washing, would have breakfast ready on the table for the Dawn Shift the moment he appeared.

Dai's shifts would be about eighty hours a week, for which he would be paid about twenty-six shillings - £1.30 - (good wages - a Lancashire weaver was on a fifth of that ('wandering armies of gaunt, starving people...')).

With his mates Dai would eat a breakfast of oatmeal bread, perhaps dripping - only foremen got bacon - and wash it down with a pint of whey, goat's milk or small beer (children's ale); tea was available but not at his level. Being a top-filler, he would then meet his 'butty' or 'Marrer' at the furnace area gates in North Street, a lad of ten or eleven, one who acted as his 'steadier'. Together they would climb to the top of the tram-lift and collect from store their long-handled barrow, and immense affair that, by leverage, could carry up to four hundredweights (about 200 kilogrammes).

Limestone, coal and iron ore, in separate horse trams, would be coming in over The Top from Pwlldu; according to Foreman's order, they would fill their barrow with one or the other, and run it along the driveplanks road to one of the furnaces waiting to be served. And on the command of Gaffer, standing in the area below, Dai and his butty would then tip a load into the maw of the furnace. With his mate steadying the load above the mass of boiling iron, Dai would raise the handles until the load slipped down.



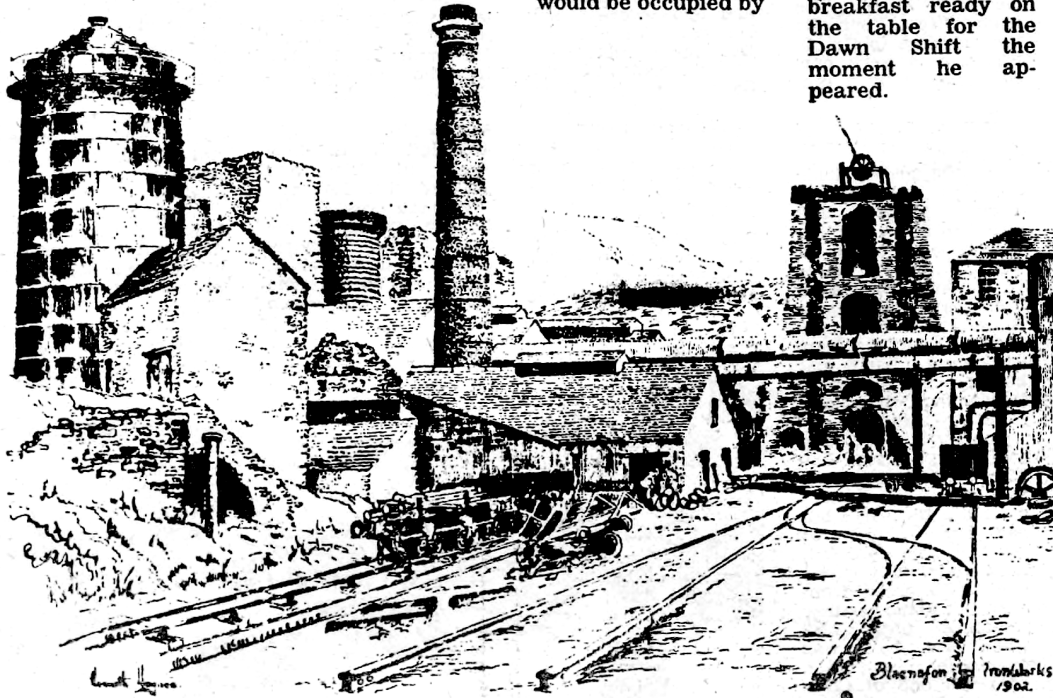
□ By Alexander Cordell

'Make way, make way!' cried the butty, and we eased forward in our turn as the barrow-lads before us clattered out of it with empties. In a flurry of furnace smoke we found the flaring lip of the furnace, and I saw the tumult of the molten iron below me, and the bitch was sobbing and moaning like a cow in labour. Down went the load: heat, vapour and

smoke billowed up, choking us, and the furnaceman bawled from the compound below, 'Hold it at that - hold it, I say. Rodders up, lads - come on, rake her, she's needin' air!' and I saw past my butty's body the liquid iron bubbling and the furnace belched fire, singeing us as the rods went into her, and I yelled, 'Right, you - come on out of it!' and smoke rolled, obliterating my butty as he came back off the lip... staring down, he was, and I've seen men and boys go that way. Like Guto, my mate went, down head first and his soul just a wisp of steam.' (This Proud and Savage Land)

The half-shift ended, Dai and his butty would probably sit on the slag in the compound, eating

Continued on Page 7



Blaenafon Ironworks at the turn of the century

B. W. Watkins
— Funeral Director —
 Pembury House, Varteg Road, Varteg, Pontypool, Gwent.
 — 24 HOUR PERSONAL SERVICE —
 Dedicated Chapel of Rest.
 Tel (0495) 772725/773883

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
Danceland
 300 Chepstow Road, Newport. Tel 263493.
 Fancy Dress/ Military Costume Hire for adults and children.
 Masks, Hats, Wigs, Make-up Paints, etc.
 See us for all your fancy dress requirements.
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

D. Gibbon & Son
 60 Summerhill Avenue, Newport, Gwent, NP9 8FQ.
 Wales' largest supplier of:

The Family LOAF
 Phone Newport (0633) 255578 & 255892.

Mountain Bikes
NEW
 Cougar 15 speed ATB.....£129.99 WHILE STOCKS LAST
 Falcon Cheetha 15 speed.....£159.99 WHILE STOCKS LAST
 Corniche 18 speed, index gears.....£189.99 WHILE STOCKS LAST
 Dolomite 21 speed, Exage-Biopace with 7 speed Hyperglide Freewheel...£339.00 WHILE STOCKS LAST
 ALL TYPES OF CYCLE REPAIRS CARRIED OUT
 SPARES AND ACCESSORIES
RECYCLE
 10 NEW STREET, PONTNEWYDD, CWMBRAN
 TEL CWMBRAN 77198

"PANDORA"
 Superfluous Hair?
 For the removal of unwanted hair by electrolysis, call at:
"PANDORA"
 1 Westgate Chambers or Tel: Newport 266420
 For a private consultation.
 We've been established for over 20 years.

HILL COURT GALLERY
 Exhibitions
 Watercolours
 Oil Paintings
 Artists Prints
 Tuesdays-Sundays 2.30-7pm.

CARPENTER & NICHOLS
 Improvement & Repairs, Roofs, Extensions, Grantwork.
 All fully guaranteed
 Please note the new telephone number is
NEWBRIDGE (0495) 248191

CWMBRAN GLAZING CO
 13 Victoria Street, Cwmbbran. Tel 4301.
CONTACT US FOR YOUR WINDOW AND DOOR REQUIREMENTS
 Fitted by time-served tradesmen. Cwmbbran's oldest double glazing company. Established over 20 years.
 Free survey and no obligation estimate for your windows and doors in
HARDWOOD, ALUMINIUM THERMAL CLAD or uPVC
 Members of the Federation of Master Builders

CROWN HOME IMPROVEMENTS
Building & Roofing Contractors
 Complete building and roofing service.
 Plans drawn, all work guaranteed, grant work undertaken.
 For competitive prices and friendly service, ring
PAUL BENNETT
BLACKWOOD 224796.
 PENLLWYN, PONTLLANFRAITH, GWENT.

From Page 6

from their bait-tins, drinking small beer and giving the eye to the brickfield girls going past, but when the rail was beaten for midday, they, like the others, would gather around the furnaces to see the molten iron coming out. A silence would fall over the compound at the sight of 'the miracle of the iron'.

'The rodder stoops with his firing iron and the molten iron bulges and flashes at the plug as the stone is knocked out: down, down, a writhing globule of light flashing, steaming in purple and scarlet flame... down into the sand moulds — into the well-mould first, then diverting in flashing streams... small tributaries of liquid iron — the piglets suckling at the mother sow, they called it: to expire in heat and shape and last for a thousand years. The furnace is empty; its fire-box belches relief.' (Rape of the Fair Country).

After shift, and two tappings, and tired after the twelve

hours of heavy labour, Dai would return to Stack Square where his landlady would be awaiting him: with the kitchen table laid, she would ladle out to her brawny lodgers (they had to keep their shirts on) bowls of steaming cawl (meat once a week was a luxury) a pound of 'accidents' — some called it 'chopped colliers' cost sixpence a pound at the Company Shop: the price could be less than half if you walked to Abergavenny and back: but these shops were convenient since they sold on tick anything from a pin to a shroud.

Then, if it was a Sunday, evening would find Dai in the pews of St Peter's, or in a Nonconformist chapel; in his best suit (and they always had one) chest bulging, singing mainly out of tune and eyeing up the prospects on the other side of the aisle. An early marriage of a good strong Welsh girl — Welsh-speakin', mind — I anna having any of other daft lot... and the ironmaster might put his name down for a Company

house at two and six a week ('Gawd,' said Dai, 'enough to break us.') But, week days saw him usually lifting his elbow in the spit and sawdust of the Drum and Monkey, Billy Handy's public (later, they say, he went to The Queens at Garndyrrus) there to talk about politics, the rise of the secret Unions (forbidden by employers, though they had one themselves) and what the ironmaster's guests ate up at Big House a week last Monday. Heavy drinking, too — first quart to settle the dust: twenty pint men only commanded local respect. And after, a walk up the mountain, perhaps, with the woman of his choice, and watch the



STACK SQUARE ENGINE ROW, BURENAVN

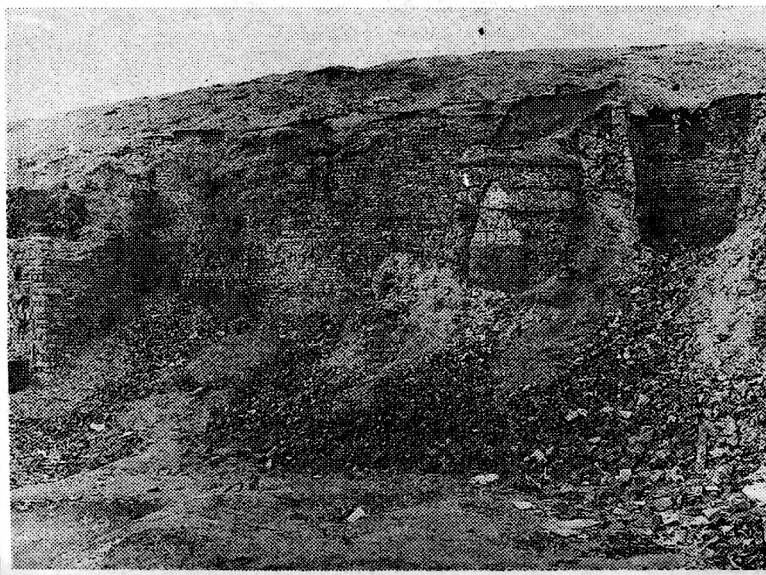
rainbow colours of the sky as the night-shift tapped the iron again; they say you could read a newspaper at midnight anywhere on the top towns, along the River of Fire

down to Swansea. Then bed, and sleep — taking over the bed when his mate got out. And watch the red flames flickering on the window, listening to the crying of the animals

under the whips, and the bell-clanging of iron — the new consignment for Spain. Then sleep.

Alexander Cordell's story of the life and times of John Frost, Requiem for a Patriot, is to be published along with another of his popular titles, Tunnel Tigers, in October and his new book, Moll, is due for release next February.

'Dai Bando! Dai Bando! shift you, mun — up!' 'Jawch! There she blows again,' says Dai Bando.



Ruins of the Ironworks in 1970

COBRA 4 HIRE

Taxi/Minibus Service for Blackwood/Hengoed, Cefn Forest area.

BARGOED 875211,
HENGOED 815060
(drivers wanted).

GWENT THEATRE

Renowned throughout Gwent for their most famous and original theatrical productions of both historical and contemporaneous themes and following the resounding success of their recent production, "The Rising 1839," the company are pleased to announce

TREASON

A new play for community audiences with music, songs and drama commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Chartist Uprising.

"TREASON" will be premiered at the Newport Centre on October 24th, prior to a tour of community venues throughout the Gwent and South East Wales until November 25th.

For further details and booking enquiries contact Julia Davies on Abergavenny (0873) 3167.

Gwent Theatre is publicly funded by Gwent County Council, the Welsh Arts Council and the South East Wales Arts Association.

The company gratefully acknowledges additional funding from Newport Borough Council for this production.

FOR THE DIY'S

ALL SIZES OF TIMBER CUT TO SIZE AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES

Doors, Windows, Garden Gates, Wash Basins, Toilet Cisterns, also full bathroom suites.

ANTIQUE AND VICTORIAN GOODS

Usually a fair selection of Fireplaces, Hand Rails, Spindles, Newell Posts, Lights, Brass Taps our speciality. A good selection of leaded lights always in stock.

NEWPORT SALVAGE

East Dock Road, Old Town Docks.
Telephone: 214820/211756

WESTERN VALLEY AUTO SALVAGE, RISCA

Breaking all makes of cars, light commercials, etc.

● ALWAYS WANTED ●

Accident damage vehicles and MoT failures.

TEL RISCA 613925

Newly refurbished function room available for

- ★ WEDDINGS
 - ★ ENGAGEMENTS
 - ★ BIRTHDAYS, etc
- Reasonable rates.

THE KING

Somerton Road, Newport.
For information: Tel 277768.

SPRAYCARE

Car and Commercial Body Repairs

Free Estimates

Albion Street, Newport.
Telephone: (0633) 842336

SALVATION ARMY

Hill St, Newport

Sunday: Services 10.30am & 6.00pm.
Monday: Over 60s Club 2.15pm.
Sunday: Children's Club 2.45pm.

Monday: Youth Club 6pm.

Tuesday: Ladies Fellowship (Home League) 2.15pm.

Thursday: Bargain Shop & Furniture 10am-11am.

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri: Play School 9.30am-12 noon.

Mon-Fri: Meals for the Elderly & Unemployed (meals must be ordered).

Coffee available every day.

All ages welcome.

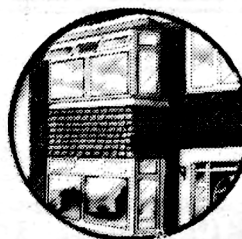
Enquiries contact Salvation Army

NEWPORT 267870

Satisfaction Guaranteed

UPVC WINDOWS:

- ★ Designed to suit the needs of the customer.
- ★ Installed quickly and efficiently.
- ★ Supply only for DIY.
- ★ All work carried out by highly experienced production and installation workers and fully guaranteed.
- ★ Trade welcome.
- ★ Nothing to pay until the work is complete.



WINDOW SYSTEMS
TEL TREDEGAR 711505.

Phone now for your free quotation with no obligation.

"A Gem of a Window at a Gem of a Price"

DRILL HALL, DUKESTOWN ROAD,
TREDEGAR, GWENT.

Proprietor: Martyn Aplin

Women's champion

UNLIKE most other Chartists, including John Frost, the editor of the Chartist newspaper, "The Western Vindicator", Henry Vincent, strongly believed in votes for women.

Twenty-five years old, handsome and very popular with women audiences, he had a fine voice and would often end his meetings with a song. He was sent by the London Working Men's Association as

a 'missionary' to Monmouthshire where his eloquence roused audiences to fever pitch enthusiasm.

With three Newport Chartists Vincent was charged in May 1839 with conspiring to disturb the peace and was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment which he served at Monmouth Gaol. This savage punishment turned Vincent into a Christian martyr and his release from prison was a major

objective for many of the men, who joined the march to Newport.

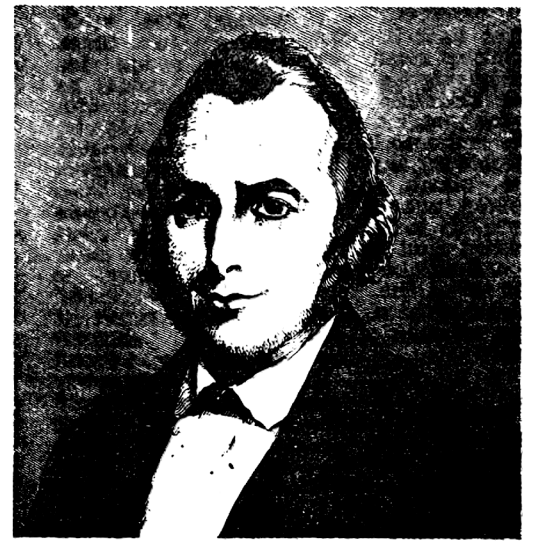
Disturbances associated with Chartist agitation occurred in other parts of Britain but the violent revolutionary intent shown by the Monmouthshire Chartists and the ruthless reaction of the authorities was unparalleled. The events at Newport in November 1839 were the product of entrenched class

hatred, writes schools' education officer, Mr Leslie James, in a pack of prints and broadsheets from the Chartist period to commemorate the 150th anniversary, on sale at Newport Museum shop.

Popular support for The People's Charter reached a climax during the summer of 1839. There was indignation throughout Britain at the court rejection by the House

of Commons of a national petition in favour of the Charter and supported by 1,280,000 signatories.

When Henry Vincent, a favourite with Chartist audiences in the valleys was jailed in August, 1839, the political temperature rose. Secretly arms were manufactured and stored, men reported for drill practice and formed companies, waiting for their leaders to give the order for action...



Henry Vincent - wanted votes for women

The Rock Inn BLACKWOOD
Once a courtroom used by the Chartists.
Traditional, pleasant atmosphere and offers full a la carte menu with chef's specialities. A choice of 20 different bar meals available seven days a week. Traditional 4-course Sunday lunches. Bookings taken. Parties, buffets catered for.
Tel: (0495) 223441

Maria's Pantry
Come and sample good food at reasonable prices where the atmosphere is great.
18 Market St, Brynmawr
Tel 0495 310178

CINDERELLA BRIDAL WEAR
Beautiful garments by:
HILLARY MORGAN, LE BONNE, SALLY CRAWFORD, ROMANTICA, RONALD JOYCE, also hats by Bermona.
For those special wedding outfits.
CINDERELLA
98a Commercial St Tredegar (0495) 717757 59a Frogmore St Abergavenny (0873) 6319

ORNAMENTAL WROUGHT IRONWORKS SPECIALISTS
TOP QUALITY MATERIALS

- IRON GATES
- HANGING BASKETS
- BALUSTRADES
- SECURITY PANELS
- HAND RAILS

ALL TYPES OF WROUGHT IRONWORK UNDERTAKEN. DELIVERY AND FITTING SERVICE.
FIRE ESCAPES
10 YEAR GUARANTEE
DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL
FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

CAERPHILLY WELDING SERVICES
(0222) 888854
WELLAND BUILDINGS
(Rear of Trade Line Supplies)
PENYRHEOL

TO THE
Men & Women
OF
NEWPORT.

My FRIENDS,
You have ever found me your consistent and dauntless advocate, I have a right, therefore, to expect you are my Friends.

I am informed upon unquestionable authority that your local rulers are anxious to arrest me to night. LET THEM TAKE ME. If their conduct be legal--well! If illegal, they shall hereafter rue it. At the worst my detention can but be for a few days--and as Philosophy is every thing, the jails of our tyrants do not appal me.

Efforts are being made to frighten the people by calling our meetings illegal.--I never attended an illegal meeting--and there have been none of an illegal nature held within the precincts of Newport, save one held lately at Christchurch, where a man named Phillips told the mob to make their horses stand fire, and keep their powder dry!

I am told your Magistrates are about to swear in persons as Special Constables. They have their reasons for so doing: I believe them to be bad ones, and will with your assistance, turn the mischief they may contemplate into an engine for their own legal destruction.

Meet me to night at Pentonville, where I shall do myself the honour of addressing you.

Keep the Peace I charge you!--The slightest indications of tumult on our part would afford our enemies a pretext for letting loose their Bloodhounds on us.

Keep the Peace
and laugh your enemies to scorn!
Your devoted Friend,
HENRY VINCENT.

APRIL 25th, 1839.

SANSON'S
For all your fresh bread, rolls and cakes (at competitive prices)

Also purchase our speciality ANIMAL SHAPED BREAD ROLLS
Cash & Carry at THE BAKERY,
Adelaide Street, Newport
Open 7 days a week (excellent prices)
Tel: (0633) 855424/5

LOOK AFTER THEM.
D. M. EVANS OPTOMETRIST
For all your eye care needs and contact lenses, phone for an appointment.

YOU'LL NEVER GET ANOTHER PAIR.

Remember, FREE eye tests are still available for certain exempt persons.
TEL BLACKWOOD (0495) 223394

West'n Welsh
They're Good - Very Good
For free quotations on windows, doors, porches and conservatories, also *FREE DESIGNS AND ESTIMATES FOR YOUR FITTED KITCHENS
CONTACT DAVE MORGAN
0443 813339/813388

Beaver Framing Ltd.
Monk St, Monmouth, Gwent. Tel (0600) 3905.
PICTURE FRAMING
We can help you choose the right frame for your
Oil Painting - Water colour - Photograph - Certificate - Coins - Card - Tapestries, etc, etc.
From over 300 mouldings and 80 mount colours, swept and oval frames, at the lowest possible prices!
DIY kits - also trade and contract framing.

THOMAS AND STRONG LTD
(WHOLESALE)
Paint Brushes, Sweeping Brushes, Hardware, Ironmongery and Decorators' Tools.
DIY AND PROFESSIONAL QUALITY.
All enquiries welcome.
NEWPORT 216673 or 252700
THOMAS & STRONG LTD
408 Corporation Road, Newport.

K. F. PAULL LTD
- TELEVISION CENTRE -
Established over 60 years
14 Upper Dock Street, Newport.
Tel Newport (0633) 67007.
Also at 2 BRIDGE STREET, USK. TEL USK (02913) 2515.
★ Suppliers of "The Poullette 3" during the War years and still giving that personal service today.
For TV and Video Rental Sales and Service from your local independent dealer.
Tel Newport 267007 or Usk 2515.

Day full of hope and tragedy

CHARTISTS gathered on the hillsides of Monmouthshire and marched towards Newport during the night of Sunday, November 3, 1839 carrying sticks, pikes and guns.

They trudged along the tramroads despite a raging storm fired by a burning sense of injustice and inspired by the dream of a democratic society. Some were unwillingly made to join, men pulled from their beds and forced to march.

The coalminers of the Rhymney and Sirhowy valleys were led by former magistrate and mayor of Newport, John Frost who had been at Blackwood since Thursday evening. At Rogerstone he, and 2,000 of his contingent, waited for Zephaniah Williams and his supporters from the iron producing towns at the heads of the valleys.

To avoid seventy soldiers billeted in

the Newport Workhouse (St Woolos Hospital today) Frost changed plans and instead of taking the direct route along the Risca Road, he instructed his forces to follow the lower road to Pye Corner and Cardiff Road.

The mayor of Newport, Thomas Phillips was equally worried. Newport Police then consisted of four professional officers. Volunteers who would turn up in

times of lawlessness - the county's 500 special constables, were called upon by the mayor who set up his headquarters with about sixty of the constables in the Westgate Hotel. About 24 Chartists living in Newport were rounded up and imprisoned either at the workhouse or in the cellars of the hotel.

Under the direction of Lt Gray thirty infantrymen arrived at 8.30am from the

workhouse to fortify the Westgate Hotel.

At 9.20am nearly 5,000 Chartists advanced down Stow Hill in an orderly manner and began to face the hotel. Hidden by wooden shutters drawn across the window the soldiers could not be seen inside. As the crowd gave three loud cheers and took up the chorus, "Give us up the prisoners". A special constable on the door shouted "No Never" and a

small group rushed forward. Who fired it it is not known but a gun went off and uproar and chaos broke out. The shutters were pulled back, the order given and the soldiers of the 45th Regiment fired at the crowd, forcing the mass of the surprised Chartists to retreat for cover.

In less than 25 minutes the fighting was over. That

Monday night ten bodies were buried in an unmarked paupers' grave at St Woolos Churchyard. Others were carried away by comrades. On November 16, 1839 The Monmouthshire Merlin put the the death toll at 22.

Genuinely believing that the country had been saved from

revolution local landowners and businessmen were jubilant. Thanksgiving services were held in churches and a dinner party was given at the Westgate Hotel in honour of the 45th Regiment.

Mayor Thomas Phillips, who had been wounded, became a hero.



Scene of the Chartist Trials at Monmouth

JOFF WATKINS AND SONS

Mayfield Garage, Green Field, Newbridge
MoT Station, Servicing, Welding,
Body Repairs, Crypton Tuning,
Wheel Balancing, Tracking, etc.

NEWBRIDGE 243056
NEWBRIDGE 243389

AFTER HOURS.



Designer and Budget specs at a competitive price.
All types of Contact Lenses supplied.
Look in on us for professional advice on your individual requirements.

davies & ball opticians

3/5 Bridge Street, Usk. Tel: 02913 2171
19 Newport Road, Caldicot. Tel: 0291 422485

NEW LOOK

SPAR STORES

Always plenty of good offers, freshest of fresh fruit, video club and D-I-Y etc.

THROUGH THE SPAR

Open 8am-10pm, 7 days a week.

Pleasant and courteous staff to look after you.

Ron Burchell,
3 CENTRAL BUILDINGS,
Oakdale, Blackwood (0495) 223508.



Caerleon Ready-Mixed Concrete

Suppliers of quality controlled

- Ready mixed concrete
- Floor Screeding

NEWPORT 423551

Western Ind. Estate, Newport, NP6 1NN

GREAT ESCAPE

We offer a relaxed atmosphere, friendly service and superb food.

- ★ SUNDAY LUNCHES
- ★ BUSINESS LUNCHES
- ★ PARTIES CATERED FOR

Facilities for the disabled.

TEL: (0685) 79640

I. J. SHEPPARD PAINTER AND DECORATOR

All types of Decorating.
Specialist finishes. Paper hanging.



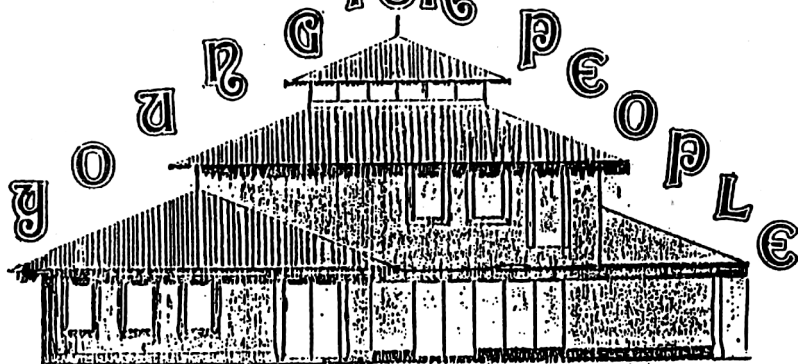
Competitive Rates.
Advanced City & Guilds qualified.

Free estimates.

24 hr answer service.

Tel Newport 855337
Pontypool 53070

CWMBRAN FOR PEOPLE



We are a drop-in centre for young people aged between 15-25 years old. We are open 11.00am-10.30pm Monday to Friday; 3.00pm-9.30pm Sunday.

We offer a range of activities which include an opportunity to socialise with other young people, talk to people who can help with jobs, benefits, counselling and advice.

You can learn about Computers, Word Processing, Typing and Keyboard Skills. You can be involved in Keep-Fit, Music Workshops, Duke of Edinburgh Schemes, Art and Craft Workshops. You can also join groups on weekends away.

DROP IN AND MEET US. IT IS YOUR CENTRE FOR YOU TO USE SO MAKE IT WORK FOR YOU.

CWMBRAN CENTRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

GLYNDWR ROAD, TOWN CENTRE,
CWMBRAN, NP44 1QS. Telephone 75851

KITCHENS, BATHROOMS, CENTRAL HEATING & uPVC WINDOWS

LUXURY KITCHENS
Choose from our range of
Ram, Koo, Apple, Crosby, Gowar, Be Modern, Gilroyd.

BATHROOM SUITES
Royal Doulton (Stair), Twyford, Armitage Stanks, Quacast, Johnsons. Ideal Standard and Spring.



Made to Measure
FREE Estimates
All products can be installed

CENTRAL HEATING
Ferroli Combination Boiler BF Models
CF models
Wall-mounted Boilers, Free-standing Boilers, Fire and Solar, Best Standard, Home, Chaffaux, Worcester, Ferroli and Gloworm.
Also stocks of Copper Tube Fittings, Plastic Warm Pipes, Soil Pipe, Gutters, and Down Pipe, Stove-enamelled Radiators.

Free weekend breaks with all sales on BATHROOMS, KITCHENS, CENTRAL HEATING & uPVC WINDOWS OVER £400 BEFORE AUGUST 31, 1989.



REGAL BHK

OPEN: MONDAY-FRIDAY, 8.30am-5pm; SATURDAY, 9am-5pm; SUNDAY, 10am-12 noon.

THE OLD CO-OP, BULWARK ROAD, CHEPSTOW.
TELEPHONE (02912) 79940.

Chartist memento back home

EVERY step of the Charist' march on Newport is recorded through the words of eye-witnesses on a page of the Monmouthshire Merlin - forerunner of the Argus - in an exhibition at Newport Museum.

Where it all ended is well known; on the steps of the Westgate Hotel where more than twenty of the thousands of men from the valleys of

by Janet Young

Gwent died for their ideals in a pitched battle with troops stationed in the hotel. They must have been easy targets, uncomplicated, working men showing perhaps a bravado they innocently believed would not be so forcibly met.

At a Westgate Hotel window along with the armed soldiers on the

morning of November 4, 1839, was the mayor of Newport, Thomas Phillips, making a stand on behalf of gentlemen who did not want the peace of the town invaded. He was not surprisingly, wounded in the cross-fire, in the left arm and right hip. He was knighted by Queen Victoria for his efforts and by public subscription of 800

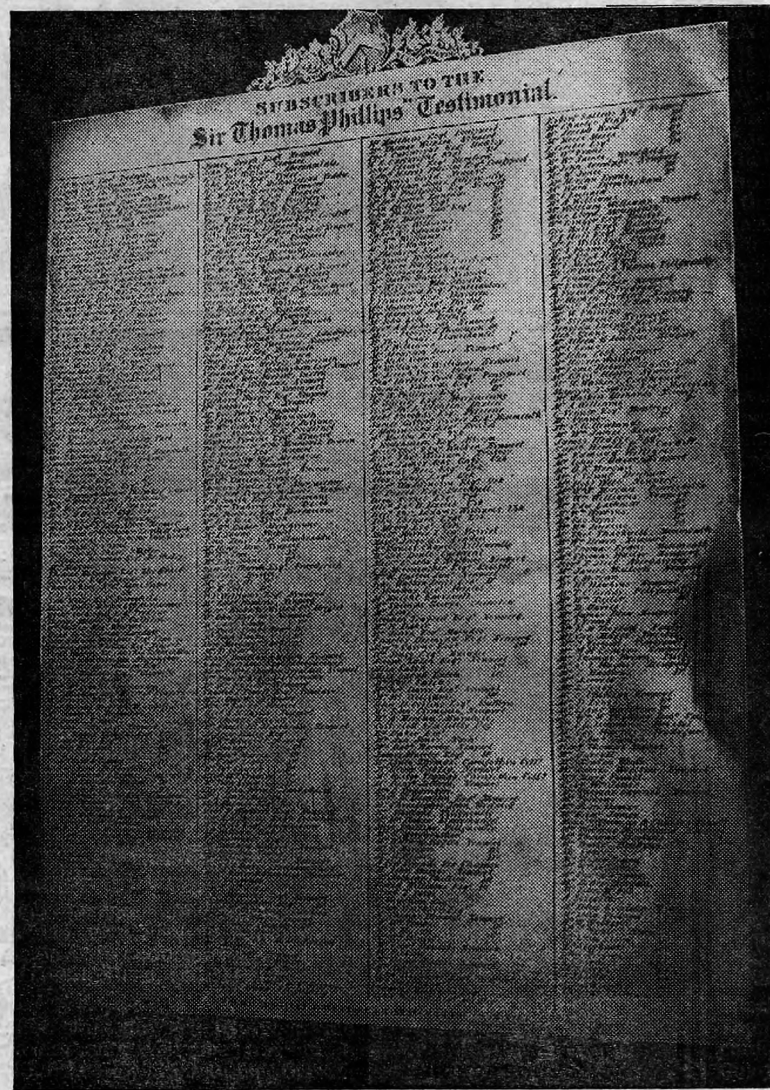
guineas given a silver plate.

A piece came to light in the early 1980s, a man went to an Essex scrap yard and paid out something like 10p for a piece of metal to weld on to his van which had just failed the MOT. He took it home to Colchester and inspected it more carefully suspecting that it might be silver. It was the testimonial to Sir Thomas Phillip bearing more than 400 names of Newport townspeople. He approached Newport Borough Council, and a few hundred pounds the richer, was able to put down the deposit on a house. The testimonial is on view at Newport Museum.

It would be interesting to know if any other of the commemorative plate exists though it is believed that the family who owned it in the 1950s sold it to the Army and Navy Stores - at a time when it would have been valued by weight only and was probably melted down. If it had been kept it not only would have been worth more but of considerable historic interest.

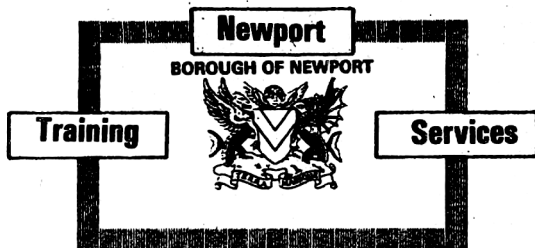


Former mayor of Newport, Mrs Ruby Kehmstedt, examines the plaque with its finder, Simon Nicholas



The plaque, bearing the names of subscribers, now back home in Newport Museum and (top) the mayor of Newport at the time of the riots for whom the plaque was cast, Sir Thomas Phillips

NEWPORT TRAINING SERVICES FREE TRAINING FOR YOUR FUTURE



OPEN LEARNING COURSES

Free training to anyone not working, of interest to persons wishing to learn new skills whilst studying at home with tutorial guidance and hands-on experience. We offer courses for anyone between the ages of 18 and 55 in: OFFICE AUTOMATION, MODERN OFFICE COMPUTERS.

ITEC

These cater for the 16-18 year old school leavers and will give training in COMPUTING, ELECTRONICS, MODERN OFFICE.

85% of all ITEC TRAINEES ACHIEVE FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT OR HIGHER EDUCATION

NEWPORT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTRE
SKILL CENTRE, CORPORATION ROAD, NEWPORT.
TELEPHONE MR BOB DARNWOOD ON NEWPORT 280991.



Special constable, Thomas Walker. According to the Chartists, many special constables were sworn in prior to the march on Newport in anticipation of violence

The Newport Lodge Hotel



PART OF THE CELTIC BAY GROUP



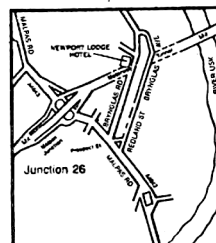
- Situated above the M4's Brynglas tunnel at Newport, commanding superb views of the lovely Gwent countryside, close to Junction 26.
- Early bird dinners available from 4.30pm for Children and Adults at affordable prices.
- Children's Play Area specially equipped to keep the children occupied.
- Conference Facilities. Seating for up to 20 for conferences, seminars, etc.



AMPLE CAR PARKING SPACE FOR 60 CARS.

147 BRYN BEVAN, NEWPORT, GWENT. NP9 5QN.
TEL (0633) 821818 (5 LINES) FAX 481491.

- All bedrooms have en-suite bathrooms and showers, remote control colour television, trouser press and hair dryers.
- Restaurant and Lounge: Enjoy a pre-lunch aperitif or relax after a superb dinner in our luxurious lounge. The restaurant offers everything that could be expected from a quality restaurant today. The Chef specialises in first-rate food accompanied by an extensive wine list, offering delicious steaks, salads and tempting deserts that make it the perfect place for families and friends to meet, with an excellent children's menu available day and night.



A new era for the Westgate



Mr Frank Olding, assistant tourism officer of Blaenau Gwent Borough Council with a commemorative plaque remembering some of those who died in the riots

FRESH flower arrangements and a decor of clover hues blended with shades of cream and peach give the right palatial touch to the Westgate Hotel.

Likened to a liner, the building spreads over several shops in Commercial Street. There are 72 bedrooms in use, most with en suite facilities. Other bedrooms on the fifth floor are currently being enlarged by converting three into two.

Residents seeking sporting and swimming facilities have concessionary use of Newport Centre.

Restoration work has cost one and half million pounds to date. The Westgate's oval ballroom with its imposing silvery-blue ceiling banded in cream and large mirror to cast interesting reflections, minstrel's gallery and Russian fireplaces, is magnificent.

It is difficult to walk down the sweeping staircase from first to ground

floor without feeling a sense of history. It is easy to imagine the angry Chartists bursting in on the morning of November 4, 1839.

The Hotel dates back to the early 15th century but the present building was built in 1886 - 47 years after the Chartist burst into the original hotel hall, destroying everything in their way. The front pillars, allegedly bearing bullet holes from the riots, have been saved for posterity, and are there for inspection today.

The name "Westgate" dates back to the "Westgate House" that stood on the site early in the 15th century. It belonged to Sir William ap Thomas, the famous Blue Knight who lived at Raglan Castle. The Westgate House was a parcel of the manor of Sutton, of which, along with the manor of Raglan, he was lord.

When his daughter married Sir Harry Stradling of St Donat's Castle, Glamorgan, Westgate House formed part of

her dowry. Later it was sold to a younger son of the family of Kemeys, of Cefn Mably, William Kemys who in 1446 became Constable of Newport Castle. When he became mayor the following year, Westgate House became the mayoral residence. Roger Kemeys, the last of the family, sold it to Henry Morgan of Penllwyn Sarp in 1611 - a member of one of the wealthiest of the younger branches of the Morgans of Tredgar.

The Morgan's of Penllwyn, wrote Gillian Holt of Newport Reference Library, in a booklet on the history of the hotel compiled with the help of Mr Harry Ackersley to mark the centenary of the new hotel in 1986, were leading Whigs (members of the English political party that opposed the succession to the throne of James, Duke of York (1679-80), on the grounds

that he was a Catholic).

The Whigs fought against the overwhelming influence of the Dukes of Beaufort. The Duke had an inn, the Heathcock, near Newport bridge which was used as a

rallying place and it seemed natural that the Westgate House should become the "opposition" meeting place, said Gillian Holt.

The house was rebuilt in 1779 and became known as the Westgate Inn.



The entrance pillars, some say, still bear the bullet scars of the Chartist attack



A liner on land, The Westgate Hotel, Newport

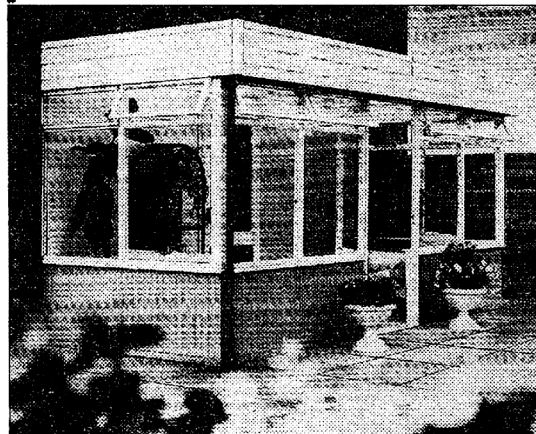
**NEED MORE ROOM ?
HAPPY WHERE YOU ARE ?
SAVE TIME AND TEARS - BUY A**

CONSERVATORY

No planning permission (normally); No chain transactions/delays;
No waiting in for viewing.

Could you move house for £2,550.

That's the price of this 8 x 10 Trinidad, including base, supply and erection + VAT



**ON VIEW AT
OLIVERS
GARDEN
CENTRE**

Old Chepstow
Road,
Langstone.

Tel: 0633 413559.

Skilled enough
to cope,
Small enough
to care.

Gwent Conservatories & Garages



We make the occasional dinner something of an occasion.

If you travel on business, dining out is no longer a novelty. Until someone makes it something special.

Likewise if you're celebrating or dining simply because you feel you deserve it. Things special are our speciality.

We take the finest local produce and serve it with both traditional and international flavours.

We provide a setting which is sumptuous but not over the top.

We deliver service which is attentive without being intrusive.

We find our combination a recipe simple to follow.

Of course, not all restaurants can follow the simplest of recipes...



Westgate Hotel,
Commercial Street, Newport, Gwent, South Wales NP9 1TT.
Tel. (0633) 244444.

The value of hard-won freedom

A CENTURY after the Monmouthshire Chartists marched on Newport, the great folk poet, Idris Davies remembered the men of 1839 in his poem *The Sacred Road*.

*They walked this road in seasons past
When all the skies were overcast,
They breathed defiance as they went,
Along these troubled hills of Gwent.*

*They talked of justice as they strode
Along this crooked mountain road,
And dared the little lords of Hell,
So that their future should be well.*

*Because they did not count the cost
But battled on when all seemed lost,
This empty ragged road shall be
Always a sacred road to me.*

In November 1839 that road ran from Tredegar

and Dukestown, Beaufort and Nantyllo in the Heads of the Valleys, down through Blackwood and Pontllanfraith, Aberbeeg and Newbridge on to Abercarn and Risca and then to Newport where it ended in chaos and mayhem at the Westgate Hotel in Newport.

For twenty-two Monmouthshire workers it was a road to death. For others it was a road to terrible wounds and victimisation. And for the leaders John Frost, Zephaniah Williams and William Jones it was the road to transportation and the atrocities of brutal imprisonment in Australia.

Truly, in the days and weeks following the Newport Rising, any supporter of the Chartists would have felt that "all the skies were overcast" and "all seemed lost". They mourned the dead, comforted the injured, learned that their leaders had been hunted down, manacled and sentenced to death for treason. They grieved in the belief that their hope of liberty had been killed at the Westgate.

And yet, despite all of that agony and failure,

the march to Newport still proved to be an advance along the road to freedom.

To say that is not to offer the pious rationalisation, from the safety of 150 years distance, that all of the sacrifice and sorrow "turned out for the best in the end", neither is it to sentimentalise the bloody shambles as a "glorious defeat".

It is to say that because the Chartists marched in Gwent 150 years ago they made events take a shape which they would not have taken without those efforts and the fear and pain that followed. Lessons were taught and learned. Examples were given and taken. As a consequence, the whole course and means of democratic advance in Britain were strongly influenced by the people who trod *The Sacred Road*.

First, the experience of Newport showed that whilst the cry for liberty could be shot at and those who voiced it could be killed and jailed, the demand for liberty could not and would not go away. Far from snuffing out the flame of freedom, brutality made it burn brighter, illuminating the thoughts of many who neither would nor could have joined in violent revolutionary action.

Second, the Newport



by The Rt Hon Neil Kinnock MP

Rising finished off the idea, in Britain at least, that violence could and should be used as an instrument for political advance. It demonstrated that anger - however justified - was not enough against the ruthlessness of the powers that ruled and it emphasised the need to find other, surer, ways to secure change. It gave bloody and conclusive validity to the argument that organised soldiery would always prevail over a crowd, however large and determined. It ensured that in future all efforts to achieve improvement would have to be made by the painstaking, patient, and frustrating - but ultimately more certain - means of peaceful action in strikes or boycotts, through agitation, education and organisation and by

what Frederick Engels called 'the slow progress of parliamentary activity'.

Third, the Newport Rising came in the wake of the Peterloo Massacre in Manchester in 1819, the Merthyr Riots and execution of Dic Penderyn in 1831, the vicious punishment of the Tolpuddle Martyrs in 1834 and the brutal treatment of protesters and political activists elsewhere in Britain.

In each case the reaction of the Government and most of the Establishment was the same - savage suppression operated through harsh military force and a vindictive legal system. But the response to the Newport Chartist demonstration was excessive even by those standards. Even as it terrorised the common people it was provoking the more thoughtful amongst the ruling classes into understanding that whilst small areas could be temporarily pacified by force and judicial oppression, the country could not be governed by such means. Lord Chief Justice Tindall - the judge at the trial of Frost, Williams and Jones - manifested that in his efforts to reduce the offence for which they were tried from one of treason to the less serious one of riot. General Napier, the military commander of the North of England who used his troops against Chartists nevertheless reflected that the commuting of the death sentence on the Gwent Chartist leaders was wise since "executions...are cruelty...and useless for changing mens opinions...It is not law but barbarity to slay men for political opinions, in which thou-

sands of honourable men agree with the condemned man. It is not justice, it is the vengeance of a dominant party".

The concession to humanity which such people made came from liberal enlightenment or from a desire to save their skins and their society from uproar and permanent disorder, the effect was the same. After the atrocity in Newport, the rulers of Britain never again allowed mass slaughter to be used as an instrument of Government - at least in Britain. The story in the Empire was somewhat different for decades after that until there too it was recognised that force can have no permanence as a system of rule.

It would, of course, be pleasant to be able to think that such was the revulsion felt at the savagery of the response to the Newport Rising that it ushered in a new dawn of democracy. Such was obviously not the case. It was ninety years from the Chartist Riot to the General Election of 1929 when 21 year old women got the vote and British democracy could really be said to be growing out of infancy.

As we remember these facts what comes home to us is that the striving for democracy was not long ago and far away but the near and

recent. In 1889 we are not detached from the events of the past. We are bound to them by a continuous thread that runs through the stand against fascism in Spain, Italy and Germany in the 1930's; the resistance of the people of Hungary in the 1950's; the efforts for Czech freedom in the 1960's; the sacrifices for Chilean democracy in the 1970's; Solidarity's triumph over martial law in Poland in the 1980's. In this year the intifada rages in the occupied territories on the West Bank of the Jordan, the black majority of South Africa uses boycotts and demonstrations and sit-ins to try to secure basic human rights. And no one who knows of the murderous oppression that came to Tiananmen Square, Peking, on June 4, 1989, can fail to understand the similarity between that and the slaughter at the Westgate Hotel, Newport, on November 4, 1839.

In all of those places at all of those times in all of those languages people yearning for release from economic, political, social and racial injustice could so easily have used the Chartist cry,

*"We raise the watchword Liberty
We shall, we shall,
we shall be free"*.

For all your Concrete/Tarmac requirements

DRIVES, PATIOS, PATHS, HARDSTANDINGS, Etc, also DRAINS & FENCINGS . . . Call

Jim MacDonald

on NEWPORT 271933
or EBBW VALE (0495) 303643



**Tredegar Arms,
Bassaleg**

Caerphilly Road, Bassaleg, Gwent.
Tel (0633) 893247.

Mr and Mrs L. D. Jenkins.

For a warm welcome and a relaxing atmosphere.

★ Real ale ★ Bar meals (every day except Sunday evenings) ★ A la carte menu ★ Sunday lunches (bookings only) ★ Large car park ★ Beer garden ★ Function room for small parties.

The Farmer's Daughter Restaurant

(LICENSED)

PENTREPOETH ROAD, BASSALEG,
NEWPORT, GWENT

Open Tuesday to Saturday evenings for
3-COURSE DINNER from £9.95
SUNDAY LUNCH from £6.75

Private functions, meetings, etc.
Open anytime by arrangement.

Call now to make your Christmas bookings on:

TEL (0633) 892800

Motor Insurance

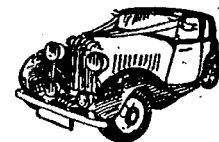
- ★ Young drivers.
- ★ Convicted drivers.
- ★ Monthly payments.

Tel: Newport 256212

for a free quotation.

Open Monday-Friday,
9am-5.30pm;
Saturdays 9am-7pm.

G. W. TAXI



- ★ Reliable modern cars
- ★ Wedding limousine now for hire
- ★ Distance no object
- ★ Any work undertaken

You have tried the rest - now try the BEST!!!

TEL HENGOED

813712/821991/834444

THE THREE HORSESHOES

MALPAS ROAD, NEWPORT. TEL 857510

POP QUIZ EVERY

THURSDAY & SUNDAY EVENING

Function room now available - up to 40 people for birthday parties, anniversaries, etc.

For Beers, Fine Wines and Spirits and a friendly atmosphere, call into

THE THREE HORSESHOES



Computers
Printers
Software
Peripherals
Consumables
Photocopiers
Typewriters
Fax's

This man didn't talk to us before he bought his computer!

For friendly, plain English advice, ring Mark on 0633 259476.

Chason Business Systems.

The Greyhound

Pontllanfraith
Chartist Meeting Place



DISCOS
Thursday and Saturday
LIVE MUSIC

Friday evening.
Sunday lunchtime.

- ★ Good selection of beers and lager.
 - ★ Beer garden and a large car park.
 - ★ Pool table and video juke box.
- Everyone welcome.

Tel: (0495) 223182

R. W. Rentals R. W. Rentals R. W. Rentals R. W. Rentals R. W. Rentals

SELF DRIVE VANS + MINIBUS HIRE

Light Haulage and Courier Services available.

Van rental half daily, daily, weekly and monthly. Contract work undertaken.
AIRPORT SERVICE • LUTON • GATWICK • IN FACT, ANYWHERE.

Contact Haydn Witheridge on PONTYPOOL 53088



R. W. RENTALS

GWENT GARAGE, CLARENCE STREET,
PONTYPOOL.

Established December, 1984

Open: 9am-9pm, seven days a week.

R. W. Rentals R. W. Rentals R. W. Rentals R. W. Rentals

Anniversary events to visit

THE 150th anniversary of the Chartist rising is being commemorated throughout Gwent and the Glamorgans with a series of events designed to inform, educate and entertain.

From August 21 to September 8, Ebbw Vale Civic Centre plays host to an exhibition entitled, *Chartism in Blaenau Gwent*. The exhibition sets out to illustrate how important the Chartist movement

was to the people of the industrial towns of Ebbw Vale, Brynmawr, Tredegar and Abertillery. Further details can be obtained by telephoning 0495 350555, extension 2535.

There is an opportunity to tread the same footsteps as the Chartists with a Guided Chartist Walk through Newport on September 16 at 2pm. Starting at the Lych Gate of St Woolos Cathedral, members of Newport Local History Society will illustrate the story of

the Chartists through the buildings of Newport. For further details, telephone Newport 244491, extension 3655.

The Dolman Theatre hosts a play written by Mel Thomas and presented by Newport Playgoers entitled, *Never See the Day*, on October 6 and 7. The play examines the Chartist movement through the eyes of the leaders and their supporters.

For lovers of horticulture, Tredegar House and Country Park is the venue for this year's annual Newport Flower Festival on September 22, 23 and 24 which will, in part, have the theme of Chartism. Further

details are available by telephoning Newport 815880.

One of the most important industrial towns in Wales at the time of the Chartists was Merthyr Tydfil, and from October 21 to December 22, Cyfarthfa Castle plays host to an exhibition looking at all aspects of the movement in the town and the surrounding area. Further details by telephoning 0685 723112.

Gwent Theatre will be touring their specially commissioned play about the Chartist movement throughout the county from October 23 to November 25. Details can be obtained by telephoning

Abergavenny (0873) 3167.

Major political and civil liberty speakers will be attending the Chartist Rally, at Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre, Blackwood on October 28 at 7.00 pm. For information telephone Pam Mills on 0495 243510.

At the same venue, Llafur, the Welsh Labour History Society, will be holding a two-day conference on Chartism on October 28 and 29. The conference will examine the effect that Chartism had on the history of Britain. Approximate cost, including meals, is likely to be in the region of £15. Further details from Mr Brian Davies on

Newport 790311.

A Chartist Study Week is being held at Gwent College of Higher Education, Allt-yr-yn Avenue, Newport, from October 30 to November 3. Those interested are invited to join the students to listen to some of the best-known authors and researchers of the Chartist movement. Details on Newport 51525.

The Chartist movement is given a musical treatment at the Dolman Theatre, Newport from October 30 to November 4. "The Sunday Boys" is a play about John Frost performed by the New Venture Players. Tickets are available from the

Dolman Theatre box office.

The Monmouth Museum are staging an exhibition entitled "High Treason", illustrating the trial and transportation of the Chartist leaders. The exhibition runs from November 4 to January 1990.

On the 150th anniversary of the riots, children will recreate the march down Stow Hill, Newport, to the Westgate Hotel where the commemorative sculpture will be unveiled. The march will take place on November 4 at approximately 10.30 am. Further details can be obtained by telephoning Newport 244491, ext 3655.

HIGH PERFORMERS

Get the very best in gas central heating economies using latest technology in boiler and system designs.

Combination units needing no bulky hot water cylinders, no feed and expansion tanks to freeze in the attic. They can provide hot water directly to the tap. Condensing boilers that can recover waste heat from the flue gases producing efficiencies up to 97%.

SAVINGS CAN BE AS MUCH AS 40% OFF YOUR GAS BILL!

Call us now for a free estimate with no obligation. We can install for you or supply materials only.

H & D HEATING
0495 216814

**SPECIALISTS IN
MINI'S, METRO'S
and High
Performance Cars**



MoT Centre

Collection and Delivery Trailer service available.
FROM ROUTINE MAINTENANCE TO COMPLETE RESTORATIONS OR REBUILDS.

BOB CAMPBELL,
PARK ROAD GARAGE, BARGOED.
Tel BARGOED 831938. STD code 0443

LLANHILLETH HOTEL

NEAR ABERTILLERY GWENT
TEL (0495) 214267

TONY & JACKIE MORGAN welcome old and new customers to their warm and friendly hotel.

All parties catered for: Weddings, Engagements, Birthdays, Dinner Dances, etc. Large function room, seating 140, with reasonably priced varied menu.

Please ring for details.

Tel (0495) 214267

ESTIMATING! ASK THE EXPERTS

L. W. THOMAS & LTD ASSOCIATES

QUANTITY SURVEYORS & ESTIMATORS.
L. W. Thomas, AMASI, M.Inst., CES,
MI. CONST M., ACI. ARB

32 Clytha Park Road,
Newport (0633) 244006

Building and Civil Engineering, Estimating Service.
Construction Cost Consultants,
Project Management.

Computerised Building Estimating.

Ring us for all your building and construction cost requirements, new build or conversion problems.

Actual cost of repairs.

Independent cost surveyors available.

Tel Newport (0633) 244006

PONTYMISTER BUILDERS' MERCHANTS

For your skip hire, general building and DIY requirements.

FREE DELIVERY TO LOCAL AREA.

For good prices and service:

TEL (0633) 615113

Pontymister Industrial Estate, Risca.

Gwent VW/AUDI Centre

DISCOUNT REPLACEMENT SPECIALISTS FOR VOLKSWAGEN & AUDI

We stock a large range of parts for VW/AUDI including body panels, fully reconditioned cylinder heads, engines and gearboxes.

We stock a large range of Beetle chrome accessories including Kamei and Bug pack.

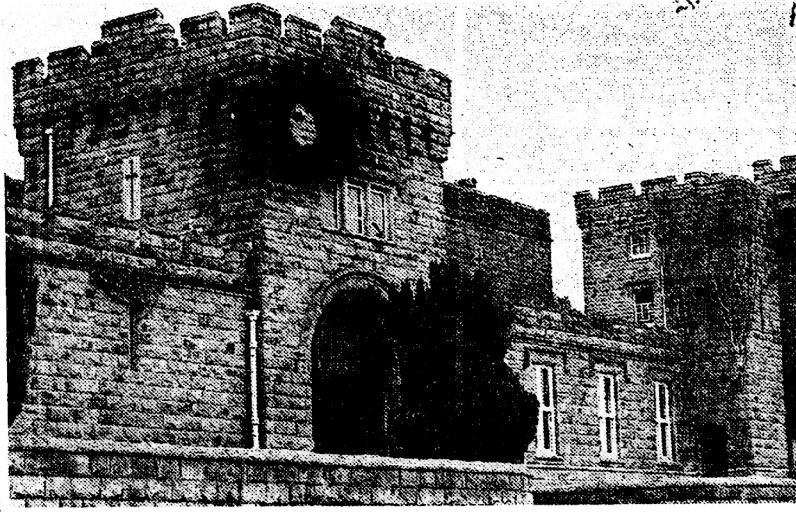
Open:

Monday-Friday
9.00am-6.30pm,
Saturday 9.00am-
3.30pm, Sunday
10.00am-1.00pm



NEWPORT (0633) 214333

136 COMMERCIAL ROAD, PILL,
NEWPORT, GWENT. NP9 2PH



Cyfarthfa Castle, Merthyr, host to an exhibition on the town's links with the Chartist movement

BURTS FELT ROOFING COMPANY LTD

A member of the National Registered Builders Association

Newport's Leading Flat Roofing Contractors

(Established 1963)

Telephone: Newport (Gwent) 272054;
Newport (Gwent) 856621

4 Spytty Road, Newport, Gwent.

JOHN FRANKUM

LADIES' AND GENT'S HAIRSTYLIST

For professional advice on hair beauty, call at



JOHN FRANKUM

15 BANESWELL ROAD,
BANESWELL, NEWPORT.

TEL NEWPORT 259073.

1839 CHARTIST 1989 COMMEMORATION

A PROCLAMATION

4 NOVEMBER, 1989

UNVEILING OF CHARTIST SCULPTURE

WESTGATE SQUARE, NEWPORT

FROM AUGUST 1989 TO JANUARY 1990

ART & DRAMA HERITAGE,
LITERATURE, GUIDED
WALKS, EXHIBITIONS

FOR FULL PROGRAMME OF EVENTS, CONTACT PETER COLE, LEISURE SERVICES, NEWPORT B.C.

TEL 0633 244491, 3511

Singing the Forbidden Hymn

MOST of Gwent's valley communities are celebrating in their own way the uprising of the men from the collieries and ironworks on which they were built, and the borough of Islwyn is no exception.

During May, the Borough Council's Leisure Services Department dropped a leaflet through the letterboxes of most

homes in the area inviting residents to participate in the festivities.

This imaginative mailshot was a way of 'testing the water' so as to gauge the amount of interest that would be engendered by an ambitious project to commemorate the Chartist uprising.

It called for volunteers to offer a variety of skills and to co-operate in the production of a

by Ann Drysdale

spectacular event in the Miners' Institute in Blackwood called "The Forbidden Hymn".

The name was chosen because the hymns in chapel were used as a means of secret communication of information. Praise the Lord and pass on the message, as it were. Workshops began taking place in the Institute.

The services were sought of a variety of makers, performers,

helpers, artists, writers, photographers, collectors and poets.

Under the direction of Alison Hughes, the designer appointed by the Council, youngsters from schools in the area began making banners and friezes. Alan Osborne, the writer-in-chief, wrote the hymn itself and began the script of the play. Tony Biggin began to compose the music and on July 8th, representatives

of all the interested groups met together under the overall direction of Michael McCarthy for a foretaste of the finished production. Chants and songs were rehearsed, and Mynyddislwyn Male Voice Choir made an exciting stab at the hymn itself.

The show was on the road.

By November, something really spectacular should be ready to celebrate the actual anniversary. Until then the schools will be

working flat out, the three local silver bands will be rehearsing the new music and the cast will be mouthing their lines at the breakfast table.

But even when it is all over, there will be something left. Two new groups have been formed as a direct result. An Islwyn Youth dance group and a youth drama group. There has been a heartening rise in membership of many of the established societies who are participating.

And, best of all, funding has been agreed for the ambitious project to refurbish the fine old Miners' Institute to house an arts centre for the borough.

Something lasting will be left behind to celebrate the coming-together of the people of Islwyn in a single cause.

Something really worth dedicating to the Chartist brethren who came together all those years ago to improve the lives of the people of the Valleys.


- LIFE ASSURANCE
- PENSIONS
- RETIREMENT PLANNING
- INVESTMENTS
- MORTGAGES
- GENERAL INSURANCE

Independent advice means choice and that must make sense!

Contact

RAY HILL ASSOCIATES
INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISERS

1 GOODRICH COURT, LLAN-YR-AFON,
CWMBRAN, GWENT, NP44 8RY.
OFFICE: (06333) 76100
HOME: (06333) 4191.



ST WOOLOS AUTO REPAIRS LTD

ACCIDENT REPAIRS & REFINISHERS

MoT TEST CENTRE


Somerton Park Garage, Cromwell Road,
Newport, Gwent. Tel (0633) 281766.
Fax (0633) 278547.

Contact the authorised

ZANUSSI NETWORK CENTRE

for service and spares on all Zanussi products

D. H. SERVICES LTD
3 Pentwyn Road, Blackwood
Tel: 0495 223151




Artist, John Goode of Bedwelty with his designs at Blackwood Miners Institute with mayor, Zena Creed

Contact the specialists in clearing your scrap

SPECIALIST IN FACTORY CLEARANCE

- Ferrous and Non-Ferrous Metals ●
- Buyers of scrap cars and batteries ●
- Free collection and skip rental
- Top prices, prompt payment, call today:

BIRDS GWENT LIMITED

The Bird Group of Companies
Eastern Dry Dock, Corporation Road,
Newport, Gwent. Tel 273221.




SPECIAL OFFER!

BUY A COOKER & AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINE
and we will give you

★ £30 OFF PURCHASE PRICE!

many appliances to choose from, with prices ranging from £89 for cookers and £99 for washing machines. All appliances have a 6/12-month parts and labour guarantee. New and used cooker spares for sale.

Contact:

BARGOED COOKER CENTRE
4 Upper High Street, Bargoed. Tel (0443) 838542

CEFN CHEMMA CABS

Day and night service, minibus hire available, also parcel service and wedding car hire.

Telephone
**Bargoed 820700,
Bargoed 831929**

HPS FINANCIAL SERVICES

MORTGAGES
Immediately available
(Subject to status)

We are financial advisers and can offer FREE and FRIENDLY advice on all aspects of house purchase.

THE COST OF A PHONE CALL COULD SAVE YOU POUNDS

PLEASE CONTACT

RICHARD BRYDON . SHEENA NELMES
2/4 Skinner St, Newport. Tel 0633 256636

ANNE GALSORTHY,
8 The Parade, Cwmbran. Tel 06333 72717 or 0495 304996

GARETH HUGHES . JUDITH HAMMITT
52 Cardiff Road, Caerphilly. Tel 0222 882274.

Halfax (SW) Ltd trading as HPS Financial Services
Registered Office: Trinity Road, Halfax, HX1 2RG.
Registered in England No 2079901.



DAVE RICHARDS

73 CHURCH ROAD, NEWPORT.
YOUR LEADING FISHING TACKLE DEALERS

- ★ Main Agents for ABU, SHAKESPEARE, DAIWA, BARBOUR, ZZIPLX, SUNBRIDGE, PATEKE, MORTON, STEPHENS.
- ★ Rods custom built to your specification, Repair Service available.
- ★ Fresh Ragworm, Maggots and Casters always available, and Frozen Baits.
- ★ South Coast Wrecking Trips and Boat Trips from Penarth arranged.
- ★ Large Selection of Carbon Match Rods and Glass.
- ★ Extensive Range of Boat/Beach Rods on display, Carbon Beach Casters.
- ★ Stockists of ABU and MITCHELL spares, 6.75 metre Roch Poles.
- ★ Excellent Range of Fly-Tying materials and Rods on show.
- ★ We also do Mail Order by return of post.
- ★ VAN and MINIBUS HIRE also available.

TEL NEWPORT 254910

TAPS

Plumbing and Heating Contractors and Maintenance

All types of plumbing work undertaken. Industrial & Domestic Gas Servicing. Ceramic Tiling. Underground Leaks. Insurance Work Undertaken

PONTYPOOL (04955) 50416

BLAENAU GWENT TOURISM

For free information, tick the required boxes, fill in your name and address, cut out the coupon and post to:

Claire Jenkins,
Tourism Officer,
Blaenau Gwent Borough,
Municipal Offices,
Civic Centre, Ebbw Vale.
Tel 0495 350555 ext 2535



Smart's Bridge

- Blaenau Gwent Attractions
- Bryn Bach Park
- Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal
- Sirhowy Valley Walk
- Clydach Gorge Caravan Site
- Discover the Clydach Gorge
- Discover Clydach Ironworks
- Discover Gilwern
- Discover the Nantyglo Heritage Trail
- Blaenau Gwent Chartists

Name:

Address:

Tel:

'The name was chosen because chapel singing was used to communicate information. 'Praise the Lord and pass the message'

THE FORBIDDEN HYMN

President of all the immortals
Lord of the rocks and of my thoughts won
Lord of the knowledge of human pain
Lord of the sadness in the rain
In the shadow of the vale
The burning brightness of the sun

Force that on the anvil forged heart
Bring together people of the globe
Lord of the power and the peaceful make
Lord of the birth and the wake
On us will bestow again
The beautyousness of thy robe

Parliament of all the common life
Lords of the fields and all stock might
Lords of the sedition and fittful fear
Lords of the votes and the grasping peer
In the gallows and the boat
The deportation of our right

Mystery in the light of the skies
Revealing through I feel your soft gaze
Lord of the touch who's loving hand do heal
Lord of the mending I can feel
In the moment of a day
The nearness of your secret way

Government of all our active strength
Revolt in the kernel of the nut
People of the storm at the Bastille
People of our green flag start the wheel
Then stick to the plans old butt
Lord's sake keep your big mouths shut!



Alan Osborne (left) pictured here with actor, Lawrence Evans

THE BOOKSHOP
Open Daily 9.30-5.30pm, Thursday 1pm
For a lasting gift we have a real feast of exciting new books for all ages

- ★ For books not in stock, a 24 hour ordering service
- ★ Out of print books supplied
- ★ Fine and rare books bought and sold

Largest stockist of Alexander Cordell books in the UK

29 BROAD STREET, BLAENAVON
Tel: (0495) 792233

ROSE-IN-TWINE
— FLORIST —
We specialise in Silk and Fresh Flowers. Personal attention. Same day local delivery.

ROSE-IN-TWINE

181 Caerleon Ed, Newport. Tel 0633 843244

GWENT SIGNS
LIMITED
SILK SCREEN PRINTERS
VEHICLES LETTERED WHILE YOU WAIT OR SUPPLY ONLY

Magnetic Signs, Builders' Site Boards, Estate Agents' Signs, etc.

STOCKISTS OF SCHOOL OF MOTORING DISPLAY BOXES

Tel: 0633 211511
13a Harrow Road, Newport, Gwent

ROGERS & SMITH
DIY SHOP

- *Wallpaper *Paints
- *Ironmongery
- *Timber & Supplies
- *Tiles & Accessories *Tools
- *Carpet Cleaner Systems for Hire

Small Tool Hire
*Strippers *Drills etc

Free Delivery Service
For a Personal Service & Professional Advice

OPEN 8-6pm
Mon-Sat 9am-1pm
Sun Morns

430 Corporation Rd, Newport.
Tel: NEWPORT 0633 262106.

J. & A. PHILLIPS
BUILDING SUPPLIES & SMALL PLANT HIRE

Sand, Cement, Patio Slabs, Chippings, Bricks, Blocks, Spar, Plaster, Plasterboards, Timber, Coving, Chipboard, Plyboard & Hardboard, Artex, Loft Insulations and LOTS MORE NOW IN STOCK. Polypipe, Underground, Rainwater & Plumbing Supplied at TRADE PRICES.

HIRE OF CEMENT MIXERS, LADDERS, SCAFFOLD TOWER, ANGLE GRINDERS, Etc.

Why not have your building supplies and cement mixer delivered together with FREE DELIVERY. First-class delivery service — competitive prices — friendly, helpful staff

PATIO SLABS from 95p + VAT

SPECIAL SPRING OFFER ON EMULSIONS (Good quality)
5 litres WHITE (VINYL SILK & MATT) £6.99
5 litres MAGNOLIA (VINYL SILK & MATT) £7.99
NITROMORS STONE PAINT (5 litres) £7.99
(All including VAT)

13 GRANVILLE LANE. TEL 244073
(Next to Motorwell Garage). Open: Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm, Sat, 8am-12.30pm.

GWENT TYRE SERVICE LTD

You will be miles better off when you shop at

GWENT TYRES

We stock a full range of car tyres, commercial lorry tyres, industrial tyres for fork trucks and caravan and trailer tyres.

Please ring for our best price.

FREE Wheel Balance with every two new tyres purchased.

GWENT TYRE SERVICE LTD
GRANVILLE STREET, NEWPORT
TEL (0633) 266791

NOW IS THE TIME FOR WINTER SERVICE

- ★ MoT while-u-wait.
- ★ Wheel balancing.
- ★ Full service & repairs.
- ★ Wheel welding.
- ★ Chassis alignment.
- ★ Vehicle recovery.
- ★ Crypton tuning.

PETER JEFFRIES
AUTO SERVICE
LLANFRECHFA WAY, CWMBRAN. TELEPHONE: (06333) 70460

Celebrate the Chartists' Anniversary at

NEWPORT MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

John Frost Square, Newport, Gwent, NP9 1HZ.

- ★ Displays of original Chartist relics.
- ★ Exhibition of Chartist times.
- ★ Chartist souvenirs available in museum shop, including — T-shirts, mugs, information packs, Chartist publications.

Open: Mon-Thurs, 9.30-4.30;
Fri, 9.30-4.30;
Sat, 9.30-4.00. (Except bank holidays)

Admission free.

Tel (0633) 840064.

1839 150 YEARS 1989
UPRISING

Newport Borough Council Leisure Services Department

R. TUTTON MOTORS

Albion St, Newport.

24-Hour Car Recovery Service

Servicing, Repairs, Welding and MoT. Preparation on all makes of Car and Commercial Vehicles.

FREE ESTIMATES
"We won't turn you away"

Tel Newport (0633) 266021
After normal hours (24-hours) Newport (0633) 858899

Do you want to texture professionally?

We run courses giving up to date current techniques training for the texturer. Using asbestos free compounds.

Weekly courses held monthly.

NUTREX
Training School
Unit 8, Enterprise Way.
SBD & CITB approved courses
Tel 0633 281074

LIGHTS, PANELS, BUMPERS, GRILLS, TOWBARS for the following:
Cortinas, Granadas, Fiestas, Sierras, Orions, Cavaliers, Novas, Astras, Carltons, Montegos, Maestros, Metros, Rovers, Escorts, Alpines

— FITTED IF REQUIRED.

BLAINA 290606
Open: 10am-8pm, weekdays; 10am-5pm, weekends.

Also, general servicing and repairs and Mig welding to MoT standards.
Seven-day money-back guarantee.

Inn was a Chartist sanctuary

LODGED in the newly discovered flagstones of The Three Horseshoes was a 1812 token to be spent in a Tredegar Iron Company truck shop.

Maybe it was dropped by a Chartist. For the public house at the Merthyr Tydfil was a regular meeting place for Chartists according to records, said licensee Mary Horvath who was also thrilled to discover a 1862 penny when the plastic tiles that had concealed the flagstones for so long were removed. "I had wanted the pub for many years. I used to go to the school -

Cyfarthfa Castle Grammer - just across the years. Now schoolfriends come into the pub. I love the sense of history about it. So do my regulars and many have given me items handed down the family to display," said Mrs Horvath who also has items that used to belong to her grandparents on show and believes The Three Horseshoes to be the most historic pub in Merthyr.

A boarded wall which was also stripped away when the pub was closed for six weeks and completely gutted revealed a marvellous fireplace. Nestling in the chimney were two clay pipes. A folding wooden door

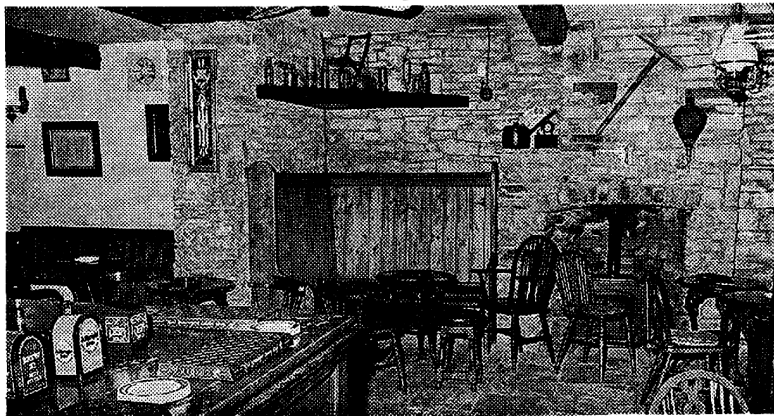
JANET YOUNG discovers a Merthyr pub steeped in Chartist history

has been left as it was and is an interesting feature of a well area which makes an ideal "snug." It was once a room where people slept and lived and a hole in the breast of a chimney once used for smoking bacon now as an in-keeping iron door fitted over it.

The stone walls are more than four feet thick in places. The oak beams in the pub are original but Mrs Horvath obtained the church pews that form the seating in the "spit and sawdust" pub in Yorkshire. The sawdust covered flagstones are cleaner than most public house floors she claims for the flagstones are washed daily and fresh sawdust put down. New parts will also be

reminiscent of the days when mine hosts were Daniel and Catherine Llewellyn (1832-1839) and the Chartists met and the Home Secretary sent a spy, William Griffiths, to infiltrate, said Mary who has copies of reports of Chartist meetings in The Three Horseshoes.

Minutes of a meeting on Sunday evening, August 28, 1842, includes this passage (with David Rees speaking): "There has been one battle between the Chartists and the Tyrannical Force in this neighbourhood and I am happy to say the Chartists won the day of the Battle and not one of the Chartists lost a grain of their hair; and that Battle was, that the



Haunt of Chartists, The Three Horseshoes, Merthyr

men were too cunning for their enemies. The Police force thought that we should be so ignorant as break the peace. But they have been deceived and we won the battle that day over them. Very well the Military force they should have to pepper us with Powder and Ball. They sent 60 Soldiers to Tredegar and forty to Dowlais, now you see how we weaken

their ranks and gain the day without the loss of one grain of hair and I hope you will keep within bounds till such time, that you see you are strong enough yourselves to oppose these Tyrannical Law that hang over our heads"...

In a History of the Hamlet of Gellideg by F. H. Pedlar, published in 1930, in a passage

concerning Merthyr of 1859 there is a reference to Cyfarthfa Church and the comment: "Close by is the old hostelry known as the Three Horse Shoe, kept for many years by that quaint old personality, William Stephens, who was greater in girth than he was in length. Will Stephens, as he was popularly called, was, in spite of his extensive waistline, a great all-round sportsman. He hunted hares and rabbits with his dogs for many years over the land of the Cyfarthfa Company. The entrance to the stables of the old hostelry, at the side of Aberdare Road, took the form of a big stone arch, which does not fail to attract the attention of strangers passing by. What could have been the purpose of the building at the head of the flight of steps which rises alongside and over the archway? This is a very unusual sight."

Flowers & Gardens
(Fairholme Nurseries)
FRESH FLOWERS DELIVERED DAILY FROM OUR NURSERIES.
Large selection of Silk and Dried flowers, House plants.
Teleflorist Service.
FLOWERS & GARDENS
Unit 2, Market Entrance, High Street, Newport.
Tel: (0633) 211755.

LEWIS TAXIS
(Established 1963)
Local taxi service with everything.
★ Helpful drivers
★ Fleet of London cabs for shopping (easy access for prams)
★ Local bus service
★ Special airport, long distance cars
★ Minibus 8 and 16-seater
★ Express delivery and collection services
★ Special converted wheelchair cab
TEL ABERGAVENNY 4140/5988

CAR BODY STYLING KITS
at
Fibre Kits of Newport
Car Styling Kits in High Quality Fibreglass.
Most Popular Kits in Stock, eg Sierra, Manta/Cavalier, Orion, Cortina, RS Turbo, Saab 9001, Escort, Capri, Saab 1001.
Reliable, Prompt Delivery and Cheapest in the South West.
Either call in or phone for a quote.
UNIT 31A EAST MARKET STREET, PILL, NEWPORT, GWENT.

VALLEY CARPETS
BRIDGE ST, BLACKWOOD, GWENT.
TEL 0495 225664
PROP: GRAHAM SUMMERILL
CARPETS . CARPETS . CARPETS
You want them, we've got them!
Come along today and browse around our showroom
OVER 8,000 SAMPLES TO CHOOSE FROM
Specialists in Axminster and Wiltons, Domestic and Contract Carpets - All leading makes supplied
VERTICAL/ROLLER BLINDS MADE TO MEASURE
1,000s of Rugs, including Oriental Designs in Stock
So, for personal attention and reliable service contact us

YE OLDE FORGE PUBLIC HOUSE
For a friendly and relaxing atmosphere we provide accommodation, excellent meals and the facility of a function room.
SUNDAY LUNCHES OUR SPECIALITY REAL ALES
Contact us now for any further information:
ISLWYN ROAD, OAKDALE, BLACKWOOD (0495 228919)

Janette and John invite you to
THE TOP HAT CWMILLERY
Book your wedding/Special Occasions early for 1990. Our function room holds up to 200 and is ideal for your office or factory Christmas parties.
BOOK NOW! (a few dates for 1989 available)
Free live entertainment every Sunday evening, a large comfortable lounge, a pool room, skittles alley and darts. Car park facilities.
Everyone welcome. Tel (0495) 216342.

J. & M. SLATES & SALVAGE
Top Quality Second Hand Welsh Slates bought and sold
We also strip roofs
For 24 hr service telephone:
DAYTIME 0222 889216
EVENINGS 0222 832009 OR 0222 832072
Unit 4, Acom Workshops, Harold Wilson Industrial Estate, Caerphilly

The Dolphin Inn
for a warm welcome in a friendly-run pub.
Bar Meals 11am-7pm, Every Day Except Sunday.
Evening Meals, 8.30pm-11pm
Sunday Lunches Available (Last Booking Saturday Lunchtime).
Good Range of Beers, Wines & Spirits.
Everyone's Welcome - So Don't Miss Us!
The Dolphin Inn, Dolphin Street, Newport. ☎ 256087.

BRYNMAWR TYRES
Bailey Street Garage, Brynmawr, Gwent.
WE SUPPLY ALL MAKES OF NEW AND REMOULDED TYRES.
COMMERCIAL TYRES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.
Open seven days a week.
★ Friendly service ★ Competitive prices ★ Free fittings
★ Prompt service ★ Roadside service (if required).
Telephone: (0495) 313598.

QUEENS HILL BODY REPAIRS
ALDERNEY STREET, NEWPORT.
For all Insurance Repair work, Accident Repair work, Resprays and Undersealing
CALL THE EXPERTS
TEL 821840

ENJOY CAMPING AT RHEWL FARM
Three miles from Severn Bridge and Chepstow. A hide-a-way camp site with shops and petrol only a mile away.
First turning right opposite New Inn, Pwllmyric, on A48.
Ring Mrs Morgan NOW on
(0291) 7244

DOMESTIC APPLIANCE REPAIRS & SPARES
Washing Machines, Microwaves, Cleaners, Cookers, Large stock of spares for most makes.
Reconditioned Autos from £70. Free delivery.
Why deal with a 'Phone Number' when you can deal with an established company for the same price and get real service.
Open 9am to 5.30pm Monday to Saturday.
Phone now and talk to an engineer, not an answering machine.
M. A. Hill & CO LTD.
201 Corporation Road, Newport.
PHONE 254297
Find us in Yellow Pages

The Three Horseshoes Inn
The original Chartist meeting place, restored to its original concept.
A new extension added, will be opening shortly, in October, in which a new lounge and restaurant will add to the prestige of the inn.
Atmosphere and comfort is paramount for our customers where they can relax in an historic setting.
The restaurant will provide a la carte meals as well as an excellent wine cellar.
Telephone for future bookings
MERTHYR (0685) 722523

A FEW days before the Newport rising, a labourer by the name of Samuel Victory spent an afternoon buying drinks for three privates of the 45th regiment, stationed in the town.

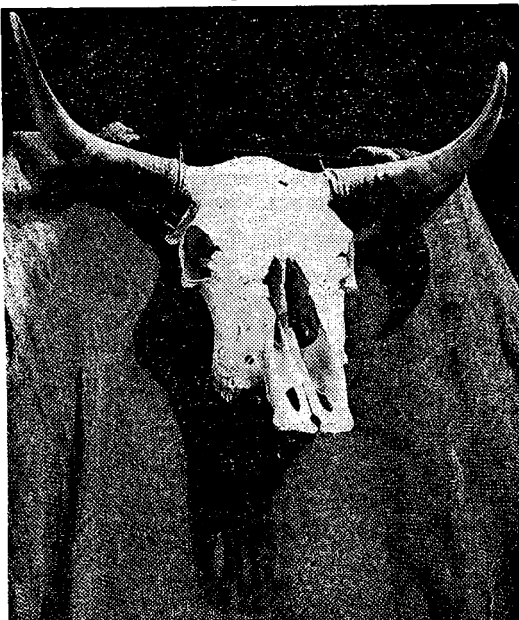
He earnestly asked them, "If the people turned out, would the soldiers fire upon them," and told them to, "Hold out in many a cause as they were holding out...and by this means we would have half-a-crown a day."

He must have been persuasive because two days later, they deserted, got rid of their uniforms, and went to Blaenafon to find work. They were unsuccessful and were soon arrested.

When the troops of the 45th fired out of the Westgate windows into

the crowd, they killed at least twenty Chartists. Among them was George Shell, a nineteen-year-old cabinet maker from Pontypool.

He had written to his parents, "I shall this night be engaged in a struggle for freedom, and should it please God to spare my life, I shall see you soon; but if not, grieve not for me, I shall fall in a noble cause. My tools are at Mr Cecil's..." Also among the dead was John Davies, a carpenter who was secretary



The banner of the Scotch Cattle, most militant enforcers of worker's rights. From the play 'Treason' by Gwent Young People's Theatre in Education

'Grieve not for me'

□ by Brian Davies

of the Chartist lodge at Pontypool.

At one of the organised meetings in the weeks before the rising, the Abersychan delegate - an old soldier who had fought at Waterloo - had foreseen a violent

conflict and had said that he and his men would not rise unless they had a list of those they were to remove, for the only way to fight was to attack and remove the officers and those who administered the law.

As the crowd moved down the valley, stopping the furnaces in Pentwyn, Varteg and Abersychan, the works manager at the British Iron Works, William Woods, narrowly escaped

Rumours spread that the Chartists intended taking Capel Hanbury Leigh, the lord lieutenant of the county.

At Pontypool, where there was a strong Chartist lodge, a few of the local leaders backed out at the last minute. John Lewis Llewellyn, a beer-house keeper at Pontnewynydd who was the treasurer of the lodge, took no part in the rising. Neither did William Shellard, a shop-keeper, who explained to one of his customers, "I suppose we are determined to have it (The Charter)

now, we have tried long enough to have it by peaceable means... We intend to take the great men of the country first and to confine them in a pit."

Those from the Eastern Valley who did get to Newport were led by Solomon Brittan, a miner from Garn-diffaith. The Abersychan area was the stronghold of Chartism in the valley, as it was the stronghold of the Scotch Cattle and the early trade unions. All these movements were related, and political reform was seen as a means by which to re-

move economic oppression.

A few months earlier, William Woods, the works manager at the British, had written urgently to the home secretary to report that, at a Chartist meeting, it had been said that the works did not belong to the owners, but to the workmen, and they would soon have them.

Fear that this was a real possibility accounts for the severity with which the Newport rising was put down.

Brian Davies is curator at Big Pit Mining Museum, Blaenafon.

'I shall this night be engaged in a struggle for freedom and should it please God to spare my life I shall see you soon but if not, grieve not for me, I shall fall in a noble cause'

P
I
C
K
E
T
S
G
L
A
S
S



Commercial and Domestic glazing
Cut size glass
Double Glazed Units

Unit 22, Leeway Court.
Tel: (0633) 282338

Newport Engine Gearbox Centre
462 Caerleon Road, Newport

Factory Reconditioned Units

12 months full warranty engines.

Engines, from	£150
(Fitted)	£225
Gearboxes from	£80
(Fitted)	£120
Clutches fitted from	£50

MoT work undertaken: Steam cleaning: Budget engines and gearboxes. All units tried and tested with 3 months minimum warranty. 24 hour service.

Tel: 266727 anytime.

The Out-Of-Town Shop With In Town Fashions

Selection of dresses, skirts, jackets, knitwear, suits and separates.

1358 Caerleon Rd Newport, Gwent. Tel (0633) 213866.

THE BLACK PRINCE

Why not trot along for Exquisite Home Cooked Meals in a very friendly atmosphere

For further details:
Tel Muriel on (0495) 200365

KITCHEN QUALITY AT THE RIGHT PRICE

Choose the people with the proven track record, you'll be glad you did!!

MTM KITCHENS

FREE PLANNING & DESIGN

KITCHEN SHOWROOM & WORKTOP CENTRE
UNIT 6 BRIDGE STREET, TREDEGAR
Tel: Cwmbran 73012. Showroom: Tredegar 718215 (24 hrs.)
BETTER BY DESIGN

Babytime Fashions

UNIT 46-48 IN SHOPS, KINGSWAY SHOPPING CENTRE, NEWPORT.
TEL (0633) 244762.

Looking for something special, then why not pay us a visit. Large selection of designer baby and childrenswear always in stock including Belart, Bobbydazzler, Christopher David, Petite Claire, Sarah Louise and many more.

Also stockists of Emma Jane Nursing Bra's.

Cyfarthfa Castle Museum
Amgueddfa Castell Cyfarthfa

Cyfarthfa Castle was built by William Crawshay, master of the world famous Cyfarthfa Iron Works in 1826, and in 1831 it was attacked during the Chartist uprising in Merthyr.

The collections on display reflect the important part Merthyr played in the Chartist movement, including a painting of the 1816 rising by Penry Williams, and other ephemera linked with the movement, as well as other aspects of Merthyr's radical history including Kler Hardie, the first Labour MP elected to parliament.

'CHARTISM IN MERTHYR' - a specially commissioned exhibition will open in the museum, October 21 to December 22, 1989, commemorating the 150th Anniversary.

OPENING TIMES: April-September Mon-Sat 10-6pm; Sun 2-5pm. Oct-March Mon-Sat 10-5pm (closed 1-2pm), Sun 2-5pm (closes 1 hour earlier on Fridays).

ENTRANCE CHARGES: 30p adults, 15p children, OAPs, UB40s. School parties free during school hours.

Paro Cyfarthfa, Merthyr Tydfil, Morgannwg Gaeol. CF47 8RE. Tel (0685) 723112

Cyfarthfa Park, Merthyr Tydfil, Mid Glamorgan. CF47 8RE

Now under new management

Heritage

Coffee House and Licensed Restaurant

The Coffee House, 9.30am-2pm Monday-Friday.
Menu which includes Breakfast, Homemade Pastries, Cakes and Pies.

The Restaurant, 7.30pm-late, Friday & Saturday.
A new menu with lots of choice.

TRADITIONAL SUNDAY LUNCH
£4.95 per person.
Child portions available.

Heritage
Station Street, Abersychan.
Telephone (0495) 774205.

VACARA'S
ESTABLISHED 1888

LLANARTH STREET
OFF JOHN FROST SQUARE
NEWPORT

Telephone: 264150

- ★ Specialists in Fish and Chips. Fish fried in home-made batter.
- ★ 50-seater Restaurant.
- ★ Take-away facilities.
- ★ Pies, Pasties, Sausages also available.
- ★ A free delivery service for party number of 15-plus is offered, within and outside normal trading hours.

OPENING HOURS:
Monday-Wednesday/Saturday, 11am-7pm.
Thursday-Friday, 11am-7.30pm.

The Rising



Michael Foulkes and Lucy Stevens, underground as nine year old children

TO commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Chartist Uprising Newport borough council commissioned Gwent Theatre in Education Company to present two plays.

The first, "The Rising 1839" was devised for nine to eleven-year-olds. Already it has been seen by 4,600 children at The Drama Centre, Abergavenny, Cross Keys College and Tredegar House, Newport. South Wales Argus theatre critic Wendy Flynn wrote: "This dramatic recreation of the Chartist Uprising

fired the imagination of the young audience.....an excellent production."

The second play "Treason" is currently being devised for community audiences. After the premiere at the Newport Centre on October 24 it will tour to community venues throughout Gwent and South Wales trying to reach as many people as possible.

Although dealing with the same subject, "Treason" will take a different approach and will be a completely new production. Music and

songs will feature as an integral part of the play.

"Treason" will also be presented to fifth and sixth formers in Gwent comprehensive schools. Like the first play it was written by members of the theatre company. Taking part are Gary Meredith, John Lovatt, Michael Foulkes, Lucy Stevens, Erica Eirian and Tim Riley. Research was aided by Mr Leslie James, education officer based at Newport Museum and Mr Brian Davies, education officer at Big Pit.



Gary Meredith holding the chartists banner



Around the worker's table, left to right, Michael Foulkes, Gary Meredith, Lucy Stevens, John Lovatt, and Diana Cox

Keep the Chartist spirit alive with Islwyn Labour Party

Annual Chartist Rally

Saturday, October 28, 7pm

Pontllanfraith Leisure Centre,

National and international speakers



Membership details Contact **PAM MILLS** Newbridge (0495) 243510

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR MOTHERS!

Cradle Days

Enables you to hire items of nursery equipment that you need at a fraction of the cost of buying them.



- Car Seats
- Double Buggies
- Play Pens
- Baby Walkers
- High Chairs



Tel Sally 0633 272038 anytime

T&D MOTORS

VEHICLE BODY BUILDERS

- ★ **INSURANCE WORK**
- ★ **RESPRAYS**
- ★ **WELDING plus**
- ★ **ALL REPAIRS AND BODY WORK**

YOU BEND 'EM, WE'LL MEND 'EM...

T&D MOTORS.

UNIT 6 JOHNSEY TRADING EST, NEWPORT, GWENT, NP9 0DX

TEL 0633 244691



Quest Logic Ltd

SECRETARIAL SERVICES

- ★ Word Processing
- ★ Spreadsheets
- ★ Reports
- ★ Desk Top Publishing
- ★ Overhead Projection Slides
- ★ Computer Hardware Dealer
- ★ Computer Graphic Printing
- ★ Photocopying
- ★ CVs
- ★ Thesis
- ★ Audio Typing

Manufacturing Technology Centre, A1 the Avenue, Cleppa Park, Newport, Gwent, NP1 9UG. Telephone (0633) 816118. Fax (0633) 810387.

HIGH CROSS ELECTRICAL LTD

Electrical Engineering Contractors to the Industrial and Commercial world - Distance is no object.

For the complete service from Design to Installation - Free estimates - Full call out facilities.

National Inspector Council for Electrical Installation Contracting. Approved Contractor.

Unit 9 Evtol Ind Est, Portland Street, Newport, NP9 2DP. Telephone Newport (0633) 216897.

Welcome to the

COG & PETAL

High Street, Blaina. Telephone (0495) 291914

Bill and Elaine invite you to visit Blaina's newest and brightest pub! The atmosphere's great! Come and sample good home-cooked food at reasonable prices.

WESTERN FARM & GARDEN POWER

Garden Machinery

LAWMFLIGHT : HAYTER : FLYMO : MOUNTFIELD : STIHL : HONDA

"Which Mower To Buy?"

Look at and choose from the largest range of Mowers/Strimmers/Ride-on's/ATU's and Chain Saws in South Wales!

"Where to buy from?"

The company that offers a good deal, best back-up in South Wales!

For July we also offer **12 MONTHS FREE FINANCE**

Give us a try!

Trained mechanics and large stock parts and sundries.

Easy parking : Best value : Large choice
Free-demo : Assembly : Delivery : Professional advice

NEWPORT (0633) 840088	NEWPORT (0633) 259414	GOWERTON (0792) 873241	LLANDOW (04483) 5568	BRIDGEND (0658) 652604
-----------------------	-----------------------	------------------------	----------------------	------------------------

FLOWERS AT TREDEGAR HOUSE

between **22-24 September, 1989**

11am-6pm each day

Many of the beautiful rooms of Tredegar House will be adorned with magnificent floral decorations inspired by the period decoration of their surroundings. A rare chance to see this beautiful art set in the finest Country House in South Wales.

Price: £2.50 Adult; £1.50 Concessions; Family £5. Programme 50p

For further information contact 0633 815880

PART OF THE CHARTIST ANNIVERSARY

Bevan's Wine Bar & Restaurant

64 BETHCAR STREET, EBBW VALE. TEL: (0495) 301291.

The In-place for the over-21s

LIVE MUSIC FIVE NIGHTS A WEEK

All meals under £4.60 per head

Example: T-bone Steak, Salad, Peas, Chips, Mushrooms and Onions, £4.50.

We invite you to our **WEEK-LONG CHARTISTS PARTY**

Traditional Welsh fare of 1839 and entertainment.

Monday, Oct 30 to Saturday, Nov 4, 1989

Your hosts: **ROY & SANDRA**

Fires that lit the night sky

THE silence surrounding the on-going excavations of Blaenafon Ironworks belies a past in which it was described as "Akin to entering through the gates of Hell."

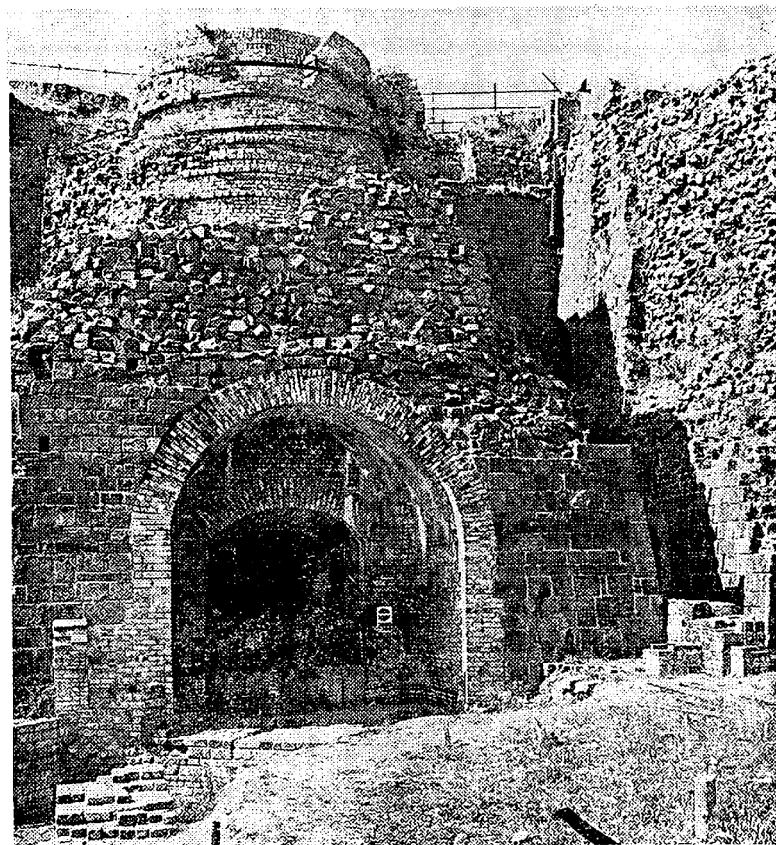
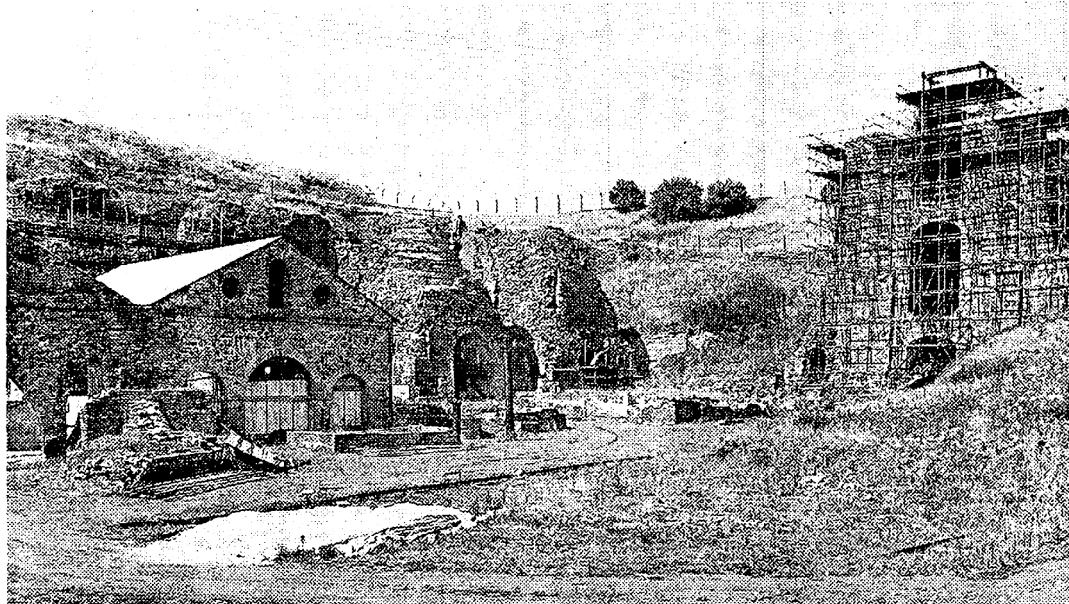
Sulphurous smoke which made the daytime sky yellow and the nights red mingled around the sweating workers and beasts of burden as drams carrying raw materials clattered on their way to feed the furnaces.

Although it was strictly forbidden to discuss the formation of societies to organise labour, the masters themselves were part of an organisation which kept wages uniformly low throughout the iron

industry. Workers who were branded as "troublemakers" for discussing the formation of unions could be, and frequently were, banned from working anywhere in the area.

In the early part of the nineteenth century, children as young as five were employed in the Ironworks and, by the time Puddlers - who spent much of their time staring into the glare of the molten iron - were in their mid-twenties, they were often blind.

Today, the works draws attention as a valuable relic of our industrial past. A reminder of uncompromising and unlamented times.



GWENT COUNTY COUNCIL

EMPLOYMENT TRAINING



Are you unemployed? Bored at home? Single/lone parent? Married woman?

Who needs full/part-time work? (Child care allowance)

- 1) ADMINISTRATION/CLERICAL - MODERN OFFICE TECHNOLOGY
- 2) COMMUNITY CARE
- 3) CONSTRUCTION SKILLS
- 4) HORTICULTURE/AGRICULTURE OCCUPATIONS

5 HIGH EDUCATION (DEVELOPING LEARNING MATERIALS)

6 CARETAKING - SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES, CLEANING AND SECURITY

TRAVELLING EXPENSES PAID

CITY & GUILDS/RSA PITMANS . NATIONAL VOCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

WE NEED YOU - CONTACT US NOW!!!

Mr Ray Huckin, Training Co-ordinator. Tel 0495 56566/56414, between 8.45am-4.45pm.



7 Chartist Tower,
Upper Dock Street,
Newport, Gwent. NP9 1DW.

Tel: (0633) 259446

£20 * DEPOSIT

Per Person

**ON ALL WINTER 1989/90
SUNSHINE & SKIING HOLIDAYS**

BOOKED BEFORE 31st AUGUST '89

**Available when purchasing JETSAVERS nominated insurance at time of booking.*

Branches at:

ANDOVER CHEPSTOW MONMOUTH



ABTA
78005

FUSSELLS
proudly celebrate their
**CENTENARY
YEAR**

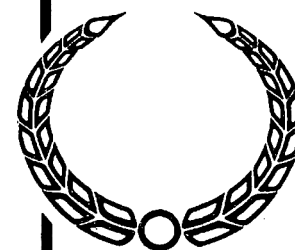
in JOHN FROST
SQUARE

(Scene of the Chartist Riots)

*Shop at the store which is
100 years young.*

Telephone:

Newport 259634



1889-1989

When a small flame flickered

□ by Bob Rogers

THE Republic of Britain.

It has been suggested that this was the aim of some of the Chartist leaders who were looking to establish, not only the short-term aims of democracy for all, but the complete overthrow of the ruling system of the country.

Within the lifetime of some of those on

the march, a workers army had risen up and toppled one of the most powerful and charismatic monarchies in the world.

Across the channel, in France, the ordinary citizens had overthrown the ruling class and despatched them bloodily in their thousands to make way for a "Citizen's Republic".

The workers of Gwent and Glamorgan held no personal animosity toward the young and misinformed Queen Victoria but much toward those representatives of the ruling classes who most affected their daily lives.

Some local iron-masters, such as the Quaker, Guest, were more popular than others, but all grew wealthy by the appalling exploitation of those who worked for them.

Women, and children as young as five, worked twelve hour shifts of hard labour in dangerous conditions - the top wage was less than two pence per hour - and their men were denied a voice to tell of

these and other injustices.

Prior to the Truck Act, workers were still payed in tokens which were only exchangeable for goods at the company shop, which charged well over the odds for basic foodstuffs and materials for clothes. Slavery was alive and well.

In addition to the class discrimination that was rife throughout Britain, the workers of the Welsh valleys suffered racial discrimination which, in its way, was as vehement as any modern apartheid.

They were forbidden to speak their native language - a crime for which

their children were punished by being forced to wear yokes bearing the words "Heathen" or "Savage".

Clergymen appointed by the owners preached obedience and gratitude to the masters who had been kind enough to offer them work, and threatened eternal damnation to anyone who became involved in the "Satanic" unions.

Leaders, such as Frost, captivated the workers with their speeches. Here were men with an eloquence and education to rival the masters, and they were on the side of the oppressed. They offered real hope.

There were many who doubted victory, but these were, it seems, carried along in the euphoria of opportunity. Even those who saw defeat as likely felt that little could be lost by attempting to break the chains. Life was an endurance test and their cause was just.

In Newport, on that

cold and wet morning in 1839, a small flame of freedom flickered as working people attempted to rid their land of dictators -

they were branded as traitors. Precisely a century later they would be called upon to keep the flame they had lit burning - and this time they would be heroes.



BUYING WINDOWS OR DOORS?

Before you buy, visit our factory at Bulwark, Chepstow.

Probably the Best Value for Money in Gwent!

Also ask for our supply only price list

CHEPSTOW HOME IMPROVEMENT

Bulwark Service Station, Bulwark Rd, Chepstow

TEL (02912) 70888 daytime, (0495) 222377 (evening).

PONTHIR ROAD SERVICE STATION

HYUNDAI

The only main dealer in Newport.

SALES - SERVICE - TYRES - MoT.

Forecourt and car wash open 7 days a week.

Ponthir Road Service Station, Caerleon, Gwent. Tel (0633) 420563.

EMM an JAY'S

3 BROAD STREET, ABERSYCHAN

TEL Pontypool 0495 772301

Clothes for all the family at **ROCK BOTTOM PRICES**

Jeans from £4.99

T-shirts from £2.99

Puma T-shirts only £5.99

Leather coats from £35

Why not pay us a visit, we promise you will not go away disappointed



SEVERN INSULATION CO LTD

THERMAL INSULATION ENGINEERS


INDUSTRIAL AND PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTORS

ASBESTOS REMOVAL SERVICE

LICENSED SPECIALISTS

Somerton Works, Lloyd Street, Newport, Gwent, NP9 0JN

Telephone 0633 274239



Thermal Insulation Contractors Association

We are pleased to have become sponsors of the Newport Enterprise Agency



The Three Blackbirds Inn

3 Course Wedding Breakfast £11.95

Our Special Wedding Offer which includes 3 drinks.

3 Course Restaurant Menu from under £10.00

Our restaurant is available for private parties, buffets, discos. Monday to Thursday nights at competitive rates for engagements, birthdays or any other celebration.

Meals in the Lounge Bar from under £2.00

Why not enjoy a drink and a meal in our extensive flower gardens with views overlooking Twm Barlwm.

Pentre Lane, Llantarnam, Cwmbran.

Tel (06333) 3130 & 3368.

Hosts: JANET & JOE KITCOTT

QUEEN'S HOTEL



Bridge Street, Newport, Gwent, NP9 4RN.

Telephone (0633) 262992.

Fax (0633) 257474.

- ★ 43 bedrooms, all with colour TV, radio, telephone, tea and coffee making facilities and most with private bathroom.
- ★ Our restaurant, The Carving Table, serves generous helpings from a selection of succulent roast joints and other dishes. It's excellent value.
- ★ Relax with a drink in one of our two bars.
- ★ Ample parking available in nearby public car park.
- ★ Dry-cleaning service. ★ Night porter.
- ★ Full range of conference and meeting facilities for up to 80 people.
- ★ Well-placed for reaching all the major commercial and industrial centres of South Wales.

Visiting Bryn Bach Park?

Call in at

THE NAG'S HEAD

TAFARNAUBACH, TREDEGAR

★ ★ ★

Good Beer • Real Ale • Bar Meals Available All Day.

Old Fashioned Sing-a-long Saturday and Sunday Evenings.



Beer Garden with Victor The Viking for the children - Family Room Now Available

Children's Meals Available.

(049525) 2867

MODERN DESIGNS OF STYLE AND ELEGANCE

A chance to add a touch of originality to any room with furniture designed for today from top designers.

We have everything you require for your home, lounge and bedroom, etc.

"It's Quality that Counts"

Take advantage of our extensive selection of ideal wedding gifts by Royal Doulton, Minton, Aynsley and Webb Corbett Cut Glass.

10% discount on all cash orders over £100.

Tidal's Stores

90 High St, Blackwood.

Tel: 224893.



The Greyhound Hotel



49 High Street, Newport. Tel. (0633) 267059.

BED & BREAKFAST — 8 Rooms En-suite

From £15 per night Single.

From £25 per night Double.

Bar, Lounge, Fine Real Ale

Morning Coffee and Evening Meals Available.

(0633) 267059



CAR AND PORTABLE TELEPHONES

COMPETITIVE PRICES, EXCELLENT SERVICE



All prices include full installation. All mobiles include hands free facility. 30 second billing

MOTOROLA	
4800X MOBILE.....	£120.00
4800X TRANSPORTABLE.....	£175.00
4800X TRANSMOBILE.....	£225.00
5000X MOBILE.....	£125.00
5000X TRANSPORTABLE.....	£199.00
5000X TRANSMOBILE.....	£225.00
8500X PORTABLE.....	£430.00
NOVATEL	
352 (ETACS) MOBILE.....	£99.00
NEC	
11E MOBILE (New Model).....	£120.00
9A PORTABLE.....	£475.00
PANASONIC	
C30 MOBILE.....	£199.00
C50 TRANSPORTABLE.....	£325.00
C80 TRANSMOBILE.....	£399.00

Many other makes and models available. Please: All prices subject to receipt of a signed airtime agreement with direct debit. Free itemised billed included in contract. All prices subject to VAT. Delivery and installation usually within 48 hours.

Delta Communications

37 PONTMORLAIS, MERTHYR TYDFIL, MID GLAM.

Tel: (0685) 722224.