

2 High Street – The Blue Bell, Cowbridge

- 1738 William Davies owned *Burgage rents*
- 1744 William Davies, one burgage, the malthouse *Burgage rents 45*
- 1745 Messuages etc, sold by Mary William to William Davies gent. deceased, and purchased by Thomas Edmondess from Wm Davies gent. (grandson of deceased). Covenant that Mary Llewellyn buy all her malt from Thos. Edmondess *D/D Ed 78*
- 1759 Messuage called the Blue Bell, in occupation of Ann Evan, victualler *D/D Ed 265*
- 1766 Inventory of goods distrained for three years rent of £15, by John Edmondess in dwelling house of Ann Evans (refers to brewhouse) *D/D Ed 183*
- 1766 Ann Evan sale of her goods at Blue Bell *D/D Ed 184*
- 1772 Lease, Thos Edmondess to John Edmondess, the Blue Bell, let to William Whitworth *D/D Ed 292*
- 1775 Blue Bell, occupied by Francis Thomas *D/D Ed 268*
- 1777 Lease for 99 years to Francis Thomas and wife Anne, with covenant to buy all malt from Thos. Edmondess *D/D Ed 141*
- 1779 Francis Thomas innkeeper, fined for laying rubbish in the highway opposite his dwelling house known by the sign of the Blue Bell *B/Cow 4*
- 1784 Thos. Edmondess owned; Francis Thomas occupied, 6/- *LTA*
- 1793 Francis Thomas, victualler, Blue Bell *Universal British directory*
- 1800 Thos. Edmondess owned; Francis Thomas occupied, 6/- *LTA*
- 1822 Edward Thomas, Blue Bell *Pigot's directory*
- 1827 and 1830 Janet Thomas, Blue Bell *Pigot*
- 1830 Thos Edmondess owned; Jennet Thomas occupied, Blue Bell, 6/- *LTA*
- 1843 David Thomas occupied *Tithe*

- 1851 Jennette Thomas, 67, born Ystradowen, with one servant and two lodgers,
the Blue Bell *Census 81*
- 1858 Richard Howe *Webster's directory*
- 1861 Richard Howe, born St Hilary, victualler and butcher, with wife and daughter
Census 189
- 1865 Richard Howe *Webster*
- 1871 Elizabeth Howe, 78, born St Mary Church, plus servant, Blue Bell *Census 203*
- 1872 Transfer of licences, Mrs E Howe to Mr William Williams '*Cambrian*' newspaper
- 1873 '....the Cowbridge Blue Bell where, seated in her armchair like a queen upon her
throne, was a stout, genial, motherly old lady, as sweet as a rose, and who, he
thought from photos, much resembled Queen Victoria. It was the beloved and
cultured Mrs Williams, whose memory is still green and savoury for many miles
around' *Glamorgan Gazette, 27/6/1930, Silurian*
- 1881 Mary Williams*, 72, born Colwinston, plus daughter and
two grandsons *Census 74*
- 1891 Mary Williams, 81, with daughter and grandson (Blue Bell) *Census 73*
- 1895 Mrs Mary Williams, Blue Bell *Kelly's directory*
- (Mary Williams, born 25/9/1825 in Colwinston to parents Thomas and Gwenllian, had
married David Williams; their daughter Mary Ann married David Humphrey, and their
children were Catherine, Elizabeth and William.
This family emigrated to the USA, where a further daughter, Mary Ann, was born.
Mary Ann Humphrey married John Harris, and their child was the grandparent of Oliver
Andes, who visited Cowbridge from the USA in 2013 and supplied this information).*
- 1895 William Hancock and Co. owned; Mary Ann Humphrey occupied *B Cow/42*
- 1901 Mrs Mary Anne Harries, Blue Bell *Kelly's directory*
- 1901 John Harries, labourer and wife Mary Ann, licensed victualler, with 2 children
and mother-in-law, and a boarder (Blue Bell inn). *Census 128*
- 1901 Michael Fitzgerald *B Cow/42*
- 1906-20 Michael Fitzgerald, Blue Bell *Kelly's*

- 1910 M Fitzgerald occupied; Hancock Ltd. owner, Blue Bell and slaughterhouse to rear
D/D PRO/VAL/1/46
- 1926 Michael Fitzgerald, The Blue Bell *Kelly's*
- Flooding *Mrs Read's reminiscences*
- 1947 James and Sarah Jenkins *Electoral register*
- Owned by the Tilley family at one time, and used to store machinery etc.
Tilley family memories
- 1968 Map shows the property as derelict *Deeds of 6 High St*
(The Blue Bell was a listed building)
- 1969 Mention of Spar supermarket (building had been re-built)
Deed of easement re 6 High St
- 1999 Filco supermarket
- 2018 Information from Colwyn Jones (Watts & Morgan estate agents) – he remembers going down steps into the Blue Bell building. When it was demolished, the Tudor stone entrance door was transported and built into Elder Cottage, Penylan (since renamed), the home of the Fernyhoughs at the time. *B. Alden*

Sources/abbreviations :

GRO Glamorgan Record Office

PRO Public Record Office (Kew)

B/Cow Borough council deeds in GRO

D/D Deposits in GRO

Tithe, census, burgage rents, directories etc all in GRO

LTA Land tax assessments (in GRO)