

Ralph Williams – Llanblethian memories

born Stallcourt, 1906

Father, Fred Williams, was involved in the racing world - bought hunters for the Glamorgan Hunt. Bought the Bear in 1926

Ralph went to Miss Culverwell's school, then to CGS. HM was Franklen Evans, the best headmaster you could get; the last of the clergymen vicars. He used to walk a lot, and was friendly with the vicar of Colwinston. When he retired he went to live at St Quentins, taking with him Harry Evans, the school gardener, as his servant.

Hubert Thomas, born in Llb farm. In 1916, farmed Llb Farm, part of the Carne estate (they also owned Gt Ho and Mr Durston the butcher's). Hubert's sister, Vera Thomas, was in poor health, so they moved to Great House, which they shared with the Morrises, surveyor. Hubert's father bought the Mill - had Spencer, the previous owner to run it.

Dunns of the Cross. Engineer. Fred Dunn, the eldest son lived later in Pentre Meyrick. Tom Dunn drowned in river in Monmouth, Jack and Frank killed in the Dardanelles. Guy taught sport -?in Bedford?, and Cissie the only daughter. Millionaire?

Marvellous garden at The Cross - 2 gardeners, inc Frank Wyatt

Factory. When Hubert was born, Jenkins in the Factory then - big in the Baptist Church. Ralph Williams was in digs in Cardiff with Tudor Howells of the factory, one of the 'mashers'

Cyril Morgan - Cusop/Rhondda Villa. Kept chickens in garden across the road. Aubrey his brother was killed in the war

Old Vicarage. Revd Isaiah Roberts lived there, had a 2 cylinder car. Hopkin-James also lived there ; there was an auction after his death. Had 3 sons and 1 daughter: Nanno Marie Margaret Rebecca Hopkin-James

Joseph Hall. Started in Croft Street. A self-taught man. Hay merchant. Moved to Hill House; a nice old chap.

Brynhyfryd: John Bassett Weyman, from Netherhall in Suffolk, a toff. Bought a farm in St Mary Church, got someone else to farm it. Lived in Brocastle first; his sisters used tricycles to go to Bridgend

Llanblethian House: Bassetts of Beaupre. A cut above the usual. A county man. A vet. Followed by Richardsons.

Bridge Farm. Mr Usher, a churchwarden, with a white beard.

Ted Surrey. Lived in Aunt Em's Cottage. Had been in jail a few times. Once, Joe Hall had employed Mr Jeans from Primrose Hill to bring back a waggon of coal - Ted S ran out to pick coal off the waggon. The boys used to put a clod of earth on his chimney to make the fire smoke. His daughter, an invalid, married Frank Whyatt, gardener at The Cross

Almshouses: one occupied by Mrs Boobyer (related to Lewis Groom). She was fond of the bottle -got tight in Cowbridge.

Marlborough : John family. Supplied eggs in the war. One of the boys became a Dr (Dr John &Evans, Cowbridge)

War: Capt Yorwerth commandeered hay locally, for forces. Fred Williams commandeered horses till tanks came along). He had a car and a chauffeur to take him all over S Wales

Crossways: Fred's father murdered on Llanblethian Hill, wife left a widow, Bassett of Crossways said he'd help wife run Stallcourt. A county man. Fred employed by Bassett as a small boy - had gt riding ability. Got to know his future wife who played tennis with the girls at Crossways