

## **Chs08446-1 David Davies family of Cowbridge**

*Probably* – 6<sup>th</sup> May **1843**, marriage in Llanblethian parish church between William Rees, widower, son of Thomas Rees, labourer, and Sarah Howells, spinster, daughter of David Howells, labourer. Both William and Sarah were living in Llanblethian parish.

*Probably* - Mary Rees baptised Llanblethian 22/12/**1844**, parents William and Sarah Rees

*Probably* – In **1851** in West Village, Cowbridge, (near the Westgate Inn), William Rees 45, kitchen gardener born St. Donats, with wife Sarah, 34, born Aberkenfig, daughter Mary 6 born Llanblethian, and a lodger.

**1861**, far end of Westgate – William Rees, 55 agricultural labourer born St Donats, with wife Sarah 54, born Newcastle, and daughter Mary 17, a dressmaker born Llanblethian

**1871** in West village, Cowbridge, in Bond's Cottage (now named Westgate Lodge, 48 Westgate, on Llantwit Road next to Rock House), David Davies, 33, a carpenter, born St Woollos, Newport, with wife Mary, 27, born Llanblethian, and children Annie 5, William 3, and Mary Jane 12 months, all born in Cowbridge.

Next door, **1871**, West village – William and Sarah Rees, 65 and 58, he a labourer born St Donats, she born Aberkenfig.

**1881**, East end of Cowbridge up on the Cardiff Road towards Primrose Hill, David Davies, builder, 43 born Newport, with wife Mary, 36, and children Annie, 16, a dressmaker, William, 13, a scholar, Mary 11, Margaret 9, Sarah 7, Ephraim 4, David 2 and John 2 months. All children were born in Cowbridge.

**1881**, West village, Rock House – William Rees, 77 general labourer born St Donats, with wife Sarah, 70, born Newcastle higher

*Probably* - William Rees, died 12<sup>th</sup> September **1883**, buried in Holy Cross churchyard.

**1891** East end – David Davies, widower, with daughter Annie, 29 housekeeper, son William 24 a solicitor's clerk, son Ephraim, 15 a butcher, son David 13 a carpenter's apprentice, Sons John 10 and Charles 8, and daughter Alice 4. Also there is mother in law, widowed Sarah Rees, 76, born Bettws.

**1901** East village, south side – Annie, 35, with brothers Ephraim, 23 a plasterer, John 20 ironmonger's assistant and Charles, 18 a hairdresser, and grandmother Sarah Rees, widow of 85, born Blackmill.

**1901**, 22<sup>nd</sup> December – death of Sarah Rees. Buried in Holy Cross churchyard

**1911** at 7 Cardiff Road, Cowbridge – Annie Davies, single, 45, with brother Ephraim, 32 a plasterer, and two boarders, one a Methodist minister, the other a teacher.

*Annie Davies was born 26/8/1867 and died 12/4/1946, being buried in Cowbridge cemetery.*

**1915** Charles Davies, hairdresser of Cowbridge, bought 4 Cardiff Road, Cowbridge (Gwyn & Gwyn account books)

**1935** at 37 Eastgate lived Annie Elizabeth Davies and Elizabeth Davies (register of electors).

**Honor Alice Williams**, born 1868, was the adopted daughter of Nathaniel and Anna Bird (Cowbridge ironmonger), who had no children of their own and who looked after her following the premature death of her parents, William and Rachel Williams.

In **1871**, William Williams, 34, master cabinet maker employing one man, born in Cowbridge, lived in 16 High Street with wife Rachel, 35, three sons, John, Charles and William aged 11, 9 and 6, and 2 year old daughter Honor Alice. William Williams died in 1874, and Rachel in 1875. Honor moved next door into 14 High Street, the home of childless Nathaniel and Anna (*nee Stibbs*) Bird (who were recorded as living there in the 1881 and 1891 censuses).

In **1893**, Nathaniel Bird died suddenly aged 67 (he was instrumental in the building of the Young Men's Institute behind the Town Hall). He left to Honor Alice Williams a property (Broadway Cottage) on Broadway Hill, Llanblethian (sold the following year to a William Jones), and St Quentin's, Llanblethian. The Bird's ironmongery shop at 14 High Street continued under Nathaniel's nephew, Harold Bird (Borough Surveyor) who had until then been living in St Quentin's. Harold was the father of Ralph and Bruce Bird (Ralph founded the lawnmower business at 14 High Street and on the land behind, now the Waitrose development) and the grandfather of Roger and Rodney Bird.

**Honor Alice Williams**, born 1868, married **William Davies** (1867-1940) at Cowbridge Wesleyan Chapel in October **1898**.

In **1910**, C.M. Davies (Charles Davies, baker) owned 16 High Street, which was occupied by William Davies. Charles Morgan Davies had been an assistant baker since he was a boy at this property, helping Elizabeth Stibbs, confectioner, who had inherited it from her father William Stibbs, baker. She was the sister of Anna Bird who had brought up Honor Alice Williams. In **1912**, William Davies was a newsagent and stationer at this property, 16 High Street, and in the electoral register of **1921**, William and Honor Davies were recorded as living here.

In **1901**, William and Honor Davies, 33 and 32 (he was a solicitor's clerk and assistant) were living in Croft Terrace with their unnamed son, a baby aged under one month. In **1911** they had moved back into 16 High Street with their two sons, Hubert Wilfred, 7, and William Glynne, 5. William, 43, was a solicitor's clerk, and Honor, 42, a newsagent and stationer. Honor was living there still in **1929**; by **1930** she had moved into Glenville, Westgate. She died May 13<sup>th</sup> **1935** aged 66 years, being buried in Cowbridge cemetery. Alderman William Davies died February 24<sup>th</sup> **1940** aged 72 years – also buried in the same grave in Cowbridge cemetery. Their son, William Glynne Davies, died 17<sup>th</sup> January 1951. Their other son, Wilfred, husband of Vera, died February 28<sup>th</sup> **1981** aged 77 years.

In the **1935** register of electors, at Glenville, Westgate, there were William Davies, Hubert Wilfrid Davies, Vera Florence Davies and William Glynne Davies.