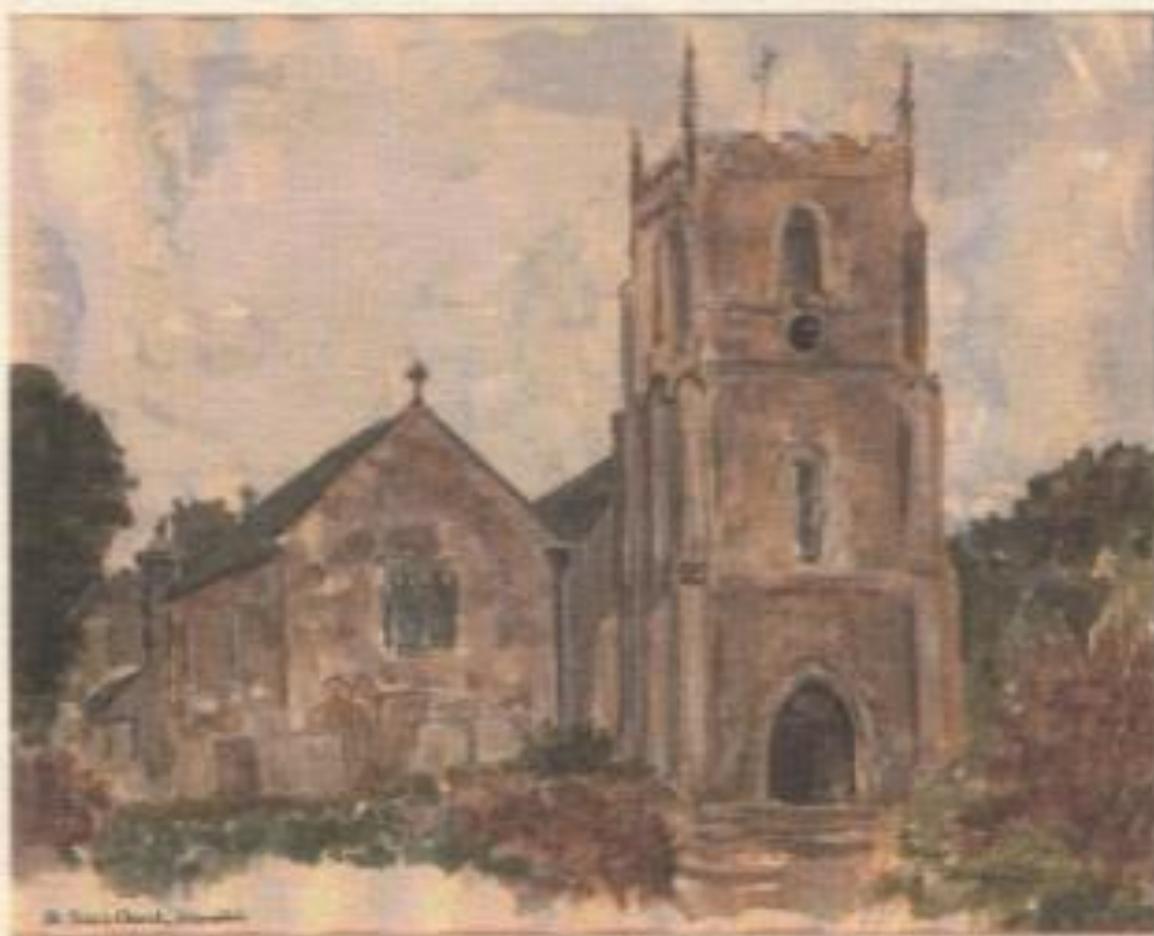


St. Silin's Church
Llansilin



AN INTRODUCTION TO LLANSILIN

The ecclesiastical parish of Llansilin was huge, stretching from *Hafod y Garreg* at Nantyr down to *Penybont Llanerch Emyrs* and included the township of Sychtyn in Shropshire. In the census of 1911 it had a population of 1,278 in 292 separate households.

The parish lay within three manors. Sychtyn was in the manor of "Duparts", while the township of *Sycharth, Priddbwl, Lloran* and parts of *Rhiwlas, Llys Dynwallawn, Llan and Moelfre* lay in the manor of Cynllaith Owen. The townships of *Bodlith, Lledrod* and the remaining parts of *Rhiwlas, Llys Dynwallawn, Llan and Moelfre* were in the Manor of *Cynllaith yr Iarll*. The three lordships met at 'Bwrdd Tri Arglwydd' a scheduled monument. The two manors became part of the Lordship of Chirk. With the Act of Union in 1536 the Lordship of Chirk became part of the new county of Denbighshire. Successive local government re-organisations have reduced the size of the civil parish and in 1971 it was transferred from Denbighshire to the new county of Clwyd.

Then again in 1994, the whole parish, together with *Llangedwyn* and *Llanrhaeadr* were transferred to Powys.

The church has played an important part in village life since the 13th century and early in the 19th century the four non-conformist denominations – Baptist, Methodist, Congregational and Wesleyan – established chapels in the area. They encouraged *Eisteddfodau, Aelwyd* (Welsh League of Youth) the visit of Powys Eisteddfod in 1964, *Merched Y Wawr* (Ladies Group) and the establishment of Yr Ysgol Meithrin.

Although Llansilin is very close to the English border,

Welsh culture is a very important part of the life of the area.

The Welsh language is used extensively in the school, Chapels and Church and there are many Welsh organisations.

Farming in the area has always been mixed with most of the farms being farming farms. Cropping and livestock have altered according to the economic state of the industry. The establishment of the Milk Marketing Board in the 1930's led to even the smallest of holdings producing milk – look out for redundant milk stands at the end of farm drives. The majority of farms kept pigs and poultry, which have now largely disappeared from the area, and the number of milk producers has greatly reduced. Corn is not grown whereas up to thirty years ago all farms grew enough for their own needs. This was threshed by mobile threshing machines, moving from farm to farm during the winter.

Nowadays nearly all of the labour is provided by the family with no live-in workers.

Like most villagers, Llansilin was self-contained, with its own saddler, bootmaker, blacksmith, doctor, tailor, malster, butcher, carpenter, wheelwright, undertaker and village stores.

At least six houses have been inns a one time or another.

Today the village has a pub, shop, part time post office, garage and an agricultural engineer. It has lost its doctor, nurse, policeman, resident minister (four at one time) and local bus company. It is surprising that with the loss of such natural leaders that it is such a viable community. Times change and people's interests change. There are now a successful bowling club, history society and youth club, all unheard of twenty years ago, while the older societies such as the WI, Over 60's are still active. In the year of the Millennium there has been a flourish of building work. A new estate at Cae'r Eglwys, complete refurbishment of the Memorial Hall, repairs to the Church tower, the re-hanging of the bells, and replacement with modern with modern equipment of the children's play area and an ambitious play scheme for the youth of the area.

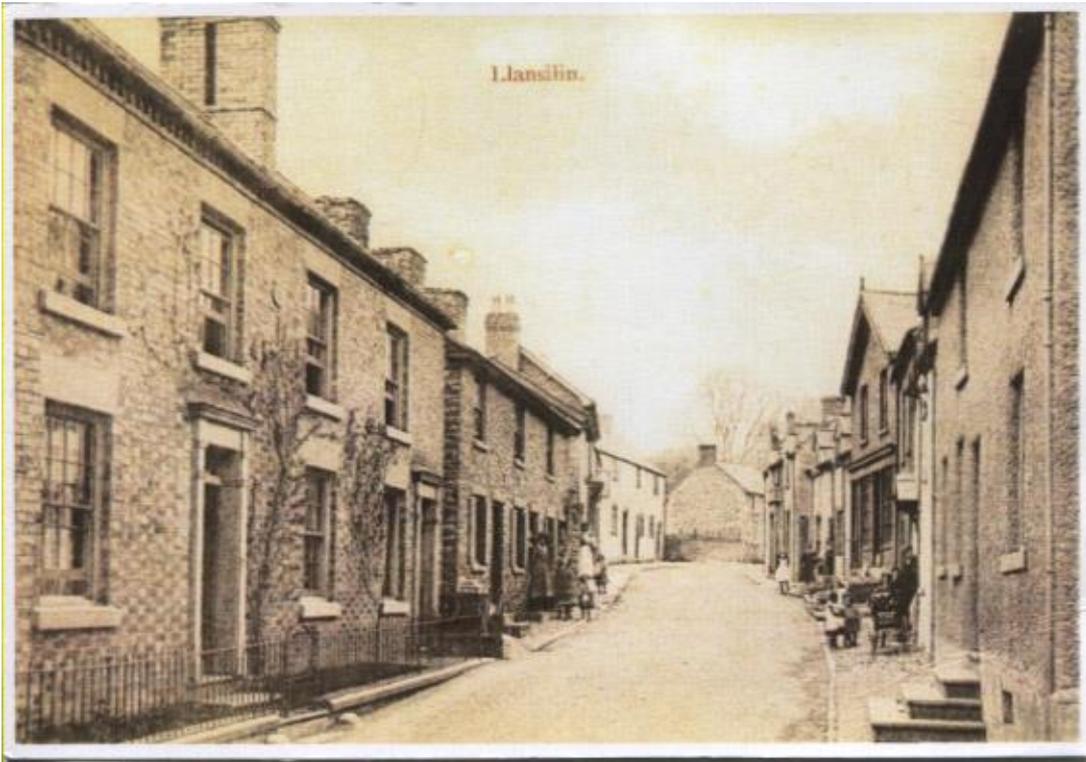
We end the Millennium on a high note having been chosen as the Powys Village of the Year.

This article has been copied from the book
CHANGING TIMES in LLANSILIN
which was made possible by the award of a grant
from the Millennium Commission 2000.



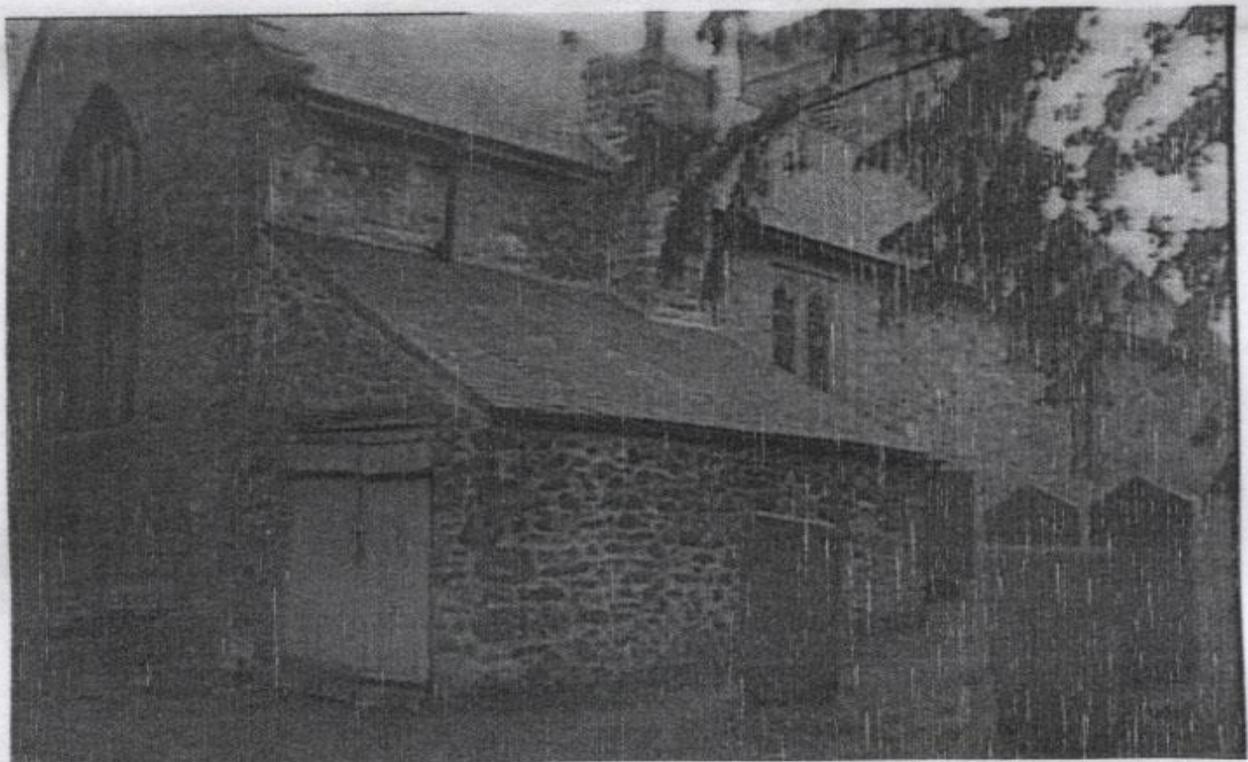


LANSILIN CHURCH, INTERIOR.
ROBERTS & WILLIAMS, P.O. LANSILIN.

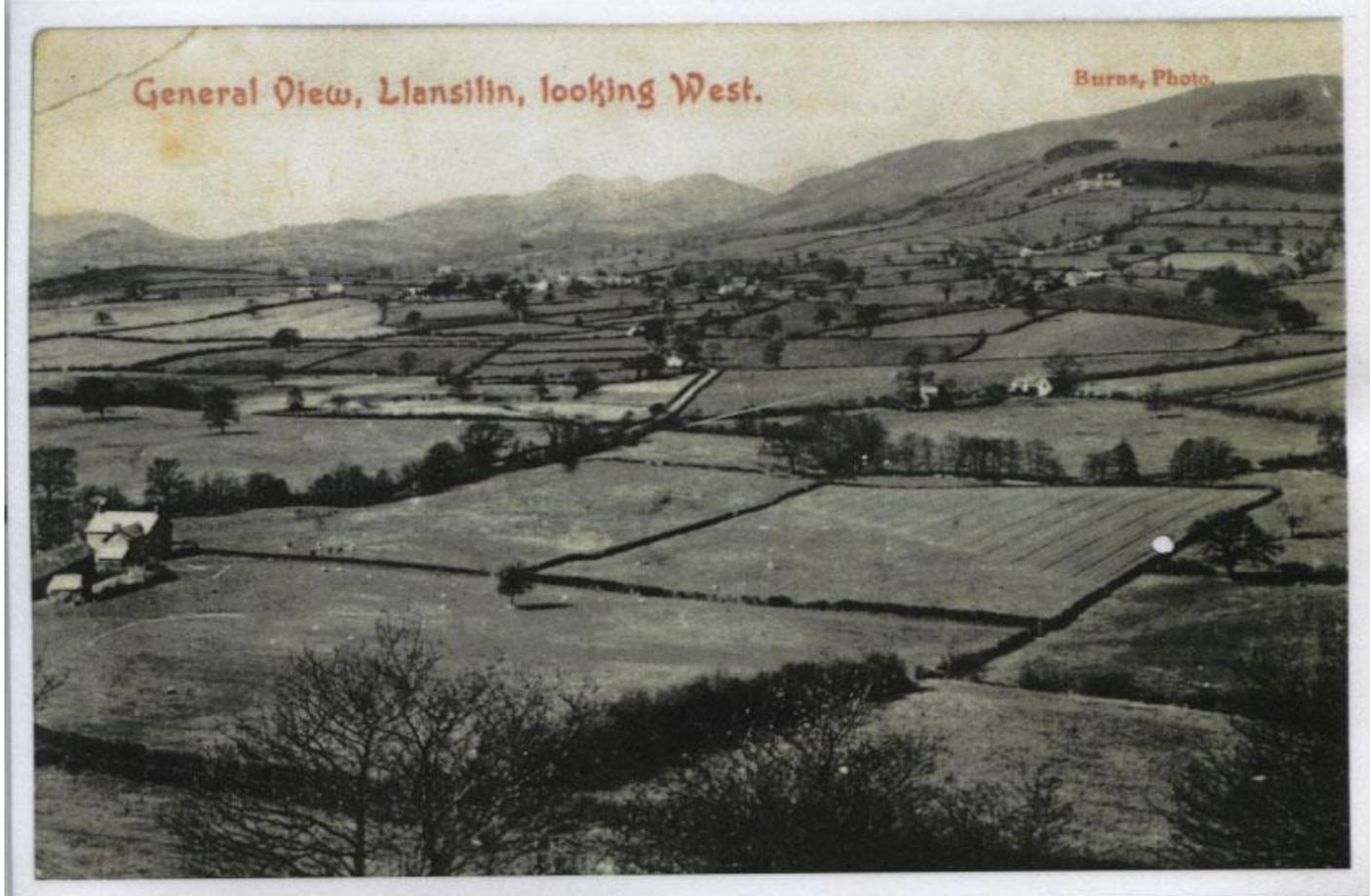




**The old Victorian "Heating Chamber" replaced in 2005
by a modern building to serve its Parish and Community.**



The old Victorian "Heating Chamber"



LLANSILIN SCHOOL

**LLANSILIN NATIONAL SCHOOL
MIXED DEPARTMENT REGISTERS**

1877 – 1911 & 1912 – 1950

LLANSILIN VILLAGE SCHOOL

LOG BOOK

JANUARY 1906 – DECEMBER 1922

*A sincere **THANK YOU** to Head Teacher Rhian and staff of Ysgol Bro Cynllaith for allowing me to loan the above Registers and Log Books which I took to the Oswestry Library where the Oswestry Family & Local History Group are located.*

I am indebted to our Group Leader

** Tony Harrison and Gillian Fynes for photographing and transferring this information on to CD.*

These original Registers and Log Books are now lodged at the Denbighshire County Archives Office at Ruthin where they can be viewed by the general public.

*CD's can be viewed at
the School, the Church and Oswestry Library.*

**Sadly Tony passed away suddenly last December (2015). He was a friend and much respected, he is sorely missed by all members of the Oswestry Family and Local History Group.*

Mary E Morris - June 2016



Ysgol Bro Llansilin ca 1899



1914. Back row left to right:

Unknown, Lizzie Watkins, unknown, unknown, Hilda Jones, Elsie Davies,
David Morgan, Teacher *Bessie Thomas Oakdene*,
Middle row: Oswald Jones, Llewellyn Richards, Willy Williams, Hywel Harris,
Ernie Jones, Ellinor Foulkes, Priscilla Hughes,
Front row: unknown, Billy Breeze, Bell Hughes, Minnie Hughes, Bertha Lewis,
Dilys Morgan, Nellie Ambrose and Gladys Jones.



1920. Back row left to right:

Gwilym Pryce, Eunice Jones, Mabel Morgan, Bronwen Thomas, Gwen Humphreys,
Dorothy Foulkes, Beryl Williams Oakdene Teacher Miss Edwards.

Middle row: Jack Morris, unknown, Stanley Jones, Richie Davies, unknown,

Front row: Bell Richards, unknown, Elwyn Jones, Bobby Hughes,
Peter Hughes and Trevor Morgan.

LLANSILIN NATIONAL SCHOOL - MIXED

Schooling has a long history in the Llansilin area. In the Church vestry minutes of 1778 it was recorded that the Church gallery was enlarged, repaired and a temporary school was opened. In 1791 a report by the Rural Dean to the Bishop of St Asaph stated that a schoolmaster by the name of Edward Davies had been appointed, with no endowment and no funding from the Church. Fees would have to be charged with perhaps help from the landowners.

Little is known of how things proceeded except for the appointment of another schoolmaster in 1807, but whether the school remained in the Church gallery, or moved to the vicarage, nothing can be confirmed. In 1808 the Reverend Thomas Charles of Bala directed the Reverend Robert Evans of Llanidloes to keep a day school in a room at the old workhouse in Llansilin.

In 1816 a new curate was appointed – the Reverend David Richards, known as ‘Dewi Silin’, who later became the Vicar. Under his guidance and enthusiasm Llansilin Church of England School was eventually built in the early 1820’s. The first Head Master was John Mather from Caersws, who was succeeded by his brother William at only 16 years of age. William Mather died in 1888 aged 80 and his gravestone in the Churchyard tells us that he was Headmaster for 54 years and Registrar for Births and Deaths for 50 years.

In 1847 there were 53 scholars on the register, the subjects taught were reading, writing, arithmetic, the Scriptures and the Church Catechism. Mainly Welsh was spoken although some would converse in English. In 1878 an extension to the school was built, and to this day a stone in the wall bears the inscription ‘This stone was placed here by Mrs Hamer of Glan yr Afon Hall, Llanyblodwel, July 30th 1878’. Schooling was not made compulsory for children aged 5 to 10 until 1880, extended to age 11 in 1893 and age 12 in 1899. Fees were paid by parents until 1891 but in 1893 all fees were abolished and education was free for all.

As the school moved into the next century, the master in charge was Huw Solomon Williams, a native of Llanberis. Teaching started to be more general, with the introduction of new subjects such as poetry, history, geography, needlework for girls and gardening for boys. Mr Williams was a sociable man and took a full part in community matters, from being the Registrar of Births and Deaths, to being the founder of the Llansilin Brass Band. He retired in 1922 after 40 years as Headmaster and lived at Oakdene. Mr Williams died in 1931 at the age of 75 and was buried in Llansilin Churchyard. The number of pupils in Llansilin school peaked at a 100 in 1904 – 1906 but by 1922 they had declined to 68.



Photograph of sisters Ellinor Mary and Dorothy Whitfield Foulkes taken 1917 at the corner of the schoolyard in front of the entrance to the churchyard. both daughters of David and Mabel Foulkes (nee Morris) Moeliwrch. Both mothers to the current Tynewydd and Lloran Uchaf families.

LLANSILIN WAR MEMORIAL & REMEMBRANCE BOARD



THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR EVERMORE.

PTE. WYNN BATHER. *ABERTEIRW TERRACE*. R.W.F.
.. EVAN DAVIES. *BRYNFFYNNON, BRIW*. K.S.L.I.
.. JOHN DAVIES. .. S. LANCS.
.. WILLIAM DAVIES. .. N. LANCS.
.. JOHN DANIEL DAVIES. *PENTRECEFNACH*. N. LANCS.
.. ROBT THOS. DAVIES. *BRYNCOCH UCHAF*. R.W.F.
.. ENOCH EDWARDS. *PENTREFLIN*. W.HORSE.
BDR. JOHN ELLIS. *TYNYFRON*. MM. CC. A.L.H.
PTE. JOHN ED. EVANS. *CEFNYBRAICH*. R.A.M.C.
LIEUT. HUBERT JAMES TUDOR HAMER. 108TH INFY INDIAN ARMY.
PTE. CRIFFITH ED. HUGHES. *COTTAGE, CEFNCANOL*. CANAD^Y F.
.. WILLIAM JEFFREYS. *PENTRECWYN*. K.L-POOL.
.. ALBERT ED. JONES. *FRONFRAITH*. R.W.F.
.. DAVID JONES. *BRIDGE COTTAGE, PANDY* R.E.
.. WILFRED JONES. .. R.W.F.
.. HUGH C. JONES. *RHIWLAS C. SCHOOL*. R.W.F.
.. JOHN RICH^D LEWIS. *MOUNT, SYCHTYN*. W.RECT.
.. ROBT OWEN LLOYD. *TRECEIRIOC MILL*. R.W.F.
L.CPL. WILLIAM MORGAN. *BRYNLLUNWY*. MONT YEO.
PTE. ARTHUR MORRIS. *TYDU*. MONT YEO.
MAJOR. JOHN MORRIS. *LLORAN UCHAF*. MC. R.A.M.C.
PTE. THOMAS MORRIS. *TYNANT*. S. LANCS.
.. HERBERT RICHARDS. *STENT*. K.S.L.I.
.. EDWIN AND^Y ROBERTS. *CILRHUW*. K.S.L.I.
.. RICHARD ROGERS. *PENTRECWN*. K.S.L.I.
.. ROBT ROGERS. .. CANAD^Y F.
.. DAVID WILLIAMS. *GRAVEL HILL, MOELFRE*. K.S.L.I.
.. JOHN WILLIAMS. .. CHESH.R.
.. PERCY WILLIAMS. .. CHESH.R.
.. DAVID CARADOC WILLIAMS. *LLYS SILIN*. N.Z.M.I.
.. PETER TREVOR WILLIAMS. *TYNYBWLCH*. DEVONR.

REST ETERNAL GRANT THEM, O LORD.



Roll.

Pte.	WYNN BATHER	-	-	R.W.F.
"	EVAN DAVIES	-	-	K.S.L.I.
"	JNO. DAVIES	-	-	S. Lancs.
"	WM. DAVIES	-	-	N. Lancs.
"	JNO. D. DAVIES	-	-	"
"	ROBT. T. DAVIES	-	-	R.W.F.
"	ENOCH EDWARDS	-	-	W. Horse.
Bdr.	JNO. ELLIS	-	-	M.M., C.G., A.L.H.
Pte.	JNO. E. EVANS	-	-	R.A.M.C.
Lieut.	H. J. TUDOR HAMER	-	-	108th Inf. Indian Army.
Pte.	G. ED. HUGHES	-	-	Canadian F.
"	WM. JEFFREYS	-	-	K. L'pool.
"	ALBERT E. JONES	-	-	R.W.F.
"	DAVID JONES	-	-	R.E.
"	HUGH G. JONES	-	-	R.W.F.
"	WILFRD JONES	-	-	"
"	JNO. R. LEWIS	-	-	W. Regt.
"	ROBT. O. LLOYD	-	-	R.W.F.
L:Cpl.	WM. MORGAN	-	-	Mont. Yeo.
Pte.	ARTHUR MORRIS	-	-	"
Major	JNO. MORRIS	-	-	M.C., R.A.M.C.
Pte.	THOS. MORRIS	-	-	S. Lancs.
"	HERBERT RICHARDS	-	-	K.S.L.I.
"	EDWIN A. ROBERTS	-	-	"
"	RICHARD ROGERS	-	-	"
"	ROBERT ROGERS	-	-	Canad. F.
"	DAVID WILLIAMS	-	-	K.S.L.I
"	JNO. WILLIAMS	-	-	Chesh. R.
"	PERCY WILLIAMS	-	-	"
"	D. CARADOG WILLIAMS	-	-	N.Z., M.I.
"	PETER T. WILLIAMS	-	-	Devon R.



**In Recognition of the Inhabitants of
Llansilin and District who Served in
the Armed Forces 1939 - 1945**



ROYAL NAVY

William Hughes

Roland Thomas

ARMY

Norman Dempster
Robert Edwards
R W Edwards
John O Ellis
Emlyn Evans
Bell Hughes
John J Hughes
Thomas Humphreys

K.S.L.I.
Devonshire Regiment
Dragoon Guards

Royal Artillery
Royal Tank Regiment
Wiltshire Yeomanry
Royal Tank Regiment

Elwyn Jones
Ernest Jones
Goronwy Jones
Gwyndaf Jones
Gwynfryn Jones
Oswald Jones
Richard Jones
Douglas Morgan
Ernest Morgan
Kenneth Morgan
Arthur John Reynolds
Llewelyn Sides

Royal Welsh Fusiliers

R.E.M.E.

Royal Artillery

Royal Artillery
Royal Welsh Fusiliers
The Gloucesters
Queens Regiment (killed in action)
Royal Welsh Fusiliers
(Military Medal)

Enoch Stokes
Harry Thomas
John Williams

RAF

Ivor Hughes
Peter Hughes
Richard Hughes
Eyton Jones
Thomas E Jones

Martha Hughes W.R.A.C.
Jean Smith W.R.A.F.

WOMENS LAND ARMY

Mary Evans

Peggy Ellis





The Llansilin Remembrance Board showing all who served in both World Wars can be found in the Memorial Hall.

The names and relevant information of the men and women lost in WW1 can be found at http://www.clwydfhs.org.uk/cofadeiladau/llansilin_wm.htm