

# ST. DOGMAELS' TIMELINE.

Ca7000BC – A flint axe was lost at Cemaes Head, where it was rediscovered nearly 9000 years later.

Ca1500-1000BC – A small barrow cemetery was in use within the later parish.

Ca200BC – Defensive banks were constructed at Caerau.

Ca424 – The cell of St. Dogfael was founded – probably in Cwm Degwell.

Ca700 – The St Dogmaels Maltese Cross was inscribed.

Ca800 – The Bryngwyn stone was carved.

988 – St Dogmaels was raided by Vikings.

1091 – The Battle of Llandudoch – Rhys ap Tewdwr defeated Gruffydd ap Maredudd.

1113 – Robert fitz Martin, new Norman ruler of Cemaes, established St Dogmaels Abbey, initially as a Priory, with 13 monks from Tiron.

1118 – A further 13 monks arrived from Tiron to raise St Dogmaels Priory to Abbey status.

10/09/1121 – Formal establishment of the Abbey of St Mary at St Dogmaels – Fulchard was enthroned as the first Abbot.

1138 – Danish mercenaries hired to attack Cardigan, instead ransacked and looted St Dogmaels.

1150-1153 – A major building programme was undertaken at the Abbey.

1188 – Gerald de Barri (Geraldus Cambrensis) and Archbishop Baldwin visited the Abbey while recruiting for the Third Crusade.

1200 – Attempts were made to elect Walter, the illiterate Abbot of St Dogmaels, as Bishop of St David's.

18/01/1253 – Richard, Bishop of St David's, visited the Abbey.

1349 – The Black Death reaches St Dogmaels, possibly killing as much as a third of the population.

04/05/1388 – The Archbishop of Canterbury visited the Abbey.

January 1402 – Guy, Bishop of St David's, visited the Abbey and accused Abbot Philip Fader of keeping a monastery of drunk, gluttonous and lecherous monks.

14/11/1442 – Pope Eugenius IV granted William Lloyd of Hendre the right to use a portable altar to celebrate mass. There was a chapel at Hendre.

16/07/1504 – The Bishop visited the Abbey and found the monks well-behaved and the North Transept recently elaborately restored.

1534 – Act of Union of England and Wales.

1537 – The Abbey of St Mary was closed by Henry VIII and sold to John Bradshaw for conversion into a mansion.

1537 – The Parish Church of St Thomas the Apostle was probably moved to the present site.

1543 – Bradshaw's mansion was completed at the Abbey.

1556 – Rhys Fychan ap Rhydderch of Towyn became Sheriff of Cardiganshire. He lived at Plas Newydd, St Dogmaels.

1570 – James Bradshaw of the Abbey was the Sheriff of Pembrokeshire.

1597 – Thomas Parry of Plas Newydd was the Sheriff of Cardiganshire.

March 1604 – William Bradshaw of the Abbey became MP for Cardigan Boroughs.

1619 – William Bradshaw had a corn mill built or rebuilt – possibly the site of Y Felin.

1623 – John Lloyd of Hendre was the Sheriff of Pembrokeshire.

1629 – Stephen Parry of Plas Newydd was the Sheriff of Cardiganshire.

1643 – John and Edward Bradshaw were captured at Pill, ending the family connection with the Abbey.

1646 – David Parry of Noyadd Trefawr bought the former Abbey estate.

November 1662 – John Vaughan was ejected as Vicar of St Dogmaels owing to his Nonconformity.

1685 – David Parry of Plas Newydd was the Sheriff of Cardiganshire.

1706 – A Baptist chapel was founded at Rhosgerdd – the first in the parish.

1744 – Pencwm was built at Cwm Degwel.

1745 – Blaenwaun Baptist Chapel was built to replace Rhosgerdd. It was thatched and had no gallery.

1769 – The 'White Hart' was trading by this date.

1776 – The 25 ton smack ‘Providence’ was the first recorded ship built at St Dogmaels.

Ca1785 – Plas Newydd was rebuilt for Sir Watkin Lewis (Lord Mayor of London in 1780)

1789 – Corner House was built (but later rebuilt).

1790 – St Dogmaels National (Church) School was founded.

1794 – 143 members of Blaenwaun were baptised in the space of nine months.

1795 – Blaenwaun was rebuilt on a larger scale.

1798 – Soar Baptist Chapel was founded near Cippyn.

Ca1800 – The Webley Hotel was built and opened as ‘The Webley Inn’.

1813 – Ty’rbont Baptist Chapel was built at the top of the High Street.

1820 – Capel Degwel independent congregation began to meet.

1822 – Rev. Dafydd Phillips, Minister of Blaenwaun, sailed on the “Active” with 3 of his congregation to the Cardigan Settlement at St John’s, New Brunswick. He helped to found a Baptist church there and then returned home.

1825 – Y Felin was largely rebuilt.

1828 – Capel Degwel was built.

1830 – Tivy Stores warehouse (Jewsons) was built to designs by Daniel Evans.

1836 – Capel Seion Calvinistic Methodist Chapel was built.

1838 – Bethsaida Baptist Chapel opened, replacing Ty’rbont.

1839 – Work began on the building of the Cardigan Union Workhouse.

1846 – A slipway and breakwater were built at Traeth Bach for Oliver Lloyd.

ca1846 – Captain George Bowen had Plas Newydd rebuilt.

1847-48 – Gerazim Baptist Chapel was built at Cippyn, replacing Soar.

1848-52 – The parish Church of St. Thomas the Apostle was rebuilt to designs by A Ashpitel.

1849 – The first lifeboat arrived at St Dogmaels – Captain George Bowen was the first coxswain.

1859 – The Cambrian Archaeological Association visited the abbey.

1862 – David Davies of Castle Green, Thomas Harman Brenchley of Glyneirw, and others, purchased parts of the former abbey estate.

1866 – The Vicarage and Coach House were built with stone from the abbey ruins.

1867 – Opening of the St Dogmaels Royal Naval Reserve Artillery Battery.

1868 – St Dogmaels Board School was built.

1876 – New RNLI boathouse built at Ceibach.

1877-78 – Chapel Degwel was rebuilt.

1880 – Gerazim was rebuilt to designs by George Morgan of Carmarthen.

11/11/1881 – The Duke of Edinburgh visited the St Dogmaels Artillery Battery.

1885-86 – Blaenwaun was rebuilt to designs by Owen Lewis of London, who had been born in St Dogmaels.

23/04/1902 – Admiral Sir Gerald Noel inspected the St Dogmaels Battery.

14/05/1902 – King and Alexandra Gardens opened by CED Morgan-Richardson.

1908 – Henlana Mills built.

01/06/1917 – Closure of Cambrian Mills, Teifi Stores.

23/05/1924 – Closure of the ‘Rose & Crown’. Bethsaida Vestry was then built on the site.

1926 – Regular production ceased at Y Felin Mill.

July 1927 – Questions were raised in Parliament about children housed at the Workhouse.

13/10/1932 – The Lifeboat Station was closed.

09/11/1935 – The Workhouse closed.

1944 – American Troops and the WVS were based at Albro Castle – the former workhouse.

1959 – St Dogmaels was ‘Pembrokeshire’s Best Kept Village’.

1964 – Alun Owen of Penally wrote the screenplay of ‘A Hard Day’s Night’.

1971 – Henry Graham Partridge of Parkypratt was the Sheriff of Cardiganshire.

18/08/1971 – The new lifeboat was launched and the new station opened.

1977-81 – Y Felin was restored to full working order.

1989 – Capel Seion was deconsecrated and turned into housing.

1994 – A landslip affected the Cwmmins area.

1997 – A new lifeboat station opened at Poppit.

2002-03 – Large extensions were added to Ysgol Llandudoch School.

03/07/2006 – The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall visited St Dogmaels.

October 2006 – Bethsaida Chapel closed.

2008 – Coach House visitor's Centre opened.

## **Author: Glen Johnson, January 2009**

Glen is passionate historian who lives in the village and regularly gives talks/lectures on various aspects of the history of the area. He has been involved in the re-development of Cardigan Castle and takes an interest in all aspects of the history and heritage of the area.

Glen Johnson's books are available at The Coach House Heritage Centre.