

## Craig yr Aderyn



*Craig yr Aderyn in 2023*

Craig yr Aderyn (Bird Rock) is a newer name for this house, which was previously three cottages. Rather strangely, the older name was Tai Newyddion (New Houses). It seems possible that it was built originally as a single house around 1843, as it does not appear on the 1841 census, but is recorded as a house and garden, owned and lived in by Thomas Davies, in 1844. Thomas Davies could have been the same man who lived and worked as a labourer at Ty y Graig Farm in 1841. As both he and his wife Ann were 70 years old, maybe they built it as their retirement home. If so, then they did not live there very long, as from 1851 it was occupied as 3 cottages by labourers and slate quarrymen.



*The tithe map of 1844 shows Tai Newyddion as number 160, which was owned and lived in by Thomas Davies. Courtesy National Library Wales*

In 1871 it is recorded that the Church of England was in the buildings of Tai Newyddion cottages, probably as a precursor to moving into St. Mary's church just up the lane.

Household	Name	Sex	Age	Occupation	Religion	Notes
41	John Cole	M	50	Widow man	Anglican	5 <sup>0</sup> County of Glamorgan
	Elizabeth Jones	F	45	Wife	Anglican	5 <sup>0</sup> Glamorgan
	John Jones	M	11		Anglican	5 <sup>0</sup> Glamorgan
	Thomas Jones	M	6		Anglican	5 <sup>0</sup> Glamorgan
	Elizabeth Jones	F			Anglican	5 <sup>0</sup> Glamorgan
	Elizabeth Jones	F			Anglican	5 <sup>0</sup> Glamorgan
Church of England						
Total of Houses..		6	24	Total of Males and Females..	11	9

\* Please do not check any of the fields as not appropriate.

*The 1871 census shows the Church of England being in Tai Newyddion*

After the Church of England had vacated the buildings, the cottages were once again lived in by labourers and quarrymen. One cottage was unoccupied in 1891 and there was just 73 year old widow Catherine Humphries living there in 1901. In 1911 it did not feature in the census records at all.

At some point, Tai newyddion must have been acquired by the Wynnstay Estate and become part of the Rock Farm holding. Along with the Farm it eventually left Wynnstay hands in 1936 when it came into the possession of Harry Best and Henry Robertson.

In 1947 Harry Best sold the whole Rock Farm estate to Roger Kynaston. But just five years later Roger Kynaston sold the cottages to John and Mona Davies. Tai-newyddion was later bought by Hugh Stanton, a retired civil servant. He knocked what in effect was still recognisable as three cottages into one and used it as a holiday home for many years.

MEMORANDUM: By a Conveyance dated the 1st day of November 1952 and made between the within named Roger Kynaston of the one part and John Glyne Davies and Mona Mary Davies of the other part ALL THAT piece of land situate near Rock House Colwyn Bay containing 0.299 of an acre or thereabouts together with the cottage erected thereon which said piece of land is numbered Plan Number 381 in the first part of the Schedule to the within written deed, was conveyed unto the said John Glyne Davies and Mona Mary Davies in fee simple subject as therein more particularly mentioned and their right to production and delivery of copies of the within written deed was thereby acknowledged.

*John Glyne Davies*  
John Glyne Davies

*A memorandum of the 1952 sale to John and Mona Davies.*

We hope to have a more complete story of Craig yr Aderyn available soon.