

**JOURNEY'S END**  
**CAERWYS PEOPLE REMEMBER**  
**THE RAILWAY**



**COMPILED BY ALICE WARD**

**BASED ON THE NEW YEAR MEETING OF  
THE CAERWYS HISTORICAL SOCIETY,  
JANUARY 2016.**

**Published by Caerwys Historical Society**

## CONTENTS

	Page
The Last Train from Caerwys: Tim Erasmus....	1
At the Station House: Francis Parry .....	8
Pennies on the Line: Estelle Parry.....	14
Willingly to School? Elinor Sharrock.....	15
The Signalman's Story: Dai Vaughan .....	19
First Post: Berwyn Roberts .....	26
Acknowledgements.....	35
Cover Picture: Caerwys Station (Probably late 1940s or early 1950s)	

This is a limited edition available locally. For further copies please contact Caerwys Historical Society on 01352 721049

Printed by Delyn Press, Holywell, Flintshire, CH8 7LH.  
Tel: 01352 711709. [info@delynpress.com](mailto:info@delynpress.com)

## The Contributors



Dr. Tim Erasmus



L to R: Berwyn Roberts, Francis Parry, Dai Vaughan



Estelle Parry



Elinor Sharrock

*'They make great subjects, trains, don't they? Railways aren't just bricks and mortar, they are emotional places, places of arrival and departure'*. These are the words of Dr. Tim Erasmus, setting in its historical context the arrival of the railway in Caerwys in 1869, and tracing its development and importance to the trade and growth of the town until its eventual decline and closure under Dr.

Beeching's axe in 1962. This historical background was of great value in introducing a unique piece of oral history about the railway in Caerwys, for we were able to hear the personal reminiscences of three local people with direct links to the railway: Mr. Berwyn Roberts, who worked in the railway offices in Mold, Mr. Francis Parry, who grew up in the Station House, and Mr. Dai Vaughan, who worked as a signaller at Caerwys and Bodfari. A written record cannot convey the full warmth of the evening – the laughter and spontaneous applause which greeted such revelations as the provision of 700 buns on the occasion of the grand opening, or the many unique personal memories which will never find their way into a conventional history book. But it is important that these stories should be remembered, and so they are recorded here in the second book to be published by the Caerwys Historical Society. Also included here are a number of pieces received after the lecture, notably Mrs. Elinor Sharrock's recollections of the hazards of travelling by train to school.

