TIMELINE DYLAN THOMAS

YEAR	DYLAN THOMAS	WALES	BRITAIN	THE WORLD
1914	October 27th: Dylan Marlais Thomas born at 5 Cwmdonkin Drive, Uplands, Swansea. He had an older sister called Nancy Marles Thomas. His parents – David John and Florrie Thomas were both from Carmarthenshire. D.J.Thomas was senior English Master at Swansea Grammar School.	 No National Eisteddfod was held. July 7th: Freddie Welsh from Pontypridd became World Lightweight Boxing champion. January 14th: First motorised trolleybus service in Wales started in Aberdare. Trams were running in Swansea and South Wales Transport Company was set up and ran a service in Swansea Valley. September 18th: Welsh Church Act – leaded to setting up the Church in Wales (breaking free from the Church of England). First Women's teacher training college opened in Barry. Manager of Swansea Town AFC was an Englishman called William Bartlett. He was in post for less than a year. Five Nations in rugby union was won by England with Wales second. 	 May 15th – Parliament rejected the idea of Scottish Home Rule, but principle of Irish Home Rule accepted. May 22nd – 57 protestors including Emmeline Pankhurst were arrested for trying to reach Buckingham Palace to further their cause for 'votes for women'. Nov 17th: Income tax doubled to pay for the war. 	 June 28th – In Sarajevo, Arch Duke Franz Ferdinand from Austria- Hungary and his wife, were shot, leading to the beginning of the First World War. October 3rd– Earthquake in Turkey killed 2,500 people.
1915-		1915	1915	1915
25		 Sept 2nd: Keir Hardy, first Labour MP – died. Dec 4th: First submarine (J3) launched in Pembroke. In Llanfair PG Anglesey – first branch of the Women's Institute was set up. D.W.Griffiths' contentious film <i>The</i> 	 January 19th: Aerial warfare began on Britain as German Zeppelins were used for the first time. February 4th: UK war casualties reached 	December 10th: Ford in the USA made its one millionth car.

Birth of a Nation was screened in New York. D.W.Griffiths was an American of Welsh descent who was one of the founders of the modern film industry.

104,000.

- February 18th: The planned Berlin Olympic Games were cancelled.
- March 18th. Government urged women to go out to work to help the war campaign.

1916

- ➤ January 6th: Military Conscription was passed by Parliament.
- May 21st: British Summer Time started, as a way of saving coal to create light in the evenings

1916

- April 8th: In Norway women were given the right to vote in general elections.
- April 24th: Uprising in Dublin, Ireland against British Rule. This lead to the 'Easter Rising'.
- July 1st: Somme campaign started, leading to thousands of deaths in the trenches.
- September 15th: Britain used tanks in the war for the first time.
- Woodrow Wilson was elected President of the USA narrowly beating Charles Evans Hughes, whose father was a Welsh minister from

- Dec 7th: Lloyd George, a Welshman became Prime Minister.
- 4,000 Welsh soldiers of the 38th Division of the Welsh Guards, and a 1,000 of The Royal Welsh Fusiliers were killed in the Somme and Mametz.
- Jimmy Wilde World Boxing Champion.

- July 31st: Hedd Wyn was killed in action in Pilkem Ridge before he could claim his bardic chair at the Birkenhead National Eisteddfod.
- ➤ A young Welsh poet from Allt-wen, Gwenallt, was jailed for two years because he was a conscientious objector, refusing to enlist as a soldier on moral and religious grounds.

1918

- Autumn /Winter: Wales was hit by a killer flu.
- September 27th: The composer and musician Morfydd Owen died in Craig-y-môr, Mumbles whilst on her holidays. She was only 27 years old and married to Sigmund Freud's biographer and colleague, Ernest Jones from Gowerton.

1917

British Royal family dropped all German titles: Saxe-Coburg-Gotha became Windsor and Battenburg became Mountbatten.

1917

Tredegar.

- March 16th: Russian Czar Nicholas II abdicated, which led to the Russian revolution of Nov 7th.
- April 6th: America joined in World War 1;

1918

- ➤ January 25th: British Government introduced a two-meatless-days-aweek policy to deal with food shortages.
- November 12th: Britain had war debts of £7,100 million.
- November 23rd: League Football resumed in Britain.
- December 28th: women over 30 voted for the first time in a general election.

- ➤ The ex Czar of Russia and his family killed by Russia's Bolshevik.
- November 11th: Germany signed the Armistice – which meant the end of the First World War which claimed 10 million allied and enemy lives.

- ➤ June 12th: Calls for a Welsh regional parliament.
- September 27th: Adelina Patti from Craig y Nos, Swansea Valley, died. She was a world famous operatic singer.

1919

- ➤ July 5th: Wimbledon women's championship was won for the first time by a woman from a non-English speaking nation Suzanne Lenglen from France.
- October 16th: Government had set up a Commission to look into a system of federal devolution for the UK.
- November 28th: Nancy Astor became Britain's first woman MP. She was elected a Tory MP for Plymouth in a byelection.

1919

- April 17: Four of the top film artists joined to create a new company called United Artists, in Hollywood. The artists were Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbank, Charles Chaplin and D.W. Griffith.
- ➤ June 28th: Germany signed the Peace Treaty at Versailles.

1920

- The Church in Wales was officially set up.
- Billy Meredith at the age of 45 played for the Wales International football team, beating England at Highbury. He played professionally for Manchester United.
- University College of Wales Swansea opened its doors to students for the first time.

1920

- August 31st: London police report revealed that the growing number of motor cars had led to an increase in road deaths.
- October 16th: Coal miners were out on a national strike.

- ➤ January 16th: Prohibition became law in the USA prohibiting the manufacture and sale of alcohol.
- August: Olympic Games were held in Antwerp, Belgium.
- September 10th: In India, The national Congress, adopted Gandhi's programme of non-co-

	 1921 ➤ The census showed a dramatic fall in the number and percentage of Welsh speakers in Wales over 3yrs of age: ➤ 1911 – 43.5% (977,366) ➤ 1921 – 37.2% (929,183)

Government. This was based on a non-violent approach.

November 21st: Killings in

operation with the Indian

November 21st: Killings in Ireland on this day became known as Bloody Sunday. In Croke Park in Dublin, - the HQ of the Gaelic Athletic Association, 12 people were killed by the Black and Tans (special police) and soldiers as a football match was about to start.

1921

- February 16th:
 Unemployment in
 Britain, topped 1 million
 (included 368,000 exservicemen).
- March 17th: First birth control clinic was opened in London.
- May 15th: It was official that women preferred to wear shorter skirts, showing the calves of their legs.
- ➤ June 10th: Unemployment in Britain reached 2.2

- January: More violence in Ireland as the Irish people fought for freedom from British Rule.
- December 7th: British and Irish negotiators signed an agreement to create the Republic of Ireland.
- Medical history made with the recognising of insulin, offering hope to those who suffered from diabetes. The finding was made in Canada by Frederick Banting and

	million. June 25th: It rained after a 100 day drought in Britain. August 1st: Increase in day trippers that took a break to the seaside.	Charles Best.
1922 The Urdd Gobaith Cymru Fach was	This was shown in the increase of seaside postcards. 1922 February 7th: Foot and	1922 ➤ June 16th: First elections
set up by Sir Ifan ab Owen Edwards. The Goodwill Message from the young people of Wales to all nations in the promotion of peace, was begun (Neges Ewyllys Da Dros Heddwch).	mouth outbreaks were reported, leading to the slaughter of 8,500 cattle, 1,000 sheep and 2,500 pigs. May 22nd: Highest temperature in London for 50 years - 88°F in the	held for the Irish Free state. > July 27th: Germany couldn't keep up with the payment of war debts. The country was facing ruin and the people were suffering.
	 shade. August 2nd: Alexander Graham Bell who invented the telephone died. August 14th: Lord 	 August 22nd: Michael Collins, Irish politician and fighter for the free Irish state, was shot in Cork. November 29th: Tutankhamun treasures
	Northcliffe, pioneer of popular newspapers and founder of the Daily Mail died. Cottober 18th: BBC was formed.	found in the Valley of the Kings in Egypt. November 30th: In Munich, Germany, Adolf Hitler addressed a crowd of 50,000.

1923 ➤ February 13th:The Welsh language was first heard on radio in Wales.	 October 25th: George Cadbury, chocolate giant, died 1923 July 13th: Law passed to prohibit the sale of alcohol to anyone under the age of 18 years old. 	1923 ➤ February 16th: French fashion queen – Coco Chanel designed sweaters for women. Her designs had changed the face of women's fashion. ➤ September 16th: Earthquake in Tokyo, Japan, killed 300,000 and made over a million people homeless.
 1924 ➤ May 31st: David Ivon Jones from Aberystwyth died of TB in Yalta, Russia. He was a communist who fought hard for the rights of the black population of South Africa. ➤ September 26th: Pendine beach, Malcolm Campbell broke the land speed record, reaching the speed of 146.16 miles per hour in his car Sunbeam. 	 January 22nd: Labour party won general election outright and Ramsay MacDonald became first Labour Prime Minister. ▶ February 16th: Every port in the country was paralysed by the Dockers strike. ▶ August 20th: Agreement was reached to allow 3,000 UK families to emigrate to Canada and 	 1924 ➤ January 21st: Lenin, founder of the Soviet Union died. ➤ July: Paris Olympic Games were held.

			live on farms.	
1925	After attending primary school in Mrs Hole's 'Dame School' in Mirador Crescent, Dylan entered Swansea Grammar School.	 February 3rd: Jim Driscoll, World Featherweight Boxing Champion was buried in Cardiff. Clough Williams Ellis started work on creating an Italian village in Wales. This is now known as Portmeirion. August 5th: In Pwllheli, Y Blaid Fach (Welsh National Party / Plaid Cymru) was formed. December 12th: Setting up of 5SX Swansea Radio. 	 March 18th: Fire destroyed two floors of Madam Tussauds' waxworks museum in London. July 18th: It was reported that 10 million people listened to radio broadcasts in Britain. September 29th: White traffic lines were painted on roads in London for the first time to separate traffic. 	 June 29th: In South Africa a colour bar was made legal banning black people from skilled jobs. July 18th: Hitler's book Mein Kampf was published. July 21st: Biology teacher in Tennessee, USA was fined for teaching Darwin's theory of evolution. August 8th: First national Ku Klux Klan Conference was held in Washington.
1926 - 31	First prize for running the mile at Swansea Grammar School. He did not excel in his academic work but was a good actor and very good at creative writing in English.	 December 29th: First public telephone service between Wales and America was launched by W.H.Powning − from the Post Office in Swansea. A 3 min call cost £15 and an extra £5 for each minute after that. National Eisteddfod held in Swansea. Gwenallt won the chair. 	 ▶ January 25th: Surgeon Sir Berkeley Moynihan said that cancer of the tongue could be caused by smoking. ▶ January 27th: First moving images were transmitted by wireless demonstrated by John Logie Baird at the Royal Institution in London. This was to become television. ▶ February 17th: Dr J.S.Russell at the 	 1926 April 24th: Riots between Hindus and Moslems in India. July 4th: The first congress of the Nazi party began, in Germany, called by Adolph Hitler. September 19th: Hurricane swept Florida, USA killing 1,500 and 40,000 homeless.

- ➤ April 21st: National Museum of Wales was opened in Cardiff.
- Rhys Davies, the author from Clydach who moved to London, published his first three books 'The Withered Root', 'Aaron', and 'The Song of songs and other stories'.
- November 23rd: 200 unemployed miners from the Rhondda walked 180 miles to London. The Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin refused to meet them.

1928

➤ June 18th: Amelia Earhart was the first woman to fly across the Atlantic from America to Europe, leaving Newfoundland and landing in Burry Port.

Institute of Hygiene warned about the dangers of drinking and smoking on people's health and that a craze amongst women to be stick thin was also very dangerous to health.

May 5th: National strike was held for nine days.

1927

- ➤ January 21st: Number of telephones in use now was estimated to be 500,000.
- February 26th: 1,000 people a week dying from the flu.
- May 19th: Report on increase in the number of hairdressers because of the new rage for women to shingle their hair.

1928

➤ January 6th: The
Thames in London,
bursts its banks, flooded
low-lying districts of
London and drowned 14
people including 4

1927

- Charles Lindbergh plane flight across the Atlantic Ocean, landed in France.
- ➤ The USA won the first Ryder Cup in golf.
- November 29th: In Buenos Aires, Argentina, a Frenchman Alexandre Alekhine won the world chess championship.

- September 30th –
 Alexander Fleming
 discovered penicillin.
- March 26th: Nearly five million shares sold in record trading on Wall

1929 Al Johnson. Wales.

young sisters. Hundreds had been left homeless.

- > January 14th: The author Thomas Hardy died.
- May 7th: The vote was given to women between the ages of 21 and 30.
- May 14th: The suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst died.
- > August 10th: It was announced that population of the UK smoked the most – an average of 3.4 pounds of tobacco per person.

Street.

➤ August: Olympic Games were held in Amsterdam. Holland.

- > February: First talking movie was shown in Wales at the Queen cinema in Cardiff. The film was Singing Fool –
- May 31st: First National Urdd Eisteddfod held at Corwen, north
- > May 30th: Aneurin Bevan is first elected a member of parliament. He went on to create the National Health Service. Also Megan Lloyd George was the first woman MP for Wales.
- Last time for the National Eisteddfod

1929

> June 10th: Margaret Bondfield became the first woman to be a member of the Government's cabinet.

- > February 14th: Valentine Massacre in Chicago, in a gangster fight between Al Capone's gang and a rival gang.
- > October 24th: The Wall Street crash, the value of shares on the Stock Exchange in New York fell, which effected the world economy.

- to be held outside Wales it was held in Liverpool.
- ➤ In 1929 the number of motorcars in Wales reached 100.000.
- August Glan-llyn, the first Urdd camp was opened near Bala in north Wales.

- January: Maurice Turnbull from Cardiff, an international capped player in rugby and hockey for Wales, was the first Welshman to be selected to play cricket for England and toured Australia and New Zealand.
- ➤ November: Welsh born James
 J.Davies from Tredegar, was the first
 Welshman to be elected senator for
 Pennsylvania, United States of
 America. He returned more than once
 to Tredegar and bought a house for
 the townspeople that was turned into
 a library.
- December 24th: First Youth Hostel in Britain was opened in Wales – Neuadd Pennant, Conwy Valley.

1930

- March 2nd: The novelist D H Lawrence died.
- March 14th: The Channel Tunnel Committee approved building of a tunnel from England to France.
- ➤ July 7th: The author Sir Arthur Conan Doyle died – he created Sherlock Holmes.
- August 28th: In the UK 24 people had died because of the heat wave, as temperatures soared to 94 °F (34 °C).
- August 30th: Cost of a brand new Morris Major car produced in Cowley, Oxford was £215.
- September 15th: London enjoyed a boom in building, since 1925,250,000 new

- January 6th: Don Bradman broke the world record in cricket scoring 452 runs in one batting.
- April 6th: Gandhi was arrested for breaking the salt law in India.
- June 6th: Frozen vegetables were sold for the first time in the United States.
- July 30th: Uruguay won the first ever World cup in football;
- New synthetic fibre material discovered by Wallace Carothers of the Du Pont Company in America. It was called nylon.

1931	Dylan left Swansea Grammar School to become a junior reporter on the South Wales Daily Post. This later became the South Wales Evening Post.	Cotober 25th: Wales had a draw game against Scotland in football, but because English clubs would not release players for Wales, this team was made up of nine new caps, many amateurs who played for local sides. This team became famous and were called "The Great Unknowns"; Wales went on to win the International	 buildings had been built. January 1st: The Road Traffic Act came into force, introducing traffic policemen and compulsory third party insurance. June 19th: Farmers were forbidden to move any livestock because of 	 May 1st: Empire State Building was opened in New York. It was the world's tallest building then. Mahatma Gandhi, the Indian leader visited Britain. October 22nd: Al Capone,
		tournament in 1933, 34, 37 and shared in 1939. November 21st: The academic gypsy scholar John Sampson was given a traditional gypsy funeral in Llangwm north Wales, with Augustus John leading the funeral. December: One of the first Welsh language children's books was published, Llyfr Mawr y Plant by Jennie Thomas and JO Williams. Cynan (Rev Albert Evans) was appointed an official censor for theatre and film productions in Wales. This was to ensure that all productions were morally suitable.	an epidemic of foot and mouth. September 20th: Britain faced economic crisis and devaluing the pound forced off the gold standard. London Stock Exchange closed for 2-days because of the crisis with unemployment over 2,71 million. December 15th: Following a trial period in London, it was announced that traffic lights were to be used	a Chicago gangster was jailed for 11 years for tax dodging. October 18th: Thomas Edison, prolific inventor died at the age of 84 in New Jersey. He made major contributions to the telephone, the gramophone, electric light and moving pictures. He patented 1,100 inventions
1932	Dylan joined Swansea Little Theatre Company, based in Mumbles. His sister	August : Opening of the Urdd camp in Llangrannog.	all over Britain. ➤ May 20th: BBC Headquarters were	March 18th: SydneyHarbour Bridge was

	Nancy was already a member. He acted in a number of productions. December: Dylan left South Wales Daily Post to work full time on his poetry. He became friends with a group of talented young Swansea men who met in the KARDOMAH café. The Kardomah gang were: Vernon Watkins (poet), Daniel Jones (composer), Alfred Janes (artist), John Prichard, Tom Warner, Charlie Fisher and Mervyn Levy (artist), Ronald Cour (artist). It was in the 1950's that Ceri Richards (artist) also became one of the gang.	➤ August: Official unemployment figures for Wales was 42.8% of the insured male population – a total of 227,000.	opened in Portland Place in London. October 8th: The London Philharmonic Orchestra gave its first concert under the baton of its creator Sir Thomas Beecham.	opened in Australia. April 4th: Vitamin C was found and isolated by scientists in America. August: Los Angeles Olympics held.
1933	August: Dylan first went to London, stayed with his sister Nancy and her husband, Haydn Taylor. He visited editors of literary magazines. He also came into contact with Pamela Hansford Johnson. They began writing letters to each other.	➤ July 29th: The Milk Marketing Board was set up, guaranteeing farmers a monthly cheque for their milk. This made farming in rural Wales more viable.	 April 4th: First sighting near Inverness in Scotland of the Loch Ness monster. October 5th: Slums of Birmingham began to be cleared at a cost of £95 million. 	 January 30th: Hitler was elected Chancellor of Germany; February 5th: Prohibition ended in the United States, meaning that alcohol could again legally be sold.
1934	February 23rd: Dylan's second visit to London. He stayed with Pamela Hansford Johnson and her mother in	 August 2nd: The new Swansea Town Hall was opened and became the home for the murals of Sir Frank 	 February 23rd: Edward Elgar the composer died. 	June 10th: Italy won the world cup in football beating Czechoslovakia.

	Battersea. They formed a relationship that lasted until 1935. November: Dylan moved to London – 5 Redcliffe Street, Earls Court. He shared the lodgings with Swansea friends, artists Alfred Janes and Mervyn Levy. But he did return frequently to see his parents at Cwmdonkin Drive, Uplands, Swansea. December 18th: Dylan's first book of poems appeared 18 Poems. It was published jointly by the Sunday Referee and Parton Bookshop. [relevant pictures of the above]	Brangwyn (Empire Panels). They came to Swansea after they were commissioned and refused by the House of Lords in London. September 22nd: Gresford near Wrexham, Mining Disaster, lead to 265 deaths. November 10th: The traditional Welsh singing to the harp – Cerdd Dant, formed a national society.	 July 4th: Marie Curie the famous scientist died. October 5th: Catalan uprising against the Spanish state, began.
1936	April: Dylan met Caitlin Macnamara from Hammersmith, London (who became his wife later on). She was the lover of Augustus John (the artist) at the time. They met at the Wheatsheaf Pub in Soho, London. It was said that they spent the next few days together at the Eiffel Tower Hotel, charging the bill to Augustus John. July: Dylan and Caitlin met again at Richard Hughes' (writer) home in Laugharne. Dylan and Augustus John fought over Caitlin.	 March 27th: 12% of the homes of Wales had a radio licence. 264,140 licenses for a population of 2.1 million people. September 8th: Saunders Lewis, DJ Williams and Lewis Valentine burnt down the bombing school nr Pwllheli as a protest. All three were jailed. It was considered a turning point in Welsh politics and Welsh nationalism. November: Aa number of Welsh people joined the International brigade to fight against fascism in Spain – against Franco. In all 177 January 20th: George Vth died and his son Edward VIII became king. September 4th: Lloyd George met Hitler in Germany. October 5th: The Jarro March of the unemployed to Londo VIII abdicated as king. 	on. ord

	September 10th: Dylan Thomas published his second collection <i>Twenty Five Poems</i> (J M Dent & Sons – New Poetry series). Most of his poems were written in these early years.	Welshmen joined and 33 were killed.		
1937	April 21st: Dylan's first radio broadcast 'Life and the Modern Poet' (BBC Welsh Service) recorded in the BBC's London studios. July 11th: Dylan and Caitlin married at Penzance Registry Office in Cornwall, against the wishes of his parents. They had to borrow the £3 needed for the wedding licence. September: Dylan's parents had moved to Bishopston, Gower. Dylan and Caitlin stayed with them and then a month later with Caitlin's mother at Blashford near Ringwood in Hampshire.	 Summer: The first edition of the literary magazine by those writing in English in Wales, appeared. It was called Wales and was edited by Keidrych Rhys of Bethlehem near Llandeilo. Two of the publications were edited by Dylan Thomas and Nigel Heseltine. The branding for the publication was based on the notion "that although we may write in English, our roots are in Wales". The Grand National was won by a horse called 'Royal Mail' owned by Hugh Lloyd, a Welshman, trained by Ivor Anthony from Kidwelly, and ridden by Evan Williams from Cowbridge. July 4th: New radio band width opened by the BBC specifically for Welsh language broadcasts following campaigning by the Broadcast Committee of the University of Wales and complaints by listeners in England regarding hearing Welsh on 	May 12th: First outside broadcast by the BBC was the coronation of King George VIth in Westminster Abbey.	 February 16th: The new fibre 'nylon' was patented. April 26th: The town of Guernica was destroyed in the Spanish Civil War by bombs from German planes. May 6th: 30 people were killed as the air ship Hindenburg caught fire on landing in the United States.

		their radio.	
1938	May: Dylan and Caitlin moved to a small fisherman's cottage – Eros, in Gosport Street, Laugharne. August: they moved from Eros to Sea View, Laugharne. Caitlin described this time as "the happiest period of our lives together". November: they stayed with Caitlin's mother in Hampshire for a couple of months as Caitlin was expecting their first baby.	 July 7th: The Tenby, Welsh born artist, Augustus John was chosen as one of three British artists to exhibit at the Louvre in Paris. The Nazis had banned the showing of his work. Augustus John lived a bohemian lifestyle, became famous not only as an artist but as someone who studied the life of the Romany Gypsies, and became a friend of Dylan Thomas. Indeed it was from Augustus John that Dylan stole Caitlin Macnamara, who became his wife. October 22nd: The Welsh football team at Ninian Park in Cardiff, beat England in a memorable victory of 4 goals to two. England earlier in the year had beaten Germany 6 goals to 3. The Welsh scorers were all for the Merthyr area. November 23rd: The Temple of Peace and Health in Cathays Park, Cardiff was opened. It was built as a home to two movements – and was the brainchild of David Davies, Llandinam (Baron Davies), and was conceived to serve two purposes. The first was to provide a home for the King Edward VII Welsh National Memorial Association, a voluntary organisation dedicated to the prevention, 	marched through Vienna day after announcing the unification of Germany ce in our and Austria.

		treatment and eradication of tuberculosis, which had been founded by Lord Davies in 1910. Davies was also the founding president of the Welsh National Council of the League of Nations Union, and in 1934 he pledged £58,000 towards the erection of a building to house the two organisations. Lord Davies wished for the Temple of Peace and Health to be "a memorial to those gallant men from all nations who gave their lives in the war that was to end war" and so it was dedicated to the memory of those who laid down their lives in that war. Davies had fought in the trenches during this war, and was actively involved in the search for stable international order through the League of Nations and the League of Nations Union. He wanted to see the establishment of a strong International Police force so that international agreement and peace could be obtained. It was opened by Mrs Minnie James from Dowlais, Merthyr, who lost three sons in the First World War.		attacked the Jewish people of Germany in an attack that became known as Kristallnacht, the night of the smashing glass.
1939	January 30th: Their first child was born – Llewelyn Edouard Thomas.	June 2nd: The submarine HMS Thetis got into trouble off the coast in the Bay of Liverpool. The lifeboat from	September 3rd: Neville Chamberlain, the British Prime Minister	April 1st: Spanish Civil war ended with a victory for the fascists under the

August 24th: Third collection of poetry and prose by Dylan *The Map of Love* was published by J.M.Dent &Sons.

December 20th: *The World I Breathe* – a collection of poems and short stories, was published in the United States of America.

They were still staying with Caitlin's family in Hampshire.

- Llandudno tried to save the submariners, but of the 103 crew, 99 were killed. Some drowned, others trapped without air.
- Arthur Whitford from Swansea won his 10th British Gymnastic title, wining every year from 1928 to 1936. He began training at the Boy's Club in Sketty Church. He pioneered a training regime for gymnasts.
- ➤ May: Gas masks were issued to all in Wales because of the threat of war.
- May 2nd: The Post Office agreed finally to put bilingual directions in phone boxes in Wales. The argument was won on the fact that in London, for example in Victoria Station, the directions for the use of the call box was in English, French and German.
- August: The film *Proud Valley* began to be filmed. It was the chronicle of a Welsh mining village and the acceptance of a black worker (played by Paul Robeson an American actor and singer) as a part of the mining community. This started a strong relationship between Paul Robeson, who suffered a lot of racial prejudice during his career, and the mining communities of Wales.
- September 18th: Gwen John, a talented artist from Pembrokeshire, and sister of Augustus John, died at

- announced that Britain was at war with Germany.
- Young women started to work on the land – called 'land girls' as a part of the war effort to grow more food off the land.
- leadership of General Franco.
- August 24th: Germany and the Soviet Union signed a peace treaty.
- September 1st: Germany invaded Poland.
- November 30th: Soviet Union attacked Finland.

		Dieppe, Normandy, France. She studied at Slade Art School in London, before moving to Paris. September 25th: First Welsh primary school was opened in Aberystwyth by Sir Ifan ab Owen Edwards, who set up the Urdd movement. It started with 7 pupils; then by the end of 1940 – 17 pupils, 32 by 1942 and 71 by 1945. September 29th: War Office allowed members of the British forces to write letters in Welsh back home and conscientious objectors allowed to have their tribunal heard through the medium of Welsh.		
1940	March /April: Dylan, wife and little boy moved back to Sea View, Laugharne. April 4th: Portrait of the Artist as a Young Dog, Dylan's semi autobiographical collection of short stories, was published by J.M.Dent & Sons. May: Dylan failed Army medical at Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire. He was nearly 26 years old. They had debts in Laugharne and moved to live with his parents in Bishopston. Friends paid off the debts. June/August: they stayed with John	 January 21st: In Rhaeadr, Powys, lowest temperatures on record were noted for Wales23.3°C (-10°F). It was a cold winter with heavy snow. Epynt mountain in Breconshire was taken over by the War office and turned into a military training ground. Two hundred farmers (and their families) were forced to leave their homes, and the local chapel – Y Babell, was used as a bombing target. There were strong views about this. This land has never been returned and remains military training ground. September: Works of Art were moved from different Galleries to be stored during the war in an old slate mining 	May 10th: Neville Chamberlain stood down as Prime Minister and Winston Churchill took office as Germany attacked Belgium and Holland/Netherlands.	 April 9th: German forces attacked Denmark and Sweden. June 14th: German forces marched through Paris. June 22nd: France surrendered to Germany. November 5th: Franklin Roosevelt was re-elected as President of the United States of America.

	Davenport (critic) and his American painter wife, Clement, in The Maltings, Marshfield, Gloucestershire. The house was full of musicians and artists. They could hear war planes overhead. July: Dylan and Caitlin left Laugharne for London September: Dylan began working for Strand Films as a script writer. He worked for Strand Films throughout the war. December – they returned to stay with Dylan's parents in Bishopston, Gower until April	cave in Blaenau Ffestiniog, north Wales. As a part of the War effort, posters were produced in the Welsh language as well as English, urging the population to save, recycle and produce more. These were considered propaganda leaflets. August: National Eisteddfod of Bangor was held as a radio programme and transmitted to the whole of Britain. The chair was won by T.Rowland Hughes. August 19th: Oil tankers were bombed in Pembroke Dock, causing a huge explosion and fire. The fire raged for 18 days. Five fire fighters were killed and 38 others injured. 11		
1941	February 19th -21st: The Luftwaffe of Nazi Germany continually bombed Swansea. 230 people were killed and more than 400 injured. Dylan and Caitlin were in the area during this attack. May/July: Dylan and Caitlin stayed at Castle House in Laugharne with Richard and Frances Hughes (Richard wrote <i>A High Wind in Jamaica</i> and his wife was an artist). August: Dylan and Caitlin moved back to	of the 17 oil tankers were destroyed. February 19th-21st: 41 acres of Swansea was flattened and destroyed by the bombing. The city had been a target since the 27th of June 1940, and continued to be so until February 1943. On Wednesday 19th of February, 1941 a little after 8:00pm, 61 aeroplanes targeted and bombed Swansea dropping 492 bombs and 15,700 fire bombs. The same pattern remained for the following three nights. The undetonated bombs proved just as dangerous as three	 May 11th: The Blitz continued on London. May 27th: The unsinkable Bismark, a German war ship, was sunk by the British navy. 	 January 13th: The world-famous Irish author James Joyce died. December 8th: Japanese aeroplanes bombed Pearl Harbour, Hawaii, and started the war between Japan and the USA.

London, leaving Llewelyn their son with	young boys who went to investigate,
Caitlin's family, because of the bombing	were blown to death. In 1941 985
on London.	civilians were killed due to air raids in
	Wales. During the whole of the
	Second World War, Swansea suffered
	about 40 air attacks, killing 387
	people, more than Cardiff, who lost
	355 of its inhabitants. In June, the
	village of Brymbo, north Wales was
	bombed. Many small villages in north
	Wales suffered as the planes dropped
	their last bombs on the way home.
	Small villages such as Llandegla,
	Llansannan, Gwytherin and Nantglyn
	suffered. The official targets had been
	cities such as Liverpool, Manchester
	and Birmingham.
	➤ The arms factory in Bridgend
	employed 37,000 people. Most of
	them were women. It was the largest
	arms factory in Britain at the time.
	Cottober 28th: The famous Welsh film
	How Green Was My Valley, based on
	Richard Llewellyn's famous novel,
	was screened in New York. Although
	the director decided to get Irish
	actors to play the Welsh characters,
	and everything had been filmed in a
	specially built Welsh mining village in
	San Fernando, California, the film
	went on to win five Oscars including
	best film.

1942	July: Dylan and Caitlin rented one-room studio at Wentworth Studios, Manresa Road, London SW3 – which remained their base for several years. But from 1942-44 because of the war, Caitlin stayed periodically at Laugharne and Talsarn, Cardiganshire, while Dylan divided his time between Wales and London.	 June 26th: The deputy Führer of Germany, Rudolph Hess, was imprisoned in a mental hospital in Abergavenny, Gwent. He had been caught in Scotland a year before, when he flew in secretly to try and negotiate a peace settlement. There were various conspiracy theories surrounding this story. October 22nd: A law was passed allowing a person to give evidence in Welsh in Welsh Courts. This had been forbidden since the days of king Henry VIII. December 1st: The Beveridge Report was published outlining the possibility of setting up the welfare state in Britain after the war. 	August 9th: Mahatma Gandhi and 50 supporters started on a period of civil disobedience in India in order to gain freedom for the people of India.
1943	Dylan's continuous work as a broadcaster began. February: New Poems published in the United States by New Directions. March 3rd: Aeronwy Bryn Thomas, Dylan and Caitlin's second child, was born in London.	 April 30th: The body of a homeless man from Aberbargoed, Glamorgan, who committed suicide in London, was used in a famous decoy and trick known as "operation mincemeat". He was dressed as a military officer, found drowned off the coast of Spain, but carrying important documents suggesting that the Allied Forces were going to land in Sardinia in order to win over Italy. The Germans swallowed the story, hook, line and sinker! The successful landing took place in Sicily, but the German forces had already moved to Sardinia. July 8th: Iron Age remains were found on Anglesey near Valley RAF station. 	 July 25th: Mussolini, the dictator of Italy, was overthrown, leading to Italy surrendering to the Allied forces. March 28th: Russian composer, Sergei Rachmaninov died at the age of 69, he had moved to Beverley Hills, Los Angeles since 1917.

		This was to become one of the most significant Iron age finds in Britain. September 14th: Transmission of Wynford Vaughan Thomas a well known broadcaster from Swansea, who was in a Lancaster bomber as it bombed Berlin. He also did a broadcast from Belsen concentration camp at the end of the war. Eddie Price and nine other business people set up the Cancer charity Tenovus. They have raised significant amounts of money for research and development in the field of medical research here in Wales.		
1944	April / June: Because of the war – Dylan and Caitlin lived for a while in Old Bosham in West Sussex and then near Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire. July/August: They stayed with Dylan's parents, who had now moved to Blaencwm, Llan-gain, Carmarthenshire. September: Dylan, Caitlin and children moved to Majoda, New Quay, Ceredigion, where Dylan started to experiment with characters for one of his most famous works, <i>Under Milk Wood</i> .	 Richard Burton appeared for the first time in a comedy production, The Druids Rest (by Welsh playwrighter Emlyn Williams) in London's West End. The war had led to the liberating of women, many working in war effort factories and a large number working on the land as land-girls. Gwyneth Richards from Llandinam, Radnorshire, as the first girl to compete in sheep shearing competitions with the Young Farmers Clubs of Wales. March 27th: Last air raids on Wales led to 12 people being killed in 	 April 6th: The income tax system of PAYE (pay as you earn) was introduced. November 20th: The blackout enforcement ended in London. August 3rd: The Education Act 1944 changed the education system for secondary schools in England and Wales. Called the "Butler Act" after the Conservative politician R.A. Butler, it made all 	 June 6th: D-day landings. The Allied Forces landed on the beaches of France to free Europe from Nazi rule. July 20th: Failed bomb attack by some Germans to try and kill Hitler.

		Cardiff.	schooling-especially secondary education, free for all pupils. It raised the school leaving age to 15.	
1945	August/September: They stayed at Blaencwm with Dylan's parents. December /March 1947: Dylan and Caitlin spent Christmas with the historian AJP Taylor and his wife Margaret at Holywell Ford, Oxford. Margaret became one of Dylan's most important patrons. Caitlin and Dylan moved into the summerhouse at the bottom of the garden (much to AJP Taylor's disgust). Between December 1945 and May 1949 Dylan either wrote or took part in over a hundred BBC radio programmes.	 March 26th: Lloyd George died at the age of 82. He was the first Welshman to become Prime Minister of Britain. He was buried by the Dwyfor River, Llanystumdwy, near Cricieth in Gwynedd. November 15th: Fforest-fach Industrial Estate was opened by King George 6th. This was typical of the new industrial sites developed to employ and help the economy after the war. Following the election, two Welsh MPs were given prominent roles: Aneurin Bevan, MP for Ebwy Vale was made Minister for Health, and James Griffiths, MP for Llanelli, National Insurance Minister. At the Plaid Cymru summer school, Gwynfor Evans was elected president of Plaid Cymru following Saunders Lewis as the first president of the party. Gwynfor Evans remained President until 1981. 	 May 8th: Winston Churchill the Prime Minister announced the end of the Second World War – Victory in Europe Day (VE Day). July 5th: General election. The result was not made known until July 26th. This was a huge victory for the Labour Party and Clement Atlee became Prime Minister. 	 January 27th: The monstrosities of the killing of the Jews by the Nazis began to appear, with the revelations regarding Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland. This became known as The Holocaust, with over six million Jews being murdered by the Nazis during the Second World War. August 15th: Announcement of Victory over Japan Day (VJ Day).
1946	Deaths and Entrances published by JM Dent & sons Ltd.	By 1946 there were 13,653 tractors in Wales, compared to 1,932 in 1938.	August 1st: The National Insurance Bill became	February 24th: JuanPeron was elected

August: Dylan and Caitlin spent four days at Puck Fair at Killorglin, County Kerry in the Republic of Ireland, with their friends Bill and Helen McAlpine. Puck Fair was one of the oldest fairs in Ireland, when the pubs stayed open and a wild goat was crowned the 'Puck King'. It was a horse fair that drew people from all over the world. They returned to stay in Blaencwm with Dylan's parents. November 8th: Selected Writings was published in the United States by New Directions.

The war had a huge impact on agriculture production in Wales.

- April 15th: First ever performances by the new Welsh National Opera Company in Cardiff. The two first operas performed were Cavalleria Rusticana and I Pagliacii. The opera company was the vision of Idloes Owen a former miner from Merthyr and Ivor John the musician from Swansea.
- July 25th: The Welsh National Youth Orchestra was established by Irwyn Walters, originally from Ammanford.

law. Insuring all workers against the risk of unemployment, illness and retirement. This also included self employed people. The Bill was led by James Griffiths, the Welsh MP for Llanelli.

President of Argentina.
He was supported by his second wife, Eva Duarte ("Evita"), and the two were immensely popular among many Argentines.

- July 11th: A new type of swimwear was exhibited in Paris for the first time, it was called the 'bikini'.
- November 22nd: A new writing tool called the 'biro' went on sale.

March 26th: Society of Authors awarded Dylan a £150 Travelling Scholarship with a recommendation that he should visit Italy.

1947

April/August: Dylan and Caitlin and her sister Brigid, took the family to stay in Rapallo, Florence and Elba in Italy, where Dylan wrote 'In Country Sleep'.

June 15th: BBC broadcasted his programme on the destruction of the Swansea of his youth *Return Journey*.

June: Margaret Taylor bought the

- June 11th-15th: the first Llangollen International Eisteddfod was held with 14 countries represented. The founding idea was that of promoting world peace and harmony.
- March 1st: Welsh medium primary school was opened in Llanelli – Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant.
- March 27th: Billy Butlin opened a holiday camp near Pwllheli, north Wales. These camps transformed the idea of cheap holidays for working families. Another camp was opened by him in 1966 on Barry Island, south Wales.
- ➤ January 1st: All the coal mines of the country were nationalised, and thus run by the government. This meant the setting up of the National Coal Board.
- ➤ January March: worst winter on record with freezing temperatures and heavy snow drifts, resulted in communities being cut off and emergency services having to deliver bread
- April 7th: Henry Ford the American who founded the Ford Motor Company, died.
- August 15th: India was given her independence back, signalling the end of the Indian Raj (1858-1947), the ruling of the sub-continent by the British Empire.
- November 29th: The United Nations agreed on a plan to split Palestine into two states between

	Manor House at South Leigh, Oxfordshire, for the Thomas family.	April 23rd: A double tragedy struck off the south Wales coast when during a particular bad storm the steam ship Samtampa sank, drowning 41 of the crew. Whilst trying to save them, the Mumbles lifeboat also sank, drowning the 8 members of the crew.	to people. May 23rd: The British Government created two new states out of the old India – the New India and Pakistan. August 15th: First nuclear plant was opened in Britain – in Harwell, Oxfordshire.	the Jews and the Arabs, thus setting up Israel and Palestine.
1948	March/April: Dylan visited his parents in Blaencwm and went to Laugharne, hoping to find a place for the family to live. April: Dylan's parents – DJ Thomas and Florence arrived in South Leigh. Summer: Dylan began work on three film scripts for Gainsborough Films. None were made as the company went into liquidation. October: Margaret Taylor visited Laugharne and bought the Boathouse for Dylan and his family.	 July 1st: Sain Ffagan, near Cardiff was opened as an open air National Welsh Folk Museum. July/August: Tom Richards from Risca in Gwent was the first Welshman to win an individual Olympic Medal. He won the Silver in the Marathon event. Other Welsh people had won medals in team events before this. August 21st-24th: Glamorgan Cricket Club beat Hampshire to take the County Championship for the first time ever. The captain was Wilfred Wooller. October 12th: The Hoover factory in Merthyr was opened. October 27th: The Welsh Tourist Board was set up to promote tourism in Wales. 	 July 29th: London Olympic Games opened. These were the first Olympic Games since the war started. The previous Games had been held in Berlin in 1936. Teams from Germany and Japan were banned. July 5th: The National Health Service was set up by the Welsh MP and Health Minister – Aneurin Bevan. 	 January 30th: Mahatma Gandhi was killed in India by extremists. May 14th: Israel as a Jewish country was set up. November 3rd: Harry S.Truman was re-elected President of the USA.

1949	March 4th: Dylan visited Prague for a few days as a guest of the Czechoslovak Writers' Union. May: Dylan, Caitlin and family moved to the Boathouse in Laugharne and his parents to Pelican, a house opposite Brown's Hotel in Laugharne. July 24th: Colm Garan Hart Thomas, their third child was born.	 April 1st: The Welsh Joint Education Committee (WJEC) was set up to promote education in Wales and unify policy across the country. July 23rd: The Welsh Folk Dancing Society was formed in Shrewsbury by Lois Blake. September 21st: A meteorite weighing 5 pounds fell through the roof of the Prince Llewelyn Hotel in Beddgelert, north Wales. No one was injured. November: 3,100 acres between Pontypool and Newport were designated for the purpose of building a new town in Wales. This turned the small town of Cwmbrân with 12,000 people into a larger town of 35,000 inhabitants. December 17th: BBC transmitter opened in Sutton Coldfield leading to many in Wales being able to receive a television signal for the first time. 	 March 25th: Sir Laurence Olivier won an Oscar for his performance in the film Hamlet. July 27th: In Hatfield, Hertfordshire the first passenger jet aeroplane was flown. 	 April 4th: NATO – North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, was set up to protect the countries of the west. April 18th: Republic of Ireland was formed. October 1st: China became a Communist Republic under the leadership of Mao Zedong.
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1950	February 20th: Dylan flew to New York to begin his first tour of the United States organised by John Malcolm Brinnin.	March 11th: the Welsh rugby triumph of winning the Triple Crown was shadowed by the death of 80 supporters in an air crash during landing in Llandow near Bridgend, as	 May 30th: petrol rationing ended. November 2nd: The Irish author and playwright, George 	 January 26th: In New Delhi, India was proclaimed a republic. June 17th: First ever kidney transplant in
	February 23rd: Dylan's first reading, at the Kaufmann Auditorium, New York.	the supporters returned from watching the game in Belfast. All but 3 of the passengers and crew were	Bernard Shaw died. He was also one of the founders of the London	Chicago from a dead person to a woman by the surgeon R.H. Lawler.
	June 1st: Dylan returned to Britain on	killed.	School of Economics.	

	board the <i>Queen Elizabeth</i> having given at least 39 readings and lectures all over the USA and Canada. September: Caitlin was told by Margaret Taylor that Dylan had An American mistress – Pearl Kazin, and that she had arrived in London. This provoked the first crisis in their marriage.	 August: at the National Eisteddfod held at Caerffili the 'Welsh language only rule' was established. September 21st: Freddie Williams of Port Talbot became the World Speedway Champion (motor bike). He won it again in 1953. 	
1951	January/February: Dylan visited Persia to write a film script for the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. Caitlin wrote to him suggesting that the marriage was over. February: Dylan and Caitlin were reconciled. July: John Malcolm Brinnin, Dylan's American agent, and the photographer Rollie McKenna stayed with Dylan and Caitlin in Laugharne and discussed the possibility of another American trip. Summer / Autumn: Dylan wrote a great deal at Laugharne including: 'Lament', 'Poem on His Birthday', 'Do not go gentle into that good night', 'Prologue' and half of <i>Under Milk Wood</i> . Margaret Taylor acquired 54 Delancy	 Protest held in Wales to try and stop the War Office from taking land for military purposes. Areas affected were Preseli, Pembrokeshire, Tregaron, Ceredigion and Trawsfynydd in Gwynedd. March 6th: Ivor Novello, the composer, performer and writer died. He was 58 years old. July 3rd: Gwenoline Davies, Gregynog, died. She and her sister collected famous work of art from all over the world. These were left to the National Museum of Wales and formed the backbone of the collection of the National Museum of Wales. July 11th: Margam Steel works, Port Talbot was opened. By 1963 it employed more than 17,000 people. October 18th: Snowdonia National Park was set up to protect the 	 May 14th: South Africa voted to remove the right of 'coloured' (mixed race) people to vote. September 8th: Japan signed a peace treaty with 48 other nations, putting an official end to the Second World War.

	Street, Camben Town – so that the Thomases would have a London home as well.	environment and a place of natural beauty.		
1952	January 20th: Dylan and Caitlin departed for the United Sates on board the Queen Mary. This tour lasted until May 16th. During this time Dylan recorded a selection of his poems for Caedmon records. November 10th: Collected Poems 1934-1952 was published y JM Dent & Sons Ltd. December 16th: DJ Thomas, Dylan's father, died in Laugharne aged 76. He was buried in Pontypridd alongside his brother Arthur after a non-religious ceremony.	 February 29th: Pembrokeshire National Park was opened. June 11th: Aer Lingus provided an air service for passengers between Rhoose, Cardiff and Dublin in Ireland. October 7th: The alcam works at Trostre, Llanelli was opened, securing thousands of jobs. This was a part of the National Steel Works Company. 	 February 6th: King George VI died and Elizabeth II became Queen. February 26th: British Government announced that they had an atomic bomb. May 16th: MPs voted in favour of equal pay for women doing the same jobs as men. 	 June 15th: Diary of Ann Frank, the girl who hid from the Nazis in Amsterdam during the war, was published. July 26th: Eva Peron, (Evita) wife of the Argentine president, died. August: Olympic Games held in Helsinki in Finland. November 4th: Dwight D. Eisenhower was elected USA president.
1953	April 16th: Dylan's sister Nancy, died of cancer in Bombay. April 21st: Dylan left for New York to begin his third American tour. During this tour he had an affair with Liz Reitell. June 3rd – Dylan returned to London.	 January 23rd: Welsh Tourist Board came under scrutiny for announcing that they intended to hold a Miss Wales competition. March 1st: BBC broadcast of the first ever tv programme in the Welsh language. August: Rhyl National Eisteddfod, a 	February: Hurricane winds, heavy rain and high tides brought disaster to Britain's east coast. At least 280 people were drowned on the coast of Lincolnshire and Kent.	 March 5th: Soviet leader Joseph Stalin died. May 29th: Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary climbed to the summit of Everest, the tallest mountain in the world.

	October 19th: Dylan left for New York to begin his fourth and final American tour. October 29th: Dylan's last ever public engagement - a lunchtime reading at the City College of New York. November 5th: Dylan collapsed at the Chelsea Hotel, New York November 9th: Dylan died at St Vincent's Hospital and Caitlin brought his body back to Laugharne. November 25th: Dylan's funeral at Laugharne.	woman won the crown for the first time, her name was Dilys Cadwaladr.	 March 26th: Successful tests to find a vaccine against polio. June 2nd: Queen Elizabeth II was crowned in a ceremony at Westminster Abbey and was shown to television viewers all around the world. 	April: Scientists discovered the structure of DNA in all living things.
1954	January 25th: First BBC broadcast of Under Milk Wood – with Richard Burton starring as First Voice.			
1958	August: Dylan's mother – Florence, died in Laugharne.			
1982	Plaque to Dylan unveiled in Poet's Corner, Westminster Abbey			
1994	Caitlin died and was buried with Dylan			

in Laugharne.		