

DEAN POWELL – *Guest Speaker*

Dean Powell is regarded as one of Wales's most popular guest speakers and has entertained audiences for more than twenty five years.

Dean is a widely acclaimed journalist, author, broadcaster and vocalist. He is the founder of a successful Public Relations Consultancy, an ambassador for the Welsh Government's Big Ideas Wales programme and a Director of the Welsh Music Guild.

Dean is a firm favourite as a master of ceremonies in such diverse venues as the Sydney Opera House and Monte Carlo's Hotel de Paris and before celebrity audiences including HRH The Princess Royal and HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco. He has compered engagements for the likes of Katherine Jenkins, Elaine Paige and Dame Vera Lynn.

In 2016 Dean was honoured to lead the Centenary Commemoration Service of the Battle of Mametz Wood in the Somme. He has toured USA, Canada, Germany, Switzerland, New Zealand and Australia as soloist and Master of Ceremonies for several Welsh male voice choirs. He joined a star studded line up at the Royal

Variety Performance where he was presented to her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Dean has recorded on albums released by EMI and Infinity Records and gave a solo performance before Dame Shirley Bassey in Monte Carlo who led a standing ovation.

Dean remains in demand as a lecturer on Victorian Welsh history and his work in the fields of journalism and public relations have been prolific.

He is the author of sixteen history books including the biography of Dr William Price and the memoirs of actor Glyn Houston. As a former BBC journalist and award-winning newspaper editor, his anecdotes of interviews given with the likes of Hollywood greats Gregory Peck and Joan Fontaine have made him a firm favourite as a guest speaker.

Dean is the Manager of Llantrisant Guildhall, a restored 14th century Grade II Listed building which has been transformed into a heritage and visitors centre. He is also the Clerk to Llantrisant Town Trust which manages the rights and the lands of the Freemen of the town.

DEAN POWELL

Guest Speaker



One of Wales's most popular guest speakers



TESTIMONIALS

"Dean held the attention of a very discerning audience through a combination of presentation skills; mastery of his subject and, critically, clear and concise text. Crafting words is not a science: it is an exacting art form."

Robert John, London Cymmrodorion

"A true professional. Superb."

Stuart Burrows OBE

"He is professional, lucid, informative, humorous, a raconteur, and the embodiment of Welsh culture and stature."

Roy Noble OBE

"A great blend of humour and information."

Nicholas Witchell, BBC Royal Correspondent

"Incomparable"

Dr Alwyn Humphreys MBE

"A great ambassador for Wales and its culture"

Catrin Collier



"An exceptional journalist, spanning a broad swathe who has accomplished himself with very considerable distinction."

Clive Thomas, High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan

"Your lecture was outstanding. Such detailed material and so well researched and organised and all delivered in a masterly way."

Rev. Peter Jupp, Cremation Society of Great Britain

"Wonderful - magical!"

Joan Fontaine

"Very professionally written and produced."

Field Marshal the Lord Guthrie



"Your book has been a great success and I had so much pleasure in reading it."

Lady Brenda Evans

"He possesses a tremendous store of knowledge of the whole of the South Wales region."

Dr. Kim Howells MP

"Author, raconteur and singer which has earned him a highly respected reputation. His professionalism, wit and boundless energy never ceases to amaze."

Jeff Hooper

Telephone: 07773 352962 or email: dean@llantrisant.net
FOR FURTHER DETAILS VISIT WWW.DEANPOWELLPR.COM

Dean offers seven different lectures:



The Incredible Life of Dr. WILLIAM PRICE

Chartist, surgeon, heretic, archdruid and pioneer of cremation in the British Isles, Dr Price was one of the most flamboyant and eccentric characters in Welsh history. Poverty stricken in his youth, his father was an insane priest, although the young man became a surgeon at 21. He created an embryonic national health service, masterminded the first Museum of Welsh Life, launched Wales's first cooperative society and was exiled to France as a political activist. He fathered illegitimate children with a housekeeper sixty years his junior and died sipping champagne at 92. (This is not the story of cremation!!)



The Street Where They Lived

Near Pontypridd there's a small mining village that at first glance appears typical of all other post-industrial communities in South Wales. Not this one. Not only did it witness one of the UK's worst mining disasters, and a devastating tornado, it was also the birthplace of some remarkable people. In one of its terraced streets four babies were born who became a Welsh Rugby International, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, a World-Class Opera Star and a Knight of the Garter. This is their stories.



GLYN HOUSTON: A Black & White Actor

This incredible rags to riches story reveals how a Rhondda valley boy running his grandmother's milk round, became one of Britain's most popular actors of television and film. A self-confessed hell-raiser in his youth, he often spent time with his brother Donald and drinking friends in Stanley Baker and Richard Burton, mixing with East End villains like the Krays. Glyn made his film debut as the cheeky cockney barrow boy in Dirk Bogarde's The Blue Lamp. Since then his acting prowess has seen him appear in every conceivable role, from the first on-screen lover of Joan Collins in Turn The Key Softly to the aged father of Anthony Hopkins in Heartlands.



Wales' Second National Anthem

When collier John Hughes wrote Cwm Rhondda one Sunday afternoon in the parlour of his Pontypridd home, how could he have realised that his beautiful composition would become one of the world's most famous hymns? Written for a celebratory Cymanfa Ganu in his local chapel in 1907, the tune was inspirational. Whether its performed by a thousand voices at the Albert Hall, a royal funeral or from the terraces of a rugby stadium, "Bread of Heaven" is one of the most rousing pieces of music ever created.



Hold The Front Page!

This is the story of Dean's life in the newspaper industry. Learn about the hilarious and tragic tales he encountered as a daily newspaper journalist, newspaper editor and BBC researcher. Hear stories of his many interviewees from Gregory Peck and Richard Attenborough to Larry Hagman and Tom Jones along with the twenty-year friendship he enjoyed with Hollywood legend Joan Fontaine who asked him to marry her. From murders and summer fetes, this is journalism before the internet was invented.



The Land of Song

A wonderful celebration of the history of the male voice choir movement in Wales. Its origins are based in the strength of Nonconformity as a religious force and the accelerated growth of the coal mining industry. Find out how the male voice choirs took Wales by storm during the mid-Victorian era, creating world famous musical institutions that created the universal image of the "Land of Song". Dean has extensively researched why Wales developed its love of singing and how the fierce competitiveness of choirs occurred with a backdrop of gambling, rivalries and royal commands!

Llantrisant: History of the Hilltop

Enjoy a fascinating journey through the history of Llantrisant. Famous for its Freemen and their "Black Army" who fought at Crecy, Llantrisant played a pivotal role in the revolts of the Welsh against the Norman overlords. The Castle was an overnight prison for Edward II, the town produced a Lord Mayor of London while the eccentric Dr William Price's actions led to the passing of the cremation act. Hear the tales of Llantrisant's darker past. The grisly murders, epidemics, workhouses, prostitutes and the streets lined with pubs and drunken brawls!

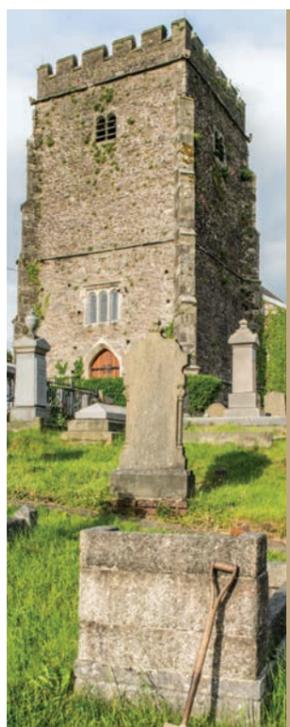


Dean also offers the following guided history walks of Llantrisant for groups of 20 to 40 people and last around 1hr 15mins each. Walks are catered for each group's individual need and ability.



A Ghost Walk of Ancient Llantrisant

From witches and spirits to murders and plagues, this journey will bewilder and terrify as you walk the historic streets and hear blood-curdling stories of the past. Join your guide after dark and stroll the ruined castle where criminals were executed. Hear stories of haunted homes and shops before reaching the former Workhouse where you may catch a glimpse of its ghostly warden. Then take a frightening journey to one of the most haunted landmarks in the town, wander its darkened cells where spirits remain locked in the bowels of the building - but are pleased to welcome a newcomer to join them!



A Small Town With A Big Story

Enjoy a fascinating guided tour of this ancient hilltop settlement and follow your expert guide through 1,500 years of history. Today, many of its landmark buildings stand as a testimony to turbulent times, boasting a tradition of fierce battles, ancient customs, and notorious characters from eccentric druids to captured kings of England. Find out how the community survived tragedy, plague, epidemics and attacks to become a thriving market town which boasted 27 pubs and a reputation for debauchery and drunkenness.



Llantrisant Guildhall: A Jewel of History

Llantrisant Guildhall is a fascinating heritage and visitors' centre that tells the remarkable story of an ancient Welsh hilltop town. The Grade II Listed Building erected in 1346 is now becoming a major tourist attraction. Visitors are enchanted by the splendour of the Guildhall which has undergone a £1.4million restoration. The Court Room is home to a collection of artefacts and treasures celebrating the unique traditions of the Freemen of Llantrisant. Visit the Archer's Hall with exhibitions to the eccentric Dr William Price and the longbowmen who fought at the Battle of Crecy.