

Cymdeithas Hanesyddol Tyddewi a Phebbidiog St Davids and Dewisland Historical Society

Prendergast Street, Lower Solva in the 1950's

Alan has lived in Prendergast Street, Lower Solva for nearly 77 years and since his parents bought Prendergast House in 1945. The house was renamed Glennydd in the late 1950's due to letters continually going astray to Prendergast n Haverfordwest. Educated at Solva C.P., and then at St Davids Grammar School, he attended Swansea Training College from 1963 to 1966 before commencing on his teaching career at Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan. He taught there for 7 years before returning home to teach at Hayscastle C.P. where he became Deputy Headteacher.



Looking down on the village as one approaches from Haverfordwest.

Returning home allowed him to pursue not only his poultry keeping hobby but later to keep sheep followed by alpacas when Tiffany, Butterfly, Ophelia and Lily arrived in 2001. A founder member of Dyfed Poultry Society in 1974, he took over as secretary in 1982 and continues in this role to the present day. The Society organises the Welsh National Poultry Show which began its life in Llanybydder Church Hall before moving to the Showground, Withybush where it now has a permanent home in Brithdir Hall. In 1981 he was approached by Pembrokeshire Agricultural Society to start up a Poultry Section at the County Show and became Secretary before relinquishing the position 39 years later.

Two books have been written since his retirement from teaching. The first, *A Community's Way of Life* was published in 2005. Through charting the history of Hayscastle, Brawdy, Llandeloy and Tancredston Council or Primary Schools (all now closed) the book, in reality, reveals the way of life of the farming communities that these schools served from basically the mid 1850's right through to the 21st Century.

The second book, jointly written by a friend, was published in 2021, Entitled *The Perfect Call Duck*, it is a comprehensive guide to achieving exhibition success with the 'character' of the domestic waterfowl world – the diminutive Call Duck originally known as the Decoy which was extensively used by wildfowlers to attract and trap wild ducks from the 17th to the 19th Century.