

**DR RICHARD PRICE, D.D. F.R.S.**

**‘ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL’**

# Dr Richard Price – His Early Life

- ▶ At the restoration of Charles II, many clergymen were ejected from their livings for failing to accept the Act of Uniformity which they saw as an attempt to interfere with liberty of conscience. They became known as protestant Dissenters
- ▶ Rice Price, Richard's father was such a Dissenting Minister who preached to many congregations, travelling around the area on horseback and who eventually helped found two Dissenting chapels – the Unitarian chapel at the bottom of Newcastle Hill Bridgend and the City chapel (now a ruin) in Bettws
- ▶ Rice Price set aside a farm as an endowment for the Unitarian chapel

# Founding of Chapel, Bridgend

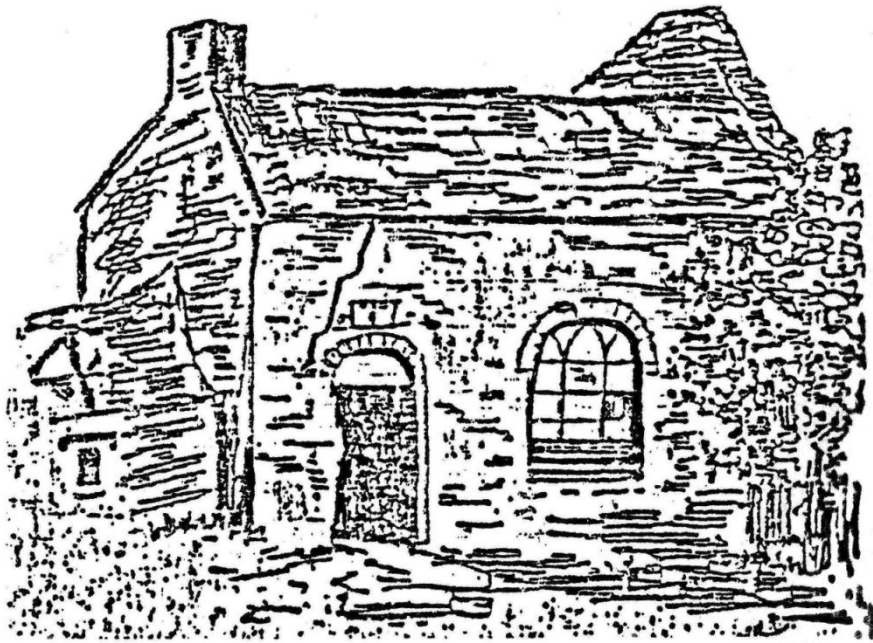
Bridgend was an important Nonconformist centre



Unitarian Chapel, Park Street Bridgend

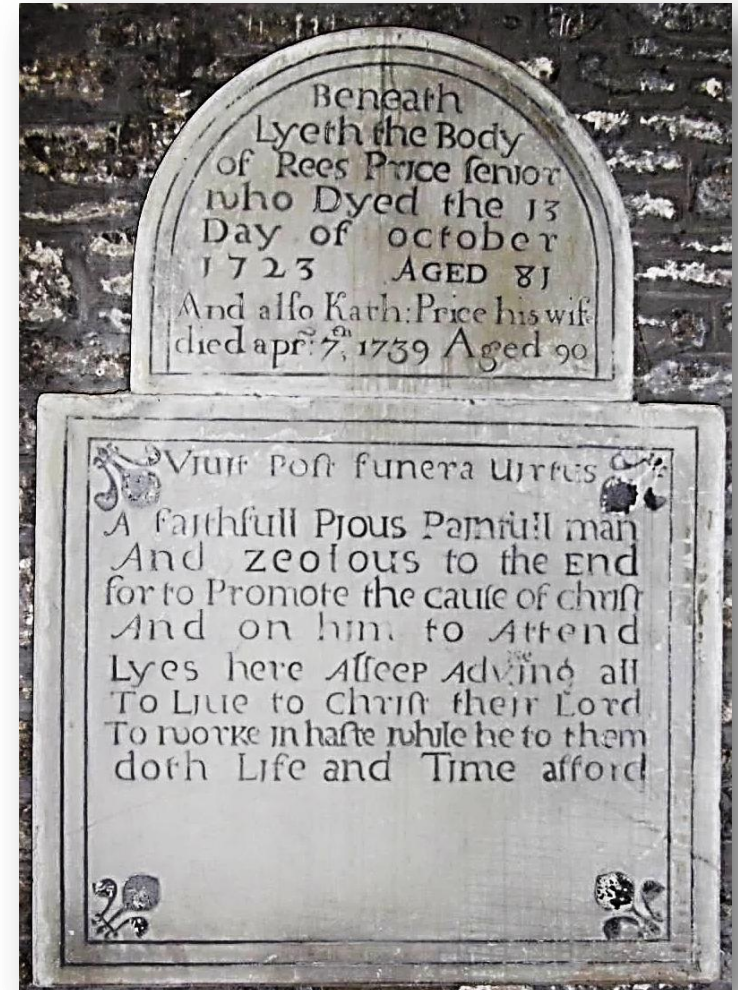
# Rice Price – City Chapel, Betws

City Unitarian Chapel, Betws was built in 1737 by Rice Price. It was modified, altered or rebuilt in 1845 but has now been demolished



# Memorial to Rees and Katherine Price Richard's grandparents in Bettws Church

A faithful, Pious, Painful man  
And zealous to the End  
For to Promote the cause of Christ  
And on him to Attend Lyes here Asleep  
Adviseing all To Live to Christ their  
Lord  
To work in haste, while he to them  
Doth Life and Time afford.



# Dr Richard Price – Garw Valley

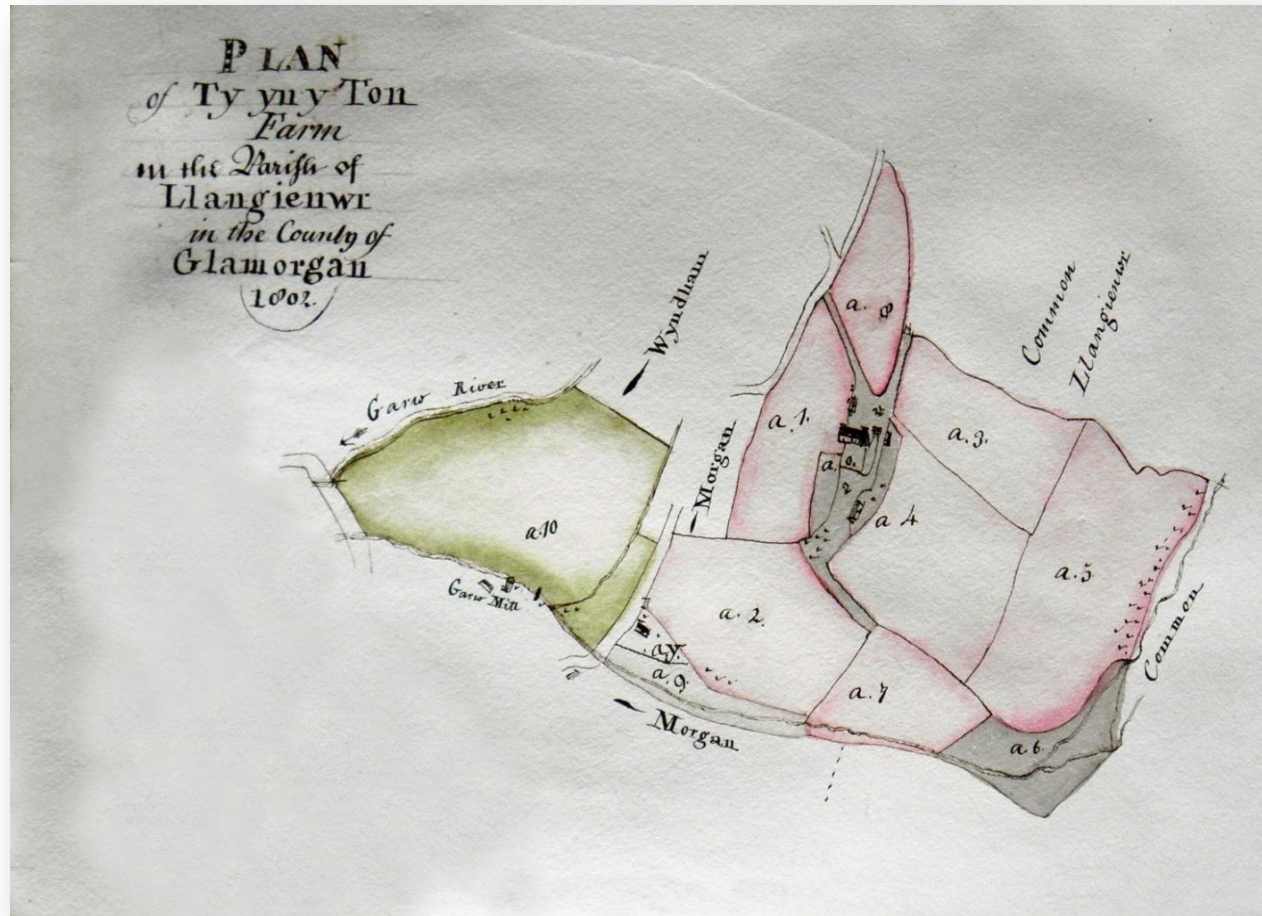
- ▶ The valley in these early times was clothed in trees and with trout in the streams. Deer roamed in the woods between Llangeinor and Brynmenyn and it's thought the name Garw comes from Carw meaning stag
- ▶ There were mills in the Llangeinor area in those days – Melin Betws (corn mill), a fulling mill at Cwm y Pandy and another corn mill – Felin Arw

# Pandy Mill – Garw Valley



*View of Pandy Cottages*

# Ty yn y Ton Farm and Schedule 1802 Llangeinor



Table

N <sup>o</sup>	Names	Con. <sup>ts</sup>
Ty yn y Ton		
a. 0.	House & app. <sup>ts</sup>	1 . 10
a. 1.		2 . .
a. 2.	Caer Haidd	3 2 .
a. 3.	Caer Yr Abl	2 1 20
a. 4.	Cefndon	3 2 16
a. 5.	Caer Yr Gborben	5 . 20
a. 6.	Dyffryn bach	1 2 20
a. 7.	Dyffryn mawr	1 2 24
a. 8.	Graig fach	1 1 16
a. 9.		. 3 30
a. 10.	Gwaun y fetin	6 2 .
Total		30 1 6
a. y.	Cottage A. Hopkin	. 1 0
		302 14

From The Merthyr Mawr Estates Records held at The Glamorgan Archives. Photo-copies made September 1963, taken from the original, now returned to Merthyr Mawr House, Merthyr Mawr



# Dr Richard Price – His Early Life at Tynton Farm

- ▶ Richard Price was born in Tynton Farm, Llangeinor to Rhys (Rice) Price and his second wife Catherine (nee Richards)
- ▶ He had two sisters, Sarah (Sally) and Elizabeth (Betsey)
- ▶ Richard had many half-brothers and –sisters whose mother, Mary Gibbon, was Rice Price's first wife. She was a wealthy woman and on her death her husband inherited her fortune

# His Mother – Catherine Richards

- ▶ Richard's mother was the daughter of doctor David Richards of Bridgend
- ▶ Sadly, on the death of her husband she was obliged to leave her home at Tynton. There was little from her husband's will and together with her daughters they moved to a house on the banks of the river in Bridgend which by all accounts led to the ill health of all three women. Dr Price who at this time was still a very young man was left £400 by his father which he insisted his mother and sisters receive in order to help their situation
- ▶ In less than a year after her husband's death, Catherine Price also died leaving her daughters in the house with both girls suffering ill health

# Dr Richard Price – His Early Life

- ▶ Until the age of eight, Richard was educated at home by Mr. Peters who later became a Dissenting minister and who was much esteemed by his pupil throughout his life
- ▶ He was then sent to school in Bridgend but was soon removed from there owing to the teaching style and went on to a school, which was run by the Rev Mr. Simmons of Neath
- ▶ Two years later it was to the village of Pentwyn in Carmarthenshire that the next stage of his education was to continue under the Rev Samuel Jones

# Dr Richard Price – His Early Life

- ▶ At quite a young age Richard seems to have adopted somewhat different religious opinions from those of his father, being attracted towards more liberal Christian views
- ▶ This caused clashes between father and son as by all accounts Rice Price did not appreciate having his ideas challenged
- ▶ He was particularly displeased on finding his son reading a volume of sermons by Dr Samuel Clark, the famous heretical Court chaplain to Queen Caroline, wife of George II and flung the book into the fire
- ▶ Possibly due to the Reverend Jones' more liberal views, Price sent his son to the Rev Vavasor Griffith's academy at Talgarth. He was about 15 years old at this time and had been with Samuel Jones for about three years. None of this was to change the young Richard's views



Tynton Farmhouse – Earliest depiction  
drawing possibly early 18<sup>th</sup> century

# Dr Richard Price – His Early Life at Tynton Farm

- ▶ Although not a great deal is known about the young Richard Price, through documents made public by his family we are aware that as a child he often spent time exploring the cliffs and beach at Dunraven Bay, and The Red House, Newton, Porthcawl
- ▶ As an adult he frequently returned to the area where relatives owned properties at Craig yr Eos and Sea Lawns, Ogmore by Sea



Tynton Farmhouse – Early 1900s



Left – Tynton Farmhouse – cleared  
before restoration – 2010

Right – Tynton Farmhouse – circa 2019  
Grade II Listed





# The Wider Family

- ▶ Richard Price was greatly beloved by his own family. On his visits to Wales with his wife he took pleasure in the society of the younger generation
- ▶ His brother John's only daughter Margaret was a favourite. She married Mr Lewis of Newhouse which was not very far from Park, her father's home
- ▶ Another niece, Mrs Bowen, lived at Merthyr Mawr

# Rees Price Family Tree

Tyla Coch Bettws

Rees Price - m - Catherine ?  
1642 - 1723      1649 - 1739

Rice (Ty'n Ton) Samuel - Catherine - m - William Thomas Barbara - Jennet - m - Rees Morgan  
1673 - 1739      1675 - 1756      16 ? - 1752      (Cejn Ydja)      16 ? - 1706      1683 - 1756      (Ty 12ewydd Baidon)      1676 - 1751      (A)

2<sup>nd</sup> Catherine Richard - 1<sup>st</sup> Mary Gibbon  
1697 - 1740

Ann - m - Anthony Maddocks William  
1704 - 1727      1695 - 1764      Bur. 1706.

Sarah - Elizabeth - Richard  
1726 - 1803      (B)

John - Samuel - Mary - m - Walter Coffin 1<sup>st</sup> Ann  
? 1777      ? 1779      (C)

Anthony Maddocks - m - 2<sup>nd</sup> Elizabeth Thomas  
(Great House Laleston)      1710 - 1769

m - 1<sup>st</sup> Mr Hopkin  
2<sup>nd</sup> William Flew  
1731 - 1812

Walter 2<sup>nd</sup> - m - Ann Morgan  
(Parc Gwyllt)

Catherine - Margaret - m - Mathew Deere Twins Elizabeth  
(Ystrad Owen) d. Infants      1738 - 1741  
Cowbridge

Catherine  
(Mrs Richards)  
1748 - 1798

Mary - m - Capt. H. Davy  
Army      (D)

Jane - m - Sir Digby Mackworth 3<sup>rd</sup> Mathew  
1770 - 1808      17 ? - 1838      1769 - 1781

Catherine - m - Joseph May      (E)

Sir Digby Mackworth 4<sup>th</sup> - m - 1<sup>st</sup> ? 2<sup>nd</sup> Sophia Mann  
in 1832

Rees Price Family Tree

# John Price – Heir to Rice Price

- ▶ Rice Price believed God intended the greater part of mankind for damnation and to have reserved only a few favourites and thus abandoning the rest of his family to provide for themselves, on his death and following the aristocratic principle of making one rich man in the family he singled out his eldest son to receive the bulk of his fortune
- ▶ John Price, who in turn married an heiress Catherine Williams, went on to inherit Parc, near Cardiff (possibly now the Manor Parc Hotel Thornhill, Cardiff)

# Possibly home of John Price – Y Parc

(Thought to be the Manor Parc Hotel, Thornhill, Cardiff)



# Greenmeadow Mansion, Tongwynlais

(The Greenmeadow Inn, Llangeinor takes its name from this house)



Home of the Lewis family. John Price's daughter Margaret married into the family.. The house was left to ruin and eventually demolished in 1945

# Greenmeadow Inn, Llangeinor



Greenmeadow Inn, named after the mansion of the same name, Tongwynlais. Home of the Lewis family

# New House built by Thomas Lewis, a wealthy industrialist



John Price's daughter Margaret married into the Lewis family. The house is now the Newhouse Hotel, Thornhill, Cardiff

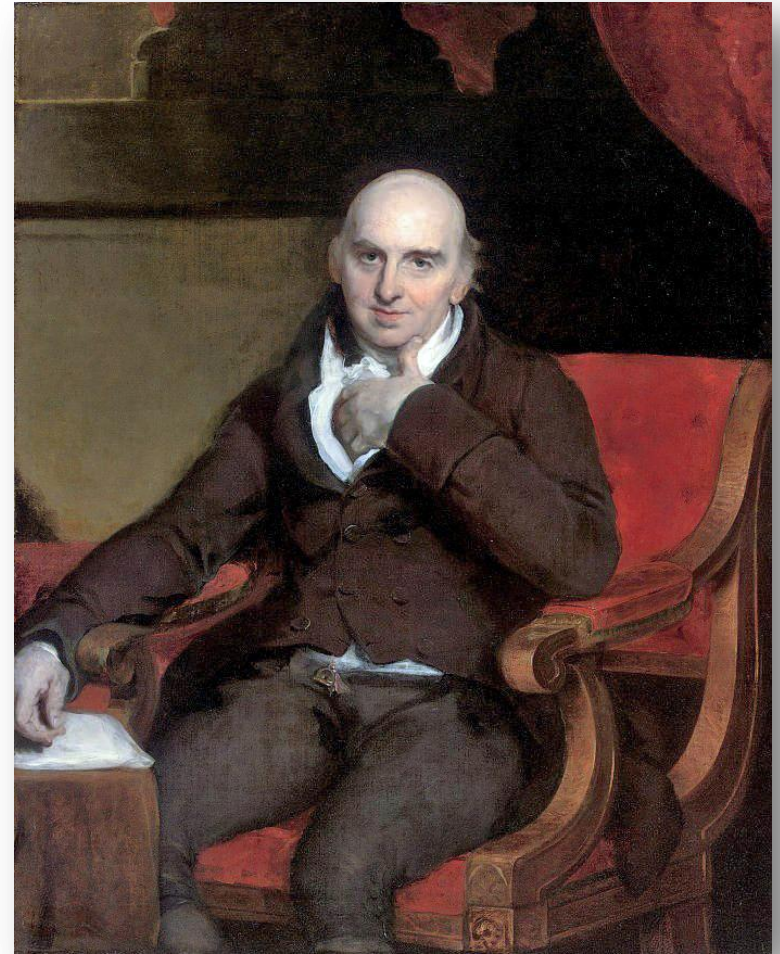
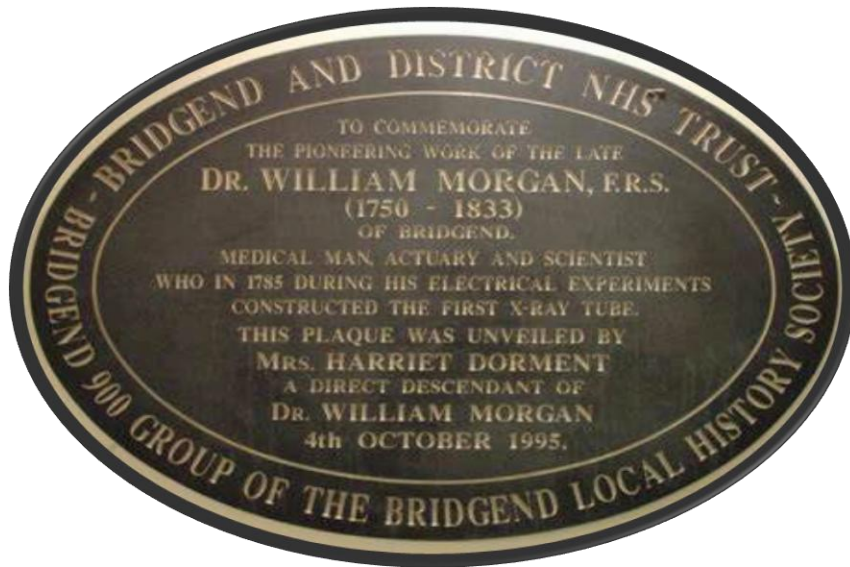
# Sarah Price and William Morgan

- ▶ Sarah (Sally) Price, the elder of Richard's two sisters was not yet nineteen when her mother died. Both she and her sister also suffered ill health and during this time Mr William Morgan of Tyl ir Coch (who had succeeded their grandfather, David Richards as the local GP) tended to them
- ▶ Sarah later married William Morgan. Their son, Dr William Morgan is now credited with being the first to actually produce X-rays in an experiment. He became a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1790. A plaque commemorating him can be seen in the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend



# Dr William Morgan, F.R.S.

Plaque in situ at the Princess Of Wales Hospital, Bridgend



William Morgan by Thomas Lawrence on view at the Institute of Actuaries, Staple Inn Hall, London

# Dr Richard Price – His Cousin, Ann Thomas, Maid of Cefn Ydfa

- ▶ Through his father's sister, Catherine Thomas (nee Price) Dr Richard Price was a first cousin of Ann Thomas (the Maid of Cefn Ydfa)
- ▶ He was only 4 years old when she died at the age of 23

# Ann Thomas

The Maid Of Cefn Ydfa,  
Llangynwyd - Ann Thomas



# Cefn Ydfa



Cefn Ydfa, Llangynwyd

# The Hopcyn Cross, Llangynwyd



The Hopcyn Cross  
designed by  
Christopher Williams  
and raised in 1927-28

It is designated a  
grade II listed  
monument in  
Llangynwyd

It commemorates the  
tragic liaison between  
Ann Thomas (the Maid  
of Cefn Ydfa) and her  
true love Will Hopcyn



# Remembering Dr Richard Price in the village of his birth



# Llangeinor Square

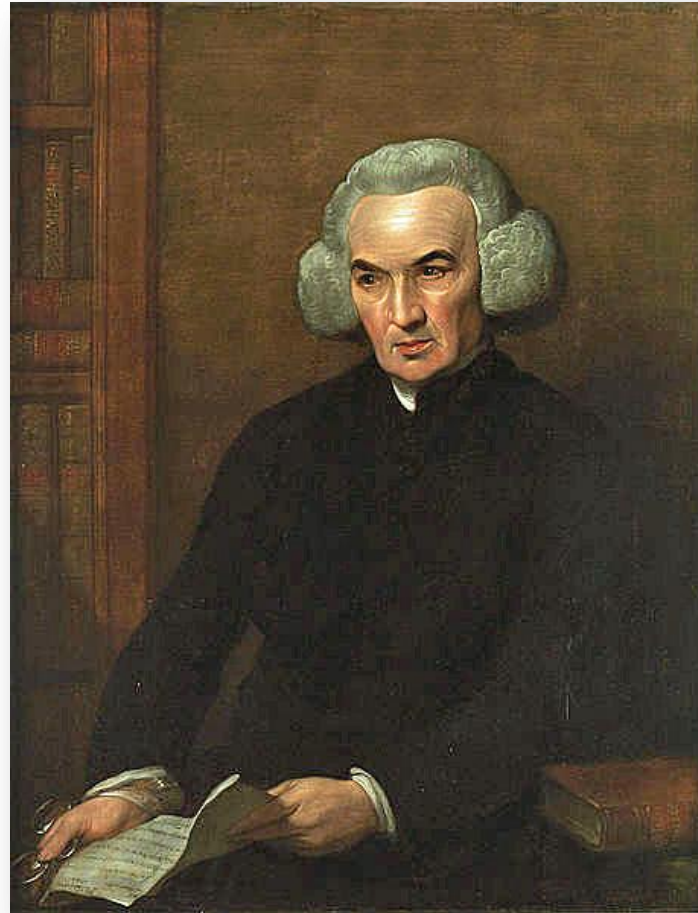


Dr Richard Price,  
born 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1723 - died 19<sup>th</sup> April 1791

This portrait was painted by Benjamin West who succeeded Joshua Reynolds as President of the Royal Academy

Dr Richard Price,  
D.D. (Yale), F.R.S

(Doctor of Divinity  
awarded by Yale and  
Fellow of the Royal  
Society)



The Holloway engraving of Benjamin West's Portrait  
Reproduced by courtesy of The National Library of Wales

Dr Price was a very modest man and refused all attempts to sit for a portrait.

By chance he had a riding accident and was treated by the family doctor. As a reward he requested a portrait painting. Dr Price respected his doctor greatly and finally agreed



# BLAENGARW WORKMEN'S HALL

Mosaic of Dr Richard Price features on the exterior wall panels of the Blaengarw Workmen's Hall

The hall was built in 1893 and was paid for by the miners of the day, each contributing tuppence a week from their wage packet. The building cost £3,400 and held a well stocked library, reading room, cinema and theatre

In the mid 70's the hall was closed down. It was reopened in 1992



# Samuel Price – Richard's Uncle

- ▶ After the death of both his parents and without an income, Richard went to his uncle, Samuel Price (Rice's brother) who was settled in London as co-pastor to the celebrated Dr. Isaac Watts
- ▶ For the first and last time his eldest brother John (who had inherited Park with his wife and his father's fortune) offered help and loaned Richard a horse to ride as far as Cardiff. This was 1741. Richard had ended the first chapter of his life and was about to embark on the next