

## **Transcription of the S4C TV's Gareth Jones' article on 'Heno' (Tonight) - Tues 18<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

*[Studio Presenter's Intro]:* It's 78-years since the death of Welsh journalist, Gareth Jones. He was a former student of Aberystwyth University..

*[Rhodri Davies, presenter (outside The Old College Aberystwyth.)]:* This is a factual story which reads like fiction. Gareth Jones was a journalist. He was friends with David Lloyd George and William Randolph Hearst. He opposed Stalin's regime and became a Hero of Ukraine. However, he is more famous in Kiev than in Cardiff.

*[Professor Gareth Williams, Barry Historian]:* Gareth Jones was born in Barry in 1905. His mother had been out in Russia to tutor John Hughes' descendants. John Hughes was a Welsh steel industrialist who travelled to Donetsk to establish its steel industry.

*[Rhodri Davies, presenter]:* Gareth attended Aberystwyth & Cambridge universities. He spoke many different languages, but specialised in Russian. Gareth became the Foreign Affairs Advisor to David Lloyd George and met President Hoover at the White House.

*[Professor Gareth Williams, Barry Historian]:* Gareth knew the most influential political leaders in the world and was the first British journalist to fly with Hitler. Goebbels also flew at the same time and left an impression on Gareth. On the plane, Hitler was a quiet & ordinary looking individual, but transformed as soon as he got out and faced the crowds.

*[Rhodri Davies, presenter]:* He [Gareth] came across the good and the bad, but for Jones nobody was worse than Stalin. Eighty years after finding the starving masses in Ukraine, a new book has been launched to celebrate his contribution.

*[Professor Aled Jones, Vice Chancellor of Aberystwyth University]:* The book concentrates on the events and famine within Ukraine. It also educates us on the principles of journalism. He published information and gave his shocking eyewitness accounts which undermined political views in Europe and America.

*[Professor Gareth Williams, Barry Historian]:* He was shocked to see people literally starving to death. This was at a time when Russia implemented Stalin's 5-Year Plan. The West sympathised with Russia, which cast a lot of doubts on Gareth Jones' reports.

*[Rhodri Davies, presenter]:* Many Western journalists were happy to support the propaganda of Stalin. Walter Duranty of the *New York Times* belittled the claims of Gareth Jones.

*[Ray Gamache, Author]:* I wrote Gareth Jones, Eyewitness to the Holodomor, because I wanted to give Gareth the attention I felt his journalism warranted; removed from the denigration by Duranty. And today, of course we recognise that this terrible famine did occur and that Jones' reporting is our best record of it.

*[Rhodri Davies, presenter]:* Gareth Jones was forbidden from entering Russia after that. He turned his sights on the Far East and died in Mongolia under mysterious circumstances.

*[Professor Gareth Williams, Barry Historian]:* There is suspicion surrounding the circumstances of his death. Were Russia involved and did they pay for Gareth Jones' murder?

*[Rhodri Davies, presenter]:* Gareth died a day before his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. His friend Lloyd George said he was a man who knew too much.

*[Professor Aled Jones, Vice Chancellor of Aberystwyth University]:* The book celebrates Gareth, but we should pay our respects to him by certifying that journalism remains fair, open and truthful. However, there is also a price to pay for that...