

INTRODUCTION

The reputation of a learned society inevitably rests on its contribution to scholarship and research together with the quality of its publications. The Transactions of the Anglesey Antiquarian Society and Field Club include a wealth of material researched by many outstanding local historians, both professional and amateur, but the retrieval of information has been difficult due to the absence of an adequate index. Unfortunately, the provision of a fully comprehensive detailed index would have resulted in an extremely large volume and would have been prohibitive to produce because of heavy printing costs. The choice open to the Committee lay between the provision of a full index to part of the series of seventy one volumes - as some of our sister societies have done - or to compile a selective index to the full series. The latter course was adopted as it was felt that it would meet the needs of the majority of members.

The absence of recognized criteria for the selection or rejection of entries has been the chief obstacle but in the final analysis, the choice has depended on the personal whims of the compiler in many cases, and could be open to criticism for its inconsistency. Spelling of place-names has generally followed the recommendations in Welsh administrative and territorial units (Melville Richards) and Rhestr o enwau lleoedd (Elwyn Davies), I am however deeply grateful to Mr Tomos Roberts, archivist to the UCNW for his advice on the spelling of certain personal names and for the identification of some place-names with almost incomprehensible spellings. I am also grateful to Mrs Frances Llewellyn for her advice on the correct entry headings for archaeological subjects. I need hardly add that I am entirely responsible for all the shortcomings and inaccuracies in this compilation - and in this particular instance I cannot even blame the typist for any errors! This typescript was intended as a draft for printers to produce the book in letterpress, but it was eventually decided to reproduce my original typing to save printing costs. Apart from my own mediocre and dubious ability as a typist, typescript has certain disadvantages over letterpress - all the words underlined would have been italicized and dates of volumes would have been printed in black heavy type to distinguish dates from pagination.

It is hoped, however, that the index may be of some assistance to members to trace information from the storehouse of Anglesey history contained in the Transactions. The author index illustrates the debt we owe to the immense contributions made by dedicated members such as Neil Baynes and Hugh Owen in the past as well as our present-day contributors. The next milestone in the history of the Society will be its centenary and it is hoped that the high standard of our Transactions and other publications will have been maintained and that our standing as one of the premier local history societies in the country will have been upheld.

Apart from Mrs Frances Llewellyn and Mr Tomos Roberts, I am also very grateful to Mr Idris Davies, Chairman of Committee, Dr A.D. Carr, Honorary Editor of the Transactions, Mrs ELspeth Mitcheson, the Society's Librarian and in particular Mr Sion Caffell, our Honorary Secretary, for their help, advice and encouragement. Full sets of the Transactions are available to members at the Society's library in Llangefni; sets are also available at the various branches of the library service in Anglesey and in many other Welsh libraries and some city libraries in England.

March 1987

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