



CYMDEITHAS HYNAFIAETHWYR A NATURIAETHWYR MÔN

# Newsletter

ANGLESEY ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY AND FIELD CLUB

No. 45 Hydref / Autumn 2005

## Golygyddol / Editorial

**T**he time between the last Newsletter and this seems to have passed all too quickly. It has been a good year. There have been some memorable meetings and pleasant excursions. The year ahead looks promising with another one day school in February.

Do continue to support our events. The meetings are published within. Please keep your copy or better still make a note on your calendar or in your diary. Consult the Web Site for any further up-dating. May I please make a plea for suitable articles? What I would like are just short accounts of anything that has come to light, particularly from the north, east and south of the island. My knowledge is confined to the west! If they are in Welsh they would be even more welcome. I would like to keep a balance. They should be approximately two or three hundred words in length with illustrations if available.

With the passing of summer may the forthcoming term be enjoyable and if it is not too soon, I wish you all a Happy Festive Season at the turn of the year.

## Edrych yn Ôl... / Looking Back...

### Fifty Years Ago

**I**n 1955 the membership was 503 and the new President was the Marquess of Anglesey.

The Annual General Meeting in May was chaired by Dr. Leslie Jones when Miss Enid Pierce Roberts of the University College, Bangor spoke on Gweirydd ap Rhys (1807-1899) as a Historian. Mr. W. Ogwen Williams addressed the November meeting on 'The Origins and Rise of the Anglesey Gentry.'

There were three excursions. In June Mr. G.E. Holder led a group to the site of a current dig of a Bronze Age cairn at a prehistoric settlement near Aberffraw.

In July a large number of members met at South Stack where Mr. Clarence Ellis gave a light hearted account of the visible geology.

Mr. W.B. Thomas followed with a detailed account of the seabirds on the cliffs.

In September, under the leadership of Canon E.G. Wright a visit was made to the historic home of the Wynns, Gwydir Castle, followed by a tour of Llanrwst Church. Members were then entertained to tea at the quaint cafe 'Ty Hwnt i'r Bont' where Mrs. Evans gave a brief account of the 15<sup>th</sup> Century cottage.

## MEETINGS / CYFARFODAU

### Annual General Meeting / Cyfarfod Cyffredinol

#### Blynnnyddol

May / Mai 2005

**O**n 13<sup>th</sup> May there was a well attended meeting. The President, Mr. John Rowlands took the Chair.

We commenced by standing in tribute to the passing of Dewi O. Jones, past Vice-President. His services to the Society were recalled and sympathy was extended to his family.

Reports were submitted. The finances were in a satisfactory state.

Our Publications Secretary introduced Dr. W. P. Griffith who informed us how close his book is to publication. It was agreed that the Autumn Meeting will be a launch of the book. We will be addressed by him on this momentous project. The next welcome announcement by Ann Benwell was that the One Day School will be on 11<sup>th</sup> February, the subject being 'Transport and Communications in Anglesey.'

The new series of lectures was reviewed and it was agreed that the changes were beneficial.

It was resolved that all the existing officers would be re-elected for the year ahead.

After the interlude, we enjoyed a lecture by Dr. Adam Voelker on 'An Approach to Repairing and Altering Churches- Three Anglesey Case Studies.'

His is an exacting occupation; a combination of preservationist, archaeologist, architect and designer of the best way to repair and restore these ancient buildings. He was able to illustrate the scope of this work by examples of several churches throughout North Wales. It is not an easy task. He has to ensure that restoring does not eliminate the older features. Repair must blend in with the old and be easily identified. To demonstrate controversial excesses he showed us the Victorian changes made to St. Alban's Cathedral. Coupled with repair advice is his help with necessary modernisation; the provision of meeting rooms, kitchens, toilets and appropriate heating.

St. Eilian's Church, a mediaeval Grade 1 building near Amlwch was the first of his subjects. The roof leading had to be restored as the existing joints had failed. These had been done quite recently under the supervision of Mr. H. Hughes, one of our founder members. Milled lead sheets were applied alongside the old. Three sandstone pinnacles had eroded away and were replaced by stronger sandstone from Scotland. They were exact copies of the best preserved remaining pinnacles.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Century tower was restored and given five coats of limewash. This is a technique currently in favour by CADW- it being a reproduction of the original appearance of medieval towers. It is controversial, probably because everyone is so used to seeing our buildings in an unadorned state.

The second church was in the centre of Amlwch. Most of the work was internal, being the organisation of its west end into a meeting room and facilities.

Similar treatment was meted out to St. Maelog's Church in Llanfaelog. Those who have seen this church must agree that it is a masterpiece of restoration. Here there was the advantage of almost unlimited finance following a generous bequest.

The exterior looks neat and tidy, in keeping with so many other Anglesey churches. The only obvious external addition is a dormer window in the roof.

The interior is wonderful to behold. It is light, airy, warm and modern without clashing with the old. Carpeted throughout with stylish furnishing, the west end has a gallery and up to date rooms, a kitchen and toilets. The whole design is a tribute to Adam's efforts and is a prime example of what could be achieved with appropriate finance. There are many other establishments needing his attention. It was an enlightening end to an excellent evening.

*The Editor.*



# Excursions / Gwibdeithiau

2005

**W**e are pleased to report that the four excursions to date have been well supported. As a result we have some contented organisers and we trust, satisfied excursionists.

Several non-members who we regard as friends have joined us and have been impressed by what we do and how we do things.



Site of St Ulched's Church

Our first excursion was on the evening of Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> May when Mr and Mrs Doble welcomed 52 members and friends to their property. They took us to the burial ground of the long closed St. Ulched's Church and described the work they had done to clear the ground, exposing many interesting gravestones and other artefacts. After this they talked about the conversion of the original farm buildings into a

house and identified some relics which are still being researched. Then Dr. Charles Parry-Jones recounted some childhood memories of the Plas when it was a working farm.

**R**ydym yn falch o fedru dweud bod y bedair Rgwibdaeth hyd yn hyn wedi cael cefnogaeth da. Am hynnu mae genym drefnwyr hapus a, gobeithiwn, gwibdaethwyr bodlon.

Bu nifer o gyfeillion aelodau gyda ni ag wedi cael argraff da of beth yr ydym yn wneud a sut yr ydym yn ei gwneud.

**E**in gwibdaeth cyntaf oedd ar nôs Iau, 26 Mai pryd bu croeso i 52 o aelodau a cyfeillion i Plas Llechlched gan Mr a Mrs Doble.

Aethant a ni i'r fynwent ar safle hen Eglwys St Ulched i ddrisgrifio y gwaith maent wedi ei wneud i ddatguddio llawer carreg fedd diddorol ag arteffacts arall. Wedyn siaradodd Mr Doble am drwasnewidiad aideiladau fferm yn gartref ag am ymchwiliadau i weddillion eraill. I gloi, bu Dr Charles Parry-Jones yn rhannu atgofion plentyndod o'r Plas fel fferm gweithgar.



Y Mynwent



Frances Llewellyn

During a fine Saturday afternoon on 18<sup>th</sup> June forty four members and friends followed Mrs Frances Llewellyn around fields and lanes in the Brynsiencyn area. We visited defended enclosures at Caer Leb and Castell Bryn Gwyn, the Bryn Gwyn standing stones and the Bodowyr burial chamber. We also looked over stone walls at the site of Caer Meini and remains of hut circles at Pont Sarn-las. Thirty two of us then completed the day with a meal at the 'Gaerwen Arms.'

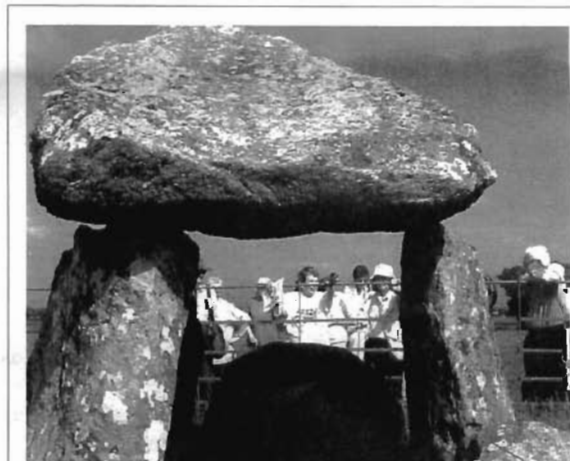


Caer Leb

**D**rwyr brynhawn Sadwrn braf ar 18 Mehefin dilynodd 44 o aelodau a cyfeillion Mrs Frances Llewellyn ar draws caeau ag ar hyd ffyrdd bach yn ardal Brynsiencyn. Ymwelwyd y amddiffyniaid cauedig Caer Leb a Castell Bryn Gwyn, cerrig safadwy Bryn Gwyn a siambr angladd Bodowyr. Buom yn edrych dros waliau cerrig ar safle Caer Meini a gweddillion cytiau crwn ger Pont Sarn-las. Fe aeth 32 ohonom i gael pryd o fwyd yn y 'Gaerwen Arms' i orffen y dydd.



Bryngwyn Standing Stones



Siambr Angladd Bodowyr



Plas Cadnant



Anthony Tavinor & Ann Benwell



Cadnant Gardens



Yr Ardd

Ar ôl ei darlith i aelodau ar 15 Ebrill trefnodd Mrs Ann Benwell ymweliad a Plas Cadnant dydd Sadwrn 16 Gorffennaf. Cafwyd croeso y perchenog, Mr Anthony Tavinor, gan 54 o aelodau a cyfeillion. Ar ôl cyflwyniad byr gan Ann a Mr Tavinor aethom fel dau grwp i weld hen adeiladau wedi ei atgyweirio yn gyfanheddol, y gerddi cauedig yn cael ei bywiogi a gwelliant i lwybrau trwy'r goedwig at nodweddion Afon Cadnant. Roeddem yn ddiolchgar iawn am y lluniaeth a ddarparodd Mr Tavinor a'i staff ar ddiwedd y prynhawn.

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Following her lecture to the Society on 15<sup>th</sup> April Mrs Ann Benwell arranged a visit to Plas Cadnant on Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> July. Fifty four members and friends were welcomed by the

proprietor, Mr Anthony Tavinor. After a brief introduction by both Ann and Mr Tavinor we split into two groups and were taken around the site to see restoration work done on outbuildings to convert them into habitable units, work in progress to revitalise the walled gardens and to provide access through the woods to view features of River Cadnant. Mr Tavinor and his staff provided refreshments at the end of the visit, for which we were very grateful.

We had a full day out on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> July, organised by Bob and Mary Mason. Forty three members and friends were on the coach leaving Menai Bridge. Our first stop was at Faenol Fawr, Bodelwyddan for a morning cuppa. An interesting innovation was choosing our evening meal items from a menu being circulated. Refreshed, we continued to Northwich,



Edwardian Gas Engine

visiting the upgraded Salt Museum, the Edwardian Pumping Station and the Anderton Boat Lift. Twenty five of us took the opportunity to take the short boat trip to be hoisted up fifty five feet from the River Weaver to the Trent and Mersey Canal. We had to walk down again to board the 'River Princess' for a cruise on the river to Acton Bridge. We enjoyed our evening meal at Faenol Fawr and arrived back at Menai Bridge just before 9.00 pm.

Trefnwyd diwrnod llawn oddi ar yr ynys dydd Mercher 27 Gorffennaf gan Bob a Mary Mason. 'Roedd 43 o aelodau a cyfeillion ar y goets o Borthaethwy. Cafwyd paned boreol yn Faenol Fawr, Bodelwyddan. Cyfnewydiad diddorol oedd cael dewis eitemau y pryd gyda'r nôs o'r fwydlen oedd yn

cylchredeg. Ymlaen i Northwich i ymweld a'r Amgueddfa Halen uwchraddadiol, yr Orsaf Pwmpio Edwardaidd a'r 'Anderton Boat Lift.'

Codwyd 25 ohonwm mewn cwch i fynny 55 troedfedd o'r Afon Weaver i gamlas Trent a Mersey. Wedyn bu raid cerdded i lawr yn ôl i fynd ar fordaith at yr afon i Acton Bridge ar y 'River Princess.' Mwynhawyd ein pryd gyda'r nôs yn y Faenol Fawr a roeddem yn ôl ym

Mhorthaethwy dipyn cyn 9 o'r gloch.



Anderton Boat Lift



On the way to the Lift



Mary and Bob Mason



Entering the Caisson

Our final excursion this year will be on **Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September** when **Mr Gwilym T. Jones** will guide us around features of the Cefni Estuary at Malltraeth. These include the Cob, the effect of its construction on routes crossing the marsh and some conjectural discussion of place names.

Bydd ein gwibdaeth olaf y flwyddyn hon prynhawn **Sadwrn 3 Medi** pryd y bydd **Mr Gwilym T. Jones** yn ein arwain o gwmpas nodweddion aber Cefni ger Malltraeth. Bydd y rhain yn cynnwys y Cob, effaith ei adeiladu ar y llwybrau ar draws y gors a dipyn o drafod enwau lleol.



We are already considering suggestions for future excursions trying, where possible, to relate visits to winter lectures, workshops and articles in the Transactions. I would be pleased to have any ideas on other topics which may come to mind, particularly if they relate to Anglesey. If you know of any development that can affect the physical or social structure of the island as we know it there may be some scope for a visit to see the proposed change. Today's change is, after all, tomorrow's history. Finally, my thanks to all those who have been involved in organising and taking part in our visits.

Chairman / Cadeirydd Excursions Sub-Committee, Gareth Parry. Tel / Ffôn 01248 722697



Rydym yn cysidrio gwibdeithiau y dyfydol yn barod ag yn ceisio, ple yn bosibl, cael perthynas rhyngddynt a darlithoedd y gaeaf, y dyddiau gwaith a erthyglau yn y Trafodion. Buaswn yn falch o unrhyw syniad ar destynau arall a ddaw i'ch meddwl, yn arbennig gyda cysylltiad a Ynys Môn. Os ydych yn gwybod am unrhyw ddatblygiad sydd ag effaith ar fframwaith ffisegol neu cymdeithasol yr ynys efallai y bydd cyfle i ymweld a safle'r bwriad. Mae newidiadau heddiw yn hanes yfory.

Dymunaf fynegi fy niolchgarwch i bawb sydd wedi trefnu a cymeryd rhan yn arwain ein gwibdeithiau.

### **ANGLESEY ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY AND FIELD CLUB CYMDEITHAS HYNAFIAETHWYR A NATURIAETHWYR MÔN**

Registered Charity / Rhif Elusen 507837. Established / Sefydlwyd 1911.

Subscriptions payable 1<sup>st</sup> April annually / Tanysgrifiadau i'w talu yn flynyddol ar Ebrill 1af Individual Members / Aelodau unigol.. £6.00  
Joint members living at the same address / Aelodau ar y cyd, yn byw yn yr un cyfeiriad. £9.00 A free copy of the Transactions is sent to each individual member in October (one copy between Joint members) / Anfonir copi o'r Trafodion blynyddol yn rhad ac am ddim i bob aelod ym mis Hydref (un copi rhwng Aelodau ar y cyd)

Application forms for membership are available on the Society's Web Site or from the Hon. Membership Secretary.  
Gellir cael ffurflenni caus aelodaeth oddi wrth Safle Gwe y Gymdeithas neu oddiwrth yr Ysgrifennydd Aelodaeth.

#### **CHARGES TO NON-MEMBERS**

Priority will be given to members. Non members will be charged £2.00 when attending events free to members and will be charged the same amount as members where charges are made.

#### **CODIADAU AR RAI NAD YDYNT YN AELODAU**

Rhoddir blaenoriaeth i aelodau. Codir ffi o £2.00 ar rai nad ydynt yn aelodau pan yn mynychu achlysuron sydd am ddim i aelodau, a thalu yr un faint ag aelodau ar wibdeithiau taladwy.

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Lord Stanley of Alderley

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### **OFFICER VACANCIES**

#### **Honorary Editor Transactions / Golygydd y Trafodion .. Hon. General Secretary / Ysgrifennydd Cyffredinol**

These two important posts are still open for applications. The essential requirements for the Editor are to be an academic or archivist. For the Secretary skills in organisation and computers are necessary. Both posts require full bilingual capability. For further information contact our present Secretary, Siôn Caffell. These are prestigious positions and anyone devoted to the Society and possessing these skills would be most welcome to join the team.

# ALED EAMES

## Memorial Lecture



## Darlith Goffa

**A**led Eames was one of the leading maritime historians of his generation and was known throughout Wales and internationally.

He published many works on several aspects of maritime history and was a regular commentator on television and radio. His enthusiasm and character inspired many of his compatriots to take an active interest in the maritime history of Wales. The Aled Eames Memorial lecture commemorates his contribution with a lecture delivered by a leading maritime historian. The lecture will also serve as the official opening of an exhibition on maritime history. As this is the inaugural lecture it is only fitting that the first exhibition traces the career and contribution of Aled Eames to the study of maritime history in Wales and beyond.

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2005 in the Maritime Heritage Village of Moelfre, Anglesey  
Order of the Day.**

10.30. Official welcome in the Seawatch Centre.

10.45-11.15. An introduction to the work of Aled Eames and official exhibition.

Light refreshments will be provided.



11.15-12.00 Darlith Goffa Aled Eames Memorial Lecture (Capel Carmel)

**Dr. David Jenkins**

*Senior Curator, Department of Industry, National Museum and Galleries of Wales  
Uwch Guradur, Adran Ddiwydiant, Amgueddfeydd ac Orielau Cenedlaethol Cymru*

**'Llafurwyr y Môr' (The Toilers of the Sea).**

Traddodir y ddarlith yn Gymraeg gyda chyfieithu ar y pryd i'r Saesneg.

**The lecture will be delivered in Welsh with simultaneous translation into English.**

12.15-1.15 Cinio Swyddogol- Official Dinner.



Yn ystod y prynhawn bydd Partneriaeth Moelfre yn cynnig taith gerdded wedi'i thywys, sef 'Taith Arfordir Gwylt Moelfre,' yn rhad ac am ddim, sy'n olrhain un agwedd ar ein hanes morwrol.

During the afternoon Moelfre Partnership will provide a guided walk, 'The Moelfre Wild Coast Tour' which is free of charge and provides an insight into one aspect of our maritime past.

If you wish to book a place for this prestigious occasion  
phone 01248 851062 or 01248 410816 or write to:

Os hoffech archebu lle ar gyfer y achlysur nodedig hwn yna,  
naill ai ffoniwch 01248 851062 neu ysgrifenwch at:

**Derlwyn Hughes (Cadeirydd / Chair), 'Gwelfor,' Moelfre, Ynys Môn / Anglesey LL72 8LH**

### Developments at Oriel Ynys Môn

**T**he Autumn of 2005 will be a period of excitement and transition for Oriel Ynys Môn. The new Heritage Gallery will be unveiled, complete with its own temporary exhibition space. The Oriel's shop, reception and café will all be upgraded to provide a new look to the 'Front of house' part of the building.

Furthermore, the establishment will be open on Mondays, so access will be for seven days a week. Entry into the new Heritage Gallery will be free of charge. The big day when all this will be unveiled is 21 October.

### Prehistoric Roundhouses at Llynnon!

**F**unding has been secured to build a prehistoric roundhouse settlement at Llynnon Mill, Llanddeusant.

The Mill site is managed by the Museums and Culture Service of the County Council and together with the Community Council of Tref Alaw, a sum of £229,000 has been obtained from European sourced money, *Cydcod*.

The project will see two large roundhouses, a granary and small activity shelters built on the field adjacent to the Mill and will be completed by the Autumn of 2006.

The scheme will give Llynnon Mill an additional attraction and will certainly attract schoolchildren, locals and visiting tourists.

The project will also focus on woodland management, with over twenty woodland sites across Anglesey being used to provide coppiced timber for the roundhouses.

We will keep you updated in the next edition.....!



### Tai Cynhanes yn Llynnon!

**L**lwyddwyd i sicrhau arian ar gyfer adeiladu pentref cynhanes o dai crynion ar safle Melin Llynnon yn Llanddeusant.

Rheolir y safle gan Wasanaeth Amgueddfeydd a Diwylliant y Cyngor Sir, a law yn llaw â Chyngor Cymuned Tref Alaw, derbyniwyd swm o £229,000 oddi wrth Cydcod, sef ffynhonnell Ewropeaidd, ar gyfer y prosiect.

Bydd y cynllun yn creu dau dy crwn, storfa grawn a chysgodleoedd ar gyfer gweithgareddau, oll wedi eu hadeiladu yn y cae gerllaw'r felin. Bydd y cyfan wedi ei orffen erbyn Hydref 2006.

Bydd y cynllun yn sicrhau o gynnig atyniad ychwanegol i safle Melin Llynnon ac yn denu ysgolion, pobl leol a thwristiaid.

Bydd y cynllun hefyd yn canolbwyntio ar reoli coedlannau gyda dros ugain o goedlannau ar draws Ynys Môn yn cael eu defnyddio i greu pren i adeiladu'r tai crynion.

Byddwn yn rhoi mwy o wybodaeth i chi y neid rhifyn nesaf.....!

*Alun Gruffydd*

## LOOKING AHEAD.../ EDRYCH YMLAEN...

This is the information you should retain or record in your diaries or calendars.

### Meetings / Cyfarfodau

Don't Forget.. / Peidiwch ag Anghofio..

Dydd Gwener.....Medi 16 September.....Friday

Stone Science Talwrn

To start at 7 p.m. I ddechrau am 7 p.m.

Lecture to be arranged- consult Website- Darlithyth eto i'w gadarnhau

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### HYSBYSIAD

Dydd Gwener 14 Hydref am 7.00 o'r gloch  
yn Oriel Ynys Môn.

**Darlith Goffa Syr Ifor Williams**

**'Yr Arglwydd Cledwyn o Benrhos.'**

Emyr Price



"Cyflawnodd Cledwyn Hughes lawer fel Ysgrifenydd Gwladol dros Gymru- Corfforaeth Ddatblygu ar gyfer y Canolbarth yn lle tref newydd enfawr, y Cynllyn Economaidd cyntaf erioed ar gyfer Cymru: gwaithfeydd olew newydd yn Sir Benffro; y Bathdu Brenhinol yn Llantrisant; RTZ a'r Wylfa yn Ynys Môn. Daeth ef a'r Canghellor Callaghan at ei gilydd hefyd i brynu 13,000 erw o stad y Faenol yn yr Eryri i ddod â rhan o'r Wyddfa i ddwylo cyhoeddus. Datganwyd Cymru gyfan yn ardal datblygu rhanbarthol."

*Darlith Flynyddol Gŵyl Gelfyddydau Caergybi 2004*



*Arglwydd Cledwyn o Benrhos*

Cyfarfod cyhoeddus di dal. Bydd lluniaeth ar gael.

*Welsh Language lecture: 'Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos' Public Lecture free of charge. Refreshments available*

Friday... October 29 Hydref... Dydd Gwener  
**Autumn Meeting / Cyfarfod yr Hydref**

**Oriel Ynys Môn, Llangefni, 7.00 pm/ o'r Gloch**  
**"Some Aspects of Power, Politics and Government in Anglesey 1780-1914"**

**Dr. W.P. Griffith**

Refreshments will be available and the Society's publications on sale.  
Byd lluniaeth ar gael a chyhoeddiadau'r Gymdeithas ar werth.

Friday... March 10 Mawrth... Dydd Gwener  
2006

**Oriel Ynys Môn, Llangefni, 7.00 pm/ o'r Gloch**  
**Pot Pourri**

Short talks by members of the Society. Details will appear on the Web Site.  
Sgyrsiau byrion gan aelodau'r Gymdeithas. Rhoddir manylion ar Safle Gwe.  
Buffet and Presentations / Bwffe a Chyflwyniadau

### Stone Science, Talwrn

I ddechrau am 7 o'r gloch.. To start at 7 pm

Friday... November 18 Tachwedd ... Dydd Gwener  
2005

Friday... January 20 Ionawr ... Dydd Gwener 2006

Friday... February 17 Chwefror ... Dydd Gwener  
2006

Friday ... April 21 Ebrill ... Dydd Gwener 2006

Lecturer to be confirmed / Darlith i'w gadarnhau

*Refreshments available / Byd Llyniaeth ar gael.*

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**Hen Goleg, University of Wales, Bangor**

**'Transport and Communications in Anglesey'**

**One Day School, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2006**

Details on leaflet with application form.

## Thomas Telford: Engineering Genius



*Thomas Telford*

One of the exciting features of next year's programme of lectures is the concentration on communications in Anglesey.

The Day School will present us with most of it but the subject is so large that it will spill over to extra lectures in early spring. One will be on the subject of Thomas Telford's contribution to the A5. Gwilym T. Jones will be addressing us and I know it will please everyone. Here is a small indication of the far sighted planning carried out by this great man of the 18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

When driving along the old A5, have you noticed these curious little 'Lay byes' at the side of the road? Perhaps you have wondered what their original function might have been. Most might think they were refuges for animals or pedestrians. In fact they are a carefully thought out plan for the maintenance of the highway, showing

the brilliance of Telford's design. They are in keeping with the primitive technology of the time, based on manual labour. He called these 'Depotes' and they were used for the storage of gravel and sand for road repairs. Many still survive and this example is just outside Valley. The next one is just beyond the sign indicating the end of the 30mph speed limit. None of them were more than a quarter of a mile apart. He calculated that no labourer should have to transport material in a wheelbarrow further than one eighth of a mile. All are on the north side of the highway, the idea being that winter sunshine would bathe the area and defrost the heaps, making the workers' tasks easier.



*A Depote*

*The Editor*





*Apprentice Mediaeval Builders*



## EARLY WELSH RADIO BROADCASTING

**L**ong before the BBC began transmitting in Welsh Experiments were carried out from the Irish Free State. W.S. Gwynne Williams of Llangollen, best known as a co-founder of the International Eisteddfod organised a series of Welsh-interest programmes in 1927-1928. They were broadcast to North Wales from Dublin. Some professional artistes were used but historian John Davies discovered that non-professional singers were used. The spoken word was English but there were songs in Welsh sung by Welsh residents of Dublin and the crews of the Holyhead ferry boats. Details are sketchy but it was recorded that in the broadcast of 6<sup>th</sup> May 1927 a party of these singers performed. Those from Holyhead were: Mr. W. Evens, Mr. Lewis Owen, Mrs. Lewis Owen, Mrs. Megan Owen, Mr. R.H. Roberts, Mr. W. Roberts and Mrs. O.H. Williams. They were augmented by Mrs. Censon of Dublin and Miss Betty Williams, Rathmines Castle, Dublin. There are no other details.

If any reader knows descendants of these singers or others not named, their names and addresses and material relating to these programmes e.g. Schedules, photographs, correspondence with W.S. Gwynne Williams etc. would be appreciated for a research project. Please submit these details to the Editor and to David R. Jones, 1, Green Park, Erddig, Wrexham, LL13 7YE.

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Llyfrau / Books

#### An A-Z of Anglesey

#### *Looking for a Stocking Filler?*

**E**arly Christmas shoppers can pick up copies of Margaret Hughes' latest Anglesey book, 'An A-Z of Anglesey.'

It is published by Gwasg Carreg Gwalch at £4.95. It is not a gazetteer but a collection of twenty six chapters, each on a different topic, each the fruit of much research over past years. The author calls her book, 'An easy read: a book to be opened at random.' Chapters cover a variety of topics concerning Anglesey, from roads to 'mountains,' personalities to societies, buildings to natural history.

'An A-Z of Anglesey,' ISBN 0-86381-955-9 is available through bookshops, tourist information centres and Oriel Ynys Môn.

**This must be a Vintage Year for books about our Island- there's more to come!**

## FUTURE ANTIQUARIANS

### The Young Archaeologists' Club

To celebrate National Archaeology Week, the Club meeting on the 23rd July was held at Melin Llynnon where there were demonstrations and activities under the theme of 'Reconstructing the Iron Age.' Members, amongst other things, were able to try making fire using bow drills -very hard work!- and daubing a wattle fence-very messy! As you see from the photograph a lot of what we do is learning about the past in an active and 'Fun -way.' Everyone is looking forwards to a two day dig in Dolwyddelan at the end of August. We will keep you posted on developments and the site address. Shortly we can introduce our brand new website which is being made possible by a grant from Cronfa'r Degwm (Church Act Fund). This will not only be a high quality site for the Club but also for all young people on Anglesey and beyond to access all who have an interest in Archaeology.

*Pat West*

### The Anglesey Census 1841 - 1901

#### CD Rom

**D**ave Wilson's work is proceeding and the Rom covering the 1891 census has been a great success.

It is still available at £20.00. and the 1871 census is also ready and can be purchased at the same price. The 1861 disc is under preparation and should be ready by Christmas.

#### SALE!

**I**f searching for gifts towards the end of the year, members may be interested in these bargains.

For a period which ends on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2006 a Discount of 33 1/3% is on offer for Past Publications. With the imminent publication of the next book in the series of Anglesey Antiquarian publications, storage space is at a premium so we are offering previous publications at special rates to members. Here are examples: *Prehistoric Anglesey* (normally £17.00) **£11.30**; *New Natural History of Anglesey* (£7.50) **£5.00**; *Portraits of an Island* (£12.90) **£8.60**. Postage is extra.

Does anyone want a mint condition copy of 'Two Centuries of Anglesey Schools?' Dave has found a few copies and can make them available at a cost of **£7.50** plus postage. Contact him for details.

An index for the Transactions is on offer free if postage is supplied in the form of stamps: three first class and two second class. All from **Dave at Stone Science** where discounted books can be collected free from postage. They are also available at meetings.

For overseas members, please email for help:

dave@stonescience.fsbusiness.co.uk

### Power, Politics and County Government in Wales:

#### Anglesey 1780-1914

**T**here has been an unavoidable delay with the emergence of fresh material.

The book is unlikely to be launched at the Autumn Meeting but should be available by Christmas.

#### Môn Mam Cymru

**A** new Guidebook to Anglesey has been compiled by Philip Steele of Llangoed and Robert Williams of Llansadwrn. First published in 1976 this new edition will be available in October. It will have many more photographs and covers all aspects of the Island. It has no advertisements and is not a tourist brochure. Previous reviews were favourable. Our own Society stated 'Anglesey is presented here as it really is, without any Celtic Twilight or pseudo-history'... 'Llawlyfr cwbl broffesional a gwahanol i ddim a gaed o'r blaen... llyfryn llawn gwodaeth, a hynny wedi ei gyflwyno gan rai sy'n sensitif iawn tuag at hanes, traddodiad ac iaith y bobl.' Papur Menai

The greatly expanded 2005 edition in a new format has been extensively updated and re-written.

Further information from Robert Williams, MAGMA, Llansadwrn LL59 5SR. E Mail: magmawales@hotmail.com

## Anglesey- The Concise History

David A. Pretty

**E**ditied by Catrin Stevens, this is Volume I of an exciting new series- 'The Histories of Wales.'

Spanning the period from pre-history to the present day, David's work is rivetting; particularly his account of the Dynasty of Welsh Princes. It is a joy to read and gratifying that the Society's Publications and Transactions were some of his major sources. I recommend it as a fascinating panorama of our turbulent past.

University of Wales Press, Cardiff CF10 4UP.....£9.99

This book will be reviewed in full in the next Transactions.

### DID THE PUNISHMENT FIT THE CRIME?

**I**n the late 18<sup>th</sup> Century, if you appeared before the Quarter Sessions in Beaumaris for stealing a sheep, you could expect execution if found guilty.

If you escaped from gaol, you might find yourself the quarry of a 'Hue and cry' in which all the townspeople had to take part.

If you were convicted for stealing 'Two pieces of silver coin, commonly called sixpences' you would be punished with a flogging.

If you were convicted of a crime you might receive a pardon if you agreed to 'Enter the King's Service.'

If you were found guilty of petty larceny you might be 'Whipped in a public place' or 'Ambulade' through the streets. Whipping was usually administered by the Beaumaris gaoler riding on horseback.

If you were a woman convicted of petty larceny you could be sentenced to seven years' transportation 'To one of His Majesty's plantations in America.'

Margaret Hughes

## Colleagues in Learning

### Talwrn Archaeology Group

**T**he Talwrn Archaeology Group is celebrating its tenth anniversary this autumn.

We meet at Stone Science on Monday evenings from September to Easter for lectures on the history and archaeology of Anglesey. A special feature of the Group is the meeting once every half term to discuss informally members' research projects and to exchange ideas and information. During the summer months we enjoy visits to places of interest.

We are a very active and friendly group and our members come from all over Anglesey and beyond. We have an annual exhibition in Talwrn Village Hall to display our current research. This is also the occasion when we present prizes and certificates to children of Talwrn Primary School for their history projects.

Our President is Frances Lynch and she has very kindly drawn the flints found by members. All our finds are well looked after by Dave Wilson and are displayed at Stone Science. Some of our members are working with the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, investigating ancient, possibly Roman roads in Anglesey.

The annual subscription is £20.00 and we have over seventy members.

Ann Benwell

This is another Anglesey organisation with similar aims to the Society, remaining complementary to our aspirations.

The Editor

## GUARD OUR TREASURES



If any members notice any archaeological sites being defaced or threatened with damage please advise the Hon. Secretary so that the Society can inform the appropriate authorities.

Gofynnir i aelodau tynnu sylw'r Ysgrifennydd Cyffredinol os ydynt yn gweld safleoedd hynafiaethol yn cael ei difetha neu o dan fygythiad o difrod er mwyn i'r Gymdeithas rhoi gwybod i'r awdurdodau perthnasol.

Hon Sec/ Ysgrifennydd Aelodaeth: Siôn Cafell

Tel / Ffôn 01248 752116

## Pat's Projects

Publicity Officer / Swyddog Cyhoeddusrwydd

A new leaflet in full colour is about to be produced and Pat West would welcome any ideas on what to include. The more ideas the merrier! The Website may also have additions aimed at youngsters. In the coming year she hopes to place articles about the Society in the general press. Here is your chance to make a contribution. Suggestions should be sent to Pat at Parc Mount, Glanhwfa Road, Llangefni

Pat has acquired a large Lottery Grant for the 'Home Recall Project.' She is organising five concerts and teas at Holyhead, Llangefni, Amlwch, Bodedern and Menai Bridge to commemorate the end of the second world war. The concerts will start at Holyhead on 28<sup>th</sup> September, one a week for four weeks, the venues being in the Secondary Schools. Some of the pupils will be helping, hoping to unite the generations. At these sessions Pat will have scanners available where photographs and documents can be copied. Cameras will be on hand to photograph any interesting objects and artefacts relevant to that time. She and her colleagues will ask anyone who experienced the period 1939-1945- those who were children too- to let their memories be recorded, 'Lest we forget.' All the information gathered will eventually be available at the Archives and other Island venues. School Education Packs are to be produced from the material, aimed at 7-11 year olds. More information will be in the local press. Perhaps members might attend to make the project a success?

## ARCHIVE NEWS

### Out and About

Anne Venables will be holding more of the popular, 'Ask your Archivist' sessions after the summer. Those interested can meet her at the following venues:

Moelfre.....September 19th 2-5pm

Newborough.....September 28th 2-5pm

Llangefni.....October 3rd 2-7pm

### Digitisation Project

For ten weeks from July, Heledd Williams, a post graduate student, has been busy scanning the Burrows collection of glass slide negatives. Dating from the 1950s they show many aspects of Holyhead life and will be a valuable resource for individual research and educational use. They will be available on CD for use in the Archives and other locations such as Holyhead library before the end of the year.

### New Appointment

The Archives Service has had a major boost recently with the appointment of an additional member of staff. Commencing in October, Hayden Burns joins the team as assistant archivist. He will, amongst other duties, lead on the computer cataloguing of collections and develop public and educational access to this and other material. This is a permanent post, jointly funded for the first three years by the County Council and CyMAL: Museums, Archives and Libraries Wales.

Pat West

## Anne's Accessions

### New Documents in the Record Office

1. Bishop's Transcripts, Amlwch, Llandysilio, Penrhosllugwy and Rhosybol.
2. Discharge papers of Cpl. Joseph Snape, Royal Naval Air Service, 1919, WM 2010/4
3. File of information collected on the ship Pengwern, WM 2107

Anne Venables. Tel. 01248 75208 Record Office, Llangefni



The next edition of the Newsletter will be published in the spring of 2006.

Please forward any articles to the Editor:

Dr. J. Ken Roberts, Cae Paradwys, 16, The Rise, Trearddur Bay, Holyhead Tel. 01407 861036