

FROM THE CHAIR

Those who founded the Anglesey Antiquarian & Field Society in 1911 would rejoice to know that the current membership is over 1,000.

Members share a special interest in the history of our island, woven as it is of many strands. As a learned Society with a commitment to scholarship, we are publishers of the annual volume of Transactions and the highly-acclaimed series of "Studies in Anglesey History" of which six volumes have appeared since 1966, thanks to generous grants from the Ynys Mon Borough Council. We enjoy lectures by historians and naturalists eminent in their fields. Excursions within and outside Anglesey are a great success. Social and scholarly activities bring together so many who love Anglesey, "Monwysion" by birth or happy choice.

This newsletter will be a channel of communication and help to strengthen the bonds. The committee proposes to send it to members twice a year, with the papers for the annual and autumn meetings. It is hoped to include reports of excursions, news of forthcoming events, notices of new books and publications about Anglesey, information on excavations by the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust and other news items.

At the request of the committee, our press officer, Mrs. Margaret Hughes, a journalist by profession, has very kindly accepted responsibility for the newsletter. Diolch o galon i chwi, Mrs. Hughes, a phob llwyddiant i'r fenter - our heartfelt thanks to you, Mrs. Hughes, and all success to the venture.

It will be greatly welcomed by all our members.

IDRIS DAVIES (Chairman)

"YNYS MON"

(Gol.gan yr Athro Bedwyr Lewis Jones a Dr. Derec Llwyd Morgan. Christopher Davies, 1983. 160t. £3.50)

Ymysg y cynnyrch helaeth o lyfrau a gyhoeddwyd ar drothwy'r Brifwyl yn Llangefni eleni - y mwyafrif ohonynt yn ymdrin a Mon - saif rhai allan fel cyfraniad sylweddol i lenyddiaeth yr Ynys.

Un ohonynt yw "Ynys Mon", y trydydd yn y gyfres "Bro'r Eisteddfod", ac y mae'r ysgrifau ynddo wedi'u dethol yn ofalus i bortreadu gwahanol agweddau o fywyd cymdeithasol, llenyddiaeth a hanes yr hen sir. Mae'r mwyafrif o'r cyfrannwyr yn aelodau eiddgar a pharchus o Gymdeithas Hynafiaethwyr Mon, sydd eisoes wedi cyfrannu'n helaeth i hanes yr ynys trwy

eu ymchwil gwreiddiol a safonol. Ceir ysgrif addas ac amserol ar hen eisteddfodau Mon yn y ganrif diwethaf gan yr Athro Bedwyr Lewis Jones, un o olygyddion y gyfrol, ac ymysg y cyfrannwyr eraill darllenaais gyda mwynhad ysgrifau ar hen ddyddiaduron Mon gan Helen Ramage; hanes Mynydd Parys gan John Rowlands, a pherthynas sylweddol Moelfre a'r mor, gan Aled Eames. Ceir hefyd ysgrif gwerthfawr ar hynafiaethau Mon gan Frances Llewellyn (cyfieithiad gan yr Athro Bedwyr Lewis Jones), ac hefyd ysgrif ddiddorol yn nhafodiaeth ardal Niwbwrch gan y diweddar W.H.Roberts a fu'n aelod selog o'r Gymdeithas dros amser maith.

Cyfrol fechan cyfoethog a rydd wledd o fwynhad i bawb sydd ganddynt ddiddordeb yn hanes a llenyddiaeth Mon, er y buasai ffynnonellau yr ysgrifau nad oeddynt wedi eu hysgrifennu yn bwrpasol ar gyfer y llyfr o fudd i'r darllenydd.

DEWI O. JONES

EXCURSIONS '83

Powys, South Stack, Ardudwy, Ireland, the Peak District and Llanwenllwyfo - the 1983 excursions list reads like a travel agent's brochure! All the outings were well patronised and appreciated.

As a bonus, we were invited to Plas Berw to meet the new owner, to see for ourselves this wonderful old house and to hear of plans for its future.

The Powys excursion in June took place as the countryside was at its best. Oswestry, Montgomery and Gregynog were visited. We marvelled at the size of Old Oswestry, some climbed to the castle at Montgomery, others enjoyed the atmosphere of the sleepy town and looked at its architecture. At Gregynog, Dr. Glyn Tegai Hughes, the Warden, welcomed us, we had tea, and after a walk in the gardens boarded coaches for what was to be an adventurous drive home. A breakdown on a country road meant an anxious wait for a relief coach to take us on to Dolgellau, to wait again for O.R.Jones's relief coach to complete the journey. But all was accepted in good humour and not one grumble was heard. Richard White and Dewi O.Jones organised the day (but not the breakdown!)

The South Stack meeting, also in June, gave members an opportunity to hear Dr.W.Eifion Jones talk about Elen's Tower and the South Stack bird cliffs - a welcome foray into the "Field Club" side of the society's interests.

Richard White, Kenneth Emmett and Eric Thomas arranged the full day outing to Ardudwy

in July. Following a picnic lunch, members visited Cors y Gedol Long Cairn and Llanddwywe church. A sumptuous buffet tea at the Golden Lion Royal at Dolgellau ended the day, and gave members a chance to mix socially, which was welcomed.

The full day excursion to Ireland at the end of July proved popular. Glendalough in County Wicklow was the main visit, lack of time precluding the intended visits to Kilcullen and Kildare. Wyn Roberts and Kenneth Emmett were the organisers. A buffet meal at Dun Laoghaire was the final stop before boarding the ferry.

The week-end excursion to the Peak District will be remembered for luxurious accommodation and stormy weather. A hundred members filled two coaches. There was a walkabout in Knutsford ending at the Unitarian Chapel where Margaret Hughes spoke of Mrs. Elizabeth Gaskell, the Knutsford novelist and the town. Then the party travelled on to Buxton and The Palace Hotel.

After dinner, a speaker from the Peak Dist. Nat. Park told us of the problems of its administration. On Saturday, members donned macs and brollies and ventured for a walkabout with members of the Buxton Civic Society. We saw the newly-furbished Opera House. After lunch, some visited Haddon Hall and others went on to the National Tramway Museum at Crich. The evening speaker was Dr. Bramwell who had supervised the dig at Poole's Cavern. He talked about the Roman finds. The following morning the Society visited the Cavern. After lunch at the Pavilion Gardens, we left for Siddington near Macclesfield, where Ray Rush took us to the well-kept church and, in his inimitable way, spoke for an hour on old church traditions.

The final excursion, to Llanwenllwyfo, took place in September, when members heard Mrs. Helen Ramage talk about the Neave family of Llys Dulas at Pen-y-Sarn Community Centre, followed by Mr. R. R. Williams who gave an illustrated talk on Dulas island. Mr. J. O. Hughes showed his newest slides of Llanwenllwyfo church after tea, and members walked down to see the 15th c. Flemish glass there.

At the church, members were able to welcome back David Senogles after his illness. David has, in his capacity as chairman of the excursions committee, been the driving force behind several years' successful programmes, and we are indebted to him and to everyone who organised or played any part in providing excursions of absorbing interest this year.

Llyfrau newydd yn ymdrin a Fon sydd yn awr ar silffoedd Llyfrgell y Sir:

BEDWYR LEWIS JONES: "Iaith Sir Fon".

LLEWELYN JONES: "Francis George Fisher, bardd a dramodwr" (braslun o yrfa sylfaenydd Theatr Fach Llangefni)

G. I. JONES: "Meistr Cerdd: bywyd a gwaith William Bradwen Jones, cerddor."

GWALCHMAI AP MEILYR (Cyfres Llyfrynnau Llen-
orion 2) Yr Academi Gymreig 1983: "Cefndir

a gwaith un o feirdd y tywysogion o'r ddeu-
ddegfed ganrif."

T. D. ROBERTS: "Bara llaeth i frecwast"

(Hanesion am gymeriadau diddorol ardal
Llandrygarn, Llanfaethlu a Llangefni).

DAFYDD WYN WILLIAM: "Llwynogod Mon ac ysgrifau
eraill"; cyfrol o ysgrifau a cherddi yn ym-
wneud ag agweddau ar hanes Ynys Mon.

GRUFFYDD ALED WILLIAMS (Gol.) "Hyfrydwch pob
rhyw frodir: Mon a'i phobl mewn llen a lluniau"

NEW ACQUISITIONS AT THE RECORD OFFICE

During the past year several interesting items have been added to county records. They include several hundred photographs of Anglesey people and views, many from the collection of Mr. E. Emrys Jones, Colwyn Bay. Mrs. Dilys Jones Llanfairpwll, deposited a minute book of the Anglesey branch of the National Master Farriers Association (1915). Mr. Eryl Wyn Rowlands has again deposited more papers re Capel Mawr, Amlwch, etc. A ship's Account Book of William Jones, ironmonger, Amlwch (1875-1904) was given by Mr. R. W. Morris, Amlwch, and Mr. & Mrs. Jones, Mona Lodge, Amlwch, have deposited an excellent collection of records re the Mona Mine Co. and the Amlwch brewery.

Ann Williams, the area archivist, says they have received several ledgers and account books of Central Stores, Aberffraw (1835 to 1856) which give prices of many everyday as well as luxury items. She is always on the lookout for acquisitions, either to be deposited or on loan for photocopying.

WINTER COURSES

The programme for Anglesey drawn up by the University College Extra-Mural department and the WEA includes several interesting courses which might appeal to Antiquarians.

At Beaumaris, Dr. D. Cecil Jones and members of the Marine Science department will conduct 20 meetings "Exploring the Shores and Seas of Gwynedd". At Benllech, Edgar Jones has a course on "Hanes Mon", while "Local History of Holyhead and District" runs at Holyhead.

Rev. Emlyn Richards discusses "Arferion Cefn Gwlad" at Cemaes, and William Evans speaks on "Crwydro Mon" at Llannerchymedd and Pont-rhydybont.

"Astudiaethau Lleol" is the subject of Gwilym Trefor Jones at Llangaffo, in Welsh, and in English at Rhosneigr.

Details may be obtained from the Extra Mural dept. at the University or the WEA at 33 College Road, Bangor.

Some courses have already begun, but it may still be worth an enquiry if you are especially interested in a subject.

Contributions to the Newsletter from members will be welcomed - but they must be SHORT, please! The next issue will be prepared in March, 1984.