ANGLESEY ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY
CYMDEITHAS HYNAFIAETHWYR MON

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A MAYORAL WELCOME ...

The Mayor of Ynys Mon, Councillor Mrs.Ann Lloyd Jones, paid the Society a signal honour during October, when she gave a reception for our officers at the Council Offices in Llangefni. Also present were certain council officials, notably those with interests in historical buildings and recreation and leisure, along with chief executive officer, Mr. Leon Gibson.

After supper, Mrs.Lloyd Jones gave her official welcome, supported by Mr.Gibson, and our own chairman, Mr.Idris Davies, responded by saying how honoured we were that the council had seen fit to recognise our activities in this way.

It was a delightful occasion, when many hitherto tenuous connections were strengthened.

EXCURSIONS ... This summer has seen many more members than before taking to their cars - and their feet - and joining several very successful outings. It has been especially encouraging to find that one new departure, the week-day afternoon excursions within Anglesey, have been so well supported. The annual week-end "holiday",to Cambridge this year, was enjoyed by 100 members, most of whom decided that in future, when the Society planned to go so far, an extra day could possibly be considered to make it worth while. The excursions committee are most grateful to everyone who took any responsibility for the planning of outings - this was spread among many.

RESIGNATION ... Mr.David Senogles, chairman of the excursions committee, dismayed everyone at the Cambridge week-end by saying he would be resigning shortly, and we should be looking around for someone to take his place. Ten years' service such as he has given to the Society has been of untold value, and thanks will, no doubt, be expressed officially at a forthcoming meeting. By the time the newsletter reaches members, a new chairman may have been chosen. We wish him (or her) pleasure in the task, and promise our support.

Some members will already be aware of the great honour bestowed upon David Senogles in April, when he was confereed with the "Style, Rank and Title" of HONORARY BURGESS OF BEAUMARIS. The ceremony took place in the Town Hall before the Mayor, ex Mayors and Councillors, friends and local residents, and many tributes were paid to David's service to Beaumaris as Town Clerk over the years.

Each season brings its sad toll of obituaries, and among those of our members who have died during 1984, we would mention Sir Idris Foster who made our excursion to Oxford so memorable, and Professor and Mrs.Jenkins, whose company was an integral part of the social side of Antiquarian meetings. We remember them, and others, with affection and esteem.

Anglesey now has a new ARCHIVIST, Mr.Einion Wyn Thomas, who has already been most helpful to the editor of the newsletter by contributing a list of new acquisitions to his ardhives. We hope he will also become "one of us", and welcome him to his new post.

Members will remember the lecture on the mills of Anglesey given to us by Mr.Geralllt D.Nash of St.Fagans. Mr.Nash has been the instigator of a new WELSH MILLS GROUP, which, by the time members receive this newsletter, will have been inaugurated at a meeting at Newtown, Powys. One of our own members, Mr.George Lees of Trearddur Bay, has been on the steering committee, and will keep us in touch with the Group's future activities, especially as they concern Anglesey. Membership of the Group may be arranged through Mr.Nash at Welsh Mills Group, Welsh Folk Museum, St.Fagans, Cardiff CF5 6XB, or information may be obtained locally from Mr.Lees, whose telephone no. is Trearddur Bay 860752.

Our secretary, Mr.Sion Caffell, reminds me that a tape of Mr.Nash's talk to the AAS is available for borrowing, on application to him.

HOLYHEAD MARITIME MUSEUM ... During the Society's visit to Holyhead in September, Captain Idwal Pritchard outlined the story of the port, and we heard of plans for the new Maritime Museum. This idea has been nurtured by a group of local people over the last two years, and they are hoping to open a small museum in an unused church building during the coming spring. Already the group has received some interesting artefacts, photographs and documents which will help to bring to life the history of this famous port. The museum will be open to the public, and manned by volunteers.

Captain Pritchard feels there must be many more interesting items in private possession which would enhance such a collection. If you can help, he will be pleased to hear from you. His telephone no.is Holyhead (93) 2816.

MEMORIES WANTED ... Another group searching for information, but oral information this time, is being funded by the MSC for Gwynedd County Council. Working in Anglesey, Isabel Hemmings and Eira Evans want to talk to

anyone and everyone who can tell them how life in Anglesey was around the beginning of the century, and up until comparatively recently. They visit homes, and their unobtrusive tape recorders will store invaluable oral evidence which will be of great assistance to researchers into the social history of the island. They are based at the Archives department at Llangefni, and a phone call to Llangefni 723262 (ext.269) will put them in touch. Some of our older members may like to help in this way. The Anglesey Antiquarian Society should give every support to research of this kind.

OUR 75th ANNIVERSARY ... As the newsletter goes to press, the programme for 1986 has not yet been prepared, but many ideas have been discussed in committee for this important occasion. An announcement will be made as soon as possible, when a fitting way of celebrating our anniversary has been agreed.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS ... Some AAS publications are still available, and might help YOUR gift problem. We suggest you attend the Autumn Meeting with this in mind, and see what Mrs. Glenda Williams can offer you at the bookstall before you leave. You may find one or two bargains!

As a Society, we receive several TRANSACTIONS from other societies, on an exchange system, and copies of these are available at any time for members' reference. They are housed at the library in Llangefni, and the librarian will be pleased to show members what is available, on request. These come from all over the world, many, of course, from other societies in Wales.

Members have expressed interest to know what NEW ACQUISITIONS have been received by the library at Llangefni and the University College Library in Bangor, and also at the Anglesey Archives office in Llangefni.

Mr.Rhion Pritchard at the Llangefni Library reports three new titles added to the local history collection in recent months. These are EAMES, Aled: Machlud Hwyliau'r Cymru - The Twilight of Welsh Sail (Gwasg Prifysgol Cymru 1984). EISTEDDFOD MON: NIWBWRCH A'R CYLCH, Mai 5, 6, 7, 1984/Cyfansoddiadau a Beirniadaethau, Llys Eisteddfod Mon 1984 - Compositions and adjudications from Eisteddfod Mon 1984. And YOUNG, Filson: A House in Anglesey - a reprint of a 1912 article by Filson Young recollecting a visit to Presaddfed.

Mr.Tomos Roberts, at the University College Library, says he has received very little material relating specifically to Anglesey, but he is still receiving new material from Penrhyn Castle and a few documents do relate to Anglesey. These relate to a number of Anglesey townships, dated between 1330 and 1540. There are also a number of rentals, the earliest of which is dated c.1406.

"The most spectacular item in the collection", he says, "is a secular cartulary compiled in the late 15th c.which contains over 200 abstracts of deeds relating to lands, mainly in Anglesey, which were acquired by William Gruffith Fychan of Penrhyn between c.1443 and his death in 1483."

Treasures, indeed!

The Anglesey Archives department appears to have been busy receiving gifts and deposits since we last reported in April.

Mr.E.Hughes, Temperance, Trefor, deposited minute books of Llechcynfarwy Parish Council, 1895-1962; the PRO transferred Charity Commissioners' Returns for Anglesey, 1900-44. Papers concerning the case of LNWR Co. v. The Assessment Committee of the Holyhead Union, 1881, have been received, as have "Llyfrau Cofnodion Cyngor Plwyf Llanddanielfab"

A Xerox copy of the account book of Anglesey farmer, William Daniel Williams, Tyddyn Tudor, Tynygongl, 1934 to 1961, was deposited by Mrs. Llio Lovelock, Benllech, and will make interesting reading to today's farmers, as will "Llyfrau Cofnodion Capel Ebenezer (A) Llanfechell, 1863-1934, to Nonconformists of that persuasion.

Canon J.F.W.Jones of Llandrygarn has deposited the Baptismal Register of his parish from 1813 to 1934, and Mrs. Clifford Jones of Trearddur Bay has handed over the ledger books of the Kingsland Sawmills, 1909 to 1949.

Xerox copies of the Anglesey Harriers' Hunt Books 1897 to 1921, highlight a distinctive piece of local activity. These have come from Mr.J.W.R.Davies of Llangefni, and no doubt family correspondence of the Troughton family of Beaumaris (30 letters dating from 1787 to 1840) will throw light on the life of this family.

In addition to all this, Mr. Einion Wyn Thomas reports the deposit of a vast amount of photographs and miscellaneous items.

The Joint WEA and UNIVERSITY OF WALES EXTRA MURAL DEPARTMENT programme of classes for the winter includes several which may be of interest to Antiquarians, and even at this late stage, they may welcome new members. Among the centres carrying courses of this kind are Aberffraw, Amlwch, Beaumaris, Bodorgan, Holyhead, Carreglefn, Llannerchymedd, Cemaes, Llanfairyngnghornwy, Llansadwrn, Llangaffo and Rhosneigr.

There may also be new classes beginning in January.

A leaflet outlining these may be obtained from WEA, Rhanbarth Gogledd Cymru, 33 College Road, Bangor.

The editor of the Newsletter will be pleased to receive any short comments or items of news relevant to the activities of the society, for use in the Spring edition.