

Golygydd: Mrs. Margaret Hughes, 1 Bryntirion, Llanfairpwll LL61 5YP. Tel: 01248 712084

DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARCHIVES SERVICE

The changes which took place in local government this year mean that, for the first time, the Isle of Anglesey County Council is developing an independent archives service as part of the Libraries, Information and Archives section of the Department of Leisure and Heritage.

"This is an exciting opportunity for Anglesey to ensure the preservation of the documentary evidence from both public and private sources which throw light on life on the island over the centuries", says archivist Ann Venables, "and to make this available both to the people of Anglesey present and future, and the descendants of past residents, and also everyone who is interested in the history of the island."

The Record Office, for the present, will continue to be based on the first floor of Shirehall, Llangefni, but please note that the telephone number has changed to 01248 752080.

A new Record Office is being planned in order to provide a suitable building for the long-term preservation of Anglesey's documentary heritage and better facilities for the public. This will be developed in conjunction with the library local studies collection.

Arwyn Jones of Llangefni has been appointed trainee archivist in the Record Office, initially gaining experience there, and then applying for a place on a training course.

A POPULAR CHRISTMAS GIFT?

The Marquess of Anglesey's biography of his illustrious forbear, Henry William Paget, 1st Marquess, which was first published in 1961, has been reprinted by Pen and Swords Books Limited. Out of print for some years, the re-print comes after popular demand. Titled "One Leg", it is priced £25 and can be obtained through some National Trust shops and from book-sellers.

TO BE CONTINUED ... As a result of the comments invited in response to the request "Where do we go from here?" in the spring edition of the newsletter, the publication will continue as long as there is news to impart. Contributions are very welcome!

NEW TREASURER

The executive committee has invited John Cowell of Menai Bridge to become the society's treasurer, following the death of Emyr Hughes in May. The society is grateful to John for shouldering a considerable responsibility, and wishes him well.

When necessary, Mr. Cowell can be contacted at 52 Lon y Bryn, Menai Bridge: telephone Menai Bridge 712300.

LOCAL LEARNING

The Department of Continuing Education at Bangor University has published its "Courses for Adults" handbook for the coming autumn and winter.

Included are details of a course beginning on January 14 at the Prichard Jones Institute, Newborough, tutored by Dr. Cecil Jones, giving a broad-based introduction to the history of the coast of Gwynedd.

The course will draw on new methods and techniques, such as those from marine archaeology and underwater exploration. Lectures will be illustrated with slides and case studies based on local study.

Also listed is a day school on "Parys Mountain and Amlwch Port", to be held at Amlwch on 1st March 1997, tutored by D. A. Jenkins.

These, and other courses, are listed in the handbook, copies of which may be had from local libraries or from the department. Tel. 01248 382256).

THE LATE PROFESSOR GLANVILLE JONES

Earlier this year, Welsh academic circles suffered grievous loss through the death of Professor Glanville Jones.

He published a renowned paper on Anglesey's ancient societies in 1955 and in the months before his death he was excited to learn how archaeological evidence from Anglesey revealed proof of his theories about the island's medieval princes' courts.

PAST FINDERS ARCHAEOLOGY aims to advance the education of archaeology in Wales and to keep individuals up to date with news and events throughout the Principality. Contact Past Finders Archaeology, The Old Custom House, 41 Dockview Rd. Barry, CF635JP.

NEW ACQUISITIONS TO THE ARCHIVES

Traethawd Ph.D. am Undeb Bangor a Biwmares, 1837-1871. Ref. WM 1682.
Llanfair-yn-Neubwll tithe map. Ref. WPE 71.
Family tree and notes about the Anglesey bone-setting family. Ref. WM 1688.
Glass negatives taken by Maurice Price, Llangefni, 1900-1914. Ref. WSM 383.
Papers re Gwyl Celfyddydau Caergybi/Holyhead Arts Festival, 1976-1993. Ref. WM 1703.
Book of claims: Commons Regulations (Towyn Trewan Common) 1908. Ref. WM 1707.
Account book: Surveyor of Highways, Holyhead area. 1869-1870. Ref. WM 1709.
File of projects of the Anglesey Archaeology and Landscape History Group 1995. Ref. WM 171.
Many more parish registers have been received, in particular the 1837-1970 marriage registers.
Ecclesiastical parish terrier, Llanfechell, 1814. Ref. WPE 62/15.
Minute book, Llanfihangel Tre'r Beirdd parish council, 1895-1957. Ref. WP 39/64.
Log book, Gwalchmai National School, 1863-1880. Ref. WA 8/31.
Minute book and membership registers of Llanddeusant and Llanfaethlu British Legion 1946-1963. Ref. WM 786/4-9.
Note book: Elements of book-keeping, belonging to William Jones, Brynteg, 1875. Ref. WM 1739.
Miscellaneous papers and photographs mainly of W. Bradwen Jones, Holyhead, composer and musician, c.1907-1970. Ref. WM 1741.
Papurau a lluniau Mrs. Ellen Edwards, Rhos, Llangefni, c.1910-1975. Ref. WM 1742.
Photocopies of Anglesey sections of guides and tours 1774-1930. Ref. W.Books
Llyfr Aelodaeth Cymdeithas Ddirwestol Pentraeth, 1836-1850. Ref. WDC 1904.
Cofnodion Capel Saron, Annibynwyr, Penrhyd, Amlwch. Ref. WM 1750.

A PLEA - AND AN INVITATION

In recording the list of new acquisitions to the archives above, Ann Venables of the Archives Office says "The log book of Gwalchmai National School covers the period 1863-1880 and 1863 was the first year for which school log books were kept. They give a fascinating picture of life in the area, such as weather, local entertainment, etc."

"It is particularly pleasing to report the receipt of records of a parish/community council and an Independent chapel, as these are very important records of the life of a community."

"Unfortunately, all too often such records have disappeared and are lost for ever to anyone interested in the history of their parish or local community now or in the future."

When deposited in the archives, such records can still remain in the ownership of the depositors but are safeguarded and made available for future generations."

"In 10, 20 or 100 years, people will want to know what is happening now. The Record Office welcomes the deposit of records of Anglesey interest by members of the public. If you are considering throwing away any papers, photographs, plans, etc. at home or at work relating to Anglesey, please contact us first. Most offers of documents are accepted and are of great interest to users of this Office."

"Please help us to protect Anglesey's heritage and enable future generations to find out about their past."

THREE SMALL GROUPS ARE HARD AT WORK

Some members of the AAS are busy working with three independent groups looking into the history of Anglesey - at Cemaes, Talwrn and Llaneilian.

The autumn newsletter of the Cemaes group announces a new project - recording on tape some of the recollections of the older inhabitants. A series of illustrated essays or potted histories of some of the people who have influenced life in the village is also being prepared. Contact Cliff Corker (Cemaes Bay 710689) for information about the Cemaes group.

Talwrn group has published a wide-reaching programme of weekly talks throughout the autumn and winter. This will be the group's third season. They meet at "Stone Science" Talwrn. Topics are varied, but all provide valuable guidance to the would-be researcher. Owenna Orme (723094) will give details.

The Llaneilian History Society has been founded by Gwyn Morris Jones, with the aim of collecting all kinds of information about the locality, photographs and postcards, documents, oral memories. Mrs. Mair Williams (01407 830730) is the contact here.

Mrs. Williams is also the contact for "Cymdeithas y Leinws" (the Lynas Society), founded before 1944. Its members were originally local churchgoers, but now they include interested residents of Burwen and Amlwch, and would welcome new members.

AN ANCIENT FIND ... A stone dating from 2,000 BC, unearthed last year at Clegyrdd Bach near Llangefni, has been confirmed as being almost unique in the early history of Anglesey.

Archaeologists have decided it is a "cup and ring stone" which could have been used as a territorial marker by the nomadic people who roamed Anglesey about 5,000 years ago. Only one cup and ring stone, found at Llandyfrydog, was known on Anglesey previously.