ANGLESEY ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY
CYMDEITHAS HYNAFIAETHWYR MON
Gwanwyn/Spring 1996
CYLCHLYTHYR Rhif 26 NEWSLETTER No. 26

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

AELODAETH

Fe fydd yn ddrwg iawn gan aelodau glywed fod Mr. Howell Hughes wedi ymddeol o'i swydd fel ysgrifennydd aelodaeth i'r Gymdeithas ar ôl cyfnod o ugain mlynedd. Fe wnaeth ei waith yn gydwybodol a chyda hiwmor pob amser, a daeth llawer ohonom i ystyried Howell yn gyfaill inni. Fe gafwyd cyfle yng nghinio y Gymdeithas ym mis Mawrth i ddiolch ac i wneud cyflwyniad iddo am ei waith. Nid oedd yn fater hawdd llenwi esgidiau Howell ond mae Mr. Handel Evans wedi derbyn y swydd, ac yr ydym yn ddiolchgar iddo. O hyn ymlaen, fe ddylid cyfeirio pob mater aelodaeth i Mr. Evans (Llangefni 750262, est.228 yn ystod y dydd). Cyfeiriad Mr. Evans yw 8 Cae Bach Aur, Bodffordd. (Llangefni 750478 - cartref).

MEMBERSHIP

Members will be sorry to hear that Mr. Howell Hughes has resigned from his position as the society's membership secretary after 20 years. He has always carried out his responsibilities conscientiously and with a sense of humour, and many of us came to regard Howell as one of our friends. At the society's annual dinner in March, he was thanked for his long service and a presentation was made to him. Mr.Handel Evans has kindly agreed to take over as the new membership secretary, and from now on all matters relating to membership should be referred to him. (Llangefni 750262, ext. 228 during the day). His address is 8 Cae Bach Aur, Bodffordd. (Llangefni 750478 - home number). J.R.

PENCEIRDDIAID CAMBRIA

Cafwyd noson arbennig iawn gan y grwp uchod fel rhan o "Pot Pourri" y Gymdeithas yn yr Oriel, Llangefni, nos Wener, Mawrth 8fed. Arbenigedd y grwp hwn o gerddorion yw cyflwyno cerddoriaeth draddodiadol Gymreig ar offerynnau traddodiadol Cymru, a daeth pedwar o'r grwp ynghyd i ddiddanu Hynafiaethwyr Môn.

Cyflwynwyd y rhaglen gan Llio Rhydderch, sy'n hanu o hen deuluoedd Môn, y Prydderchiaid ar un llaw a changen arall o'r teulu yn ei gwneud hi'n ddisgynydd i Sion ap Huw o ardal Llanfechell, y cyfeirir ato mewn cerdd yn 1655 fel "telynor a chantwr mwyn". Cymerodd Llio at y delyn yn ifanc iawn a'r dylanwad cynharaf arni oedd Nansi Richards, Telynores Maldwyn. Ar wahan i Llio, telyn arwaith sengl a thelyn deires, clywsom gan Andy McLauchlin, ffliwt, pibau a phibgorn; Stephen Rees, ffidil, pib a ffliwt, Huw Roberts, ffidil, crwth a thelyn deires.

Canolbwyntiodd eu perfformiaid ar geiriau yn deillio o ffynonellau ym Môn mewn llawysgrifau ac ar lafar a hefyd o ffynonellau ag iddynt gysylltiad â Mon. Ymysg y ffynonellau hyn roedd casgliadau pwysig llawysgrifau Morris Edwards, ffidliwr o Fôn, John Thomas, ffidliwr o Bowys a John Williams, Llanfachraeth, Môn o'r 18fed a'r 19eg ganrif. Cyflwynwyd trysor o drefniant telynorion Llanerchymedd ymhlith cyflwyniadau eraill o'r traddodiad llafar.

Cafwyd mwynhad arbennig, ac addysg oedd cael clywed alawon yn dwyn teitlau megis "Llangefni" ac "Ymdaith Biwmares" a fersiynau gwahanol o "Llwyn Onn" a "Meillionen". J.R.

CAN YOU HELP?

When asked to tell members who met at the annual Pot Pourri meeting in March, of the acquisitions received by Oriel Ynys Môn during the past year, curator Alun Gruffydd overcame his initial embarassment of having to report only one gift with a nice touch of humour, and an appeal to those present - and through the newsletter to you - for help in one particular direction.

He would be very interested to know of the existence of quern stones on private property on Anglesey, so that a record can be made. No need to prise them out of your garden wall! But next time you are out in your garden, look around carefully and see if you can spot any of these distinctive stones which were used centuries ago as hand-mills to grind corn. They are distinctive by their shape, being hollowed out to receive the corn before it is ground. Then telephone Alun at Oriel Ynys Môn (tel.Llangefni 724444) and he will note its position in his record.

CUT-PRICE HISTORY

The Publications committee has now agreed to reduce the price of "A New Natural History of Anglesey" to £4.50 (plus 75p postage). Members will recall that this attractively produced book, edited by Dr. W. Eifion Jones, was published by the society in 1990. It contains 12 chapters, written by experts in their respective fields, on different aspects of the island's rich and varied natural history.

Copies may be obtained from Mrs. Glenda Williams, 6 Tyddyn Ddeici, Llanfairpwll.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

The next issue of the newsletter will be the 27th. The time has come to assess its practicability - has it fulfilled its original intention? Does it still serve a useful purpose to the society?

When launched in autumn 1983, it was at the suggestion of the late David Senogles, who believed there was a need for regular contact between members to disseminate news and views on topics appertaining to Antiquarian interests, in a less academic way than was done in the Transactions. It was hoped the newsletter would be a collection of contributions from both Welsh and English members, written in either language, and contributions would appear in the language in which they were presented.

Successive chairmen have made their regular contributions. Archivists and librarians have kept us up to date with news of acquisitions to their respective collections. Members have written tributes to retiring officers. All these, usually, at the request of the editor.

Some readers have complained of the lack of Welsh contributions, yet, sadly, have made no move to remedy the situation themselves by contributing. The editor has reached the stage when she compiles the newsletter virtually alone, which is not a healthy situation bearing in mind its original conception.

There is plenty going on in Anglesey which could be reported or commented upon. Interesting, lightly and tightly written paragraphs would be welcomed. But a brief phone call to the editor will result in a story being written by her should a member feel unable to do so himself or herself.

So - what should we do on your behalf? Do you wish the newsletter to continue? Are you prepared to contribute occasionally? Or do you feel that on reaching the 27th issue, the Antiquarian newsletter has come to the end of its usefulness?

Please let us know. Honest opinions required! M.T.H.

THE BEAUMARIS CHARTER CELEBRATIONS

Among the many and varied events to take place in Beaumaris during the summer to mark the 700th anniversary of the granting of a Charter to the town, is an exhibition of Beaumaris Memorabilia at the David Hughes Centre from June to September, and a lecture given by the editor of our Transactions, Dr. Anthony Carr, at the Town Hall on July 17th.

A printed list of events is now available from the Town Clerk, Town Hall, Beaumaris. (01248 810317).

NEW ACQUISITIONS AT THE ARCHIVES OFFICE

Items received since the publication of the last newsletter, by the Archives office at Llangefni, include:

Plans, faculties etc. Llanallgo and Llaneugrad church and church room, 1920-1978 (WPE 55 and WPE52)

Religious census, inhabitants of Llanerchymedd and district, 1889. (WM1716)

Minute book of Cerrigceinwen Charity 1954-94 (WM1673)

Minute books/scrap book 1st. Menai Bridge Wolf Cub Pack, 1932-1935 (WM1719)

Maritime charts and books of the late D.Stuart Todd, Parkgate, 1892-1973 (W Maps 60-71)

Extract from "Annales des Mines" about Mynydd Parys. Photocopy. 1826. (WM1729)

Records of Cemaes Bay Playing Fields Assoc. 1952-1989 (WM1730)

Papers of Owen John Owen, Llanfechell, 1873 - 1953. (WM1733 and WP37)

Contract documents for Anglesey Water Schemes 1936-1961.

Photocopy of notebook/reminiscences of Robert Pierce, Valley (WM1731).

CHANGES AND CHALLENGES

The birth of the new Anglesey County Council on April 1st will have exciting repercussions for the provision of a museum service on the island, comments Oriel curator Alun Gruffydd.

The rôle of the museum staff currently based at Oriel Ynys Môn is to be expanded to develop a number of sites which are being transferred from the old Gwynedd County Council and sections of the old Anglesey Borough Council.

The new Anglesey County Council's Department of Leisure and Heritage will control the following: Oriel Ynys Môn, Llangefni; Beaumaris Gaol and Courthouse; Haulfre Stables, Llangoed; Seawatch Centre, Moelfre and Melin Llynon, Llanddeusant.

The department will also receive an additional member of professional staff to develop the educational aspect of the museum section - Mary Aris. Mary previously worked as an education officer with Gwynedd County Council's museums service.

The Museums section will have much closer links with the archives and library sections in that all aspects will be run by the new Leisure and Heritage department.

Please note, copy for the next newsletter should be in the hands of the editor NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1st 1996.