



CYMDEITHAS HYNAFIAETHWYR A NATURLAETHWYR MÔN

Newsletter

ANGLESEY ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY AND FIELD CLUB

No. 44 Gwanwyn/Spring 2005

Golygyddol / Editorial

I would like to thank all those who gave me such encouragement following my first attempt to produce the Newsletter. All criticism was constructive, the main one being the lack of Welsh.

My sympathies lie with this sentiment to the extent that with offered help I would be more than willing to produce a completely bilingual version. I do not begrudge the extra work but bear in mind that the cost would be doubled. There is also the sad image that 90% of the material may end in the waste paper basket, as does gas and electricity bills.

The decision on this will have to be made by the Committee, subject to the approval of the members. Meanwhile I shall pursue the current policy, namely that Welsh articles will be published in Welsh and English in English.

The expansion of the programme to include monthly lectures is under way and I hope that support from the members will continue. May you all enjoy this year's interesting presentations. Many have worked hard to prepare them. My desire is that this Newsletter gives a clear picture of all our activities, and will be informative to our members who are too far away to be able to join us. To those who are local and do not attend- I hope it will encourage them!

Edrych yn Ôl./ Looking Back..

Here is another opportunity to review our forebears' activities.

Seventy Five Years ago.

The Transactions of 1930/31 reveal the President to be Lord Boston, who took the chair at the Annual General Meeting in May 1930. The membership stood at 250. A fund set up for excavations at Bryn Celli Ddu had its balance transferred to the Anglesey Excavation Fund, following completion of the dig during 1929. Dr. Alun Roberts delivered an address, 'The History of our Upland Pastures.'

The General Meeting in September was a lecture by Mr. W.J. Hemp, F.S.A. outlining the results of his excavations at Bryn Celli Ddu. It was illustrated by lantern slides.

Only one excursion took place because the Cambrian Archaeological Association was invited to a lunch at Beaumaris. In June, members had a rainy visit to Clorach, Ceidio and Llanerchymedd Church.

Where is my Membership Card?

Ble mae'r Tocyn Aelodaeth?

The Committee has decided to dispense with the membership card as so much of its content is duplicated. The list of Officers and Committee members is in the Transactions and on the Website.

The Newsletter will be the vehicle to inform everyone of forthcoming events. This edition gives a full account of imminent excursions. The next edition at the end of August will carry the programme of meetings for autumn and next spring. Members are advised to make a note of these in their diaries and to retain the Newsletter. The Website is the other permanent source of information for those who have computers.

Web Site / Safle Gwe

www.hanesmon.btinternet.co.uk

amazon.co.uk
and you're done.

If you purchase books, videos and electrical goods here; next time click on the link via our Website- the Society benefits.

MEETINGS / CYFARFODAU

Darlith Goffa Syr Ifor Williams

15 Hydref 2004

"Dacw Gymry": Pererindod Bersonnol

R.S. Thomas

Caffodd y gynnulleidfa oedd yn bresennol y frant o wrando Car berl o ddarlith gan Dr. Jason Walford Davies sef arbennigwr cydnabyddedig ar fywyd a gwaith y bardd R.S. Thomas.

Y tro hwn canolbwyntiodd ar yr effaith bwerus a gafodd Ynys Môn, yr arfordir a'r môr yn gyffredinol ar waith R.S. Dyfynnodd yn fynych ac yn fanwl o'i ryddiaith ac o'i gerddi.

Cawsom glywed am holl gymhlethdod cefndir a chymeriad R.S. yn dysgu'r Gymraeg ond hyd ddiwedd ei oes yn cael ei orfodi i gyfansoddi ei gerddi yn yr iaith Saesneg. Defnyddiodd Dr. Davies ddyfyniad bythgofiadwy allan o hunangofiant R.S. 'Neb' i ddangos holl ing y sefyllfa yma-

"Sut mae'r cof yn gweithio? Mae'n dal gafael mewn rhai pethau gan ollwng eraill i ebargofiant. Un peth sy'n aros. Rhyw ddydd ar draeth yn Hoylelake cyfeiriodd ei dad ei sylw at res o fynyddoedd ymhell dros y môr i'r gorllewin 'Dacw Gymru' meddai, yn Saesneg."

Eglurodd fel 'roedd bywyd y bardd wedi dilyn cwrs bron yn hirgrwn yn ddaearyddol gan gychwyn yng Nghaergybi, ymlaen i'r Waun a Maelor Saesneg, i Manafon, i Eglwys-fach, i Aberdaron ac yna'n ol i Fôn i Lanfairyrnghornwy o ble y medrai edrych draw ar Ynys Cybi unwaith eto.

Gyda'i ddawn gywain o ddewis a dethol dyfyniadau llwyddodd Dr. Davies i osod o'n blaenau bob un o brif themau gwaith R.S.- ei gariad at Gymru a'r iaith Gymraeg, ei hoffter o'r môr ac adareg ac, wrth gwrs, ei Ffydd.

Felly, yn y ddarlith daeth a'r llinynnau yma ynghyd, gyda'r dystiolaeth, i ddangos eu pwysigrwydd fel y dylanwadau a ffurfiodd dyn a ddaeth yn un o brif feirdd yr ugeinfed ganrif. Diolch am ddarlith ddisglair ac ysgolheigaidd oedd yn ein hatgoffa am fawredd y dyn a'r bardd ac y fu'n gymorth i leddfu ychydig ar yr hiraeth a deimlwn yng Nghymru o golli cymeriad mor unigryw ag R.S.

The above is a report by Miss Heather Thomas B.A. on the Memorial Welsh Lecture by Dr. Walford Davies. The subject was the renowned poet, R.S. Thomas. It stressed the influence which the sea and coast of Anglesey had on his writing.

Hydref/Autumn Meeting 2004

This was a lively, well attended event, with the welcome return of Spencer Smith.

The title 'Visible Symbols of Kingship' was intriguing and we were soon introduced to his novel theory, explaining certain features of the Welsh castles of Gwynedd. The towers or keeps had elevated doorways with evidence of stairways on the exterior wall. Here the prince or ruler was able to show himself to his subjects, probably as part of a religious procession, the Chapel being in close proximity. It seems Edward I copied this device to present himself and his heir. A future excursion may allow us to investigate at close quarters.

Tachwedd/November Meeting 2004

The first of the additional lectures was held at Stone Science on 19th November.

There was a good attendance considering the poor weather and the rural location. It was a treat to be given the details of Owain Roberts' research and conclusions on the Bronze Age boat found at Dover. Its construction was a tribute to the ingenuity of our ancestors. To fit together carved oak planks and trunks with intermittent stitches of wood fibre, caulking the joints with sphagnum moss was extraordinary. Even more remarkable was the seaworthiness of the vessel in mid-Channel! We owe our thanks to Owain for being the first willing volunteer to start this new series of lectures at such short notice.

Ionawr/January Meeting 2005

Stone Science was the venue for this lecture, with the courtesy and kindness of Dave Wilson.

John Cowell kept a large gathering enthralled with his comprehensive account of the early postal service, illustrated by his collection of original letters that travelled in our part of the world. His talk was entitled 'Old Letters.' The earliest example was dated 1686 when Ann Potter wrote from Dublin to London about a bereavement. What was more remarkable was that in a later auction John had stumbled upon the reply! Amongst a wide variety of correspondence, some quite amusing, was a parcel wrapping from the early nineteenth century. The collection is unique and John's presentation explaining the background and his detailed knowledge of the subject is an invaluable contribution to our local history.

Chwefror/February Meeting 2005

Another night of bad weather did not deter a large attendance at Stone Science.

Ian Jones from Oriel Môn gave a remarkable account of new information about the South Stack lighthouse in the nineteenth century. An amazing event triggered by the internet gave him access to a letter and homework book from an antique shop in Cape Cod, Massachusetts. It was the personal work of Henry Bowen, keeper from 1853 to 1863. The book had entries up to 1859. It showed his efforts at self education, including Greek, Welsh, Scripture and Grammar. It also revealed the day to day activities on the island, the work maintaining the light and the problems of coal deliveries, water supply and the transportation of food using donkeys. Both he and his assistant keeper had large

families and the Telegraph Station involved another family. The idea of small children on that dangerous little island is alarming! Ian's researches revealed a slate top to a 30 foot shaft which housed the mechanism for a large fog bell. He even traced the manufacture of this bell to the foundry at Whitechapel. The whereabouts of the bell is a mystery. On the north side of the island is a man-made incline with the remains of track. It was the site of a 'Low Light' warning system used in foggy weather. How the book travelled to America is another riddle. Perhaps one of Bowen's seven children crossed the Atlantic; the eastern sea board of New England has scores of lighthouses and one may have followed in father's footsteps, as did his elder son, who was keeper at South Stack in the early twentieth century. The research is unfinished and hopefully more information may come to light.

Mawrth/Pot Pourri/March 2005

For what used to be the first event of the year, we were back at the Oriel, Llangefni.

Our first speaker was David Hopewell of the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust. He gave a short illustrated account of Roman Roads in north-west Wales. Their recording had been incomplete, as national monuments were designated precise map references, whereas roads, being linear, tended to be overlooked. His new digital system showed actual and conjectured sites much more clearly. Anglesey was a blank, so further research is needed there.

The second, bright and amusing talk, 'Let's Remember,' by Pat West, showed how various past everyday objects could conjure up memories and long forgotten facts. It was an effective tool for education, especially for schoolchildren.

Ebrill / April Meeting 2005

Stone Science was packed for an impeccable presentation by Ann Benwell on the subject, 'Plas Cadnant.'

It was an introduction to the forthcoming excursion. Her scholarship and detective work left us spellbound. She outlined the history of the Cadnant Valley, touching on the significance of Cadnant Creek, a natural anchorage and the site of the 'Bishop's Crossing,' overlooked by ancient sites. The creek is just outside Porthaethwy /Menai Bridge, where a new fly-over carries the road to Beaumaris. The 1803 mansion with its gardens is hidden up the valley. She unravelled the owners of the estate down the years, exploring the connection between the Hughes, Bulkeley and Price families. John Price senior stepped in at the end of the eighteenth century, marrying the last female of the Hughes clan. He transformed the area into a gentleman's estate, eliminating the small farms. The plans were continued by John Price junior in 1804. After his death in the late nineteenth century there was a short hiatus when the house was unoccupied and then rented out. Finally the Prices returned. The last of the many spinster sisters died in 1928 and the estate sold. The illustrated lecture was an excellent appetiser for 16th July. The present owner, Anthony Tavernor attended the lecture and he will be our gracious host.

The Editor

Absent members- see what you are missing! Please support our meetings.

Castell Aberlleiniog, Penmon

This littleknown Scheduled National Monument in an area of outstanding historic importance has been purchased recently by Menter Môn.

It is a classical 11th Century Norman motte, originally with wooden towers and a surrounding ditch and bailey, believed to have been built by Earl Bailey of Chester. In the 17th century a stone built castle was constructed on the summit. It is approximately 18m

square with three towers and a wall about 2.5m high. This may have been erected by Cheadle, an employee of the Bulkeley family. The current Transactions give a clear account of its history.

It is being assessed by the archaeologist Neil Johnston; CADW will decide what is needed for plans to carry out repairs to make it safe for public access.

The surrounding land is extensive and is a vast source of flora and fauna. There is a wet meadow and water voles and otters may be an attraction. More important, an extensive tree planting exercise is under way. If the plans come to fruition it will be an enormous asset, possibly forming part of the Llangloed Local Nature Reserve, adding to Anglesey's many attractions.

From Press Release, Menter Môn



Thursday 26th May 2005 at 6.30pm
EVENING EXCURSION

Plas Llechyched & St. Ulched's Church

The history of this significant Anglesey property has been researched by the present owners, Mr and Mrs Doble. They have kindly invited us to pay a visit during which they will tell us about the fruits of this work. The main event of the evening will be a visit to the site of the original Church of St. Ulched. This church was closed and dismantled in the 1840's but the churchyard still exists. Mr and Mrs Doble are clearing the site to reveal some memorials and traces of the building. We have to walk across a field to get there so **stout footwear is required**. During the evening we can also discuss whether the patron saint's name was Ulched or Ylched. We complete the visit with a summary of features of the farm buildings and some of the interesting people who have lived there.

Plas Llechylched is off the minor road from Bryngwran- turn off the A5 at the Post Office, towards Rhosneigr. AAS signs will be positioned to guide you to the parking area.

Organisers / Trefnwyr: Mr. John Rowlands and / a Gareth Parry.
Tel. / Ffôn: 01248 722697

Saturday 18 June 2005 at 1.30pm
HALF DAY EXCURSION

Historic Sites near Brynsiencyn

Our walk this year visits six significant sites of the early history of Anglesey.

We meet at a minor road off the A4080 to the west of Brynsiencyn where there is ample parking space- no coach journey this year. From here Mrs. Frances Llewelyn will lead us on a walk of about four miles across fields, along farm tracks and minor roads to describe the sites and their place in the island's story. We will negotiate 11 stiles and 11 gates on a fairly easy route (compared to some recent walks!)

At the end of the day we will make our way to the 'Gaerwen Arms' for a meal and to compare notes on the day's activity. The meal will cost £10.50. A summary of walk details is being prepared and will be sent to those returning the booking form which includes menu choices.

Organisers / Trefnwyr: Mrs. Frances Llewelyn and / a Gareth Parry.
Tel / Ffôn: 01248 722697

Saturday 16 July 2005 at 2.00 pm
HALF DAY EXCURSION

Plas Cadnant

Following Ann Benwell's lecture to the Society in April she will lead us on a visit to the property. Mr Anthony Tavernor has kindly invited us and will guide us around the grounds – the gardens, walled garden, woodland paths and the waterfalls and pools of the River Cadnant. He will also tell us about the restoration work in progress and take us around the outside of the Plas and outbuildings. **Stout footwear is recommended**. Tea and biscuits will be available afterwards. A donation to a charity will be appreciated – details on the day.

Plas Cadnant is off the Menai Bridge to Beaumaris road about 200 yards before the junction for Llandegfan. The entrance is next to the original bridge over the Cadnant. There will be an "AAS" sign at the junction.

Organisers / Trefnwyr: Mrs. Frances Llewelyn and / a Gareth Parry. Tel / Ffôn: 01248 722697

EXCURSIONS / **GWIBDEITHIAU**

Nos Iau 26 Mai am 6.30 o'r gloch
GWIBDAETH GYDA'R NOS

Plas Llechyched a Hen Eglwys St. Ulched

Mae Mr a Mrs Doble, perchenogion y fferm sylweddol hon, wedi ymchwilio ei hanes. Maent yn ein gwahodd i ymweld a'r safle ac am ddweud tipyn am y gwybodaeth sydd wedi dod i'r fei. Prif ddigwyddiad y noson-os yw yn sych o dan draed-fydd ymeliad a safle gwreiddiol Eglwys St. Ulched. Caewyd a chwalwyd yr eglwys hon yn yr 1840'au ond mae'r fynwent yn bodoli. Mae Mr a Mrs Doble wedi bod yn clirio y llwyni a mieri i ddatguddio cofebion ac wedi ceisio olrhain gweddillion yr adeilad. Rhaid croesi cae i'r safle felly **bydd angen esgidiau addas**. Yn ystod yr ymweliad bydd siawns i drafod enw cywir y nawddsant- Ulched neu Ylched? Gorffennwn yr ymweliad trwy wrando ar grynoded o nodweddion yr adeiladau a tipyn o hanes y teuluoedd fu yn byw yma.

Mae Plas Llechyched oddiar y ffordd o Bryngwran- troi o'r A5 wrth y Llythyrd- i Rhosneigr. Bydd arwyddion 'AAS' wedi eu lleoli i arwain at y maes parcio.

Dydd Sadwrn, 18 Mehefin 2005 am 1.30 o'r gloch

GWIBDAETH HANNER DIWRNOD

Safleoedd hanesyddol yn ardal Brynsiencyn

Mae ein taith gerdded eleni am ymweld a 6 safle sylweddol yn hanes Ynys Môn.

Byddwn yn cyfarfod ar ffordd fach oddiar yr A4080 i'r gorllewin o Frynsiencyn ymhle mae digon fannau parcio- dim siwrne bws eleni. O'r fan hyn bydd Mrs. Frances Llewelyn yn ein arwain ar daith o tua 4 milltir ar draws caeau, ar hyd llwybrau fferm a ffyrdd bach i ddisgrïo'r safleoedd ac esbonio ei lle yn hanes yr ynys. Byddwn yn mynd dros 9 camfa a thrwy 11 giat ar hyd taith gweddol hawdd (i'w chymharu a rhai teithiau diweddar!).

Ar diwedd y dydd gwnawn ein ffordd i'r 'Gaerwen Arms' am bryd o fwyd a siawns i gymharu gweithgareddau y dydd. Cost y pryd fydd £10.50. Darperir crynodeb o'r daith er gyfer y rhai fydd yn dychwelyd y ffurflen archebu sydd hefyd yn rhoi manylion o'r fwydlen.

Dydd Sadwrn, 16 Gorffennaf 2005 am 2.00 o'r gloch

GWIBDAETH HANNER DIWRNOD

Plas Cadnant

Wedi rhoi darlith i'r Gymdeithas ym mis Ebrill bydd Ann Benwell yn ein arwain ar ymweliad a'r safle. Mae Mr Anthony Tavernor wedi ein gwahodd i fynd hefo fo o gwmpas y gerddi, yr ardd gaudig, y coedydd a rhaeadr a pyllau yr Afon Cadnant. Hefyd bydd yn son am y gwaith atgywirio sydd yn mynd ymlaen ac yn ein arwain oddeutu y Plas a'r adeiladau eraill. **Cynghorir esgidiau addas**. Bydd paned a bisgeden ar gael ar y diwedd. Gofynnir am gyfraniad at elusen – manylion ar y dydd.

Mae Plas Cadnant oddiar y ffordd o Borthaethwy i Biwmaris, rhyw ddau gan llath cyn y tro i Llandegfan. Mae'r mynedfa ger yr hen bont dros y Cadnant. Bydd arwydd "AAS" wrth y cyffordd.

Wednesday 27 July 2005
FULL DAY EXCURSION

Northwich and the Weaver Navigation

The excursion will be limited to 50 persons. A coach will leave from Holyhead picking up passengers at the usual places on its way to Menai Bridge - a feeder coach from Amlwch will be arranged if demand justifies one.

The coach will leave Menai Bridge in time to arrive at Northwich at noon, having stopped at Faenol Fawr, Bodelwyddan. There will be visits to the Salt Museum and the Anderton Boat Lift where lunch can be taken in the cafe or as a picnic, followed by a cruise on the Weaver. On the way home we will call again at Faenol Fawr for a meal. We should be back at Menai Bridge by 8.30pm.

The cost will be £35.00 per person.

Please note that a seating plan will be operated on the main coach, seats being allocated strictly in the order bookings are received. Booking forms should be returned to the organisers by 1st May 2005.

Saturday 3 September 2005 at 2.00pm

HALF DAY EXCURSION

Evolution of the Malltraeth Area

We will be studying the geographical and historical evolution of the landscape under the guidance of Mr Gwilym T. Jones. The building of the Cob in the 1780's converted a marine estuary into an extensive, ill-drained marsh. We will look at features of the Cob and sluice gates and consider their effect on the development of Malltraeth and the various river crossings which became redundant. An attempt will be made to decipher and explain some of the intriguing local place names. Some walking along the Cob and river bank is necessary so **stout footwear is recommended.**

We meet at Malltraeth Bridge. There is a small car park nearby and there should be ample roadside parking.

An Alternative Weekend Excursion

Our last weekend excursion was 'Swansea 2002' and there are no plans for another in the foreseeable future. Members may be interested in weekend exchange visits to Ireland organised by Oriel Ynys Môn in collaboration with Dalkey Castle and Heritage Centre. There will be five visits each way in 2005 to promote a better understanding of the common historic and cultural background of both islands. A brochure has been prepared and copies will be available at Society meetings and at the Oriel.

Oriel Ynys Môn will be organising the visits and bookings should be made directly with them. Members wishing to join and perhaps, provide some local flavour into some of the activities on Anglesey would be welcome. Contact the Excursions Committee chairman for further information.

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.

ANGLESEY ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY AND FIELD CLUB

Registered Charity No. 507837. Established 1911

Subscriptions payable 1st April annually: Individual Members.....£6.00

Joint members living at the same address.....£9.00

A free copy of the annual Transactions is sent to each individual member in October (One copy between Joint members)

CYMEITHAS HYNAFIAETHWYR A NATURIAETHWYR MÔN

Tanysgriadau i'w talu yn flynyddol ar Ebrill 1af. Aelodau Unigol.....£6.00

Aelodau ar y cyd, yn byw yn yr un cyfeiriad.....£9.00

Anfonir copi o'r Trafodion blyneddol yn rhad ac am ddim i bob aelod ym mis Hyfryd (Un copi rhwng Aelodau ar y cyd) Rhif Elusen 507837. Sefydlwyd 1911

Dydd Mercher 27 Gorffennaf 2005
GWIBDAETH DIWRNOD LLAWN

Northwich a Camlas y Weaver

Cyngir y wibdaeth i 50 person. Bydd un goets yn cychwyn o Caergybi ag yn pigo i fyny yn y lleoedd arferol ar ei ffordd i Borthaethwy- trefnir 'Bws bach' o Amlwch os bydd digon o ofyniad.



Gadewn Porthaethwy mewn amser i gyrraedd Northwich erbyn hanner-dydd wedi galw am baned boreol yn Faenol Fawr, Bodelwyddan. Byddwn yn ymled â'r Amgeudda Halen a Liff Cychod Anderton, lle bydd byrbryd ar gael yn y caffi neu cymeryd picnic, ac wedyn mordaith ar yr Afon Weaver. Ar y ffordd adref awn eto i Faenol Fawr am bryd o fwyd. Dylem fod yn ôl ym Mhorthaethwy erbyn 8.30 o'r gloch.

Y gost fydd £35.00 y person.

Noder: bydd cynllwyn seddau mewn grym ar y goets, bydd seddau yn cael ei rhannu

fel y daw archebion i law. Dylir dychweld y ffurflen archebu i'r trefnwyr erbyn 1 Mai 2005.

Organisers / Trefnwyr: Mr and / a Mrs R. Mason

Tel / Ffôn: 01407 730604 or/ neu 07771 864023

Dydd Sadwrn 3 Medi

GWIBDAETH HANNER DIWRNOD

Datblygiad ardai Malltraeth

O dan arweiniad Mr Gwilym T. Jones yn astydio datblygiad daearyddiol a hanesyddol y tirlun. Pan adeiladwyd y Cob yn y 1780'au newidwyd aber morol yn gors eang gwlyb. Awn i edrych ar nodweddion y Cob a'r giatiau llifor a bwrw golwg ar yr effaith ar ddatblygiad Malltraeth a'r esbonio rhai o'r enwau lleol unigryw. Bydd rhaid cerdded ar y Cob ac ar lan yr afon felly **bydd angen esgidiau addas.**

Byddwn yn cyfarfod wrth Pont Malltraeth. Mae maes parcio bach yn gyfagos a dylai bod lle i barcio ar ochr y ffordd.

Organisers / Trefnwyr: Mr Gwilym T Jones and / a Gareth Parry

Tel / Ffôn: 01248 722697

Gwibdaith Penwythnos gwahanol

Ein gwibdaith diwethaf oedd 'Abertawe 2002' a nid oes bwriad trefnu un arall yn y dyfodol rhagweladwy. Efallai y bydd gan aelodau ddiddordeb yn y cyfnewidadau penwythnosol i lwerddon sydd yn cael ei trefnu gan Oriel Ynys Môn mewn cysylltiad a *Dalkey Castle and Heritage Centre*. Bydd pump ymweliad bob ffordd yn 2005 i hyrwyddo gwell dealltwriaeth o gefndir cyffredinol hanesyddol a chreadigol y ddwy ynys. Mae pamffled wedi ei pharatoi a bydd copi ar gael yng nghyfarfodydd y Gymdeithas ag yn yr Oriel.

Oriel Ynys Môn bydd yn trefnu yr ymweliadau a dylai archebu drwyddynt hwy. Bydd croeso i aelodau ymuno yn ymweliadau ar Ynys Môn ag, efallai, ychwanegu tipyn o flâs lleol i'r gwethgareddau. Cysylltwch a cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Gwibdeithiau am fwy o fanylion.

Chairman / Cadeirydd
Excursions Committee
Mr Gareth W. Parry



How well do you know the Society's Transactions?

Did you know that articles in the Transactions between 1913, when the Society was founded, and 1985, when the printed index was completed, contain no less than 180 references to women?

Human interest stories concerning women have appeared throughout the years. They come from all walks of life, rich and poor: women who worked for a living, housewives who supported their husbands in projects, women who used their talents to benefit mankind- you name it! There is a female representative to be found in most Transaction articles.

The Morris brothers were not the only Anglesey letter writers. Mary and Elizabeth Hughes of Ty Mawr Mynydd, Holyhead, wrote gossip letters to brother William while he was at sea, when working in Liverpool and later after he had emigrated to Iowa.

Elizabeth Morgan's Garden Diary tells how she planted 250 tulips and 350 hyacinths in her garden at Henblas, also auriculas, roses and carnations. Grace Parry, the Ferry woman is pictured for posterity by a contemporary writer and Frances Williams' efforts to finance the first Anglesey lifeboat are all recalled, as are naturalist T.G. Walker's memories of his grandmother, Elizabeth Owens of Amlwch who struggled successfully to bring up six children when her husband was lost at sea.

The 'Copper-ladis' of Amlwch; Cadi Rondol; shop-keeper Elizabeth Broadhead who married John Elias, the preacher; Eliza Jones, the postmistress of Gwyndy and the well-to-do ladies of the Owen, Stanley, Bold and Bulkeley families; the Hugheses of Llys Dulas - all are featured.

A foray into old copies of the Transactions can unearth treasures. The printed Index was published in 1985. The subsequent period is covered fully by an index on the Website.

Margaret Hughes



ANGLESEY proposed GEOPARK ? arfaethedig YNYS MÔN

On 21st March 2005, an important meeting took place at Oriel Ynys Môn.

Under the jurisdiction of Margaret Wood, it was proposed that applications be made to give Anglesey the status of a Geopark. Amongst geological circles, it is well known that

our island is a source of almost every known mineral and is a prime site for the training of students. A Geopark would exploit this but it would also create a trail of both educational and aesthetic sites, combining scenery with geology, archaeology, flora and fauna. It involves the co-operation of

us locals and would attract grants, create employment and put us on the world map. Anyone can volunteer to help both actively and in the background. If you feel able to assist, contact Dr. Margaret Wood at College, Llansadwrn or E Mail her at Margaret@coleg10.freeserve.co.uk

PUBLICATIONS

Llyfrau / Books

Precambrian Rocks of the Rhoscolyn Anticline

Members may be interested in this attractive booklet by Dr. Margaret Wood.

It contains a wealth of colour photographs which captures the beauty of this corner of Holy Island. It is also a definitive record of the incredible geology of the area.

Available at Stone Science.

£4.50

Power, Politics and County Government in Wales:

Anglesey 1780-1914

At last, the Society Publication by Dr. W. P. Griffith is approaching its final stages for a launch.

It was hoped that this event would take place in May but there are still some last minute adjustments to be made.

A proof print has been carried out and the index needs revising. The author hopes that it may be available in July or August.

The Anglesey Census 1841 - 1901

CD Rom

This invaluable modern instrument of local research is the result of three years labour by Dave Wilson.

It is the *only* complete record of all the available census material for our island. Because the Poor Laws of 1834 and 1837 stated that the Bangor and Beaumaris Union covered the south east and the Caernarvon Union the south west, one third of the Anglesey returns were recorded in Caernarvonshire. The census gives full names, ages, relation to head of household, sex, occupation, parish, county of birth, medical disabilities and employment status. There is also an index of piece numbers covering all areas.

If you are tracing your Family Tree, this is what you need.

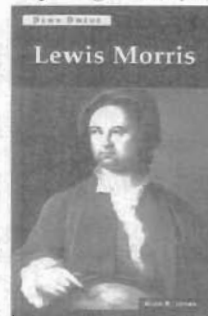
At Stone Science

£20.00

Lewis Morris

Mae'r bywgraffiad llenyddol yma gan Alun R. Jones yn gampwaith o'i fath.

Cawn yma lyfr sydd yn dod a Lewis Morris, y cymeriad lliwgar amlochrog yn fyw. Rhanwn ei brofiadau fel swyddog tollau yng Nghaergybi, mapiwr tir a môr,



amaethwr; goruwchwyliwr mwynfeydd; ac un o brif ysgolheigion Cymraeg y ddeunawfed ganrif. Mae torreth o ddyfyniadau o'i lythyrau a gallwn ddilyn hynt a hanes ei fywyd diddorol a'i ddatblygiad fel llenor. Mai ei hanes yn Llundain yn sefydlu yr 'Arrhydeddus Cymdeithas y Cymmrodorion' gyda'i frawd, a'r ffordd yr ysgogai lenomion ifanc.

Ceir cydbwysedd hapus yn y gyfrol yma rhwng hanes Lewis fel dyn o gig a gwaed gyda'i holl gryfderau a'i wendidau dynol- a hanes ei ddatblygiad fel llenor o ddylanwad yn ystod yr 18c. Cewch eich cyfareddu gan gynnwys y gyfrol hon.

Ann Wyn Owen

Gwasg Prifysgol Cymru, Aberystwyth

£14.99

www.cymru.ac.uk/gwasg

Bydd adolygiad o'r llyfr yma yng nghyhoeddiad nesaf y Trafodion.

This latest biography of one of Wales' foremost men of letters is a masterpiece. It deserves a translation into English to reach a wider audience.

WANTED

Has anyone any spare copies of the Transactions of the Anglesey Antiquarian Society, circa 1935, 1938 and 1939? Contact John Rowlands Tel. 01407 741119

GUARD OUR TREASURES



If 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. Secretary / Ysgrifennydd Aelodaeth:
Siôn Caffell Tel./ Ffôn 01248 600083

DEWI O. JONES, F.L.A.

Members will be sorry to hear that Dewi, a Life-Vice President of the Society, passed away on 21st March 2005.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Rhoda, his wife and to the family. A tribute to Dewi for his devoted service to the Anglesey Antiquarian Society and Field Club will appear in the 2005 Transactions.

OFFICER VACANCIES

Honorary Editor Transactions / Golygydd y Trafodion

This post has also been served diligently by Siôn Caffell since 1982. There have been only four secretaries over the century and he would now like to see a fresh input in this capacity. Siôn would still continue as Membership Secretary and manager of the Website.

Anyone interested may contact him for a full description.

Since 1966 the Society has been fortunate to have the talents of Professor Anthony Carr at this important post. Professor Carr has announced his intention to retire after the 2006 Transactions. Offers are invited for suitable applicants to succeed him. Full details of the job description can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Siôn Caffell. The essential requirements are to be an academic or archivist, to be bilingual, to have some editing skills and to have contacts in the field to identify contributors and reviewers.

Hon. General Secretary / Ysgrifennydd Cyffredinol

Looking ahead... / Edrych Ymlaen...

Meetings / Cyfarfodau

Don't Forget.. / Peidiwch ag Anghofio

Friday... May 13 Mai... Dydd Gwener

Annual General Meeting / Cyfarfod Cyffredinol

Blynnyddol

Oriel Ynys Môn, Llangefni, 7pm

Refreshments available / Lluniaeth ar gael

Adam Voelcker

'An approach to repairing and altering Churches- three Anglesey case studies.'

'Ffordd o atgyweirio ac altro Eglwysi- tair enghraifft o Fôn.'

//////////

Dydd Gwener ... Hydref 14 October... Friday

Darlith Goffa Syr Ifor Williams

Oriel Ynys Môn, Llangefni, 7pm

Cyfarfod cyhoeddus di dal

Bydd lluniaeth ar gael

(Welsh language lecture: Public lecture free of charge)

Refreshments available

Emyr Price

Arglwydd Cledwyn o Benrhos

Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos

//////////

Friday...October 29 Hydref... Dydd Gwener

Autumn Meeting / Cyfarfod yr Hydref

Oriel Ynys Môn, Llangefni, 7pm

Lecturer to be confirmed

(Check www.hanesmon.btinternet.co.uk/meetings)

Refreshments will be available and the Society's publications on sale.

Darlithydd i'w gadarnhau

Bydd lluniaeth ar gael a cyhoeddiadau'r Gymdeithas ar werth

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

Pot Pourri

Oriel Ynys Môn, Llangefni, 7pm

Short talks by members of the Society. Details will be put on the web site

Sgyrsiau byrion gan aelodau'r Gymdeithas. Rhoddir manylion ar safle gwe

To include a Buffet Dinner

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A separate series of talks are to be held, as in 2004 / 2005 on Friday evenings at Stone Science, Talwrn. Details are not yet confirmed.

Developments at Oriel Ynys Mon

Come the Autumn and Oriel Ynys Mon will be able to boast a new look to its main museum gallery.

The gallery is being completely revamped and will present a range of new displays and objects. The space will also include a new temporary exhibition area, which will display historical and archaeological exhibitions throughout the year. Furthermore, the new gallery will be free of charge making the whole of Oriel Ynys Môn open for free to its visitors.

The new gallery will have a strong emphasis on education and will have a 'Discovery Area' for children and people of all ages to learn about the island's history. This emphasis on education reflects the work already done by two new members of staff – Pat West (Principal Archivist and Museums and Archives Educational Officer) and Ceri Jones (Trainee Museum and Archives Education Officer). Pat is well known to us as a recent addition to the Society's committee and now works for the County Council following many active years at Bangor Museum. Ceri has joined the Oriel following her time at the Slate Museum at Llanberis.

Alun Gruffydd

ANGLESEY GEOLOGY WORKSHOP (An Introduction to Geology)

Gwynedd and Môn RIGS

At the Stone Science Museum, Llanddyfnan, Anglesey, 10am Sunday May 8th 2005, including a field study at Red Wharf Bay

Advance booking is essential. Price £10.00 when booking, inclusive of refreshments.

Telephone: 01248 450310

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E Mail: dave@stonescience.fsbusiness.co.uk

The Bells of St Cybil's

Some interesting objects are inaccessible to the public.

Take the ancient contents of the bell tower of the Parish Church of Holyhead. The far bell was installed on its completion in 1625 and for years it gave out a dull clunk, giving rise to the false idea that it was cracked. The bells are firmly fixed and stationary. It is the clappers that swing and are

activated by the bell pulls. At the last check a few years ago there was a fault in that bell's suspension. When corrected the bell rang true again. In 1801 the other bell was donated by J. Stephens, son in law to Jared Jackson, landlord of the Eagle and Child. The tower is in disrepair and has some unwelcome foliage growing from it.



Lewis Morris' drawing of the church carries the story of how the tower was split during a storm in the seventeenth century; probably a lightning strike. At present CADW are unable to complete the final stage of its restoration, at least until 2006. Hopefully, all defects will be made good and the inner west wall refurbished.



Latest News of Towyn y Capel Excavations

The second and final season of excavation at Towyn y Capel, Trearddur Bay, was undertaken during eight weeks in July and August 2003. The work was supervised by Andrew Davidson and George Smith from Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, and the excavations undertaken by archaeology students from University College, Cardiff and forensic science students from University of Central Lancashire, Preston. Advice and valuable assistance was given by Michael Wysocki, Jennie Hawcroft and Rosa Spencer from the Department of Forensic and Investigative Science, UCLan. The work saw the full excavation of the remainder of the cemetery. Following completion of the excavations, work has been progressing on analysing the excavation results, both at Preston, where the skeletal evidence is being examined, and at the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust offices in Bangor.

The burials within the cemetery were divided into two distinct categories. The earliest burials lay in cist graves. These were carefully constructed of large stone side slabs, the tops of which were levelled, sometimes by using additional horizontal stones, onto which were placed cover slabs. There were no basal slabs. The depth of the cist graves (that is the depth to the top of the cover slabs) varied between 30cm and 1m. The bodies were usually fully extended inhumations, though the legs were on occasion slightly flexed. After burial the part of the grave that lay above the cover slabs was backfilled, and a low mound was constructed on the surface, and surrounded by a ring of boulders. The accumulation of wind blown sand over the burials shortly after their construction preserved the above-ground grave markings in excellent condition. The skeletons within the cists were well preserved, and two of the skeletons had hair remaining, one in long lengths over the shoulder and down the front of the body. Approximately ten cist burials were excavated, each one containing a single burial.

These early graves lay beneath a very distinct buried soil. This sloped upwards towards the west and was over 20cm thick in places. Careful examination of the soil revealed that upper levels of sand had been incorporated into the buried soil in regular rows, suggesting ploughing had taken place over the entire surface of the excavated area. The ploughing marks were cut by the cist burials, showing that ploughing had already taken place when the burials were dug in the 7th century AD. More work is required to understand the nature of the plough marks, but it looks as though the top layer of soil has been turned over, thus implying use of a mould-board plough rather than a simple ard that would have tilled the soil, but not turned over the turf.

The later sequence of graves were buried in a layer of windblown sand approximately 2m thick, lying between the lower plough soil and an upper buried turf line. The burials were all placed in simple dug graves. Post-excavation processing is not yet complete, but a total of over sixty burials were recorded from this upper layer. The majority were extended inhumations with the head to the west, though a number had their legs flexed, whilst others had their legs crossed. There were many infant burials, a proportion of these appearing to form a distinct cluster on the south side of the mound. These burials date from the period 800 to 1200 AD.

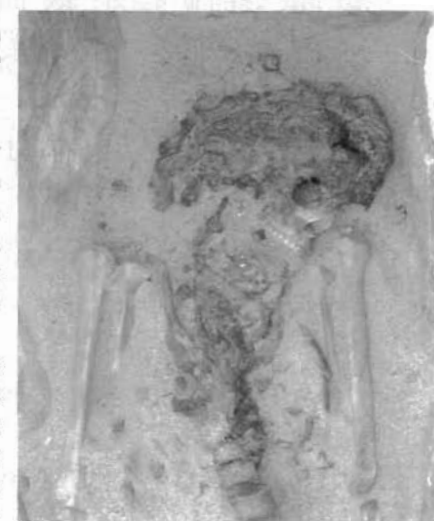
Post-excavation work is currently on-going, but it is hoped to publish the full results of the excavations during 2005.

Andrew Davidson

Principal Archaeologist, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust



Lowest soil level showing plough marks. May be as early as before the 6th Century



Cist inhumation



Principal Archaeologist

OUR SOCIETY'S FUTURE?

Ynys Môn Young Archaeologist's Club

The Club is a branch of the National Young Archaeologist's Club administered by the Council for British Archaeology.

It meets one Saturday afternoon a month and has one weekend excavation during the summer holidays. Young people between eight and sixteen can join and we are always looking out for new members. The aim is to have fun whilst learning about archaeology during sessions based at Oriel Ynys Môn or out visiting sites. For instance, in April we are at Dinas Dinlle looking at hill forts and have already had sessions on pottery, drawing and environmental archaeology at the Oriel this year.

July 16th to 23rd is National Archaeology Week when many venues throughout the country hold various events on certain days to encourage everyone to take an interest. It is hoped that the Club, in partnership with the Anglesey Antiquarians can organise a day's events during the week for the young people and their families. This is only one way of many that both the Club and the Society can work together. As co-leader with Alun Gruffydd I look forward to doing just that.

Pat West

For further information about the Club please contact Pat West on Tel. 01248 752945 or pxwd@anglesey.gov.uk

Colleagues in Learning

This is an opportunity to examine other organisations with a similar aim to ours. U3A covers all interests as well as the antiquarian field.

U3A Anglesey / Ynys Môn

U3A Anglesey / Ynys Môn is an autonomous group of the national U3A (University of the Third Age Trust).

U3A groups exist nationwide and abroad, and are based on the belief that learning has no age limit. Each branch is organised by its members and meetings are very informal. The affairs of the group are decided by its members and executed by an elected committee.

Our group meets at 10.15am every Friday, (September to June), at the O'Toole Centre, Holyhead – new members are always welcome. You need no formal qualifications to join, just a desire to keep an active mind!

Our own members, gleaning from their vast store of skills, knowledge and experience, arrange the study groups and outdoor visits. You will find that the social side is of equal importance and makes learning a pleasure.

Subscriptions (£5 annually) are kept to a minimum because all the members give of their time without remuneration.

Eflyn Owen-Jones

Summer coach visit to Cardiff – Aug. 22nd - 26th 2005

Staying at the 5* Marriott Hotel – gym / swimming pool etc.

Evening dinner included (usually carvery)

All excursions free and of our choice

Travel in brand new executive coach

Day 1 - Depart Holyhead via Porthmadog, Dolgellau and Builth Wells arriving Cardiff early afternoon. On arrival, enjoy a guided tour of Cardiff Bay with a local guide on board our coach

Day 2 - a.m. guided tour by Mark Lodwick of the National Museum of Wales – inc. Llyn Cerrig Bach artefacts.

2 p.m. - visit Castell Coch

Day 3 - free day in Cardiff – various interesting places to visit, including castle, stadium, shops etc.!

Day 4 - Visit St. Fagan Folk Museum, with our own personal guide by prior arrangement with Ken Brassil

Day 5 - Visit the Welsh Assembly and the Millennium Centre in the morning before departing for home at about 2.30 p.m.

Price - £269 (+£80 single supplement) Booking arrangement - £50 deposit

Insurance from Silver Star - £15 a head, payable with deposit

All cheques to be made payable & sent to Silver Star

Contact: Eflyn & Alan Owen Jones with any queries

Tel: 01407 810113 (mobile: 07752 893320)

Take note that this tour includes a complete viewing of the Llyn Cerrig Bach hoard. Eflyn's father was the foreman of the work force that made the discovery.

Adran Dysgu Gydol Oes

Prifysgol Cymru, Bangor

COFIO'R AIL RYFEL BYD YNG NGOGLEDD CYMRU

Melin Brwaws, Dinbych, Dydd Sadwrn Mai 21,

2005 i ddechrau am 9.30a.m.

Rhaglen y Gynhadledd

9.30 Faciwís o bob oed.

1.00 Cinio

10.30 Paned

2.15 Merched yng Nghymru

11.00 Lloyd George a'r Ail Ryfel byd

yn ystod yr ail ryfel byd.

12.00 Hysbys: Cyflwyniad

3.15 Ymweld â hysbys

Cost y Gynhadledd eleni fydd £20 y pen yn cynnwys bwffe.

Annie Davies, Stryd y Deon, Bangor, LL57 1UT erbyn Dydd Gwener,

Mai 13, gyda siec yn daladwy i Brifysgol Cymru, Bangor.

These lectures will be delivered through the medium of Welsh.

NEW LIBRARY SERVICE

Anne Venables, the archivist has begun a series of visits to each of the libraries on the island to give people an opportunity to ask any questions about the record office such as tracing family history or history of their house or area. Check with your local library if a visit is scheduled and look for details in the local press.

Anne's Accessions

New documents in the Record Office

1. Additional records of Anglesey properties of Jesus College, Oxford, 1833-1943, WD 7
2. Cassette recording of memories of the Massey sisters of Cornelyn by Hannah Hughes, cook housekeeper and Albert Roberts, gardener, early 1990s, WM2081
3. Deed of Baptist Meeting House, Beaumaris, 1818, and llawysgrifau hanes Eglwys Bedyddwyr, Pisga, Rhostrehwfa, c.1945 a 1953, WM2083
4. Adysgrifau cofrestrau Hyfrydle, Caergybi, 1890-1991, WM2088
5. Llyfr cofnodion Cyngor Cymuned Penmynydd, 1955-1994, WP 60
6. Cofnodion Cyngor Cymuned Llanddaniel fab, 1894-2001, WP 17
7. Visitors' book Aethwy Camp. 1914, WM 2090
8. Magisterial minute books, Llanerchymedd and Valley, 1872-1884, WU/2/775-776
9. Additional records of the parishes of Bodedern, Penmynydd, Llanfairpwll, Llangaffo and Holyhead, WPE
10. Material collected to write 'Birds of Anglesey' by Peter Hope Jones and Paul Whalley, 2004, WM 2095
11. Cofnodion Cyngor Plwyf/Cymuned Llanallgo/Moelfre, 1885-2002, WP 13
12. Typescript transcript of the burials in Amlwch town cemetery, 1867-1955, WP 2
13. Photographs taken by Sean Hagerty of Anglesey, 1950s-1990s, WSM 601
14. Photocopy of burial registers of Bodedern public cemetery, 1914-1998, WP 4
15. Photocopies of chapel registers, Hebron, Bryngwran; Ebeneser, Llanfechell, Disgwylfa, Gaerwen; Gilead, Penmynydd; Seion, Rhosgoch WM 2096, 2097, 2101, 2103

Anne Venables. Tel. 01248 75208 Record Office, Llangefni.



The next edition of the Newsletter will be published in the autumn of 2005.

Please forward any articles to the Editor:

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