



Discovering Old Welsh Houses Newsletters



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DARGANFOD HEN DAI CYMREIG DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES



Dathlu Treftadaeth Cymru drwy astudio tai traddodiadol a bywydau'r bobl fu'n byw ynddynt.

Celebrating Welsh Heritage through the study of traditional houses and the lives of the people who lived in them.

CYLCHLYTHYR 25 Mehefin 2018

NEWSLETTER 25 June 2018

EIN GWEFAN <http://discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk> yw prif sianel gyfathrebu'r Grŵp – defnyddiwch hi i weld mwy o fanylion am y digwyddiadau diweddar a'r rhai sydd ar ddod, ac i edrych ar ein llyfrgell sy'n cynyddu'n gyson ac ar nodweddion eraill.

GAIR O'R GADAI: O'r diwedd dychwelodd yr haul a'i wres derbyniol. Trafodwyd ymweliad y Grŵp Pensaerniaeth Frodorol i Ogledd Cymru yn gampus gan Martin, Margaret a Peter Thompson. Trefnwyd a chynlluniwyd yr achlysur yn well os rhywbeth nag unrhyw weithgaredd Militaraidd a'i wneud yn ddigwyddiad mwyaf pleserus. Hoffwn anfon ein diolch arbennig i bawb a gynorthwyodd, yn aelodau ac yn berchentywyr. Hefyd fe werthfawrogwyd yn fawr eu hymdrechion gan y cynrychiolwyr a llawer ohonynt yn wir arbenigwyr yn y maes hwn. Gwnaeth y digwyddiad hwn lawer i godi proffil ein Grŵp brwdfrydig ac amrywiaeth ac ansawdd tai cynnar ledled gogledd Cymru.

Y Cylchlythyr hwn fydd yr olaf o'r nifer a gynhyrchwyd gan Tom David. Mae ein dyled iddo yn enfawr yn enwedig am ei broffesiônoldeb, ei amynedd (yn arbennig tuag ataf fi!) ond yn fwyaf arbennig am ansawdd llwyr ei holl waith. Mae'r Cylchlythyrau a gesglir gennym yn deymged wych i'w waith cyson yn ogystal ag yn gofnod amhrisiadwy o'r hyn a gyflawnwyd gan y Grŵp. Mae Irene wedi cynnig yn wrol barhau y gwaith da hwn ac rydym i gyd yn anfon ein diolch a'n hanogaeth iddi, a dymuniadau gorau i chi i gyd.

Richard Cuthbertson, Cadeirydd



Cynrychiolwyr VAG yn ymweld â Chaerfallen / VAG delegates visit Caerfallen

NEWYDDION DIWEDDARAF

Cofiwch am CBC GDHDC (2 yp) a Darlith Gyhoeddus (3yp) ar Ddydd Gwener 22 Mehefin yng Nghanolfan Gymunedol Craig y Don, Llandudno. Siaradwraig: Eleanor Carpenter ar "Dirgelwch y Marciau ar Adeiladau."

OUR WEBSITE <http://discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk> is the Group's main channel of communication – please visit it to see details of recent and forthcoming events and to look at our growing library and other features.

FROM THE CHAIR: At last sunshine and warmth have returned. The important week of the Vernacular Architecture Group visit to North Wales was handled superbly by Martin, Margaret and Peter Thompson who planned it rather better than most Military operations and made it a most enjoyable event. I would like to send our special thanks to all who helped, members and householders. Their efforts were also much appreciated by the delegates many of whom were real experts in this field, and the whole trip has done much to raise the profile of our enthusiastic Group and the range and quality of early houses across north Wales.

This Newsletter will be the last of many produced by Tom David. We owe him an immense debt of gratitude for his professionalism, his patience (especially with me!), but most of all for the sheer quality of what he has done. Our 'collected' Newsletters stand as a magnificent tribute to his hard work as well as an invaluable record of what the Group has achieved. Irene has bravely offered to carry the good work forward and we send our thanks and encouragement to her, and best wishes to you all,

Richard Cuthbertson, Chairman



Arddangosfa Prestatyn / Prestatyn Exhibition

NEWS UPDATE

Remember the DOWH AGM (2 pm) & Public lecture (3 pm) on Friday 22nd June in the Craig y Don Community Centre, Llandudno. Speaker: Eleanor Carpenter on "The Mystery of Markings on Buildings."

Fe gynhelir **digwyddiad i godi arian** ym Mhlas Penmynydd, Llangefni, Ynys Môn ar **Sadwrn 6 Hydref 2018** o hanner dydd tan 4 yp. Tâl mynediad £10 y pen (am ddim i rai dan 15 oed) – tocynnau wrth y giât. ANERCHIAD gan Richard Cuthbertson ar Blas Penmynydd a'i gysylltiadau â'r Tuduriaid. Teithiau ymweld â'r tŷ; ymweliadau â gerddi; lluniaeth ysgafn. Manylion i ddod eto.

Taith Astudio i CUMBRIA 10-13 Medi 2018: gellwch fod mewn pryd i archebu. Cysylltwch â Wally Barr: wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk / 01745 888622.

Rheoliadau newydd Gwarchod Data Cyffredinol: O fewn amser byr daw'r rhain i rym a bydd yr holl aelodau yn ogystal â chysylltiadau eraill yn fuan yn derbyn gwybodaeth bellach. Os na wnewch ymateb bydd yn rhaid i ni yn ôl y gyfraith ddileu eich manylion ac ni fyddwch mwyach yn derbyn unrhyw wybodaeth oddi wrthym ni. Felly gobeithiwn glywed oddi wrth bob un ohonoch.

Grantiau 2018-19: Dyma ein trydedd flwyddyn a'n blwyddyn olaf yn canolbwyntio ar ODdn Cymru. Cawsom £4,000 gan Gronfa Marc Fitch ac rydym yn hynod ddiolchgar am hyn. Gobeithiwn glywed yn fuan am ganlyniad ein cais am grant i AHNE Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy. Rydym yn dal i ddefnyddio Cronfa Woodtiger a chronfa "Bagiau o Gymorth" Tesco ar y gweithgareddau perthnasol.

Gweithgareddau Canghennau yn dal i ffynnu wrth i grwpiau bychain o aelodau ddilyn eu diddordebau yn ymchwilio i hanes tai, cofnodi adeiladau a marciau anarferol mewn tai a.y.b. ar draws gogledd Cymru. Mae aelodau Meirionnydd wedi bod yn paratoi ar gyfer arddangosfa Fai yn Aberdyfi drwy ymchwilio yng Nghwm Maethlon; mae aelodau GDdn Cymru wedi bod yn dilyn hanesion tai y tai hynny a gofnodwyd yn bensaernïol neu a ddendro-ddyddiwyd ym mlwyddyn gyllidol olaf y prosiect. Mae prosiect hanes lleol Sir Gaernarfon / Tesco yn mynd o nerth i nerth.



Coedydd Tŷ Hyll ym Mai / Tŷ Hyll woods in May

OS YDYCH Â DIDDORDEB MEWN HEN DAI ond ddim eto yn aelod, pam na ystyriwch ymuno â'r Grŵp? Ysgrifennydd Aelodaeth yw Ms Zoë Henderson 01824 704404 membership@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk. Am wybodaeth bellach cysylltwch â Margaret Dunn, yr Ysgrifenyddes secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01766 890550.

A **Fundraising Event** will be held at Plas Penmynydd, Llangefni, Anglesey on **Saturday 6th October 2018** from noon–4 pm. Entry £10 per head (under 15s free) – tickets at the gate. TALK by Richard Cuthbertson on Plas Penmynydd and its links with the Tudors. House tours; visit the gardens; displays; light refreshments. Details to follow.

Study Tour to CUMBRIA 10-13 September 2018: You may still be in time to book. Contact Wally Barr: wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk / 01745 888622.

New General Data Protection Regulations: These come in to operation very shortly and all members and other contacts will soon be receiving further information. If we do not hear back from you then we will be required by law to delete your details from our records and you will no longer receive any information from us. So we hope to hear from you all.

2018-19 Grants: This will be our third and final year concentrating on NE Wales. We have been awarded £4,000 by the Marc Fitch Fund, for which we are very grateful. We hope to soon hear the result of our grant application to the Clwydian Range & Dee Valley AONB. We continue to use the Woodtiger Fund & the Tesco "Bags of Help" fund for the activities for which they were awarded.

Branch activities continue to flourish as small groups of members follow their interests in researching house histories, recording buildings and unusual marks in houses etc. across north Wales. Merioneth members have been preparing for the May exhibition in Aberdyfi of their research in Cwm Maethlon; NE Wales members are following up the house histories of houses architecturally recorded or "dendro-dated" in last financial year's project. The Caernarfonshire / Tesco local history project goes from strength to strength.



Ymweliad â Tŷ Hyll / Tŷ Hyll visit

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OLD HOUSES and are not already a member, why not consider joining the Group? The Membership Secretary is Ms Zoë Henderson membership@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01824 704404. For further information contact Margaret Dunn, secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01766 890550.

DIGWYDDIADAU CANGEN: archebwch â chysylltydd cangen, fel arfer @ £2. Rydym yn hynod ddiolchgar i berchenogion tai am eu lletygarwch.

CANGEN MÔN Cyswllt: Peter Masters: 01758 750322 datingoldwelshhouses@gmail.com. Archebwch yn gynnar gan fod lle yn gyfyngedig; bydd manylion llawn yn cael eu hanfon at y rhai sy'n cael eu derbyn. **Llun 11 Mehefin:** 2 yp. Bu'n rhaid canslo'r ymweliad ar gyfer y dyddiad hwn oherwydd gwaeledd. **Llun 9 Gorffennaf:** 2 yp Ymweld â Phlas Penmynydd, ger Llangefni. Taith drwy'r tŷ, ei hanes a lluniaeth. Dathlu digwyddiadau'r flwyddyn; trafod a chynllunio gweithgareddau'r flwyddyn nesaf. **Awst:** Ni fydd cyfarfod.



Sgwrs P3O Wrexham / Wrexham U3A Talk

CANGEN ARFON A PHROSIECT HANES LLEOL TESCO Cyswllt: Peter Masters: datingoldwelshhouses@gmail.com 01758 750322. **Mercher 6ed Mehefin:** 10yb-4yp Cofnodi Pensaernïol – diwrnod ymarferol yn Nhŷ Mawr ger Beddgelert o dan arweiniad Dr Martin Cherry a Peter Thompson. Nifer Mwyaf 12. **Iau 5ed Gorffennaf:** 2 yp Taith ym Meddgelert o dan arweiniad Margaret Dunn. Darganfyddwch sut y datblygodd y pentref hwn a sut i ymchwilio i gymunedau eraill. **Dydd Iau 2 Awst:** 7.30 yh, Neuadd y Pentref Beddgelert. Ymchwilio tŷ a'i drigolion: sesiwn ymarferol o dan arweiniad Margaret Dunn. **Dydd Iau 6 Medi:** 7.30 yh Neuadd y Pentref Beddgelert. Dathlu blwyddyn 1af prosiect Tesco gyda lluniaeth ac arddangosfeydd a rhannu cynlluniau'r dyfofol.

CANGEN CONWY Cyswllt: Tony Scharer: 01745 813027 tonyscharer@gmail.com. **Llun 11eg Mehefin:** ymweliad 11 yb i Gymryd Isaf, Henryd (neuadd-dŷ 3-uned, y rhan gynharaf tua 1500). Archebu'n angenrheidiol. **Gwen 13eg Gorffennaf:** 9.30 Sgwrs gan Ray Castle ac Irene Pullen ar agweddau o hanes Tref Conwy. Lleoliad i'w gadarnhau. **Mawrth 18 Medi:** 10.00 yb Ymweld ag eglwys Llanrhydwyn a Threfriw, y ddwy yn gysylltiedig â Llywelyn Fawr. Cyfarfod ym maes parcio Trefriw. **Mawrth 16 Hydref:** 2.00 yp Ymweld â Hen neuadd Cochwillan, Tal-y-bont, Bangor (diwedd y 15ed ganrif) a Melin Cochwillan (felin rawn fawr mewn cyflwr da ac yn perthyn i stad). **Mawrth 20 Tach:** 9.30 yb Pwyllgor Cangen i drafod ymchwil aelodau yn nhŷ Gill Jones, Llanddulas.

CANGEN SIR DDINBYCH Cyswllt: Janice Dale: 01490 440427 jadale22@hotmail.co.uk. Am fanylion pellach cysylltwch â Janice. **Mercher 6 Mehefin:** yn cyfarfod mewn tŷ ger

BRANCH EVENTS: book with branch contacts, usually @ £2. We thank house-owners very much for their hospitality.

ANGLESEY BRANCH Rep: Peter Masters: 01758 750322 datingoldwelshhouses@gmail.com. Please book early as places are limited; full details will be sent to those accepted. **Mon 11th June** The visit planned for this date has had to be cancelled because of illness. **Mon 9th July:** 2 pm Visit to Plas Penmynydd, near Llangefni. House tour, history & refreshments. Celebrate the year's events; discussion & planning for next year's activities. **August:** No meeting.



Sgwrs am Frychdwn / Broughton Talk

CAERNARFONSHIRE BRANCH & TESCO LOCAL HISTORY PROJECT Rep: Peter Masters: 01758 750322 datingoldwelshhouses@gmail.com. **Wed 6th June:** 10am-4pm Architectural Recording: a practical day at Tŷ Mawr near Beddgelert led by Dr Martin Cherry & Peter Thompson. Max 12. **Thu 5th July:** 2 pm Beddgelert guided walk led by Margaret Dunn. Find out how this village developed & how to research other communities. **Thu 2nd Aug:** 7.30 pm Beddgelert Village Hall. Researching a House & its Inhabitants: practical session led by Margaret Dunn. **Thu 6th Sept:** 7.30 pm Beddgelert Village Hall. Celebration of the 1st year of the Tesco project with refreshments and displays, and sharing future plans.

CONWY BRANCH Contact: Tony Scharer: 01745 813027 tonyscharer@gmail.com. **Mon 11th June:** 11 am visit to Cymryd Isaf, Henryd (3-unit hall house, earliest part c. 1500). Booking essential. **Fri 13th July:** 9.30 am Talk by Ray Castle & Irene Pullen on aspects of the history of Conwy Town. Venue tbc. **Tue 18 Sep:** 10.00 am Visit to Llanrhydwyn & Trefriw churches, both of which have connections with Llywelyn the Great. Meet in Trefriw car-park. **Tues 16 Oct:** 2.00 pm Visit to Cochwillan Old Hall, Tal-y-bont, Bangor (late 15th Century) & Cochwillan Mill (a well-preserved large estate corn-mill). **Tues 20 Nov:** 9.30 am Branch meeting to discuss members' research at Gill Jones's house, Llanddulas.

DENBIGHSHIRE BRANCH Contact: Janice Dale: 01490 440427 jadale22@hotmail.co.uk. For further details contact Janice. **Wed 6th June:** house near Corwen to practise architectural

Corwen i ymarfer cofnodi pensaernïol. Dim cyfarfodydd yng Ngorffennaf nac Awst.

CANGEN MEIRIONNYDD Cyswllt: John Townsend: 01341 430262 john@thetownsend.org.uk. **Iau 14 Mehefin** 2yp i 4yp: yn cyfarfod yn y Stafell Gymunedol yn Llyfrgell Dolgellau i drafod yr hyn y mae'r Gangen wedi ei wneud hyd yn hyn eleni a'r hyn y dymunem ei wneud am weddill y flwyddyn ac yn 2019. Un pwnc i'w drafod fydd prosiect y Grŵp ar adeiladau nenfforch. Mae'r rhain yn dyddio o'r 15fed a'r 17eg ganrif ac maent wedi eu gwasgaru yn anwastad ar draws gogledd Cymru gyda nifer sylweddol yn goroesi ym Meirionnydd. Gwelwyd nifer ohonynt yng ngogledd y sir yn y llyfr ar Dai Hanesyddol Eryri; yn fwy diweddar, mae'r grŵp wedi bod yn gweithio'n ddyfal ar Sir Ddinbych ac Edeirnion; felly mae'n bryd i ni weld beth sy'n weddill ym Meirionnydd. **Sul 15 Gorffennaf** 2.30 yp: digwyddiad Cymdeithasol yr haf Cangen Meirionnydd yng Nghesailgwm Mawr, Talcynhaeaf, Y Bont-ddu. Os am ddod gadewch i'r cydlynnydd wybod o safbwynt arlwyyo. Dim cyfarfod yn Awst.

CANGEN GOGLEDD DDWYRAIN CYMRU Cyswllt: Margaret neu Wally Barr: magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk, wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk, y ddau ar 01745 888622. Archebwch ddigon ymlaenllaw gan fod lle yn gyfyngiedig. **Gwener 29 Mehefin** 2 yp: Ymweliad tŷ i'r Fron, Cwm, Sir y Fflint, 17 ganrif neu o bosib yn gynharach. **Mawrth 17 Gorff 2** yp: cyfarfod o'r gangen yn Sant Winefrides, Gwespyr. Dim cyfarfod yn Awst.

NODYN ATGOFFA: Mae'r holl dai a grybwyllir yn y cylchlythyr hwn ac/neu sy'n gysylltiedig â DHDC yn eiddo preifat ac **nid ydynt ar agor** i'r cyhoedd.

LLAWER O DDIOLCH i Gangen Môn am eu cyfraniad at yr argraffiad hwn o'r cylchlythyr.

RHOSOD TUDURAIDD

Roedd Tuduriaid Penmynydd ger Biwmares, Ynys Môn yn gefnogwyr i Dŷ Lancaster, ac yn dilyn llwyddiant Harri Tudur ym mwrwydr Bosworth yn 1485 daeth Rhyfel y Rhosynnau i ben. Aeth yr olyniaeth i ddwylo Harri ac fe simentiodd ei hawl er braidd yn denau, i'r orsedd drwy briodi Elisabeth o Efrog, merch y Brenin Edward IV, lorciad. Bu eu priodas yn 1486 yn fodd i uno'r ddau dŷ ymladdgar unwaith ac am byth. Tua'r adeg hwn y gwnaeth Harri (bellach yn Frenin Harri VII) gyflwyno'r Rhosyn Tuduraidd, a gyfunodd rosyn coch Lancast'r a rhosyn gwyn Efrog.



Rhosynnau Tuduraidd / Tudor roses

Mae [llyfrgell](#) ar lein DHDC ar gyfer Ynys Môn yn cynnwys

recording. No meetings **July** or **August**.

MERIONETH BRANCH Contact: John Townsend: 01341 430262 john@thetownsend.org.uk. **Thurs 14th June** 2pm to 4pm: meeting in Community Room at Dolgellau Library to discuss what the Branch has done so far this year and what we may wish to take on for the rest of this year and into 2019. One of the subjects for discussion will be the Group's project on cruck buildings. These date from the 15th to the 17th centuries and are spread unevenly across North Wales with a substantial number surviving in Merioneth. The Snowdonia Houses book took in a number in the north of the county; more recently, the Group has done a lot on Denbighshire and Edeirion; now it would be good to look what's left in Merioneth. **Sunday 15th July**, 2.30 pm: Merioneth Branch Summer Social event at Cesailgwm Mawr, Talcynhaeaf, Bontddu. For catering purposes please let rep know if you intend to come. No meeting in **August**.

NORTH EAST WALES BRANCH Contact: Margaret or Wally Barr: magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk, wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk, both on 01745 888622. Please book well in advance as places are limited. **Fri 29th June** 2pm: house visit to Fron, Cwm, Flintshire, 17th century or possibly earlier. **Tues 17th July** 2pm: branch meeting at St Winefrides, Gwespyr. No meeting in **August**.

REMINDER: all the houses mentioned in this Newsletter and/or linked with DOWH are private property and are **NOT** open to the public.

MANY THANKS to the Anglesey Branch for their contribution to this issue of the newsletter.

TUDOR ROSES

The Tudors of Plas Penmynydd near Beaumaris in Anglesey were supporters of the House of Lancaster, and following the success of Henry Tudor at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 the Wars of the Roses came to an end. Henry secured the succession and cemented his rather tenuous claim to the throne by marrying Elizabeth of York, the daughter of the Yorkist King Edward IV. Their marriage in 1486 united the two warring houses once and for all, and it was around this time that Henry (now King Henry VII) introduced the Tudor Rose, which combined the red rose of Lancaster with the white rose of York.

The DOWH on-line [library](#) for Anglesey contains Dendro Reports and House Histories for several houses in Beaumaris, and in particular 32 Castle Street (known as 'Tudor Rose') and 34 Castle Street, 'Red Boat.' Both of these properties have carved roses either incorporated into their beams or as adornments to the roof-braces. In 'Tudor Rose' there is also a rose carving on a fireplace arch.

Both these properties have timbers with felling-dates dendro-dated to 1485/6 and 1483 respectively which fits in nicely with the end of the War but which also suggests that these houses were under construction or built before the Tudor reign was established.

Adroddiadau Dendro a Hanes Tai i sawl tŷ ym Miwmares, ac yn fwyaf arbennig i 32 Stryd y Castell (gyda'r enw 'Tudor Rose') a 34 Stryd y Castell, Red Boat. Mae'r ddau eiddo hyn â rhosynnau wedi eu cerfio a'u hymgorffori yn y trawstiau neu fel addurniadau i'r cyplau to. Yn 'Tudor Rose' gwelir hefyd gerflun o ros yn ar fwa'r lle tân.



32 Stryd y Castell, Biwmares. 'Tudor Rose' (c1485/6) / 32 Castle Street, Beaumaris. 'Tudor Rose' (c1485/6)



32 Stryd y Castell, 'Tudor Rose': rhosyn Lancast? (nodwedd heb ei dyddio) / 32 Castle Street, 'Tudor Rose': rose of Lancaster? (undated feature)

Mae'r ddau eiddo hyn â choed wedi eu dyddio a'u dendro ddyddio i 1485/6 a 1483 yn eu tro. Mae hyn yn cyd-fynd yn dda â diwedd y Rhyfel ond hefyd yn awgrymu fod y tai hyn yn cael eu hadeiladu neu wedi eu hadeiladu cyn sefydlu teyrnasiad y Tuduriaid.



32 Stryd y Castell, Biwmares. 'Tudor Rose' (c1485/6) / 32 Castle Street, Beaumaris. 'Tudor Rose' (c1485/6)



34 Stryd y Castell, 'Red Boat' (c.1483) / 34 Castle Street, 'Red Boat' (c.1483)

Felly a oedd y cerfiadau yn bod yn barod neu wedi eu hychwanegu yn hwyrach? Maent yn ymddangos yn rhai sengl, yn steil rhosod Tŷ Lancast – nid rhosynnau uniad dwbl y Tuduriaid fel a welir.

Mae CBHC yn nodi'n syml taw 'Rhosynnau' ydynt; tra bod Cadw yn eu hanwybyddu.

Y cwestiwn yw, pa bryd y cafodd 32 Stryd y Castell yr enw 'Tudor Rose', a gan bwy? Pwy wnaeth adnabod y rhosynnau fel rhai Tuduraidd?

So were the carvings already extant or later additions? They would appear to be single, in the style of House of Lancaster roses – not the double Tudor roses of unification, as can be seen.

The RCHAMW simply notes them as 'Roses'; Cadw ignores them.

The question is, when was 32 Castle Street named 'Tudor Rose,' and by whom? Who identified the roses as Tudor?

The tomb of Willam Bulkeley, Deputy Constable of Beaumaris Castle, and his wife Elin is to be found in the Church in Beaumaris. The tomb is dated c.1490, but he died in 1484, according to Griffith's *Pedigrees*. One biography states: William Bulkeley, a courtier from a Cheshire family, acquired an estate in north Wales under the Yorkists, by



Beddrod Syr William Bulkeley a'i wraig Elin yn eglwys Santes Fair a Sant Nicolas, Biwmares / Tomb of Sir William Bulkeley and Elin his wife in St Mary's and St Nicholas' Church, Beaumaris © Jeff Buck (CC BY-SA 2.0)

Gellir dod o hyd i feddrod William Bulkeley, Prif Gwnstabl Castell Biwmares, a'i wraig Elin yn yr Eglwys ym Miwmares. Y dyddiad ar y bedd yw c.1490, ond bu farw yn 1484, yn ôl Achau Griffith. Noda un bywgraffiad: Cafodd William Bulkeley, gŵr llys o deulu yn Swydd Gaer, stad yng Ngogledd Cymru o dan y lorciaid, drwy brynu ym Miwmares, lle roedd yn Ddirpwy Gwnstabl y castell a thrwy etifeddu, o ganlyniad i briodi i mewn i deulu pwerus Griffith o Benrhyn. Mae un ach arall yn nodi fod William de Bulkeley o Cheadle, a anwyd yn 1418 a marw yn 1488 wedi mynd i Ynys Môn a'i fod yn Gwnstabl Biwmares yn 1440.

Yn 1370 cyflwynwyd y goler SS gan John o Gaunt. Daeth hon yn symbol o dŷ Lancastrian ac roedd yn cael ei dyfarnu o'r dyddiad hwnnw hyd at 1460 ac eto o 1485 hyd y daeth i ben o dan Edward VI yn 1549. Mae delw William Bulkeley yn arddangos coler fel hon.

Dim ond 115 o ddelwau yn y DU gyfan sydd â SS coler, ac o'r rhain roedd 102 yn ddynion a 13 yn fenywod. Roedd llawer yn dilyn y Lancastriaid ym Miwmares yr adeg hwn, ac roedd y 'rhosynnau' fel petaent yn adlewyrchu hyn.

Peter Masters, Cynrychiolydd Cangen Môn

purchase at Beaumaris, where he was Deputy Constable of the castle, and by inheritance, through marriage into the powerful Griffith family of Penrhyn. Another Pedigree states William de Bulkeley of Cheadle (born about 1418 and died 1488) went to Anglesey and was Constable of Beaumaris in 1440.

In 1370 John of Gaunt introduced the collar of SS which became the symbol of the house of Lancaster. This was awarded from that date to 1460 and again from 1485 until discontinued by Edward VI in 1549. William Bulkeley's effigy displays such a collar.



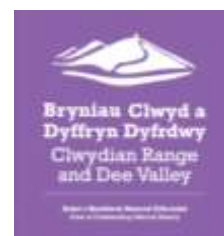
Delw o Syr William Bulkeley ar ei feddrod yn Eglwys y Santes Fair a Sant Nicolas, Biwmares / Effigy of Sir William Bulkeley on his tomb in St Mary's and St Nicholas' Church, Beaumaris

Only 115 effigies in the entire UK have SS collars, of which 102 are men and 13 are ladies. Beaumaris at this time would have had a strong Lancastrian following, and the "roses" would seem to reflect this.

Peter Masters, Anglesey Branch Rep

TESCO
Bags of Help

PURCELL



**Comisiwn Brenhinol
Henebion Cymru
Royal Commission on the Ancient
and Historical Monuments of Wales**





DARGANFOD HEN DAI CYMREIG DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES



Dathlu Treftadaeth Cymru drwy astudio tai traddodiadol a bywydau'r bobl fu'n byw ynddynt.

Celebrating Welsh Heritage through the study of traditional houses and the lives of the people who lived in them.

CYLCHLYTHYR 26 Medi 2018

NEWSLETTER 26 September 2018

EIN GWEFAN <http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk> yw prif sianel gyfathrebu'r Grŵp – defnyddiwch hi i weld mwy o fanylion am y digwyddiadau diweddar a'r rhai sydd ar ddod, ac i edrych ar ein llyfrgell sy'n cynyddu'n gyson ac ar nodweddion eraill.

OUR WEBSITE <http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk> is the Group's main channel of communication – please visit it to see details of recent and forthcoming events and to look at our growing library and other features.

GAIR O'R GADAIR

Wel, mae'r haf hirfelyn poeth yn dal ymlaen wrth i mi ysgrifennu, er rwyf yn meddwl i ni fod yn yn lwcus yng Ngogledd Cymru i osgoi rhai o'r profiadau eithafol a gafwyd yn ne ddwyrain Lloegr. Hwn yw cylchlythyr cyntaf Irene ar ei phen ei hun, ac rydym yn hynod ddiolchgar iddi am dderbyn y dasg hon, gan y gwyddom fod aelodau yn mwynhau darllen yr erthyglau diddorol a dysgu am y datblygiadau diweddaraf yn ein gwaith. Rydym bob amser yn chwilio am erthyglau byr sy'n gymorth i'n gwybodaeth am dai Gogledd Cymru a'u cefndir hanesyddol. Anfonwch unrhywbeth o werth at Margaret Dunn.

Mae Peter Masters newydd orffen ailwampio ein gwefan (gweler isod). Yn fy marn i ni fu'n edrych erioed cystal na chwaith mor hawdd ei defnyddio. Mae'n storfa enfawr o wybodaeth ac rydym yn hynod ffodus o gael arbenigedd Peter a'i waith caled. Y ffordd orau o ddiolch iddo yw drwy

FROM THE CHAIR

Well, the long hot summer continues as I write, although I think we have been lucky in North Wales to have avoided some of the extremes experienced in south-east England. This is Irene's first single-handed newsletter, and we are most grateful that she has taken on this task as there is no doubt that members enjoy reading the interesting articles and learning about the latest developments in our work. We are always looking for short articles that help our knowledge of North Wales houses and their histories. Please send anything you have to Margaret Dunn.

Peter Masters has just completed a re-vamp of our website (see below). I think it has never looked so good nor has been easier to navigate. It is a massive store of information and we are exceptionally fortunate to have Peter's expertise and hard work. The best way we can thank him is to use it more often, and tell our friends about it! For those who think it may be too difficult, I have this simple advice ... just have a go! You will find it is intuitive and user-friendly.

Last but not least we look forward to seeing you at our autumn fundraising event at Plas Penmynydd on the 6th October (details below). We have a competition with prizes for the person who finds the most witch and other mystery marks on the fabric and furniture at the Plas. Then Eleanor Carpenter will give a talk on current thinking around this subject, with advice on what to look for in your own houses and the houses you visit.

Richard Cuthbertson, Chairman



Mynedfa, Plas Penmynydd, Ynys Môn

ei defnyddio'n amlach, a dweud amdani wrth ein ffrindiau. I'r rhai ohonoch sy'n teimlo ei bod yn rhy anodd, mae gen i gyngor syml.....mentrwrch! Fe'i cewch ei bod yn sythweledol ac yn hawdd ei defnyddio.

Yn olaf ond eto o bwys rydym yn edrych ymlaen at eich gweld yn ein digwyddiad codi arian yr hydref ym Mhlas Penmynydd ar Hydref 6ed (manylion isod). Bydd cystadleuaeth gyda gwobrau yno i'r person sy'n dod o hyd i'r nifer mwyaf o farciau gwrachod a dirgelion eraill ar ffabrig a dodrefn y Plas. Yna bydd Eleanor Carpenter yn rhoi sgwrs ar y syniadau diweddaraf am y pwnc hwn, ac yn rhoi cyngor ar beth i edrych amdano yn eich tai chi ac yn y tai yr ydych yn ymweld â hwy.

Richard Cuthbertson, Cadeirydd



**Mystery marks on screen near Mold
Marciau dirgelwch ar sgrîn ger yr Wyddgrug**

NEWYDDION DIWEDDARAF

Digwyddiad Codi Arian i'w gynnal ym Mhlas Penmynydd, Llangefni, Ynys Môn, LL777SH ar **Sadwrn Hydref 6ed 2018** o 2yp yn y pnaawn. Mynediad y pen £10 (rhai dan 15 oed am ddim) tocynnau wrth y giât. Ceir arddangosfeydd, teithiau ymweld â thai, cystadleuaeth, lluniaeth ysgafn a chyfle i ymweld â'r gerddi. Bydd sgysiaid gan Richard Cuthbertson am Blas Penmynydd a'i gysylltiad â'r Tuduriaid cynnar a gan Eleanor Carpenter am olion hud, olion seiri coed a marciau dirgelwch eraill ar dai a dodrefn cynnar.

Yn CBC Mehefin diolchodd yr ymddiriedolwyr yn gynnes i Dr Tom David am ei waith rhagorol fel golygydd y Cylchlythyr a chroesawyd Dr Irene Brightmer fel ein golygydd newydd. Rhoddodd John Townsend ein Trysorydd, rybudd y bydd yn ymddeol ar 31 Mawrth 2019. Buasai ein Hysgrifenyddes, Margaret Dunn yn hoffi gwybod am unrhyw un a fuasai â diddordeb i ysgwyddo'r swydd bwysig. Mehefin nesaf bydd Tony Scharer yn ymddeol fel cynrychiolydd Cangen Conwy. Mae Gill Jones yn barod yn gweithredu fel cyswilt cangen. Mae Sue Hurst yn garedig wedi cytuno i dderbyn archebion ar gyfer Cangen Ynys Môn. Ailenwyd Cangen Sir Gaernarfon fel Cangen Eryri ac mae'n gobeithio cael trefniadau archebu newydd yn fuan.

Prosiect GDDn Cymru - Blwyddyn 2: Mae nifer o gofnodion pensaernïol wedi eu cwblhau i dai allweddol a gellir gweld y rhain ar y wefan. Derbyniwyd yr holl adroddiadau a datganiadau ariannol gan y rhai a roddodd arian i ni yn 2017-18. Mae grantiau 2018-19 wedi dod o Gronfa Marc Fitch ac oddi wrth AHNE Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy ac rydym yn hynod ddiolchgar am eu cefnogaeth Byddwn yn gwneud ceisiadau am grantiau eraill yn fuan.

Prosiect GDDn Cymru - Blwyddyn 3: Bu ymweliadau pellach i dai ers y Pâsg, ac yn Awst aseswyd a samplwyd gan arbenigwyr o Labordy Dendrocronoleg Rhydychen dai dewisol. Rydym yn canolbwyntio'n bennaf ar dai nenffyrch a thai lloriog cynnar.

Cronfa Eryri Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri Mae'r gronfa hon yn dal i gefnogi gwaith ym Meirionnydd a samplwyd dau dŷ yn Awst. Roedd arddangosfa fis Mai yn Nhywyn, ac a drefnwyd gan Gangen Meirionnydd, yn llwyddiant mawr, diolch i dîm o wirfoddolwyr parod. Yn Awst roeddem yn rhannu stondin ag Ymddiriedolaeth Archeolegol Gwynedd yn Sioe Sirol Meirionnydd a hefyd yn Sioe Amaethyddol Ynys Môn. Mae grant **Cronfa Gymunedol 'Bagiau o Gymorth' Tesco** yn dal i gefnogi digwyddiadau misol hyd at ddechrau Hydref.



Arddangosfa fis Mai yn Nhywyn May exhibition in Tywyn

NEWS UPDATE

A Fundraising Event will be held at Plas Penmynydd, Llangefni, Anglesey, LL77 7SH on **Saturday 6th October 2018** from 2 pm. Entry £10 per head (under 15s free), tickets at the gate. There will be displays, house tours, a competition, light refreshments and the opportunity to visit the gardens. Talks from Richard Cuthbertson about Plas Penmynydd and its links with the early Tudors, and from Eleanor Carpenter about magical, carpenters' and other mystery marks on early houses and furniture.

At the June AGM the trustees warmly thanked Dr Tom David for his excellent work as Newsletter editor and welcomed Dr Irene Brightmer as our new editor. John Townsend, our Treasurer, gave notice that he will be standing down on 31 March 2019. Our Secretary, Margaret Dunn, would like to know of anyone who would be interested in taking over this important role. Next June Tony Scharer will retire as representative of the Conwy Branch. Gill Jones has already taken over as the branch contact. Sue Hurst has kindly agreed to take over bookings for the Anglesey Branch. The Caernarfonshire Branch is renamed the Snowdonia Branch and hopes to have new booking arrangements soon.

NE Wales Project Year 2: Several architectural records have been completed for key houses and these can be seen on the website. All reports and financial statements were accepted by our 2017-18 funders. Grants for 2018-19 have been obtained from the Marc Fitch Fund and the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, and we are very grateful for their support. We shall apply for other grants shortly.

NE Wales Project Year 3: Further houses have been visited since Easter, and the Oxford Dendrochronology Lab experts assessed and sampled selected houses in August. Cruck and early storeyed houses continue to be our main focus.



Count the crucks Cyfrifwch y nenffyrch

The Snowdonia National Park Eryri Fund continues to support work in Merioneth and two houses were being sampled in August. The May exhibition in Tywyn, organised by the Merioneth Branch, was a great success, thanks to a team of willing helpers. In August we were part of the Gwynedd Archaeology Trust's stand at both the Merioneth County Show and the Anglesey Agricultural Show.

The Tesco 'Bags of Help' Community Fund grant continues to support monthly events until early October. Thanks to this grant it has been possible to introduce many more people, including local schoolchildren, to their Welsh heritage through studying houses (see article below).

O ganlyniad i'r grant hwn llwyddwyd i gyflwyno llawer mwy o bobl, gan gynnwys plant ysgol lleol i'w treftadaeth Gymreig drwy astudio tai (gweler erthygl isod).

Mae Outreach yn dal i roi sgwrsiau i gymunedau ar draws Gogledd Cymru a hefyd drefnu ymweliad tŷ i Blas Uchaf ar gyfer Cymdeithas Hanesyddol Caerwys.

Ailgynllunio Gwefan (Nodyn gan Peter Masters, ein swyddog gwefan a TG.)

Bydd defnyddwyr rheolaidd ein gwefan wedi sylwi fod newidiadau. Mae ffasiynau yn amrywio o ddydd i ddydd, ac mae'r rhyngwrdd yn newid yn gyson gyda llwyfannau newydd, sgriniau mwy a mwy o amrywiaethau o dabledi a ffonau clyfar. Pan gynlluniwyd y safle yn wreiddiol doedd neb wedi rhagweld y newid i ffonau symudol a thabledi.

O gofio'r ffactorau hyn, a hefyd ystyried gwefannau eraill, roeddem yn sylweddoli fod ein safle ni yn dyddio ac yn colli sgleini. Felly ymgwymerwyd ag adolygiad llawn ac archwiliwyd bob tudalen. Edrychwyd ar y cynnwys, y logo, y palet lliw, typograffi, delweddau, eiconograffeg, ayyb. Gwnaethom newid y strwythur llywio er mwyn gwella llif y defnyddwyr a dileuwyd tudalennau diangen pan fo'n addas. O ganlyniad cafwyd safle newydd glân yn fwy addas ar gyfer meintiau a chydraniadau amrywiol sgriniau, yn llwyttho'n gyflymach a gyda gwell llywio a dilyniant mewn dylunio rhwng adrannau. Gwelwch hyn yn www.discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Gweithgareddau Cangen Maent yn parhau i ffynnu wrth i aelodau ddilyn eu diddordebau wrth ymweld â thai, ymchwilio i hanes tai, cofnodi adeiladau a'r marciau anghyffredin a welir arnynt.

OS YDYCH Â DIDDORDEB MEWN HEN DAI ond ddim eto yn aelod, pam na ystyriwch ymuno â'r Grŵp? Ysgrifennydd Aelodaeth yw Ms Zoë Henderson 01824 704 404 membership@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk Am wybodaeth bellach cysylltwch â Margaret Dunn, yr Ysgrifennyddes secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01766 890 550.

DIGWYDDIADAU CANGEN

Archebwch â chysylltydd cangen, fel arfer £2. Rydym yn hynod ddiolchgar i berchenogion tai am eu lletygarwch.

CANGEN MÔN. Cysylltwch â Sue Hurst 01407 459 319 anglesey@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk. Archebwch yn gynnar drwy fod lle yn brin; anfonir manylion at y rhai a gafodd eu derbyn.

Mer 19 Medi 2yp Ymweliad i Garreglwyd, Llanfaethlu lle bydd Tom Carpenter yn siarad am y tŷ a'i deuluoedd.

Gwen 26 Hyd 2yp Ymweld ag Eglwys Biwmares gyda sgwrs gan y Parch. Neil Fairlamb, y Rheithor, ar deulu Bulkeley a Biwmares.

Iau 15 Nov 2yp Ymweld â Bryndu, Llanfechell, lle bydd Dr a Mrs Grove-White yn egluro'r tŷ a'i deuluoedd.

Merch 5 Rhag 2yp Mynd i'r Archifau yn Llangefni i gael sgwrs a chyfle i ymchwilio.

PROSIECT HANES LLEOL CANGEN ERYRI A TESCO Cysyllter â Peter Masters discoveringgoldwelshhouses@gmail.com 01758 750 322

Iau 6 Medi 7.30yh Neuadd Gymunedol Beddgelert. Dathlu blwyddyn gyntaf Prosiect Hanes Lleol Beddgelert, a noddir gan Gronfa Gymunedol 'Bagiau o Gymorth' Tesco. Adolygu'r prosiect gyda lluniaeth, arddangosfeydd a chynlluniau at barhau'r Prosiect yn 2018-19 fel Cangen Eryri o GDHDC.

Outreach continues with talks to communities across North Wales and a house visit arranged to Plas Uchaf for the Caerwys Historical Society.

Website redesign (A note from Peter Masters, our webmaster and IT officer.)

Regular visitors to our website will have noticed changes. Fashions come and go, and the internet is constantly changing with new platforms, larger screens and more varieties of tablets and smart phones. When the site was originally designed we did not anticipate the move to mobile phones and tablets.

Taking these factors into account, and with a long look at other websites, we saw that our site was becoming outdated and a little stale. So a full review was undertaken and every page examined. We looked at the content, the logo, the colour palette, typography, imagery, iconography etc. We altered the navigation structure for improved user flow and removed unnecessary pages where appropriate.

The result is a new cleaner-looking site, more adaptable to varied screen sizes and resolutions, faster-loading, with better navigation and continuity in design between sections. See for yourself at www.discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Branch activities continue to flourish as members follow their interests in visiting houses, researching house histories, recording buildings and the unusual marks found on them.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OLD HOUSES and are not already a member, why not consider joining the Group? The Membership Secretary is Ms Zoë Henderson membership@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01824 704 404. For further information contact Margaret Dunn, secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01766 890 550.

BRANCH EVENTS

Book with branch contacts, usually £2. We thank house-owners very much for their hospitality.

ANGLESEY BRANCH. Contact Sue Hurst 01407 459 319 anglesey@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk Please book early as places are limited; details will be sent to those accepted.

Wed 19 Sept 2pm Visit to Carreglwyd, Llanfaethlu, where Tom Carpenter will speak about the house and its families.

Fri 26 Oct 2pm Visit to Beaumaris Church, with talk by Rev Neil Fairlamb, Rector, on the Bulkeley family and Beaumaris.

Thurs 15 Nov 2pm Visit to Bryndu, Llanfechell, where Dr and Mrs Grove-White will explain the house and its families.

Wed 5 Dec 2pm Visit to the Archives, Llangefni for a talk and an opportunity to do research.



Berain, home of Catrin/cartref Catrin

lau 4 Hyd 2yp Ymweld â Hafod Lwyfog (16G), Nant Gwynant.

Merch 21 Tach 7.30yh Sgwrs yn Neuadd Bentref Nant Gwynant ar 'Catrin o Ferain-Mam Cymru' gan Helen Williams-Ellis. Cyfarfod ar y cyd â Chymdeithas Hanes Beddgelert

Llun 3 Rhag 9.30yb-4yp Archifdy Gwynedd, Caernarfon. Gweithdy yng ngofal J.Dilwyn Williams ar sut i ddefnyddio archifau ar gyfer ymchwil i hanes tai.

CANGEN CONWY. Cyswllt Gill Jones 01492 517 330
gwylan16@gmail.com

Maw 18 Medi 10yb Ymweld ag eglwys Llanrhychwyn a Threfriw, a'r ddwy ohonynt yn gysylltiedig â Llywelyn Fawr. Cyfarfod ym maes parcio Trefriw am 10yb.

Maw 16 Hyd 2yp Ymweld â Hen Neuadd Cochwillan, Tal-y-bont, Bangor (15G hwyr) a Melin Cochwillan (melin flawd stad fawr, mewn cyflwr da). Archebwch drwy Gill Jones.

Maw 20 Tach 10yb Plas Tirion. Cyflwyniad gan Gill Jones ar sut i ymchwilio i hanes tŷ.

Maw 15 Ion 9.30yb Cyfarfod Cangen yn nhŷ Ann Morgan.

Maw 12 Chwe 2yp Ymweliad dan arweiniad i Gadeirlan Llanelwy. Cyfarfod yn y maes parcio.

CANGEN SIR DDINBYCH. Cyswllt Janice Dale 01490 440 427
jadale22@hotmail.co.uk

Mer 12 Medi Ymweliad i Llannerch, ger Llandrillo.

Mer 10 Hyd 2yp Llyfrgell Llangollen i ddefnyddio cyfrifiaduron a data ar-lein (8 cyfrifiadur wedi eu harchebu).

Mer 7 Tach 2yp Ymweliad i Dy'n Llwyn yn Llangar ger Corwen.

Rhagfyr Eto i'w benderfynu.

CANGEN MEIRIONNYDD. Cyswllt John Townsend 01341 430 262
john@thetownsend.org.uk

Llun 17 Medi 2yp Ymweld ag Eglwys Sant Madryn, Trawsfynydd, lle ceir gwaith cerrig a choed. Hefyd i Riw-goch, Bronaber (1610) lle ceir rhai arweddion gwreiddiol, yn cynnwys y porth. Manylion pellach ar yr adeiladau gan John.

Hydref Cwrs diwrnod ar 'Camau sylfaenol i gofnodi adeiladau' gyda Martin Cherry a Peter Thompson. Da o beth fuasai dod â phensilau a phapur graff gyda chi. Manylion pellach, yn cynnwys lleoliad ac amser, gan John Townsend.

Mer 7 Tach 10yb-12.30 yn Stafell Gymunedol Llyfrgell Dolgellau. Cyflwyniad i Balaeontoleg gyda Dr Ania Skarzynska. 'Fedra i ddim darllen hwnna! O medri, fe fedri' Steiliau o lawysgrifau yng nghanrifoedd 16-18.

2-4yp Cymorth ymarferol gyda'ch dogfennau chi.

Mer cyntaf o bob mis 9.30yb hyd at 12.30 Mae Archifdy Dolgellau ar agor i'w ddefnyddio gan aelodau GDHDC. Ewch i mewn drwy'r fynedfa ochr drwy fod yr Archifdy ar gau i'r cyhoedd ar y diwrnod hwnnw.

CANGEN GOGLEDD DDWYRAIN CYMRU. Cyswllt Margaret neu Wally Barr 01745 888 622
magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk
wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk Archebwch ddigon ymlaenllaw gan fod lle yn gyfyngedig.

Maw 18 Medi 2yp Llyfrgell Gladstone, Penarlâg. Sgwrs ar astudio hen dai gan Martin Cherry, Cyfarwyddwr Ymchwil GDHDC.

Mer 24 Hyd 2yp Ymweld â Phlas Uchaf, ger Rhuthun. Neuadd-dŷ o'r 16G.

Tachwedd Ymweld â'r Ganolfan Adeiladu Naturiol, Plas Tirion ger Llanrwst, ar gyfer gweithdy ar dechnegau adeiladu traddodiadol. Dyddiad i'w benderfynu.

SNOWDONIA BRANCH & TESCO LOCAL HISTORY PROJECT.

Contact Peter Masters 01758 750 322
discoveringgoldwelshhouses@gmail.com

Thurs 6th Sept 7.30pm Beddgelert Community Hall. Celebration of the first year of Beddgelert Local History Project, funded by the Tesco 'Bags of Help' Community Fund. Project review with refreshments, displays and plans for continuation of the Project in 2018-19 as the Snowdonia Branch of the DOWHG.

Thurs 4 Oct 2pm Visit to Hafod Llwyfog (16 C), Nantgwynant.

Weds 21 Nov 7.30pm Talk in Nantgwynant Village Hall on 'Catrin of Berain - Mother of Wales' by Helen Williams-Ellis. Joint meeting with Cymdeithas Hanes Beddgelert.

Mon 3 Dec 9.30am-4pm Gwynedd Record Office, Caernarfon. Workshop with J. Dilwyn Williams on using the archives for house history research.

CONWY BRANCH. Contact Gill Jones 01492 517 330
gwylan16@gmail.com

Tue 18 Sep 10am Visit to Llanrhychwyn & Trefriw churches, both of which have connections with Llywelyn the Great. Meet in Trefriw car-park at 10am.

Tues 16 Oct 2pm Visit to Cochwillan Old Hall, Tal-y-bont, Bangor (late 15C) & Cochwillan Mill (a well-preserved large estate corn-mill). Please book with Gill Jones.

Tues 20 Nov 10am Plas Tirion. Presentation by Gill Jones on how to research the history of a house.

Tues 15 Jan 9.30am Branch meeting at Ann Morgan's house.

Tues 12 Feb 2pm St Asaph Cathedral guided visit. Meet in the car park.



Plas Tirion, Llanrwst

DENBIGHSHIRE BRANCH. Contact Janice Dale 01490 440 427
jadale22@hotmail.co.uk

Wed 12 Sept 2pm Visit to Llanerch, near Llandrillo.

Weds 10 Oct 2pm Llangollen Library for hands-on with computers and accessing on-line data (8 computers booked).

Weds 7 Nov 2pm Visit to Tyn Llwyn at Llangar near Corwen.

December TBA.

MERIONETH BRANCH. Contact John Townsend 01341 430 262
john@thetownsend.org.uk

Mon 17 Sept 2pm Visit to St Madryn Church Trawsfynydd with medieval masonry and timber, and Rhiw-goch, Bronaber (1610) which retains some original features, including a gatehouse. Further details on the buildings from John Townsend.

COFIWCH fod yr holl dai y sonnir amdanynt yn y Cylchlythyr hwn ac/neu sy'n gysylltiedig â GDHDC yn eiddo preifat ac felly NID ydynt ar agor i'r cyhoedd. Gall aelodau gymryd rhan mewn unrhyw ddigwyddiad mewn unrhyw gangen, yn ogystal ag yn eu cangen eu hunain. Holwch gysylltydd y gangen dan sylw.



*Plant yn adeiladu tŷ nenfforch
Children construct a cruck house*

A PROSIECT HANES LLEOL wedi ei hariannu gan grant 'BAGIAU O GYMORTH' TESCO.

Ym Mai 2017 ymgeisiodd Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig ar y cyd â Chymdeithas Hanes Beddgelert am grant o £1000 o Gronfa 'Bagiau o Gymorth', Cronfa Gymunedol ar gyfer prosiect hanes lleol yn ardal Beddgelert (Gwynedd). Cawsom wybod yn Hydref 2017 ein bod yn llwyddiannus ac i dderbyn £1000. Roeddem i'w wario yn ôl manylion ein cais, o fewn blwyddyn. Rydym yn cydnabod yn ddiolchgar yr arian hwn. Dyma'r blaenoriaethau a fynegydd yn ein cais:

1. Amcanion y Prosiect: I gael pobl i ymddiddori yn eu treftadaeth adeiliedig fel ffordd o werthfawrogi'r gorffennol, i ddeall y presennol a chynllunio'n well ar gyfer y dyfodol. Fe gychwynwyd ar y gwaith ym Meddgelert gydag achlysur cymunedol er mwyn ennyn diddordeb ac amlinellu amcanion a chyfleoedd sy'n cael eu hybu gan y prosiect. Cafwyd cyfleoedd yn yr ysgol leol i ddatblygu thema Cam Allweddol Dau y Maes Llafur, sef 'Cartrefi a Theuluoedd Tuduraidd'. Mae pamffled darluniol dwyieithog yn cael ei baratoi i'w rannu yn rhad ac am ddim.

2. Pam yr oedd ei angen: Mae rhai o dai hynaf yr ardal yn dyddio o'r 1400au hwyr ac nid ydynt i gyd yn cael eu cydnabod. Mae'n debygol y byddant yn troi'n furddunod wrth i arferio ffermio newid, neu gael eu moderneiddio'n amhriodol. Unwaith y collir y dreftadaeth, ni ddaw byth yn ôl.

3. Sut y bydd yn gwella pethau: Bydd yn helpu'r gymuned i warchod ei threftadaeth ar gyfer cenedlaethau'r dyfodol, yn gymorth i dwristiaid (sy'n agwedd bwysig o'r economi leol) ac yn peri i ysbryd y gymuned gael dathlu canlyniadau'r prosiect ar derfyn y gwaith.

Cynnydd hyd yn hyn: Mynychodd llawer y lansiad yn yr Hydref yn Neuadd Gymunedol Beddgelert a gwnaeth pawb lenwi'r ffurflenni dwyieithog yn mynegi eu blaenoriaethau o ran eu naw dewis. Fe gymharwyd y cyfan a lluniwyd rhaglen fisol. Trefnwyd pum ymweliad i hen dai, gyda dalennau a theithiau dan arweiniad. (Rydym yn ddiolchgar iawn i

October Day course on 'Basic steps in building recording' with Martin Cherry and Peter Thompson. Helpful if you bring pencils and graph paper. Further details, including place and time, from John Townsend.

Weds 7 Nov 10am-12.30 in the Community Room of Dolgellau Library. Introduction to palaeography with the Meirionydd Archivist, Dr Ania Skarzynska. 'I can't read that! Oh yes you can!' Handwriting styles in the 16-18th centuries. 2-4pm Practical help with your own documents.

On the first Wednesday of each month 9.30am to 12.30 Dolgellau Archives is open for the use of DOWHG members. Enter via the side entrance as the Archives is closed to the public on that day.

NORTH EAST WALES BRANCH. Contact Margaret or Wally Barr magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk 01745 888 622. Please book in advance as places are limited.

Tues 18 Sept 2pm Gladstone's Library Hawarden. Talk on studying old houses by Martin Cherry, DOWHG Director of Research.

Weds 24 Oct 2pm Visit to Plas Uchaf, near Ruthin. 16C hall house.

November Visit to Natural Building Centre, Plas Tirion near Llanrwst, for workshop on traditional building techniques. Date to be confirmed.

REMINDERS: All the houses mentioned in this Newsletter and/or linked with DOWH are private property and are NOT open to the public. Members may participate in any branch event, not only their own. Check with branch contact.

A LOCAL HISTORY PROJECT funded by a TESCO 'BAGS OF HELP' GRANT.

In May 2017 Discovering Old Welsh Houses and Cymdeithas Hanes Beddgelert jointly applied to Tesco for a £1,000 grant from the "Bags of Help" Community Fund for a local history project based in Beddgelert (Gwynedd) & the surrounding area. We were informed in October 2017 that we had been awarded £1,000. This was to be spent in accordance with our application, within one year. This grant is gratefully acknowledged.

The following were highlighted in our application:

1. Project aims: To interest people in their built heritage as a way to appreciate the past, understand the present and better plan the future. It started with a Beddgelert community event to raise interest and outline the aims and opportunities provided by the project. Volunteers were invited to visit houses of interest. There were opportunities in the local school to develop the National Curriculum Key Stage Two theme "Tudor homes and Families". An illustrated bilingual leaflet is being prepared for free distribution.

2. Why it was needed: Some of the oldest houses in the area date from the late 1400s and not all have been recognised. They are at risk of falling into ruin as farming practices change, or of being inappropriately modernised. Once lost this heritage has gone for ever and cannot be recovered.

3. How will it make things better: It will help the community to safeguard its heritage for future generations, aid tourism (which is an important aspect of the local economy) and engender community spirit culminating in a final event celebrating the outcomes of the project.

berchenogion tai am eu croeso). Roedd digwyddiadau eraill yn cynnwys ymweld â chloddfa tŷ blaenorol, adeiladu ffrâm strwythurol o goed 2m o uchder, gan ddefnyddio coed wedi eu paratoi; gweithdy ar gyfer cofnodi pensaernïaeth hen dŷ; taith gerdded dan arweiniad i ddarlunio datblygiad pentref; a sesiwn ar ymchwil i hanes tŷ. Bydd dathlu holl weithgarwch y flwyddyn yn digwydd ar Fedi 6ed ond bydd digwyddiadau yn parhau o dan nawdd Cangen Eryri o Grŵp Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig.

Gwnaeth pedwar deg naw oedolyn fynychu o leiaf un digwyddiad. Daeth deg ar hugain ar un daith ymweld â thŷ a daeth wyth i weithdy lle roedd y nifer yn gyfyngiedig. Bu Val Blake o Gymdeithas Hanes Beddgelert, a Peter Masters yn ymwneud â'r archebion a threfniadau, a bu'r ddau yn allweddol i lwyddiant y prosiect. Roedd plant Ysgol Gynradd Beddgelert yn ymwneud â gweithgareddau'r prosiect gyda'u prosiect traws gwricwlaidd 'Cartrefi a Theuluoedd'. Ymwelodd Margaret Dunn â'r ysgol a threfnodd ymweliad i Dŷ Isaf, tŷ o'r 16G yn y pentref, a chynhaliodd Ned Scharer weithdy ar dai fframiau coed. Fel rhan o'r sesiynau a arianwyd gan Tesco yn yr ysgol, llwyddodd 'Prosiect Tŷ Isaf' i gael £250 o ganlyniad i ansawdd uchel y gwaith ym Menterr Ysgolion Treftadaeth Cymru.

(Mae un gangen arall o DHDC yn barod wedi ymgeisio am nawdd gymunedol 'Bagiau o Gymorth' Tesco. Gall y math hwn o brosiectau fod o gymorth i ddenu pobl newydd i'n Grŵp ni.)

Margaret Dunn

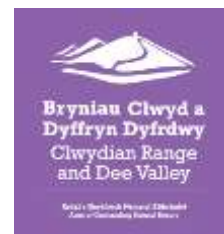
Progress so far: The Launch in October 2017 in Beddgelert Community Hall was well-attended and everyone filled in a bilingual sheet indicating which of nine options they would prioritise. This was collated and a monthly programme was arranged. Five visits were arranged to old houses, with handouts and guided tours. (We are very grateful to the house owners for their hospitality.) Other events included visiting an excavation of a former house; building a 2m high timber-framed structure using prepared timbers; a workshop on recording the architecture of an old house; a guided walk to illustrate the development of a village; and a session on house history research. A celebration of the year's activities will take place on 6th September 2018. The funding will cease in October 2018 but events will continue under the auspices of the Snowdonia Branch of the Discovering Old Welsh Houses Group.

Forty nine adults attended at least one event. Thirty came on one house visit and eight came to a number-limited workshop. Val Blake of Cymdeithas Hanes Beddgelert, and Peter Masters were involved in bookings and arrangements, and both have been key to the project's success.

Activities involved Beddgelert primary school with their cross curriculum project "Homes & Families". Margaret Dunn visited the school and arranged a visit to Ty Isaf, a 16C house in the village and Ned Scharer gave a workshop on timber-framed houses. As part of these Tesco-funded sessions at the school, "The Tŷ Isaf Project" was awarded £250 for the high quality of its work in The Welsh Heritage Schools Initiative.

(One other DOWH branch has already applied for Tesco 'Bags of Help' community funding. Such projects may help to attract new people to our Group.)

Margaret Dunn



MARC FITCH FUND



**Comisiwn Brenhinol
Henebion Cymru
Royal Commission on the Ancient
and Historical Monuments of Wales**



Woodtiger Fund





DARGANFOD HEN DAI CYMREIG DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES



NODDWYR/PATRONS:

Y Gwir Anrhydeddus yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas, CG, AC; Sir Simon Jenkins, FSA, FRSL; Dr Eurwyn Wiliam, MA, PhD, FSA

Dathlu Treftadaeth Cymru drwy astudio tai traddodiadol a bywydau'r bobl fu'n byw ynddynt.

Celebrating Welsh Heritage through the study of traditional houses and the lives of the people who lived in them.

CYLCHLYTHYR 27 Rhagfyr 2018

NEWSLETTER 27 December 2018

EIN GWEFAN <http://discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk>

yw prif sianel gyfathrebu'r grŵp – defnyddiwch hi i weld mwy o fanylion am y digwyddiadau diweddar a'r rhai sydd ar ddod, ac i edrych ar ein llyfrgell sy'n cynyddu'n gyson ac ar nodweddion eraill.

OUR WEBSITE <http://discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk>

is the Group's main channel of communication – please visit it to see details of recent and forthcoming events and to look at our growing library and other features.

GAIR O'R GADAIR

Cawsom bnawn hyfryd iawn ym mis Hydref ym Mhlas Penmynydd a gwnaeth pawb fwynhau sgwrs Eleanor Carpenter ar farciau gwrachod. Heb drafferth fe godwyd £470. Llauer o ddiolch i bawb a fu'n cynorthwyo. Aeth Margaret, ein Hysgrifenyddes a minnau yn Nhachwedd i Neuadd Fawr odidog Castell Caerffili a chael noson ddiddorol yno. Roedd GDHDC yn un o dri cyflwynydd o Gymru yn rownd derfynol categori 'Y Dreftadaeth Orau, Ymchwil neu Gofnodi Gwobrau' Angel Treftadaeth Cymru, a noddir gan Sefydliad Andrew Lloyd Webber. Roedd pob un yno yn bresennol, o dras ac yn oreuon sefydliad treftadaeth Gymreig ac yn hynod o frwdfrydig parthed ein gwaith. Cafodd ein Grŵp Glod Mawr, ac roedd hyn yn deyrnged fawr i waith caled ein holl aelodau. Da iawn! Dymunaf Nadolig Llawn i chi i gyd.

Richard Cuthbertson, Cadeirydd

FROM THE CHAIR

We had a very pleasant afternoon in October at Plas Penmynydd and all enjoyed the talk by Eleanor Carpenter on witch marks. We raised a cool £470. Many thanks to all who helped. Margaret, our secretary, and I attended a most interesting evening at the magnificent Great Hall of Caerphilly Castle in November. DOWHG was one of three submissions from across Wales in the finals of the 'Best Heritage, Research or Recording' category of the Heritage Angels Award Wales, sponsored by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation. All the great and the good of the Welsh heritage establishment were there and were most enthusiastic about our work. Our Group was Highly Commended, which was a great compliment to the hard work of our members. Well done! I wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

Richard Cuthbertson, Chairman



*Ein Hysgrifenyddes a'n Cadeirydd yn y seremoni wobrwyo
Our secretary and chairman at the awards ceremony*



*Award Certificate
Tystysgrif y Wobr*

NEWYDDION DIWEDDARAF YR YSGRIFENYDDDES

Mae'r **Grantiau am 2018-19** yn cyrraedd cyfanswm o £14,000 hyd yn hyn, ac rydym yn aros am ganlyniad un cais arall. Ond mae hyn yn llawer llai na llynedd. Rydym yn hynod ddiolchgar am gefnogaeth Cronfa Woodtiger (UDA), Cronfa Marc Fitch a hefyd Ardal Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol (AHNE). Mae GDHDC hefyd yn ddiolchgar iawn i RCAHMW, ac yn arbennig i Roger Suggett am ei bartneriaeth gyson gefnogol ac ymgynghorol. Mae gennym hefyd arian a gawsom drwy gynnal digwyddiadau codi arian GDHDC ein hunain.

NEWS UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARY

Grants for 2018-19 total £ 14,000 so far, and we await the result of one more application. But this is much lower than last year. We are most grateful for support from the Woodtiger Fund (USA), the Marc Fitch Fund, and the the Clwydian range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). DOWHG is also very grateful to the RCAHMW, and especially to Richard Suggett, for a continuing partnership with support and advice. We also have money from our own DOWHG fundraising events.

Tree-Ring Dating is planned for early February when the

Mae **Dyddio Cylchau Coed** wedi ei gynllunio ar gyfer dechrau Chwefror pan fydd tîm o Labordy Rhydychen (ODL) yn ymgymryd asesiad a samplu pellach. Hefyd gobeithir cofnodi pensaerniaeth rhai adeiladau allweddol yn y dyfodol agos.

Bydd **marciau gwrthfelltithiol/apotropäig**, (sy'n debyg o gadw cythreuliaid draw) a marciau eraill megis marciau cydosod a marciau canhwylau cwyr o hyn ymlaen yn cael eu cofnodi yn fanylach. Gadewch wybod i ni am unrhyw ddydd sydd â rhain.



*Carpenter's assembly marks
Marciau adeiladu saer*

ANGEN TRYSORYDD NEWYDD AR FRYS! Rydym angen rhywun i gymryd lle John Townsend o Ebrill 2020. Gofynnwch i'ch ffrindiau, cyfrifyddion, banciau os oes rhywun yn barod i ystyried ymgymryd â'r dasg hon ar gyfer ein helusen am 2 neu 3 blynedd.

Mae **gweithgareddau allanol** yn dal i gynnig sgysiau i sefydliadau ar draws gogledd Cymru. Maent wedi annerch dros 130 o bobl newydd. Mae cwestiynau wedi eu hateb ac o ganlyniad bu ymweliadau i dai. Mae is-gangen newydd wedi ei ffurfio a'i chanoli o amgylch Llansilin ger Croesoswallt (gweler manylion rhaglen a chyswllt isod), ac fe'i cysylltir â Changen Sir Dinbych.

Gweithgareddau Cangen Maent yn parhau i ffynnu wrth i aelodau ddilyn eu diddordebau wrth ymweld â thai, ymchwilio i hanes tai, cofnodi adeiladau a'r marciau anghyffredin a welir arnynt. Mae Canghennau yn dechrau ymchwilio o fewn eu hardaloedd, o blwyf i blwyf, er mwyn creu bas data o hen dai ar draws gogledd Cymru.

Margaret Dunn

OS YDYCH Â DIDDORDEB MEWN HEN DAI ond ddim eto yn aelod, pam nad ystyriwch ymuno â'r Grŵp? Ysgrifennydd Aelodaeth yw Ms Zoë Henderson 01824 704 404 membership@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk
Am wybodaeth bellach cysylltwch â Margaret Dunn, yr Ysgrifenyddes 01766 890 550 secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Cais am gymorth

Mae Janice Dale (cyswllt Cangen Sir Ddinbych) wedi dod o hyd i bamffled yn yr archifau am Eglwys Sant Buan, Boduan a dyma gynnwys un paragraff: Roedd Wynn Boduan yr adeg honno yn ffrind agos i Ann Boleyn ac roedd hi yn aml yn aros

team from the Oxford Lab (ODL) will undertake further assessment and sampling. Architectural recording of some key buildings will also be undertaken in the near future.

Apotropaic marks (thought to ward off evil) and other marks such as assembly marks and taper burns are now to be recorded in more detail. Please let us know about any houses with these.



*Taper/Burn marks
Marciau llosgi canhwylau*

NEW TREASURER URGENTLY REQUIRED! We need someone to replace John Townsend from April 2020. Please ask your friends, accountants, banks if anyone is willing to consider doing this task for our charity for 2 or 3 years.

Outreach continued with talks to organisations across North Wales, addressing over 130 new people. Queries have been dealt with and house visits undertaken in response. A new sub-branch has been formed, centred around Llansilin near Oswestry (see programme and contact details below), and will be linked with the Denbighshire Branch.

Branch activities continue to flourish as members follow their interests in visiting houses, researching house histories, recording buildings and the unusual marks found on them. Branches are beginning research in their areas, parish by parish, to create a database of old houses across north Wales.

Margaret Dunn

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OLD HOUSES and are not already a member, why not consider joining the Group? Membership Secretary is Ms Zoë Henderson 01824 704 404. membership@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk
For further information contact Margaret Dunn secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01766 890550.

Request for help

Janice Dale (Debighshire Branch contact) has found an undated leaflet in the archives about St Buan Church, Bodfean. One paragraph states:

The Wynn of Bodfean of the time was a close friend of Ann Boleyn and she often stayed at Bodfean. On her marriage to Henry VIII she was given considerable land adjoining Bodfean and this she bequeathed to Wynn of Bodfean, hence a vast estate was created. From this new wealth came patronage to the village and church.

Janice has been unable to find anything about this, can anyone help, please? jadale22@hotmail.co.uk

ym Moduan. Ar adeg ei phriodas â Harri VIII cafodd gryn dir yn cydffinio Boduan ac fe drosglwyddodd hwn i Wynn o Foduan, ac felly fe greuwyd ystad enfawr. O'r cyfoeth newydd hwn daeth nawdd i'r pentref a'r eglwys.

Methodd Janice â darganfod unrhywbeth am hyn; a all rhywun arall helpu? jadale22@hotmail.co.uk

DIGWYDDIADAU CANGEN

Archebwch â chysylltydd cangen, fel arfer@ £2. Rydym yn hynod ddiolchgar i berchenogion tai am eu lletygarwch.

CANGEN MÔN cyswllt: Sue Hurst 01407 459 319

bootlanesue@sky.com

Iau Ion 22 2yp Ymweliad i Tan Tŵr, Dwyran, drwy ganiatâd Mr a Mrs Heaford. Sgwrs gan Martin Cherry ar 'Sut y datblygodd tai yng ngogledd Cymru o'r 1400au'. Lluniaeth ysgafn, £2 y pen (nifer mwyaf 15).

Iau Chwef 14 2yp Ymweliad i Tŷ Fry, Rhoscefnhir, drwy ganiatâd caredig Mrs Kate Barker. Cyfle i weld erlysiâu'r goedwig. Lluniaeth, £5 y pen (nifer mwyaf 30).

Iau Mawrth 7 2yp Ymweliad i Bryndu, Llanfechell, drwy ganiatâd caredig Dr Robin a Mrs Grove-White. Lluniaeth ysgafn, £2 y pen (nifer mwyaf 30).



Ty Fry

CANGEN CONWY Cyswllt Gill Jones 01492 517 330

gidulas@doctorbones.org

Maw 15 Ion 9.30yb Cyfarfod o'r Gangen yn nhŷ Ann Morgan.

Maw 12 Chwef 2yp Ymweliad dan arweiniad i Gadeirlan Llanelwy. Cyfarfod yn y maes parcio.

Iau 14 Mawrth 9.30yb Ymweliad i Lannerch y Felin, Y Rowen. Nifer cyfyngiedig, rhaid archebu.

CANGEN SIR DDINBYCH Cyswllt – Janice Dale 01490440427

jadale22@hotmail.co.uk

Iau 17 Ion 12.30yp Cinio wedi'r Dolig gyda Changen GDdn Cymru yng Nghastell Rhuthun

Chwef Archifau Rhuthun, sgwrs ar ffynonellau pellach gan Kevin Mathias.

Mawrth Ymweliad i gartref – Llangar

Ebrill Ymweliad i Lyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru.

(cysylltwch â Janice i gadarnhau'r dyddiadau terfynol)

IS-GANGEN LLANSILIN Cyswllt Mary Cunnah

marycunnah@yahoo.co.uk

Mae'r grŵp yn cyfarfod ar ail ddydd Llun y mis am 2yp yn Stafell y Plwyf, Eglwys Llansilin. Lluniaeth.

CANGEN MEIRIONNYDD cyswllt John Townsend

01341 430262 john@thetownsend.org.uk

Merch 9 Ion 2-4.30yp Archifau Dolgellau, LL40 2YF 'Darganfod

BRANCH EVENTS

Book with branch contacts, usually £2. We are very grateful to house-owners for their hospitality.

ANGLESEY BRANCH. Contact Sue Hurst 01407 459 319.

bootlanesue@sky.com

Tues Jan 22 2pm Visit to Tan Tŵr, Dwyran, by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Heaford. Talk by Martin Cherry on 'How houses developed in north Wales from the 1400s'. Light refreshments, £2 per head (max 15).

Thurs Feb 14 2pm Visit to Ty Fry, Rhoscefnhir, by kind permission of Mrs Kate Barker. An opportunity to see the woodland snowdrops. Refreshments, £5 per head (max 30).

Thurs March 7 2pm Visit to Brynddu, Llanfechell, by kind permission of Dr Robin and Mrs Grove-White. Light refreshments, £2 per head (max 30).

CONWY BRANCH. Contact Gill Jones 01492 517 330.

gidulas@doctorbones.org

Tue 15 Jan 9.30am Branch meeting at Ann Morgan's house.

Tues 12 Feb 2pm Guided visit to St Asaph Cathedral. Meet in the car park.

Thurs 14 March 9.30am Visit to Llanerch y Felin, Rowen. Numbers limited, please book.



Nant Clwyd y Dre

DENBIGHSHIRE BRANCH. Contact Janice Dale 01490 440427

jadale22@hotmail.co.uk

Thurs 17 Jan 12.30pm Ruthin Castle for post-Christmas lunch with NE Wales Branch.

Feb Ruthin Archives, talk on further sources with Kevin Matthias.

March House visit Llangar.

April Visit to the National Library of Wales.

(please contact Janice to confirm finalised dates)

LLANSILIN SUB-BRANCH. Contact Mary Cunnah

marycunnah@yahoo.co.uk

The group meets on the second Monday of the month at 2pm in the Parish Room, Llansilin Church. Refreshments.

MERIONETH BRANCH. Contact John Townsend

01341 430 262. john@thetownsend.org.uk

Weds 9 Jan 2-4.30 pm Dogellau Archives, Bala Road, Dolgellau, LL40 2YF 'Discovering pre-1700 houses in Merioneth parishes from home'. Hands-on computer session for all levels. Max 12 places, contact John Townsend.

Tues 12 Feb 10am-4pm 'Basic steps in building recording'.

tai cyn 1700 ym mhlwyfi Meirionnydd o gartref'. Sesiwn ymarferol ar gyfrifiadur i bob lefel. Lle i 12 yn unig; cysylltwch â John Townsend.

Maw 12 Chwef 10yb-4yp 'Camau sylfaenol mewn cofnodi adeiladau'. Dowch â phensilau a phapur graff os yn bosibl. Lle i 12 yn unig. Cysylltwch â John Townsend i gael y lleoliad.

Merch 13 Mawrth 10-12yp Stafell Gymunedol, Llyfrgell Dolgellau, Ffordd y Bala, Dolgellau, LL40 2YF. Sgwrs gan yr Archifydd Dr Ania Skarzynsk ar 'Ewyllysiau, sut i'w darllen a'u deall'

CANGEN GOGLEDD DDWYRAIN CYMRU cyswllt Margaret neu Wally Barr magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk; wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk, y ddau ar 01745 888622.

Archebwch ddigon ymlaenllaw gan fod lle yn gyfyngiedig.
Iau 17 Ion 12.30yp Cinio wedi'r Nadolig yng Nghastell Rhuthun

Chwef Ymweliad â thŷ, manylion i'w cadarnhau.

Maw 12 Mawrth Ymweliad â Nant Clwyd y Dre, Rhuthun, amser i'w gadarnhau.

CANGEN ERYRI Cyswllt Peter Masters 01757 750322
Snowdonia@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Llun 14 Ion 2yp Neuadd Gymunedol Beddgelert. Cyflwyniad Powerpoint gan Dr Martin Cherry ar 'Sut y datbygodd tai yng Ngogledd Cymru o'r 1400au'. Cost £2

Maw 26 Chwef 2yp Ymweld â Glasfryn Fawr, Chwilog a sgwrs gan Helen Williams-Ellis. Y perchennog presennol yn ddisgynnydd i Catrin o Ferain. Te. Cost £15

Gwe 22 Maw 2yp Ymweld â Thŷ Mawr, Nantlle – tŷ trawiadol steil Eryri gyda gwardrob, tua diwedd yr 16garfif. Cost £2

COFIWCH fod yr holl dai y sonnir amdanynt yn y Cylchlythyr hwn ac/neu sy'n gysylltiedig â GDHDC yn eiddo preifat ac felly NID ydynt ar agor i'r cyhoedd.

Gall aelodau gymryd rhan mewn unrhyw ddigwyddiad mewn unrhyw gangen, yn ogystal ag yn eu cangen eu hunain. Holwch gysylltydd y gangen dan sylw.

ADRODDIAD O DAITH ASTUDIO I CUMBRIA 2018

Ar Fedi 10fed ymunodd dau ddeg chwech aelod a ffrind o GDHDC ar Daith Astudio

Dydd 1 Ein man galw cyntaf oedd Neuadd Newbiggin ger Penrith, yn dyddio o ddechrau'r 14 ganrif ac yn cynnwys tri thŵr amddiffyn pele o ddyddiau cythryblus y gwrthdaro Albanaidd-Seisnig. Daeth yr angen am amddiffyn adeiladau preswyl ac eglwysig yn brif thema yr holl daith. Cawsom groeso gan yr Uwchgaptan a Mrs Sawrey-Cookson, a aeth â ni o amgylch y tŷ a darparu gwledd o de a chacennau y gwnaethom eu gwerthfawrogi'n fawr iawn.

Aethom ymlaen i Westy Hallmark, Caerliwelydd lle roeddem yn aros. Yn dilyn cinio nos cafwyd sgwrs gan Christine Craghill, aelod o Grŵp Adeiladau Brodorol Cumbria (GABC/CVBG), ar Agweddau ar Ffermdai Cumbria. Roedd hyn yn rhoi arolwg da o dai brodorol Cumbria, gan bwysleisio y gwahaniaeth rhyngddynt â thai yng Ngogledd Cymru.

Dydd 2 Arweiniwyd heddiw gan Peter Messenger, ef hefyd yn aelod o GABC. Treuliwyd y bore yng Nghaerliwelydd ac aethom yn gyntaf i Dŵr canoloesol y Priordy, tŵr amddiffynnol arall o ddyddiau gwrthdaro'r ffiniau, a bellach yn rhan o Eglwys Gadeiriol Caerliwelydd. Wedi archwiliad byr oddi fewn i'r gadeirlan gwnaethom gerdded i Tullie House a'r Neuadd Gorfforaeth ganoloesol (Guildhall) yn dyddio o tua 1405.

Please bring pencils and graph paper, if possible. Max 12 places, contact John Townsend for location.

Weds 13 March 10-12.30pm Community Room, Dolgellau Library, Bala Road, Dolgellau, LL40 2YF. Talk from Archivist Dr Ania Skarzynsk 'Wills, how to read and understand them'.

NORTH EAST WALES BRANCH. Contact Margaret or Wally Barr 01745 888 622. magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk; wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk Please book in advance.

Thurs 17 Jan 12.30pm Post-Christmas lunch at Ruthin Castle.
Feb House visit, details TBC.

Tues 12 March Visit to Nant Clwyd y Dre, Ruthin, time TBC.

SNOWDONIA BRANCH. Contact Peter Masters 01757 750322. snowdonia@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Mon 14 Jan 2pm Beddgelert Community Hall. Powerpoint Presentation by Dr Martin Cherry on 'How houses developed in N. Wales from the 1400s'. Cost £2.

Tues 26 Feb 2pm Visit to Glasfryn Fawr, Chwilog and talk by Helen Williams-Ellis. Current owner descended from Catrin of Berain. Tea. Cost £15.

Fri 22 March 2pm Visit to Ty Mawr, Nantlle, a spectacular late 16C Snowdonia-style house with a garderobe. Cost £2.

REMINDERS

Houses mentioned in this Newsletter and/or linked with DOWH are private and are NOT open to the public.

Members may participate in any branch event, not only their own. Check with branch contact.

REPORT OF DOWHG STUDY TOUR TO CUMBRIA, 2018



Newbiggin Hall, Cumbria
Neuadd Newbiggin, Cumbria

On September 10th twenty-six members and friends of DOWHG joined our Study Tour.

Day one: Our first port of call was Newbiggin Hall near Penrith, dating from the early 14C, and incorporating three defensive pele towers dating from the turbulent days of Scottish-English conflict. The need for defence in residential and ecclesiastical buildings became a theme of the whole tour. We were welcomed by owners, Major and Mrs Sawrey-

Wedi cinio a thaith mewn bws ar hyd rhai lonydd cul iawn daethom i Burgh by Sands, sef cyn hynny, y gaer Rufeinig Aberllava ar ben draw wal Hadrian. Yma y gwelsom dai dabbin clai. Drwy fod coed confensiynol neu gerrig ar gyfer adeiladu yn gymharol brin, bu'n rhaid i drigolion Gwastadedd Solway ddefnyddio'r adnawdd lleol amlwg, sef clai. Mae'r steil hwn o adeilad wedi ei gyfyngu mwy neu lai i ogledd orllewin Cumbria, ac mae tua 150 o enghreifftiau yn dal i oroesi. Gellir gweld adeiladau tebyg yn Denmarc a Gwlad yr Iâ, sy'n cadarnhau eu treftadaeth Ficingaidd. Yn wreiddiol doedd dim ond un stafell yn y math hwn o dŷ, ond llawer wedyn yn esblygu i fod â dau lawr a nifer o stafelloedd, ac mae'r mwyafrif ohonynt bellach wedi eu rendro ac yn dra anodd eu hadnabod. Mae'r clai yn inswleiddio, a phrofwyd y strwythur cyfan i fod yn hynod o hydwyth yn hinsawdd Solway sy'n aml yn un anghyfeillgar.

Yn eglwys Sant Mihangel gwnaethom wasgu ein gilydd i mewn i'r tŵr, a ddefnyddiwyd unwaith i warchod y plwyfolion rhag y Sgotiaid ymosodol. Ar droed fe aethom i Fferm Lamonby (dechrau'r 17C), dabbin o ffrâm nenfforch yn cynnwys tŷ, bwthyn, beudy ac ysgubor, a lle roedd y tŷ a'r bwthyn yn cael eu haildoi â gwellt. Yn y sgubor ddyrnu hir ac uchel eglurwyd y broses o adeiladu dabinau clai. Yna, gan ddilyn y lôn tua'r forfa lle bu farw Edward 1 a heibio bwthyn dabbin clai (Bwthyn Edna) daethom at Leigh Cottage, dabbin to gwellt 3 bae a nenfforch clai sydd wrthi'n cael ei atgyweirio. Yna aethom i Bowness Campfield, lle mae dabbin clai newydd yn cael ei adeiladu gyda'i do o rug (a hefyd banel haul!). Oddi mewn roedd arddangosfa yn disgrifio sut y'i hadeiladwyd a phwysigrwyd yr adeiladau brodorol hyn i'r rhanbarth. Yn dilyn swper cafwyd sgwrs gan Peter Messenger yn disgrifio gwladweinyddion Cumbria a'r gwahanol ddulliau o ddaliadaeth tir yn y rhanbarth.



*Extramural stairs to original front doors in Alston
Grisiau allanol ar gyfer drysau ffrynt gwreiddiol yn Alston*

Dydd 3. Arweiniwyd y grŵp y diwrnod hwn gan Richard Wilson, ymgynghorydd adeiladau hanesyddol ac aelod o GABC. Yn gyntaf, aethom i'r dwyrain at dref Brampton, gyda 84 adeilad rhestredig. Gan eu bod wrth ffin yr Alban, mae nifer o'r adeiladau yn rhai caerog a gwelir ambell dŷ fferm caerog wedi goroesi yn yr ardal ac yn aml wedi newid llawer. Yna Priordy Lanercost, o gyfnod Robert du Vaux tua 1169. Wedi Diddymiad y Mynachlogydd adeg teyrnasiad Harri VIII,

Cookson, who gave us a tour of the house and provided a much appreciated feast of tea and cakes.

We proceeded to the Hallmark Hotel, Carlisle, where we were staying. After dinner Christine Craghill, a member of the Cumbria Vernacular Buildings Group (CVBG), gave a talk on Aspects of Cumbrian Farmhouses. This provided a good overview of vernacular houses in Cumbria, highlighting how they differ from North Wales.

Day two was led by Peter Messenger, also a member of CVBG. We spent the morning in Carlisle and first went to the medieval Prior's Tower, another defensive tower from the days of border conflict, and now part of Carlisle Cathedral. After a brief look inside the cathedral we walked to Tullie House and the medieval Guildhall dating to c1405.



*New clay dabbin house
Tŷ newydd wedi ei ddabio â chlai (dabbin)*

Following lunch and a coach-drive along some very narrow lanes we reached Burgh by Sands, formerly Aberllava Roman fort at the end of Hadrian's wall. Here we saw clay dabbin houses. With limited conventional timber or stone for building, people of the Solway Plain resorted to the abundant local resource, namely clay. This style of building is more or less limited to northwest Cumbria, with about 150 surviving examples. Similar buildings can be found in Denmark and Iceland, confirming their Viking heritage. These houses originally comprised one room, many later evolving into two stories and multiple rooms, and most of them are now rendered, and are hardly recognisable. The clay insulates, and the overall structure has proved remarkably resilient in the sometimes hostile climate of the Solway.

At St Michael's church we all squashed into the tower, once used to protect parishioners from raiding Scots. We walked to the early 17C Lamonby Farm, a cruck-framed clay dabbin consisting of a house, cottage, byre and barn, where the house and cottage were being re-thatched. In the long high threshing barn, the process of building clay dabbins was explained. Then, following the lane towards the sea marsh where Edward I died, and past a thatched clay dabbin (Edna's Cottage), we found Leigh Cottage, a thatched 3-bay cruck-framed clay dabbin undergoing restoration. We then travelled to Bowness Campfield, where a new clay dabbin has been constructed complete with its heather thatched roof (plus solar panel!). Inside was a display describing how it was built and the importance of these vernacular buildings to the region. Following evening dinner a talk was given by Peter Messenger describing Cumbrian Statesmen and the different forms of land tenure in Cumbria.

trawsnewidwyd tŷ'r Priordy yn breswylfa deuluol i Syr Thomas Dacre. Yna ymlaen i Gaer Rhufeinig Epiacum a'r hen ffermdy caerog gerllaw, a ddefnyddir yn awr fel ysgubor amaethyddol. Ffermdy caerog yw 'bastle' a geir ar hyd y ffin Eingl-Albanaidd yn yr ardaloedd a boenwyd gan adfyw-wyr y Ffin. Ar y llawr cyntaf y trigai'r teulu gan ddefnyddio ysgol i'w gyrraedd. Pe digwyddai ymosodiad buasai'r ysgol yn cael ei chodi.

Ein man galw olaf oedd tref Alston. Roedd y mwyafrif o'r adeiladau cynharaf a oroesodd yn y dref yn debyg i'r ffermdai caerog ac wedi eu cynllunio fel bod yr unedau byw ar y llawr cyntaf. Fodd bynnag, roeddynt bob amser yn anodd eu hamddiffyn ond roedd iddynt steil brodorol lleol diddorol. Gwnaethom gerdded o gwmpas y dref gan sylwi ar y tai gyda grisiau allanol. Canolbwyntiodd Richard ein siaradwr yn y cyflwyniad gyda'r nos, ar bensaerniaeth Alston a chyflwynodd grynoded deallus o hirbarhad traddodiad o fyw ar y llawr cyntaf yn ardal Gogledd y Pennines.

Ar ein diwrnod olaf anelwyd tua'r de i Grasmere a Dove Cottage, cartref y bardd William Wordsworth a'i chwaer Dorothy. Cafodd Dove Cottage, a adeiladwyd yn gynnar yn yr 17C, nifer o ymwelwyr yn cynnwys beirdd a llenorion megis Walter Scott, Thomas De Quincey, Charles a Mary Lamb, Robert Southey, Sara Hutchinson a Samuel Taylor Coleridge. Nid yw'n fwthyn mawr a gyda thri oedolyn yn preswyllo a nifer o blant, mae'n rhaid fod y tŷ yn ymddangos yn orlawn ac roedd crwydro'r brynau a'r pantiau lleol fel cwmwl unig, yn sicr o fod yn rhyddhad ar adegau.

Oddi yma dychwelaisom i ogledd Cymru ar ôl treulio amser diddorol a goleuedig yn Cumbria.

Wally Barr, Trefnydd Taith Astudio

Day three was led by Richard Wilson, historic buildings consultant and CVBG member. We first travelled east to the town of Brampton, with 84 listed buildings. Being near the Scottish border, many buildings were fortified and some bastle houses (fortified farmhouses) have survived in the area, often much altered.

Next, Lanercost Priory, founded by Robert de Vaux around 1169. After the dissolution of the monasteries in Henry VIII's reign, the Prior's house was converted into a family residence for Sir Thomas Dacre. Then on to the Roman Fort of Epiacum and the aged bastle nearby, now used as an agricultural barn. A bastle is a fortified farmhouse found along the Anglo-Scottish border in the areas formerly plagued by Border reivers. The family lived on the first floor with access by ladder. In the event of a raid the ladder would be pulled up.

Our last point of call was the town of Alston. Most of the earliest surviving buildings in the town were, like the bastles, designed with their living quarters on the first floor. However, they were never defensible but an interesting local vernacular style. We walked around the town spotting houses with extra-mural steps. In his evening presentation Richard, our speaker, focused on Alston architecture and gave a knowledgeable summary of the persistence of the tradition of upstairs living in the North Pennine area.

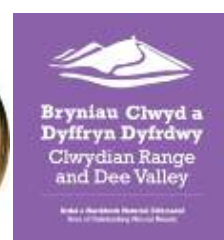
On our final day we headed south to Grasmere and Dove Cottage, home of the poet William Wordsworth and his sister Dorothy. Dove Cottage, built in the early 17C, had many visitors including the poets and writers Walter Scott, Thomas De Quincey, Charles and Mary Lamb, Robert Southey, Sara Hutchinson and Samuel Taylor Coleridge. It is not a large cottage and with three adult residents and a number of children, the house must have seemed very crowded; wandering the local hills and dales, lonely as a cloud, must have been a relief at times.

From here we returned to North Wales after an interesting and enlightening time in Cumbria.

Wally Barr, Study Tour Organiser



**Comisiwn Brenhinol
Henebion Cymru**
**Royal Commission on the Ancient
and Historical Monuments of Wales**



WOODTIGER FUND

MARC FITCH FUND



DARGANFOD HEN DAI CYMREIG DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES



NODDWYR/PATRONS:

Y Gwir Anrhydeddus yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas, CG, AC; Sir Simon Jenkins, FSA, FRSL; Dr Eurwyn Wiliam, MA, PhD, FSA

Dathlu Treftadaeth Cymru drwy astudio tai traddodiadol a bywydau'r bobl fu'n byw ynddynt.

Celebrating Welsh Heritage through the study of traditional houses and the lives of the people who lived in them.

CYLCHLYTHYR 28 Mawrth 2019

NEWSLETTER 28 March 2019

EIN GWEFAN <http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk> yw prif sianel gyfathrebu'r grŵp – defnyddiwch hi i weld mwy o fanylion am y digwyddiadau diweddar a'r rhai sydd ar ddod, ac i edrych ar ein llyfrgell sy'n cynyddu'n gyson ac ar nodweddion eraill.

OUR WEBSITE <http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk> is the Group's main channel of communication – please visit it to see details of recent and forthcoming events and to look at our growing library and other features.

GAIR O'R GADAIR

Wel, mae'r gwanwyn ar gyrraedd ac fel Pererinion Enlli gynt rydym yn meddwl am gyrchfan i'n denu. Gwelaf fod teithiau hynod o ddiddorol yn cael eu trefnu ar gyfer ymweld â sawl tŷ hyfryd er mwyn cael syniad dethol o'i nodweddion arbennig. Dyma un o fanteision arbennig o fod yn aelod, a rhaid i mi ddiolch i bawb a fu ynglŷn â'u trefnu am lunio taith mor arbennig o ddiddorol. Fel yr ydym i gyd yn dysgu mwy am hen dai a'u cynddeiliaid, credaf fod hyn yn hybu ein brwdfrydedd i'w hanwylo a'u gwarchod. Gobeithiaf y cewch gyfle i gymryd rhan!

Richard Cuthbertson, Cadeirydd



Dyffryn Dyfrdwy 1533/4, a pharlwr 1550/1 / Dee Valley 1533/4 and 1550/1 parlour

FROM THE CHAIR
Well, Spring is nearly here and like Chaucer we all turn our minds to Pilgrimages. I see there are most interesting trips being organised to visit many beautiful houses to get exclusive insights to their special features. This is one of the great advantages of being a member, and I must thank all those involved in their organisation for helping to provide such an interesting itinerary. As we all learn more about the old houses and their past occupants, I think it increases our enthusiasm to cherish and look after them. I hope you get the chance to take part!

Richard Cuthbertson, Chairman



Sir y Fflint, gwanwyn 1465 / Flintshire, spring 1465.

NEWYDDION DIWEDDARAF GAN YR YSGRIFENNYDD

Grantiau 2018-19. Ers ein Cylchlythyr diwethaf rydym wedi derbyn grant o £1,500 gan Gymdeithas Archeolegol Cambria ac rydym yn hynod ddiolchgar am hyn. Daw hyn â'n cyfanswm blyneddol i tua £15,500. **Dyddio Blwyddgylchau.** Yn gynnar yn Chwefror ymwelodd arbenigwyr o Labordy Dendrocronoleg Rhydychen â thai ym Meirionnydd a G.Ddn Cymru. Aseswyd 13 tŷ, yn bennaf rhai nenfforch, ond nid oeddynt yn addas ar gyfer eu samplu. Ond fe samplwyd 2 arall. Roedd Llennyrch, ar gynllun Tŷ Eryri, ym Meirionnydd ac iddo goed a dorrwyd rhwng 1542 a 1569. Nid oedd yn bosibl dyddio coed Plas Ynghoed Drwg, ger Corwen. Bu **cofnodi pensaernïol** yn 1 a 2 Heol y Dŵr, Caerwys, lle roedd dyddiad cwmpo yr adeilad nenfforch yn 1465.

NEWS UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARY

Grants for 2018-19. Since our last Newsletter we have obtained a £1,500 grant from the Cambrian Archaeological Association, for which we are most grateful. This makes our annual total c£15,500. **Tree Ring Dating.** In early February Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory specialists visited houses in Merioneth & N E Wales. 13 houses, mainly crucks, were assessed but were not suitable for sampling and 2 others were sampled. Llennyrch, a Snowdonia-plan house in Merioneth, had timbers felled between 1542 and 1569. Timbers in Plas Ynghoed Drwg, near Corwen could not be dated. **Architectural recording** was undertaken at 1 & 2 Water Street, Caerwys, where the felling date for the cruck-framed building was 1465.

Mae **Marciau gwrthfelltithiol** (sy'n cadw draw ddrygioni) yn parhau i fod o ddiddordeb mawr i'r grŵp ac fe hoffem wybod lle y cawn afael arnynt.

Trysorydd DHDC: Rydym yn hynod falch fod ein trysorydd presennol wedi cytuno i aros yn y swydd am un flwyddyn arall, a bod rhywun arall wedi cytuno i gymryd y swydd hanfodol hon o Ebrill 2020. Mae **Gweithgareddau allanol** yn parhau: ers Rhagfyr rhoddwyd tair sgwrs arall i sefydliadau ar draws gogledd Cymru, gan rannu ein gweledigaeth a'n canlyniadau â thua 100 o bobl. Deliwyd â sawl chwestiwn ac ymwelwyd â nifer o dai mewn ymateb i sawl ymholiad gan berchenogion.

Mae **Canghennau** yn cynnal amrediad o ymweliadau, sgysiau a digwyddiadau ac mae canghennau diwygiedig Môn ac Eryri yn dal i ddenu aelodau newydd. Mae ymweliadau i dai sy'n newydd i ni yn ardaloedd Sir y Fflint a Wrecsam wedi hybu diddordeb yn ein gweithgareddau a gobeithiwn sefydlu cangen yn Wrecsam yn fuan. Mae nifer o hanesion tai yn cael eu hymchwilio yn barod ar gyfer ein gwefan. Gellir diweddarur rhain os darganfyddir gwybodaeth newydd. Mae sawl cangen wedi cyd-drefnu ymchwil gwaith desg ar gyfer **Prosiect Mapio Plwyfi** sy'n ffurfio cronfa ddata gynhwysfawr er mwyn cael astudiaeth lawnach o hen dai ar draws gogledd Cymru. Bydd hyn yn ffocws o bwys wrth i ni gadarnhau ein darganfyddiadau a pharatoi i ymweld â rhagor o hen dai.

Bydd **CCB 2019 (2yp)** a **Darlith Gyhoeddus (3yp)** yn cael eu cynnal ar Sadwrn 29 Mehefin yn y Stablau, Plas Tan y Bwlch, Maentwrog, sef yng Nghanol Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri. Fe draethir y ddarlith **"Adeiladu â nenffyrch yng Nghymru – 1306 hyd at 1626"** gan Richard Suggett, Uwch Ymchwilydd, Adeiladau Hanesyddol, Comisiwn Brenhinol Henebion Cymru, Aberystwyth.

Margaret Dunn



Wrecsam

Apotropaic marks (thought to ward off evil) are still of great interest to the group & we would like to know where they can be found.

DOWH Treasurer: We are delighted that our current treasurer has agreed to stay on for one more year, and that someone has offered to then take over this crucial role from April 2020. **Outreach** continues: 3 more talks have been given to organisations across north Wales since December, sharing our vision & results with around 100 people. Many queries have been dealt with & several house visits undertaken in response to owners' enquiries.

Branches hold a range of visits, talks & events, & the revived Anglesey & Snowdonia branches continue to attract new members. Visits to fresh houses in the Flintshire & Wrexham areas have raised interest in our activities & we hope to establish a Wrexham branch soon. Many house histories are being researched ready for our website. These can be updated if new information is discovered.

Several branches have started co-ordinating desk-top research for the **Parish Mapping Project** to form a comprehensive database to enable better coverage of old houses across north Wales. This will be an important focus as we consolidate our discoveries and prepare to visit further old houses.

The 2019 AGM (2.00 p.m.) & Public Lecture (3.00 p.m.) will be held on Saturday 29th June at Y Stablau, Plas Tan y Bwlch, Maentwrog, the Snowdonia National Park Centre. The lecture **"Building with crucks in Wales – 1306 to 1626"** will be given by Richard Suggett, Senior Investigator, Historic Buildings, the Royal Commission on the Ancient & Historic Monuments of Wales, Aberystwyth.

Margaret Dunn



Wrexham – ni ellid ei ddyddio / neither house could be dated.

OS YDYCH Â DIDDORDEB MEWN HEN DAI ond ddim eto yn aelod, pam na ystyriwch ymuno â'r Grŵp? Ysgrifennydd Aelodaeth yw Ms Zoë Henderson 01824 704 404, membership@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk
Am wybodaeth bellach cysylltwch â Margaret Dunn, yr Ysgrifenyddes: 01766 890 550, secretary@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OLD HOUSES and are not already a member, why not consider joining the Group? Membership Secretary is Ms Zoë Henderson 01824 704 404. membership@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk
For further information contact Margaret Dunn, secretary@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01766 890550.

DIGWYDDIADAU CANGEN

Archebwch â chysylltydd cangen, fel arfer@ £2. Rydym yn hynod ddiolchgar i berchenogion tai am eu lletygarwch.

CANGEN MÔN. Cyswllt â Sue Hurst 01407 459 319 (Sylwch ar ei ebost newydd):

anglesey@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk.

Dydd Iau Ebrill 4 2yp Prosiect Mapio Plwyfi – gweithdy yn Archifau Llangefni yn olrhain pob hen dŷ ar Ynys Môn: pam a sut y gallwn goladu manylion amlinellol hen dai ymhob plwyf. Dowch i ddysgu'r technegau. £2 y pen. Dowch â lluniaeth.

Dydd Mawrth Mai 21 2yp Ymweld â Dinam ac i Eglwys Llangaffo. Fe'i hadeiladwyd tua diwedd C17, ac ailfodelwyd y tŷ c1715-20 pan ailstrwythurwyd pen draw y parlwr a chodwyd y llawr uwchben. Nifer mwyaf: 20 person. Cost £2 y pen.

Mehefin 18 2.15yp. Sgwrs a thaith o amgylch Eglwys Ein Boneddiges Seren y Môr a Santes Gwenfrewi, Amlwch (gradd II* 20fed ganrif). Lluniaeth ysgafn yn neuadd yr eglwys am £2 y pen.

Dydd Sadwrn Gorffennaf 20fed: Hanner Dydd – 5yp. Diwrnod agored ym Mhlas Penmynydd, Llangefni. Sgwrs a theithiau gydol y prawn. Lluniaeth ysgafn. Tâl mynediad £5. Yn gysylltiedig â Gŵyl Archeoleg CBA.

CANGEN CONWY. Cysylltu â Gill Jones 01492 517 330

gjdules@doctorbones.org

Iau Mai 16eg - 10.30 yn Neuadd Caerhun. Mae'n angenrheidiol archebu drwy fod y nifer yn gyfyngedig.

Iau Mehefin 20fed – Ymweld â Dolwyddelan i weld gweddillion Tai Penmaen, eglwys Santes Gwyddelen a ffynnon Elen. Cyfarfod am 1.00yp yn y llecyn picnic ger yr orsaf drên.



Meirionnydd / Merioneth, 1542-69

CANGEN SIR DDINBYCH. Cyswllt Janice Dale 01490 440 427

jadale22@hotmail.co.uk

Mawrth 19eg 2yp yn Hafod y Calch - cyfarfod cyffredinol dal i fyny.

Mai 1af amser i'w gadarnhau. Cerdded o amgylch tref Dinbych gyda Tony Schärer.

Diwedd Mai – Ymweld â Llansilin; amser i'w gadarnhau – tŷ/eglwys/pentref.

CANGEN LLANSILIN. Cysylltwch â Mary Cunnah marycunnah@yahoo.co.uk. Mae'r grŵp yn cyfarfod ar yr ail ddydd Llun o bob mis am 2yp yn Stafell y Plwyf, Eglwys Llansilin. Lluniaeth ar gael.

BRANCH EVENTS

Book with branch contacts, usually £2. We are very grateful to house-owners for their hospitality.

ANGLESEY BRANCH. Contact Sue Hurst 01407 459 319 (note new contact email):

anglesey@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

April Thurs 4th 2.00 p.m. Parish Mapping Project - a workshop at Llangefni Archives tracing all old houses on Anglesey: why & how we can collate outline details on old houses in every parish. Come and learn the techniques. £2 per head. Bring refreshments.

May Tues 21st 2.00 p.m. visit to Dinam & to Llangaffo church. Built in the late C17, the house was remodelled c1715-20 when the parlour end was reconstructed and the floor above it raised. Max 20 people. Cost £2 per head.

June 18th 2.15pm. Talk and tour of Our Lady Star of the Sea and St Winefride Church, Amlwch (grade II* 20th-century). Light refreshments in the church hall, £2 per head.

July Sat 20th: Noon – 5 p.m. Open Day at Plas Penmynydd, Llangefni. Talk & tours throughout the afternoon. Light refreshments. Entry £5. Linked with the CBA Festival of Archaeology.

CONWY BRANCH. Contact Gill Jones 01492 517 330

gjdules@doctorbones.org

Thurs May 16th - 10.30 at Caerhun Hall. Booking is essential as numbers are limited.

Thurs 20th June - Visit to Dolwyddelan to see the Tai Penamnen houses (remains of), St. Gwyddelen's church and Elen's well. Meet at 1.00pm at the picnic area near the train station.



Dyffryn Dyfrdwy – ni ellid ei ddyddio / Dee valley – could not be dated

DENBIGHSHIRE BRANCH. Contact Janice Dale 01490 440 427

jadale22@hotmail.co.uk

March 19th 2pm at Hafod y Calch - general catch-up meeting.

1st May time to be confirmed - Walk about Denbigh town with Tony Schärer.

End of May - Visit to Llansilin; time to be confirmed - house/church/village.

LLANSILIN BRANCH. Contact Mary Cunnah, marycunnah@yahoo.co.uk. The group meets on the second Monday of the month at 2pm in the Parish Room, Llansilin Church. Refreshments.

CANGEN MEIRIONNYDD. Ysgrifennydd Meirionnydd wedi tynnu'n ôl ac felly o ganlyniad bydd digwyddiadau Meirionnydd yn debygol o gael eu cyfyngu, Fodd bynnag, bydd y cwrs diwrnod ar "Y Camau sylfaenol mewn cofnodi adeiladau" a ganslwyd yn Chwefror yn cael ei aildrefnu, ac yn hwyrach y flwyddyn hon.

Bydd **Partneriaeth Dolgellau** yn lansio prosiect yn ddiweddarach yn y flwyddyn yn gofyn i drigolion lleol ddod ymlaen gyda gwybodaeth am hanes eu tai. Fe all y bydd y Prosiect angen gwirfoddolwyr o GDHDC i gynnig help – daw mwy o wybodaeth gyda hyn.

Bydd **Archifau Dolgellau** yn dal ar agor yn arbennig ar gyfer aelodau GDHDC, ar y dydd Mercher cyntaf ym mhob mis o 9.30yb hyd 12.30yp. Mae hyn o fudd i'r grwpiau sy'n ymchwilio i dai ac ar gyfer dechreuwyr sydd angen cymorth i allu dechrau.

Bydd **Prosiect Plwyfi Meirionnydd** yn parhau. Mae'n amcanu i ddarganfod tai cyn-1700 sydd heb eu darganfod ar Coflein a ffynonellau tebyg eraill. Os ydych â diddordeb yn y prosiect hwn y gallir ei wneud ar gyfrifiadur gartref- cysylltwch â john@thetownsends.org.uk.

CANGEN GOGLEDD DDWYRAIN CYMRU cyswllt:

Margaret neu Wally Barr magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk; wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk, y ddau ar 01745 888 622.

Archebwch ddigon ymlaenllaw gan fod lle yn gyfyngiedig.

Iau Ebrill 18 2yp Ymweliad â thŷ a chyfarfod yn Fferm Adwy o'r 16 ganrif yng Nghoed-poeth.

Dydd Mawrth 28 Mai 2yp Ymweliad a thaith drwy Neuadd Mostyn, Mostyn o'r 15ed ganrif.

Mercher 12 Mehefin 2yp Ymweliad â thŷ a chyfarfod yn Nhŷ Cerrig, Rhuthun, dyddiedig hyd at 1501.



Sir y Fflint – ni ellid ei ddyddio / Flintshire – could not be dated

CANGEN ERYRI. Cyswllt: Ann Alston: 01758 750 322

snowdonia@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk Book online: <http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk/english/visits.html>

Iau 11eg Ebrill 2yp Prosiect Mapio Plwyfi: gweithdy ym Mharc Glasfryn, Y Ffôr. Amlinellu yr holl hen dai yn Sir Gaernarfon – Pam? A sut y gallwn goladu manylion amlinellol ar yr holl dai ymhob plwyf. Dowch i ddysgu'r technegau. £2 y pen. Bydd lluniaeth ar gael.

Llun 13eg Mai 2yp Cochwillan ger Bangor. Neuadd-dŷ mawr mae'n debyg o ddiwedd y 15ed ganrif. Nifer mwyaf 25. Dowch â phicnic £2 y pen.

Iau 16eg Mehefin 2yp Taith dan arweiniad o dŷ a gerddi

MERIONETH BRANCH. The Merioneth Secretary has stood down. So, for the next few months Merioneth events are likely to be restricted. However, the day's course on 'Basic steps in building recording' (cancelled in February) will be rescheduled for later this year.

The **Dolgellau Partnership** will launch a project later in the year asking local residents to come forward with information about the history of their houses. The Project might need volunteers from Merioneth DOWHG to help – further information in due course.

Dolgellau Archives remain open especially for DOWHG members on the first Wednesday in each month from 9.30am to 12.30pm. This is useful for groups doing house research and for beginners who need help to get started.

The **Merioneth Parishes Project** will continue. It aims to find pre-1700 houses which have not been found on Coflein and other similar sources. Anyone interested in this project – which can be undertaken on a computer at home – please contact john@thetownsends.org.uk.

NORTH EAST WALES BRANCH. Contact Margaret or Wally Barr 01745 888 622 magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk. Please book in advance.

Thurs 18 Apr 2pm House visit and meeting at 16th century Adwy Farm, Coedpoeth.

Tues 28 May 2pm Visit and tour of 15th century Mostyn Hall, Mostyn.

Wed 12 Jun 2pm House visit and meeting at Ty Cerrig, Ruthin, dated to 1501.



Rhuthun / Ruthin, 1501

SNOWDONIA BRANCH. Contact: Ann Alston: 01758 750 322 snowdonia@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk Book online: <http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk/english/visits.html>.

April Thurs 11th 2 p.m. Parish Mapping Project: A workshop at Parc Glasfryn Park, Y Ffor. Tracing all old houses in Caernarfonshire - Why? & how we can collate outline details on old houses in every parish. Come and learn the techniques. £2 per head. Refreshments will be provided.

May Mon 13th 2 p.m. Cochwillan, near Bangor. Large hall house probably late 15th century. Max 25. Bring a picnic. £2 per head.

June Thurs 13th 2 p.m. Guided tour of Wern Manor house &

Maenordy'r Wern (yn cael ei adnewyddu), Pentre Felin. Nifer mwyaf 20. Dowch â phicnic Cost y pen £5.

Dydd Mawrth Gorffennaf 16eg 11yb – 5yb 2000 mlynedd o hanes yn nyffryn Nantgwynant, Eryri. Teithiau dan arweiniad hanner dydd, 2 a 4yp. Dowch â phicnic. Rhan o Wyl Archeoleg CBA. £5 y pen

COFIWCH

Fod yr holl dai y sonnir amdanynt yn y Cylchlythyr hwn ac/neu sy'n gysylltiedig â DHDC yn eiddo preifat ac felly NID ydynt ar agor i'r cyhoedd. Gall aelodau gymryd rhan mewn unrhyw ddigwyddiad mewn unrhyw gangen, yn ogystal ag yn eu cangen eu hunain. Holwch gysylltydd y gangen dan sylw.

PWY ADEILADODD Y Tŷ HWN? BONHEDDWR, IWMON NEU WERINWR?

Yng Nghymru wedi cyfnod y canoloesau, defnyddid y teitlau **syr**, **yswain**, **bonheddwr** a **mister** yn aml yn hierarchaidd. Y marchogion yn defnyddio'r teitl 'syr'; meibion Arglwyddi neu Farchogion, neu uchelwyr o dras cymdeithasol uchel yn defnyddio 'yswain'; a 'bonheddwr' fel arfer o rengoedd isel y dosbarth o uchelwyr; roedd y rhai a fabwysiadai y teitl 'Mr' yn bennaf yn iwmyn cyfoethog. Yn arolwg Edward Llwyd c1699 yn Llanellian yn Rhos, mae'r hierarchaeth hon yn amlwg. Yn y rhestr o 'dai o bwys,' fe geid y rhestri hyn: Thomas Holland **ysw.** o Deirdan; John Wyn **bonheddwr** o Goed Coch; a Richard Parry **iwmyn** o Dan y Llan.

Yn draddodiadol, roedd yr ysweiniaid a'r bonheddwyr yn byw ar eu buddsoddiadau a'r rhenti a ddeuai o'u stadau, tra roedd yr iwmyn yn ffermwyr ac weithiau'n wŷr busnes. Bu'r plâu a chwalfa gyflym y system o ddaliad tir a ddibynnai ar berthnasau yn y 14edd ganrif yn fodd i esblygu marchnadoedd ar gyfer tir a chynnyrch. Cymerodd llawer o iwmyn fantais o hyn. Cymerasont dir, a gwerthu, a chyfnewid a masnachu'r cynnyrch a oedd ganddynt yn weddill. Roedd nifer ohonynt yn llythrennog ac yn anfon eu meibion i'r ysgolion gramadeg newydd ac i'r prifysgolion ac i Neuaddau'r Frawdlys. Aeth rhai iwmyn yn gyfoethocach na'r is uchelwyr, ond fe barhaodd yr hierarchaeth. Pan apwyntiwyd John Davies, masnachwr cyfoethog o Landderfel, yn Y.H., gwrthododd rhai o'i gydynadon o reng yr uchelwyr eistedd gydag ef am ei fod yn 'ddim ond masnachwr'.

Ni fu erioed drefn aristocrataidd yng Nghymru y gellid ei chymharu o ran graddfa i'r un yn Lloegr. Ychydig o'r uchelwyr trefeddiannol yng Nghymru Cyfnod Elisabeth a oedd â'r cyfoeth a'r rhwysg i gyfateb i rai rhengoedd uwch o uchelwyr Lloegr. Mae'r tai yn Lloegr a oedd wedi eu priodoli i iwmyn yn aml yn debyg iawn o ran maint i dai yng Nghymru a labelir hwy fel 'tai gwerinwyr'. Roedd y ffermwyr a'r bythynwyr tlotaf, y gellid mae'n debyg eu galw'n gyfreithlon yn 'werinwyr', yn denantiaid na oroesodd drwy ffermio ymgynhaliol. Roeddynt yn byw mewn anheddiadau diymhongar sy'n llai tebygol o fod wedi goroesi.

O'n hymchwili yng Nghonwy a Gogledd Sir Ddinbych, dim ond un tŷ, hyd yn hyn a ellir mae'n debyg ei ddisgrifio fel tŷ 'gwerinol' – Blaen Glasgwm Uchaf ym Mhenmachno wedi ei ddyddio i aeaf 1519/20. Mae bron yn bendant iddo gael ei adeiladu gan warantwr a ryddhawyd. Yn wreiddiol roedd yn neuadd-dŷ syml o gerrig gydag aelwyd ganolog a chrogllofft.

gardens (under restoration), Pentre Felin. Max 20. Bring a picnic. Cost £5 per head

July Tues 16th 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. 2000 years of history in the Nantgwynant valley, Snowdonia. Guided walks at noon, 2 & 4 p.m. Bring a picnic. Part of the CBA Festival of Archaeology. £5 per head.

REMINDERS

Houses mentioned in this Newsletter and/or linked with DOWH are private and are NOT open to the public.

Members may participate in any branch event, not only their own. Check with branch contact.

WHO BUILT THIS HOUSE? GENTLEMAN, YEOMAN OR PEASANT?

In post-medieval Wales, the titles **sir**, **esquire**, **gent.** and **Mr.** were often used hierarchically. Knights used the appellation 'sir'; the sons of Lords or Knights, or gentry of high social rank used 'esquire'; and 'gentleman' were generally from the lowest ranks of the gentry class; those adopting the title 'Mr.' were mostly wealthy yeomen. In Edward Lhuyd's survey c.1699 in Llanellian yn Rhos, this hierarchy is evident. In the list of 'houses of note', there are the following entries: Thomas Holland **esq.** of Teirdan; John Wyn **gent.** of Coed Coch; and Richard Parry **yeoman** of Tan y Llan.

Esquires and gentlemen traditionally lived off their investments and the rents from their estates, whereas yeomen were farmers and sometimes businessmen. Plagues and the breakup of the Welsh kindred-based system of land-tenure accelerated in the 14th century and as a result, markets evolved for both land and produce. Many yeomen took advantage of this. They acquired land, and sold, bartered and traded their surplus produce. Many were literate and sent their sons to the new grammar schools and to the universities and inns of court. Some yeomen became wealthier than the minor gentry, but the hierarchy remained. When John Davies, a wealthy merchant from Llandderfel was appointed as a J.P., some of his fellow magistrates from the ranks of the gentry refused to sit with him because he was a 'mere tradesman'.

Wales has never had an aristocratic order which could compare in scale to that in England. Few of the Welsh landed gentry in Elizabethan Wales had the wealth or pretensions to match those of the higher ranks of the English nobility. Houses in England which have been ascribed to yeomen are often very similar in size to houses in Wales which are labelled as 'peasant houses'. The poorer farmers and cottagers, who could perhaps be legitimately called 'peasants' were tenants who survived by subsistence farming. They lived in humble dwellings which are less likely to have survived.

From our research in Conwy and North Denbighshire, only one house, so far, can perhaps be described as a 'peasant' house - Blaen Glasgwm Ucha in Penmachno - dated to the winter 1519/20. It was almost certainly built by a freed bondsman. It was originally a simple, stone-walled hall-house with a central hearth and crogllofft.



Pwy adeiladodd hwn? / Who built this?



Tŷ gwerinwr? / A peasant house?

Mae'r tai eraill a ymchwilwyd iddynt hyd yh hyn yng Nghonwy a Dyffryn Clwyd, y mwyafrif ohonynt yn fawr mwy na ffermdai mawr, wedi eu codi gan aelodau 1.) o'r uchelwyr Cymreig 2.) disgynyddion y sefydlwyr Seisnig a oedd wedi mewnbriodi i'r uchelwyr lleol 3.) iwmyn, ond yn sicr ddigon ddim gan werinwyr. Roedd gan y teuluoedd nifer o ganghennau o gadlanciau ac roedd rhai wedi gallu sefydlu eu stadau bach eu hunain. Eraill, y rhai nad oeddynt cystal eu byd, yn gorfod cael rhywfaint o'u hincwm o ffermio. Buasai hyn wedi eu gwneud bron yn anwahanol i'r iwmyn cyfoethocach.

Drwy ymchwilio i achau y teuluoedd a berchenogai'r tai, yn aml mae'n bosibl i wirio os oeddynt yn ddisgynyddion i deuluoedd uchelwrol, neu os oeddynt yn fwy tebygol o fod wedi bod yn denantiaid/warantwyr a oedd wedi ffynnu a dod yn rhydd-ddeiliaid ac iwmyn.

Gill Jones 2019

The other houses so far researched in Conwy and the Clwyd Valley, most of which are little more than large farmhouses, would have almost certainly been built by members of the 1.) Welsh gentry 2.) descendants of English settlers who had married into the local gentry 3.) yeomen, but certainly not by 'peasants'. The gentry families had many cadet branches and some were able to establish their own small estates. Others who were less well off may even have had to derive part of their income from farming. This would have made them almost indistinguishable from the wealthier yeoman.

By researching the pedigrees of the families who owned the houses, it is often possible to ascertain whether they were descendants of noble families, or whether they were more likely to have been tenants/bondsmen who had thrived and become freeholders and yeomen.

Gill Jones 2019



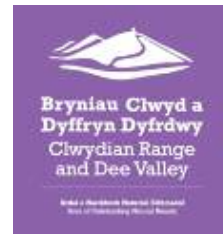
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Woodtiger Fund



Cambrian Archaeological
Association



MARC FITCH FUND



DARGANFOD HEN DAI CYMREIG DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES



NODDWYR/PATRONS:

Y Gwir Anrhydeddus yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas, CG, AC; Syr Simon Jenkins, FSA, FRSL; Dr Eurwyn Wiliam, MA, PhD, FSA

Dathlu Treftadaeth Cymru drwy astudio tai traddodiadol a bywydau'r bobl fu'n byw ynddynt.

Celebrating Welsh Heritage through the study of traditional houses and the lives of the people who lived in them.

CYLCHLYTHYR 29 Mehefin 2019

EIN GWEFAN <http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk> yw prif sianel gyfathrebu'r grŵp – defnyddiwch hi i weld mwy o fanylion am y digwyddiadau diweddar a'r rhai sydd ar ddod, ac i edrych ar ein llyfrgell sy'n cynyddu'n gyson ac ar nodweddion eraill.

GAIR O'R GADAIR

Wel, mae'r gwanwyn yma ac fel Pererinion Caergaint Chaucer gallwn edrych ymlaen at raglen o ymweliadau i dai diddorol. Nawr gan fod y Canghennau yn ymroi i helpu yma mae'n ymddangos i mi ein bod yn wynebu ein blwyddyn bwysicaf fyth ac rwy'n falch o ddiolch ymlaenllaw i'n trefnyddion ac i ddeiliaid tai sy'n gwneud hyn yn bosibl. Mae ein grŵp yn iach yn ariannol ac mae'r Canghennau yn wynebu mwy a mwy o waith defnyddiol. Rydym yn brysur ar sawl ffrynt ac mae nifer yr aelodau yn cynyddu'n gyson. Yn ein cyfarfod nesaf o'r Ymddiriedolwyr fe gawn drafod syniadau bywiog ar sut y gallwn weithredu yn y dyfodol. Gyda chaniatâd yr Ymddiriedolwyr gobeithiaf y bydd modd briffio'r Aelodaeth ar y cyfleoedd a gawn yn y CBC ar Sadwrn Mehefin 29ain ym Mhlas Tan y Bwlch. Ar bob cyfrif dowch i CBC (2yp) a'r ddarlith flynyddol gyhoeddus (3yp), a dowch â'ch ffrindiau (manyion isod). Ar Sadwrn 20 Gorffennaf ceir Diwrnod Agored arall ym Mhlas Penmynydd, ger Llangefni ar Ynys Môn (LL77 7SH) o 2-5yp. Croeso i bawb, ac eto dowch â'ch ffrindiau.

Cyn tewi, mae'n rhaid i mi grybwyll y golled fawr o golli gwraig arbennig, Dilys Glynn, un o'r Ymddiriedolwyr cyntaf a chefnogwraig ddiwyro, a thrwy gydol ei bywyd cynhyrchiol roedd bob amser yn awyddus i hybu a gwarchod hen adeiladau Cymru; bydd colled fawr ar ei hôl.

Richard Cuthbertson, Cadeirydd

NEWSLETTER 29 June 2019

OUR WEBSITE <http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk> is the Group's main channel of communication – please visit it to see details of recent and forthcoming events and to look at our growing library and other features.

FROM THE CHAIR

Well, Spring is here and like Chaucer's Canterbury Pilgrims we can all look forward to a programme of interesting house visits. Now that Branches are helping with this I think we may be in for our busiest year yet, and I send many thanks to the organisers and homeowners who make this possible. Our group is in good financial shape and the Branches are doing more and more useful work. We are busy on a number of fronts and membership continues to rise. At the next Trustees meeting we will discuss exciting ideas for how we may operate in future. With the Trustees' permission I hope I can brief the Membership about future opportunities at the AGM on Saturday June 29th at Plas Tan y Bwlch. Please do come to the AGM (2pm) and annual public lecture (3pm), and bring your friends (details below). On Sat 20th July there is another Open Day at Plas Penmynydd, near Llangefni on Anglesey (LL77 7SH) from 2-5pm. All are welcome, again bring your friends.

I cannot end this report without mentioning the sad loss of one of our first Trustees and most stalwart supporters, Dilys Glynn. She was a remarkable lady and in her long and productive life was always keen to promote and protect the old buildings of Wales; she will be greatly missed.

Richard Cuthbertson, Chairman



Tŷ math Eryri (1584-5)/ Snowdonia-type house, Llanwnda



Plas Penmynydd, Ynys Môn / Anglesey

NEWYDDION DIWEDDARAF GAN YR YSGRIFENYDDDES

Roedd Ebrill yn fis prysur iawn i'r ysgrifenyddes yn ymwneud ag adroddiadau a datganiadau cyllidol sy'n ofynnol gan ein noddwyr (Cronfa Marc Fitch, AHNE Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy a Chymdeithas Archeolegol Cambria), a'r un modd i'n trysorydd wrth gwblhau cofnodion cyllidol diwedd y flwyddyn. Nid ydym wedi ymgymryd â mwy o ddendro-cronoleg na chofnodi archeolegol ers yn gynnar yng ngwanwyn 2019, er y gellir gwneud rhai, unwaith y bydd y blaenoriaethau wedi eu dewis i ddefnyddio'r hyn sydd ar ôl o Gronfa Woodtiger. Mae sawl hanes tai allweddol wedi eu cwblhau (gweler y wefan) ac rydym yn hynod ddiolchgar i bob un a fu'n gweithio'n galed yn yr ymchwil hwn.

Mae nifer o dai cynnar yng Ngogledd Ddwyrain Cymru yn dal yn aros am ymweliad gennym ac, yn dilyn sgwrs yn Sir Feirionnydd, rydym wedi cael gwahoddiad i nifer o dai o amgylch Llanbedr. Cawn geisiadau am ymweliadau ac am gymorth ar draws gogledd Cymru a thu hwnt. Mae nifer y sgysiau a roddwyd wedi lleihau, ond gall dilyniant ddatgelu trysorau annisgwyl.

Bellach mae mwy o ganghennau yn ymwneud â'r Prosiect Plwyfi sy'n ystyried ychydig o gofnodion allweddol a gwirio pob tŷ a restrir ym mhob plwyf ym mhob ardal cangen. Pan fydd wedi ei gwblhau bydd yn arf ddefnyddiol i dywys blaenoriaethau'r dyfodol. Tra bod y cyfnod hwn o gyfnerthu yn digwydd, mae'r ymddiriedolwyr yn gobeithio y daw'r canghennau â'u syniadau ymlaen ar gyfer prosiectau lleol a gofyn am gronfeydd DHDC.

Gobeithiwn weld nifer ohonoch yn y CBC ac yn y ddarlith gyhoeddus flynyddol ar 29ain Mehefin, manylion isod.

Margaret Dunn

CBC 2019 GDHDC

Bydd y CBC am 2yp a'r ddarlith gyhoeddus am 3yp yn cael eu cynnal ar Sadwrn 29 Mehefin yn y Stablau, Plas Tan y Bwlch, Maentwrog, Blaenau Ffestiniog, LL41 3YU, Canolfan Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri.

(Cofiwch barcio yn rhan isa'r man parcio gorllewinol a gadael digon o amser i gerdded at y Plas. Mae parcio i'r anabl gerllaw.)

Croesewir ffrindiau yn gynnes i'r ddarlith gyhoeddus "Adeiladau Nenffyrch yng Nghymru - 1306 i 1626. Y darlithydd fydd Richard Suggett, Uwch Archwiliwr Adeiladau Hanesyddol yng Nghomisiwn Brenhinol Henebion Cymru, Aberystwyth.

NEWS UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARY

April was a very busy month for the secretary in dealing with the detailed reports & financial statements required by our funders (the Marc Fitch Fund, the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB and the Cambrian Archaeological Association), and by our treasurer in completing our end of year financial records. We have not undertaken any more dendrochronology or architectural recording since early spring 2019, although some may be done once priorities have been selected for using the remaining portion of the Woodtiger Fund. Several key house histories have been completed (see website) and we are very grateful to all who beaver away doing this research.

A number of early houses in North East Wales remain to be visited and, following a talk in Merionethshire, we have been invited to several houses around Llanbedr. Requests for visits and help are received from all over north Wales and beyond. The number of talks being given has dwindled, but follow-up can lead to unexpected treasures.

More branches are now involved with the Parishes Project which looks at a few key records and checks each listed house in the parishes of each branch area. When complete it will be a very useful tool to guide future priorities. While this period of consolidation takes place, the trustees hope that branches will bring forward their ideas for local projects and request DOWH funds.

We hope to see many of you at the AGM and annual public lecture on 29th June, details below.

Margaret Dunn

DOWHG AGM 2019

The AGM at 2pm and public lecture at 3pm will be held on Saturday 29th June at Y Stablau, Plas Tan y Bwlch, Maentwrog, Blaenau Ffestiniog, LL41 3YU, the Snowdonia National Park Centre.

(Please park in the west lower carpark and leave enough time to walk up. Disabled parking nearby.)

Friends are warmly welcomed to the public lecture "Building with Crucks in Wales - 1306 to 1626" which will be given by Richard Suggett, Senior Investigator of Historic Buildings at the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales, Aberystwyth.



Bwthyn ffrâm nenfforch ym Mryniau Clwyd / Cruck-framed cottage in the Clwydian Range



Carpenters' marks/Marciau gosod saer ar goed to yn, Llansilin

OS YDYCH Â DIDDORDEB MEWN HEN DAI a ddim eto yn aelod, pam na wnewch ystyried ymuno â'r Grŵp? Ysgrifenyddes Aelodaeth yw Ms Zoe Henderson 01824 704 404, membership@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk Am wybodaethg bellach cysylltwch â Margaret Dunn, secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01766 890550

DIGWYDDIADAU CANGEN

Archebwch gyda chydlynnydd cangen, fel arfer £2. Rydym yn ddiolchgar iawn i ddeiliaid tai am eu croeso a'u lletygarwch.

CANGEN YNYS MÔN. Cysylltwch â Sue Hurst (sylwch ar yr ebost newydd):

anglesey@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

01407 459319. (Archebwch mewn da bryd)

Mehefin 18fed 2.15yp. Sgwrs a thaith yn cynnwys Ein Boneddiges Seren y Môr ac Eglwys Santes Wenfrewi, Amlwch (gradd II* 20fed ganrif). Lluniaeth ysgafn yn neuadd yr eglwys, £2 y pen.

Gorffennaf 20fed 2yp-5yp. Dydd Agored ym Mhlas Penmynydd, Llangefni, LL77 7SH. Sgyrsiau a theithiau gydol y pwn. Lluniaeth ysgafn. Mynediad £5. (Yn gysylliedig â Gŵyl Archeoleg CBA).

Awst Dim cyfarfod

Medi Mawrth 10fed 2yp. Aildrefnu ymweliad i Dinam, Llangaffo. Adeiladwyd yn niwedd C17. Ailfodelwyd y tŷ c1715-20 Nifer mwyaf 20 person. Cost £2 y pen. Yna gobeithiwn ymweld ag Eglwys Llangaffo.

CANGEN CONWY. Cysylltwch â Gill Jones 01492 517 330

gjulas@doctorbones.org

Mehefin 20 Iau 1yp Ymweld â Dolwyddelan i weld gweddillion Tai Penamnen, Eglwys Santes Gwyddelen a ffynnon Elen. Cyfarfod ar y safle picnic ger gorsaf y rheilffordd.

Awst Dim cyfarfod

Medi I'w drefnu

Hydref 18 Gwener 9.30 yb Arddangosfa 'Sut i ddefnyddio gwefannau perthnasol' Fflatiau Rhos Manor, Llandrillo yn Rhos.



Golden Grove (1578) Llanasa

CANGEN SIR DDINBYCH Cyswllt: Janice Dale

01490 440427 jadale22@hotmail.co.uk.

Gorffennaf 27ain Gelli Aur gyda Changen GDdnCymru (gweler isod)

Awst I'w drefnu (o bosib Amgueddfa Dyffryn Maes-glas)

Medi Ymweld â LIGC a CBHC (RCAHMW) yn Aberystwyth. Dyddiad i'w gadarnhau

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OLD HOUSES and are not already a member, why not consider joining the Group?

Membership Secretary is Ms Zoë Henderson 01824 704 404, membership@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

For further information contact Margaret Dunn, secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01766 890550

BRANCH EVENTS

Book with branch contacts, usually £2. We are very grateful to house-owners for their hospitality.

ANGLESEY BRANCH. Contact Sue Hurst (note new contact email): anglesey@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01407 459319 (Please book well in advance)

June 18th 2.15pm. Talk and tour of Our Lady Star of the Sea and St Winefride Church, Amlwch (grade II* 20th century). Light refreshments in the church hall, £2 per head.

July 20th 2pm to 5pm. Open Day at Plas Penmynydd, Llangefni, LL77 7SH. Talks and tours throughout the afternoon. Light refreshments. Entry £5. (Linked with the CBA Festival of Archaeology.)

August No meeting

September Tues 10th 2pm Re arranged visit to Dinam, Llangaffo. Built in the late C17. The house was remodelled c1715-20. Max 20 people. Cost £2 per head. We hope to then visit Llangaffo church.

CONWY BRANCH. Contact Gill Jones 01492 517 330

gjulas@doctorbones.org

June 20th Thurs 1pm Visit to Dolwyddelan to see the Tai Penamnen houses (remains of), St. Gwyddelen's church and Elen's well. Meet in the picnic area near the train station.

August No meeting

September To be arranged

October 18th Fri 9.30am Demonstration 'How to use relevant websites' Rhos Manor Apartments, Rhos on Sea.



Panelli derw gwreiddiol mewn bwthyn nenfforch /Original oak panelling in cruck cottage

DENBIGHSHIRE BRANCH. Contact Janice Dale 01490 440427

jadale22@hotmail.co.uk

July 27th Golden Grove, Llanasa with NE Wales Branch (see below).

August TBC (possibly Greenfield Valley Museum).

September TBC Visit to NLW & RCAHMW in Aberystwyth.

CANGEN LLANSILIN Cysylltydd Mary Cunnah, marycunnah@yahoo.co.uk

Mae'r grŵp yn cyfarfod ar yr ail ddydd Llun yn y mis am 2yp yn Stafell y Plwyf, Eglwys Llansilin. Lluniaeth.

CANGEN MEIRIONNYDD

Does gan y gangen ddim Ysgrifennydd ar hyn o bryd. Mae Aelodau'r Gangen yn cyfarfod ar ddydd Mercher cyntaf y mis rhwng 9.30yb a 12.30yp yn Archifau Dolgellau. Ar hyn o bryd mae yn canolbwyntio ar Brosiect Plwyfi GDHDC (dod o hyd i dai cyn-1700 sydd eto i'w darganfod). Archwiliwyd Llanelltyd, Llandecwyn a Thal-y-llyn yn barod fel ymarfer pen-bwrdd, a bellach mae aelodau yn ymweld â'r tai a ddarganfuwyd.

Os oes gan unrhyw un ddiddordeb yn y prosiect hwn, cysyllter â John Townsend. Gellir gwneud y gwaith hwn ar gyfrifiadur. john@thetownsend.org.uk

CANGEN GOGLEDD DDWYRAIN CYMRU.

Cysylltydd Margaret neu Wally Barr 01745 888 622, magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk Cofiwch archebu ymlaenllaw.

Mehefin 12fed Mercher 2yp. Ymweld â thy a chyfarfod yn Nhŷ Cerrig, Rhuthun, dyddiedig 1501

Gorffennaf 27ain Sadwrn 2yp Ymweliad tŷ a chyfarfod yn y Gelli Aur (1578), Llanasa.

Awst dim cyfarfod

Medi sgwrs ac ymweliad tŷ i'w gadarnhau



Ysgubor nenfforch wedi ei hadnewyddu yn Llangynhafal, Sir Ddinbych / Restored cruck barn at Llangynhafal, Denbs

CANGEN ERYRI

Cyswllt: Ann Alston: 01758 750322 snowdonia@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk Archebwch ar lein:

<http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk/english/visits.html>

Mehefin 13eg Iau 2yp Taith dan arweiniad i dŷ a gerddi Wern Manor (sy'n cael ei adnewyddu), Pentre Felin. Nifer mwyaf 20. Dowch â phicnic. Cost yw £5 y pen.

Gorffennaf 16 eg Mawrth 11yb i 5yn '2000 o hanes yn nyffryn Nant Gwynant, Eryri'. Teithiau gydag arweinydd o dŷ Bryn y Bedd am hanner dydd, 2 a 4yp. Dowch â phicnic a sgidiau addas a siacedi. Cewch gyfeiriadau wrth archebu.(yn gysylltiedig â Gŵyl Archeoleg CBA.) £5 y pen.

Awst Dim Cyfaeod

Medi 5ed Iau 2yp. Prosiect Plwyfi: gweithdy arweiniol yn yr Archifau, Doc Fictoria, Caernarfon (gohiriwyd o Ebrill).

LLANSILIN BRANCH. Contact Mary Cunnah, marycunnah@yahoo.co.uk.

The group meets on the second Monday of the month at 2pm in the Parish Room, Llansilin Church. Refreshments.

MERIONETH BRANCH.

The Merioneth branch does not have a Secretary at present. Members of the Branch meet on the first Wednesday of the month between 9.30am and 12.30pm at Dolgellau Archives. Currently the focus is on the DOWHG Parishes Project (finding pre-1700 houses that have not already come to light). Llanelltyd, Llandecwyn and Tal-y-llyn have been done as a table-top exercise and members are now visiting the houses found.

Anyone interested in this project – which can be undertaken on a computer at home – please contact John Townsend: john@thetownsend.org.uk.

NORTH EAST WALES BRANCH. Contact Margaret or Wally Barr 01745 888 622, magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk Please book in advance.

June 12th Wed 2pm House visit and meeting at Ty Cerrig, Ruthin, dated to 1501

July 27th Sat 2pm House visit and meeting at Golden Grove (1578), Llanasa.

Aug no meeting

Sept talk and house visit to be confirmed



Ffrâm goed a ddaeth i'r golwg yn ddiweddar yng Nghoedpoeth / Timber-framing recently uncovered at Coedpoeth

SNOWDONIA BRANCH.

Contact: Ann Alston: 01758 750322 snowdonia@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk Book online: <http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk/english/visits.html>

June 13th Thurs 2pm Guided tour of Wern Manor house and gardens (under restoration), Pentre Felin. Max 20. Bring a picnic. Cost £5 per head

July 16th Tues 11am to 5p.m '2000 years of history in the Nantgwynant valley, Snowdonia'. Guided walks from Bryn y Bedd house at noon, 2 and 4 pm. Bring a picnic and suitable footwear and jackets. Directions given on booking. (Linked with the CBA Festival of Archaeology.) £5 per head.

August No Meeting

September 5th Thurs 2pm Parishes Project: introductory workshop at the Archives, Victoria Dock, Caernarfon, (postponed from April). Tracing all old houses in old Caernarfonshire, find out more about why and how we

Dargopïo pob hen dŷ yn yr hen Sir Gaernarfon, darganfod mwy amdanynt a pham a sut y gallwn goladu amlinelliaid o fanylion pob hen dŷ ym mhob plwyf. £2

Medi 23ain Llun 2yp Ymweld â Phenhyddgan, Ceidio, ger Nefyn. Mae'r tŷ deulawr Gradd II* hwn gyda sgrin mowld guilloche prin ac mae'r cyplysau to cerfiedig yn dyddio i 1573. Nifer mwyaf 15. £2 y pen.



Addurn guilloche, Sir Ddinbych/Guilloche decoration, Denbighshire

NODION ATGOFFA

1. Cofiwch fod yr holl dai y sonnir amdanynt yn y Cylchlythyr hwn ac/neu sy'n gysylltiedig â GDHDC yn eiddo preifat ac felly NID ydynt ar agor i'r cyhoedd.
2. Gall aelodau gymryd rhan mewn unrhyw ddigwyddiad mewn unrhyw gangen, yn ogystal ag yn eu cangen eu hunain. Holwch gysylltydd y gangen dan sylw.

Ysgrifennwyd y diweddgo i'r rhifyn hwn gan Mary Cunnah, sy'n gysylltydd i'n his-gangen newydd yn Llansilin. Mae'n ein cyflwyno i'r ardal o amgylch Llansilin ym Mhowys.

Pentref bychan yw Llansilin yn union oddi fewn i ffin Cymru, a 6 milltir o Groesoswallt.

Mae tua 700 yn byw yma ond mae'r pentref yn hen iawn ac mae rhannau o Eglwys Sant Silin yn dyddio o'r 13eg ganrif. Ysbeillodd Prince Hal yr ardal yn 1403 gan ddinistrio Sycharth, annedd Owain Glyndwr, rhyw filltir i'r de o'r pentref. Mae modd gweld o hyd fwnt a beili'r castell.



Simnai addurnol/Ornate chimneys, Llansilin

can collate outline details on old houses in each parish. £2
September 23rd Monday 2 pm Visit to Penhyddgan, Ceidio, near Nefyn. This Grade II* two-storeyed house with a rare guilloche-moulded screen and carved roof trusses dates to 1573. Max 15. £2 per head.

REMINDERS

- 1 Houses mentioned in this Newsletter and/or linked with DOWH are private and are NOT open to the public.
- 2 Members may participate in any branch event, not only their own. Check with branch contact.

The Endpiece for this issue is written by Mary Cunnah, who is the contact for our new Llansilin sub-branch. She introduces us to the area around Llansilin in Powys.

Llansilin is a small village just inside the Welsh border, 6 miles from Oswestry.

It has a population of about 700 but the village is very old and parts of St Silin's Church date from the 13th century. Prince Hal sacked the area in 1403 destroying Sycharth which was Owain Glyndwr's settlement about 1 mile south of the village. The motte and bailey of the castle can still be seen.



Grŵp yn ymweld â thŷ fferm Elisabethaidd yn Llansilin / Group visit to Elizabethan farmhouse in Llansilin

The valley has rich agricultural land and consequently there is a collection of very old 15th and 16th century houses in the area. Some have already been lost to history.

Llansilin has a thriving Historical Society and as a result of Margaret Dunn's lecture last year an off shoot group has been set up to look into the history of the old properties. So far there are about 15 people who have met monthly over the winter to carry out research.

Mae tir amaeth cyfoethog i'w gael yn y dyffryn ac o ganlyniad ceir casgliad o dai hen iawn o'r 15ed a'r 16eg ganrif yn yr ardal. Mae rhai yn barod wedi dirywio fel nad ydynt o unrhyw werth i hanes.

Mae gan Llansilin Gymdeithas Hanes ffyniannus ac o ganlyniad i ddarlith Margaret Dunn y llynedd sefydlwyd grŵp cangen i edrych i mewn i hanes yr hen eiddo hwn. Hyd yn hyn ceir tua 15 o bobl sydd wedi cyfarfod bob mis dros y gaeaf i ymchwilio i'r sefyllfa.

Ar Fai 30ain mae'r grŵp ymchwil yn cynnal parti ar gyfer Cangen Sir Ddinbych o DHDC. Bwriedir iddynt ymweld â Phen y Bryn, dendro ddyddiwyd yn 1485, Eglwys Sant Silin a thro o amgylch y pentref ac ymweliad â Thŷ Newydd sy'n ffermdy Elisabethaidd yng nghanol y dyffryn.

Gan fod Grŵp Ymchwil Llansilin yn ddim ond yn ei fabandod, gobeithir y gellir trefnu teithiau i Archifau ar gyfer dogfennu ar gyfer y dyfodol hanes yr ardal ddiddorol hon ar y Gororau.



Pen y Bryn (1485), Llansilin

On 30th May the research group is entertaining a party from the Denbighshire Branch of DOWH. It is planned to take them to visit Pen y Bryn, dendrodated 1485, and St Silin's Church. There will be a walk around the village and a visit to Ty Newydd which is an Elizabethan Farmhouse in the middle of the valley.

As the Llansilin Research Group is only in its infancy it is hoped that outings to other historic houses can be arranged, as well as trips to Archives to help document for posterity the history of this interesting borderlands area.



Cyplau'r to/Carved roof-trusses, Llansilin



Darlun olew o Ben y Bryn (1485), gan Mary Cunnah / Oil painting of Pen y Bryn (1485), by Mary Cunnah

Mary Cunnah



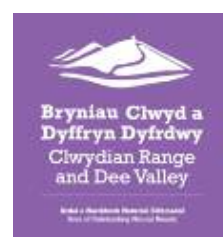
Comisiwn Brenhinol
Henebion Cymru
Royal Commission on the Ancient
and Historical Monuments of Wales



Woodtiger Fund



Cambrian Archaeological
Association



MARC FITCH FUND



DARGANFOD HEN DAI CYMREIG DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES



NODDWYR/PATRONS:

Y Gwir Anrhydeddus yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas, CG, AC; Sir Simon Jenkins, FSA, FRSL; Dr Eurwyn Wiliam, MA, PhD, FSA

Dathlu Treftadaeth Cymru drwy astudio tai traddodiadol a bywydau'r bobl fu'n byw ynddynt.

Celebrating Welsh Heritage through the study of traditional houses and the lives of the people who lived in them.

CYLCHLYTHYR 30 Medi 2019

NEWSLETTER 30 September 2019

EIN GWEFAN <http://discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk> yw prif sianel gyfathrebu'r grŵp – defnyddiwch hi i weld mwy o fanylion am y digwyddiadau diweddar a'r rhai sydd ar ddod, ac i edrych ar ein llyfrgell sy'n cynyddu'n gyson ac ar nodweddion eraill.

OUR WEBSITE <http://discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk> is the Group's main channel of communication – please visit it to see details of recent and forthcoming events and to look at our growing library and other features.

GAIR O'R GADAIR

Wel, mae hydref ar ein gwarchae a dyma gyfnod prysur o gasglu a chrynhoi ac fe hoffwn yn fawr ddiolch i'r rhai oll a gyfrannodd i Brosiect Mapio'r Plwyfi, drwy gasglu cyn gymaint o wybodaeth ar dai o fewn y plwyfi cyfagos. Cefais y cyfle yn ddiweddar i edrych ar lyfr gwyth Tom Lloyd *The Lost Houses of Wales* (1986) a braf yw meddwl rydym i gyd yn gofalu y bydd ein gwaith ni yn golygu y bydd yn llai tebygol y bydd y tai mwyaf godidog ac arweddion y tai hyn yn cael eu colli yn syml oherwydd anwybodaeth am eu pwysigrwydd. Felly fy nioch pennaf i chi i gyd.

Yn yr un modd cefais y pleser mawr o ymweld â Chastell Gwrych y Llyn diwethaf. O'r diwedd mae bellach yn eiddo i ymddiriedolaeth weithgar, llawn brwdfrydedd sy'n gwneud gwaith rhagorol ar gyllideb ceiniog a dimau. Rhaid talu £5 i fynd o gwmpas ac mae'n werth pob ceiniog, a gobeithio y bydd nifer ohonoch yn mwynhau mynd yno. Dymuniadau gorau i chi i gyd.

Richard Cuthbertson

FROM THE CHAIR

Well, autumn is creeping up on us. It always seems a busy time of gathering in, and I would particularly like to thank all of those who have contributed to the Parish Mapping Project, gathering in so much information on houses within their nearby parishes. I had occasion to look at Tom Lloyd's wonderful book *The Lost Houses of Wales* (1986) the other day and was heartened to think that through our work we are all making it less likely that more wonderful houses and house features will be lost simply through ignorance of their importance. So, a really big thank you to you all.

In a similar way I had the great pleasure of visiting Gwrych Castle last Monday. At last it is now owned by an active and enthusiastic preservation trust who are doing great work on a shoestring budget. It's £5 to look round and worth every penny, I hope many of you might enjoy a trip there. My best wishes to you all.

Richard Cuthbertson



Addurn herodol mewn tŷ math Eryri ger Caernarfon
Heraldic decoration in Snowdonia-type house near Caernarfon



Plas Penmynydd, Ynys Môn

NEWYDDION DIWEDDARAF YR YSGRIFENYDD

Plas Penmynydd

Cwblhawyd hanes y tŷ hwn yn ddiweddar gan Richard Cuthbertson, Gill Jones ac Ann Morgan. Cafwyd grant o £3,500 gan Gyngor Sir Ynys Môn tuag at brosiect o £5,000 ar gyfer cyfieithu y ddogfen hon i'r Gymraeg a chynhyrchu arweiniad byrrach, dwyieithog i'r Plas ac i'w hanes. Ar hyn o

NEWS UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARY

Plas Penmydd

The house history has recently been completed by Richard Cuthbertson, Gill Jones and Ann Morgan. A £3,500 grant has been awarded by the Isle of Anglesey County Council towards a £5,000 project to translate this into Welsh and produce a shorter bilingual guide to the Plas and its history. Match funding is currently being sought. The successful July

bryd rydym yn chwilio am nawdd cyfatebol. Codwyd £380 tuag at hyn yn Niwrnod Agored llwyddiannus Plas Penmynydd; llawer o ddiolch i bawb a gynorthwyodd ac i'r rhai a fynychodd.

CCB ym Mhlas Tan-y-Bwlch

Roedd llawer yn y cyfarfod hwn, tua 40 aelod. Ailetholwyd yr oll o swyddogion grŵp a chroesawyd Jane Parry-Evans o Rowen fel ymddiriedolwraig newydd. Gwnaethom fwynhau darlith heriol ddarluniadol gan Richard Suggett ar "Building with Crucks in Wales – 1306 to 1626".

Yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, Llanrwst

Rydym yn hynod ddiolchgar i Rhys Mwyn, Archaeolegwr a chyn ymddiriedolwr i GDHDC, am roddi sgwrs yn Gymraeg ar *Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig* fel darlith flynyddol Cymdeithas Archaeolegol Cambria (gweler y llun isod). Daeth llawer i'r ddarlith a dosbarthwyd ein taflenni yn y ddarlith a hefyd yn y babell Hanes Lleol, gan greu llawer o ddiddordeb. Arddangoswyd hefyd ein taflenni yn y Sioe Fawr Frenhinol ac yn sioeau Môn a Meirionnydd.

Gweithgareddau a Chynlluniau

Fe gofnodir yn bensaernïol rai tai allweddol yn GŌn Cymru yn gynnar ym Medi, a bydd yn bennaf wedi ei dalu gan Gronfa Woodtiger.

Mae pob cangen bellach yn ymwneud â Phrosiect y Plwyfi, yn cofnodi manylion dewisiedig hen dai ymhob plwyf. Bydd hyn yn darparu rhestr gynhwysfawr a fydd yn gymorth i ni gynllunio ein hymchwili yn y dyfodol. Gyda'r cymorth sydd ar gael gobeithiwn gofnodi o leiaf un plwyf dros y gaeaf. Tra bydd y casglu hwn o wybodaeth yn digwydd yn y flwyddyn neu ddwy nesaf, gwahoddir canghennau i gyflwyno syniadau ar gyfer prosiectau lleol a gofyn am arian gan GDHDC. Da o beth fuasai i chi gyflwyno syniadau a hefyd gynorthwyo trefnyddion eich cangen sydd wedi paratoi rhaglen amrywiol o weithgareddau misol a fuasai o ddiddordeb i bob aelod. Peidiwch ag oedi ymweld â digwyddiadau canghennau eraill, ond archebwch yn gynnar gan fod niferoedd yn aml yn gyfyngedig.

Cais o bwys ac ar frys

Rydym angen TRYSORYDD i GDHDC i ddechrau yn Ebrill 2020. Addawodd rhywun ymgymryd â'r swydd ond bellach nid yw yn gallu cyflawni'r dasg. Holwch o gwmpas a does dim rhaid i'r person fod â diddordeb mewn hen dai, dim ond yn gallu edrych ar ôl ein cyllid! Am wybodaeth bellach cysylltwch â mi neu â John Townsend ein Trysorydd presennol (manyllion cyswllt isod).

Margaret Dunn

GAIR GAN Y TRYSORYDD

Wrth brynu pethau ar Amazon rydych bellach yn gallu casglu arian i GDHDC yr un pryd, drwy eu prynu yn hytrach ar AmazonSmile heb dalu ceiniog yn fwy. Gwefan yw AmazonSmile a weithredir gan Amazon parthed yr un nwyddau, yr un prisiau a nodweddion siopa fel Amazon.co.uk. Y gwahaniaeth yw y bydd Amazon yn rhoi 0.5% o'r pris pwrcasu net (heb gynnwys TAW) i Grŵp Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig.

Ar eich ymweliad cyntaf i smile.amazon.co.uk rhaid i chi ddod o hyd i Grŵp Darganfod Hen Dai Cymreig cyn dechrau siopa. Byddant yn cofio eich dewis o nwyddau ac yna bydd pob pryniant cymwys a wnewch yn AmazonSmile yn rhoi cyfraniad.

Gwybodaeth bellach: <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/about>
John Townsend john@thetownsend.org.uk

Open Day at Plas Penmynydd raised £380 towards this; thank you to all who helped and to those who attended.

AGM at Plas Tan y Bwlch

This was well-attended by about 40 members.

Group officers were all re-elected and Jane Parry-Evans from Rowen was welcomed as a new trustee. We enjoyed a challenging illustrated lecture by Richard Suggett on "Building with Crucks in Wales – 1306 to 1626".

National Eisteddfod, Llanrwst

We are very grateful to Rhys Mwyn, Archaeologist and former DOWHG trustee, for giving a talk in Welsh on *Discovering Old Welsh Houses* as the annual Cambrian Archaeological Association lecture (see image below). It was well attended and our leaflets were handed out at the lecture and also in the Local History tent, generating much interest. (Our leaflets were also displayed at the Royal Welsh, the Anglesey and the Meirionnydd shows.)



Rhys Mwyn (centre), spoke in Welsh about DOWH at the Llanrwst National Eisteddfod, (pictured here with Frances Lynch-Llewellyn, archaeologist, and Dr Prys Morgan, historian, who chaired the event)

Rhys Mwyn (canol) a siaradodd yn y Gymraeg am DHDC yn Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Llanrwst, ynghyd â Frances Lynch-Llywellyn, archaeolegydd, a Dr Prys Morgan, hanesydd a, chadeirydd y digwyddiad.

Activities and Plans

Architectural recording of some key houses in N E Wales will take place in early September, mainly paid for by the Woodtiger Fund.

All branches are now involved with the Parishes Project, recording selected details of old houses in each parish. This will provide a comprehensive list against which we can plan our future research. With the help available we hope that all members will record at least one parish over the winter. While this gathering of information takes place over the next year or so, branches are invited to bring forward ideas for local projects and request DOWHG funds. Please do give suggestions and support to your branch organisers who have prepared a varied programme of monthly activities which should interest all members. Don't hesitate to visit other branch events, but book early as numbers are often limited.

Urgent and important request

We need a new DOWHG TREASURER to start in April 2020. The person who had previously agreed to do this for us is now unable to do so. Please ask around, no need for the person to be interested in old houses, just able to look after

AELODAETH GDHDC

OS YDYCH Â DIDDORDEB MEWN HEN DAI ond ddim eto yn aelod, pam na wnewch chi ystyried ymuno â'r Grŵp? £15 y flwyddyn, i'w dalu ar Ebrill 1af. Ysgrifenyddes aelodaeth yw Ms Zoe Henderson 01824 704 404.

membership@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Am wybodaeth bellach cysylltwch â Margaret Dunn, secretary@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01766 890550.

DIGWYDDIADAU CANGHENNAU

Archebwch drwy gysylltydd cangen, fel arfer yn £2. Gall aelodau gymryd rhan yn ddigwyddiadau unrhyw gangen, yn ogystal ag yn eu cangen eu hunain. Cysylltwch gyda chysylltydd y gangen.

Rydym yn hynod ddiolchgar i berchenogion tai am eu croeso.

Mae'r tai a grybwyllir yn y Cylchlythyr hwn sydd yn gysylltiedig neu beidio â DHDC yn rhai preifat ac NID ydynt ar agored i'r cyhoedd.



Denbigh Branch visit to Dolbelydr (Landmark Trust property)
Ymweliad Cangen Dynbych â Dolbelydr (Eiddo Ymddiriedolaeth Landmark)

CANGEN YNYS MÔN. Cysylltwch â Sue Hurst 01407 459 319 anglesey@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk (Archebwch ymhell ymlaenllaw)

Medi Mawrth 10fed 2yp Ymweld â Phlas Dinam, Llangaffo ac â'r eglwys. Adeiladwyd y tŷ yn niwedd C17 a'i ailfodelu tua 1715-20. Nifer fwyaf 20. Cost £2. (y cyfan wedi eu harchebu)

Hydref 1au 17eg 2yp Gweithdy Prosiect y Plwyfi yn Archifau Ynys Môn, Ffordd y Stad Ddiwydiannol, Llangefni LL77 7JA. Bydd pob un yn cael cymorth gydag ymchwilio hen dai yn y plwyf. Nifer mwyaf 15. Cost £2.

Tachwedd Dyddiad a lleoliad i'w cadarnhau.

Rhagfyr Mercher 4ydd 12.30yp Y Tolldy, Llanfairpwll. Cyfarfod Cymdeithasu Nadolig ynghyd â Bwffe a sgwrs gan John Townsend ar "Darganfod ac Ymweld â Mwy o Hen Dai", (Prosiect y Plwyfi). Ymweld â'r Tolldy a'r Angueddfa (£2) os fydd amser yn caniatáu. Archebwch y bwyd a'r sgwrs erbyn Tachwedd 18fed. Cost £12.50.

CANGEN CONWY. Cysylltwch â Gill Jones 01492 517 330

gjdulas@doctorbones.org

Medi Mercher 18fed 1yp Y daith a aildefnwyd i Ddolwyddelan gydag Ann Morgan i weld Tai Penamnen (eu gweddillion), eglwys Sant Gwyddelan a Ffynnon Elen. Cyfarfod yn y man picnic ger yr orsaf am 1 yp. Te a bara brith

our finances! For further details please contact me, or John Townsend our existing Treasurer (contact info below).

Margaret Dunn

FROM THE TREASURER

If you buy things on Amazon you are now able to raise money for DOWHG at the same time, by buying them on AmazonSmile instead at no extra cost to you. AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices and shopping features as Amazon.co.uk. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT) to Discovering Old Welsh Houses Group.

On your first visit to smile.amazon.co.uk select 'Discovering Old Welsh Houses Group' before you begin shopping. They will remember your selection and every eligible purchase you make at AmazonSmile results in a donation. Further information: <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/about>

John Townsend john@thetownsend.org.uk.

DOWHG MEMBERSHIP

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OLD HOUSES and are not already a member, why not consider joining the Group? £15 per annum, due April 1st. Membership Secretary is Ms Zoë Henderson 01824 704 404.

membership@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk

For further information contact Margaret Dunn, secretary@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01766 890550.

BRANCH EVENTS

Book with branch contacts, usually £2. Members may participate in events of any branch, not only their own. Check with branch contact.

We are grateful to house-owners for their hospitality.

Houses mentioned in this Newsletter and/or linked with DOWH are private and are NOT open to the public.

ANGLESEY BRANCH. Contact Sue Hurst 01407 459 319 anglesey@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk (Please book well in advance)

September Tues 10th 2pm Visit to Plas Dinam, Llangaffo and the church. House built in the late C17 & remodelled c1715-20. Max 20. Cost £2. (fully booked)

October Thurs 17th 2pm Parishes Project Workshop at Anglesey Archives, Industrial Estate Rd, Llangefni LL77 7JA. Individual help with researching old houses in a parish. Max 15. Cost £2.

November Date and place are being confirmed.

December Wed 4th 12.30 pm The Toll House, Llanfair PG. Christmas social with Buffet and talk by John Townsend on "Finding and Visiting More Old Houses", (Parishes Project). Visit to the Toll House and Museum (£2) if time allows. Book for meal and talk by Nov 18th please. Cost £12.50

CONWY BRANCH. Contact Gill Jones 01492 517 330

gjdulas@doctorbones.org

September 18th Weds 1pm The re-arranged visit to Dolwyddelan with Ann Morgan to see the Tai Penamnen houses (remains of), St. Gwyddelan's church and Elen's Well. Meet at the picnic area near the Station at 1pm. Tea and Bara Brith in Elen's Castle at the end of the visit, £2.50.

October 18th Fri 9.30am Gill will demonstrate how to access a wide variety of on-line information. Venue: Rhos Manor

yng Nghastell Elen ar ddiwedd yr ymweliad, £2.50.

Hydref Gwener 18fed 9.30yb Bydd Gill yn dangos sut i gael gafael ar amrywiaeth eang o wybodaeth arlein. Lleoliad: Fflatiau Maenor Rhos, Rhodfa Colwyn, Llandrillo yn Rhos, LL28 4PN.

Tachwedd Gwener 15fed Dwy sgwrs wedi eu darlunio gan Margaret Barr 'Cludiant o Garchar Rhuthun' a 'Pobl Nant Clwyd y Dre' – rhagarweiniad cyn mynd ar ymweliad arfaethedig y flwyddyn nesaf. (Amser a lleoliad i'w benderfynu.)

Rhagfyr Dim cyfarfod

CANGEN SIR DDINBYCH Cydlynnydd Janice Dale 01490 440 427 jadale22@hotmail.co.uk

Medi Mercher 18fed Ymweld â LLGC/ CBHC.

Hydref Mercher 2il Cyfle i ymweld â Swyddfa Gofnodi Dolgellau gyda Changen Meirionnydd. Gweler manylion dan Gangen Meirionnydd.

Tachwedd Sgwrs gan Pam Buttrey 'Golwg newydd ar Margaret Lloyd o Gwerclas'. Dyddiad, amser a lleoliad i'w cadarnhau.

Rhagfyr Iau 12fed Byddwn yn dathlu'r Nadolig yng nghwmni Cangen y GDdn. Manylion i'w cael o dan Gangen y Gogledd Ddwyrain



*Marciau'r seiri coed yn nhrawstiau to, Sir Ddinbych
Carpenters' marks in roof timbers, Denbs*

CANGEN LLANSILIN. Cysylltydd Mary Cunnah, marycunnah@yahoo.co.uk

Mae'r grŵp yn cyfarfod ar ail Ddydd Llun y mis yn Stafell y Plwyf, Eglwys Llansilin. Lluniaeth. Cynllun at y dyfodol: Paul Hughes, a gafodd ei eni a'i fagu yn yr ardal, ac aelodau Grŵp Ymchwil Hanes Llansilin, yn bwriadu ysgrifennu llyfr ar hanes Llansilin. Os oes gan unrhyw un fanylion, lluniau neu wybodaeth am bentref Llansilin, buasai'n braf gallu eu cynnwys yn y llyfr.

Ar Fai 30ain ymwelodd Cangen Sir Ddinbych o GDHDC â Changen Llansilin a dangoswyd iddynt Ben y Bryn, Eglwys Sant Silin a Thŷ Newydd. Yn ystod y dydd dangosodd Andy Hyde fanylion ar y coed hanesyddol a hefyd arddangos dulliau traddodiadol o dorri coed. Siaradodd Chris Burton am fanylion hanesyddol a welir yn yr eglwys.

Apartments, Colwyn Avenue, Rhos on Sea, LL28 4PN.

November 15th Fri Two illustrated talks by Margaret Barr 'Transportation from Ruthin Gaol' and 'The people of Nant Clwyd y Dre' - an introduction prior to a proposed visit next year. (Time and venue to be arranged.)

December No meeting

DENBIGHSHIRE BRANCH. Contact Janice Dale 01490 440 427 jadale22@hotmail.co.uk

September 18th Weds Visit to NLW/RCAHWW.

October 2nd Weds A chance to visit Dolgellau RO with the Merioneth Branch. See details under Merioneth Branch.

November A talk by Pam Buttrey 'A new look at Margaret Lloyd of Gwerclas'. Date, time and venue to be confirmed.

December 12th Thurs We join NE branch for Christmas event. See details under North East Branch.



*Gwerclas, Denbs (image courtesy of Jenny Lees)
Gwerclas, Sir Ddinbych (cwrteisi delwedd gan Jenny Lees)*

LLANSILIN BRANCH. Contact Mary Cunnah, marycunnah@yahoo.co.uk

The group meets on the second Monday of the month at 2pm in the Parish Room, Llansilin Church. Refreshments. Future plan: Paul Hughes, who was born and brought up in the area, and members of the Llansilin Historic Research Group, are proposing to write a book on Llansilin history. If anyone has details, photos or information about Llansilin village it would be nice to include them in the book.



*Andy Hyde demonstrating traditional carpentry techniques
Andy Hyde yn arddangos technegau gwaith coed traddodiadol*



Preniau tŷ hanesyddol wedi cael eu gweithio gan gelfi traddodiadol
Historic house timber worked with traditional tools

CANGEN MEIRIONNYDD Cysylltydd newydd Martin Cherry 01341 423 517 martincherry@btinternet.com (Archebu yn angenrheidiol)

Medi Llun 16eg 12.30yp Ymweld â dau le 'newydd eu darganfod' ger Llandrillo. Dyma ddau dŷ nenfforch a ddyddiwyd drwy flwyddgylchau yn gynnar yn y C16. Cyfarfod ym maes parcio pentref Llandrillo.

Hydref 1au 3ydd 1yp 'Camau sylfaenol mewn cofnodi adeiladau'. Sesiwn ymarferol i ddechreuwyd mewn tŷ hyfryd o'r C16 ger Dolgellau. Nifer mwyaf 10. Cysylltwch â Martin Cherry i gael cyfeiriadau.

Tachwedd Gweithdy ymarferol ar ddarllen ac ar sut i ddefnyddio dogfennau C16 a C17, yn cael ei arwain gan archifydd y sir. Dyddiad a manylion i'w cadarnhau.

Rhagfyr Mae'n debyn y trefnir digwyddiad cymdeithasol. Mae aelodau'r gangen hefyd yn cyfarfod ar **ddydd Mercher cyntaf y mis** rhwng 9.30yb a 12.30 yp yn Archifdy Dolgellau. Ar hyn o bryd canolbwyntir ar Brosiect y Plwyfi GDHDC (darganfod tai cyn 1700 nad ydynt eto wedi dod i'r golwg), Mae Llanelltyd, Llandecwyn a Thalyllyn wedi eu gwneud fel ymarfer ae fwrdd ac mae'r aelodau yn awr yn ymweld â'r tai a ddarganfuwyd. Gall unrhyw un sydd a diddordeb yn y prosiect hwn – y gellir ei wneud ar gyfrifiadur gartref – gysylltu â John Townsend john@thetownsend.org.uk.



Manylion coed adferedig mewn ysgubor nenfforch yn Llangynhafal, Sir Ddinbych
Detail of timbers in cruck barn at Llangynhafal, Denbs

On 30th May the Denbigh Branch of DOWHG visited the Llansilin Branch and were shown around Pen y Bryn, St. Silin Church and Ty Newydd. During the day Andy Hyde pointed out details on historic timbers and also gave a demonstration of traditional methods for cutting timbers. Chris Burton talked about the historic details of the church.



Denbighshire Branch visit to Ty Newydd, Llansilin
Ymweliad Cangen Sir Ddinbych â Thŷ Newydd, Llansilin

MERIONETH BRANCH. New contact Martin Cherry 01341 423 517 martincherry@btinternet.com (Booking essential)

September 16th Mon 12.30 Visit to two 'newly discovered' early C16 tree-ring dated cruck-framed houses near Llandrillo. Meet in Llandrillo village car park.

October 3rd Thurs 1pm 'Basic steps in building recording'. A hands-on session for beginners in a beautiful C16 house near Dolgellau. Max 10 places. Contact Martin Cherry for directions.

November. A practical workshop on reading and using C16 and C17 documents, led by the county archivist. Date and details to be confirmed.

December. Possible social event to be arranged.

Members of the Branch also meet on the **first Wednesday of the month** between 9.30am and 12.30pm at Dolgellau Archives. Currently the focus is on the DOWHG Parishes Project (finding pre-1700 houses that have not already come to light). Llanelltyd, Llandecwyn and Talyllyn have been done as a table-top exercise and members are now visiting the houses found. Anyone interested in this project, which can be undertaken at home, please contact John Townsend john@thetownsend.org.uk.

NORTH EAST WALES BRANCH. Contact Margaret or Wally Barr 01745 888 622 magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk

wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk. Essential to book in advance.

October 8th Tues 2pm Llanasa Village Hall. Talk by Richard Jones on the history of Pentre Cwm, Cwm. Late medieval hall house.

October 29th Tues 2pm Visits to two C17 houses in Llanasa: The Old Post Office and Hendy Groes. Max number 15.

November 20th Weds 2pm Visit to 16C Plas Uchaf, Ruthin

December 12th Thurs 1pm Christmas Lunch, joint event with the Denbighshire Branch, at Faenol Fawr Country House Hotel, Bodelwyddan. Manor house dated 1597, with crow-stepped gables and other early features.

CANGEN GOGLEDD DDWYRAIN CYMRU cyswllt:

Margaret neu Wally Barr magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk;

wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk, y ddau ar 01745 888 622.

Archebwch ddigon ymlaenllaw gan fod lle yn gyfyngedig.

Hydref Mawrth 8fed 2yp Sgwrs yn neuadd bentref Llanasa gan Richard Jones ar hanes Pentre Cwm, Cwm. Tŷ neuadd ganoloesol.

Hydref Mawrth 29 2yp. Ymweid â dau dŷ o'r G17 yn Llanasa: Y'r Hen Swydd Post a Hendy Groes. Nifer mwyaf 15
Tachwedd Mercher 20fed 2yp Ymweld â Phlas Uchaf, Rhuthun (tua 1500-1510)

Rhagfyr Iau 12fed 1yp Cinio Nadolig fel digwyddiad ar y cyd gyda Changen Dinbych yng Ngwesty Gwledig Faenol Fawr, Bodolwyddan. Maenordy wedi ei ddyddio yn 1597, gyda thalcenni grisiau brain a nifer eraill o arweddion cynnar.

CANGEN ERYRI Cysylltydd: Ann Alston: 01758 750322

snowdonia@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk Archebwch arlein:

<http://discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk/english/visits.html>.

Peter Masters: 01758 750 322 (Archebwch yn gynnar)

Medi Iau 5ed 2yp Prosiect y Plwyfi. Sesiwn ragarweiniol yn Archifau Gwynedd, Doc Fictoria, Caernarfon. (Cafodd ei ohirio yn Ebrill). Mae pob cangen o GDHDC yn casglu gwybodaeth am hen dai ym mhob plwyf. Dewiswch eich plwyf. Dowch â'ch gliadiadur. Lluniaeth Nifer mwyaf 15. £2.

Medi Llun 23ain 2yp Ymweld â Phenhyddgan, Ceidio, ger Nefyn. Mae gan y tŷ deulawr Gradd II* hwn sgrîn o blethwaith a chyplau to wedi eu cerfio yn dyddio i 1573. Cofiwch ddod â sgidiau newid. Nifer Mwyaf 15. £2 y pen.

Hydref Mawrth 15ed 2 yp Gweithdy Prosiect y Plwyfi yn Archifau Gwynedd, Doc Fictoria, Caernarfon. Cymorth i bob unigolyn ar sut i ymchwilio i'r plwyf a ddewiswyd. Dowch â'ch gliadiadur. Lluniaeth ysgafn ar gael. Nifer Mwyaf 15 £2 y pen

Tachwedd Sadwrn 16eg 2yp Ymweld â Ffridd Isaf, Rhyd Ddu. Tŷ Eryri yn dyddio o 1599/1600. Dowch â sgidia newid Lluniaeth ysgafn ar gael. Nifer mwyaf 10. £2 y pen.

Rhagfyr Mawrth 3ydd 12.30yp Dowch a rhennwch ginio yn Neuadd Gymunedol Beddgelert gyda sgwrs fer gan John Townsend ar "Darganfod ac Ymweld â Rhagor o Hen Dai" (Prosiect y Plwyfi), £2 y pen.

Rydym yn ddiolchgar iawn i Margaret Barr am ysgrifennu diwedd glo i'r cylchlythyr hwn, gan ein cyflwyno i werth enwau lleoedd wrth ymchwilio i hanes tai. Mae Margaret yn un o drefnwyr Cangen Gogledd Ddwyrain Cymru o GDHDC.

Enwau Lleoedd a'u Rhan Posibl yn Cynorthwyo

Ymchwil i Hanes Tai

Tra'n ymchwilio i hanes tai mae aelodau GDHDC yn treulio cryn amser yn edrych ar gopïau o gyfrifiadau, dogfennau cyfreithiol, mapiau, cynlluniau ac yn y blaen. Hoffwn bwysleisio y credaf y gellir cael llawer mwy mewn gwirionedd drwy edrych yn hytrach ar yr enwau lleoedd sydd i'w gweld yn y fath amrywiaeth o adnoddau.

Yn gyntaf, ystyriwn enw'r tŷ ei hun gan y gall ddweud wrthyh am leoliad y lle yn y tirlun, e.e. 'Plas Uchaf' o'i gymharu â 'Plas Isaf' (y plasdy uchaf o'i gymharu â'r plasdy isaf). Hefyd gall yr enw ddweud wrthyh am statws cymharol yr adeilad, e.e. 'Tŷ Mawr' a 'Tŷ Bach' (cymharu'r tai o ran



Elizabethan house with crow-stepped gables in Flintshire
Tŷ Elisabethaidd gyda thalcenni grisiau brain yn Sir y Fflint

SNOWDONIA BRANCH. Contact: Ann Alston: 01758 750322

snowdonia@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk Book online:

<http://discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk/english/visits.html>.

Peter Masters: 01758 750 322 (Please book early)

September 5th Thurs 2 pm Parishes Project: Introductory session at Gwynedd Archives, Victoria Dock, Caernarfon (postponed from April). All DOWHG branches are gathering information about old houses in each parish. Choose your parish. Bring your laptop. Refreshments. Max 15. £2.

September 23rd Mon 2 pm Visit to Penhyddgan, Ceidio, near Nefyn. This Grade II* two-storeyed house with a rare guilloche-moulded screen and carved roof trusses, dated to 1573. Please bring change of shoes. Max 15. £2 per head.

October 15th Tues 2 pm Parishes Project Workshop at the Gwynedd Archives, Victoria Dock, Caernarfon. Individual help with researching your chosen parish. Bring your laptop. Light refreshments available. Max 15 £2 per head.

November Sat 16th 2 pm Visit to Ffridd Isaf, Rhyd Ddu. Snowdonia house dated to 1599/1600. Bring change of shoes. Light refreshments available. Max 10. £2 per head

December Tues 3rd 12.30 pm Bring and Share lunch in Beddgelert Community Hall with short talk by John Townsend on "Finding and Visiting More Old Houses" (Parishes Project). £2 per head.

We are grateful to Margaret Barr for writing the Endpiece for this issue, introducing us to the value of place-name evidence in researching house histories. Margaret is one of the organisers of the North East Wales Branch of DOWHG.

Place Names and their Potential Role in Aiding House History Research

When engaged in research DOWHG members working on house histories spend a considerable time poring over copies of censuses, legal documents, maps, plans and so forth. I would like to make the point that I feel that there is much to be gained by actually looking at the place names that appear in such a variety of resources.

Firstly, let's consider the name of the house itself. It may tell you about its position in the landscape, e.g. 'Plas Uchaf' compared to 'Plas Isaf' (the higher mansion c.f. the lower mansion). Also, the name can tell you about the relative

maint). Gall enwau hefyd adlewyrchu adeiladu'r tŷ, e.e. 'Tŷ Cerrig a Shimdda hir'. Weithiau mae enwau yn dweud wrthym pwy oedd yr unigolion a fu'n byw yno e.e. Bryn Goronwy a Thre Edenowain. Dro arall gall enw'r tŷ adlewyrchu swyddogaeth flaenorol y lle, e.e. 'Hafod Ysbyty' (preswylfan yr ysbyty yn yr haf) a 'Pant-y-Gof'. Gallwch wrth ddarllen hyn deimlo fod yr hyn a ddwedaf yn amlwg, ond rwyf yn ceisio cael yr aelodau i ymdreiddio ychydig yn ddyfnach. Os enw'r tŷ yw 'Ffynnon y Cyff' (ffynnon cyff y goeden) a wnaeth yr ymchwilwyr geisio lleoli'r ffynnon a roddodd enw i'r tŷ?

Mae enwau caeau yn ffynhonnell gyfoethog o wybodaeth. Mae'r enwau a geir ar fap yn gallu bod yn hynod ddefnyddiol ac yn gallu helpu deall hanes cyflawn y tai sy'n cael eu hastudio a'r math o fywydau a oedd gan y trigolion. Mae mapiau degwm, mapiau stadau a chynlluniau eraill i gyd yn ddogfennau a all ychwanegu at eich gwybodaeth. Yn yr achos o gae gyda'r enw 'Erw Felin' (Mill Acre) a oedd y tŷ yn gysylltiedig â melin rhywbryd yn ei hanes? Enw cae diddorol arall yw 'Cae rhwng y ddau dŷ' a fuasai yn eich arwain i ofyn, 'a fu yna ddau dŷ ar y safle yn y gorffennol?' Gall enwau caeau hefyd ddweud wrthyhch pa ddefnydd a wnaed o'r tir yn y gorffennol, e.e. 'Cae'r ody' (Limekiln Field). Yn achos y cae o'r enw 'Bryn y Mawndy' (Peathouse Hill) mae hyn yn creu delwedd o'r teulu yn llosgi mawn yn eu haelwydydd yn y canrifoedd blaenorol. Mae hyn i gyd yn ychwanegu at ddyfnder ein deall o fywydau yn nhai Cymru yn y gorffennol. Ceir nifer o sefydliadau a llyfrau a all eich cynorthwyo. Isod ceir cwprwl o lyfrau sydd wedi bod yn hynod ddefnyddiol i mi.

Ffynhonnell ddiweddar ar gyfer ardal G Ddn Cymru yw'r llyfr *Place-Names of Flintshire* gan Hywel Wyn Owen a Ken Lloyd Gruffydd, a gyhoeddwyd gan Wasg Prifysgol Cymru yn 2017. Mae'r llyfr hwn wedi ei ymchwilio'n dda iawn ac yn rhoi dyddiadau pan ymddangosodd gyntaf enwau penodol yn y cofnodion ac yna'r cofnodion sy'n dilyn ac amrywiol sillafu. Gall hyn fod yn ddefnyddiol iawn i'r rhai sy'n ymchwilio i hanesion tai. Rwyf yn aelod o Gymdeithas Enwau Lleoedd Cymreig, sydd â'r amcanion canlynol:

- hybu ymwybyddiaeth, astudiaeth a dealltwriaeth o enwau lleoedd Cymru
- ystyried y berthynas rhwng enwau lleoedd Cymru ac ieithoedd, tirlun, hanes a diwylliant y wlad
- gwarchod enwau lleoedd Cymru

Yng Ngorffennaf eleni sicrhodd CELIC grant gan y Loteri Cenedlaethol ar gyfer cefnogi ei waith:

"Mae ein henwau lleoedd yn wynebu bygythiad difrifol a chyson pan fônt yn cael eu newid, eu cyfiethu neu eu hanwybyddu. Unwaith y collir hwy bydd rhan hanfodol a sylweddol o'n hetifeddiaeth a chysylltiadau â'n gorffennol yn diflannu. Yn anffodus, ni chyflwynwyd y ddeddfwriaeth sy'n gwarchod elfennau o'n treftadaeth megis adeiladau, anifeiliaid a phlanhigion i enwau lleoedd."

Yn sicr fe rennir y teimladau hyn hefyd gan nifer o aelodau GDHDC. Gobeithiaf eich bod wedi mwynhau darllen am bethau sy'n eich diddori yn yr erthygl hon. Ond rwyf hefyd yn ymwybodol y gall fod nifer ohonoch, er yn cydnabod

status of the building, e.g. 'Tŷ Mawr' and 'Tŷ Bach' – (the big house c.f. the small house). Names may also reflect the construction of the building, e.g. 'Tŷ Cerrig' (stone house) and 'Shimdda Hir' (long chimney). Names sometimes tell you about individuals that may have actually lived there, e.g. 'Bryn Goronwy' (Goronwy's Hill) and Tre Edenowain (Ednywain's Estate). Other times the house name may reflect its former use, e.g. 'Hafod Ysbyty' (summer residence of the hospital/ hospice) and 'Pant-y-Gof' (the blacksmith's hollow). You may be reading this and think what I am saying is obvious, but I am encouraging members to delve a bit more deeply. If the house name is 'Ffynnon y Cyff' (well of the tree trunk) have the researchers tried to locate the well that gave the name to the house?



"Plas Uchaf", near Ruthin/ ger Rhuthun

Field names are another rich source of information. Names found on maps can be very useful and may well help with understanding the overall history of the houses being studied and the lives the inhabitants led. Tithe maps, estate maps and other plans are all documents that may well add to your knowledge. In the case of the field with the name 'Erw Felin' (Mill Acre) was the house connected to a mill at some stage? Another interesting field name is 'Cae rhwng y ddau dŷ' (the field between the two houses) which would lead you to question, 'had there been two houses on the site at some period in the past?' Field names can also tell you what the land may have been used for, e.g. 'Cae'r ody' (Limekiln Field). In the case of the field name 'Bryn y Mawndy' (Peathouse Hill) this creates an image of the family burning peat in their hearths in previous centuries. It all adds to the depth of understanding of lives in houses of Wales in the past.

There are several organisations and books that can assist you. Here are a couple that have been particularly useful to me. A recent source for the N E Wales area is the book *Place-Names of Flintshire* by Hywel Wyn Owen and Ken Lloyd Gruffydd, published by the University of Wales Press in 2017. This book is very well researched and gives dates when the particular names first appear in records and then the subsequent records and variant spellings. This could be very useful for those researching house histories. I am a member of the Welsh Place-Name Society, the aims of which are to:

- promote the awareness, study and understanding of the place-names of Wales

diddordeb, yn bersonol nid ydych yn siarad Cymraeg ac felly ni fydd hyn o gymorth i chi yn eich ymchwiliadau i hanes tai. Felly, fe hoffwn awgrymu i grŵp cyfan DHDC y gellid llunio geirfa o ystyron enwau lleoedd a'u cylchredeg i'r aelodau. Buasai'n ddiddorol ac yn ddefnyddiol. Gallem hyd yn oed gynnig cyfle i ymgynghori â SELIC ar gyfer cyflawni'r dasg.

Margaret Barr

- consider the relationship between the place-names of Wales and the languages, landscape, history and culture of the country
- protect the place-names of Wales

In July this year the WPNS secured a grant from the National Lottery to support its work:

“Our place-names face a serious and regular threat when they are changed, translated or ignored. Once lost an essential and substantial part of our heritage and links to our past will disappear. Unfortunately the legislation that protects other elements of our heritage such as buildings, animals and plants has been denied to place-names.”

Surely these sentiments are shared by many members of DOWHG too. I hope that you will have found things of interest in this article. But I also realise that many of you will be saying that, although interesting, you personally do not speak Welsh and so this will not help you with your investigations into house histories. Therefore, I would like to suggest to the whole DOWH group that a glossary of place name meanings could be compiled and circulated to members. It would be both interesting and useful. There may even be a place for consultation with the WPNS.

Margaret Barr



Early Welsh inscription on 1645 house in Flintshire
Arysgrifen Cynnar Cymraeg ar dŷ 1645 yn Sir Fflint

GAIR GAN OLYGYDD Y CYLCHLYTHYR HWN

Yn y CCB cytunwyd wedi trafodaeth y buasem yn cynyddu hyd y cylchlythyr, pan fo angen. Mae hyn yn addas gan taw y cylchlythyr chwarterol yw'r cyswllt pennaf sydd gan yr aelodau â'r Grŵp, yn arbennig y rhai sy'n methu â chymryd rhan yn ddigwyddiadau'r gangen. Felly gwelwch fod y rhifyn hwn yn hirach nag arfer. Wrth gwrs mae'n amlwg fod costau argraffu mewn lliw, y ffaith nad yw pob aelod yn defnyddio ebost ac rydym hefyd yn anfon copïau i noddwyr ayyb, yn cyfyngu ar hyd y rhifyn. Fodd bynnag, mae gennym bellach y gofod i gynnwys adroddiadau a darluniau o ddigwyddiadau diweddar, a gallwn hefyd sôn neu gyflwyno adolygiadau byr o lyfrau a allasai fod o ddiddordeb. Rydym yn barod wedi dechrau ar hyn. Gwahoddir pob aelod i ystyried cynnig cyfraniad eu hunain i gylchlythyrau'r dyfodol. Anfonwch eich syniadau/cyfraniadau ataf fi mewn da bryd (fel arfer y dyddiad olaf ar gyfer derbyn yw'r wythnos gyntaf yn Nhachwedd, Chwefror, Mai ac Awst). Llauer o ddiolch.

Dr Irene Brightmer
brightmer@btinternet.com

FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

At the AGM it was agreed after discussion that we would increase the length of the newsletter, when appropriate. This is because the quarterly newsletter is the main contact members have with the Group, especially those who can't often participate in branch events. So you will see that this issue is longer than previously. There is obviously a limit to the length because of colour printing costs, as not all members use email, and we also send out copies to sponsors etc. However, we now have the space to include reports and illustrations of past events, and can also mention or provide brief reviews of books which may be of interest. We have already made a start on this. All members are invited to consider making their own contribution to future newsletters. Please send ideas/contributions to me in good time (usual deadlines are the first week of November, February, May and August). Many thanks.

Dr Irene Brightmer
brightmer@btinternet.com



Comisiwn Brenhinol
Henebion Cymru
Royal Commission on the Ancient
and Historical Monuments of Wales



Woodtiger Fund



MARC FITCH FUND



DARGANFOD HEN DAI CYMREIG DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES



NODDWYR/PATRONS:

Y Gwir Anrhydeddus yr Arglwydd Elis-Thomas, CG, AC; Sir Simon Jenkins, FSA, FRSL; Dr Eurwyn Wiliam, MA, PhD, FSA

Dathlu Treftadaeth Cymru drwy astudio tai traddodiadol a bywydau'r bobl fu'n byw ynddynt.

Celebrating Welsh Heritage through the study of traditional houses and the lives of the people who lived in them.

CYLCHLYTHYR 31 Rhagfyr 2019

NEWSLETTER 31 December 2019

EIN GWEFAN <http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk> yw prif sianel gyfathrebu'r grŵp – defnyddiwch hi i weld mwy o fanylion am y digwyddiadau diweddar a'r rhai sydd ar ddod, ac i edrych ar ein llyfrgell sy'n cynyddu'n gyson ac ar nodweddion eraill.

OUR WEBSITE <http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk> is the Group's main channel of communication – please visit it to see details of recent and forthcoming events and to look at our growing library and other features.

O'R GADAIR

Wrth i ni agosáu at 2020 rydw i'n cael fy atgoffa y bydd yn ben-blwydd y Project Dendro yn 15 oed bryd hynny ac na ddylen ni adael i'r pen-blwydd arbennig yma fynd heb dathlu. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar pe bai pob aelod yn gallu ystyried digwyddiad neu gyhoeddiad priodol.

Roedd Gŵyl Hanes Bangor ar 25 a 26 Hydref yn llwyddiant ysgubol ac fe ddylem i gyd gydnabod gwaith arbennig un o'n haelodau, Raj Jones, gan mai oherwydd ei ysbrydoliaeth, ei waith a'i gefnogaeth ariannol, ynghyd â chydweithrediad y Brifysgol, y llwyddwyd i gynnal y digwyddiad. Roedd Richard Suggett yno'n trafod Cyfraith Dewiniaeth, cawsom olwg arbennig ar Harri'r VIII gan David Starkey, a siaradodd Lucy Worsley yn ddifys dros ben am Elizabeth I. Cafwyd cyfraniadau gan siaradwyr nodedig eraill hefyd, ac roedd yr holl ddigwyddiad yn adlewyrchu'r twf enfawr yn ein hawydd i ddysgu mwy am hanes. Rydw i'n siŵr bod llawer ohonoch wedi ei mwynhau a gobeithiwn y cynhelir un arall y flwyddyn nesaf; ac wedi darllen sylwadau Margaret isod rydw innau yn cytuno'n gryf â'i theimladau.

Y cwbl sydd ar ôl i mi ei wneud yw dymuno gwyliau Nadolig braf iawn i bob un ohonoch a diolch am eich cefnogaeth a'ch brwdfrydedd yn ystod 2019.

Richard Cuthbertson

FROM THE CHAIR

Well, as we move towards 2020 I am reminded that the Dendro Project will then have been running for 15 years and that we should not let this auspicious anniversary pass by uncelebrated. I would be grateful if all members could consider what might make a suitable event or publication.

The History Festival in Bangor on the 25th and 26th October was a great success and we should all acknowledge the wonderful work done by one of our members, Raj Jones, whose inspiration, hard work and financial support, along with the cooperation of the University, made the whole event possible. Richard Suggett was there talking about Witchcraft Law, David Starkey gave us some special insights on Henry VIII, and Lucy Worsley talked very entertainingly about Elizabeth I. There were many other illustrious speakers, and the whole event was a mirror on the huge growth in our appetite for history. I am sure many of you enjoyed it and we hope there may be a repeat next year; and having read Margaret's thoughts below I strongly echo her sentiments.

All that remains for me to do is to wish you all a very enjoyable Christmas break and to thank you for your support and enthusiasm during 2019.

Richard Cuthbertson

Y NEWYDDION DIWEDDARAF GAN YR YSGRIFENNYDD

Mae'n ddrwg gennym gyhoeddi marwolaeth diweddar Nigel Steele-Mortimer o Golden Grove, Llanasa, aelod gweithgar o Gangen GDd Cymru, a Madge Moran, arbenigwr ar bensaerniaeth werinol Swydd Amwythig.

CAIS AR FRYS – TRYSORYDD GDHDC: Fel y gwyddoch, o bosib, cafwyd rhybudd y llynedd gan John Townsend, ein trysorydd ers blyneddau lawer, ei fod am ymddeol o'r swydd honno ar 31 Mawrth 2020. Mae'r unigolyn oedd wedi cytuno i ymgymryd â'r swydd wedi gorfod tynnu'n ôl oherwydd ymrwymadau teuluol. Er i ni gysylltu ag ail unigolyn oedd â diddordeb, dydy o ddim bellach yn gallu derbyn y swydd. **FELLY MAE ANGEN EICH CYMORTH ARNOM** i ddod o hyd i rhywun i ymgymryd â'r swydd hon am 2-3 mlynedd. A allech chi wneud hyn? Neu beth am gysylltu â ffrindiau a all ymrwymo i dderbyn y swydd wirfoddol hon, i gychwyn ar 1 Ebrill 2020. Mae costau teithio @40c y filltir ar gael, ac nid yw'n angenrheidiol i'r Trysorydd newydd gymryd rhan yn agweddau treftadaeth y Grŵp. Mae John yn fodlon eu helpu i ddeall y gwaith. Cysylltwch â Margaret Dunn am fanylion pellach ac am fanylion llawn y swydd. (secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk)



St Gredifael's Church, Penmynydd, Anglesey, location of the alabaster tomb of the ancestor of the royal house of Tudor

Eglwys Sant Gredifael, Penmynydd, Ynys Môn, lleoliad beddrod alabaster hynafiad y tŷ brenhinol Tuduraidd

NEWS UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARY

We are sad to announce the recent deaths of Nigel Steele-Mortimer of Golden Grove, Llanasa, an active member of the NE Wales Branch, and of Madge Moran, Shropshire's vernacular architecture expert.

Mae **cofnodi pensaernïol** tri adeilad yng Ngogledd Ddwyrain Cymru yn gynnar yn yr hydref wedi cwblhau'r project Cronfa Woodtiger a chyn bo hir bydd yr adroddiadau ar gael ar ein gwefan ac ar Coflein. Ni chafwyd cais am grantiau newydd ar gyfer gweddill y flwyddyn ariannol gan ein bod yn canolbwyntio ar y Project Plwyfi a gwirio nad ydym wedi methu unrhyw dai dyddiedig cyn 1700. Diolch i bawb ym mhob cangen sydd wedi cymryd rhan yn yr arolwg pwysig hwn, ar-lein yn bennaf, a fydd yn ffurfio sail blaenoriaethu digwyddiadau yn y dyfodol. Diolch hefyd i'r sawl sy'n parhau i ymchwilio i hanesion tai. Roedd cryn ddiddordeb ar ein stondin ym mhenwythnos Gŵyl y Fflam yng Nghorwen; diolch i Janice a'i chynorthwyr.

Llongyarchiadau i Jenny Lees am ei herthygl "A Quest for Cymer in Edeyrnion and its Barons: Part 1 c1200-c1700" a gyhoeddwyd yng Nghylchgrawn diweddar Cymdeithas Hanes a Chofnodion Meirionnydd, hefyd i Margaret Barr, gan fod ei herthygl ar enwau lleoedd yn ein Cylchlythyr diweddaraf wedi ei dosbarthu gan Gymdeithas Enwau Lleoedd Cymru i bob un o'u haelodau.

Llongyarchiadau hefyd i'n cangen yng Nghonwy lle llwyddodd Richard Jones gyda'i gais am grant cam 1 gan "Cynllun Bagiau Cymorth Tesco". Rŵan, mae angen i bawb gasglu eu tocynnau plastig yn Tesco a'u gosod yn y blwch priodol yn Siop Fawr Tesco Llandudno rhwng 1 Ionawr a 31 Mawrth 2020. Byddwn yn gwybod maint y grant erbyn diwedd Ebrill 2020.



Pâr o nenffyrch, un o bedwar pâr sydd wedi goroesi yn y tŷ hwn o'r 16eg ganrif a fu ar un pryd yn dŷ neuadd yn Sir Ddinbych
A pair of crucks, one of four surviving pairs in this 16C former hall house in Denbighshire

Mae Martin Cherry, ynghyd â Peter Thompson a Richard Suggett wedi cyfrannu penawdau i "Cruck Building: A Survey" a olygwyd gan Nat Alcock, P S Barnwell a Martin Cherry, i'w gyhoeddi yn y Flwyddyn Newydd gan Shaun Tyas Publishing. Ar ôl ei ddarlith yng Ngŵyl Hanes y Pedair Cenedl ym Mhrifysgol Bangor, gwahoddwyd yr Athro David Starkey gan ein cadeirydd i ymweld â Phlas Penmynydd, gyda chinio i ddilyn. Cafodd grŵp bach ohonom awr ddifyr o drafodaeth cyn mynd i weld y delwau Tuduraidd yn Eglwys Penmynydd. Roedd yr Athro Starkey yn cymeradwyo ein dull aml-ddisgyblaethol o weithredu a'n defnydd o ffynonellau gwreiddiol yn ein hymchwil.

Yn ddiweddar, cyfrannodd GDHDC at gwrs diwrnod ar Goed ac Adeiladau Ffram Goed gan Sefydliad Siartredig Archeolegwyr Maes Cymru gyda sgwrs ar "Dendrochronology and Community Involvement in Rural North Wales".

Hoffem fynegi ein diolch i'n cyfieithydd, Mrs Eluned Rowlands,

URGENT REQUEST - DOWHG TREASURER: As you may know, John Townsend, who has been our treasurer for many years, gave notice a year ago that he would be retiring from that role on 31 March 2020. The person who had agreed to take over has had to withdraw due to unexpected family commitments. A second interested person we contacted is not now able to become our next treasurer. SO WE NEED YOUR HELP to find someone to undertake this role for 2-3 years. Could YOU do this? Or please contact any friends etc who might possibly take on this voluntary post starting on 1st April 2020. Travelling expenses @40p per mile are available, and the new Treasurer need not necessarily be involved in the heritage aspects of the Group. John is willing to help them settle in. Please contact Margaret Dunn for further details and full job description. (secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk)

The early autumn **architectural recording** of three NE Wales buildings has completed the 2018-19 Woodtiger Fund project and the reports will soon be available on our website and Coflein. No new grants have been requested for the remainder of this financial year as we are concentrating on the Parishes Project and checking that we have not missed any pre-1700 houses. Thank you to all those in each branch involved in this important, mainly online survey, which will form the basis for prioritising future activities. Thank you too to all who continue to research house histories. There was considerable interest at our stall at the September "Gŵyl y Fflam" weekend festival in Corwen; thank you to Janice and her helpers.

Congratulations to Jenny Lees for her article "A Quest for Cymer in Edeyrnion and its Barons: Part 1 c1200-c1700" published in the Merioneth Historical and Record Society's recent Journal, and to Margaret Barr whose article on place-names in our last Newsletter was distributed by the Welsh Place-Name Society to all their members.

Congratulations also to our Conwy branch where Richard Jones has submitted a successful phase 1 grant application to the "Tesco Bags of Help Scheme". Now we all need to collect our Tesco tokens and put them in the correct slot in the Llandudno Tesco Superstore between 1 January and 31 March 2020. The size of the grant will be known by the end of April 2020.

Dr Martin Cherry with Peter Thompson and Richard Suggett have contributed chapters to "Cruck Building: A Survey" edited by Nat Alcock, P S Barnwell and Martin Cherry, to be published in the New Year by Shaun Tyas Publishing. After speaking at the Four Nations History Festival at Bangor University, Professor David Starkey was invited by our chairman to visit Plas Penmynydd, followed by lunch. A small group of us enjoyed a lively hour of discussion before viewing the Tudor effigies in Penmynydd church. Professor Starkey approved of our multidisciplinary approach and use of original sources in our research.

DOWHG contributed recently to a Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists' Wales day school on Timber and Timber-framed Building with a talk on "Dendrochronology and Community Involvement in Rural North Wales".

We want to express our grateful thanks to our translator, Mrs Eluned Rowlands, for all the work she has done for us over the past few years - diolch yn fawr iawn. Our new translator is Haf Meredydd.

My apologies for not attending many meetings this autumn. I'm soon having my second cataract operation and then look forward to seeing clearly and driving again.

Margaret Dunn

am ei holl waith i ni dros y blynyddoedd diwethaf – diolch yn fawr iawn. Ein cyfieithydd presennol yw Haf Meredydd.

Fy ymddiheuriadau am beidio â mynychu llawer o gyfarfodydd yr hydref hwn. Cyn bo hir rydw i'n cael fy ail driniaeth cataract ac rydw i'n edrych ymlaen at weld yn glir a gallu gyrru car unwaith eto.

Margaret Dunn

AELODAETH DOWHG

OS OES GENNYCH DDIDDORDEB MEWN HEN DAI ac os nad ydych eisoes yn aelod, pam na wnewch chi ystyried ymaelodi â'r Grŵp? £15 y flwyddyn, yn ddyledus 1 Ebrill. Yr Ysgrifennydd Aelodaeth yw Ms Zöe Henderson ar 01824 704404.

membership@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Am ragor o wybodaeth cysylltwch â Margaret Dunn, secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01766 890550.

DIGWYDDIADAU CANGHENNAU

Archebwch gyda chysylltiadau'r canghennau, £2 fel arfer. Fe all aelodau gymryd rhan yn nigwyddiadau unrhyw gangen, yn ogystal â'u cangen eu hunain. Gallwch wirio hyn gyda chyswllt y gangen.

Rydym yn ddiolchgar i berchnogion tai am eu lletygarwch.

Tai preifat yw'r tai a grybwyllir yn y Cylchlythyr hwn sydd â chyswllt â CDHD a dydyn nhw DDIM yn agored i'r cyhoedd.

CANGEN YNYS MÔN. Cysylltwch â Sue Hurst 01407 459319 anglesey@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk (Cofiwch archebu cyn gynted â phosib)

22 Ionawr (Mercher) 2-4pm Ymweliad ag Eglwys Cybi Sant, Caergybi. Sefydlwyd yr eglwys yn wreiddiol yn 540 OC ac fe'i codwyd o fewn muriau'r gaer Rhufeinig. Mae'r eglwys bresennol yn dyddio o'r 13^{eg} i'r 16^{eg} ganrif. Arweinir taith dywys gan un o'r plwyfolion ac efallai y bydd lluniaeth ysgafn ar gael. Cost £2, sef cyfraniad i'r eglwys.



Pentre Berw, plasty o'r 17g, Gaerwen, Ynys Môn
Pentre Berw, 17C Manor house, Gaerwen, Anglesey

20 Chwefror (dydd Iau) 2-4pm Sesiwn arall yn Archifdy Llangefni ar gyfer y Project Plwyfi. O'r 40 o blwyfi cyfoes Ynys Môn, rydym wedi ymchwilio hanes hanner y rhain am adeiladau rhestredig. Dyma gyfle i'r sawl sydd eisoes wedi gwneud rhywfaint o waith ar y project i ddod ynghyd a thrafod eu darganfyddiadau a chyfle i bobl newydd ddysgu sut i fynd ati. Lluniaeth ysgafn, cost £2. Cyfyngir y nifer i 20.

18 Mawrth (dydd Mercher) 2-4pm Sgwrs a lluniau gan Terry

DOWHG MEMBERSHIP

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OLD HOUSES and are not already a member, why not consider joining the Group? £15 per annum, due April 1st. Membership Secretary is Ms Zoë Henderson 01824 704 404.

membership@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

For further information contact Margaret Dunn, secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01766 890550.

BRANCH EVENTS

Book with branch contacts, usually £2. Members may participate in events of any branch, not only their own. Check with branch contact.

We are grateful to house-owners for their hospitality.

Houses mentioned in this Newsletter and/or linked with DOWHG are private and are NOT open to the public.

ANGLESEY BRANCH. Contact Sue Hurst 01407 459 319 anglesey@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk (Please book well in advance)

Jan 22nd (Weds) 2-4 pm Visit to St Cybi's Church, Holyhead. The church was originally founded in 540 AD and was built within the walls of the Roman fort. The present church dates from 13th – 16th centuries. A tour will be led by one of the parishioners and light refreshments may be available. Cost £2, which will be donated to the church.

Feb 20th (Thurs) 2-4pm Another session in the Archives at Llangefni for the Parishes Project. Of the 40 modern parishes on Anglesey, almost half have been looked into for listed buildings. This is a chance for those who have already done some work on the project to come together and discuss their findings and a chance for newcomers to be shown the ropes. Light refreshments, cost £2. Numbers limited to 20.



St Cybi's Church, Holyhead
Eglwys Cybi Sant, Caergybi

March 18th (Weds) 2-4pm Talk and slide show by Terry Williams on "Some of Anglesey's Lost Houses". These are houses which existed within living memory, but sadly didn't make it into the 21st century. To be held at Benllech Community Hall, light refreshments, cost £2. Numbers limited to 20.

April 30th (Thurs) 2-4pm Visit to Pentre Berw, Gaerwen. This is a complex site with ruinous early remains and a magnificent 17th century manor house. Tour of the house (indoor shoes, please) and light refreshments, cost £2. Numbers limited to 15, early booking advised.

Williams gyda'r teitl "Some of Anglesey's Lost Houses". Dyma dai a oedd yn bodoli o fewn cof, ond yn drist iawn a ddiflannodd cyn cyrraedd yr 21^{ain} ganrif. I'w gynnal yn Neuadd Gymunedol Benllech, lluniaeth ysgafn, cost £2. Cyfyngir y nifer i 20.

30 Ebrill (dydd Iau) 2-4yp Ymweliad â Phentre Berw, Gaerwen. Dyma safle cymhleth gydag adfeilion gweddillion cynnar a phlasty gwyh o'r 17^{eg} ganrif. Taith dywys o amgylch y tŷ (esgidiau priodol, os gwelwch yn dda) a lluniaeth ysgafn, cost £2. Cyfyngir y nifer i 15; fe'ch cynghorir i archebu'n gynnar.

CANGEN CONWY. Cysylltwch â Gill Jones 01492 517330
gjudulas@doctorbones.org

27 Ionawr (dydd Llun) Cyfarfod cyffredinol yn nhŷ Gill i rannu gwybodaeth am faterion cyfredol a phrojectau yn cynnwys y Project Plwyfi.

24 Chwefror (dydd Llun) Sgwrs gan Tony Scharer am hanes Plas Uchaf yng Nglan Conwy fel cyflwyniad ar gyfer ymweliad â'r tŷ yn yr haf.

23 Mawrth (dydd Llun) Un ai trafodaeth cyffredinol yn nhŷ Gill neu ymweliad ag Archifdy.

CANGEN SIR DDINBYCH. Cysylltwch â Janice Dale 01490 440427
jadale22@hotmail.co.uk Cysylltwch â Janice am gopi o raglen.

CANGEN LLANSILIN. Cysylltwch â Mary Cunnah,
marycunnah@yahoo.co.uk

Mae'r grŵp yn cyfarfod ar ail ddydd Llun bob mis am 2yp yn Ystafell y Plwyf, Eglwys Llansilin. Lluniaeth.

Cynllun ar gyfer y dyfodol: Mae Paul Hughes, brodor o'r ardal, ac aelodau Grŵp Ymchwil Hanes Llansilin, yn bwriadu ysgrifennu llyfr ar hanes Llansilin.

CANGEN MEIRIONNYDD. Cysylltwch â Martin Cherry ar 01341 423517
martincherry@btinternet.com (Rhaid archebu lle)

15 Ionawr (dydd Mercher) 10.30 (NB NID ar ddydd Mercher cyntaf y mis fel arfer). Archifdy Meirionnydd am drafodaeth fer am gynlluniau a chynnydd ar y Project Plwyfi. Yna am 11.00 cynhelir y cyntaf o'r gweithdai 'Defnyddio Dogfennau Hanesyddol'.

5 Chwefror (dydd Mercher) 10.00 Archifdy Meirionnydd. Cyfarfod llawn cyntaf y Project Plwyfi. Manylion llawn i ddilyn. Os bydd y tywydd yn caniatáu efallai y byddwn yn ymweld ag un o'r plwyfi sy'n cael ei astudio.

19 Chwefror (dydd Mercher) 7.30yh yn Neuadd Gymunedol Nantgwynant. "The Casson Family in North Wales: a story of slate and more", sgwrs gyda lluniau gan Dr Diana Devlin, awdur a darlithydd. Bydd ei llyfr diweddar ar y pwnc hwn ar werth @ £9.95. Lluniaeth ysgafn. £2 y pen. Saif y neuadd fechan ar y gilfan ar ochr Beddgelert o Gaffi Gwynant ar yr A498.

5 Mawrth (dydd Mercher) 10.00 Archifdy Meirionnydd. Cyfarfod o'r Project Plwyfi (fel 5 Chwefror, cynlluniau i'w penderfynu).

25 Mawrth (dydd Mercher) 11.00 Gweithdy ar ddefnyddio ffynonellau dogfennol a arweinir gan Ania Skarzynska. (Fel uchod, 15 Ionawr).

1 Ebrill (dydd Mercher) 10.30 Cyfarfod o'r Project Plwyfi (pe bai angen, i'w gadarnhau)

6 Mai (dydd Mercher) Cyfarfod byr o'r Project Plwyfi gyda gweithdy ar ddefnyddio ffynonellau dogfennol am 11.00 a arweinir gan Ania Skarzynska. (Fel uchod ar 15 Ionawr)

CONWY BRANCH. Contact Gill Jones 01492 517 330

gjudulas@doctorbones.org

January 27th (Mon) General meeting at Gill's house to share information about current interests and projects including the Parishes Project.

February 24th (Mon) Tony Scharer will give a talk about the history of Plas Uchaf in Glan Conwy as a prelude to a visit to the house in the summer.

March 23rd (Mon) Either a general discussion meeting at Gill's house or a visit to an Archive.

DENBIGHSHIRE BRANCH. Contact Janice Dale 01490 440 427

jadale22@hotmail.co.uk

Please contact Janice for Spring programme.



Decoration on a timber-framed building, Katryn of Berain's house, Denbs
Addurn ar adeilad ffrâm goed, tŷ Catrin o Ferain, Sir Ddinbych

LLANSILIN BRANCH. Contact Mary Cunnah,
marycunnah@yahoo.co.uk

The group meets on the second Monday of the month at 2pm in the Parish Room, Llansilin Church. Refreshments.

Future plan: Paul Hughes, who was born and brought up in the area, and members of the Llansilin Historic Research Group, are proposing to write a book on Llansilin history.

MERIONETH BRANCH. Contact Martin Cherry 01341 423 517
martincherry@btinternet.com (Booking essential)

January 15th (Weds) 10.30 (NB NOT the usual first Wednesday of the month). Merioneth archives for a brief discussion about plans and progress on the Parishes Project followed at 11.00 by the first of the 'Using Historic Documents' workshops.

February 5th (Weds) 10.00 Merioneth archives. The first full Parishes Project meeting. Full details will follow. Weather permitting we may venture into one of the parishes under study.

February 19th (Weds) 7.30 p.m. in Nantgwynant Community Hall. "The Casson Family in North Wales: a story of slate and more", an illustrated talk by Dr Diana Devlin, writer and lecturer. Her recent book on this subject will be on sale @ £9.95. Light refreshments. £2 per head. The small hall is in the layby on the Beddgelert side of Cafe Gwynant on the A498.

March 5th (Weds) 10.00 Merioneth archives. Parish Project meeting (as 5 February, plans to be finalised).

March 25th (Weds) 11.00 Workshop on using documentary sources led by Ania Skarzynska. (As above, 15 January).

April 1st (Weds) 10.30 Parishes Project meeting (if required, TBC)



Hendre, tŷ ffrâm nenfforch yn Llandrillo (Sir Ddinbych, Meirionnydd gynt), a godwyd yn wreiddiol fel ffermdy iwmôn yn 1502/3 (dyddiad dendrolegol) gydag ychwanegiadau diweddarach. (Ymwelodd cangen Meirionnydd â'r tŷ yn yr hydref)

Hendre, a cruck-framed house in Llandrillo (Denbighshire, formerly Merioneth), originally built as a yeoman's farmhouse in 1502/3 (dendro date) with later additions. (Visited in the autumn by Merioneth branch)

3 Mehefin (dydd Mercher) Cyfarfod byr o'r Project Plwyfi gyda diwrnod hyfforddiant cofnodi llawn i ddilyn mewn tŷ yn Llanelltyd. Dyma ffermdy nen-fforch, bellach yn adfail ac yn cael ei ddefnyddio fel man storio. Fe'i 'darganfuwyd' fel rhan o Broiect y Plwyfi Llanelltud – heb ei restru ac nid ar Goflein, mae'n ffermdy gwerinol 'anhysbys', o'r 16eg ganrif mae'n debyg. Oherwydd hynny, rydym yn credu y dylai gael ei gofnodi'n briodol a gallwn gymryd y cyfle hwn i gynnig hyfforddiant i unrhyw un a fyddai'n fodlon rhi cynnig arni – mesur, braslunio, cymryd nodiadau – cyflenwir yr holl ddeunyddiau angenrheidiol. **Sylwer, bydd rhaid cyfyngu'r nifer oherwydd natur y safle. Mae'n hanfodol felly gwybod y nifer ymlaen llaw ac mae'n bosibl y bydd rhaid newid y dyddiad ym mis Mehefin. Cysylltwch â Martin dair wythnos ymlaen llaw os hoffech fynychu'r digwyddiad.**

Cofiwch adael i Martin wybod mewn da bryd os ydych yn bwriadu mynychu'r rhaglen ddogfen a/neu'r gweithdai cofnodi adeiladau (07716 993652 neu 01341 423517). John Townsend yw cydlynnydd cyfarfodydd y Project Plwyfi.

Mae aelodau o Gangen Meirionnydd hefyd yn cyfarfod ar **ddydd Mercher cyntaf y mis** rhwng 9.30yb a 12.30yp yn Archifdy Dolgellau. Ar hyn o bryd maen nhw'n canolbwyntio ar Broiect Plwyfi'r GDHDC (dod o hyd i dai gyda dyddiad cyn-1700 nad ydyn nhw eisoes wedi eu darganfod). Mae Llanelltyd, Llandecwyn a Thalyllyn wedi eu cwblhau fel ymarfer pen-bwrdd ac erbyn hyn mae aelodau'n ymweld â'r tai y cafwyd hyd iddyn nhw. Os oes gan unrhyw un ddiddordeb yn y project hwn, y gellir ei wneud yn y cartref, cysylltwch os gwelwch yn dda â John Townsend

john@thetownsends.org.uk.

CANGEN GOGLEDD DDWYRAIN CYMRU. Cysylltwch â Margaret neu Wally Barr ar 01745 888622 neu magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk; wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk. Mae'n hanfodol archebu ymlaen llaw. **21 Ionawr (dydd Mawrth) 2yp** Neuadd Bentref Llanasa, cyfarfod a sgwrs gyda'r teitl "Getting Some Early Knights" gan Peter Masters.

24 Chwefror (dydd Llun) 2yp Cyfarfod ac ymweliad â Chaerfallen, Rhuthun (dyddiedig 1559/60)

23 Mawrth (dydd Llun) 2yp Cyfarfod a DVD ar adferiad a

May 6th (Weds) Short Parishes Project meeting followed at 11.00 with workshop on using documentary sources led by Ania Skarzyska. (As above 15 January)

June 3rd (Weds) Brief Parishes Project meeting followed by a full recording training day at a house in Llanelltyd. This is a cruck-framed farmhouse, now dilapidated and used for storage. It was 'discovered' as part of the Parishes Project for Llanelltyd - unlisted, not on Coflein, it is an 'unknown' peasant farmhouse, probably of the 16th century. As such we think it should be properly recorded and can take the opportunity of offering training to anyone who would like to try their hand — measuring, sketching, photographing, note-taking — all materials will be supplied. **Please note, numbers will have to be restricted because of the nature of the site. It's essential to know numbers beforehand and it is possible that the date in June may change. Please contact Martin three weeks in advance if you wish to attend.**

Please let Martin know in good time if you propose to attend the documentary and/or building recording workshops (0771 6993652 or 01341 423517). John Townsend is still the coordinator for the Parishes Project meetings.

Members of the Merioneth Branch also meet on the **first Wednesday of the month** between 9.30am and 12.30pm at Dolgellau Archives. Currently the focus is on the DOWHG Parishes Project (finding pre-1700 houses that have not already come to light). Llanelltyd, Llandecwyn and Talyllyn have been done as a table-top exercise and members are now visiting the houses found. Anyone interested in this project, which can be undertaken at home, please contact John Townsend

john@thetownsends.org.uk.

NORTH EAST WALES BRANCH. Contact Margaret or Wally Barr 01745 888 622 magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk. Essential to book in advance.

January 21st (Tues) 2pm Llanasa Village Hall, meeting and talk entitled "Getting Some Early Knights" by Peter Masters.



Caerfallen (dated 1559/60) near Ruthin, last winter
Caerfallen (dyddiedig 1559/60) ger Rhuthun, y gaeaf diwethaf

February 24th (Mon) 2pm Meeting and visit to Caerfallen, Ruthin (dated to 1559/60)

gwaith trwsio Adeiladau Ffram Goed, Llyfrgell Gladstone, Penarlâg.

CANGEN ERYRI. Cyswllt: Ann Alston

snowdonia@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Archebwch ar-lein:

<http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk/english/visits.html>.

Peter Masters: 01758 750322 (Cofiwch archebu'n gynnar)

Mae Cangen Eryri wedi dechrau gweithio ar y Project Plwyfi gydag ambell i ganlyniad calonogol. Cynhaliwyd cyfarfod cychwynnol yn Archifdy Gwynedd, Caernarfon. Daeth llawer i'r cyfarfod ac roedd yr aelodau'n frwdfrydig. Mae sawl plwyf bellach wedi eu cwblhau a gobeithiwn drefnu cyfarfod arall yn gynnar yn y flwyddyn newydd er mwyn dadansoddi'r darganfyddiadau hyd yma.

27 Ionawr (dydd Llun) 2yp Ymweliad â Thy'n Twr, Bethesda. Tŷ nen-fforch, efallai yn gyn-gartref i'r Archesgob John Williams. Gwisgwch esgidiau priodol i'r tŷ. Lluniaeth ysgafn. £2 y pen. Dim mwy na 15.

19 Chwefror (dydd Mercher) 7.30yh yn Neuadd Gymuned Nantgwynant. "The Casson Family in North Wales, a story of slate and more", sgwrs a lluniau gan Dr Diana Devlin, awdur a darlithydd. Bydd ei llyfr diweddar ar y pwnc hwn ar werth @ £9.95. Lluniaeth ysgafn. £2 y pen.

24 Mawrth (dydd Mawrth) 2yp Ymweliad â Rhydolion, ger Llangŷan. Ffermdy boneddigion, cartref y Comisiynydd Piwritan Jeffrey Parry (m 1685). Gwisgwch esgidiau priodol i'r tŷ. Lluniaeth ysgafn. £2 y pen. Dim mwy na 15.

4 Ebrill (dydd Sadwrn) 2yp Ymweliad â Ffridd Isaf, Rhyd-ddu. Tŷ Eryri dyddiedig 1599/1600. Edrych ar hen ysguboriau a dau gyfnod y ffermdy. Dewch ag esgidiau i newid iddyn nhw. Lluniaeth ysgafn ar gael. Dim mwy na 10. £2 y pen.

5 Mai (dydd Mawrth) 2yp Ymweliad â Nanhoron, ar Benrhyn Llŷn. Gwisgwch esgidiau priodol ar gyfer y tŷ. Lluniaeth ysgafn. £5 y pen. Dim mwy na 20.

Prynhawniau Mercher

Project Plwyfi – Gellir trefnu gweithdai yn ôl yr angen yn Ystafell Gymunedol Swyddfa Gofnodi Caernarfon ar brynhawniau Mercher i helpu'r sawl sy'n ymgymryd ag ymchwil hanesyddol ar gyfer y Project Plwyfi. Cysylltwch â Peter Masters os hoffech gael cymorth.

March 23rd (Mon) 2pm Meeting and DVD on the restoration and repair of Timber-Framed Buildings, Gladstone's Library, Hawarden.

SNOWDONIA BRANCH. Contact: Ann Alston

snowdonia@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk Book online:

<http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk/english/visits.html>.

Peter Masters: 01758 750 322 (Please book early)

The Snowdonia Branch has begun work on the Parishes Project with some promising results. An initial meeting was held in the Gwynedd Archives, Caernarfon. This was well attended and members were enthusiastic. Several parishes have now been completed and we hope to organise another meeting early in the new year to analyse the findings so far.

Jan 27th (Mon) 2pm Visit to Ty'n Twr, Bethesda. Cruck-framed house, reputed home of Archbishop John Williams. Bring indoor shoes. Light refreshments. £2 per head. Max 15.

Feb 19th (Weds) 7.30 pm in Nantgwynant Community Hall. "The Casson Family in North Wales a story of slate and more", an illustrated talk by Dr Diana Devlin, writer and lecturer. Her recent book on this subject will be on sale @ £9.95. Light refreshments. £2 per head.



Ty'n Twr, tŷ nen-fforch, Bethesda
Ty'n Twr, cruck-framed house, Bethesda

March 24th (Tues) 2pm Visit to Rhydolion, near Llangŷan. Gentry farmhouse, home of famous Puritan Commissioner Jeffrey Parry (d.1658). Bring indoor shoes. Light refreshments. £2 per head. Max 15.

April 4th (Sat) 2pm Visit to Ffridd Isaf, Rhyd-ddu. Snowdonia house dated to 1599/1600. Viewing old barns and two phases of the farmhouse. Bring change of shoes. Light refreshments available. Max 10. £2 per head.

May 5th (Tues) 2pm Visit to Nanhoron. Bring indoor shoes. Light refreshments. £5 per head. Max 20.

Wednesday Afternoons

Parishes Project - Workshops to help those undertaking research for the Parishes Project could be arranged in Caernarfon Record Office Community Room on Wednesday afternoons, as needed. Contact Peter Masters if you would like help.

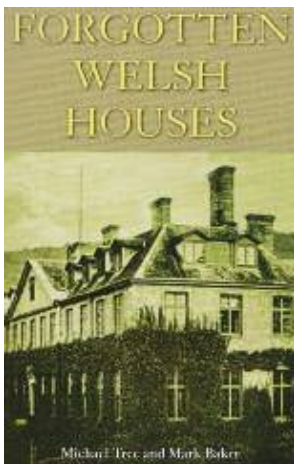


Ffridd Isaf, tŷ Eryri (dyddiedig 1699/1600), Rhyd-ddu
Ffridd Isaf, Snowdonia house (dated 1699/1600), Rhyd-ddu

Yn y rhifyn diwethaf soniodd ein Cadeirydd am lyfr 'gwyh' Tom Lloyd o 1986, *Lost Houses of Wales*. Ydy, mae yn gofnod hyfryd, ond mae'n drist edrych drwyddo pan welwch chi'r lluniau sy'n rhoi cipolwg ar yr hyn sydd wedi diflannu am byth: dros 300 o dai gyda'u gerddi a'u parciau sydd wedi diflannu yn yr 20fed ganrif.

Ac yn eu cyfarfod ym mis Mawrth mae Cangen Ynys Môn yn mynd i gynnal sgwrs ar rai o dai coll Ynys Môn.

I godi calon yn wyneb yr holl golledion hoffwn sôn am lyfr arall yn y dosbarth hwn sy'n darparu rhybudd am adeiladau sydd mewn perygl, ond sydd hefyd yn darparu her wrth roi rhywfaint o obaith i ni. Adolygiad o feddiannau treftadaeth ledled Cymru sy'n dal ar eu traed ond sydd wedi eu hanghofio neu eu gadael yn wag ers degawdau yw *Forgotten Welsh Houses* gan Michael Tree a Mark Baker (2008). Hanfod y llyfr yw gobaith yr awduron wrth iddyn nhw edrych ar achosion unigol ac awgrymu posibiliadau adfer. Mae'r prif awdur wedi achub dau feddiant pwysig yn ei ranbarth ei hun. Pan ymwelais ag un o'r rhain am y tro cyntaf roedd yn ofynnol i ni wisgo hetiau caled. Ond ddegawd yn ddiweddarach cafwyd portread o'r stad raglywiaeth honno ger Llanrwst yn "*Country Life*" o dan y teitl '*Back from the Brink*', gyda lluniau lu mewn lliw llawn!



Man cychwyn y project a ddaeth yn llyfr y pen draw oedd cais i gynghorau sir Cymru am restrau o'u meddiannau treftadaeth oedd mewn perygl: yng Ngwynedd yn unig, ac eithrio Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri, roedd dros 350, gan ddangos graddfa dychrynlyd y sefyllfa. Ymysg y rhain roedd 24 ar y rhestr Seren Gradd 1 neu Gradd 2; rhestrwyd y gweddill fel Gradd 2. Mewn gwirionedd, roedd oddeutu 17% o holl adeiladau rhestredig Cymru mewn perygl bryd hynny, ffigur sy'n annhebygol o fod wedi newid yn arwyddocaol ers 2008.

Mae'r awduron yn cyflwyno persbectif hanesyddol gyda dadansoddiad o'r man cychwyn a'r prosesau sydd wedi peri'r dirywiad yma yn ein treftadaeth adeiledig dros y degawdau. Disgrifir a darlunnir saithdeg o feddiannau, a rhoir tudalen ddwbl i bob un, gan drafod ei broblemau a chynnig syniadau a phosibiliadau ar gyfer y dyfodol. Cynhwysir oddeutu 50 arall mewn Rhestr, gyda darlun, enw'r awdurdod lleol priodol, y categori rhestru a disgrifiad byr.

Tynnwyd llawer o'r lluniau'n arbennig ar gyfer y llyfr; draw eraill o'r archifau sy'n dangos y tai yn eu holl ogoniant. Ond mae'r cwbl mewn du a gwyn sy'n creu teimlad o dristwch sy'n briodol i bwnc y llyfr. Serch hynny, mae ambell stori o

In the last issue our Chairman mentioned Tom Lloyd's 'wonderful' 1986 book "*Lost Houses of Wales*". Yes, it is a wonderful book and a valuable record, but the book makes very sad reading when you look at the illustrations giving a glimpse of what has gone forever: over 300 houses with their gardens and parks disappeared from Wales in the 20C.

And at their March meeting the Anglesey Branch is to have a talk on some of the lost houses of Anglesey.

To counteract the gloom of such losses I want to mention another book in this genre which provides a warning about buildings 'at-risk', but also provides a challenge while giving us some hope. "*Forgotten Welsh Houses*" by Michael Tree and Mark Baker (2008) is a review of heritage properties across the Principality which are still standing but have been forgotten and/or abandoned for decades. The essence of the book is the optimism of the authors as they look at individual cases and suggest renovation possibilities. The main author has notably rescued two important properties in our own region. When I first visited one of these we had to wear hard hats. But a decade or so later that same regency estate near Llanrwst was featured in "*Country Life*" under the title '*Back from the Brink*', profusely illustrated in glorious colour!

The starting point for the project that became the book was an approach to Welsh county councils requesting lists of their heritage properties at-risk: in Gwynedd alone, excluding the Snowdonia National Park, there were over 350, revealing the shocking scale of the situation. These included 24 with Grade One or Grade Two-Star listings, the rest were listed as Grade Two. In fact, approximately 17% of all listed buildings in Wales were then at-risk, a figure that is unlikely to have altered significantly since 2008.

The authors present a historical perspective with an analysis of the origins and processes which have caused this decline in our built heritage over the decades. Seventy properties are then described and illustrated, with a double page given to each, discussing its problems and offering thoughts and possibilities for the future. A further fifty or so are included in a *Gazeteer*, each with an illustration, the name of the relevant local authority, the listing category and a brief description.

Many of the illustrations were taken especially for the book, others are from the archives showing the houses in their former glory. But all are in black and white, and with the sepia cover create for me an atmosphere of melancholy which suits the book's subject. But happily there are success stories which provide the incentive for the would-be rescuer 'in search of their own paradise'. And there are sections on how to go about the task, not forgetting the '*Pitfalls and Failings*', all written with the authority of a practitioner.

I know that in the case of some of the buildings included for our region the opportunities have been lost, and properties are now in an even graver state than when the book was written. But I am happy to see that some of the book's entries have been removed from the at-risk register and have been resurrected to become assets to local communities, enhancing the landscape and adding to our common heritage.

And as our Chairman previously commented, DOWHG has its own contribution to make to this task. Our identification and recording efforts 'make it less likely that even more wonderful houses and their features will be lost simply through ignorance of their importance'. That is our challenge.

lwyddiant sy'n darparu'r ysgogiad i'r achubwr sy'n chwilio am ei baradwys ei hun. Ac mae adrannau hefyd ar sut i fynd i'r afael r gorchwyl, heb anghofio'r Problemau a'r Methiannau, i gyd wedi eu hysgrifennu gydag awdurdod unigolyn sydd wedi cyflawni gwaith ymarferol ei hun.

Yn achos rhai o'r adeiladau sydd wedi eu cynnwys yn ein rhanbarth ni, gwn fod cyfleoedd wedi eu colli, a bod y meddiannau erbyn hyn mewn cyflwr llawer gwaeth na phan ysgrifennwyd y llyfr. Ond rydw i'n falch o weld bod rhai o'r tai yn y llyfr wedi eu tynnu oddi ar y gofrestr mewn-perygl ac wedi eu hadfer i ddod yn asedau i gymunedau lleol, ac yn gwella'r tirlun ac yn ychwanegu at y dreftadaeth yr ydym i gyd un ac oll yn ei rhannu.

Ac, fel y dywedodd ein Cadeirydd yn gynharach, mae gan GDHDC ei gyfraniad ei hun i wneud i'r gorchwyl hwn. Mae ein hymdrechion adnabod a chofnodi yn golygu ei fod yn llai tebygol y bydd mwy o dai hyfryd a'u nodweddion yn cael eu colli drwy anwybodaeth am eu pwysigrwydd. Dyna ein her ni.

Cofiwch bod gwahoddiad i aelodau anfon eu cyfraniadau eu hunain i'r cylchlythyr ynghyd thestun ac/neu luniau. Anfonwch syniadau/cyfraniadau i mi mewn da bryd (y dyddiad cau fel arfer yw ail wythnos mis Tachwedd, Chwefror, Mai ac Awst). Llawer o ddiolch.

Dr Irene Brightmer
brightmer@btinternet.com



A historic farmhouse with a Jacobean staircase and a 1652 datestone in Brynford, Flintshire is on the at-risk register and is continuing to deteriorate. (Grade Two listed in 1962)

Mae ffermdy hanesyddol gyda grisiau Jacobeaidd a charreg dyddiad 1652 ym Mrynffordd, Sir Y Fflint, ar y gofrestr mewn-perygl ac yn parhau i ddirywio. (Fe l cofrestrwyd fel Gradd Dau yn 1962)

Please don't forget that members are invited to make their own contributions to newsletters with text and/or images. Please send ideas/contributions to me in good time (usual deadlines are the second week of November, February, May and August). Many thanks.

Dr Irene Brightmer
brightmer@btinternet.com



Comisiwn Brenhinol
Henebion Cymru
Royal Commission on the Ancient
and Historical Monuments of Wales



DARGANFOD HEN DAI CYMREIG DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES



NODDWYR/PATRONS:

Syr Simon Jenkins, FSA, FRSL; Dr Eurwyn Wiliam, MA, PhD, FSA

Dathlu Treftadaeth Cymru drwy astudio tai traddodiadol a bywydau'r bobl fu'n byw ynddynt.

Celebrating Welsh Heritage through the study of traditional houses and the lives of the people who lived in them.

CYLCHLYTHYR 32 Mawrth 2020

EIN GWEFAN <http://discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk> yw prif sianel gyfathrebu'r grŵp – defnyddiwch hi i weld mwy o fanylion am y digwyddiadau diweddar a'r rhai sydd ar ddod, ac i edrych ar ein llyfrgell sy'n cynyddu'n gyson ac ar nodweddion eraill.

O'R GADAI

Wel, alla'i ddim siarad llawer am y gwanwyn oherwydd mae'n ymddangos fod y stormydd o wynt a glaw wedi ei ddychryn i fwrdd!

Mae'r Arglwydd Dafydd Elis-Thomas, un o'n noddwyr ers 2008, bellach yn gorfod rhoi gorau i'r rôl. Fe'i benodwyd yn Ddirprwy Weinidog dros Ddiwylliant, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth, ac mae posibilrwydd o wrthdaro buddiannau. Rydym yn hynod o ddiolchgar iddo am ei gefnogaeth gadarn i'n Grŵp dros y blynyddoedd.

Rydym yn ymdrechu i ddiweddarau ein holl gofnodion tai a sicrhau bod mynediad iddynt yn haws, ac mae'r gwaith yn mynd yn dda. Mae'r Project Plwyfi ar waith. Mae ein Martin Cherry ni, ynghyd ag eraill o'r VAG, newydd gyhoeddi llyfr gwych ar dai ffrâm nenfforch ac fel aelodau o DHDC rydym yn cael gostyngiad da iawn, felly mae'n werth yr arian yn enwedig gan fod y postio'n gynwysedig; gweler y manylion isod.

Richard Cuthbertson, Cadeirydd



Plas Penmynydd, Llangefni, Ynys Môn

Y NEWYDDION DIWEDDARAF GAN YR YSGRIFENNYDD

Fel yr eglurwyd yng Nghylchlythyr Rhagfyr 2019 mae DHDC yn rhoi dau brif fath o weithgaredd ar waith. Y cyntaf yw ein Project Plwyfi. Mae pob cangen yn raddol gasglu gwybodaeth sylfaenol ar bob tŷ cyn-1700 ym mhob plwyf yn ardal eu cangen wrth ddefnyddio fformat a gytunwyd. Cyn bo hir bydd Cynrychiolwyr Cangen yn cyfarfod i drafod cynnydd, adnabod gwelliannau ac unrhyw ffynonellau ychwanegol. Llawer o ddiolch i bawb a gymrodd ran yn y project sydd â'r nod o adnabod tai cynnar trwy gyfrwng dull

NEWSLETTER 32 March 2020

OUR WEBSITE <http://discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk> is the Group's main channel of communication – please visit it to see details of recent and forthcoming events and to look at our growing library and other features.

FROM THE CHAIR

Well, I can't talk much about Spring as it appears to have been blown or washed away or both!

Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas, one of our patrons since 2008, now has to stand down from this role. He has been appointed as Deputy Minister of Culture, Sport and Tourism, and there is a potential conflict of interest. We are most grateful to him for his stalwart support of our Group over the years.

We are trying to get all our house records up to date and to make them easier to access, and this work is going well. The Parishes Project is proceeding. Our own Martin Cherry with others from the VAG have just published a wonderful book on Cruck Framed Houses and we members of DOWH get a very good discount, so is well worth the money especially as the postage is included, see details below.

Richard Cuthbertson, Chairman

NEWS UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARY

As explained in the December 2019 Newsletter DOWH is pursuing two main types of activity. First is our Parishes Project. All branches are gradually collecting basic information on every pre-1700 house for each parish in their branch area using an agreed format. Branch Reps will soon be meeting to discuss progress, identify improvements and any additional sources. Many thanks are due to everyone involved in this project which will identify early houses in a methodical way across all of North Wales (except Wrexham where we have no branch at present). This will be of great value in prioritising and planning future projects to date timbers, record architecture and/or research house histories. A big thank you to all who are already beavering away at house history research. Second, we are collating, checking and updating the records of all the house visits undertaken since 2005, and their outcomes.

Other smaller projects continue including a Welsh translation of the Plas Penmynydd detailed house history, supported by the Isle of Anglesey County Council and a Tesco Community Fund in Denbighshire. Plas Penmynydd is an important house in the early history of the Tudors.

The Conwy branch requests that Tesco shopping tokens be dropped into their slot in the Llandudno Tesco Superstore prior to 31 March. Later they will be informed of the size of the grant they will receive for their local project.

Much of the above indicates the success in DOWH moving from a top-down to a bottom-up approach, with the

trefnus ledled holl siroedd gogledd Cymru (heblaw Wrecsam lle nad oes cangen ar hyn o bryd). Bydd hyn yn werthfawr iawn o ran blaenoriaethu a chynllunio projectau'r dyfodol i ddyddio pren, cofnodi pensaernïaeth ac/neu ymchwilio i hanes tai. Diolch enfawr i bawb sydd eisoes yn gweithio i ymchwilio i hanes tai. Yn ail, rydym yn coladu, gwirio a diweddarw cofnodion yr holl ymweliadau â thai a wnaed ers 2005, a'u canlyniadau.

Mae projectau llai eraill hefyd yn parhau yn cynnwys cyfieithiad i'r Gymraeg o hanes manwl Plas Penmynydd, gyda chefnogaeth Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn a Chronfa *Cymunedol Tesco yn Sir Ddinbych. Mae Plas Penmynydd yn dŷ pwysig yn hanes cynnar y Tuduriaid; gweler isod am fanylion Diwrnod Agored yno ym mis Gorffennaf.

Mae cangen Conwy yn gofyn yn garedig i bobl ollwng eu tocyn siopa Tesco yn eu blwch yn Superstore Tesco Llandudno cyn 31 Mawrth. Ymhellach ymlaen fe fyddan nhw'n cael gwybod maint y grant y byddan nhw'n ei dderbyn ar gyfer eu project lleol.

Mae llawer o'r uchod yn awgrymu llwyddiant DHDC wrth i'r canghennau bellach arwain ac ymgymryd â gweithgareddau o ddiddordeb lleol. Diolchwn i'r holl gynrychiolwyr cangen am eu gwaith yn trefnu digwyddiadau ac am gefnogi aelodau eu cangen. Mae'r ymddiriedolwyr (sy'n cyfarfod deirgwaith y flwyddyn) yn gofyn am awgrymiadau gan ganghennau am brojectau a gefnogir gan gymorth grant.

Dim ond ychydig o sgysiau am ein gweithgareddau sydd wedi eu cynnal dros y gaeaf. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o gyrff yn ein rhanbath sydd â diddordeb yn ein gwaith bellach wedi clywed o leiaf un sgws dros yr ychydig o flynyddoedd diwethaf.

Mae DHDC bellach yn 15 mlwydd oed! Wel, nid dyma'r stori i gyd, ond dyma hyd y cyfnod y mae gwirfoddolwyr wedi bod yn ymweld â thai a dod o hyd i grantiau ar gyfer dendrocronoleg a phrojectau eraill yng ngogledd Cymru. Cychwynnwyd gweithgareddau yn 2015 yn dilyn cloddio mewn adfail tŷ o'r 16^{eg} ganrif gan Gymdeithas Hanes Beddgelert a dyddio tŷ neuadd ffrâm nenfforch gerllaw drwy ddulliau dendrocronoleg oedd â phren a gwympwyd yn 1508, gyda hanes y tŷ hefyd yn dyddio'n ôl i 1508. Daeth y "Project Eryri" hwn yn "Broject Dendrocronoleg Gogledd Orllewin Cymru" ac yna yn "Broject Dyddio Hen Dai Cymreig", gyda phob newid yn nodi datblygiadau mewn blaenoriaethau yn yr hyn yr ymgwymerwyd ag ef.

Cafwyd ychydig o dan £250,000 drwy grantiau a chyfraniadau, yn ogystal â gwerth miloedd o bunnoedd o gefnogaeth a chynghor gan y Comisiwn Brenhinol ar Gofadeiladau Hynafol a Hanesyddol Cymru (CBGHHHC) a llawer o gyrff eraill. Rydym yn hynod o ddiolchgar am yr holl gefnogaeth hon. Dros y blynyddoedd rydym wedi cyflwyno dros 180 o sgysiau i gymdeithasau lleol ledled gogledd Cymru i godi ymwybyddiaeth o bwysigrwydd traddodiadau adeiladu Cymreig.

Mae ein nod o "**Ddathlu Treftadaeth Cymru drwy gyfrwng astudio tai traddodiadol a bywydau'r bobl a arferai fyw ynddyn nhw**" yn parhau i gael ei ddatblygu gan ein haelodaeth a'n gwirfoddolwyr sy'n dal i gynyddu; hebddyn nhw ni fyddai dim o hyn wedi bod yn bosibl. Felly, DIOLCH I CHI! Yn y Cylchlythyr nesaf gobeithir amlinellu manylion pellach o'r hyn a wireddwyd ers 2005.

Margaret Dunn

branches leading and undertaking activities of interest locally. We thank all branch reps for their hard work in arranging events and supporting members. Suggestions from branches for grant-aided projects are requested by the trustees who meet three times a year.

Only a few talks about our activities have been given over the winter. Most organisations in our region with an interest in our work have by now heard at least one talk over the past years.



DOWH was represented at the Local History Fair at Ruthin Gaol/ Cynrychiolwyd DOWH yn y Fair Hanes Lleol a gynhaliwyd yng Ngharchar Rhuthun

DOWH is now 15 years old! Well, this is not the whole story, but it is the length of time that volunteers have been visiting houses and raising grants for dendrochronology and other projects in North Wales. Activities started in 2005 following a Cymdeithas Hanes Beddgelert History Society excavation of a 16th century ruined house and the dendrodating of a nearby cruck hall house with timbers felled in 1508, with a house history also going back to 1508. This "Snowdonia Project", became the "North West Wales Dendrochronology Project" and then the "Dating Old Welsh Houses Project" and currently the "Discovering Old Welsh Houses Project", each change signalling developments in priorities in what was being undertaken.

Just under £250,000 has been raised through grants and donations, plus thousands of pounds worth of support and advice from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) and many other organisations. We are very grateful for all this support. Over the years more than 180 talks have been given to local societies across North Wales to raise awareness of the importance of Welsh building traditions.

Our aim of "**Celebrating Welsh Heritage through the study of traditional houses and the lives of the people who lived in them**" continues to be developed by our growing membership and volunteers, without whom none of this could have been possible. So, THANK YOU! In the next Newsletter it is hoped to outline further details of what has been achieved since 2005.

Margaret Dunn

NODYN ATGOFFA PWYSIG GAN YR YSGRIFENNYDD AELODAETH

Mae tanysgriadau aelodaeth yn ddyledus ar Ebrill 1af. Aelodau unigol £15 y flwyddyn, aelodaeth ar y cyd £20 y flwyddyn. Cofiwch sicrhau eich bod yn adnewyddu mewn da bryd er mwyn cynnal eich buddion fel aelod. I'w gwneud yn haws rydym yn eich annog i drefnu Archeb Banc (gweler y wefan am ffurflen). Fel arall, anfonwch eich siec i Ysgrifennydd Aelodaeth GDHDC, Caerfallon, Rhuthun, LL15 1SL (01824 704404)

membership@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

OS OES GENNYCH CHI DDIDDORDEB MEWN HEN DAI ac os nad ydych eisoes yn aelod, pam na wnewch chi ystyried ymaelodi â'r Grŵp? Mae manylion llawn a ffurflen gais ar gael ar ein gwefan.

Zoë Henderson

HYSBYSIAD O 15^{fed} CYFARFOD BLYNYDDOL CYFFREDINOL Y GRŴP DARGANFOD HEN DAI CYMREIG

Cynhelir y CBC ar ddydd Sadwrn 27 Mehefin 2020 am 2 yp. Dilyniir gan ddarlith gyhoeddus am ddim yn Saesneg am 3 yp. 'Golwg Newydd ar Dai Hanesyddol Gogledd Cymru oddeutu 1400-1600: effaith dendrocronoleg' i'w thraddodi gan Dr Martin Cherry, cyn-lywydd y Vernacular Architecture Group.

Canolfan Gymunedol Craig y Don, Heol y Frenhines, Llandudno, Conwy LL30 1TE.

Mynediad am ddim, croeso i bawb (pleidleisio gan aelodau cyfredol yn unig). Arddangosfeydd a lluniaeth ysgafn.

RHYBUDD YMLAEN LLAW

Plas Penmynydd, Llangefni, Ynys Môn, sydd â chysylltiad agos â llinach Tuduraidd. **Prynhawn agored 11 Gorffennaf (Sadwrn) 2020, 2-4yp.** Mynediad £5 (am ddim i rai o dan 16). Llundiaeth ysgafn. Teithiau tywys a sgysiau o amgylch y tŷ a'r gerddi. Does dim angen archebu ymlaen llaw. Parciwch yn y cae gyferbyn â'r lôn a cherdded i'r tŷ; rhywfaint o barcio i bobl gydag anableddau wrth y tŷ. Drwy ganiatâd caredig y perchennog. (Yn gysylltiedig â Gŵyl Archeoleg 2020.)

DIGWYDDIADAU CANGHENNAU

Archebwch gyda chysylltiadau'r gangen, £2 fel arfer. Rydym yn hynod o ddiolchgar i berchnogion y tai am eu caredigrwydd.

I'CH ATGOFFA

1 Mae'r tai y sonnir amdanynt nhw yn y Cylchlythyr hwn sydd â chysylltiad â DHDC yn breifat ac NID YDYNT yn agored i'r cyhoedd.

2 Fe all aelodau gymryd rhan mewn unrhyw ddigwyddiad cangen, nid yn unig ddigwyddiadau eu cangen eu hunain. Gwiriwch gyda chyswllt y gangen.

CANGEN YNYS MÔN. Cysylltwch â Sue Hurst (sylwch ar yr ebost newydd):

anglesey@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

01407 459319. (Archebwch mewn da bryd)

Mawrth 18 (Mercher) 2-4 yp

Sgwrs gyda lluniau gan Terry Williams ar "Rai o Dai Coll Ynys Môn". Tai yw'r rhain na lwyddodd i oroesi hyd yr 21ain ganrif. Neuadd Gymuned Benllech, lluniaeth ysgafn, cost £2.

Cyfyngir y nifer i 20.

URGENT REMINDER FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Membership subscriptions are due on April 1st. Individual membership £15 p.a., Joint membership £20 p.a.

Please make sure you renew on time to retain your membership benefits. To make it easier you are encouraged to take out a Standing Order (see website for form). Otherwise please send your cheque to DOWHG Membership Secretary, Caerfallen, Ruthin, LL15 1SL. (01824 704 404) membership@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OLD HOUSES and are not already a member, why not consider joining the Group? Full details and application form on our website.

Zoë Henderson

NOTICE OF the 15th AGM OF THE DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES GROUP

The AGM will be held on Saturday 27 June 2020 at 2 p.m.

Followed by free public lecture at 3 p.m. 'New Perspectives on the Historic Houses of North Wales c. 1400-1600: the impact of dendrochronology' to be given by Dr Martin Cherry, former president of the Vernacular Architecture Group.

Craig y Don Community Centre, Queens Road, Llandudno, Conwy LL30 1TE.

Free entry, all welcome (voting by current members only). Displays and Light refreshments

ADVANCE NOTICE OF OPEN AFTERNOON July 11th

Plas Penmynydd, Llangefni, Anglesey. - connected to the Tudor dynasty. **Open Afternoon** – Saturday 11th July 2020 from 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. Admission £5 (free for U16s). Light refreshments. Talks and guided tours around the house and gardens. No prior booking required. Park in field opposite, and walk to house; some disabled parking at house. By kind permission of the owner. (Linked with the 2020 Festival of Archaeology.)

BRANCH EVENTS

Book with branch contacts, usually £2. We are very grateful to house-owners for their hospitality.

REMINDERS

1 Houses mentioned in this Newsletter and/or linked with DOWH are private and are NOT open to the public.

2 Members may participate in any branch event, not only their own. Check with branch contact.



Plas Berw, Gaerwen

Ebrill 30 (Iau) 2-4 yp

Ymweliad â Phlas Berw, Gaerwen. Dyma safle cymhleth gyda gweddillion adfeiliedig cynnar a maenordy gwyh o'r 17^{eg} ganrif. Taith o amgylch y tŷ (esgidiau dan do, os gwelwch yn dda) a lluniaeth ysgafn, cost £2. Cyfyngir y nifer i 15, felly cofiwch archebu lle yn gynnar.

Mai 19 (Mawrth) 2-4 yp

Ymweliad â'r Hen Reithordy, Llanfaethlu. Yn 1778 roedd yr adeilad yn cynnwys 9 bae sydd bellach yn ffurfio cefn y tŷ ac adeiladwyd yr hanner ar flaen y tŷ oddeutu 1837. Mae'n debyg bod rhannau o gefn y tŷ yn hŷn na'r 18fed ganrif. Gyda chaniatâd caredig y perchnogion. Dim mwy 12 o fobl, lluniaeth ysgafn ar gael. Mynediad drwy gyfraniad.

Mehefin 8 (Llun) 2-4 yp

Ymweliad â Henblas, Llangristiolus. Dyma gyfle prin i weld y tŷ a'r gerddi, drwy ganiatâd caredig y perchnogion. Henblas oedd cartref Elizabeth Morgan (1705-73), garddwr enwog o Ynys Môn a thestun y llyfr diweddar gan Mary Gwynedd Jones. Dim mwy na 15, lluniaeth ysgafn ar gael. Mynediad £5

Gorffennaf 11 (Sad) 2-4 yp

Prynhawn Agored Plas Penmynydd. Gyda chaniatâd caredig y perchennog. Mae'r digwyddiad hwn yn cyd-ddigwydd â Gŵyl Archeoleg 2020. Cyfle i edrych o gwmpas yr hen dŷ hyfryd hwn, sydd â chysylltiad â'r Tuduriaid cynnar, ac archwilio'r gerddi. Llundiaeth ysgafn ar gael. Parciwch yn y cae gyferbyn â'r lôn a cherddwch i'r tŷ; rhywfaint o barcio i bobl gydag anableddau wrth y tŷ. Mynediad £5, am ddim i rai o dan 16. (Does dim angen archebu ymlaen llaw).

CANGEN CONWY. Cysylltwch â Gill Jones 01492 517 330

gidulas@doctorbones.org

Ebrill – dim cyfarfod

Mai – Ymweliad â Phlas Ucha, Glan Conwy. Dyddiad ac amser i'w cadarnhau.

Mehefin – Taith dywys o amgylch Carchar Rhuthun. Dyddiad ac amser i'w cadarnhau.

Gorffennaf 20 (Llun) 9.30 yb. Sesiwn waith yn nhŷ Gill.

CANGEN SIR DDINBYCH Cyswllt: Janice Dale

01490 440427 jadale22@hotmail.co.uk.

Cysylltwch â Janice am gopi o'r rhaglen.



Caerfallen ger Rhuthun.

ANGLESEY BRANCH. Contact Sue Hurst (note new contact email): anglesey@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk 01407 459319 (Please book well in advance)

March 18 (Weds) 2-4pm

Talk and slide show by Terry Williams on "Some of Anglesey's Lost Houses". These are houses which sadly didn't make it into the 21st century. Benllech Community Hall, light refreshments, cost £2. Numbers limited to 20.

April 30th (Thurs) 2-4pm

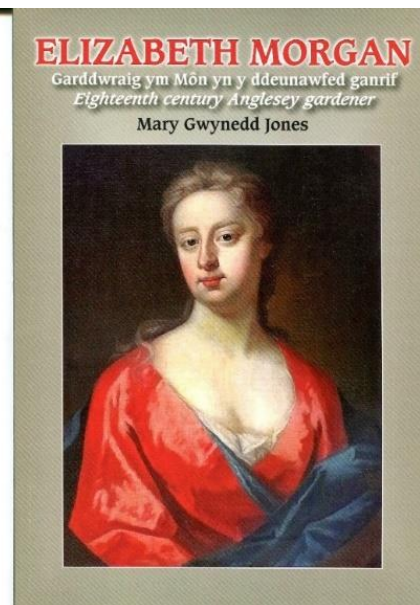
Visit to Plas Berw, Gaerwen. This is a complex site with ruinous early remains and a magnificent 17th century manor house. Tour of the house (indoor shoes, please) and light refreshments, cost £2. Numbers limited to 15, so early booking is advised.

May 19th (Tues) 2-4pm

Visit to the Old Rectory, Llanfaethlu. In 1778 the building consisted of 9 bays which now form the back of the house, the front half was built around 1837. Parts of the back of the house are probably older than the 18th Century. By kind permission of the owners. Maximum number 12, light refreshments available. Admission by donation.

June 8th (Mon) 2-4pm

Visit to Henblas, Llangristiolus. This is a rare opportunity to see the house and gardens, by kind permission of the owners. Henblas was the home of Elizabeth Morgan (1705-73), famous Anglesey gardener and the subject of the recent book by Mary Gwynedd Jones. Maximum number 15, light refreshments available. Admission £5



Front cover of book about Elizabeth Morgan of Anglesey (see Anglesey Branch programme)/

Clawr blaen y llyfr am Elizabeth Morgan o Ynys Môn (gweler rhaglen Cangen Ynys Môn i ymweld â'i thŷ)

July 11th (Sat) 2-4pm

Plas Penmynydd Open Afternoon. This event coincides with the opening of the Council of British Archaeology 2020 Festival of Archaeology. An opportunity to look around this wonderful old house, associated with the early Tudors, and explore the grounds. Light refreshments available. Park in field opposite and walk to the house; some disabled parking at the house. By kind permission of the owner. Admission £5, free for U16s. (Prior booking not required)

CANGEN LLANSILIN Cysylltydd Mary Cunnah,
marycunnah@yahoo.co.uk.

Mae rhai aelodau o'r gangen yn ysgrifennu llyfr am hanes Llansilin, ac yn parhau i ymchwilio i dai hanesyddol lleol. Fel arall does dim rhaglen o ddigwyddiadau wedi ei threfnu ac mae aelodau'n cael eu hannog i ymuno â gweithgareddau canghennau eraill.



*Ffermdy hanesyddol yn Llansilin 1485 /Historic Farmhouse
Llansilin*

CANGEN MEIRIONNYDD. Cyswllt newydd Martin Cherry
01341 423517 martincherry@btinternet.com (Rhaid archebu lle)

Mercher 1 Ebrill. 10.30 yb (Archifau Meirionnydd, Dolgellau)
Cyfarfod o'r Project Plwyfi yn cynnwys ymweliadau o bosib.
John Townsend yw'r cydlynnydd ar gyfer cyfarfodydd y
Project Plwyfi. john@thetownsend.org.uk.

Mercher 6 Mai. Cyfarfod byr o'r Project Plwyfi gyda
gweithdy i ddilyn am 11 yb ar ddefnyddio ffynonellau
dogfennol a arweinir gan Ani Skarzynska. Lleoliad fel uchod.
Mehefin (yr union ddyddiad i'w gadarnhau). Cyfarfod byr o'r
Project Plwyfi gyda diwrnod o hyfforddiant llawn ar Gofnodi
mewn tŷ lleol. Dyma ffermdy ffrâm nenfforch sydd bellach
yn adfail ac yn cael ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer storio. Cafodd ei
"ddarganfod" fel rhan o'r Project Plwyfi yn Llanelltud. Dydd
o ddim wedi ei restru, nag ar Goflein, ac mae'n ffermdy
gwerinwyr "anhysbys", o'r 16G mae'n debyg. O ganlyniad,
credwn y dydd ei gofnodi'n briodol. Rydym yn cymryd y cyfle
hwn o gynnig hyfforddiant i unrhyw un a hoffai roi cynnig ar
fesur, braslunio, tynnu lluniau, cymryd nodiadau – darperir
pob deunydd angenrheidiol. Noder, pan fyddwn yn gwybod
y dyddiad, bydd angen i ni wybod y niferoedd ymlaen llaw.
Cysylltwch â Martin Cherry yn nes i'r amser (0771 6993652 or
01341 423517).

CANGEN GOGLEDD DDWYRAIN CYMRU. Cysylltydd
Margaret neu Wally Barr 01745 888 622,
magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk
Dylech archebu ymlaen llaw.

Ebrill 28 (Mawrth) 2 yp

Neuadd Bentref Llanasa. Cyfarfod a sgwrs ar enwau lleoedd
Sir Y Fflint gan Hywel Wyn Owen, Athro Emeritws, cyn-
gyfarwyddwr Canolfan Ymchwil Enwau Lleoedd ym
Mhrifysgol Bangor.

Mai 19 (Mawrth) 2 yp

Ymweliad a chyfarfod yng Ngholomendy, Ysgeifiog, tŷ
neuadd deulawr dyddiedig 1660-1663.



Henblas, Llangristiolus, Ynys Môn

CONWY BRANCH. Contact Gill Jones 01492 517 330

gjdulas@doctorbones.org

April - no meeting

May - Visit to Plas Ucha, Glan Conwy. Date and time to be confirmed.

June - Guided tour of Ruthin Gaol. Date and time to be confirmed.

July 20th (Mon) 9.30am. Working session at Gill's house.



Plas Ucha, Glan Conwy

DENBIGHSHIRE BRANCH. Contact Janice Dale 01490 440427
jadale22@hotmail.co.uk

Please contact Janice for programme.

LLANSILIN BRANCH. Contact Mary Cunnah,
marycunnah@yahoo.co.uk.

Some members of the branch are writing a book about the
history of Llansilin, and are continuing to research local
historic houses in the area.

Meanwhile no programme of events has been arranged and
members are encouraged to join up with activities of other
branches.

MERIONETH BRANCH. New contact Martin Cherry 01341 423
517 martincherry@btinternet.com (Booking essential)

April 1st (Weds) 10.30am

Meeting at Merioneth Archives, Dolgellau Parishes Project
meeting possibly involving visits. John Townsend is the
coordinator for the Parishes Project.

john@thetownsend.org.uk.

Mehefin 30 (Mawrth) 2 yp

Llyfrgell Gladstone, Penarlâg. Sgwrs gan Paul Brighton, hanesydd, 'The Mostyns of Mostyn: A History of a Family Home'.

CANGEN ERYRI Cyswllt: Ann Alston: 01758 750322

snowdonia@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Archebwch yn gynnar.

Mawrth 24 (Mawrth) 2 yp Ymweliad â Rhydolion, ger Llangian. Ffermdy byddigions a chartref y Comisiynydd Piwritan enwog Jeffrey Parry (m. 1658). Dewch ag esgidiau dan do. Lluniaeth ysgafn. £2 yr un. Dim mwy na 15.

Ebrill 4 (Sad) 2 yp Ymweliad â Ffridd Isaf, Rhyd-ddu. Tŷ Eryri dyddiedig 1599/1600. Byddwn yn edrych ar hen ysguboriau a 2 gyfnod y ffermdy. Dewch ag esgidiau i newid iddyn nhw. Lluniaeth ysgafn. £2 yr un. Dim mwy na 10.

Mai 5 (Mawrth) 2 yp. Ymweliad â Thŷ Nanhoron, Llŷn. Dewch ag esgidiau dan do. Lluniaeth ysgafn. £5 yr un. Dim mwy na 20.

Mehefin 1 (Llun) 2 yp. Ymweliad â Thy'n Tŵr, Bethesda. Tŷ ffrâm nenfforch a chartref honedig yr Archesgob John Williams. Dewch ag esgidiau dan do. Lluniaeth ysgafn. £2 yr un. Dim mwy na 15.

Mercher 1 (Gorffennaf) 1.30 yp. Cyfarfod yn Ystafell Gymunedol Swyddfa Gofnodi Caernarfon. Gweithdy'r Project Plwyfi i'r sawl sy'n ymgymryd ag ymchwil plwyf neu â diddordeb ynddo, ynghyd â'r newyddion diweddaraf. Arweinir gan Peter Masters. Lluniaeth ysgafn. £2 yr un. Dim mwy na 15.



Gerddi a thŷ Nanhoron/ Garden and house Nanhoron

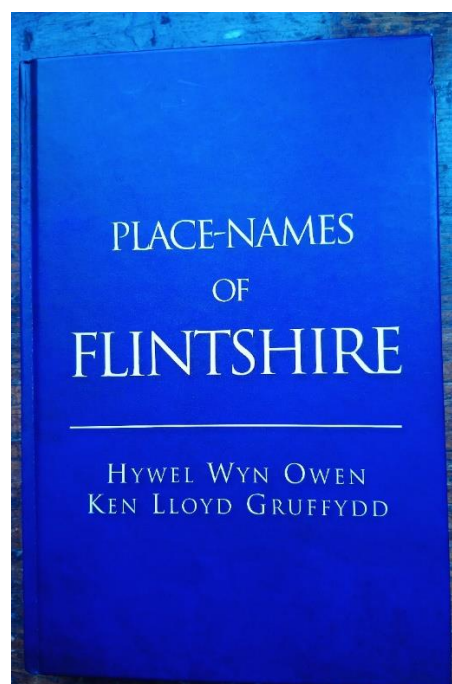
Y LLYFR NEWYDD AR GODI NENFFYRCH

Mae'r llyfr clawr caled 400-tudalen newydd hwn yn darparu'r wybodaeth a'r theorïau diweddaraf am darddiad nenffyrch a'u dosbarthiad yng ngwledydd Prydain. Yn rhyfedd, dydyn nhw ddim yn bodoli yn nwyrain Lloegr nac ar gyfandir Ewrop, a does neb yn gwybod pam. Fel aelodau GDHDC, byddwch wedi ymweld â thai ffrâm-nenfforch, neu wedi darllen neu glywed amdanyn nhw. Wel, dyma bob dim sydd angen i chi ei wybod! Diffiniad nenfforch: 'Mae gwir nenfforch yn cynnwys dau ddarn o bren, yn syth neu'n grom, sy'n gweithredu fel prif goedyn y to, neu'n ymestyn i bwynt wrth grib y to, neu'n agos ato, o lefel sy'n isel i lawr y muriau ochr.' Daw ystyr y gair Saesneg 'cruck' o 'crook', sef pren ar dro. Cofnodwyd dros 4,000 o adeiladau sy'n defnyddio

Wednesday 6 May.

Short Parishes Project meeting followed at 11am with workshop on using documentary sources led by Ani Skarzynska. Venue as above.

June (precise date to be confirmed). Brief Parishes Project followed by a full day training day on Recording at Foel Ispri Uchaf. This is a cruck-framed farmhouse, now dilapidated and used for storage. It was "discovered" as part of the Parishes Project for Llanelltyd. It is unlisted, not on Coflein, and is an "unknown" peasant farmhouse, probably of the 16th century. As such we think it should be properly recorded. We are taking the opportunity to offer training to anyone who would like to try their hand at measuring, sketching, photographing, note-taking — all materials will be supplied. Please note, when the date is known, we will need to know numbers beforehand. Please contact Martin Cherry nearer the time (0771 6993652 or 01341 423517).



Front cover of Place-names book (see programme for NE Wales Branch)

Clawr blaen llyfr enwau lleoedd Sir Y Fflint (gweler rhaglen Cangen gogledd ddwyrain Cymru)

NORTH EAST WALES BRANCH. Contact Margaret or Wally Barr 01745 888 622, magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk Please book in advance.

April 28th (Tues) 2pm

Llanasa Village Hall. Meeting and talk on Flintshire place-names by Hywel Wyn Owen, Emeritus Professor, formerly director of the Place-Name Research Centre at Bangor University.

May 19th (Tues) 2pm

Visit and meeting at Colomendy, Ysgeifiog, two-storey hall house dated 1660-1663.

June 30th (Tues) 2pm

Gladstone's Library, Hawarden. Talk by Paul Brighton, historian, 'The Mostyns of Mostyn: A History of a Family Home'.

nenfforch, 10% ohonyn nhw wedi eu dendro-ddyddio, ac maen nhw'n darparu llawer iawn o wybodaeth am eu hanes. Mae'r llyfr yn cynnwys sawl pennod ar eu harcheoleg, gwaith y seiri coed a rheolaeth y goedlan a ddarparodd y pren. Mae sawl pennod yn crybwyll rhanbarthau o wledydd Prydain; Richard Suggett o Gomisiwn Brenhinol Henebion Cymru (CBHC) yw awdur yr un am Gymru. Mae Richard yn adnabyddus i lawer o aelodau GDHDC, ac mae wedi helpu gyda'n dealltwriaeth o lawer o hen dai ein rhanbarth. Mae pennod ar 'The Afterlife of Cruck Houses – Modernisation and Obsolescence in North Wales' yn astudiaeth ddifyr gan ddau o aelodau GDHDC yn Sir Feirionnydd, Martin Cherry a Peter Thompson. Bydd llawer o'u henghreifftiau wedi eu dylunio yn gyfarwydd i ddarllenwyr y cylchlythyr hwn oherwydd mae canghennau wedi ymweld â nhw. Mae Martin a Peter yn nodi ein diddordeb ni yn yr 21G am nenfforch, gyda pherchnogion yn eu sgwrio a'u llathru a thynnu lloriau a osodwyd er mwyn 'dangos ysblander a fu yr hen neuaddau'. Mae hyn i gyd yn wrthgyferbyniad i frwdfrydedd y ddeunawfed ganrif a'r bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg dros 'ddiweddaru' a chael gwared â phob arwydd o adeiladu gyda phren drwy blastro drostyn nhw!



Mostyn Hall, Porth Mawr/Neuadd Mostyn, Porth Mawr, 1570

SNOWDONIA BRANCH. Contact: Ann Alston: 01758 750322 snowdonia@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk (book early)
March 24th (Tues) 2 pm Visit to Rhydolion, near Llangian. Gentry farmhouse and home of famous Puritan Commissioner Jeffrey Parry (d.1658). Bring indoor shoes. Light refreshments. £2 per head. Max 15.
April 4th (Sat) 4th 2 pm Visit to Ffridd Isaf, Rhyd Ddu. Snowdonia house dated to 1599/1600. We shall view old barns and 2 phases of the farmhouse. Bring change of shoes. Light refreshments. £2 per head. Max 10.
May Tues 5th 2 pm. Visit to Nanhoron House, Lleyn. Bring indoor shoes. Light refreshments. £5 per head. Max 20.
June 1st (Mon) 2 pm. Visit to Ty'n Twr, Bethesda. Cruck-framed house and reputed home of Archbishop John Williams. Bring indoor shoes. Light refreshments. £2 per head. Max 15.
Weds 1st July 1.30 pm. Meeting at Caernarfon Record Office Community Room. Parishes Project Workshop for those undertaking or interested in parish research, giving the latest updates. Led by Peter Masters. Light refreshments. £2 per head. Max 15.

THE NEW BOOK ON CRUCK BUILDING

This 400-page hardback provides the latest knowledge and theories about the origin of crucks and their distribution in Britain. Intriguingly they are not found in eastern England or in continental Europe, and no one knows why. As DOWHG members you will have often visited, read or heard about cruck-framed houses, well here is everything you need to know! The agreed definition of a cruck: 'A true cruck consists of a pair of timbers, straight or curved, serving as the principal of a roof, or stretching to a point at or close to the apex of the roof, from a level well down the side walls.' And did you know that the meaning of cruck is derived from 'crook', a curved timber? More than 4,000 buildings using crucks have been recorded, 10% of which have been dendro-dated, providing a huge amount of new information about their history.

The book contains chapters on their archaeology, carpentry and the management of the woodland that provided the timbers. Several chapters are devoted to regions of Britain; the one on Wales is by Richard Suggett of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW). Richard is well-known to many DOWHG members, and has helped in the understanding of many old houses in our region. A chapter on 'The Afterlife of Cruck Houses – Modernisation and Obsolescence in North Wales' is a fascinating study by DOWHG members, Martin Cherry and Peter Thompson. Many of their illustrated examples will be familiar to readers of this newsletter as they have been



Lansiad ym mis Ionawr ym Mhrifysgol Caerlŷr o'r llyfr newydd ar godi nenfforch, gyda'r cyd-olygydd Martin Cherry (dde) a'r cyd-awdur Peter Thompson (chwith), y ddau'n aelodau o GDHDC.

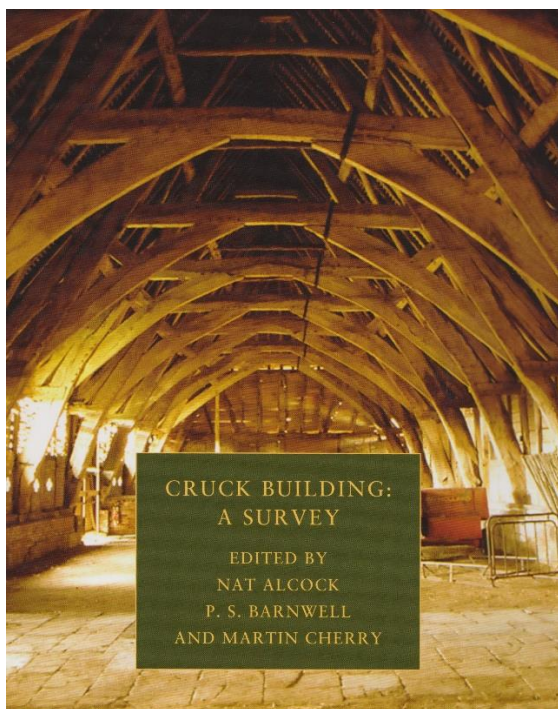
Launch in January at Leicester University of the new book on cruck building, with co-editor Martin Cherry (right) and co-author Peter Thompson (left), both members of DOWHG

Mae lluniau lliw moethus yn y llyfr ynghyd â diagramau technegol graddedig, cynlluniau, mapiau dosbarthiad a ffotograffau. Y pris gwerthu yw £50 ond mae'r cyhoeddwr, yn garedig iawn, yn ei gynnig i aelodau GDHDC am ddim ond £35, yn cynnwys postio a phacio.

I sicrhau eich copi cysylltwch â'r cyhoeddwr, gorau oll drwy gyfrwng ebost, gan ddatgan eich bod yn "aelod o GDHDC (sy'n gysylltiedig â'r VAG)".

shaun@shauntyas.myzen.co.uk (SHAUN TYAS, 1 High Street, Donington, SPALDING, Lincolnshire, PE11 4TA. Ffôn 01775 821542)

Irene Brightmer, Newsletter Editor



visited by branches. Martin and Peter comment on our 21st century fascination for crucks, with owners scrubbing and polishing them and removing inserted floors 'to reveal the ancient halls in their former glory'. All this is in contrast to the enthusiasm of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries to 'modernise' and obliterate all vestiges of timber construction through plastering over!

The book is lavishly illustrated in colour with scaled technical diagrams, plans, distribution maps and photos. The retail price is £50 but the publisher is kindly offering it to DOWHG members for only £35, inc P&P. To obtain your copy contact the publisher, preferably by email, stating that you are a "member of DOWHG (affiliated to the VAG)". shaun@shauntias.myzen.co.uk (SHAUN TYAS, 1 High Street, Donington, SPALDING, Lincolnshire, PE11 4TA. Ph. 01775 821 542)

Happy reading!

Irene Brightmer, Newsletter Editor

ÔL NODYN

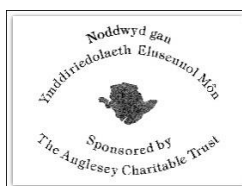
Roedd y rhifyn hwn o'r cylchlythyr bron a bod yn barod i'w anfon i'r darllenwyr profleni pan gawsom ar ddeall byddai'n rhaid gohirio ein rhaglen haf. Arafwyd hyn y broses. Er hynny, rydym yn anfon y cylchlythyr fel y gallwch edrych ymlaen at nifer o weithgareddau pan fydd yr argyfwng drosodd.

POSTSCRIPT

This edition of the Newsletter was almost ready to send out to our proofreaders when the news came of the necessary cancellation of our summer programme due to the virus emergency. This slowed down the completion. Nevertheless, we are sending it out now to whet your appetite for the activities we can all look forward to when this emergency is over.



Comisiwn Brenhinol
Henebion Cymru
Royal Commission on the Ancient
and Historical Monuments of Wales



TESCO
Bags of Help



DARGANFOD HEN DAI CYMREIG DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES



NODDWYR/PATRONS:

Sir Simon Jenkins, FSA, FRSL; Dr Eurwyn Wiliam, MA, PhD, FSA

Dathlu Treftadaeth Cymru drwy astudio tai traddodiadol a bywydau'r bobl fu'n byw ynddynt.

Celebrating Welsh Heritage through the study of traditional houses and the lives of the people who lived in them.

CYLCHLYTHYR 33 Mehefin 2020

NEWSLETTER 33 June 2020

EIN GWEFAN discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk yw prif sianel gyfathrebu'r Grŵp. Defnyddiwch hi i weld mwy o fanylion am y digwyddiadau diweddar a'r rhai sydd ar ddod, ac i edrych ar ein llyfrgell sy'n cynyddu'n gyson ac ar nodweddion eraill.

OUR WEBSITE discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk is the Group's main channel of communication. Please visit it to see details of recent and forthcoming events and to look at our growing library and other features.

O'R GADAI

Helo, bawb. Er nad oes fawr yn digwydd ar hyn o bryd, mae'r ymddiriedolwyr yn cytuno ei bod yn bwysig ein bod yn ystyried y dyfodol ac yn casglu syniadau a all ein harwain at ddyddiau gwell. Dydw i ddim yn mynd i sôn am y gair dychrynlyd sy'n dechrau efo c ac yn diweddu efo 19 gan nad yw'n codi calon neb, felly mi sonia'i ei bod yn 8.36 y bore ac rydw i'n dal yn fy ngwely! Roeddwn yn darllen 'The Old Churches of Snowdonia' gan Harold Hughes a Herbert North yn gynharach ac yn meddwl llyfrau mor ardderchog yw hwn a'i gyfaillgyfrol 'The Old Cottages of Snowdonia'. Yn y gorffennol rydym wedi trafod dychwelyd i edrych eilwaith ar y bythynnod yr ymwelwyd â nhw, bron i gan mlynedd yn ôl, i weld eu cyflwr erbyn hyn a sut mae dehongliad eu datblygiad wedi newid. Rydw i'n meddwl ei fod yn syniad bach deniadol dros ben ac y dylem fwrw ymlaen ag o. Rydw i'n siarad ar fy nghyfer braidd yma oherwydd dydy'r syniad ddim wedi ei gymeradwyo'n iawn gan yr Ymddiriedolwyr, ond rydw i'n teimlo ei fod yn werth ei ystyried. Byddai'n gryn her, ac yn rhywbeth i edrych ymlaen ato! Rŵan, mae'n rhaid i mi droi fy sylw at ddyfrio'r ardd a chodi o'm gwely. Bydd yn dda eich gweld i gyd cyn bo hir, felly pwyll piau hi tan hynny.

Richard Cuthbertson, cadeirydd

FROM THE CHAIR

Hi, everyone. The trustees all agree that though there is not a lot happening it's important that we all think about the future and gather in ideas that might guide us through to the sunlit uplands. I am not going to mention the dreadful word that begins with C and ends with 19 as it never brings joy to anyone's heart, instead I will tell you that it's 8.36 am and I am still in bed! I was reading 'The Old Churches of Snowdonia' by Harold Hughes and Herbert North earlier and thinking what wonderful books it and its companion volume 'The Old Cottages of Snowdonia' are. We have talked in the past about going back to look again at the cottages they examined, almost 100 years ago, see how they have fared over time and how interpretations about their development have changed. I think it's a very attractive little idea and most appropriate that we should do it. I'm speaking a bit out of turn here as the idea has not been properly approved by the trustees, but I think it's well worth considering, and it would be a great challenge!! And something to look forward to. Now I must turn my attention to watering the garden and get out of bed. It will be good to see you all soon, take care,

Richard Cuthbertson, chairman

YY DIWEDDARAF GAN YR YSGRIFENNYDD

Gobeithio bod pawb yn dygymod â'r sefyllfa ryfedd hon a'ch bod chi a'ch teuluoedd yn ddiogel ac yn iach. Rydym yn bendant yn byw mewn cyfnod anghyffredin ac mae pob un ohonom wedi gorfod addasu ein dull o fyw i rhyw raddau, gydag ambell un yn cael eu gwarchod neu'n hunan-ynysu. Bydd llawer ohonom wedi bod yn mwynhau'r tywydd braf ac mae'n debyg bod ein gerddi wedi cael mwy o sylw nag arfer! Mae'r Cylchlythyr mis Mehefin hwn yn wahanol iawn oherwydd does dim cyfarfodydd na gweithgareddau cymunedol wedi digwydd ers ein Cylchlythyr ym mis Mawrth a does dim modd cynllunio rhai eraill. Fodd bynnag, mae llawer o bobl wedi bod yn brysur gyda

UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARY

We hope that everyone is coping well during these unusual times and that you and your families are keeping in good health. We are definitely living through strange times and we have all had to modify our lifestyles to a greater or lesser extent, with some shielded or self-isolated. Many of us will have been enjoying the amazing weather and gardens have probably had more attention than usual! This June Newsletter is very different in that no meetings or communal activities have taken place since our March Newsletter and none can yet be planned. However, many people have been busy with DOWH related work. Some branches have been circulating regular notes,

gwaith sy'n gysylltiedig â DHDC. Mae ambell i gangen wedi bod yn dosbarthu nodiadau rheolaidd a manylion am wybodaeth ymchwil ychwanegol ar-lein am ddim, ac hefyd wedi dosbarthu cwisiau yn ogystal â chynnig cymorth i'w haelodau. Mae hanesion tai yn cael eu cwblhau ac mewn un achos mae project hanes tŷ cymunedol wedi ei roi ar waith. Mae cyfieithiad Cymraeg hanes Plas Penmynydd wedi ei gwblhau gan Ann Corkett, gydag arweiniad gan Morgan a Gill Jones yn bennaf, diolch i grant gan Gyngor Sir Ynys Môn a chyfraniadau gan aelod o DHDC a chronfeydd DHDC.

Rydym hefyd yn ddiolchgar am grant o Gronfa Marc Fitch a dderbyniwyd i gynorthwyo gyda diweddarau ein cofnodion ar ymweliadau tai ers 2005 (gweler yr adroddiad isod). Mi fydd y rhain ar gael fel crynodeb ar daenlen y gellir ei harchwilio. Bydd cofnodion mwy manwl yn parhau i fod ar gael. Rydym yn parhau i fod yn hynod ddiolchgar i'r RCAHMW am eu cefnogaeth a'u cyngor. Mae'r Project Plwyfi yn parhau (eto, gweler isod), rhai'n digwydd yn gynt nag eraill wrth i aelodau yn y canghennau gwblhau'r fformat a gytunwyd ar gyfer eu plwyfi a ddewiswyd ac ambell dro yn ychwanegu llawer mwy o fanylion. Diolch enfawr i bawb fu'n cymryd rhan. Gan fod ein CBC ym mis Mehefin wedi gorfod cael ei ohirio, mae'r ymddiriedolwyr yn bwriadu dosbarthu'r adroddiad blynyddol a'r datganiad ariannol heb ei archwilio i bob aelod ymhen rhyw fis. Yna bydd amser wedi ei ddosrannu ar gyfer sylwadau aelodau cyn i'r dogfennau gael eu hanfon i'r Comisiwn Elusennau yn ôl y gofynion cyfreithiol. Mae pob sgwrs i gyrff allanol wedi eu canslo neu eu gohirio hyd y flwyddyn nesaf. Yn yr adegau anghyffredin yma mae hi'n anodd rhagweld sut y bydd gweithgareddau DHDC yn cael eu trefnu yn y misoedd i ddod. Byddwn yn cadw mewn cysylltiad wrth i'r sefyllfa ddod yn fwy eglur, ond mae'n edrych yn debygol y bydd rôl canghennau o ran cynnal diddordeb aelodau a darparu awgrymiadau a chefnogaeth yn cynyddu. Dydy Irene Brightmer ddim yn golygu'r rhifyn hwn o'r Cylchlythyr oherwydd amgylchiadau personol, ond gobeithiwn y bydd yn gallu golygu rhifyn mis Medi. Yn y Cylchlythyr hwn mae ffotograffau o dai ffrâm nenfforch heb eu dyddio o Sir Ddinbych.

Margaret Dunn

NODIADAU O'R CANGHENNAU

Er bod Cofid-19 wedi arglwyddiaethu ar ein bywydau, mae'r canghennau lleol wedi bod yn hynod o brysur a chynhyrchiol. Mae'r Project Plwyfi wedi gweld cynnydd sylweddol. Mae'r gwaharddiad ar ymweliadau safle a'r penderfyniad i gau llyfrgelloedd ac archifau wedi ein gorfodi i ddefnyddio mwy ar y rhyngwrdd (gweler yr arweiniad byr i adnoddau rhyngwrdd am ddim ar gyfer haneswyr tai sy'n atodol i'r Cylchlythyr hwn). Os

details of additional free online research information and circulating quizzes as well as offering help to their members. House histories are being completed and in one case a community house history project is being undertaken. The Welsh translation of the Plas Penmynydd house history has been completed by Ann Corkett, led mainly by Ann Morgan & Gill Jones, thanks to the Isle of Anglesey County Council grant with contributions from a DOWH member and the DOWH funds.

We are also grateful for a Marc Fitch Fund grant which has been received to assist with the updating of our records on house visits since 2005 (see the report below). They will then be available as a summary on a searchable spreadsheet. More detailed records will remain available. We continue to be very grateful to the RCAHMW for their support and advice. The Parishes Project continues (again, see below) at varying speeds as members in the branches complete the agreed format for their chosen parishes and sometimes add much more detail. A huge thank you to all involved. As our June AGM has had to be postponed, the trustees plan to circulate the annual report and unaudited financial statement to all members in a month or so. There will then be time allocated for members to comment before the documents are sent to the Charity Commission as legally required. All talks to external organisations have been cancelled or postponed until next year. In these unprecedented times it is very hard to anticipate how DOWH activities might be arranged in the coming months. We will keep in touch as matters become clearer, but it seems likely that the role of branches in maintaining the interest of members and providing suggestions and support will increase. Irene Brightmer is not editing this edition of the Newsletter due to personal circumstances, but we hope that she will be able to edit the September edition. The photographs in this Newsletter are all of undated Denbighshire cruck-framed houses.

Margaret Dunn

NOTES FROM THE BRANCHES

While Covid-19 has dominated all our lives, the local branches have been remarkably active and productive. The Parishes Project has made leaps and bounds. The ban on site visits and closure of libraries and archives has forced us all to make greater use of the internet (see the brief guide to free internet resources for house historians attached with this Newsletter). If we continue to make this sort of progress, it will really help to prepare the ground for future field work and visits when better times allow. Also, social occasions can continue, albeit 'virtually': quizzes in the N.E. Branch

byddwn yn parhau i sicrhau cynnydd fel hyn, bydd yn ein helpu i fraenaru'r tir ar gyfer gwaith maes yn y dyfodol ac ymweliadau pan ddaw dyddiau gwell. Hefyd, mae achlysuron cymdeithasol yn gallu parhau, ond yn 'rhythiol': mae cwisiau yng Nghangen y gogledd ddwyrain wedi bod yn hynod boblogaidd er bod rhai wedi cwyno eu bod wedi peri gormod o waith meddwl! Yn ogystal â'r holl waith yma, dylid crybwyll y llwyddiannau canlynol. Mae Gill Jones wedi cyhoeddi erthygl gyda'r teitl 'The Spargo Family of Cornwall and North Wales', yn y *Transactions of the Anglesey Antiquarian Society* ac mae Jenny Lees wedi cwblhau'r ail o dair erthygl – 'A Quest for Cymer in Edeirnion and its Barons Part 2; c.1700-c.1900': mae'r rhan gyntaf yn y rhifyn cyfredol a chyhoeddir y lleill yn rhifyn nesaf cylchgrawn *Cymdeithas Hanes a Chofnodion Meirionnydd*. Hefyd, mae *Cynwyd Scrapbook Three* ar ein gwefan. Mae hanes Colomendy, Ysceifiog, wedi ei gwblhau gan Veronica Hay a Wally a Margaret Barr a gellir ei weld bellach yn llyfrgell gwefan DHDC. Mae Hazel Formby wedi bod yn gweithio ar hanes y teulu Fox o Ysceifiog, yn seiliedig ar wybodaeth yn Steegman J (1957) *A Survey of Portraits in Welsh Houses Vol 1* a gyhoeddir gan Amgueddfa Genedlaethol Cymru. Fe'n hatgoffwyd gan Monica Norton bod cyfres 3 o *A House Through Time* yn cael ei ddangos ar BBC2 ar nosweithiau Mawrth. Seilir y rhaglen ar hanes tŷ capten llong ym Mryste, a gwnaed yr ymchwiliad gan David Olusoga, sydd hefyd yn cyflwyno'r rhaglen.

Peintwyd y darlun isod yn ddiweddar gan yr arlunydd o ogledd Cymru Tomos ap Ryan (Instagram: tomos_ap_ryan). Y tŷ a welir yn y pellter yw Henblas, ger cartref Tomos ym Mhentre Helygain, Sir Y Fflint. Dyma adeilad rhestredig gradd II sy'n dyddio o'r 17eg ganrif ac, yn drist iawn, mae bellach mewn cyflwr adfeilliedig.



have proved popular although some complained that they had made people have to think too hard!

In addition to all this work, the following achievements should be mentioned. Gill Jones has published an article entitled 'The Spargo Family of Cornwall and North Wales', in the *Transactions of the Anglesey Antiquarian Society* and Jenny Lees has completed the second of three articles – 'A Quest for Cymer in Edeirnion and its Barons Part 2; c.1700-c.1900': the first part is in the current issue and the others will be published in the next edition of the *Journal of the Merioneth Historical and Record Society*. Also, the *Cynwyd Scrapbook Three* is on our website. The house history of Colomendy, Ysceifiog, has been completed by Veronica Hay and Wally and Margaret Barr and is now in the library of the DOWH website. Hazel Formby has been working on the history of the Fox family of Ysceifiog, based on information in Steegman J (1957) *A Survey of Portraits in Welsh Houses Vol.1*, published by the National Museum of Wales. Monica Norton reminded us that *A House Through Time* series 3 is showing on BBC2 on Tuesday evenings. The programme is based on the history of a sea captain's house in Bristol, researched and presented by David Olusoga.

The picture below has recently been painted by North Wales artist Tomos ap Ryan (Instagram: tomos_ap_ryan). The house seen in the distance is Henblas, near Tomos' home in Pentre Halkyn, Flintshire. It is a grade II listed building dating from the 17th century, and sadly is now in a very poor state of disrepair.



Eithin, Acrylig ar gynfas, 10 x 8, 2020

Gorse, Acrylic on canvas, 10 x 8, 2020

COLADU COFNODION YMWELIADAU Â THAI DHDC

Drwy gydol y flwyddyn ddiwethaf cynhaliwyd nifer o ymgynghoriadau gydag ymddiriedolwyr ac ysgrifenyddion canghennau ar arf reoli i gofnodi'r holl ymweliadau â thai a gynhelid ers 2005 gan aelodau (Margaret Dunn yn bennaf!). Bydd angen ychwanegu gwybodaeth o'r Project Plwyfi yn y dyfodol, ynghyd ag ymweliadau newydd – os bydd rheoliadau Cofid-19 yn caniatáu i ni wneud hyn yn y pen draw! Ni chafwyd fawr o gynnydd oherwydd bydd angen i'r rhan fwyaf o'r data fod yn hygyrch a gyda dipyn dros 2,000 o ymweliadau â thai wedi digwydd, bydd angen fformat gwydn arnom na fydd angen ei newid yn y dyfodol agos. Hefyd, mae'r ymdrech o drosglwyddo gwybodaeth o hen daenlenni a dogfennau i'r fformat newydd, a gwirio'r cywirdeb, yn gryn orchwyl! Yn ffodus iawn, mae DHDC wedi derbyn grant yn ddiweddar gan Gronfa Marc Fitch tuag at dalu i rhywun wneud hyn.

Mae'r fformat newydd bellach wedi derbyn data o thua 140 o dai yr ymwelwyd â nhw ers 1 Ebrill 2018 ac mae'n cael ei ddiweddarau ar hyn o bryd. Erbyn y bydd y Cylchlythyr hwn yn cael ei ddosbarthu bydd y data ar gael i ymddiriedolwyr, ysgrifenyddion canghennau ac aelodau eraill sydd â diddordeb er mwyn sicrhau ei fod yn ateb anghenion pawb – yna bydd yn bosib sicrhau ei fod ar gael yn fwy eang fel bod angen. Yn naturiol, bydd angen ychwanegu data newydd wrth i'r project fynd yn ei flaen.

Bydd y data ar gael ar Google Sheets – rhaglen daenlen ydy hon sy'n debyg iawn i Excel ac sydd ar gael ar-lein ar hyn o bryd i aelodau a wahoddir (ac am ddim!). Un o fuddion y Sheets yw fod modd eu gweld, eu trin a gwneud sylwadau arnyn nhw, ond ni ellir newid y copi meistr na'i ddileu'n ddamweiniol gan eraill, sydd felly yn gwarchod eu cywirdeb. Fel gydag Excel, mae'n bosib chwilio hefyd ar ddewislen y gellir ei thynnu i lawr felly does dim angen llawer o wybodaeth am sut i drin taenlenni i ddechrau. Mae'n debyg y bydd y project cyfan yn cymryd cryn amser ond bydd y cynnyrch yn y pen draw yn galluogi ateb lluo o gwestiynau nad oes modd gwneud hynny ar hyn o bryd yn ogystal â chyflenwi gwybodaeth ar gyfer strategaeth DHDC yn y dyfodol.

John Townsend



COLLATION OF RECORDS OF DOWH HOUSE VISITS

Over the past year or so there have been a number of consultations with trustees and branch secretaries on a management tool to record all the visits that have been made since 2005 to houses by members (mainly Margaret Dunn!). Information from the Parishes Project will need to be added in the future, together with new visits – if Covid-19 regulations eventually allow us to do this! Process has been a bit slow because most of the data will need to be searchable and with probably well over 2,000 houses visited, we want to have a robust format that will not need changing in the foreseeable future. Also, the sheer effort of transferring old spreadsheet and documentary information to the new format, and checking the accuracy, is quite an undertaking! Luckily DOWH has recently obtained a grant from the Marc Fitch Fund towards paying someone to do this.

The new format has now been populated with data from some 140 houses visited since 1 April 2018 and is being finalised at the moment. By the time this Newsletter is sent out the data will have been made available to trustees, branch secretaries and other interested members to ensure it meets everyone's needs – it can then be made more widely available as necessary. Obviously new data will be added as the project progresses.

The data will be available on Google Sheets – this is a spreadsheet programme very much like Excel but is available in real time online to invited members (and is free!). One of the benefits of Sheets is that it can be viewed, manipulated and commented on, but the master copy cannot be altered or accidentally deleted by users, thus preserving its integrity. As with Excel, searches can be preset on pull down menus so little understanding of manipulating spreadsheets is needed to start with. The entire project will probably take some time but the end product will allow a multitude of questions to be answered that can't be at present as well as informing decisions on the future strategy of DOWH.

John Townsend



PREIFATRWYDD – Mae'r tai a grybwyllir ar y wefan neu yn y Cylchlythyr hwn, ac sydd â chysylltiad â DHDC, yn breifat a dydyn nhw DDIM yn agored i'r cyhoedd ar unrhyw bryd.

PRIVACY – Houses mentioned on the website or in this Newsletter and /or linked with DOWH are private and are NOT open to the public at any time.

DIWEDDARIAD O'R PROJECT PLWYFI A CHYNLLUNIAU AR GYFER Y DYFODOL

Mae'r argyfwng Cofid-19 wedi'n gorfodi i ddibynnu ar ein hadnoddau ein hunain – a rhai y rhyngwrdd - ac, er bod cau llyfrgelloedd ac archifau a'r gwaharddiad ar gyfarfodydd ac ymweliadau â thai yn rhwystredig, mae'n rhoi mwy o amser i ni fwrw golwg ar ein sefyllfa. Mae'n darparu cyfle da i ddiweddarau ein holl gofnodion a'u casglu mewn un lleoliad ar un bas data (gweler adroddiad John). Mae hefyd yn ein galluogi i fwrw trem yn ôl ar sut mae'r holl waith a gwblhawyd gennym (neu a gomisiynwyd) dros y blynyddoedd – hanes tai, cofnodi adeiladau, dyddio gyda chylchoedd coed ac rŵan y Project Plwyfi – wedi rhoi hwb i'n pwnc penodol. Beth mae hyn wedi ei ddweud wrthym nad oeddem yn ei wybod o'r blaen? A beth yw'r cwestiynau newydd sydd angen eu hateb? Mae tueddiadau amrywiol yn amlwg ond mae angen gwaith pellach i'w deall yn llwyr, megis ymddangosiad nifer sylweddol o dai bonheddwyr mawreddog o'r pymthegfed ganrif sy'n ymddangos, yn ôl eu manylion, fel pe baen nhw'n edrych yn ôl ar oes aur coll; a ffrwydrad yn y nifer o ffermdai ffrâm nenfforch sylweddol yn gynnar yn yr unfed-ganrif-ar-bymtheg ganrif hyd at ei chanol. Mae angen dilyn trywdd themâu eang fel y rhain ynghyd â syniadau ac archwiliadau newydd a fydd yn codi o'r Project Plwyfi. Pan fydd pethau'n sefydlogi a'r byd yn ymddangos yn fwy fel bywyd beunyddiol arferol, gallwn gychwyn ar godi'r arian i gefnogi rhaglenni lleol a rhanbarthol mwy eang.

Martin Cherry

NODYN ATGOFFA GAN YR YSGRIFENNYDD AELODAETH

Disgwylir tanysgrifiadau aelodaeth ar Ebrill 1af. aelodaeth unigol £15 p.a.; aelodaeth ar y cyd £20 p.a. Gwnewch yn siŵr eich bod yn adnewyddu ar amser i gadw eich buddiannau aelodaeth. Er mwyn ei gwneud yn haws, fe'ch anogir i gymryd archeb sefydlog (gweler y wefan am ffurflen). Fel arall anfonwch eich sic eiddo i Ysgrifennydd Aelodaeth DHDC, Caerfallen, Rhuthun, LL15 1SL (01824 704404) membership@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk.

OS OES GENNYCH CHI DDIDDORDEB MEWN HEN DAI ac os nad ydych eisoes yn aelod, pam na wnewch chi ystyried ymuno â'r Grŵp? Ceir manylion llawn a ffurflen gais ar ein gwefan.

PARISHES PROJECT UPDATE & FUTURE PLANS

The Covid-19 crisis has forced us back on our own resources - and those of the Internet - and, although the closure of libraries and archives and the moratorium on meetings and house visits is frustrating, it gives us all more time for reflection. It provides a good opportunity to bring all our records up-to-date and gathered in one place on a single database (see John's report). It's also allowing us to take stock of how all the work we've done (or commissioned) over the years - house histories, building recording, tree-ring dating and now the Parishes Project - has taken our subject forward. What has it told us that we didn't know before? And what are the new questions that need answering? Various trends are apparent but need further work if we are to fully understand them, such as the emergence of a substantial number of splendidly built gentry houses in the fifteenth century that appear in their details to look back to a lost golden age; and the explosion of substantial cruck-framed farmhouses in the early- to mid- sixteenth century. Broad themes such as these need to be pursued along with the new ideas and observations that will emerge from the Parishes Project. When things settle down and the world returns to something more like normality, we can begin to raise funds to support both local and larger regional programmes.

Martin Cherry

REMINDER FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Membership subscriptions are due on April 1st. Individual membership £15 p.a.; Joint membership £20 p.a. Please make sure you renew on time to retain your membership benefits. To make it easier you are encouraged to take out a Standing Order (see website for form). Otherwise please send your cheque to DOWH Membership Secretary, Caerfallen, Ruthin, LL15 1SL (01824 704404) membership@discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN OLD HOUSES and are not already a member, why not consider joining the Group? Full details and application form on our website.

www.discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk



MARC FITCH FUND



DARGANFOD HEN DAI CYMREIG DISCOVERING OLD WELSH HOUSES



NODDWYR/PATRONS:

Syr/Sir Simon Jenkins, FSA, FRSL; Dr Eurwyn Wiliam, MA, PhD,

Gweledigaeth: Dathlu Treftadaeth Cymru drwy astudio tai traddodiadol a bywydau'r bobl oedd yn byw ynddyn nhw.

Celebrating Welsh Heritage through the study of traditional houses and the lives of the people who lived in them.

CYLCHLYTHYR 34 Medi 2020

NEWSLETTER 34 Sept 2020

GWEFAN: <http://discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk> yw prif sianel cyfathrebu'r Grŵp. Ewch i'r wefan i weld ein llyfrgell sy'n tyfu a nodweddion eraill. Fel arfer mae'n cynnwys manylion digwyddiadau diweddar a digwyddiadau sydd ar y gweill.

OUR WEBSITE <http://discoveringoldwelshhouses.co.uk> is the Group's main channel of communication. Please visit it to look at our growing library and other features. Normally it contains details of recent and forthcoming events.

O'R GADAIR:

Wel, mae'r amser yn llithro heibio ac mae rhyw fath o drefn unwaith eto ar fywyd bob dydd. Efallai ein bod rŵan yn gadael i'r erchyll Covid-19 reoli ein bywydau yn fwy nag y dylai, ond mae hefyd yn ymddangos fel synnwyr cyffredin i beidio ymgymryd â risg di-angen.

Yn ddiweddar cyfarfu y Pwyllgor Gwaith am ein cyfarfod Zoom electronaidd cyntaf. Credaf ein bod i gyd yn meddwl ei fod wedi mynd yn eithaf da, yn enwedig gan ein bod yn newydd i'r dechnoleg hon a'i bod wedi cymryd dipyn o amser i ni ddyfalu sut i'w defnyddio. Oherwydd bod cryn bellter rhwng aelodau'r grŵp ledled gogledd Cymru mae'r aelodau, yn aml, yn gorfod teithio'n bell ar ffyrdd cul a hynny ambell dro mewn tywydd gwael (ac mae hi'n ymddangos bod mwy o dywydd gwael y dyddiau yma) gyda phroblemau dod o hyd i leoliadau ar ben hynny. Byddwn yn parhau i arbrofi gyda'r cyfarfodydd Zoom yma ac rydw i hyd yn oed wedi gwirfoddoli i roi cynnig ar sgwrs ar ddiwedd mis Hydref, lle bydd yn bosibl cysylltu cymaint o bobl â phosib ac y gallaf eich diflasu i gyd gyda'r pethau sy'n fy amgylchynu yn fy swyddfa yma ym Mhlas Penmynydd.

Mae gwaith da yn cael ei gyflawni ond gan fod Margaret yn trafod hwn yn ei hadroddiad wna'i ddim ymhelaethu ar hynny; gobeithiaf eich bod i gyd yn iawn ac wedi goroesi'r stormydd anghyffredin yma ym mis Awst.

Richard Cuthbertson, chairman (richard@dmwales.com)

FROM THE CHAIR

Well, time slips by and a certain amount of normality has returned. It may be now that we are allowing the dreadful Covid-19 to dominate our lives rather more than it should, but it also seems like common sense not to take unnecessary risks.

Last week the Executive Committee met for our first electronic Zoom meeting. I think we all thought it went rather well, especially because we were new to it and it took us a while to work out a smooth modus operandi. The long distances on narrow roads that seemed to be an inescapable part of running any group covering the whole of north Wales carry very considerable risks to lone drivers who might come across dreadful weather (of which we seem to get more and more) or even simple route finding problems. We will carry on experimenting with these Zoom meetings and I have even volunteered to try a talk at the end of October, where as many people as possible will all be linked up and I can bore you all with ancient reminiscing about the things that surround me in the study at Plas Penmynydd.

Good work is being done all round but Margaret covers it very well in her report so I will limit myself to hoping that you are all well and surviving the unusual August storms.

Richard Cuthbertson, chairman (richard@dmwales.com)

Y DIWEDDARAF GAN YR YSGRIFENNYDD: Margaret Dunn

Covid-19: Gobeithiwn eich bod chi a'ch teuluoedd yn parhau i fod yn iach ac yn brysur yn ystod y cyfnod hwn o gyfyngiadau'r pandemig yma ac edrychwn ymlaen at agoriad graddol swyddfeydd cofnodion a llyfrgelloedd. Rydym yn gwerthfawrogi'r holl waith a wneir ar hyn o bryd gan aelodau wrth wirio'r Taenlen Rheolaeth Tai a datblygu'r Project Plwyfi, er gwaethaf yr amgylchiadau unigryw. Rydym wedi paratoi'r Cylchlythyr mwy hwn i chi ei fwynhau a chymryd rhan ym mhob dim sy'n digwydd.

Project Plas Penmynydd: Rydym yn falch iawn bod Hanes y Tŷ bellach ar gael yn ddwyieithog ar ein gwefan. Llauer o ddiolch i Ann Morgan am gydlynw'r project hwn ac i Ymddiriedolaeth Elusennol Ynys Môn ac eraill am eu cefnogaeth ariannol a'u cymorth gyda'r project hwn.

UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARY: Margaret Dunn

Covid-19: We hope that you and your families continue to keep well and busy during this period of pandemic restrictions and we look forward to the gradual opening of record offices and libraries. We appreciate all the work currently being undertaken by members in checking the Houses Management Spreadsheet and developing the Parishes Project, despite the unique circumstances. This bumper Newsletter is for you to enjoy and get involved with all that is going on.

Plas Penmynydd project: We are delighted that this bilingual House History is now available on our website. Many thanks to Ann Morgan for co-ordinating the project and to the Isle of Anglesey Charitable Trust and others for financial support and help with this project.

Vacancies: DOWH is very grateful to John Townsend for his hard work for many years in his role as **Treasurer**, and for remaining in post for an additional year. He will be retiring as

Swyddi gwag: Mae DHDC yn hynod o ddiolchgar i John Townsend am ei holl waith ers blynyddoedd lawer yn ei rôl fel **Trysorydd**, ac am barhau yn ei swydd am flwyddyn ychwanegol. Bydd yn ymddeol fel Trysorydd ar 31 Mawrth 2021. Yn ddiweddar mae Irene Brightmer wedi ymddiswyddo fel **Golygydd y Cylchlythyr** a diolchwn iddi am ei chyfraniad pwysig wrth gasglu a rhannu gwybodaeth ar gyfer aelodau a thu hwnt. Gofynnwn i chi i gyd ein helpu i ddod o hyd i Drysorydd a Golygydd Cylchlythyr newydd; does dim rhaid i'r ddau fod yn rhan o DHDC eisoes. Os gwelwch yn dda, holwch yn eich cymunedau a chysylltwch â mi gyda'ch awgrymiadau.

Secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Diweddarau a Rhannu Ymchwil:

Yn ogystal â datblygu'r Daenlen Rheolaeth Tai o adeiladau yr ymwelwyd â nhw a'r cofnodion newydd drwy'r **Project Plwyfi**, mae'r gwaith o ddiweddarau pellach ar gofnodion yn cael ei wneud gan nifer o aelodau sy'n rhannu eu hymchwil yn gysylltiedig â DHDC. Ar ddiwedd yr 1990au a dechrau'r 2000au ymgymerodd Margaret Dunn ag ymchwil manwl i stadau eang **Craflwyn**, **Beddgelert**, ac **Egryn**, **Llanaber**, a ddaeth oddeutu 1700 yn rhan o stad **Caerberllan**, **Llanfihangel-y-Pennant**, **Sir Feirionnydd**; mae **Craflwyn** ac **Egryn** bellach ym meddiant yr Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol ac nid ydyn nhw ar agor i'r cyhoedd. Roedd y tair stad hefyd yn berchen ar nifer o ffermydd sydd, ynghyd â daliadau fferm eraill, wedi eu hymchwilio i raddau gwahanol gyda'r adnoddau oedd ar gael ar y pryd. Hyd yma mae 24 o hanesion tai rhannol wedi eu paratoi ar gyfer ardal **Dyffryn Ardudwy** o **Sir Feirionnydd**, llawer ohonyn nhw'n rhan o stad **Egryn**. Bydd y rhain cyn bo hir yn cael eu cynnwys ar wefan DHDC. Mae aelodau eraill yn anfon eu hymchwil i ysgrifenyddion canghennau ar gyfer eu rhannu.

Margaret Dunn. Secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Gweithgareddau / Digwyddiadau o Fedi 2020 hyd Ebrill 2021

Yn sesiynau diweddarau'r Pwyllgor Gwaith (ar Zoom) ym mis Awst ac Ymddiriedolwyr (drwy e-bost) trafodwyd adroddiadau diweddarau rheolaidd ar weithgareddau ac ariannu, ond canolbwyntiwyd yn bennaf ar gynllunio ffordd briodol ymlaen i DHDC o Fedi 2020 hyd o leiaf Ebrill 2021. Amlygir y pwyntiau allweddol isod ac mae'r adroddiadau llawn gan ysgrifenyddion y canghennau. Bydd rôl canghennau yn parhau i fod yn hanfodol wrth gynnal cyswllt gydag aelodau a'u diddordeb a'u rhan yn yr uchod.

Project Plwyfi: Mae'r gwaith allweddol hwn yn parhau a gobeithiwn y bydd mwy o aelodau yn ymchwilio eu plwyfi wrth i'r hydref agosáu gyda chymorth ysgrifenyddion canghennau. Llawer o ddiolch i Martin Cherry am ei erthygl tua diwedd y Cylchlythyr hwn.

Taenlen Rheolaeth Tai DHDC: Mae pob cangen ar hyn o bryd yn gwirio cofnodion eu hardal ar gyfer 2018-2020. Yn ystod mis Medi gobeithiwn roi cychwyn ar ychwanegu'r cofnodion cyn 2018 ac rydym yn cydnabod grant ar gyfer hyn gan Gronfa Marc Fitch.

Cyfarfodydd Zoom: Rydym yn edrych ar y posibilrwydd o gynnal ambell i gyfarfod Zoom ar bynciau yn ymwneud â diddordebau amrywiol DHDC. Cysylltwch â mi os hoffech

treasurer on 31 March 2021. Irene Brightmer has recently resigned as **Newsletter Editor** and we thank her for her important contribution in disseminating information to members and beyond. We ask you all to help us find a new Treasurer and Newsletter Editor; neither need to be currently involved with DOWH. Please ask people in your communities and contact me with suggestions.

Secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Updating and Sharing Research:

In addition to developing the Houses Management Spreadsheet of visited buildings and the new recordings through the **Parishes Project**, further updating of records is being undertaken by a number of members who are sharing their DOWH-related researches. In the late 1990s and early 2000s Margaret Dunn undertook detailed research into the extensive estates of **Craflwyn**, **Beddgelert**, and **Egryn**, **Llanaber**, which circa 1700 became part of the **Caerberllan**, **Llanfihangel y Pennant**, **Merionethshire** estate; **Craflwyn** and **Egryn** are now National Trust properties not open to the general public. All three estates also owned numerous farms which, with other local farm holdings, have been researched to a greater or lesser degree with resources then available. To date 24 partial house histories have been prepared for the **Dyffryn Ardudwy** area of Merionethshire, many of which were part of the **Egryn** estate. These will soon be included on the DOWH website. Other members are forwarding their research to branch secretaries for sharing.

Margaret Dunn. Secretary@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk

Activities / Events from September 2020 to April 2021

In the August Executive (via Zoom) and Trustees (via email) updating sessions routine update reports on activities and finance were covered, but the main focus has been on planning a suitable way forwards for DOWH from September 2020 until at least April 2021. The key points are given below and branch secretaries have the full reports. The role of branches will continue to be vital in maintaining contact with, and the interest and involvement, of members.

Parishes Project: This key work continues and we hope that now autumn is approaching more members will research their parishes with help from branch secretaries. Many thanks to Martin Cherry for his article near the end of this Newsletter.

DOWH Houses Management Spreadsheet: All branches are currently checking their area's entries for 2018-2020. During September we hope that the adding of the entries prior to 2018 will commence and we acknowledge the grant for this from the Marc Fitch Fund.

Zoom meetings: We are looking into the feasibility of holding occasional Zoom meetings on topics related to DOWH's varied interests. Please contact me if you would like to offer a topic in English or Welsh. Further details will be circulated in due course.

Please contact branch secretaries / the secretary with **any additional ideas** of what DOWH might do until we can again hold meetings and visits. We do want to involve members as much as possible.



gynnig pwnc yn y Saesneg neu'r Gymraeg. Byddwn yn dosbarthu manylion pellach yn y man.

Cysylltwch ag ysgrifenyddion canghennau neu'r ysgrifennydd gydag **unrhyw syniadau ychwanegol** o'r hyn all DHDC ei wneud nes y byddwn unwaith eto mewn sefyllfa i gynnal cyfarfodydd ac ymweliadau. Hoffem i gymaint o aelodau â phosib gymryd rhan.

Diweddariad ar y Llyfr Nenffyrch: Mae *Cruck Building: A Survey*, a gyhoeddwyd ddiwedd y llynedd gyda chyfraniadau pwysig gan dri o'n haelodau (Martin Cherry, Peter Thompson a Richard Suggett) wedi cyrraedd y rhestr fer ar gyfer Gwobr Colvin am weithiau cyfeirio rhagorol. Trefnir y gystadleuaeth hon gan Gymdeithas Haneswyr Pensaernïol Prydain Fawr ac fe'i hystyrir i fod yn 'un o wobrau pwysicaf hanes pensaernïol'. Mae copïau ar gael am bris gostyngol arbennig (£35 yn lle £50) gan shaun@shauntias.myzen.co.uk. I hawlio'r gostyngiad mae angen i chi adael iddo wybod eich bod yn aelod o DHDC, cymdeithas gyswllt i'r Grŵp Pensaernïol Gwerinol.

Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru: Ar 22 Awst cyhoeddwyd bod y Llyfrgell yn falch o gyhoeddi y bydd "yn ail-agor un o'i hystafelloedd darllen o ddydd Mawrth, 1 Medi 2020. Wrth groesawu ei haelodau'n ôl, bydd y Llyfrgell yn darparu gwasanaeth cyfyngedig a mynediad i'w chasgliadau, gyda mesurau newydd mewn grym i warchod darllenwyr, ymchwilwyr a staff. Bydd hyn yn golygu oriau agor cyfyngedig, system archebu ar gyfer ymwelwyr, llwybrau un-ffordd drwy gydol yr adeilad, pellter cymdeithasol, a threfn glanhau rheolaidd a thrylwyr. Hefyd, bydd y Llyfrgell yn gweithredu system gwarantîn i'n casgliadau wrth i ni ymdrechu i ddarparu mynediad diogel iddyn nhw. I ddechrau, dim ond gwasanaethau ystafell ddarllen fydd ar gael o fewn yr adeilad. Fodd bynnag, fe all y cyhoedd barhau i chwilio casgliadau'r Llyfrgell ar ei gwefan a defnyddio ei hystod o adnoddau ar-lein. Mae'r Llyfrgell yn ymchwilio i'r posibilrwydd o ail-agor ei harddangosfeydd a pharhau â'r gwasanaeth addysg a rhaglen wirfoddoli yn y dyfodol agos. Am nawr bydd Caffi Pen Dinas yn parhau ar gau; fodd bynnag, mae'n bosib y bydd gwasanaeth cyfyngedig ar gael o ganol Medi ymlaen. Mae gwasanaethau reprograffig masnachol y Llyfrgell wedi bod ar gael ers 2 Awst 2020".

Archif y Sir. Ar ddiwedd Awst cafwyd datganiad ar wefan Swyddfeydd Cofnodion Gwynedd bod paratodau yn cael eu gwneud i agor i'r cyhoedd. Mae'n debyg bod siroedd eraill yn paratoi cynlluniau tebyg.

FamilySearch.org Mae Janice wedi cael erthygl ddefnyddiol am Fanylder Chwiliad Teuluol o Gylchlythyr Durham RO Ar-lein, ar gael mae'n debyg o ne_ancestors@ndfhs.org.uk.

NEWYDDION O'R CANGHENNAU

Cangen Ynys Môn: Project Plwyfi gan Sue Hurst a Peter Masters
Ni fu unrhyw gyfathrebu diweddar gydag aelodau'r gangen. Gyda chymorth aelodau eraill mae Terry Williams bellach wedi ymchwilio holl blwyfi Ynys Môn wrth ddefnyddio'r gwefannau basdata amrywiol ac mae hefyd wedi dod o hyd i luniau lle'r oedd rhai ar gael. Mae aelodau'r gangen yn edrych ymlaen at ymweld â rhai o'r tai a ymchwiliwyd yn y dyfodol.

Cruck Book update: *Cruck Building: A Survey*, published at the end of last year with major contributions from three of our members (Martin Cherry, Peter Thompson and Richard Suggett), has been shortlisted for the Colvin Prize for outstanding works of reference. This competition is organised by the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain and is considered to be 'one of the most important prizes in architectural history'. Copies are available at a special discounted price (£35 instead of £50) from shaun@shauntias.myzen.co.uk. To get the discount you need to tell him that you are a member of DOWH, a Vernacular Architecture Group affiliated society.

The National Library of Wales: On 22 August 2020 it was announced that the NLW is pleased to announce that "it will reopen one of its reading rooms from Tuesday, 1 September 2020. By welcoming back its users, the Library will provide a limited service and access to its collections, with new measures in place to protect readers, researchers and staff. This will mean limited opening hours, booking system for visitors, one-way routes throughout the building, social distancing, and a regular and thorough cleaning schedule. In addition, the Library will operate a quarantine system for our collections as we endeavour to provide safe access to them. Initially, only reading room services will be available within the building. However, the public may continue to search the Library's collections on its website and make use of its range of online resources. The Library is exploring the possibility of reopening its exhibitions and continue the education service and volunteering programme in the near future. For the time being Caffi Pen Dinas will remain closed, however, it is possible that a limited service will be available from mid-September onwards. The Library's commercial reprographic services have been available since 1 August 2020".

County Archives. In late August the Gwynedd Record Offices website stated that preparations are being made to open to the public. Other counties are probably making similar plans.

FamilySearch.org Janice has obtained a helpful article about Family Search Accuracy from the Durham RO Online Newsletter, probably available from ne_ancestors@ndfhs.org.uk.

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

Anglesey Branch: Parishes Project by Sue Hurst and Peter Masters.

There has not been any recent communication with branch members. Terry Williams with help from other members has now researched all the Anglesey parishes using the various database websites and has also found photos for buildings where available. Branch members look forward to visiting some of the researched houses in the future.

There were two training sessions held in the Archives at Llangefni before March 2020. There are 77 Parishes listed for Anglesey. All of those parishes have been searched. Several people volunteered but principally by Sue Hurst, Ian Thomas and Terry Williams who have searched all of the parishes, 10 of which returned "No suitable houses". Within the remaining 67 parishes, 117 houses were identified as being suitable

Cynhaliwyd dwy sesiwn hyfforddi yn Archifau Llangefni cyn Mawrth 2020. Rhestrir 77 o Blwyfi ar gyfer Ynys Môn. Mae pob un o'r plwyfi hynny wedi eu harchwilio. Gwirfoddolodd amryw o bobl ond gwnaed y gwaith yn bennaf gan Sue Hurst, Ian Thomas a Terry Williams sydd wedi chwilio'r holl blwyfi. Cafwyd nad oedd 'dim tai priodol' mewn 10 o'r rhain. O fewn y 67 plwyf sy'n weddill, adnabuwyd 117 o dai fel rhai'n briodol ar gyfer ymchwil pellach. Dengys croes-gyfeirio gyda'n basdata bod 83 o adeiladau Rhestredig I neu II* ac 69 wedi eu Rhestru gan NPNR o fewn y rhestr honno o 177 o dai.

Aseswyd 55 o dai yn flaenorol. Penderfynwyd nad oedd 44 ohonyn nhw'n addas gan nad oedd ynddyn nhw bren priodol neu roedd wedi ei 'dyfu'n gyflym' neu'n Amrywiol. Wrth ddefnyddio dendrocronoleg, dyddiwyd 10 o dai gyda'r dyddiadau'n amrywio o 1465-1638. Ni ddyddiwyd dau, sy'n gadael 60 o dai i'w hystyried ymhellach. Mae llawer nad ydyn nhw eto wedi derbyn ymweliad.

Cangen Conwy: Llanddulas a Rhyd y Foel gan Gill Jones

Rydw i wedi bod yn cymryd rhan mewn project ar y cyd gyda Wendy Williams, o'n Cyngor Cymuned, i gynhyrchu tri llyfr am Blwyf Sifil Llanddulas a Rhyd y Foel. Trefnwyd yr ariannu eisoes i dalu am gost yr argraffu. Rydw i eisoes wedi cwblhau'r llyfr cyntaf am ddatblygiad addysg a'r ysgolion amrywiol sydd wedi bodoli yn y plwyf – gwladol, preifat, gwaddol a chrefyddol. Ar ddiwedd y llynedd, gweithiodd Wendy ar broiect ffotograffig gyda rhai o ddisgyblion Blwyddyn 6 ysgol y pentref. Bu'r plant yn tynnu lluniau rhai o'r hen adeiladau a chymharu'r rhain gyda hen ffotograffau o'r un adeiladau. O ganlyniad crëwyd llyfr gyda lluniau o'r enw 'Ddoe a Heddiw/Then and Now'. Ar hyn o bryd rydw i'n gweithio ar y trydydd llyfr am hanes tai'r 17eg ganrif hyd at ddechrau'r 20fed ganrif.

Nododd Edward Llwyd bump neu chwech bwthyn a thŷ'r felin yn Llanddulas yn ei *Parochial Queries* yn 1699. Enwir pedwar tŷ – Y Genffos (Bryn Dulas heddiw), Y Tŷ Gwyn, Y Tŷ Gwyn yn ymyl Geuffos (Geuffos Bach heddiw) a Tŷ yn Glan yr Afon bell.

Dim ond y tri cyntaf sy'n bodoli heddiw. Roedd Rhyd y Foel (trefgordd Bodlyman) yn rhan o Fetws yn Rhos ar y pryd. Nododd Llwyd bod saith tŷ yn y plwyf hon ond dim un ym Moddlyman.

Mae nifer fechan o dai eraill yn bodoli o'r 17eg ganrif - Y Felin, Braenar Caled a Thŷ Ucha yn Llanddulas; a Melin y Cwmp, Borth Wyrdd ac Y Foel yn Rhyd y Foel. Y prif dirfeddianwyr oedd Wynniaid Garthewin a Bronywendon, y teulu Hesketh, Gwrych, a'r teulu Hughes o Ginnel.

Mae o leiaf un-ar-bymtheg o dai unigol ac wyth rhes o fythynnod wedi diflannu yn eithaf diweddar. Chwalwyd rhai pan wnaethpwyd gwelliannau i'r hen ffordd drwy'r pentref wedi ymddangosiad ceir modur a bysiau yn gynnar yn yr 20fed ganrif; rhai wrth i'r gwaith chwarel ehangu, eraill pan grëwyd yr A55, a chollwyd rhai pan ollyngwyd dau o ffrwydron tir ar y pentref gan awyrennau o'r Almaen wrth iddyn nhw ddychwelyd o gyrch ar Lerpwl yn 1940. Tyfodd y pentref mewn maint yn bennaf oherwydd bod angen

for further research. Cross reference with our database shows that within that list of 117 houses, 83 are Listed I or II* buildings and 69 have a NPNR Listing.

55 houses have previously been assessed. 44 of those were deemed unsuitable by virtue of having either no suitable timber or it being "Fast grown" or Misc. Using dendrochronology, 10 houses were dated with date ranges from 1465- 1638. Two were undated, which leaves 60 houses for further consideration. Many have not yet been visited.

Conwy Branch: Llanddulas and Rhyd y Foel by Gill Jones

I have been involved in a joint project with Wendy Williams, from our Community Council, to produce three books about the Civil Parish of Llanddulas and Rhyd y Foel. Funding has already been arranged to cover the cost of the printing. I have completed the first book about the development of education and the various schools which have existed in the parish – state, private, endowed and religious. At the end of last year, Wendy carried out a photographic project with some of the Year 6 pupils from the village school. The children took photographs of some of the old buildings and these were matched with old photographs of the same buildings. This has resulted in a pictorial book entitled "Then and Now". I'm currently working on the third book about the history of the houses from the 17th century to the early 20th century.

Edward Lhuyd noted five or six cott' and a mill house in Llanddulas in his *Parochial Queries* in 1699. Four houses are named - Y Genffôs (now Bryn Dulas), Y Tŷ Gwyn, Y Tŷ gwyn yn ymyl Geuffos (now Geuffos bach) and Tŷ yn Glan yr Afon bell. Only the first three now remain. Rhyd y Foel (the township of Bodlyman) was part of Bettws yn Rhos at the time. Lhuyd noted seven houses in this parish but none in Bodlyman.

There are a small number of other existing 17th century houses - Y Felin, Braenar Caled and Tŷ Ucha in Llanddulas; and Melin y Cwmp, Borth Wyrdd and Y Foel in Rhyd y Foel. The main landowners were the Wynnes of

Garthewin and Bronywendon, the Heskeths of Gwrych, and the Hughes of Kinnel.

At least sixteen individual houses and eight rows of cottages have disappeared in recent times. Some were demolished when the old road through the village was improved after the appearance of motor cars and coaches in the early 20th century; some as the quarrying enterprises were expanded; others when the A55 was constructed and a few were lost when two landmines were dropped on the village by German aircraft returning from a raid on Liverpool in 1940. The village grew in size mainly as a result of the quarries and lime kilns requiring workers. By 1831, there were 157 houses and 307 people in Llanddulas, plus a few more houses and their occupants in Rhyd y Foel. In 2011, the population of the Llanddulas and Rhyd y Foel Civil Parish was recorded as 1,542 persons in 713 houses.



gweithwyr ar y chwareli a'r odyddau calch. Erbyn 1831, roedd 157 tŷ a 307 o bobl yn Llanddulas, yn ogystal ag ychydig mwy o dai a'u preswylwyr yn Rhyd y Foel. Yn 2011, cofnodwyd bod poblogaeth Plwyf Sifil Llanddulas a Rhyd y Foel yn 1,542 o bobl mewn 713 o dai.

Cangen Sir Ddinbych: Hanes Cudd Cwm Main gan Jenny Lees

I'w gyhoeddi cyn bo hir mae ein hanes DHDC (1) o Gwernbraichdwr, a saif yng nghwm cudd hardd Cwm Main, gyda dyddiad coed a gwmpwyd yng ngaeaf 1553/54 ac a elwid ar un pryd yn Gwern y Brechtwn. Arweiniodd ymchwilio ei hanes i Bensusylvania, wrth i Glenn (1896) (2) gasglu cartau achau o lawysgrifau Cymreig hynafol a dogfennau teuluol a gludwyd yno gan wladfawyr o Sir Feirionnydd. Dioddefodd Crynwyr o Brydain erledigaeth lem i fygu anghydfurfiaeth, ac ymfudodd llawer o blwyfi o amgylch y Bala er mwyn osgoi cael eu carcharu, atafaeliad eu heiddo a hyd yn oed y bygythiad o farwolaeth fel bradwyr. Bu farw Robert Owen, yr oedd Glenn yn credu ei fod yn ŵyr i John Lloyd o Gwern y Brychdwn, ym Mhennsylvania yn 1697 a dywedir ei fod wedi ei gludo i garchar Dolgellau yn yr 1670au oherwydd ei greddoau. Yn rhyfedd, mae Glenn hefyd yn sôn am Gwern y Brychdwn fel 'alias Owlars Brindle Bush'. O ystyried y gair 'brindle' neu frych yn y Gymraeg mewn cysylltiad â'r gair 'owler', sef rhywun a oedd yn allforio gwlân neu ddefaid yn anghyfreithlon, tybed a oedd gan Gwernbraichdwr gysylltiadau gyda'r arfer yma ar un pryd?

Tŷ neuadd ffrâm-nenfforch agored ar un pryd gyda phreniau to sy'n awgrymu ei adeiladu oddeutu 1531 (3) yw Rhydywernen, ffermdy arall sydd wedi goroesi yng Nghwm Main. Gerllaw, heb ei ddyddio, mae Coed-y-Bedo, a gysylltid ar un pryd gyda'r bardd Bedo Aeddren (yn barddoni oddeutu 1500). Efallai y dylid archwilio hanes y tŷ yma hefyd, gan fod braslun llinell gan Peter Smith yn awgrymu ei fod o bosib yn adeilad ffrâm bren (4) yn wreiddiol. Mae Llwyn Onn, a ystyrir gan RCAHMW i ddyddio o ddiwedd yr 17eg ganrif, ond gyda rhannau o gyplau to cynharach, yn un o sawl ffermdy sydd ar hyn o bryd yn adfail yng Nghwm Main, ond a oedd yn amlwg yn ffermdy sylweddol ar un cyfnod.

NODIADAU: (1). Jenny Lees a Pam Buttrey (2020) History of Gwernbraichdwr, Cwm Main, Corwen. (2). Thomas Allen Glenn (1896) Merion in the Welsh Tract - with sketches of the townships of Haverford and Radnor. (3). Martin Cherry a Dinah Pickard, 2015, <http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk/library/Hhistory/> (4). Peter Smith (1988) Houses of the Welsh Countryside: A Study in Historical Geography, 2il rifyn; t 211. (Lluniau pellach o Gwm Main ar gael ar leesjenny@gmail.com)

Denbighshire Branch: Hidden Histories of Cwm Main

by Jenny Lees

Soon to be published is our DOWH history (1) of Gwernbraichdwr, lying in the beautiful hidden valley of Cwm Main, with a tree-felling date of winter 1553/54 and once known as Gwern y Brechtwn. Researching its history led to Pennsylvania, as Glenn (1896) (2) compiled pedigrees from both ancient Welsh manuscripts and family documents taken there by Merionethshire settlers. British Quakers

were harshly persecuted to suppress nonconformity, and many from parishes around Bala emigrated to escape imprisonment, confiscation of property and even threatened death as traitors. Robert Owen, believed by Glenn to be the grandson of John Lloyd of Gwern y Brychdwn, died in Pennsylvania in 1697 and is said to have been committed to Dolgellau gaol in the 1670s on account of

his beliefs. Curiously, Glenn also records mention of Gwern y brychdwn as 'alias Owlars Brindle Bush'. As the word brych can mean brindled in Welsh and owler is a late C17th term for someone engaged in illegal exportation of wool or sheep, could Gwernbraichdwr possibly have once had such associations?

Rhydywernen, another surviving Cwm Main homestead, is a cruck-framed former open hall house with roof timbers suggesting construction in around 1531 (3). Nearby undated Coed-y-Bedo, once associated with the poet Bedo Aeddren (active in around 1500) may also merit a DOWH house history, as a line drawing by Peter Smith suggests that it could have originally been half timbered (4). Llwyn Onn, considered by RCAHMW to be late C17th but incorporating parts of earlier roof trusses, is one of several farmsteads currently derelict in Cwm Main, but obviously once a substantial farmstead.

NOTES: (1). Jenny Lees and Pam Buttrey (2020) History of Gwernbraichdwr, Cwm Main, Corwen. (2). Thomas Allen Glenn (1896) Merion in the Welsh Tract - with sketches of the townships of Haverford and Radnor. (3). Martin Cherry and Dinah Pickard,

2015,

<http://discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk/library/Hhistory/> (4). Peter Smith (1988)

Houses of the Welsh Countryside: A Study

in Historical Geography, 2nd edition; p.211. (Further Cwm Main images available from leesjenny@gmail.com)



Gwernbraichdwr



Coed-y-Bedo



Llwyn Onn

Diweddariad o Gangen Meirionnydd: gan John Townsend

Cyn Covid-19 roedd ein grŵp bach o aelodau brwdfrydig wedi ymchwilio i raddau amrywiol 245 o dai/adfeilion/safleoedd a oedd wedi eu hadnabod ac wedi eu dyddio cyn 1700 mewn 7 o'n 26 plwyf. Ymwelwyd ag oddeutu 30 o'r rhain a thynnwyd ffotograffau ohonyn nhw. Mae Meirionnydd yn ffodus oherwydd mae dogfennau ar gael sy'n ei gwneud yn weddol rhwydd adnabod tai sy'n dyddio cyn 1700 – y broblem ydy'r nifer ohonyn nhw yr ydym yn dod ar eu traws! Rydym wedi parhau i ymchwilio o'n cartrefi a chwblhawyd gwaith da iawn yn Ffestiniog a Maentwrog. Mae'r gwaith yn Llanelltyd wedi ei ehangu. Mae un o'n haelodau wedi ymweld ag ychydig o dai yn ardal Harlech a daeth un arall o hyd i adfail gyda chwpl to yn dal i sefyll wrth iddi grwydro ar ei theithiau cerdded.

Fel rhan o'r ymchwil i dai yn Llanelltyd mae fy ngwraig a minnau wedi rhoi cynnig ddwywaith ar gyrraedd adfeilion Glan-llyn-y-forwyn ym mherffeddwlad Cwm Camlan i'r gorllewin o Ganllwyd – crybwyllwyd y tŷ yn Rholiau Rhenti 1623 ac roedd rhywun yn byw ynddo hyd yr 1890au. Hefyd, dyma lle'r oedd un o gyndeidiau aelod o Feirionnydd ac aelod o Ynys Môn yn byw. Ar ein cynnig cyntaf o'r gorllewin diflannodd y llwybr yn y gors. Ar yr ail gynnig o'r de roedd plannu coed gan yr hen Gomisiwn Coedwigaeth wedi dileu'r llwybr. Wrth i gyfyngiadau Covid-19 lacio rhoddodd Martin Cherry a minnau drydydd cynnig wrth agosáu o Ganllwyd yn y dwyrain – roedd hyn yn llwyddiant ond doedd y llwybr ddim yn hawdd. Tynnwyd lluniau o'r adfail (yn cynnwys y golygfeydd ohono) a lluniwyd cynllun. Anfonwyd yr wybodaeth am gartref eu cyndeidiau i'r ddau aelod. Hyd yn oed yn ei anterth byddai wedi bod yn anodd cyrraedd y fan hon – ni fyddai neb wedi gallu picio i Ganllwyd am iaeth!

Wrth i'r hydref agosáu gobeithiwn drefnu mwy o'r mathau yma o ymweliadau oherwydd mae'n bwysig cofnodi adfeilion lle gellir parhau â phellter cymdeithasol. Un o'r pethau rydym yn ei fethu yw ein cyfarfodydd a'r gallu i rannu gwybodaeth yn hawdd. Er bod Archifau Dolgellau yn gobeithio ail-agor yng nghanol Medi bydd cyfarfodydd corfforol yn parhau i fod yn anodd. Rydym wedi ystyried defnyddio Zoom ond dydy dau o'n haelodau prysur ddim yn defnyddio'r math yma o dechnoleg ar hyn o bryd er mai dyma'r ffordd ymlaen, mae'n debyg. Os oes gan unrhyw un sy'n darllen hwn ddiddordeb mewn ymchwilio plwyf ym Meirionnydd byddem yn falch o glywed oddi wrthyh. Does dim rhaid crwydro'r brynau!

Cangen GDD Cymru: Rhai Gweithgareddau Diweddar gan

Margaret a Wally Barr gyda Gina Skyner

Yn yr ychydig o fisoedd diwethaf mae sawl aelod o gangen GDD Cymru wedi parhau â'u gwaith ar ymchwil hanes tai, ac wedi gwneud sawl darganfyddiad difyr yn y broses. Yng Nghaerwys, mae ymchwil gan Sarah Maitland-Jones i Henllys wedi codi cwestiynau difyr am gynllun grid y dref ei hun. Os oes gan unrhyw un wybodaeth benodol am hyn cofiwch gysylltu a gallwn anfon eich gwybodaeth ymlaen i Sarah.

Mae Gina Skyner a Margaret Barr wedi gallu parhau gyda hanes Terfyn, Trelawnyd, gyda'i gyrrn simnai enfawr, drwy



Terfyn

Merioneth Branch Update: by John Townsend

Before Covid-19 our small group of intrepid members had researched to various degrees 245 identified houses/ruins/sites that are pre-1700 in 7 out of our 26 parishes. 30 or so had been visited and photographed. Merioneth is fortunate to have documents available which makes it relatively easy to identify pre-1700 houses – the downside is the number of them we are finding! We have continued with armchair research and some very good work has been done in Ffestiniog and Maentwrog. The work in Llanelltyd has been expanded. One of our members has visited a few houses in the Harlech area and another found a ruin with a cruck still standing on her walks.

As part of the research into houses in Llanelltyd my wife and I have tried twice to get to the ruins of Glan-llyn-y-forwyn in the hinterland of Cwm Camlan west of Ganllwyd – it was a house mentioned in the Rent Rolls of 1623 and lived in up to the 1890s. Also it was where the ancestors of a Merioneth member and an Anglesey member lived. On our first attempt from the west the footpath disappeared into the bog. On the second attempt from the south the old Forestry Commission tree planting had eradicated the path. As Covid-19 restrictions relaxed Martin Cherry and I attempted a third approach from Ganllwyd in the east - this was successful but the path was just about walkable. The ruin was photographed (including the views from it) and a plan made. Both members were sent the information on their ancestors' des res. Even in its heyday this would have been a difficult place to get to – no popping down to Ganllwyd for the milk!

As we go into autumn we hope to do more of these sorts of expeditions as ruins are important to record and social distancing can be maintained. One of the things we miss is our meetings and being able to exchange information easily. Although Dolgellau Archives hope to open in mid-September physical meetings will continue to be difficult. We have considered using Zoom but two of our active members don't use this technology at present but it's probably the way forward. If anyone reading this is interested in researching a parish in Merioneth we would love you to get in touch. Trudging over hillsides is not mandatory!

NE Wales Branch: Some Recent Activities by Margaret and Wally Barr with Gina Skyner

In the last few months several members of the NE Wales branch have continued their work on house history research, making some interesting discoveries in the process. In Caerwys, research by Sarah Maitland-Jones into Henllys (the Old Courthouse) has raised some interesting questions about the grid layout of the town itself. If anyone has specific knowledge about this please get in touch and we can pass your information on to Sarah.

Gina Skyner and Margaret Barr have been able to carry on with the history of Terfyn, Trelawnyd, with its huge chimney stack, with phone calls, emails and a socially-distanced meeting in the garden. Gina has produced several excellent sketches of the house exterior and interior features, including details of the carved boss discovered by

gyfrwng galwadau ffôn, e-byst a chyfarfod gan gadw pellter cymdeithasol yn yr ardd. Mae Gina wedi cynhyrchu sawl braslun ardderchog o du allan y tŷ a nodweddion mewnol, yn cynnwys manylion y bwlyn cerfiedig a ddarganfuwyd gan Ric Tyler yn yr atig (wrth gwblhau ei adroddiad pensaernïol) – gan ddarparu tystiolaeth ei bod yn bosib gweld y trawst hwn yn wreiddiol o'r ochr isaf iddo. Mae Gina a Margaret wedi penderfynu y defnyddir y brasluniau yma, ac eraill, fel darluniau yn hanes terfynol Terfyn. I'w gwblhau bydd angen i ni aros i'r Archifdy ail-agor.

Yn y cyfamser, pan daw pethau'n ôl i'r drefn arferol, bydd nifer o gopiâu o adroddiadau hanes tai a gwblhawyd yn ddiweddar a roddwyd ar waith gan aelodau'r gangen yn cael eu hargraffu'n broffesiynol i'w dosbarthu i adrannau archifau a llyfrgelloedd lleol. Ariennir hyn yn bennaf gyda chyfraniad hael dros ben a roddwyd gan Gymdeithas Hanes Dinbych y llynedd. Bydd ein gweithgareddau eraill a drefnwyd ar gyfer y flwyddyn ac y bu'n rhaid eu gohirio yn cael eu hail-drefnu cyn gynted â phosib pan ddaw hyn yn ymarferol.



Ric Tyler in the loft (when completing his architectural report) – providing evidence that this beam had originally been visible from below. Gina and Margaret have decided that these sketches, and others, will be used to illustrate the completed history of Terfyn. For the completion we will have to wait for the re-opening of the Archives.

Meanwhile it is planned that when normal services resume, a number of copies of recently completed house history reports that have been carried out by branch members will be professionally printed for distribution to archive departments and local libraries. This will largely be funded through a very generous donation made by the Denbigh History Society last year. Our other planned activities for this year that had to be postponed will of course be reorganised as soon as this becomes feasible.

Cangen Eryri: Project Plwyfi yr hen Sir Gaernarfon gan Peter Masters

Cafwyd cychwyn da i'r Project Plwyfi yn 2019 gyda sesiwn hyfforddi yn yr archifau. Dechreuodd bobl ymchwilio'r rhestrau ac wrth i'r canlyniadau ddechrau dod i mewn, fe'u gwiriwyd ac fe'u hychwanegwyd i'r tai a restrwyd yr oeddem yn gwybod amdany'n nhw a'u hidlo i nodi tai a wiriwyd yn flaenorol. Cynlluniwyd sesiwn ddilynol i adolygu'r hyn y cafwyd hyd iddo a chynllunio'r cam nesaf, ond wedi'r sefyllfa Covid-19 gohiriwyd pob dim. Rhestrir 76 o blwyfi ar gyfer Sir Gaernarfon. Hyd yma yn y Project Plwyfi, mae 19 o'r plwyfi hynny wedi eu chwilio gan 9 ymchwilydd, ac o'r 164 o dai a nodwyd fel rhai oedd yn addas ar gyfer ymchwil pellach, mae 100 yn adeiladau Rhestredig I neu II* a rhestrir 67 yng Nghofnod Rhestr Eiddo Sir Gaernarfon; mae 98 tŷ ar restr NPNR.

Wrth groes-gyfeirio ein basdatau cafwyd, o'r 164 o dai a adnabuwyd o fewn yr 19 plwyf hynny, bod 67 tŷ wedi eu hasesu o'r blaen. Penderfynwyd nad oedd 55 o'r rheini yn addas gan nad oedd ynddyn nhw bren priodol neu roedd wedi ei 'dyfu'n gyflym' neu'n Amrywiol. Dyddiwyd y 12 tŷ arall drwy gyfrwng dendrocronoleg gydag ystod dyddiad o 1494-1586. Oherwydd newid terfynau mae 60 o'r tai bellach yn dod o fewn plwyfi Meirionnydd ac mae rhai bellach yng Nghonwy, sy'n lleihau'r nifer o dai sydd ar gael ar gyfer eu hystyried ymhellach i oddeutu 37.

O'r 37 plwyf yng nghofrestr "Adeiladau Rhestredig" Cadw yn yr hen Sir Gaernarfon mae'r deg yng nghantref Arllechwedd hefyd wedi eu hymchwilio gan Terry Williams. Mae naw yn Llŷn wedi eu hymchwilio gan Margaret Dunn; mae 8 o'r 15 plwyf yn Arfon yn cael eu hymchwilio gan aelodau eraill o'r gangen, fel y 3 nawr ym Meirionnydd (Llanfrothen, Llandecwyn a Phenrhyndeudraeth). Mae Terry Williams wedi cytuno i ymchwilio'r plwyfi sydd ar ôl yn yr hen Sir Gaernarfon. Dilynwyd y fformat a ddosbarthwyd ac mae rhai plwyfi wedi eu hymchwilio yn hynod fanwl, ond does dim ffotograffau nag ewyllisiau wedi eu cynnwys ac ni threfnwyd ymweliadau tŷ.

Ers ei sefydlu, dros ddegawd yn ôl, mae oddeutu 36 plwyf wedi eu hymchwilio o'r blaen o fewn yr hen Sir Gaernarfon;

Snowdonia Branch: Parishes Project covering old Caernarfonshire by Peter Masters.

The Parishes Project got off to a good start in 2019 with a training session in the archives, people started to research the lists and results began to trickle in. These were checked and added to the known houses listed and filtered to mark previously checked houses. A follow up session was planned to review what had been found and plan the next step, but since the Covid-19 situation all things have been postponed. There are 76 parishes listed for Caernarfonshire. So far in the Parishes Project 19 of those parishes have been searched by 9 researchers, of the 164 houses identified as being suitable for further research, 100 are Listed I or II* buildings and 67 are listed in the Caernarfonshire Inventory Record; 98 houses have a NPNR Listing.

Cross reference with our database shows that of the 164 houses identified within those 19 parishes, 67 houses have previously been assessed. 55 of those were deemed unsuitable by virtue of having either no suitable timber or it being "Fast grown" or Misc. The remaining 12 houses were dated using dendrochronology with date ranges from 1494-1586. Because of boundary changes over 60 of the houses now fall within the Meirionnydd parishes and some are now in Conwy, which reduces the number of available houses for further consideration to around 37.

Of the 37 parishes in the Cadw "Listed Buildings" register in old Caernarfonshire all ten in Arllechwedd cantref have also been researched by Terry Williams. Nine in Llŷn have been researched by Margaret Dunn; 8 of the 15 parishes in Arfon are being researched by other branch members, as are the 3 now in Merioneth (Llanfrothen, Llandecwyn and Penrhyndeudraeth). Terry Williams has agreed to research the remaining old Caernarfonshire parishes. The circulated format has been used with some parishes being researched in considerable detail, but no photographs or wills have been included and no house visits made.

Since its inception, over more than a decade ago, within Caernarfonshire some 36 parishes have been previously re-

adnabuwyd 181 o dai o fewn y plwyfi hynny. Archwiliwyd 53 tŷ o fewn Project Eryri, gydag oddeutu 93 o fewn Project Dendrochronoleg Gogledd Orllewin Cymru ac 16+ yn y project Ymchwil wedi ei Dargedu. Dydy'r gweddill ddim eto wedi eu categorioeddio ac nid oes neb wedi ymweld eto â llawer ohonyn nhw. Gyda'r gwaith o wirio ac archwilio blaenorol bydd gorgyffwrdd anochel yn digwydd rhwng ymchwil newydd, cyfredol a blaenorol felly mae angen basdata cynhwysfawr cadarn.

searched; 181 houses were identified within those parishes. 53 houses were inspected under the Snowdonia Project, with some 93 under the North West Wales Dendrochronology Project and 16+ in the Targeted Research project. The balance has not yet been categorised. Many have not yet been visited. With the amount of previous checking and inspecting there will be the inevitable overlap between new, current and past research hence the need for a robust comprehensive database.

PROJECT PLWYFI: BETH NESAF? gan Martin Cherry

Fel mae llawer ohonom sy'n cymryd rhan yn y Project Plwyfi wedi sylweddoli, mae yna wybodaeth ddiddiwedd ar gael ar-lein, yn ogystal â nifer fawr o safleoedd tanysgrifio'n unig sydd wedi diddymu eu taliadau tra bod yr argyfwng yn dal i ddigwydd. Ceir darlun eithaf llawn o'r hyn sy'n goroesi ar bortal <http://historicwales.gov.uk>, a cheir hanes pobl hynod o ddiddorol mewn adnoddau wedi eu digideiddio megis ewyllysiau a rhestrau eiddo yn Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru, cofrestrau genedigaeithau, marwolaethau a phriodasau, dosraniad degwm (a mapiau), cyfrifiadau 1841-1911 a chrynodebau deunydd a gedwir gan archifau lleol a chenedlaethol, ynghyd â chwiliadau Google cyffredinol. Ond heb gael mynediad i lyfrgelloedd ac archifdai ac, yn fwy na dim, i'r tai eu hunain, mae'n teimlo fel teithio o'n cadair freichiau! Pan fyddwn unwaith eto'n gallu crwydro – ac mae arwyddion o lacio graddol, ac mae ambell ymweliad cofnodi eisoes wedi bod yn bosib – mae angen i ni ofyn i ni ein hunain, “Be sy nesaf?” Y pwynt cyntaf i'w wneud yw bod casglu'r wybodaeth hon yn werthfawr ynddi ei hun, cyn belled â'i bod yn dod ar gael i bawb, efallai ar ein gwefan ein hunain ymhen amser. Ond, wrth i'n casgliad o wybodaeth gynyddu fe ddylai fod yn bosibl gweld patrymau – mewn perchnogaeth, mathau o adeiladu a'r defnydd a wnaed o addurn a manylder pensaernïol er mwyn gwneud argraff ar y cymdogion. Bydd hyn i gyd yn codi cwestiynau a, gobeithio, yn dechrau darparu atebion, a bydd yn darparu gwybodaeth ar gyfer ein ffordd o chwilio am ariannu ar gyfer gwaith arolwg manwl a dyddio cylchoedd coed pan fydd pethau'n dod yn ôl i drefn arferol, efallai yn 2021.

Does dim rhaid i ni aros hyd goresgyn y Covid-19 cyn i ni ddechrau gweld darlun mwy eglur yn ymddangos o'r holl wybodaeth yr ydym wedi bod yn ei gasglu. Er enghraifft, plwyf Llanelltyd, ar lannau'r Mawddach ger Dolgellau. Yma ceir nifer fechan o dai ffrâm nenfforch, yn cynnwys un nad yw erioed wedi ei adnabod o'r blaen (Ffig 1); mae'n ymddangos bod sawl ffermdy arall wedi cael eu hail-godi er eu bod yn cynnwys tystiolaeth ddifyr o ddeunydd hŷn, digon i awgrymu eu bod nhw hefyd, unwaith, yn dai nenfforch, efallai yn dai hirion (lle'r oedd pobl a gwartheg yn byw o dan yr un to). Credid ar un pryd bod tai nenfforch yn dyddio'n llwyr o gyfnod cyn tai deulawr gyda thoeau confensiynol ffrâm-A, ond mae ymchwil Margaret Dunn a'i thîm (cyhoeddwyd yn Discovering the Historic Houses of Snowdonia) yn ei wneud yn amlwg bod y

PARISHES PROJECT: WHAT NEXT? by Martin Cherry

As many of us involved in the Parishes Project have been finding out, there is an enormous amount of freely accessible on-line information, supplemented by large numbers of subscription-only sites that have dismantled their pay-walls for the duration of the crisis. A pretty full picture of what survives can be achieved via the <http://historicwales.gov.uk> portal, and considerable human interest added from digitised resources such as National Library of Wales wills and inventories, the registers of births, deaths and marriages, the tithe apportionment (and maps), the 1841-1911 censuses and summaries of material held by local and national archives, together with general Google searches. But without getting into libraries and archives and, above all, into the houses themselves, it's a bit like armchair travelling! When we are able to get back out and about – and there is a sign of a gradual thaw, and the occasional recording visits have already proved possible – we need to ask ourselves “what next?” The first point to make is that collecting this information is valuable in itself, as long as it becomes accessible to all, perhaps on our own website in due course. But, as our information base increases it should become possible to discern patterns – of ownership, of building and construction types and the use made of decoration and architectural detail to impress neighbours. All this will raise questions and, hopefully, begin to

provide answers, and will inform the way in which we seek funding for detailed survey work and tree-ring dating when things get back to normal, perhaps in 2021.

We don't have to wait until the Covid-19 'all clear' before we can begin to see a clearer picture emerging from all the information we've been collecting. Take one parish for example, Llanelltyd, on the banks of the Mawddach near Dolgellau. Here may be found a small number of cruck-framed houses, including one that has never been identified before (Fig 1); several other farm houses appear to have been rebuilt but contain tantalising evidence of older fabric, enough to suggest that they, too, were once cruck-framed houses, perhaps longhouses (where

people and cattle were accommodated under the same roof). It used to be thought that cruck houses pre-date fully two-storeyed houses with conventional A-frame roofs, but the research of Margaret Dunn and her team (published in Discovering the Historic Houses of Snowdonia) makes it clear that both types of house were being built at the same time,



ddau fath o dŷ yn cael eu hadeiladu yr un pryd, o'r cyfnod Tuduraidd cynnar hyd ymhell i mewn i'r unfed-ganrif-ar-bymtheg a hyd yn oed wedi hynny. Eto, mae ffermdai eraill yn y plwyf yn edrych fel pe baen nhw'n newydd neu wedi eu hail-godi'n llwyr. Lle mae pobl wedi cynnig dyddiad, fel arfer mae hwnnw tua diwedd yr 17eg ganrif neu ddechrau'r 18fed ganrif – gwaith dyfalu gyda gwybodaeth ond gwaith dyfalu, serch hynny. Fe all tystiolaeth ddogfennol fod o gymorth. Rydym wedi adnabod oddeutu 50 o dai sydd â dyddiad cyn yr 17eg ganrif wrth ddefnyddio ffynonellau a gyhoeddwyd a chanlyniadau gwaith maes yr RCAHMMW. Mae cofnodion Esgob Bangor ar gyfer 1563 (cyhoeddwyd yn Rhestr Eiddo'r RCAHMMW ar gyfer Meirionnydd) yn amcanu bod 38 cartref yn y plwyf bryd hynny. O gymryd bod y rhif hwn yn eithaf cywir mae'n awgrymu bod llawer o'r tai ar ein rhestr o 50 yn dyddio ar ôl 1563. Mae treth aelwydydd 1662 yn enwi 52 o breswylwyr tai, y rhan fwyaf ohonyn nhw gydag un aelwyd. Yn anffodus, ni ddatgelir enwau'r tai. Hyd yn oed wrth ystyried y posibilrwydd bod rhai tai oedd yn bodoli yn 1563 wedi adfeilio, mae'r ffaith fod y boblogaeth wedi cynyddu rhwng 1563 ac 1662 yn golygu bod llawer o'n 50 yn dyddio o'r ganrif rhwng 1563 ac 1662 – neu o leiaf yn sefyll ar safleoedd sefydledig bryd hynny. Gan mai dim ond un aelwyd oedd yn y mwyafrif, a oedden nhw'n dai hir ffrâm nenfforch, y daeth adeiladau efo lloriau eraill gyda mwy o le ac yn fwy cyfforddus i gymryd eu lle'n ddiweddarach? Rydym yn gwybod o waith haneswyr megis Nia Powell bod ffermio gwartheg mewn plwyfi fel hon yn yr 17eg ganrif yn hynod o broffidiol a bod modd i ffermwyr a phorthmyn ddod yn gyfoethog a hyd yn oed weithredu fel benthydwyr arian. Mae'r rhestrau eiddo sydd wedi goroesi ar gyfer teuluoedd amaethu yn Llanelltyd yn yr 17eg ganrif yn dangos hyn. Felly, cwestiwn mawr ac, efallai, y cwestiwn mawr ei hun, yw, pa bryd yn union y digwyddodd yr 'Ail-adeiladu Mawr' yn y rhan hon o'r sir?

Efallai bod hyn oll yn swnio braidd yn academig, ond mae un tŷ yn ein galluogi i ychwanegu ychydig o fywyd i'r mater, er nad yw'n datrys yr holl gwestiynau. Mae Cae-mab Seifion yn nodweddiadol o'r math lleol: saif ar waelod llethr, o gynllun hir, wedi ei adeiladu o gerrig ac o bosib yn wreiddiol gyda tho gwellt (Ffig 2). Ynddo mae neuadd, a gynhesir gan le tân cil pentan mawr, ac mae'n bosib dringo i'r ystafell uchod (y prif ystafell wely, mae'n debyg) drwy ddringo grisiau murol, un o nodweddion clasurol 'Tŷ Eryri'. Ar y pen arall, cynhesir y parlwr gan le tân llawer llai nad oedd yn cynhesu'r ystafell uwch, a ddefnyddir o bosib ar gyfer storio. Cartref iwmyn yn gynnar yn yr 17eg ganrif oedd y tŷ ac mae rhestr eiddo Griffith Meiricke, oedd yn byw yno pan fu farw yn 1683, yn ei alw'n glerc sydd, yn y cyd-destun hwn, yn golygu dyn llengar yn hytrach na chlerigwr – gadawodd gist lle'r arferai gadw ei bapurau. Roedd y rhan fwyaf o'i bethau yn ymwneud â'r fferm, yn ogystal â swm sylweddol o arian (£110) oedd ynghlwm â biliau a bondiau. Mae Meiricke yn un o'r ychydig o unigolion a grybwyllwyd yn Nhreth Aelwydydd 1662 y gallwn ei gysylltu â thŷ neilltuol. Fodd bynnag, doedd ynddo ond un aelwyd. Os mai'r un dyn yw hwn, efallai ei fod wedi byw yn

from the early Tudor period until well into the late sixteenth century and even beyond. Yet other farm houses in the parish look to be newly built or entirely rebuilt. Where people have ventured a date, it is normally to the late seventeenth or early eighteenth centuries – informed guesswork but guesswork all the same. Documentary evidence can help. We have identified around 50 houses pre-dating c1700 using published sources and the results of fieldwork by the RCAHMMW. The Bishop of Bangor's returns for 1563 (published in the RCAHMMW inventory for Merioneth) estimated that there were 38 households in the parish at that date. Assuming this figure to be reasonably accurate it suggests that many of the houses on our list of 50 must post-date 1563. The 1662 hearth tax gives the names of 52 occupiers of houses, most of them with one hearth. Unfortunately, the identity of the houses is not revealed. Even allowing for the possibility that some houses existing in 1563 might have fallen into disuse, the fact that the population increased between 1563 and 1662 means that many of our 50 must date from the century between the 1563 and 1662 – or at least occupy sites that were established then. Since the majority had only a single hearth, were they cruck-framed longhouses, later replaced by more commodious and comfortable fully storeyed buildings? We know from the work of historians such as Nia Powell that cattle farming

in parishes such as this in the seventeenth century was extremely lucrative and that farmers and drovers could become prosperous and even act as money-lenders. The inventories that survive for seventeenth-century Llanelltyd farming families bear this out. So, one big – perhaps the big question – is, when precisely was the 'Great Rebuilding' in this part of the county?

All this might sound a little academic, but one house allows us to add a little life to the matter, although it hard-

ly solves all the queries. Cae-mab Seifion is typical of the local type: downhill sited, elongated in plan, stone built and possibly originally thatched (Fig 2). It comprises a hall, heated by a big inglenook fireplace and the room above (presumably the main bedroom) is accessed by a mural stair – one of the classic features of the 'Snowdonian House'. At the other end, the parlour is heated by a much smaller fireplace that did not heat the upper room, which may have been used for storage. The house was the residence of a yeoman in the early seventeenth century and the inventory of Griffith Meiricke, who was resident there at the time of his death in 1683, calls him a 'clerk', which in this context must mean a literate man rather than a clergyman – he bequeathed 'a chest in which he used to keep his papers'. Most of his goods were related to the farm, as well as a considerable amount of money (£110) tied up in bills and bonds. Meiricke is one of the few individuals noted in the Hearth Tax of 1662 whom we can relate to a specific house. However, it had only one hearth. If it is the same man, he may well have resided in 1662 in a cruck-framed house with an open hall heated by a single stack. Did he rebuild it? Or his son? In his will he made provision for his widow 'to enjoy the house and garden, which she now holds for life': was that a separate building (part of a unit system)?



1662 mewn tŷ ffrâm nenfforch gyda neuadd agored a gynheswyd gan un simnai. A wnaeth o ei ail-adeiladu? Neu ei fab? Yn ei ewyllys mae'n darparu ar gyfer ei weddw 'i fwynhau'r tŷ a'r ardd, i'w dal ganddi am ei hoes': a oedd hwnnw'n adeilad ar wahân (rhan o system uned?). Gadawodd bethau y gellid eu symud gyda gwerth o £170 ond, fel arfer, ychydig o nwyddau tŷ a restrir – yn wir dim ond gwely, carthenni, bwrdd, a rhai taclau pres a choed, ynghyd â'r gist. A fyddai gŵr fel hwn wedi dewis byw mewn hen dŷ neuadd agored ffrâm nenfforch? Efallai y byddai mynediad at weithredoedd a dogfennau eraill, ac efallai rhywfaint o ddyddio cylchoedd coed, yn ein helpu i fod yn fwy eglur a manwl gywir ar dai o'r math yma.

Mae un sylw olaf yn ymwneud â gwerth adfeilion. Roedd perthynas i Griffith Meiricke hefyd yn berchen ar dŷ yn y plwyf. Roedd Berthlwyd (Ffig 3), sydd bellach yn adfail, yn sylweddol, gyda seler enfawr a'r hyn sy'n ymddangos fel grisiau troellog ar ochr y prif simnai a arweiniodd at y brif siambr. Yn wahanol i dai lle mae pobl yn dal i fyw mae adfeilion, er gwaethaf y colledion amlwg, weithiau yn darparu tystiolaeth a all fod yn anodd i'w gweld pe bai rhywun yn dal i fyw ynddyn nhw ac wedi eu cuddio o ganlyniad i newidiadau a gwelliannau'r ganrif ddiwethaf neu fwy. Byddai'n dda cael dyddiadau ar dai megis y rhain i'n helpu i ddeall datblygiad y tai yma a natur y teuluoedd oedd yn byw ynddyn nhw.

Ffig 1 Tŷ ffrâm nenfforch a 'ddarganfuwyd yn ddiweddar' yn uchel uwchben aber afon Mawddach. Mae'r nenfforch, fel y gwelir yn aml, wedi ei amgylchynu gan y lle tân cerrig a'r simnai a osodwyd. Dim ond un ochr sydd i'w weld erbyn heddiw. Efallai ei fod yn dyddio o flynyddoedd cynnar yr 16eg ganrif hyd at canol y ganrif.

Ffig 2 Cae-mab Seifion, Llanelltyd, ffermdy clasurol iwmmon – y safon aur i ffermwyr y plwyf ar ddiwedd yr 17eg ganrif.

Ffig 3 Berthlwyd, Llanelltyd, ffermdy gŵr bonheddig o ansawdd uchel, o'r 17eg ganrif mae'n debyg, a adfeiliodd wrth i'r eiddo gael ei gynnwys mewn stad fwy oedd â'i phencadlys y tu allan i'r plwyf.



He left movables worth £170, but as usual, very few household goods are itemised – indeed only a bedstead, blankets, a table, and some brass and wooden utensils, along with the chest. Would such a man still have chosen to dwell in an old cruck-framed open hall house? Access to deeds and other documents, and perhaps some tree-ring dating, might help us achieve greater clarity and precision on houses of this sort.

One final thought concerns the value of ruins. A kinsman of Griffith Meiricke also owned a house in the parish. Berthlwyd (Fig 3), now a ruin, was substantial, with a capacious cellar and what appears to have been a spiral stair to the side of the main stack that led to the principal chamber. Unlike houses that are still lived in, ruins, despite the obvious losses, sometimes provide evidence it might be difficult to see if they are still occupied and encumbered and disguised with the changes and improvements of the last century or more. It would be good to get dates on houses such as these to help us understand the development of these dwellings and the nature of the families that lived in them.

Fig 1 A 'newly discovered' cruck-framed house high above the Mawddach estuary. The cruck is, as so often, largely engulfed by the inserted stone fireplace and stack. Only one blade is now visible. It may date from the early- to mid-sixteenth century.

Fig. 2 Cae-mab Seifion, Llanelltyd, a classic yeoman farmhouse – the gold standard for farmers in the parish in the late seventeenth century.

Fig. 3 Berthlwyd, Llanelltyd, a good-quality gentleman's farmhouse, probably of the seventeenth century, that fell into disuse as the property was amalgamated into a larger estate centred outside of the parish.

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OS OES GENNYCH CHI DDIDDORDEB MEWN HEN DAI ac os nad ydych eisoes yn aelod, pam na wnewch chi ystyried ymaelodi â'r Grŵp? Mae manylion llawn a ffurflen gais ar ein gwefan.

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ARTICLES from BRANCHES: Members continue to undertake a range of activities and each branch has been requested to write something for this Newsletter. We thank all who have contributed. It is likely that we will request another short (or longer) article from each branch for future newsletters until we see if / when / how branch meetings are able to recommence.



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