



# 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://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.

### O'R GADAIR

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://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, 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 diweddarau 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<sup>eg</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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<sup>fed</sup> 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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup>. 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, Caerfallon, Ruthin, LL15 1SL. (01824 704 404) [membership@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk](mailto: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 11<sup>th</sup> 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<sup>eg</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 21<sup>st</sup> century. Benllech Community Hall, light refreshments, cost £2. Numbers limited to 20.

### **April 30<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) 2-4pm**

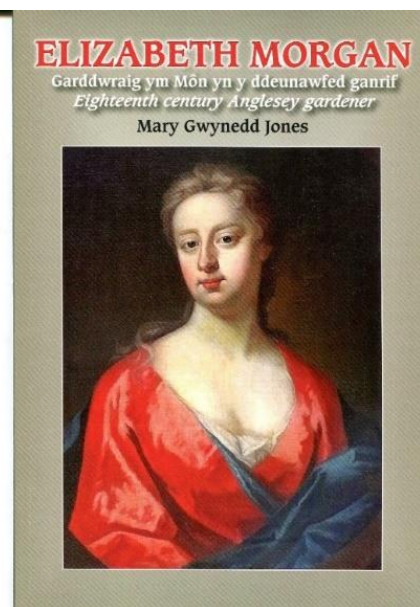
Visit to Plas Berw, Gaerwen. This is a complex site with ruinous early remains and a magnificent 17<sup>th</sup> century manor house. Tour of the house (indoor shoes, please) and light refreshments, cost £2. Numbers limited to 15, so early booking is advised.

### **May 19<sup>th</sup> (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 18<sup>th</sup> Century. By kind permission of the owners. Maximum number 12, light refreshments available. Admission by donation.

### **June 8<sup>th</sup> (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 11<sup>th</sup> (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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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. Dydy  
o ddim wedi ei restru, nag ar Goflein, ac mae'n ffermdy  
gwerinwyr "anhysbys", o'r 16G mae'n debyg. O ganlyniad,  
credwn y dyldid 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](mailto:magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk) [wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:jadale22@hotmail.co.uk)

Please contact Janice for programme.

**LLANSILIN BRANCH.** Contact Mary Cunnah,  
[marycunnah@yahoo.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:martincherry@btinternet.com) (Booking essential)

**April 1<sup>st</sup> (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](mailto: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](mailto: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*

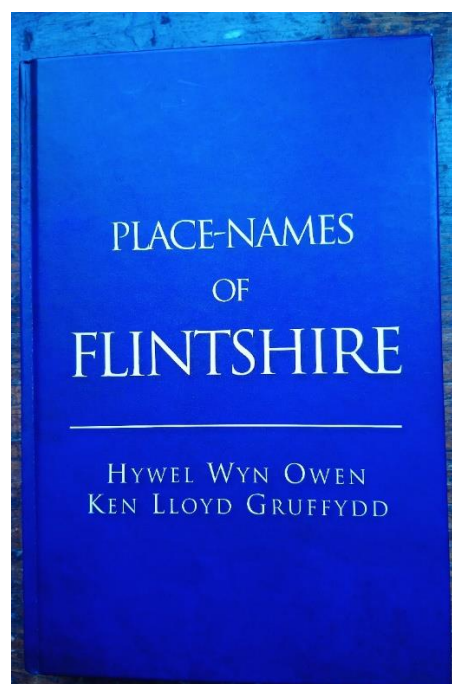
### Y LLYFR NEWYDD AR GODI NENFFYRCH

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](mailto:magsbarr@yahoo.co.uk) [wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wallybarr@yahoo.co.uk) Please book in advance.

### April 28<sup>th</sup> (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 19<sup>th</sup> (Tues) 2pm

Visit and meeting at Colomendy, Ysgeifiog, two-storey hall house dated 1660-1663.

### June 30<sup>th</sup> (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](mailto:snowdonia@discoveringgoldwelshhouses.co.uk) (book early)  
**March 24<sup>th</sup> (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 4<sup>th</sup> (Sat) 4<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> 2 pm.** Visit to Nanhoron House, Lleyn. Bring indoor shoes. Light refreshments. £5 per head. Max 20.  
**June 1<sup>st</sup> (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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

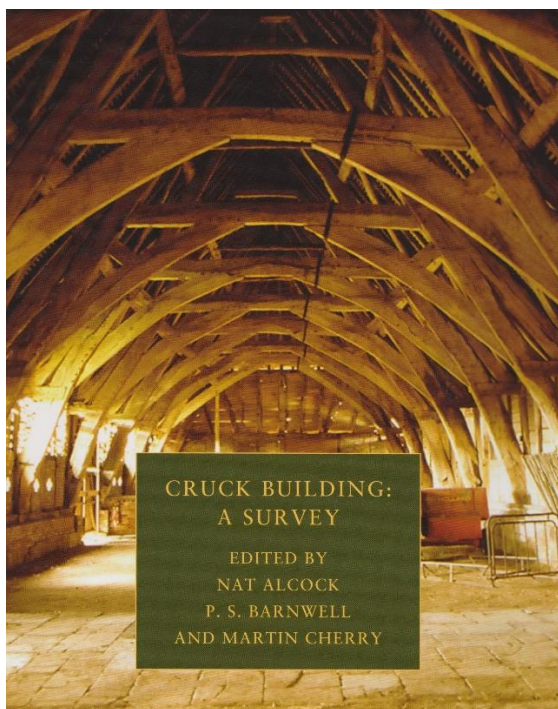
Launch in January at Leicester University of the new book on cruck building, with co-editor Martin Cherry (right) and co-author Peter Thompson (left), both members of DOWHG

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](mailto:shaun@shauntyas.myzen.co.uk) (SHAUN TYAS, 1 High Street, Donington, SPALDING, Lincolnshire, PE11 4TA. Ffôn 01775 821542)

Irene Brightmer, Newsletter Editor



**CRUCK BUILDING:  
A SURVEY**

EDITED BY  
NAT ALCOCK  
P. S. BARNWELL  
AND MARTIN CHERRY

visited by branches. Martin and Peter comment on our 21<sup>st</sup> 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@shauntyas.myzen.co.uk](mailto:shaun@shauntyas.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

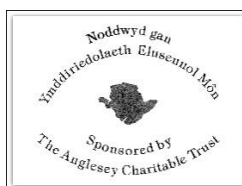
Roedd y rhifyn hwn o'r cylchlythyr bron a bod yn barod i'w anfon i'r darllenwyr profleni pan gawsom ar ddeall byddai'n rhaid gohirio ein rhaglen haf. Arafwyd hyn y broses. Er hynny, rydym yn anfon y cylchlythyr fel y gallwch edrych ymlaen at nifer o weithgareddau pan fydd yr argyfwng drosodd.

### 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**