Merioneth Historical and Record Society
Annual Report (October 2013 – October 2014)
Registered Charity No: 1102366
Nant-y-llyn, Cynllwyd Uchaf, Y Bala, Gwynedd.

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Structure, Governance and Management:

The Trustees who manage the Society:

(*appointed and re-appointed at an AGM in October 2013*)

Chairman: Geralt W. Hughes; **Vice Chairman:** Geraint F. Roberts; **Secretary:** Beryl H. Griffiths; **Events Organiser:** Rhian Parry; **Treasurer:** Rheinallt G. Llwyd; **Editor:** A. Lloyd Hughes; **Membership Secretary:** Pamela F. Michael

All the Trustees give their time on a voluntary basis and do not receive payment or any other benefits.

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Finance: [Rheinallt Llwyd]

As can be seen from the Accounts for 2013-14 there was a very small surplus (£11.36) at the end of the financial year and this reflects a considerable problem facing the Society, namely a reduction in its income but increases in its costs. Therefore, recruiting new members is crucially important to ensure the future well-being of the Society. On a more positive note, however, the news, at the end of April 2014, that the Society had been awarded a grant of up to £4,200 by the Heritage Lottery Fund to undertake specific activities was extremely encouraging.

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Membership Report 01:09:13 – 31:08:14:[Pamela Michael]

Since my last report we have gained 15 new members, comprising 13 single and 2 family members. Three members have died. This means that the membership which stood at 227 last year should now stand at 239. This number includes 7 life members, 44 life members and 188 single members. In addition there are 24 institutional members, mainly libraries and public institutions. Some of these have not paid their subscriptions and invoices and reminders have now been dispatched. **However, the situation is much less favourable than might appear from these statistics, since a large number of members (in excess of thirty) are in arrears with their subscriptions.** Some of these may have decided not to renew their membership, but failed to inform the society of their intention to resign. Most members now pay by standing order, which saves a great deal of work in chasing up subscriptions. Some members who pay by cheque send their remittance to the society in April each year without fail. There are a few members who sometimes forget and then respond with a cheque for two years on receipt of a reminder. When members fail to respond in any way to a second request, then I think that we have no alternative but to remove them from the membership list. Therefore, if the arrears are not collected by next April, I think it likely that in next year's annual report we may see a sharp drop in numbers. **It is therefore more important than ever that we try to recruit new members.**

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Activities: [Rhian Parry]

- **Workshop at Llanelltud** A workshop was held for the members at Llanelltud Village Hall on Tuesday, 12 November 2013 Over 30 members and friends attended to discuss ideas for the 2014 programme. Three members gave presentations, Pam Michael, Neil Evans and Vivian Parry Williams. The theme was Remembrance, looking at some of the effects of the Great War on Merionethshire. Through the presentations it became apparent that more time is needed to discuss, research and record. It was decided to arrange an open day 'Remembrance and Scars' as part of the 2014 programme and to apply for a Heritage Lottery Grant for funds to arrange a number of activities. Also, the members suggested a number of other events, lectures and visits and we hope to include some, at least in future.
- **Cerrigydrudion meeting, 5 April 2014** The Society's Welsh meeting was held jointly with the Denbighshire Historical Society at Cerrigydrudion, when Dr Angharad Price gave a lecture on 'T.H. Parry Williams'.
- **Day School 'Scars of War', 26 April 2014** A one-day school was held at Plas Tan-y-bwlch, Maentwrog. This was part of the Society's plans to discuss some of the Great War's effects on Merioneth and to focus on remembering and learning. Neil Evans presented a number of questions, how did the residents of Merioneth respond at the beginning of the war, what was the scale of the opposition and what was the response to the local recruitment campaign? Vivian Parry-Williams presented evidence from local newspapers, the result of his recent work recording the feelings of those who contributed articles and poetry. Pam Michael then described the effects of the war on the women of Merioneth, especially those who worked on the land. Catherine James described her father's history, a Conscientious Objector, and the way he was treated by the state and his community. During the afternoon, Arwyn Lloyd Hughes gave a presentation on his grandfather, Hugh Thomas Hughes (1887-1918) and then the members joined in an open forum.
- **Bala Tour, 7 June 2014** The members were treated to a very interesting tour of the old Bala lead by Buddug Medi and Peris Jones Evans. The tour was followed by a visit to Berwynfa and then to Plas yn Dre for refreshments.
- **One day School – 'Bonheddwyr Mawr or' Bala', 21 June 2014** Some of the Society's members were present and lectures were given by Beryl H Griffiths and Pam Michael and Rhian Parry gave a presentation, in a programme arranged by the Institute for the Study of Welsh Estates, Bangor University.
- **A visit to Llanegryn Church, 6 September 2014** The Society was invited to join the Friends of the Church for a talk by Haydn Rees and to visit the church.

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The Journal: [A. Lloyd Hughes]

This year's Journal (Vol. XVII, Part I) will be despatched to the membership in October/ November. The issue will comprise five lengthy articles, two short contributions, 'Proceedings of the Society, 2013' and three reviews. It will be around 126 pages long and will contain eleven illustrations. There is some material already in hand for next year's Journal.

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The Website: As the development of the website was part of the Heritage Lottery Bid work is progressing on finding a company to re-vamp the website.

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Declaration:

The Trustees approve the above Annual Report.

Signed on their behalf by the Chairman of the Society,

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Geralt W. Hughes

Date: _____

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Cymdeithas Hanes a Chofnodion Sir Feirionnydd
Adroddiad Blynyddol (Hydref 2013 – Hydref 2014)

RHIF ELUSEN GOFRESTREDIG: 1102366

Nant-y-llyn, Cynllwyd Uchaf, Y Bala, Gwynedd.

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STRWYTHUR, TREFN LYWODRAETHOL A RHEOLAETH:

Yr Ymddiriedolwyr sy'n rheoli'r Gymdeithas:

(*penodwyd ac ailbenodwyd mewn CCB ym mis Hydref 2013*)

Cadeirydd: Gerallt W. Hughes; **Is-gadeirydd:** Geraint F. Roberts; **Ysgrifennydd:** Beryl H. Griffiths; **Trefnydd Digwyddiadau:** Rhian Parry; **Trysorydd:** Rheinallt G. Llwyd; **Golygydd:** A. Lloyd Hughes; **Ysgrifennydd Aelodaeth:** Pamela F. Michael

Mae'r holl Ymddiriedolwyr yn rhoi eu hamser yn wirfoddol ac nid ydynt yn derbyn unrhyw dâl na buddion eraill.

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CYLLID: [Rheinallt G. Llwyd]

Fe welir o'r Cyfrifon am 2013-14 mai gwarged bychan iawn (£11.36) a gafwyd ar ddiwedd y flwyddyn ariannol ac mae hyn yn tanlinellu un o'r problemau dyrys sy'n wynebu'r Gymdeithas, sef lleihad mewn incwm ond cynnydd mewn costau. Mae'n hanfodol, felly, cael ymgyrch i ennill mwy o aelodau newydd i rengoedd y Gymdeithas er sicrhau ei ffyniant i'r dyfodol. Ar nodyn mwy cadarnhaol, fodd bynnag, roedd y newyddion, ddiwedd Ebrill 2014, fod y Gymdeithas wedi llwyddo i ennill grant o hyd at £4,200 o Gronfa Treftadaeth y Loteri i hyrwyddo agweddau penodol ar ei gweithgareddau yn galondid mawr.

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AELODAETH: 1:09:13 – 31:08:14: [Pamela Michael]

Ers fy adroddiad diwethaf rydym wedi cael 15 o aelodau newydd, sef 13 o aelodau unigol a 2 o aelodau teuluol. Bu tri aelod farw. Mae hyn yn golygu y dylai'r aelodaeth oedd yn 227 y llynedd fod yn 239 erbyn hyn. Mae'r cyfanswm yn cynnwys 7 aelod oes, 44 aelod teuluol ac 188 o aelodau unigol. Yn ychwanegol mae 24 o aelodau sefydliadol, llyfrgelloedd a sefydliadau cyhoeddus yn bennaf. Nid yw rhai o'r rhain wedi talu eu tanysgrifiadau ac mae anfonebau a llythyrau atgoffa wedi eu hanfon erbyn hyn. **Ond, mae'r sefyllfa yn llawer llai ffafriol nag y mae'n ymddangos o'r ystadegau hyn, gan fod nifer fawr o aelodau (mwy na deg ar hugain) ag ôl-ddyledion o ran eu tâl aelodaeth**. Efallai bod rhai o'r rhain wedi penderfynu peidio ag adnewyddu eu haelodaeth, ond nad ydynt wedi hysbysu'r gymdeithas o'u bwriad. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o aelodau yn talu trwy archeb banc erbyn hyn, sy'n arbed llawer iawn o waith i'r ysgrifennydd. Bydd rhai aelodau sy'n talu trwy siec yn anfon eu taliad i'r gymdeithas ym mis Ebrill yn flynyddol yn ddi-ffael. Mae rhai aelodau yn anghofio weithiau ac yna yn ymateb gyda siec am ddwy flynedd ar ôl cael eu hatgoffa. Pan na fydd aelodau yn ymateb mewn unrhyw ffordd ar ôl ail gais am daliad, yna, credaf nad oes gennym ddewis ond eu tynnu oddi ar y rhestr aelodaeth. Felly, os na fydd yr ôl-ddyledion wedi cael eu casglu cyn Ebrill nesaf, yna, credaf ei bod yn debygol y gallwn weld gostyngiad sylweddol yn nifer yr aelodau erbyn adroddiad blynyddol y flwyddyn nesaf. **Mae felly yn bwysicach nag erioed i ni geisio recriwtio aelodau newydd**.

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GWEITHGAREDDAU: [Rhian Parry]

- **CYFARFOD AGORED YN LLANELLTUD** Cynhaliwyd fforwm agored i aelodau yn Neuadd Bentref, Llanelltud, Dydd Mawrth 12 Tachwedd 2013. Daeth dros 30 o aelodau a chyfeillion i'r fforwm agored i drafod syniadau ar gyfer rhaglen 2014. Cafwyd cyflwyniadau gan dri aelod, Pam Michael, Neil Evans a Vivian Parry Williams. Y thema oedd ***Cofio***, sef rhai o effeithiau'r Rhyfel Mawr ar Feirionnydd. Yr hyn a ddaeth o'r tri chyflwyniad oedd yr angen am fwy o amser i drafod, i chwilio a chofnodi. Penderfynwyd cynnal diwrnod agored **'Creithiau a Chofio'** fel rhan o raglen 2014 a rhoi cais i Gronfa Dreftadaeth y Loteri am arian i gynnal nifer o weithgareddau. Yn ogystal, daeth aelodau â llawer o syniadau eraill am ddigwyddiadau, darlithoedd ac ymweliadau a gobeithiwn gynnwys rhai, o leiaf yn y dyfodol.
- **CYFARFOD CERRIGYDRUDION, 5 EBRILL 2014** Cynhaliwyd cyfarfod Cymraeg y Gymdeithas ar y cyd â Chymdeithas Hanes Sir Ddinbych, yng Nghanolfan Uwch Aled, Cerrigydrudion, pan ganfuwyd darlith gan Dr Angharad Price ar 'T.H. Parry Williams'.
- **YSGOL UNDYDD 'CREITHIAU'R RHYFEL, 26 EBRILL 2014** Cynhaliwyd ysgol undydd ym Mhlas Tan-y-bwlch, Maentwrog. Roedd hyn yn rhan o gynllun gan y Gymdeithas i nodi rhai o effeithiau'r Rhyfel Mawr ar Feirionnydd ac i ganolbwyntio ar ddysgu a chofio. Cyflwynodd Neil Evans nifer o gwestiynau, sef sut yr ymatebodd trigolion Meirionnydd ar gychwyn y rhyfel, faint o wrthwynebiad oedd a sut ymateb a fu i'r ymgyrch recriwtio lleol? Cyflwynwyd tystiolaeth o bapurau newydd lleol gan Vivian Parry-Williams, sef ffrwyth ei lafur diweddar yn cofnodi teimladau'r rhai a gyfrannodd erthyglau a barddoniaeth. Dilynwyd gan Pam Michael a ddisgrifiodd effeithiau'r rhyfel ar ferched Sir Feirionnydd, yn enwedig y rhai aeth i weithio ar y tir. Disgrifiodd Catherine James hanes ei thad yn Wrthwynebydd Cydwybodol a'r driniaeth a gafodd gan y wladwriaeth a'i gymuned. Yn y prynhawn, cafwyd cyflwyniad gan Arwyn Lloyd Hughes pan ddisgrifiodd hanes ei daid, Hugh Thomas Hughes (1887-1918), 'Milwr a Gollwyd' ac yna cafwyd fforwm agored.
- **TAITH DYWYS Y BALA DYDD SADWRN, 7 MEHEFIN 2014** Cafwyd taith ddifyr dros ben o amgylch hen dref y Bala yng nghwmni gwybodus Y Fon. Buddug Medi a Peris Jones Evans. Dilynwyd y daith gydag ymweliad â Berwynfa ac yna i Blas yn Dre am baned a sgon.
- **YSGOL UNDYDD: 'BONHEDDWYR MAWR O'R BALA', 21 MEHEFIN 2014** Ymunodd rhai o aelodau'r Gymdeithas, a chafwyd darlith gan Beryl Hughes Griffiths a Pam Michael a chyflwyniad gan Rhian Parry, mewn rhaglen a drefnwyd gan Sefydliad Ymchwil Ystadau Cymru, Prifysgol Bangor.
- **YMWELIAD AG EGLWYS LLANEGRYN, 6 MEDI 2014** Gwahoddwyd y Gymdeithas i ymuno â Chyfeillion yr eglwys am sgwrs gan Haydn Rees, i ymweld â'r eglwys ac i gael te wedyn.

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Y CYLCHGRAWN: [A. Lloyd Hughes]

Bydd Cylchgrawn eleni (Cyf. XVII, Rhan I) yn cael ei ddosbarthu i'r aelodaeth yn ystod Hydref/Tachwedd. Bydd y rhifyn, tua 126 tudalen o faint, yn cynnwys pum erthygl hir, dau gyfraniad byr, 'Gweithrediadau'r Gymdeithas, 2013' a thri adolygiad. Cynhwysir un ar ddeg o luniau. Mae rhywfaint o ddeunydd mewn llaw yn barod ar gyfer Cylchgrawn y flwyddyn nesaf.

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Y WEFAN:

Gan i ddatblygu'r wefan gael ei gynnwys yn y cais am arian Loteri, mae'r gwaith ar y gweill i benodi cwmni i wneud y gwaith cychwynnol.

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DATGANIAD:

Mae'r Ymddiriedolwyr yn cymeradwyo'r Adroddiad Blynyddol uchod.

Llofnodwyd ar eu rhan gan Gadeirydd y Gymdeithas,

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Gerallt W. Hughes

Dyddiad: _____