Cymdeithas Hanes a Chofnodion Sir Feirionnydd

Adroddiad Blynyddol (Hydref 2022 – Hydref 2023)

Rhif Elusen Gofrestredig: 1102366

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

Strwythur, Trefn Lywodraethol a Rheolaeth:

Yr Ymddiriedolwyr sy'n rheoli'r Gymdeithas:

(penodwyd ac ailbenodwyd mewn Cyfarfod Cyffredinol Blynyddol ym mis Hydref 2022)

Gerallt W. Hughes – Cadeirydd; Beryl H. Griffiths – Ysgrifennydd Cyffredinol; Gwerfyl Price – Trefnydd Cyfarfodydd; Rheinallt G. Llwyd – Trysorydd; Ffion M. Jones – Golygydd; Megan Huggins a Beryl H. Griffiths [*dros dro*] – Ysgrifennydd Aelodaeth.

Cyllid: [Rheinallt G Llwyd]

Mae'r fantolen ariannol am 2022-23 yn rhoi dadansoddiad manwl o sefyllfa ariannol y Gymdeithas sy'n parhau'n weddol foddhaol. Mae'n amlwg i'r Gymdeithas fanteisio'n sylweddol o ganlyniad i gofrestru gyda'r *Gwasanaethau Trwyddedu Cyhoeddwyr*.

Aelodaeth: Mawrth 2022 – Mawrth 2023: [Beryl H. Griffiths]

CRYNODEB O NIFEROEDD AELODAU						
Diwedd Blwyddyn	Cyfanswm	Oes	Unigol	Teulu	Cymdeithasau Hanes Lleol	Sefydliadau
Maw '22	**230**	4	150	48	4	24
Maw '23	**215**	5	138	44	4	24

Cyfarfodydd: [Gwerfyl Price]

Cynhaliwyd cyfarfod cyntaf y Gymdeithas ar brynhawn dydd Sadwrn y 29 Ebrill ym mhentref Llanuwchllyn yn ardal Penllyn. Daeth nifer ardderchog o aelodau ynghyd, ac eraill o bell ac agos, i'r Ysgoldy i wrando ar Gareth Owen yn trafod ei dad, y diweddar Ifor Owen. Ganwyd Ifor Owen ar aelwyd Pentre Tai'n y Cwm yn ucheldir Cefnddwysarn, lle'r oedd cymeriadau diddorol yn arfer â galw heibio'n rheolaidd – yr enwocaf ohonyn nhw mae'n debyg oedd Bob Lloyd (Llwyd o'r Bryn). Prin mae'n siŵr y meddyliai Ifor Owen, fel hogyn ifanc ar y pryd, y byddai rhyw ddydd yn darlunio clawr a darluniadau eraill ar gyfer llyfr *Y Pethe* Llwyd o'r Bryn. Roedd taid Gareth, J F Owen, hefyd yn ddarlunydd penigamp, gydag un sleid yn dangos darlun hyfryd o gwch hwylio ganddo. Roedd y grefft a'r gamp yn amlwg yn y gwaed a chynhaliwyd arddangosfa ar y teitl 'Yn y gwaed' yng nghanolfan y Plase yn y Bala'n cynnwys gwaith celf gwahanol genedlaethau o'r teulu – cenhedlaeth ewythr ei daid, ei daid, ei dad, cenhedlaeth Gareth ei hun a chenhedlaeth ei blant yntau. Ifor Owen hefyd oedd prifathro cyntaf Ysgol O M Edwards, Llanuwchllyn, rhwng 1954 a 1976. Teitl sgwrs Gareth oedd 'Cwys fy Nhad' a chawsom sgwrs hynod ddifyr a hwyliog ganddo'n sôn am waith toreithiog ei dad, gan gynnwys ysgrifennu a chreu darluniau ar gyfer 'Hwyl', y llyfr comic cyntaf yn Gymraeg, a gyhoeddwyd gyntaf yn 1949 ac a barhaodd tan 1989. Bu Ifor Owen hefyd yn byw yng Nghroesor ar ôl cael ei benodi'n brifathro ar yr ysgol gynradd yno'n 21 oed. Wrth gwrs, yn y pentref hwnnw y daeth i gysylltiad â'r hanesydd a'r hynafiaethydd Bob Owen Croesor, a'r un a blannodd yn ei dad ei hoffter o lyfrau a hanes. Yng Nghroesor hefyd y dechreuodd ddarlunio llyfrau plant, fel 'Yr Hogyn Pren'. Cawsom hefyd bortread gan Gareth o Bob Roberts 'Tai'r Felin', un arall o'r 'gymdogaeth wâr' a'r 'werin Gymreig' yng nghyfnod ei dad. Yn wir, nid oes digon o ofod yn y fan hyn i restru holl waith Ifor Owen ac efallai y cawn wrando ar Gareth yn traethu mwy am ei dad yn y dyfodol, neu ddarllen erthygl (neu ddwy, neu dair!) ganddo. Cafwyd lluniaeth rhagorol i ddilyn y sgwrs, fel arfer, yng Ngwesty'r Eryrod yn y pentref.

Ar gyfer ail ddigwyddiad y Gymdeithas, daethpwyd ynghyd ar brynhawn chwilboeth ar ddydd Sadwrn, 24 Mehefin, i Stad Rug ger Corwen, ar gyfer taith dywys a sgwrs gan Janice Dale, Gweinyddwraig y Stad, yn y Ganolfan Gynadledda ar safle Siop Fferm Rug. Roedd Janice wedi paratoi cyflwyniad difyr a helaeth iawn ar hanes a gorffennol Stad Rug, ac yn wir nid oedd digon o le i bawb a ddaeth i wrando a bu'n rhaid i rai sefyll! Aeth rhai ohonom ni ymlaen wedyn i fyny drwy erddi Rug gan wrando ar Janice yn cyfeirio at wahanol nodweddion yn y tirlun, cyn cyrraedd y plasty ei hun a chael gweld y gwahanol adeiladau o'i gwmpas. Ar gyfer ail ran yr ymweliad, aeth nifer dda ymlaen i'r Amgueddfa yng Nghorwen i weld arddangosfa ar hanes, diwylliant a threftadaeth Corwen ac Edeirnion, ac i wrando ar sgyrsiau gan wirfoddolwyr yr Amgueddfa'n trafod hanes yr amgueddfa a'i datblygiad.

***Y Cylchgrawn*:** [Ffion M. Jones]

Cyhoeddwyd *Cylchgrawn* 2023 ar 22 Awst eleni. Mae'r rhifyn yma yn 102tt o hyd, yn cynnwys naw darlun, chwe ysgrif (pedair yn Saesneg, un yn Gymraeg, ac un yn adolygiad estynedig yn Saesneg gyda sylwadau pellach yn y Gymraeg), ynghyd â thri chyfraniad byr (dau Saesneg, un Cymraeg), a chwe adolygiad (un Saesneg, pump yn Gymraeg). Cynhwysir Gweithrediadau'r Gymdeithas am y flwyddyn flaenorol, 2022, fel arfer. Ceir hefyd Goffâd i dri chyn-aelod, gan gynnwys ein Hysgrifennydd Aelodaeth, Megan Huggins, a gollwyd yn gynharach eleni.

Archwilir yn yr ysgrifau gyhoeddiad rhyfeddol Daniel Huws, *A Repertory of Welsh Manuscripts and Scribes* (2022); y portread o'r Derwyddon yng ngwaith y Parch. John Williams (Ab Ithel) ac eraill; gwaith y tirfesurydd William Hitchcock ym Meirionnydd a rhannau eraill o ogledd Cymru; y ddau Thomas Payne (tad a mab) a fu'n gweithio fel tirfesurwyr yn Nolgellau a Thremadog; ymweliad Michael D. Jones â Phatagonia yn 1882; a hanes y Gwyddelod a garcharwyd yn Fron-goch yn ystod y Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf. Yn y cyfraniadau byr, trafodir ôl troed honedig y Forwyn Fair ar garreg yn Ardudwy; cynigir gwybodaeth atodol at ysgrif yn rhifyn 2022 ar dai unnos y Garneddwen; a chyflwynir atgofion o ddaearyddiaeth Cwm Tryweryn cyn y boddi gan gyn athro yn Ysgol Ramadeg y Bala.

Diolchir yn wresog iawn i holl aelodau'r pwyllgor ac i'r cyn-olygydd, Arwyn Lloyd Hughes, am gymorth amhrisiadwy i ddwyn y maen i'r wal gogyfer cyhoeddi'r rhifyn hwn. Diolch hefyd i Aeron Jones, y cysodwr, am ei hynawsedd, ac i'r argraffwyr, WPG y Trallwng.

Y Wefan:

Mae'r wefan yn dal yn weithredol gan greu diddordeb yng ngweithgareddau'r Gymdeithas ac yn fodd i werthu'r *Cylchgrawn* a'r mynegai iddo. Mae'r wefan i'w gweld yn: www.hanes-meirionnydd.cymru

Datganiad:

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

Llofnodwyd ar eu rhan gan Gadeirydd y Gymdeithas,

_____

Gerallt W. Hughes

Dyddiad: _____

Merioneth Historical and Record Society

Annual Report (October 2022 – October 2023)

Registered Charity No: 1102366

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

Structure, Governance and Management:

The Trustees who manage the Society:
(appointed and re-appointed at an AGM in October 2019)
Gerallt W. Hughes – Chair; Beryl H Griffiths – General Secretary; Gwerfyl Price – Meetings Organiser; Rheinallt G. Llwyd – Treasurer: Ffion M. Jones – Editor; Megan Huggins/Beryl H. Griffiths – Membership Secretary.

Finance: [Rheinallt Llwyd]

The financial statement for 2022-23 provides a detailed account of the financial position of the Society which remains reasonably satisfactory. It is obvious that the Society benefited substantially as a result of the decision to register with the *Publishers' Licensing Services*.

Membership: March 2022 – March 2023: [Beryl H. Griffiths]

SUMMARY OF MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS						
Year End	Overall	Life	Individual	Family	Local History Societies	Institutions
Mar '22	**230**	4	150	48	4	24
Mar '23	**215**	5	138	44	4	24

Meetings: [Gwerfyl Price]

The first meeting of the Society was held on Saturday 29 April at Llanuwchllyn. An excellent number of members attended, and others from near and far, at the Ysgoldy, Llanuwchllyn to listen to Gareth Owen discussing his late father, Ifor Owen. Ifor Owen was born at Pentre Tai'n y Cwm in Cefnddwysarn, where local characters used to visit regularly – the most famous of them being Bob Lloyd (Llwyd o'r Bryn). It is unlikely that Ifor Owen, as a young boy, ever thought that one day he would illustrate the cover and drawings for the book *Y Pethe* by Llwyd o'r Bryn. Gareth's grandfather, J. F. Owen, was also an excellent artist, as one slide showing his beautiful illustration of a ship indicated. Artistic ability was obviously in the blood and an exhibition was held in Bala under the title 'Yn y gwaed' (In the blood) including works by different generations of the family – his father's uncle's generation, his grandfather, his father and Gareth's own generation and that of his children. Ifor Owen was also the first headmaster of Ysgol O M Edwards, Llanuwchllyn from 1954 to 1976. Gareth gave the title 'Cwys fy Nhad' (My father's furrow) to his talk, and it was a very interesting and lively discussion of his father's work which included writing and illustrating the first Welsh comic, 'Hwyl', first published in 1949 and thereafter continuously until 1989. Ifor Owen also lived at Croesor when he was appointed headmaster at the age of 21. Whilst in Croesor he of course came to know the historian and antiquary Bob Owen Croesor who nurtured Ifor Owen's interest in books and history. Whilst at Croesor he began to illustrate children's books such as 'Yr Hogyn Pren'. Gareth also showed a portrait of Bob Roberts Tai'r Felin by his father, another member of the 'civilized community' and the 'werin Gymreig' in his father's time. There is not enough space here to list all Ifor Owen's works and maybe we can listen again to Gareth discussing his father in future, or read an article (or two, or three) by him. We were treated to excellent refreshments as usual at the Eagles in the village following the talk.

For our second meeting, we gathered on an extremely hot afternoon on Saturday, 24 June, at the Rug Estate, Corwen, for a guided tour and talk by Janice Dale, the Estate Administrator, at the Conference Centre on the site of Rug Farm Shop. Janice had prepared an interesting and comprehensive presentation on the history of the Estate, and as so many members had turned up, space was at a premium with many having to stand for the presentation! Some of the members then were led through the grounds at Rug listening to Janice describing the various features in the landscape, before reaching the house itself in its decorative grounds and the buildings surrounding it. For the second part of the visit, we went on to the Museum at Corwen to see an exhibition on the history, culture and heritage of Corwen and Edeirnion, and to listen to talks by the volunteers, explaining the origins of the museum and its development.

The *Journal*: [Ffion M. Jones]

The 2023 Journal was published on 22 August. The issue is 102pp long, contains nine illustrations, six articles (four in English, one in Welsh, and one extended review in English with further comments in Welsh), together with three short contributions (two in English, one Welsh) and six reviews (one in English, five in Welsh). The Proceedings of the Society for the preceding year, 2022, are given, as usual. There are also Remembrances to three former members, including our Membership Secretary, Megan Huggins, whom we lost earlier this year.

The articles examine Daniel Huws's remarkable publication, *A Repertory of Welsh Manuscripts and Scribes* (2022); the portrait of the Druids in the work of Revd John Williams (Ab Ithel) and others; the work of surveyor William Hitchcock in Meirionnydd and other parts of north Wales; the two Thomas Paynes (father and son) who worked as surveyors in Dolgellau and Tremadog; Michael D. Jones's visit to Patagonia in 1882; and the story of the Irish prisoners held at Fron-goch during the First World War. In the short contributions, the footprint of the Blessed Virgin Mary on a stone in Ardudwy is discussed; further information is given on the Garneddwen 'one-night' houses, the subject of an article in the 2022 issue; and geographical memories of Cwm Tryweryn before the drowning are presented by a former teacher at the Boys' Grammar School, Bala.

The Committee members and former editor, Arwyn Lloyd Hughes, are all warmly thanked for their invaluable assistance in bringing the 2023 issue to completion. Thanks are also due to compositor Aeron Jones for his support, and to the printers, WPG Welshpool.

The Website:

The website is still active creating an interest in the Society's activities and has been valuable in promoting sales of the *Journal* and the index to it. The website can be seen at

www.merioneth-history.wales

Declaration:

The Trustees approve the above Annual Report.

Signed on their behalf by the Chairman of the Society,

_____

Gerallt W. Hughes

Date: _____