

# NEWSLETTER

## Cymdeithas Ddinesig Bro Porthaethwy

## Menai Bridge and District Civic Society

# CYLCHLYTHYR

### Dates for your

**diary: More details on page 3.** Lectures start at 7.30pm (unless otherwise stated) and are held in the War Memorial Community Centre, Water Street, Menai Bridge.

**Thursday April 25th 7.30pm**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,** see papers attached. , Followed by a talk from Vanessa Field on 'Grace Vincent: a Victorian woman from Anglesey'.

**Thursday 6th June** Outing to **Bodrhuddan Hall** and gardens, stopping first at **Faenol Fawr** Country Manor Hotel for lunch.

**July 11<sup>th</sup> Thursday.** Visit The RSPB **Osprey viewing site** near Croesor and then go onto **Plas Bron-danw**, former home of Clough Williams Ellis. near Porthmadog.

Summer/Haf 2019

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**FLOWER AND TREE PLANTING IN MEMORY OF THE YOUNG MEN OF MENAI BRIDGE WHO DIED IN WWI.**



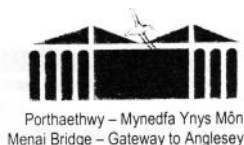
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At our Annual Lunch on 8th March we took the opportunity to announce that **Medwyn Williams and Gwenda Williams have kindly agreed to become our Vice Presidents.** They are stalwart supporters of the Society with a keen interest in the area. We wish them well as they compete again at the Chelsea Flower Show. During the break between lunch and the lecture they went straight to work—planting an oak tree in memory of the young men of Menai Bridge who died in the Great War. Funds for this were raised by Gwenda at our Garden Party. The tree will form part of a new planting scheme at Plas Cadnant, where other Society members also helped out. The trees which will still be in leaf towards Remembrance Sunday are close to the public footpath in a very prominent position. It only struck me later how it poured with rain most of that day and how wet and muddy the conditions were and then we all went home.

You also may have noticed the wild naturalising daffodils that we planted and are now in bloom in the small park on the Beaumaris Road, the grassy area in front of the new Council Offices, and in the entrance to Coed Marquis, together with some crocus near the Bridge, that haven't done as well as yet. They are also planted in memorial but as part of a continuing project by the Society to brighten up the Town. Ideally the Town could enter the 'Wales in Bloom' contest and how about reviving the planting in the Bowling Green. Who remembers the palm trees and the marvellous display of roses and indeed Mr Roberts, the full time (?) gardener who tended them. Is the Bowling Green secure enough for more planting?

Liz Moyle



## NATIONAL NEWS

### North Wales Connection Project i.e. Pylons

Last year the Society wrote to object to the proposal, for new larger electricity pylons to be installed across Anglesey. This was for a variety of reasons, not least that two rows of pylons were apparently under active consideration and were considered a threat to our major industry—tourism. We registered to speak at the Planning Enquiry but found at the last minute that National Grid had withdrawn their application for a Development Order Consent. This was due to the fact that Horizon Nuclear Power has terminated the contract to build a new grid connection for Wylfa Newydd. The North Wales Connection Project was designed to deliver this obligation. What will happen next? Will Wylfa B go ahead, will the Third Bridge go ahead? What a carry on! So far planning applications for other developments related to Wylfa B, such as extra car parking for all the workers, are still in place.

In January 2019 Hitachi scrapped plans to build the nuclear power station becoming the second firm in two months to abandon a major nuclear project and triggering “a full-blown crisis” for the UK energy’s strategy. The £16bn Wylfa plant on Anglesey was meant to be the next in a line of new nuclear plants behind Hinkley Point C but the Japanese conglomerate failed to reach a deal with the UK government. I’m sure there are talks going on to try and revive the deal (and pylons) but should it be a deal at all costs? It was said of

George Osborne’s loan guarantees—a taxpayer bailout for lenders if the project fails—are “a clear case of socializing risk and privatizing profits”.

Recently Business Secretary Greg Clark said the government had offered the company a “generous and significant” package of support. That included providing a debt facility for the project, taking a one third stake and a guaranteed price of power of up to £75 per megawatt hour for 35 years. The wholesale price is about £50 per MWh.

While far below the £92.50 awarded to EDF Energy for Hinkley Point C, the Hitachi offer is still much higher than the £57.50 for some windfarms in the early 2020s, a price that is expected to fall even lower in government auctions later this year.

Last year our Assembly Member, Rhun ap Iorwerth, said, “Energy generation offers significant economic prospects for Anglesey but developers and service providers should remember that their hosts are the people of Anglesey who demand respect and fair consultations. In addition to energy, we also have a thriving tourism and agriculture industry. Indeed Anglesey is the most tourism-dependent region in the whole of the UK. Tourism businesses and private property owners, should not be required to sacrifice income and property value to subsidise savings for the Grid and the rest of the UK’s energy consumers.”

**Liz Moyle**

## RECENT PROGRAMME NOTES

**Jan 24<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2.30pm University of Wales Bangor, Estates Director, Mr. Derwyn Owen. January 24<sup>th</sup> 2019 2.30pm University of Wales Bangor, Estates Director, Mr. Derwyn Owen.** A brief overview of the properties owned by the University - amazing how much of Bangor they do in fact own.

**Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> Thursday 2.30pm The Confucius Institute in Bangor. Dr. David Joyner,** Institute Director at Bangor University. Lively and detailed talk about the Silk Road and its importance to the development of China and its relations with the ‘West’.

**March 8th, Friday. Excellent Annual Lunch at Plas Cadnant and talk from Mr Michael McGeever,** formerly of the Colonial Administrative Service, on his **time in Fiji** in the 1960s. Fascinating insight into life in the Colonial Service and the demands of ‘exotic’ locations, including night time nibbling rats. Also see front page.



Photos N Kneale

## How times have changed!

Miss Brook came to Bangor in the early 1920s, and took a degree in Economics. This is the letter that was sent to her from Muriel O Davis, then Warden of University Hall, on the dos and don'ts for a young lady coming to Bangor in the 1920s.

“University Hall, Bangor.

January 30, 1924.

Dear Miss Brook,

I think that some of the following suggestions may be useful to you before you come up to College.

First of all, as regards academic dress; all the women students are expected to wear academic dress, i.e., caps and gowns, when attending College lectures.

The square soft cap should be worn with the band at the back; it must be a regulation cap, and not a home-made imitation. For everyday wear with this academic dress a plain dark or grey coat and skirt is suitable, and a thick coat is essential for winter. Eccentric, loud or conspicuous garments should be avoided for morning ‘wear’. Individuality can be shown in evening dress. The total effect of conspicuous clothes with an academic gown is ludicrous. Furs, necklets and gloves are also not worn with it.

There are always one or two formal ceremonies in College each term when women students are present in full academic dress dark coats and skirts, white blouses, black shoes and stockings are de rigueur.

(Continued on page 4)



## FUTURE EVENTS

Lectures held monthly at **7.30pm** in the **War Memorial Community Centre, Water Street** on **Thursday evenings usually**. **Guests and non-members are welcome to meetings and outings (regular meetings, for a fee of £2)**

**Thursday April 25th 7.30pm**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**, see papers attached/enclosed. Followed by a talk from Vanessa Field on **'Grace Vincent: a Victorian woman from Anglesey'**.

**June 6<sup>th</sup> Thursday** **Outing to Bodrhyddan Hall** and gardens, stopping first at Faenol Fawr Country Manor Hotel for lunch. **Faenol Fawr** is near Bodelwyddan Marble church. Light lunches available at your choice. Arrive Faenol Fawr for 12 noon and after lunch we go onto Bodrhyddan Hall for 2.30pm. Cost entry to Bodrhyddan is #7 which includes a guided tour. Café available for tea. Bodrhyddan is a Grade I listed building with 8 acres of gardens and woodland walks (showing the influence of Inigo Jones).

### The Column Project in Llanfair PG.

'The Column project is progressing well and following our successful bid for development phase funds at the end of last year we have now appointed a project co-ordinator to work with us and the Bangor University have recruited an intern to help us with research into the history of the Column and the people connected with it. The development phase is approximately 18 months which will culminate in us applying for the Phase two grant from the National Heritage Lottery Fund. Your members can keep up to date as well through the website, in Welsh and English at [www.angleseycolumn.com](http://www.angleseycolumn.com)'

Thanks to Peter Simpson for his update on progress with restoring the Column.

### Updating the Flora of Anglesey - the work of the local Flora Group of the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland.

The last few decades have seen significant changes to the flora at national and regional levels. Some species have been lost through marked changes in agriculture and forestry as well as the expansion of built up areas. Plants introduced from other parts of the globe now outnumber the native flora of the British Isles. Pests and diseases threaten many familiar species and the effects of climate change are revealing themselves by hastening degree. It would therefore appear timely to review the flora of Anglesey and publish a new work. To this end members of the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland have been busy recording plants right

**July 11<sup>th</sup> Thursday.** Visit The RSPB **Osprey site** near Croesor and then go onto **Plas Brondanw**, former home of Clough Williams Ellis. near Porthmadog. The house is now open to visitors and has art exhibitions

The gardens are well worth a visit and the café is a must. I am Meet at the Osprey site off the B4410 near Prenteg. Good parking, close up cameras of the nest, someone to explain, and toilets. Then drive on to Brondanw which is near Croesor. Entry to the grounds is £5/person and the house is free. We will have lunch here on arrival. There is a splendid menu from which to choose – prices from £5.50 upwards - all homemade.

Transport to both events is by private car, so we need to know who needs transport and who will take their car.

SEE BOOKING FORM

**September 14th Saturday**

### GARDEN PARTY AT PLAS CADNANT

Advance notice of the Garden Party beginning at 2.00 p.m.

**Jane Cherrett**

across the island at monad level. In other words, compiling comprehensive lists of plants, native and introduced, for every 1km x 1km square of the National Grid covering Ynys Mon. With almost 800 monads and a known flora of over 1700 species the island offers a significant challenge in this respect. However over 250,000 records have now been entered into a database towards a new Anglesey Flora.

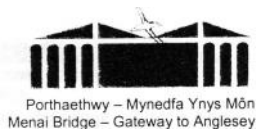
The town and environs of Menai Bridge have long been botanised and hold a very good range of plants. SH5571, the monad covering Menai Bridge South has c. 365 species and is one of the top 10 monads on the island. SH5572 covering Menai Bridge North has so far yielded 283 species. In an attempt to add to those totals and update some of the older records for Menai Bridge the local Flora Group held its first field trip of the season in early March. Below I have attached an account\*of the day to give you a flavour of what we do. If this tweaks your interest then please contact me for further information about recording plants on the island or Anglesey's botany in general. As a recording group we are keen to hear from landowners who would like to know what plants grow on their land. We are always keen to visit new areas and are happy to advise how best to manage sites for plant and wildlife interest.

Nigel Brown

[n.brown@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:n.brown@bangor.ac.uk) Tel. 01248 723163

\* Lack of space means that we are unable to include Nigel's excellent account here but you can see it in full on the Civic Soc website or ask for an e-mail copy. Editor

It is with much sadness that we report the sudden death of **ELEANOR DYSON** on February 5th 2019, peacefully at her home in Menai Bridge. We send our sincere sympathies to her family. Eleanor joined the Society when she returned to Menai Bridge from Llandegfan. She was elected to the Society Committee in 2017 and in November 2018 became a Director, of the now Limited Company. Eleanor had wide experience of the banking and business world and for many years chaired Cadnant Community Council. Her enthusiasm, good sense and help will be greatly missed.



**Anthony Tavernor Esq.**  
**Llywydd/ President**

**Liz Moyle**  
**Cadeirydd/Chair**

**Maureen Parry-Williams**  
**Ysgrifennydd/Secretary**

**Jane Cherrett**  
**Ysgifennydd Cymdeithasol/  
Social Secretary**

**Renata Hufton**  
**Trysorydd/Treasurer**

**Iola Prytherch**  
**Deputy Treasurer/Trysorydd  
Cynorthwyol**

**Liz Moyle**  
**Newsletter Editor/Golygydd  
Cylchlythyr**

**Norman Kneale**  
**Photos/Ffotograffau**

#### **CONTACT LIST**

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**Booking activities for events  
and outings -  
Jane Cherrett**  
**Tel 01248 713440**

**County Councillors :  
Alun Mummery, Meirion Jones  
and Robin Williams**

**Town Council :  
Canolfan Tysilio, Menai Bridge**

**For all correspondence please  
contact the Secretary,  
Mrs Maureen Parry-Williams,  
Tyn y Coed, Newborough,  
LL61 6PY**

**See our Website at  
[www.menaibridgecivicsociety.org.uk](http://www.menaibridgecivicsociety.org.uk)**

#### **Continued from page 2**

Skirts should not be more than 10 inches off the ground; for a long academic gown worn by a student with an extremely short skirt looks very foolish. The aim on such occasions is to make the cap and gown the most conspicuous part of the student's wear. It is dignified and becoming if properly worn, but anything that muddles the outline decorates or adorns it should be avoided; for thus the effect is completely spoiled and verges on the ludicrous. The academic cap and gown must be in good repair, and should be marked inside with the owner's name. Rags and tatters in cap and gown give an impression of bodily slovenliness. Gowns should be worn on the shoulders; not draped round the waist, or dragging in the road.

It is necessary to have a simple dress for ordinary evening wear; and perhaps another one for parties and concerts; as students are expected to change every evening for supper. Students should wear slippers in the evening; and sufficient underclothes to prevent them wanting to wrap themselves up in mufflers, overcoats or jerseys at mealtimes. A good mackintosh and a sou'wester hat are essential; also strong boots and shoes with low heels for outdoor wear, as the country roads are hilly arid rough. Students should bring their own shoe cleaning materials; only hockey boots are cleaned for them, and dirty shoes make the whole appearance dishevelled. There is bad weather to be faced here, and students must come prepared to face it. On the whole it is as well to recognise at the outset that a country outfit, rather than a city outfit is needed. A 'blazer' is a garment that is worn when going to or coming from games. It is not to be regarded as a convenient little flannel coat that can be worn over any set of clothes.

The necessity of strict habits of personal cleanliness, the knowledge of the ordinary rules of health, the habit of sleeping with an open window, the daily bath, the rub-down or bath after games or drill must not be forgotten. Games and drill, if not followed by thorough washing, do more harm than good, and stuffy ways and colds in the head are encouraged.. Those who cannot play games should walk at least three miles a day. Loitering round the town is not considered as exercise and should be avoided. At bedtime students are expected to make a complete change i.e., vests and combinations that have been worn in the daytime must not be worn at night. . . . .

There are two things to be steered clear of by University women. On the one hand 'dressiness' i.e. the wearing of cheap finery, the use of face powder, sham jewelry and on the other hand the habit of being negligent and untidy and badly brushed up. A woman should be 'well-groomed', well washed and brushed and she should have the appearance of being well exercised, in good health and physically fit. A pleasing personality is as important as an educated mind and the women students are expected to cultivate both.

Yours truly,  
Muriel O Davis (Warden)"

**Original article taken from Bangoriad 2001, published by Bangor University; we are grateful to the Alumni for permission to reproduce it here.**

(The original letter was sent to 'Bangoriad' by Mike Bradshaw of Worthing.)

Thanks to Jane Cherrett for finding it and sending it in for publication.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL** Subscriptions are due for renewal for the next subscription year, this starts on 1st May. At the AGM last year a suggestion from the floor, that subscriptions be increased was agreed by members, but with effect from 2019. This is the first time they have been increased for many years and it should help us cover the essential costs of membership out of membership income. A renewal form is included together with the Booking Form for outings. You may pay for both at the same time if you wish (please send to Iola Prytherch).

#### **Menai Bridge and District Civic Society Cymdeithas Ddinesig Bro Porthaethwy**

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