



# NEWSLETTER

## Cymdeithas Ddinesig Bro Porthaethwy

## Menai Bridge and District Civic Society

# CYLCHLYTHYR

**Dates for your diary:**  
**More details on page 3**

**April 27<sup>th</sup> Friday**  
 Dr. Brian Jones, Headmaster  
 David Hughes School –  
**Secondary Education -  
 How Times have  
 Changed.**

**May 16<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday**  
**Trip to Dolgellau**

**May 18<sup>th</sup> AGM AN-  
 NUAL GENERAL  
 MEETING** Barbara  
 Vaterlaws – **The Music in  
 Wales before the 20<sup>th</sup>  
 Century**

**Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>. Thursday**  
**5.30pm Visit to Plas  
 Cadnant including** new  
 Visitor and Interpretation  
 Centre.

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The Civic Trust  
 for Wales

Ymddiriedolaeth  
 Ddinesig Cymru

Summer/Haf 2012

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### Wind turbine checklist puts onus on developers.

“Onshore wind turbine applications will have to meet much more stringent criteria if they are to be considered by Anglesey’s planning committee in future.

The new wind turbine checklist published today (Tuesday, March 27th) places the onus firmly on applicants to provide County planners with all relevant planning information, including noise effects and the visual impacts on the local and wider area surrounding their application site.

The new document has been produced by the County Council’s Planning Service in partnership with the Gwynedd and Anglesey Joint Planning Policy Unit (JPPU). It will be used to help validate the growing number of onshore wind turbine applications currently being received by the Planning Service.

Wind energy has become a hotly debated topic on Anglesey in recent months with several communities opposed to proposed turbine developments.

In February, Anglesey’s planning committee delayed decisions on existing wind turbine applications. This allowed time to prepare the checklist which will help bring robust recommendations before councillors with adequate information on all relevant material planning issues.



Anglesey’s Head of Planning Services, Jim Woodcock, explained, “The checklist has been produced to help planning officers ensure that the correct information is submitted with every application from the outset. It will also assist with those applications already under consideration.”

“In the past, we’ve had problems validating some applications because of a lack of detail in important areas. This meant that the Council had to enter into lengthy correspondence with applicants to ensure we had the relevant information to deal with planning applications in a timely manner.”

He added, “Now as an Authority, we will only register applications as long as they contain the minimum information required

(continued page 4, details thanks to Anglesey Against Windturbines)

### Memories of Menai Bridge

- continues with the recollections of Rol Bach, about his service with the Fire Brigade. Rol was also a great organiser of ‘trips’. Here is an outing on one of Jones Bros’ charabancs. Can you recognise anyone else so we can add the details to our website? Rol, with his flat cap, is in the middle front row.



## CIVIC TRUST and NATIONAL NEWS

The Civic Trust  
for Wales

Ymddiriedolaeth  
Ddinesig Cymru

### “Moving forward together - Discussing the future with Civic Societies”

The Civic Trust for Wales has had a tough year. To reduce costs we had to cut staff travel. We suspended the magazine. We focused on delivering the Open Doors programme for Cadw. As a result we were not able to provide the service for civic societies that they deserve.

But we are moving forward. We have slashed our premises costs. We are talking to Cadw about separating Open Doors from our core activities. We are ready to talk to civic societies about how we can help them do their job better. Our plan for 2012-13; and the strategy we are developing with government, aims to:

- Restore support for civic societies and discuss with them their development needs, remodel governance and prepare for an annual conference and training event in 2013
- Deliver a successful characterization project and produce a toolkit for community use
- Restore the magazine and remodel the Trust's web site to integrate print and online publication, make more use of social

media, ensure that substantial elements of our web site are bilingual

- Enhance the marketing resources for Open Doors and publish a bilingual events programme, reach agreement with Cadw and other relevant partners on the further development of Open Doors. “

Liz Moyle and Maureen Parry-Williams attended an informal meeting, with staff from the Civic Trust for Wales, together with representatives from Civic Societies from Bangor, Colwyn Bay, Conwy Valley, Caernarfon, at Penrhyn Castle on 29th March 2012. It was good to hear first hand from our ‘headquarters’, to renew old friendships, make new ones and see how we can work together more effectively in the future. There are 50 Civic Societies in Wales and 300 Open Door Sites. **In 2013 all societies will be invited to a first annual conference.** There will be an opportunity to tell staff and trustees our priorities and concerns, as well as take part in training activities.

2013 is an important year for our Menai Bridge and District Civic Society too - it marks our 40th Anniversary. How do you think we ought to celebrate? Special Dinner, Anniversary Newsletter, something more long lasting? Do let us know.

**Liz Moyle**

## AUTUMN PROGRAMME NOTES

**January 20th Electronic and Pipe Organs – How do they Work?** Well thanks to Michael Davies’ entertaining talk and demonstrations we now have a good idea. Mr Davies is one of a very few multi talented musicians/craftsmen/electronic experts in the country. An expert in electronic engineering design, pipe organ conservation, and a classical musician he is in much demand.

### February 17th ANNUAL DINNER, When the Steamers arrived.

Our Dinner at the Victoria Hotel was well attended. Sixty members and guests enjoyed a three course meal followed by a talk about the Steam Ships. The excellent after dinner talk was given by Mr John Cowell of Lon Y Bryn, Menai Bridge on the history of the steamships which plied between Liverpool, Llandudno, Caernarfon and Menai Bridge some 50 years ago. He reminded us of the impact that the steamers and tourists had on the development of Menai Bridge. His talk was illustrated by some of his wonderful collection of postcards of a slower, gentler way to travel. Selwyn Williams writes, “I enjoyed the evening and would like to thank all involved for the arrangements. I am sure that many of us there that night were taken back on a nostalgic journey. I for one used to use the St. Tudno, the St. Seiriol and the Trillo between Liverpool and Menai Bridge as a young boy. In those days the Merseyside season ticket holders could journey daily to Menai Bridge, some to take a charabanc around Anglesey and having tea in the many cafes in the Town. “

### March 23<sup>rd</sup> What is our local environment?

An environmental forensic introduction to Anglesey. Unfortunately Dr. Mudge was unable to attend due to work commitments in the States. We hope to re-arrange this .

We are grateful to two members of the **Horizon** staff who came, at short notice, to tell us about the planned developments which the company has (well had by now, Editor) for the new **Nuclear Plant at Wylfa B**. There were many questions, but ironically only the following day we all learnt the shock news that both Consortia hoping to construct either a 2 reactor or a 3 reactor building had pulled out! “RWE and E.ON said they would not proceed with a £15 billion (\$24 billion) joint venture called Horizon Nuclear Power to build nuclear power plants in Britain. The companies said that the economic crisis reduced the capital available for major projects and that Germany’s plan to phase out nuclear power had put additional financial pressure on the companies. (See more information on Page 4).

## FUTURE LOCAL EVENTS

**Sunday, May 13 – the first Anglesey Half-Marathon**, to start at the Suspension Bridge, proceeding to Beaumaris and Llanfaes, and ending at the Waun Car Park, off High Street.

**Sunday, May 27 – the ever popular Raft Race** along the Straits from Felinheli to Menai Bridge, finishing in the vicinity of St George’s Pier and Porth-y-Wrach.

**Tuesday, May 29 – the arrival of the Olympic Flame at St George’s Pier**, on board an RNLI craft from Beaumaris, and proceeding along Water Street, Bridge Street and Telford Road to the Suspension Bridge.

### Mount Street Turning Circle

Work is well advanced by the Highways Department on the provision of the much needed vehicle turning area at the end of Bron Fedw and Mount Street, after years of agitation by residents and lobbying by the local County Councillors.

## FUTURE EVENTS

**Regular meetings are held in the Menai Bridge War Memorial Community Centre and start at 7.30 p.m. April 27<sup>th</sup>** Dr. Brian Jones, Headmaster David Hughes School – **Secondary Education - How Times have Changed.**

**May 16<sup>th</sup>, WEDNESDAY. Trip to Dolgellau**  
We will call first at **Llys Ednowain** in Trawsfynydd, a 'small place, big story'. A heritage centre and exhibition depicting two sons of the village, notably, **St. John Roberts** and **Hedd Wyn**, the poet killed in 1917, who won the Chair in the National Eisteddfod that year. Lunch at Coleg Meirion Dwyfor. We then drive to **St. Mark's Church, Brithdir**, (Cadw listed Grade I) for a conducted tour. Built 1895-8 and designed by Henry Wilson. Herbert North of Llanfairfechan was in charge of the masonry. It is said to be the finest Arts & Craft building in Wales. We then visit **Caerynwch Estate**, tour of the house and garden and ending with a cream tea. Caerynwch is the home of Hilary & Andrew Richards. Five generations of the family have served their County, and Andrew Richards was High Sheriff of Gwynedd in 2006. The gardens were laid out by his grandmother, Mary Richards

MBE a noted botanist and plant hunter in China and Africa who died in 1997. William Condry's biography 'Wildflower Safari' tells her life story.

Leave Menai Bridge bus station at 9am. Leave Caerynwch for return journey approx. 5.30pm Cost including meals, coach, entry etc £25/person.

**To book please send cheque**, made out to Menai Bridge and District Civic Society to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs R. Hufton, Glan Menai, 2 Beach Road, Menai Bridge, LL59 5HB by **28<sup>th</sup> April at the latest. Tel 01248 713513. Include your contact details.**

**May 18<sup>th</sup> AGM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
Barbara Vaterlaws – **The Music in Wales before the 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

**Thursday Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>. 5.30pm Visit to Plas Cadnant**, to include tour of the garden and refreshments in the Tea Room which is part of the new Visitor and Interpretation Centre. Cost £10/person. View the late summer perennials, hydrangeas and walk the dell in this ever unfolding garden of delight. By kind invitation Anthony Tavernor.

**To book please send cheque** made out to Menai Bridge and District Civic Society **send to Mrs. J. Cherrett, 15, Caer Gelach, Llandegfan, LL59 5UF by 6<sup>th</sup> Sept.**

## NEWS FROM OUR COUNCILLORS

### News from Councillor Keith Evans, Local Member for the Cadnant Ward.

**Summer Spectaculars.** A memorable summer is in prospect on the national scene and we here in Menai Bridge will be playing our part. Between mid-May and early June, a series of events will take place and, to add a bit of colour to the scene, the Town Council intends to have bunting in place around the town centre. In this context, active involvement is promised by the Highways Department at the County Council and its contractor, Enterprise, with backing being sought also from the Dale Street Trust. Local property owners around Uxbridge Square, High Street and Bridge Street will be encouraged to co-operate.

The special dates for the diary are given in the panel alongside.

**Amenity Schemes** The Town Council is keen to upgrade the main public shelter, now 60 years old, at the Bowling Green, in readiness for summertime use by residents and visitors. Contractors are to provide quotations and the Council hope to secure funding from the Tidy Towns' promotion of the Welsh Assembly and County Council, and the Dale Street Trust.

An invitation has gone out to landscape firms to present ideas to revamp the former clock golf area behind the bowling club pavilion, on the western end of the park, and funding is being canvassed. Very much appreciated seats have been provided for public use in the Belgian Promenade and Coed Cymol area, one in memory of the late Mr and Mrs J O Jones, Lliwen, Mount Street, having been kindly donated by relatives. **Football Pitch** Active support is being given to Tigers Football Club members who are looking for a new ground for the team, away from the sub-standard King George V playing field. (see Page 4, Editor)

### News from Councillor Selwyn Williams, Local Member for the Tysilio Ward.

**Cae Gweithdy Footpath.** I've campaigned long and hard for the Cae Gweithdy footpath to be more secure for those using it between the housing estates. The Footpaths Officers of Anglesey County Council have done a tremendous job in installing electricity standards and I'd like to thank those residents for supporting this safety initiative to cut down on the anti social behaviour which has plagued the area for quite some time. **Cemetery Footpath.** Highway engineers from Anglesey County Council are laying a new footpath between the Pentraeth Road, opposite to Siop Newydd, to the new cemetery. I've written a strong letter to Dewi Roberts, Senior Highways Engineer, following complaints from residents about the steep incline; they are afraid of using it to visit the graves of their loved ones. This combined foot and cycle path is potentially lethal and in its present form could cause accidents to the elderly people and young mothers pushing prams who use it. **The Indicative Route from Four Crosses Hotel to Cadnant Bridge.** Some time ago I spoke to the Head of Anglesey Planning, Mr Jim Woodcock in one of the main Council meetings; the question I asked was, "Is the Indicative Route still alive or is it dead in the water?". His reply was that it was still alive. Residents in the housing estates of the Tysilio Ward need to be aware of this. Civic Society Members wanting to know more can contact me. (Tel: 01248 714 429 or email: [stw@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stw@hotmail.co.uk)) **Trem Eryri Estate, Menai Bridge.** For quite some time now residents have been complaining to me about the wide-bodied community buses which pass through the narrow roads of Trem Eryri, Ffordd Tysilo and Tyddyn To. With on street parking as the norm, these buses have been churning up the grassy areas within the estates. I'm mounting a campaign with the Anglesey Housing/Highway Departments to do something about it. I'll keep you informed of my progress.

Lady Anglesey  
Llywydd/ President

Liz Moyle  
Cadeirydd/Chair

Maureen Parry-Williams  
Ysgrifennydd/Secretary

Jane Cherrett  
Ysgifennydd Cymdeithasol/  
Social Secretary

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Jane Cherrett  
Tel 01248 713440

County Councillors :

Keith Evans Selwyn Williams

Town Council :  
Canolfan Tysilio, Menai Bridge

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



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

## PLANNING AND LOCAL NEWS

(continued from page 1)  
under planning legislation. The checklist will, however, cover further areas where the Authority will require specific information to deal with such issues like the cumulative impacts of wind turbines upon the environment.”

There are currently 28 undetermined planning applications for on-shore wind turbines on Anglesey. They will now be reviewed in line with a new check-list. Chairman of the Planning and Orders Committee, Councillor J. Arwel Roberts, stressed, “Due to the high number of planning applications for onshore wind turbines received by the Authority, it’s important that our planning officers are able to deal with these applications robustly. This can only be done after undertaking every appropriate assessment of their impact and considering each application in line with the statutory planning framework.”

A copy of the newly published checklist can be found on the County Council’s website -[www.anglesey.gov.uk/windturbineapplications](http://www.anglesey.gov.uk/windturbineapplications)

The JPPU is also currently reviewing feedback received during a recent public consultation on new draft Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) document on On-shore Wind Energy.

Officers will consider public opinion before taking the new guidance before the Authority’s scrutiny function, Commissioners and finally Full Council for approval.” (Details thanks to Anglesey Against Wind-turbines)

### Horizon pull out of decision to build Wylfa B

following the decision of the German Government to halt its nuclear programme. The Welsh Assembly Government, County Council will look for new developers but PAWB will be delighted, having long campaigned against it for cost and risk reasons. The latest demonstration being the anniversary of Fukushima. Whatever you think of Nuclear Power the decision has the potential to leave the Island’s economy in an even worse state than at present seeing that so much time and effort is being spent in generating (sorry) the idea of Anglesey as the ‘Energy Island’.

The final report for the Council — ‘Anglesey Energy Island Framework Potential Opportunities and Economic Impacts of the Energy Island Framework Final Report May 2010’

is well worth looking at. You can download it from the Isle of Anglesey CC’s website at

<http://www.anglesey.gov.uk/download/11541>

I found the following of particular interest:

### “Core Employment Sectors

3.3.45. As with the regional and national sector profile, the core employment sectors are the distribution, hotels and restaurants (25%) and public admin, education and health (28%) sectors. Anglesey also has relatively high levels of employment in the energy and water sector (3%) and manufacturing sector (15%) compared with sub-regional, regional and national averages.

### Energy Sector

3.3.48. In 2008, 576 people in Anglesey were employed in the Energy sector, equivalent to **3% of the employment base on the island.** .....

4.5.54. During operation, it is anticipated that the new power station would be operational for 60 years and is expected to generate around 750 permanent operational, training, and maintenance roles, increasing to 900 including support staff...

4.5.56. In the operational phase assumed to be 2020 onwards) **net additional employment (in Anglesey and North West Wales) builds up from around 300 jobs to approximately 880 in 2025.** These figures include supply chain and induced effects....

4.7.2. Energy Island has major potential to realise economic, social and environmental gains for Anglesey and the North West Wales economy. There is the potential to create a peak of **4500 construction jobs (2017)** in Anglesey and North West Wales including jobs in the supply chain. The Framework could also deliver a further **2500 operational and maintenance jobs** on the Island and wider subregion by **2025.”**

### Football Pitch, King George V Playing Field.

Does looking for new grounds for the Football Club mean the existing grounds may be redeveloped? It’s too early to say, but what do **you** think would be best for the Club, the Town and it’s residents? We look forward to hearing what you have to say.