

CYLCH LYTHYR / NEWSLETTER.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS.

Hello everyone.

There are interesting times ahead. The outcome of several proposed projects in the area remains unresolved.

Progress inevitably means change and we must be determined to meet each challenge objectively and positively.

Recently we have achieved an increase in membership and I would like to thank everybody who introduced new blood since the beginning of the year. However, we still need more members. We have set a membership target of 200 by the end of 2008.

Our speaker for the AGM on April 25th will be Albert Owen, our M.P. and I hope that you will be able to attend to hear him. At the same time you will have an opportunity to vote on Committee membership. Should you wish to nominate anyone for membership of this group, a form is enclosed.

There will be a varied range of interesting visits and talks on offer during the coming year. Why not get involved with as many as possible and make the most of your membership opportunities.

The Committee members and I look forward to meeting with you during the coming year. Many thanks for your continued support for the Society.

PLANNING MATTERS.

First of all, County Councillor Keith Evans wishes me to convey to you all, his appreciation, and that of the Planning Department, for your steadfast support of the department in its opposition to the over-development of **Min y Don**.

ACC Planning Department refused the developer permission to extend the apartment blocks to a four-storey building and change the pitch of the roof. The developer went to **appeal** and this has now been **refused** so hopefully they will now complete the building and tidy up the area.

Just a reminder of why this decision is so important: the original outline planning permission was for 2 three-storey blocks comprising 20 apartments in total. Since then, each developer has attempted to obtain permission to raise the height. If they were successful with Min y Don, it would have set a precedent and it would have been difficult for the height of the other buildings, scheduled for the adjacent area, to be limited. We think that this is the reason for the delay in continuing with this development.

The appeal for Hafod Wern is being heard on April 10th in Llangefni.

We have a new planning application in which, I am sure, will be unpopular with many of you. This is on St. George's Road, at the bottom of Askew Street, on the green space between the large house that was built on the site of the old boathouse and the causeway path across to Ynys Faelog. The application is for outline planning permission for 2 houses on this site. The application number is 39C456 and we would urge you to write to the Planning Dept. with your objections as soon as possible.

Across the water, I am informed that the results of the survey, regarding developments in Hiracl Bay, are now on the Gwynedd County Council website under H on their home page. I understand that Watkin Jones has also bought the Jewson site at the bottom of the High Street in Bangor so this developer now owns a large proportion of that area.

ACTIVITIES.

We were delighted that so many of you were able to attend the Annual dinner at the Victoria hotel and enjoyed the talk by Dr. Liz Green of the North Wales National Trust. We were able to try out our new radio microphone which enables us to hear the speaker clearly in all parts of the room. I feel that this will be appreciated by us all.

The other two talks were about the regeneration of the Hen Felin at Abergwyngregyn and a visual tour of our industrial heritage on Anglesey. Both were well attended.

Please try to attend our **AGM on April 25th** as we have been able to 'book' our busy **M.P. - Mr Albert Owen.**

Our summer programme starts on **Tuesday May 20th**, with a visit to **Blaen y Nant** organic farm (SH 642 609) which is an upland farm on N.T. land at the head of Nant Ffrancon.

Mr.Gwyn Thomas keeps Welsh Black cattle, sheep, horses and Shetland ponies.

We will follow the **12 stop Nature Trail**, so boots / wellingtons are advisable footwear.

How to find it : Leaving Bethesda on the A5, turn right over the river and follow the old, single-track road on the south side of the valley to park in the farmyard. Arrive by **6.30pm.**

Cost: £3 for members £4 for non-members.

Thursday June 19th. 2pm. A visit to **Benarth Hall, Conwy.** (SH 788 768). Numbers are limited to 20 members only and 5 cars. This is a Georgian House dating from 1789 and was the one-time home of Richard Davies of Menai Bridge. The house has been brought back to life by its present owners –Mr. & Mrs. Herman. It has an interesting garden too. **Cost** £3.

How to find it: From Bangor, drive through Conwy old town and turn right at the mini roundabout by the castle .Drive through the castle wall, continue past the bowling green on the left and turn left into Benarth Road. Continue past 2 gateposts into the private drive to the house.

Tuesday July 15th. 6pm. Tour of the **Bangor University** Arts Building, the Council Chamber & Shankland Library, the Professors' Balcony and other interesting areas, conducted by Mr. Alan Parry the Director of Communications.

How to find it: From Menai Bridge, drive along Bangor Road into Upper Bangor and turn left at the first set of traffic lights into College Road. Go along until you come to the University buildings on your right. Turn into the car park. Meet at the Main College lobby through the glass doors. **Donations** please, towards the Memorial Hall Restoration Fund.

Sunday, September 21st. 2pm. Tour of **Plas Cadnant** Gardens, Menai Bridge (SH 556 733) with Mr. Anthony Tavernor. A new area, previously hidden under dense laurel, has been discovered and opened up.

Cost (to include refreshments); £4 for members £5 for non-members

How to find it: From Menai Bridge, take the Beaumaris Road. Fork left before the old Cadnant Bridge and turn left into the 2nd driveway. Follow the driveway, looping to the left across 2 cattle grids to allotted parking area. Meet at the front of the house.

The above have all been arranged by Jane Cherrett so we are grateful for her time and effort.

Prior booking is essential to control numbers. With the exception of July 15th, prior payment would also be appreciated, **at least a week in advance** with cheques being made out to Menai Bridge and District Civic Society. Please send to Maureen Parry-Williams, Tyn y Coed, Newborough, LL61 6PY. Phone 01248 440668.

