



# *Newsletter*

## *Spring 2010*

### **THE PRESIDENT WRITES**

The Annual Meeting has almost faded into history and a number of issues were raised which would be of interest to the membership as a whole.

**New Faces on the Council** – I was pleased to introduce our New Honorary Secretary Dr Vernon Williams and Council Member Robert Leonard. Both will be able to bring to our discussions their unique experience which will be of benefit to the RISW

**Insurance Cover for RISW Members** – interest was shown in the level of cover. I can confirm that insurance is arranged through BAfM who have a block policy with NFU Mutual. Cover includes the following: -*Personal Accident Insurance* – accidental death benefit - £10,000 (£5,000 if aged between 75 and 85); daily hospital benefit of £50 per day up to a maximum of £250; members are covered for trips organised by RISW; *Public Liability Insurance* - £5,000,000 if a member is being sued by a member of the public or another member

in the event of injury or damage; *Product Liability* - £5,000,000 covers such items as the supply of food and drink

**Annual Membership Subscription** – on the Agenda for the AGM was an item concerning raising the annual subscription. The statement of accounts showed a healthy bank balance, as a result of bequests for acquiring items of interest for the museum or enhancing the work of the RISW. Day to day costs relating to servicing members' activities – lectures, insurance, conference attendance, newsletters, postage etc. continue to rise and membership subscriptions needed to be increased to cover increased expenditure. After a calm and meaningful discussion the meeting resolved that as from the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010 the annual subscription for 2 members living at the same address should be £20 and for a single person £13. This still represents excellent value for money. The hope is that there will not be a need to increase the subscription for several years. A new bank standing order/gift aid form will be sent to members asking them to update their annual subscription.

**Non availability of Lecture Room** – because of the concerns expressed by members at the Annual Meeting, and by Council Members about the number of RI events being scheduled for the Education Room I wrote to the Curator, Gareth El-Tawab. I accept the fact that it is necessary to maximise the use of museum resources but asked that when setting up exhibitions in the Lecture Room they were arranged in such a way as to permit the use of the room for RI Lectures and events. This matter was fully discussed at the Council Meeting when the Curator pointed out that there had been a back log of exhibitions following the installation of the lift and some

had to be accommodated at short notice. The Curator was made fully aware of the dismay and frustration members felt in having to hold so many events in inadequate surroundings as well as being disrespectful to learned and distinguished lecturers from the Principality. The Curator promised that when setting up future exhibitions she will endeavour to enable RISW events to take place in the Lecture Room. At this stage there is a need to be patient

**Swansea History Journal (formally Minerva)** – a small group of members have met and discussed with Jenny Sabine (retired Editor) and Gerald Gabb (current Editor) how to publicise and market the annual journal which will allow the Editor to focus on his important role. After a very productive and enthusiastic meeting I am pleased to say that Jo East, David and Fran Jordan have agreed to undertake the marketing, promotion and administrative functions associated with the Journal. This is excellent news and one which the membership will understandably appreciate. The group are looking for help from other members and if you feel you can assist then please contact the Editor or myself.

**The RISW History Project** – good progress is being made by the three group leaders in collating information to eventually provide a revised and updated History of the RISW. The initial focus is on significant individuals and events during the relevant periods. There is always room for additional volunteers to become involved in this important and interesting project and I would be pleased to hear from any members so that I could then put them in contact with one of the group leaders.

Lyndon Morris

## Lecture reviews

**10th December 2009, *A Motley Collection***

**By Mr Raymond Walker, RISW Council member and researcher**

Raymond Walker reminded us of the calibre and scientific achievements of some founders of the Royal Institution of South Wales who had been amongst the circle of the notable naturalist and mining engineer James Motley, the subject of one of his previous talks. Motley had moved to Borneo in the course of his profession, and there he made notable studies of plants and birds. He was initially based in the north of the island, but later moved to the south, where, tragically, he and his immediate family, were killed in an uprising. Then that remarkable polymath Lewis Weston Dillwyn, businessman, M.P., J.P., mayor, and born researcher into history, natural history and much else was recalled. Next, we heard of his eldest son, John Dillwyn Llewellyn of Penllergare, a pioneer photographer, and his extensive work to create the landscape around the mansion, so fortunately now being restored. The model of his orchid house in the walled garden is now safe in the Swansea Museum store. Then came James Ebenezer Bicheno, born in Newbury and sometime Secretary of the Linnaean Society, a very good botanist amongst his other interests. Our speaker commented that he was a stocky man and it was said locally that his trousers (in his absence and with the legs suitably tied) could hold twelve bushels of grain! We were told of John Gwyn Jeffries, a lawyer by profession but also a notable shell collector. He was a pioneer of deep sea trawling, to a depth of three miles, to discover

new examples and he gave his name to over six hundred species. His collection of over one hundred thousand shells was in due course sold to the U.S. Natural History Museum. Sir Henry De La Beche was the last of the circle to be mentioned. A widely travelled early geologist, it was he who suggested to the Royal Geological Society that a map of the geology of Britain should be created, and it was he who then undertook its preparation. This welcome and entertaining reminder of some of the remarkable interests, skills and enthusiasms of the R.I's. founders was followed by Christmas refreshments and mulled wine, arranged by our Social Committee.

**14th January 2010, *Soldiers, Sailors and Artists: St Helen's House and some other Swansea landmarks*  
By Bernard Morris, Past President, RISW.**

St Helen's Road is still well-known in Swansea, but few of those who now travel on it may realise that it was once the principal route from the old town into Gower, which continued along what is now Brynymor Road, via Uplands and Sketty, and on into the peninsula. The name may be best known now for the rugby and cricket ground, but it was the ancient mansion known as St Helen's which gave the name to the road and the area. In early documents it is called St Helen's *Castle*, and a nineteenth century sketch in Swansea Museum which shows ancient features which lay beneath the later house.

A castle seems unlikely in such a location, but there is the possibility of some earlier religious building there. Plans showing the location appear as early as the 1760s, but no reliable representation of St Helen's mansion was known until 1983 when our speaker published a detailed view of the rear of it made in 1783 by Lieut. William Booth. In 2008 a fine oil painting of the front of the house by William Butler, dated 1863, came on the market, but the RI's attempt to acquire it for Swansea Museum was narrowly outbid, though a good coloured copy of it was published in *The Swansea History Journal* Vol. 16 (2008). The house had been a fine Georgian-style mansion, appearing very much as the Gower house (now an hotel) at Fairyhill, which still survives. St Helen's was demolished in 1880 after its owners had sold its land for house-building. The owners and occupiers of the house are of particular interest in Swansea history. The Georgian building was erected in about 1780 by Calvert Richard Jones, the first of three of that name active in Swansea. In 1794 it was sold by his son to Captain John Jones, a captain both in the Royal Navy and in the service of the East India Company. He died in 1828 and when his widow, Ann, died in 1843 the house and its estate passed to their relatives, the Morgan family. Col. Evan Morgan lived there until his death in 1877. His three sons were all senior army officers, the eldest dying on active service. One, Col. William Llewelyn Morgan, retired to Swansea soon after St Helen's, his boyhood home, had been demolished and became one of the pillars of the RISW and one of its greatest benefactors.

**11th February 2010, *Eighteenth Century Gower*  
By Professor Prys Morgan, formerly of the  
Department of History, Swansea University**

As well as providing many fascinating details about prominent persons in eighteenth century Gower, our speaker set them in the context of the many changes which swept through Britain in that century. Professor Prys Morgan began with Isaac Hamon, who was the Bishopston blacksmith but also steward of the manor. Clearly a well-educated man, Hamon wrote a fundamental description of the Gower peninsula and its inhabitants in answer to enquiries from the noted Oxford scholar and curator, Edward Lhuyd. This detailed account, written in 1697 in very readable prose, sets down Hamon's knowledge and understanding of his home area in considerable depth. He points out that he knows the peninsula well, but admits that he can say less of 'Blaen Gwyr' (the Welshry to the north). He already divides the peninsula into its three main agricultural and geological sectors - the limestones of the south coast, the coal measures to the north and the moist middle lands between them. He notes the distinctive dialect of Gower, recording many of its words, in particular those which have died with people of the preceding generation. He comments also on Gower's trade links with the West Country and with Ireland. Hamon responds to Lhuyd's enquiries concerning history and antiquities, and records several prehistoric monuments which have since disappeared. His reference to the discovery of the Roman mosaic in Oystermouth churchyard confirms the antiquity of this sometimes questioned feature.

Professor Morgan showed how the eighteenth century already bore indications of major changes to come, not least the beginnings of general education via the new religious movements, and steadily increasing industrialisation. In 1764 Gabriel Powell, Steward of Gower for the Duke of Beaufort, compiled his magisterial 'Survey of the Lordship of Gower', recording the feudal rights of the Duke and also the growing external pressure on many seen to be obsolete. It records quaint ancient dues such as 'Toll Pixie', but also, more seriously, moves by the Duke's main tenants to encroach on the commons in the north of the Lordship, when the enormous potential of the coal beneath them became evident, and industrialisation and profit beckoned.

**25th February 2010, The St David's Lecture.**  
***Archaeology from the Air in South West Wales***  
**By Dr Toby Driver of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales**

One of the prime sources of new archaeological knowledge is the discovery of previously unknown or uncertain sites, and Wales in particular has proved, through the skilled use of air photography, to be a very fruitful hunting ground in this respect. Dr Toby Driver is the RCAHMW's expert air photographer and is also skilled in the interpretation of the results. Apart from the obvious benefits of a high viewpoint, he explained how the varied growth of crops over ditches and flattened banks of previously-occupied sites, particularly noticeable from above in prolonged dry spells, could reveal their existence and location when nothing

appeared to have survived. Similarly, long shadows cast by almost ploughed-out earthworks could make them stand out sharply in conditions of low oblique sunshine early or late in the day. Dr Driver explained that the Commission had a light aircraft and pilot available for his use at short notice whenever the conditions for site-finding were most suitable, and this explains the large amount of such surveys currently being successfully carried out in Wales.

As well as introducing us to the concept of aerial survey in archaeology (and the remarkable automatic GPS records showing in detail where each of his sorties had been flown), the speaker showed us a fine series of digital slides of sites around Wales, with the emphasis on the south west, but with Swansea and Glamorgan featured strongly. We were able to see fine views of the famous cave at Paviland, occupied by humans 26,000 years ago and, in contrast, the pioneering cast-iron lighthouse at Whiteford Point, erected in 1864. Then we saw a crop-mark site from Ogmere in the Vale of Glamorgan where the otherwise invisible trace of ploughed-out banks and ditches marked a 'causewayed camp', where 6,000 years ago the scattered local communities would have gathered on significant occasions. This was one of six now known in Wales' most found by air survey. Roman forts, such as those near Llandeilo, had been found also using this technique, and additional information was being gained from sites already known to the Victorians. There was also the prospect of more Roman forts to be found further into west Wales, beyond Carmarthen.

B.M.

**11<sup>th</sup> March 2010. FROM SWANSEA TO  
COCQUIMBO: Sir William Reardon Smith's voyage on  
a copper ore barque in 1872  
By Dr David Jenkins.**

Dr Jenkins is senior curator of maritime history in the National Museum of Wales at the National Waterfront Museum, Swansea. His lecture was based on research for his forthcoming biography of Sir William Reardon Smith, Cardiff ship-owner and philanthropist.

William Reardon was born in Appledore in North Devon in 1856 (the double-barrelled name of Reardon Smith was adopted at some, as yet unidentified, later point in his life). Appledore was then an isolated and somewhat clannish seafaring village, with little connection with or regard for its hinterland. Dr Jenkins argued that this had a lasting effect on Reardon's attitudes and actions. He came of a seafaring family: his father and elder brother had drowned in the Burry Estuary storm of 1859. Nonetheless, the young William went to sea at 13 as a cabin boy, sailing from Newport to New Orleans with a cargo of iron rails. In 1872 he joined the 460 ton barque *Scout*, sailing from Swansea for Coquimbo in Chile with a cargo of coal, trading between various Pacific ports and returning with a cargo of copper regulus (partially-refined copper). He wrote an account of this voyage, from which Dr Jenkins drew a number of interesting points. He wrote of the practice of loading cargo, disapproving of the dilatory way the crew worked and describing how the ship's hold was fitted with a 'trunk' (an internal box-like container) which held the heavy ore, preventing it from destabilising the ship in heavy seas, and how the ship's carpenter must regularly inspect it for

any damage during the journey. Although the voyage took him twice around the notorious Cape Horn, Reardon did not mention the fact: Dr Jenkins suggested that it was only after the opening of the Panama Canal that the horrors of Cape Horn were regarded as anything other than commonplace. Descriptions of loading and unloading in the various ports emphasise that the Chilean ports, in those days, were still no more than anchorages and the sea-going vessels were served by barges ferrying the cargo back and fore from the land.

In 1900, he left the sea and by 1905 had become a ship-owner in Cardiff. He built up a major shipping company and made a large fortune which, untypically of fellow entrepreneurs, he mainly devoted to philanthropy, maintaining a relatively modest life-style for himself and his family. True to the tradition of his home town, he attached no importance to acquiring an estate of land, preferring a yacht – the *Marguerita* – as his only luxury. Reardon Smith supported many charities; he endowed a Chair of Geography in Exeter University; significantly for our speaker, he supported the National Museum of Wales, acting as its Treasurer, in 1925 personally paying off its overdraft, helping to raise money, and endowing a new wing including the Reardon Smith Theatre. He died in 1935. The Reardon Smith shipping company survived until 1985, and when it closed its papers were given to the National Museum. It was among these that Dr Jenkins found the unfinished autobiography, upon part of which his lecture was based.

JS

## **Social Committee News**

Christmas seems a long time ago but our Social Evening is a very happy memory. Raymond Walker's "Motley Tale" was an interesting one followed by an excellent music recital by Jonathan Lysett who sang a variety of songs accompanying himself on our grand piano. During this and afterwards we enjoyed our traditional mulled wine, mince pies and an opportunity to chat.

More recently the St. David's Day Coffee Morning was a resounding success not only raising the magnificent sum of £390 for our funds but also being a very sociable occasion with a very good attendance of about 80 people. Ffion Davies once again played the harp beautifully which always adds something special to the event. We gained four new Members for R.I.S.W. and we are particularly delighted that we recruited three new members for the Social Committee.

Our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the occasion and those who brought and then bought books, bric-a-brac or cakes! Very many thanks indeed to the Museum Staff who set everything up for us and who always help us so cheerfully and of course to the members of the Social Committee whose contributions and efforts enable these events to take place and make them such enjoyable occasions.

Plans are well advanced for our annual "Spring into Summer Evening" on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 7.0 pm. Full details elsewhere in this Newsletter. Tickets at £7 on sale in April. We hope to see you there.

Christine Morris

Chair Social Committee

## WHAT ARE FRIENDS FOR?

**It is nearly 20 years since the RISW took on the role of ‘Friends of Swansea Museum’, so it is time to give some thought to what this means and how it came about.**

In 1991 the RISW, together with the (then) University College of Swansea and Swansea City Council, signed the tripartite agreement which transferred ownership of Swansea Museum and responsibility for its management to the City Council.

One hundred and fifty-six years previously, in 1835, the Swansea Philosophical & Literary Society had been established by local men with interests in science, industry, history, the arts and education. In 1838 Queen Victoria allowed it to change its name to the Royal Institution of South Wales, largely due to the high quality of scientific work its members achieved. Very early in its existence, a collection of interesting objects were acquired, which became the nucleus of Swansea Museum, and in 1841 the RISW opened its purpose-built museum in the building we now know so well. The RISW became, and has remained, a leading cultural society in the Swansea area.

Financially, however, there have been continuing problems, and in the 1970s the RISW formed a partnership with Swansea University College in order to run the museum as a university museum. This survived until the mid 1980s, when the University College found it necessary to withdraw from full partnership, but agreed to provide minimal funding for a further five years, while alternative support was sought. 1990 was the crisis year. Many of us remember the Save Our Museum campaign,

when a banner bearing these words was strung across the museum's front pillars, and members worked desperately to negotiate a safe future for the museum. They achieved huge public support and finally, in 1991, Swansea City Council agreed to adopt the museum into its Museum Services – to join the then existing Maritime & Industrial Museum and the Glynn Vivian Art Gallery. Since 1991 the RISW has been able to concentrate on its original role of cultural organisation, and also its new role as Friends of Swansea Museum.

### **So what does it mean to be a Friend?**

Many organisations have Friends: groups of volunteers who work together to provide support, both financial and practical. A by-product of this work is usually a friendly social group of people with shared interests.

In the case of the RISW, some of our activities fulfil both roles. Our programme of evening lectures and lunch-time talks provides a range of cultural information for our members, but also provides some of the outreach service that Swansea Museum, as the major local museum in the area, is committed to provide. Similarly the annual Book Fair, which certainly boosts the museum's visitor figures and widens its audience.

Other activities are more specifically oriented to the museum. The Liaison Group, consisting of our President and a couple of other Council members, meets the Curator and some key members of museum staff regularly to keep abreast of work in the museum and discuss how the RISW can support it. We give financial support for the museum's Education Service for youth workshops and children's activities, not to mention supplying orange squash and biscuits for the small

visitors. We also provide advice and partnership funding on some occasions when the museum is seeking external grant aid. Some members of the RISW give their time and their own specialist knowledge to help identify and document the museum collections. Others simply give time to help with clerical work such as filing or filling envelopes. In particular, in consultation with the Curator the RISW uses its funds to purchase or part-purchase items to augment the museum's collections. Certain members watch for possible items coming on the market and use their professional skill to negotiate a purchase.

The RISW is a member of the British Association of Friends of Museums (BAFM), the national umbrella organisation which supports and co-ordinates Friends groups across Britain. It helps with problems and provides a central source of information. It has links with the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, the Museums, Archives & Libraries Council (in Wales - CyMAL), the Museums Association and other major national organisations in the sector. BAFM publishes handbooks and information sheets, a Journal three times a year and runs an insurance scheme for its members via the NFU. There are regional groups which hold regional conferences, and the highlight of the year is the BAFM national conference, hosted each year by a different Friends group. Next year's conference is on the Isle of Man: any RISW member is eligible to attend.

The purpose of this short article is to review how the RISW has adapted to its comparatively new role of Friends of Swansea Museum, to provoke thoughts on how we might increase our help and support to the museum, and inspire more members to get involved.

*Jenny Sabine.*

## **RISW and Support for the Museum Library**

One of the aims of any Museum is education in its widest sense. Swansea Museum has an impressive record with its education of Children Programme, but it is also committed to academic scholarship and personal interest. Swansea Museum is regularly thanked for its help in TV programmes, magazines, journals and books. One way the RISW support this aspect of the Museum's aims, which may be unknown to many Friends, is in the purchase of a number of Journals for the Museum Library. These include, *Archaeologia Cambrensis*; *Studia Celtica*; *The Journal of Post-Medieval Archaeology* and *Archaeology in Wales*.

In the latest Volume of *Archaeology in Wales* (Vol 48) the RISW receives a mention as a sponsor, with the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust and Swansea University, of the Archaeological excavation at Parkmill on Gower. The excavation took place over three very wet weeks in July 2008, on a site which on the older maps is marked as a "Castle". That the site might be of importance was brought to the attention of the sponsors by a member of the RISW who had picked up a number of items that proved to be Roman when on her regular walks in the area. She reported her finds under the Portable Antiquities Legislation, bringing them to the Museum on an Annual Archaeology Day. The gazetteer of sites explored in 2008 in the Journal explains the aim of the work at the CADW scheduled Church Hill Parkmill site, and its findings. Two periods of occupation were identified; Roman artefacts were from the 2nd and 3rd century and an Early Medieval bank was built incorporating Roman remains.

Members of the RISW are welcome to read this Journal Report, as well any of the other Journals in the Museum Library; just phone the Museum and ask for a time when you can visit and do so.

Bernice Cardy

### **Museum News**

The lift installation is now complete so we are now able to plan ahead and there are several exhibitions underway of very different types, with more scheduled for the second half of this year, continuing the programme of seeking to attract diverse audiences to the Museum, and hopefully widen their interests so that they will return to see what we provide longer term.

Our current exhibitions include the Royal Society / Royal Institution inspired displays and ‘trail’ for our younger visitors. Martin Rees, President of the Royal Society - the UK’s National Academy of Science - said, “In its 350th anniversary year, the Royal Society is delighted to be working with Swansea Museum to celebrate Royal Society Fellows. As part of the celebration of those pioneers in science and industry that played a remarkable role in our history, advancing our understanding of the world around us in extraordinary ways, Swansea Museum presents a ‘Science Sleuths Trail’ for families and younger visitors, in conjunction with the Royal Society’s Local Heroes programme. The Exhibition and Trail opened on March 11<sup>th</sup> and will continue into the summer months.

Swansea Museum is also pleased to be partnering BBC Wales TV as part of a pan-BBC project to tell the story

of ‘A History of the World’ through the objects humans left behind. The oldest Museum in Wales has added four artefacts to the Wales section of the new website [bbc.co.uk/ahistoryoftheworld](http://bbc.co.uk/ahistoryoftheworld) which aims to create a unique digital museum online.

In the Main Gallery we are currently showing “Skin Deep”, a new exhibition for 2010, featuring skin decoration and adornment from its early history to the present day. In 1768, the voyages of Captain James Cook through the Pacific islands first brought Europeans into close contact with tattooing, and this exhibition brings together a fascinating range of information and objects to show the development and diversity of tattooing over the past two hundred years. The Exhibition continues to the end of June.

Future plans will include the first Classic Motorcycle Show of 2010, to be held in Dylan Thomas Square in the Marina on June 27th. Based in the Swansea Museum Tramway Centre, the show attracts a host of glittering machines from every era. July 17<sup>th</sup> sees the return of the ever popular National Archaeology Day organised in conjunction with the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust, the Museum filled with sights, sounds and smells from long ago, as Roman cookery, colourful re-enactment groups, and history societies combine to present our past in an up to date and exciting day out for all.

From early August to the end of 2010 Swansea Museum will present “The Road Ahead”, a new exhibition in the Main Gallery, detailing every aspect of motoring and motor sport in this area, from the early pioneering days of two and four wheeled transport, right up to the present day. August 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> is the week-end of the Summer

Craft Fair, an opportunity to see many local crafts-persons presenting their unique wares for sale at Swansea Museum – everything from stained glass, woodworking, paintings, wool-work and jewellery, and much more.

As the year goes on Swansea Museum will be arranging a series of exhibitions in Gallery One, including wall mounted displays from staff who are also artists in their own right, the Tros Gynnal Childrens Charity Art Auction, and a first visit by costume designer Kate Plumtree, who debuts her three dimensional exhibition “Worn to be Wild”, costume creations based on wildlife. We will also be welcoming the artworks of The Watercolour Society of Wales later in 2010. The changing schedule of exhibitions and the layout of them should allow us to make as wide and varied a use as possible of the Gallery space, including both exhibitions and functions at various times to suit needs.

*Roger Gale.*

*Exhibitions & Events Officer*

### **The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion**

has agreed to digitize its annual transactions so that they are available on line in a searchable form as part of the National Library of Wales “Digital Mirror” project.

If you have contributed an article which has been published in Transactions since 1970 and you are **NOT** willing for it to be posted on line, please let Professor Helen Fulton at Swansea University know a.s.a.p.

Her telephone number is 01792 602417 and her e-mail is

[h.e.fulton@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:h.e.fulton@swansea.ac.uk)

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## **RALPH RETIRES – WITH CADW’S APPRECIATION**

Professor Emeritus Ralph Griffiths OBE came to the end of his appointment as a member of the Ancient Monuments Advisory Board in December 2009.

A medieval historian, formerly at Swansea University where he was also pro-vice chancellor, Professor Griffiths was a valued member of the advisory body and its predecessor, the Ancient Monuments Board, for some ten years, making a substantial contribution to the board’s work, particularly given his significant expertise in Welsh medieval history.

More recently as a member of the board and as chair of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, Professor Griffiths has given valuable advice to CADW in its plans to establish a Register of Welsh Battlefields.

*This tribute is from the Heritage in Wales - Spring 2010*

### **Swansea Heritage Trails.**

If you would like to take part in a survey about “Breathing Life into Heritage” then information is in the website – [www.swansea.gov.uk/trailsurvey](http://www.swansea.gov.uk/trailsurvey) or contact Sian Seabrook on 635487.

Please see separate insert for details of the Programme of Events to mark the  
**Bicentenary of the birth of  
John Dillwyn Llewelyn (b.12 January 1810)**

## ***SPRING INTO SUMMER PARTY***

*An Evening of Music with*

*Kerry Rogers  
(Conductor of Morriston Tabernacle Choir)  
and her choir "Fusion"*

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010 7.00 p.m.**

at Swansea Museum, Victoria Road

Ticket £7.00 ( includes buffet supper and a glass  
of wine)

*from Swansea Museum or Christine Morris - 232282*

### **ADDITIONAL ACCESS FOR THOSE WITH LIMITED MOBILITY AND VISION**

Members are aware that access to the museum is available through the rear entrance. This is on one level and the recently installed lift can be used to gain access to the first and upper floor.

Access through the Main Entrance has also been enhanced and ornate handrails are in place on all sides of the entrance steps

Our thanks to Gareth, the Museum Curator, for making possible this additional facility

**Your complimentary copy of Craig-Y-Pal by courtesy of**

**Hugh Morgan will be enclosed with this Newsletter**

## **ANNUAL SUMMER OUTING**

**THURSDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010**

*VISIT TO INCLUDE*

**Tour and talk about the Newport Medieval  
Ship**

**and a talk and tour of Newport Museum**

**including the Transporter Bridge**

9.00 a.m.	Depart Swansea Museum
11.00 a.m.	Talk on Newport Medieval Ship
1.00 p.m.	Lunch (see note below)
2.45 p.m.	Talk and tour of Newport Museum
4.15 p.m.	Depart for return journey
6.00 p.m.	Arrive Swansea Museum

The coach has 49 seats and the cost per person is **£12**  
Please let Eirwen Davies know as soon as possible if  
you intend to make the visit - telephone no. Swansea 403146  
Cheques to be made payable to RISW

The Waterloo Hotel (grade 2 listed building built in 1870,  
a former docks pub (and brothel) has been recommended.

The Lite Bite Menu ranges between £5 and £8  
Lunch Menu – 2 courses £13 and 3 courses £15

The menu changes every 3 months and the June menu should be available end of April – let Eirwen know if you are interested

NB The Transporter Bridge is currently being renovated and a date for the opening of the Visitor Centre has not been finalised

**Miscellany of RISW Statistics** compiled by Peter Hutchinson  
**From the Royal Institution of South Wales Website**  
**<http://www.risw.org.uk>**

Here are some statistics for the month of January.

- No of visits 1439 Many visitors were probably not where they wanted to be, which is usual.
- 89 visitors stayed for more than 1 minute.
- 54 visitors stayed for up to 5 minutes
- 34 stayed for up to 15 minutes
- 11 stayed longer.
- Almost 450 looked at more than just the first page. The most popular pages were
- Publications 170 hits
- Events 107 hits
- History 94 (that's a surprise to me, though they may not have read it)
- Membership 78

**THE POTTERY OF SOUTH WALES**

*An illustrated guide by*  
**W.J. Grant Davidson**

Proposed publication date Summer/Autumn 2010

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