



# CYMDEITHAS AREDIG CYMRU WELSH PLOUGHING ASSOCIATION

# CYLCHLYTHYR NEWSLETTER

**Gwanwyn/Haf • Spring/Summer  
2019**

*Croeso*

## **CROESO CYNNES I RIFYN RHIF 13 O GYLCHLYTHYR CYMDEITHAS AREDIG CYMRU.**

mhen ychydig wythnosau, byddwn yn ei chychwyn hi am ganolbarth Cymru ar gyfer Pencampwriaethau Cymru Gyfan ble byddwn yn cael y pleser o ddychwelyd i Sarn ger Y Drenewydd, y lleoliad ar gyfer dwy Bencampwriaeth flaenorol yn 1999 a 2009. Bydd hwn yn ddigwyddiad i ddathlu - y rhain fydd y 60fed Bencampwriaethau y mae Cymdeithas Aredig Cymru wedi'u llwyfannu ers y cyntaf yn 1958. Darllenwch fwy am hyn yn y Rhagolwg ar dudalen 4 - 6.

Cyn hynny, bydd ein Tîm Aredig y Byd yn teithio hanner ffordd o amgylch y byd i Minnesota yn Unol Daleithiau America i gystadlu yng Nghornest y Byd. Yn yr Hydref, bydd ein timau aredig â hen beiriannau yn teithio i'r Alban ar gyfer Pencampwriaethau Ewrop ac i Loegr ar gyfer Pencampwriaethau'r Chwe Gwlad. Yn ôl gartref, bydd nifer o ornestau aredig a phlygu gwrych yn cael eu cynnal ar draws Cymru yn y deufis nesaf, felly mae llawer i edrych ymlaen ato yn y tymor o'n blaenau! Mwy o fanylion ar y dudalen gefn a'r mewnosodiad ar wahân.

Llawer o ddiolch i bawb sydd wedi cyfrannu newyddion, storïau a lluniau ar gyfer y rhifyn hwn - daliwch i'w hanfon!

*Welcome*

## **A WARM WELCOME TO ISSUE NO. 13 OF THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WELSH PLOUGHING ASSOCIATION**

In a matter of weeks, we'll be heading to mid-Wales for the All Wales Championships where we will have the pleasure of retuning to Sarn near Newtown, the setting for two previous Championships in 1999 and 2009. This will be an event to celebrate – it will be the 60th Championships put on by the Welsh Ploughing Association since the first in 1958. Read more about it in the Preview on pages 4 – 6.

Prior to that, our World Ploughing Team will be travelling halfway around the world to Minnesota in the United States of America to compete in the World Contest. In the Autumn, our vintage ploughing teams will be travelling to Scotland for the European Championships and England for the Six Nations Championships. Back at home, there will be numerous ploughing and hedging matches taking place across Wales in the next couple of months so plenty to look forward to in the season ahead! More details on the back page and separate insert.

A big thank you to everyone who contributed news, stories and pictures for this edition – keep them coming!



**Rhifyn Rhif. 13  
Issue No. 13**



## ANOTHER PLOUGHING FIXTURE FOR YOUR DIARY....!

East Wales & Borders Vintage Enthusiasts is a club that lives up to its name! A group of active vintage tractor enthusiasts affiliated to Welsh Ploughing Association based around the Abergavenny area in Monmouthshire. The Club is relatively young, formed in 1993, and have until now concentrated on organising vintage tractor events such as Road Runs and an annual show. This year, however, they are ploughing a new furrow and plan to run a ploughing match for the first time in the history of the Club. This is planned to be an annual event in the Autumn.

Strictly speaking, this is not the first match that the Club has organised, having run a one-off ploughing match last Spring as a tribute to former member and keen ploughman, the late Ted Green (full report of this match appears in Local Spotlight Feature on page 11).

This whetted their appetite to run a regular ploughing match which will take place on Sunday 29th September 2019 at Llansantffraed Court Farm, Llanvihangel Gobion, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, NP7 9BA by kind permission of Mr & Mrs D Lloyd. Further details from Richard Vaughan: tel 01873 840714. Entries to Secretary Mrs Mary Davies: tel 01600 780594, mobile 07905 566815 or email [m.davies\\_leigh@live.com](mailto:m.davies_leigh@live.com)

## ST DAVID'S PLOUGHING SOCIETY PRESENTATION TO WELSH PLOUGHING ASSOCIATION

Following the successful All Wales Ploughing & Hedging Championships held by St. David's Ploughing Society last September, representatives from the Society made a presentation of a cheque for just over £11,000 to the Welsh Ploughing Association at the WPA Council meeting in February. Wyn Jones, WPA Hon. Treasurer, gratefully accepted the cheque on behalf of the WPA.



Members of St. David's Ploughing Society presenting their cheque to Wyn Jones, WPA Honorary Treasurer. L-R Alison George (Local Secretary), John Evans (Chairman), Wyn Jones (WPA Hon. Treasurer) & Dyfrig Davies (Local Treasurer)

## SOUTH WEST WALES CHAMPION PLOUGHMEN

The South & West Wales 3-2-1 Presentation was held at the Fox & Hounds, Bancyfelin on Saturday 8th December 2018.

The 3-2-1 is a points system which gives 3 points to the match winner, 2 points to the second placed competitor and 1 point to the third placed ploughman across the 11 ploughing matches in the South West Wales area during the ploughing season.

The presentation was made to the Junior Champion, Morgan Evans, from West Gower Ploughing Society. The Senior Champion was Gordon Harries of South Pembs Ploughing Society, winning it for the second time.

Gordon will be ploughing for Wales in October competing in the European Vintage Ploughing Championships in Scotland in the Vintage Trailer Class.



Morgan Evans (left) and Gordon Harries

## THE RON WILLIAMS MEMORIAL PLOUGHING MATCH

To honour the memory of the late Ron Williams and to celebrate his many achievements which included winning the Welsh Championship in 1966, Llangattock Ploughing Society is running a memorial match to take place on Saturday 31st August at Brooks Farm, Raglan, Monmouthshire by kind invitation of the Williams family, relatives of Ron. There will be ploughing classes for Vintage Hydraulic and Trailer, Classic, Ferguson, High Cut, Conventional and Horse Ploughing. Schedules and entry forms from the Secretary Julie Jenkins on [jj.lva@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jj.lva@tiscali.co.uk) or 07870 264406. Entries close Saturday 24th August. Space is limited so do get in touch as soon as possible if you are interested in taking part.



Ron Williams keeping a close eye on grandson Matthew Cooke at Llangattock Ploughing Match 2007



## **TOM EVANS RECOGNISED IN QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS**

Chairman of the Breconshire Local Committee in 2016, Tom Evans, has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June. This was in recognition of his services to farming heritage.



## **WELSH PLOUGHING ASSOCIATION AT THE ROYAL WELSH SHOW 2019**

President of the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society, Mr Seimon Thomas FRAgS, attended the Cheese & Wine Reception at the WPA Stand at the Royal Welsh Show on 24th July to present awards to those representing Wales at international ploughing contests in 2019. Pictured is Hugh Griffith receiving his award from the President. Hugh will be representing Wales for the first time at the World Contest in Minnesota, USA in August where he will compete in the Reversible Class.

More pictures & report will appear in the next edition of the Newsletter.



*Hugh Griffith (right) receiving his award from Seimon Thomas FRAgS*

## **NED & JACK AT BARLEY SATURDAY IN CARDIGAN!**

Ceredigion ploughman John Fletcher and two of his plough horses Ned & Jack were leading lights at the 58th Annual Barley Saturday /Dydd Sadwrn Barlys in Cardigan earlier this year.



John Fletcher, with his pair of showstopping Shires, Ned and Jack, took part in the annual Barley Saturday Stallion Show and Parade held in Cardigan in June. This is a remarkable tradition that harks back to a bygone era and is believed to date back to the mid-19th Century. The event was originally held to celebrate the end of the spring barley sowing season, barley being the last cereal crop to be sown after wheat and oats. It provided a dual role of a half-yearly hiring season for farmers and landowners to hire workers for the Summer season as well as an opportunity for owners of stallions to display their animals. The current event was resurrected by organisers in 1961.

This year's event saw a parade of around 50 stallions and heavy horse turnouts plus a selection of vintage tractors through the streets of Cardigan. There is a competitive element to the day and John Fletcher with Ned & Jack was Supreme Champion in the Heavy Horse Turnout. Ned and Jack compete regularly in the High Cut Class at the All Wales Championships.

## **UPDATE ON 2020 ALL WALES CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The 2020 Championships will be held in Monmouthshire next year at Llancafo Farm, Usk by kind invitation of the Morgan family. David Morgan MBE DL FRAgS (pictured far right at the Royal Welsh Show 2015) is a former President of the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society and a keen supporter of ploughing. Preparations are picking up with fundraising starting in earnest – the most recent event was a Promise Auction and Barbecue held last month and which raised over £5,500. A fundraising concert will be held at Usk Church in November featuring Monmouth Male Voice Choir. Usk Church will provide the venue for the Blessing of the Plough Service next year.





# Rhagolwg - Preview

## Y 60FED BENCAMPWRIAETH AREDIG & PHLYGU GWRYCH CYMRU GYFAN - 2019 THE 60TH ALL WALES PLOUGHING & HEDGING CHAMPIONSHIPS - 2019

This is the year that will see the Welsh Ploughing Association hosting the 60th All Wales Ploughing & Hedging Championships!

It is befitting for this milestone in the history of Cymdeithas Aredig Cymru / Welsh Ploughing Association that the Championships will return to a venue in mid-Wales that is familiar to those regularly competing at the Championships. This is Gwernygo Farm, in the village of Sarn near Newtown in Montgomeryshire, just inside the Welsh border.

Gwernygo Farm is situated in the picturesque Vale of Kerry and will provide some excellent ploughing ground with a good depth of medium loam soil. Ploughing will be on wheat stubble.

The date of the Championships is Saturday 21st September.



Edward & Judith Gethin at the WPA Stand at this year's Royal Welsh Show

The hosts and joint Presidents of the Championships, Mr & Mrs Edward Gethin are hosting the Championships for the third time with the Championships having previously been held at this site in 1999 and 2009.

The Chairman of the organising committee is also a very familiar face, namely Meurig Jones, who is in this role for the third time as he was also Chairman on the previous two occasions that the Championships were held at Gwernygo Farm.



Chairman Meurig Jones (third from right in front row) with the 1999 Montgomeryshire Local Committee

Secretary is Mary-Rose Hamer, wife of ploughman Cliff Hamer. Mary-Rose is Secretary for the first time and says that she is thoroughly enjoying the role. She recounts how she got involved with the organising committee: "I attended a couple of meetings really to discuss how we might bring in funding from Barclays Bank where I work and before I knew it, I'd been voted in as Secretary!" I am sure this has a familiar ring to many of us!

Much of the Committee's efforts have been focused on fundraising to stage the Championships which started in earnest around five years ago with two fundraising events being held every year, including concerts, hog roasts and barbecues and a promise auction at Gwernygo Farm that proved very successful raising in excess of £5,000. With most fundraising events completed, attention is now focused on securing sponsorship and preparations for the Championships.







## SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

The schedule includes 10 tractor ploughing classes and two horse ploughing classes including a class for Classic Reversible Ploughs for the first time.

There is a strong tradition of hedging in Montgomeryshire and four hedging classes are available for Montgomeryshire Style (Open); Montgomeryshire (Intermediate); Any Other Style (Open) and Any Other Style (Under 26). Entry is free for competitors aged under 26. Competitions are rounded off with three classes for wire fencing: Open Pairs; Pair - Under 26 and Open (hand tools only).

Entries for all classes were due in by 1st August. However, the deadline has been extended to 14th August so, if you are very quick, there may be time for some last minute entries!

Contact the Secretary, Mary-Rose Hamer:

Tel: 01686 412496 • Mobile: 07980 359430 • Email: mouse@pc-q.net



## BLESSING OF THE PLOUGH SERVICE

St Nicholas Church, Churchstoke will provide the venue for the Blessing of the Plough Service on the evening before the Championships.

Start time is 7.00 p.m. Refreshments will follow at the nearby Churchstoke Community Hall for which there will be a charge of £6 per head.

There is plenty of parking in Churchstoke plus there will be a shuttle bus running between the match site and Churchstoke

## VINTAGE SECTION

A vintage display will be put on by Mid-Wales Vintage Club and they are seeking entries of tractors, stationary engines and machinery. A memento will be presented to every entrant.

For further details and entry form, please contact Mrs Tracy Jones on 01686 430410 or Mr Ioan Astley on 01686 688814.



## THE PLOUGHMEN & HEDGERS OF MONTGOMERYSHIRE

### PART I The Ploughmen...

As Ellis Davies remarks in his book "Fifty Years of Welsh Ploughing", "Montgomeryshire has always had a strong tradition of quality ploughing which has produced its share of All-Wales... .. Champions". This continues to the present day with Montgomeryshire ploughmen continuing to make their mark at local, national and international level.

#### Mike Holloway



Mike has had a long and prolific career in ploughing, having started competition ploughing at the age of 13 in the late 1960s. Among his many successes, he was All Wales Champion in 1987 and 1988. Mike is the Local Field Director for this year's Championships.

#### Cemlyn Sheen

Cemlyn is another renowned Welsh ploughman who has been on the ploughing circuit for many years and competes in the Vintage Hydraulic Class. He is a member of the organising committee for this year's Championships.

#### Cliff Hamer



Cliff on his way to fourth place at the All Wales Championships in 2017



Cliff is at the heart of preparations for the 2019 Championships, as husband of Mary-Rose, the Local Secretary!

Cliff, from Dolwen near Llanidloes, is a relatively recent recruit to match ploughing, although ploughing is a key part of his working life as an agricultural contractor. Mary-Rose explains:

“Cliff never really had any hobbies, concentrating on work, but started match ploughing around 9 years ago, having been persuaded by Emlyn Jones.” Cliff competes in the Vintage Hydraulic competitions and ploughed for Wales at the Six Nations Championships in 2018 where he achieved second place, just 8 points behind Emlyn Jones. At last year’s All Wales Championships, he achieved a joint fourth place with none other than Emlyn Jones!

### Emlyn Jones



*Emlyn ploughing to third overall in the European Vintage Championships in 2017*

Emlyn is one of our leading Welsh ploughmen who competes in the Vintage Hydraulic Class and has achieved some impressive results over the years. Emlyn is from Trefeglwys near Caersws, just West of Newtown. He regularly features in the top five placings at the All Wales Championships and regularly qualifies to plough for Wales at the European Vintage Championships and the Six Nations Championships. One of his best results was in 2017 at the European Championships in Germany where he was placed first in his class and third in the overall Championships.

### Evan Watkin



*Evan Watkin receiving his first Welsh Championship Trophy from Judith Gethin at the Championships in 1999*

Evan is another leading Welsh ploughmen, representing Wales at the highest level at the World Contest in the World Style Conventional Ploughing Class for the past two decades. Evan is a Trustee of Cymdeithas Aredig Cymru / Welsh Ploughing Association and is a member of this year’s Local Montgomeryshire Committee.

As remarked upon above, the year 1999 marked the first occasion of three that the All Wales Championships was held at Gwernygo Farm and this Championships was also remarkable for another reason that it marked the occasion that Evan was crowned Champion of Wales for the first time, having been Reserve Champion in 1996 and 1998. This was the start of a run of six consecutive Championships titles and altogether, Evan has been Champion Welsh Ploughman on 12 occasions including in 2017 and 2018 – will he make 2019 the hat trick on home soil?

Evan has achieved tremendous success at the World Contest competing in all parts of the world, being runner-up twice and winning seven World Championships medals.

### John Lewis



*John completing his plot at the 2017 All Wales Championships where he was fifth*

John lives in Meifod, a few miles as the crow flies from Welshpool. John is another regular competitor in the ever-competitive Vintage Hydraulic Class at the All Wales Championships. He regularly features in the top five placings, achieving fifth place in 2017 and joint fourth with Afan Jones in 2016.

### Sam Jones



*Sam ploughing to first place at the All Wales Championships in 2015*

Sam also hails from that hotspot of competition ploughing, Trefeglwys near Caersws. Sam competes in the Vintage Trailer Class and is another regular competitor at the All Wales Championships who is usually to be found in the top placings. One of his best results was in 2015 when he won the Class by a massive margin of 26 points. He makes regular forays into international competition at the European Vintage Championships and Six Nations Championships and was part of the winning Welsh Team at the Six Nations last year.

## Part II The Hedgers...

Due to limits on space, Part II will feature in the next edition of the Newsletter.



# Adroddiad Gornest - Match Report

## CYSTADLAETHAU PEIRIANNAU CHLASUROL A HEN Y CHWE GWLAD - 2018 SIX NATIONS CLASSIC & VINTAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS - 2018

### Wales reigns supreme.....

The Six Nations Championships returned to Wales in 2018 and was hosted by Newport, Nevern & Dinas Ploughing Society alongside their local match on 20th October at Awenfryn, Glanrhyd by kind permission of Messrs K and K Evans. Here follows a report by Gordon Harries:

*"A lovely sunny morning welcomed all to a superb ploughing site. Some of the competitors and supporters enjoyed a hog roast and entertainment on the Friday night which was enjoyed by everyone."*

*The local committee was well organised and ran one of the best ploughing matches held in Wales during 2018. There were 21 competitors from Wales, England, Scotland,*

*Northern Ireland, Isle of Man and Northern Ireland. There were no competitors from the Republic of Ireland. There were a total of 60 competitors in both the Six Nations and the Newport, Nevern & Dinas Match.*

*The judges were Mr J Tucker, Mr A Williams, Mr N Cruikshank and Mr D Jones. Depth judge was Mrs G Bradley and Head Steward was Mr J Fletcher".*

Wales enjoyed a tremendous day of success with Gordon Harries and Emlyn Jones being placed second and third respectively in the overall championship and Wales being crowned the top scoring country.

### CANLYNIADAU – RESULTS

OVERALL PLACING	NAME	COUNTRY	POINTS	OVERALL PLACING	NAME	COUNTRY	POINTS
<b>Vintage Trailer</b>				<b>Overall Championship</b>			
1st	Ray Alderson	England	263	1st	Ray Alderson	England	263
2nd	Gordon Harries	Wales	259	2nd	Gordon Harries	Wales	259
3rd	Sam Jones	Wales	234	3rd	Emlyn Jones	Wales	253
<b>Vintage Hydraulic</b>				<b>Top Country</b>			
1st	Emlyn Jones	Wales	253	1st	Wales	9	
2nd	Cliff Hamer	Wales	245	2nd	England	7	
3rd	Phillip Allman	England	239	3rd	Scotland	2	
<b>Classic</b>							
1st	Stuart Burden	England	241				
2nd	John Gryfin	Scotland	233				
3rd	Jeemy Jacobs-Roberts	Wales	209				

### PWY SY'N AREDIG I CYMRU YN 2019? WHO'S PLOUGHING FOR WALES IN 2019?

#### World Contest – Lake of the Woods, Minnesota, USA on 30th & 31st August

Champion Ploughman at the All Wales Championships in 2018 was Evan Watkin who was also selected to represent Wales at the World Contest. However, due to commitments with being part of the Local Committee for the 2019 All Wales Championships which follow three weeks later, Evan has reluctantly decided not to travel to the USA. Reserve Champion, Rhodri George, will step in to compete in his place in the Conventional Class. Rhodri will be accompanied by Hugh Griffith who will compete in the Reversible Class. Judge will be Aled Morgan and Coach Emrys Owen

#### European Vintage Ploughing Championships - Bowhouse Farm, St Monans, Fife, Scotland

The Championships will be hosted by the Scottish Ploughing Association alongside their National Ploughing Championships. Gordon Harries will be representing Wales in the Vintage Trailer Class, this will be for the 12th time. Tony Bradley is another veteran of the Championships, also representing Wales for the 12th time. The third representative is David Hankey in the Classic Class, representing Wales for the third time. Coach will be John Tucker and Steward Gill Bradley.

#### Six Nations Vintage & Classic Championships - Caradoc Court, Sellack, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire

The Championships will be run alongside the Llanwarne Ploughing Match in Herefordshire. It will be Sam Jones and Harry Williams who will be competing for Wales in the Trailer Class, Arthur Jennings and Cliff Hamer in the Hydraulic Class and Leighton Bryan and Ceri Richards in the Classic Class.

Pob luc to all of our competitors!



# Nodwedd - Feature

## WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO RUN AN ALL WALES CHAMPIONSHIPS?

*This is a question that many organising committees ask themselves!*

Since the inception of the Welsh Ploughing Association in 1958, Wales has staged 59 annual Championships with the 60th taking place this year in Montgomeryshire.

In a series of articles, we will look at the elements of running an All Wales Ploughing & Hedging Championships and what it takes to run a national ploughing contest. In this first article, we will examine two of the three main resources needed, namely land and people! The third resource – money – will form the subject of the next article in this series.

### The Site.....



*Carrow Hill Farm in Monmouthshire, the site of the 2002 Championships*

Given that just 14% of the land area of Wales is capable of arable cropping, it is a minor miracle that we are able to continue to find sites for the Championships. In some areas, farmers are moving to "min till" techniques which removes the need to plough over arable land for the next crop which puts added pressure on finding sites.

That we are able to continue finding good sites for the Championships is testament to the enthusiasm of a number of farmers and landowners across Wales who are keen to support Welsh Ploughing and to see it thrive into the future. A good example of this is David Morgan who is supplying the site for the Championships in Monmouthshire in 2020. In a number of notable cases, certain landowners have supplied a site for a number of Championships. An example of this is the Gethin family who have provided a site at Gwernygo Farm at Sarn near Newtown on two occasions in 1999 and 2009 and will make it a hat trick this year providing the site at the same farm in 2019. We should not forget the Thomas family who hosted the Championships at Boverton Place Farm in the Vale of Glamorgan in both 2010 and 2017 and the Featherstonehaugh family in North Wales who provided an excellent accessible site at Kinmel Home Farm at Abergele in 1990 and again in 2013.

It is heartening that new sites also continue to come forward. Flintshire Farmers Ploughing Society is running the Championships in 2021 at a new site near Wrexham in North-East Wales kindly offered by Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn.

The Welsh Ploughing Association is indebted to the many hosts who have supplied land for the Championships over many years and ensuring that we have a continued pipeline of sites going into the future.

### How much land is needed?

A question that is often asked and is dictated to a degree by the number of competitors which vary considerably but tend to number at least 100 and have been as high as 120 / 130. The acreage needed is also partly determined by the size and layout of fields and the number of windings that can be fitted in. Ideally around 90 acres of ploughing ground is needed. Most years, ploughing is on stubble but has been on grass on occasion – the Glamorgan match in 2017 is a recent example. On one memorable occasion in 2002, all of the ploughing plots were accommodated in one single field at Carrow Hill Farm in Monmouthshire which was a site to behold!



*The extensive site at Penfeidr Farm, Castlemorris, Haverfordwest, the setting for the 2014 Championships*

Additional land is needed to accommodate marquees, tradestands and carparking which tend to work best on grass but can be accommodated on stubble fields if necessary – the only downside is that conditions can get sticky if the weather is wet.

The Championships of course are not just about ploughing – an important part of the day are the hedging and fencing Championships. In some cases, hedges are simply not available on the site or there are hedges that have not been grown for laying. Where this is the case, Hafren Hedging Society has stepped in to host the All Wales Championships alongside their society match which has worked very well.



## Forming an Organising Committee.....



*The Montgomeryshire Local Committee 2019*

A key part of the Championships and the group of people who make it all happen!

Interestingly, different counties take a different approach to forming their local committee. The most common approach is for a local ploughing society to run the Championships using their existing committee. An example of this is Flintshire Ploughing Society who took on the mantle to run a Championships for the first time in the history of the Championships in 2013 under the chairmanship of Arthur Jennings. Margaret Jennings, who was the Local Secretary in that year, says "this approach worked for us as individual members stepped up and took on responsibility for different things e.g. someone organised road signage, someone else organised the bins and disposal of rubbish after the match and so on".

South Pems are another capable ploughing society with a very small committee but made up of some experienced members who managed to raise the funds and organise the Championships within a 12 month period in 2015. Indeed Pembrokeshire is notable for its very capable and enthusiastic local ploughing societies which relish running a Championships. St David's Ploughing Society is one such example which has run the Championships on a number of occasions, mostly recently last year.

Another model worth considering and to spread the workload is for two clubs to combine to jointly run the Championships. This was an approach adopted by Llandygydd YFC Ploughing Society and Cymdeithas Aredig Gogledd Ceredigion who joined forces to run the 2012 Championships. That year, there were joint Local Secretaries in the shape of Margaret Jones and Phyllis Harries.

A completely different approach is taken in Monmouthshire where a number of ploughing societies and vintage clubs have combined to form the Monmouthshire Local Committee. Current Chairman, Ray Bowen explains more: "When I was first involved with Monmouthshire hosting the All Wales Championships, the prospect of raising the considerable amount of money needed was to say the least daunting. However, for the 2011 Championships, we were fortunate to have five ploughing / vintage clubs on the organising committee who were keen to be involved. These clubs soon set out ideas to raise the funds but just as important were their spread of interests and contacts. When an idea was put forward, someone soon said "I know who can do that...." etc. The help in ways other than financial was critical in running a successful match. Since 2011, with occasional meetings and quiz nights, we have kept our committee together which has kept money trickling into our fundraising pot but, equally importantly, has given us a readymade committee already set up for the next Championships being hosted by Monmouthshire next year."



*The Breconshire Local Committee 2016*

A similar approach was adopted by Breconshire which hosted the Championships in 2016 with its committee combined from members of Defynnog Vintage Society, Three Cocks Vintage Society, Rhosgoch Hedging Match, Radnor Valley Vintage Club and the Builth & District Ploughing & Hedging Society.

In the next article in this series, we will look at the financial aspects of running an All Wales Championships.

## Former hosts of the Championships...



*The Thomas family, hosts of the 2017 Championships*



*Perkin & Janet Evans, hosts of last year's Championships*



# Sbotolan Lleol – Local Spotlight

## FLINTSHIRE FARMERS PLOUGHING SOCIETY ANNUAL PLOUGHING MATCH



Harry Williams, winner of the Ford - Fordson Class



Arthur Jennings, Chairman of Flintshire Farmers Ploughing Society and winner of the Vintage Hydraulic Class

The Society held their 111th Tractor Ploughing competition at Borrass Hall, Borrass Lane Road, Wrexham on Saturday 9 March 2019 by the kind permission of Mr John Parry and Mr Geoffrey Brereton.

The day started very badly with the fields having been heavily drenched by overnight rain which continued whilst the competitors were arriving and unloading their equipment. However, by the time everybody had eaten their breakfasts, the rain stopped and the sun came out. There was still a very strong breeze but this helped to dry out the land.

The competition started at 10 am with 83 ploughmen and women competing for the spoils in 11 different classes and by the time the competition finished the fields looked very different! The Society would like to express their appreciation to all the

sponsors who supported the match. Their individual contributions were acknowledged in the programme for the day.

The Society is also pleased to announce that they have been selected by the Welsh Ploughing Association to host the 2021 All Wales Ploughing Competition. The winners from the various classes will be selected to represent Wales at the World and European Championships for Vintage Ploughing and World Championships for the Open World Style: Conventional and the Open World Style: Reversible.

The Society will be looking for sponsors for this prestigious event and any interested parties should contact the Chairman, Arthur Jennings on 07527 066 700.

**Robert Godfrey**

### CANLYNIADAU – RESULTS

#### **Class 1 World Style Conventional**

1st Nigel Vickers

#### **Class 2 World Style Reversible**

1st Elfed Jones  
2nd Hugh Griffith  
3rd Dylan Hughes

#### **Class 3 Classic**

1st. Roy Stokes  
2nd Mike Holloway  
3rd David Hankey  
4th Will Thomas

#### **Class 4 Vintage Hydraulic**

1st Arthur Jennings  
2nd Stuart Lamb  
3rd Richard Ingram  
4th Cliff Hamer

#### **Class 5 Vintage Trailer**

1st Derek Lloyd  
2nd John Milnes  
3rd Andrew Buckley  
4th Frank Millington

#### **Class 6 Beginners**

1st Harry Jones  
2nd Harri Gwyn  
3rd Sam Gittins  
4th Richard Lewis

#### **Class 7 Novice**

1st Huw Hulme  
2nd Jac Wyn Davies  
3rd Lloyd Edwards  
4th D M Jones

#### **Class 8 David Brown**

1st Edwyn Hughes  
2nd W J Banks

#### **Class 9 Ford-Fordson.**

1st Harry Williams  
2nd Andy Hughes  
3rd Ross Wasson  
4th Charles James

#### **Class 10 Ferguson TE20**

1st Keith Atkinson  
2nd Graham Jones  
3rd G. Monaghan  
4th Gwynfor Parry

#### **Class 11 International.**

1st Mike Speed  
2nd Jason Linsey  
3rd Les Parker  
4th Sam Latham



## RON WILLIAMS – TRIBUTE BY TONY BRADLEY



*Ron ploughing at the All Wales Championships in Glamorgan in 2003*

Ron started his ploughing career at the age of 13 in local matches. His first Welsh match was in 1959 in Pembroke and he came first in the general purpose class against the trailer ploughs. He was Reserve Champion of Great Britain in 1960.

His next match at Welsh level was in 1961 at Llanccayo Farm, Usk in his home county of Monmouthshire which included a new class for hydraulic ploughs in

which Ron took first place. It's ironic that the Welsh Championships will be held at Llanccayo Farm again next year which Ron had been looking forward to and hoping that he would be well enough to compete in, unfortunately not to be.

In 1963, Ron became YFC Champion of Great Britain.

In 1966, the Welsh Championships was held in Brecon where Ron won his class and was crowned overall Champion of Wales.

Ron then took a break from ploughing but made a comeback at the Welsh Championships in 1992 where he was placed second in the Classic Class. This was followed by further success, placed third in 2002 in Monmouthshire (when he was also Vice-Chairman of the

organising committee) and first in 2003 when he also won the Monmouthshire Cup for the best ploughman from that county.

After ploughing on 17 occasions at the All Wales Championships, Ron retired from match ploughing and went on to judge in many local, national and European matches. He also judged at the All Wales Championships on many occasions and was a Master Judge twice, the second time in 2007.

Ron was not only a good ploughman and a good judge but also a good friend to so many and a good farmer. At the time of his passing, he was President of Llangattock Ploughing Society and had been instrumental in re-starting the Society in 1998 after a period of dormancy. We will all miss him.

### TED GREEN MEMORIAL MATCH

The late Ted Green was a valued member of East Wales & Borders Vintage Enthusiasts and a keen ploughman who competed in many matches in Monmouthshire and Herefordshire during the ploughing season.

As a tribute to Ted, a ploughing match was held in March by his home club to raise funds for his family's chosen charity, the Royal Brompton Hospital in Chelsea, London.

A total of 56 ploughmen took part despite the wet and windy weather conditions, travelling from near and far to honour the former member of East Wales and Borders Vintage Enthusiasts.

Overall Champion was Alwyn Davies whilst Barry Evans won the competition for the best turned out tractor and plough. The winner of the Ted Green Memorial Cup for the best work by a Club member was Allan Davies.

### CANLYNIADAU – RESULTS

#### Class 1 Ferguson

1st David Bryant  
2nd Christopher Huck  
3rd Trevor Patterson

#### Class 2 Vintage Hydraulic

1st Alwyn Davies  
2nd Tony Bradley  
3rd Ted Richards

#### Class 3 Vintage Trailer

1st Barry Evans  
2nd Don Williams  
3rd Paul Dudfield

#### Class 4 Classic

1st Jon Cole  
2nd David Pritchard  
3rd Hugo Hoyle

#### Class 5 Classic Reversible

1st Julian Evans  
2nd Arthur Allin  
3rd Martin Williams

#### Class 6 Pedestrian / Garden Tractor

1st Andrew Pomeroy  
2nd Norman Allen

#### Class 7 Novice Vintage – Trailer / Hydraulic

1st Fred Lawrence  
2nd Philip Nugent  
3rd John Reece

#### Class 9 Conventional (World Style)

1st Paul Ruck

#### Class 10 Horse Ploughing

1st Roger Smith  
2nd Kim Williams  
3rd Heather Robertson

### - CLASSIFIED -

- Ferguson 2 Furrow Plough complete with skimmers. Painted and ready to go
- Ransomes 2 Furrow Trailer Motrac Plough. Ley bodies in good match ploughing order

- Ford Ransomes Elite Plough Semi-Digger complete. Ready for match work and very tidy
- Ransomes 2 Furrow Trailer Plough Motrac Semi-Digger complete. Needs work and re-paint

- Ransomes 2 Furrow Hydraulic TS 59 Semi-Digger Plough. Complete and ready for work

**Ring Tony Bradley  
01291 690 524**



## CYSTADLAETHAU CENEDLAETHOL & RHYNGWLADOL – 2019 NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL MATCHES – 2019

### Event

**All Wales Ploughing & Hedging Championships**  
Gwernogo Farm, Sarn, Newtown, Powys, SY16 4EP

### Date

21st September

### World Contest

Lake of the Woods, Minnesota, USA

30th & 31st August

### European Vintage Ploughing Championships

Bowhouse Farm, St Monans, Fife, Scotland, KY10 2DB

26th & 27th October

### Six Nations Ploughing Championships

Caradoc Court, Sellack, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 6LS

14th & 15th September

### British Ploughing Championships

Nocton, Lincoln, LN4 2AE

12th & 13th October

## GORNASTAU AREDIG LLEOL – 2019 LOCAL PLOUGHING MATCHES – 2019

A List of matches appears on the separate insert in the Newsletter.

## DIGWYDDIADAU CYMDEITHAS AMAETHYDDOL FRENHINOL CYMRU – 2019 / 2020 ROYAL WELSH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY EVENTS – 2019 / 2020

### Event

Winter Fair  
Royal Welsh Show  
Spring Festival

### Date

25th & 26th November 2019  
20th - 23rd July 2020  
16th & 17th May 2020

## YN Y RHIFYN NESAF.....

## IN THE NEXT ISSUE.....

There will be a full report of the 60th All Wales Championships including pictures and round-up of results. The next issue will be published in December



### MEMBERSHIP OF WELSH PLOUGHING ASSOCIATION

Member - £15.00 (1 ticket)  
Life Member - £200.00 (1 ticket)  
Life Vice President\* - £400.00 (2 tickets)

\* Receive a free catalogue on match day.  
All receive two Newsletters each year.  
For further details on membership, please contact:

**MRS SUE FARMER**  
Membership Secretary  
Tel: (01497) 851 651

The Welsh Ploughing Association was founded in 1958 by the Radnor Valley Ploughing Society.

The objectives of the Association are:

- To promote and encourage the art and skill of ploughing, hedging and other rural crafts.
- To promote an annual Welsh Match, to be held each year in a different area of Wales.
- To provide facilities whereby entrants from Affiliated Societies to the Welsh Ploughing Association may compete for the Welsh Championship and represent Wales at the British Championships and other such competitions.
- To promote the British Championships, the World Ploughing Contest and other such competitions.

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Registered charity no. 515090



## DIOLCHIADAU - ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to everyone who supplied text and photographs for this newsletter.

*We have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the information contained within this newsletter is accurate at the time of going to print.*