

## Temporary contact details

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## **Wishing all our Partners, Members and Friends of GeoMôn a very happy Christmas and a prosperous and peaceful New Year**

Dear Partners, Members and friends of GeoMôn,

You will notice from the above address that to contact me on any Geopark matter, for the next few months, it is safer to ring, email or write to me directly at home, since the Geopark is currently of no fixed abode. The Prichard Jones Institute is at present undergoing major building renovations and will be uninhabitable for the next few months. This work was only sanctioned about a week ago and we had to move out within days. As there was no time to ask you all for help, the burden of moving fell to those in the PMT who were available at short notice.

Carolyn, our office manager, is a fantastic organiser and did a sterling job packing up all our display and teaching materials as well as library and store room contents. Without her help I would still be there sorting things out. It is unbelievable how much equipment and materials we had accumulated. It really was like moving house. On the removal day itself, we were extremely grateful to Wynn, Carolyn's husband, Ray, Stewart and Terry Beggs with his wife Shirley who all turned up to move our chattels to various garages, other peoples offices and sheds. One blessing was that Gwynn Jones (Chair of the PJI Trustees and Enid Mummery, their secretary) allowed us the use of their strongman to carry our stuff to the cars and let us store our furniture and boxes of books and leaflets in the Kyffin Room (our large work room) where it is piled in the middle of the room covered with tarpaulin and scaffolding. While this was going on I was desperately ringing round to try to find alternative space for our displays and office materials, not least because we can expect our European Geopark Network inspectors at any time in the next few months. We had, unfortunately, just completed our displays and laid out all our materials and documents, beautifully labelled, on the tables and walls of the Kyffin Room in readiness for the inspection. The good news is that John Williams, our Partners 'Chair' and Diane Jones (The Council European Officer) have managed to secure a temporary office with display space in the Council Planning Department. It is ideal for working in and big enough to display our materials if the inspectors arrive. However, it is not a place where we can be open to any unplanned or passing visitors. If anyone needs to speak to us, then they should contact me at home to make arrangements. We are very grateful to those who helped to secure the office for us, in our hour of need, at such short notice.

Some good news is that we have been short-listed to the final 3, for an award to the Best Education Project in Wales, from the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund that is administered by the Welsh Assembly Government. The award, for the winning

project, will be given next March by the Minister for the Environment, Jane Davidson, in Cardiff.

The Young Geologists Club held their final meeting before Christmas, part of which was taken up by a small Christmas party which included Pin the tail on the dinosaur, pass the parcel where everyone got a prize, statues and lucky dip. Although we originally planned that the club was for 8 to 12 year olds, most of the members are under 7, as their parents pointed out that all the other clubs did not allow very young children. This has worked out well, especially as the parents stay with the children and help them. There is always a lovely atmosphere at the meetings. Next year we may combine some of our meetings with the Young Archaeology Club but this will only involve the older children as they can only join that club when 8 years or over. The next two meetings January 19<sup>th</sup> and March 15<sup>th</sup> will take place as planned but in another venue. I will inform you later when it has been fixed but it will probably take place in Menai Bridge.

We have various books in progress, Jack Treagus' Field Guide to Anglesey for A level and College students (most visiting educational groups are in this age group). Rob Crossley's Igneous Anglesey for GCSE and interested amateurs, which is proceeding slowly as Rob spends most of his time abroad – I think this year he has been to China, Russia, India, Pakistan and Texas so we value any time he can spare to work with us. Anglesey is THE place to teach plate tectonics as nearly all our geology in Anglesey owes its origin to plate margins.

John Conway and I are writing books for the general public. 1) Geology and scenery of the Anglesey coastal AONB. 2) a version of 1) for disabled and less abled- Accessible Geology and Scenery of the Anglesey Coastal AONB and a third one yet to be started on similar lines for 6 to 12 year olds.

John Mason has done a stirring job with our website which not only explains Anglesey geology but also provides links to transport, accommodation and services. If you have not seen it go to [www.geomon.org.uk](http://www.geomon.org.uk) I took part in a Radio 4 programme on Llanddwyn and Newborough and produced articles for the AONB magazine, Earth Heritage and part of the AONB article in Octobers' National Geographic magazine. There will be a South Stack trail as a self-guided pull-out in the next AONB magazine and further trails in subsequent issues. We will also produce a geodiversity leaflet on Anglesey's coast by Spring.

Finally we submitted our application to become a European Geopark Network and UNESCO Global Geopark to the committee last June and passed that stage but await the final stage- an inspection of the island and ourselves in the next few months. I have available car stickers and welcome stickers (containing 13 languages saying welcome) to go in shops and business windows- if you know of any businesses who would place one in/on their window or door, please send me the address and I will send them one.

Best wishes to everyone and thank you for your continued support.

Happy Christmas

Margaret