



GeoMôn

Newsletter July, 2006

GeoMôn
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Dear Partners and Members

Welcome to the first newsletter from our very own offices. First of all, I apologise for this newsletter being in English only, especially as we are a bi-lingual partnership. I would be grateful to hear from any of you who would be willing to translate this and future newsletters for us. I have tried to learn Welsh and spent 3 years doing Welsh courses at the University and failed miserably. To those members who speak Welsh, you have my sincere apologies and admiration for being able to speak two languages fluently.

Much has happened since we last met, including the marriage of Leah, our former secretary, to whom we wish the best of luck in her marriage and return to her former post in Mentmon where she will be working on biological projects. Gerallt Llewelyn Jones, the Director of Mentermon will now join our Project Management Team to represent Mentermon which is a funding contributor to the Geopark project.

Application The other important piece of information is that we have sent our Geopark application off and await a verdict at the end of September or a following date.

Pritchard Jones Institute (PJI) Please note our new address where we will be hosting most of our Geopark meetings in the future. We have now moved into this attractive building in Newborough and we have very kindly been given an office, storeroom and a large room which can house our large map collection, books, RIGS files and displays as well as having 2 large tables on which we can work. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the trustees and those who run the Institute for this tremendous asset to the Geopark. Partners and members are welcome to use the facilities at all times the rooms are open. Anyone in Anglesey is welcome to use the facilities for reference purposes only, when a Geopark Partner or member is present. We have now purchased very good display boards (thanks to Bryony Davies and Phillip Brown) which we will use in the workroom for information and permanent displays. These can be moved to other locations e.g. Anglesey Show or Eisteddfods when needed. We also have the use of a large leaflet holder to display any of our publications or Partner Organisation's leaflets.

On the move In the next few weeks we will be moving the RIGS maps (10,000), filing cabinets, files and reference books, booklets and trail leaflets, as well as a few rocks and display material into the PJI. This will be organised by John Williams, our Partners Chair, and we would be grateful for anyone who can help to offer their services (time and date to be decided). Once the items are in, everything will need to be sorted and catalogued so volunteers please. Both Stewart Campbell and I plan to do some of our work in the PJI, so at those times (not yet decided when) the PJI will be open to Partners who wish to work there. If any RIGS member or Partners could give a few hours every now and then to help sorting and finding information for members of the general public, then their help would be gratefully accepted. If we have enough volunteers it would be good to have a rota so that the PJI is kept open from at least 10am to 4pm every weekday.

BBC Restoration programme The PJI is one of 3 Welsh buildings bidding to win money for restoration of the building to its former glory. The 3 competitors try to obtain the highest number of phone votes to win the money to restore the building. The BBC is currently filming events at the PJI and we are invited to take part on 26th August when the BBC Roadshow van will be there. We plan to put on displays and activities such as making replica fossils- other ideas please.

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How can we help the PJI with its restoration bid? Nearer the time, I will send you the phone number to ring to vote for the PJI. One way that we could publicise the programme and ask our friends to vote for us would be to pass this information on by pressing the 'reply all' button on an email about the competition. If your friends did the same, we would have many thousands of possible votes. This is a very worthy cause and would be one way of saying thank you for letting us use the PJI facilities.

Forest Enterprise We were asked by Robert Williams, our partner representing Forest Enterprises, to take part in a forest event on 17th September in the Newborough Forest car park by the beach. However, we will be on our way to the Geopark Conference in Belfast so had to decline the offer. However, Stewart Campbell and I offered to do a geo-forest walk, starting by Llanddwyn Island and working along the forest ridge, looking at the pillow lavas and other rocks. There are spectacular examples in the forest as well as on the beach and we would like to make this a Geopark trail to explain the exciting geology there. This was once part of an ocean ridge like Iceland today and a place where molten volcanic lava was extruded onto the sea bed at a constructive plate margin- all exciting stuff. Now is your chance to say how we could best do a leaflet and make the site accessible to the general public. Forest Enterprise will organise this event on Sunday 10th September for about 2 hours and they will ferry people to the meeting point at the causeway to the island. There will be a limit of 30 people for the trip and you will need to book with Forest Enterprise if you would like to partake.

Anglesey Local Geodiversity Action Plan (LGAP) Stewart Campbell has, over the last few months, created an LGAP which can be applied to the Geopark. There is still a little work to complete it and then it will be given to Partners and organisations who/which are willing to read and comment on it. If you would like to do this when it is ready, please email me at mr.wood@ccw.gov.uk

Summary of ways in which you can be involved in helping GeoMôn.

1. Welsh translation
2. Assisting us 'move in' to the PJI
3. Volunteering to 'man' the office for a few hours every now and then
4. Sorting and cataloguing resources
5. Setting up display material
6. Reading the LGAP proof and checking for missed ideas and opportunities. Seeing how you or your organisation can contribute to the LGAP.
7. Providing ideas for events
8. Writing a monthly bulletin of events for the Geopark
9. Up-dating our website when it is set up
10. Last but definitely not least! Voting for PJI on the Restoration programme

I hope you are all enjoying this hot spell of weather.

Please contact me with any comments, ideas or offers of help.

Margaret (Wood)