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Discovering Old Welsh Houses

Bryn Clochydd & Tyddyn Mwsogl Gwytherin, Abergele LL22 8YA



Gill. Jones & Ann Morgan 2019

Written in the language chosen by the volunteers and researchers & including information so far discovered.

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cover photograph – Bryn Clochydd

### Historical Descriptions of the Location

Gwytherin is one of the ancient parishes of Denbighshire; and it has been described as "*remote and mountainous*". It was divided into two townships, Is-llan and Uwch-llan. At one time, there were two other townships, Pennant and Cornwal.

**John Leyland** (1505-1552), an English poet and antiquary wrote in the 16<sup>th</sup> century that, "There is an hille with pasture in Guitheryn paroche in Denbigh lande caullid Penbere, *(Pen bêdd / caput sepulcri – hill of the grave)* [wher] a stone like a flat stone of a grave lyith, and one, as it is sayde, lyith under it byried. "<sup>1</sup>

**Thomas Pennant** (1726-1798), who was a naturalist, writer and antiquarian, decided to visit the village on his "Tour in Wales' because it was the final resting place of St.Sannan and St.Winifrede. "Their remains were both enterred at Gwytherin; to which place, **though unworthy**, I resolved on an immediate pilgrimage." He did, however, add that in former times it had been "a place of very early ecclesiastic note and famous for its clas *(ecclesiastic community)* of holy men and women."<sup>12</sup>

#### Samuel Lewis (c.1782-1865) described Gwytherin as:-

"A parish in the Union of Llanrwst, hundred of Isaled, county of Denbigh .... Within this parish, which is situated in the mountainous district of the county, are the sources of the rivers Elwy, Aled and Alwen, upon the first of which, about two miles below its source, the village is pleasantly seated. The surface of the surrounding country is beautifully diversified, and in many parts the scenery is highly picturesque: within the parish are three noble lakes, Llyn Alwen, Llyn Moelvre, and Llyn Aled, the last of which is enclosed on almost every side by mountains covered with dark and barren heath."<sup>3</sup>

#### John Marius Wilson (c.1805-1885) wrote:-

"Gwytherin - The village stands on the river Elwy, under the Hiraethrog hills .... (it) was the place of St. Winifred's retreat and death; and has a fair on 6 May. The parish comprises 6,117 acres; and its post town is Llanrwst, Denbighshire. It has 91 houses and a population of 438. Much of the surface is moor and mountain. The living is a rectory in the diocese of St. Asaph. Value, £132. Patron, the Bishop of St. Asaph. The church was originally built in connexion with the retreat place or nunnery of St. Winifred; and it contains two rude wooden chests, enclosing a portion of St. Winifred's coffin. Four upright stones in the churchyard, one of them with a slight inscription, mark the alleged site of St. Winifred's grave."<sup>4</sup>

Today, "..... the village is a compact settlement lying in the base of the valley of the Cledwen, with a river running roughly from south to north. The upper slopes of the valley sides are steep, but the village itself is situated on gently sloping pasture land just above the reach of any river floods, and in an unusually wide part of the valley. Immediately to the north of the village, the valley narrows and its sides are steep, this adding to the sense of isolation of the village. .... As the Middle Ages progressed Gwytherin sank into obscurity." <sup>5</sup>

Bryn Clochydd stands on the eastern side of the river, about half a mile south of the church.

<sup>1.</sup> John Leyland – The Itinerary in Wales in or about the years 1536-1539 p.91

<sup>2.</sup> Thomas Pennant – Tours of Wales 1778 pp.53-55

<sup>3.</sup> Samuel Lewis \_ A Topographical Dictionary of Wales 1849

<sup>4.</sup> John Marius Wilson – Imperial Gazetteer of England & Wales 1870-1872

<sup>5.</sup> CPAT Historic Settlements in Conwy - report no.1266 - 2014 p.16

## **Early Background History**

The earliest documentary reference relating to the parish is from **1254**. In 1253, Pope Innocent IV, granted to Henry III a tenth of all ecclesiastical income in England and Wales for the period of three years, to enable him to carry out his proposed expedition to the Holy Land. The Pope died later that year, but his successor Alexander IV, renewed the grant on the **28th March 1254**. This is generally known as the 'Norwich Taxation'. It records, *'Gwythrem et Nanclyn'* grouped together under the term 'abadaeth' which means, dues connected under some sort of ecclesiastical privilege or immunity.<sup>6</sup>

#### N.B. Gwytherin and Nantglyn Sanctorum are sometimes linked together in documents.

**1291-1292** – Pope Nicholas IV Taxatio Ecclesiastica - This was a further assessment of ecclesiastic property for taxation carried out on the orders of the Pope, in order to fund expeditions to the Holy Land. At the time, the church in Gwytherin had not been appropriated but there is no indication as to who was providing its patronage. The Bishop was patron at a later date.

#### Ecclesia de Gwytheryn - tax £4:1: 8 dec. 8s 2d

There is evidence, however, of very early settlement in the Cledwyn Valley. In the churchyard, there are the remains of either an Iron Age promontory fort<sup>7</sup> or perhaps a Bronze Age burial mound and four standing stones which are believed to date from the Bronze Age. One is inscribed with a Latin inscription – VINNEMAGLI FILI SENEMAGLI (the Stone of Vinnemaglus son of Senemaglus) which is thought to date from the Romano-British period in the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> century AD and to be a grave marker. The inscription was probably carved onto the existing stone during the early Christian period.<sup>8</sup>



<sup>6.</sup> Survey of the Honour of Denbigh 1334 Vol.1 edited by Paul Vinogradoff and Frank Morgan 1914 p.94

<sup>7.</sup> J.Wyn Evans – The Early Church in Denbighshire Denbighshire Historical Transactions vol.35 (1986) p.67

<sup>8.</sup> Coflein NPRN 275771

<sup>9.</sup> ibid. ref.no 6436563 catalogue no. 607041

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Century – The Legend of Gwenfrewy (St.Winefride)<sup>10</sup>

This legend was preserved through the Celtic oral tradition, but it must be noted that it is not easy to separate the historical facts from fiction.

Gwenfrewy was said to be a devout maiden, living in the 7<sup>th</sup> century in Holywell. Her father, Teuyth, was the son of a Welsh chieftain. Her uncle, the monk Beuno was instructing her in religious matters because she was thinking of becoming a nun. Beuno eventually became an Abbot, and with the support of Cadfan, King of Gwynydd, also became a missionary and founded nine monastic centres in Wales.

One day, Gwenfrewy was approached by a prince named Caradog who greatly desired her. She refused his sexual advances and ran back towards the church. He followed her and beheaded her on the steps of the church. A healing spring flowed from where her blood had been spilt. When her uncle found her, he restored her to life. St. Winefride's Well became, and still is, a place of great pilgrimage. It is mentioned in the medieval poem 'Sir Gawain and the Green Knight'.

Beuno was also credited with raising six other people from the dead and was subsequently canonized and is probably now known as the most famous saint in North Wales.

Gwenfrewy remained at Holywell for about seven years and then travelled to the double monastery at Gwytherin where her cousin, Abbot Eleri, commended her to the community of nuns. She eventually succeeded Eleri's mother, Theonia, as abbess. After her death (c.660), she was buried in the churchyard in an enclosure now known as Penbryn Chapel (formerly Capel Gwenfrewy). An 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> century carved wooden chest, of Irish design, was kept in the church and venerated as Gwenfrewy's reliquary. Only a small fragment now remains, which is kept in Holywell Museum. Priests are reputed to have cut off pieces of the wood to sell to devout pilgrims who visited the site. In the 12<sup>th</sup> century, her bones were removed to Shrewsbury Cathedral by Prior Robert, a Benedictine monk, in spite of the opposition he encountered from the local inhabitants.

Pilgrimages from Basingwerk Abbey near Holywell to Gwytherin, Clynnog Fawr, and Bardsey Island, celebrating the Celtic saints of Gwenfrewy, Beuno and Cadfan, began to take place in the 7<sup>th</sup> century, but they reached their peak between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries, after the murder of Thomas a Beckett in 1170 and before Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries in 1530.

In the early  $19^{th}$  century, Edward Pugh<sup>11</sup> of Ruthin was very scathing in his comments about the legend and its consequences after visiting the well at Holywell. He wrote of "the many and effectual cures" supposedly resulting from being immersed in the waters of the pool, "These superstitious fooleries, invented to gull the ignorant, having been long since buried with those who devised them. They have given place to the more rational opinion, that those cures, as well as others in our days, have been effected by the sanative healing quality of the water – a quality infused by the God of Nature."

<sup>10.</sup> Sally Hallmark - Gwenfrewy the Guiding Star of Gwytherin - MA dissertation CYCS7010 - 2015

<sup>11.</sup> Edward Pugh of Ruthin - Cambria Depicta - Tours through North Wales 1816 pp.361-262

#### **Medieval Land Division**

For administrative purposes, the land in Wales was divided up into Cantrefi(Cantrefs) and Cymydau (Commotes). Bryn Clochydd stands on land which would have been in the cwmwd of Uwch Aled and the cantref of Rhufoniog.

The cantrefi of Rhos, Rhufoniog, Dyffryn Clwyd and Tegeingl formed an area known as 'Y Perfeddwlad' or 'the Middle Country'. This was owned in the 13<sup>th</sup> century by **Owain Goch**<sup>12</sup> and his brother, **Llewelyn ab Gruffydd**, after jointly succeeding their uncle **Dafydd ap Llewelyn** in the region in the year **1246**. For long periods it was considered to be an outlying area of Gwynydd, but it was a turbulent region which was fiercely contested in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries between the rulers of Gwynedd and the English Crown. In **1247**, by the terms of an agreement dated 30<sup>th</sup> April, Llewelyn and Dafydd granted these lands to **Henry III** in order to establish 'perpetual peace' between themselves and the King.<sup>13</sup>

By **1282**, complaints had risen because of injustices perpetrated by the English and because of their contempt for native law and custom. As a result, Dafydd and his brother Llewelyn took up arms against Edward I. Edward responded very quickly and soon defeated the Welsh. Llewelyn was eventually killed on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 1282 in a battle at Builth Wells, and Dafydd was executed for treason on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1283 in Shrewsbury.



12. Appendix 1 – The Royal House of Cunedda

<sup>13.</sup> Registrum Munimentorum, Lither A, fo. 407; Rymer, I 267 (The Court Rolls of the Lordship of Ruthin – Richard Arthur Roberts Y Commrodor 1893 p.vii )

#### The Lordship of Denbigh

On the 16<sup>th</sup> October 1282, Edward I granted the cantrefs of Rhos and Rhufoniog, and the commote of Dinmael in the cantref of Penllyn to Henry de Lacy, 3rd Earl of Lincoln, as a reward for his loyalty in helping to defeat the Welsh. This area of land became known as the Lordship of Denbigh. In return, De Lacy was to render six knights' fees.

**Henry de Lacy** died on the 5<sup>th</sup> February **1311**. His eldest son, Edmund, is said to have fallen into the great well at Denbigh Castle and drowned. A second son, John, is also believed to have died in a tragic accident. Henry's sole surviving child at his death was his daughter Alice. As Henry was a direct tenant of the Crown, an Inquisition Post Mortem was held in order to determine the extent of his lands etc. and who should inherit them. This survey is the earliest known valuation of the Lordship of Denbigh. It did not include the names of landholders or tenants.

**1334** - another survey was undertaken by Hugh de Beckele<sup>14</sup>. "He was an Englishman, and no doubt the same personage as Hugh de Bockele, who is mentioned as a landowner in the township of "Arquedelok" (Archwedlog), in the parish of Llansannan." This was the first survey to name the landholders.



The Honour of Denbigh

These two surveys give a good picture of the tenurial system in this area prior to the conquest by Edward I, and how many of the priodarii (free Welshmen) were replaced by English tenants.<sup>15 16</sup>

<sup>14.</sup> The Records of Denbigh and its Lordship - John Williams 1860 p.1

<sup>15.</sup> Welsh Tribal Laws - Thomas Peter Ellis 1926 pp.132-139

<sup>16.</sup> The English Element in the Perfeddwlad – T.P.Ellis Y Commrodor Vol.XXXV 1925 pp.187-199

Anyone who was known to have had taken part in the rebellion had their land 'escheated' *(taken away from them)*; and some Welsh tenants in the fertile Vale of Clwyd were removed from their land and relocated to poorer areas. The vacant holdings were reallocated to incoming Englishmen. Some of the land escheated in Gwytherin was reallocated to dispossessed Welshmen from Lleweni; and the area of Archwedlog in Gwytherin was granted to 10 Englishmen.

The surveys also demonstrated the continued occupation of land by 'tribal groupings' with extensive lands held by members of the Braint Hir, Hedd Molwynog, Marchweithian and Marchudd ap Cynan clans. These constituted four of the fifteen Noble tribes of North Wales. Dues were based on the family group and not on the size of their holdings.

The exact position of Gwytherin is not very clear from the survey. It had originally been an old established bond community which paid its dues to the Abbot of the monastery. The term for these particular dues was 'Abadaeth'. Only two villes in the Survey of Denbigh paid abadaeth – Nantglyn Sanctorum and Gwytherin. These were dues traditionally paid to an abbot but by this time, as far as is known, there was no monastic or other such like community in Gwytherin. The landholders in Gwytherin were free but they paid these dues partly to the 'lord', but the lord is termed 'the abbot' from which it would appear that at some time or other the rights of some of the abbots of the clan were escheated to the lord. In this case, the lord stepped into the place of the Abbot, and received whatever dues were formerly paid to the abbot.

Two of the three of the gwelyau *(family holdings)* in Gwytherin were held by Cynan ap Llywarch, a descendant of Braint Hir, the founder of the 10<sup>th</sup> noble tribe of North Wales and descendant of Cunedda Wledig, progenitor of the House of Gwynedd.<sup>17 18</sup> Braint Hir's original settlement was in the extensive parish of Prŷs (Prees) but his holdings gradually became more widespread. Llywarch had two sons – Pill and Cynan. Pill had eight sons and Cynan seven. Pill's branch held land in Prŷs, Tebrith, Garthwynd and Rudidien; Cynan held land in Prŷs, Ystrad Cynan, Dinas Cadfel, Nantglyn and Gwytherin. Cynan's family became a hereditary priestly clan and would have been 'superior' landlords in Gwytherin.<sup>19</sup>

In the survey, the only case in which personal military service is explicitly mentioned within the commote of Uwchaled, is in the 'free vill of Guytheryn'.<sup>20</sup> No explanation for this is given.

At the time of the 1334 survey, the English influence was dominant in the cwmwd of Ceinmerch (only 1 welsh vill); and strong in Isaled (7 English 6 Welsh), but in the western cymydau much weaker – in Uwchaled (only 1 English vill and 16 Welsh) and in Isdulas (12 Welsh no English) and in the remote Uwchdulas, there were no English except in Llanrwst.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>17.</sup> D.Huw Owen - Tenurial and Economic Developments in North Wales in the twelve and thirtweenth centuries – Welsh History Review 6 (1972) pp.122-123

<sup>18.</sup> Appendix 2a & 2b - The ancestry of of Braint Hir; The Descendants of Llywarch

<sup>19.</sup> ibid. T.P.Ellis pp.127-130

<sup>20.</sup> Survey of the Honour of Denbigh p. xcv

<sup>21.</sup> ibid p.cxv

# 14<sup>th</sup> century

Gough's map - possibly late 1370s during Edward III's reign – Gwytherin is one of only 27 settlements in North Wales marked on a late medieval map owned by Richard Gough (1735-1809) and named after him. It is one of the earliest maps in a geographically recognisable form.



The late 14<sup>th</sup> century map owned by Richard Gough

Detail of the Gough map showing Gwytherin

# 15<sup>th</sup> Century

After Henry VII had seized the throne in 1485, he was keen to secure his new dynasty against both internal and external enemies. At the time there was no single territory called 'Wales' but rather about 130 marcher lordships in the east, and the six counties of the Principality in the west. The Lordships were divided between enclaves of Englishries ruled by March law, and Welshries where native customs prevailed. The population was similarly divided between English and Welsh. It was on the whole a fairly lawless region.<sup>22</sup>

At a time when serfdom had almost died out in England, the practice still continued in Wales. This long-held practice of the nobles having low status men as bondsmen (serfs) who were obliged to fight for them if necessary, was considered by Henry to be potentially dangerous. There was a chance that a nobleman could raise a private army and thus threaten the King, so he decided to free the bondsmen. As a consequence the noblemen no longer had sufficient men to work their land and so they were obliged to rent or lease the land to the newly freed men. Free tenants could lease their land from the landowner, or directly from the Crown. They had legal rights at the King's Court and owed no service to the landowner. The free tenants were able to build their own houses and work their own land. Some of these freed bondsmen eventually became recognised as yeomen farmers.

#### **Yeomen farmers**

In the late 14th to 18th centuries, yeomen were farmers who owned land (copyhold, leasehold or freehold). Their wealth and the size of their landholding varied. Many yeomen were prosperous and wealthy enough to employ servants and farm labourers. Some were as wealthy as the minor regional landed gentry and some even leased land to gentleman landowners. Some could be classed as gentlemen but did not aspire to this status: it was cheaper to remain a yeoman. Often it was hard to distinguish minor landed gentry from the wealthier yeomen, and wealthier husbandmen from the poorer yeomen. A yeoman could be equally comfortable working on his farm, educating himself from books, or enjoying country sports such as shooting and hunting. By contrast members of the landed gentry and the aristocracy did not farm their land themselves, but let it to tenant farmers and lived mainly off the proceeds of the rents.

When the Tithe maps were drawn in the 1840s, the village consisted of fifty six farms and small holdings, and there were forty four different landowners. This suggests that some of the yeomen of Gwytherin had eventually managed to purchase the freehold of their lands. The smallest of the farms tended to be those located on the edge of the mountain, many of which would have been built as Tŷ Unnos (a house built in one night).<sup>23</sup>

The list of wills left by men from Gwytherin and proved in the Welsh Ecclesiastical courts before 1858 held by the National Library of Wales, includes an unusually large number of yeomen.

<sup>22.</sup> The Making of the British Isles 1450-1660 – Stephen G.Ellis & Christopher Maginn 2007 pp.73

<sup>23.</sup> The Tithe Maps of Wales - Hiraethog - Cynefin - Gwytherin p.26

# 16<sup>th</sup> Century

Shortly before the dissolution of the monasteries, Henry VIII wanted an up-to-date record of the financial condition of all the churches and monasteries in the kingdom, and on 30 January 1535, appointed commissioners in all dioceses of England and Wales to compile the collection of reports known as **Valor ecclesiasticus**. The entry for Gwytherin was:-

"Rectoria valet clare, £6:5:8; dec. regi, 12s 7d."

The land on which Bryn Clochydd and Tyddyn Mwsogl were built, was owned at one time by the **Maenan Abbey and Melai estates**.<sup>24</sup> The Wynnes of Melai were descended from Marchudd ap Cynan, the founder of the 8<sup>th</sup> Noble Tribe of North Wales. The Melai estate combined with the Maenan Abbey estate when William Wynne of Melai married Mary Clough (d/o Richard Clough and Katheryn of Berain) of Abbey.

*N.B.* The name of Katheryn of Berain appears in a variety of spellings – Catherin, Catheryn, Katryn but later she seems to have stabilised it as **Katheryn** when she signed her name.<sup>25</sup>



Katheryn Wynne 1576/7 February 24



Katheryn Theloal 1585 October 29th

By 25<sup>th</sup> March 1537, Maenan Abbey and its desmesne lands had been dissolved and sold by the Crown to the wealthy merchant, **Sir Richard Clough of Plas Clough**, Denbighshire. He had two daughters by his wife, Katheryn of Berain. The elder, Ann, married Roger Salusbury and after Richard's death, she inherited his property known as Bachygraig. The younger, **Mary**, married **William Wynne of** Melai, and inherited Richard's Maenan Abbey estate.

Was the land in Gwytherin on which Bryn Clochydd and Tyddyn Mwsogl were built part of the Melai estate or part of the Abbey estate prior to this merger?

There are several reference to lands in Gwytherin in the 'Salusbury of Lleweni' estate documents held in the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth. The following one mentions Katheryn's father, Tudor ap Robert of Berain, and her first husband's father, Sir John Salusbury of Lleweni. This denotes that the lands in Gwytherin were part of the Berain estate at this time.

**1559/60 February 24<sup>th</sup>** – A **Deed of Covenant** between Sir John Salusbury of Lleweny, co. Denbigh knight and **Tuder ap Robert of Beringe**, esq. regarding:-

"... all the messuages, lands, etc., of the said **Tudder in Beringe**, Denbighe, Meriadok, Hendregyda, Wickweir, Tybryth, Garthegarmon, **Gwytherin**, Rididion, Treveleythe, Penporchell, Lleehryd, Taleybryn, Bodiskaven and Barrok, co. Denbigh.<sup>26</sup>

<sup>24.</sup> Appendix 3 - The Wynnes of Melai

<sup>25.</sup> Katheryn of Berain - Y Commrodor Vol XL p.41

<sup>26.</sup> NLW – Lleweni MSS no.248

R.Cyril Hughes includes a pedigree of Katheryn and her first two husbands, John Salusbury and Richard Clough, in his book - Dinas Ddihenydd. This also provides a list of their properties.<sup>27</sup>

| <b>Tiroedd Lleweni<br/>John Salusbury's lands</b><br>Lleweni | <b>Tiroedd Berain</b><br>(Katheryn's lands)<br>Berain      | <b>Turoedd Clwch</b><br>(Richard Clough's lands)<br>Ardde (Maenan) |
|--|--|--|
| Tai yn Ninbych a Rhuthun                                     | Meriadog   | Tudweiliog   |
| Gallfaenan   | Hendregyda   | Nantgwnnadl  |
| Alba Firma   | Wicwair  | Bachegraig   |
| Aberchwiler  | Tŷ Brith   | Hicklinge (Notts.)   |
| Prion  | Garthgarmon  | Dorbey (Bucks.)  |
| Blorant  | Gwytherin  | Llewesog   |
| Bodfari  | Rhydeidion   | Cilcedig   |
| Eiddo yn nhre Fflint   | Treflech   | Cilffwrn   |
| Gallt Felyd  | Penporchell  | Llwyn  |
| Llewellyd  | Llechryd   | Rhan o leweni (Henllan)  |
| Hendregaerwys  | Talybryn   | Ystrad Cynon   |
|  | Bodysgawen   | Rhannau o dref Dinbych   |
|  | Barrog   | Pool Flat  |
|  | 3 Melin Ddŵr<br>Penmynydd, Môn<br>Tai an Ninhach a Dianaan | Ystrad   |
|  | Tai yn Ninbych a Biwmares                                  |  |

It appears to confirm that Katheryn's lands in Gwytherin were part of her Berain estate which she had inherited from her father. Her first husband, John Salusbury died in 1566, predeceasing his father, Sir John Salusbury.

**1566** 9<sup>th</sup> **September** - Inquisition Post Mortem court session held at Denbigh for Katheryn's husband John Salusbury. She cleverly only declared the lands held by her deceased husband. She did not include her own lands of Berain and Penmynydd, because she had already taken care to preserve those for her sons (who were both still minors) with settlements made in June and July of that year.

Richard Clough, Katheryn's second husband died in 1570 and his Clough estates of Bachygraig and Maenan Abbey were divided between their two daughters, Ann and Mary.

**1577/78** - Sir John Salusbury died. His heir was his eldest grandson, Thomas Salusbury (b.1561), who was still a child.

**1586** – Thomas Salusbury, who had eventually inherited the Lleweni estate, was hung, drawn and quartered for his part in the Babington Plot. His execution resulted in a commission being sent down to inquire into his estate. It must have been an anxious time for Katheryn. According to Sir John Wynn's notes, if the documents relating to the settlements made after the death of her first husband had been known to the Commissioners, Berain and Penmynydd would have been liable for forfeiture. The documents were not produced and the danger passed.

1591 – Katheryn died. Her Berain estate passed to her younger son, Sir John Salusbury.

<sup>27.</sup> R.Cyril Hughes – Dinas Ddihenydd 1976

Other later Lleweni documents – dated **1612** (no.425), **1633** (nos.560, 341 & 535), **1634** (no.284,) & **1657** (no.602-3) – mention the Berain lands in Gwytherin, thus confirming that they were not part of Richard Clough's Maenan Abbey estate which had been passed to his daughter, Mary. It can therefore be assumed that the land on which Bryn Clochydd and Tyddyn Mwsogl were built, was part of the Melai estate prior to its merger with the Maenan Abbey estate.

## 17<sup>th</sup> Century

**1632** – William Wynne of Melai died and the Abbey and Melai estates passed to his eldest son, John Wynne.

#### The Building of Bryn Clochydd and Tyddyn Mwsogl

It seems likely that both farmhouses were probably built by yeomen on land leased from the Melai and Abbey estates. An older building at Bryn Clochydd, now used as a barn, could have been the original house. It was probably originally built as a one room cottage with a gable end chimney and a single doorway at the dais end. Peter Smith<sup>28</sup> classified this style as a **Type A hall house**. At the dais end of the building there is another section, which may have been a later addition. This is divided from the main room by a stone wall, and accessed from the outside. It was probably used for agricultural purposes. Above this, and accessed from the main room by way of a ladder, is a crog lofft. This style of house, with small variations, was common in Wales. These simple cottage-type houses were occupied by farmers who had a small amount of land which they worked themselves. The houses were often known by the name tyddyn (tyddynnod – plural). There are many references to properties called Tyddyn (+ a name e.g. Tyddyn Mwsogl) in old documents.

It is impossible to date either the current Bryn Clochydd or the earlier building accurately. If the older building was a house, then it could have been built at any time between the late  $C16^{th}$  to the end of the  $C17^{th}$ . The original part of the current farmhouse is more difficult to date.

The name 'Tyddyn Clochydd' or 'Bryn Clochydd' suggests that the house was occupied at one time by a sexton. This man would typically have looked after the church and the churchyard and acted as the bell ringer and grave digger, as well as probably working his own land.



The Older Building

<sup>28.</sup> Peter Smith – Houses of the Welsh Countryside 1975 p.172



The remains of Tyddyn Mwsogl<sup>29</sup>

A report from 1858<sup>30</sup>, mentions a bronze handbell, with iron tongue and handle, which is kept at the rectory,<sup>31</sup> and which was said to be a funerary bell. Another report suggests that it is a Mass or Sanctus bell "such as in early times was common in Ireland, and not uncommon in Wales,<sup>32</sup> and probably dates to the late 16<sup>th</sup> century." A Mass or Sanctus bell was rung to create "a joyful noise to the Lord as a way to give thanks for the miracle taking place atop the altar", and to "focus the attention of those attending Mass that a supernatural event is taking place on the altar."

#### The English Civil War 1642-1651

The Civil War was principally about the extent of Royal authority and also religion. Charles I believed in the Divine Right of Kings i.e. that he was the King by the will of God and so his decisions should not be challenged. His opponents thought that there should be a limit to Royal authority and that the people and their representatives in Parliament should have more to say about how the country should be governed. Mixed up with this were Europe-wide arguments over the Church and religion – Catholicism v. Protestantism and their forms of worship and the organisational structure of the established Church. Charles was deeply religious and had married a Catholic, Henrietta Maria of France. She was not popular with the English Protestants.

The King started the Civil War on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1642, raising his standard at Nottingham and then travelled to Shropshire with an army of 4,000. Col. William Wynne of Melai and Abbey was one of the staunchest Denbighshire supporters of the Royalist cause. He raised a regiment of foot and a troop of horse at his own expense from the local area. In 1643, he marched his men to Shropshire to provide support to the Royalists already there. A much smaller Parliamentary force under Sir William Brereton and Sir Thomas Myddelton marched towards Wem and on October 18<sup>th</sup>, the two sides engaged in battle. Sir William Wynne was slain and his Welsh soldiers, discouraged by the loss of their leader, abandoned the fight.

<sup>29</sup> Gwyhterin - Heulwen Ann Roberts

<sup>30.</sup> Arch. Cambrensis Oct. 1858 Prof. J.O.Westwood M.A. Oxford

<sup>31.</sup> RCAHMW - Inventory pp.64-65

<sup>32.</sup> op.cit. J.W. Evans p.544

In 1645, as the Parliamentarians advanced into Wales, they marched from Ruthin to Denbigh, where they routed the enemy and occupied the town. The fleeing Royalists were then pursued as far as Llangernyw. Cannon balls are said to have been dug up in the village, and several soldiers killed at the time are believed to have been buried in the churchyard.<sup>33</sup>

A cannon ball has also been found in a field called Waen Goch (red/bloody field) at Bryn Clochydd in the nearby village of Gwytherin. The size suggests it was a 'Minion Drake' type, which was a light field cannon employed as an antipersonnel weapon.

Was the field perhaps named after a skirmish which took place here?



The cannonball found in Waen Goch 3 inches diameter, weight 4lbs

**1696** - Edward Lhuyd (1660 - 1709) a botanist, geologist, antiquary, and philologist, requested information from every parish in Wales in the form of a questionnaire about the natural history and antiquities of each area. He also made extracts from manuscripts, copied inscriptions, and collected curiosities. The replies were published as a book in 1699 called "Parochialia'. In Denbighshire. 31 parishes replied.

Lhuyd received no replies regarding houses in Gwytherin. This may have been because they all of the houses in the parish were small cottages, with an absence of bigger, more important houses. However, he did include sketches<sup>34</sup>, either made by himself or an associate, of two tombstones in Capel Gwenfrewy.

<sup>33.</sup> Norman Tucker - North Wales in the Civil War 1958 p.87

<sup>34.</sup> Arch. Cambrensis 1900 - Supplement Part 1 pp. 27 & 28



The one pictured here on the left has a "singular cross engraven on it, and by the cross an antient battle-axe, the usual weapon of the deceased." ....... "Here also an antient grave-stone, with a flowery cross and chalice (the last denoting the priestly profession of the deceased) with Hic Jacet Lowarch Mab Cadell, inscribed on the cross."<sup>35</sup>

The clan of Braint Hir is associated with a coat of arms showing a flowery cross.<sup>36</sup> Did this particular grave-stone perhaps belong to Llywarch ap Cynan ap Llywarch from the priestly branch of Braint Hir's descendants, which was headed by Llywarch's son, Cynan?

The two slabs are still at the church in Gwytherin. (now deconsecrated and privately owned)

Not much seems to be known about the descendants of the Braint Hir landholders. According to the 18<sup>th</sup> century writer, Thomas Pennant, "the progeny of Braint Hir did not much increase for there are not many at present known to be descended from him, yet some there are. e.g. Pont y Gwyddel – Mrs Gifford, Nerquis"<sup>37</sup>

<sup>35.</sup> Pennant op.cit. p.181

<sup>36.</sup> Appendix 1b - The Descendants of Llywarch

<sup>37.</sup> Thomas Pennant – The History of the Parishes of Whitford and Holwell – Appendix – The fifteen tribes of North Wales 1796 p.304

# 18<sup>th</sup> Century

**1713** 7<sup>th</sup> **April** – John Wynne of Melai and Abbey married Sydney Williams d/o Sir William Williams of Llanforda near Oswestry.

**1718 29<sup>th</sup> May** – John Wynne died. His only son, William Wynne died soon after he was born. His two daughters were still infants. Melai Hall became tenanted around this time.

The earliest extant record of Bryn Clochydd relates to a tenant.

## The Owners and Tenants<sup>38</sup>

**1719 13**<sup>th</sup> **May** – A tenant at Bryn Clochydd, **Pierce ap Robert** and his wife **Jane Hughes** had a son, Robert, baptised in Gwytherin Church. He was their fourth child. Pierce and his wife had married in 1707. Jane was recorded as 'of Dolfadyn'. It is not known where the family were living when their first child was born – Anne (baptised 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1708/9\*). Their next child, Thomas, was baptised on the 14<sup>th</sup> May 1711 whilst they were residing at Dolfadyn. A third son named Hugh was baptised on the 8<sup>th</sup> April 1714 but the parish register does not name the family's abode.

\* The Julian calendar was still in use at this time. The Gregorian Calendar was adopted gradually in Great Britain from about the mid  $18^{th}$  century. The Julian Calendar began each year with April, and so the months January, February and March were counted as part of the previous year. i.e.  $3^{rd}$ March <u>1708</u>. This became the  $3^{rd}$  March <u>1709</u> under the Gregorian Calendar.

1719 – a girl named Mary of Tyddyn Mwssogl was baptised but her parents are not named.

The next known tenants of Bryn Clochydd were **Richard Thomas** and his wife **Catherine**. They had at least two sons – Robert born in 1731 and Richard who was baptised on the 29<sup>th</sup> Jan 1735/6\*. There is also a record of a Griffith Thomas of Bryn Clochydd who was buried in the churchyard on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 1734. *It is not known if he was related to Richard and Catherine Thomas*.

| Tyddyn Mwsogl   | tenant John Williams  | £9 .5s | p.a. |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------|------|
| Bryn y Clochydd | tenant Richard Thomas | £9.0   | p.a. |

1735 June 24th - Marriage Settlement<sup>40 41</sup>

- 1. Thomas Wynn of Bodvean esq. & John Wynne of Glynllifon esq. his son and heir
- 2. Sidney Wynne of the Abbey pa. Llandogad widow and Jane Wynne spinster and only daughter of Sidney Wynne.

The attached schedule of properties included in the marriage settlement does not include Bryn Clochydd or Tyddyn Mwsogl.

Jane was the sole heiress of Abbey and Melai but it appears that her estates did not transfer to the Glynllifon estate when she married, possibly because her mother was still alive. Her mother, Sydney Williams was the daughter of Sir William Williams & Margaret Kyffin of Llanforda.

<sup>38.</sup> Appendices 7 & 8 – The tenants of Bryn Clochydd and Tyddyn Mwsogl

<sup>39.</sup> Caernarfon Archives – Glynllifon MSS ref.XD2/7807

<sup>40.</sup> Caernarfon Archives – Glynllifon MSS ref.XD2/4328

<sup>41.</sup> Appendix 34– The Newborough Family

1736/37 21<sup>st</sup> July – Alice Cadwaladr, a servant at Bryn Clochydd was buried.

1737/8 24<sup>th</sup> January – William Pritchard of Bryn Clochydd was buried. *He may also have been a servant.* 

**Richard Thomas** is described as a yeoman in 1741 when he was assigned a mortgage on some land in Llansannan.

#### 1741 - 12<sup>th</sup> January

Assignment of a mortgage of several parcels of land called Cae pant, yr Hafodwr, Ffrith fawr, ffrith newydd and y Brynnie, all in the parish of Llansannan, Denbigh.<sup>42</sup>

- 1. Richard Thomas of Bryn Clochydd pa. Gwytherin, yeoman
- 2. John Lloyd of Forest co. Denbigh gent.

1751 August 15<sup>th</sup> – Sydney Williams (mother of Jane Wynne) of Abbey died.

The Abbey and Melai estates probably transferred to the Glynllifon estate after the death of Jane's mother, Sydney Williams.

1753 Rentals of the Abbey and Melai estates included as part of the Glynllifon estate.<sup>43</sup>

| Tyddyn Mwsogl   | Richard Jones         | £9. 5s | p.a. |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------|------|
| Tyddyn Clochydd | <b>Richard Thomas</b> | £9     | p.a. |
| 1754-157        |                       |        |      |
| Tyddyn Mwsogl   | Richard Jones         | £10    | p.a. |
| Tyddyn Clochydd | Richard Thomas        | £9     | p.a. |
| 1762            |                       |        |      |
| Tyddyn Mwsogl   | Richard Jones         | £10    | p.a. |
| Bryn Clochydd   | Richard Thomas        | £10    | p.a. |
| 1763-1765       |                       |        |      |
| Tyddyn Mwsogl   | Richard Jones         | £10    | p.a. |
| Bryn Clochydd   | Richard Thomas        | £9     | p.a. |

#### 1766 August 30<sup>th</sup> - Marriage Settlement<sup>44</sup>

Thomas Wynn of Glynllifon and Rt. Hon. Catherine Percival, daughter of John Percival 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Egremont – The sum of £620. 19s 2d and the capital messuage and demesne of Glynllifon formed part of the settlement. The schedule of properties listed included both Bryn Clochydd and Tyddyn Mwsogl.

| Included in the list of | properties in 'Gwetherin' :- |          |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| Tyddyn Mwsogl           | tenant Richard Jones         | £10 p.a. |
| Bryn Clochydd           | tenant Richard Thomas        | £10 p.a. |

The next tenants were Richard Griffith and his wife Ellen(Ellin/Eleanor).

<sup>42.</sup> NLW - Chirk Castle Estate Records ref. F249

<sup>43.</sup> Caernarfon Archives - Glynllifon estate MSS ref.XD2/ADD/161

<sup>44.</sup> Caernarfon Archives - Glynllifon MSS ref.4339 & 4340

**1768** April 9<sup>th</sup> – Marriage Bond <sup>45</sup>– Richard Griffith and Ellin Jones of Llanefydd. They married on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 1768 in Llannefydd.

#### Marriage Bonds

A marriage bond was given to the court by the intended groom prior to his marriage. It affirmed that there was no moral or legal reason why the couple could not be married and it also affirmed that the groom would not change his mind. If he did, and did not marry the intended bride, he would forfeit the bond. The bondsman, or surety, was often a brother or uncle to the bride, not necessarily a parent. The bondsman could also be related to the groom, or even be a neighbour or friend, but those situations occurred less often.

1769/70 19th February – David son of Richard of Bryn Clochydd was baptised in Gwytherin.

Richard and Ellen had at least five children – Elizabeth baptised 14<sup>th</sup> April 1771 and buried 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1787 aged 16 years; Elinor baptised 24<sup>th</sup> January 1775; and John baptised 13<sup>th</sup> May 1779. Richard DOB unknown.

1772 – Thomas, Lord Newborough and his wife, Catherine had a son, named John.

#### **Rentals 1771-1773**

| 50 | Tyddyn Mwsogl | Richard Jones           | £14      | p.a. |
|----|---------------|-------------------------|----------|------|
| 51 | Bryn Clochydd | <b>Richard Griffith</b> | £12. 12s | p.a. |

1781 5th February – Jane Davies, widow of Bryn Clochydd, was buried.

1782 19<sup>th</sup> July – Burial of Margaret Williams of Tyddyn Mwsogl.

1782 - Catherine Percival, wife of Lord Newborough died.

**1786** – Thomas, Lord Newborough re-married to Maria Stella Petronella (b.16/4/1773) She was just 13 years old whilst her husband was aged 50. Maria claimed that she was really the daughter of the Duke of Orleans, Louis Philippe Joseph, and that she had been exchanged at birth for the son of a constable and gaoler called Lorenzo Chiappini. She asserted that Louis feared his wife would not give him a son. At the time all of this is purported to have happened, the Duke is believed to have travelled to Italy with his wife, Louise Marie Adelaide de Bourbon, under the assumed names of Comte and Comtesse of Joinville. The two children were born on the same day in Modigliana. Lorenzo Chiappini was offered money in exchange for his son and the Duke's daughter.<sup>46</sup> Louis was a cousin of King Louis XVI and one of the wealthiest men in France. It is undeniable that Chiappini's formerly lowly estate suddenly improved.

Chiappini took Maria to Florence where he bought property and had her educated. She also learnt to dance, sing and play the piano. When she was about 12 years old, her father got her an engagement as a ballet dancer in a large theatre in Florence. It was there that Lord Newborough saw her performing and asked for her hand in marriage. Maria hated her husband.

Louis was guillotined in November 1793 during the French Revolution. His son, Louis Philippe d'Orleans became King of France after the July Revolution of 1830. Maria claimed that he was really the son of Lorenzo Chiappini. She spent years trying to establish her true parentage but it was

<sup>45.</sup> NLW – Marriage Bonds – ca.1690-1837 ref. 99230987302419

<sup>46.</sup> The Memoirs of Maria Stella (Lady Newborough) by Herself 1914

never proved. Maria died in Paris, in obscurity and relative poverty, aged 70 years.

.....

**David Davies** and his wife, **Catherine Jones**, were also living at Bryn Clochydd by 1787 when their daughter Elinor was baptised on the 18<sup>th</sup> July. She died a few months later and was buried on the 29<sup>th</sup> December 1787. David and Catherine had at least three other children – Elinor born on 13<sup>th</sup> March & baptised on 15/3/1789; Mary b.12<sup>th</sup> August, baptised 14/8/1791; and David b.13<sup>th</sup> June baptised 16/6/1796.

In 1788, **David Jones** is named as the tenant of Tyddyn Mwsogl. He had married **Catherine Roberts** on the 21<sup>st</sup> December 1787 in Gwytherin. A marriage bond was signed on December 19<sup>th</sup>.<sup>47</sup>

**1788** - Plan of Tyddyn Clochydd & Tyddyn Mwsogl – Survey of the Melai & Abbey Estates property of Right Honourable Thomas Lord Newborough.<sup>48</sup> Richard Jones was no longer named as the tenant. David Jones was probably related to him because Richard and his wife Elizabeth continued to live at Tyddyn Mwsogl.

#### Tenants

| Tyddyn Clochydd | <b>Richard Griffiths</b> | 94 acres |
|-----------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Tyddyn Mwsogl   | David Jones              | 87 acres |

David Jones and Catherine had at least twelve children – Robert bap.11<sup>th</sup> May 1789; David who died young; Elizabeth, John, William, Thomas, Elinor another David, Catherine, Moses who also died young, and another Moses.

Their eldest son Robert was born at Tyddyn Mwsogl but the other children were all born in Ty Draw, Pennant township, and so the family did not remain at Tyddyn Mwsogl for very long.

**1781 January 20<sup>th</sup>** – Mortgage and Assign for 99 years of the interest on £4,000. Included in the list of properties:- Tyddyn y Mwsogl now or late in the occupation of **Richard Jones** at the yearly rent of £16 and also Tyddyn Clochydd now or late in the occupation of **Richard Griffith** at the yearly rent of £14,14s.<sup>49</sup>

**1782** - Will of Richard Jones of Tyddyn Mwsog dated 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1782.<sup>50</sup> In it, he mentions his wife, Elizabeth Williams and a nephew but no children.

1782 19<sup>th</sup> July – Burial of Margaret Williams of Tyddyn Mwsogl.

In 1784, Richard Jones' widow, Elizabeth Williams, is named as the tenant.

#### 1784 - Rentals - Melai and Abbey Estates

| Tyddyn y Mwsogl   | Elizabeth Williams (the widow of Richard Jones) | £16 p.a.      |
|-------------------|---|---------------|
| Tyddyn y Clochydd | Richard Griffith                                | £14. 14s p.a. |

<sup>47.</sup> NLW - Marriage Bonds ca.1690-1837 ref. 99157986402419

<sup>48.</sup> NLW – South MAP (M.S. MAPS Vol. 96 094/8/2

<sup>49.</sup> Caernarfon Archives – Glynllifon MSS ref.XD2/7265

<sup>50.</sup> Appendix 4 - Will of Richard Jones 1782

**1792** – **John Owen** and his wife, **Elizabeth Jones**, were living in Tyddyn Mwsogl. They had married on the 13<sup>th</sup> November 1789 in Gwytherin. A marriage Bond was signed on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1795.<sup>51</sup> They had a son named William who was baptised on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 1792 and who died on the 9<sup>th</sup> September the same year and was buried on the 11<sup>th</sup> September.

**1795** – A Release and Lease document for the Glynllifon estate includes Tyddyn Mwsogl in the occupation of **Robert Jones** and Bryn y Clochydd in the occupation of **Richard Thomas**.<sup>52</sup>.

Lord Newborough arranged for his son (by his first wife Catherine Percival), and his son's wife, Magdalena (aka Lena) to receive an annuity. This probably followed their marriage.

**1796** – Draft Deed conveying part of the Glynllifon estate to Trustees in order that **Hon. John Wynn** (b.1772) should have an annuity of £1,000 payable half yearly during Lord Newborough's life. If Mr. Wynn was to die in his father's lifetime, Mrs Magdalen (aka Lena) Wynn (John's wife) was to have £100 for her life as her jointure. Both Tyddyn Mwsogl and Bryn y Clochydd are included in the list of the estate's properties.<sup>53</sup>

**1798** 6<sup>th</sup> April – baptism of Henry son of John Jones and Jane of Tyddyn Mwsogl - born 3<sup>rd</sup>. John Jones and Jane Jones had married on the 24<sup>th</sup> April 1795.

They had another son, John, who was born in 1809 and a third son named William, born 7<sup>th</sup> November 1812 and baptised on the 16<sup>th</sup> November.

**1798** 6<sup>th</sup> July – Thomas Lord Newborough raised a mortgage on his estate of £12,000 with 5% interest with Charles Boucher of Marley St. Middsx & John Mander of Bampton of Oxford. He also secured annuities of £1000 to be paid to his son and heir, John Wynn during the lifetime of Thomas Lord Newborough; and agreed another of £400 (£1000) to Magdalena (aka Lena) wife of John Wynn, if her husband, John Wynn, died before her.

In the section of properties listed, which were part of Lord Newborough's Abbey & Melai estate, Tyddyn Mwsogl is recorded with the occupant named as **Robert Jones**; Tyddyn y Clochydd, was in the occupation of **Richard Thomas**.<sup>54</sup>

<sup>51.</sup> NLW - Marriage Bonds - op.cit. ref. 99230987302419

<sup>52.</sup> Caernarfon Archives – Glynllifon MSS ref.XD2/7279

<sup>53.</sup> Caernarfon Archives – Glynllifon MSS re. XD2/4357

<sup>54.</sup> Caernarfon Archives - Glynllifon MSS ref.XD2/7270

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century

**1800** – John Wynn, the son of Lord Newborough and his first wife, died. His father was grief stricken. Maria felt that as he had always shown her great kindness during their marriage, she felt at last, it was her duty to consent to become a mother.

| Rentals 1801  |                         |               |
|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Tyddyn Mwsogl | John Jones              | £31. 10s p.a. |
| Bryn Clochydd | <b>Richard Griffith</b> | £31. 10s p.a. |

By 1802, **Robert Griffiths** and his wife **Elinor/Ellin** were living at Bryn Clochydd. Their daughter Margaret was born there on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July and was baptised on the 4<sup>th</sup> July. Her sister Catherine was born on the 18<sup>th</sup> March and baptised on the 20<sup>th</sup> of that month.

It is not known whether he was related to Richard Griffith or whether he was simply a labourer who was also residing there with his family.

1802 – Lord Newborough and his second wife, Maria, had a son named Thomas John Wynn.

1803 – Maria had another son, called Spencer Bulkeley Wynn.

**1804 24th January** – Burial of Elizabeth Williams of Tyddyn Mwsogl. She died on the 21st January.

**1805** - **Robert Roberts** and his wife **Elinor Griffith** were also living at Bryn Clochydd at the same time as the family of Richard Griffith. Elinor was a daughter of Richard and Ellen. Their eldest daughter, Elinor, was born at Tu Hwnt ir afon (b.1795) and a son, Robert was born at Bronllan (b.1796). He died young. It is not known where their second son, Richard, was born but their next three children Margaret (b.1802), Robert (b.1805) and Catherine (b.1811) were all born at Bryn Clochydd.

#### Rentals 1808

| Entry no.41 | Tyddyn Mwsogl | John Jones              | £31.10s | p.a. |
|-------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------|------|
| Entry no.42 | Bryn Clochydd | <b>Richard Griffith</b> | £32     | p.a. |

**1808 July 8<sup>th</sup>** – Thomas Wynn, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Lord Newborough died. His two surviving sons were still both infants. Their mother, Maria Stella Petronella, who was his second wife went to court to improve the allowances left to her for her sons maintenance and education.<sup>55</sup> The case took several years to resolve and eventually went to Chancery.

"Affadavit of Maria Stella Petronella, dowager baroness of Newbprough, now of the Abbey, ..... re. monies and estates to pass to her son Thomas John Lord Newborough on his attaining the age of 21 years and monies to go to her son Spencer Bulkeley Wynn and for their education with estimates of costs."

#### Rentals 1809-1813

| Entry no.41 | Tyddyn Mwsogl | John Jones              | £40 p.a. |
|-------------|---------------|-------------------------|----------|
| Entry no.42 | Bryn Clochydd | <b>Richard Griffith</b> | £40 p.a. |

55. Caernarfon Archives – Glynllifon estate MSS ref.XD2/5325

**1810** 6<sup>th</sup> **December** – Eleanor Jones of Bryn Clochydd died on the  $6^{th}$  December and was buried on the  $9^{th}$  December.

**1811 March 16<sup>th</sup>** - Petition re. the case brought by Maria Stella Petronella. "Order in the cause that the sum of £1,300 p.a. additional maintenance for Thomas John Lord Newborough be continued to be paid to his testamentary guardians after the marriage and departure of his mother to Russia."<sup>56</sup> Maria had married Heinrich George Eduard, Baron von Ungern-Steinberg from Estonia. She had to leave her children behind in North Wales.

**1811 March 18<sup>th</sup>** – An Order re. The above demand.<sup>57</sup>

| <b>Rentals 1814-1816</b> |               |                          |          |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Entry no.41              | Tyddyn Mwsogl | John Jones               | £40 p.a. |
| Entry no.42              | Bryn Clochydd | Richard & David Griffith | £40 p.a. |
| 1817                     |               |                          | -        |
| Entry no.41              | Tyddyn Mwsogl | John Jones               | £30 p.a. |
| Entry no.42              | Bryn Clochydd | Richard & David Griffith | £40 p.a. |
| 1818                     |               |                          | -        |
| Entry no.41              | Tyddyn Mwsogl | John Williams & co.      | £30 p.a. |
| Entry no.42              | Bryn Clochydd | David Roberts            | £32 p.a. |
| 1819-1822                |               |                          | -        |
| Entry no.41              | Tyddyn Mwsogl | John Williams            | £30 p.a. |
| Entry no.42              | Bryn Clochydd | David Griffith           | £30 p.a. |
| -                        |               |                          | -        |

Richard Griffith, tenant of Bryn Clochydd, died in 1822 aged 86 years. He left a Will written in 1819. Probate was granted in 1822.<sup>58</sup> His wife had predeceased him and so he left bequests to his three sons and to his daughter's four surviving children.

The tenancy of Bryn Clochydd was taken over by Richard's eldest son, **David Griffith**. He married Elizabeth and they had three children – John b.abt.1816; David b.abt.1818; and Catherine b.abt.1819.

**1822** April 22<sup>nd</sup> - Petition for a further £500 p.a. for Thomas John Lord Newborough and his brother Spencer, for maintenance.<sup>59</sup>

# 1823 May 6<sup>th</sup> – Financial Settlement of the Estate of Thomas John, Lord Newborough's coming of age.

"Draft order for the transferring of the money held in Trust for the causes to Thomas John Lord Newborough in the Court having attained the age of 21. The receiver is empowered to apply to the court to have his recognizance entered into by his sureties vacated."<sup>60</sup>

<sup>56.</sup> Caernarfon Archives - Glynllifon estate MSS ref.5410

<sup>57.</sup> Caernarfon Archives - Glynllifon estate MSS ref.5412

<sup>58.</sup> Appendix 5 - Will of Richard Griffith

<sup>59.</sup> Caernarfon Archives - Glynllifon estate MSS ref. 5704

<sup>60.</sup> Caernarfon Archives - Glynllifon estate MSS ref. 5739

#### Land Tax Assessments<sup>61</sup> 1825-1829

Bryn Clochydd and Tyddyn Mwsogl are bracketed together in the Land Tax Assessments. The proprietor/owner of both is listed as the Rt.Hon.Lord Newborough; the occupier of Bryn Clochydd was David Griffith and John Jones was living at Tyddyn Mwsogl. The rentals for both properties were the same, varying initially from £8 10s to a slight increase by 1827 to £9.

In 1828 and 1829, the collectors of monies were David Griffith, Bryn Clochydd and Robert Williams, Bryntan.

**1833** – The Rt. Hon. Thomas John Wynn, eldest son of the Thomas Lord Newborough, deceased, and his second wife Maria Stella, died in his 31<sup>st</sup> year.<sup>62</sup> He was unmarried and so the Newborough title and estates passed to his brother Spencer Bulkeley Wynn.

#### **1836 – the Tithe Commutation Act**

The payment of one tenth of local produce to the church had been established in Anglo Saxon England before the Norman conquest. This was originally in kind i.e. one tenth stook of corn etc. Over time, in some parishes, this was converted into cash payments. The Act in 1836 established this for all parishes but it required the accurate drawing of maps showing all the land in each parish.

Tithe Schedule 17<sup>th</sup> March 1840 **Bryn clochydd** Owner: The Right Honourable Lord Newborough Occupier: David Griffiths

|    |                     |                 | А  | R | Р  | £ | S  | d  |
|----|---------------------|-----------------|----|---|----|---|----|----|
| 48 | homestead and garde | en              | 1  | - | 34 |   |    |    |
| 49 | Ffridd uchaf        | arable          | 18 | 3 | 30 | - | 10 | 5  |
| 50 | Ffridd coch         | arable          | 8  | 3 | 20 | - | 4  | 6  |
| 51 | Ffridd low          | arable          | 5  | - | 6  | - | 2  | 9  |
| 52 | Ffridd bach         | arable          | 3  | 3 | -  | - | 3  | 6  |
| 53 | Ffridd faen         | arable          | 3  | - | -  | - | 2  | 4  |
| 54 | Ffridd las uchaf    | arable          | 5  | 1 | 19 | - | 4  | 2  |
| 55 | Ffridd las issaf    | arable          | 5  | 1 | 18 | - | 4  | 8  |
| 56 | Ffridd gyd uchaf    | rough           | 10 | 3 | 30 | - | 5  | 8  |
| 57 | Ffridd gyd issaf    | arable & rough  | 1  | 2 | 8  | - | -  | 7  |
| 58 | Pant y such         | rough           | -  | 2 | 20 | - | -  | 4  |
| 59 | Ffridd y goneg wen  | arable          | 3  | 1 | 22 | - | 1  | 10 |
| 60 | Ffridd y coed       | arable          | 10 | 2 | -  | - | 5  | 9  |
| 61 | Ffridd uchaf        | rough           | 11 | 1 | 15 | - | 9  | -  |
| 62 | Cae glas            | arable          | 2  | - | 33 | - | 2  | -  |
| 63 | Fron felin          | arable          | 2  | - | 6  | - | 1  | 3  |
| 64 | Llechwedd           | rough           | 1  | 3 | 4  | - | -  | 9  |
| 66 | Cae yr llanan       | arable          | 2  | 2 | 8  | - | 3  | 10 |
| 67 | Cae tan y ty        | arable & meadow | 7  | 3 | -  | - | 15 | 6  |
| 68 | Cae rug             | arable          | 3  | - | 30 | - | 5  | 9  |
| 69 | Cae r odyn          | arable          | 1  | 3 | 9  | - | 2  | 10 |

61. Ruthin Archives - Land Tax Assessment - Gwytherin QSD/DK/1/35

62. The New Monthly Magazine 1833 p.101

| 70 | Cae r chwarel     | rough    | 1                           | 1 | 28 | - | -  | 4     |
|----|-------------------|----------|-----------------------------|---|----|---|----|-------|
| 71 | Tyddyn coryn      | arable   | 2                           | - | 32 | - | 3  | 5     |
| 72 | Y waen goch       | arable   | 3                           | 2 | 6  | - | 3  | 2     |
| 73 | Ddol y bont       | arable   | 1                           | 3 | 24 | - | 2  | 5     |
| 74 | Y waen goch       | arable   | 1                           | 2 | 27 | - | 2  | 3     |
| 75 | Tyddyn coryn bach | arable   | 1                           | 3 | -  | - | 2  | 4     |
| 76 | Y maes            | arable   | 3                           | 2 | 18 | - | 5  | 4     |
| 77 | Coed              | woodland | 2                           | 2 | 22 | - | -  | 10    |
| 78 | Cae mawr tan y ty | arable   | 3                           | 3 | 27 | - | 5  | 0     |
| 79 | Y dolor du        | arable   | 2                           | - | 38 | - | 3  | -     |
| 80 | Cae crwn          | arable   | 1                           | 1 | 38 | - | 2  | 8     |
| 81 | Fron brogen       | arable   | 2                           | 1 | 9  | - | 3  | 5     |
| 82 | Y waen            | arable   | 4                           | 3 | 30 | - | 3  | 10    |
| 83 | Y maes uchaf      | arable   | 3                           | 2 | 35 | - | 5  | 10    |
| 84 | Fron Pella        | arable   | 2                           | 1 | 6  | - | 1  | -     |
| 85 | Erw pen llydan    | arable   | 1                           | - | 25 | - | 1  | 7     |
| 86 | Y tir calch       | arable   | 2                           | 2 | 19 | - | 3  | 10    |
|    |                   |          | 157                         | 2 | 15 | 6 | 18 | 6     |
|    |                   |          | • • • • • • • • • • • • • • |   |    |   |    | ••••• |

Owners: Right Hon. Lord Newborough & Sophia Jocelyn Occupiers: David Griffiths & William Jones

| 65 | Ffridd gyd | 1 | A<br>15 | 2 |    | £ | S | d |
|----|------------|---|---------|---|----|---|---|---|
|    |            |   | 15      | 2 | 13 |   |   |   |

N.B. A = perches; R = roods; A = acres 40 perches = 1 rood 4 roods = 1 acre The Tithe Map



#### **National Census**

The first national census took place in 1801 but it only counted houses - habited or uninhabited; the number of men and women but no names, or their occupations. The first one to include the names of people and properties was taken in 1841. The ages of adults in this census were rounded down.

| 1841 census            |            |                |                          |
|------------------------|------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Bryn Clochydd, Gwyther | rin (PRO r | ef. HO 107/140 | 2/3 p.8)                 |
| David Griffiths        | 70         | farmer         | born in the county - yes |
| Elizabeth Griffiths    | 75         |                | yes                      |
| John Griffiths         | 25         |                | yes                      |
| David Griffiths        | 20         |                | yes                      |
| Catherine Griffiths    | 18         |                | yes                      |
| Gwen Evans             | 15         | F.S.           | yes                      |

| Robert Roberts | 30 | M.S. | yes |
|----------------|----|------|-----|
| Anne Roberts   | 25 | F.S. | yes |

By 1841, Robert Roberts and his wife Elinor had moved from Bryn Clochydd to live at Tyddyn Mwsogl.

| Tyddyn Mwsog (p.10) |    |          |     |
|---------------------|----|----------|-----|
| Robert Roberts      | 70 | Ag. Lab. | yes |
| Elinor Roberts      | 65 |          | yes |
| Margaret Roberts    | 35 |          | yes |

#### 1846 May 1<sup>st</sup> – Exchange of Land<sup>63</sup>

1851 census

The tenants, Margaret Edwards and David Griffiths, had for a number of years exchanged the occupancy of two quillets of land, one being on the farm called Merddyn and the other, Cae tan y ty in the farm of Tyddyn Mwsogl. Lord Newborough agreed to make this exchange permanent from and after the second day of February 1847.

David Griffiths died in 1847 and was buried on the 27<sup>th</sup> March aged 80 years. His wife, Elizabeth, continued to run the farm with two of her sons.

**1847** April – Letter from William Elias the Abbey, Llanrwst to Lord Newborough. "Old David Griffith, Ty'n Clochydd is dead, leaving a widow and two sons and a daughter all unmarried." William Ellis closes the letter by stating that he will make an attempt to find a dairymaid.

| Bryn Clochydd, Gw   | ytherin | (PRO re | ef. HO 10 | 09/2508 p.2)                                |                         |
|---------------------|---------|---------|-----------|---|-------------------------|
| Elizabeth Griffiths | Η       | Wid.    | 75        | farmer of 145acres<br>employing 2 labourers | b. Llanrwst,            |
| John Griffiths      | son     | unm     | 35        | farmer's son                                | b. Gwytherin            |
| David Griffiths     | son     | unm     | 33        | <u>دد</u>                                   | b. "                    |
| Catherine Davies    | dau.    | Μ       | 32        |   | b. "                    |
| Hannah Jones        | serv.   | unm     | 20        |   | b. Carnarvonshire       |
| John Roberts        | serv.   | unm     | 16        | Ag. Lab.                                    | b. Gwytherin            |
| Tyddyn Mwsogl (p.3  | 3)      |         |           |   |                         |
| David Jones         | Η       | М       | 33        | Ag. Lab.                                    | b. Llanrhaiadr, Denbigh |
| Anne Jones          | W       | М       | 34        |   | b. Gwytheryn, Denbigh   |
| Elinor Jones        | dau     |         | 7         |   | b. "                    |
| Margaret Jones      | dau     |         | 5         |   | b. "                    |
| Hannah Jones        | dau     |         | 5mth      | 18  | b. "                    |

**1853** August 19<sup>th</sup> - Letter from William Elias to Lord Newborough about rent defaulters ....... and "News of the progress made on Pentre outbuildings and Tyddyn Clochydd house."<sup>64</sup>

<sup>63.</sup> Caernarfon Archives – Glynllifon MSS ref.XD2/7210

<sup>64.</sup> Caernarfon Archives - Glynllifon MSS ref.XD2/24210

Elizabeth Griffiths had died by 1861 and her son, David Griffiths was running the farm. He married Hannah Jones in 1850. *Was she the servant named in the 1851 census?* Hannah was the daughter of Richard and Mary Jones of Llanrwst. She was baptised there on the 12/2/1826. They had a son named John Robert Griffiths and a daughter, Elizabeth who died aged 2 years.

| <b>1861 census<br/>Bryn Clochydd</b> , Gw       | ytherin | (PRO re | f. RG 9/4 | 4305 p.3)                                    |  |
|---|---------|---------|-----------|--|--|
| David Griffiths                                 | Н       | М       | 42        | farmer of 165 acres<br>employing 2 labourers | b. Gwytherin, Denbigh                            |
| Hanah Griffiths                                 | W       | Μ       | 32        | farmer's wife                                | b. Llanrwst, Denbigh                             |
| J.R.Griffiths                                   | son     |         | 2         | farmer's son                                 | b. Gwytherin, Denbigh                            |
| Evan Williams                                   | serv.   | unm     | 19        | carter                                       | b. "   |
| Robert Jones                                    | serv.   | unm     | 20        | carter                                       | b. "   |
| Margaret Evans                                  | serv,   | unm     | 19        | dairymaid                                    | b. Llanrwst, Denbigh                             |
| <b>Tyddyn</b> (p.3)<br>David Jones<br>Ann Jones | H<br>W  | M<br>M  | 44<br>45  | Ag. Lab.<br>wife                             | b. Llanrhaiadr, Denbigh<br>b. Gwytherin, Denbigh |
| Margaret Jones                                  | dau     |         | 15        | dau.   | b. "   |
| Robert Jones                                    | son     |         | 5         | son  | b. "   |
| Richard Jones                                   | son     |         | 3         | son  | b. "   |
| <b>1871 census</b><br>Bryn Clochydd, Gw         | -       |         |           |  |  |
| David Griffiths                                 | Η       | М       | 53        | farmer of 143 acres<br>employing 2 men       | b. Gwytherin, Denbigh                            |
| Hanah Griffiths                                 | W       | М       | 44        |  | b. Llanrwst, Denbigh                             |
| John R.Griffiths                                | son     |         | 12        | scholar                                      | b. Gwytherin, Denbigh                            |
| John Jones                                      | serv.   | unm     | 39        | farm servant                                 | b. "   |
| John Jones                                      | serv.   | unm     | 27        | دد   | b. "   |
| Hannah Jones                                    | serv.   | unm     | 18        | general servant                              | b. "   |

By 1871, Elias Davies and his wife Anne had become the tenants of Tyddyn Mwsogl. They had eight children – Margaret, Jane, William, Elias, Anne, Myfanwy, Claudia, Dora. Elias was the son of William and Jane Davies a descendant of an old family of stone masons of Gwytherin called "Teulu's stones (Stone Family). Anne was the daughter of William and Margaret Williams Ty'n Bryn a descendant of the Cadwaladr family.<sup>65</sup>

| Tyddyn (p.2)    |       |   |    |                    |       |                   |
|-----------------|-------|---|----|--------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Elias Davies    | Н     | Μ | 35 | farmer of 15 acres | b. Gv | wytherin, Denbigh |
| Anne Davies     | W     | Μ | 34 |                    | b.    | "                 |
| Margaret Davies | dau   |   | 5  | scholar            | b.    | "                 |
| Jane Davies     | dau   |   | 4  |                    | b.    | "                 |
| William Davies  | son   |   | 2  |                    | b.    |                   |
| Elias Davies    | son   |   | 3m | ths                | b.    | "                 |
| Jane Hughes     | serv. |   | 13 | general servant    | b.    |                   |

65. Gwytherin - Heulwen Ann Roberts

**1873** - Lord Newborough owned 28,800 acres of land and properties in Caernarvonshire, Anglesey, Denbighshire and Merionethshire bringing in a total of £22,728 in rentals.

| 1881 census<br>Bryn Clochydd, Gw  | ytherin                     | (PRO re | ef. RG 11/           | /5535 p.7)  |                      |                  |
|---|-----------------------------|---------|----------------------|---|----------------------|------------------|
| David Griffiths   | H                           | Μ       | 63                   | farmer of 160 acres   | b. Gw                | ytherin, Denbigh |
| Hannah Griffiths  | W                           | Μ       | 53                   | farmer's wife   | b.                   |                  |
| John R. Griffiths   | son                         | unm     | 22                   | farmer's son  | b.                   | "                |
| Margaret Hughes   | serv.                       | unm     | 35                   | general servant   | b.                   | "                |
| David Griffiths   | serv.                       | unm     | 26                   | farm servant indoors  | b.                   | "                |
| Tyddyn Mwsog (9pp   | 78.0)                       |         |                      |   |                      |                  |
| I yuuyn wiwsog (9pp   | )./&8)                      |         |                      |   |                      |                  |
| Elias Jones   | H                           | М       | 43                   | mason & farmer 15 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> acres               | b. Gw                | ytherin, Denbigh |
|   | ′                           | M<br>M  | 43<br>44             | mason & farmer 15 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> acres farmer's wife | b. Gw<br>b.          | ytherin, Denbigh |
| Elias Jones   | Н                           |         |                      |   |                      | , U              |
| Elias Jones<br>Anne Jones   | H<br>W                      |         | 44                   | farmer's wife   | b.                   | <i>.</i>         |
| Elias Jones<br>Anne Jones<br>Jane Jones                                 | H<br>W<br>dau               |         | 44<br>14             | farmer's wife<br>farmer's daughter                                | b.<br>b.             |                  |
| Elias Jones<br>Anne Jones<br>Jane Jones<br>William Jones                | H<br>W<br>dau<br>son        |         | 44<br>14<br>12       | farmer's wife<br>farmer's daughter<br>scholar                     | b.<br>b.<br>b.       | а<br>а<br>а      |
| Elias Jones<br>Anne Jones<br>Jane Jones<br>William Jones<br>Elias Jones | H<br>W<br>dau<br>son<br>son |         | 44<br>14<br>12<br>10 | farmer's wife<br>farmer's daughter<br>scholar                     | b.<br>b.<br>b.<br>b. | а<br>а<br>а<br>а |

**1888** – Hannah Griffths died aged 61 yrs. She was buried with her daughter, Elizabeth who had died aged 2 years.

#### 1891 census

| Bryn Clochydd (PRO ref. RG 12/4632 p.5) |           |      |    |                     |                      | lang.spk |
|---|-----------|------|----|---------------------|----------------------|----------|
| David Griffith                          | Н         | wid. | 78 | farmer              | b. Gwytherin, Denb.  | Welsh    |
| John Rob <sup>t</sup> . Griffith        | n son     | Μ    | 31 | farmer's son        | b. "                 | "        |
| Sarah Griffith d                        | au.in law | Μ    | 25 | farmer's wife       | b. "                 | "        |
| Hannah Griffith                         | gr.dau    |      | 4  |                     | b. "                 | "        |
| Mary Griffith                           | gr.dau    |      | 2  |                     | b. "                 | "        |
| David Griffith                          | nephew    | unm  | 29 | agricultural lab.   | b. "                 | "        |
| <b>Richard Jones</b>                    | serv.     | unm  | 18 | "                   | b. "                 | "        |
| Sarah Hughes                            | serv.     | unm  | 26 | general servant     | b. Llangernyw, Denb. | "        |
| Thomas Roberts                          | visitor   | Μ    | 45 | Calvinist Methodist | b. Tudweiliog,       | "        |
|   |           |      |    | Preacher            | Carnarvonshire       |          |

By 1891 Tyddyn Mwsogl was no longer occupied.

| 1891 census  |             |                           |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| Tyddyn Mwsog | uninhabited | (PRO ref. RG 12/4632 p.5) |

1899 – David Griffiths died aged 81 years.

# 20<sup>th</sup> Century

David Griffith' son, John Robert, took over the tenancy of Bryn Clochydd after the death of his father. He married, Sarah Williams of Llwyn Saint Farm in 1885, and they had seven children – Sarah who died aged 7 months, Hannah, Mary, David, Blodwen, John, Robert.

| 1901 census                             |       |   |    |                 |       |                 |       |
|---|-------|---|----|-----------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| Bryn Clochydd (PRO ref. RG 13/5242 p.1) |       |   |    |                 |       |                 |       |
| John Robert Griffith                    | Η     | Μ | 42 | farmer employer | b. Gv | wytherin, Denb. | Welsh |
| Sarah Griffith                          | W     | Μ | 35 |                 | b.    | <u></u>         | "     |
| Hannah Griffith                         | dau   |   | 14 | at home         | b.    | <u></u>         | "     |
| Mary Griffith                           | dau   |   | 11 |                 | b.    | "               | "     |
| David Griffith                          | son   |   | 9  |                 | b.    | <u></u>         | "     |
| Blodwen Griffith                        | dau   |   | 6  |                 | b.    | دد              | "     |
| John Griffith                           | son   |   | 4  |                 | b.    | "               | "     |
| Catherine Edwards                       | serv. |   | 13 | domestic        | b.    | <u></u>         | "     |
| Robert Thomas                           | serv. |   | 16 | carter on farm  | b.    | "               | "     |

Tyddyn Mwsogl not listed.

**1905 5**<sup>th</sup> **May** - The Weekly News and Visitors Chronicle for Colwyn Bay, Colwyn, Llandrillo, Conway, Deganwy and Neighbourhood.

Parish Council – The annual meeting was held at the Council School on Tuesday the 18<sup>th</sup> April, when there were present Messrs. **J.R,Griffith (Chairman), Bryn Clochydd**; David Davies, Ty'n'rerw; Owen Jones, Dolfadyn, R.E.Williams, Llwyn Saint; R.Jones, Ty'nddol; and the clerk Mr.R.E.Thomas – **Mr. J.R.Griffiths (Bryn Clochydd)** was unanimously elected Chairman, and the Overseers chosen were Messrs. R.E.Williams (Tai Pella), Hugh Owen (Tyddyn Ucha), and Hugh Owen (Tyddyn Dafydd). Mr.W.G.Owen Metropolitan Bank, Llanrwst was elected Treasurer

John Robert Griffiths left the farm in 1907.

**1907** 8<sup>th</sup> November - The Weekly News and Visitors Chronicle for Colwyn Bay, Colwyn, Llandrillo, Conway, Deganwy and Neighbourhood.

Sale – On Thursday last, at Bryn Clochydd, Gwytherin, Messrs, Blackwall, Hayes & Co. conducted an inportant sale of live stock for **Mr.J.R.Griffiths**, who is leaving the farm. A large company of buyers from all parts of the country had assembled, and the result was a record sale. All the cattle were cleared at highly satisfactory prices, ranging from store bullocks and heifers at £10 and £12, up to cows and heifers with calf at foot, at £15 10s to £17 10s. The heavy horses were a grand lot, and two magnificent animals fit for town work, were sold at £62 and £65 respectively.Three year old colts and fillies made up to £25 10s. Mountain ponies also sold well at £5 to £8 12s 6d each.

David Davies and his wife Mary took over the tenancy of Bryn Clochydd.

| 1911 census  |     |    |                      |                      |       |
|--|-----|----|----------------------|----------------------|-------|
| Bryn Clochydd (PRO ref. Reg.district 624; sub-district 1; enumeration district 18. p.54) |     |    |                      |                      |       |
| David Davies   | Η   | 48 | farmer               | b. Llangernyw, Denb. | Both  |
| Mary Davies  | W   | 37 |                      | b. Llansannan, Denb. | Welsh |
| Robert Herbert Davies  | son | 14 | farmer's son on farm | b. Gwytherin, Deb.   | Both  |

| John Davies          | son   | 13 | school         | b.   | "               | Welsh |
|----------------------|-------|----|----------------|------|-----------------|-------|
| Evan Emrys Davies    | son   | 11 | "              | b.   | "               | دد    |
| Catherine Davies     | dau   | 10 | "              | b.   | "               | دد    |
| Arthur C.Davies      | son   | 7  | "              | b.   | "               | دد    |
| David Charles Davies | son   | 5  | home           | b.   | "               | دد    |
| Howell Aled Davies   | son   | 1  | home           | b.   | "               |       |
| Robert Jones         | serv. | 21 | carter on farm | b. L | landdewi, Denb. | دد    |

#### Tyddyn Mwsogl not listed.

After the death of the 4<sup>th</sup> Baron Newborough, William Charles Wynn in 1916, his brother, Thomas John Wynn, succeeded to the title and the estates but death duties almost certainly led to the sale of some of his properties.

**10<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1918** – Sale of the outlying portions of the estate of Lord Newborough, in the pa. of Denbigh, Llanrhaiadr, Llansannan, Llanfairtalhaearn and Gwytherin.<sup>66 67</sup>



<sup>66.</sup> Ruthin Archives - Porter Papers ref. DD/PO/1902

<sup>67.</sup> Denbighshire Free Press - 14th September 1918

Bryn y Clochydd, Lot 18<sup>68</sup>, was described as:-

'A Valuable Freehold Farm situate half a mile from Gwytherin, 7 from Llanrwst and 6 from Llansannan containing an area of 167 acres 3 roods 5 perches or thereabout. In the occupation of Mr. David Davies. The house contains parlour, kitchen, back kitchen, dairy and four bedrooms. The buildings comprise chop house, barn, trap house, shippons for 10 cows with calf cotes, four young stock sheds, stable for three horses, loose box, granary and tool house, two pig styes and fowl house. There is a quillet or piece of land about an acre in extent in field no.723 which belongs to Mr. Robert Williams Ty Newydd, Pennant and right of way for all purposes is also reserved over the occupation road as now enjoyed.

Lord Newborough expressed a desire that the tenants should, as far as possible, acquire them. He stated that, "Many of the holdings have been in the same families for generations, and ..... the rents had not been increased during that long period; in fact some of the tenants paid the same rents as their ancestors 140 years ago."

Bryn y Clochydd was sold to Mr. David Davies the tenant for £1,400.

**1943** – Bryn Clochydd was sold to William Henry Jones, his brother, George Lloyd Jones and sister, Catherine Margaret Jones. It was farmed by George Lloyd Jones who lived at Bryn Clochydd with his wife, Mary. They had two sons, George Lloyd Jones and Dafydd John Jones and a stepsister Eirwen Roberts.

**1955 29**<sup>th</sup> **November** - An adjoining small-holding, Bron Haul, was acquired and became part of the farm.

**1970** - George Lloyd Jones senior left the farm in 1970 and by 1972 arrangements had been made within the family whereby the farm was bought by William Henry Jones, Catherine Ann Jones and William Morus Jones. The farm was worked but not inhabited until 1987 when William Morus Jones, his wife, Gwenda Jones and their three daughters, Rhian Haf Jones, Delyth Ann Jones and Elen Medi Jones renovated the house and erected new buildings before moving there to live.

**1995** – William Morus Jones and Gwenda Jones acquired full possession of the property.

**2010 October** – A further nine acres of land, which was part of Ty'n Llan fields, Gwytherin was bought by auction, bringing the total acreage of Bryn Clochydd to 221 acres, plus sheep grazing of approximately 80 acres on the Hiraethog mountains.

.....

Gill Jones Ann Morgan 2019

<sup>68.</sup>Map - Ruthin Archives - Porter Papers ref.DD/PO1902

#### The Royal House of Cunedda



## The Ancestry of Braint Hir Founder of the 10<sup>th</sup> Noble Tribe of North Wales

Cunedda c.385 progenitor of the house of Gwynedd Einion Yrth c.415 I Owain Ddantgwyn c.445 I Cynglas c.480 Ι Meig c.515 I Cyngen c.550 Cadwallon Crisban c.580 I Idgwyn c.615 Ι Einion c.645 Ι Rhufon c.680 Ι Meirion c.715 Rychwyn Farfog c. 720 (Rhychwyn the bearded of Rhos) Ι T Caradog c.745 Cynwas c.750 Hywel c.785 obit 825 Caranog Glewddigar c.785 of Bodrychwyn, Rhos I Ι Kings of Gwynydd Caradog Freich Fras [1] c.820 Geraint c.815 Iago Ι Ι Ι Gwgan Gleddyfrudd c.855 Nefydd c.850 m. ? vch Cadfan Ι Cadfan I Ι Ι I Gwaithfoed c.885 **Braint Hir** [2] c.880 Gwydr Drwm m. Efeilian Ι sister of Cadwallon Ι Heilig c.950

N.B. Ancient Welsh Studies

[1] The pedigree from Cunedda down to Hywel is from Harleian Ms 3859, 3. while the pedigree from Caradog Freich Fras down to Heilig is from Pen. 181, 391 and Pen. 140, 19. Attaching Caradog Freich Fras to Hywel is without ancient authority, and is only our suggested construction.

[2] The pedigree from Rychwyn down to Braint Hir is cited in HLG 11; attaching the family to Rhufon is merely our suggestion.

N.B. Cadfan ap Iago was a patron of St.Beuno.
## The Descendants of Llywarch



\* Did the tombstone, depicting a flowery cross and chalice, found in Capel Gwenfrewy belong to this Llywarch?

The heraldry associated with the Braint Hir clan:-





## The Descendants of Marchudd ap Cynan

Rhys Wynn m. d. of Robert ap Iorwerth ap Ririd I Ieuan m. Angharad vch Hwlkin Holland I Einion Fychan John Wynn Angharad Efa m. Angharad vch Griffith ap Kendrig of the ix Noble Tribe founded by Hedd Molwynog I David Llwyd ap Einion Fychan cont. Appendix 3 b

source: Burke's Genealogical & Heraldic History of the Landed Gentry Vol.2 pp1655-1656

## The Wynnes of Melai



| Dorothy          | Barbara                    |   |  |
|------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| ale vch Hugh Llo | yd Rosindale               |   |  |
| herine           | Margaret                   | John Wynne of<br>b.6/2/1688 d.29/5<br>m. 7/4/1713<br>Sydney Willian<br>bap.30/1/1693/94<br>bur.14/8/1751<br>I | 5/1718<br><b>ms</b> vch Sir William Williams of  |
|                  | William Wynne<br>1716-1716 | Margaret<br>1717-1734   | <b>Jane</b> hrs.<br>d.24/4/1784<br>m. 1735<br><b>Sir John Wynne</b><br>of Glynllifon & Bodfean<br>1701-1773  |
|                  | 2                          | ale vch Hugh Lloyd Rosindale<br>therine Margaret<br>William Wynne   | ale vch Hugh Lloyd Rosindale<br>therine Margaret John Wynne o<br>b.6/2/1688 d.29/:<br>m. 7/4/1713<br>Sydney Willia<br>bap.30/1/1693/94<br>bur.14/8/1751<br>I<br>William Wynne Margaret |

cont. Appendix 4

## The Newborough Family

|   |   | Sir Thomas W<br>1676/77-1749<br>1 <sup>st</sup> bart. of Bodver<br>Sir John Wyn<br>1701-1773 2 <sup>nd</sup> bar<br>of Glynllifon & E | an I<br><br><b>In</b> m. 17.<br>rt.  |   | ces Glynne d & hrs<br><b>Wynne</b> hrs of Mela               | Glynllifon      |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|-----------------|
|   |   | <b>Thomas Wyn</b><br>1736-1807  | n m. 176   | d.178   | ly Catherine Egren<br>2<br>5 2. <b>Maria Stella P</b>        |                 |
|   |   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> bart.   |  | I / 80  | I  | etionena        |
|   |   | created an Irish p  | oor 1776   | I   | I  |                 |
|   |   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Baron Lord Ne   |  | I   | I  |                 |
|   |   | of Glynllifon, Bo   | -  | Ī   | I  |                 |
|   |   | Melai & Maenan  |  | Ī   | I  |                 |
|   |   |   |  | -   | -  |                 |
| John  |   |   |  |   |  |                 |
| 1772-180  | 0   | <b>Thoma</b><br>1802-18<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> baror  | -  | nn  | 1803-1888  | Bulkeley Wynn   |
| m.  |   | died unn  | narried  |   | m  | -               |
| Magdaler  | na (Lena)   |   |  |   | Frances  | Maria de Winton |
| no issu   | ie  |   |  |   | Ι  |                 |
|   |   |   |  |   |  |                 |
|   | Thomas  | William   | Charl  | es  | Frederick  | + 6 daughters   |
|   |   |   |  |   |  | •               |
|   | 2   | Percival Wynn   | -  | ynn   | George Wynn  | C               |
|   | ohn Wynn<br>1840-1878   | Percival Wynn<br>1845-1851  | 1847-191   | ynn<br>1  | <b>George Wynn</b><br>1853-1932                              |                 |
|   | 1840-1878   | 5   | 1847-191<br>inherited Ru   | ynn<br>l<br>g estate  | George Wynn<br>1853-1932<br>inherited the Newbo              | brough estate   |
|   | 1840-1878<br>m.   | 1845-1851   | 1847-191<br>inherited Ru<br>m.187  | ynn<br>1<br>g estate<br>6   | <b>George Wynn</b><br>1853-1932                              | brough estate   |
|   | 1840-1878<br>m.   | 1845-1851   | 1847-191<br>inherited Ru   | ynn<br>1<br>g estate<br>6   | George Wynn<br>1853-1932<br>inherited the Newbo              | brough estate   |
|   | 1840-1878<br>m.   | 1845-1851   | 1847-191<br>inherited Ru<br>m.187  | ynn<br>1<br>g estate<br>6   | George Wynn<br>1853-1932<br>inherited the Newbo              | brough estate   |
| Sybil Anna C  | 1840-1878<br>m.<br>Catherine Con<br>I   | 1845-1851<br>rbett France   | 1847-191<br>inherited Ru<br>m.187<br>es Georgina<br>I  | ynn<br>1<br>g estate<br>6<br>Romer                                | George Wynn<br>1853-1932<br>inherited the Newbo              | brough estate   |
| Sybil Anna C<br><br>William                                     | 1840-1878<br>m.<br>Catherine Con<br>I<br>Thom   | 1845-1851<br>rbett France<br>   | 1847-191<br>inherited Ru<br>m.187<br>es Georgina<br>I<br><br>Robe                                | ynn<br>1<br>g estate<br>6<br>Romer<br>                            | George Wynn<br>1853-1932<br>inherited the Newbo              | orough estate   |
| Sybil Anna C  | 1840-1878<br>m.<br>Catherine Con<br>I   | 1845-1851<br>rbett France<br><br>as   | 1847-191<br>inherited Ru<br>m.187<br>es Georgina<br>I<br><br>Robe<br>Vaughar                     | ynn<br>1<br>g estate<br>6<br>Romer<br><br>rt<br>n Wynn            | George Wynn<br>1853-1932<br>inherited the Newbo<br>unmarried | -               |
| Sybil Anna C<br><br>William<br>Charles                          | 1840-1878<br>m.<br>Catherine Con<br>I<br>Thom<br>John                                 | 1845-1851<br>rbett France<br><br><b>as</b>  | 1847-191<br>inherited Ru<br>m.187<br>es Georgina<br>I<br><br>Robe<br>Vaughar                     | ynn<br>1<br>g estate<br>6<br>Romer<br>rt<br>n Wynn<br>n inherited | George Wynn<br>1853-1932<br>inherited the Newbo              | -               |
| Sybil Anna C<br><br>William<br>Charles<br>4 <sup>th</sup> baron | 1840-1878<br>m.<br>Catherine Con<br>I<br><b>Thom</b><br>John<br>5 <sup>th</sup> baron | 1845-1851<br>rbett France<br>   | 1847-191<br>inherited Ru<br>m.187<br>es Georgina<br>I<br>Robe<br>Vaughar<br>6 <sup>th</sup> baro | ynn<br>1<br>g estate<br>6<br>Romer<br>rt<br>n Wynn<br>n inherited | George Wynn<br>1853-1932<br>inherited the Newbo<br>unmarried | -               |

Appendix 5

Richard Jones – Will 1782 (NLW ref. SA/1782/54/W)

I Richard Jones of Tyddyn Mwsog in the parish of Gwytherin in the County of Denbigh and in the Diocese of St.Asaph yeoman being sick and weak in Body but of sound mind memory and understanding Praized be God for the same. Doe make and ordain this my Last Will and Testament in manner and form following.

First my will and Desire is that my Body may be buried in a decently manner at the Discretion of my Executors and as to the worldly estate nd effects that God hath been pleased to bestow upon me. I dispose of them as followeth -

First Also all my Goods, Cattles, Chattels and personal Estate and Effects of what kind or nature soever they be I give leave and bequeath to my loving wife Elizabeth Williams and I doe hereby nominate constitute and appoint her to be my sole Executrix of this my Last will and Testament and lastly I doe hereby nominate and appoint my friend Richard Owen of Hendre, my nevew *(nephew)* John Williams of Brin 'r hafod and Henry Jones of Tyddyn Dinas all in the said parish of Gwytherin to be the Trustees of the said Elizabeth Williams And lastly I doe hereby revoke and disannul all before this time named, willed and bequeathed, Ratifying and confirming This and no other to be my Last will and Testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seal this third day of April in the year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred and eighty two.

Signed, sealed published and declared by the said Testator Richard Jones as and for his last will andTestament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence signed our names as witness hereto The mark of the said Richard 7 Jones

Thomas Jones – Llaen (signed)

Richard **K** Owen - Hendre's mark

Henry Jones

Appendix 6

Richard Griffith – Will 1822 (NLW ref. SA/1822/38/W)

In the name of God Amen. I Richard Griffith of Bryn y Clochydd in the parish of Gwytherin in the County of Denbigh and Diocese of St.Asaph, farmer, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in form and manner following. First I recommend my soul into the hands of the Almighty God, hoping through the merits of Jesus Christ to have full pardon and forgiveness of all my sins And for my body I recommend it to the earth to be buried Christian like at the discretion of my executor hereafter named – and as touching such worldly estate where with it hath pleased God to bless me in this life. I do give and dispose the same in manner and form following -

First I give and bequeath unto my son John Griffith the sum of ten pounds and also nine pounds for his children to be shared between all his children share and share alike.

Also I give and bequeath to my daughter ...... Griffith the sum of five pounds.

I also give and bequeath to my grandson Robert Roberts the sum of fifteen pounds and the oak cupboard with drawer.

I also give and bequeath to my grand daughter Margaret Roberts the sum of two pounds and the oak wainscot chest.

I also give and bequeath to my grandson Richard Roberts the sum of three pounds.

I also give to my grand daughter Elinor Roberts the sum of three pounds.

Lastly I give and bequeath to my son David Griffith all the rest and residue of my personal estate, goods & chattels and credits All whatsoever, whom I likewise ordain to be my only and sole Executor of this my last Will & Testament to pay my just debts and legacies funeral expenses etc. As witness set my hand and seal this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March 1819.

The mark of Rich<sup>d</sup> Griffith & seal

Signed sealed published and declared in the presence of us.

Rich<sup>d</sup> Griffith Thos. Jones

Probate granted January 30<sup>th</sup> 1822

|      | Some of the Tenants of Bryn Clochydd  |
|------|---|
| 1719 | 14/4/1707 Gwytherin<br><b>Pierce ap Robert</b> m. <b>Jane Hughes</b><br>of Dolfadyn<br>I  |
|      | AnneThomasRobertHughbap.3/3/1708bap.14/5/1711bap. 13 May 1719bap.8/4/1714b. Dolfadynb. Bryn Clochydd  |
| 1734 | Griffith Thomas of Bryn Clochydd - buried   |
| 1735 | <b>Richard Thomas</b> m. <b>Catherine</b><br>yeoman<br>I  |
|      | RobertRichardbap.12/3/1731bap.29 Jan 1736Bryn Clochydd  |
| 1736 | Alice Cadwaladr servant of Bryn Clochydd buried   |
| 1737 | William Pritchard of Bryn Clochydd died   |
| 1768 | 11th/4/1768 LlannefyddRobert Griffith m. Elin1802Richard Griffith m. Ellen/Eleanor JonesRobert Griffith m. Elin1802Will 1822of LlannefyddII           |
|      | David    Elizabeth    Elinor    John Richard    Margaret    Catherine      9 Feb 1769    14/4/1771    24/1/1775    13/5/1779    4/7/1802    18/3/1811 |

| <b>Elizabeth</b><br>b.abt. 1776 Llanr  | Robert   | Roberts   |   |  | 1805  |
|--|--|---|---|--|---|
| I<br>I<br>I  | I<br>I<br>I  |   |   |  |   |
| m. m.<br>Ann Hughes Hannah Jo<br>bab. 12/2/1<br>Llanrws<br>d.1888 aged o<br>I                      | 8 b.abt.1819 b.17<br>bap.20<br>b.Tu Hw<br>m. 1850<br>ones David Davies<br>826<br>t | linor Robert  | Richard      n.    b.8 <sup>th</sup> April      5    9/4/1797 | Margaret<br>b.2 <sup>nd</sup> July<br>4/7/1802 | $b.24^{th}$ Mar. $b.18^{th}$ Mar.                               |
|  | m.<br>Sarah  | <b>Robert Griffit</b><br>March qtr.1885 L<br><b>Williams</b><br>d/o Samuel & Ma | lanrwst reg.  | lwyn Saint F                                   | arm   |
| Sarah Han<br>d.1899<br>7 months  | nah Mary   | David   | Blodwen   | John   | Robert  |
| 1787 - This family liv<br>Richard Griffith & his<br>David Davies was pro<br>a labourer on the farm | s family. <b>D</b><br>bably  | D <b>avid Davies</b> r<br>I   | n. Catherine  | Jones  |   |
|  | Elinor<br>bap.18 July 1787<br>bur.29 Dec 1787                                      | Elinor<br>bap.15/3/1  | b.1   | ary<br>2 <sup>th</sup> August<br>14 Aug 1791   | <b>David Davies</b><br>b.13 <sup>th</sup> June<br>bap.16/6/1796 |
| 1911<br>Purchased the<br>property in 1918  | <b>David D</b><br>b.abt.1863<br>Llangerny  | b.at  | <b>ary</b><br>ot.1874<br>nsannan                              |  |   |
| Robert Jo<br>Herbert   | hn Evan<br>Emyr  | Catherine (   |   |  | Iywel Mary<br>Aled  |

Some of the Tenants of Tyddyn Mwsogl 1753 **Richard Jones m. Elizabeth Williams** 1784 yeoman of Tyddyn Mwsogl died and left a will bur. 27/7/1782 ..... 21/12/1787 Gwytherin 1788 David Jones m. Catherine Roberts I 
 Robert
 Richard
 David
 Elizabeth
 John
 William
 Thomas
 Elinor
 David
 Catherine
 Moses
 Moses

 b.9<sup>th</sup> May
 b.6<sup>th</sup> June
 b.12<sup>th</sup> Feb.
 b.9<sup>th</sup> Aug.
 b.2<sup>nd</sup> Oct.
 b.23<sup>rd</sup> Feb.
 b.3<sup>rd</sup> Dec.
 b.18<sup>th</sup> Sept.
 b.15<sup>th</sup> May
 b.26<sup>th</sup> Aug

 bap.11/5/1789
 8/6/1791
 14/2/1794
 13/8/1796
 3/10/1798
 23/2/1800
 6/12/1801
 25/9/1803
 17/5/1807
 2/9/1812
b.26<sup>th</sup>Aug 2/9/1812 d. young bur.9/12/1810 d.young b.Tyddyn Mwsogl b.Ty'n y Pwll .....b. Ty Draw, Pennant ..... ..... 13/11/1789 Gwytherin 1792 John Owen m. Elizabeth Jones Ι William bap.1 March 1792 b.28 Feb. bur. 11 Sept.1792 d.9th b. Tyddyn Mwsogl ..... 1794 Elizabeth Williams widow of Richard Jones 1795 **Robert Jones** ..... 24/4/1795 Gwytherin 1798 John Jones m. Jane Jones

Appendix 8

|       |                            | b.3 <sup>1</sup> | nry<br><sup>d</sup> April<br>.6/4/1798<br>b. | John<br>b.21 <sup>st</sup> Dec.<br>bap.25/12/180<br>Tyddyn Mws | b.7<br>9 bar | <br>illiam<br><sup>th</sup> Nov.<br>6/11/1812<br> |
|-------|----------------------------|------------------|--|--|--------------|---|
|       |                            | d.22             | <b>bert Roberts</b><br>/12/1859<br>d 91 yrs  | d.22/12/13<br>aged 77 y  |              |   |
|       |                            | <br>Ma           | rgaret                                       | <b>Anne</b> b.abt.1818   | 19           | erin  |
|       | Robert<br>d.1880<br>25 yrs | Richard          | Elinor<br>b.abt.1844<br>d. aged 7yrs         | Margaret<br>b.abt.1846   |              | Hannah  |
|       |                            |                  | ept.qtr.1864 Llar<br><b>as Davies</b> m<br>I |  | iams         |   |
| Marga | aret Jane                  | William          | Elias Anne                                   | Myfanw   | y Claudia    | Dora  |

sources for the tenants of Bryn Clochydd and Tyddyn Mwsogl Parish Registers Gwytherin - Heulwen Ann Roberts N.B. Dates in Green - 1<sup>st</sup> known date when a tenant was recorded at the property.