Cyflwyniad

Rhyddhawyd cyllid at amrywiol amcanion gan ddathliadau'r Mileniwm. Dosbarthwyd rhan o'r arian hwn, drwy Help the Aged (Cymorth i'r Henoed), i brosiectau sydd yn gysylltiedig â phobl hŷn mewn ardaloedd gwledig.

Gan eu bod wedi byw drwy'r rhan fwyaf o'r ganrif a aeth heibio, teimlai'r pump aelod ar hugain o Gymdeithas yr Henoed, Ceulanamaesmawr y byddent yn groniclwyr delfrydol o ddigwyddiadau'r ganrif ddiwethaf. Cafwyd tîm o saith, tri ohonynt wedi eu geni ym mhentref Tal-y-bont. O ganlyniad penderfynwyd ysgrifennu hanes Ceulanamaesmawr a chynhyrchu llyfr o'r enw *Ein Canrif – Our Century*.

Gwnaethpwyd cais llwyddiannus am £10,000, yr uchafswm a oedd ar gael, a digon i gynhyrchu llyfr dwyieithog. Yn anffodus, roedd y rheolau yn datgan bod yn rhaid i'r grant gael ei wario o fewn chwe mis – tasg amhosibl. Fodd bynnag, gwnaethpwyd eithriad yn ein hachos ni gan y byddai'r rhan fwyaf o'r arian yn cael ei wario yn yr ardal. Hefyd, roedd y rheolau yn datgan na ellid gwneud arian allan o'r prosiect, felly penderfynwyd cynhyrchu wyth gant o gopïau i'w dosbarthu yn rhad ac am ddim.

Dosbarthwyd taflenni yn y pentrefi a'r ffermydd oddi amgylch yn sôn am y prosiect ac yn erfyn am hanes nifer o grwpiau amrywiol y gymuned. Prynwyd cyfarpar i recordio hanes llafar ac anogwyd trigolion i chwilio am hen luniau o bobl a digwyddiadau.

Profodd Ceulanamaesmawr i fod yn ficrocosm o gymdeithas yn ei chyfanrwydd. Roedd mentrau masnachol yn y gorffennol wedi cynnwys mwyngloddio, y diwydiant gwehyddu, amaethyddiaeth, gwestai, siopau a chrefftwyr. Yr unig rai i oroesi yw amaethyddiaeth, tair siop, dau westy, garej a chwmni cyhoeddi. Ym Montgoch, caewyd yr ysgol a'r capel; erys yr eglwys. Yn Nhal-y-bont caewyd un capel; erys dau gapel, yr eglwys, yr ysgol a'r neuadd bentref.

Yn y tudalennau canlynol sonnir am y newidiadau a ddigwyddodd a'r effaith a gafodd y newidiadau hyn, a achoswyd yn

Introduction

The Millennium celebrations released a flow of funding for various purposes. Part of this funding was allocated, via Help the Aged, to projects which would involve elderly people in rural areas.

The twenty five members of Cymdeithas yr Henoed, Ceulanamaesmawr felt that as they had lived through most of the past century, they were the ideal chroniclers of the events that took place over the past hundred years. A team of seven emerged, three of whom were born in the village of Tal-y-bont. As a result it was decided to write a history of Ceulanamaesmawr and to produce a book entitled, *Ein Canrif – Our Century*.

A successful application was made for £10,000, the maximum amount available, sufficient to produce a bilingual book. Unfortunately, the rules specified that the grant was to be spent in six months – an impossible task. However, special dispensation was given in our case as most of the money would be spent in the area. Also, the rules specified that no money could be made from the project, so it was decided to produce eight hundred copies for free distribution.

The villages and surrounding farms were leafleted announcing the project and appealing for the history of the many diverse groups of the community. Equipment was bought to make oral history recordings and residents were encouraged to search for old photographs of people and events.

Ceulanamaesmawr proved to be a fascinating microcosm of society as a whole. Commercial enterprises in the past had included mining, the textile industry, agriculture, hotels, shops and craftsmen. The only survivors are agriculture, three shops, two hotels, a garage and a publishing company. In Bontgoch the school and chapel have closed; the church remains. In Tal-y-bont one chapel has closed; two chapels, the church, the school and the village hall remain.

What has emerged in the following pages are the changes that have taken place and the impact these changes, caused principally

bennaf gan y ddau ryfel byd, y car modur a'r teledu, ar y gymuned gyda'i threftadaeth gyfoethog o ddiwylliant.

Yr oeddem yn ffodus iawn i gael defnyddio dwy ffynhonnell bwysig o adnoddau. Yn gyntaf, *Papur Pawb* gyda'i gyfoeth o storïau am fywyd yr ardal yn y gorffennol, a detholiad rhyfeddol o hanesion gan drigolion y gorffennol a'r presennol. Yn ail, roedd ffotograffydd brwdfrydig iawn yn byw yn Nhal-y-bont, o'r enw E.O. Jones a dynnai luniau pobl a digwyddiadau hyd at ei farwolaeth ym 1915 ac mae Arvid Parry-Jones a'i fab Robert, dau ffotograffydd newyddion proffesiynol, yn byw yn y pentref ar hyn o bryd.

Er mai aelodau o Gymdeithas yr Henoed, Ceulanamaesmawr a ysgrifennodd ac a wnaeth lawer o'r gwaith ymchwil i'r llyfr, mae cydweithrediad aelodau o nifer o sefydliadau eraill wedi ei wneud yn gyfraniad gwerthfawr i'r gymuned.

Valma Jones
Ithel Jones
Gwilym Roberts
Kathleen Richards
Eirwen Gwynn
Jim Hammonds
Lyn Hammonds

2002

by two world wars, the motor car and television, had on the community with its rich heritage of culture.

We were very fortunate in having access to two very important sources of material. Firstly, *Papur Pawb* with its wealth of stories about past life in the area and a wonderful selection of anecdotes from past and present residents. Secondly, Tal-y-bont had a keen photographer named E.O. Jones who photographed people and events up until his death in 1915 and the village currently has Arvid Parry-Jones and his son, Robert, two professional news photographers.

Although much of the book has been researched and written by members of Cymdeithas yr Henoed, Ceulanamasmawr, the co-operation of members of many other organisations has made this a valuable contribution to the community.

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