



# ANTUR NANTLLE CYF ANNUAL REPORT



**2008 / 2009**

## A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN



**Coun. O P Huws**

It is a pleasure to present Antur Nantlle's Annual Report once again this year.

This is our 18<sup>th</sup> year as a company and as one of the founder members I am delighted to say that 'we are still here' and still making an impact on the economic life in Dyffryn Nantlle.

Thanks to all of you who have worked with the Antur in any way during the year and a special thanks to our devoted staff who have worked tirelessly for the company. Thanks also to my co-directors for their time and presence, all on a voluntary basis.

I would especially like to thank Alun Ffred Jones AM for his contribution and support. Alun was the company's Chairman for fourteen years and following that was our Honorary President. He resigned as director during this year after his appointment as Heritage Minister with the Welsh Assembly Government. We are proud of his success and wish him well in his new role.

I am pleased to note that all our units are full and thanks to all our tenants for their contribution to the local economy. Even though these are not the best days for the economy, the impact of small local business is substantial in areas like Dyffryn Nantlle.

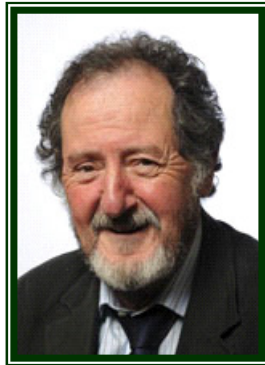
Antur Nantlle has not escaped the effects of this recession which is affecting everyone in some way. Unfortunately there is not as much grant money available today as there used to be. This support has been important to our organization to help us carry on and in view of these changes maybe our biggest challenge will now be to re-define our role and restructure to ensure the continuation of our role of working for the people of Dyffryn Nantlle.

It is with regret that we have decided to end our role as Accountable Body for the Talysarn and Nantlle Partnership of the Communities First Programme at the end of the year, to concentrate our energies on other specific projects. But Antur Nantlle are still represented on the Partnership and we will be happy to continue with our role as a member. We wish them well and look forward to working with the Partnership on economic projects especially Renewable Energy schemes. Antur Nantlle will have a substantial contribution to make in this important field.

Thank you to all the different organisations who have helped us with our work and for the support of the people of Dyffryn Nantlle throughout the year.

Coun. O.P. Huws

ANTUR NANTLLE CYF BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
2008 - 2009



Coun. O P Huws  
Chairman



Dafydd Owen  
Vice chairman



John Pritchard



Talfryn Griffiths



Coun. Dyfed Edwards



Elwyn Jones Griffith



Gwynne Williams



Ben Gregory



Ifan Glyn Jones



Richard Wyn Huws.

## **ANTUR NANTLLE CYF**

O P Huws (Chairman)	Gwynedd Councillor
Dafydd Owen (Vice-chairman)	Director Gwasg Dwyfor
John Pritchard	Accountant
Talfryn Griffiths	Solicitor
Elwyn Jones Griffith	Retired Headmaster
Dyfed Wyn Edwards	Gwynedd Councillor
Gwynne Williams	Heating Engineer
Ben Gregory	Community Officer Tai Eryri
Ifan Glyn Jones	Retired Headmaster
Richard Wyn Huws	Self Employed

## **COMPANY SECRETARY ANTUR NANTLLE CYF**

Beryl Fretwell

Six meeting of the Board were held during the year as well as four extraordinary meetings.

The Annual General Meeting was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2008. Four directors stood down and were duly re-elected - Dafydd Owen, Talfryn Griffiths, John Pritchard, Elwyn Jones Griffith

## **STAFF MEMBERS OF ANTUR NANTLLE CYF**

Dafydd Glyn Owen	Enterprise Officer
Beryl Fretwell	Secretary
Dafydd Henry Williams	Communities First Co-ordinator
Wena Roberts	Communities First Administrative Officer
Nick Thomas	Communities First Youth Development Officer
Glenys Ll Williams	Communities First Development Officer
Bet Hughes	Caretaker – Technology Centre
Nerys Pritchard	Caretaker – Enterprise Centre
Nia Wyn Noone	Caretaker – Ty Iorwerth

## **BANKERS**

HSBC Caernarfon

## **ANTUR NANTLLE CATCHMENT AREA**

Carmel, Clynnogfawr, Dinas Dinlle, Y Fron , Y Groeslon, Llandwrog, Llanllyfni, Nantlle, Nasareth, Nebo, Penygroes, Pontllyfni, Talysarn, Tanrallt.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS 2008 / 2009**

Jobs created or safeguarded	56
Number of beneficiaries and users of our services	2500
Number who have attended training courses	78
Community projects and groups assisted	15

## **WORKING WITH**

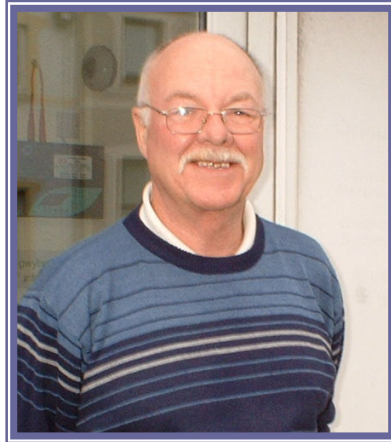
Gwynedd Council, Talysarn a Nantlle Partnership, Ymddiriedolaeth Tir Cymunedol Dyffryn Nantlle, Cyfeillion Cae'r Gors, Job Centre, Careers Wales, Coleg Harlech / WEA, Bangor University, Wales Council for Voluntary Action, Wales Co-operative Centre, Welsh Assembly Government, Dyffryn Nantlle Website Group, Mantell Gwynedd, Menter a Busnes, Gwynedd Tenancy Association, Welsh Women's Aid, Tai Eryri, Ysgol Dyffryn Nantlle, North Wales Police, Grŵp Llys Llywelyn, Grŵp Canolfan Cymdeithasol Talysarn, Gŵyl Fai Dyffryn Nantlle, Llanllyfni Community Council, Deudraeth Cyf, [communities@one](#), Talysarn Environment Group, Cylch, The Communities Investment Fund as well as other groups, societies and organisations in the community.



## **ANTUR NANTLLE'S ENTERPRISE OFFICER**

**Dafydd Glyn Owen**

**01286 882688 / 07796364279 / [dafydd@anturnantlle.com](mailto:dafydd@anturnantlle.com)**



Apart from the all important work of looking after the company's property portfolio and being on hand to assist our tenants, Dafydd's main tasks have been to arrange and attend Antur Nantlle's Board meetings and the working groups – the sub-committees meetings:-

### **i) Property and Tenancy Sub Committee**

The sub-committee discusses the upkeep of our properties, new tenancy applications etc and we are proud to report that apart from a few comings and goings all our units have been full during the period.

This year we have had to spend a substantial amount on our shop / workshop to bring it up to standard and Antur Nantlle are very pleased to welcome Meical Roberts and his company Llyn Mewn Ffrâm as the new tenant of 35 Snowdon Street.

### **ii) Antur Nantlle Economic and Industry Sub Groups**

#### **• Antur Nantlle Renewable Energy Group**

The Renewable Energy Group was founded to look into the implications of climate change and reduce the carbon footprint in Dyffryn Nantlle. Following a positive desk study on two local rivers the group decided to concentrate on these rivers and make further investigations into the possibility of developing a renewable energy hydro project locally.

Discussions were held with the owners, the Environment Agency, Gwynedd Council and the Eryri National Park and grant funding from Gwynedd Sustainability Fund enabled the group to commission a pre-feasibility study on the two rivers.

These initial investigations have proved positive and Antur Nantlle have moved forward to commission a Bryophyte Study which will determine the level of rare flora, fish and water rats etc in the rivers. The results of these studies will have to be discussed with the Environment Agency and the next step will hopefully be to commission a full Feasibility Study to move the project forward.

This is an exciting and timely project and Antur Nantlle look forward to moving forward with this very important work.

- **Antur Nantlle Tourism Group**

Following the publication of the Report on Tourism in the Nantlle Valley, Antur Nantlle formed the Tourism Group to discuss the present resources available for visitors to the area and especially the lack of places for people to stay.

In the *Planning for Real*® report which was completed for the Talysarn and Nantlle Partnership through the Communities First Programme, there is a reference to the Barics as a suitable place to develop for tourists. As the Barics belongs to Antur Nantlle the Group decided to seek funding to prepare a Business Plan for a Dyffryn Nantlle Visitor Accommodation and Outdoor Activity Centre.

The Enterprise Officer submitted a successful application for funding to the Welsh Assembly's Communities Investment Fund and secured £15,000 of grant funding to commission the study which was carried out on behalf of Antur Nantlle by Egin Partnership.

The Study was completed in December 2008 and there is enough evidence to carry on with further consultations and investigations into the best way forward to develop the project.

**REGEN SCHOOL WALES (Regen School®)  
Through Cylch (Community Recycling Network Wales)**

The Regen School is a community regeneration programme in Wales and the Enterprise Officer together with Ifan Glyn Jones a director of Antur Nantlle took part in the programme over a period of 6 months.

During this period they took part in various workshops – Business Planning, Governance and Organisational Structures, Asset Transfer & Development, Marketing, Introduction to Social Enterprise and Sustainable Funding Strategies. They were mentored by Hywel Evans (hywel evans cyf).

As part of the mentoring Hywel arranged visits to two successful outdoor activities centres – Wern Watkin in the Brecon Beacons and Glynmeddig in Brecon.

As Antur Nantlle are members of Cylch, Dafydd had opportunities to learn a lot about the recycling business and the various projects that other Cylch members are working on.

**The Victoria Hotel Penygroes**

As a community enterprise working in Dyffryn Nantlle it is not easy to ignore the sorry state of the Vic in Penygroes. The Enterprise Officer has spent a lot of time consulting with the owners and discussing various possible options with different people but nothing has developed so far.

Dafydd is always happy to welcome anyone to the office who wants to discuss local activities, start a business in the area, is looking for units or office space or has an interest in Antur Nantlle's work.

**ANTUR NANTLLE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE**  
20 Water Street, Penygroes, Gwynedd LL54 6LR 01286 882688



The Technology Centre is the administrative centre for the company, the Enterprise Officer and Secretary work from the centre. It is true to say that Antur Nantlle have kept the door to the Technology Centre open to the whole community over the past 10 years and local people and visitors to the area use our services on a daily basis, making this a real community asset – but by today this service is getting more and more difficult to sustain in the present economic climate.



Beryl Fretwell, Administrative Officer  
in the reception area of the Technology Centre

Inside you will also find the office of Gwynedd Council's Regeneration Officer and the Dyffryn Nantlle Community Land Trust.



IT hardware and IT training have changed a lot over the years. In spite of this the computer training room has been busy with various courses during this year. We wish to thank Coleg Harlech / WEA for offering good quality computer courses in Penygroes during the past 10 years. The Bangor University, Women's Institute, Caernarfon Girl Guides, local farmers and the nantlle.com website group have also benefited from our resources. We thank the Gwynedd Council's IT department for continuing to look after our computer suite.

We offer photocopying services, fax machine, internet connection, use of computers, computer courses and a direct line connection to the Job Centre Plus.

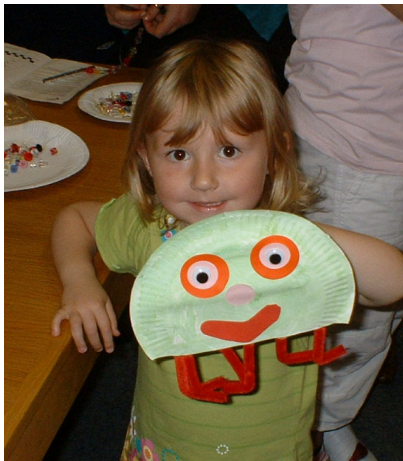
Our thanks to Bet for looking after the Technology Centre, library and 10 Water Street.

### **PENYGROES LIBRARY**

01286 880427

The Penygroes Library and Antur Nantlle's Technology Centre have been under the same roof now for 10 years and we have been working well together over the years.

People always refer to this as a user friendly and welcoming library and even though we live in a period of cut backs the Library Service still offers a free lending service and free computer use.



Mared during one of the various craft sessions for children held in the library



Cian found out that face painting is also part of the service!

## **GWYNEDD COUNCIL**

### **BRO GWYRFAI NANTLLE REGENERATION OFFICER**

The Regeneration Office, Antur Nantlle Technology Centre, 20 Water Street, Penygroes  
01286 882968



Kelvin has been our Regeneration Officer in this area for over five years now. The aim of the programme is to support groups to contribute to the economic, environmental and social regeneration of their communities.

If you are a member of any group and need support or would like to start a new group which could contribute to your community, please contact Kelvin.

During this year Kelvin has continued with his support for the Dyffryn Nantlle Community Land Trust and has given valuable advice to Antur Nantlle with their Hydro and Outdoor Activities Centre projects. Also he has been successful with phase 2,3 & 4 of the Groeslon Village Hall renovation project and phase 1 of the renovation scheme for the Memorial Hall Penygroes.

### **DYFFRYN NANTLLE COMMUNITY LAND TRUST (Ymtic) 07970574068**



Dafydd Watts  
Development Officer Dyffryn Nantlle Community Land Trust

From his office on the first floor Dafydd has been busy dealing with the Land Trust's plans for the future.

During this year, the Ymtic have conducted a survey about housing needs in Nantlle and the Llandwrog Community Council catchment area and have worked in partnership with the Welsh Assembly Government on a possible project of erecting seven houses on a piece of land in Y Groeslon. The Ymtic have also been looking into the possibilities of developing renewable energy projects which would create a source of income that would help ensure that their houses stay affordable for local people in the future. The work has been grant funded by the Gwynedd Council, the Tudor Trust and the Welsh Assembly Government.

**DYFFRYN NANTLLE ENTERPRISE CENTRE**  
Llanllyfni Road, Penygroes LL54 6DB



Paul and Brian Hatt looking after their 'PA' systems



Gwynant Parri in his studio showing a photo of Parys Mountain

This was where it all began for Antur Nantlle back in 1992 and the small industrial units in the Enterprise Centre have seen a wide variety of small businesses coming and going since then.

Today you can buy bottled gas, parts for your automobile, have your photo taken in a studio, buy specialised tree cutting services and did you know that Brian and Paul Hatt through their PA business, have connections to some of the biggest names in the pop star world – they have been working with Petula Clark, Neil Sedaka, Freddie Star to name but a few without forgetting our own Bryn Fon as well!

Some Welsh courses were held in the meeting room on site during this period.



Emma works for Celtic Auto Parts



## SHOP / WORKSHOP, 35 SNOWDON STREET, PENYNGROES



Alun Ffred Jones AC performing the official opening ceremony.

When the shop became empty during this period Antur Nantlle had to spend a substantial amount of money to bring the building up to standard. Meical Roberts and his business Llun-Mewn-Ffram was welcomed as the new tenant where he runs his picture framing business in the workshop and has opened a gallery in the shop.

Meical offers first class framing services and also sells and shows original works of art and prints by some of Wales' best known artists such as Ifor Pritchard, William Selwyn, Aneurin Jones, Keith Bowen, Keith Andrew and Diane Williams. Meical also encourages local artist by giving them space to show their work in the gallery. He also sells slate and wooden craftwork from the area.

The shop was officially opened on the 25<sup>th</sup> March by Alun Ffred Jones our local Assembly Member and the gallery has already attracted interest from local people and from further afield.

Antur Nantlle are very pleased to see another shop opening on this site especially these difficult days and in this instance a business offering a specialist service and a shop selling a wide selection of speciality goods. It is the kind of business that will make shopping in Penyngroes a more interesting experience.

Contact Meical Roberts on 012896 882056



## **Siop 22**

10 Water Street, Penygroes, Gwynedd LL54 6LR



This building has been known locally as Siop 22 since the days when a local family ran a clothes shop from the premises. Antur Nantlle are pleased that we have been able to keep these as commercial premises that offer four tenants an office in the centre of the village in Penygroes.

Matt Tuck from Matom is the ground floor tenant

Gruff Owen works for the Welsh Religious Buildings Trust in Office 2. The Trust takes care of old unused religious buildings of historical importance. For more information about the work of the Trust contact Gruff on 01286 881365

Marika Fusser is the Development Worker for North and Mid Wales for Planning Aid Wales and works in office 3 on the first floor. Planning Aid Wales offers free professional, independent help and advice on rural and urban planning issues in Wales. For more information contact Marika on 01286 882834 / [www.cymorthcynlluniocymru.org.uk](http://www.cymorthcynlluniocymru.org.uk)

For all kinds of graphic design work and web page production contact Justin Davies of Gringo Design in Office 4 on 01286 882561.

**Y BARICS**  
**Nantlle, Caernarfon, Gwynedd LL54 6BD**



Llys Llywelyn is a very busy and lively community centre for the people of Nantlle and the surrounding area offering a meeting place all kinds of clubs and societies.

Peter and Wendy Midwinter run 'Railways Unlimited' from Unit 3, where they produce repair and sell model railways and arrange displays and exhibitions.

In Unit 4 Dyfrig Peris and Jennie Corr run their business Peris a Corr. The company offers screen printing services using water based inks on t shirts, bags etc. They also produce their own range of textiles, t shirts and greeting cards.

More art work can be found in Unit 5 as Christine Matthews produces work whilst studying towards her degree at Bangor University.



Dyfrig prints his own unique designs  
Peris & Corr  
01286881787 [www.perisandcorr.com](http://www.perisandcorr.com)



**Tŷ IORWERTH**  
**39 Water Street, Penygroes, Gwynedd LL54 6ES**

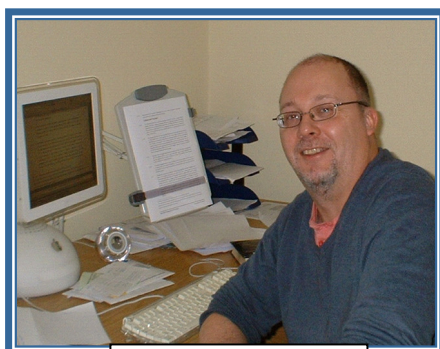


It is over five years since Antur Nantlle bought the HSBC bank building in Penygroes. The company successfully drew grant funding to renovate the two upper floors of the building into seven office units to let. When the time came to start looking for tenants we heard the news that the Welsh Women's Aid had secured grant aid to start an all Wales domestic abuse helpline and that they were looking for premises to house the service. That was the start of working together and offering a home for them in Tŷ Iorwerth. From Penygroes the helpline offers a 24 hour confidential service for women, men and children who suffer domestic abuse. (0808 8010800).

The HSBC still offer their all important banking service to the people of this area and we hope that this will carry on for years to come



Rhian and Angela work for the Welsh Women's Aid



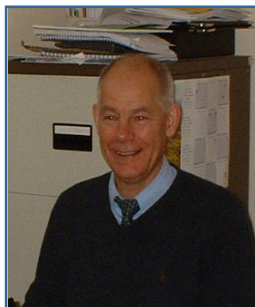
Cris Jones

Cris Jones works as a translator from Office 6 and Ben Gregory works in Office 7 with the Nicaragua Appeal.

**COMMUNITIES FIRST  
TALYSARN AND NANTLLE PARTNERSHIP 01286 881103**



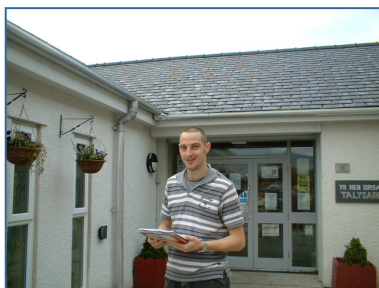
Glenys William  
Development Officer



Dafydd Williams  
Co-ordinator



Wena Roberts  
Administrative Officer



Nick Thomas  
Youth worker

Talysarn a Nantlle have been part of the Welsh Assembly's Communities First Programme for over seven years and Antur Nantlle have operated as Grant Recipient Body over this period. The main aims of the Programme are to improve living conditions in the most deprived areas of Wales, improving confidence, creating employment and developing the local economy.

To reach these aims the staff and members of the Talysarn and Nantlle Partnership have been working hard, developing ideas and activities, supporting local group and organisations such as the local market and the band.

The area has certainly benefited since the start of the Programme especially with the founding of two important community resources - the Talysarn Community Centre and Llys Llywelyn in Nantlle.

During the year it was time for the Partnership to submit an application for core funding under the Programme for a further three years. It was very disappointing to learn that the Welsh Assembly only offered 12 months funding on the strength of the application. But the Partnership put their heads together and went back to the drawing board and have now re-submitted their application. There is every confidence that this will secure the three years all important funding for the area.

The staff work in the Partnership's office within the Community Centre in Talysarn and the Co-ordinator works in Llys Llywelyn Nantlle every Wednesday.

## CONCLUSION

This report brings us to the end of our 18<sup>th</sup> year of operating in Dyffryn Nantlle and thanks to everyone for their support over the years.

We cannot ignore the headlines staring at us every day about climate change and carbon footprints. Antur Nantlle have responded by establishing a Renewable Energy Group who are looking into the possibility of developing a hydro project on local rivers to produce green energy. The first stages of the project have proven very positive but there is much work to be done before we move on – a full feasibility study to complete and finding funding to carry on - but we are positive and look forward to taking the next steps along this very exciting path.

The Tourism Group has started discussing the way forward to improve the provision for visitors to the area. A business plan for a Dyffryn Nantlle Visitor Accommodation and Outdoor Activity Centre has been completed. Moving forward with this project in the future will expand the tourist industry and bring economic benefits to the area.

Antur Nantlle are eager to see the above projects developing but doing so will need a lot of time and energy and full use of our resources. That is why the Board decided to end our role as Accountable Body for the Talysarn and Nantlle Partnership at the end of the financial year. We wish the Partnership well in the future and promise that we will be ready to support and work with them on economic projects which will benefit Dyffryn Nantlle.

Reaching 18 means opening the door and stepping out to a new period in our history. We look forward to finding new projects to develop, new ideas to discuss and working with partners on schemes that will be of benefit to our very special community.



# Partneriaeth Talysarn a Nantle

