



ANNUAL
REPORT

ANTUR NANTLLE CYF
2009/2010



A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It is a pleasure to write this introduction to Antur Nantlle's Annual Report for 2009-2010, the first time for me as Chairman of the Board.

I would like to convey my warmest thanks to my predecessor Coun O P Huws for his hard work in steering the company over the past five years and wish him a swift recovery following his recent operation.

It was with regret that we said farewell to our Enterprise Officer, Dafydd Glyn Owen following eight years of commendable work, our thanks to him for all his hard work and our best wishes for the future. Beryl Fretwell, Secretary of Antur Nantlle has taken up the work and we could not ask for anyone better as she has worked for Antur Nantlle for many years and with her experience and knowledge we can face the future with confidence. Thanks to all who have worked tirelessly on various projects throughout the year. We must remember that this work is all done voluntarily by our directors who give their time to develop projects for the benefit of the Nantlle Valley.

The economic downturn has affected Antur Nantlle like everyone else. Cutbacks by the Government mean fewer grants to develop projects and this has also affected some of our small businesses. Even though we do have a few empty properties, we are pleased to say that most of our tenants are surviving the crunch and enquiries from businesses are still coming in. Small businesses are the back bone of the local economy and it is important that they receive our support.

In spite of the recession, Antur Nantlle are keeping positive and we have very exciting plans under discussion. Our Mini Hydro Scheme is moving forward following an encouraging Feasibility Report. If we succeed, once established it could bring substantial economic benefits to the local economy.

Other possible plans are to establish a tourist centre at Y Barics in Nantlle and developing outdoor pursuits that will enhance the tourist industry in Dyffryn Nantlle.

Thank you to everyone for supporting Antur Nantlle throughout the year. I feel we can step forward into the future with confidence and new hope that what we can achieve will be of benefit to our Valley.

Ifan Glyn Jones
Chairman

ANTUR NANTLLE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009 - 2010



Ifan Glyn Jones, Chairman



Emrys Jones Vice-chairman



Coun O P Huws



Dafydd Owen



Talfryn Griffiths



John Pritchard



Gwynne Williams



Coun Dyfed Edwards



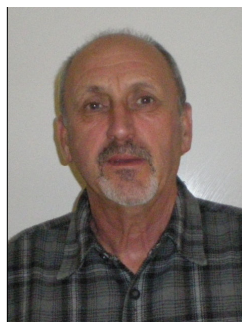
Elwyn Jones-Griffith



Ben Gregory



Richard Wyn Huws



Myrddin Williams

ANTUR NANTLLE CYF

Ifan Glyn Jones (Chairman)	Retired Headmaster
Emrys Jones (Vice-chairman)	Assistant Chief Fire Officer (Retired)
O P Huws	Gwynedd Councillor
Dafydd Owen	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
Alun Wyn Jones	Local Government Officer
Richard Wyn Huws	Self Employed
Myrddin Williams	Local Government Officer

COMPANY SECRETARY ANTUR NANTLLE CYF

Beryl Fretwell

Six meetings of the Board were held during the year as well as meetings of the Finance Committee, Personnel Committee and Property and Tenancy and Economic Groups.

The Annual General Meeting was held on the 22nd October 2009. Four directors stood down and were duly re-elected - O P Huws, Ifan Glyn Jones, Gwynne Williams, Ben Gregory

STAFF MEMBERS OF ANTUR NANTLLE CYF

Dafydd Glyn Owen	Enterprise Officer (Until 31/12/2009)
Beryl Fretwell	Secretary
Bet Hughes	Caretaker – Technology Centre
Nerys Pritchard	Caretaker – Enterprise Centre
Nia Wyn Noone	Caretaker – Ty Iorwerth

(Employed by Antur Nantlle on behalf of the Talysarn and Nantlle Partnership until 31/12/02009)

Wena Roberts	Communities First Administrative Officer
Nick Thomas	Communities First Youth Development Officer
Glenys LI Williams	Communities First Development Officer

BANKERS

HSBC Caernarfon

ANTUR NANTLLE CATCHMENT AREA

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

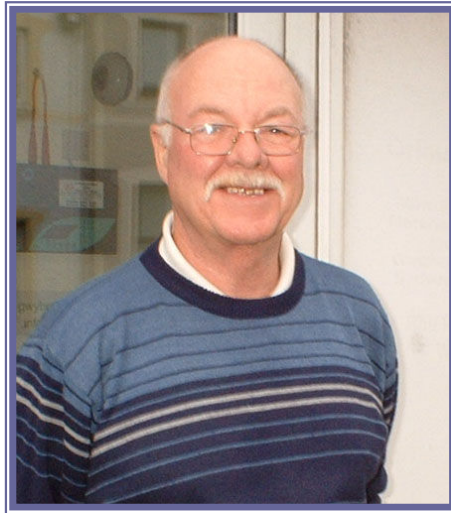
ACHIEVEMENTS 2008 / 2009

Jobs created or safeguarded	41
Number of beneficiaries and users of our services	2500
Number who have attended training courses	34
Community projects and groups assisted	14

WORKING WITH

Gwynedd Council, Partneriaeth Talysarn a Nantlle Partnership, Ymddiriedolaeth Tir Dyffryn Nantlle, Cyfeillion Cae'r Gors, Job Centre, Coleg Harlech / WEA, Bangor University, WCVA, Wales Co-op, Welsh Assembly Government, Environment Agency, Welsh Language Board, Dyffryn Nantlle Website Group, Mantell Gwynedd, Menter a Busnes, Welsh Women's Aid, Cymdeithas Tai Eryri, Ysgol Dyffryn Nantlle School, North Wales Police, Grŵp Llys Llywelyn, Talysarn Community Centre, Dyffryn Nantlle May Festival, Llanllyfni Community Council, Deudraeth Cyf, Cylch, Antur Nantlle Outdoor Pursuits Group, Penygroes Memorial Hall, Caban Cyf and other groups and societies in the community

ANTUR NANTLLE ENTERPRISE OFFICER
Dafydd Glyn Owen



At the end of December 2009 it was time to say farewell to our Enterprise Officer. Dafydd was a member of staff for over eight years during which time he took a lead role on many important projects. Our thanks to Dafydd for his hard work and we wish him well in the future.

But every time a door closes a window opens bringing with it new opportunities. By the end of the financial year Antur Nantlle's reception and office moved upstairs freeing the whole of the ground floor to the Penygroes Library. This gave the library service more space to offer better provision for users of the facilities.

Antur Nantlle's upstairs office is still open daily and Beryl will be there to welcome anyone who wishes to call to discuss renting business space or discuss community matters.

ANTUR NANTLLE PROPERTY AND TENANCY GROUP
(Chairman – Emrys Jones)

The Property and Tenancy Committee look after Antur Nantlle's portfolio and discuss new tenancy applications. In these economically difficult times we are pleased to say that most of our units and offices are full. Antur Nantlle are passionate about supporting the small business who are the back bone of rural communities such as the Nantlle Valley.

During the course of the year, the committee made an in-depth audit of all our properties in order to prepare an upkeep programme that will keep the properties in good order and secure them for the future. On the following pages you will find more details about our properties.

CANOLFAN DECHNOLEG ANTUR NANTLLE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE

20 Water Street, Penygroes, Gwynedd LL54 6LR 01286 882688



The end of the financial year saw the end of a model that has lasted for over 11 years when the reception and office of Antur Nantlle moved from the Library foyer to the first floor. Antur Nantlle's office is open daily between 9.00am – 5.00pm and you are welcome to call.



Beryl Fretwell, Antur Nantlle's Officer
in her new office

The world of computers and IT has moved forward so much since the Technology Centre was established 11 years ago and therefore there has been a change in computer training needs. But together with Harlech / WEA we have been able to offer quality computer training as well as Welsh lessons. A group from Antur Waunfawr joined Richard Eastwood (Harlech / WEA) on Tuesday evenings for some weeks and the students enjoyed it very much, one even moved on to buy his own computer. Deudraeth Cyf also used our facilities to run their Broadcast Training project.

Our thanks to the Gwynedd Council IT Department for all their help in maintaining the computer suite and to their help desk for passing the message on.

We still offer photo copying services during library hours, computer courses and computer and internet use for a reasonable rate.

We use Antur Waunfawr's recycling service for office paper and printer cartridges..

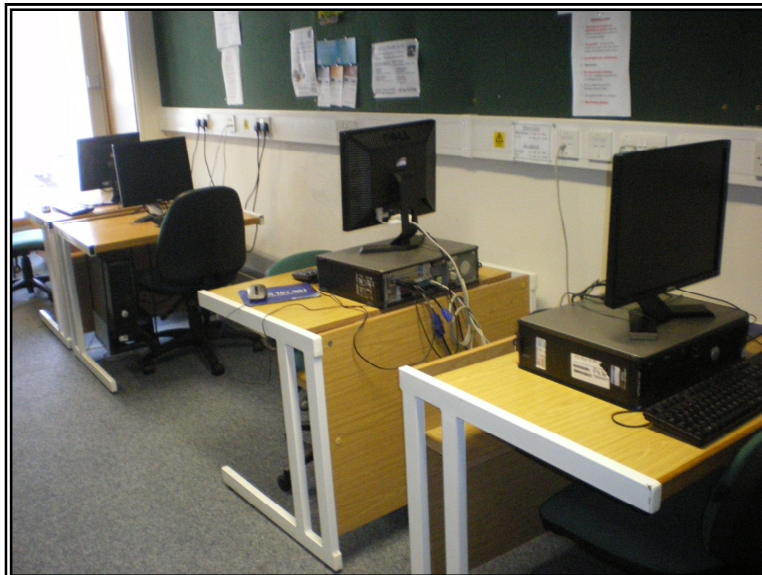
Our thanks to Bet for looking after the Technology Centre, Library and Siop 22.

LLYFRGELL PENYGROES LIBRARY
Llyfrgellydd - Gwenllian M Williams - Librarian
01286 880427

The Library has taken over the whole of the ground floor which means they have been able to offer more computer facilities, a service which is much in demand especially by our young people – the computer / internet use is a free service. Use of the Library's services has increased already following these changes and Antur Nantlle are pleased to have been part of making this happen.

Even though we are in the middle of spending cuts across public services – the Library Service has worked hard to offer the best possible service in the Penygroes Library with new books arriving almost every week to keep everything up to date. A convenient bike stand has also been placed outside the Library, and is used every day.

Everyone is welcome to have a look at what is on offer in books, computers, internet as well as story and craft time for the younger children at specific times.



New computers in the Library

**SWYDDOG ADFYWIO BRO GWYRFAI NANTLLE REGENERATION OFFICER
CYNGOR GWYNEDD COUNCIL**

Y Swyddfa Adfywio, Canolfan Dechnoleg Antur Nantlle, 20 Heol y Dŵr, Penygroes
01286 882968



Kelvin has been our Regeneration Officer here in Dyffryn Nantlle for over 6 years. The objective of the Regeneration Programme is to support local people who wish to see their communities regenerated through economic, social and environmental community projects.

During the year Kelvin has been helping the Dyffryn Nantlle Community Land Trust, Cae'r Gors, Antur Nantlle with their Hydro scheme and Open Air project. He was also instrumental in completing Phase 1 of the Memorial Hall Penygroes' renovating programme as well as

assisting the committee of the Village Hall in Clynnog Fawr.

In the present economic climate, Community Enterprises have a more important role than ever to play in community regeneration. If you are part of a community group and want help to move forward or wish to establish a new community group / enterprise you are welcome to get in touch with Kelvin.

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



Dafydd Watts

Dafydd Watts who has been Development Officer for the Ymtic since 2007 has moved on and we wish him well in his new post of [Sustainable Energy Project Manager with the Severn Wye Energy Agency](#). We hope to keep in touch with Dafydd through our [Renewable Energy Hydro Scheme](#).

CANOLFAN FENTER DYFFRYN NANTLLE ENTERPRISE CENTRE
Llanllyfni Road, Penygroes, Gwynedd LL54 6DB



Our Enterprise Centre is where it all started back in 1991 and the registered office remained here until we moved to the Technology Centre in 1999. The units have seen a variety of small businesses over the years and it is very unusual to see an empty unit here. Our meeting room is now available for occasional use such as meetings, courses etc at a reasonable rate.

We welcome Alan W Jones Welding who moved his business into the yard and wish K & N Scaffolding well with their business in their new home.



Emma of Celtic Auto Parts

From the units today you can buy bottled gas and repair your garden machinery from Torwoods, buy all sorts of parts for your car from Celtic Auto Parts, have your photo taken in Gwnant Parri's studio and PA services from Paul Hatt who has travelled the world with stars such as Petula Clark, Neil Sedaka and Freddie Star not forgetting our own Bryn Fon as well.

Gwynant Parri in his studio with a picture of Paris Mountain



35 SNWDON STREET, PENYGROES SHOP / WORKSHOP
Oriol Llun-Mewn-Ffram Gallery (Meical Roberts 01286 882056)



Meical Roberts offers quality framing services as well as selling original paintings and prints from some of Wales' most renowned artists such as Ifor Pritchard, William Selwyn, Stephen John Owen, Aneurin Jones, Keith Bowen, Keith Andrew, Carys Bryn and Diane Williams. He also supports local artists by encouraging them to show their work in the gallery. Also on sale are all sorts of craft work in wood and slate, greeting cards, t shirts, hoodies etc.

A visit to Oriol Llun-Mewn-Ffram is always an interesting and pleasant experience – an unique shop in Penygroes.



Meical busy with his framing work in the workshop

SIOP 22

10 Water Street, Penygroes, Gwynedd LL54 6LR



The building is still referred to as Siop 22 ever since a local family owned it and ran a clothes shop here. Antur Nantlle are glad to have kept it as a commercial property offering three offices on the first floor and one shop/office on the ground floor.

Matt Tuck and his company Matom are on the first floor.

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

Planning Aid Wales work 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 them on 01286 882834 /

www.cymorthcynllunio.cymru.org.uk



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

Y BARICS
Nantlle, Caernarfon, Gwynedd LL54 6BD



These were old barracks buildings belonging to the Penyrsedd Quarry at one time but today they are small units for the use of the community and small businesses.

The Llys Llywelyn Centre is busy offering a meeting place for all sorts of local groups. There is also a computer room used for computer classes especially digital photography and a group of local people meet here to collect and document an archive of local knowledge.

In Unit 3 Peter and Wendy Midwinter of 'Railways Unlimited' repair, sell and arrange exhibitions of model railways.

In Unit 4 Peris & Corr offer all sorts of printing services which is done by hand using 100% water-based inks. The inks used by the company contain no toxic chemicals and are also free from lead and other heavy metals.



All the T-Shirts etc supplied are ethically sourced and made from either cotton, organic cotton, organic in conversion or sustainable bamboo. As well as textile printing they also design and sell greeting cards and gifts. Contact Dyfrig and Jennie on 01286 881787 www.perisandcorr.com.



The very wet winter of 2009/2010 brought with it problems when water got into one or two of the units. We have worked with the Gwynedd Council and the Penyrsedd Quarry owners to ensure that this does not happen again.



Our 'Visitor Accommodation and Outdoor Activity Centre' project is centred on the Barics site. Planning permission has been obtained but there is much more work to be done in the coming months.



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



The HSBC banking service is available every day in the village of Penygroes and our hope is that this will continue for years to come.

Welsh Women's Aid – From Tŷ Iorwerth in Penygroes, the Wales Domestic Abuse Helpline offers a 24 hour bilingual service to women, children and men throughout Wales who are suffering abuse at home. (0808 8010800).



Rhian who works for the Helpline



Cris Jones offers translation services from Office 6 (01286 880444) and Ben Gregory in Office 7 with the Nicaragua Appeal.



Office 5 on the 2nd floor is empty – a light airy office offering views from Nebo down to the sea.

If anyone would like to start up in business but is afraid of the commitment, please come and talk to us. We could offer office space free of charge for a period.



ANTUR NANTLLE CYF ECONOMY & INDUSTRY GROUPS

Antur Nantlle have groups who meet specifically to discuss new projects, find new ideas and plans that could bring economic benefits to the Nantlle Valley. It is not the best of times to find grant funding for different developments but the discussions continue and the groups still aspire to reach their goal of making the Nantlle Valley a better place to live.

We are ready to talk to anyone with an interest in this work, who would like to join the team or who has any new ideas that could benefit the area and who would be willing to give his/her time on a voluntary basis to help. Details of our present projects follow:-

- **Antur Nantlle Renewable Energy Hydro Group**
Chairman Dafydd Owen

The Renewable Energy Group was established to address the call for renewable energy projects in light of the present climate change. Following a positive desk report on two local rivers the Group decided to go ahead with more detailed investigations into the potential of developing a mini hydro scheme on these two rivers.

Talks held with the landowners, the Environment Agency, Eryri National Park, Gwynedd Council were all encouraging and grant funding from the Gwynedd Council Sustainability Fund was granted to prepare preliminary reports to establish whether the rivers in question were suitable for a mini hydro scheme.

The preliminary reports were very promising and encouraged the group to move on to find funding for a full feasibility report. A successful bid was presented to the Gwynedd Voluntary Development Fund and Antur Nantlle commissioned Dulas to carry out the reports. At the same time Antur Nantlle commissioned a Bryophyte Report to evaluate the rare plants, fish, water voles etc in the rivers.

With the completion of the Feasibility Studies, the next step will be to concentrate on one site, work with Dafydd Watts ([Sustainable Energy Project Manager with the Severn Wye Energy Agency](#)) and Kelvin Roberts (Regeneration Officer) to prepare a grant funding bid to the Energy Savings Trust so that we can develop the scheme.

A lot of hard work and money has been invested in this project and a lot more work still needs to be done but the Group is committed to the work and are confident that they will see the fruits of their labour with the completion of the hydro scheme in the year to come.

Grŵp Twristiaeth Antur Nantlle Tourism Group Chairman O P Huws

Dyffryn Nantlle visitor Accommodation and Outdoor Activity Centre

Following publication of A Report on Tourism in the Nantlle Valley, Antur Nantlle established a Tourism Group to discuss the findings of the report one of which was the lack of places for visitors to stay in the area.

A Planning for Real® report which was completed through the Communities First Programme notes that Y Barics in Nantlle is one site suitable for developing as a visitor attraction. As the Barics belongs to Antur Nantlle the Tourism Group decided to commission a study to look into the possibilities of developing Y Barics as a visitor accommodation and outdoor activity centre. The final report is favourable and the possibilities are worth investigating further.

Following much consultation with the architect – plans were drawn up and the planning application was approved. The accommodation would be rated 3 or 4 star and if realised this project could bring a much needed positive economic boost to the area.

Antur Nantlle Open Air Group

The Antur Nantlle Open Air Group was established during the present financial year. Representatives from Antur Nantlle, Talysarn and Nantlle Communities First, Climbing Walls, Gwynedd Regeneration Officer, the Open Air Partnership and local individuals got together to discuss the possibilities of establishing local open air events that would attract visitors and cement a basis for the tourist industry in the Nantlle Valley. The Group's main aims are:-

- Address the lack of provision for tourists in the Nantlle Valley and identify the possible benefits of establishing a local group to develop the industry.
- Concentrate on establishing open air activities in Nantlle Valley, so that local people as well as tourists can enjoy what the area has to offer.
- Give young people a chance to learn new skills which could lead to employment within the industry.
- Enhance the local economy
- Employ a Tourism Development Officer

The next step will be to access funding to employ a Tourism Development Officer to work with the Group to place the Nantlle Valley on the tourist industry map as an open air activities attraction. This will be the grounding for the tourist industry in the area and if successful could bring with it all sorts of economic benefits.

COMMUNITIES FIRST TALYSARN AND NANTLLE PARTNERSHIP

Co-ordinator - Gwen Thirsk (01286 881103)

Antur Nantlle's role as Accountable Body for the programme came to an end on the 31 December 2009 when the responsibility was transferred to the Gwynedd Council. Representatives from Antur Nantlle will still attend the Partnership meetings and we will be pleased to work with the Partnership on any economic projects that could benefit the Nantlle Valley.

We were pleased to hear the news that the Welsh Assembly had agreed to fund the programme for a further two years until March 2012 and we wish the team every success under the leadership of their new co-ordinator Gwen Thirsk.

CONCLUSION

During this year Ifan Glyn Jones was elected Chairman of the company and we look forward to his leadership with the assistance of Emrys Jones as Vice-chairman. The Chairman for the previous five years was Coun O P Huws who had also been Vice-chairman for 15 years being one of the key founder members of Antur Nantlle Cyf twenty years ago.

Twenty years have gone by since the publication of the Poverty and Opportunity Report by J T McAllister on the Arfon Slate Quarrying areas. The outcomes of the report are still true today.:-

- wages for local people is lower than the national average
- Few high paying jobs available
- A high percentage of the population dependant on benefits

This report helped inspire a group of local people to get together to establish Antur Nantlle Cyf as a non profit making community enterprise to try and address the problems of the area by working voluntarily to try and bring economic benefits to the area.

Antur Nantlle have dedicated these 20 years to the economic, environmental and social regeneration of the area through mainly drawing grant funding into the area. Today we can offer 16 business units, 15 offices, 2 shops, a yard, flat and meeting room locally and prepare working space for around 60 people in the Valley. We are still adamant that this area needs an input of substantial financial commitment to make a difference but meanwhile the battle continues and we will carry on with the work.

Antur Nantlle have responded to the problems of climate change and the call for renewable energy production with the establishing our Renewable Energy Group who are moving ahead with our mini hydro scheme.

We also hope that by working in partnership we can develop the tourist industry in the area.

We do not have to remind anyone that we are in the middle of a recession with cutbacks in public spending etc. In this light Antur Nantlle are prepared to offer anyone with a business idea or who would like to start up a business but are scared of the commitment and costs, office space for free for a period to test the market.

We hope that by next year we can celebrate the completion of our hydro scheme and that steps will have been taken to move the tourist industry forward. We are ready to work in partnership with the public sector and local agencies on any projects that could benefit this area.

Please contact us if you are prepared to help us continue with the work.

ANTUR NANTLLE CYF
Rhif y Cwmni 2618216 Company Number

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31 2010

A HUGHES JONES DYSON A’U CWMNI
CYFRIFWYR SIARTREDIG
CAERNARFON



communities *first* cymunedau yn gyntaf

Partneriaeth Talysarn a Nantlle

