

**DYSERTH & DISTRICT FIELD CLUB**  
**Founded 1911**

Registered Charity Number 1117013

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**WINTER PROGRAMME 2019/20**

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*Our aim is to encourage the appreciation and understanding of all aspects of the countryside*

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## WINTER PROGRAMME 2019/20

1.	19th Oct	Parkgate & Emma Hamilton	L
2.	2nd Nov	The Menai Bridges	E
3.	16th Nov	The History of Bridges	L
4.	30th Nov	The Rivers of St Asaph	W
5.	28th Dec	Post Christmas Walk	W
6.	11th Jan	Members' Talks	L
7.	25th Jan	109th AGM	
8.	8th Feb	Holywell Heritage Trail	W
9.	22nd Feb	The British Longbow	L
10.	10th March	Mold Town Trail	W
11.	21st March	Llwyni Nature Reserve	W
12.	4th April	Anniversary Lecture <i>(The Anglesey Bonesetters)</i>	L

### EXCURSION – Saturday 2nd November 2019

Coach pick-up points & times for 2019 are listed below

Rhuddlan (Vicarage Lane bus stop)	<b>8.40</b>
Boulevard, Rhyl	<b>8.45</b>
Larkmount Road (High School all-weather pitch)	<b>8.48</b>
Eastville, Rhyl (Denmore Stores bus stop)	<b>8.50</b>
Ffrith, Prestatyn	<b>8.55</b>
Victoria Hotel, Prestatyn	<b>8.57</b>
Pendyffryn Road (layby opposite pensioners' bungalows)	<b>9.00</b>
Junction of Fforddisa & Princes Ave, Prestatyn	<b>9.05</b>
Manod Road bus stop, Meliden	<b>9.10</b>
St Bridget's Church bus stop, Lower Dyserth	<b>9.13</b>
Upper Dyserth Cross Roads	<b>9.15</b>

Please book coach seats **in writing** with Val O'Rourke, Excursions Secretary. Enclose a cheque payable to **Dyserth & District Field Club**, stating your pick-up point. On the day, if you cannot attend the excursion, please ring **01745 338472** (Val O'Rourke) between **7.30 and 8 am**.

**1. Saturday 19th October 2019**

**LECTURE**

**PARKGATE & EMMA HAMILTON**

Speaker: Michael Corfe

Chair: Betty Smith

Amateur historian and D&DFC member Michael Corfe returns to talk to us, this time about one of his favourite ladies in history, Emma Hamilton. Today he tells us the tale that unjustly maligns this remarkable woman—from her humble beginnings on the Wirral to her consummate rise to fame as a wife, lover, friend and ambassador—to her final denunciation and ultimate poverty.



**Emma, Lady Hamilton**

**2. Saturday 2nd November**

**EXCURSION**

**THE MENAI BRIDGES & THEIR ENVIRONS**

**This excursion, which was to have been led by him, is dedicated to the memory of David Richards, who died on 10/08/19 .**

We first visit the Menai Heritage Centre in the Thomas Telford Centre, to have coffee and an introductory talk about the history of the area and the bridges. After viewing the exhibition, we take a guided walk across the Menai Suspension Bridge, and return to the Centre to have our packed lunch.

Back on the coach we journey to the Britannia Bridge, which now carries both the railway and the A55. We take a short walk to see the disused rail track and 2 of the 4 stone lions that guarded the original bridge, and to view the Bridge from the Straits. Returning to our starting point, a further short walk takes us to St Mary's Church to view the monument commemorating the workmen killed during the original construction of the bridge and the 2 men killed in the 1970's rebuild. Walking on down through the churchyard takes us to the 1873 Lord Nelson Monument, erected as an aid to navigation through the dangerous Swellies. The church will be open for those who do not wish to walk. Stout shoes, poles and waterproofs are recommended.

**Leaders:** Allan Morgan & Keith Tierney

**More details:** 01745 570364 or 01745 570722

**Coach fare** includes admission, refreshments at the Menai Heritage Centre and the guided walk: **£18**

**3. Saturday 16th November**

**LECTURE**

**BRIDGES—a history, their construction and their development**

Speaker: Mike Blackburn

Chair: Joe Phillips

Following the success of his fascinating talk last year about the River Clwyd, we have invited Mike Blackburn to return; this time to talk to us about 'Bridges'. This subject was chosen as our programmes this year have been dominated by walks and visits to bridges of all shapes and sizes. Today, Mike will take us back through the history of bridge building, from Clapper Bridges to Suspension Bridges and all types in between. Mike is a prolific speaker and always interesting.



***A Clapper Bridge***



***St Asaph Bridge***

**4. Saturday 30th November 2019**

**WALK**  
4 miles

**“BY THE RIVERS OF ST ASAPH”**

We walk alongside the River Elwy and up through fields to the main Denbigh road. Crossing over we will reach the now dismantled Vale of Clwyd railway track as it wends its way south to Denbigh. We follow this track for a short distance and turn up the embankment to cross fields down to the River Clwyd. Views of the Clwydian Range from Meliden to Moel Famau are our reward.

After lunch by the River Clwyd, we return to the railway track, and rejoin the track to walk behind the old HM Stanley Hospital and the Sports Fields of Ysgol Glan Clwyd to St Asaph Cathedral - to partake of tea and cakes in the new Translators' Tearoom.

Relatively easy walking but rivers are in valleys and St Asaph is built on a hill! Field walking may be muddy so stout footwear and walking poles are recommended. There are 6 easy stiles to be negotiated each way. A packed lunch and a drink should be brought. Cars leave Prestatyn Nant Hall Road car park at **10am** or meet at Roe Plas, St Asaph at **10.30am** to start the walk at **11am**.

**Directions:** *Travel to St Asaph on the A525 and turn left over the river bridge. Turn immediately right on to Roe Plas and drive down to park adjacent to the tennis courts/football pitches. Please note that toilet facilities are available opposite the entrance to Roe Plas - a short walk from the meeting place. After that, only Bush Toilets are available until we reach the Tearooms.*

**OS ref: SJ 035741 ; Postcode: LL17 0SG**

**Leaders:** Linda Wilkinson & Pam Collins

**More details:** 01745-336456 or 01745-854380

**Car Share:** £1.40

**5. Saturday 28th December 2019**

**WALK**  
4 miles

**A POST-CHRISTMAS STROLL  
BESIDE THE RIVER CLWYD**

This is a circular walk starting from Rhyl Harbour along the west bank of the river and returning from Rhuddlan on the foot/cycle path on the opposite bank. Easy walking - just three broad stiles and no inclines. The walk may provide sightings of some visiting winter birds as well as resident ones and will be an opportunity to walk off those extra Christmas pounds.

Strong footwear is important (the west bank can be muddy), poles and binoculars are recommended. Toilets available at Rhyl Harbour and Rhuddlan. Cars leave the Prestatyn Nant Hall Road car park in Prestatyn at **10:10am** or meet at the Rhyl Harbour car park to start the walk at **10.30 am**.

**Directions:** *At the west end of Rhyl, cross the Foryd Bridge towards Kinnel Bay, then immediately turn right into Horton's Nose Lane and proceed to the car park.*

**OS ref: SJ 027782 ; Postcode: LL18 5AS**

**Leaders:** Betty Smith & Joe Phillips

**More details:** 01745-354785 or 01352-810781

**Car Share:** £1

**JANUARY 1st 2020**

**ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW DUE**

Individual Members £14  
Joint Members £24  
Junior Members (under 18) £2

***GIFT AID IT!***

Gift Aid allows members to increase Club Funds at no cost to themselves because, as a registered charity, the Club is able to reclaim the tax paid on subscription monies. If you are a UK taxpayer but don't yet Gift Aid your membership subscription, please consider joining the many members who are already 'Gift Aiders'. Once you have filled in the simple form, the Treasurer does all the rest. For more information please contact the Treasurer.

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**NOMINATION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Under Section P(5) of the Field Club's Constitution, written nominations (including the names of both a proposer and seconder) of both Officers and Management Committee Members must, this year, be with the General Secretary by **JANUARY 11th 2020**.

The agreement of the nominee must be obtained beforehand. Nomination forms will be available at indoor meetings or on request from the General Secretary.

## **6. Saturday 11th January 2020      LECTURES**

### **SHORT TALKS BY MEMBERS**

Chair & Arranger:    Joe Phillips

Invited Field Club members speak about topics of particular interest to themselves and which they would like to share with fellow members. You will need to be there to find out who they will be and what they are talking about!



## **7. Saturday 25th January 2020**

**109th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
to be held at  
Trinity Church Hall, Pendre Avenue,  
Prestatyn**

**starting at  
2.00pm  
to be followed by a  
SOCIAL AFTERNOON**

The AGM will include reports on the work of the Field Club during 2019 plus the election of Officers and Committee Members for 2020.

The Social Afternoon will take place immediately after the AGM. This is an opportunity to relax in good company and enjoy a splendid afternoon tea. There will be stalls selling cakes, jams, chutneys etc and a book stall. A variety of quiz sheets will be on offer for those who like a little challenge!

Tickets for the Social Afternoon, priced at **£3** will be available at indoor meetings and at the door on the day.

Each ticket will be individually numbered and entered into a draw. The owner of the winning ticket will receive free Field Club membership for 2020.

**8. Saturday 8th February 2020**

**WALK**  
3 miles

## **THE HOLYWELL HERITAGE TRAIL**

The Holywell Heritage Trail walk is a continuation of the Greenfield Valley and Dock walk last summer. Starting from the car park opposite St Winifred's Well, we join the Heritage Trail and walk up through the woodland to Holywell town. In the town we will explore some of its history and then return to visit St Winifred's Well and the museum; and call at the Tearooms to round off the day. **Admission to St Winifred's Well—Concession 60p.**

Easy walking as it is a town trail, but waterproofs, stout footwear and walking poles recommended if used. A packed lunch and a drink should be brought. Cars will leave the Prestatyn Nant Hall Road car park at **10.15am** or meet at the small, free car park opposite St Winifred's Well at **11am**.

**Directions:** *Leave Prestatyn on the A548 Coast Road to Greenfield. At the traffic lights turn right up into Greenfield and continue uphill for approx. 1 mile. Approaching the imposing building of St Winifred's Well on the left, turn right into the small Car park opposite.*

**OS ref: SJ184763 ; Postcode: CH8 7PN**

**Leaders:** Linda Wilkinson & Janet Smith

**More details:** 01745 336456 or 01745 730789

**Car Share:** £1.60

**9. Saturday 22nd February 2020      LECTURE**

**THE HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH LONGBOW  
& CHESHIRE & FLINTSHIRE BOWMEN**

Speaker: Bernard Dennis

Chair: Linda Wilkinson

Bernard Dennis, our speaker for the afternoon, has had a long-time interest in the history of archery and is a member of the British Longbow Society.

After more than 35 years of travelling and representing the construction and chemical industries, Bernard readily took early retirement in 2006 to indulge his passion. Today he will talk to us about the development of bows and arrows throughout the ages, from their need for hunting, their use in war and recreation, and the significant role the Cheshire & Flintshire Bowmen played in our famous battles. He will also touch on the legend of Robin Hood.



***English***

***on the Battlefield***

***Bowmen***

**10. Saturday 7th March 2020**

**WALK**  
1½ miles

## **A WALK AROUND THE HISTORIC MARKET TOWN OF MOLD**

A walk around Mold (Yr Wyddgrug) looking at the Bailey Hill, Town Hall, Parish Church of St Mary and other features in the town. We will also take an historical glimpse at the important people of the past associated with the town, such as Margaret Beaufort, Daniel Owen, John Ambrose and Richard Wilson.

It is easy walking, although it is market day so it may be busy in the town. Bring waterproofs, stout footwear and walking poles if used. A packed lunch and a drink should also be brought. Cars leave the Prestatyn Nant Hall Road car park at **9.30am** or meet in the New Street car park in Mold to start the walk at **10.30am**.

**Directions:** *Travel from Prestatyn along the A55 to Junction 33 to Northop. Follow A5119 into Mold and through the town centre and on to New Street. Passing Iceland on your left, take next left into the car park— fee £1.50 all day.*

**OS ref: SJ235637; Postcode: CH7 1NY**

**Leaders:** Joe Phillips & David Roberts

**More details:** 01352-810781 or 01352-740919

**Car Share:** £3.30.

**11. Saturday 21st March 2020**

**WALK  
3 miles**

## **LLWYNI NATURE RESERVE, CONNAH'S QUAY**

An easy walk through an area that was once part of the Wepre Estate ('llwyni' means 'copse of trees'). The walk takes us through ancient woodland and along the path of an old railway, through meadows and a valley created by the quarrying of sand.

Bring a packed lunch and a drink. Stout footwear, waterproofs and walking poles, if used, are recommended. Cars leave Prestatyn Nant Hall Road car park at **10 am** or meet at Hollowbrook Drive, Connah's Quay at **11 am**.

**Directions:** *From Prestatyn take the A548 coast road to join the B5219, signed Connah's Quay, for approx. 2 miles. With the Blessed Sacrament RC Church the on the left, turn right on to the B5216 Mold Road, signed to Northop, and continue straight on at the roundabout for approx. 1.2 miles. Turn left into Hollowbrook Road and park on the left opposite Broadoak Wood.*

**OS ref SJ284687. Post code CH5 4GF**

**Leaders:** Margaret Redford & Val O'Rourke

**More details:** 01745887237 or 01745 338472

**Car Share:** £2.75

12. Saturday 4th April 2020

LECTURE

## THE ANNIVERSARY LECTURE

Celebrating the founding of The Dyserth & District  
Field Club 109 years ago on 23rd March 1911

### **THE ANGLESEY BONESETTERS— A Descendent's Ramblings**

Speaker: Dyfrig Roberts

Chair: The President

An Anglesey lad born and bred, Dyfrig was educated in Holyhead and went on to become a Civil Engineer. His career took him to London, and Scotland and then back to Wales to work on the design and development of the Dinorwic Power Station at Llanberis. He is a Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers and also a member of the Gorsedd and currently the Herald Bard.

As a direct descendent of the Thomas family of Bonesetters on his mother's side, he was immersed in the story of the skills passed down the generations, so making him fully aware of his family history! His talk today will be based on original letters exchanged between early family members.



***A Thomas  
Half-Ring Splint***

## **WALKS & VISITS**

A packed lunch, a drink and strong shoes or boots are required for all events unless otherwise stated in the individual event description. Warm waterproof clothing is always advisable. Poles and binoculars are recommended. No dogs are allowed on walks. Distances given for walks are approximate.

Cars meet at the Prestatyn **Nant Hall Road** Car Park—**Postcode: LL19 7LE**.

Members with cars are asked to provide transport for passengers, who are requested to have the car share money for the event ready to give the driver. In addition to the OS grid reference of a meeting place, a postcode has been given, wherever possible, for car drivers using a Sat Nav. A First Aid Box is carried on all walks.

## **VISITORS**

Visitors are welcome on walks and excursions and at lectures but with an additional £1 fee for excursions and £2 for lectures.

## **CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Nominations of Members for the Committee can be made to the General Secretary at any time, subject to the Member's agreement.

## **DISCLAIMER**

The Dyserth & District Field Club will not be responsible for any damage to property or persons during the activities of the Club. The presence of Members and Visitors during the various activities is deemed to be an acceptance of this rule.

***The first event on the Summer Programme will be a walk on Saturday 18th April 2020***