CANRIF O SIOEAU A DATBLYGIADAU A
CENTURY OF SHOWS AND THEIR DEVELOPMENT

Ymae canrif yn amser maith pan eir ati i geisio croniclo hanes unrhyw sefydliad. Cedwir llyfrau cofnodion a llyfrau cownt y ***Gymdeithas Amaethyddol*** yn Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru. Yn anffodus y mae'r gyfrol gyntaf o gofnodion ar goll, ond daethpwyd ar draws bocs o ddogfennau personol Pryse Pryse, Lodge Park yng Nghasgliad Gogerddan yn y Llyfrgell. Yn y bocs hwnnw y mae catalogau cyntaf y sioe ynghyd a llyfrau nodiadau personol Pryse Pryse o'r pwyllgorau a gynhaliwyd rhwng 1896 a 1900 pan fu farw'n frawychus o sydyn. Gan mai moel iawn yw'r cofnodion bu'n rhaid darllen llawer rhwng y llinellau. Ni cheir dim o naws y cyfarfodydd ynddynt, dim ond rhestr o swyddogion a'r penderfyniadau a wnaed, a gellir synhwyro'n aml fod yr ysgrifennydd ar y pryd yn anghytuno a rhyw benderfyniad neu'i gilydd yn ô1 y cofnod a geir. Ffynhonnell arall o gryn bwys yw'r papurau newydd lleol, yr ***Aberystwyth Observer,*** **y** ***Cambrian News*** **a'r** ***Welsh Gazette.*** Ynddynt y ceir adroddiadau o'r sioeau dros y ganrif ynghyd a darlun byw o fywyd yr ardal yn ystod y cyfnod. Ffynhonnell bwysig arall yw catalogau'r sioe, ond gan nad oes set gyflawn ar gael, bu'n rhaid dibynnu llawer mwy ar y papurau newydd nag ar unrhyw beth arall am wybodaeth.

Y mae rhestr swyddogion y Gymdeithas dros y ganrif yn un faith, ond pe bai rhywun yn rhestru holl gefnogwyr a chynheiliaid y sioe o'r dechrau fe fyddai'r nifer yn filoedd yn hytrach na channoedd. Mae llwyddiant pob sioe yn dibynnu i raddau helaeth ar y gwaith paratoi gan ei phwyllgor, ond y mae cyfran uchel o'r llwyddiant hefyd yn ddibynnol ar gefnogaeth nifer fawr o bobl na chlywir sôn amdanynt.

Saif Cae'r Sioe neu Gae'r Blac yn gyfochrog ar ffordd sy'n arwain heibio i Westy'r Llew Du i gyfeiriad Bontgoch

A century is a long time when attempting to record the history of any organisation. The minute books and the account books of the ***Agricultural Society*** are housed in the National Library of Wales. Unfortunately the first volume of minutes is missing, but the personal documents of Pryse Pryse, Lodge Park are kept in the Gogerddan Collection also at the National Library. In these boxes the schedules of the first show are to be found together with Pryse Pryse's personal notebooks of the committees held between 1896 and 1900, the year of his tragic death. As these notes were very brief and cryptic it was necessary to read between and beyond the lines. They do not contain any indication of the mood of these meetings, merely a list of the officers and the decisions taken, but it is possible at times to detect by the tenor of the note taken that the writer disagreed with some decisions. Another important source are local newspapers, particularly *the* ***Aberystwyth Observer,*** the ***Cambrian News*** and the ***Welsh Gazette.*** In these there are reports of the shows held during the century together with a vivid picture of local social life during that period. Another important source consulted were show schedules, but as no complete set of these exists local newspapers proved to be the main source of information.

A complete list of the Society's officers over a century is very lengthy, but if one was to list all those who gave their support to the show over the past one hundred years then this would run to several thousands rather than hundreds of names. The success of each show depends to a large measure on the planning by the Committee, but much of the success is dependent on the support given by countless people that no one ever hears about.

The Show Field or Cae'r Blac (Black Lion Field) runs parallel to the road leading past the Black Lion Inn

a'r mynydd-dir. Dyma'r enwau arno ers cyn cof bellach, ond yr oedd enwau eraill arno ganrif a hanner yn ô1, gan mai dau gae ydoedd yr adeg honno. Enw'r rhan isaf oedd ***Cae'r Ydlan,*** a'r rhan uchaf (lle saif y babell fawr) yn ***Cae Bowling.*** Roedd hwn yn safle delfrydol i gynnal sioe arno gyda'r llain gwastad wrth ymyl yr afon yn addas iawn ar gyfer arddangos anifeiliaid, a'r llain dyrchafedig y tu 61 yn creu amffitheatr naturiol i'r dyrfa o wylwyr.

Catalog yr ail sioe yn Nhal-y-bont yn **1**897
Second show's catalogue in 1897

1.807-

TALYBONT

NORTH CARDIGANSHIRE

SECOND ANNUAL.

Agricultural and Horticultural

—SHOW—

HELD AT TALYBONT,

On Wednesday, September 75, 1897.

Including Grand HORSE - LEAPING AND SHEEP-SHEARING COMPETITIONS

(Open to Competitors within the District between the Llyfnant and the Rod Jo), excepting Class 18, which is open to all Comers.)

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Y Dau Ddegawd Cyntaf

Wrth sefydlu'r Gymdeithas ar 19 Chwefror, 1896, penderfynwyd ei galw'n *Gymdeithas Amaethyddol Tal-y-bont a Gogledd Sir Aberteifi.*

Ei Llywydd cyntaf oedd Syr Pryse Pryse a'r Cadeirydd oedd ei fab Pryse Pryse, Lodge Park; Is-Lywyddion, Mathew Vaughan Davies, A.S., Tanybwlch; Pryse Pryse ac R.H. Rees, Woodlands. Aelodau'r Pwyllgor Gwaith oedd Dr John James, Y Fagwyr; J.T. Morgan, Maesnewydd; John Jones, Moelgolomen; William Morris, Brynowen; John Edwards, Nantsiriol; Richard James, Brynllys; John Jones, Ynyshir; Richard Jenkins, Henhafod; J.R. James, Peithyll; Evan Jones Williams, Cynnullmawr; J. Roberts, Nantcellan; John Richards, Tynpynfarch; R.J. Jenkins, Llety Ifan Hen; J.E. James, Maesbangor; David Owen, Berthlwyd; Thomas James, Frondeg; David Howells, Nancellanfawr ac R.H. Rees, Woodlands. Yr Ysgrifennydd oedd WR. Morgan, Y Ffatri Isaf, a'r Trysorydd oedd J.M. Williams, Brynbwl.

Prif amcan y Gymdeithas oedd cynnig gwobrwyon i denantiaid, rhydd-ddeiliaid a bythynwyr yr ardal rhwng y Llyfnant a'r Rheidol, gyda'r bwriad o gynnal sioe

towards Bontgoch. In living memory these are the names given to the field, but over a hundred and fifty years ago they were known by other names as it was two separate fields. The lower part of the field was known as ***Cae'r Ydlan*** and the upper part (where the show marquee is located today) was known as ***Cae Bowling.*** This was an ideal site to hold a show with the flat area near the river suitable for exhibiting animals as the elevated land behind created a natural amphitheatre for spectators.

The First Two Decades

When the Society was established on 19th February 1896 it was agreed that it should be known as the *Tal-y-bont and North Cardiganshire Agricultural Society.* The first President was Sir Pryse Pryse with his son Pryse Pryse, Lodge Park acting as Chairman, the Vice Presidents were Mathew Vaughan Davies, M.P, Tanybwlch; Pryse Pryse and R.H. Rees, Woodlands. The members of the Executive Committee were Dr John James, Y Fagwyr; J.T. Morgan, Maesnewydd; John Jones, Moelgolomen; William Morris, Brynowen; John Edwards, Nantsiriol; Richard James, Brynllys; John Jones, Ynyshir; Richard Jenkins, Henhafod; J.R. James, Peithyll; Evan Jones Williams, Cynnullmawr; J. Roberts, Nantcellan; John Richards, Tynpynfarch; R.J. Jenkins, Llety Ifan Hen; J.E. James, Maesbangor; David Owen, Berthlwyd; Thomas James, Frondeg; David Howells, Nancellanfawr and R.H. Rees, Woodlands. The Secretary was WR. Morgan, Lower Factory, and the Treasurer J.M. Williams, Brynbwl.

The main aim of the Society was to offer prizes to the tenants, the freeholders and the cottagers of the area that

amaethyddol a garddwriaethol flynyddol ym mis Medi. Bu teulu Gogerddan wrth y llyw am ymron i drigain mlynedd.

Dyddiad y sioe gyntaf oedd dydd Mercher, Medi 23, 1896 a'r tywydd yn foddhaol iawn o ystyried y glaw mawr y diwrnod cynt. Yr oedd tua 1,200 o bobl ar y cae i gefnogi'r fenter gyntaf a 450 o gynigion *(entries)* a safon llawer o'r anifeiliaid yn rhagorol. Roedd nifer y cynigion yn arbennig o dda o ystyried nad oedd cyfleusterau rheilffordd i gludo'r anifeiliaid o gryn bellter. Siomedig braidd oedd nifer y cystadleuwyr yn adran y Gwartheg Duon, ond yr oedd safon y rhai a ddangoswyd yn uchel. Richard James, Brynllys yn ennill gyda John Jones, Ynyshir yn ail. Rhoddwyd canmoliaeth uchel i'r ceffylau gwaith gyda David Jenkins, Cerrigcyranau yn cipio'r wobr gyntaf. Fodd bynnag J.M. Williams, Brynbwl enillodd y rhan fwyaf o'r cystadlaethau eraill yn adran y ceffylau. Yr oedd yn un o wŷr mwyaf blaenllaw'r sir ym myd y ceffylau gyda nifer o wobrwyon i'w enw mewn sioeau eraill. Jac Oliver, Yr Odyn Fach oedd yr enillydd yn adran y merlod gyda merlen fynydd ardderchog, a chynigiwyd pris da amdani ar y cae.

Niferus iawn oedd y defaid ymhob dosbarth a'r enillwyr oedd W. Rowlands, Bryncarnau; Edward Jones, Elgar; W. Evans, Melindwr; H. Hughes, Carregcadwgan; W. Jones, Penpompren; J. Jones, Ynyshir; D. Owen, Berthlwyd; J.R. James, Peithyll; R.R. Edwards, Bwlcheinion; J. Morris, Penywern; J. Thomas, Glancletwr; D. James, Caergywydd a D. Howells, Nantcellanfawr.

Gwreiddiau: A.J.W. James, Dô1-y-bont a D. Davies, Penrhyngerwyn.

Grawn: J. Morris, Penywern; Thomas Owen, Alltgoch a J. Jones, Nantcellanfach.

Er mai siomedig oedd nifer y cynnyrch gardd roedd y safon yn uchel a'r enillwyr oedd E. Williams, Pentrebach; Mrs Jones, Ffatri, Tal-y-bont; Isaac Oliver, Taigwynion; J. James, Llanfihangel Genau'r Glyn; G. Morgan, Gwynfa; T Morgan, Penybont (Dôl-y-bont); Mrs Jenkins, Llanfihangel a Mrs Jones, Mill Cottage, Penybont.

Eithr y cystadlaethau mwyaf poblogaidd oedd y cneifio a'r ceffylau neidio. Y cneifiwr gorau oedd Henry Hughes, Lluest-y-Rhos a'r enillwyr gyda'r ceffylau'n neidio oedd J.

lies between the Llyfnant and the Rheidol. This aim was to be realised by organising an annual agricultural and horticultural show in September. Members of the Gogerddan family were to play a leading role with the Society for almost sixty years.

The date of the first show was Wednesday 23rd September 1896 and the weather proved satisfactory considering the heavy rains of the previous day. This first show attracted approximately 1,200 people and there were 450 entries with the standard of many animals reported to be very high. The number of entries was quite impressive considering that there was no railway to carry animals from a distance. The number of entries in the Welsh Blacks section was rather disappointing but the quality of the entrants was high with Richard James, Brynllys winning first prize and John Jones, Ynyshir second. The shire horses were highly praised by the judges with the first prize going to David Jenkins, Cerrigcyranau. Most of the other prizes in the horses section were captured by J.M. Williams, Brynbwl. This is hardly surprising as he was a leading figure in the county with horses at the time and had earlier tasted success at other shows. Jac Oliver, Yr Odyn Fach, won the pony section with a magnificent mountain pony and he was offered a very generous sum for it on the Show Field.

There were a large number of entries in every class of the sheep section and the winners were W Rowlands, Bryncarnau; Edward Jones, Elgar; W Evans, Melindwr; H. Hughes, Carregcadwgan; W Jones, Penpompren; J. Jones, Ynyshir; D. Owen, Berthlwyd; J.R. James, Peithyll; R.R. Edwards, Bwlcheinion; J. Morris, Penywern; J. Thomas, Glancletwr; D. James, Caergywydd and D. Howells, Nantcellanfawr.

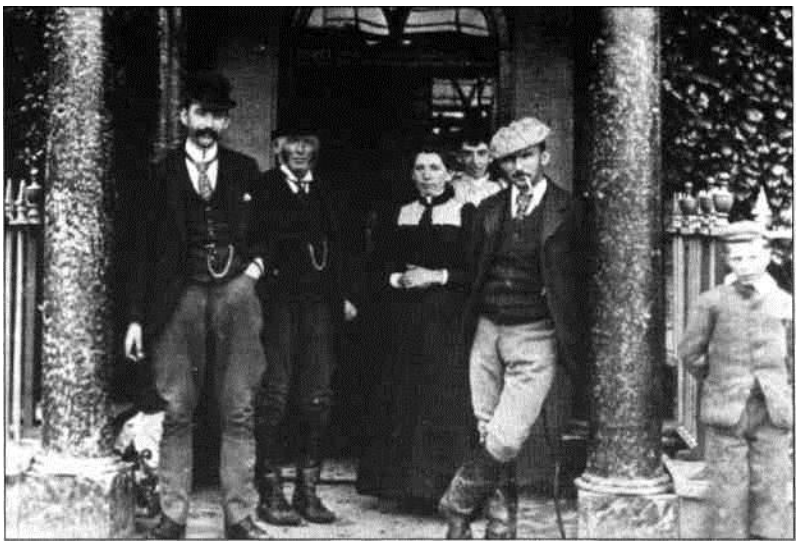
Roots: A.J.W. James, D6l-y-bont and D. Davies, Penrhyngerwyn.

Grain: J. Morris, Penywern; Thomas Owen, Alltgoch and J. Jones, Nantcellanfach.

Although the number of entires in the garden produce was disappointing the standard was high and the winners were E. Williams, Pentrebach; Mrs Jones, Factory, Tal-y-bont; Isaac Oliver, Taigwynion; J. James, Llanfihangel Genau'r Glyn; G. Morgan, Gwynfa; T. Morgan, Penybont

Jenkins, Pantcoch a Richard Jenkins, Henhafod. Er bod lluniaeth i'w gael ar y cae aeth Pryse Pryse a r swyddogion a'r beirniaid i gael cinio yn y Llew Gwyn, tra elai pawb arall i'r Llew Du.

Y beirniaid yn y sioe gyntaf honno oedd: **Gwartheg:** E. Evans, Maesmynach a J. Roberts, Perfeddnant. **Ceffylau:** J. Antony, Kilviethy; Capt. Edward Webley-Parry-Pryse; W. Buckley a W. Owen, Melin Garth. **Defaid:** W. Griffiths, Waunpant a J. Jones, Cilpyll. **Cynnyrch Gardd:** Mr Viery; Mr Wilkinson a D. Thomas.



Mr Richard Jenkins, Henhafod (ail o'r *chviith/second left)* a'i deulu */with liis family*

Bu'r sioe yn llwyddiant mawr a hyd yn oed cyn i'r gweithgareddau ddod i ben yr oedd rhai yn awgrymu y dylid mynd a hi i Aberystwyth y flwyddyn ddilynol er mwyn cael gafael ar y £75 oedd yn y banc ar 61 i ***Sioe Aberystwyth*** ddirwyn i ben yn 1884. Awgrymwyd hefyd y dylid cynnal y sioe yn Nhal-y-bont ac Aberystwyth ar yn ail. Roedd ymdrechion o'r tu allan i ymyrryd a Sioe Tal-y-bont i barhau am flynyddoedd wedi hynny.

Pan sefydlwyd cyfrif yn y banc yn enw ***Cymdeithas Amaethyddol Tal-y-bont*** ar Ebrill 13, 1896, fe drosglwyddwyd yr £20-6-4 o gyfrif y rasys trotian i'r cyfrif newydd wythnos yn ddiweddarach. Roedd yr elw o £204-16-7 ar ô1 y sioe gyntaf yn arwydd pendant o'i llwyddiant mawr. O hynny ymlaen tyfu'n araf wnaeth y sioe gan ychwanegu dosbarthiadau newydd o bryd i'w gilydd fel bo'r galw. Ni chynhaliwyd rasys trotian yn y sioeau cyntaf ond fe'u mabwysiadwyd rhwng 1902 a 1959. Nid oedd y cae yn addas ar gyfer rasys trotian a charlamu, ac er mwyn diogelwch pobl ac anifeiliaid eraill bu'n rhaid eu

(D61-y-bont); Mrs Jenkins Llanfihangel and Mrs Jones, Mill Cottage, Penybont.

The most popular competitions, however, were sheep shearing and horse jumping. The winners at shearing were Henry Hughes, Lluest-y-Rhos and the horse jumping was won by J. Jenkins, Pantcoch and Richard Jenkins, Henhafod. Although there were refreshments on the field Pryse Pryse and the officers and judges retired to the White Lion for lunch with everyone else going to the Black Lion.

The judges at that first show were as follows: **Cattle:** E. Evans, Maesmynach and J. Roberts, Perfeddnant. **Horses:** J. Antony, Kilviethy; Capt. Edward Webley-Parry-Pryse; W. Buckley and W Owen, Melin Garth. **Sheep:** W Griffiths, Waunpant and J. Jones, Cilpyll. **Garden Produce:** Mr Viery, Mr Wilkinson and D. Thomas.

The show was a great success but even before the day's events had ended some felt that it should be moved to Aberystwyth the following year to take advantage of the £75 which was in the bank after the ***Aberystwyth Show*** had folded in 1884. There was a suggestion too that the show should be held in Tal-y-bont and Aberystwyth in alternate years. Further attempts by outsiders to interfere with the Tal-y-bont Show continued for many years.

After a bank account was established in the name of ***Talybont Agricultural Society*** on April 13th 1896, £20-6-4 was transferred to the new account a week later from that of the trotting matches. The £204-16-7 profit from the first show was an indication of its huge success. From that time on it developed slowly adding new sections

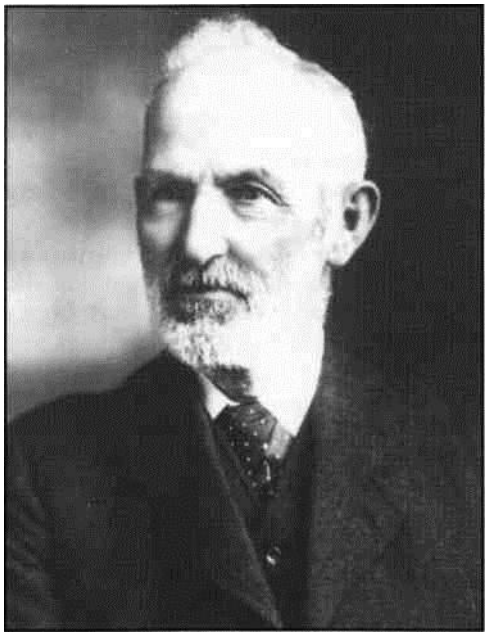
diddymu, ar waethaf eu poblogrwydd.

Sefydlwyd dwy adran i'r defaid yn gynnar yn ei hanes sef yr Ucheldir a'r Iseldir a'r ffin rhyngddynt i'w galw'n Clawdd y Mynydd. Pennwyd y ffin hon i redeg o'r Llyfnant i Graig-y-Pistyll ac oddi yno i'r ffordd fawr o Goginan i Bonterwyd ac ar hyd y ffordd honno i'r afon Rheidol. Newidiwyd ychydig ar y ffin hon yn ddiweddarach i redeg o ffordd Ponterwyd ar hyd Nant Bwadrain hyd at y Rheidol. Fodd bynnag fe achosodd yr adrannau hyn fwy o benbleth i'r pwyllgor na nemor dim arall.

Yn 61 y rhaglen roedd adran yr ucheldir yn agored i'r ffermwyr yr ochr uchaf i glawdd y mynydd a'r iseldir i'r rhai oddi tano. Os oedd gan ffermwr yr iseldir ddefaid ar y mynydd, yr oedd i gystadlu yn adran yr iseldir. Yn 1910 ychwanegwyd Adran y Canoldir ar gyfer ffermwyr yr oedd clawdd y mynydd yn rhedeg drwy eu tir. Cafwyd nifer o gwynion ynglŷn a ffermwyr yn torri rheolau'r adrannau hyn. Diddymwyd adran y canoldir ar ô1 tair blynedd a gwnaethpwyd i ffwrdd a'r adrannau hyn yn gyfan gwbl pan wnaed y sioe yn un agored yn 1932.

Bu sioeau 1897 ac 1898 yr un mor llwyddiannus a'r gyntaf gyda nifer y cynigion yn cynyddu bob blwyddyn, a'r safon yn rhagorol. Chwaraeodd seindorf newydd Tal-y-bont yn sioe 1898 er bodlonrwydd i bawb. Cymaint oedd ei llwyddiant a'i chynnydd yn y blynyddoedd cynnar fel y bu i'r Ysgrifennydd anfon llythyr at Pryse Pryse yn erfyn yn wylaidd am ragor o dal.

Roedd J.M. Williams, Brynbwl wedi ymddiswyddo fel Trysorydd yn nechrau 1898 a J.T. Morgan, Maesnewydd wedi ei benodi yn ei le. Gwr dylanwadol yn yr ardal, yn Ynad Heddwch lleol ac yn hanu o hen deulu a'u gwreiddiau'n ddwfn yn y gymdogaeth ers pedair neu bum canrif o leiaf. Âi ef yn gyson i Lodge



Mr J.T. Morgan, Maesnewydd, *Trysorydd/Treasurer* 1898-1904

from time to time. Trotting matches did not feature in those early shows but they were held as part of the day's activities between 1902 and 1959. The field was not particularly appropriate for trotting matches or galloping, and for the safety of the spectators and other animals it became necessary to do away with them despite their undisputed popularity. Early in the Show's history the sheep entries were divided into two sections, namely upland and lowland sheep. The line between them, known as Clawdd y Mynydd, ran from Llyfnant to Craig-y-Pistyll, and from there to the road running between Goginan to Ponterwyd and then followed this road to the river Rheidol. Later the line was modified so that it ran from the Ponterwyd road along Nant Bwadrain to the Rheidol. Despite these efforts by the Show Committee to draw a fixed boundary it caused more headaches for the Committee than almost everything else put together. The schedules show that the uplands section was open to those who farmed the upper side of Clawdd y Mynydd and the lowland section for those below it. However where a lowland farmer had sheep on the hills he competed in the lowland section. In 1910a midland section was added for those farmers with Clawdd y Mynydd running through their land. There were many complaints of farmers breaking the qualifying rules. After three years the midland section was abandoned and the two remaining division also disappeared when the Show became an open one in 1932.

The 1897 and 1898 shows proved as successful as the first with the number of entries increasing annually and the standards deemed excellent. The new Tal-y-bont Brass Band played at the 1898 event, much to everyone's pleasure. Such was the success in those early years that the

Park at Pryse Pryse i roi trefn ar y cyfrifon.

Yn Ionawr 1900 brawychwyd Gogledd Sir Aberteifi gan farwolaeth sydyn Pryse Pryse, etifedd Gogerddan. Ceir disgrifiad byw ohono yn ***Atgofion Cardi,*** Thomas Richards, Ynys Tudur.

"...nid gormodiaith yw dweud ei fod yn hanner-lloerigyn gyrru ei gwn hela. A phan ddeuthum yn ô1 i Fangor ar 61 gwyliau Nadolig 1899, darllen yn y papurau newydd am ***hunt*** *fawr yng ngogledd Ceredigion, y llwynog wedi ei yrru i'w loches, y* ***terriers*** *yn methu â'i gael allan, a'r sgweiar afieithus yn mynnu gyrru ei fraich i mewn ar ei ô1. Snap ffyrnig gan y llwynog,* ***blood-poison,*** *marw. Gelliryn ddibetrus ddweud i'r marw hwnnw fod yn golled fawr i ogledd y sir. Yr oedd yn ŵr mawr o waed, mae'n wir, gyda defnyddiau dyn mwy ynddo."*

Erbyn 1901 roedd llwyddiant Sioe Tal-y-bont wedi ysgogi pobl Aberystwyth i ail-sefydlu'r hen sioe amaethyddol yno, ac fe'i cynhaliwyd rhwng 1901 a 1903. Yn 1904 penderfynwyd sefydlu sioe leol arall, y tro hwn i'r de o'r afon Rheidol yn Llanilar, a throi Sioe Aberystwyth yn Sioe Genedlaethol. Pasiwyd i rannu arian Sioe Aberystwyth rhwng Sioe Tal-y-bont a'r sioe newydd yn Llanilar. Roedd Tal-y-bont i dderbyn £60 a Llanilar i gael £150. Cynigiwyd yr arian i Dal-y-bont ar yr amod fod tanysgrifwyr Sioe Aberystwyth i'r de o'r afon Rheidol yn cael cystadlu yn y sioe. Gwrthod yr amod wnaeth Tal-y-bont, a thynnwyd y cynnig yn ô1. Bu cryn drafod yn y papurau lleol ynglŷn â'r datblygiadau hyn, a John Gibson golygydd y ***Cambrian*** *News,* yn corddi'r dyfroedd. Roedd yn uchel ei ganmoliaeth i Dal-y-bont, yn ogystal a'r penderfyniad i sefydlu sioe yn Llanilar ond yn achwyn yn arw ynglŷn â dirwyn Sioe Aberystwyth i ben. Roedd pwyllgor newydd Sioe Llanilar hefyd o'r farn fod llwyddiant Sioe Tal-y-bont yn deillio o'r ffaith ei bod yn



Mr Pryse Pryse, Lodge Park, Cadeirydd *cynlat/First Chairman*

Secretary sent a letter to Pryse Pryse humbly requesting more pay for his services.

J.M. Williams, Brynbwl resigned as Treasurer early in 1898 and J.T Morgan, Maesnewydd replaced him. He was very influential, a local Justice of the Peace whose family roots in the area went back four or five centuries. He regularly visited Pryse Pryse at Lodge Park to discuss the accounts. In January 1900 North Cardiganshire was shocked by the news of the sudden death of Pryse Pryse, heir to the Gogerddan estate. There is a very vivid description of his death in ***Atgofion Cardi,*** the memoirs of Thomas Richards, Ynys Tudur:

"...it would be no exaggeration to say that he was more than half-mad when driving the hounds. After I returned to Bangor following the Christmas vacation of 1899 I read a newspaper account of the big hunt in north Cardiganshire, with the fox being driven to its den, and after the terriers had failed to drive it out the squire insisted on putting his arm into the hole. Suddenly there was a sharp snap from the fox, followed by blood poisoning, quickly leading to the tragic death of the heir. There is no shadow of doubt that this death was a great loss to the northern parts of the county. He had noble blood in his veins, as well as the makings of a great man".

The success of the Tal-y-bont Show inspired Aberystwyth to resurrect the old show between 1901 and 1903. In 1904 a decision was taken to establish another show, this time to the south of the River Rheidol, at Llanilar, as well as to make the Aberystwyth Show a national one. It was resolved that the Aberystwyth Show funds should be divided between Tal-y-bont Show and the new show at Llanilar. Tal-y-bont was to receive £60 and Llanilar £150. It was proposed that the money should be

cadw i'w hardal ei hun. Yn 1904 fe ddaeth *Sioe* ***Arddwriaethol Aberystwyth*** **i** ben hefyd. Tymhestlog fu hynt a helynt honno ers ei sefydlu yn 1894.

Yn Sioe Tal-y-bont roedd cystadleuaeth newydd wedi ei hychwanegu i'r rhaglen yn 1903 sef yr ***ardd orau.*** Roedd hyn i'w gymeradwyo am y rhoddid cefnogaeth i fythynwyr yr ardal, amryw ohonynt yn elwa yn ogystal a chael pleser o dyfu cynnyrch ar gyfer y farchnad yn ogystal a hwy eu hunain.

Hwn oedd y cyfnod pan benodwyd Dr John James, Y Fagwyr yn Rheolwr Cyffredinol y cae. Fe'i ganed yn Gilfach-goed, Llangwyryfon, ac un o ddirgelion bywyd yw sut y llwyddodd ffermwr i yrru ei fab i goleg meddygol, ond dyna fu hanes John James. Wedi graddio daeth i'r Fagwyr ym 1888, ac yn fuan wedi hynny priodod Jane James, Y Grip, Llangwyryfon. Ganwyd iddynt wyth o blant, ond collodd un mab yn ifanc iawn a'r ergyd fwyaf oedd colli ei wraig yn Awst 1905 yn 45 oed.



Dr James, Y Fagwyr a'i fab Phylip, gyda'i ail wraig Louisa
Dr James, Y Fagwyr with son Phylip, and his second wife Louisa

Yn rhifyn olaf ***Lloffion Llangynfelyn*** yn 1958 ceir erthygl hynod ddifyr amdano gan y diweddar Richard Phillips, Llangwyryfon (a oedd yn perthyn iddo ar ochr ei dad a'i fam). Ymddengys fod Dr James yn weithiwr caled a chydwybodol iawn ac o gofio'r cyfnod, byddai allan ar gem ei gaseg yn ymweld a chleifion hyd oriau man y bore. Ni chollodd yr un o'i gleifion a fu'n dioddef o'r **ffliw** ofnadwy ym 1918-19, a bu honno yn achos marwolaeth mwy o bobl nag a laddwyd yn y rhyfel mawr. Prawf o'i allu neilltuol a'i ofal dros ei gleifion. Wedi marwolaeth ei wraig ifanc, fe ail-briodod yn Nhachwedd 1909 a Mrs Louisa Pryse, gweddw Pryse Pryse, Lodge Park, a

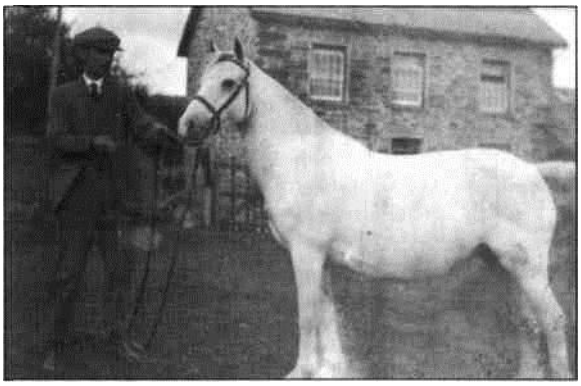
offered to Tal-y-bont on condition that subscribers to the Aberystwyth Show residing to the south of the Rheidol could join. Tal-y-bont refused this condition and the offer was withdrawn. There was protracted discussion in the local press on these developments with John Gibson, the editor of the ***Cambrian*** *News,* stirring matters. He was generous in his praise of Tal-y-bont, as well as of the decision to establish a show at Llanilar, but scathing about the proposal to end the Aberystwyth Show. The new Llanilar Show Committee agreed that the success enjoyed by Tal-y-bont Show was due to it being confined to local competitors. In 1904 the ***Aberystwyth Horticultural Show*** was also terminated. This show had experienced a tempestuous history since its inauguration in 1894.

In 1903 a new event was introduced into the Tal-y-bont Show schedules, namely a competition for the best garden. This was a welcome development as it encouraged local cottagers, many of whom were able to profit from growing produce for the market place and for their own needs, in addition to the pleasure to be had from gardening.

This was the time when Dr James, Fagwyr, was appointed the General Manager of the show field. Born at Gilfach-goed, Llangwyryfon, it was a mystery how a farmer managed to send a son to medical college, but this is what had happened to John James. After graduating he came to Y Fagwyr in 1888, and soon afterwards married Jane James, Y Grip, Llangwyryfon. They had eight children, although one son died in infancy, but the biggest blow for Dr James was the death of his wife in

symudodd ef a'i blant i fyw yno, cyn symud yn 1915 i Benmorfa, Y Borth. Y mae ei wyres o'i briodas gyntaf, sef Mrs Jane Deacon, Gorhambury St. Albans yn cadw cysylltiad a Thal-y-bont o hyd. Bu Dr James yn flaenllaw gyda'r sioe o'r dechrau hyd at ei farwolaeth yn 1929, yn Rheolwr y cae o 1902-29 ac yn Gadeirydd y Gymdeithas o 1915-29. Ar ei ysgwyddau ef y disgynnai'r baich trymaf, ac ef oedd y dyn iawn, yn y lle iawn ar yr adeg iawn.

Roedd J.M. Jenkins, Cerrigcyranau yn bresennol yng nghyfarfodydd tyngedfennol 1904 pan sefydlwyd ***Cymdeithas Amaethyddol Genedlaethol Cymru*** **yn** Aberystwyth. Yn y flwyddyn hon hefyd yr unwyd dwy gymdeithas y da duon a'i galw'n ***Gymdeithas Gwartheg Duon Cymru.*** Roedd y ***Gymdeithas Merlod a Chobiau Cymreig*** eisoes wedi ei sefydlu yn 1901. Bu'r cymdeithasau hyn yn fodd i hybu a gwella'r bridiau cynhenid ac i gyfrannu'n helaeth i lwyddiant y sioeau dros y blynyddoedd. Fe ddechreuodd J.M. Jenkins arddangos ei goben Gymreig ynghyd a chadw gwartheg duon, a daeth ei fuches ag enwogrwydd mawr iddo ef a'i feibion yng Ngherrigcyranau a Neuadd yr Ynys.



Mr E.S.Davies gyda/with 'Seren Ceulan'

Gwr arall a ddaeth ag enwogrwydd iddo'i hun a'i ardal oedd E.S. Davies, Central Stores. Yn 1904 sefydlodd yntau gre enwog **Ceulan,** gyda'i gaseg **Seren Ceulan.** Eboles **Aeronwen Ceulan** oedd hi ac ym meddiant Lewis Lewis, Tynygraig pan y'i prynwyd gan E.S. Davies, a dyna gychwyn ***Gre Ceulan.*** Enillodd **Aeronwen Ceulan** nifer o weithiau yn Sioe Tal-y-bont a chipiodd ei merch **Seren Ceulan** y bencampwriaeth yn 1913, 1916 a 1921-24 yn ogystal a phencampwriaeth y Sioe Frenhinol yn Wrecsam ym 1928.

Bu gan Mr Davies nifer fawr o geffylau ond yr enwocaf ohonynt oedd **Ceulan Silverleaf** a **Coed Coch Serliw,** a'r march adnabyddus **Dinarth What Ho** a brynwyd ym Mhlas Dinarth, Bae Colwyn. Merlod mynydd (Adran A)

August 1905 at the age of 45.

In the final issue ***oiLloffion Llangynfelyn*** in 1958 there is an article by the late Richard Phillips, Llangwyryfon (who was related to him on both his father and mother's side). It would appear that Dr James was a very hardworking and conscientious doctor who would be out visiting patients until the early hours of the morning. Following the practice of that time these visits were made on horseback. He did not lose a single patient from the terrible flu of 1918-19 although this epidemic was responsible for more deaths than the Great War - vivid proof of his skills and care for his patients. Following the death of his wife he re-married in October 1909. His bride was Mrs Louisa Pryse, the widow of Pryse Pryse, Lodge Park, and he and his children lived there before moving to Penmorfa, Borth in 1915. The granddaughter from his first marriage, Mrs Jane Deacon, Gorhambury, St Albans, is still in contact with Tal-y-bont to this day. Dr James was a leading figure of the Society from the beginning until his death in 1929. He was General Manager of the Show Field from 1902-29, Chairman of the Committee from 1915-1929. The largest burden of running the Show undoubtedly rested on his shoulders, but he proved to be the right person in the right place at the right time.

J.M. Jenkins, Cerrigcyranau, was present at the fateful meetings in 1904 at Aberystwyth when the ***Welsh National Agricultural Society*** was established. That year also saw the two Welsh Black societies merging as the ***Welsh Black Cattle Society.*** The ***Welsh Pony and Cob Society*** had already been established in 1901. These societies were responsible for promoting and improving native breeds and were instrumental over the years for the success of agricultural shows. J.M. Jenkins began exhibiting his Welsh cobs as well as keeping Welsh Blacks. This herd was to bring fame to him and his sons

oedd y tri hyn. Merlen urddasol o liw broc oedd **Serliw** gyda cherddediad a throt osgeiddig. Roedd yn enillydd cyson gan gynnwys y bencampwriaeth yn y Sioe Frenhinol yn Abertawe, 1949. Enillodd **Dinarth What Ho** hefyd lawer o wobrwyon wrth gael ei ddangos mewn llaw, ond mewn harnais rhwng y siafftiau y disgleiriai. Dyna pryd yr oedd yn ei ogoniant, gan ymateb yn berffaith i bob gorchymyn, gan godi ei ddwy goes flaen mor uchel a phosibl wrth drotian. Roedd cymeradwyaeth y dorf bob amser yn fyddarol. Ef oedd pencampwr ei adran yn ***Sioeau Cenedlaethol Caerfyrddin*** 1947 a ***Chaernarfon*** yn 1952. Bu farw yn 1953. Ni chafodd **What Ho** erioed ei guro mewn harnais.

Yn ystod y pumdegau bu cryn dipyn o brynu ar y merlod Cymreig gan bobl o wledydd tramor, ac E.S. Davies oedd yr asiant yng ngorllewin Cymru. Ymaelododd a ***Chymdeithas Merlod a Chobiau Cymreig*** yn 1915 a bu'n Llywydd arni ym 1955 ac yn aelod o'r Cyngor am ddeugain mlynedd.

Mae ***Gre Ceulan*** nawr yn ddiogel yn nwylo mab E.S. Davies, y Dr Wynne Davies, Miskin, Morgannwg ac yntau fel ei dad yn enillydd llwyddiannus ac yn feirniad rhyngwladol. Ef yw'r awdurdod cydnabyddedig ar y merlod a'r cobiau Cymreig ac yn awdur chwe llyfr arnynt. Enillodd Dr Davies y bencampwriaeth yn Sioe Tal-y-bont y llynedd gyda **Ceulan Cariad,** disgynnydd uniongyrchol o'r **Aeronwen Ceulan** wreiddiol.

Gwr arall a sefydlodd re yn Nhal-y-bont ar ddechrau'r ganrif oedd D.R. Thomas, Neuadd yr Ynys a oedd wedi priodi merch Richard Jenkins, Henhafod, ac a fu'n fferyllydd yn Rhydychen am flynyddoedd. Sefydlodd re o hacneis (hackneys) yn Nhanyrallt a daeth yntau i enwogrwydd yn sioeau mawr Llundain a mannau eraill. Ceffylau bywiog ar gyfer tynnu cerbydau ysgafn ac i'w marchogaeth yw'r hacneis, a llawer ohonynt wedi eu croesi gyda'r cobiau Cymreig er mwyn cael ceffylau cyflymach. Roedd y rhain hefyd yn geffylau gwych iawn. Meirch gwych oedd **Rufus** a **Fireboy** a chaseg benigamp oedd **Rosina,** er mai rhai harnais oedd y rhain i gyd. Enillodd D.R. Thomas gyda'i ferlen yn Sioe Olympia, Llundain a chafodd gynnig arian mawr amdani. Gwrthododd ei gwerthu a daeth a hi'n ô1 i Danyrallt, ond at Cerrigcyranau and Neuadd yr Ynys.

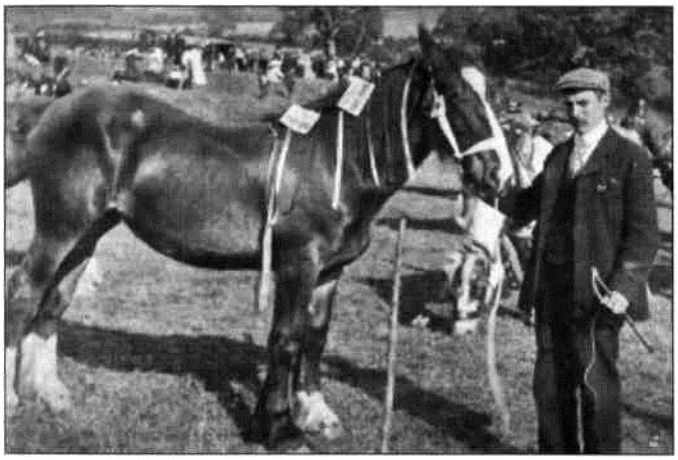
Another local man who established a name for himself and the area was E.S. Davies, Central Stores. In 1904 he founded the famous ***Ceulan Stud*** with his mare ***Seren Ceulan.*** She was the filly of ***Aeronwen Ceulan*** which had previously belonged to Lewis Lewis, Tynygraig before she was bought by E.S. Davies to start the ***Ceulan Stud. Aeronwen Ceulan*** won several prizes at Tal-y-bont Show and her daughter, ***Seren Ceulan,*** won the championship in 1913, 1916, 1921-24 as well as the National Show championship at Wrexham in 1928.

Over the years Mr Davies bred a large number of horses but the most famous were ***Ceulan Silverleaf*** and ***Coed Coch Serliw*** together with the famous stallion ***Dinarth What Ho*** which was bought at Plas Dinarth, Colwyn Bay. These three were all Section A mountain ponies. ***Serliw*** was a handsome roan horse with a graceful walk and trot and it was a regular prize winner including the Royal Show championship at Swansea in 1949. ***Dinarth What Ho*** also won a large number of prizes when displayed by hand. But it displayed its finest qualities when shown in harness, responding perfectly to every command and raising its two front legs as high as possible when trotting. It is little wonder that the crowd's applause was deafening every time it performed. He was the champion of his section in the ***National Shows*** **at** ***Carmarthen*** **in 1947** and ***Caernarfon*** in 1952. He died in 1953, having never been beaten in harness.

During the 1950s there was a great demand from overseas for Welsh ponies, and E.S. Davies acted as the agent in West Wales. He joined the ***Welsh Pony and Cob Society*** in 1915 and was a member of its council for forty years; and elected President in 1955.

Today the ***Ceulan Stud*** is flourishing thanks to his son, Dr Wynne Davies, Miskin, Glamorgan. Like his father he has been a successful competitor as well as an international judge and is the recognised authority on the Welsh cob having written six books about them. Dr Davies won the Championship at Tal-y-bont Show in 1995 with ***Ceulan Cariad,*** a direct descendant of the

trigodd y ferlen yn sydyn. Roedd colli tri chanpunt yn golled fawr yr adeg honno. Ar ô1 hyn, colli gafael yn y byd sioeau fu ei hanes, ac erbyn 1927 roedd wedi cilio o gylch y ceffylau.



Mr R.J. Griffiths, Dolclettwr c. 1906

Yn 1909 cafwyd bwth i'r Ysgrifennydd ar y cae, ac ymunodd y Gymdeithas a ***Chymdeithas y Merlod a'r Cobiau Cymreig.*** Y flwyddyn ganlynol ychwanegwyd cystadleuaeth newydd, sef plethu rhaff. Roedd nifer y cynigion yn 1913 yn uwch nag erioed, a chafwyd sioe eithriadol o dda, gyda nifer o enillwyr o'r Sioe Genedlaethol. Cafwyd presenoldeb Seindorf Promenâd Aberystwyth ar y cae. Gwnaed i ffwrdd ag adran defaid y canoldir a datblygwyd yr adran gynnyrch gardd gan sefydlu naw dosbarth ychwanegol, gan gynnwys ffrwythau.

Yn 1914 sefydlwyd y dosbarth mel am y tro cyntaf, a chafwyd sioe dda o geffylau gwaith er bod y ceffylau ysgafn yn brin. Roedd y Gwartheg Duon yn ddosbarth cryf, a beirniaid yn canmol y defaid Cymreig, ond yn gresynu na fyddai'r ffermwyr mynydd yn defnyddio gwell hyrddod.

Er i'r Rhyfel Mawr daflu ei gysgod dros y wlad fe gynhaliwyd sioe yn 1915 a 1916. Derbyniwyd llythyr oddi wrth Ysgrifennydd Sioe Llanilar yn awgrymu y dylid original ***Aeronwen Ceulan.***

Another to establish a stud in Tal-y-bont at the beginning of the century was D.R. Thomas, Neuadd yr Ynys who had married the daughter of Richard Jenkins, Henhafod. He had been a pharmacist at Oxford for several years. He established a stud of hackneys at Tanyrallt and gained a name at the big shows in London and elsewhere. The hackney is a lively horse used for pulling light carriages as well as riding. Many were crossed with the Welsh cob in order to develop faster horses. They were wonderful animals. ***Rufus*** and ***Fireboy*** were magnificent stallions and ***Rosina*** was a very fine mare, even though they were *hackneys.* D. R. Thomas won with his mare at the Olympia Show in London and was offered a large sum of money for her. He refused the offer and returned to Tanyrallt but the horse died suddenly. Losing £300 was an enormous blow at the time. After this experience he lost interest and by 1927 he had withdrawn from the horse fraternity.

In 1909 a booth for the use of the Secretary on the Show Field was obtained, and the Society joined the ***Welsh Pony and Cob Society.*** The following year a new competition in rope splicing was introduced. The number of entries in 1913 was a record and the Show was a very fine one indeed particularly as it included a number of National Show winners. The Aberystwyth Promenade Band played on the field. The midland sheep section was discarded while nine new classes were added to the garden produce section including fruits.

In 1914 the honey section was introduced and there was an excellent display of draught horses, but a shortage of light horses. The Welsh Blacks section was strong and the judges complimented the Welsh sheep classes although they were somewhat surprised that the hill farmers did not use better rams.

Although the Great War cast its shadow over the country, the show was held in 1915 and 1916. A letter was sent to the Society from the Secretary of the Llanilar show suggesting that the two shows should be united but was firmly rejected by Tal-y-bont.

uno'r ddwy sioe, ond gwrthod y cais yn bendant wnaeth Tal-y-bont.

Roedd y gymdeithas erbyn hyn yn un ar hugain oed a gwnaed ymdrech arbennig i ddathlu. Penderfynwyd nad oedd yr enillwyr i dderbyn gwobrwyon ariannol a bod elw'r Sioe yn cael ei gyflwyno i'r **Groes Goch.** Daethpwyd a milwyr clwyfedig o Aberystwyth i'r sioe hefyd, a threfnodd Cangen Tal-y-bont o ***Undeb y Ffermwyr*** ffair sborion gan lwyddo i drosglwyddo £126-17-9 i'r ***Groes Goch.*** Wrth annerch y dyrfa ar ddiwedd y sioe dywedodd Dr James y Cadeirydd na fyddai sioe arall tan ddiwedd y rhyfel. Daeth gorfodaeth filwrol i rym y flwyddyn honno, a chollwyd nifer fawr o ddynion i faes y gad. Roedd y prinder dynion a'r ffaith fod ysbryd pawb yn isel yn gorfodi'r pwyllgor i ohirio'r sioe.

Er bod y ***Bwrdd Amaeth*** **(Y** ***Weinyddiaeth Amaeth*** **yn** ddiweddarach) wedi ei sefydlu yn 1889, ni fu fawr o lewyrch ar y byd amaethyddol tan y rhyfel byd cyntaf, pan sefydlwyd y ***Pwyllgorau Amaeth*** gyda'u pwerau eang a phell-gyrhaeddol, a bu'n rhaid i'r ffermwyr gydymffurfio a rheolau caeth. Oherwydd amodau'r rhyfel rhaid oedd cynhyrchu mwy o gnydau a chadw mwy o stoc a chynyddodd y prisiau'n sylweddol. Fodd bynnag, erbyn dechrau'r dauddegau roedd prisiau wedi disgyn yn enbyd ac aeth y ffermwyr yn aberth i bolisïau dadchwyddol y llywodraeth ar 61 y rhyfel. Cred rhai haneswyr amaethyddiaeth i ddirwasgiad mawr diwedd y ganrif ddiwethaf barhau hyd at yr Ail Ryfel Byd yn y diwydiant amaeth.

Fe ail-gydiwyd yn y sioe yn 1919 a chafwyd sioe dda, yn enwedig y trotian a'r carlamu, a'r ceffylau oedd y brif atyniad. Serch hynny roedd oes aur y ceffylau yn araf ddirwyn i ben ar 61 cyfnod o ddeng mlynedd ar hugain.

Y Dauddegau a'r Tridegau

Ar waethaf y dirwasgiad a hi yn ystod y degawdau hyn fe gafwyd Sioeau nodedig, ac ychwanegwyd enwau newydd i restr y buddugwyr. Er bod rhai o'r cystadleuwyr hyn yn dal wrthi, yr oedd cenhedlaeth newydd yn cefnogi'r sioe erbyn hyn. Roedd Lewis Oliver Williams, Frongoch, Tre'r Ddol yn parhau i ennill gyda'i geffylau yn arbennig ei

On the occasion of the Society's twenty first year a special effort was made to celebrate the fact. It was agreed that the winners would not receive cash prizes but that the profits would be presented to the ***Red Cross.*** Wounded soldiers came from Aberystwyth to the show and the Tal-y-bont branch of the ***Farmers' Union*** organised a jumble sale raising £126-17-9 for the ***Red Cross.*** In his address to the crowd at the end of the show Dr James, the Chairman, announced that there would be no further shows until the end of the war. Conscription came into force during that year and many men were lost to the battlefields. The shortage of men and the generally low morale forced the committee to postpone the show.

The ***Agricultural Board*** (later the ***Ministry of Agriculture)*** had been established in 1889, but the industry had not flourished up to the first world war. This was when ***Agricultural Committees*** were set up with extensive and far-reaching powers and farmers were forced to conform to strict regulations. Wartime conditions meant that it was necessary to grow more crops and keep larger stocks. Prices also rose significantly, but by the early 1920s prices had fallen dramatically again and farmers were sacrificed to post war counter-inflationary policies. Some agricultural historians believe that the depression in agriculture in the last century continued right up to the second world war.

The Show was re-started in 1919 and it proved to be highly successful particularly the trotting and galloping. Without doubt horses were the main attraction, but after thirty years the golden age of the horse was about to end.

The 1920s and 1930s

Despite the depression of these two decades there were some notable shows and new names were added to the list of winners. Even though some of the original competitors were still around a new generation had begun to support the show. Lewis Oliver Williams, Frongoch, Tre'r ddol continued to win with his horses,

stalwyn Cymreig **Cream Bun.** Tarw du Cymreig R.A.C. Pugh, Foelas, Glandyfi a tharw J.M. Jenkins, ynghyd a i ddwy heffer Caran **Mair** a **Charan Doli.** John Morris, Penywern oedd yn cipio'r gwobrwyon gyda'r defaid mynydd Cymreig.

Yn 1923 sefydlwyd Adran Moch am y tro cyntaf, ond ni pharhodd y dosbarth hwn am nad oedd sioeau undydd fel Tal-y-bont yn medru darparu cyfleusterau addas ar eu cyfer. Bu clwy'r traed a'r genau yntau yn rheswm dros eu diflaniad am fod yr afiechyd hwnnw yn lledaenu'n gyflymach ymhlith moch nag unrhyw anifail arall. Rheswm arall dros eu diflaniad oedd y dogni ar eu bwydydd yn ystod yr ail ryfel byd, ac ni welwyd mohonynt yn Sioe Tal-y-bont ar ôl hynny.

Dosbarth arall a fabwysiadwyd yn ystod y ddauddegau cynnar oedd Adran Dofednod. Roedd mwy o son am dyfu cêl a hau basig slag ar y tir glas. Yn 1925 dim ond dwy stondin oedd ar y cae, sef ***Cwmni Hewthorn, Llundain,*** **ac** ***Adran Mewnfudol Llywodraeth Canada.*** Y flwyddyn ganlynol cafwyd cystadlaethau barnu anifeiliaid, menyn, cnuoedd gwlân, a gweiriau i rai o dan ddeg ar hugain oed gan ***Bwyllgor Addysg Amaethyddol y Sir.*** **Erbyn 1927 yr** oedd Sioe Tal-y-bont yn brif ddigwyddiad gogledd y sir a'r gwartheg o fridiau gwahanol i'r da duon yn cryfhau o flwyddyn i flwyddyn. Cafwyd arddangosfa hefyd ar gae'r sioe gan y ***Pwyllgor Amaeth,*** a bu galw am ddosbarthiadau nos a drefnid gan y pwyllgor hwnnw. Ar waethaf llwyddiant Tal-y-bont, yr oedd rhai sioeau yng ngwaelod y sir yn uno a'i gilydd megis Aberteifi a Chrymych a Chastellnewydd Emlyn a Llandysul er mwyn sicrhau eu parhad. Yn 1929 bu farw Dr James. Ef oedd asgwrn cefn y Gymdeithas. Roedd hi'n mynd o nerth i nerth gan ychwanegu adrannau newydd er mwyn ei gwneud yn fwy diddorol ac addysgiadol.

Bu momentwm y sioe a grëwyd dros y blynyddoedd yn fodd i'w chario drwy gyfnod anodd a llwm dirwasgiad y tridegau cynnar. Yn nechrau 1932 fe ymddiswyddodd R.T Griffiths, Y Felin o fod yn Ysgrifennydd ar 61 cyfnod o chwe mlynedd ar hugain. Yn ei adroddiad olaf i'r Pwyllgor soniodd am y datblygiadau yn hanes y sioe yn ystod ei gyfnod ef gan ychwanegu iddi fod yn gyfrwng i feithrin doniau arbennig iawn. Yn 1917 buddsoddwyd £131-15-0

particularly his Welsh stallion **Cream Bun.** A Welsh black belonging to R.A.C. Pugh, Foelas, Glandyfi and J.M. Jenkins's bull together with the latter's two heifers **Caran Mair** and **Caran Doli** also featured prominently. John Morris, Penywern dominated the Welsh mountain sheep section.

In 1923 a pig section was introduced for the first time, but it did not survive as one-day shows such as Tal-y-bont were unable to provide suitable facilities for them. Foot and mouth disease was another factor for their disappearance as it spread more rapidly amongst pigs than any other animal. Also there was rationing of pigs foodstuffs during the second world war. They have not returned to the Tal-y-bont Show.

Another class established during the early 1920s was the Poultry Section. Discussions were held about growing kale and sowing basic slag on pasture land. In 1925 there were just two stalls on the show field - ***Hewthorn Company*** *of* ***London*** **and the** ***Canadian Government's Department of Immigration and Colonisation.*** The following year there were judging competitions of animals, butter, wool fleeces and grasses arranged by the ***County Agricultural Education Committee*** for those under 30. By 1927 the Tal-y-bont Show was the major event in the calendar in the north of the county with cattle breeds other than the Welsh blacks growing stronger from year to year. The ***Agricultural Education Committee*** organised exhibitions on the show field and there was a demand for evening classes arranged by the same committee. Despite the success of the Tal-y-bont Show those in the south of the county, such as Cardigan and Crymych, Newcastle Emlyn and Llandysul, were amalgamated to ensure their survival. In 1929 Dr James, who had been the backbone of the Society, died. This was a bitter blow but the Show continued to go from strength to strength with the addition of new classes making it more interesting and educational.

The momentum built up over many years helped to keep the show ticking over during the difficulties of the depression of the 1930s. In 1932 R.T. Griffiths, Y Felin, resigned as the Secretary after twenty six years service. In his final report he outlined the developments which had

yn y ***Benthyciad Rhyfel*** a chynyddodd y swm i £255-12-8 erbyn 1932. Cyfrannodd R.T. Griffiths yn helaeth i lwyddiant y Gymdeithas dros gyfnod maith gan sicrhau seiliau cadarn ar gyfer ei dyfodol. Bu ei deulu yn cadw'r Felin yng ngwaelod pentref Tal-y-bont ers 1800. Roedd ei dad a'i dad-cu yn cadw mulod i gludo grawn o'r ffermydd a chario'r blawd yn 61, ond erbyn dechrau'r ganrif hon roedd y ffermydd yn cludo'r grawn a'r blawd eu hunain. Yn ystod y rhyfel byd cyntaf fe gafodd ffermwyr yr ardal eu peiriannau malu eu hunain ac arweiniodd hyn at ddifodiant y melinau. Erbyn 1933 yr oedd chwe melin ŷd yn segur yng ngogledd Sir Aberteifi. Bu'n rhaid i R.T. Griffiths roi'r gorau i gadw'r felin yn 1924, ac aeth ef a'i ferch i gadw Swyddfa'r Post yn y pentref.

Etholwyd John Morgan, y gof yn Ysgrifennydd yn ei le, a'r un flwyddyn penderfynwyd ei gwneud yn Sioe Agored. Roedd hwn yn gam pwysig, ond yn gam yr oedd yn rhaid ei gymryd i sicrhau ei bodolaeth a'i datblygiad. Wedi ei chyfyngu i ogledd y sir ers ymron i ddeugain mlynedd, roedd ei throi yn sioe agored yn golygu darparu ar gyfer anifeiliaid a phobl o'r tu allan. Darparwyd ystablau'n ddi-dal yng Ngorsaf Llandre ar gyfer y ceffylau a ddeuent o bell. Un o nodweddion arbennig Sioe Tal-y-bont yn ystod ei deugain mlynedd gyntaf oedd iddi gael ei bendithio a thywydd braf o'r dechrau ar wahân i flwyddyn neu ddwy Roedd amryw o'i chefnogwyr cynnar wedi marw erbyn hyn, ond roedd eu gwaddol yn aros, megis ymdrechion Pryse Pryse, Lodge Park i wella ansawdd y ceffylau gwedd yn y sir a daeth safon y ceffylau trwm yn un o brif nodweddion y sioe. Bu cynnydd sylweddol mewn rhai dosbarthiadau o anifeiliaid fel y Gwartheg Byrgorn a'r defaid mynydd. Roedd y Gwartheg Duon wedi dal eu tir yng ngogledd y sir a hynny i'w briodoli'n bennaf i Sioe Tal-y-bont.

Cyfnod prysur i John Morgan, yr Efail oedd y cyfnod hwn. Deuai ffermwyr lleol a'u ceffylau ato ychydig ddyddiau cyn y sioe er mwyn newid y bedol arferol am un arbennig y sioe. Roedd pedol y sioe yn drymach na'r un gyffredin gan beri i'r anifail godi ei goesau'n uwch. Yr oedd gofaint yn Nhre'r Ddol hefyd, ac yno y pedolid ceffylau L.O. Williams, Frongoch ac R.J. Griffiths, Dolclettwr ac eraill.

taken place during his period of office claiming that it had been responsible for nurturing some very special talents. In 1917 £131-15-0 had been invested in ***War Loans*** and this sum had matured to the value of £255-12-8 by 1932. R.T. Griffiths contributed significantly to the development of the Society over many years and provided a firm foundation for the future. The family had kept the mill at the lower end of the village of Tal-y-bont since 1800. His father and grandfather had kept mules to carry grain from the farms and returning with flour, but by the beginning of this century farmers were carrying their own grain and flour. During the first world war they also bought their own grinding plants and this led to the closure of the mills. By 1933 there were six redundant mills in north Cardiganshire. R.T. Griffiths had no option but to close his mill in 1924 and he and his daughter went on to keep the Post Office in the village.

John Morgan, the village blacksmith, replaced him as the Show Secretary and in the same year it became an open show. This was an important but necessary step to ensure its survival and its development. For almost forty years the show's competitors were restricted to those living in the north of the county, and so this decision meant that facilities were required to deal with animals and crowds from further afield. Free stables were provided at Llandre station for horses brought from afar. One feature of the show during the first forty years was that it was normally blessed with good weather. Although a number of the early founders had died, their influence remained. For example, the efforts of Pryse Pryse, Lodge Park to improve the quality of shire horses in the county go some way to explain the continuing good quality of the workhorses and they remained a major attraction at the show. There was also an increase in other animal classes such as Shorthorn Cattle and mountain sheep. The Welsh Blacks were flourishing in the north of the county chiefly through the influence of the Tal-y-bont Show.

The days leading up to the show were a very busy time for John Morgan, the Blacksmith and Show Secretary. Local farmers brought their horses to the smithy to change from the normal shoe to a special one. The show shoe was heavier than normal which meant that the

Er mai marwaidd oedd masnach a diwydiant ar ddechrau'r tridegau fe ddaeth nifer o ddatblygiadau newydd. Bu cynnydd yn y diwydiant dofednod a hybwyd garddwriaeth yn bennaf gan ymdrechion ***Pwyllgor Amaeth y Sir*** gyda'i threfnydd egnïol, D.J. Morgan (Pant a Bryn). Sefydlodd y ***Weinyddiaeth Amaeth*** nifer o Fyrddau Marchnata, a'r pwysicaf o bosib oedd y ***Bwrdd Marchnata Llaeth*** yn 1933. Fe ddaeth hwnnw a newidiadau cyflym yn ei sgil. Yn fuan aeth godro'r fuches yn bwysicach na sgrafellu'r ceffyl, a phan dderbyniwyd y cynllun o werthu llaeth aeth corddi a gwneud menyn i ebargofiant. Y Da Duon oedd yn cael y He blaenllaw yng ngogledd Sir Aberteifi, tra oedd y gwartheg byrgorn yn rheoli yng ngwaelod y sir.

Er bod yr afr yn anifail cyffredin yng Nghymru erioed, ni fu unrhyw ddatblygu ar y brid cynhenid tan 1928 pan sefydlwyd ***Cymdeithas Bridwyr Geifr Cymru,*** **ac** ychwanegwyd adran i'r geifr yn Sioe 1934, er mai ysbeidiol fu eu poblogrwydd hyd at yn gymharol ddiweddar. Ni chynhaliwyd sioe yn 1933 oherwydd fod y ***Sioe Frenhinol*** **yn** Aberystwyth. Hon oedd y sioe gyntaf i'w chynnal yn Aberystwyth er pan benderfynwyd gwneud y ***Sioe Genedlaethol*** yn un deithiol yn 1910, gan amddifadu'r dref o'i sioe amaethyddol. Yn 1924 atgyfodwyd hen ***Sioe Geffylau Aberystwyth*** a sefydlwyd yn 1872 gyda'r bwriad o'i throi yn sioe amaethyddol lawn yn y dyfodol. Fe barodd hyn gryn bryder i Bwyllgor Sioe Llanilar am y credent y byddai sioe yn Aberystwyth yn lladd eu sioe hwy a'r un yn Nhal-y-bont. Awgrymwyd eto y dylid uno sioe Llanilar a Thal-y-bont, ond gwrthod y cynnig ar ei ben wnaeth Tal-y-bont unwaith yn rhagor. Byrhoedlog fu hanes y sioe yn Aberystwyth ac aeth tair blynedd ar ddeg heibio cyn ceisio ei hailsefydlu unwaith yn rhagor ym



Mr John Morgan, Ysgrifennydd/Secretary 1932-35

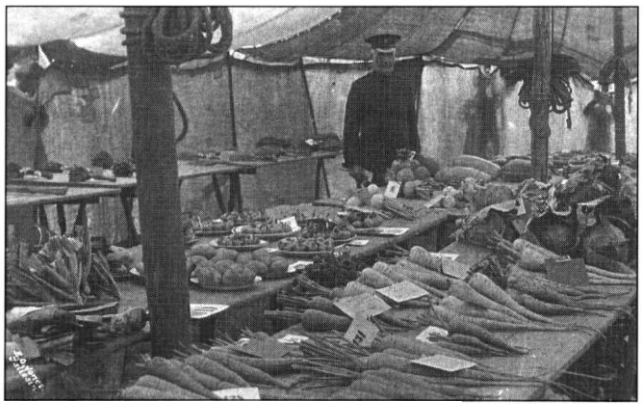
horses raised their legs much higher. There was also a smithy in Tre'r ddol which is where L.O. Williams, Frongoch, R.J. Griffiths, Dolclettwr and others would take their horses.

Despite the fact that commerce and industry was generally in the doldrums during the 1930s there were several new developments. For example there was progress in the poultry industry and horticulture was promoted particularly by the efforts of the ***County Agricultural Committee*** and its organiser D.J. Morgan, author of Pant a bryn. The ***Ministry*** *of* ***Agriculture*** established a number of marketing boards, of which the ***Milk Marketing Board*** founded in 1933 was possibly the most influential. This brought a number of reforms in its wake. Before long milking the herd was seen to be more important than scraping the horse, and when a scheme to sell milk was approved, churning and butter-making all but disappeared. The Welsh Blacks were most prominent in the north of the county whilst shorthorn cattle were the dominant breed in the south. Although the goat has been a common animal in Wales for centuries there was no development of the native breed until 1928 when the ***Welsh Goat Breeders Association*** was founded, and a section for goats was added to the 1934 Show although it must be said that their popularity was unpredictable until recently. There was no Show in 1933 as the ***Royal Welsh*** was held at Aberystwyth for the first time since it had become a moveable event in 1910 (and depriving the town of its own show). In 1924 the old ***Aberystwyth Horse Show,*** which had originally been established in 1872, was re-established with plans for developing it into a full scale agricultural show at a later stage. This caused

1937. Yng nghinio ***Sioe Geffylau Aberystwyth*** y flwyddyn honno mynegodd Moses Gruffydd, Pwllpeirian bryderon gwirioneddol ynglŷn a dyfodol y Cob Cymreig. Bu Sir Aberteifi ar un adeg yn enwog am y brid arbennig hwn, a neb i'w feio'n fwy na'r Cymro am ei ddifetha drwy ei groesi gyda'r hacneis. Awgrymodd yntau hefyd y dylid uno sioeau Llanilar a Thal-y-bont a chreu un digwyddiad o bwys yn Aberystwyth. Ar waethaf pryderon Aberystwyth a Llanilar, parhau i gynnal ei safon uchel ei hun fu hanes sioe Tal-y-bont.

Daeth cyfnod y tridegau a chyfnewidiadau eraill yn ogystal. Disodlwyd y ceffyl gan y car ac araf ddiflannodd y poni a'r trap. Daeth rhai fel John Stephen Jones, Ynys Tudur yn berchenogion loriau, er mwyn cludo anifeiliaid o un sioe i'r Hall.

Ym mlynyddoedd cynnar y sioe arddangoswyd y cynnyrch gardd ar stondinau ar y cae, cyn cael pabell fechan i'w dangos. Erbyn 1923 roedd y babell wedi mynd yn annigonol i'r pwrpas, a phenderfynwyd demyddio sgubor y Llew Du i'w dangos, ac am y deng mlynedd nesaf yno y gwelid hwy. Wedi troi'r sioe yn un agored bu'n rhaid ystyried cael pabell ac o'r cyfnod hwnnw ymlaen, yn arbennig felly o ddiwedd yr ail ryfel byd, mewn pabell yr arddangosir yr Adrannau Garddwriaethol, Cynnyrch Llaethdy a'r Crefftau hyd heddiw.



Cwnstabl Richard Griffiths, Borth, stiward y babell yn 1911
P.C. Richard Griffiths, Borth, produce tent steward 1911

Y defaid mynydd Cymreig oedd brid Sir Aberteifi a'r siroedd cyfagos, ond bu cystadleuaeth gref o gyfeiriad y penfrith, a darddai o ucheldir dwyreiniol Sir Drefaldwyn, ac enillodd y dosbarth hwn enw da iddo'i hun yn y cyfnod ar ôl y rhyfel cyntaf. Roedd y ddafad ddu Gymreig hefyd yn prysur agosáu at berffeithrwydd ei pherthynas wen draddodiadol.
Yn 1935 mabwysiadwyd dosbarth newydd yn adran y much anxiety for the Llanilar Show Committee as they felt that such a move would kill their show together with that at Tal-y-bont. There was a further suggestion that the Llanilar and Tal-y-bont shows should be amalgamated but this was once again rejected outright by the Tal-y-bont Show Committee. The show at Aberystwyth had a very short run and thirteen years were to pass by before a new attempt to re-establish it were made in 1937. **In** the ***Aberystwyth Horse Show*** of that year Moses Gruffydd, Pwllpeirian expressed his grave anxiety regarding the future of the Welsh Cob. Cardiganshire had once been renowned for this breed and no one was more guilty than the Welsh for cross-breeding them with hackneys. He also suggested that the Tal-y-bont and Llanilar show should be amalgamated to create one major event at Aberystwyth.

Despite the anxieties of Aberystwyth and Llanilar, Tal-y-bont continued to maintain the high reputation built up over many years. The 1930s also saw other changes. The car began to replace the horse and the pony and trap disappeared rapidly. People such as John Stephen Jones, Ynys Tudur, bought lorries that allowed them to transport animals from one show to another.

During the show's early years garden produce was exhibited on stalls on the field, before a small tent was introduced. By 1923 the tent was inadequate for the purpose and it was decided to use the Black Lion barn for these exhibits and this custom was adopted for the following ten years. Once the show became an open one it was necessary to use a marquee and from this time on, and particularly after the second world war, the horticultural, dairy and craft sections have been exhibited in this way. Welsh mountain sheep was the main breed to be

ceffylau, sef y Cadeiriau Cerddorol, a byddai ceffyl Tom Lewis yn creu difyrrwch mawr wrth eistedd ar ei ben-61 ar y gadair agosaf cyn gynted ag y tawelai'r gerddoriaeth.



Mr D.L. Edwards, Y Llew Du a Mr D.J. Edwards, y glo, yn cario gwair o gae'r sioe c.1936
Mr D.L. Edwards, Black Lion and Mr D.J. Edwards, the coal merchant, hay harvesting in the show field c. 1936

Sioe 1936 yn ddiamau oedd y sioe orau i'w chynnal yn ystod y cyfnod hyd at yr ail ryfel, ac er iddynt gyflwyno'r arian i Gronfa Estyniad Ysbyty Aberystwyth, colled ariannol oedd hi i'r gymdeithas er iddynt dorri pob record wrth y giât a'r cynigion yn uwch nag erioed. Y rheswm am y golled ariannol oedd i'r tanysgrifiadau ddisgyn ym mhob un o'r cylchoedd casglu. Roedd dosbarth newydd ar gyfer y Gwartheg Jersi yn gynwysiedig yn Adran y Gwartheg Bridiau eraill heblaw'r Da Duon. Cafwyd dosbarth newydd hefyd i'r tyrcïod. Beirniaid y gystadleuaeth gneifio oedd Morris Benjamin Jones, Clarach (Cyneiniog gynt), un a fu'n gysylltiedig ar adran honno ers dechrau'r ganrif.

Eithr yr hyn a barodd bryder i ffermwyr yr ardal oedd y cynllun i greu Parc Cenedlaethol yng Ngogledd Sir Aberteifi. Roedd y cynllun hwn yn fygythiad gwirioneddol i'w bywoliaeth.

Y flwyddyn ganlynol, yn 1937, bu farw David William Morris, Penywern yn 45oed. Roedd yn fridiwr da duon a defaid mynydd adnabyddus iawn. Bu'n gystadleuydd a beirniad yn sioeau mwya'r Deyrnas Gyfunol. Dri mis yn ddiweddarach bu un o'r arwerthiannau mwyaf a welwyd found in Cardiganshire and neighbouring counties but stiff competition came in the form of the speckle-faced breed which originated in the uplands of east Montgomeryshire. This section also established a good reputation in the years following the first world war. The Welsh black sheep were also fast approaching the perfection of their traditional white relative.

In 1935 a new class was adopted in the horse section, that of musical chairs, and Tom Lewis's horse caused great amusement by sitting on its backside on the nearest chair when the music stopped.

The 1936 Show was without a shadow of doubt the best of all the shows held up to the beginning of the second world war. Although money was raised for the Aberystwyth Hospital Centenary Extension Fund, the show proved to be a loss to the Society even though they had broken all records with the gate receipts, and the entries were the highest on record. The reason for this was that subscriptions had fallen in all the collecting circles. There was a new class for Jersey cattle in the Cattle Breeds other than Welsh Blacks, and also for turkeys. The Judge in the shearing competition was Morris Benjamin Jones, Clarach (formerly Cyneiniog), who had been associated with the show from the beginning of the century.

A great concern to local farmers that year was the scheme to create a National Park in north Cardiganshire. Such a scheme presented a real threat to their livelihood.

The following year David William Morris, Penywern, a well-known breeder of Welsh Blacks, died at the age of 45. He had been a competitor and judge in some of the largest shows in the United Kingdom. Three months later, one of the largest sales ever to be



Mr Morris Benjamin Jones, Cyneinog enillydd y cneifio/*best shearer* c. 1903

erioed yng ngogledd Sir Aberteifi a chymerwyd y fferm gan Mr E.H. Williams, Gwernhefin, Y Bala, a daeth yntau a'i fab Bob yn enillwyr ac yn feirniaid o bwys mewn sioeau amaethyddol ac ymysg cefnogwyr selocaf Sioe Tal-y-bont.

Yn 1938 enillodd Inigo Jones, Llysynyr, dystysgrif ***Y Weinyddiaeth Amaeth*** gyda **Llysynyr Blackberry** (un o'i fuches adnabyddus o dda duon) am ei chynnyrch llaeth. Yr un flwyddyn bu farw David Jenkins, Neuadd yr Ynys (brawd J.M. Jenkins) un o sefydlwyr y sioe, a'r un a enillodd fwy o wobrwyon na neb arall, a gwr y bu galw mawr am ei wasanaeth fel beirniad.

Yn 1939 bu farw un arall o bileri'r Gymdeithas, sef Thomas Jones, Moelgolomen. Roedd yn un o'r ffermwyr amlycaf yng ngogledd y sir. Yn feirniad defaid mynydd Cymreig heb ei ail, brid yr arbenigodd arno ym Moelgolomen cyn symud i'r Alltgoch.

Erbyn hyn roedd y sioe wedi ennill enw iddi ei hun fel un o'r sioeau gorau yn y Sir, ac yn enwog am safon uchel ei harddangosion. Roedd y trefniadau ar gyfer sioe 1939 yn barod, ond fe ddechreuodd yr Ail Ryfel Byd ac ychydig ddyddiau cyn ei chynnal daeth rhybudd o Lundain yn gwahardd ymgynnull mewn mannau agored. Bu'n rhaid i'r Pwyllgor ei gohirio a dychwelyd y taliadau i'r ymgeiswyr.

held in north Cardiganshire saw the farm being taken by E.H. Williams, Gwernhefin, Y Bala, and both he and his son Bob were to become winners and judges of distinction in agricultural shows as well as being loyal supporters of Tal-y-bont Show.

In 1938 Inigo Jones, Llysynyr, won the ***Ministry of Agriculture's*** Certificate with **Llysynyr Blackberry** (one of the cows belonging to his famous Welsh Black herd) for its milk record. In the same year David Jenkins, Neuadd yr Ynys (J.M. Jenkins's brother), one of the founders of the show, who had won more prizes than anyone and was in demand as show judge, died.

In 1939 another of the pillars of the Society, Thomas Jones, Moelgolomen died. He was one of the most prominent farmers in the north of the county. There was no match for him as a judge of Welsh mountain sheep, a breed in which he had specialised at Moelgolomen before moving to Alltgoch.

By this time the show had earned a reputation as one of the best shows in the county for the quality of its exhibits. Arrangements for the 1939 show were at an advanced stage at the outbreak of the second world war. A few days before the show a Government warning against gatherings in open places was announced. The Committee was forced to cancel the show and return the entry fees to the competitors.

Y Pedwardegau a'r Pumdegau

Daeth yr ail ryfel byd a'i gyfyngiadau, ond yr oedd y llywodraeth yn fwy parod amdano na'r rhyfel byd cyntaf. Bu'n rhaid dogni ar bopeth, ond yr un pryd bu'n rhaid cynhyrchu mwy o fwydydd. Sefydlwyd ***Byddin Merched y Tir*** yn gynnar yn y rhyfel a bu llawer o wragedd a merched yr ardal yn aelodau o'r fyddin honno. Gorfodwyd ffermwyr i dyfu rhagor o gnydau a chadw rhagor o anifeiliaid. Wynebwyd anawsterau mawr oherwydd amgylchiadau'r rhyfel a rheolau llym y blacowt.

Yn eu brwdfrydedd i gynorthwyo ymdrechion y rhyfel aeth pentrefwyr Tal-y-bont ati i ffurfio ***Cymdeithas***

The 1940s and 1950s

The second world war saw the introduction of numerous restrictions but the Government were more prepared than they were at the outbreak of the first world war. Everything had to be rationed, but at the same time it was necessary to produce more foodstuffs. The ***Women's Land Army*** was established at a very early stage of the war and many local women and girls joined up. The farmers were forced to produce more crops and keep more animals. Great difficulties were experienced due to wartime conditions and the tight restrictions of the blackout. In their enthusiasm to support the war effort, the

Arddio, a bu cymaint o lewyrch ar eu gerddi fel iddynt herio'r byd i ddangos gwell llysiau a ffrwythau. Trefnwyd cystadleuaeth yn 1943 i ddewis yr ardd orau, a'r flwyddyn ganlynol cynhaliwyd ***Sioe Cynnyrch Gardd a Babanod*** yn y Neuadd Goffa pan drosglwyddwyd £200 i'r Groes Goch. Y Cadeirydd oedd J.C. Morgan, Tanyrallt a'r Ysgrifenyddion oedd Miss Ruffina Owen a Miss Nita James, gyda Mrs Evans, Caerdova yn Drysorydd.

Segur fu'r Gymdeithas Amaethyddol drwy gydol y rhyfel, ond yng Ngorffennaf 1945 galwyd cyfarfod i drafod a fyddai sioe y flwyddyn honno ai peidio. Penderfynwyd i beidio a chynnal sioe a threfnwyd i gyfarfod eto ym Mawrth 1946.

Fodd bynnag, ar ô1 y pwyllgor aeth rhai ati i drefnu sioe answyddogol ar Gae'r Blac a chafwyd arddangosfa dda dros ben, ond nid sioe swyddogol y Gymdeithas oedd hi. Cafwyd presenoldeb Roderic Bowen, yr Aelod Seneddol, a threfnwyd rhaglen ar yr un patrwm a sioeau'r Gymdeithas.



Mrs Kathleen Bryan, Eglwysfach, un o ferched Byddin y Tir yn Nolclettwr gyda'r gwartheg Holstein yn sioe 1946
Mrs Kathleen Bryan, Eglwysfach, a member of the Land Army at Dolclettwr with the Holstein cows at the show in 1946

Wrth ail-sefydlu'r sioe yn 1946 yr oedd y Gymdeithas yn ymwybodol iawn bod cyfnod newydd yn gwawrio ac y byddai'n rhaid addasu ar gyfer pob newid a chynnydd yn y byd amaethyddol. Ychydig a wyddai aelodau'r Gymdeithas yr adeg honno gymaint o newid oedd i ddigwydd ar 61 yr ail ryfel byd.

Ychwanegwyd dosbarth newydd i gneifwyr yn defnyddio peiriant a daeth gorfodaeth arnynt i ffensio ar gyfer y fuches ardystiedig oherwydd fod clefyd y diciau (T.B.) ar gynnydd. Daeth brid rhagorol y Ffrisian i gyflawni'r galwadau am fuches odro yn y pedwardegau, ac i Ddolclettwr, Taliesin y cyrhaeddodd y fuches gyntaf o wartheg Ffrisian Holstein o Ganada. O ganlyniad fe gollodd y Byrgorn llaethog ei statws yn y sir.

Yn dilyn yr holl balu gerddi a fu adeg y rhyfel fe

villagers of Tal-y-bont established a *Gardening Association* and they challenged the world to produce better vegetables and fruit. In 1943 a competition was organised to select the best garden and the following year **a *Garden Produce and Baby Show*** was held in the Memorial Hall where £200 was presented to the Red Cross. The Chairman was J.C. Morgan, Tanyrallt, the Secretaries were Miss Ruffina Owen and Miss Nita James whilst Mrs Evans, Caerdova was the Treasurer.

The Agricultural Society was inactive throughout the war years but in July 1945 a meeting was called to discuss whether or not to hold a show that year. It was resolved to leave it and meet again in March 1946.

However, following the meeting some of the locals decided to go ahead and organise a show on the Black Lion fields and although there were some very good exhibits this was not acknowledged as an official Society show. The Member of Parliament, Roderick Bowen, was present and the schedules were along the same lines as the Society's earlier shows.

In re-establishing the show in 1946 the Society was aware that a new era was about to dawn and that it was important to respond to the challenges presented by the changes to the agricultural industry. The extent of the changes were about to transform the rural areas far beyond what members of the Committee could have imagined.

A new class was introduced for shearing with a machine and there was an enforcement to fence in attested herds following the increase in the outbreak of tuberculosis. The magnificent Friesian breed came along during the 1940s to meet the demand for dairy cows. The first Canadian Holstein Friesians came to Dolclettwr, Taliesin. As a result

gynyddodd y diddordeb yn yr Adran Arddwriaethol ac aelodau ***Sefydliad y Merched*** yn gefnogwyr brwd. Yn Sioe 1950 roedd arddangosfa'r babell yn un o'r goreuon a welwyd erioed, ond fe drodd y sioe honno yn un drychinebus. Cafwyd storm o fellt a tharanau na welwyd mo'i thebyg ac wedi pedair awr o frwydro yn erbyn y gwynt a'r glaw bu'n rhaid i'r Pwyllgor ei gohirio. Corddwyd y cae yn fora o laid gan yr anifeiliaid a phan chwythodd y gwynt y babell i ben y sietyn nid oedd unrhyw ddiben parhau. Roedd y beirniadu wedi ei orffen a'r Gymdeithas wedi talu dros £350 mewn gwobrwyon, ond fe ddychwelodd yr enillwyr eu harian i'r Sioe. Dim ond £52-7-3 a dderbyniwyd wrth y giât y bore hwnnw. Methiant llwyr oedd y sioe ac ni welwyd tywydd tebyg iddo ers dros ddeugain mlynedd. Ond yr oedd y storm honno yn arwydd o dywydd gwaeth i ddod mewn mwy nag un ystyr.

Sefydlwyd y ***Clybiau Ffermwyr Ifanc*** cyntaf yn y sir yn 1938 ym Mlaenporth, Rhydypennau a Llanwnen, ac fe'u dilynwyd yn y pedwardegau gan amryw o rai eraill. Bu cyfraniad y clybiau hyn dros y blynyddoedd yn anfesuradwy. Buont yn gyfrwng i gyfoethogi bywydau miloedd o ieuenctid dros y blynyddoedd, a chyfrannodd y bobl ifanc hyn yn fawr i weithgareddau addysgiadol a chymdeithasol yr ardaloedd gwledig. Bu nifer o'r clybiau hefyd yn gyfrwng i achub nifer o sioeau amaethyddol rhag diflannu'n llwyr. Sefydlodd C.Ff.I. Llanrhystud sioe yno yn 1943 a'i hail-sefydlu yn 1950, a bu Clwb Llangeitho yn fodd i achub yr hen sioe a sefydlwyd gyntaf yn 1920 drwy ei hadfer yn 1950. Bu sioe gan glwb Llangwyryfon rhwng 1944 ac 1949 ac ym Mhontrhydfendigaid



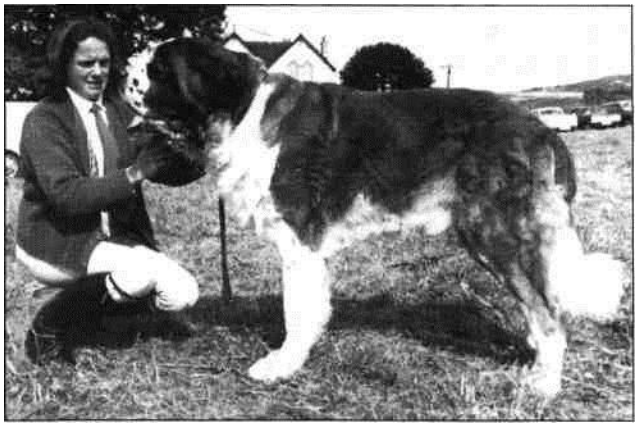
C.Ff.I. Tal-y-bont Y.F.C.

the dairy shorthorn lost its status in the county.

Following all the tilling of local gardens during the war years there was a growing interest in the Horticultural Section with members of the ***Women's Institute*** offering their support. In the 1950 show the exhibition in the marquee was one of the best ever but it proved to be a disastrous show. There was a terrible storm of thunder and lightning and after battling against the wind and rain for four hours the Committee had no option but to abandon the show. The show field was reduced to a quagmire by the animals and when the wind blew the marquee on to the top of the hedgerow there was no point in continuing. The judging had been completed and the Society had paid over £350 in prize money, but all the winners returned their winnings. Only £52-7-3 was collected in gate receipts that morning. The day was a complete flop and nothing approaching it had been seen in forty years. But this inclement weather was a warning of far worse storms to follow in more senses than one. The first ***Young Farmers' Clubs*** in the county were established in Blaenporth, Rhydypennau and Llanwnen in 1938 and they were soon followed by others during the 1940s. The contribution of these clubs over the years cannot be overestimated. They were responsible for enriching the lives of thousands of young people, who later contributed enormously to the educational and social life of rural areas. A number of these clubs also played their part in saving several agricultural shows from extinction. The Llanrhystud Young Farmers' Club, for example, established a Show in the village in 1943 and reestablished it once again in 1950. In 1950 the Llangeitho YFC was responsible

fe sefydlwyd sioe gan Glwb Ystrad Fflur yn 1943 a'i hail-sefydlu yn 1952. Sefydlwyd C.Ff.I. Tal-y-bont yn Hydref 1953, a bu'n llwyddiannus iawn ar hyd y blynyddoedd.

Yn 1951 yn Nhal-y-bont fe gafwyd un o'r sioeau gorau ar waethaf y tywydd garw am yr ail flwyddyn yn olynol, ac ar wahân i 1955 ac 1959y pumdegau oedd y degawd gwlypaf yn ei hanes. Yn 1952 bu'n rhaid diddymu'r adran dofednod oherwydd clwy'r ieir a sefydlwyd sioe gwn am y tro cyntaf i lenwi'r bwlch. Daeth y cŵn yn atyniad poblogaidd iawn dros y blynyddoedd, yn arbennig gyda'r menywod. Un a gystadlodd yn y sioe gwn gyntaf oedd Mrs Gwen Manley gyda Gelert, y San Bernard anferth. Er mai ail wobr a gafodd, aeth ymlaen i ennill yn Sioe Crufts yn ddiweddarach.



Mrs Gwen Manley gyda Gelert y San Bernard
Mrs Gwen Manley with Gelert the St. Bernard

Erbyn 1953 yr oedd y gefnogaeth i'r sioe wedi pylu a bu trafod a oedd dyfodol iddi ai peidio, a'r flwyddyn ganlynol bu ond y dim i'r Gymdeithas beidio cynnal sioe o gwbl. Penderfynwyd cynnwys cystadlaethau i'r Clwb Ffermwyr Ifanc am y tro cyntaf, ac apwyntiwyd y Cadeirydd yn Gyfarwyddwr y Sioe.

Yn 1953 hefyd fe ymddiswyddodd Syr Pryse Loveden Saunders-Pryse fel Llywydd a daeth teyrnasiad Gogerddan i ben. Bu cyfraniad y teulu hwnnw'n allweddol i lwyddiant y sioe, ond erbyn hyn yr oedd dyddiau'r bonedd wedi eu rhifo. Roedd Plas Gogerddan eisoes wedi ei werthu i Goleg Aberystwyth a symudodd y Fridfa Blanhigion (a sefydlwyd gyntaf yn 1919) yno yn 1950.

Blynyddoedd blin oedd dechrau'r pumdegau o safbwynt y sioe, yn bennaf oherwydd diffyg cefnogaeth. Awgrymwyd ei gwneud yn sioe leol yn unig unwaith yn rhagor am fod costau cynnal sioe agored gymaint yn uwch, a chwtogwyd ar adrannau er mwyn arbed arian.

for saving the old show originally established in 1920. A show was also organised by the Llangwyryfon YFC between 1944 and 1949, and in Pontrhydfendigaid the Strata Florida YFC started a show in 1943 that was resurrected in 1952. Tal-y-bont YFC was established in October 1953 and it has proved to be a highly successful club throughout its history.

The 1951 Tal-y-bont Show was one of the best on record despite bad weather for the second year running. Apart from 1955 and 1959, the 1950s was the wettest decade in its history. In 1952 the Show was forced to cancel the poultry section because of foul pest and it was replaced by a dog show. The dogs became a popular attraction particularly with the ladies. One of those who competed in the first dog show was Mrs Gwen Manley with Gelert, a large St Bernard. Although she was only awarded second prize she later went on to win at Crufts.

By 1953 the support for the show was in decline and its future hung in the balance. The following year the Committee almost passed a resolution to cancel the event. For the first time competitions for YFC members were introduced and the Chairman was appointed Show Director.

It was also in 1953 that Sir Pryse Loveden Saunders-Pryse resigned as President, bringing to an end the reign' of the Gogerddan family. The contribution of this family had been crucial to the success of the show from the beginning, but by this time the days of the gentry were numbered. Plas Gogerddan had already been sold to University College Aberystwyth and the Plant Breeding Station (originally established in 1919) moved there in 1950.

The early 1950s were difficult years due to a lack of support. There was a suggestion that it should become a

Dyma'r cyfnod pan ddaeth nifer o sioeau eraill yn y sir i ben. Er hynny bu 1955 yn achubiaeth iddi. Fe gafwyd haf heulog ac ar ddiwrnod y sioe roedd hi mor grasboeth fel y bu i'r menyn doddi yn y babell fawr. Bu'r diwrnod hwnnw yn ddigon o lwyddiant i sicrhau ei dyfodol a chyhoeddwyd ar y corn siarad ei bod i barhau.

Cafwyd arddangosiad gan ***Gorfflu Amddiffyn Sifil Sir Aberteifi*** a gwelwyd setiau radio symud a siarad *(walkie talkies)* ar y cae am y tro cyntaf. Fe ddaeth y setiau hyn yn ddefnyddiol iawn megis ar yr achlysur pan anafwyd merch ifanc a aeth yn erbyn y bont fawr wrth ddod i lawr y rhiw ar ei beic, gan anafu ei phen. Gyda chymorth y setiau radio cafwyd gafael ar feddyg oedd ar gae'r sioe, ac o fewn ychydig funudau yr oedd yn cynnig cymorth cyntaf i'r ferch glwyfedig.

Ni chynhaliwyd sioe yn 1957 oherwydd fod y ***Sioe Frenhinol*** yn Aberystwyth. Roedd y bridiau Cymreig yn gryf iawn yn sioe 1959 yn Nhal-y-bont a'u safon yn rhagorol, a chafwyd tyrfa fawr ar y cae. Am yr eildro yn ystod y deng mlynedd fe gafwyd tywydd braf. Sefydlwyd dosbarth newydd i'r gwartheg eidion a daeth rhai o'r Defaid Gwydn Mynydd Cymreig o Groesoswallt i gystadlu, ond gwan iawn oedd adran y ceffylau gwedd bellach; yr anifeiliaid urddasol a gosgeiddig hyn a fu'n un o brif atyniadau'r sioe o'r dechrau, gan ennyn edmygedd pawb bob amser. Daeth y Ffyrgi bach llwyd ar y farchnad yn 1946 i ddisodli'r ceffylau gwaith, gan esgor ar gyfnod chwyldroadol ym myd amaeth, ac fe ddaeth dulliau newydd a deddfau newydd i drawsnewid popeth.

O'r chwedegau ymlaen

Degawd gyffrous a chwyldroadol oedd y chwedegau drwy'r byd, a thorrwyd llawer o hualau'r gorffennol. Fe ddaeth y silwair i aros ac aed ati i bori'r gwartheg godro drwy gyfrwng y gyfundrefn padogau. Daeth gwrtaith artiffisial yn gyffredin a chynyddwyd y stoc o ganlyniad. Mabwysiadwyd cystadleuaeth gyrru tractor am yn ôl yn y

local show once again as the costs were much lower than those of organising an open show. Some sections were reduced in order to make savings. This was about the time that many other shows in the county were disbanded. But 1955 proved to be a turning point. It was a very sunny summer and on the day of the show it was so hot that butter melted in the marquee. It was such a resounding success that its future was secured, and this news was announced towards the end of the day over the loudspeakers.

There was an exhibition by the ***Cardiganshire Civil Defence Corps*** and walkie-talkie sets were seen on the field for the first time. These sets became useful particularly when a young girl injured her head after crashing into the main bridge when cycling down the hill. With the aid of the walkie-talkies a doctor on the show field was contacted, and within minutes he was able to offer first aid to the injured girl.

No show was held in 1957 when the ***Royal Show*** returned to Aberystwyth once again. Welsh breeds were especially strong at the 1959 Tal-y-bont show, and these were of a very high standard. A good crowd also gathered on the field. This was the second occasion during the decade when the weather was very warm and sunny for the event. A new class was established for beef cattle and some Welsh Hardy Mountain Sheep came from Oswestry, but the shire horses section was disappointingly small. This elegant and handsome animal had been a big attraction at the show from the very beginning, but the grey Fergie appeared on the market in 1946 and swiftly replaced it, bringing with it a revolution in agriculture, with new ways and new laws permanently transforming the world of farming.

From 1960s to the present day

The 1960s was an exciting and revolutionary era throughout the world, with many of the fetters from the past being shed. Silage became a permanent feature and dairy cows were put out to graze in paddocks. The use of artificial fertiliser was accepted as the norm, and as a result the stocks were increased. A competition in driving

sioe yn gynnar yn y chwedegau ac yn 1962 dilëwyd y dosbarthiadau ceffylau trwm yn gyfan gwbl gan rannu'r dosbarth ceffylau ysgafn yn ddau. Y flwyddyn ganlynol diddymwyd dosbarth y ceffylau mewn harnais. Bu'r dosbarth hwn megis y ceffylau gwedd yn un o brif atyniadau'r sioe o'i chychwyn. Erbyn hyn yr oedd amaethyddiaeth wedi mynd yn fwy cynhyrchiol a galw am grefftau a sgiliau newydd ar gyfer y dyfodol. Er mai y dydd Mercher cyntaf ym Medi oedd diwrnod y sioe ers dechrau'r ganrif penderfynwyd ei newid i'r Sadwrn olaf yn Awst, a sioe 1964 oedd yr olaf i'w chynnal ar ddydd Mercher ym Medi.



Mr H.P. Edwards, Gelli Angharad enillodd gyda'r ceffylau arddangos yn 1906
Mr H.P. Edwards, Lovesgrove, won the Turnout in 1906

Bu farw J.C. Morgan, Tanyrallt wedi cyfnod o bedair blynedd ar bymtheg fel Ysgrifennydd y ***Gymdeithas Amaethyddol.*** Yn enedigol o Lanidloes, daethai i fyw i Dal-y-bont yng nghanol y tridegau.

Y flwyddyn ddilynol gorfu i'r Pwyllgor chwilio am leoliad arall i gynnal y sioe am fod pibell garthffosiaeth yn cael ei gosod yng Nghae'r Blac. Cafwyd caniatâd Frank Bourne i ddefnyddio caeau Tynycae, ac am y tair blynedd nesaf yno y cynhaliwyd hi ar y Sadwrn olaf yn Awst o dan y drefn newydd. Yr oedd digon o le ar y caeau hyn a chafwyd sioeau da. Cafwyd cystadleuaeth Rodeo ac Ann Evans, Frongoch, Tre'r Ddol yn llwyddo i aros hwyaf ar gefn y ceffyl, gan guro neb llai na Hywel Gwynfryn ei hun!! Yn ystod y tair blynedd yn Nhynycae fe gynyddodd nifer y cynigion yn y babell i dros fil a'r safon yn uchel, a chafwyd un gystadleuaeth i blant ysgol am y tro cyntaf, sef gwneud cacen ffrwythau. Ac ym mlwyddyn olaf Tynycae trefnwyd treialon cŵn defaid fel rhan o'r sioe.

Y mae blodau a phlanhigion wedi dod yn rhai o brif atyniadau'r babell erbyn hyn, ond yn ô1 ar ddechrau'r chwedegau yr oedd y dosbarthiadau hyn yn rhan o'r

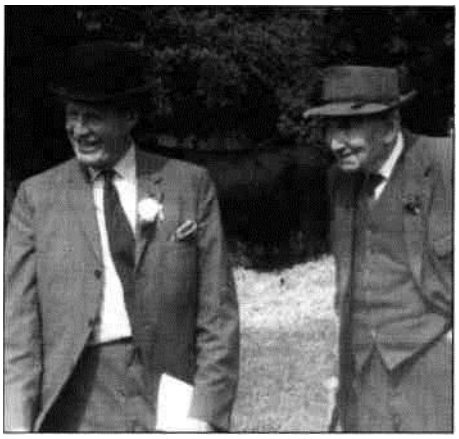
a tractor in reverse was introduced in the early 1960s and in 1962 the shire horse class was omitted from the schedules altogether and the lighter horses were divided into two sections. The following year the horses in harness class was also withdrawn. This class, together with the shire horses, had been one of the most popular attractions over the years. By this time agriculture was much more prosperous and there was a demand for crafts and new skills to meet future needs. Although the show had been held on a Wednesday from the beginning of the century it was agreed to move it to the last Saturday in August. The 1964 show was the last to be held on a Wednesday in September.

J.C. Morgan, Tanyrallt died after serving nineteen years as Secretary to the Society. A native of Llanidloes, he had moved to Tal-y-bont during the 1930s.

The following year the Committee was forced to find another location for the show because a new sewerage system was being built in the Black Lion field. Frank Bourne gave permission for the show to be held on Tynycae fields and this is where it was held on the final Saturday of August for the first three years under the new arrangement. There was ample space on these fields and these shows were successful. There was a rodeo competition and Ann Evans, Frongoch, Tre'r Ddol stayed on the horse longest, even beating the Welsh broadcaster Hywel Gwynfryn! During the three years the show was held at Tynycae the number of entries in the marquee increased to over 1,000 and the exhibits continued to be of a high standard. There was also a competition for school children for the first time, namely baking a fruit cake. During the final year at Tynycae a sheep dog trial

Adran Gynnyrch Gardd. Yn 1962 ychwanegwyd dosbarth arbennig ar gyfer trefnu blodau a'r flwyddyn ganlynol fe drefnwyd dosbarth ar wahân i'r blodau hefyd. Mrs Pugh, Cymerau oedd yn bennaf gyfrifol am y babell arddwriaethol yn ystod cyfnod ei gwr Major General Pugh fel Llywydd, ac roedd ganddi ddiddordeb mwy na'r cyffredin mewn blodau a sut i'w trefnu.

Dyn y fyddin o'i gorun i'w sawdl oedd Major General Pugh a bu ei gysylltiadau milwrol yn fantais fawr i'r sioe, yn enwedig pan oedd angen benthyca corn siarad neu lori ambell waith i gludo pethau. Er mai Llywydd y Gymdeithas oedd ei swydd mynnai gadeirio pob un o gyfarfodydd y Pwyllgor hefyd a'r Cadeiryddion a etholwyd o flwyddyn i flwyddyn yn gorfod eistedd gyda phawb arall, ond fe ddaeth y drefn honno i ben yn 1966 pan benderfynwyd fod y Cadeirydd i gymryd y gadair o hynny ymlaen, a gorfu i'r Cadfridog ildio i'r drefn.



Major General Pugh *a/and* Mr J.M. Jenkins

Dychwelodd y sioe i'w hen gartref ar Gae'r Blac yn 1968, ond fe gafwyd problemau gyda diffyg stiwardiaid ar y maes, sy'n anhawster parhaus i swyddogion o flwyddyn i flwyddyn.

Daeth y saithdegau a. chryn nifer o ddatblygiadau newydd a llwyddiant mawr yr un pryd. Yn 1973 gwnaed ymaith a dewis Is-Lywyddion gan wneud pob un a gyfrannodd £5 neu fwy yn Is-Lywydd am y flwyddyn. Ffurfiwyd ***Pwyllgor Adloniant*** er mwyn codi arian ychwanegol i goffrau'r Gymdeithas ac yn 1974 fe drefnodd Mrs Gwen Davies, Dolclettwr a'r diweddar Harri Jones, Taliesin arddangosfa i ddathlu pen-blwydd y Sioe yn bedwar ugain oed. O edrych yn 61 yr oedd y dathliad hwnnw yn anamserol, ond nid bai'r rhai a'i trefnodd oedd hynny. Fe gamrifwyd y sioeau am y tro cyntaf ar y catologau yn 1919, a phan benodwyd J.C. Morgan yn Ysgrifennydd yn 1946 penderfynwyd cynnwys dyddiad sefydlu'r sioe yn hytrach na'i rhifiad, gan nodi 1894 yn lle 1896.

Daeth enwau enillwyr newydd i'r brig yn ystod y was organised as part of the event.

Flowers and plants have become a major attraction at the show in recent years but at the beginning of the 1960s they formed part of the Garden Produce Section. In 1962 a special class on flower arranging was added and the following year a separate section was introduced for flowers. Mrs Pugh, Cymerau was mainly responsible for the horticultural tent during the time her husband, Major General Pugh was President. She took a deep interest in flowers and their arrangement.

Major General Pugh was a military man from head to toe and his military connections were a big bonus for the show especially when there was a need to borrow a loudspeaker or a lorry to carry equipment. Although he was President of the Society he insisted on chairing all the Committee meetings with the elected Chair having to sit with ordinary members. This 'arrangement' was ended in 1966 when it was agreed that the Chairman should be in the chair, and the Major General was obliged to accept the change.

The Show returned to its original home on the Black Lion field in 1968 but there was a problem as there were too few stewards on the field - a problem that returns to haunt show organisers year after year.

The 1970s saw a number of new developments as well as continuing success. In 1973 the past practice of nominating Vice-Presidents was ended and all those contributing £5 per year or more were automatically elevated to the status of Vice-Presidents. An *Entertainments Committee* was founded to raise additional money for the Society's funds and the following year Mrs Gwen Davies, Dolclettwr, and the late Harri Jones, Taliesin organised an exhibition to celebrate the show's 80th birthday. With hindsight, the timing of this celebration was inaccurate but those who organised the exhibition were not to blame. The correct number of each show appeared in the schedules up to 1916, but this

chwedegau a'r saithdegau hefyd, megis Gwilym Jenkins, Tanyrallt yn adran y defaid mynydd Cymreig. Y mae ef a'i feibion Enoc a Dafydd erbyn hyn yn dilyn yn 61 traed y diweddar I.R. Jenkins, Tynygraig, un o'r arloeswyr cynnar.

Arloesodd I.R. Jenkins gyda gwella tir mynydd a gwella stoc yn Nhynygraig ers y tridegau. Wrth droi ac ail-hadu'r tir fe wellodd safon y borfa a'r cynnyrch. Daeth y teulu i enwogrwydd gyda'u diadell o ddefaid mynydd Cymreig a'r fuches ddu Gymreig. Rhoddwyd pwyslais ar fridio'n bur gan ddilyn yr hen drefn o beidio torri cyrnau, dim silwair na dwysfwyd a'u gadael i fyw allan drwy eu hoes. Rhoddir pwyslais mawr ar hunan-gynhaliaeth a chydweithio a natur.

Daeth teuluoedd eraill i amlygrwydd cenedlaethol gyda'u hanifeiliaid a'u dulliau arbrofol o drin y tir a'u stoc, megis D. Bennett Jenkins, Ynyscapel a'i frawd Hywel Jenkins, Neuadd yr Ynys a'u meibion; D. J. Williams a'i fab Hywel, Cynnullmawr; E.H. Williams a'i fab Bob ym Mhenywern; Beryl Evans, Glanyrafon; Emyr Wyn Davies, Llety Ifan Hen; Trefor Jones, Cwmcae; D. Alun Isaac, Penygraig, Tre'r Ddol ac Evan Llewelyn Evans, Neuadd Fawr, i enwi rhai yn unig. Yn enillwyr cyson yn y sioe o flwyddyn i flwyddyn a hynny yn erbyn cystadleuaeth gref o'r tu allan, y mae eu cyfraniad wedi bod yn allweddol i'w llwyddiant.

Erbyn canol y saithdegau yr oedd swyddogion newydd wrth y llyw ac yng nghyfnod Louisa Phillips fel Ysgrifenyddes y Babell Fawr ac Adrian Warburton yn Ysgrifennydd Cyffredinol, fe'i trowyd yn sioe deuluol trwy geisio sicrhau fod rhywbeth ar gael a fyddai'n apelio at ddant pob aelod o'r teulu. Yn ogystal a sefydlu adrannau newydd ar gyfer plant ysgol a'r C.Ff.I. yn y babell atgyfodwyd adrannau'r ceffylau trwm am y tro cyntaf ers blynyddoedd a mabwysiadwyd dosbarthiadau newydd i'r defaid Torddu a Jacob. Cynhaliwyd gornestau tynnu rhaff, coits a phêl-droed hefyd fel atyniadau ychwanegol ar ddiwedd y dydd, a chyda'r nos fe aeth Clwb Ffermwyr Ifanc Tal-y-bont ati i gynnal dawnsfeydd yn y babell noson y Sioe am rai blynyddoedd. Daeth parti o ddawnswyr gwerin i'r sioe hefyd i ddifyrru'r dyrfa a chynyddwyd y nifer o stondinau ar y maes yn sylweddol. Erbyn dechrau'r

number was miscalculated between 1919 and 1938. After J.C. Morgan was elected Secretary in 1946 it was agreed that the founding date of the show should be given rather than its number. Unfortunately on account of the earlier miscalculation this was taken to be 1894 and not 1896.

A new generation of winners came to the fore during the 1960s and 1970s, people such as Gwilym Jenkins, Tanyrallt in the Welsh mountain sheep section. Gwilym and his two sons Enoc and Dafydd are now following in the footsteps of the late I.R. Jenkins, Tynygraig, (Gwilym's father).

Back in the 1930s I.R. Jenkins had been an early pioneer in improving hill land and stock. By ploughing and replanting the land he improved the pasture and the output. The family became renowned for their flock of Welsh mountain sheep and Welsh Blacks. The emphasis was on pure breeding by adopting traditional customs such as leaving the horns uncut, rejecting silage and concentrates and allowing the animals to graze outdoors at all times. The emphasis was on sustainability and working with rather than against nature.

Other local families gained national recognition with their animals and their innovatory methods of treating the land and the stock; people such as D. Bennett Jenkins, Ynyscapel and his brother Hywel Jenkins, Neuadd yr Ynys and their sons; D.J. Williams and his son Hywel, Cynnullmawr; E.H. Williams and his son Bob, Penywern; Beryl Evans, Glanyrafon; Emyr Wyn Davies, Llety Ifan Hen; Trefor Jones, Cwmcae; D. Alun Isaac, Penygraig, Tre'r ddol and Evan Llewelyn Evans, Neuadd Fawr, to name but a few. They were all regular winners at the show and this against very strong opposition from outside. Undoubtedly the contribution of these local farmers has played no small part in the success of the show.

By the middle of the 1970s there were new officers at the helm, and during the terms of Louisa Phillips as the Secretary of the Show Tent and Adrian Warburton as the General Secretary it became much more of a family outing. This was achieved by seeing to it that there were activities which appealed to all the members of a family. In addition to establishing sections for school children

wythdegau yr oedd yn sioe deuluol go iawn.

Mae'n debyg mai cyfrinach ei llwyddiant oedd iddi ddatblygu ac arbrofi ychydig o flwyddyn i flwyddyn yn hytrach na glynu'n gaeth wrth batrwm traddodiadol y sioe.

Ond mae'n debyg mai'r sioe orau a gynhaliwyd erioed oedd sioe 1983. Roedd Geraint Hughes, Haulfryn yn Ysgrifennydd Cyffredinol a May Royle yn Ysgrifenyddes Garddwriaeth. Fe gafwyd 1700 o gynigion yn y babell fawr ac ni welwyd y fath dyrfa ar Gae'r Blac erioed. Roedd y cae yn debycach i gwch gwenyn. Daeth criw S4C i ffilmio'r gweithgareddau ar gyfer y rhaglen *Awyr* ***Iach*** a Ruth Parri a Richard Bowering hwythau yn cystadlu. Am y tro cyntaf yn hanes y sioe cafwyd arddangosfa o hen beiriannau fferm yng ngofal Evan Jenkins, Carregcadwgan; Hywel Williams a'i ddiweddar fab David Glyn, Cynnullmawr; Aeron Williams, Maesmeillion ac eraill. Mae'r hen beiriannau hyn yn parhau i ddenu gwylwyr bob blwyddyn. Yn nghylch y ceffylau enillodd Gwen a Peter Manley Gwpan y *Western Mail* efo'u helfarch **Woodland Lady Ivor** a chipiodd Trefor Jones, Cwmcae bencampwriaeth y gwartheg duon mewn cystadleuaeth gref iawn, a John James, Llanfarian yn sgubo'r babell efo'i dremiannau blodau.



Hen beiriannau fferm/*Vintage farm machinery*

Yn 1985 gorfodwyd y Pwyllgor i ohirio'r sioe ar y funud olaf oherwydd tywydd gwlyb. Hon oedd yr unig sioe yn ei hanes i'w gohirio'n gyfan gwbl oherwydd y tywydd. Ni chafwyd haf mor wlyb ers deng mlynedd ar hugain.

Y flwyddyn ganlynol (1986) bu'n rhaid cynnal y sioe ar gaeau Glanfred, Llandre, am fod pibell nwy yn cael ei gosod drwy Gae'r Llew Du. Trefnwyd bws i gludo pobl yn ô1 ac ymlaen o gyn belled a Thre'r Ddol, ar yr awr drwy'r and the YFC, the shire horse section was resurrected for the first time in years and there were new classes for Badger Faced and Jacob sheep. There were tug-of-war competitions, quoits and football as additional attractions at the end of the day, and for a number of years the Tal-y-bont YFC organised dances in the marquee on the Saturday evening. A party of folk dancers also entertained the crowds at the show and the number of stalls was greatly increased. By the beginning of the 1980s the show was very much a family event.

The probable explanation for the continued success has been the Society's ability to adapt to change and to experiment rather than be totally rooted in the past.

The 1983 show was possibly the most successful in its entire history. Gareth Hughes, Haulfryn was the General Secretary and May Royle the Horticultural Secretary. There were 1700 entries in the show tent and the crowd was the largest ever seen on the field. A film crew from S4C was present to record the activities for the programme ***Awyr Iach*** and both Ruth Parry and Richard Bowering participating in the competitions. For the first time in its history there was a display of vintage farm machinery organised by Evan Jenkins, Carregcadwgan; Hywel and the late David Glyn Williams, Cynnullmawr and Aeron Williams, Maesmeillion and others. The display of vintage machinery continues to attract spectators every year. In the horse circle Gwen and Peter Manley won the *Western Mail Cup* with their hunter **Woodland Lady Ivor,** and Trefor Jones, Cwmcae returned home with the championship of the Welsh Blacks section fighting off very stiff opposition. John James, Llanfarian, swept the Show Tent with his flower arrangements.

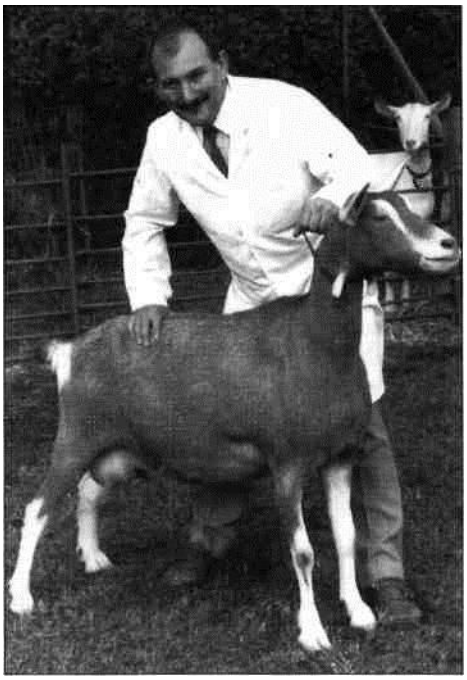
dydd. Roedd y safle hwn eto'n ddelfrydol a chafwyd sioe dda. Dywedodd Mr E.H. Williams, Penywern, Llywydd y Sioe fod ei dad Robert Evan Williams, Gwernhefin, Y Bala wedi synnu at safon y cystadlu pan oedd ef yn beirniadu'r gwartheg yn Sioe Tal-y-bont yn ystod y tridegau. Roedd y safon hwnnw wedi ei gynnal a'i wella ar hyd y blynyddoedd.

Erbyn hyn yr oedd cystadleuwyr o bell yn teithio i Dal-y-bont a'u canmoliaeth yn uchel bob tro i safon y cynnyrch. Roedd ffrwyth llafur y cystadleuwyr i'w weld mor amlwg a'r sioe yn glod i bawb oedd yn gysylltiedig a hi.

Dosbarth arall a gynyddodd yn ddirfawr yn ystod y cyfnod hwn oedd Adran y Geifr, ac enillwyr lleol megis Aeron Edwards, Cerrigcyranau Isaf a Jean Evans, Ger y Nant yn mynd ymlaen i ennill yn y Sioe Genedlaethol.

Erbyn diwedd yr wythdegau bu'n rhaid gofyn am gae ychwanegol i barcio'r ceir oherwydd y cynnydd enfawr yn y nifer o anifeiliaid a ddangoswyd. Ac yn 1989 bu i'r Athro David Bellamy, y naturiaethwr byd enwog, ymweld a'r Sioe gan ddweud mai hi oedd y sioe undydd orau iddo ef ei gweld ym Mhrydain.

Yr un llwyddiant fu i sioeau'r nawdegau gyda safon y defaid yn gwella a chynnydd sylweddol yn nosbarthiadau'r mel a gwaith llaw. Cafwyd cynnydd hefyd yn Adran y Cobiau Cymreig. Yn Sioe 1993 roedd dros 800 o anifeiliaid, (yn cynnwys 400 o ddefaid, 200 o geffylau, a'r gweddill yn wartheg, dofednod a geifr), 93 o gwn a 22 o gneifwyr. Yr un flwyddyn fe ymddeolodd Herbert Ellis fel Meistr y Ddefod yn yr Yrfa Chwist flynyddol wedi blynyddoedd maith yn y swydd honno. Fe'i dilynwyd gan Aeron Edwards. Cynhelir yr Yrfa Chwist gan y Gymdeithas bob Nadolig i godi arian a daw'r ymdrechion hyn a symiau



Mr Aeron Edwards, enillydd cenedlaethol gyda'i eifr
Mr Aeron Edwards, a national winner with goats

In 1985 the Committee had no option but to cancel the show at the last minute because of wet weather. To date this is the only show to be a total washout'. It had been the wettest summer for thirty years.

The following year (1986) it was necessary to hold the show on the fields of Glanfred, Llandre because a gas pipe was being laid through Black Lion fields.

Arrangements were made to use a shuttle bus service to carry people to and from the field as far as Tre'r ddol every hour throughout the day. This site was once again ideal and the show was successful. Mr E.H. Williams, Penywern, the Show President, said that his father Robert Evan Williams, Gwernhefin, Y Bala had been surprised at the standard of the show when he was a judge back in the 1930s. This standard had been maintained and improved upon over the years.

By this time competitors were travelling long distances to Tal-y-bont Show and they had nothing but praise for the high standard of the exhibits. The fruits of the labours of the competitors was very apparent and the show was a credit to all those involved in the arrangements.

Another section which made huge strides during this period was the Goat Section with local winners such as Aeron Edwards, Cerrigcyranau Isaf and Jean Evans, Ger y Nant later victorious at the National Show. By the end of the 1980s it became necessary to ask for an additional field because of the huge increase in the number of animals exhibited. In 1989 Professor David Bellamy the world famous 'Naturalist' paid a visit to the show and remarked that it was the best one-day show that he had attended in the British Isles.

The show is experiencing the same success during the 1990s with the sheep section continuing to improve year

sylweddol i goffrau'r sioe. Cynhelir cinio blynyddol hefyd ym mis Tachwedd i swyddogion a chefnogwyr y sioe, ac yng nghanol yr wythdegau fe drefnwyd tripiau i aelodau'r Gymdeithas i Henffordd, Lerpwl ac ati.



Gyrfa Chwist y Sioe, Nadolig 1988/S/zow *Whist Drive, Christmas 1988*

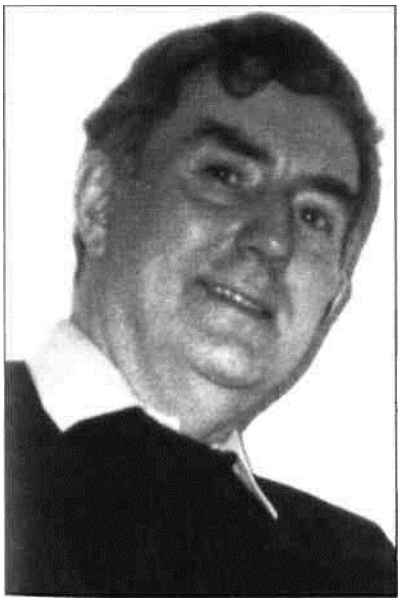
Wrth groniclo hanes y sioe mewn braslun fel hwn bu'n amhosibl rhestru pawb a gystadlodd ac a enillodd yn y sioeau, dim ond cyfeirio at ambell unigolyn neu deulu a gyfrannodd yn fwy na'i gilydd. Yn hyn o beth, mae'r babell arddwriaethol yn achosi mwy o gur pen na dim. Mae'r enwau fu'n gysylltiedig a hi dros y blynyddoedd yn lluosog ond y mae rhai enwau yn sefyll allan megis Gwynne a May Royle, Felinfach gynt, yn yr adrannau'n gyffredinol, a'u mab Eric sy'n teithio o Southampton yn flynyddol i gystadlu. Mae Mrs Mary-Ellis wedi cyfrannu'n helaeth i lwyddiant yr Adran Flodau yn erbyn cystadleuwyr o'r tu allan fel Mrs Mari Raw-Rees; John James, Llanfarian; Kevin Davies, Aberystwyth a Mrs N. Ellis-Davies, Llandre. Yn yr Adran Goginio ceir enwau Mrs Margaret Jones, Nantgaredig; Mrs Ann Jenkins a'i dwy ferch Mair a Gwen; Dilys Morgan, Alltgoch; Beti Jenkins, Carregcadwgan a'i merched Delyth a Meinir; Janet Jones, Llwynglas; Mair Rowlands, Gwarfelin, Ffwrnais. Yn Adran y Cynnyrch Gardd daw enwau i'r brig megis y diweddar Arthur Jones, Tal-y-bont; Gwyn a John Bond, Taliesin; Ieuan Evans, Taliesin; Goronwy Jones, Glasgoed ynghyd ag Alan Harvey o Benfro. Yn y Gwaith Coed fe gafwyd Elwyn Thomas, Croesawdy Llandre a Hywel Evans, Elonwy Capel Dewi a lwyddodd i sgubo'r gwobrwyon am wneud ffyn o flwyddyn i flwyddyn. Yna Mrs Tegwen Jones, after year, and there has been a huge increase in the honey and handicraft sections. There has also been an increase in the Welsh Cobs Section. In the 1993 show there were over 800 animals including 400 sheep and 200 horses, with the rest made up of cattle, poultry and goats, 93 dogs and 22 sheep for the shearing competition. In the same year Herbert Ellis retired as Master of Ceremonies at the annual Whist Drive after serving in this role for many years. He was succeeded by Aeron Edwards. The Whist Drive is organised by the Committee each Christmas raising substantial funds for the show. An annual dinner is held in November for members and supporters and during the mid 1980s trips were organised for members of the Society to places such as Hereford and Liverpool.

In this outline it has been impossible to list everyone who has competed and won in one or more of those shows, merely to refer to some individuals and families that contributed more than others. In this context the marquee has caused more headaches than any other. The names associated with it over the years have been countless, but some names such as Gwyn and May Royle, formerly of Felinfach, Tal-y-bont stand out in the general sections together with their son Eric who travels every August from Southampton to compete. Mrs Mary Ellis is another who has made a significant contribution to the success of the Flower Section against competition from people such as Mrs Mari Raw-Rees; John James, Llanfarian; Kevin Davies, Aberystwyth and Mrs N Ellis-Davies, Llandre. In the Cookery Section there are names

Glasgoed, yn ennill pob gwobr yn Adran y Gwinoedd.

Un o'r datblygiadau mwyaf i effeithio ar y Sioe ar ôl yr ail ryfel byd yw'r deddfu ynglŷn a iechyd a diogelwch. Daeth rheolau caeth yn ymwneud a chlefydau anifeiliaid a rhaid i bob sioe gydymffurfio a'r rheolau hyn.

Ni cheisiwyd ychwaith restru'r beirniaid niferus a roddodd eu gwasanaeth i'r sioe, ac annheg fyddai ceisio enwi neb. Ar wahân i'r rhain y mae llwyddiant y sioe yn ddyledus i nifer sylweddol o bobl a fu'n stiwardio o fore gwyn tan nos, flwyddyn ar 61 blwyddyn, ac i'r nifer ffyddlon sy'n paratoi'r cae ar gyfer diwrnod y sioe. Bu rhai fel Morris James, Penrhiw yn ffyddlon tu hwnt iddi gan ddychwelyd yn flynyddol i'w ardal enedigol i



Mr Morris James, Prif Stiward Adran y Ceffylau Mr Morris James, Horse Section Chief Steward

stiwardio ar y ceffylau. Ond y mae'n fwy na stiward cyffredin hefyd gan fod ei wybodaeth am geffylau yn anhepgor i Bwyllgor y Sioe pan eir ati i ddewis beirniaid.

O holl swyddogion y Gymdeithas Amaethyddol yn ystod y ganrif a aeth heibio, dim ond naw o fenywod a fu'n dal swyddi, sef Elinor Briggs, Plas-y-Mynydd; Mari Raw-Rees, Tynyparc; Jane Prytherch, Tynyberllan; Louisa Phillips, Bow Street; Susan Williams, Penywern; Rita Llwyd, Tal-y-bont; May Royle, Felinfach a Mair a Gwen Jenkins, Tanyrallt. Hyderwn y gwelir rhagor ohonynt yn cymryd at yr awenau yn ystod y ganrif nesaf.

such as Mrs Margaret Jones, Nantgaredig; Mrs Ann Jenkins and her two daughters Mair and Gwen; Dilys Morgan, Alltgoch; Beti Jenkins, Carregcadwgan and her daughters Delyth and Meinir; Janet Jones, Llwynglas; Mair Rowlands, Gwarfelin, Furnace. In the Garden Produce section certain names come to the fore such as the late Arthur Jones, Tal-y-bont; Gwyn and John Bond and Ieuan Evans, all of Taliesin; Goronwy Jones, Glasgoed as well as Alan Harvey from Pembroke. In the Wood Craft section the names of Elwyn Thomas, Croesawdy, Llandre and Hywel Evans, Elonwy Capel Dewi spring to mind, the latter sweeping the floor in the walking stick section year after year. Also Mrs Tegwen Jones, Glasgoed has been the main prize winner in the wine making section.

One development which has had a big impact on the show after the second world war are the rules regarding health and safety. Very strict rules were introduced regarding animal diseases and all shows must now conform to these rules.

No attempt has been made to list the judges who gave of their services to the show and it would be unfair to single anyone out. The show is also indebted to a large army of people who have acted as stewards from dawn until dusk year after year, not forgetting those who prepare the field for the show day. Some such as Morris James, Penrhiw have been remarkably faithful, returning every year to his roots to act as steward for the horses. But he was much more than a steward as his knowledge of horses has often been indispensable to the Show Committee when considering who to invite to judge.

Of all the officers who have served on the Committee during those first hundred years, only nine have been females. They are Elinor Briggs, Plas-y-Mynydd; Mari Raw-Rees, Tynyparc; Jane Prytherch, Tynyberllan; Louisa Phillips, Bow Street; Susan Williams, Penywern; Rita Llwyd, Tal-y-bont; May Royle, Felinfach and Mair and Gwen Jenkins, Tanyrallt. Let's hope that many more follow in their footsteps during the next hundred years.