



Pensychnant

Summer Programme 2025

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Follow us on Facebook/Pensychnant & Facebook/Pensychnant's Wildlife

Very rarely, events may need to be cancelled due to inclement weather, or other precautions, or may be fully booked. Phone if you need to be sure. If you pre-book for events we will endeavour to keep you informed of any changes.

Every Weekend (plus bank holidays), 5th July - 28th September, 11 -5pm

PENSYCHNANT'S OPEN ART EXHIBITION -

NATURE, ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION.

Pensychnant's 'Open' 2025 features 130 artworks by some of the best artists from all over Britain (One sculpture has been exhibited in 10 Downing Street!) All of the pictures will again be on the theme of Nature, Conservation and the Environment; some celebrating the beauty of nature and its importance to our well-being; others show the threats to nature. The artworks are not just inspired by a love of nature, but inspire a love of nature. With diverse styles and media, including sculptures, this exhibition will be worth seeing! And you can vote for your 'People's Choice' which will be announced at the end of the show. Karen's stall will be open for tea/coffee & FairTrade Cake every weekend, hopefully to be enjoyed in the sunshine on the lawn. What better way to relax at the weekend?

The Judges' Choice was 'Once There Were Natterjacks', embroidered by Lydia Fernandez-Arias. Lydia imagines a time when Natterjack toads no longer exist and children can only learn about them virtually. Showing the child viewing nature through virtual reality spectacles conveys much of what is wrong with society and our fears for the future.



Eagle Owl by
Ann Williams



Saturday 16th August, 11 – 5pm

SUMMER FAIR

Pensychnant will be hosting a Summer Craft-Fair with various local makers and artists: haberdashery and silver jewellery, leatherwork, beaded jewellery, crochet, cyanolumen art, natural toiletries, needle-felted crafts, locally grown fruit and veg, slate art, Fairtrade goods and much more. As always there will be plenty of things you never knew you wanted on Pensychnant's renowned White Elephant stall, and Fairtrade tea and cake on the lawn in the sunshine. We hope to see you.



Monday 18th August, 6 – 9pm

SILVER-SMITHING – MEMENTO RING WITH EVIE ROBERTS

Make a sterling silver Memento Ring – a single band with a word or saying or date that is meaningful to you. All materials provided. No experience needed. Tea & cake included. £65. Book at www.emporiumconwy.co.uk/cart

Saturday 23rd August, 1 – 4pm

GLASS FUSING WORKSHOP WITH MAD HOME CO.

Choose from an array of colours and learn to cut and arrange glass to make a gorgeous fused glass plaque. The finished piece will be kiln-fired and delivered to your home 3 weeks later. £50 Contact Tracey@madchair.co.uk for information. Book at www.saffron-prism-7lya.squarespace.com

Sunday 24th August, 10am

NATURE BIMBLE

A short amble to explore Pensychnant to just see what we can see and to start to make some wildlife records for Pensychnant. Back in time for elevenses from Karen's cake stall ☺

Tuesday 26th August, 1 – 4pm

WILLOW WEAVING WORKSHOP – SWALLOWS WITH CRAFTY AS HEL

In this session you will make three swallows for your garden. Suitable for beginners or those wishing to enhance their basketry skills. All tools and materials provided plus tea/coffee and cake.

£35. Pay at: www.crafty-as-hel-ynys-mon.sumupstore.com

Any queries please email craftyashelynysmon@gmail.com or phone Helen on 07886 609740

Weekend 30th & 31st August. 11 – 5pm

PENSYCHNANT'S RENAISSANCE – A CELEBRATION

After 35 years, the Pensychnant Foundation now owns the most part of Pensychnant, and leases the Farm. On the face of it, nothing will change, but this is BIG. It secures the future of Pensychnant as a Conservation Centre and Nature Reserve for ever.

This will be a celebratory weekend.

Various activities for adults and families:

- Displays about wildlife
- Wildlife safari's with Mark's vacuum sampler
- A short walk to discuss wildlife-friendly farming at Pensychnant.
- bioblitz show-and-tell with hundreds of species to see (especially moths)
- children's games and crafts
- Tea & cake available
-

Between us we hope to be able to identify a few species and answer at least some of your questions

Saturday 30th August, 7:30pm

OUTDOOR CONCERT WITH ARTHUR & ANGHARAD

An evening of beautiful songs by Arthur & Angharad & Mia, Owen & Beth, The Conwy Sea Dogs, and Reverend Gareth. Led by Arthur & Angharad, this promises to be an evening of smiles and shenanigans, featuring show songs, jazzy numbers, sing-alongs and sea shanties. Something for everyone. Pensychnant's evening concerts are something special. Bring a picnic. Tea/ coffee & cake, wine and Pimm's available. Tickets £15 available at www.pensychnant.co.uk



Sunday 31st August, 2pm

'BIG NEWS' BY JULIAN

You cannot understand how much this means to me. In a short talk, I will give some heartfelt recollections of the past 35 years, and outline some of our plans for the future. Donations to Pensychnant's future will be very much appreciated. In the words of Julian Pitt's fused glass window on Pensychnant's stairs, '*Heddiw gwyn ein byd. Mae yfory yn ein dwylo*'; 'Today we are blessed. Tomorrow is in our hands.'



Monday 1st September, 7:30pm

MOTH GROUP

Informal meeting of North Wales Moth Group. Donations appreciated ☺

Wednesday 3rd September, 2pm

REPTILE WALK WITH JOE ROBERTS (ARC)

Joe, from Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust, will lead a slow walk around Pensychnant and the surrounding heathlands to look for snakes, slow-worms and lizards. We will have placed refugia (corrugated sheets) in the habitat in the weeks prior, to increase our chances of seeing these wary and elusive animals. About 2 miles easy walking. Free



but booking essential on www.pensychnant.co.uk. Donations appreciated ☺

Friday 5th September, 7:30pm

‘BRENIG OSPREYS – WHAT HAPPENED NEXT’ BY SARAH CALLON (NWWT)

An update on the fortunes of the Ospreys at Llyn Brenig in 2024 and 2025. Cambrian Ornithological Society meeting. £1

Weekend, 6th & 7th September, all day

DRY-STONE WALLING WEEKEND

A professional training course by Drystone Walling Association (Wales). Learn the whole job, from dismantling and foundations, to coping stones, under the expert guidance of a master-craftsman waller £100 Contact Paul Smyth 01766 513213 for details or book at www.craftcourses.com

Saturday 6th September, 2pm

THE WRITING ON THE WALL WITH ALISON LAYLAND & JOOD GOUGH

Alison Layland, author of a bold new climate-fiction novel, *After the Clearances* and Jood Gough will present a selection of short fiction, novel extracts and poetry rooted in the climate crisis and nature. Alison will read from her book and lead discussion. Free. Donations appreciated ☺



Sunday 7th September, 11 - 1pm

GLASS FUSING WORKSHOP WITH MAD HOME CO.

Choose from an array of colours and learn to cut and arrange glass to make a gorgeous fused glass plaque. The finished piece will be kiln-fired and delivered to your home 3 weeks later. £50 Contact Tracey@madchair.co.uk for information. Book at www.saffron-prism-7lya.squarespace.com

Sunday 7th September, 1:30 - 4pm

SOAP-MAKING WORKSHOP WITH MAD HOME Co.

In this hands-on workshop, you'll discover how to make natural, beautifully scented soaps using skin-friendly ingredients. Perfect for beginners, this fun and interactive session covers the basics of cold process soap making, safety tips, and customisations with colours, essential oils, and botanicals. Take home your own unique bars and the knowledge to keep creating. £65 Contact Tracey@madchair.co.uk for information. Book at www.saffron-prism-71ya.squarespace.com

Monday 8th September, 6 - 9pm

SILVER-SMITHING – BANGLE WORKSHOP WITH EVIE ROBERTS

Make a sterling silver bangle. All materials provided. No experience needed. Tea & cake included. £75. Book at www.emporiumconwy.co.uk/cart

Wednesday 10th September, 7pm

DARK SKIES STORY-TELLING WITH DANI ROBERTSON & FIONA COLLINS

Eryri National Park is one of 18 International Dark Sky Reserves in the world, and the first in Wales. Dark Skies Officer, Dani, will celebrate a decade of protecting Eryri's dark skies and tell us about the conservation of our very special dark heritage.



Professional storyteller Fiona Collins will share captivating tales of the night sky, the myths and legends, the mysteries and the creatures.

Weather permitting, we hope to do this outdoors around the fire-pit which will be magical. (It might be chilly).

Free but booking essential on www.pensychnant.co.uk. Tea & cake available. Donations appreciated.

Saturday 13th September, all day

CONWY HONEY FAIR

Pensychnant will have a stall at Conwy's 700-year old street fair as always. Please support us.

September

PENSYCHNANT LITERARY FESTIVAL –

NATURE, CONSERVATION & ENVIRONMENT.

A month of events to explore and celebrate the relevance of nature and conservation to our cultural heritage and modern lives through creative writing. Literature and 'the Arts' give a universally engaging language to promote the appreciation of nature and its conservation. It is only through the love and appreciation of our natural and cultural heritage that it will be preserved.

These events are organised in partnership with Conwy Poetry Corner and supported by Creu Conwy Town Team, funded by the UK government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Funded by
UK Government



Wedi ei ariannu gan
Llywodraeth y DU



DIWYLLIANT
CONWY
CULTURE

Mae'r prosiect Tîm Tref Conwy hwn wedi 'l ariannu gan Lywodraeth y DU drwy Gronfa Ffyniant Gyffredin y DU

This Creu Conwy Town Team project is funded by the UK government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund

PENSYCHNANT YOUNG PERSONS CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION –

WILDLIFE & THE ENVIRONMENT

For persons below 18 years of age. Closing date 25th August 2025

You are invited to write about the natural world, wildlife and the wider environment by writing one of the following: a poem/ a short story/ a song/ a cartoon. The competition is **Freestyle** and **Experimental**, which means normal rules about spelling or punctuation do not have to apply. In English or Welsh. Most importantly your writing should tell us about the natural world, and your thoughts and feelings. Max 200 words. For inspiration visit your local library to browse and find out more about the Summer Reading Challenge 2025.

Application forms can be collected and returned completed at the following locations: Aberconwy House/Hinton's Book Shop/Conwy Culture Centre/Pensychnant Conservation Centre.

The winning entry will be announced and read on 14th September at the Literary Festival at Pensychnant. The winner will also receive a £25 book token, and two commendation prize winners will each receive a £10 book token for Hinton's of Conwy.

Sunday 14th September, 11 – 5pm

PENSYCHNANT LITERARY FESTIVAL

An alchemy of ecopoetic story-telling and read-poetry for all ages on the theme of Nature, Environment and Conservation. Two marquees, and more, with established literary artists, offering environmental poetry and prose, barddoniath Cymraeg, and open-air 'cinema', in English and Welsh. Featuring Glyn Edwards, researcher in ecopoetry at Bangor Uni and editor of NWWT Wild Words; Siân Shakespear, bilingual espouser of Welsh plant names; Alison Lock, Conwy's poet, focussing on our relationship with nature; Jeremy Dixon, nature-writer, and I am Nature, a polyphony of four published environmental poets. In addition there will be wandering poets, creative writing workshops, instrumental music, the Wildlife Art Exhibition, and children's activities. Visitors will be encouraged and helped with Haiku and Englyn writing, in English or Cymraeg, linking our cultures, and tying-in with Conwy's twin-town, Himeji. These Haiku/ Englynion will form the basis for Pensychnant's exhibit in St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival in December.



Wednesday, 17th September 9:15 for 9:30 start

5000 YEAR TREK WITH JULIAN

We will walk for 5000 years from Pensychnant to the Stone Age at Craig Lwyd Axe Factory, visiting Mediaeval longhouses, Iron Age round houses and Bronze Age henges on the way. We will learn why there never were any druids at the Druids' Circle and hear ancient Celtic legends. We will learn that this apparent wilderness is a man-made, historic landscape and far from being natural. Be prepared for a longish walk, 8 ½ miles, 6 hours. Wear outdoor clothes and boots. Bring provisions. Booking essential on www.pensychnant.co.uk
Donations appreciated ☺



Sadwrn 20^{fed} Mis Medi, 2 -5yp

TAITH GERDDED AC YSGRIFENNU GYDA NATUR GYDA JUDITH KAUFMANN

Dowch am dro hamddenol y bardd i sylwi ar natur mewn mis o newid. Byddwn yn gadael i rythm y tymhorau ein hysbrydoli, cofio enwau'r planhigion dan ni'n gweld ar y ffordd, a chymryd ein hamser i gysylltu â natur ac ysgrifennu. Taith a gweithdy yn Gymraeg, yn addas i siaradwyr rhugl, dysgwyr a siaradwyr newydd sy'n gallu dilyn sgwrs syml. Dim angen profiad ysgrifennu.

NATURE WRITERS' WALK WITH JUDITH KAUFMANN

*A leisurely writers' walk to observe nature and remember the Welsh names of plants
We will take time to connect with nature and write. Workshop in Cymraeg, suitable
for fluent speakers, learners and new speakers who can follow a simple conversation.
No writing experience needed.*

Sunday 21st September, 10am

NATURE BIMBLE

A short amble to explore Pensychnant to just see what we can see. Back in time for elevenses from Karen's cake stall ☺

Tuesday 23rd September, 6 - 9pm

SILVER-SMITHING – SILVER SPOON PENDANT WITH EVIE ROBERTS

Make a sterling silver pendant using a spoon bowl of your choice (you may bring your own). All materials provided. No experience needed. Tea & cake included. £60-65. Book at www.emporiumconwy.co.uk/cart

Wednesday 24th September, 1 - 7pm

CARNEDDAU PROJECT LEGACY ROADSHOW IN NEUADD NI, CONWY

As Snowdonia National Park Authority's Carneddau Project draws to an end, there will be a roadshow to showcase some of the activities undertaken and their legacy.



PARTNERIAETH TIRWEDD Y
CARNEDDAU
LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP

The Carneddau Landscape Partnership supported Pensychnant's Biodiversity Fair and Recorders' Day in July, and several other wildlife events this year; boosting wildlife recording on the nature reserve and discovering several new species (some new to North Wales). In Neuadd Ni, on 24th September, Pensychnant will have a stall celebrating some of these results.

Thursday & Friday, 25th & 26th September, 10 – 4pm

IDENTIFICATION OF BRYOPHYTES OF WELSH MIRES COURSE

BY LUCIA RUFFINO FOR COFNOD

Join expert bryologist, Lucia Ruffino to learn how to identify Bryophytes from acidic mires. This in-depth two-day course will blend fieldwork and microscopy. £10. Book with Cofnod www.cofnod.org.uk/news

September, Date to be arranged

ANECDOTES OF PENSYCHNANT – A CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

WITH JULIAN

Julian will relate some of the quirky history of Pensychnant: the ascent of the Stott family; a case of arson; the ghost story. Hopefully this will inspire you to weave your own creative writing under the creative guidance of an experienced writer. Free but book online at www.pensychnant.co.uk.

Donations appreciated ☺

Sunday, 28th September, 11 – 5pm

LAST DAY OF THE WILDLIFE ART EXHIBITION

The 'Open' has been a fantastic exhibition of art on the theme of Nature, Environment and Conservation. This will be your last chance to see it before the artworks return to their homes. (It will also be the last chance for Tea & Cake in the sunshine on the lawn ☺)

Friday 3rd October, 7:30pm

'ADAR WLYPTIR CYMRU. WETLAND BIRDS OF WALES'

BY GETHIN JENKINS-JONES (BTO)

Gethin is responsible for expanding the BTO volunteer community in Wales. He will be sharing some facts from the Wetland Bird Survey in Wales.

Cambrian Ornithological Society meeting. £1. All welcome.

Saturday 4th October, 7:30pm

JONATHAN RICHARDS (GUITAR)

Jonathan Richards is one of North Wales' most highly acclaimed classical guitarists so we are fortunate indeed that he has taken Pensychnant to his heart and played several fund-raising concerts for us over the years. Booking essential. £15



Monday 6th October, 7:30pm

MOTH GROUP

Informal meeting of North Wales Moth Group. Donations appreciated ☺

Wednesday 22nd October, 7pm

'THE WITCH TRIALS OF NORTH WALES' BY MORGAN DITCHBURN

This talk by local historian Morgan Ditchburn, traces the history of the witch trials in North Wales, first setting them against the turbulent backdrop of European and British witch-hunting, before delving into the remarkable and sometimes tragic - cases that unfolded across the North Wales region.

£6. This talk has been a sell-out success throughout North Wales, so booking is essential on www.pensychnant.co.uk

Saturday, 25th October, 10 - 4pm

ARTISTS MASTERCLASS - FUNGI WITH PHILIP SNOW

Philip Snow's paintings of fungi are some of his best. He will lead a short walk in the woods for inspiration and specimens before a masterclass in painting these subtle forms. He will demonstrate using a video link to show his brush strokes on the big screen, before an afternoon for your own efforts under his expert guidance. £65. Booking essential on www.pensychnant.co.uk



Wednesday 29th October, 6 - 9pm

SILVER-SMITHING – SEA-GLASS PENDANT WITH EVIE ROBERTS

Make your own sea glass pendant using sterling silver to create a bezel setting for your chosen piece of glass. (A selection of sea-glass will be available but you may bring your own). All materials provided. No experience needed. Tea & cake included. £65. Book at www.emporiumconwy.co.uk/cart

Saturday 1st November, 10 - 5pm

FRESHWATER MICROBIOTA WITH WYN HUGHES

Wyn will give an in-depth introduction to families and genera of the largely unknown, but vitally important, microscopic biodiversity in freshwater, followed by a microscope session which will introduce you to a World unimagined.

£20 Booking essential on www.pensychnant.co.uk

Sunday 2nd November, 1 - 4pm

GLASS FUSING WORKSHOP – CHRISTMAS TREES WITH MAD HOME CO.

We will teach you how to cut glass and design your own Christmas Tree decorations. You will create two trees which will be kiln-fired and delivered to your home 3 weeks later. £55 Contact Tracey@madchair.co.uk for information. Book at www.saffron-prism-7lya.squarespace.com

Monday 3rd November, 7:30pm

MOTH GROUP

Informal meeting of North Wales Moth Group. Donations appreciated ☺

Wednesday 12th November, 2pm

'BIODIVERSITY AT PENSYCHNANT' BY JULIAN

Cofnod (North Wales Environmental Information Service) tells us that Pensychnant started the year with 29,916 records of 1,719 species. During the year, experts and amateurs have been active recording more plants and animals and fungi. Julian will talk about some of them; some common; some rare; some surprising; some challenging to identify.

The 2025 programme of biodiversity events at Pensychnant was supported by Carneddau Landscape Partnership and Heritage Lottery Fund. *Thanks Carneddau!*



PARTNERIAETH TIRWEDD Y
CARNEDDAU
LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP

Friday 14th November, 6 – 9pm

SILVER-SMITHING – SPOON RING WITH EVIE ROBERTS

Join a class to make an individual sterling silver ring using a silver spoon of your choice. (A selection of spoons will be available but you may bring your own). All materials provided. No experience needed. Tea & cake included. £60 – £65. Book at www.emporiumconwy.co.uk/cart

Saturday 29th November, 10-4pm.

FFAIR NADOLIG

Pensychnant is a special place to start your Christmas festivities. With a 12' Christmas tree and open fire, FairTrade tea and cake in the Aga Kitchen, Mulled Wine, and many various local craft stalls, Pensychnant's Christmas Fair is a Dickensian ideal, somehow apart from this modern clamouring world. - Various craft stalls: pottery, wood-turning, embroidery, Swedish logs, jams & chutneys, macramé, paper-crafts, paintings, jewellery & wind-chimes, bird boxes, photography, bulbs and wreaths, books, cards, and Pensychnant's renowned bric-a-brac stall,..... An opportunity to find unusual and special gifts for Christmas; and all proceeds go to nature conservation at Pensychnant.



Sunday 30th November,

WILLOW WEAVING WORKSHOP – WITH CRAFTY AS HEL

Details to be arranged. Please see www.crafty-as-hel-ynysmon.sumupstore.com or email craftyashelynysmon@gmail.com or phone Helen on 07886 609740

Monday 1st December, 7:30pm

MOTH GROUP

Informal meeting of North Wales Moth Group. Donations appreciated ☺

Tuesday 2nd December, 6 - 8pm

CHRISTMAS WREATH WORKSHOP WITH EVIE ROBERTS

In a fun, festive group, make your own Wreath for Christmas under the guidance of Evie Roberts. All greenery and embellishments provided. £45. Booking essential on www.pensychnant.co.uk

Friday 5th December, 7:30pm

AGM & MEMBERS' SLIDES

Details will be posted on Facebook and in the COS Bulletin, nearer the time. The COS Christmas is always a fun evening with mince pies afterwards. Cambrian Ornithological Society Meeting. £1. All welcome

Saturday 6th December, 10-4pm

FFAIR NADOLIG 2

Pensychnant now has so many craftworkers wanting to be part of its Christmas Fair that we're doing it again. This fair will have a wholly different set of stalls to the first fair, so you must come twice.

Tuesday 16th December, 10:30am

PENSYCHNANT SUPPORTERS' CHRISTMAS ELEVENSES

Pensychnant wishes its Supporters and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Join us for eleveneses by the big Christmas tree and log fire; not a big event, just a token of thanks for all your support throughout 2025.



Often extra events are organised at the last minute, so are not included in this printed programme. To keep in touch with the latest news, follow Pensychnant on Facebook or visit our website.