



**CYNGOR TREF DINBYCH - DENBIGH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**RHAGLEN DARLITHOEDD TREFTAETH 2025 - HERITAGE LECTURES PROGRAMME**  
**Darlithoedd am ddim/Free lectures.**

<b>Dyddiad Date</b>	<b>Darlith / Lecture 7.00 yh / pm Neuadd y Dref Dinbych / Denbigh Town Hall</b>	<b>Darlithydd Lecturer</b>	<b>Cadeirydd Chairman</b>
<b>27<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>The life and times of Bodelwyddan Castle</u></b> The story of Bodelwyddan castle, a Denbighshire stately home. It's the story of a middling but comfortable gentry family with ambitions often beyond their means, of the visions they had, how they pursued them, of the consequences of their actions and of those who endeavoured to save them from themselves. It also opens a window on the social and familial contacts that were the mortar of North Walian gentry life well into the 19th century.</p>	<b>Chris Grier</b>	<b>Cllr Matthew Jones</b>
<b>06<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>William Edwards Tirebook</u></b> William Edwards Tirebuck was in his time a popular author, read by Tolstoy and HG Wells. He was also a journalist, art critic and a socialist. His mother was born and raised in Rhuddlan and William eventually returned to live in Rhuddlan. Though largely forgotten today, his work is rooted in Welsh culture, and more specifically, the Vale of Clwyd</p>	<b>Julie Grier</b>	<b>Cllr Alyn Ashworth</b>
<b>13th March</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>'Denbigh and its environs through the eyes of late eighteenth and early nineteenth century tourists and travel writers.'</u></b> 'This talk explores how Denbigh and its environs has been portrayed through the eyes of English tourists and travel writers in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. It explores and evaluates their comments on the townscape, the local inhabitants, the industries and farming communities, as well as the tourist destinations, in the decades prior to the arrival of the railway.'</p>	<b>Paul Evans</b>	<b>Cllr Sylvia Jennings</b>
<b>20th March</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Belgian Refugees in North Wales – With references to Denbigh</u></b> Around a 250,000 Belgians fled to the UK during the First World War, about 4,500 of them coming to Wales. By 1919, only 450 remained in the whole of Wales. Whilst some physical evidence exists of their time here – a silver cup in Ruthin, the Belgian Promenade in Porthaethwy / Menai Bridge, some wonderful wood carvings including Bardic Chairs, and memorial plaques in Bangor and Caernarfon – there is not much to tell of their time here. In Denbigh, some photographs survive in the Community Archive, and a solitary grave in the Ystrad Road Cemetery tells a tragic tale of a young life</p>	<b>Toni Vitti</b>	<b>Cllr Jan Tomlinson</b>

	lost.		
<b>27th March</b>	<p align="center"><b><u>Witches of North Wales</u></b></p> <p>A talk on the history of witches and the witch trials in North Wales with reference to Gwen Ferch Ellis, the first person to be executed as a witch in on Denbigh Town Square in 1594.</p>	<b>Morgan Ditchburn</b>	<b>Cllr Sylvia Jennings</b>
<b>03<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<p align="center"><b><u>Dyffryn Clwyd: 500 years of history.</u></b></p> <p>An investigation into how glimpses of ordinary life can be seen in surviving documentation across subjects like farming topography, church activity travel and transport, severe weather and water pressures.</p>	<b>Gareth Evans</b>	<b>Cllr Andrew Hine</b>
<b>10<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<p align="center"><b><u>Sir John Hebert Lewis M.P. – the man behind the politician – With reference to Denbigh &amp; Caerwys</u></b></p> <p>The talk is a summary of the life of John Herbert Lewis in roughly chronological order describing his achievements but more importantly, his life outside Westminster as much as his life in Parliament.</p> <p>The talk is essentially a justification for describing JHL as a ‘Great man’.</p>	<b>Paul Broadbent</b>	<b>Cllr Jan Tomlinson</b>
<b>17<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<p align="center"><b><u>Denbigh under the cloud of war/Dinbych dan gwmwl rhyfel</u></b></p> <p>As we approach the 80th anniversary of the end of WW2, this talk will be about the resilience and courage with which Denbigh people coped with many threats and major changes to their lives.</p> <p>The constant fear of damage, the massive increase in population due to the influx of evacuees, American soldiers, prisoners of war, shortage of food and other necessities.</p> <p>It is a story of a “community” who pulled together, volunteered and became involved in civil defence and providing help and support, especially the amazing women who replaced the men who had gone off to war.</p> <p>With many anecdotes and positive stories from the thousands of people who were welcomed into the town, and from the townspeople who made sure it was not all doom and gloom, and raised money and had fun even with the uncertainties and pressures they were under.</p>	<b>Clwyd Wynne</b>	<b>Cllr Matthew Jones</b>

**Casgliad bwced yn lle elusennau dewisol y Maer sef Plas Brondyffryn (Adran Gerddorol) ac Ymatebwyr Cyntaf Dinbych  
Bucket collection in lieu of the Mayor’s chosen charities of Plas Brondyffryn (Musical Department) & Denbigh First Responders**