



Cyfeillion Murluniau Brenda Chamberlain ar Enlli  
The Friends of the Brenda Chamberlain Bardsey Murals

Newsletter V August 2016



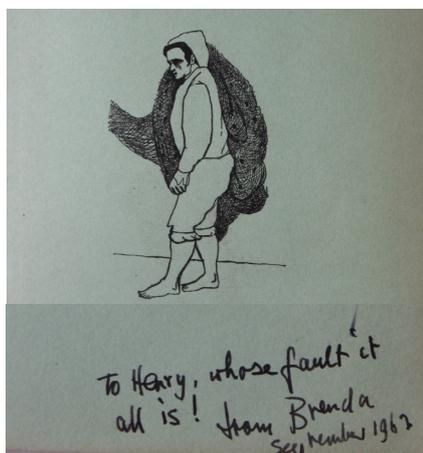
Three of the murals are in good shape. The Japanese tissue on *The Girl on the Strand* is holding well. The rendering on the other side of this wall has been replaced with a breathable lime render and the porch adjoining the wall has been reroofed and its lead flashings replaced. All the main roof's missing slates have also been reinstated. *Figures in a Boat* and *Horse from the Rear* are stable, the former awaiting some consolidation of flaking material temporarily held under Japanese tissue.

*Horse from the Side*, however, is efflorescing more this year than last year. A year ago this was not a concern. It was all part of the drying out process. Now it seems that the dampness is not evaporating well. One line of attack is to put a damp-proof membrane over the joists above the picture in case of water ingress. Another is to remove the oil based paint on the bedroom wall behind the mural, and repaint with a breathable clay based paint.



New to Carreg is an electric fridge powered by two solar panels. This replaces the gas powered fridge with its water vapour by-products. The gas heater has also gone, replaced by a multi-fuel stove - the fuel given to you at no extra cost.

This year the Brenda Chamberlain exhibition, displaying images of many of her Bardsey pictures, was set up in Nant barn, its permanent home. More in the next Newsletter.



Recently we bought a copy of *Tide-race*, Brenda's very successful book about her time on Bardsey. An inscription in the book read "To Henry, whose fault it all is! from Brenda September 1962". Inside the book were four letters from Brenda to Henry and the drafts of four poems. Henry turned out to be the Henry Mitchell who'd first taken her to Bardsey in 1946. Here she'd found her spiritual home - "the home of my heart". She returned in 1947 and stayed 15 years.

The letters and poems were sold to the National Library, and our fund benefitted by £200. This August an article about Brenda, Bardsey and the murals appeared in *The Countryman* and another £125 came to the fund.

We have so far given nearly £15,000 to the Trust which has enabled them to raise £40,000 from the Heritage Lottery fund for restoring the murals, making the house waterproof and providing educational materials.

More work needs to be done, and another HLF grant is planned. Our current balance is £3000. With illustrated talks and sales of books, pictures and greetings cards this fund still grows. It will act as matching funding for the HLF grant. We'll keep you posted.