



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

Newsletter September 2012

Great News. In late August, Richard Farmer, the Bardsey Island Trust Chairman, e-mailed us to say, “Just this minute taken a call from the Heritage Lottery Fund. They have given us the full amount we asked for - in what was a very competitive batch of bids.” Even before this news Emyr, the Island Warden, and some volunteers had been clearing around the foundations of Carreg - Brenda Chamberlain’s house - and discovered pathways and drains that we didn’t know existed.



Far left: Before the work.
Left: Path slabs uncovered.
Above: The door with two newly discovered drains.

Unfortunately, inside the house, the dampness during winter and spring had caused some of the paint at the bottom of *The Girl on the Strand* to lift, though it was still attached to the Japanese paper applied last autumn. Jane Foley decided to go over to Bardsey and examine it at first hand.



The lifting tissue and paint



The problem rectified



The raised areas were re-adhered to the wall and more tissue was placed over exposed paint. Jane also examined *Figures in a Boat* that had lost some detail since last year. Her conclusions were that the problem was not as bad as we had thought and restoration would not be too difficult. Our illustrated talks and fund-raising continue. They will help with this extra restoration and, in addition to our pledged contribution, we will support the Trust in finding its share of the final bill.

Related News: On October 20th Jill Piercy and Ceridwen Lloyd-Morgan will lead a walk around *Brenda Chamberlain’s Bangor and Beyond* organised by Literature Wales. This will be followed by the launch of a re-print of Brenda’s only novel, *The Water-Castle*. Coinciding with this, Gwynedd Museum and Art Gallery in Bangor will hold an exhibition of Brenda’s book-related pictures from 6th October - 17th November. Also, this autumn, *Rolf on Welsh Art* comes back for a second series on BBC One Wales, and Brenda Chamberlain will be one of the four artists considered. Parthian will give £2 off *The Water-Castle* if ordered from their web-site and will sell *The Water-Castle* and *A Rope of Vines* together for £10. Code: Bardsey.