Amgueddfa'r Môr PORTHMADOG Maritime Museum

News Letter - Cylchlythyr

HYDREF 2017 AUTUMN

End of Season

The museum closed on November 5th after a very succesfull season. Numbers have increased every year since we re-opened.

The weather was unsettled but that did not deter many families from visiting and the children's activities were very popular. Some groups of American tourists learnt about our maritime heritage and in October students from Bangor and Liverpool Universities called in as part of their field projects.

The Welsh Government has designated 2018 as "The Year of the Sea". The fact that we are a maritime museum means we can make an excellent contribution to this and we intend adding some extra features.

Diwedd y Tymor

Caeodd yr amgueddfa ar 5ed Tachwedd ar ôl tymor llwyddiannus iawn. Mae'r niferoedd wedi cynyddu bob blwyddyn ers i ni ailagor.

Roedd y tywydd yn ansefydlog ond nid oedd hynny'n atal llawer o deuluoedd rhag ymweld ag roedd gweithgareddau'r plant yn boblogaidd iawn. Dysgodd rhai grwpiau o dwristiaid Americanaidd am ein treftadaeth forwrol ac ym mis Hydref galwodd myfyrwyr o Brifysgolion Bangor a Lerpwl i mewn fel rhan o'u prosiectau maes.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru wedi dynodi 2018 fel "Blwyddyn y Môr". Mae'r ffaith ein bod yn amgueddfa forwrol yn golygu y gallwn wneud cyfraniad ardderchog i hyn ac rydym yn bwriadu cynnwys rhai nodweddion ychwanegol.





The Museum was represented at the annual conference of MOROL (The Institute of Welsh Maritime Historical Studies) at Aberystwyth on the 28th October.

This organisation carries out valuable work and anyone interested in our maritime heritage should check out their website or Facebook page.

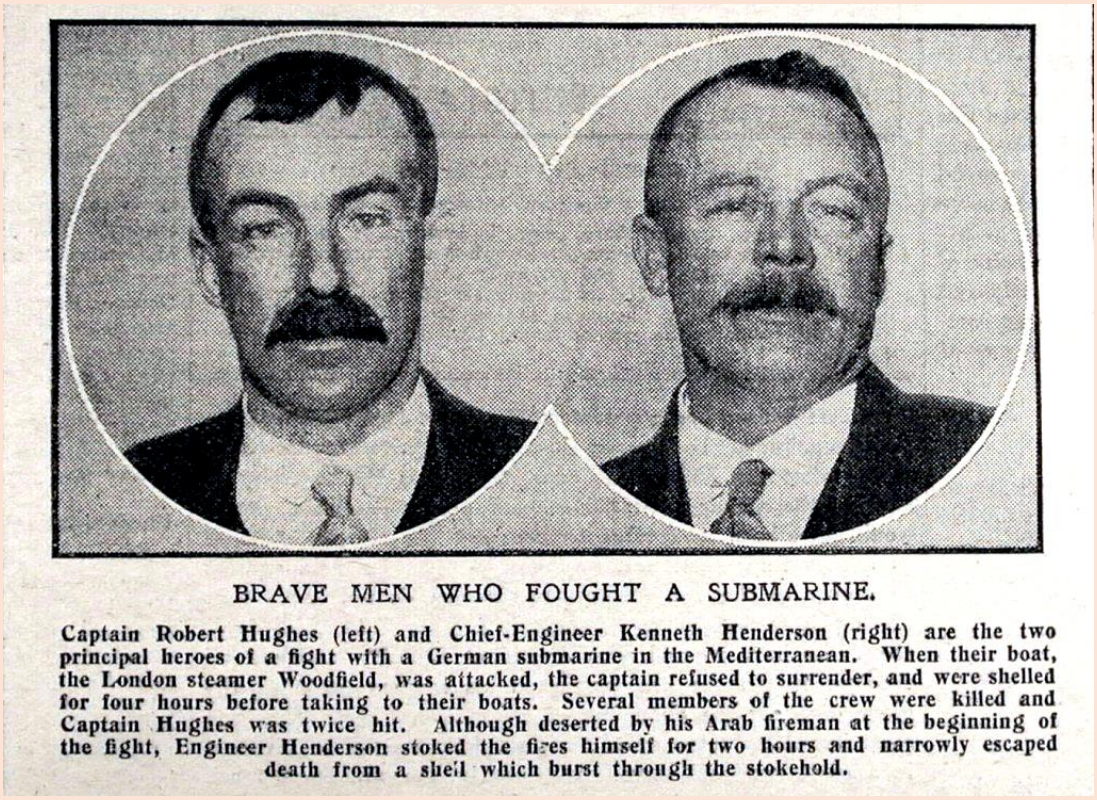
https://morolblog.wordpress.com/

War at Sea

November 11th 2018 marks the centenary of the end of the First World War. Many seafarers from the district lost their lives during this terrible war. Over the coming year the museum will be taking part in various activities to commemorate these men and those wounded and traumatised.

Rhyfel ar y Môr

Mae Tachwedd 11eg 2018 yn nodi canmlwyddiant diwedd y Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf. Collodd llawer o forwyr o'r ardal eu bywydau yn ystod y rhyfel ofnadwy hwn. Dros y flwyddyn i ddod bydd yr amgueddfa'n cymryd rhan mewn gweithgareddau amrywiol i gofféu'r dynion hyn a'r rhai chafodd hanafu a'u trawmateiddio.



BRAVE MEN WHO FOUGHT A SUBMARINE.

Captain Robert Hughes (left) and Chief-Engineer Kenneth Henderson (right) are the two principal heroes of a fight with a German submarine in the Mediterranean. When their boat, the London steamer Woodfield, was attacked, the captain refused to surrender, and were shelled for four hours before taking to their boats. Several members of the crew were killed and Captain Hughes was twice hit. Although deserted by his Arab fireman at the beginning of the fight, Engineer Henderson stoked the fires himself for two hours and narrowly escaped death from a shell which burst through the stokehold.

One of these men was Captain Robert Hughes. His biography can be found in the late Aled Eames's book "Meistri'r Moroedd" (Mastering the Sea)

Robert Hughes belonged to a well-known Porthmadog family. His Grandfather, Grandmother and uncle and the whole crew of the schooner *Daniel Morris* were lost when the vessel was wrecked on the Rundles rocks near Lands End. His father was also a captain. He married another captain's daughter and moved to live in Criccieth.

He sailed on the small local ships then worked his way up to bigger deep-sea ships and after passing his master's examination took command of steam ships.

On the 3rd November 1915 his ship *SS Woodfield* was attacked by a German submarine off the North African coast. Captain Hughes was awarded the DSC for his brave defence of the vessel.

Un o'r dynion hyn oedd y Capten Robert Hughes. Mae hanes ei fywyd i'w weld yn llyfr y diweddar Aled Eames - "Meistri'r Moroedd".

Roedd Robert Hughes yn perthyn i un o deuluoedd adnabyddus Porthmadog – fe gollwyd ei Thaid, Nain a'i ewythr a bob enaid byw o'r sgwner Daniel Morris ar gregiau Rundles ger Pen Tir Lloegr. Roedd ei Thad hefyd yn Gapten. Priodod ferch capten arall a symudodd i fyw yng Nghricieth.

Hwyliodd ar y llongau bach lleol yna bu'n gweithio ar longau hwylio ar led ac ar ôl pasio arholiad Meistr, bu'n Capten ar longau stêm.

Ar y 3ydd o Dachwedd, 1915, ymosodwyd ei llong SS Woodfield gan long danfor yr Almaen oddi ar arfordir Gogledd Affrica. Dyfarnwyd Capten Hughes y DSC am ei amddiffyniad dewr o'r llong.

Arteffact Ddirgel - Intriguing Artefact

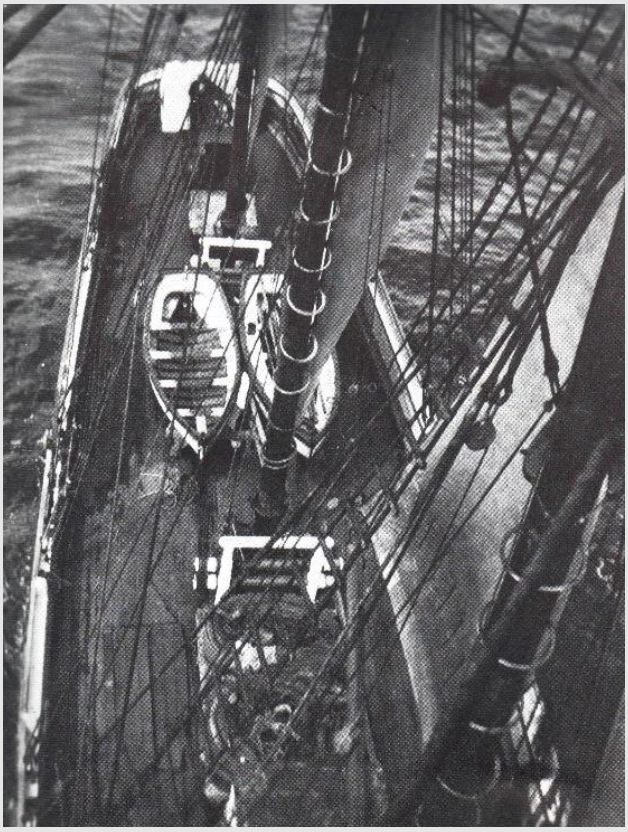


This large model of a lifeboat was originally stored in the old Town Hall and has been a feature of the museum since it opened at the present location. E.Breese was a local solicitor with shipping interest who died in 1881. On the stern is written *"A.O.F."* which probably refers to the *Association of Friends*, a charitable organisation but could also possibly stand for *Ancient Order of Foresters* another society; well known for sponsoring lifeboats. The archivist of the latter could not find any reference to it.
Recently this photo came up on the Old Pictures of Porthmadog Facebook page.



Any ideas?

Goroesodd ambell o longau Borthmadog i'r 1930au - A few Porthmadog built ships survived to the 1930s





Jane Banks ex Frau Minna Petersen



Myonie R Kirby ex Cadwalader Jones



M.A.James



Eitemau Cyfoes - Contemporary Items

Mae gennym gabinet bach sy'n cynnwys eitemau cyfoes gyda thema forwrol leol. Fel y cerfiadau sgrimshaw hyn gan y crefftwr lleol Carwyn Jones, plât addurnedig gan yr arlunydd Rob Piercy a blwch gemwaith o Grochendy Portmeirion.

We have a small cabinet containing contemporary items with a local maritime theme. Such as these scrimshaw carvings by local craftsman Carwyn Jones, decorated plate by artist Rob Piercy and a trinket box from Portmeirion Pottery.



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