

# Volunteers Newsletter

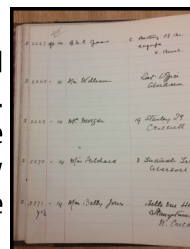
October 2017

**Save the Date!! - See Page 4**

## A new arrival - The Guy Hughes Collection

The Guy Hughes Collection consists of an estimated 8,000 numbered negatives that represent the output of Guy Hughes (1881-1972), a professional photographer who operated from premises in Pwllheli from 1909-ca.1945. These, along with the copyright, were recently donated to the National Library and shipped over from Australia where they had been kept by his descendants.

Most of his output was in the form of studio portraits of local people though there are also local views and events included. Along with the negatives are his ten studio day books. The number on each negative corresponds to an entry in his day books giving details of each sitter and the date the photograph was taken.



We are inviting volunteers to transcribe these day books into a database so that the names of sitters and their portraits can be identified; this will improve access for the Library's users to this immensely interesting archive of the Pwllheli area.

## Congratulations!!



The following volunteers have recently moved on to paid employment:

Aimee (at Cardiff); Alisa (at Toronto Public Library); Ruth (Special Collections Librarian at Lampeter Uni); Hedydd (Shop Assistant and Saturday Service Assistant at the NLW) - well done to you all and good luck.

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## Captain Alfred Benjamin Worthington

The majority of the Captains of the Aberystwyth ships built in the 19th century were born in Cardiganshire, with Borth, Aberystwyth, Aberaeron, New Quay and Cardigan featuring strongly.

One of those not born in Cardiganshire, but had moved to live in Aberystwyth, was Alfred Benjamin Worthington. Alfred Benjamin Worthington was born in Elham, Kent on the 11th of December, 1863, and was the son of the artist, painter and photographer, Alfred Worthington. One of Alfred Worthington Senior's paintings hangs on the right-hand wall as you walk into the South Reading Room – a magnificent scene of Aberystwyth Harbour in the late 19th century. In 1870, following doctor's advice, Alfred Worthington Senior moved his family to Aberystwyth.

Alfred Benjamin appears on the 1871 census living with his parents and four siblings in 5 Queen's Road. In 1874 he is listed in the Admissions Book at the North Road National School in Aberystwyth.



On the 1881 census he was again living with his parents and eight siblings in Terrace Road, listed as 'Single'. He married Hannah Neale in Aberystwyth in 1884. Alfred Benjamin died in 1899 aged 36 and at the time of his death, he and his wife were living in 2 Crynfryn Buildings. He was buried in the Borough Cemetery in Aberystwyth on 30th May, 1899.

*(article by Rose Thomas)*



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## Special Birthday

During the month of September our very own Huw celebrated a very special landmark. He treated the volunteers to his 'Star Wars' themed birthday cake .

Very tasty Huw - diolch!



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# Meet a NLW Volunteer

Here are some interesting facts about **Virginia Lowe**

## 1. Why did you become a volunteer and how long have you been volunteering at the Library?

I had just finished working on a heritage project in Aberaeron which involved cataloguing photographs. I saw that volunteers were needed for the Geoff Charles collection. I applied and have been volunteering here since February 2016



## 2. What type of volunteering tasks are you involved in?

As well as working on the Geoff Charles collection I've worked on the ITV Log records, the Book of Remembrance, transcribing the Longueville Wills records. I'm also part of the 'Meet and Greet team', helping visitors to the Library.

## 3. What, in your opinion, are the benefits of volunteering at the Library?

Interesting tasks, meeting new people, making friends, having a useful purpose, getting to speak Welsh.

## 4. Favourite place and why?

My part of Wales. I travel quite a lot, and when I come home I always think that this is the most beautiful place in the world.

## 5. What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

Yoga, pilates, swimming, walking - keeping active is important to me. I also belong to 'Cyrrff Ystwyth', a dance group of people with different abilities. We create a new performance every year.

## 6. Favourite TV programme/film and why?

No TV, so I like watching box sets - Breaking Bad, Borgen, True Detective. Recently watched 'The Handmaid's Tale'. I like the way characters and plot have a chance to develop over time.

## 7. Your favourite time in history? The 1960's - when I was young and carefree!

## 8. Name 3 things to take on a desert island?

1. A good book
2. Lipstick
3. A sharp knife

## 9. An interesting fact about you.....

I'm a motorbiker.

## 10. Have you met anyone famous?

Yes. I worked for a charity where Sir Anthony Hopkins was a patron, so I met him several times. He had great charisma.

## Meet a member of the NLW Staff:

### What is your role at the Library?

My job title is Senior Receptionist. In my opinion, making sure that everyone who comes here feels welcome is key to my role. I'm also responsible for coordinating conferences, meetings and weddings. It's very exciting and I feel privileged to have a job that I love.



***Elen Rees***

### What School and University did you attend?

I went to Penglais Comprehensive and graduated from Lampeter University with a degree in Welsh.

### **Welcome**

We are pleased to welcome the following volunteers who have joined us during the last quarter :

Callum, Michael, Hal, Tess, Liam M, Ieuan, John, Suzanne, Liam F, Paul B, Matthew, Paul F, Diana, Liam H.

### **Interesting facts:**

During this quarter :

57 volunteers came to the Library.

2,120 volunteering hours were completed.

### **Save the Date!**

You're all invited to our annual **volunteers' celebration** event to be held in the Council Chamber on **Tuesday, December 5th**.

Further details to follow.



### **Best Memory of School ?**

Dear friends and some very special teachers that I am grateful for to this day.

### **Interests?**

Trying to keep fit, cooking and crafts

### **Favourite TV programme/Film and why?**

I watch the occasional episode of 'Bake Off' at my friend's house, and I used to enjoy 'The Thick of It' and 'W1A'.

### **Favourite Food?**

Fruit and vegetables of all descriptions, and a bit of chocolate of course!

### **Your Favourite time in history?**

History is a thing of the past! I try to live in the present, and to appreciate every minute. Perhaps the best is yet to come?

### **Name 3 things that you'd take to a stranded island?**

Ipad, pencil and paper.

### **Which 3 famous people (dead or alive!) would you invite for a dinner party**

David Mitchell, Jeremy Corbyn (one for my mum there!) and Rosie Huntington Whitely .



If you wish to take part in our volunteering scheme please contact us :

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@NLWVolunteering