

Canolfan Uwchefrydiau Cymreig
a Cheltaidd Prifysgol Cymru

HANES A THRYSORAU'R
LLYFRGELL
1985–2009

University of Wales Centre for
Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies

HISTORY AND TREASURES
OF THE LIBRARY
1985–2009

Mary Olwen Owen

Aberystwyth
Canolfan Uwchefrydiau Cymreig a Cheltaidd Prifysgol Cymru/
University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies. 2009

© Mary Olwen Owen 2009

Cedwir pob hawl. Ni chaniateir atgynhychu unrhyw ran o'r cyhoeddiad hwn na'i gadw mewn cyfundrefn adferadwy na'i drosglwyddo mewn unrhyw ddull na thrwy unrhyw gyfrwng electronig, mecanyddol, ffotocopiö, recordio, nac fel arall, heb ganiatäd ymlaen llaw gan Ganolfan Uwchefrydiau Cymreig a Cheltaidd Prifysgol Cymru, Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3HH.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without clearance from the University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies, National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3HH.

Y mae cofnod catalogio'r cyhoeddiad hwn ar gael gan y Llyfrgell Brydeinig.
A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-907029-01-1

Argraffwyd gan Argraffwyr Cambrian / Printed by Cambrian Printers, Aberystwyth
Dylunio / Cyngor Llyfrau Cymru
Design / Welsh Books Council / Aberystwyth

NODYN Y mae'r cyhoeddiad hwn yn seiliedig ar y papur a gyflwynwyd yn y gynhadledd 'Cerrig Milltir', a drefnwyd gan Ganolfan Uwchefrydiau Cymreig a Cheltaidd Prifysgol Cymru ac a gynhaliwyd 28 Mehefin–2 Gorffennaf 2005. Cydnabyddir y cymorth gwerthfawr a gafwyd gan yr Athro Emeritws R. Geraint Gruffydd, Dr Brynley F. Roberts a'r Athro Geraint H. Jenkins. Diolch hefyd i'r Athro Dafydd Johnston, Cyfarwyddwr y Ganolfan, ac i Martin Crampin, Nia Davies a Glenys Howells.

NOTE This publication is based upon the paper delivered at the University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies 'Milestones' Conference held 28 June–2 July 2005. The assistance of Emeritus Professor R. Geraint Gruffydd, Dr Brynley F. Roberts and Professor Geraint H. Jenkins is gratefully acknowledged. Thanks are also due to Professor Dafydd Johnston, Director of the Centre, and to Martin Crampin, Nia Davies and Glenys Howells.

SEFYDLU llyfrgell academaidd ym maes astudiaethau Celtaidd a chynnal seminarau oedd dau o brif orchwylion sefydlwyr y Ganolfan Geltaidd. Er mai ar 1 Hydref 1985 y cychwynnodd ar ei gwaith yn swyddogol fel sefydliad Prifysgol gyda staff amser llawn, bu'r syniad o sefydlu Canolfan Geltaidd ar y gweill am flynyddoedd lawer cyn hynny, gyda nifer o ysgolheigion blaenllaw megis yr Athro Thomas Jones, yr Athro Griffith John Williams, yr Athro J. E. Caerwyn Williams a Syr Thomas Parry-Williams yn dadlau'r achos yn gryf ac yn benderfynol o weld y freuddwyd yn cael ei gwireddu. Hefyd, bu gweledigaeth a chefnogaeth Dr Elwyn Davies yn gwbl allweddol ac yn ddiweddarach bu ei haelioni yn sail gadarn i'r dyfodol. Fel y dywedodd Dr Brynley F. Roberts:

Lled anffurfiol oedd dechreuadau'r Ganolfan. Yr oedd yn bod cyn cael ei sefydlu'n swyddogol drwy gael ei hariannu gan Bwyllgor Grantiau'r Prifysgolion ym 1985. Yr oedd Coleg Aberystwyth yn gefnogol i'r syniad o Ganolfan a chymerwyd cam pwysig ymlaen ddiwedd y 1970au pan sefydlwyd apêl i gydnabod gwaith a chyfraniad rhai o ysgolheigion yr Adrannau Cymraeg a Hanes Cymru, pobl megis T. H. Parry-Williams. Parhaodd y Coleg yn gefnogol drwy ddarparu ystafelloedd yn yr Hen Goleg. Yno yr oedd cartref cyntaf y Ganolfan – ystafell yr Athro J. E. Caerwyn Williams, a oedd wedi ymddeol o'r Gadair Wyddeleg ym 1979 ac yn Gyfarwyddwr Mygedol di-dâl. Ond rwy'n amau bod y Ganolfan ar y gweill cyn hynny hyd yn oed. Darparwyd ystafell arall ar gyfer llyfrgell. Yn yr ystafell honno y cynhaliwyd seminarau cyntaf y Ganolfan.

Oherwydd brwdfrydedd y gwŷr hyn, bu nifer o gymwynaswyr yn gefnogol ac yn hael iawn o'r cychwyn ac etifeddwyd nifer o lyfrau a chylchgronau: dyna oedd cnewyllyn y llyfrgell gyfoethog sydd yn y Ganolfan heddiw. Casgliad sylfaenol y llyfrgell oedd Casgliad Syr J. Goronwy Edwards, hanesydd a anwyd ym Manceinion ond a fagwyd yn sir y Fflint (llun 1). Dyma sylwadau'r Athro Emeritws R. Geraint Gruffydd ar y casgliad gwerthfawr hwn:

Gellir ystyried casgliad Syr Goronwy Edwards fel casgliad sylfaenol llyfrgell y Ganolfan. Fe'i prynwyd oddi wrth ei weddw ym 1976, yn fuan ar ôl ei farw. Brodor o sir y Fflint ydoedd ac fe'i haddysgwyd yn Rhydychen. Bu'n Is-Brifathro Coleg Iesu cyn ei benodi'n Gyfarwyddwr Sefydliad Ymchwil Hanesyddol Prifysgol Llundain. Yr oedd Syr Goronwy Edwards yn un o brif ysgolheigion hanes canoloesol Lloegr, ac yr oedd ganddo ddiddordeb brwd iawn yn hanes canoloesol Cymru yn ogystal, yn enwedig ei sir enedigol. Yr oedd hwn yn gasgliad eithriadol o werthfawr, a chytunodd Lady Edwards, yn rasol iawn, i'w werthu am bris hynod o resymol. Yr Athro Ieuan Gwynedd Jones a'i gyd-weithwyr yn Adran Hanes Cymru a wnaeth hyn yn bosibl ac iddynt hwy y mae'r diolch, felly, am sicrhau i'r Ganolfan y casgliad gwych hwn ym maes hanes canoloesol Cymru. (llun 2)

Nid oedd staff gyflogedig ar gael i roi trefn ar y rhoddion a bu'n rhaid dibynnu ar gymorth rhai aelodau o Adrannau'r Gymraeg a Hanes Cymru. Rhaid cyfeirio'n arbennig at gyfraniad yr Athro Ieuan Gwynedd Jones a Dr Brynley F. Roberts, a fu'n llyfrgellydd mygedol am gyfnod byr. Dyma rai o'i atgofion ef am y dyddiau cynnar:

Wn i ddim pam, ond gofynnodd yr Athro J. E. Caerwyn Williams i mi fod yn gyfrifol am y casgliadau o lyfrau a oedd yn dechrau cyrraedd o bryd i'w gilydd. Cefais ymhyfrydu – yn hollol annheilwng – yn y teitl llyfrgellydd, er mawr gywilydd i mi, oherwydd nid oeddwn yn gwneud gwaith llyfrgellydd, ond dyna wedd ar anffurfioldeb y dechreuadau. Gofalu am y lyfrau yr oeddwn i, eu gosod mewn trefn, cofnodi pa gasgliadau a gyrhaeddai a'u chwynnu a neilltuo dyblygion. Yn nes ymlaen cafwyd cefnogaeth ymarferol tra gwerthfawr – tra angenrheidiol yn wir – gan Lyfrgell y Coleg a staff y llyfrgell honno a fu'n catalogio'r lyfrau a'r cylchgronau, yn darparu cardiau ac yn gosod nod silff ar y lyfrau. Oni bai am y cymorth hwnnw buan iawn y byddai anhrefn wedi codi a'r

llyfrgell wedi aros yn ddim amgen na chasgliad mwy neu lai mympwyol o lyfrau a chylchgronau.

Cafodd y llyfrgell lawer o gefnogaeth gan garedigion yr achos. Daeth casgliadau pwysig yn gynnar a gosod seiliau da i lyfrgell academiaidd. Yn ogystal â chasgliad J. Goronwy Edwards, derbyniwyd casgliad o natur wahanol, a hŷn, sef casgliad yr Uwchgapten Edgar Jones, prifathro Ysgol Ramadeg y Barri a chyfaill y bardd R. Williams Parry, a ddaeth drwy haelioni ei ferch, Miss Gwyneth Vaughan Jones. Yn ddiweddarach daeth casgliad gwerthfawr Mr Iorwerth Howells, cyn-Gyfarwyddwr Addysg sir Gaerfyrddin. Yn ogystal â'r rhain, deuai rhoddion o lyfrau unigol, cylchgronau a chasgliadau bychain yn weddol gyson a rheolaidd. Ond ychydig o amser a gefais i mewn gwirionedd yn llyfrgell y Ganolfan gan i mi symud o Aberystwyth yn fuan ar ôl hynny. Yr oedd yn fraint cael bod â rhan fechan yn nechreuadau'r Ganolfan.

Pan drosglwyddwyd y Ganolfan i ddwylo Prifysgol Cymru ym 1985, neilltuwyd ystafelloedd ar gyfer pum aelod o staff ar ddau lawr uchaf 2 Rhodfa'r Môr. Yn ystod haf 1987 symudwyd y casgliad llyfrau a'r casgliad helaeth o gylchgronau o'r ystafelloedd yn yr Hen Goleg i agell ogleddol yr Hen Lyfrgell, neu'r Llyfrgell Addysg fel yr adwaenid hi yn ddiweddarach. Yn ogystal, cedwid casgliad o lyfrau a chylchgronau perthnasol i waith y prosiectau ymchwil yn yr Ystafell Seminar ar lawr cyntaf 2 Rhodfa'r Môr, ac erbyn heddiw cedwir y casgliad helaeth a chyfoethog hwnnw yn Ystafell Seminar y Ganolfan.

Ceir yn ffeiliau llyfrgell y Ganolfan gopiâu o lythyrau a anfonwyd gan y Cyfarwyddwr cyntaf, yr Athro R. Geraint Gruffydd, yn diolch i lu o gymwynaswyr am roddion i'r casgliad. Yn eu plith ceir llythyr at Alun Eirug Davies, Llyfrgell Hugh Owen, gŵr a fu'n ymwneud â'r casgliad cyn 1985. Ynddo dywedodd yr Athro Gruffydd: 'Y mae problem y llyfrgell yn dal i'm poeni, ac y mae'n amlwg bellach nad oes ateb syml iddi!' Hynny yw, ar ôl i'r Ganolfan gael ei sefydlu nid oedd disgwyl i Brifysgol Cymru, Aberystwyth, barhau i ysgwyddo'r

baich o ofalu am y Casgliad Celtaidd. Dyna pryd y penderfynwyd y byddai'n rhaid cael llyfrgellydd rhan-amser i ymgymryd â'r gwaith. Derbyniais innau'r gwahoddiad i lenwi'r swydd honno.

Bu staff llyfrgell yr Hen Goleg yn barod iawn eu cymwynas o'r cychwyn, a hynny ar adeg pan oedd adnoddau'r Ganolfan yn brin. Hyd yn oed wedi iddi gael ei sefydlu fel rhan o Brifysgol Cymru, parhaodd Llyfrgell Hugh Owen i roi cartref diogel i'r llyfrau prin a chain a geid yng nghasgliad y Ganolfan.

Ysgrifenyddes gyntaf y Ganolfan oedd Mrs Llinos Roberts-Young. Teitl llawn ei swydd oedd Ysgrifenyddes/Llyfrgellydd, a bu hi yn gyfrifol am drefniadau'r llyfrgell yn ystod y misoedd cyntaf. Hefyd, bu Dr Nerys Ann Jones, cymrawd ymchwil ac un o aelodau cyntaf staff y Ganolfan, yn ei chynorthwyo i roi trefn ar y casgliad yn ystod y flwyddyn gyntaf.

Ym 1986 derbyniwyd yr hyn a elwir yn Gasgliad Caerdydd, casgliad sylweddol iawn o lyfrau a chylchgronau Celtaidd a gynigiwyd i'r Ganolfan ar adnau hir. Cafwyd y cynnig hael hwn oherwydd bod Llyfrgell Sir De Morgannwg yn symud i leoliad newydd yn y ddinas. Oherwydd maint y casgliad a chan fod y llyfrau wedi eu dosbarthu yn ôl system ddosbarthu Dewey (tra oedd casgliad y Ganolfan yn dilyn dosbarthiad Llyfrgell y Gyngres), penderfynwyd cadw'r casgliad ar wahân a'i alw yn 'Casgliad Caerdydd'. Llyfrau a chylchgronau Gwyddeleg yw'r mwyafrif o gynnwys y casgliad, ond ceir ynddo hefyd weithiau ar hanes ieithoedd a llenyddiaethau y gwledydd Celtaidd eraill (llun 3), a llawer o lyfrau pwysig gan ysgolheigion o'r Almaen, megis *Grammatica Celtica* (editio altera, 1871) gan Johann Caspar Zeuss (llun 4), a chyfrolau Alfred Holder, *Alt-celtischer Sprachschatz* (1896–1913). Yn ogystal ceir rhediadau cyflawn o gylchgronau; er enghraifft, *Revue Celtique* (1870–), *Annales de Bretagne* (1886–), *Ériu* (1904–), y *Royal Irish Academy Transactions* (1787–) a set gyflawn o'r *Irish Text Society*. Dyma rai enghreifftiau yn unig o'r hyn a geir yn y casgliad gwerthfawr hwn.

Bu derbyn y fath gyfoeth o gyhoeddiadau Celtaidd yn gaffaeliad mawr i'r cymrodryr ymchwil ac yn ychwanegiad hynod werthfawr

i'r llyfrgell. At hynny, dros amser derbyniwyd rhoddion o lyfrau a chylchgronau yn rheolaidd, ac er i ambell rodd fod yn un sylweddol iawn, penderfynwyd cynnwys popeth (ac eithrio Casgliad Caerdydd) yn y prif gasgliad.

Gan i Lyfrgell Prifysgol Cymru, Aberystwyth, gynorthwyo drwy gatalogio a phrosesu'r llyfrau yn nyddiau cynnar y Ganolfan, parhawyd i ddefnyddio'r un system ddsbarthu â hi, sef cynllun manwl Llyfrgell y Gyngres yn Washington. Er bod rychwant eang o lyfrau wedi dod i law, yn naturiol yr oedd y mwyafrif ohonynt yn ymwneud â meysydd hanes, yr iaith Gymraeg a'i llenyddiaeth ac ieithoedd a llenyddiaethau'r gwledydd Celtaidd eraill, gan adlewyrchu chwaeth a diddordebau'r sawl a gyflwynodd eu llyfrgelloedd preifat i'r Ganolfan. Hefyd, o'r cychwyn cytunodd Bwrdd Gwasg Prifysgol Cymru y câr Ganolfan dderbyn copi cyfarch o bob cyhoeddiad perthnasol a gyhoeddid gan y wasg, trefniant sy'n parhau hyd heddiw ac a werthfawrogir yn fawr.

Cyfoethogwyd y casgliad yn y blynyddoedd cynnar gan roddion o lyfrgelloedd preifat nifer o gymwynaswyr, yn eu plith Dr Rachel Bromwich, yr Athro Emrys Evans, Mr Iorwerth Howells, Dr E. D. Jones, yr Uwchgapten Edgar Jones, yr Athro Ieuan Gwynedd Jones, yr Athro T. J. Morgan, Syr Thomas Parry, Syr Thomas Parry-Williams a nifer o unigolion eraill. I nodi hyn, cadwyd cofnod o bob rhodd a gosodwyd ym mhob un blât llyfr ac arno enw'r cymwynaswr. Yn aml iawn, byddai'r cymwynaswyr yn llofnodi eu llyfrau personol, gan ychwanegu at eu gwerth a'u hapêl. Amheuthun oedd cael cyfarchiad personol gan roddwr y llyfr y tu mewn i'r clawr, neu doriad papur newydd yn cynnwys adolygiad o'r llyfr a hwnnw wedi melynu dros y blynyddoedd.

Derbyniwyd sawl casgliad helaeth rhwng 1985 a 1990. Cafwyd gwahoddiad i ddewis cyhoeddiadau o lyfrgell breifat Syr Thomas Parry wedi ei farwolaeth efym 1985, a thrachefn ym 1987 pan fu farw Dr E. D. Jones, y ddau yn gyn-Lyfrgellwyr Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru a'r ddau yn gymwynaswyr hael i lyfrgell y Ganolfan o'r cychwyn. Yn ôl cyfarwyddiadau Dr E. D. Jones, y Ganolfan a oedd i gael y dewis cyntaf ar eitemau o'i gasgliad helaeth o gylchgronau.

Eisoes cawsai'r Ganolfan gasgliad Syr Thomas Parry-Williams, un o sylfaenwyr y Ganolfan, ac wedi marwolaeth ei briod, y Fonesig Amy Parry-Williams, cafwyd yr hawl i ddewis cyhoeddiadau o'i chartref yn Y Wern, Aberystwyth. Yn ddiweddarach, ychwanegwyd at gasgliad Mr Iorwerth Howells pan dderbyniwyd rhoddion pellach oddi wrth ei ferch, Dr Susan Davies.

Bu teuluoedd Miss Cassie Davies, Mr T. Gwynn Jones, Abertawe, Dr Ben Jones, Miss E. Brereton Jones, yr Athro T. J. Morgan, Miss Mati Rees a Miss Rhiannon Francis Roberts, ymhlith llawer o rai eraill, yn hynod o garedig drwy gynnig rhoddion o lyfrau a chylchgronau o eiddo eu perthnasau i'r llyfrgell. Ym 1989 derbyniwyd casgliad sylweddol oddi wrth yr Athro Armel Diverres, Abertawe, a oedd yn cynnwys rhai cyhoeddiadau o'i eiddo ef, ond, yn bennaf, cyhoeddiadau o eiddo ei dad Pol Diverres, a fu'n Geidwad Adran Llawysgrifau Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru rhwng 1919 a 1923, cyn iddo ymadael i ymuno â'r Adran Ffrangeg yng ngholeg newydd y Brifysgol yn Abertawe. Yr oedd y rhodd hon yn arbennig o bwysig gan ei bod yn cynnwys cynifer o gyhoeddiadau ar agweddau Llydewig y chwedlau Arthuraidd a llên gwerin. Cynhwysai'r casgliad hefyd nifer fawr o bamffledi a gwahanlithoedd. Yr un modd, pleser o'r mwyaf oedd derbyn casgliad helaeth o gyhoeddiadau Gaeleg a gyflwynwyd gan Mrs Sara Thomas ym 1992. Yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf cyfoethogwyd y casgliad gan roddion o lyfrgelloedd preifat sawl unigolyn, yn eu plith yr Athro Emeritws Ieuan Gwynedd Jones, R. Gerallt Jones, Syr Glanmor Williams, a'r Athro Geraint H. Jenkins ar ei ymddeoliad fel Cyfarwyddwr y Ganolfan yn 2008. Wrth reswm, ni ellir enwi pob un o'r cymwynaswyr yn y fan hon, ond cofnodir eu haelioni yn adroddiadau blynyddol y Ganolfan ac mewn llyfr rhoddion.

Ym 1993, wedi saith mlynedd a hanner o letya ym Mhrifysgol Cymru, Aberystwyth, symudodd y Ganolfan i'w chartref parhaol, y drws nesaf i'r Llyfrgell Genedlaethol. Gwireddwyd y freuddwyd o gael adeilad newydd hardd a oedd yn cynnwys ar y llawr gwaelod lyfrgell newydd sbon i gartrefu'r casgliad helaeth a gwerthfawr. Wedi wythnosau o lafur caled boddhad mawr oedd gweld y cyfan

yn eistedd yn daclus yn eu lle priodol ar silffoedd symudol y llyfrgell newydd. Llanwyd un ochr o'r llyfrgell ar unwaith, ond yr oedd y silffoedd gyferbyn yn wag. Fe'u llanwyd yn bur gyflym, fodd bynnag, yn sgil derbyn rhagor o gymynroddion, yn eu plith gymynrodd eithriadol o hael Cyfarwyddwr Mygedol cyntaf y Ganolfan, sef yr Athro J. E. Caerwyn Williams, yr ysgolhaig Cymraeg a Cheltaidd aruthrol ei ddysg a fu farw ar 8 Mehefin 1999.

Fel y dywedodd Dr Brynley F. Roberts yn *Y Traethodydd*, yn y rhifyn coffa i'r Athro Caerwyn Williams (llun 5): 'Ef oedd yr ysgolhaig Celtaidd cyflawnaf a gododd yng Nghymru ers dyddiau Edward Lhwyd yn niwedd yr ail ganrif ar bymtheg – ac nid oes amheuaeth nad oedd gwybodaeth Caerwyn o'r ieithoedd Celtaidd a'u llenyddiaethau yn llawnach ac yn ddyfnach na'r arloeswr mawr hwnnw.' Yn ystod ei deyrnged ar ddydd ei angladd yng Nghapel y Morfa, Aberystwyth, ar 12 Mehefin 1999, dywedodd yr Athro R. Geraint Gruffydd: 'Wedi ymddeol yn 1979 fe fu'n llywyddu – nid oes gair arall yn bosibl – y Ganolfan Uwchefrydiau Cymreig a Cheltaidd newydd a sefydlwyd gan y Coleg yn 1978 ac a drosglwyddwyd i'r Brifysgol yn 1985; ef hyd y diwedd oedd prif warantwr safonau ysgolheigaidd y Ganolfan, ac fe ellir dweud yr un peth am *Eiriadur Prifysgol Cymru* y bu'n Olygydd Ymgynghorol iddo er 1968.' Aeth Dr Brynley F. Roberts ymhellach drwy honni: 'Ar y cychwyn, Caerwyn *oedd* y Ganolfan.' Cymerodd ddiddordeb mawr yn holl waith y sefydliad – hylnt a helynt y cymrodyr a chyhoeddiadau'r Ganolfan, yn ogystal â'r llyfrgell – hyd ddiwedd ei oes.

Nid syndod, felly, oedd iddo adael ei lyfrgell breifat i'r sefydliad hwn a oedd mor agos at ei galon. Derbyniwyd dros bum mil o lyfrau, dwy fil o gylchgronau, cannoedd o bamffledi a gwahanlithoedd, yn ogystal â phapurau personol, llythyrau, tapiau a recordiau Gwyddeleg. Paratowyd rhestr o'r papurau, y tapiau a'r recordiau hyn a phenderfynwyd eu trosglwyddo i'r Llyfrgell Genedlaethol er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn cael eu cadw dan yr amodau priodol.

Yr oedd yn amlwg o'r cychwyn fod casgliad yr Athro Caerwyn Williams yn rhy fawr i'w gynnwys ym mhrif gasgliad y llyfrgell. At hynny, yr oedd ei bwysigrwydd yn ddigon o gyfiawnhad dros

ei gadw ar wahân. Gwaith aruthrol fawr fu trefnu a dosbarthu'r cyhoeddiadau niferus ac amrywiol hyn. Penderfynwyd defnyddio'r un system ddosbarthu â phrif gasgliad y llyfrgell, sef system Llyfrgell y Gyngres, ond wedi ei haddasu ar gyfer dosbarthiadau mwy cyffredinol. Catalog o gardiau yw prif gatalog y Ganolfan, ond darparwyd rhestr electronig o'r llyfrau yng Nghasgliad yr Athro Caerwyn Williams ar weinydd mewnol y Ganolfan. Golyga hyn fod aelodau'r staff yn gallu cysylltu â'r catalog o'u hystafelloedd. Ceir rhestr gyflawn o'r cylchgronau yn y casgliad yn ogystal, ac y mae hynny hefyd yn wir am y casgliadau eraill.

Beth am gynnwys casgliad yr Athro Caerwyn Williams? Fel y gellid disgwyl, ceir toreth o gyhoeddiadau ym meysydd hanes, iaith a llenyddiaeth Cymru a'r gwledydd Celtaidd eraill, ond yr oedd ei ddiddordebau a'i feysydd darllen yn ymestyn yn ehangach o lawer na hynny, a cheir llyfrau ar athroniaeth, crefydd, diwinyddiaeth, seicoleg, hanes, ieithoedd a llenyddiaethau Ewrop, ynghyd â chofiannau, bywgraffiadau a nofelau. Ceir hefyd gasgliad gwerthfawr o gyfeirlyfrau a geiriaduron. Yr oedd yn anochel y byddai rhai o'r llyfrau, y cylchgronau, y cyfeirlyfrau a'r geiriaduron yn ddyblygion o'r hyn a oedd ar gael eisoes yn y prif gasgliad neu yng Nghasgliad Caerdydd. Yn wir, ceir nifer o ddyblygion o fewn casgliad yr Athro Caerwyn Williams ei hun. Y mae hynny i'w ddisgwyl, o gofio ei fod yn adolygydd uchel ei barch ac iddo fod yn olygydd nifer o gyhoeddiadau academiaidd. Bu'n olygydd *Y Traethodydd* rhwng 1965 a 1999. Ym 1965 hefyd yr ymddangosodd y gyfrol gyntaf o'r pum cyfrol ar hugain a ymddangosodd dan ei olygyddiaeth yng nghyfres *Ysgrifau Beirniadol*, a'r flwyddyn ganlynol dechreuodd ar y gwaith o olygu'r cylchgrawn blynyddol *Studia Celtica*. Ym 1983 lansiodd cyfres *Llên y Llenor* a bu'r Athro Caerwyn Williams yn gyfrifol am olygu deuddeg cyfrol ar hugain yn y gyfres honno. Nid yw'n syndod, felly, fod dyblygion o'r cyhoeddiadau y bu ef yn eu hadolygu neu yn olygydd arnynt. Ni fynnid eu gwerthu am sawl rheswm, yn bennaf oherwydd eu bod yn gofnod parhaol o ddiddordebau a chwaeth ysgolhaig diwylliedig a chynhyrchiol i'w ryfeddu.

Yng nghasgliad yr Athro Caerwyn Williams ceir nifer o gyhoeddiadau cynnar a phrin. Cedwir y rhain dan glo mewn cwpwrdd diogel arbennig. Un o'r cyfrolau prin hynny yw'r *Geiriadur Ysgrythyrol* (7fed arg., 1875) (llun 6). Cyfeiriodd yr Athro Caerwyn Williams at y gyfrol hon mewn anerchiad a draddododd gerbron Cymanfa Gyffredinol Eglwys Bresbyteriaidd Cymru ym 1995, adeg dathlu pen blwydd *Y Traethodydd* yn gant a hanner. Dyma a ddywedodd y pryd hwnnw:

Os maddeuwch chwi air personol, mab i löwr, i löwr cyffredin ond ei fod yn un o blant y Diwygiad '04, wyf fi. Roedd fy nhad wedi dymuno bod yn bregethwr ond fe'i rhwystrwyd gan amgylchiadau teuluol – ac fe'i cafodd ei hun yn löwr. Ond ymhlith ei lyfrau, ei ychydig lyfrau, roedd dau a fu o'r pwys mwyaf i mi – *Geiriadur Ysgrythyrol* Thomas Charles a *Gweithiau Josephus*. Wn i ddim i ble'r aeth yr olaf ond mae'r *Geiriadur Ysgrythyrol* gennyf o hyd. Oblegid hwnnw a agorodd fy llygaid gyntaf erioed i ysgolheictod – ac, a chofio'i gyfnod, mae'n wyrth o lyfr.

Y mae'r *Geiriadur Ysgrythyrol* yn ddiogel yng nghasgliad y Ganolfan, ond nid oes golwg o *Gweithiau Josephus*! Ceir llawer o drysorau eraill, fodd bynnag, yn eu plith gopi o Feibl (1588) William Morgan a chopi o *Archæologia Britannica* (1707) Edward Lhuyd (llun 7), i enwi ond dau ohonynt. Byddai'n fuddiol i'r darlennydd droi at *Y Traethodydd* (Hydref 1999), sef y rhifyn arbennig i goffáu yr Athro Caerwyn Williams, i weld y llyfryddiaeth o'i weithiau rhwng 1980 a 1999 a baratowyd gan Huw Walters o'r Llyfrgell Genedlaethol. Y mae'r llyfryddiaeth hon yn barhad o'r llyfryddiaeth o gyhoeddiadau'r Athro rhwng 1936 a 1979, a baratowyd gan Gareth O. Watts ac a gyhoeddwyd yn *Bardos: Penodau ar y Traddodiad Barddol Cymreig a Cheltaidd* (1982), cyfrol a olygwyd gan R. Geraint Gruffydd a'i chyflwyno i'r Athro Caerwyn Williams i nodi ei ymddeoliad o Gadair Wyddeleg Coleg Prifysgol Cymru, Aberystwyth. Y mae'n siŵr fod rhan helaeth o'r cyhoeddiadau a restrir yn y llyfryddiaethau hyn i'w cael yn ei gasgliad ar silffoedd y Ganolfan, ynghyd â'r cannoedd ar

gannoedd o lyfrau a brynodd neu a etifeddodd yn ystod ei oes. Fel y dywedodd yr Athro Geraint H. Jenkins yn ei deyrnged i'r Athro Caerwyn Williams adeg ei farwolaeth: 'Byddai angen cyfrol gyfan i wneud cyfiawnder â'i gyfraniad aruthrol fawr i faes astudiaethau Cymreig a Cheltaidd.'

Y mae llyfrgell y Ganolfan yn parhau i ffynnu. Prynir cyhoeddiadau perthnasol i waith y Ganolfan a derbynnir copïau cyfarch o gyhoeddiadau perthnasol Gwasg Prifysgol Cymru, trefniant y cyfeiriwyd ato eisoes. Hefyd, cyfnewidir cyhoeddiadau â Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru, yr Ysgol Astudiaethau Celtaidd, Institut Uwchefrydiau Dulyn (trefniant y cytunwyd arno ym 1988) a'r Institut Astudiaethau Cernywaidd yn Truro. At hynny, derbynnir yn rheolaidd roddion hael gan gymwynaswyr, nifer ohonynt wedi bod yn gysylltiedig â'r Ganolfan o'r cychwyn cyntaf. Yn y flwyddyn 2004 llwyddodd y Cyfarwyddwr i sicrhau nawdd gan berson anhysbys i brynu set gyflawn (60 cyfrol) o'r *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*. Er bod modd defnyddio'r *ODNB* ar-lein, y mae'r cyfrolau printiedig yn parhau i fod yn adnodd anhepgor.

Rhaid cydnabod yn ddiolchgar gefnogaeth gwbl amhrisiadwy staff y Llyfrgell Genedlaethol o'r cychwyn. Wedi i'r Ganolfan symud i'r adeilad newydd gerllaw'r Llyfrgell Genedlaethol, rhoddwyd breintiau penodol i'r staff ynglŷn â defnyddio ei hadnoddau, a braint aruthrol yw cael bod yn gymydog agos i lyfrgell hawlfraint mor odidog.

Gwneir defnydd helaeth o lyfrgell y Ganolfan gan staff a chan ymwelwyr eraill (drwy wahoddiad). Erbyn hyn, y mae'r llyfrgell yn cynnwys dros chwarter miliwn o gyhoeddiadau, yn llyfrau, cylchgronau, pamffledi a gwahanlithoedd, yn ogystal â CD-ROMau. Prynir cyhoeddiadau yn rheolaidd er mwyn hwyluso gwaith y prosiectau ymchwil a thanysgrifir i tua thrigain o gylchgronau dysgedig cyfredol. Y mae'r llyfrgell yn rhan annatod o'r Ganolfan ac yn adnodd cwbl anhepgor i'w staff. Yn wir, nid oes pris ar ei thrysorau.



1. Syr / Sir J. Goronwy Edwards (1891–1976).
Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru / National Library of Wales

80631.
J. R. Jones Tregarth
heawydus

HANES CYMRU,

A Chenedl y Cymry,

O'R CYNOESOEDD

HYD AT

FARWOLAETH LLEWELYN AP GRUFFYDD;

YNGHYD A

RHAI COFIAINT PERTHYNOL I'R AMSEROEDD O'R
PRYD HYNNY I WAERED.

GAN

Y PARCH. THOMAS PRICE,

(CARNHUANAWC.)

CRUGHYWEL:

ARGRAFFWYD A CHYHOEDDWDYD GAN THOMAS WILLIAMS.

AR WERTH HEFYD

GAN H. HUGHES, A D. WILLIAMS, LLUNDAIN,
A CHAN HOLL LYFRWERTHWYR
Y DYWYSOGAETH.

1842.

2, 2a & 2b. Cyfrol yng nghasgliad Syr Goronwy Edwards / A volume from Sir Goronwy Edwards's collection



CANOLFAN UWCHEFRYDIAU

CYMREIG A CHELTAIDD

ABERYSTWYTH

Y LLYFRGELL

Ex Libris

Syr Goronwy Edwards

T H E
W A Y
 To THINGS by WORDS,
 AND
 To WORDS by THINGS;
 BEING
A S K E T C H
 O F
 An ATTEMPT at the RETRIEVAL
 O F
 The ANTIENT CELTIC,
 O R,
 Primitive LANGUAGE of EUROPE.
 To which is added,
 A succinct Account of the SANSCORT,
 O R
 Learned Language of the BRAMINS.
 ALSO
T W O E S S A Y S,
 THE ONE
 On the Origin of the MUSICAL WAITS at CHRISTMAS.
 THE OTHER
 On the REAL Secret of the FREE MASONS.
(By John Cleland)

Antiquos ausus recludere fontes.

 L O N D O N,
 Printed for L. DAVIS and C. REYMERS, over-against
 Gray's-Inn-Gate, Holborn. MDCCLXVI.

3. Tudalen deitl / Title-page of *The Way to Things by Words, and to Words by Things*, John Cleland (London, 1766)

GRAMMATICA CELTICA

E MONUMENTIS VETUSTIS

TAM HIBERNICAE LINGUAE

QUAM BRITANNICARUM DIALECTORUM

CAMBRICAE CORNICAE AREMORICAE

COMPARATIS GALLICAE PRISCAE RELIQUIIS

CONSTRUXIT

I. C. ZEUSS

PHIL. DR. HIST. PROF.

EDITIO ALTERA

CURAVIT

H. EBEL

PH. DR., ACAD. REG. HIB. SOC. HON., ACAD. REG. BORUSS. ADL. COMM. EPIST.

BEROLINI

APUD WEIDMANNOS

MDCCLXXI

PARIS

MAISONNEUVE & CO.

4. Tudalen deitl / Title-page of *Grammatica Celtica*, Johann Caspar Zeuss
(editio altera, Berolini, 1871)



5. Clawr *Y Traethodydd*, CLIV, rhif 651, Hydref 1999,
rhifyn coffa J. E. Caerwyn Williams
Cover of *Y Traethodydd*, CLIV, no. 651, October 1999,
memorial issue to J. E. Caerwyn Williams

SCRIPTURAL DICTIONARY.

GEIRIADUR YSGRYTHYROL:

YN CYNNWYS

IIANESIAETH, DUWINYDDIAETH, ATHRONIAETH, A
BEIRNIADAETH YSGRYTHYROL.

GAN Y DIWEDDAR

BARCII. THOMAS CHARLES, B.A., BALA,
(GYNT O GOLEG IESU, RHYDYCHAIN).

Y SEITHFED ARGRAFFIAD.

W R E X H A M :

ARGRAFFWYD A CHYHOEDDWDYD GAN HUGHES AND SON, HOPE ST.

M.DCCC.LXXV.

6. Tudalen deitl / Title-page of *Geiriadur Ysgrythyrol*, Thomas Charles (7fed arg. / 7th edn., Wrexham, 1875)

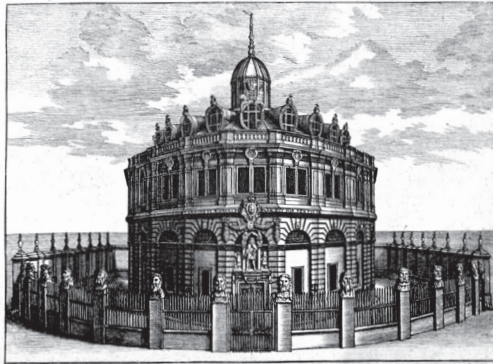
39-

Archæologia Britannica,
 GIVING SOME ACCOUNT
 Additional to what has been hitherto Publish'd,
 OF THE
 LANGUAGES, HISTORIES and CUSTOMS
 Of the Original Inhabitants
 OF
GREAT BRITAIN:

From Collections and Observations in Travels through
Wales, Cornwall, Bas-Bretagne, Ireland and Scotland.

By EDWARD LHUYD M.A. of *Jefus College,*
 Keeper of the ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM in OXFORD.

VOL. I.
GLOSSOGRAPHY.



O X F O R D,
 Printed at the THEATER for the Author, MDCCVII.
 And Sold by Mr. Bateman in *Pater-Noster-Row,* London: and *Jeremiah Petyat*
 Bookfeller at *Dublin.*

7. Tudalen deitl / Title page of *Archæologia Britannica*,
 Edward Lhuyd (Oxford, 1707)

TWO OF the main tasks of the founders of the Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies were to establish an academic library in the field of Celtic studies and to organize seminars. Although the Centre was not officially established as a University institution with full-time staff until 1 October 1985, the concept of a Celtic Centre had been on the cards for several years before that time, promoted by prominent scholars such as Professors Thomas Jones, Griffith John Williams, J. E. Caerwyn Williams and Sir Thomas Parry-Williams, all of whom were determined to see the fulfilment of their dream. The vision and support of Dr Elwyn Davies were crucial to the venture and his generosity provided a firm foundation for the future development of the Centre. According to Dr Brynley F. Roberts:

The origins of the Centre were rather informal. It existed before being officially adopted by the Universities Grants Committee in 1985. The University College at Aberystwyth supported the concept of a Celtic Centre and an important step was taken at the end of the 1970s when an appeal was launched to acknowledge the work and contribution of certain scholars in the Departments of Welsh and Welsh History, individuals such as T. H. Parry-Williams. Two rooms were made available in the Old College and these became the Centre's first home. One was used as a library and seminar room while the second became Professor J. E. Caerwyn Williams's room. He had retired from the Chair of Irish in 1979 and then became Honorary Director of the Centre.

The enthusiasm of these scholars generated much support and encouraged several benefactors to donate the books and periodicals which form the nucleus of the present collection. The foundation collection was that of the historian Sir J. Goronwy Edwards, who was born in Manchester and brought up in Flintshire (fig. 1). In the words of Emeritus Professor R. Geraint Gruffydd:

Sir Goronwy Edwards's collection formed the basis of the Centre's library. It was purchased from his widow in 1976,

shortly after his death. A native of Flintshire, he was educated at Oxford. He later became Vice-Principal of Jesus College before being appointed Director of the Institute of Historical Research of the University of London. Sir Goronwy Edwards was one of the leading scholars in the field of English medieval history, and he was also very interested in the medieval history of Wales, particularly that of his native Flintshire. This collection was extremely valuable, and was sold by Lady Edwards at a very reasonable price. This was made possible by Professor Ieuan Gwynedd Jones and his colleagues in the Department of Welsh History and we are greatly indebted to them for obtaining this excellent collection of books relating to the medieval history of Wales. (fig. 2)

Since no members of staff had yet been appointed to organize the donations the Centre depended on members of the Departments of Welsh and Welsh History to assist them. The contribution of Professor Ieuan Gwynedd Jones must be acknowledged, and also that of Dr Brynley F. Roberts, who managed the library for a short time. Here are some of his reminiscences about the early years:

I don't know why, but J. E. Caerwyn Williams asked me to be responsible for the collections of books that were donated from time to time. It is an indication of the informality of the Centre's structure in the early days that I was given the title 'librarian', although I did not carry out the duties of a librarian. I took care of the books, put them in order, kept a record of donations and set duplicate volumes aside. Later on the College Library provided invaluable assistance and the library staff catalogued the books and periodicals, and prepared catalogue cards and shelf marks for the books. Had it not been for their assistance the library would soon have deteriorated into chaos, and be nothing more than an arbitrary collection of books and periodicals.

The friends of the Centre were generous in their support. Important collections were soon acquired and set the library on a firm footing. In addition to J. Goronwy Edwards's collection, the collection of Major Edgar Jones, headmaster of Barry Grammar School and a friend of the poet R. Williams Parry was acquired, through the generosity of his daughter, Miss Gwyneth Vaughan Jones. Later came the valuable collection of Mr Iorwerth Howells, former Director of Education of Carmarthenshire. In addition, donations of individual books, periodicals and small collections were received regularly. I only spent a short time at the library, since I left Aberystwyth soon after this. It was an honour to play a small part in the Centre's early history.

When the Centre became part of the University of Wales in 1985, accommodation for five members of staff was provided on the top two floors of 2 Marine Terrace. During the summer of 1987 the substantial collection of books and periodicals was moved from the Old College to the north wing of the Old Library, or the Education Library as it was later known. In addition, a collection of books and periodicals relevant to the work of the research projects was kept in the Seminar Room on the first floor of 2 Marine Terrace. This collection is now housed in the Seminar Room of the Centre.

Copies of letters sent by the first Director, Professor R. Geraint Gruffydd, to many benefactors thanking them for their donations are preserved in the Centre's files. Among them is a letter to Alun Eirug Davies of the Hugh Owen Library, who had been responsible for the collection until 1985. 'The problem of the library is still causing me concern,' wrote Professor Gruffydd, 'and it is obvious that there is no simple answer!' Once the Centre had been established Aberystwyth University could no longer be expected to manage the Celtic Collection and it was decided to appoint a part-time librarian to undertake the task. I accepted the invitation to fulfil this role.

The staff of the Old College Library were very supportive from the outset, at a time when the Centre's resources were scarce. Even

after the establishment of the Centre as part of the University of Wales, the Hugh Owen Library continued to provide safe accommodation for the rare and valuable books which formed part of the collection.

Mrs Llinos Roberts-Young, the Centre's first secretary/librarian, was responsible for the management of the library at the outset. During the first twelve months she was assisted by Dr Nerys Ann Jones, research fellow and one of the first members of staff to be appointed to the Centre.

The substantial collection of Celtic books and periodicals known as the Cardiff Collection was deposited at the Centre in 1986. This generous offer was made at a time when South Glamorgan County Library was moving to new premises in the city. Because it was such a large collection and since the books had been classified according to the Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme (while the Centre's collection was classified according to the Library of Congress Classification Scheme), it was decided that the Cardiff Collection should remain separate. The majority of the books and periodicals in this collection are Irish, but it also contains books on the history of the other Celtic languages and literatures (fig. 3), and many important books by German scholars, such as *Grammatica Celtica* (editio altera, 1871) by Johann Caspar Zeuss (fig. 4), and Alfred Holder's *Alt-celtischer Sprachschatz* (1896–1913). This valuable collection also contains complete runs of periodicals; for example, *Revue Celtique* (1870–), *Annales de Bretagne* (1886–), *Ériu* (1904–) and *Royal Irish Academy Transactions* (1787–).

The acquisition of this extensive collection of Celtic publications has been very valuable to the research fellows. In addition, many more donations of books and periodicals were received regularly, and although some of these donations were quite substantial it was decided to shelve all the books (with the exception of the Cardiff Collection) in one main sequence.

A decision was also made to adopt the Library of Congress Classification Scheme, as this was the detailed classification scheme used by Aberystwyth University Library whose staff had assisted

with the cataloguing and processing of the Centre's books in the early days. Although the collection at the Centre boasted a wide range of books, the considerable majority were naturally related to the history, language and literature of Wales and of the other Celtic countries. This reflected the tastes and interests of those who had donated their private libraries to the Centre. In addition, the Board of the University of Wales Press agreed from the outset that the Centre would receive a complimentary copy of all their relevant publications, an agreement which continues to the present day.

During the early years the collection was enriched by donations from the private libraries of several benefactors, among them Dr Rachel Bromwich, Professor Emrys Evans, Mr Iorwerth Howells, Dr E. D. Jones, Major Edgar Jones, Professor Ieuan Gwynedd Jones, Professor T. J. Morgan, Sir Thomas Parry and Sir Thomas Parry-Williams. A record was kept of each donation and a bookplate inserted in each book, giving the name of the donor. Frequently, the signatures of the original owners were to be found in the books, and this added to their appeal and their value. Occasionally there would be a personal greeting from the owner inside the cover, or a newspaper cutting – now discoloured by age – containing a review of the book.

Several substantial collections were received between 1985 and 1990. The Centre was invited to select publications from Sir Thomas Parry's private library following his death in 1985, and similarly in 1987 upon the death of Dr E. D. Jones. These two benefactors were former Librarians of the National Library of Wales and both had been extremely supportive of the Centre. Dr E. D. Jones had expressed a wish that the Centre was to have first refusal from his substantial collection of periodicals. The Centre had already inherited the private library of Sir Thomas Parry-Williams, one of the founders of the Centre, and following the death of his widow, Lady Amy Parry-Williams, an invitation was accepted to select additional items from her home at Y Wern, Aberystwyth. Dr Susan Davies, daughter of Mr Iorwerth Howells, later donated additional material from her father's library.

The families of the late Miss Cassie Davies, Mr T. Gwynn Jones, Swansea, Dr Ben Jones, Miss E. Brereton Jones, Professor T. J. Morgan, Miss Mati Rees and Miss Rhiannon Francis Roberts, among many others, were extremely generous in donating books and periodicals to the library. In 1989 the substantial collection of Professor Armel Diverres, Swansea, was received. Although this collection contained some publications from his own private library, it consisted mainly of works from that of his father Pol Diverres, who was Keeper of the Department of Manuscripts at the National Library of Wales from 1919 to 1923, before joining the French Department of the new University college at Swansea. In addition to many pamphlets and offprints this important gift contained many publications on the Breton aspects of the Arthurian legends and folk literature. It was also a great pleasure to receive the large collection of Gaelic publications donated by Mrs Sara Thomas in 1992. During recent years the collection has been enriched by donations from the private libraries of several individuals, including Professor Emeritus Ieuan Gwynedd Jones, R. Gerallt Jones, Sir Glanmor Williams, and Professor Geraint H. Jenkins upon his retirement as the Centre's Director in 2008. It is not feasible to name all the benefactors here but all donations are recorded in the Centre's list of donations and acknowledged in its annual reports.

The Centre moved to its permanent home, next door to the National Library of Wales, in 1993, having been accommodated by the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, for seven and a half years, and the valuable collection of books and periodicals was housed in a purpose-built library on the lower floor of this handsome new building. The rolling stacks on one side of the library were filled to capacity almost immediately, and within a comparatively short space of time the opposite side also became occupied, thanks to several bequests, among them the extremely generous bequest of the great Celtic scholar Professor J. E. Caerwyn Williams, first Honorary Director of the Centre, who died on 8 June 1999.

As Dr Brynley F. Roberts wrote in *Y Traethodydd*, in the memorial

issue to Professor Caerwyn Williams (fig. 5): ‘He was the most accomplished Celtic scholar since the great pioneer Edward Lhwyd at the end of the seventeenth century – and there is no doubt that Caerwyn’s knowledge of the Celtic languages and their literatures was more comprehensive than that of Lhwyd.’ During Professor Caerwyn Williams’s funeral service at Morfa Chapel, Aberystwyth, on 12 June 1999, Professor R. Geraint Gruffydd paid him the following tribute: ‘Following his retirement in 1979 he presided – no other word is appropriate – over the Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies, founded by the College in 1978 and transferred to the University in 1985; until his death he was the main custodian of the Centre’s academic standards, and the same can be said of *Geiriadur Prifysgol Cymru*, the University of Wales Dictionary, of which he had been Consulting Editor since 1968.’ According to Dr Brynley F. Roberts: ‘At the beginning, Caerwyn *was* the Centre.’ He took a keen interest in all aspects of the Centre’s work – the trials and tribulations of its research fellows, its publications and its library – until the end of his life.

It is not surprising, therefore, that he bequeathed his private library to the institution that meant so much to him. It comprised over five thousand books, two thousand periodicals, hundreds of pamphlets and offprints, in addition to personal papers and letters, and Irish tapes and records. These personal papers, tapes and records were listed and then transferred to the National Library for safe keeping.

It was evident from the outset that Professor Caerwyn Williams’s collection was too large to be incorporated into the main sequence. In addition, its importance as the private library of an outstanding Celtic scholar justified the decision to preserve it as a separate collection. The cataloguing and classifying of this huge collection was an arduous task. It was decided to use the same classification scheme as the main collection, i.e. the Library of Congress Scheme, but in a somewhat simplified version. The library’s main catalogue is in the form of a card catalogue, but an electronic list of the books in the Caerwyn Williams Collection is provided on the Centre’s

server and can be consulted by research fellows from their study rooms. A complete list of the periodicals included in the collection is also available.

Although Professor Caerwyn Williams's main interest lay in the field of Celtic studies, his reading was far more extensive and, in addition to a proliferation of volumes relating to the history, language and literature of Wales and of the other Celtic countries, his collection contains books on philosophy, religion, theology, psychology, history, European languages and literatures, and also biographies, autobiographies and novels. There is also a valuable collection of reference books and dictionaries. Inevitably, some of the books, periodicals, reference books and dictionaries duplicated material in the main collection and in the Cardiff Collection. In fact, there are many duplicates within the Caerwyn Williams Collection itself. This is not surprising considering that he was a highly respected reviewer and editor of several scholarly publications. He was editor of *Y Traethodydd* from 1965 until 1999. The first of the twenty-five volumes under his editorship in the series *Ysgrifau Beirniadol* was published in 1965, and the following year he became editor of the annual journal *Studia Celtica*. The *Llên y Llenor* series was launched in 1983 and thirty-two volumes were published under his editorship. It was to be expected, therefore, that there would be duplicates of publications reviewed or edited by him. These are a permanent record of the interests and tastes of an extremely cultured and productive scholar, and for this reason they have been preserved.

The collection also contains many antiquarian books, which are kept under lock and key. One of these rare volumes is the biblical dictionary *Geiriadur Ysgrhythyrol* (7th edn., 1875) (fig. 6). Professor Caerwyn Williams referred to this volume in his address to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Wales in 1995 on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of *Y Traethodydd*:

On a personal note, my father was a miner, an ordinary miner, but he was also a child of the 1904 Religious Revival. He longed to become a preacher, but was deterred by family

circumstances, and became a miner. Among his few books, however, were two that were very important to me – Thomas Charles's *Geiriadur Ysgrythyrol* and *Gweithiau Iosephus* [The works of Iosephus]. I don't know what happened to the latter, but *Geiriadur Ysgrythyrol* is still in my possession. This is the book which first opened my eyes to scholarship – and, considering when it was published, it is a wonderful book.

The biblical dictionary is safe in the Centre's collection, but there is no sign of the works of Iosephus! There are many other treasures, however, including a copy of William Morgan's Bible (1588) and a copy of Edward Lhuyd's *Archæologia Britannica* (1707) (fig. 7), to name but two. A bibliography of Professor Caerwyn Williams's writings between 1980 and 1999, compiled by Huw Walters of the National Library, was published in the memorial issue of *Y Traethodydd* (October 1999). This is a continuation of the bibliography relating to his writings between 1936 and 1979, compiled by Gareth O. Watts and published in *Bardos: Penodau ar y Traddodiad Barddol Cymreig a Cheltaidd* (1982), a volume edited by R. Geraint Gruffydd and dedicated to Professor Caerwyn Williams on the occasion of his retirement from the Chair of Irish at the University College of Wales Aberystwyth. The great majority of the publications listed in these bibliographies are to be found on the Centre's shelves, in addition to the hundreds of volumes that he purchased or inherited during his lifetime. As Professor Geraint H. Jenkins wrote in his tribute to Professor Caerwyn Williams at the time of his death: 'An entire volume would be needed to do justice to his immense contribution to the field of Welsh and Celtic studies.'

The Centre's library continues to thrive. Publications relevant to the research projects are purchased and complimentary copies of relevant volumes published by the University of Wales Press are received regularly. The Centre exchanges publications with the National Library of Wales, the School of Celtic Studies at Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies (an arrangement agreed in 1988) and the Institute of Cornish Studies in Truro. In addition, regular

donations are received from the Centre's numerous benefactors, many of whom have been associated with the institution from the beginning. In 2004 the Director succeeded in obtaining a complete set (60 volumes) of the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, thanks to the generosity of a benefactor who wished to remain anonymous. Although the ODNB is available on-line, the printed volumes continue to be a valuable resource.

The support of the staff of the National Library of Wales has been invaluable from the outset. It is an honour for the Centre to have such an excellent copyright library as its neighbour, and members of staff are granted special privileges with regard to using its resources.

The Centre's library is well used by members of staff and other invited guests. The stock now totals over a quarter of a million publications, including books, periodicals, pamphlets and offprints, and also CD-ROMs. New publications are purchased regularly and the library subscribes to some sixty learned periodicals. The library is a vital part of the Centre and an indispensable resource for its staff. Its treasures are priceless.



