



*Council for Awards of Royal Agricultural Societies - Wales Panel*

# **2018 Field Day**

## **Visit to**

### **Carreg-Y-Llech, Treuddyn, Mold, CH7 4NZ**



**Friday 21 September 2018 at 11.00 am**

by kind permission of  
**Mr & Mrs Terrig Morgan MBE FRAS and family**

Honorary Secretary, CARAS Wales, RWAS, Llanelwedd, Builth Wells, Powys, LD2 3SY  
Tel: 01982 554412

## **VISIT TO CARREG-Y-LLECH ON FRIDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2018**

We feel very honoured to have been asked to host the CARAS Annual Field Day this year, and are delighted to invite the great and good of Welsh agriculture to come along to evaluate what we do on our farm.





## **Programme for the Day**

11.00 am Arrive at Carreg-Y-Llech, Treuddyn,  
Mold, CH7 4NZ.

The car park will be sign posted.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served on arrival

Welcome by Mr D E Meurig James FRAgS  
Chair of CARAS Wales

11.30 am Council Meeting to be held at Carreg-Y-Llech  
for Fellows and Associates in Wales

12.30 pm Buffet Lunch

1.30 pm Introduction to Carreg-Y-Llech and scene set  
for Field Day visit by Mr Terrig Morgan MBE FRAgS  
Chair of CARAS

2.00 pm Tour of Carreg-Y-Llech to include the following:

- Farm Buildings and Milking Parlour
- Fields and Paddocks

4.15 pm Tea/Coffee

### **Lunch**

**A buffet will be provided at 12.30 pm at a cost of  
£16.00 per person to cover the cost of coffee, lunch and tea**

## **Carreg-Y-Llech – A Brief History**

Carreg-y-Llech Farm is situated on the banks of the River Terrig a tributary of the Alyn leading into the Dee. Although the farm is 800ft high most of the land can be ploughed and is regularly reseeded. As we are North facing grass growth can be a little slow in the spring.

Gwyneth, Edward and myself farm in partnership with Edward as the major partner and of course doing the major share of the work. The farm was taken as a tenant by my Great Grandfather in the 1870's and bought in 1912 for £1200. Edward is the 5<sup>th</sup> generation to farm Carreg-y-Llech and interestingly the family have farmed here in Treuddyn or the neighbouring parishes since before 1660. We have traced the ancestry to that date. My grandfather Joseph Morgan married Polly Morgan who was a descendant of the same family in 1680.

The village is on Offa's Dyke and the public highway runs for a short distance on the mound with the ditch clearly seen. There is a Neolithic standing stone behind the farmhouse and the remains of 4000 year old burial mounds at the top of the farm. The land has always had someone looking after it. A point the politicians need to realise.

The dairy was started in 1980 with 12 cows and selling the milk for 12p a litre. The impetus to start a milking herd was the need to pay tax after my fathers' death. The farm had been a dairy previously with the construction of a shippon in 1949 housing 24 cows. The progression is seen in the buildings on the yard. The return of Edward to the farm after 12 months in New Zealand, with an enthusiasm for dairying has given another generation the opportunity to be the custodian of Carreg-y-Llech.

### **The Farm**

- The farm is a partnership including Terrig, his wife Gwyneth and son Edward who carries out most of the work, along with one fulltime workman Eirian. Helen, Edward's wife works in her father's construction business.
- Currently 180 acres owned and a further 267 acres rented. We have a mixture of Farm Business Tenancy and short term seasonal rents. The furthest we travel is 11 miles by road.
- The dairy herd comprises of 225 cows and 170 followers with 70 male b/w calves reared as bull beef to 440kg liveweight. The heifers are reared on the farm and calve

at 24 months of age. The herd is autumn calving with the aim to calve all the cows in less than 12 weeks. Although we have a pedigree prefix of Carreg in the Holstein Friesian register it is not of great interest.

- Cropping is mainly grass with the majority of fields sown to a medium term ley comprising of high sugar varieties. Aber bred grasses are used with the inclusion of Timothy. Reseeding is either by ploughing and subsequent cultivation or direct drilling. Barley and wheat are grown for home consumption.
- The grazing platform is divided into paddocks and each one further sub divided by the use of electric fence. Pre-cutting of the sward is used when necessary. All grass fields are measured with a plate meter throughout the season. Tracks have been constructed over the years to walk the cows to the grazing.
- The cattle drinking and washdown water is supplied by a borehole. More troughs are needed and a bigger supply pipe. Highlighted by the dry summer.
- Silage and slurry spreading is carried out by contractor. Three cuts of grass taken for silage with excess growth made into big bales.
- The investment in renewable energy by using solar panels to generate electricity, which is used by the ice bank to cool the water used in the heat exchanger.
- Substantial capital investment made over the last few years including a new cubicle shed, milking parlour and slurry lagoon. Further investment on a new silage pit planned.
- Sheep are kept over the winter months predominately for the ethnic market. They leave the farm in the first week of January.

### **Other Interests**

I was taught to have an interest outside the farm especially public service in the community. So I've been Community Council Chairman numerous times, Chair of the Welsh language school governors and many more over the years. It is interesting to note that the COOP, my buyer of milk, looks at the involvement of the producer in the wider society as an important part of their Ethical Trading. A realisation early in my farming career that politicians have more effect on the business than the weather led me to want to take an active part in Agri-Politics. As a member of the NFU I worked with the organisation and became National Chairman of the Dairy Committee. During that period I was involved with The White Stuff campaign, established the producer retailer relationship in the supply chain, and setting up a forum between Defra, retailer, processor and the producer Chaired by the then Minister. During this period I was fortunate to persuade Sainsbury's to put the Red Tractor logo on the milk bottle.

While with the NFU I chaired the Farm Management committee for the International Dairy Federation. We produced a global guideline for Farm Assurance in the production of milk from cows, buffalo, goat, and sheep!

Returning to the farm I set up a local discussion group named The Udder Group for the younger dairy farmers. I no longer go but the group is still meeting monthly.

The farm became a Farming Connect Demonstration farm in 2012 to 2015. We concentrated on animal health and nutrition. A very worthwhile exercise talking to other farmers and listening. The Open Farm Sunday we organised was above all else the most rewarding.

For the last 8 years I have been chairman of the Denbigh and Flint show. This year was one of the most successful on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

The Coop and Muller asked would I chair the aligned producer/processor/retailer committee. This is all about improving communication in the supply chain. Recent work has been ensuring that the brand is supported by a high standard of milk production and being rewarded.

Retirement for me is doing the things I enjoy and not having to do every job. Having the honour of being CARAS Chairman of the four nations is one of the enjoyable positions. The members of CARAS through their contribution to so many organisations are instrumental in delivering an agriculture that will be competitive and respected by politicians and society at large.

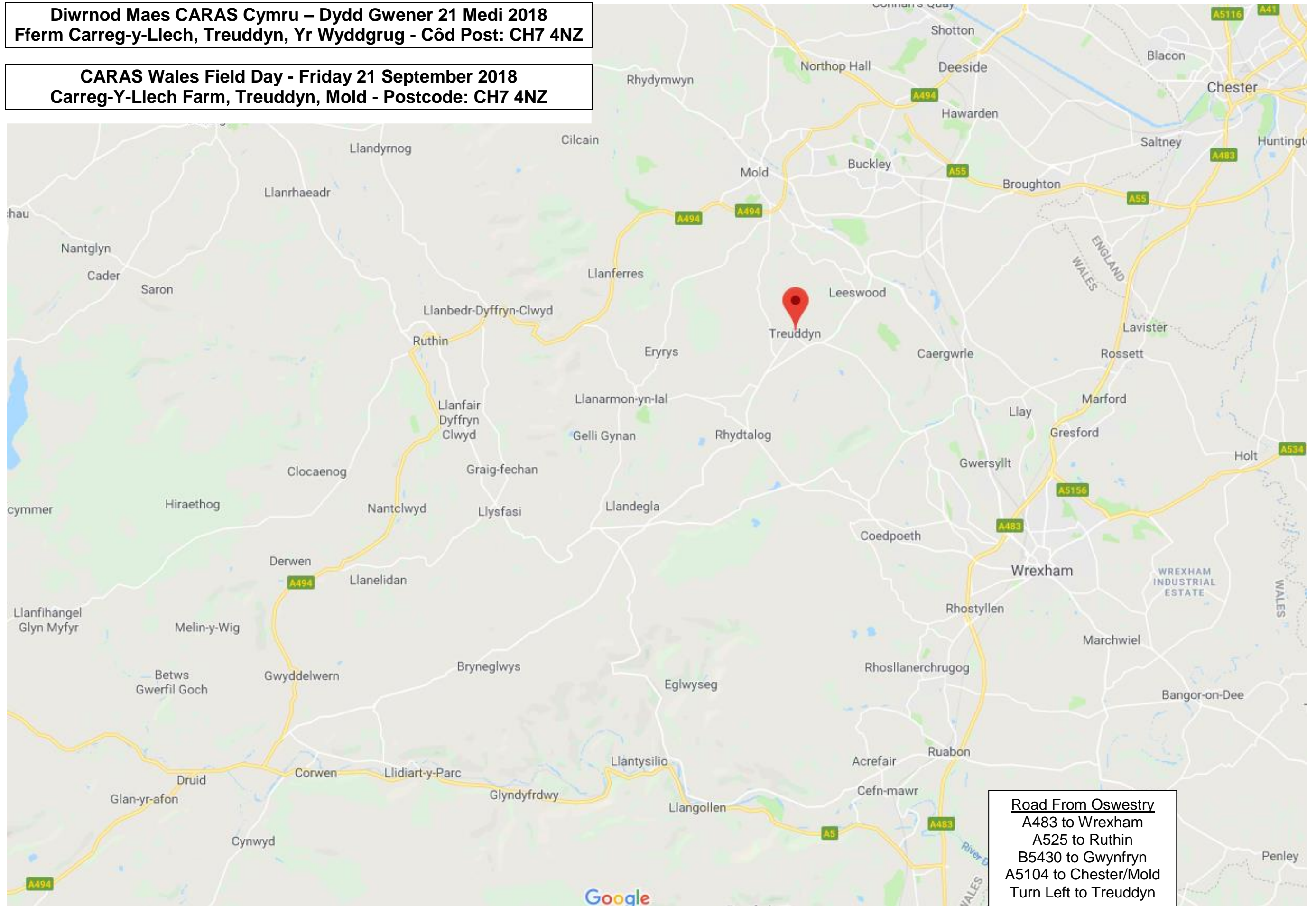
Mr Terrig G Morgan MBE BSc (Hons) FRAgS

At the 2017 CARAS AGM held in Llangollen, Mr Terrig Morgan was appointed Chairman of CARAS for two years. Mr Morgan took over the role from previous English Chairman Rosie Carne, whom he thanked for her outstanding contribution.

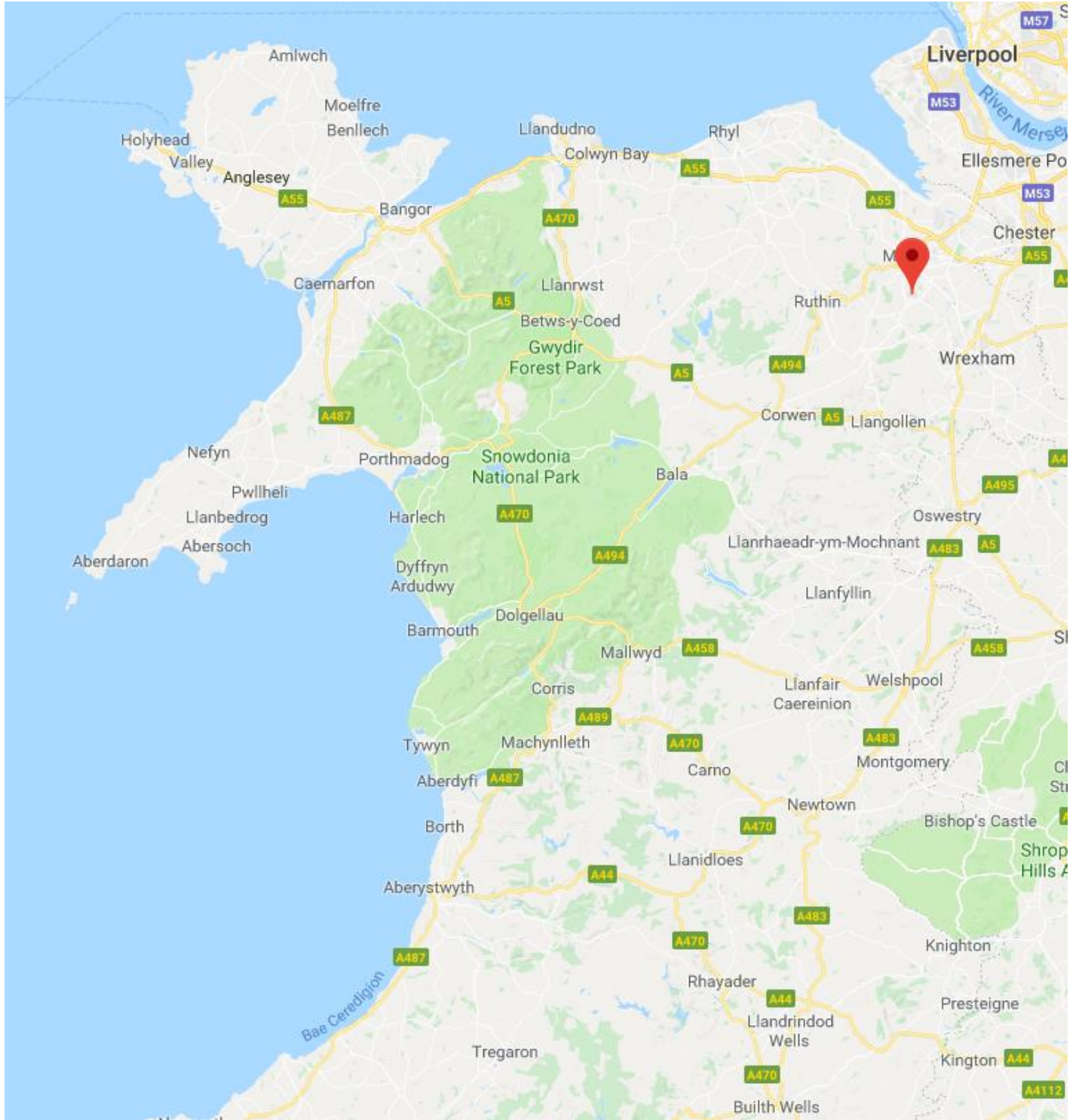


**Diwrnod Maes CARAS Cymru – Dydd Gwener 21 Medi 2018**  
**Fferm Carreg-y-Llech, Treuddyn, Yr Wyddgrug - Côt Post: CH7 4NZ**

**CARAS Wales Field Day - Friday 21 September 2018**  
**Carreg-Y-Llech Farm, Treuddyn, Mold - Postcode: CH7 4NZ**



**Road From Oswestry**  
A483 to Wrexham  
A525 to Ruthin  
B5430 to Gwynfryn  
A5104 to Chester/Mold  
Turn Left to Treuddyn





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