

# wardeiniaid a charcharorion

## Census Return Ruthin County Gaol 1871

| <i>Name</i>                 | <i>Relationship</i>          | <i>State</i>     | <i>Age</i> | <i>Occupation</i>                             | <i>Birthplace</i>             |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------|---|-------------------------------|
| <i>James Walmsley</i>       | <i>Head</i>                  | <i>Married</i>   | <i>42</i>  | <i>Governor, County Gaol</i>                  | <i>Mellor, Lancs.</i>         |
| <i>Johnna M.J.</i>          | <i>Wife</i>                  | <i>Married</i>   | <i>47</i>  | <i>'s wife</i>                                | <i>Germany</i>                |
| <i>Josephine</i>            | <i>Daughter</i>              | <i>-</i>         | <i>9</i>   | <i>Scholar</i>                                | <i>Caernarvon</i>             |
| <i>Wilhelmina</i>           | <i>Daughter</i>              | <i>-</i>         | <i>7</i>   | <i>Scholar</i>                                | <i>Caernarvon</i>             |
| <i>Fredrick</i>             | <i>Son</i>                   | <i>-</i>         | <i>5</i>   | <i>-</i>                                      | <i>Ruthin</i>                 |
| <i>Irene</i>                | <i>Daughter</i>              | <i>-</i>         | <i>1</i>   | <i>-</i>                                      | <i>Ruthin</i>                 |
| <i>Margaret E. Williams</i> | <i>Servant</i>               | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>16</i>  | <i>General Servant</i>                        | <i>St Asaph</i>               |
| <i>Robert Jones</i>         | <i>Warder</i>                | <i>Married</i>   | <i>36</i>  | <i>1 Warder</i>                               | <i>Llanfwrog</i>              |
| <i>Edward Humphreys</i>     | <i>Warder</i>                | <i>Married</i>   | <i>28</i>  | <i>2 Warder</i>                               | <i>Ruthin</i>                 |
| <i>John Robinson</i>        | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>42</i>  | <i>Farmer's Labourer</i>                      | <i>Liverpool</i>              |
| <i>John Smith</i>           | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>29</i>  | <i>Stoker in foundry (iron)</i>               | <i>Bilston, Staffs</i>        |
| <i>John Ellis</i>           | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>20</i>  | <i>Mason's labourer</i>                       | <i>Llanrhaidr ym Mochnant</i> |
| <i>Evan Edwards</i>         | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>30</i>  | <i>Collier</i>                                | <i>Nantglyn</i>               |
| <i>Fredrick House</i>       | <i>Military<br/>prisoner</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>30</i>  | <i>Tailor, to be discharged<br/>from army</i> | <i>Denham, Bucks</i>          |
| <i>Patrick Holsham</i>      | <i>Military<br/>prisoner</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>30</i>  | <i>Clerk -do-</i>                             | <i>Ireland</i>                |
| <i>Thomas Langford</i>      | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>20</i>  | <i>Quarryman</i>                              | <i>Llangollen</i>             |
| <i>William Murphy</i>       | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>16</i>  | <i>Seaman</i>                                 | <i>Scotland</i>               |
| <i>James Cook</i>           | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>40</i>  | <i>Stricker in iron foundry</i>               | <i>Bristol</i>                |
| <i>John Kempster</i>        | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>17</i>  | <i>Domestic servant-<br/>groom</i>            | <i>Wrexham</i>                |
| <i>John Jones</i>           | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>18</i>  | <i>Domestic servant-<br/>groom</i>            | <i>Liverpool</i>              |
| <i>Simon Lloyd</i>          | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>21</i>  | <i>Mason's labourer</i>                       | <i>Denbigh</i>                |
| <i>Robert McManus</i>       | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>24</i>  | <i>Miner</i>                                  | <i>St. Asaph</i>              |
| <i>Isaac Roberts</i>        | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>26</i>  | <i>Farm labourer</i>                          | <i>Denbigh</i>                |
| <i>Isaac Jones</i>          | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>28</i>  | <i>Labourer repairs road</i>                  | <i>Denbigh</i>                |
| <i>William Price</i>        | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>37</i>  | <i>Mole catcher</i>                           | <i>Llandyrnog</i>             |
| <i>Robert Davies</i>        | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>25</i>  | <i>Farm labourer</i>                          | <i>Llanrhaidr D.C.</i>        |
| <i>William Owen</i>         | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>37</i>  | <i>Fitter of machines</i>                     | <i>Ffestiniog</i>             |
| <i>John Miles</i>           | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>33</i>  | <i>Tinman and glazier</i>                     | <i>Tregeron, Cards.</i>       |
| <i>Edward Griffiths</i>     | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>21</i>  | <i>Butcher and farmer</i>                     | <i>Bodfari</i>                |
| <i>William Hughes</i>       | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Bigamist</i>  | <i>38</i>  | <i>Groom, servant</i>                         | <i>Llanfair T.H.</i>          |
| <i>William Parry</i>        | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>42</i>  | <i>Butler, servant</i>                        | <i>Llanrhaidr D.C.</i>        |
| <i>William Roberts</i>      | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>49</i>  | <i>Painter (plain)</i>                        | <i>St. Asaph</i>              |
| <i>Thomas Edwards</i>       | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>35</i>  | <i>Farm labourer</i>                          | <i>St. Asaph</i>              |
| <i>William Jones</i>        | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>24</i>  | <i>Farm labourer</i>                          | <i>Denbigh</i>                |
| <i>Elias Edwards</i>        | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>30</i>  | <i>Quarryman</i>                              | <i>Glynceiriog</i>            |
| <i>Robert Hughes</i>        | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>30</i>  | <i>Carter</i>                                 | <i>Llangernyw</i>             |
| <i>George Shepherd</i>      | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>53</i>  | <i>Shoemaker (lunatic)</i>                    | <i>Grenton, Somerset</i>      |
| <i>Walter Roberts</i>       | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>52</i>  | <i>Carpenter</i>                              | <i>Ruabon</i>                 |
| <i>Griffith Roberts</i>     | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>25</i>  | <i>Bricksetter's labourer</i>                 | <i>Wrexham</i>                |
| <i>John Davies</i>          | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>31</i>  | <i>Labourer in quarry</i>                     | <i>Glynceiriog</i>            |
| <i>George Spring</i>        | <i>Convict</i>               | <i>Married</i>   | <i>22</i>  | <i>Carpenter</i>                              | <i>Oswestry</i>               |

|                           |                |                  |           |                                |                                |
|---------------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>John Wilson</i>        | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>34</i> | <i>" Labourer, navy (?)</i>    | <i>Liverpool</i>               |
| <i>William Richardson</i> | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>19</i> | <i>Collier</i>                 | <i>Chichester</i>              |
| <i>John Jones</i>         | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>19</i> | <i>Quarryman</i>               | <i>Rossett</i>                 |
| <i>Edward Jones</i>       | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>45</i> | <i>Labourer in iron works</i>  | <i>Radnor</i>                  |
| <i>Henry Montague</i>     | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Married</i>   | <i>33</i> | <i>Draper's assistant</i>      | <i>Ireland</i>                 |
| <i>Edward Jackson</i>     | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>20</i> | <i>Mason's labourer</i>        | <i>Wrexham</i>                 |
| <i>Thomas Jones</i>       | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>19</i> | <i>Plasterer</i>               | <i>Denbigh</i>                 |
| <i>James Lloyd</i>        | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>28</i> | <i>Collier</i>                 | <i>Llangollen</i>              |
| <i>William Jones</i>      | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>19</i> | <i>Farm labourer</i>           | <i>Llanfair T.H.</i>           |
| <i>John Vaughan</i>       | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Married</i>   | <i>52</i> | <i>Drives a cart (carrier)</i> | <i>Hope, Flints.</i>           |
| <i>John Jones</i>         | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>27</i> | <i>Farm labourer</i>           | <i>Denbigh</i>                 |
| <i>William Roberts</i>    | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Married</i>   | <i>25</i> | <i>Mason's labourer</i>        | <i>Denbigh</i>                 |
| <i>James Cleory</i>       | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Married</i>   | <i>17</i> | <i>Confectioner</i>            | <i>Ireland</i>                 |
| <i>Robert Williams</i>    | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>22</i> | <i>Mason's labourer</i>        | <i>Denbigh</i>                 |
| <i>Thomas Jones</i>       | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>22</i> | <i>Farm labourer</i>           | <i>Abergele</i>                |
| <i>John Davies</i>        | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Married</i>   | <i>24</i> | <i>Farm labourer</i>           | <i>Liverpool</i>               |
| <i>Evan Thomas</i>        | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Married</i>   | <i>37</i> | <i>Horsebreaker</i>            | <i>Llysfaen</i>                |
| <i>John Brown</i>         | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Married</i>   | <i>58</i> | <i>Well sinker</i>             | <i>Wolverhampton</i>           |
| <i>Mary Davies</i>        | <i>Matron</i>  | <i>Widow</i>     | <i>47</i> | <i>Matron county gaol</i>      | <i>Llanfair T.H.</i>           |
| <i>Dorothy Jones</i>      | <i>Warder</i>  | <i>Widow</i>     | <i>33</i> | <i>Warder</i>                  | <i>Llanasa, Flints</i>         |
| <i>Henry Davies</i>       | <i>Visitor</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>20</i> | <i>Draper's Assistant</i>      | <i>Rhyl</i>                    |
| <i>Mary Jones</i>         | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>25</i> | <i>Prostitute</i>              | <i>Wrexham (deaf and dumb)</i> |
| <i>Jane Davies</i>        | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Married</i>   | <i>35</i> | <i>Prostitute</i>              | <i>Llanfyllin (deaf)</i>       |
| <i>Anne Williams</i>      | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Unmarried</i> | <i>55</i> | <i>Washerwoman</i>             | <i>Ruthin</i>                  |
| <i>Mary Pickering</i>     | <i>Convict</i> | <i>Married</i>   |           | <i>Farm labourer's wife</i>    | <i>Bangor, Denbs.</i>          |

*Census description of inhabitants and inmates in Ruthin Gaol on the night of 3 April 1871 (Denbighshire Record Office).*

# y carcharorion

Henry Smith



(Woking)

*Henry Smith, age 25 years Register No. 1293  
Committed at Wrexham for Larceny in a dwelling house.  
Convicted at Ruthin Q. Sess. 4th July 1861 4 years P.S.  
Discharged on Licence 20th October 1864.  
Destination Wrexham, Denbighshire.*

*Did not report himself after 1st. Dec. 1864  
Returned to the District in August 1865 and was convicted and  
sent'd to 3 months H.L. For garden robbery.  
Again was committed at Wrexham 19th Feb 1866 for Burglary,  
was sent'd at Ruthin Assizes 20th March 1866 and sentenced to  
eight years P.S.*

*Memo's*

|                       |                 |                   |                                    |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>3rd Nov. 1854</i>  | <i>1 month</i>  | <i>H.L.</i>       | <i>Larceny</i>                     |
| <i>23rd Feb 1855</i>  | <i>2 months</i> | <i>H.L.</i>       | <i>D<sup>o</sup> &amp; whipped</i> |
| <i>16th Aug. 1855</i> | <i>21 Days</i>  | <i>H.L.</i>       | <i>Larceny</i>                     |
| <i>22nd Oct. 1855</i> | <i>3 months</i> | <i>H.L.</i>       | <i>D<sup>o</sup> &amp; whipped</i> |
| <i>11th Feb 1858</i>  | <i>1 months</i> | <i>H.L.</i>       | <i>Larceny</i>                     |
| <i>5th April 1858</i> | <i>2 months</i> | <i>H.L.</i>       | <i>Larceny</i>                     |
| <i>11th Oct 1859</i>  | <i>1 months</i> | <i>H.L.</i>       | <i>Larceny</i>                     |
| <i>24th Jan 1860</i>  | <i>1 months</i> | <i>H.L.</i>       | <i>Larceny</i>                     |
| <i>1861 Q. Sess.</i>  | <i>7 Days</i>   | <i>H.L. &amp;</i> |                                    |
| <i>11th Aust 1865</i> | <i>3 months</i> | <i>4 years</i>    | <i>Larceny</i>                     |
|                       |                 | <i>P.S.</i>       |                                    |
|                       |                 | <i>H.L.</i>       |                                    |

Edward Jackson



***Born:*** Wrexham, 1851.

***Occupation:*** Mason's labourer.

***Description:*** 5ft 2 in. tall, sandy hair, cuts on second and fourth fingers of each hand, scars on rt. arm and left hand.

***Summary of criminal record:***

***1 July 1867:*** Convicted of stealing potatoes.

***Sentenced:*** 12 strokes of birch rod.

***23 Jan. 1871:*** Convicted of stealing two teapots.

***Sentenced:*** 3 months imprisonment with hard labour at Ruthin Gaol.

***17 July 1871:*** Convicted of assault.

**Sentenced:** 14 days imprisonment.

**21 Aug. 1871:** Convicted of assault on police.

**Sentenced:** 14 days imprisonment.

**8 April 1872:** Convicted of cutting down hazel trees at Gwersyllt, the property of Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, Baronet, on 20 Dec. 1871.

**Sentenced:** 1 month imprisonment with hard labour.

**7 April 1873:** Accused of fighting.

**Discharged.**

**16 June 1873:** Accused of stealing fowls.

**Discharged** (not sufficient evidence).

**8 July 1873:** Convicted of stealing a tweed coat, value £1 which had been put on a hedge to dry. **Sentenced:** 6 months imprisonment with hard labour.

**March 1874:** Convicted of stealing fowls.

**Sentenced:** 3 months imprisonment with hard labour.

**ABSCONDED.**

**18 May 1874:** Convicted at Manchester Quarter Sessions at Salford of Larceny.

**Sentenced:** 14 months imprisonment. Released: 17 August 1875 under 4 years police supervision.

**16 March 1876:** Convicted of stealing a cow on 28 October 1875 the property of Sir Roger William Henry Palmer of Cefn Park, Wrexham.

**Sentenced:** 7 years penal servitude and a further 5 years police supervision.

Henry Hayer



*Chatham Prison*

*Register No. Of Henry Hayer 710 who was discharged on the 14th August 1873 from the above prison on leave of licence.*

*Committed on the 17th July 1869 at Wrexham for Shopbreaking and stealing -*

*Committed on the 2nd August 1869, Ruthin Assizes and sentenced to 5 years PS.*

*Dark complexion, Brown hair, Hazel eyes - Five feet 4 inches high long visage - Scar on upper lip under left nostril.*

*Destination Penybryn, Ruabon Road, Wrexham.*

John Edwards



*Ruthin Quarter Sessions January 1887. Larceny of a watch. 3 Cal[ender] Months H.L. (hard labour) Evesham 15.6.'86  
Larceny 14 days.*

James Carr



*James Carr, alias Barton, Bertie &c. Ruthin Quarter Session  
January 1888.  
Hotel Robbery Five [years] Penal Servitude and five years  
Supervision.*

*2.10.1879 Liverpool - Larceny 6 Months  
1880 Liverpool - Larceny 6 Months  
1882 Birmingham - Larceny 6 Months  
1880 Hanley - Larceny 6 Months  
1884 Sheffield - Larceny 2 Years  
Wanted at Wakefield, Wigan, Morpeth &c.*

William Ryan



*Nov 9/74 Committed for trial at 2nd Sess. Denbighshire &  
sentenced to 7 years P.S. After previous ~ convictions ~ viz. At  
Beaumaris in 1866 for felony, Also in Merionethshire in 1868  
& 1872 and now under police supervision for 3 years.*

George Blake



*This man was convicted at Ruthin Jan 5th 1882 for picking  
pockets at Denbigh.*

David Frances



*Woking Prison.  
David Frances Ref. No. 2464. Liberated 13th Aug. 1874.  
Cond 16th Nov. 1863 Wrexham. Cond 1st Aug. - 1864 Ruthin  
for robbery with violence.  
Sentenced 12 [months] Penal Servitude.  
38 yrs - Complexion fair, Hair brown, Eyes grey. Height 5ft 2  
inches.  
Marks - lost 2 first fingers in right hand.  
Destination, Birkenhead, but Reported himself to Wrexham,  
15th Sept. 1874, & stated he was living at Barnfields. Taken on  
25th August 1875 to Denbigh Asylum.*

James Thompson



John Green



Jane Roberts



*Convicted at Ruthin Q. Session.*

*Apl. 10 th 1896 for Housebreaking at Rhosddu. Sentenced 6. Cal. months H.L.*

*8 Previous convictions at Liverpool in the name of Robert Williams*

*Convicted at Ruthin Q. Session.*

*Apl. 10 th / 96 for housebreaking at Rhosddu. Sentenced 6 months H.L.*

*20 convictions at Liverpool in the name of John Whittle.*

*Born: ? Bwlchgwyn, 1840.*

*Description: 5ft. Inches tall, fresh complexion, brown hair, hazel eyes, cut mark on right side of chin and a small mole, slight scar on back of first knuckle of right hand. Indifferent behaviour.*

*Summary of criminal record:*

*30 August 1861: Convicted at Hope Petty Sessions of stealing a petticoat at Mold, value 1s.6d.*

*Sentenced: 2 months imprisonment with hard labour at Flint Gaol.*

*3 July 1862: Convicted at Ruthin Quarter Sessions of stealing a pinafore at Llanfair D.C.*

*Sentenced: 4 months imprisonment with hard labour at Ruthin Gaol.*

*2 June 1863: Convicted at Ruthin Quarter Sessions of stealing a cotton bedgown at Penrycae, Llandegla. Wrexham Advertiser says that her "countenance [appearance] was against her".*

*Sentence: 3 years penal servitude at Brixton Prison.*

Alice / Mary Wilson



*Durham 22nd Oct 1872 Felony 2 months.  
1st July 1873 Felony 9 months.  
Northallerton 7th April 1874 Felony 12 months.  
Wakefield August 1876 False Pretences 9 months.  
2 March 1877 Rogue and Vagabond  
~ endeavouring to obtain Charitable Contributions by means  
of False Pretences 3 months.  
Bradford Nov 1877 Obtaining by False Pretences. 7 years P.S.  
And 5 years Police Supr.  
Ruthin January 1885 Obtaining by False Pretences. 7 years  
P.S. And 5 years Police Supr.  
Also wanted at Leeds, West Bromwich, Accrington, Ellesmere  
& Birmingham for similar offences*

**County Prison Cardigan 24th Jany. 1872**

*Dear Sir, Enclosed I send you Photo' of Mary Wilson, alias Knight, whose description is the last on Page 4 of the Pol[ice] Gazette of the 19th instant. She was released from here on the 17th inst. after 15 Calendar months H. L. (hard labour) for shop breaking.. her husband: Samuel Wilson is in Montgomery prison for Trial for Burglary, and another man she says is her husband, John Knight, is now undergoing P.S. (penal servitude) - She speaks of Ruthin & Wrexham as her home, & because she is such a thorough bad lot I send you the enclosed [photograph] in the fullbelief she will be in trouble again ere long. She has been formerly convicted and sentenced to 9 Cal[endar] mo[nths] H.L. here for Felony, On both occasions, was at times one of the most Refractory Prisoners it has been my lot to [meet].*

# troseddwyr a'u troseddau

Cynyddodd poblogaeth Prydain yn gyflym yn niwedd y ddeunawfed ganrif a dechrau'r bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg. Roedd gweithwyr o gefn gwlad yn heidio i'r trefi yn y gobaith o gael gwaith. Arweiniodd hyn at sefyllfa o orboblogi a diffyg glanweithdra, a throdd llawer at fân droseddau:

**"If the poor cannot procure employment, and are not supported, they must commit crimes or starve."**

Un o'r troseddau mwyaf cyffredin roedd llysoedd y Sesiynau Chwarter yn ymdrin ag ef oedd dwyn. Yn aml, nid oedd fawr o werth i'r eitemau a gafodd eu dwyn - dillad, offer ty neu fwyd.

| <u>Defendant</u>  | <u>Offence</u>                             | <u>Result</u>  |
|-------------------|--|--|
| George Williams   | Larceny of a shirt                         | Imprisonment, 7 days hard labour.                              |
| James Kelly       | Larceny of a shirt                         | Imprisonment 1 month hard labour, 1 week solitary confinement. |
| George Williams   | Larceny of shoes, lasts and leather        | 4 years penal servitude.                                       |
| James Kelly       | Larceny of shoes, lasts and leather        | Acquitted.   |
| Robert Stephens   | Larceny of iron                            | 2 months hard labour.  |
| Williams Stephens | Larceny of iron                            | 1 months hard labour.  |
| Richard Evans     | Unlawfully in a building at night          | 1 month hard labour.   |
| Mary Whalley      | Breaking into a house and stealing clothes | 2 months hard labour.  |
| David Jones       | Larceny of two half sovereigns             | 2 months hard labour 2 weeks solitary confinement              |
| John Hughes       | Assault                                    | Imprisonment 14 days and £5 fine.                              |

Llyfr euogfarnau Llys Chwarter Sir Ddinbych, 1849 (Archifdy Sir Ddinbych).

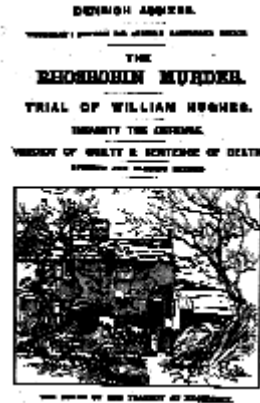
Roedd plant, amddifad neu wedi eu gadael ar eu pennau eu hunain efallai, hefyd yn troseddu. Yng nghyfrifiad 1851 enwir saith carcharor 20 oed ac iau yng Ngharchar Rhuthun.

| <u>Name</u>     | <u>Age</u> | <u>Occupation</u> | <u>Name</u>       | <u>Age</u> | <u>Occupation</u>    |
|-----------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|----------------------|
| Edward Jones    | 35         | Labourer          | George Howes      | 38         | Publican             |
| John Cartwright | 18         | Tramp             | George Howman     | 20         | Tramp                |
| Robert Hiskith  | 21         | Labourer          | William Jones     | 21         | Shoemaker            |
| James Jones     | 29         | Shoemaker         | John Williams     | 27         | Shoemaker            |
| Edward Williams | 40         | Labourer          | George Mathews    | 19         | Joiner               |
| William Jones   | 30         | Labourer          | Mary Conway       | 21         | Servant              |
| Thomas Carter   | 17         | Mariner           | Patrick Nicholson | 17         | Hawker               |
| Robert Davies   | 71         | Stonemason        | Michael Henry     | 14         | Errand boy           |
| William Evereth | 30         | Labourer          | Elizabeth Meddin  | 35         | Laundress            |
| James Collins   | 18         | Hawker            | William Cunnah    | 51         | Proprietor of Houses |
| Thomas Reeves   | 50         | Groom             | Margaret Parkes   | 27         | Publican             |

# hanes william hughes

Ar 17 Chwefror 1903 cafodd William Hughes, 42 oed, ei grogi yng Ngharchar Rhuthun a chladdwyd ei gorff o fewn ei gyffiniau.

## Cefndir



"Hughes was a native of Denbigh, who had enlisted in the army [Cheshire Regiment] when 18, and had served in foreign parts, including some years in India. Upon his return in 1890 he worked as a collier in Wrexham neighbourhood, and married the deceased woman [Jane Hannah Williams] who was his first cousin, in 1892. There were three or four children by the marriage."

*(Denbighshire Free Press, 21 Chwefror 1903.)*

Yn 1901, wedi marwolaeth un o'u plant, gwahanodd Hughes a'i wraig. Cyflwynodd Mrs Hughes gais i Fwrdd Gwarcheidwaid Wrecsam am arian i gynnal ei meibion. Ar ôl ei erlyn am "family desertion" dedfrydwyd Hughes i dri mis yng Ngharchar Amwythig ar 7 Awst 1902. Er mwyn cynnal ei theulu cymrodd Mrs Hughes waith yn cadw ty i Tom Maddocks, glowr ym Mhwl Glo Rhosddu, gwr gweddw a oedd yn dad i dri o blant.

## Y Drosedd

Rhyddhawyd Hughes ar 6 Tachwedd 1902. Yna llwyddodd i gael "a double-barrel gun, together with two cartridges" ac yn gynnar y bore ar 10 Tachwedd aeth i dy Maddocks:

**"There he called for his wife, and upon her appearance he discharged both barrels into her body. The gun had been fired at such close range that the clothing of the woman caught fire, and her body was charred."**

*(Denbighshire Free Press, 21 Chwefror 1903.)*

## Yr Achos Llys

Ildiodd Hughes ei hun i'r heddlu, a chynhaliwyd yr achos llys ym Mrawdlys Dinbych, Rhuthun, ym mis Ionawr 1903. Dywedwyd fod hanes o salwch meddwl yn y teulu - "a plea of insanity was set up" gan yr amddiffyniad. Er bod Dr Cox, "chief expert of diseases of the mind" yn Ysbyty Gogledd Cymru, Dinbych, wedi datgan fod Hughes yn wallgof, dim ond deng munud a gymrodd y rheithgor i'w gael yn euog o lofruddiaeth:

**"...the condemned man appeared apparently totally devoid of any feelings whatever of the terrible charge overhanging him, and when sentenced to death he coolly and collectedly thanked Sir Justice Bruce, the judge, and said nothing why the sentence should not be passed over him."**

*(Denbighshire Free Press, 21 Chwefror 1903.)*

Ar ôl y prawf trefnwyd llawer o ddeisebau i'w hanfon at yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol, ond

cadarnhawyd y ddedfryd:

**"I am directed to inform you that having carefully considered all the circumstances of the case of William Hughes, now lying under sentence of death in Ruthin prison and having caused special medical inquiry to be made as to prisoner's mental condition the Secretary of State has been unable to find sufficient grounds to justify him in advising His Majesty to interfere with the due course of the law."**

*(Gohebiaeth rhwng yr Ysgrifennydd Gwladol ag Uchel Siryf Sir Ddinbych (Denbighshire Free Press, 21 Chwefror 1903.)*

### ***County Of Denbigh Rules...***

#### ***For the Treatment of Prisoners condemned to Death...***

*In all cases when Sentence of Death has been passed, and Convicts are left for Execution, the Keeper, or Matron, shall immediately on their return to the Gaol from Trial, cause them to be thoroughly searched, and shall remove from them any Articles which may be considered either dangerous or inexpedient for them, to retain in their possession.*

*The Cell or Room to which the Convict is reconducted after being Sentenced to Death, shall invariably on all such occasions be previously examined by the Keeper of the Gaol, who is to satisfy himself of its fitness and safety, and insert the result of his examination in his Journal.*

*In all cases when Sentence of Death has been passed, and the Condemned Prisoner is left for Execution, such Prisoner shall be placed under the constant charge and superintendence of an Officer of the Prison, both by day and night.*

*The foregoing Rules and Regulations have been perused in open Court of General Quarter Sessions, held at Denbigh, in and for the County of Denbigh, on Tuesday the 19th Day of October, in the Year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-Seven, and approved.*

***By the Court,  
JOSEPH PEERS  
Clerk of the Peace.***

*"H.M. Prison, Ruthin [13 February 1903]*

*My dear Mother, - I sincerely hope that you are getting better. Although in great trouble, I am compelled to tell you that I have had no reprieve. I received definite news this morning to this effect. Well, dear mother, the chief and most important thing I have to depend upon is the Lord and his mercy. I will do all in my power to be at peace with my great Judge. I hope to have the pleasure of meeting you in a better world than the present one... I am extremely sorry that I have caused you so much pain and unnecessary trouble. I hope you will pardon me, mother for all I have done. The Lord have mercy upon me, and may He also be a source of strength and joy to you in your old age. With my best and sincerest love to all, - I remain, your son, WILLIAM HUGHES".*

*"H.M. Prison, Ruthin Feb. 14th, 1903.*

*Dear Brother, - Just a short word to inform you that I shall not be reprieved. This information was conveyed to me yesterday morning. All that now remains for me is to endeavour to prepare myself for the terrible ordeal that awaits me. I sincerely hope that God will be merciful to me. I wish to thank you for all coming here to see me and for your kindness. If we do not meet again in this world, I sincerely hope that we shall do so on the other side. It is not my desire to write a long letter to you, and I therefore conclude with the*

*most loving remembrances to you all. God bless you all. Yours truly, your brother, William...*

*Os gwelir fi, bechadur  
Rhyw ddydd ar ben fy nhaith  
Rhyfeddol fydd y canu  
A newydd fydd yr iaith*

*Yn seinio "Buddugoliaeth"  
Am iachawdwiaeth lawn,  
Heb ofni colli'r frwydr  
Y boreu na phrynawn."*

*(Denbighshire Free Press, 21 Chwefror 1903.)*

### **Cell yr un a gondemniwyd i farwolaeth**

**"The prisoner occupies as his condemned cell, two cells which had been knocked into one, and in which were a bed, table, and a stool. The cell was about fifteen yards or so from the scaffold so that he had only but a short distance to walk. In the wall of the prison a hole had been knocked through, which led on to the second storey of the gallows, so that the condemned man would walk direct onto the trap door and have no steps to ascend."**

*(Denbighshire Free Press, 21 Chwefror 1903.)*

### **Y Crogwyr**

**"Great curiosity was evinced both in Denbigh and in Ruthin to see the hangman Billington...From appearances no one would think for a moment the two quiet looking, pale faced persons attired in dark cloth suits, with bowler hats, were the men who would be chief actors in the launching of a human being into eternity... They bore absolutely no luggage - that had previously been forwarded to the prison to await them... Upon arrival at the jail Billington had hardly put his hand to the bell when the ever attentive warder inside opened the door and admitted them... Once inside the two men remained there, attending to every detail associated with the execution of the wretched man Hughes... Billington announced everything to be in perfect order before he retired early. Billington and his brother slept close to the condemned cell in which their prisoner was sleeping his last earthly sleep..."***(Denbighshire Free Press, 21 Chwefror 1903.)*

### **Y Crogi**

Roedd chwech o bobl yn dyst i grogi William Hughes, ar 17 Chwefror, 1903, yn cynnwys yr Uwch Siryf. Adroddwyd mai'r peth olaf a wnaeth Hughes cyn gadael ei gell oedd edrych ar lun o'i deulu.

**"At 8 o'clock on Tuesday morning last, William Hughes, of Denbigh, was executed on the gallows within Ruthin Gaol for the murder of his wife at Rhosrobin, near Wrexham."**

*(Denbighshire Free Press, 21 Chwefror 1903.)*

Cyn belled ag y gwyddwn, William Hughes oedd yr unig un a gafodd ei grogi yng Ngharchar Rhuthun.

# coch bach y bala

"RUTHIN COUNTY GAOL... RULES FOR PRISONERS.

**Every prisoner guilty of any of the following offences will subject himself to punishment:-  
...Attempting to escape, or assisting others to do so, or knowing of any contemplated attempts for escape and not reporting the same directly."**

*(Rheolau Carcharorion Carchar Sirol Rhuthun, tua 1850.)*

Roedd John Jones, a adwaenid fel Coch Bach y Bala yn botsiwr a chanddo ddwylo blewog. Roedd wedi treulio cyfnod ymhob carchar yng Ngogledd Cymru, a llawer yn Lloegr, a chredir ei fod wedi treulio mwy o'i fywyd yn y carchar nag yn rhydd. Ei lysenw oedd yr "Houdini Cymreig" gan ei fod wedi gwneud enw iddo'i hun am ddianc o'r carchar:

**SENSATIONAL ESCAPE FROM RUTHIN PRISON...**

**NOTED CRIMINAL'S LEAP FOR LIBERTY...**

**HOLE CUT IN CELL WALL...**

**IMPROVISED ROPE MADE FROM BED CLOTHES.**

**"John Jones, alias "Little Turpin," and known throughout Wales as 'Coch Bach y Bala', effected his escape from Ruthin Prison on Tuesday morning, in a sensational manner, and at the time of writing is still at large. He gained his liberty as the result of indomitable pluck, great astuteness, and wonderful agility... 'Coch Bach' is regarded by some as a hero; his performance is certainly a daring piece of work. The escape took place between four and five o'clock in the morning, before the majority of the warders entered upon their duties... The daring manner of his escape, and the quickness with which he left behind him the precincts of the prison baffled the gaol authorities and the police."**

*(North Wales Times, 4 Hydref 1913.)*

Wedi pum diwrnod ar ffo, ac yn wan iawn ar ôl byw'n arw ar Ystad Nantclwyd, saethwyd Jones. Bu farw'n ddiweddarach y diwrnod hwnnw o'i anafiadau a sioc, ac fe'i claddwyd ym mynwent eglwys Llanelidan.

Roedd cymaint o ddiddordeb yng Nghoch Bach y Bala fel bod cardiau post yn dangos ei angladd a'r fan lle cafodd ei saethu ar werth i'r cyhoedd.



*Cerdyn post o angladd Coch Bach y Bala.*



*Coch Bach y Bala*

**Enw:** John Jones.

**Ganed:** Ger y Bala, Sir Feirionydd, tua 1853 mwy na thebyg.

**Gwaith:** Briciwr, saer, labrwr, morwr, taniwr.

**Marwolaeth:** Anaf saethu ar ei goes, 60 oed, ar y 6ed o Hydref 1913.

**Cymeriad:** Hanes o ymddygiad troseddol ers yn ifanc iawn; dwyn wyau; dwyn gwrthrychau diwerth o ddim defnydd iddo ef; roedd yn ymffrostio ei fod wedi dwyn pethau hyd yn oed pan nad oedd; tuedd i guddio'r pethau yr oedd wedi'u dwyn mewn gwrychoedd neu waliau a dychwelai i'w casglu'n hwyrach.

**Gweithiwr da.** Gweithiodd fel taniwr ar longau i'r Iseldiroedd a De America rhwng y cyfnodau a dreuliodd mewn carchar. Roedd ei ymddygiad yn y carchar yn dda, fel rheol câi ei ryddhau'n gynnar ar drwydded. Roedd o allu uwch na'r cyffredin - amddiffynnodd ei hun ar nifer o achlysuron. Tuedd i fwynhau cyhoeddusrwydd ac enwogrwydd. Yn chwyrn yn erbyn yr heddlu.

## Crynodeb o'i gofnod troseddol:

**1871:** Cyfnod cyntaf yn y carchar (cosb gorfforol cyn hynny). Potsio:

**Dedfryd:** Mis o garchar.

**1872:** Cafwyd ef yn euog o ddwyn eitemau gan gynnwys cyllell a phwrs gwag yn Llandderfel.

**Dedfryd:** 4 mis o garchar.

**Gorff 1873:** Cafwyd ef yn euog o ddwyn arian ar y 12fed o Chwefror a'r 12fed o Fehefin, cyfanswm o lai na 13 swllt.

**Dedfryd:** 6 blwyddyn o garchar.

**Rhag. 1878:** Cafwyd ef yn euog gyda phump arall am derfysg yn y Bala (taflu cerrig at yr heddlu).

**Dedfryd:** 6 mis o garchar.

**11 Gorff 1879:** Cafwyd ef yn euog yn Llys Chwarter Sir Ddinbych o fod yn ddihiryn ac yn grwydryn' ar ôl iddo gael ei ganfod mewn gardd yng Ngresffordd gyda'r bwriad o gyflawni ffeloniaeth'.

**Dedfryd:** carcharwyd am 10 mis yng ngharchar Caer.

**22 Hyd. 1879:** Arestwyd am ddwyn 15 oriawr ar 14eg Hydref 1879 yn y Bala a Llanfor. Traddodwyd i sefyll ei brawf yn Llys Chwarter Sir Feirionydd.

Anfonwyd i garchar Rhuthun i aros am brawf.

**30 Tach. 1879: DIHANGODD** o'r carchar trwy gerdded allan drwy'r brif fynedfa tra bo'r staff yn cael eu swper. Agorodd ddrws ei gell a 3 arall. Cynigiwyd gwobr o £5. Cafodd ei ddal ar y 3ydd o Ionawr 1880 yn ei wely yn y Swan Inn, Mochdre, ger Bae Colwyn.

**Ion. 1880:** Cafwyd ef yn euog yn Llys Chwarter Dolgellau o ddwyn 15 oriawr a lladrata £44.10s drwy fyrgleriaeth, ac eitemau eraill yn Llanfor ar y 7fed o Ragfyr 1879.

**Dedfryd:** carchar am 14 blynedd (yng ngharchar Pentonville neu Dartmoor mwy na thebyg).

**27 Gorff 1891:** Cafwyd ef yn euog ym Mrawdlys Chelmsford (Essex) o ddau achos o ladrata drwy fyrgleriaeth ar yr 11eg o Fehefin 1891. Ceisiodd ddianc pan gafodd ei arestio. Plediodd yn euog.  
**Dedfryd:** 7 mlynedd o garchar (naill ai yn Portland neu Dartmoor). Rhyddhawyd ar drwydded.

**Ebrill 1900:** Cafwyd ef yn euog ym Mrawdlys Biwmares o ladrata £10 drwy fyrgleriaeth o'r Waterman's Arms, Amlwch. Honnodd i'r heddlu ei gyhuddo ar gam.

**Dedfryd:** 5 mlynedd o garchar (gyda 2 flynedd a 193 o ddyddiau yn weddill o'r ddedfryd flaenorol). Tra'n disgwyl i gael ei drosglwyddo i Dartmoor ceisiodd **DDIANC** o garchar Caernarfon, trwy dorri ei ffrâm wau i faricedio'r drws a thyllu drwy'r llawr.

**Mehefin 1906:** Cafwyd ef yn euog ym Mrawdlys Caernarfon o ladrata ac ymosod yn ffyrnig ar wraig 71 oed o Abererch (yn wreiddiol fe'i cyhuddwyd o geisio ei llofruddio) a dwyn £10. Oherwydd hyd anerchiad y diffynnydd i'r llys yn yr achos traddodi eisteddodd llys yr ynadon tan 3a.m.

**Dedfryd:** carcharwyd am 7 mlynedd yng ngharchar Dartmoor. Rhyddhawyd: Ionawr 1913.

**Mehefin 1913:** Cafwyd ef yn euog yn Llys Chwarter Dolgellau o dorri i mewn i swyddfeydd Jordansy cyfreithwyr yn y Bala. Tra'n disgwyl i sefyll ei brawf **DIHANGODD** o gell heddlu'r Bala yn adeiladau'r sir. Cafodd ei ddal mewn ysgubor 3 milltir i ffwrdd:

**Dedfryd:** 3 blynedd o garchar.

**30 Medi 1913:** Tra yng ngharchar Rhuthun yn disgwyl i gael ei drosglwyddo i Stafford i dreulio'i garchariad **DIHANGODD** trwy dyllu drwy wal y gell, a thrwy ddefnyddio'r rhaff a wnaeth o ddillad ei wely i fynd dros do'r capel, y gegin a'r wal.

**6 Hyd 1913:** Saethwyd gan Reginald Jones-Bateman, 19 oed, ger Nantclwyd Isaf. Bu farw o sioc a gwaedlif o ganlyniad i anaf saethu ar ei goes. Cafodd Jones-Bateman ei gyhuddo o ddyn laddiad yn ddiweddarach, ond gollyngwyd y cyhuddiadau.

**9 Hyd 1913:** Claddwyd ef ym mynwent Llanelidan.

# cerdd Wil

Mae Wil yng ngharchar  
Rhuthyn,  
A'i wedd yn ddigon trist,  
Ei rwyd a'i wn yn gorwedd  
Yn segur yn y gist;  
Y ffesant mwy gaiff lonydd  
Ym mherthi gwyrdd y plas,  
A'r lwyd gwningen redeg  
Yn rhydd drwy'r borfa fras.

Mae Wil yng ngharchar  
Rhuthyn,  
A'i wraig yn malio dim;  
Na'r plant na neb yn hidio,  
Ond "Fflach" y milgi chwim;  
Mae hwn fel hen bererin  
Hiraethus a dihedd,  
Ei dduw ymhell, ac yntau  
Yn methu gweld ei wedd.

Yng nghwr y goedwig neithiwr,  
A'r lloer yn hwylio'r nen,  
Mi welais lygaid gloywon,  
Ac ambell gynffon wen;  
A thybiais glywed lleisiau  
Fel mwyn aberoedd pell  
Yn diolch i'w Chreawdwr  
Fod Wil yn rhwym mewn cell.

*gan I D Hooson*

