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Brenda Chamberlain papers

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Gwybodaeth grynodeb | Summary information

Lleoliad Repository:	Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru = The National Library of Wales
Teitl Title:	Brenda Chamberlain papers
ID:	NLW MS 24065E.
Virtua system control number [alternative]:	vtls006765541
Dyddiad Date:	[1950s]-2013 (dyddiad creu date of creation)
Disgrifiad ffisegol Physical description:	22 ff. Placed in melinex sleeves within ringed box at NLW.
Lleoliad ffisegol Physical location:	ARCH/MSS (GB0210)
Iaith Language:	English
Dyddiadau creu, golygu a dileu Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	
Nodyn Note [generalNote]:	Title based on contents.
Nodyn Note [generalNote]:	Preferred citation: NLW MS 24065E.

Hanes gweinyddol / Braslun bywgraffyddol | Administrative history | Biographical sketch

Nodyn | Note

Writer and artist Brenda Chamberlain (1912-1971) was born and raised in Bangor, Caernarfonshire, and educated privately before embarking on her art studies at the Royal Academy, London in 1931. In 1935 Chamberlain married the artist John Petts. The following year the couple moved to Llanllechid, where they set up the Caseg Press, producing postcards and bookplates, and also the Caseg Broadsheets - featuring poetry by Chamberlain and others - with the poet and writer Alun Lewis. Chamberlain's marriage to Petts ended in 1946. Thereafter she lived briefly in Germany before settling on Bardsey Island, where she wrote and painted until, in 1961, she moved to the Greek island of Idhra. In 1967 Chamberlain returned to Bangor, where she died in 1971. Amongst Chamberlain's major published works are the poetic anthology *The Green Heart* (London, 1958) (dedicated to Karl von Laer), *Tide-Race* (London, 1962), an account of her life on Bardsey, her only novel *The Water Castle* (London, 1964), A

Rope of Vines (London, 1965), chronicling her time on Ydra, Poems With Drawings (London, 1969), and Alun Lewis and the Making of the Caseg Broadsheets (London, 1969).

Natur a chynnwys | Scope and content

A collection of papers, [1950s]-2013, relating to Brenda Chamberlain, comprising three letters, 1955-[? 1964], from Chamberlain on Bardsey Island and Ydra, Greece, to her friend Henry [Mitchell], concerning personal news and her work (ff. 1-6), together with one letter, 27 September 1971, from Joan Rees, Bangor, to Mitchell, belatedly informing him of Chamberlain's death (ff. 7-8); and manuscript fair copies, probably in Chamberlain's hand, [?1950s], of four poems, 'Endymion's Sleep', 'Midwinter', 'Islandman' and 'What the old man said' (ff. 9-13).

The letters discuss Chamberlain's painting 'The Acrobats at Practice', then recently purchased by Mitchell (ff. 1-2 verso), and a funeral on Ydra (ff. 3-4). A version of 'Islandman' was published in *The Green Heart* (London, 1958), p. 27; drafts of 'Midwinter' are NLW MS 21508B, ff. 1-6. Also included are newsletters, 2011-2013, of Cyfeillion Murluniau Brenda Chamberlain ar Enlli / The Friends of the Brenda Chamberlain Bardsey Murals (ff. 15-22) and a cutting from *The Times*, 21 September 1955, p. 3 (f. 14).

Nodiadau | Notes

Nodiadau teitl | Title notes

Ffynhonnell | Immediate source of acquisition

Mr Peter Lockyer; Coventry; Purchase; July 2014; 006765541.

Trefniant | Arrangement

Arranged at NLW as follows: letters; poems; printed matter.

Cyfyngiadau ar fynediad | Restrictions on access

Readers consulting modern papers in the National Library of Wales are required to abide by the conditions set out in information provided when applying for their Readers' Tickets, whereby the reader shall become responsible for compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998 in relation to any processing by them of personal data obtained from modern records held at the Library.

Amodau rheoli defnydd | Conditions governing use

Usual copyright laws apply. Information regarding the ownership of Brenda Chamberlain copyright can be found at <http://tyler.hrc.utexas.edu/> (viewed October 2014).

Disgrifiadau deunydd | Related material

See also NLW, Brenda Chamberlain manuscripts.

Nodiadau eraill | Other notes

- **Statws cyhoeddiad | Publication status:** Published
 - **Dynodwr sefydliad | Institution identifier:** Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru = The National Library of Wales
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Pwyntiau mynediad | Access points

- Mitchell, H. M. (Henry M.) -- Correspondence (pwnc) | (subject)
- Chamberlain, Brenda -- Correspondence (pwnc) | (subject)
- Mural painting and decoration -- Conservation and restoration -- Wales -- Bardsey Island. (pwnc) | (subject)
- Bardsey Island (Wales) (pwnc) | (subject)
- Hydra Island (Greece) (pwnc) | (subject)