

Hafod Y Gwynt

Notes for Guests

Croeso i Cymru - Welcome to Wales

Please read these notes, they are important. Sorry they are long, but it is a big house!

SITUATION

Hafod y Gwynt is situated near the junction of the A4086/A498, next door but about 150 metres from the Pen y Gwryd Hotel, at grid ref. 661558. The original Victorian cottage was the coaching house for the Pen y Gwryd Hotel. The house was extended in the 1920s by Mr. Arthur Lockwood and his wife Florence, who were owners of the hotel; he was the past Superintendent of Cwm Dyli Hydro Electric Power Station in Nant Gwynant, built in 1906. He had settled in the area from Yorkshire and his favourite hobby was fishing, although he was a keen walker and mountaineer. He created the lake opposite the house, (using parts from a First World War German submarine in the dam), and laid out the gardens, which are now being restored. The grounds also include earthworks of a Roman marching camp, and a scheduled World War 11 blockhouse. We like to think that the house now feels and is furnished and equipped as a family home and ask you to treat it accordingly.

CONTACTING THE OWNER

The owner is: Harvey Lloyd, 37 Stockleys Rd., Headington, Oxford, OX3 9RH Tel. 01865 750067 or Hafod y Gwynt 01286 872456 (private phone in the house), email harveyrichlloyd@gmail.com. Sadly he cannot live in the house all the time! Mr. Lloyd usually visits the property about every fortnight, staying in the flatlet accessed from the kitchen courtyard. Mrs Jodie Midwinter cleans the house, and lives in Llanberis, 07511 844 485 and can tackle minor problems if Mr. Lloyd is not available. **The house no longer has a pay telephone, but now has Wi fi, BT – 7RCP73, the password is ULNRaD6MhQbXen.** Note the Wi-Fi is not strong in the dining area, better to use in the lounge or conservatory. Mobile phones generally do not operate at the house location, but things outside are getting better, and worth a try!

THE HOUSE AND YOUR BOOKING

Bookings are normally Friday to Friday, direct via the house website and booking form, although with *Airbnb* bookings of a minimum of 3 days is accepted. Please do not arrive before 4 00 pm. Departure by 10 00am on last day. We do also take weekend short break bookings, generally out of season, please ask for details.

FIRE PRECAUTIONS AND EMERGENCY EXIT

We do not allow smoking upstairs in the bedrooms and, although we do not insist on the house being no smoking, **with present legislation we do not think that guests should smoke in the house, it is acceptable in the conservatory.** All the rooms have fire doors and door closers on them, so they should not be blocked open. Smoke detectors are fitted throughout the house, together with carbon monoxide detectors. Please do not turn them off. **For your safety on your arrival at the house, you should delegate one adult to check that they are all operating correctly – spare batteries are kept in a drawer in the dresser in the dining room.** All members of your party/group (including children) on arrival should familiarise themselves with fire exits and escape routes from the upstairs bedrooms. Note there is no emergency lighting in the house. Note that a muster point should be designated outside

the house as an assembly place in an emergency. There are fire extinguishers situated in the dining room and on the upstairs corridor, please do not let children play with them.

SECURITY

Please also be security conscious, remember there are thieves in Snowdonia too, lock your cars outside the house, and ensure that all lights are turned off and doors and windows are properly secured when you leave the house. At the end of the visit all windows should be secured, and the key can be left on the key-hooks inside the door or posted back to Mr Lloyd.

SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS

Sorry we do not provide bedlinen or make up beds for visitors, our prices reflect this.

Room 1 - 2 x 3' single beds.

Room 2 - 1 x 4'6" double bed.

Room 3 - 1 x 4'6" double, king size duvet, 2 x 2'6" bunk beds, + 2'6 folding bed by arrangement. En-suite bathroom. A cot is available also but needs assembling. If used, please unassembled it before leaving.

Room 4 - 1 x 4'6" double, king size duvet, 2 x 2'6" bunk beds. En-suite shower room.

Because of Covid and the lack of persons available to make up the beds we do not supply pillows cases, duvets covers and sheets, note separate instructions re covid. Spare blankets are provided; but please **bring top and bottom sheets / duvet covers and pillowcases** for each bed to be used. Also there is a high chair in the dining room. We do not supply towels.

THE KITCHEN

Cooking is by gas hob/electric oven cooker and microwave. An **Aga cooker is electrically operated and can be used by visitors; but it needs about 6 hours to come up to heat, let Harvey know if you intend to use it.** There is microwave cooker, a four-slice toaster and a Kenwood Chef and a Magimix food processor, together with a fully equipped kitchen and a dishwasher. There is an American type frig/freezer in the kitchen which dispenses chilled water and ice cubes, a 5 litres of mineral water from a supermarket will generally keep it going all week. There is an upright frig freezer outside the utility room, which can be used.

WATER SUPPLY & SEWAGE

The house has a private water supply and draws its water from the stream at the top end of the garden, make children aware of this. The water is filtered and purified by units in the utility room, visitors will not have any need to service them. If there is a power cut (unlikely) water should be boiled. If the central heating is not on, hot water can be obtained by using the immersion heater; the switch is in the airing cupboard to the right on the upstairs corridor. The house sewage operates through a septic tank system. It will not cope with children's nappies and other sizable items.

ELECTRICITY

The electric meter is through the door opposite the front door (the cloakroom) and takes £1 & £2 coins.

The house also has 16 solar panels on the roof, so it benefits from free electricity in the daytime when the sun shines. It operates automatically.

On arrival the metre should show £22 credit, when you leave can you return it to this figure. The electric Aga if used will cost about £30 per week. The electrics are controlled by a modern RCD unit for safety reasons. If the unit trips, instructions are beside the meter. Please keep a torch handy!

Important: In the winter months when the outside temperature is below freezing point it is important that, when you leave, there is credit left in the electric meter to ensure the electricity does not go off when the house is empty. The heating/plumbing system is protected against frost but needs electricity to ensure that things do not freeze up.

HEATING

Hafod y Gwynt is in a mountain area (about 800 ft above sea level) and evenings, even in early summer, can be chilly. Bring a jumper to wear! Please ask the owner before your stay if you wish the gas-fired central heating to be switched on; a charge of £55 a week, (not AB&B) is made for central heating (which is powered by LP gas), hot water is always available. **Please note that the main thermostatic control for the heating is situated on the wall behind the lounge door, the heating can be switched on or off by using this, if it is turned right down the heating will not come on; check this if the heating is not on – the previous tenants may have turned it down.** Also note that the radiators have thermostatic valves on them, room temperature can be adjusted using these. **The emergency number for gas leaks is 01244 530391.** There are electric heaters in all main rooms, electric blankets on all the beds except the bunks and a multi fuel stove in the lounge, for which fuel (wood & coal) is included in the letting cost. Instructions for lighting it is in the house (bring a packet of firelighters to help), and extra wood in the conservatory, the wood store and garden. If you have small children, there is a large fire guard which should be put in place. It gets very hot when it is lit. The stove is modern and a little sophisticated, follow the instructions! ***Always ensure that the door of the ash pan is properly closed using the spring retaining clip.*** The coalbunker is outside the conservatory. There is a dehumidifier in the cloakroom, which will act as a drying room for wet outside clothing.

CLOTHES WASHING AND LAUNDRY

A modern washing machine (powder needed) and electric clothes dryer are provided in the utility room, together with a clothes line in the garden, when it is sunny, stored in the conservatory with clothes pegs, socket in ground near bird table.

FACILITIES LOCALLY

Tourist Information Offices: Caernarfon 01286 870765. Betws y Coed 01690 710426.

Walking from the house: There are many, many short walks that can be done from the house, ask Harvey for a suggested list. There is open access to the hills but please don't climb the stone walls, find a stile or gate and keep dogs under control. Search out *Martin's* and *Nancy's* seats, both across the road. Bring wellies with you and walk around the lake. Visit and explore the four World War 11 block houses adjacent to the house. Walk down the old road towards the Hydro Electric Power Station. Walk up the newly established footpath to Pen y Pass and have a cup of tea in the café or the youth hostel.

Longer Walking: The house is a Mecca for mountain walking. Lots of mountain walks start from the doorstep, including Snowdon, the Glyder and Moel Siabod; valley walk to Llyn Gwynant and Capel Curig, note it is possible to walk up the newly created footpath to Pen y Pass where only parking places for cars booked in advance are available. In the summer a fine walk can be taken to Dolwyddelan, where lunch can be taken in the pub, and the return route back to Capel Curig, a bus will return the walkers to Hafod y Gwynt, (details 01286 672255). It is worth purchasing the local 1:25000 OS map 'Snowdon' shows the footpaths, although there are copies in the house.

Orienteering: Two fixed courses in the Gwydir Forest; maps from Betws-y-Coed Tourist Information Centre. Also a course based at the Forestry Commission site in Beddgelert.

Mountain Biking. Gwydir Forest is a very popular centre as well as is the Coed y Brenin Forestry centre, near Dolgellau (about 50 minutes' drive). A fantastic mountain bike centre has been set up at Blaenau Ffestiniog.

Paragliding: Moel Berfedd, adjacent to the house and the slopes of the Glyder are popular with paragliders in the season - both in easy walking distance (note restricted in lambing season).

Plas y Brenin National Mountaineering Outdoor Centre at Capel Curig 01690 720214 offer taster sessions on rock climbing (indoor climbing wall), canoeing, mountain biking and other mountain activities. It also has a very pleasant lounge bar open to the public.

Rock Climbing: The nearest main centres are the Llanberis Pass and the Ogwen Valley about 20 minutes' drive west or east. **A group with a varied programme of activities is** www.shaggysheepwales.com 01559 363911.

Ropes & Ladders: Try this for a bit of fun & excitement, (it can be expensive!) children, families, or adults, 01286 872310. Also note <https://www.zipworld.co.uk/> <https://www.zipworld.co.uk/> loads of fun and excitement.

Swimming: In Llyn Lockwood, or the larger Llyn Cwm ffynnon (follow stream up hill), or over the ridge in front of the house Llynau Diwaunydd (it's a good walk!). Swimming pools at Llanrwst, Bangor or Caernarfon Sports Centre, with plenty of lakes around for wild swimming.

Sea Fishing: An interesting and rewarding day can be spent sea fishing. A range of trips are available, 01248 810379 or 810251 Strada Sea Fishing for details. They operate out of Beaumaris.

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

There is a wealth of tourist attractions in the area, including castles, mines, museums and narrow-gauge railways; details in the folder in the house. **Sygm Copper Mine** (10 mins. drive) is close by and worth visiting, on the left side of the A498 road before Beddgelert. **The National Trust** and Penrhyn **Castle**, Bangor is one of their showpiece attractions, **Craflwyn Hall** in Nant Gwynant (10 mins. drive A498) has some very pleasant walks laid out in the grounds and nearby hills, and **Bodnant Gardens** in the Conwy Valley are world famous. The **Welsh Highland Heritage Railway** is one of the better Great Little Trains of Wales visits at Porthmadog, 01766 513402 or www.whr.co.uk, sat nav LL49 9DY. Not to be missed visit (brill when it's raining too!) is the **National Slate Museum** in Llanberis, 01286 870630, www.museumwales.ac.uk which is open throughout the year.

Wild swimming: for those who enjoy this sport the opportunities are endless; check the web.

THE HOUSE GARDENS

The extensive gardens contain streams and ponds and are very slowly being restored. For many years we have endeavoured to return it from the wilderness that it was. Please warn children about the danger of water, it is about two feet deep in places, and supervise small children, but given these limitations the garden can be a big adventure playground for youngsters. Take care on the slate paths and steps, which will be extremely slippery when wet. Please don't block the front gate open, keep the **gates closed** - the sheep love to eat the plants and they are expensive to replace (the plants, not the sheep!!) Ensure that they are closed when you leave the property. We do have a small portable barbeque available; please ask if you think you may use it. Remember that midges can be a nuisance in the summer, bring anti midge cream if you intend to barbeque or sit out in the garden in the evening.

Note also that a copse is being created opposite the Pen y Gwryd hotel, with a viewpoint and seat; please feel free to walk where you wish. The hotel is closed at present to non-residents.

THE LAKE

Lockwood's Lake over the road belongs to Hafod y Gwynt and contains native brown trout and some stocked trout. Canoeing and Fly-fishing is available to guests; (you will need a fishing licence). Canoes can be used on it as can wild swimming. The open season for brown trout fishing on still waters is 20 March until 17 October, rivers are 3 March until 30 September. Minimum taking size limit is 8". Please record any fish caught in the visitors' book. At times other people may fish the lake.

PLANTS

Please water the plants in the conservatory and house - their future depends on you! There is a hosepipe available. The birds also appreciated their feeders being refilled, seed in the conservatory.

RECYCLING AND RUBBISH DISPOSAL

Please note that in domestic situations it is a fact that 80% of household waste can be recycled, although this figure is rarely achieved. We are very much in favour of recycling cans, plastics, glass, waste food, food packaging, cardboard and newspaper etc., given the threat of global warming. Could guests please make every effort to collect and save paper, and wash bottles, plastics (any containers + bags) & cans? There is a unit for this set in the fitted kitchen units. Waste food is also collected weekly. We now have collections as below. Please, please no recycling in the green wheelie bin, this is for rubbish only! The brown wheelie bin is for garden waste.

We like to think and operate Hafod y Gwynt as a Green Centre. However I mention one of the problems that modern times are thrusting on us - too much packaging and too few rubbish collections? We now have a Green (refuse) and a Brown (garden) wheelie bin & also a recycling plastic trolley, together with two waste food caddies for collection, in the enclosed area outside the front of the conservatory. A calendar on the sideboard in the kitchen shows which is a brown week and which is a green week. Garden refuse (the brown bin) is collected fortnightly on Monday morning and the Refuse, the Green wheelie bin, is collected on Thursday morning, three-weekly, generally **early about 7 am**, and to further complicate matters the waste food and recycling is collected weekly! Please put **outside the gate, all containers on Sunday or Wednesday evenings**. Recycle everything that is re-cyclable! A small waste food bin is provided, in the kitchen, the larger one outside, this must be lined with corn/starch compostable bags available in one of the kitchen drawers/ units. The refuse collectors will not pick up extra black plastic bin bags if the wheelie bin is full. The collectors only pick up every three weeks so recycle all that is possible & condense things down; life is not easy in the countryside! Please separate all recyclable items into the boxes provided. When empty please bring into the garden the bins etc. from the pavement before you leave.

BREAKAGES

We do not ask guests to pay an upfront deposit in respect of damage and breakages but ask and do need to know when any accidents occur.

SERVICES

Bus: Hafod y Gwynt is on the Llandudno-Llanrwst-Porthmadog-Llanberis bus route, there is a bus stop outside the house. In summer school holidays period a very good service passes the house: buses also run to Llandudno Junction, Beddgelert, Porthmadog and Caernarfon. Extensive bus information from the Gwynedd CC web site, timetables on line or 0871 200 22 33 or 01286 672255, be environmentally friendly and use the buses! It is convenient for organising linier walks through the hills. There is normally a bus timetable on the sideboard in the dining room.

Cashpoints: The Spar shop in Llanberis has a cash machine and operates Switch.

Post box: Opposite the Pen y Gwryd Hotel.

Public telephone: In the Pen y Gwryd Hotel (opening hours only), or at the rear of the Joe Browns Shop in Capel Curig. Mobile phones operate via the wifi, and sometimes operate outside but are OK in Capel Curig.

Shopping: Village shop at Capel Curig is now closed. Post Office and small Spar supermarket in Llanberis, Betws y Coed and Beddgelert. Safeway's, Morison's, Tesco's etc. in Bangor, Porthmadog and Caernarfon. Supermarkets do deliver to the house. The Ice Cream shops in Llanberis & Beddgelert are recommended! Petrol is available in Betws y Coed 24 hours, and on the main road to Caernarfon, beyond Llanberis.

Eating out: Most of the pubs in the area do quite good bar meals and children are welcome. When open the Pen y Gwryd Hotel does not serve bar meals except at lunch time, but they do have a dining room and serve a four-course meal, which is an OK and has to be booked for about £30 00. In Llanberis there is an excellent café called Pete's Eats (eat@petes-eats.co.uk) not to be missed! Also, similar are Y Caban, in Brynrefail 01286 685500, (www.caban-cyf.org) is worth searching out, as too is the Siabod

café in Capel Curig. We publish an info sheet giving more details; please ask for one if you intend to eat out. Capel Curig has three hotels that all provide evening meals.

Key holders: If you have any problem with the key/access to the house, the following people hold keys; Mrs Rosie Lloyd 01286 672547, Mrs Iola Owen 01286 871457, Mr Ken Jones 01286 870721.

COMMENTS

We do hope you have a lovely stay and enjoy your holiday in the house. Your comments on your visit would be helpful - please feel free to write in the visitors' book comments about your stay or ideas that future guests may find useful.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS Harvey 01865 750067

Doctor, in Llanberis 01286 678999, NHS direct 0845 4647, out of hours service, 0300 123 55 66

Mountain Rescue 999

Police in Llanberis 01286 870222

Central Heating problems, boiler problems, Mathew Nottingham, 0787 616 7799.

Electric Supply problems at times of supply failure, i.e. stormy weather 0845 2722424

Electrical problems, Matthew Lee Scott, Matthews Electrical 01248 673218 / 07921 159 507, or Robert J Plaister, Ty Gwyn, Waunfawr, Caernarfon, LL55 4AZ. 01286 650070, mob. 0776 880 9996.

Gas Supply / problems Camgas 01244 520551

Gas, Emergency number for gas leaks is 01244 530391

Plumbing: Ian Merridell, Merry Plumbing 01286 650779 Mob. 07788 742469.

T V problems Criccieth TV, 01766 522 344 or Aerial Ade 01758 613973