

Y GLUDERAU

The ridge line of Y Gluderau is not really breached by any easy passes, most of the the passes are very high. Bwlch y Brecan lies on the Priest's Path a path taken by priests to get to Nant Peris; the original Llanberis from Abergwyngregyn. The Miner's Track over Bwlch Tryfan and past Gluder Fach allowed men from Ogwen to get to the copper mines of Cwm Glaslyn and Llydaw on Yr Wyddfa.

Bwlch Blaen Cwm Idwal SH 642587

The name references its location at the *blaen* 'head, end' of Cwm Idwal. One old name in this area was Trigyfylchau, although this could also apply to the cliff of Clogwyn y Geifr. Edward Lhuyd mentions (c.1694) a botanical excursion '.... near or one of the Tregvylchau or Treiglfulchau on the north-western side of the Gluder.'. Note that Y Gluder Fawr and Y Gluder Fach were considered one mountain at the time.

In his book *A Tour Through a Part of North Wales* (1798) J Evans places the name firmly between Llyn Cŵn and Llyn Idwal. If it is the name for the a pass or passes, then *tri* 'three' + *cyf*- 'a strengthening prefix' + *bylchau* 'passes' could fit in here. In looking up the cwm from Llyn Idwal, it would have seemed that there were three ways up to the top; Twll Du in the centre and sloping paths up to the left and another one heading up right.

Bwlch Caseg Fraith SH 670584

Caseg 'mare' + *braith* 'mottled, piebald', the feminine form of *brith*. There were quite a few 'beliefs' regarding the worth or ability of a horse just by looking at their colour; for example, it was not considered a good idea to buy a horse with four white feet.

Bwlch Goleuni SH 697582

One wonders if the term *goleuni* 'light, bright, illumination' refers to the common occurrence of the brightness seen through the pass under the clouds. Bwlch Oleuni 1790 Penrhyn Manuscripts, Thomas Pennant also mentions the pass as Bwlch Oleuni in his *Tours of Wales*.

Bwlch Melynwyn SH 608611

Melynwyn is the term for a creamy white colour, straw coloured or even a pale yellow; one could link it to the colour of tussocky mountain grasses in the winter. Bulchmellonen 1269 Litterie Wallie.

Bwlch Tryfan SH 661589

This is the name of the col that separates the mountain named Tryfan from the mass of Gluder Fach. It appears as a name on the OS 6" 1888-1915 series of maps; however, it is difficult to know how old this name is. This pass was certainly used by miners heading for the copper mines on Yr Wyddfa to skirt round and down to Pen y Gwryd and then up to the mines above Llyn Llydaw.

Bwlch y Brecan SH 625616

Breacan 'a coarse woolen cloth', linked to the Irish *breac* 'tartan, plaid'; however, in his *Archeologia Britannica* (1707) Edward Lhuyd wrote: '*Bryccan, A blanket. [Brec in the language of the upland denotes Brith 'mottled']*'. There was a track over this pass named after the priest(s) who would have to cross it, coming from Abergwyngregyn, to hold services in Nant Peris (the original Llanberis); one can still see the remnants of the Priest's Path in the landscape today.

Bwlch y Cywion SH 627602

The *cywion* 'chicks' can refer to the young of any animal, the foals of mountain ponies in particular. Bwlch-y-cywion 1838 OS.

Bwlch y Ddwy Glyder SH 650581

This is the col between the *dwy* 'two' + *cludair, cluder* 'heap, pile'. This is a relatively modern name, as at least up to the early 18th Century, as Y Gluder Fach and Y Gluder Fawr were not thought of as separate mountains. On the OS 6" 1840-80 the name of the stream leading South is Bwlch Dwyglydion, this name is still there on the 6" 1888-1915 maps; however, on the same map, the name Bwlch y Ddwy-Glyder, is seen leading down the ridge of what is now Y Gribin.

Bwlch y Gwryd/Pen y Gwryd SH 660557

There are a large number of options due to the number of possible links in the elements that make up the term gwrid/gwryd. The likelihood is that the name is derived from a *gwrid* 'red, ruddy; orange' colouring. Other possibilities for the toponym include, a derivation from the personal name Gwryd, a link to the *gwryd* 'dawn'; or, a corruption of a possible *cwr* 'border, edge, limit' + *-id/-yd?* Otherwise there could be a link to the river Nant y Gwryd, reflecting the presence or similarity to a corrupted *cored/gored* 'fishwier' link. Though there is still much support for a *gwrhyd* 'fathom' and a connection to the Cai of Arthurian legends, by those who believe.

Bwlch y Gwyddyl SH 654553

Gwyddyl is a variant form of the word *gwyddel* 'Irishman'; though, one must consider options such as a corruption of *gwyddwal* 'thicket, wild thorny place'; or, *gwyddel* 'wilderness' as being the origin of the name. The word is based on *gwydd* 'savage, wild, uncultivated land. In the past, a link has been postulated for the site, as being the place where a legendary battle occurred.

Bwlch y Marchlyn SH 619615

Named after the lake Llyn Marchlyn; *merchlyn* was one old corrupted form for the name of the bwlch.