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LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD

5th - 10th JULY, 1960

It is agreed that we shall not supply any film to any broadcasting organisation other than the British Broadcasting Corporation for broadcast transmissions to audiences in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland during the week in which the Eisteddfod is taking place.

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(signed) GRACE FIELD
NEWS EDITOR

Dated: 14th June, 1960

To: H. Wynder, Esq.,
N. Roper, Esq.

PLAS NEWYDD

Plas Newydd was built in 1584, and was taken over by the Ladies of Llangollen towards the end of 1778.

The "Ladies", Lady Eleanor Charlotte Butler and Miss Sarah Ponsonby, were both from the Irish aristocracy.

Lady Eleanor was a sister to John Butler, 17th Earl of Ormonde and Sarah Ponsonby was second cousin to the 3rd Earl of Bessborough. The Ponsonbys had been confidential servants to Queen Victoria, King Edward VII and King George V.

The "Ladies" ran away from Ireland together, because they were unhappy, and made the house famous by collecting the most wonderful carvings. The exterior of the house has a mass of rich oak carvings. The pillars supporting the Porch are from Bedsteads of King Charles I's period.

The Lions on the seats were gifts from the Duke of Wellington. Carved on the front door, which came from Valle' Crucis Abbey, are the four evangelists and printed above are the words : "Watch For You Know Not The Hour".

The windows on either side of the porch are carved with representations of Eastern Ceremonies, Heraldic, and other devices, principally the gift of the late Duchess of St. Albans.

The West Gable has a Gothic oriel window over which is a carving of St. Dunstan.

The entrance hall is a mass of rich oak carvings. On the left is a large square design with a diamond centrepiece. This is the canopy from an old oak bedstead. The panels mostly from oak chests which line the ceiling and stairway, have one date as early as 1192.

The Oak Room has a carved oak seat from a Church in Spanish Place, London, and the grotesque face at the top is a Chinese mask.

The "Ladies" initials over the fire-place EB - CP 1814 are in memory of the second visit of the Duke of Wellington in the year previous to the Battle of Waterloo. The leather on the walls is Spanish.

Facing the oak room is the Ante Room, which was the Ladies Dining Room. The door is covered with very fine carvings, the jambs and lintels being of Queen Elizabeth's period. The main panel is the Royal Coat of Arms with the usual Latin inscription and includes the French Crest. The stained glass in the window was to hide the kitchen. The walls are lined with stamped leather in floral design. There are two old Spinning Wheels in this room.

The ebony hand rail to stairs was fixed by General Yorke in preparation for a visit of Queen Victoria.

The landing and upper staircase are lined with Polychrome leather.

The panel on the left of the window at the top of the stairs is inscribed Charles II, King of England, Scotland, Ireland, 1673, and hanging on the wall of the landing are copies of the warrants of execution of King Charles I. A.D. 1648 and Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots 1587. Here you enter Miss Ponsonby's bedroom which has some very early stained glass windows, a powdering closet and a carved oak fireplace. The door is fitted with a "Drop Bolt" controlled from the bed.

Lady Butlers Bedroom has a unique Vandyke Freeze made mostly from fragments of carved panels ingeniously fixed forming a pattern of grotesque figures and sunflower decorations. Over the fireplace is the Coat of Arms of Duke of Leinster and the window has some very good stained glass.

The walls are covered with Florentine style brocade hangings. The whole of the door leading from the stairs is carved.

The State Room leads from Lady Butler's Bedroom. When the Ladies lived here it was the same as the Library, but was altered to its present style by General Yorke. This was the room the Duke of Wellington slept in. The Ladies used it to store papers and to retire to when they did not wish to be seen by visitors who came to look at the house.

OVERSEAS GROUPS ARRIVAL LIST.

<u>TIME</u>	<u>STATION</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
<u>Sunday 3rd</u>			
8.59 p.m.	RUABON STATION	SWEDEN, Mariakoren	29
<u>Monday 4th</u>			
7.37 a.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	FRANCE, St. Briec	21
5.00 p.m. (approx)	BY COACH	SWEDEN, Ojebokoren	37
7.05 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	GERMANY, Bielfeld	39
9.00 p.m. (approx)	BY COACH	NORWAY, Bergen	65
10.41 p.m.	RUABON STATION	ITALY, Tartini	39
<u>Tuesday 5th</u>			
7.37 a.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	BELGIUM, Tist-en-Triene	20
7.37 a.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	CZECHOSLOVAKIA	35
7.37 a.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	HUNGARY, Workers' Choir	70
7.37 a.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	SPAIN, Valencia	87
7.37 a.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	SWITZERLAND, Alpina	15
7.37 a.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	SWITZERLAND, Volkstangrupe	19
7.37 a.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	SWITZERLAND, Geneva	25
2.05 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	AUSTRIA, Waltharia	43
2.05 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	SWEDEN, Uppsala	20
2.05 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	U. S. A.	29
2.05 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	MALTA	70
3.00 p.m.	BY COACH	GERMANY, Sorbischer	27
3.43 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	BRITTANY	20
3.43 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	DENMARK, Hillerod	19
3.43 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	DENMARK, Nissum	20
3.43 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	FRANCE, Lyon	23
3.43 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	HOLLAND, Jellendoorn	20
3.43 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	HOLLAND, Inter Nos	45
3.43 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	HOLLAND, Schevingen	36
3.43 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	SWEDEN, Stockholm	26
3.43 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	SWITZERLAND, Interlaken	16
3.43 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	YUGOSLAVIA, Proleter	32
Approx 4.00 p.m.	BY COACH	HOLLAND, Vrouwen Koor	30
7.05 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	AUSTRIA, Innsbruck	45

<u>TIME</u>	<u>STATION</u>	<u>GROUP</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>
<u>Tuesday 5th</u>			
7.05 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	GERMANY, Mindener	50
9.50 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	PORTUGAL, Braga	25
?	BY COACH	FRANCE, Cherbourg	25
?	BY COACH	GERMANY, Osnabruck	40
?	BY OWN CARS	SWEDEN, Enskede	17
10.41 p.m.	RUABON STATION	TURKEY	48
<u>Wednesday 6th</u>			
7.37 a.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	ITALY, Gazzotti	66
7.37 a.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	SPAIN, Uret T.T.	5
<u>Thursday 7th</u>			
7.05 p.m.	LLANGOLLEN STATION	ITALY, Pisana	50