

# Grŵp Hanes Deganwy - History of Deganwy Group

## Comander Harold Lowe a'r *Titanic*

Yn ein cyfarfod diwethaf cawsom sgwrs arbennig o ddi-ddorol gan Capten John Lowe o Ddeganwy am

hanes ei Daid, Comander Harold Lowe. Roedd Comander Lowe yn 5ed Swyddog ar y *Titanic* ac roedd y sgwrs yn cyd-fynd a chanmlwyddiant y trychineb ofnadwy pan suddodd y llong a phan gollodd cymaint o bobl eu bywydau. Yn ôl Capten Lowe, gyndyn iawn oedd ei Daid i siarad am ei ran yn y digwyddiad.

Cafodd Comander Lowe ei brentisiaeth fel llongwr ar y badau llechi oedd yn hwylio ar Fôr Iwerddon. Badau â hwyliau a rigin sgwâr oedd y rhain ac yn ddiweddarach mi fu'n hwylio arnynt 'Rownd yr Horn' i Chile, i Dde Affrig ag i Awstralia. Yna daeth oes y llongau stêm a bu'n hwylio gydag Elder Dempster cyn ymuno a White Star. Cafodd ei alw i ymuno a'r *Titanic* ym Melfast ac un o'r pethau cyntaf a wnaeth oedd sicrhau bod y badau achub mewn cyflwr iawn. Hwylodd y llong am Southampton ar 2il o Ebrill ac yna ar y 10fed cychwynwyd am Cherbourg ac yna i Queenstown yn Iwerddon. Ar y 14eg Ebrill fe drosglwyddwyd neges gan y Capten yn dweud bod yr ymarfer lansio badau achub wedi cael ei ganslo.

Mae'r hanes am wroldeb a dewrder 5ed Swyddog Lowe ar yr adeg wedi cael ei gofnodi mewn llawer i lyfr a hanesyn a bydd ffilm *Titanic* yn cael ei ddangos unwaith eto yn ystod y gwanwyn - mewn 3D!! Yn y ffilm fe bortreadwyd 5ed Swyddog Lowe gan Ioan Gruffydd.

O ganlyniad i bob trychineb o'r math yma, mae gwersi yn cael eu dysgu. Yn yr achos yma fe gyflwynwyd amryw o reolau diogelwch newydd, un ohonynt yn ymwneud a'r nifer a maint y badau achub sydd ar longau fel bod yna ddigon o le i bawb arnynt os bo angen. Hefyd daeth rheolau

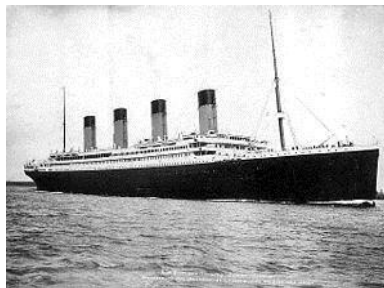
## Commander Harold Lowe and *Titanic*

*At our last meeting we had an enthralling talk by Captain John Lowe about his grandfather,*

*Commander Harold Lowe. Commander Lowe was 5<sup>th</sup> Officer on the Titanic and the talk was about the forthcoming hundredth anniversary of the terrible tragedy of the sinking of the ship when so many people lost their lives. According to Capotain Lowe, his grandfather was very reluctant to talk about the event.*



*Commander Lowe served his apprenticeship on the square riggers carrying slate across the Irish Sea. Later he sailed them round Cape Horn to Chile, to South Africa and Australia. Then came the age of the steamships and he joined Elder Dempster before joining the White Star Line. He was called to join the Titanic at Belfast and one of his first duties was to check the lifeboats. The ship sailed for Southampton on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1912 and then on the 10<sup>th</sup> she set sail for Cherbourg and then Queenstown in Ireland. It is recorded that the ship's Captain ordered that the lifeboat drill to be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> April had been cancelled.*



*The bravery and heroism of 5<sup>th</sup> Officer Lowe has been well documented in many books and articles and the film Titanic is to be shown again in the spring, in 3D!! In the film, 5<sup>th</sup> Officer Lowe is portrayed by Ioan Gruffydd.*

*As a result of tragedies of this sort, lessons are learnt. In this case several new regulations were introduced, one of which related in particular to the number and size of lifeboats on board ships so that could accommodate all the people on board if*

newydd, un ohonynt yn ymwneud a'r nifer a maint y badau achub sydd ar longau fel bod yna ddigon o le i bawb arnynt os bo angen. Hefyd daeth rheolau newydd i rym i sicrhau bod telegraffau radio yn cael sylw ar bob awr o'r dydd a'r nos fel y gallai llongau cydgysylltu a'i gilydd a bod o gymorth mewn argyfwng. Yn 1914 fe sefydlwyd y Patrôl Rhewfryn Rhyngwladol.

Yn ôl i'r môr aeth 5ed Swyddog Lowe ar ôl y trychineb, ac meddai Capoten Lowe 'am nad oedd yn gwybod unrhyw waith arall'. Aeth ymlaen i ennill ei bapurau fel Comander. Ymsefydlodd ym mhentref ei enedigaeth yn Neganwy wedi iddo ymddeol a bu'n weithgar iawn yn y gymuned, fel Cynghorydd ar Gyngor Bwrdeistref Conwy, yn Warden Cyrchoedd Awyr ac yn Warden yn Eglwys yr Holl Saint.

*required. New regulations were also introduced to ensure that wireless telegraphs were manned both by day and night so that ships could communicate with each other in the event of an emergency. Also, by day and night so that ships could communicate with each other in the event of an emergency. Also, in 1914, the International Ice Patrol was established.*

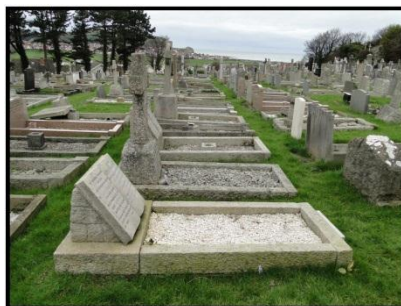
*5<sup>th</sup> Officer Lowe returned to sea after the tragedy because, as Captain Lowe said, 'he didn't know any other job'. He went on to gain his papers to be a Commander. After retiring, he returned to Deganwy, the village of his birth where he was very much involved in community life. He became a Councillor on Conwy Borough Council, an Air Raid Warden for the village and a Church Warden at All Saint's Church.*



Mae'r Grŵp Hanes yn cydnabod dewrder Comander Lowe ac mi fydd plac i gofio amdano yn cael ei ddadorchuddio ar y tŷ lle y bu'n byw yn 1 Marine Terrace, Deganwy. Fe gynhelir y digwyddiad hwn am 2pm ar 10fed Ebrill, sef can mlynedd ar ôl i'r *Titanic* adael Southampton ar ei thaith drychinebus.

*The History Group has recognised Commander Lowe's bravery by commissioning a plaque which is to be unveiled at 1 Marine Terrace, the house where he lived in Deganwy. This event will take place at 2pm on 10<sup>th</sup> April, 100 years since Titanic departed from Southampton on her disastrous voyage*

Bedd Comander Lowe ym Mynwent Eglwys Llandrillo yn Rhos



The grave of Comander Lowe at Rhos on Sea Church Cemetery

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