

07.04.2022

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**Erthygl i'r Wasg Press Release**

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## Llafur cariad yn cadw rhamant Castell Llansteffan yn fyw

Mae'r nifer o 'gloeon cariad' sydd wedi ei gadael ar waliau Castell Llansteffan yn dyst i arwyddocâd y lle i sawl pâr rhamantus. Mae'r llecyn hudolus sydd â golygfeydd godidog dros fae Caerfyrddin yn amlwg yn fan llawn rhamant. Ac mae un cwpwl lleol wedi cymryd her enfawr ymlaen i sicrhau fod y castell yn ganolbwyt i sawl stori serch am flynyddoedd i ddod.

Gyda'r weledigaeth o gynnig seremoniau priodas perffaith ar safle'r castell Normanaidd, sydd bellach yn adfail, a fydd Marian a Rob Evans yn llwyddo i wireddu'r freuddwyd uchelgeisiol? A fydd modd cynnig popeth sydd ei angen ar gyfer digwyddiad o'r safon uchaf o'r safle anghysbell? A hynny wrth gynnal teulu, gwaith â busnesau eraill yng nghanol heriau a chyfyngiadau'r pandemig?

Diolch i gyfres newydd sbon ar S4C, **Teulu'r Castell**, bydd cyfle i weld beth a ddaw o'r teulu bach hoffus gyda'r cynlluniau mawr. Dilynwn Marian, Rob a'u merched Ffion a Catrin dros cyfnod o flwyddyn ar ôl iddynt brynu Fferm y Plas a'r stad o dir ynghlwm - sy'n digwydd cynnwys castell a choedwig. Dim ond rhan o'r fenter yw'r seremoniau priodas - mae angen adfywio gweddill y stad a datblygu busnes mentora Marian. Ond pam cymryd her mor fawr 'mlaen?

"Yn tyfu fyny, o ni lan 'ma mor aml ag o ni'n gallu," meddai Marian. "Oedd Mam a Dad yn ffermio yn Llangynog, so o ni ddim yn mynd yn bell iawn am ddiwrnod mas. Oedd popeth oedd ishe ar gael yma; y traeth, y castell, hufen ia, chips."

"Yna, pan ddechreuodd Rob a fi mynd mas, o ni lan y castell eithaf lot yn mynd am dro. Mae atgofion melys o ni'n cwympo mewn cariad yno. Mae'r lle wedi newid ystyr i fi dros y blynnyddoedd; o fod yn blentyn, wedyn lle sbesial i ni gyda'n gilydd ac wrth gwrs nawr, mae'n le i ni fel teulu."

Dros y blynnyddoedd, mae Marian wedi sefydlu sawl busnes llwyddiannus ac wedi ennill gwobr, *Inspirational Woman of the Decade*. Mae profiad Rob o'i waith fel Peiriannydd Sifil yn amhrisiadwy i'r prosiect anferth ac mae ei sgiliau DIY yn cael ei brofi i'r eithaf.

Er maint y prosiect, bu'r holl beth yn gyfrinach am gyfnod.

"Pan bryno ni'r castell yn gyntaf oedd bach o sioc bod ni wedi llwyddo gwneud," meddai Marian. "Wedyn o ni yn rili *embarrassed*, o ni eisiau cadw fe'n dawel. Fi'n cofio dweud, fel ni'n mynd i neud yn siŵr fod neb yn ffeindio mas am hwn? Oedd llais bach yn fy mhen yn dweud, pwy maen nhw'n meddwl ydy nhw?".

Ond amhosib oedd cadw rhywbeth mor gyffrous yn dawel mewn pentref bach, fel nododd Catrin eu merch ieuengaf: "Dwi i ddim wedi dweud wrth fy ffrindiau yn yr ysgol, maen nhw wedi dod i fi a gofyn, 'Catrin - ife ti sy'n berchen y castell?'. Pryd oedd Mam a Dad wedi dweud wrthym ni, o ni'n meddwl nag wyt ti fod yn *royalty* i wneud na? Wow!".

"Dim lot o bobol sy'n cael y cyfle i brynu castell, so ie fi'n hapus amdano fe," ychwanegodd ei chwaer Ffion.

Gyda dim ond llond llaw o gestyll Cymru mewn dwylo preifat, mae'r teulu yn gweithio yn agos gyda Cadw, y sefydliad sy'n gyfrifol am ddiogelu safleoedd hanesyddol Cymru, a sicrhau fod unrhyw ddatblygiadau yn gweddu i'r safle.

A fydd y fenter yn llwyddiant ysgubol neu'n fethiant trychinebus i'r teulu? Caiff y cyfan ei ddatgelu ar **Teulu'r Castell**, pob nos Iau am 9.00 ar S4C.

**Teulu'r Castell**

**Nos Iau, 21 Ebrill, 9.00**

**Isdeitlau Saesneg**

**Ar S4C Clic, BBC iPlayer a llwyfannau eraill**

**Cynhyrchiad Little Bird Films ar gyfer S4C**

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## One couple's labour of love to keep romance alive in Llansteffan Castle

The number of 'love locks' left on the walls of Llansteffan Castle is testament to it's significance to many loved up couples. It's magical location overlooking Carmarthen Bay estuary and the small coastal village is central to many a romantic tale, and one local couple is committed to making sure it is part of many more love stories for years to come.

The vision is to offer picture perfect wedding ceremonies at the site of the Norman castle, that's now in ruins, but will Marian and Rob Evans fulfill the ambitious dream? Will they be able to offer everything needed for a special day from the remote location? All whilst keeping a family, work and their other businesses going, during the challenges and restrictions of a global pandemic?

Thanks to a brand new series on S4C, **Teulu'r Castell**, we get to live the dream alongside the small family with the big plans. Cameras have followed Marian, Rob and their daughters Ffion and Catrin over the last 12 months. They bought the farm estate, that happens to include the castle and a forest three years ago and wedding ceremonies are just one part of the venture – they also need to renovate the rest of the sprawling estate and develop Marian's mentoring business.

Why take on such a huge challenge?

"Growing up, I was here as often as possible," said Marian. "Mum and Dad had a dairy farm in Llangynog so we couldn't go very far for days out. Everything we needed was here; the beach, the castle, ice cream, chips."

"Then, when Rob and I started going out, we would often go to the castle for walks. We have fond memories of falling in love there. Its meaning has changed; from being there as a child, to being a special place for us as a couple and now of course, it's a place for us as a family, but it's always been significant in my life."

Marian has set-up many successful businesses over the years, and has even won the 'Inspirational Woman of the Decade' title. Rob's expertise as a Civil Engineer has proved invaluable for the massive project and his DIY skills are certainly being put to the test.

Despite the size of the project, the family managed to keep it a secret for a while.

"When we first bought the castle, it was a bit of a shock that we had achieved it," said Marian. "Then we felt really embarrassed and wanted to keep it quiet. I remember saying, how can we make sure no one finds out?. I could hear this little voice saying, 'Who do they think they are?'."

But it was impossible to keep something so exciting a secret in a small village, as Catrin their youngest daughter soon realised: "I didn't tell my friends at school, they've come to me and asked, 'Catrin - do you own the castle?'. When Mum and Dad told us, we thought don't you have to be royalty to do that? Wow!".

"Not many people get the chance to buy a castle, so I'm really happy about it," added her sister Ffion.

With only a handful of Welsh castles in the hands of private owners, the family work closely with Cadw, who are responsible for safeguarding Wales's historic sites, to ensure any developments are sympathetic to the site. How will they manage?

Will the venture be a huge success or a catastrophic failure for the family? Follow their journey on **Teulu'r Castell** on S4C every Thursday night at 9.00 to find out.

**Teulu'r Castell**

**Thursday, 21 April, 9.00**

**English subtitles available**

**On S4C Clic, BBC iPlayer and other platforms**

**A Little Bird Films production for S4C**