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For further details of the Association and its activities visit our website: <http://www.cambrians.org.uk>

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Editorial note

This volume contains the obituary of Hugh Morgan, Honorary Vice President of the Association, who sadly died in June 2014. The Association is most grateful to Hugh for all the work he undertook on its behalf, and to the family trust—the Ethel and Gwynne Morgan Family Charitable Trust—which during Hugh’s lifetime made a number of substantial grants to aid publication. We are also grateful to the photographer whose excellent portrait appears with Hugh’s obituary but who, despite diligent searches, remains anonymous.

The Association is grateful for the generous grants made available by Cadw – Welsh Government for the publication of a number of articles published in this volume. In addition to the images provided by individuals, the following institutional copyright holders have kindly given permission for the reproduction of images: Cadw – Welsh Government; the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT); Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT); National Museum Wales; and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW).

By chance, this volume of *Archaeologia Cambrensis* includes articles about the recent excavation of six Welsh Bronze Age barrows, together with an article on pollen analysis carried out close to a number of complexes of similar burial mounds. The opportunity has also been taken to provide readers with a brief summary of the recent Welsh national survey of prehistoric funerary and ritual monuments of all classes, funded by Cadw, from which many of these projects stemmed. These articles contain an amount of technical detail that might well seem daunting to the general reader but which is needed to support the arguments put forward by the various authors. Many new and exciting discoveries are reported upon

which potentially have much broader significance to Welsh history and culture, and which it is hoped that non-specialist readers will be able to discover, at least from the discussion sections of each of these articles. This is perhaps best exemplified by the meticulous analysis which has shown that a number of the Bronze Age burials at Pant y Butler and Fan Foel were accompanied by sprigs of meadowsweet, and in some instances by those of goldenrod and yarrow. These wild flowers have many deeply-rooted associations. They were often used as strewing plants in historic times, and some also have traditional healing properties (Mabey 1996, 143, 364, 371). In the Fourth Branch of the Mabinogion, Blodeuwedd—‘fairest and most beautiful maiden that anyone had ever seen’—was conjured up by the magicians Math and Gwydion ‘from the flowers of oak, and the flowers of the broom, and the flowers of the meadowsweet’ (Davies 2006, 58).



Sprig of meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*).
Photograph: © Ivar Leidus.

Davies, Sioned, 2007. *The Mabinogion* (Oxford: Oxford University Press).

Mabey, Richard, 1997. *Flora Britannica* (London: Chatto & Windus).

W. J. BRITNELL

Notes on the Contributors

William Britnell, MBE, MA, FSA, MifA, is the current editor of *Archaeologia Cambrensis* and a Research Associate of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust.

Astrid Caseldine, BSc, PGCE, is an Honorary Research Fellow, and was formerly the Cadw Environmental Archaeologist, at the University of Wales Trinity St David, Lampeter. She has been involved in numerous archaeological projects in Wales ranging from projects in the intertidal zone of the Severn Estuary through to the uplands of Snowdonia. Her main research interests include the effects of human activity upon the landscape, wetland archaeology and the development of agriculture in Britain. Recent publications include contributions in *The Bronze Age in the Severn Estuary* (edited by M. Bell, 2013) and *Roman Frontiers in Wales and the Marches* (edited by B. C. Burnham and J. L. Davies, 2010).

Madeleine Gray is Professor of Ecclesiastical History at the University of South Wales. A medieval historian with close links with a number of heritage and community organisations, she is an honorary research fellow of the National Museum of Wales. She has published extensively on late medieval and early modern history with a particular focus on visual evidence for the history of religious belief and practice. She appears regularly on television and radio, and is currently working on a survey of medieval tomb carvings in Wales.

Gwilym Hughes was appointed as Cadw's Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments and Historic Buildings in May 2007 becoming Assistant Director (Historic Environment) in 2011. He has 30 years' experience in field archaeology and heritage conservation in Britain, Italy and Zimbabwe. During the late 1980s he spent four years in Zimbabwe where he was involved with the establishment of monument conservation programmes and archaeological research at the Great Zimbabwe and Khami World Heritage Sites. He returned to Britain in 1989 to work for Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit, becoming one of the Unit Directors in 1998. Between 2000 and 2007, Gwilym was Director of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust based in Llandeilo.

Frances Murphy, BTech, is a Project Manager with Dyfed Archaeological Trust. She graduated with a degree in archaeological sciences from Bradford University in 1985, and subsequently gained a diploma in post-excavation studies from Leicester University. After leaving university she worked on a wide range of projects across Britain and Europe, including directing the recovery of fire-damaged material from Windsor Castle. Since joining the Trust in 2007 she has worked on projects ranging from Bronze Age burial sites to post-medieval lime kilns.

Kenneth Murphy, BA MifA, is the Director of Dyfed Archaeological Trust. He studied archaeology and geography at Southampton University, graduating in 1976. He joined Dyfed Archaeological Trust in 1979, and since then has worked on a wide range of projects across south-west Wales, including excavations on Bronze Age funerary monuments, Iron Age settlements, and medieval cemeteries, and surveys of prehistoric field systems and eighteenth-century picturesque landscapes.

Duncan Schlee, BA MSc, graduated from Sussex University in social anthropology in 1985 and then obtained a MSc in archaeobotany from the Institute of Archaeology in 1988. He joined Dyfed Archaeological Trust in 2002, having worked on a wide range of archaeological projects across Britain and Europe. He is a Project Manager with the Trust, and has worked on numerous projects including

excavations on early medieval cemeteries and Bronze Age barrows. Recent work includes an investigation of the limestone quarrying and burning industries on the Black Mountain, Carmarthenshire.

Robert J. Silvester, BA, PhD, FSA, studied archaeology at Exeter, was an archaeological field officer in Devon and then Norfolk and, since 1989, has been deputy director of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust. He is one of the trustees of the Cambrian Archaeological Association, the diocesan archaeologist for St Asaph and a member of the Welsh Cathedral and Churches Commission. Having started his career as a prehistorian, his research interests have become younger as he has got older, and his current studies focus on medieval and post-medieval rural settlement in Wales and the borders, church and churchyard archaeology, and the use of historic cartography in understanding the landscape.

Notes on the President 2012–2013

David Longley BA, FSA, was born in Bangor, Caernarfonshire, in 1951 but spent most of his youthful life in Llandudno Junction on the south edge of the Creuddyn peninsula, the medieval commote with its ancient citadel on the rock of Deganwy. He was taught in the Maelgwn primary school, named after the great king!

He left the John Bright school in Llandudno for Liverpool University in 1970 to study Economic History but soon transferred to History and Archaeology.

Since graduating David has worked as an archaeologist and historian for almost forty years in charge of several major projects, hands-on. His first appointment, in 1973, was as an assistant in the Archaeology Department at Lancaster University, mostly drawing, recording and helping in the office and on-site at the Roman fort at Watercrock near Kendal and at Bowness. Two years later he was appointed as an Archaeologist in the Surrey Archaeological Society. During that time, between 1974–76, he surveyed and published a paper on the archaeological implications of gravel extraction in north-west Surrey. He then excavated a part of a Late Bronze Age settlement at Runnymede Bridge on the south bank of the Thames with Stuart Needham and colleagues from the British Museum and local amateurs in the face of work in progress on the M25 orbital motorway—work which has been described as a ‘hectic campaign of investigations’—published as a *Research Volume of the Surrey Archaeological Society* (1980). He worked in Cheshire between 1976–79 and conducted surveys on behalf of the county Sites and Monuments Record which led to his contribution to the prehistoric section of Volume 1 of the Victoria County History of Cheshire (1987). He was appointed to a teaching fellowship in the University of St Andrew’s, Fife between 1979–83.



He joined the staff of the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust in 1983 and became the Chief Archaeologist of GAT in 1992. His first project at GAT was on the hall at Plas Berw, Anglesey, dating from about 1500 AD, published in *Archaeologia Cambrensis* (1991). Subsequent projects included excavations on a small but well defended twelfth-century coastal fort on an eroding sea cliff at Trefadog in north-west of Anglesey, published in *Medieval Archaeology* (1991), sites close to Bangor Cathedral, published in *Archaeologia Cambrensis* (1995), and the Iron Age settlement at Bryn Eryr, Anglesey, published in the *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* (1989). His other publications include ‘Bangor Fawr yn Arfon’ in *Bangor, from a Cell to a City* (1994), ‘The royal courts of the Welsh Princes in Gwynedd, AD 400–1283’ in *Landscape and Settlement in Medieval Wales* (1997), ‘Medieval settlement and landscape change on Anglesey’ in *Landscape History* (2001), ‘Deserted rural settlements in north-west Wales in *Lost Farmsteads: Deserted Rural Settlements in Wales* (2006), ‘Early Medieval burial in Wales’ in *The Archaeology of the Early Medieval Celtic Churches* (2009), and ‘Gwynedd before and after the Conquest’ in *The Impact of the Edwardian Castles in Wales* (2010).

One of the particularly interesting and rewarding of his projects was the setting up of the Friends of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, with evening lectures and yearly Study Tours, with the purpose of broadening learning of other areas as well as our own. There have been sixteen tours, from Kerry, Galway,

Sligo, Kilkenny, Tara, the Isle of Man, Iona, Perth, Dumfries and Galloway, Pembroke, Cornwall, Wessex, Gloucester, Hereford, Marcher Castles and Abbeys, Kent, Lincoln, and occasional European trips—to the Rhine frontier, Normandy, Brittany and the Rhone Valley.

David retired early from the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust and is now working on projects of his own.