# Obituary

#### HUGH MORGAN, 1928-2014



Photograph taken at the Cambrian's Caernarfon meeting in 2002.

Hugh P. Gwynne Morgan, the oldest of three brothers, was born in Clydach, in the Swansea Valley on 20 September 1928. His father was at that time a GP in a mining practice. He went school at Wycliffe College in Gloucestershire but at the outbreak of the Second World War the school was moved to St Davids College Lampeter (now part of the University of Wales Trinity St David). He lived in the Canterbury building which was based on an Oxford College. He was very short-sighted so interested himself in academic studies at school rather than sport, especially enjoying History and English Literature.

He opted for a career in the Law and became articled in the firm of Collins Woods and Vaughan Jones in Swansea and stayed with that firm all his working life, eventually becoming the Senior Partner. The practice acted as lawyers to the Vivian family (copper) and to the Lewis family of Goreseinon (steel) and were the local legal advisor to BP (Llandarcy), International Nickel (now Vale) and what was to become Swansea University.

#### Muriel Chamberlain writes:

Hugh was the University solicitor during the 1960s and 1970s (I mainly had contact with him in the mid 1970s when I was Dean of the Faculty of Arts). It was in some ways a difficult time in Universities with rapid expansion and student unrest triggered to some extent by the *événements* in Paris. Hugh always gave calm and considered advice.

He was also an active member of the Royal Institution of South Wales, a learned society founded slightly before the Cambrians in 1835 as the Swansea Philosophical and Literary Society and granted a Royal Charter in 1838. In 1841 they established a museum in an impressive classical building. In the 1970s the RI ran into financial difficulties and in 1975 the University took over the building and the collections. Unfortunately, after the rapid expansion of the 1960s the universities themselves became starved of cash and compelled to retrench. There was a real danger that the collections would be dispersed and perhaps the building itself demolished. The main saviour was of course, the late Bernard Morris, but Hugh as the university's solicitor also played a part in transferring ownership to the City of Swansea, thus saving both the collections and one of the few venerable buildings in Swansea to survive the Blitz. It survives as Swansea Museum, still more popular with many, especially the children, than its high-tech sister down the road, the National Waterfront Museum.

Hugh is fondly remembered by many Cambrians for his many kindnesses. He will be greatly missed.

The family had a holiday cottage near Angle in Pembrokeshire but Hugh developed a closer knowledge of the county when BP decided to develop its oil terminal at Angle Bay on the south bank of Milford Haven. He became involved in the purchase of Popton Fort for the company and with conveyancing of land for the pipeline carrying oil from Popton to Llandarcy, near Swansea. Away from Clydach, Hugh's greatest love was his home in Pembrokeshire which he modernised with great architectural skill. Over the years the churches of the Castlemartin peninsular became a major interest. Rhoscrowther Church was the one nearest the cottage and the family used to attend there regularly, so it was disappointing to Hugh when it was decided that it should be closed. When it was realised that closure was inevitable Hugh organised that it should come under the care of the Friends of Friendless Churches and he liaised with that organisation ever since. When the roof was damaged by the explosion at Texaco, Hugh was a prime mover in getting it properly repaired and the church restored to its previous state. It was Hugh's involvement with Warren Church, however, that became his most significant work in the area. In the 1980s the British and German armies on the Castlemartin firing range were looking for a better place to hold religious services than one of the huts on the range and settled on Warren Church which was nearby, but in need of considerable restoration. A friend of Hugh's living in Castlemartin village suggested he might help with the legal side of things. He willingly accepted and spent many happy hours setting up what became known as the Warren Trust. He also knew all about the history of Flimston Church on the range and made a point of attending the regular monthly services. Hugh's other interest in the area was to develop a tour of churches and chapels in south Pembrokeshire called 'Priors and Pilgrims', though ill health unfortunately prevented him from developing it in the way he had hoped.

Hugh had a great love of St Davids Cathedral. Even in days before the bridge made crossing of the Daucleddau so easy the family used to take a trip at least once in the summer holidays on the ferry to north Pembroke. This nearly always involved a visit to the Cathedral or the Bishop's Palace. This association with the Cathedral continued. In recent years Hugh became an Executor for Estate of the late Pam Rees who left a bequest for improvements to the Cathedral, including restoring the Aumbry Niche which had been venerated for a long time as housing what were once thought to be the bones of St David. Hugh spent the last days of his life preparing a booklet (*The Hallowed Hole In The Wall*) about the niche, which was officially launched by Bishop Wynn Evans at Hugh's memorial service in St Davids Cathedral

Hugh was a staunch supporter of the Cambrian Archaeological Association. His father had introduced him to membership but he became more actively involved after his retirement. He attended very many of the summer meetings both in Wales and elsewhere including Brittany, Paris and Gascony. He organised a very successful autumn visit to North Pembrokeshire in 2006 which is perhaps one of the few meetings of the Cambrians to conclude with the singing of a hymn—on this occasion to the tune of 'Blaenwern' by William Penfro Rowlands, who was born at Maenclochog, Pembrokeshire. In 1996 Hugh was appointed Legal Advisor to the Association when the new constitution was being drafted. He was thus closely involved with the drawing up of what became known as the Speech House Laws (published in *Archaeologia Cambrensis* in 2002), amended in 2004.

When Hugh retired he established the Ethel and Gwynne Morgan Family Charitable Trust (E&G) which he administered this with enthusiasm until the end. This involved him much work which he much enjoyed. Those who received money from the Trust will agree that, with the help of his dear friend and secretary, Miss Sylvia Wilkins, it was run with characteristic efficiency. He was an active member of the Indexing subcommittee from 1992–2001 and his other great service to the Cambrians was that he authorised a number of grants from the E&G trust to aid publication. In particular the biggest single grant was one which enabled every member of the Cambrians to receive a copy of the index to *Archaeologia Cambrensis* for the years 1981–2000 compiled by Elizabeth Cook and by his great friend Donald Moore.

No record of of Hugh's life would be complete without mention of the Pembroke Historic Buildings Trust (PHBT). Again he was the unofficial legal advisor for many years and again it was he who oversaw the reorganisation of the trust status of the organisation. Interestingly he was able to combine his two loves when the Cambrians found it difficult to administer the Blodwen Jerman prize. He suggested to the PHBT that they take this over as a school prize for children in Pembrokeshire schools about local history. He recruited a team of helpers from the Trust and the prize is now a regular and valued feature of the school year in the county.

Hugh's depth of knowledge and memory were legendary. Family members returning from holiday abroad would fear the inquisition because Hugh inevitably knew much more about the place than they themselves but for those who were prepared to listen he had a treasure trove of information to impart. His generosity to individuals and organisation was known by all with whom he came into contact and it is perhaps most fitting that nearly all the letters the family have received have described him as a 'gentleman'. Hugh never sought recognition for his work, rather he avoided it, but being elected as Vice President of the Cambrians was an honour of which he was very proud. In addition he was flattered to have been given awards for his Community work by the Clydach Community Council and also by the High Sheriff of West Glamorgan.

Hugh passed away on 22 June 2014. He was a man of deep, if simple, religious faith. At his request the cremation was a private family one at Margam. There was a memorial service in Clydach to celebrate and give thanks for his life and because of his Pembrokeshire connections his memory was also honoured with one in St Davids Cathedral at which Bishop Wynn gave the address.

This obituary has been written with assistance from many but especially Muriel Chamberlain and Nansi Mascetti.

LINDSAY MORGAN

#### SPRING MEETING, 2012

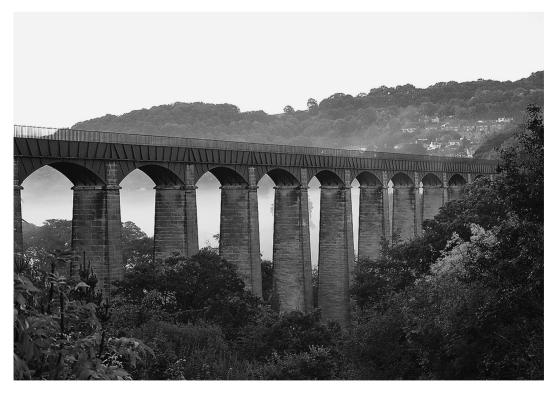
# Wales and the World: the contribution and potential of World Heritage Sites in Wales

2012 was the fortieth anniversary of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention. The subject of our Cambrian Spring Meeting was chosen as an opportunity to celebrate and assess the Convention's achievements, especially within Wales. Forty-eight delegates attended the conference, comprising Association members, World Heritage Site managers from Local Authorities, British Waterways, Cadw, the Royal Commission and ICOMOS-UK. The conference was held between Friday 20 April and Sunday 22 April and was based at the Bryn Howel Hotel, a few miles to the east of Llangollen. The building was built in 1896 a few miles to the east of Llangollen for the Edwards family, the owners of a brickmaking works and connected, therefore, to the industrial development of the area. The house commands superlative views down the Dee valley to the Welsh princes' stronghold of Castell Dinas Brân on the skyline. More relevant to our conference, perhaps, is the fact that it stands immediately adjacent to the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal World Heritage Site. Its gardens run straight down to the canal, which enabled us to walk along the towpath on Friday evening and on Saturday to ride on a narrow boat along the canal and aqueduct, giving us a first-hand appreciation of Telford's masterpiece of engineering. The hotel provided the conference

venue for accommodation and for lectures in a hall where books and leaflets could be displayed and purchased; in addition we displayed a poster on Community Engagement and Blaenavon World Heritage Site, produced for us by Dominic Walker, our 2011 Blodwen Jerman prizewinner.

The first World Heritage Sites in the UK were inscribed in 1986, a prestigious group which comprised the Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd, Durham, Ironbridge, the Giant's Causeway, Stonehenge and Fountain's Abbey. The Welsh castles property protected the four discrete areas of the castles and town walls at Caernarfon and Conwy, and the castles at Harlech and Beaumaris, all managed by Cadw, now in the Welsh Government. These medieval masterpieces were seen as constituting supreme examples of late thirteenth-/early fourteenth-century military architecture in Europe, displaying innovative design, artistic achievement and well documented building techniques.

Since that first inscription, two further sites in Wales have been successfully nominated, as the United Kingdom's portfolio of World Heritage gradually increases. Blaenavon Industrial Landscape and Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal represent our country's contribution to the Industrial Revolution, iconic symbols of engineering innovation, technical expertise and astounding enterprise which had world-wide significance and influence. This conference examined the three current World Heritage Sites in Wales both in their international context and in terms of their contribution towards Welsh life through education, regeneration, tourism, and quality of life. It also looked forward to the next phase of World Heritage activity in Wales.

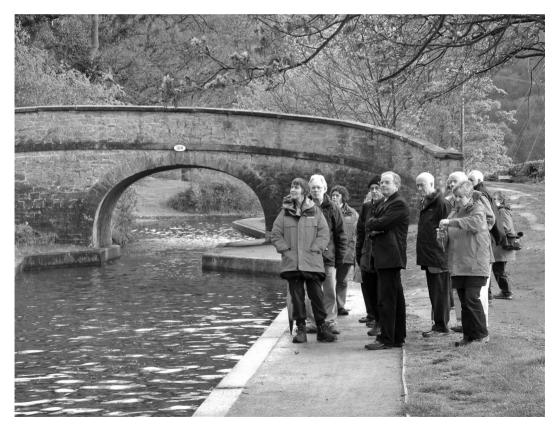


The Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, viewed from the north-west, designed by Thomas Telford and built between 1795 and 1805, forms the focus of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal World Heritage Site, designated by UNESCO in 2009. *Photograph: Bill Britnell, CPAT 1766-365*.

#### FRIDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

On Friday afternoon, members assembled at the hotel and after viewing the rain with some trepidation, stoicism and optimism were rewarded by the rolling back of the clouds to bright sunshine. Delegates walked along the towpath of the canal towards Llangollen, while Dr Stephen Hughes and Dr Dafydd Gwyn described features of the canal—cuttings and embankments, inclines and quarries. One of the rewarding features of towpaths is that their gradient is by definition imperceptible, and the newly resurfaced towpath helped keep feet dry; thus we were able to walk for an hour without discomfort while discussing the makeup of the canal trough, repair of towpath surfaces and canal bridges.

After dinner back at the hotel, our President, Professor Gwyn Meirion-Jones, opened the conference by welcoming delegates and speaking of the importance of world heritage as a tool for conservation, for national pride and international dialogue and study, but also as an aid to inward investment and regeneration. He then introduced our first speaker, Susan Denyer, the Secretary of ICOMOS-UK and World Heritage Advisor for ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) who spoke on 'World Heritage Sites: The Conservation of Outstanding Universal Value across the globe'. Firstly, she



On the afternoon of Friday 20 September 2012, delegates at the Cambrians' Easter Conference walked along the towpath of the canal towards Llangollen, while Dr Stephen Hughes and Dr Dafydd Gwyn described features of the canal. *Photograph: David Young*.

described the background to the Convention. In 1972 an international treaty called the 'Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage' was adopted by UNESCO. The Convention considered that some places, because of their man-made or natural qualities, possessed an importance so great as to transcend national boundaries or groups of people and should be seen as belonging to the heritage of humankind as a whole. Furthermore it considered that such sites were often threatened by decay, damage or destruction and sought to establish an international system of collective protection of sites judged as possessing 'Outstanding Universal Value'. States that ratified the Convention were invited to submit sites for consideration for inscription on this new World Heritage List, and in 1978 the first twelve properties were inscribed—this first tranche.

The success of the UNESCO Convention is manifest in that there are now 189 state signatories and 936 World Heritage Sites throughout the globe. These are managed by the states in which they lie, but the UNESCO World Heritage Committee exerts control by the process of periodic reporting, through which States are required to send State of Conservation reports for inspection. Matters of concern may lead to site inspections by UNESCO delegations, requests for remedial action and offers of assistance. Lack of appropriate response by the state party may even result in eventual removal from the list, though this is rare and seen as a regrettable failure of the system.

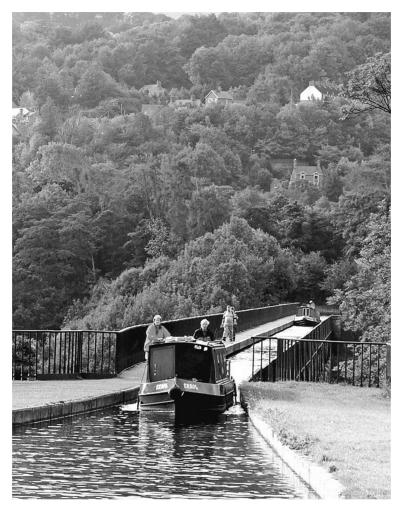
The World Heritage List aims to be a balanced representation of the finest cultural and natural sites in the world; to own such sites is regarded as an accolade for the relevant state, a matter of considerable pride. Inevitably the aspiration towards balance and a justifiable international distribution of sites has been affected by attitudes and ambitions of individual states as well as the resources they are prepared or able to devote to the process. The List is in fact far from evenly spread. Europe and North America have 48 per cent of all World Heritage Sites, with Italy alone having 47 (the United Kingdom has 28), while there are only 82 Sites in the whole of Africa, 70 in the Arab States and 36 State Signatories have no Sites at all.

Spectacular illustrations of many different sorts of World Heritage Sites were shown from the familiar Petra and Ankhor Wat to the agricultural terraces in Peru and the more intangible such as ephemeral mud tower houses at Koutammakou, Tonga, where the World Heritage Site can be seen to be preserving an architectural tradition rather than the houses themselves.

#### SATURDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

On Saturday, the chairperson, Dr Sian Rees, gave a brief introduction to the World Heritage Sites in Wales, and explained the format of the conference. After the general lectures, each Welsh World Heritage Site was to be described academically and then two facets of that site would be explored in greater detail—such as education and access. Finally the future of World Heritage in Wales would be explored by a lecture on the slate industry, a candidate for World Heritage status in the next ten years.

Amanda Chadburn from English Heritage then described the process of World Heritage management in a lecture entitled World Heritage: The UNESCO Convention and its Implementation. The UNESCO World Heritage Convention was adopted by UNESCO forty years ago with the laudable ambition of preserving the most important cultural and natural sites throughout the world for the benefit of humankind. Inevitably, the difficulties associated with nomination, assessment, inscription and subsequent inspection has led to a plethora of regulation, guidance and committee structures that can seem daunting. Amanda, responsible for the Stonehenge World Heritage Site described the implementation processes of the Convention though the World Heritage Committee, its powers, the impacts of its decisions, and the strengths and weaknesses demonstrated by the Convention over its forty year lifetime.



The Llangollen Canal, once used for industrial transportation and as a feeder canal for the Ellesmere Canal, is now enjoyed by an increasing number of tourists and narrowboat devotees for leisure activities. *Photograph: Bill Britnell, CPAT 1766-17.* 

The latest addition to Wales' (and still the United Kingdom's) World Heritage Sites is Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal. Similar to Blaenavon in that, at some 11miles long, it is quite a large property, it was, however, the product of a single engineering project, built over a thirteen year period between 1795 and 1808. Its use as a feeder canal for the Ellesmere Canal to the east, and for transportation of raw materials from North Wales' industries, was relatively short-lived but the influence of the techniques used in its manufacture revolutionized techniques in canal building, the employment of iron in construction, and methods of project management throughout the world.

Peter Wakelin, Secretary of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales, was the first speaker to describe this, our local World Heritage Site. He was closely involved with the nomination and successful inscription of Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal, arguably the greatest

masterpiece of engineers Jessop and Telford. He described how it was constructed to take water from the river Dee at Llangollen and traversed the difficult terrain of the steep sided Dee valley using no locks but a series of ingenious tunnels, aqueducts and embankments. The innovative use of iron to form the trough of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, hollow masonry piers to achieve its extraordinary height, the project management techniques employed and the final artistic appearance of the site were all revolutionary and impacted upon the industry throughout the world.

The World Heritage badge is awarded for Outstanding Universal Value and is essentially a tool for conservation. Nonetheless inscription is often seen as having the potential to attract inward investment and development, especially for tourism. Judith Alfrey, Head of Regeneration and Conservation in Cadw, talked about the site and its buffer zone as 'assets for regeneration' within an area of some deprivation and unemployment. The site is 11 miles long, but is further protected by a large buffer zone, the area drawn around the site in order to protect its setting. This reaches to the skyline in some directions, and includes within its boundary areas devoted to residential and industrial buildings and leisure activities as well as open countryside. The closure of the Flexys Chemical Works in 2009 with concomitant loss of employment has led to a scrutiny of regeneration opportunities in this former industrial area. Judith described the impact of the World Heritage protection on the opportunities for sympathetic redevelopment of the Flexys works site including the excavation and re-establishment of a further stretch of canal. She also described plans for the new visitor centre and described tools, such as urban characterization and supplementary planning guidance, which can assist regeneration and redevelopment appropriate for the environs of this World Heritage Site.

Peter Birch and Kate Lynch of British Waterways, the body that owns the site, then described their management work on the canal. Pontcysyllte is an unusual World Heritage Site in that the function of the site for which it was originally constructed continues to this day, albeit in a modified form. Though the canal is no longer used for industrial transportation, it is now enjoyed by an increasing number of tourists and narrowboat devotees for leisure activities. Accordingly, the canal, aqueducts and tunnels have to conform to engineering regulations, which have become considerably stricter since the time of Telford. Maintenance of structures, be they masonry bridges, puddled clay-bottomed canals, gravel towpaths, earthen, wooded embankments or brick-lined tunnels, must be undertaken to strict safety standards but also obeying conservation regulations. They described some of the challenges that they face maintaining this World Heritage Site as the working canal that so many people appreciate.

Cambrians then rose from their seats to walk down to the canal, where they embarked on a narrowboat supplied by Jones the Boat for a trip along the canal and aqueduct. Lunch was served on board with most Cambrians electing for the appropriate fish and chips option while Peter Birch and Kate Lynch pointed out specific features of interest as we passed by at close quarters. The views from the aqueduct were breathtaking, though not enjoyed by those who suffer from vertigo.

When we returned from our boating adventures, we settled down again to hear about the second of our Welsh World Heritage Sites. Blaenavon Industrial Landscape, inscribed in 2000, contains within its large boundary not only individual sites owned and managed by national bodies, the Ironworks (Cadw, Welsh Government), Big Pit (National Museum and Gallery of Wales) and Govilon Wharf and canal (British Waterways), but also large privately owned tracts of upland landscape with remains of quarrying, mining and transport systems as well as the industrial town with workers' housing and public buildings. It thus demonstrates entire processes within the iron industry, was relatively long lasting, being active from the 1780s to 1920s, and includes sites where inventions crucial for the future of the industry were made.

The first speaker was Dr Stephen Hughes, Projects Director for the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales. Blaenavon was one of the places where the Industrial Revolution of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries began to change the world for ever. The 13 square miles of

the Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site contain traces of the quarrying and mining, transportation and processing of the iron ore and coal which fed the Blaenavon Ironworks, constructed in 1787. It was at Blaenavon that the Bessemer process, crucial to the later steel industry, was first invented. Within the World Heritage Site, the industrial town of Blaenavon, with its workers' housing, workers' institute, school and places of worship, reveal the social side of the industry.

Blaenavon World Heritage Site lies within the boundaries of three local authorities—Monmouthshire, Brecon Beacons National Park and Torfaen County Borough Council. Gareth Phillips from Torfaen in his talk entitled 'The Protection of a Living Historic Landscape' described the difficulties faced by the authority while attempting to satisfy the competing requirements of conservation, public access and development on so extensive a historic landscape. The large size of the Blaenavon World Heritage Site (13 square miles) presents considerable challenges to those attempting to secure its protection and conservation. Not only is the open landscape full of features which require protection and conservation – quarries, tramroads and inclines, reservoirs, watercourses and tunnels—but the town itself demands the proactive care of its workers' housing and public buildings. In addition, the land surrounding the site sees an ever increasing demand for public access and the new visitor centre, shown here, provides a welcome new facility for education.

The management of any World Heritage Site benefits from the involvement of the local community. Unless the people who live in and around a World Heritage Site appreciate the values of the site and feel an involvement with them, productive and enthusiastic management will be lacking. The recent cost—benefit analysis of World Heritage in United Kingdom undertaken by the government was somewhat equivocal about the benefits of World Heritage status overall, but there was one triumphant exception to this—Blaenavon. The report emphasized the empathy and involvement of the local community with the World Heritage Site, its local World Heritage Day being an annual expression of enthusiastic participation. The Forgotten Landscapes Partnership is an initiative designed to sustain this involvement while furthering conservation aims. Steven Rogers, its project officer, described his essential work of fostering engagement with the community with events, volunteering and conservation projects.

The Cambrians then had a well-earned rest over dinner, to return to an evening lecture, giving a perspective from outside Wales. David Breeze, after retirement as Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments in Historic Scotland, was responsible for the successful nomination of the Antonine Wall, the latest addition to the trans-national Roman Limes World Heritage Site in 2008. An expert on Roman military sites throughout the world, David described the process of nomination of this Scottish site and its subsequent management. As a linear monument that varies considerably in the quality of its preservation along its length, the Antonine Wall presents some difficulties to those who would preserve, conserve, render accessible and interpret the whole site to an acceptable standard. Its sister monument, Hadrian's Wall, already part of the *Limes* World Heritage Site, continues to present similar challenges, and the desirability of adopting a common management system over the whole international *Limes* Site in countries where different attitudes toward conservation prevail adds a further layer of complexity.

#### SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

On Sunday, attention was turned to the final World Heritage Site in Wales, the Castles and Town Walls of Edward I in Gwynedd. The chair was taken by Frances Lynch Llewellyn who introduced Jeremy Ashbee, Head of Historic Properties at English Heritage, to talk about his recent re-evaluation of the castles.

The inscription of the Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd in 1986 marked the entry of Wales into the World Heritage community. Masterpieces of medieval military architecture, the four

structures at Caernarfon, Conwy, Harlech and Beaumaris demonstrate Edwardian determination to stamp authority over this area of Wales. Their designs show a brilliant employment of military features to meet the requirements for defense and supply, and their display of sheer might and prestige, coupled with an evident awareness of aesthetic considerations, is awe inspiring. Nonetheless, questions remain as to their effectiveness. Beaumaris and Caernarfon remained unfinished as Edward switched his attention to campaigns in Scotland, and the monarchs for whom these splendid edifices were created, as palaces as well as defensive structures, rarely actually visited them. The town walls at Conwy and Caernarfon show another aspect of these structures—their importance as administrative centres. All four castles originally had—and still have—attached towns and an examination of the interaction between castle and town raises issues of community and identity that remain to this day.

Dr Kate Roberts, Cadw's Senior Inspector for North Wales, then took up the challenge of describing projects of refurbishment on the castles. The current fashion for using ruinous structures creatively to enhance visitor understanding and enjoyment is inevitably a controversial one in that such projects may contribution to or conflict with the tenets of conservation required by the status as a World Heritage Site. The magnificent castles of Caernarfon, Conwy, Beaumaris and Harlech are of a scale that maintains them as the dominant features within their towns even now, some 700 years after their construction. Their contribution to the present day communities and the modern townscape is therefore an important consideration to planners, townspeople and tourists. They are extraordinarily well preserved, due partly to their continuing use in a variety of different guises through the centuries, from gaols to museums; this invites us to consider refurbishment and reconstruction as their relative completeness allows a good understanding of their original form. Cadw is considering an ambitious project for re-roofing and flooring the gatehouse at Harlech as well as redesigning the car park and entrance to the castle by the provision of a new bridge. The refurbishment of the old hotel building gives opportunities for a better situated visitor centre and refreshment area.

The potential for education is an aspect of World Heritage Sites that is taken increasingly seriously by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee. Adrienne Goodenough, Lifelong Learning Manager in Cadw, has long undertaken educational activities at the four castles which, with their scale, preservation and majesty, lend themselves to use as a resource. She described her work with schools, adult learning and events, including art installations and storytelling, to maximize the potential offered by the castles to educate and inspire.

So much for the three established World Heritage Sites in Wales. What of the future? The forty years of the World Heritage Convention has seen remarkable changes in procedures for inscription and subsequent management. The difference in the complexity, and concomitant expense, of the nomination process between, for example, the Castles of Edward in 1986 and Pontcysyllte in 2009 is considerable. At the same time, the requirements of management and conservation and especially the realization of adverse pressures on Sites, such as those of development, have led to a more realistic appreciation of the costs and responsibilities of owning and managing World Heritage Sites. The Cost/Benefits study of World Heritage in UK suggested that while costs were high, the tangible benefits of a Site achieving World Heritage status were sometimes more difficult to assess.

Despite the uncertain rewards of World Heritage, a government Consultation revealed that the process was still strongly supported in the United Kingdom, and accordingly a new United Kingdom Tentative List—or list of potential World Heritage Sites—was compiled in 2010. One site in Wales successfully got through the gruelling assessment process, and it is to be hoped that the Slate Industry of North West Wales will be a United Kingdom nomination for World Heritage status within the next 10 years. The demanding process of working up a bid for nomination has now commenced and Dr Dafydd Gwyn,



The Cambrians aboard one of Jones the Boats' narrowboats on Saturday 21 September 2014. Lunch was served on board while Peter Birch and Kate Lynch pointed out things of interest on the way. *Photograph:David Young*.

largely responsible for the research behind the Tentative List application and the author of a book on the subject, described the potential areas for inclusion in the nomination. The awe-inspiring landscape associated with the industry comprises many elements, including quarries, workshops, railways, workers' housing and structures manifesting the distinct social, educational and spiritual culture associated with the slate industry. The impact that the slate industry in Wales came to bear internationally, due to export of technology and expertise, was of foremost importance, and its influence continues in our own day. The conference then concluded with a discussion, often spirited, on the hopes for the Slate Industry candidature, the capacity of much loved ruins to tolerate reconstruction and the strengths and weaknesses of our planning system, especially in view of the government's proposed changes, for resisting inappropriate development affecting setting. There was support for the establishment of a Welsh World Heritage liaison body to discuss matters of mutual concern.

#### THE 159TH SUMMER MEETING

# Anglesey, 2012

Sixty-two people attended all or part of the meeting which was based in the Ffriddoedd Site halls of residence, Bangor University, between Monday 9 July and Saturday 14 July 2012. When people arrived at lunchtime on Monday 9 July it soon became apparent that security measures taken for the safety of students might lead to inconvenience for adults in search of a small sherry before dinner or even trying to locate friends. However, over the week people learnt how to deal with the systems.

#### MONDAY 9 JULY

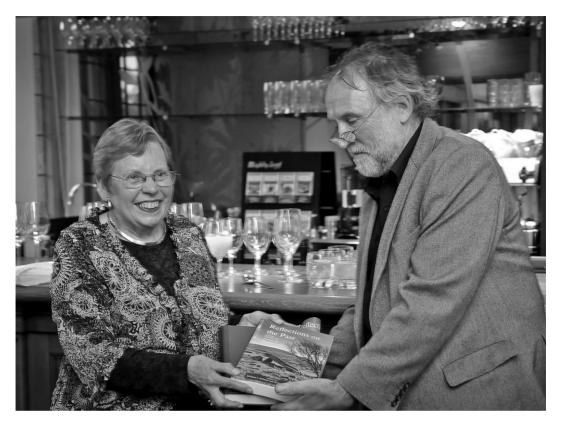
The afternoon visits took most of the party to two of the best-known megalithic tombs in the island. A few were dropped off to see Plas Newydd the home of the Marquess of Anglesey and now a National Trust property en route to the first site, Bryn Celli Ddu, one of the most famous megalithic tombs in Britain, a classic passage grave, noted since the seventeenth century and still the subject of active debate. It was broken into in the early eighteenth century and the cairn was robbed and until the late nineteenth century the chamber and passage were virtually denuded. Excavated in 1865 by Francis Lukis it had become so dangerously ruinous that it was extensively excavated and rebuilt by W. J. Hemp in 1927 when it became a Guardianship Monument. These excavations revealed that the stone kerb was set into a ditch and that there were stones in an arc (possibly originally a circle) focused upon a central pit beside which lay a stone with decoration on both sides and over the top suggesting that it has once been freestanding. Hemp also found slight traces of what he had judged to be a bank outside the ditch. He interpreted all these features as contemporary because they were linked by a 'purple clay floor', thought to be an introduced, preparatory layer under the cairn. In the 1960s this clay layer was reinterpreted as a natural feature resulting from the decay of a grass surface. This grass surface ran down into the ditch which must therefore have been already silted when the kerb and cairn were built. This led to a new, two-phase, interpretation of the monument: it was originally a henge monument with bank and internal ditch surrounding a circle of stones; the Passage Grave was built later and the henge was buried beneath its cairn. More recently it has been recognised that the passage is aligned on the summer solstice and a study by Steve Burrow of the National Museum Wales has suggested another sequence of construction, in which all the features, stones, ditch and Passage Grave are of essentially one date. That date is about 3300 cal. BC, a date obtained from some of the bones and charcoal found in 1927. In this view the buried arc of stones relates to the establishment of the accurate alignment of the passage. A small excavation in 1995 around the plinth of the decorated stone replica failed to find convincing evidence of the purple clay and a re-examination of the field drawings of the ditch sections did not suggest that a lower fill of the ditch had been missed in 1927, so it was judged in this most recent view that the separation of ditch and tomb was no longer tenable. The ditch was explained as the source of material for a temporary cairn around the chamber during the final alignment of the passage. This monument still has a very active role in twenty-first-century life. It is much visited by people who commune with spirits and leave flowers and it is still an arena for archaeological debate. The Cambrians spent more than an hour discussing the various interpretations which were outlined by Frances Lynch with comments from several other members. It was felt that a section across the ditch and kerb might be the only way to resolve the question of contemporaneity or separation of ditch and passage grave.



Frances Lynch (left) talking to the Cambrians at their visit to Bryn Celli Ddu on Monday 9 July 2012. *Photograph: Marie-Thérèse Castay.* 



The Cambrians visiting the Plas Newydd cromlech on on Monday 9 July 2012. *Photograph: Marie-Thérèse Castay.* 



Frances Lynch being presented with copies of her Festschrift, *Reflections on the Past*, published by the Cambrian Archaeological Association by Bill Britnell on Monday 19 July 2012. *Photograph: Ken Williams*.

On returning to **Plas Newydd** the impressive cromlech on the lawn was visited. Because of its position this is a very well known monument, but is an archaeological puzzle. The capstone is sufficiently large and heavy to rule out the possibility that it is a product of the picturesque fashion for Druidical ruins, but the plan is not easy to interpret or place into any of the well known categories of Neolithic tomb design. In the evening the party visited the Grade 1 main buildings of Bangor University where there was a surprise reception to launch the Festschrift *Reflections on the Past: essays in honour of Frances Lynch* published by the Cambrian Archaeological Association.

#### TUESDAY 10 JULY

The excursions this day encompassed sites in the vicinity of Holyhead on Holy Island and a buffet lunch was taken at the RSPB cafe on South Stack. Before reaching Holyhead, **Llyn Cerrig Bach**, the Iron Age ritual site discovered in 1944 when the nearby airfield was enlarged, was visited and described by Frances Lynch. The peat from this bog, now once more a lake, was found to contain iron and bronze objects and a good many animal bones. The swords and spearheads were recognised as ancient and sent to the National Museum in Cardiff where Sir Cyril Fox confirmed their age and came north to examine



Cambrians at the presentation of the Festschrift in the Teras Lounge in the Main Arts Building, Bangor University. Fortunately, many of the contributors to the volume were able to come to the presentation of, some having traveled especially for as far away as Ireland and France to be there. Authors who were able to be present included Colin Burgess, Professor Muriel Chamberlain, Peter Crew, Andrew Davidson, Professor Nancy Edwards, Professor George Eogan, Dr Alex Gibson, Dr David Jenkins, Dr Jane Kenney, Henrietta Quinnell, Dr Sian E. Rees, Mick Sharp, Dr Elizabeth Shee Twohig, Dr John Ll. W. Williams and Ken Williams. *Photograph: Ken Williams*.

the rest of the material. The collection contains swords, spears, parts of shields, decorative elements from chariots and horse harness, iron chariot wheel tyres and blacksmiths' tools and trade bars of high quality iron. Radiocarbon dates from the animal bone and the varying style of the swords demonstrate that the material was not a single deposition but must have resulted from offerings made over a long period of time, from about 300 cal. BC to the first century AD, and a few offered to the old gods even after the Roman conquest of the island. Although not all the metalwork is military, it is normally judged that this assemblage conforms to Caesar's description of the Gaulish tradition of offering battle booty to the gods in lakes or groves.

**Trefignath megalithic tomb** was described by Frances Lynch who outlined its changing interpretations culminating in excavation by Dr Chris Smith in 1977. At that time the tomb stood alone in its rocky landscape. In 2007 evidence for contemporary settlement was revealed by large scale excavations nearby. The 1977 excavations demonstrated that the tomb had been built in three stages, starting at the west end where a simple polygonal chamber with short passage was surrounded by slight remnants of a circular

cairn. The next chamber, to the east, was rectangular with portal entrance and cuspate forecourt. Its rectangular cairn was edged by good drystone walling which incorporated the older cairn. Nothing was found in the chamber which was later blocked by the construction of the third chamber within its forecourt. This rectangular chamber had a more impressive portal entrance and more open forecourt. The walled cairn was extended eastward to cover this chamber and the junction of the two walls constitutes the best evidence still visible in the field for the accretion of chambers in these funerary monuments. Radiocarbon dates on charcoal from under the first cairn suggest that the tomb building began about 4,000 cal. BC, decorated pottery from the final chamber indicates some use (not necessarily funerary) at around 3300 cal. BC and an unexpected Iron Age date from a pit at the chamber entrance is evidence for a renewed interest in these abandoned monuments in that period.

Excavations at Parc Gybi Industrial/Business Park were described by Jane Kenney of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust. Between 2006 and 2009 more than 41 hectares of land running down from Trefignath to the outskirts of Holyhead have been excavated by GAT. This great area excavation has revealed evidence of settlement and burial dating from the early Neolithic, through the Bronze and Iron Ages, the Roman period, into the early Middle Ages and up to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Perhaps the most important find has been the Early Neolithic house aligned with the tomb of Trefignath and only 100m away to the west. This was a three compartment building over 15m long typical of many found in Ireland and now being found in Wales. The Early Bronze Age is represented by a multiple cist barrow covering eight stone cists, large and small. This burial site was not far from the Ty Mawr Standing Stone which, because scheduled, is now the one monument in this densely packed archaeological landscape of which we will know least. A wooden roundhouse may belong to the later Bronze Age but, although Iron Age finds were almost non-existent, at the head of the marsh was a group of frequently rebuilt stone roundhouses which are likely to belong to that period. Another group of stone roundhouses, to the north, produced Roman material. On the hill above these houses, and (discovered when the A55 was built some 500m away to the north) were two post-Roman/early medieval cemeteries. The post-excavation work and radiocarbon dating programme for these excavations is still in progress.

**Porth Dafarch** was viewed from the bus on the way to South Stack settlement. This site, studied by the Hon. W. O Stanley, has many similarities with Parc Gybi. The first monuments in this valley were three Early Bronze Age barrows. Urns were first found here in 1848 which led Stanley to excavate the other two in 1875–76. During this work he found that the mounds were surrounded with round stone houses and small rectangular 'workshops', similar to those at South Stack. He also found long stone cists, like those at Parc Cybi, indicating that this settlement too, had probably continued without a break into the Early Medieval period.

Because of numbers, lunch was in two sittings, alternating with visits to the **South Stack Hut Circles**, led by Jane Kenney and Frances Lynch. In the nineteenth century this straggling group of stone houses set among terraced fields on the sunny southern slopes of Holyhead Mountain comprised up to 50 roundhouses interspersed with small, semi-subterranean buildings thought to be workshops. In the 1870s they were cleared of bracken and most were excavated by Stanley and very promptly published in *Archaeologia Cambrensis*. The finds were not closely dateable; most were stone tools, with slag and casting sand suggesting that the agricultural community also worked metal. There was no Roman pottery; but because of a small hoard of coins in one hut and his discovery of Roman pottery at other sites, Stanley dated the settlement to the Roman period. But re-excavation of some huts in the 1980s by Chris Smith provided both a radiocarbon date in the mid Iron Age and some evidence of agricultural use of the ruined buildings continuing into the fifth century AD. So the current view is that the settlement as whole lasted perhaps 1500 years, but that individual farmsteads and houses may vary in date, demonstrating 'settlement creep' as seen at Parc Gybi. The remains on the ground today are 16 roundhouses and 5 rectangular buildings.

They form two groups, a larger western one and an eastern one (through the gate) where the two houses have a complex history unravelled by radiocarbon dating. A granary raised on seven stones was found by the eastern houses. Very similar granaries have now been found at Parc Gybi and Stanley had found examples at other sites he had excavated. This seems to be a local version of the ubiquitous 'four posters'.

Andrew Davidson joined the party in the afternoon to speak about the development of Holyhead Harbour. The inner harbour at Holyhead is a well protected natural creek, but not large. As the nearest point to Dublin it had always been the principal port for Ireland, but if it was to maintain this position, as a mail port and as the link between the parliaments of Britain and Ireland (united in 1800), the facilities for both land and sea travel needed to be improved. The history of the growth of Holyhead in the nineteenth century is the story of these improvements. This theme was discussed during a visit to the Breakwater Quarry Park, the source of stone for building the Outer Harbour (1847–73) and while standing on the new Celtic Gateway Bridge (2006) over the old harbour, looking across at the Custom House on Salt Island (1823). In 1742 there was no quay and boats were pulled up on the mud. But in 1809 Salt Island was purchased and a formal harbour (now the Old Harbour) was constructed there by John Rennie (1810-21). At the same time Telford's Holyhead Road (A5) was improving road access, to which rail access was added in the 1840s. When the Navy classified Holyhead as a Harbour of Refuge work was begun on the Outer Harbour, to be protected by a huge breakwater, the longest in Britain. Twentieth-century alterations have mainly concentrated on the Inner and Old Harbour areas where the station facilities have been eclipsed and largely swept away by the container port and the car ferry terminals, all on the eastern side, away from the old town. In 2006 a new dramatic Celtic Gateway Bridge was built to restore the link with the neglected town.

Caer Gybi Roman Fort, a three-sided enclosure on what was a shoreline until the eighteenth century, is generally believed to belong to the fourth-century reorganisation of coastal defences against Irish pirates. It would have protected a naval force and, through a signal station on the summit of Holyhead Mountain (dated to the fourth century by coins from excavations in 1983), could have communicated with the legionary fort at Chester. Despite the lack of documentary reference and Roman finds, the style of building is sufficient to confirm its date. The high walls without a rampart backing, the simple, narrow gate and the distinctive herringbone masonry in the walls are all typical of late Roman forts such as Porchester and Reculver. During discussions on site Jeremy Knight revealed that he had rediscovered the penny of Edward the Martyr (c. 962–978) when finds from Guardianship sites were returned to Wales. It had been found in the churchyard and published by Gerald Dunning but there had been subsequent uncertainty about the context. Leslie Alcock had suggested that it came from the foundation trench of the fort wall and dated its construction. However the note with the coin stated that it came from 'graveyard soil'. Lawrence Butler then said that this context had been confirmed by W. E. Griffith who had spoken to the workman who had found it. It came from disturbed ground within the graveyard, not from close to the wall. The wall is 1.5m thick and over 4m high with wall-walk and parapet above. Only the southern entry is original (but rebuilt) and only the north-east tower survives in its original form, with the stump of the eastern extension of the defensive wall down to the shore. The other towers have been damaged or rebuilt. The fort survives so well because it was given to St Cybi, as a hermitage or small monastery, traditionally by Maelgwn, sixth-century king of Gwynedd. The present church within the enclosure has no very early features but the presence of a second church, Eglwys y Bedd, is indicative of early monasteries which would have several churches within their boundaries.

Dr Lawrence Butler spoke at the **Church of St Cybi, Holyhead**. As a collegiate church it would originally have had a cruciform plan but the addition of aisles to north and south of the nave have reduced the impact of the transepts. The earliest visible work is thirteenth century but a great deal of rebuilding and reorganisation took place in the late fifteenth and early sixteenth century. The western tower was added,

probably in the seventeenth century; it overhangs the Roman wall. Dr Ken Roberts, the churchwarden who opened the church for us, mentioned that the current work removing plaster on the west wall had revealed an earlier roofline which pre-dated the sixteenth-century arcade changes and demonstrated that the west wall had not been rebuilt when the tower was added. The church was restored in the 1870s by Sir George Gilbert Scott and Arthur Baker who was the architect for the Stanley chapel, added to the south of the chancel in 1896–97. This contains a very fine memorial to the W. O. Stanley (d. 1884) by Hamo Thornycroft. The exterior of the church has some fascinating embellishments. The battlemented parapets and elaborate early sixteenth-century porch are particularly worthy of note. The fan vaulting is a restoration but the doorway is original. An image of the Trinity and the Five Wounds is central to a very fine decorative wall and the small images on the door jambs are puzzling in the extreme. St Peter and Paul can just be recognised.

From the church the party walked down to the new **Celtic Gateway Bridge** to look across the Old Harbour to Salt Island, the Harbour Offices and Custom House and the Triumphal Arch (1824 by Thomas Harrison) which commemorated the visit of George IV to Holyhead and to Ireland. George IV's visit to Anglesey in August 1821 was a very notable occasion for a number of reasons. He was held up by contrary winds and retreated to spend a few days with the Marquess of Anglesey at Plas Newydd. During that time



Dr Lawrence Butler speaking to the Cambrians during their visit to the collegiate church St Cybi, Holyhead on Tuesday 10 July 2012. *Photograph: Heather James*.

news arrived of the death of his estranged wife, Queen Caroline, but he insisted that no festivities should be cancelled. In fact he was in a very good mood throughout his visit and even received a loyal address from the Methodists on the island, to the chagrin of the Anglican establishment since this gave Methodism social respectability. The king complimented the town on its appearance and gave presents to those who served him there. However he did decide to leave as soon as possible and, leaving his naval escort behind, took the newfangled steam packet *Lightning* across to Dublin. This ship belonged to the postal service and was captained by Captain Skinner, an American who had joined the Royal Navy before Independence and became an enormously popular man in Holyhead. It is said that he refused a knighthood on this voyage because it would distance him from the people of Holyhead. He was drowned in 1832 and an obelisk was erected in his memory above the eastern side of the harbour. King George arrived in Ireland, at Howth, in such a jovial and boisterous condition 'as to double in sight even the number of his gracious subjects assembled to greet him'. His footprint is set in cement to commemorate his safe landing. In Dublin he had a good time (with Lady Conyngham in particular) and survived a constant round of parties. On his final night an over-long dinner at Powerscourt prevented him seeing the famous waterfall (enhanced by damming)—which was lucky since the viewing platform was swept away by the flow of water. Frances Lynch spoke about the Anglesey visit and Rory O'Farrell about the King's time in Ireland.

The bus returned to Bangor via Trearddur Bay to see **Towyn y Capel**, the subject of W. O. Stanley's first publication in one of the earliest volumes of *Archaeologia Cambrensis* (1846). The mound, close to the shore and continuously subject to erosion, was once topped by a small chapel and covered a large cemetery of long cist graves from which bones frequently fell to the shore. Attempts to protect the graves over the years have failed and Gwynedd Archaeological Trust has recently done extensive excavations, directed by Andrew Davidson. One of the most notable discoveries was that long cists were covered by small mounds, occasionally with upright headstones. These markers have normally been lost, but here they were preserved under blown sand which caused the mound to rise over them.

In the evening the new President, David Longley, the recently retired Director of the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, was installed by the retiring President, Professor Gwyn Meirion-Jones. He then gave his Presidential Address, entitled 'The Anglesey House from the Late Iron Age to the Renaissance'. This lecture stressed themes of continuity which had been illustrated in the day's visits and would be echoed in the late medieval houses to be seen later in the week. The lecture was followed by an informal reception.

#### WEDNESDAY 11 JULY

This day was spent in the northern part of the island and concentrated on the copper mines and port at **Amlwch** where our guides were Dr David Jenkins and Bryan Hope of the Amlwch Heritage Trust. In the afternoon members were invited to take tea at Brynddu, Llanfechell at the invitation of Professor and Mrs Robin Grove White.

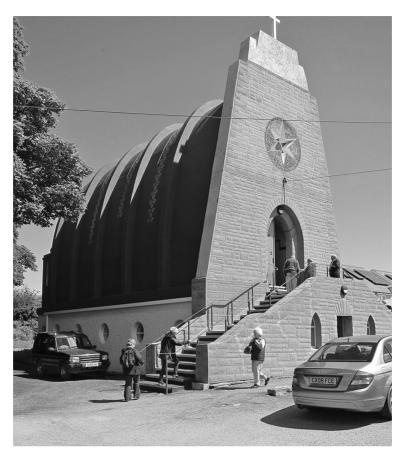
In the early eighteenth century **Parys Mountain** was divided between two unprofitable farms belonging to the Llys Dulas and Plas Newydd estates. On 2 March 1768 a major source of copper ore was found (or re-found, because the mountain had been mined in the Early Bronze Age) by Jonathan Roose from Derbyshire, initiating a period of extensive mining which was to make Parys for some 30 years the most important mine in the world. This enterprise had a faltering start because of inevitable quarrels between the owners, until in 1778, one of the heroes of 'management history', the lawyer Thomas Williams (*Twm Chwareu Teg*) was able to bring them together and exploit all the multifarious resources of the mountain. Though the quality of the ore was not especially high it was close to the surface and easy to mine by opencast working which eventually destroyed most of the summit and by the mid nineteenth century the

mine was declining. But because of the acidic nature of the water pumped from the mine, dissolved copper could be gained by precipitation, and sulphur by calcining. The mine closed in the 1960s but there are still rich resources of minerals there, and more recently the remains of the mine—the Great Opencast, the ruined office compound of the Mona Mine, the engine house and the tower of its unique wind-powered pumping engine—have become the focus of a major Heritage Tourism enterprise. This has arisen from the enthusiasm of a local group of mine explorers searching for the evidence of the prehistoric mining who realised that the dam holding back thousands of gallons of acidic water in the abandoned galleries was not longer sound. This brought government finance to drain the mine and establish a tourist trail over the mountain. We were guided on this trail by Dr David Jenkins one of the prime movers and sustainers of the project.

En route to the port, members visited the **Roman Catholic Church**, Our Lady Star of the Sea, which was built in 1932–35, but is still the most conspicuously modern building in Anglesey. It was designed by an Italian engineer, Guiseppe Rinvolucri, who also built two other Catholic churches in north Wales in much more traditional style. The church hall forms a stone-built basement above which six concrete parabolic curves rise to form the main church. The soaring vault is pierced by three bands of flower-like glass bricks which flood the interior with light. The small apse is lit by five star-shaped windows. The church has been recently reopened after major restoration.



Dr David Jenkins addressing the Cambrians at their visit to the Parys Mountain copper mines on Wedneday 11 July 2012. *Photograph: Heather James*.



The remarkable parabolic Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady Star of the Sea, Amlwch, designed by an Italian engineer, Guiseppe Rinvolucri and built in 1932–35. *Photograph: Heather James*.

The success of the Parys copper mine demanded a very large and efficient **Amlwch Port** port, but nature had provided only a very narrow rocky creek. An Act of Parliament was obtained in 1793 to enlarge the port by excavating the eastern side to provide quays with storage bins for the copper ore and for imported coal and scrap iron, but it still remains a very difficult harbour and vulnerable to northerly winds. The harbour was extended northwards in 1817 and shipbuilding was established on the western quays as the prosperity of the mine declined. This yard later moved to the east side where a dry dock was cut out of the rock beyond the harbour offices and the Sail Loft. The latest phase of development of the port dates from the mid 1970s when Shell established an offshore oil terminal which was serviced from Amlwch. The Harbourmaster's Office is now the headquarters of Geomôn, the organisation which promotes Anglesey's complex geology. The Amlwch Heritage Trust and Menter Môn run the Sail Loft Café where members lunched before visiting the new exhibition in the re-roofed copper ore bins and touring the harbour with Bryan Hope, the historian of the port development.

On leaving Amlwch for **Llanfechell** the bus passed several prehistoric sites which have been subject to recent excavation as a Community Project by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust. Evidence for Neolithic and Early Bronze Age activity has been found at Carrog hilltop, at a possible megalithic tomb and close to a

standing stone which fell in 2009. Very unusually a packing stone had been decorated with a cup-and-ring mark. Another fine standing stone was passed at Soar Chapel on the return to Bangor

**Brynddu, Llanfechell** has been an estate centre since at least the late Middle Ages. The east wing is likely to date from the marriage of Arthur Bulkeley to the Brynddu heiress in 1565; a broad three-bay cross range was added later that century and a west wing to match the eastern one in 1690. A sketch by Lewis Morris suggests that it has not changed much (externally) since 1742 at which time it was the home of William Bulkeley the 'diarist'. This diary is a record of the weather, of his farms and his business dealings, and of all the gossip of the county. It, alongside the letters of the Morris Brothers, is the basis of our knowledge of the social life of the island in the eighteenth century. His only daughter was married to the pirate, Fortunatus Wright, and the garden at Brynddu received many exotic plants sent by his son-in-law. The walled garden is still extant and is one of the oldest and best preserved in Anglesey. The house has never been sold, but always passed by inheritance. Robin Grove-White expounded the history of the house while his wife took the other half of the party around the garden before both assembled for tea on the lawn, in a Cambrian tradition which has not been seen for some years.

The Public Lecture was given in the evening by David Hopewell of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust who spoke on excavations at the recently discovered Roman Settlement at Tai Cochion, Brynsiencyn. This site was discovered by metal detectorists, air photography and geophysics and seems to be a prosperous non-military village at a point where the ferry from *Segontium* would land at this quite densely-packed trading station.

#### THURSDAY 12 JULY

The day was spent mainly in **Beaumaris**, the administrative centre of the island from the thirteenth to the mid nineteenth century. All members visited the church and the gaol but were free to wander in the town in the morning. The President, David Longley, who has done a lot of architectural recording in the town, was available as guide. Sadly, due to a recent theft by a visitor, we were not able to visit the George and Dragon mural. In the afternoon members had to make a choice of two of the three sites offered.

Our member, the Revd Neil Fairlamb, vicar of the Church of St Nicholas, Beaumaris, could not be present because of a funeral in another of his churches. Consequently we were welcomed by the churchwarden Lt Col. Michael Burkham and Dr Lawrence Butler led the party around the building. The Revd Fairlamb had provided some notes on the church for members and a copy of an article by Dr Madelene Gray on some of the memorials. Like other new towns, Beaumaris remained within the jurisdiction of Llandegfan, the original parish, until the citizens petitioned for their own church in the early fourteenth century. This church lacked the flourishes of the present building where the external battlements, finials and Perpendicular style window tracery belong to the early sixteenth and, in some cases, the early seventeenth century. There was a big restoration in 1902 by G. F. Bodley who stripped the interior plaster. Beaumaris was the county town and this was the civic church for several centuries so there are some particularly notable memorials, the finest group in Anglesey, and some rich fittings, such as the chancel stalls, which may have come from Llanfaes Friary at the Dissolution. The large late fifteenthcentury alabaster table tomb of William Bulkeley and his wife Elen Gruffudd of Penrhyn stands at the back of the north aisle. There are several later Bulkeley memorials in the chancel, some by notable sculptors. The most important memorial lies in the south porch—the coffin lid reputedly of Princess Joan (Siwan) daughter of King John and wife of Llywelyn the Great who was buried in Llanfaes in 1237 but probably significantly later in date. The coffin was rescued from use as a horse trough by Viscount Bulkeley in 1808 who placed it in a grotto at Baron Hill, whence it came to the church in the 1920s.



The alabaster effigies of William and Elen Bulkeley, 1490, in St Nicholas's Church, Beaumaris, visited by the Cambrians on Thursday 12 July 2012. *Photograph: Heather James*.

**Beaumaris Gaol** was a very innovatory prison built in 1828–29 by Hansom and Welch who later built the Bulkeley Hotel and Victoria Terrace on the front. The radial cell blocks are surrounded by a high curtain wall from which the temporary gibbet projected over the street. The last public execution there was in 1862. Three cell blocks were originally planned but in 1867–68 an additional cross wing was built, the architecture slightly less intimidating. The only surviving treadmill in Britain still stands in the northern yard. It was used to raise water to roof tanks from which it was piped to every cell. The governor's office was on the upper floor at the junction of the three original corridors. There was an infirmary and work rooms. The prison closed in 1878; the building was later used as a Police Station and then as an antenatal clinic before opening as a museum in the 1970s. The prison and its context within evolving ideas of crime and punishment were described to members assembled in the prison chapel by Mrs Penny Harris who is currently working on a history of its architect.

The Tudor Rose (32 Castle Street) is a well preserved segment of a later fifteenth-century hall-house with flanking wings. The street front is the south wing with a sixteenth-century projection over the street. Behind it is the central open hall which in 1550 had an inserted staircase and floor, now mainly removed. The chimney on the north wall also belongs to this reordering; in the nineteenth century it housed a baker's oven. The north wing has been entirely lost. The house survives because of the efforts of its former owner, Hendrik Lek who came to Beaumaris as a refugee and restored the decaying building to house his antique business. It is now an estate agent's office. Several other buildings in Castle Street (the Bull's

Head, The Town House, Tyn y Gongl and the George and Dragon) originate in the late sixteenth century. Survey work by David Longley over the last five years, responding to commercial development work, has revealed much concealed historic fabric and it is probable that similar work will reveal much more, if the opportunities are taken in other core areas of the medieval town. Seventeenth-century buildings of note near the castle are the remnant of the **Grammar School** (now the Library) founded in 1603 and the **Court House** built in 1614 and in use up to the 1960s. The court room itself is designed as the great hall of a gentry house, with hammer beam trusses and the judges' seat on the dias beneath a cove of honour. The court proper is divided from the public space by high spikey railings which also ring the dock. In the eighteenth century an elegant octagonal jury room was added at the back. In the 1820s Beaumaris Corporation made a deliberate attempt to become a fashionable seaside resort and built terraces of houses to attract visitors. **Green Edge** (1825) was the first and **Victoria Terrace** (1833) the most spectacular. Nothing on that scale was attempted again. A very fine twentieth-century development is **Maes Hyfryd**, the estate of houses designed by S. Colwyn Foulkes in 1950. They were council houses built to strict postwar regulations, yet achieve astonishing beauty, convenience and sympathy with their setting.

Beaumaris Castle was the last of the ring of castles built by Edward I and his great architect, Master James of St George, to encircle the conquered kingdom of Gwynedd. The site was a new one, but stood close to the Welsh town of Llanfaes, whose role as a commercial centre and port was to be transferred to the English borough of Beaumaris. At Beaumaris, Master James had an undeveloped site and one without a rock foundation to dictate the plan. Consequently this is the most perfectly symmetrical of his concentric designs. It consists of two wards, the inner square in shape, the outer subtly angular with two gates offset from the inner ones. The whole structure was surrounded by a wide moat linked by a dock to the open sea. But, despite the perfection of plan (every yard of ground outside the moat is within arrowshot of the defenders), the castle as it stands lacks the impact of Conwy or Harlech. It does not dominate because it was never completed: the inner towers and walls have no battlements and the two gatehouses should have been a storey higher, with turrets rising above. It is probable that the castle was planned and the site chosen in 1283 but work was not started until 1295. From 1295 to 1300 work was rapid but money and royal interest evaporated; work ceased until 1306. It continued until 1330 but was never fully completed. In the early fifteenth century the castle fell to Owain Glyndŵr who held it for two years. In the sixteenth century it began to decay and was used as a prison but in the Civil War there were some hasty repairs. It was held for the king by Sir Richard Bulkeley. The Cambrians were guided around the castle by Dr Amée Pritchard. During discussion of the later history of the castle Rory O'Farrell recalled that Vernon Hughes, a noted architectural historian and Cambrian, had been convinced that the stucco image of the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem originally in Oldbawn House, Tallaght, Co. Dublin (and now in the National Museum of Ireland) had been modelled on Beaumaris Castle. Oldbawn House had been built in 1635 by Archdeacon William Bulkeley.

Aberlleiniog Castle was described for two successive groups of Cambrians by Dr Karen Pollock. The puzzles of this site have only recently been resolved. It is a motte and bailey castle with three significant periods of construction which can now be dated with some confidence, though intriguing questions still remain. The first phase is a late eleventh-century motte built by Hugh of Avranches as part of an incursion across north Wales to extend the Norman conquest beyond the Saxon kingdom. The attack was repulsed by Gruffudd ap Cynan and Hugh was killed, drowned here in the marsh which was then a viable creek with access for boats close to the motte. The mound was brought into play again during the Civil War when Sir Thomas Cheadle established a fort and gun running point for Parliament, in opposition to the Bulkeleys defending Beaumaris castle for the King. There has been much uncertainty about the nature of Cheadle's fort but recent excavations on the top of the motte have shown that a defensible redoubt was formed by cutting into the top of the mound and creating an earthen rampart with inner revetment. The really

puzzling element of the monument is the rather flimsy stone fort on the top of the mound. Finds from the excavations have now shown that this structure must date from after 1700 and before 1790 when Thomas Pennant visited and described the stone fort. Two views developed in the following two hundred years: that the stone fort was an unrecorded medieval structure which had been reinforced inside with clay in the Civil War, or it was a folly which had been wrapped around the top of the motte. This latter view has been shown to be correct, though the identity of its builder remains unknown. The site is now owned by Isle of Anglesey County Council and a new bridge and staircase to the top of the motte has been constructed. Excavation took place during this development.

The group of monuments at Penmon Priory—holy well, sculpted crosses, twelfth-century church, thirteen-century conventual buildings and secular post-Reformation dovecote-encapsulates the development of Christian history on Anglesey. The original monastery is reputed to have been founded by St Seiriol, in the sixth century. The monastery prospered and in the tenth century fine crosses were set up at the boundaries of the sanctuary (noddfa) and the township, but Viking raids have destroyed all other evidence of this date. During the twelfth-century revival under Gruffudd ap Cynan and Owain Gwynedd the abbey church was rebuilt, and it remains the finest and most complete example of a church of this period in Gwynedd. In the thirteenth century the Celtic monasteries were persuaded by Llywelyn the Great to adopt a more regular rule, and Penmon eventually became an Augustinian Priory with quite substantial conventual buildings. The priory survived the Edwardian conquest and expanded slightly, but was dissolved in 1538. The buildings passed into the hands of the Bulkeleys of Beaumaris, who enclosed much of the land as a deer park and built a fine dovecote. They also converted the prior's lodging into a rather attractive house. Throughout this time the priory church remained in use, as it does today. The holy well is behind the church beyond the monastic fishpond. Though it must have been crucial to the siting of the monastery from the first, the present well buildings belong to an eighteenth-century revival of interest in springs and spas. A plaque on the brick well chamber gives a date 1710. The dovecote is earlier, perhaps built in about 1600, but the large threshing barn beside it may belong to the eighteenth century when agriculture became a serious interest to Anglesey gentry. Two crosses (out of four recorded by Edward Lhuyd) and a font (or perhaps a cross base) found in a stonemason's yard in Beaumaris are now in the nave. All three belong to a school of sculpture which absorbed stylistic traits from northern English, Viking and Irish art and the sculptors who created them may have had close contacts with Cheshire. A few fragments surviving in Bangor Cathedral belong to the same school. The sculptures were described by Professor Nancy Edwards who had just completed new study of them. The cruciform church is the most complete twelfth-century building in Anglesey. Stylistic variations suggest that it was built in stages between 1140 and 1170 but the sequence is currently under debate. It was originally thought that the present nave was the earliest part, pre-dating the tower and the transepts, with the chancel being enlarged under Llywelyn the Great to accommodate the monastic choir demanded by the Augustinian rule. David Longley has recently suggested that the chancel might have been the site of the earliest single-celled church to which a western tower was added; with the present nave being added further to the west, followed by the transepts linked through new north and south arches. This building history would echo that of the sister establishment on Ynys Lannog (Puffin Island) and accounts for the extra width of the chancel which may have been built around existing walls. The chancel (now the parish church) was rebuilt in the nineteenth century on thirteenth-century foundations.

In the evening the G. T. Clark Prizes were presented in a short ceremony which was followed by the **Annual General Meeting**. Five of the seven recipients were guests of the Association at dinner, together with the winner of the Blodwen Jerman Prize, Miss Cerys Elizabeth Hudson and her parents.

#### FRIDAY 13 JULY

The visit to the **Bryn Gwyn Stone Circle** was missed due to wet weather and the problem of parking the bus on a dangerous road. This is the only stone circle in Anglesey and recent excavations of the badly damaged site had shown that the original record by Henry Rowlands (1723) had been substantially correct. Late Neolithic cremations were found close to the ring, within which a central stone had been erected in the Early Bronze Age.

The party went directly to the **Newborough Institute** where they were welcomed by Miss Enid Mummery who gave a short introduction to the Institute (1902–05) and its benefactor, Sir John Prichard Jones, a local boy who had done well in the textile trade. Newborough was founded by Edward I in 1303 on the lands of the princes of Gwynedd's court at Rhosyr but it suffered a disastrous sand blow and inundation in the fourteenth century from which its agricultural soils never recovered. By the end of the nineteenth century it was seriously impoverished. The Institute, with its library, Assembly Rooms and almshouses, still survives as a community centre and it has recently been refurbished.

The site at **Llys Rhosyr** was not visited by the main party, but David Longley spoke in the Institute about the political landscape of the princes of Gwynedd. He described the *commote* divisions, each with a royal estate (*maerdref*) centred on a group of buildings (*llys*) where the prince would stay while administering justice and extending hospitality in the district. There were several of these courts within Gwynedd but Rhosyr is the only site where these buildings, a great hall and lesser domestic buildings within a walled enclosure, have been found and excavated (1992–97). Sadly only the robbed foundations had survived.

After a cup of tea the party looked at the original library collection of the Newborough Institute and its system of cataloguing and recording loans.

Llangadwaladr Church was visited next. It is one of the finest churches on the island and contains the Catamanus Stone, undoubtedly the most important historical document of the seventh-century in Anglesey. It also contains in its east window the largest quantity of late medieval stained glass, and in the south transept a fine Renaissance memorial. The glass commemorates the Meyrick family of Bodorgan who made their fortune with Henry VII and the very late Gothic south transept was built in 1661 as a memorial to Col. Hugh Owen of Bodowen who played a rather equivocal role in the Civil War. The Catamanus Stone was described by Professor Nancy Edwards and the later features of the church were discussed by Dr Lawrence Butler. The importance of the Catamanus Stone is threefold. Firstly, it is a true gravestone designed to stand upright at the head of the grave and it refers to Cadfan (Catamanus), king of Gwynedd, who died in AD 625. This reference to a known historical figure provides a firm date for other stones where a similar style of lettering is used. The style is a mixture of Roman capitals and half uncial letter forms derived from manuscript writing, known from a few surviving wax tablets. Secondly, it was found close to the church and reused as a door lintel. This establishes royal link to the church, continued in the dedication to his grandson, Cadwaladr. Finally, the grandiloquent phraseology has echoes of Imperial Bystantium.

After visiting the church the party moved to **Aberffraw**, in the Age of the Princes their major court. Because of numbers two sittings were arranged at the Community Cafe at Llys Llywelyn. David Longley took one group up to the church and discussed the history and topography of the village and the other group came up later to join him with Lawrence Butler. Poetry and documentary sources emphasise the importance of the village, which may have arisen in the immediate post-Roman period since a ditched enclosure associated with some Roman pottery was found in the 1970s. Nothing remains of the *llys*, demolished in 1317. However, eighteenth-century antiquarians believed that they could still make out traces of it at the west end of the village and research into the history of land holdings here would suggest that they were right. Sadly the area is now built over. **Aberfraw Church**, much altered in the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries, retains a Romanesque arch discovered in restoration in 1840 and rebuilt against

the west wall. It is all that survives of any twelfth-century splendour, but despite the loss of political power in 1283 the church was embellished in the fourteenth century and doubled in size in the sixteenth century when a second aisle was added. A good deal of debate arose about the original position of the surprisingly weathered 'Norman' arch, whether it had been a chancel arch or the arch of a large west doorway.

From Aberffraw the whole party went to Barclodiad y Gawres Cruciform Passage Grave where again numbers necessitated two groups for entry to the tomb. While Frances Lynch spoke about the monument, Dr Kate Roberts of Cadw spoke to those outside about options for redisplay. Cadw, very conscious of the inadequacy of the present arrangements and of the tension between protection of the decorated stones and their adequate display, were hoping to make changes in the near future and were keen to have the views of members. This important site is related to the famous Boyne Valley tombs in Ireland—Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth. Like them it had a long narrow passage leading to a vaulted central chamber with three lower side chambers, the whole covered with a large circular mound or earth and stones. The monument was excavated in 1952-53. Cremated bone was found in a side chamber but a unique element of funerary ritual was revealed in the central chamber: the remains of a 'magic' stew poured over a fire and covered with limpet shells. Evidence of such hearths has been found in other tombs, but never the ceremonial detail. The excavators also recognised for the first time that several of the wall stones were lightly pecked with abstract designs featuring spirals, zigzags and lozenges. In the last few years Adam Stanford and George Nash have identified previously unrecognised decoration on Stone 7 (the left-hand stone of the left side-chamber) and on the upper part of Stone 6 (much weathered since graffiti reveal that it had projected above the mound in the early twentieth century). With the help of large torches Cambrians agreed that they could see these elusive marks.

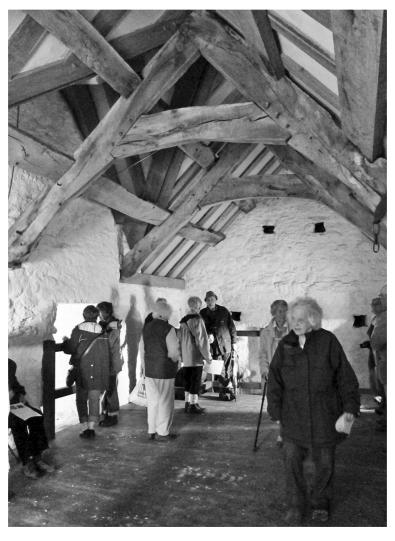
On the return journey to Bangor, Frances Lynch commented on the **Henblas Estate** as we passed. Some 40 years of eighteenth-century domestic accounts survive from the house and the large threshing barn, visible for miles around, is a product of the agricultural improvers who were very influential at the time. She and David Longley also described the excavations carried out prior to the construction of the A55. The bus stopped on the bridge near **Cefn Cwmwd** to look at the site of one of three late prehistoric and Roman settlements which had been found along the length of the road. The others were at Cefn Du, Gaerwen and at Melin y Plas, near Caergeiliog. The Cefn Cwmwd group had been badly ruined but a long period of occupation was confirmed by the discovery of a carved garnet from a finger ring of the sixth century AD, another example of the post-Roman continuity which had been stressed at other sites. The badly damaged buildings at all three sites included wooden and clay-walled houses as well as the well known stone ones. At Cefn Cwmwd a small group of Early Bronze Age urn burials had also been found. As we neared the Menai Strait, Dr Peter Jarvis explained the innovatory engineering of Stephenson's **Britiannia Bridge** of 1846.

#### SATURDAY 14 JULY

One of the best known Anglesey monuments, **Din Lligwy**, was visited on the last morning under the guidance of Professor Raimund Karl of Bangor University. Though often described as a 'hut group' it is really comparable to the contemporary Romanised *villas* of the south of England—a well regulated 'estate centre' with houses and working buildings arranged within an imposing enclosure. Excavation in 1907 revealed evidence for earlier occupation—a less coherently planned set of buildings. The date of the reorganisation which resulted in the present arrangement is uncertain. The angularity of the enclosure and the presence of several rectangular buildings would suggest that they belong to the Roman period. Finds suggest occupation in the fourth century AD, but these may reflect only a small segment of the

site's history. A new reconstruction drawing provided by Cadw was the focus of a good deal of discussion about the original entrance to the enclosure. Cadw preferred a small doorway on the south-west but most Cambrians felt that the eastern entrance through an imposing barn, similar to that at Cefn Graianog, was more likely. Though damaged, at least one intact door jamb could be recognised. Standing in this entrance many people were struck by the quality of the square building directly opposite and there was some debate about its possible role.

From Din Lligwy the party went to **Hafoty**, **Llansadwrn**, the oldest surviving house in the island. It has been owned by the Bulkeley family since the sixteenth century but Cadw has recently carried out an extensive programme of excavation and restoration. It is only open by arrangement and we were met by Roy Nally, a regular guide there, who showed members the details of the structure, after the history of the



Hafoty, Llansadwrn, where the Cambrians were greeted by the guide, Roy Nally on Saturday 14 July 2012. *Photograph: Heather James*.

building and its record of ownership had been described by David Longley. The likely original builder was Thomas Norres, Constable of Beaumaris Castle in 1439; in the early sixteenth century the house belonged to Henry Norres, and in 1511 it was acquired by the Bulkeleys. The original timber-framed house, with a two-roomed basement and a first floor hall, is now the much altered east wing. A ground-floor hall open to the roof was added to the west. This was originally a wooden cruck hall, very rare survival in Anglesey, with perhaps clay walls. Later the walls were replaced in stone which encased the timber frame. The final section is the solar wing on the west, which in its present form belongs to the early sixteenth century. The central hall would have had an open hearth but in about 1530 a large stone fireplace and chimney was added to the south wall.

On the return journey the bus passed the **Bulkeley memorial** (1880) viewed against the panorama of Snowdonia, also the backdrop of a brief visit to the Colwyn Ffoulkes houses at **Maes Hyfryd** above Beaumaris. Passing through the town of Menai Bridge, Dr Peter Jarvis spoke about **Telford's bridge** of 1826. The party arrived back in Bangor in time to catch trains south.

Frances Lynch Llewellyn

#### **AUTUMN MEETING, 2012**

# Birmingham

Nineteen members attended the Autumn 2012 Meeting in Birmingham held between Friday 21 September and Sunday 23 September. Members assembled at the Thistle Hotel in the centre of the city in late on Friday morning. This proved to be a convenient centre for visits since many sites, such as the two cathedrals, the City Museum and indeed the Jewellery Quarter were within walking distance, and it was close to the Metro Station at Snow Hill. The meeting was organised by Frances Lynch Llewellyn on behalf of the Association and she would like to acknowledge the help and advice given by Henry Owen-John, Nick Molyneux and David Symons, and to thank the latter two for their very active and generous participation in the event. She would also like to thank the President, David Longley, for lending his digital projector for the lectures.

### FRIDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

At 2.00 pm the party left by bus for **King's Norton**, one of the mediaeval villages absorbed by the spread of Birmingham in the nineteenth century and formally incorporated into the city in 1911. In the late fifteenth century King's Norton (a royal manor) was a prosperous village making its money from wool. In 1492 a farmer and stapler, Humphrey Rotsey, began to build a large new house, known now as the **Saracen's Head**, on the edge of the Green, close to the church. This house still survives, despite several changes of use. In the 1930s it was given to the church by the brewery which owned it and during the last 10 years it has been the subject of a major restoration, helped by success in the BBC2 Restoration programme. This restoration has concentrated on the essentially intact north wing, now available for display and use as meeting rooms. The slightly later east wing, originally built for commercial use, had been more heavily changed and is now parish offices and a cafe, while the south and west wings, rebuilt in the nineteenth century as service areas, have been rebuilt again in an elegant but functional modern style.

The Cambrians did not visit the fourteenth-century church, heavily restored in the nineteenth century, but went across to the **Old Grammar School** on the other side of the churchyard. The school originated as a pre-Reformation chantry school, became a grammar school during Edward VI's reign and is associated with the notable Puritan scholar, Thomas Hall, who was vicar in the mid seventeenth century but ejected after the Restoration. The building is known to have housed his extensive library. The school, which remained here until the nineteenth century, was on two floors, boys below and girls above, each in a single room linked by a projecting porch with staircase. The ground floor was stone built, the upper floor timber-framed. There is a large fourteenth-century traceried window in wood in the upper room which has been brought from elsewhere but its exact origin is unknown. The building was remodelled in 1911 when additional windows, an external stone stair and two fireplaces were added. It has also been subject to more recent restoration and can be hired for meetings. This complex of late medieval buildings, the largest in the Birmingham area, still belongs to the parish of St Nicholas which is helped by a large body of volunteers.

The party returned to the bus at 3.45pm to go to Bournville to see the timber-framed Selly Manor and the cruck-framed hall-house, Minworth Greaves. Both houses were rescued and re-erected by George and Laurence Cadbury and are owned and run by the Bournville Village Trust, set up as an independent charity by the Cadbury family in 1900. The party was welcomed to Minworth Greaves by Gillian Ellis and Jim Blackham of the Trust and had a cup of tea in the medieval hall while watching a presentation by Mr Blackham on the process of demolition and re-erection of Selly Manor. This work, carried out under the supervision of the architect W. A. Harvey from 1900-16, had been very fully recorded photographically. These photographs had been recently digitised by Mr Blackham and he provided a fascinating commentary upon them before leading the group through the building itself which stood in an attractive garden only a few yards from Minworth Greaves, also dismantled and rebuilt in 1932. Both houses had been in a bad condition when they were bought by the Cadburys to provide 'instant heritage' for their new community at Bournville for which building had started in 1895. Both were entirely typical of the Midlands timberframed building tradition and came from only a few miles away. The simple cruck-framed hall of Minworth Greaves (perhaps 750 years old) lends itself to modern use and is available for meetings; Selly Manor is a more complex building, perhaps dating back to the early fourteenth century but is displayed as a sixteenth-century house, filled with contemporary furniture from the collection of Laurence Cadbury. This includes a tester bed marked 'EP 1592' and thought to have belonged to Bishop Edmund Prys, the translator of the Psalms into Welsh.

After dinner there was a brilliantly illustrated lecture from Dr David Symons of Birmingham Museum on the Staffordshire Hoard of Anglo-Saxon jewellery. Dr Symons is in charge of the current conservation and research project relating to the hoard and was able to bring members up to date on new insights from the conservation work and from new research into the possible function of some of the rare elements of decoration in the hoard.

#### SATURDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

Dr Symons had kindly arranged for the Cambrians to visit the Birmingham **City Museum** at 9.30am, before the normal opening time, and he was on hand to bring us through the security barrier and remained to answer questions and provide commentary on the pieces on display. Some of the larger and more unusual pieces are currently on view in Stoke on Trent Museum which is joint owner of the hoard with Birmingham City Museum.

At 10.30am members left the museum to make their way to the Jewellery Quarter where visits to the **Museum of the Jewellery Quarter** and to **Evans Silver Factory** had been arranged for 11.30am. Those going to Evans in the morning walked there under the guidance of Heather James and Rory O'Farrell;

others went by taxi or train to the more distant Museum of the Jewellery Quarter. Both these museums are built around workshops founded in the later nineteenth century which closed in the 1980s in the case of the Jewellery Quarter and 2004 in the case of the Evans Siverworks. Like most businesses in the Jewelley Quarter they had both started in domestic houses with small workshops in the back and had expanded into small but cramped factories. Consequently in both, only small groups could visit at a time and the Cambrians visited one in the morning and the other in the afternoon, switching around at lunchtime. Many of the processes for cutting, pressing and polishing metal were similar in the two establishments but differed in scale. Both firms sold only to the trade so their names would be unknown to the public and assay marks would reflect the point of sale rather than manufacture. The Smith and Pepper Jewellery Works has been a museum since the 1990s and is run by the Birmingham Museums Trust. The Evans Silverworks closed more recently and was bought by English Heritage. It is only open by prior arrangement and the tours are run by very knowledgeable volunteers who have worked in the trade. In both, the juxtaposition of original nineteenth-century fittings and machines and the occasional twentieth-century pieces of equipment was particularly fascinating and poignant in the context of these highly traditional craft industries whose products were once on every dressing table and sideboard—and no longer are. The Jewellery Quarter has a very good pamphlet on its historical sites and after the arranged visits members chose their own routes and targets. The large nineteenth-century cemeteries were very



The J. W. Evans Silver Factory during the Cambrian's visit on 22 September 2012. Established in 1881, it is one of the most complete surviving historic factories in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter, rescued by English Heritage in 2008 and opened to the public in the summer of 2011. *Photograph: Heather James*.

atmospheric and the eighteenth-century houses around St Paul's church were much admired. Some of the numerous jewellery shops were also visited.

After dinner Nicholas Molyneux of English Heritage lectured on Matthew Boulton and the Lunar Men, in preparation for our visit to Soho House on the following afternoon. He spoke about the Soho Manufactory and Foundry as well as the house, showing the numerous plans for enlargement and aggrandisement which did not take place because Boulton preferred to put money into schemes for production of goods. The range of his entrepreneurial activity was emphasised, as well as his good sense and attractive personality.

#### SUNDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

The party left the hotel at 10.00am for an architectural tour of **Birmingham Civic Centre**, led by Nicholas Molyneux. This started at the Roman Catholic Cathedral just across the road from the hotel. St Chad's Cathedral is by Pugin in the Baltic German style. The exterior is austere but the interior a riot of colour with a high, soaring vault. St Philip's Anglican Cathedral is English Baroque, built in 1715 and presented a contrast in white and gold, with scarlet Burne-Jones windows. Cambrians were just able to look into both churches briefly between services. The surrounding streets presented a contrast of new and old business palaces. Many fine Victorian and Edwardian facades still survive but the number of offices to let was very noticeable and the future of some older buildings may be in danger. The future of more recent office blocks, some by notable architects, are certainly under threat as a great deal of demolition and rebuilding (driven by financial calculation) is clearly under way in this central sector of the city. Mr Molyneux calculated that the average life of a modern office block was 25 years. Stops were made on several street corners to admire and discuss particular buildings before the party arrived in Victoria Square beneath the Town Hall, modelled on the temple of Castor and Pollux in Rome and built in Anglesey marble by Hansom and Welch (who also built Beaumaris Gaol, seen during the Summer Meeting this year). The Italianate Council House of 1874–79 and the French Renaissance former Post Office were also discussed, as well as the modern sculptures in the square. The party then moved through the shopping mall beneath the current Brutalist City Library to look across at the colourful wire cladding of the new library building, soon to be opened.

After having found their own lunch Cambrians returned to the hotel to take the coach to **Soho House**, the home of Matthew Boulton in Handsworth. The museum in a separate building has recently been provided with a new exhibition including some exceptionally fine examples of ormolu vases and Sheffield Plate candlesticks made at Soho and an explanation of the manufacturing technique, as well as examples of medals and coins made in the foundry and mint which was Boulton's last great enterprise. There was also a good scale model of the house and parkland in relation to the manufactory and foundry, all then set in an open agricultural landscape. Though hemmed about by more recent housing, the elegant Georgian house still looks very fine. It has lost service and library wings but the core is intact, with its painted slate wall-covering still in place despite recorded problems with the fixings. The idea of using slate came from North Wales through the Wyatt architectural family some of whose members worked for Boulton and for Richard Pennant at Penrhyn. The house has been restored to its condition in Boulton's day (1766–1809), with painted oilskin floor coverings and much original furniture, including the dining table around which the men of the Lunar Society sat and debated science and watched demonstrations of early chemical experiments. The original heating system using one of Boulton and Watt's steam engines can still be seen in the basement, along with the extensive wine cellars with their Welsh slate shelving.

This was a leisurely visit, with time for a cup of tea in the museum cafe before taking the coach across Handsworth to the **St Mary's Church** to see the memorials to Matthew Boulton, James Watt and William Murdock. Murdock had been the chief engineer, supervising the reassembly of steam engines sent out to clients all over the world. We were welcomed by the vicar, Canon Brian Hall, who outlined the long history

of the building, from Norman, through fourteenth century to Georgian and on to the very impressively roofed Victorian building of today. James Watt reportedly did not like the church, but he is commemorated in it with a specially built chapel containing a very fine life-size seated statue by Sir Francis Chantry. Boulton has a wall plaque with a very laudatory epitaph touching on both his achievements and his character. He had been not only a great businessman but had also overseen the development of Birmingham's Dispensary and General Hospital and had also taken an interest in the theatre.

FRANCES LYNCH LLEWELLYN

### Eisteddfod Lecture 2012 • Darlith Eisteddfod 2012

The Cambrian's Eisteddfod Lecture 2012, entitled 'Prosiect Archaeoleg Cymunedol Tinkinswood a Llwyneliddon' ('Tinkinswood and St Lythans Community Archaeology Project'), published below in Welsh followed by an English summary, was delivered by Dr Ffion Reynolds, Heritage and Arts Manager, Cadw and Honorary Research Fellow, Cardiff University, on Wednesday, 8 August 2012, at the National Eisteddfod at Llandow, Vale of Glamorgan. The talk was about the Tinkinswood and St Lythans Community Archaeology Project—in which Cadw worked with the Council for British Archaeology and Amgueddfa Cymru—with the aim of bringing local people together with professional archaeologists to explore and reinterpret the great chambered tombs at Tinkinswood and St Lythans (Reynolds 2012).

\* \* \*

#### PROSIECT ARCHAEOLEG CYMUNEDOL TINKINSWOOD A LLWYNELIDDON

Nodweddir y cyfnod Neolithig yng Nghymru gan ddechrau amaethyddiaeth a ffermio—ffordd o fyw sydd, fe gredir, yn dyddio o tua 4000 Cyn Crist. Mae canlyniadau dadansoddiadau paill yn awgrymu bod rhannau o goedwigoedd Cymru wedi'u torri a'u clirio erbyn y dyddiad hwnnw, a byddai'r broses honno'n cyflymu ac yn dwysáu wrth i'r cyfnod Neolithig ddirwyn i ben. Un o brif nodweddion y cyfnod yma yng Nghymru oedd adeiladu, yn arbennig, adeiladu siamberi claddu.

Mae tystiolaeth yn dangos y byddai tomen o gerrig neu bridd yn gorchuddio'r rhan fwyaf o'n cromlechi nodweddiadol yma yng Nghymru. Mae'r pridd hwnnw yn aml wedi diflannu, gan adael y meini mawr oedd yn ffurfio'r siambr ei hun i ni eu gweld heddiw. Dyma'r hyn fyddwn ni'n eu hadnabod fel cromlechi—ond, mewn gwirionedd, dim ond rhan o'r stori yw'r meini mawrion hyn (Burrow 2006; Cummings and Whittle 2004).

Cafodd beddrodau megalithig eu hadeiladu ar adeg pan oedd trigolion Cymru yn byw mewn cymunedau bychain, yn defnyddio offer carreg ac yn profi dulliau hollol newydd o ffermio'r tir a chadw da byw. Heddiw, mae'r bywyd o'r fath yn swnio'n syml ac yn ansoffistigedig o'i gymharu â'n ffordd ni o fyw. Fodd bynnag, dengys tystiolaeth y beddrodau megalithig nad oedd bywyd pawb yn syml yn ystod y cyfnod hwn. Ceir tri phrif fath o siambr gladdu yng Nghymru; y math cyntaf yw'r beddrod Hafren-Cotswold, sydd i'w ganfod yn bennaf yn y de-ddwyrain, e.e. Parc le Breos ar Benrhyn Gŵyr, a Tinkinswood, y byddaf yn dod 'nôl ato mewn fwy o fanylder yn nes ymlaen. Yr ail fath yw beddrod porth, a welir yn bennaf o gwmpas arfordir y gorllewin, e.e. Pentre Ifan a Charreg Samson, Sir Benfro. Y trydydd math yw beddrod cyntedd, sy'n arbennig o nodweddiadol o'r cyfnod ac i'w ganfod yn Ynys Môn, er enghraifft Bryn Celli Ddu a Barclodiad y Gawres. Mae'r rhain yn debyg iawn i siamberi claddu Neolithig enwog Iwerddon, er enghraifft Newgrange, Knowth a Dowth, yn Swydd Meath.



Children taking part in the Tinkinswood and St Lythans Community Archaeology Project. *Photograph:* © *Crown Copyright, Cadw.* 

Mae yna lawer o dystiolaeth ychwanegol, megis bwyeill a chelf ar garreg, sy'n awgrymu bod cysylltiad diwylliannol clòs rhwng Cymru ac Iwerddon yn y cyfnod Neolithig cynnar, yn ogystal â'r cysylltiad pensaernïol.

Mae olion anheddau yn fwy prin, ond mae nifer cynyddol wedi eu darganfod yn y blynyddoedd diwethaf hyn. Yr enwocaf o'r darganfyddiadau hyn yw tai Clegyr Boia, ger Tyddewi, a thŷ yn Llandygái, ger Bangor. Mae Clegyr Boia yn safle o bwys i archaeolegwyr oherwydd y dystiolaeth werthfawr a ddarganfuwyd yno am y cyfnod Neolithig yng Nghymru. Yn y cyfnod hwnnw roedd tylwyth o ffermwyr gwartheg yn byw yno, a chafwyd hyd i olion tŷ hirsgwar sylweddol a nifer o ddarnau o grochenwaith Neolithig—un o'r darganfyddiadau pwysicaf yng Nghymru—sy'n awgrymu cysylltiad ag Iwerddon yn y trydydd mileniwm Cyn Crist. Cafwyd bwyeill carreg gorffenedig hefyd, efallai o fryniau Preseli, i'r gogledd. O edrych ar dystiolaeth ficrolithig, gallwn gadarnhau bod nifer o 'ffatrïoedd' yng Nghymru yn cynhyrchu bwyeill cerrig ar y pryd—eto, tua 4000 o flynyddoedd Cyn Crist. Y mwyaf o'r 'ffatrïoedd' oedd Graig Lwyd, ger Penmaen-mawr. Mae cynnyrch o'r Graig Lwyd wedi ei ddarganfod cyn belled â Swydd Efrog a chanolbarth Lloegr—er enghraifft, yn agos i Woodhenge a Durrington Walls, ond hefyd mewn 'Causewayed enclosures' yn ne Lloegr, fel Windmill Hill, Wiltshire (Whittle 1996).

Serch hynny, yn hytrach na gweld Cymru'n rhanbarth sydd heb lawer o gydrannau clasurol Neolithig, gellid dadlau bod gan Gymru ei nodweddion Neolithig unigryw ac unigol ei hun sydd, yn syml, yn wahanol i'r nodweddion Neolithig a ganfyddir ymhellach i'r dwyrain. Fe awgrymir y gallai hyn ymwneud â ffordd o fyw a oedd, yn ei hanfod, yn deithiol a chanddi gysylltiadau cryf yn ymestyn yn ôl i'r Mesolithig

a'r olyniaeth ym Môr Iwerddon (tua 12,000 Cyn Crist). Rhaid ystyried bod adeiladwyr y cromlechi yn rhoi gwerth arwyddocaol i amrywiaeth o nodweddion tirweddol, er enghraifft arwyddocad mytholegol a symbolaidd cerrig, mynyddoedd, y môr a'r afonydd, heb sôn am yr haul, y sêr a'r lleuad. Felly, yn wir, mae rhaid dechrau meddwl bod yna draddodiadau pur amrywiol yn y cyfnod Neolithig yng Nghymru o ran adeiladu cofebau.

Mae'r traddodiad cyntaf i'w ganfod yn y gorllewin: cromlechi porth a chyntedd a gysylltir â thraddodiad ehangach o gofadeiladu ar hyd arfordir Môr Iwerddon a'r Iwerydd. Mewn cyferbyniad, ceir yn nwyrain Cymru gyfres o feini hir sy'n debyg i osodiadau a ffurfiau cofebau a ganfyddir yn y dwyrain, fel Ascott-under-Wychwood a Wayland's Smithy yn Swydd Rhydychen. Felly, ymddengys bod gwahanol draddodiadau Neolithig yn nwyrain a gorllewin Cymru, sy'n clymu hanesion a thraddodiadau gwahanol y cyfnod Neolithig â dwyrain a gorllewin Prydain a Gweriniaeth Iwerddon. Mae'r dystiolaeth Gymreig yn aml ar ymylon trafodaethau ar y Neolithig, am amryw o resymau y byddwch chi i gyd yn gyfarwydd â nhw. Fodd bynnag, mae cyfoeth o gofadeiladau cellog Megalithig wedi'u hadeiladu—ac wedi goroesi—yma yn y wlad hon (Cummings and Whittle 2004).

Mae'r prosiect cymunedol Neolithig hwn yn ceisio egluro peth o'r dystiolaeth, ac annog pobl leol i ofalu am yr henebion gwerthfawr, os esoterig, sydd yn eu cymunedau. Rydw i wedi ysgrifennu teithiau sain ar gyfer Tinkinswood a Llwyneliddon er mwyn dod â'r safleoedd yn fyw, a gobeithiaf fod y model hwn o weithio—rhwng asiantaethau ond yn bennaf ochr yn ochr â chymunedau lleol—yn ennyn diddordeb ac yn deffro pobl fel eu bod yn ymwybodol o fodolaeth y trysorau hynafol sydd o'u cwmpas.

Nesaf, rydw i am droi at un o brif bynciau'r papur yma, sef heneb Tinkinswood, sydd wedi ei leoli ym Mro Morgannwg. Mae'r gloddfa o dan sylw yn Tinkinswood yn un gymunedol, a defnyddiwyd trigolion, plant a myfyrwyr lleol i ddatguddio'r hanes tu ôl i'r heneb. Noddir y prosiect gan Cadw a Chyngor Archaeoleg Prydain. Rydym yn cydweithio gydag Archaeoleg Cymru, gyda chymorth ychwanegol gan wirfoddolwyr, Amgueddfa Cymru, myfyrwyr o Brifysgol Caerdydd a dwy ysgol leol. Rydym ni'n dilyn yn ôl traed y gloddfa gyntaf ar y safle, a wnaethpwyd bron i gan mlynedd yn ôl erbyn hyn. Roedd y gloddfa honno o dan arweiniad John Ward, sef Ceidwad Archaeoleg Amgueddfa Cymru, 'nôl yn 1914 (Ward 1915; 1916).

Bwriad y prosiect cymunedol oedd ailymweld â'r cloddfeydd yma ac ehangu ein dealltwriaeth o nodweddion eraill yn yr ardal—fel y ddwy siambr gladdu bosibl sydd wedi disgyn, a'r chwarel bosibl yn y cae cyfagos. Yn ogystal, fe gloddion ni ar safle siambr gladdu Llwyneliddon, funud neu ddau i lawr y ffordd o Tinkinswood. Mae'r gloddfa yma wedi datguddio tystiolaeth bwysig, a fydd yn ein galluogi i ddyddio'r heneb.

Cyn troi at Lwyneliddon mewn fwy o fanylder, fe wna i droi at Tinkinswood, ac esbonio'i hanes, gan gynnwys y cloddio cynnar. Mae Tinkinswood heddiw wedi'i ailadeiladu yn dilyn y gwaith cloddio helaeth a wnaed dan ofal John Ward yn 1914. Mae'n adluniad sy'n rhoi syniad da—ond nid hollol gywir, hyd y gwyddom ni—o sut y byddai beddrodau megalithig fel hyn wedi ymddangos yn y gorffennol. Gwyddom, er enghraifft, y byddai twmpath o bridd wedi gorchuddio'r garreg gapan a'r ochr ddeheuol yn wreiddiol. Mae'r siambr wedi'i lleoli ar lethrau dyffryn sy'n edrych i'r de-orllewin tuag at y Barri—ac ymhellach, dros afon Hafren. Mae'r safle'n gorwedd uwchlaw nant fach, sydd wedi torri drwy'r calchfaen naturiol. O ran y ddaeareg, ffurfiwyd y cerrig hyn yn y cyfnod Triasig, sef tua 200 miliwn o flynyddoedd yn ôl. Byddai wedi bod yn fan deniadol—fel y mae heddiw i raddau—i bobl y cyfnod Neolithig Cynnar weithio ac anheddu ynddo, gan fod cyflenwad dŵr gerllaw, pridd ffrwythlon sy'n addas i'w drin, ac amrywiaeth o ddefnyddiau lithig ar gael yn lleol (Ward 1915; 1916). Mae darnau sylweddol o'r graig i'w gweld yn agored i'r chwith wrth ichi ddod at Tinkinswood, a gallwch weld trwch llawn y darnau mawr, gwastad.

Gelwir y rhan yma yn 'Chwarel'—yn ôl pob tebyg am fod y lle'n edrych, wel, fel chwarel, ac am ei fod wedi'i gydnabod yn yr oes fodern fel lle addas i gloddio am gerrig. Mae'n bosibl mai dyma

ffynhonnell y cerrig llaid trymion a ddefnyddiwyd i adeiladu Tinkinswood ei hun. Cliriwyd yr ardal hon gan wirfoddolwyr lleol, i ddatguddio'r cerrig. Bûm yn agor ffosydd yn yr ardal ac yn edrych am olion dynol—nid esgyrn o reidrwydd, ond olion gwaith a gorffwys: darnau o gyfarpar fflint neu grochenwaith. Petryal yn fras yw amlinell claddfa Tinkinswood, a'r wal gynnal o amgylch iddi (Darvill 2004). Yn y pen dwyreiniol, ceir cwrt bas a llydan, sy'n arwain, bron fel drws, at siambr betryal syml yn y pen draw. Mae'r garreg gapan yn anferth: saith metr o hyd, wrth bedwar metr a hanner o led, a thua metr o drwch. Mae'n pwyso dros 40 tunnell, sy'n ei gwneud, hyd heddiw, yn garreg gapan fwyaf Cymru. Mae'r fynedfa i'r siambr yn gul ac wedi'i chyfeirio tuag at arwyneb gwastad cefn y cwrt. Cafwyd hyd i esgyrn dros hanner cant o unigolion yn y siambr, ynghyd ag ychydig o ddarnau mân o grochenwaith a darnau o gallestr wedi'u naddu. Dangosodd astudiaethau ar yr esgyrn fod y siambr wedi ei defnyddio tua 3700 o flynyddoedd Cyn Crist, tua 5700 o flynyddoedd yn ôl. Bowlen bicer pur anghyffredin o'r Oes Efydd—cyfnod diweddarach, rhwng 2500 a 900 Cyn Crist—oedd y math mwyaf diweddar o grochenwaith a gafwyd yno, ac mae'n debyg fod hwnnw wedi'i osod o fewn cymysgedd o ddeunyddiau organig a defnyddiwyd i gau tyllau yn yr heneb. Golyga hyn fod pobl wedi parhau i ddefnyddio'r heneb ymhell ar ôl iddi gael ei hadeiladu.

Mae rhai o waliau'r cwrt blaen wedi cael eu hailgodi, a'r gwaith newydd wedi'i nodweddu gan batrwm saethben (neu 'herringbone') yn y meini. Yn ogystal â hyn, mae colofn fodern o friciau wedi'i gosod yn y siambr i helpu i gynnal y garreg gapan yn sgil gwaith cloddio a wnaethpwyd yn y ganrif ddiwethaf. Erbyn hyn, fe fyddwn ni'n defnyddio technegau sydd ychydig yn fwy cynnil i gael gwybodaeth a gwrthrychau o'r strwythur, gan ein bod yn awyddus i osgoi gadael marc cweit mor amlwg ar yr heneb â'r hen John Ward (1915). Mae gwaith yr archaeolegwyr ddaeth o'n blaenau yn werthfawr iawn, fodd bynnag. Gwyddom, oherwydd eu gwaith cloddio hwy, mai rwbel a blociau carreg yw prif gorff y garnedd. Mae sawl llechen sylweddol yng ngwaith maen y garnedd, sy'n awgrymu bod strwythurau o'r fath yn bodoli yno cyn y garnedd ei hun, neu efallai fod claddedigaethau eilaidd wedi'u gosod yn y twmpath yn ddiweddarach. Mae cist, sef bedd petryal, ar ochr ogleddol yr heneb wedi'i hamgylchynu â llechi trwchus sydd yn dal yn agored i bobl gael ei gweld. Awgrymwyd bod y rhan hon o'r heneb bron yn sicr yn siambr eilaidd, gan fod nifer o ddarnau o gymalau o weddillion dynol wedi'u canfod yn y gist, ynghyd ag ambell ddarn o esgyrn anifeiliaid—moch, ychen a defaid. I ni heddiw, efallai fod meddwl am gael ein claddu gydag anifeiliaid yn rhywbeth gwrthun, ond rhaid cofio mai dyma gyfnod gwawr amaethyddiaeth yng Nghymru.

Roedd yr anifeiliaid hyn yn fwy na stoc yn unig; byddai'r moch, er enghraifft, wedi bod yn allweddol i ymdrechion y bobl i glirio coedwigoedd yr ardal, gan fwyta gwreiddiau a deiliach oddi ar y llawr i atal tyfiant. Mae ein hymateb ni i'r fath dystiolaeth dros y blynyddoedd wedi arwain at lunio nifer o gredoau a straeon gwerin am y beddrod. O blith y rhain, y gredo fwyaf adnabyddus yw y byddai unrhyw un a fyddai'n cysgu'r nos ar y safle ar noswyl Calan Mai, noswyl Gŵyl Ifan (23 Mehefin), neu noswyl y dydd byrraf un ai yn marw, yn mynd yn wallgo neu'n troi'n fardd. Maen nhw'n dweud mai menywod sydd wedi'u troi'n gerrig am ddawnsio ar y Sabath yw'r grŵp o glogfeini i'r de o'r heneb; a dyma thema gyffredin yn llên gwerin safleoedd megalithig, yn union fel 'y Merry Maidens' yng Nghernyw (Savory 1965).

Y peth cyntaf wnaethon ni yn Tinkinswood oedd clirio'r safle cyn dechrau cloddio, er mwyn i ymwelwyr allu cerdded o'i amgylch am y tro cyntaf ers yr wythdegau. Dyma lun o Tinkinswood o'r awyr yn yr wythdegau, ac mae'n dangos pa mor agored oedd y safle ar y pryd ond hefyd faint o dyfiant sydd wedi bod; dydi hi ddim yn cymryd llawer o amser i natur gymryd drosodd. Y syniad oedd ceisio ail-greu'r math o amgylchedd oedd o gwmpas yr heneb yn ystod y cyfnod Neolithig, chwe mil o flynyddoedd yn ôl. Ar ol i ni glirio'r safle, fe wnaethom ni ganfod tri safle i'w harchwilio. Roedd dau safle yn edrych fel olion dwy siambr gladdu oedd wedi disgyn. Y trydydd safle oedd y chwarel ei hun, a thybiwn efallai mai oddi yno y daeth carreg capan Tinkinswood.

Siâp y cerrig yn y fan hon oedd yn awgrymu mai cromlech oedd yno: mae'n edrych fel pecyn o gardiau wedi disgyn, ac yn debyg o rhan adeiladwaith i'r siamberi porth a ddisgrifiwyd gennyf yn gynharach.

Roedd yn safle anodd i'w gloddio: mae gwreiddiau coed sy'n tyfu o amgylch y safle wedi troi'r tir rhywfaint, ac yn sgil hyn rydym ni wedi dod o hyd i wrthrychau gweddol fodern, fel crochenwaith, gwydr ac asgwrn o'r ddeunawfed ganrif. Yn anffodus, doedd dim olion Neolithig yno o gwbwl, ac mae'n debyg fod y cerrig wedi'u symud i adeiladu ffin bresennol y cae o'u hamgylch, oherwydd fe ddois i o hyd i ddarn o fetel ar waelod un o'r ffosydd—darn o dractor, efallai, a ddefnyddiwyd i symud y cerrig mawr i ochr y cae. Er mai siom oedd darganfod nad oedd yn dod o'r oes Neolithig, mae'n ateb cwestiwn sydd wedi bod yn cael ei ofyn ers i John Ward ei gofrestru, sef beth yn y byd yw e? Felly, rydym yn gwybod yn bendant nawr nad heneb Neolithig yw'r trefniant yma o gerrig (Pannett 2012).

Yr ail safle o dan sylw oedd y chwarel. Rydym wedi adeiladu ffens o'i hamgylch ac wedi rhoi camfa yno fel bod pobol yn gallu mynd i fewn i edrych o gwmpas ar eu pennau eu hunain. Fe wnes i ddewis cloddio yn yr ardal yma am fy mod yn credu efallai mai dyma safle carreg gapan Tinkinswood. Eto, yn anffodus, doedd dim tystiolaeth bendant y naill ffordd na'r llall. Yn wir, fe wnaethom ni ffeindio cerrig wedi llosgi, sydd efallai'n awgrymu bod chwarel wedi bod yno ar un adeg, ond nid yn ystod y cyfnod Neolithig chwaith. Fe wnaethom ni ddarganfod bedd anifail hefyd: bedd hwch feichiog neu hwch oedd newydd roi genedigaeth i foch bach, ond tybiem mai ychwanegiad diweddarach, efallai'n dyddio i gyfnod ar ôl y canoloesoedd, yw'r rhain.

Y safle olaf dan sylw yn Tinkinswood yw'r ail gromlech y cyfeiriwyd ati eisoes. Mae'r heneb yma wedi ei lleoli gyferbyn â fferm Tinkinswood. Fe roddon ni dair ffos ar draws y cerrig yn y fan hon, a chafodd sawl enghraifft o dystiolaeth gyn-hanesyddol ddiddorol ei datguddio. Ymysg y rhain roedd crochenwaith o'r Oes Efydd, darnau o fflint wedi'u gweithio, a chyfarpar wedi'i wneud o fflint o'r Oes Neolithig. Fe ddarganfuwyd microlith, sef math o gyfarpar y byddai helwyr cyn-oesol yn ei ddefnyddio i greu saethau neu gyllell, a darnau o asgwrn wedi'u hamlosgi. Rydym yn credu mai crug, sef beddrod o'r Oes Efydd, sydd gennym ni yma—darganfyddiad cyffrous iawn. Gallwch weld gwrthglawdd yn mynd o gwmpas y crug yn y llun hwn, sy'n dangos ei fod ar siâp cylch, tua deuddeg metr mewn diamedr. Mae'r strwythur wedi ei greu drwy adeiladu twmpath isel a'i orchuddio â haenen o gerrig. O dan hyn i gyd fe ddarganfuwyd dau pydew, ond yn anffodus roedd y crug-gladdiadau wedi diflannu—efallai am fod y pridd yn asidig, rhywbeth sy'n digwydd yng Nghymru yn aml. Mae'r darganfyddiadau diweddar hyn wedi ailysgrifennu hanes Tinkinswood, ac rydym yn gallu dweud nawr fod tirwedd yr ardal wedi cael ei defnyddio bron yn ddi-dor am dros wyth mil o flynyddoedd.

I ddechrau, trwy ddehongli'r microlith mesolithig, mae gennym dystiolaeth fod pobl yn symud trwy'r safle tua wyth mil o flynyddoedd yn ôl. Yna, mae gennym safle Tinkinswood ei hun, sydd yn tystio i'r cyfnod Neolithig fod yn un gweithgar i bobol y Fro. Yna, mae gennym dystiolaeth o'r Oes Efydd gyda'r crochenwaith, ac o Oes y Rhufeiniaid yn sgil y geiniog a ddarganfuwyd uwchben y ddau bydew. Yn olaf, mae gennym feddrod yr hwch o fewn y chwarel, sy'n rhoi dyddiad modern i ni, felly mae'r dirwedd o amgylch Tinkinswood wedi bod yn bwysig am 8000 o flynyddoedd (Pannett 2012). Rydym yn medru ychwanegu at y dystiolaeth hon eto, oherwydd, yr wythnos diwethaf, derbyniwyd mwy o dystiolaeth dyddio gan arbenigwr esgyrn, ac mae'n debyg fod esgyrn sy'n dyddio i'r cyfnod Neolithig wedi cael eu gadael uwchben yr holl haenau eraill o dystiolaeth. Mae hyn yn troi ein stori wyneb i waered ac yn drysu'r llinell amser—y cwestiwn mawr yw: pam yn y byd yr oedd tystiolaeth Neolithig ar ben tystiolaeth o'r Oes Efydd?

Un ateb efallai yw fod John Ward wedi ei hychwanegu pan wnaeth ei waith yma 'nôl yn 1914. Pos arall i ni feddwl amdano, haenen arall yn yr winiwn! Gallai hyn roi rhywfaint o oleuni ar y beddrod Oes Efydd hwn. Gwydddom, er enghraifft, fod y garregolygy gapan yn perthyn i'r oes fodern. Tybed ai John Ward a'i debyg symudodd hi i'w safle presennol?

Doedd Llwyneliddon erioed wedi ei gloddio'n wyddonol cyn i ni roi rhaw yn y ddaear fel rhan o'r prosiect presennol—her a braint anferth i rywun fel fi, sy'n astudio beddrodau Neolithig. Mae siambr

gladdu Llwyneliddon yn fath o heneb a elwir yn garnedd hir siambrog ac, yn wreiddiol, byddai wedi'i gorchuddio â thwmpath o bridd, yn debyg i Tinkinswood. Er bod y siambr gerrig yn amlwg wrth i chi agosáu o'r ffordd, prin y gellir gweld gweddillion y garnedd neu'r twmpath. Bellach, mae'r siambr yn cynnwys tair carreg unionsyth â charreg gapan yn cydbwyso arnynt, a honno'n pwyso hyd at 35 tunnell. Ar hap, yn 1992 daeth Toby Driver o hyd i ddarn bach o fwyell garreg loyw a fflint—rhai wedi'u hailweithio—ar yr wyneb. Ynghyd â phen saeth gain o fflint, ar siâp deilen, a ganfuwyd ar wahân yn yr un man agored, mae'r rhain wedi'u cyflwyno i Amgueddfa Cymru yng Nghaerdydd. Yn gynnar yn y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg, roedd y siambr yn cael ei hadnabod fel Carnedd y Filiast a'i defnyddio i gysgodi anifeiliaid. Er ei bod yn llai na siambr gladdu Tinkinswood i lawr y ffordd, mae siambr Llwyneliddon yn llawer mwy trawiadol, am ei bod yn uwch ac nad oes coed o'i hamgylch.

Fel rhan o'r cloddio, fe roddon ni bedair ffos i fewn yn y ddaear. Roedd y gyntaf wedi ei lleoli yr holl ffordd ar hyd yr heneb, ac ymddengys y byddai'r safle yn ei gyfanrwydd wedi mesur tua 24 metr o hyd ac 11 metr o led. Gosodwyd yr ail ym mlaengwrt yr heneb, i geisio darganfod a oedd waliau cynnal sych gan Lwyneliddon, tebyg i'r rhai yn Tinkinswood.

Roedden ni i gyd mor falch o ddarganfod bod olion wal cynnal sych i'w cael yno. Mae'r *façade* wedi syrthio tua mlaen, ond mae'r meini yng nghanol y llun yn fflat, digon i gadarnhau bod blaengwrt tebyg i un Tinkinswood i'w gael yn wreiddiol yn Llwyneliddon. Yn y ffos i'r dde fe ddarganfuwyd bod y wal gynnal yma'n parhau o amgylch yr heneb, yn union fel Tinkinswood. Roedd y ffos yn y blaengwrt yn rhoi mwy o wybodaeth am strwythur yr heneb, gan gynnwys tystiolaeth am y gronoleg.

Roedd siâp cylch o amgylch y tair carreg unionsyth, sy'n awgrymu y gallai Llwyneliddon fod wedi ei adeiladu mewn dwy ran. Efallai fod y meini wedi sefyll ar eu pen eu hunain am ychydig cyn i'r garnedd cael ei hychwanegu. Fe gawsom ni sawl darganfyddiad arbennig yn Llwyneliddon, yn enwedig yn ffos y cwrt blaen lle roedd pigyn callestr wedi'i weithio, darn o nodwydd asgwrn, crochenwaith Neolithig a darn o fwyell gaselltr wedi'i weithio. Ar hyn o bryd, rydym yn aros am ganlyniadau gwaith yr arbenigwyr er mwyn i ni allu dyddio'r heneb, a gosod hanes Llwyneliddon ymysg hanes henebion cynharaf Neolithig Cymru. Fel Tinkinswood, mae digon o ymdrechion lleol i esbonio'r strwythur wedi troi'n hanes gwerin. Yn ôl un traddodiad, mae'r cae lle saif y meini wedi'i felltithio, a does dim byd yn gallu tyfu yno. Roedd yna gred fod y meini eu hunain yn gallu gwireddu unrhyw ddymuniad, dim ond ichi ei sibrwd iddyn nhw ar noson Calan Gaeaf. Yn ôl chwedl arall, mae'r garreg gapan yn troi dair gwaith bob noson hirddydd haf; mae'r stori hon yn cyd-fynd ag un o hen enwau'r beddrod, sef Maesyfelin. Ar yr un noson, dywedir bod y meini i gyd yn mynd i'r afon i ymdrochi.

I gysylltu'r holl dystiolaeth yma at ei gilydd, ac er mwyn archwilio ein credoau modern am y beddrodau, rydym wedi cynnal prosiect cyffrous ar gyfer ysgolion lleol yn Siambr Gladdu Tinkinswood o'r enw 'Creu a Chracio'. Roedd yn gyfle i'r genhedlaeth ifanc ddychmygu eu bod yn adeiladwyr siambr gladdu Neolithig, wrth iddynt ail-greu perfformiad oedd yn archwilio'r defnydd defodol o'r safle. Roedd cyfle i blant Cyfnod Allweddol 2 greu llestr clai 'cyn-oesol' eu hunain, ac yna ei dorri, fel y torrwyd llawer o'r llestri yn Tinkinswood—yn fwriadol. Bydd 'Creu a Chracio' yn rhoi cyd-destun deinamig—os anghyflawn—i dystiolaeth sydd fel arfer i'w chanfod mewn casys amgueddfa.

Roedd cyfle i'r plant ymweld 'tu ôl i'r llenni' â chasgliad o esgyrn o Tinkinswood yn Amgueddfa Cymru a chreu gwrthrychau replica yn seiliedig ar grochenwaith o Tinkinswood.

Y penderfyniad mawr a wynebai'r plant oedd pa un ai cadw neu dorri eu potiau clai, i selio dymuniad neu neges ynddynt ac yna eu hychwanegu at y darnau mân o grochenwaith yng nghwrt blaen yr heneb. Roedd y prosiect yn rhoi cyfle i'r plant fyfyrio ar werth eu trysorau yn yr unfed ganrif ar hugain—a fyddwch chi'n trwsio gwrthrych sydd wedi torri, neu'n prynu un newydd? Beth yw gwerth gwrthrych sydd wedi torri? Ai fandaleiddio fyddwn ni'n ei wneud wrth dorri rhywbeth, fel y torrwyd y llestri clai, bron i bum mil o flynyddoedd yn ôl? A yw creu gwrthrych â llaw yn codi ei werth?

Seiliwyd yr Eisteddfod, a'r Orsedd ei hun, ar ddehongliadau cyfredol o hen ddefodau. Yn y traddodiad hwnnw mae'r gwaith cloddio cymunedol yma yn ein cysylltu ni â defodau oedd yn cael eu cynnal ym Mro Morgannwg, yr holl ffordd yn ôl i'r cyfnod Neolithig cynnar yng Nghymru.

#### **Summary**

The lecture provided a summary of a community archaeology project which took place at Tinkinswood and St Lythans Neolithic chambered tombs and surrounding landscapes in the Vale of Glamorgan during 2011 and 2012. The project focused on and explored three sites at Tinkinswood: two possible Neolithic tombs which had fallen near Tinkinswood, and a quarry site, the possible source for the massive 40 tonne capstone used at the main Tinkinswood tomb. The excavations revealed that one of the possible fallen tombs near Tinkinswood turned out to be nineteenth-century field clearance placed on top of a post-medieval field boundary. The second possible tomb nearby was in fact a modest Bronze Age barrow, with a stone capped mound and two central burial pits. A secondary burial was cut into the top of the Bronze Age barrow and below a rock next to the location of this burial was a Roman coin dating to around AD 300. This shows that the Bronze Age barrow was still visible 2000 years after being built. Thirdly, the quarry area near Tinkinswood revealed a medieval presence, rather than the source for the capstone at Tinkinswood, as was originally envisaged. Altogether the sites reveal that the immediate landscape around Tinkinswood was in use for over 6000 years, respected and reused for different purposes over time. In one sense, the recent community archaeology project adds another layer to this history. St Lythans was also excavated, and the cairn was revealed to originally be 30m in length and about 12m wide, constructed from locally collected limestone slabs and boulders. A series of limestone slabs were discovered in situ at the front of the remaining standing stones, revealing that originally St Lythans had a similar façade to Tinkinswood, although smaller. Finds included a fargment of a polished stone axe, worked flints and sherds of Grooved Ware pottery in the forecourt. The article ends with a summary of the school outreach project, noting how projects like this one are good for communities, bringing people together and including these new comings and goings in the production and transformation of a place, ultimately joining the long biography and history of these special sites.

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FEION REYNOLDS

### Grants and Awards

#### RESEARCH FUND

This fund exists for the encouragement of research within the field of the Association's interest. Its scope includes travel, fieldwork, excavation and associated scientific services, historical research, and other appropriate forms of assistance such as photography, photocopying, digitising and the preparation of drawings for publication. Awards are normally restricted to projects connected directly or indirectly with Wales and the Marches. Application forms may be obtained from the current General Secretary (name and address given opposite Contents page) or printed out from the Associations website (www.cambrians. org.uk). Completed forms and copies (preferably six) should be returned by mid October at the latest for determination by the Trustees at their meeting in early November. Late or new applications may be considered at the following Trustees' Meeting in February of the following year, but only if there is an under-allocation of funds.

The Association granted awards to the following during 2012/13:

**Dr Toby Driver and Dr Jeffrey Davies** were awarded £1,000 for post-excavation work on their excavations at the Abermagwr Roman villa, Ceredigion (of which the Association has been the principal fund provider). The grant will be used to obtain radiocarbon dates and also for analysis of environmental samples. An interim report on this important site was published in *Archaeologia Cambrensis* 160 (2011).

**Professor Gary Lock** was awarded £1,500 for a second season of excavations at Moel y Gaer, Bodfari hillfort. Work last year, also assisted by the Association, had gained promising results from excavation trenches sited in areas indicating features from extensive geophysical survey.

**Dr Andy Seaman** was awarded £500 which will be used for survey and excavation of the hither-to little studied yn-y-Coed earthworks part of the close to Dinas Powys Revisited project, designed to throw new light on this important 'Dark Age' site.

**Joseph Lewis** was awarded £1,000 towards costs of drawing an important group of Roman military and civilian bronze and iron objects found by detectorists outside the scheduled area of Brecon Gaer Roman fort. Joseph has already catalogued the collection as part of his MA thesis at Cardiff. The illustrations will appear in an article the next volume of *Archaeologia Cambrensis*.

HEATHER JAMES

#### THE BLODWEN JERMAN PRIZES

The Association offers two prizes in memory of Mrs Blodwen Jerman, to raise the profile of the Association and to encourage young people to become members.

**Prize 1 (universities)** will be awarded annually for the best dissertation on the history or archaeology of Wales or the Marches, submitted during the previous two years in any higher education institution, whether in Wales or elsewhere, in successful fulfilment of the requirements of an undergraduate or master's degree. The first prize shall be a cheque for £150 and three year's free membership of the Association, which includes its journal *Archaeologia Cambrensis*. At the discretion of the judges, runners-up may be offered one or two year's free membership of the Association, including the journal. Entry forms may be downloaded from the Association's website (www.cambrians.org.uk) and entries should be submitted by the 31 December each year. All entries will be returned to candidates after the judging. The Trustees will appoint a panel of three suitably qualified judges each year.

**Prize 2 (schools)** is aimed at a secondary school age-group is now being awarded as one of a number of sponsored prizes within the Welsh Heritage Schools Initiative. Further information and application forms can be gained from the WHSI website (www.whsi.org.uk). The Heritage Initiative involves a nation wide annual competition and entries should be submitted by 31 January each year. Heritage is interpreted in its widest sense and competition entries can be presented as written material, or in photographic or video form, or as an exhibition, or a model. Computer-based projects such as databases, or web sites or CDs or DVDs are also welcomed.

#### REPORT ON THE BLODWEN JERMAN COMPETITION IN 2012

#### Prize 1 (universities)

The prize was awarded to Angela Muir of Swansea University for her MA dissertation, 'Illegitimacy in Eighteenth-Century Wales: Paternity, Courtship, Marriage and Illicit Sex' which addressed this underresearched aspect of Welsh social history and makes an original and substantial contribution to our knowledge of the subject. Although confining her in-depth research to the two contrasting parishes of relatively urban St Peter's, Carmarthen, and rural/industrial Hawarden in Flintshire, Angela Muir sets her discussion within the broad, rich historiography of the debate for English regions which crucially enables her to draw attention to the distinctiveness of the Welsh situation, above all its comparatively high level of illegitimacy. Always rigorous and scrupulous in the examination and interpretation of her evidence—much of the data from parish registers painstakingly presented in her figures and appendices—she sets out to explain these relatively high illegitimacy rates and to discover the accompanying social attitudes towards them.

The dissertation examines two contrasting categories of circumstances that gave rise to illegitimacy, namely, illicit behaviour, which comprised sexual exploitation—such as incest and rape—and consensual promiscuity, and by contrast permissible behaviour, which covered 'marriage unrecognised'—stable, consensual conjugal unions that were, however, not recognised by church officials—and 'marriage thwarted'—the birth of an infant during a courtship which for one reason or another did not lead to marriage. Her use of the two parish registers which, unlike those for England, lists the paternity of illegitimate children, facilitates this dual categorisation, for when paternity was listed with a degree of certainty the relationship between mother and father is assumed to have been 'somewhat permissible'

whereas unclear paternity is taken as pointing to illicit sexual behaviour. The argument is well supported that higher illegitimacy rates in Wales were not the outcome of different attitudes towards promiscuity and illicit sexuality but rather the result of different courtship customs and marital traditions.

#### Prize 2 (schools)

The winner of the schools competition for 2012 was Rhymney Comprehensive School, Caerphilly, for their project on 'Rhymney and the Romans'. This school is the only comprehensive school in Wales where it is possible to take an A-Level in Ancient History. The winning project was developed by 'The Rhymney Centurions', an after-school club for Year 7 pupils. They produced different materials designed to popularize Roman history, which included a website, two booklets and work on a film set in Caerleon.

MURIEL CHAMBERLAIN

Unrestricted Funds

**Total Funds** 

### Financial Statements 2012

The following financial statements are taken from the published *Trustees Report and Financial Statements* for the Year Ended 31 December 2012, approved by the Trustees on 29 September 2013.

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2012

	Restricted funds 2012	Unrestricted funds 2012 £	Total funds 2012 £	Total funds 2011 £
Incoming Resources	a.	æ.	a.	L
Incoming resources from generated funds:		12 690	12 690	14 00 9
Voluntary income Activities for generating funds	_	13,680 22,897	13,680 22,897	14,908 34,985
Investment income	113	12,826	12,939	13,620
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	113	49,403	49,516	63,513
Resources Expended				
Charitable activities	1,000	39,052	40,052	33,115
Governance costs		4,322	4,322	2,440
Total Resources Expended	1,000	443,374	44,374	35,555
Net Incoming Resources before revaluations	(887)	6,029	5,142	27,958
Gains and losses on revaluations of	12	4 525	4.547	13,297
investment assets		4,535	4,547	
Net movement in funds for the year	(875)	10,564	9,689	41,255
Total funds at 1 January 2011	5,238	323,776	329,014	287,759
<b>Total Funds at 31 December 2011</b>	4,363	334,340	338,703	329,014
	ALANCE SH 31 DECEMI			
		2012 £		2011 £
Fixed Assets Investments		280,739		260,193
Current Assets		55.044		60.00°
Cash in hand		57,964		<u>68,821</u>
Net Assets		338,703		329,014
Charity Funds Restricted Funds		1 262		5 220
Kesu icieu runus		4,363		5,238

334,340

338,703

323,776

329,014

# The Cambrian Archaeological Association, 2012–13 Cymdeithas Hynafiathau Cymru, 2012–13

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### Subscriptions

Current annual subscription rates are as follows: Individual Members £15; Joint Members (two members of a household) £20; Student Members £5; Institutional Members £21.50. Subscriptions are due on 1 January. Members wishing to withdraw from the Association must give six months' notice and must pay any arrears. Members whose subscriptions are two years in arrears are automatically removed from the membership list. Application forms may be obtained from the current Membership Secretary (name and address given opposite Contents page) or may be printed out from the Association's website (www. cambrians.org.uk).

# The Association's Library

The library of exchange transactions from corresponding societies is housed at the National Library and Gallery of Wales, Cardiff, by kind permission of the Director. (A list of corresponding societies is given towards the end of the List of Members.) These are available for consultation (Tuesday to Friday, closed on public holidays), or can be borrowed by post for a period of one month, on the understanding that the borrower will refund the museum for the outward postage and pay the return postage. Requests for access to the exchange transactions should be addressed to: The Hon. Librarian, CAA Library, National Museum and Gallery of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NP.

### **Publications for Sale**

The Association holds currently holds stock of the publications listed below. Further details of availability and costs including postage and packing can be obtained from the current Membership Secretary (name and address given opposite Contents page). The Association publishes a Newsletter which is distributed to members at the beginning of each year. Additional copies may be obtained from the Membership Secretary. Members possessing unwanted copies of the Associations publications in good condition are invited to donate them to the book stock, to be included in items offered for sale. Out-of-print volumes may thus become available to others seeking to obtain them.

#### Archaeologia Cambrensis ISSN 0306-6924

Copies of recent volumes are available but the Association now holds few copies of the journal before 1964.

#### Indexes

The index to Archaeologia Cambrensis 1847–1900 is out of print but is available for consultation in many libraries.

Index to Archaeologia Cambrensis 1901–1960, compiled by T. Rowland Powell, with lists and notes by Donald Moore, 1976. Pp. xxi + 313. Soft cover £6, bound in blue cloth £9 + £3.50 p&p.

*Index to Archaeologia Cambrensis 1961–1980*, compiled by Helen Emanuel Davies, with lists and notes by Donald Moore, 2004. Pp. xxxviii + 1753. Soft cover £15 + £3.50 p&p.

*Index to Archaeologia Cambrensis 1981–2000*, compiled by Elizabeth Cook, with lists and notes by Donald Moore and a contibution by H. P. Gwynne Morgan, 2008. Pp. L + 330. ISBN 0-947846-09-3. Price: soft cover £18.50 + £3.50 p&p, bound £22 + p&p.

#### **Programme booklets of Annual Summer Meetings**

Glasgow (1968); Vale of Usk (1970); South Brecknock (1974); Winchester (1975); South Pembrokeshire (1976); Aberystwyth, South Montgomeryshire and North Radnorshire (1977); Gwent and the Forest of Dean (1978); Lleyn and Snowdonia (1979); Swansea, Gower and West Glamorgan (1980); Chester (1981); Cumbria and the Lake District (1982); Vale of Glamorgan (1983); Anglesey (1984); Old Carmarthenshire (1985); Avon (1986); Hereford (1987); Llandudno: The Cantref of Rhos (1989); North and West Brecknock (1990); Dolgellau (1991); Gwent (1994); North-West Brittany (1996); Jersey (1997); Aberystwyth (1997); York (1998); Galway (1999); Swansea (2000); Forest of Dean (2001); Caernarfon and Lleyn (2002); Milton Keynes (2003) ); Rouen (2004); Bala (2005); Chester (2006); Carmarthen (2007); Conwy Valley (2008); South Wales Valleys (2009); Canterbury (2010); Vale of Glamorgan (2010), Gascony (2011); Tenby (2011); Anglesey (2012); Birmingham (2012); Brittany (2013); Cwmbran (2013).

Reflections on the Past: essays in honour of Frances Lynch, edited by W. J. Britnell and R. J Silvester. Softback, 245 × 175mm, viii + 520 pages, with approx. 300 drawings and photos, some in colour, ISBN 978 0 947846 08 4. £20.00 + £5.00 p&p. Copies of this Festschrift, published by the Cambrian Archaeologial Association in July 2012 in honour of Frances Lynch Llywellyn, are available from the Treasurer (Mrs J. E. Britnell, CPAT, 41 Broad Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7RR. Tel. 01938 553670, email jennyb@cpat.org.uk).