



## **Minutes of the 169<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

The AGM was held on Zoom at 7.30 pm and hosted by Dr Sian Rees Chairman of Trustees. An estimated 33 members attended.

**Apologies** None received

### **Minutes of the 169<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting.**

These had been circulated to members by email and posted on the Association's website. They were accepted by the meeting nem.con, proposer Rory o'Farrell, seconder Ann Sayer

### **Chairman's Report**

The Chairman began by expressing condolences to the families of those members who had died in the previous year. She was sorry to report that our late Chairman, Professor Emerita Muriel Chamberlain had died early in 2022 and paid tribute to all her work for the Cambrians. She then introduced the President Dr Elizabeth Walker to the membership attending. She had been installed and delivered her Presidential address at the Ribble Valley meeting in. She was pleased to report on two successful Meetings during the year. She thanked Frances Lynch-Lewellyn for organising the Summer Meeting in the Ribble Valley. Her own Autumn weekend at Cowbridge had been very well attended and had taken place on weekdays. Although generally not attended by large numbers a series of Walks and Talks led by trustees and members had taken place. Andrew Green, former Librarian, National Library of Wales, gave the Association's Eisteddfod lecture at Tregaron on August 9 2022 on '*Ytrad Fflur: sut mae cyflwyno safle hanesyddol I ymwelwyr*'. Eisteddfod lecture In a new event, a Christmas lecture by Richard Suggett on medieval and post medieval wallpaintings in Welsh churches and houses was held jointly with the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments Wales. Reports on all events can be found on the Association's website and in *Archaeologia Cambrensis*. The quinquennial G.T.Clark prizes had been awarded in 2022 : for prehistory Jane Kenney for *A Welsh Landscape through Time : Excavations at Parc Cybi, Holy Island, Anglesey*, for early medieval to Alan Lane and Mark Redknap for *Llangorse Crannog: the excavation of an Early Medieval Royal site in the kingdom of Brycheiniog*, for medieval to Evan Jones and Richard Stone for *The World of the Newport Ship : Trade, Politics and Shipping in the Mid-Fifteenth Century*, for Post-medieval to Mark Redknap, Sian Rees and Alan Aberg for *Wales and the Sea: 10,000 years of Welsh maritime history*. No award was made for the Roman period. The first award was made in the new Gwobr Archaeoleg Cambrian Archaeology Prize to Dan Hunt for his MSc dissertation on Pembrokeshire Promontory forts. The annual Research grants were awarded to Katie Faillace (£2000) for work on new biomolecular techniques for analysing early medieval skeletal remains, to Caroline Kerkham (£483) for digital scans from the National Library of Wales for publication in a new book on Garden Archaeology in Wales, to Mike Parker Pearson (£2000) for excavations at Ffynnongroes, Crosswell, Pembrokeshire and to Andy Seaman (£1344) for carbon 14 dates from excavations at Fonmon Castle. Trustees had met on zoom at the normal February, June and November Meetings. Signed sets of the Minutes of these Meetings are examined by our auditors as part of the Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts. Developed by a sub-committee chaired by Eurwyn Wiliam a Welsh Language Policy has been adopted which will result in bilingual entries on our website and in communication with members. Sympathies were extended to the royal family on the death of Her Majesty the Queen and

congratulations to our patron, now King Charles III, on his coronation. An invitation has been extended to HRH William, Prince of Wales to take on the patronage of the Association in his father's footsteps.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Jenny Britnell said that the Trustees' Annual Report and audited accounts for 2022 had been circulated to members and posted on the website prior to the AGM. The audited accounts had been approved by Trustees and we now presented to the membership for approval. She had prepared an Assessment of Going Concern as required by The Charity Commission for the Board of Trustees. Despite a considerable depreciation in the value of investments, the position was fair. She was happy to report that the increase in subscription income now amply covers the printing and distribution costs of *Archaeologia Cambrensis* and the Newsletter. The TAR and annual accounts were accepted by the Meeting by (virtual) show of hands.

### **Membership Secretary**

Rhiannon Comeau reported a total membership of 509, compared to 528 in the preceding year; she was pleased to report that 343 members were fully up-to-date with their new subscriptions. Trustees had decided to recommend to members that the new subscription rates for smaller institutions (i.e. local societies) be altered to a more affordable rate at the joint membership level (£30). This was approved by (virtual) show of hands by those attending. A review had been carried out into longstanding publication exchange arrangements which were now costly through postal and post. Brexit VAT charges and increasingly redundant due to online access. Trustees had agreed to end these arrangements. The Association's journal and book collection at Amgueddfa Cymru National Museum of Wales has also been rationalised but members are still welcome to use the library by appointment. Rhiannon Comeau also appealed to the membership for someone to help with institutional subscriptions – work that is done online.

### **Programme Secretary**

Frances Lynch Llewellyn gave more details on her Ribble Valley Meeting and Cowbridge. Looking to the next year (2023) she said that the biannual online Darganfod/Discovery conference jointly organised by Rhiannon Comeau for the Association and Oliver Davies for Cardiff University would be held on 1<sup>st</sup> April. The Summer Meeting, organised by Marie-Thérèse Castay would be held in Saintes, Saintonge, France in late June. The Autumn Meeting, organised by Heather James, will be held in Brecon 22-24<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The Summer Meeting for 2024 will be in Hay-on-Wye to be organised by Sian Rees and an Autumn Meeting for 2024 has yet to be finalised.

### **Editor's Report**

The retiring editor, Bill Britnell, said that the forthcoming vol 171 (2022) of *Archaeologia Cambrensis* would be his last and had been edited by himself with assistance from Ken Murphy, the new Editor who would be taking over for volume 172 (2023). He said that in line with our new Welsh Language Policy articles could be submitted in Welsh and would be considered on their merits and published with an English language summary. He stressed the broad remit of the Journal and asked all members to encourage submission of articles.

### **Outreach , and social media reports**

Andrew Davidson said that there continued to be a steady stream of emails being sent out to those members who had agreed to be on our email list both on Association matters and drawing attention to other events of interest that had been sent to him. He thanked Rhiannon Comeau for her help. Genevieve Cain reported an increase in in Twitter and Facebook posts and the numbers following and the expansion and success of the increasing amount of material being placed on the Association's You Tube channel. She thanked Toby Driver for additional help. Reports continued to be added to the Association's website and every effort has been made to keep information on forthcoming events up to date.

The Chairman concluded the presentation of Officers' reports with her thanks, and thanks from the

membership for all their work and to the Trustees as a whole and to the President for all her help and advice. She also thanked members for their loyal and valued support for the Association and its work. Thanks were also expressed to those who had generously made additional donations to the Association, particularly for the Research fund.

The Chairman then handed over the Meeting to the President, Dr Elizabeth Walker, to conduct the **Election of Trustees** for the following year.

The following were standing for election:

William Britnell

Jenny Britnell

Marie-Thérèse Castay

Rhiannon Comeau

Andrew Davidson

Tudur Davies

Toby Driver

Fiona Gale

Heather James

Frances Lynch-Llewellyn

Kenneth Murphy

Sian Rees.

They were all re-elected by a (virtual) show of hands.

### **2023 AGM**

This will again be an online meeting on Zoom at 7.30 pm Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023. Joining details will be circulated nearer the time and posted on the CAA website [cambrians.org.uk](http://cambrians.org.uk)

Following the AGM Dr Elizabeth Walker's Presidential lecture, 'Out of the Darkness and into the Light: the significance of Welsh Caves to Palaeolithic Archaeology' was shown on zoom.