

CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

CYMDEITHAS HYNAFIAETHAU CYMRU



NEWSLETTER January 2022

General Secretary
Heather James

Braemar, Llangunnor Road,
CARMARTHEN SA31 2PB
01267 231793
e-mail : h.james443@gmail.com

Website
www.cambrians.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 216249

NEWSLETTER FOR 2022

We hope that you will feel that the Cambrians served you well over the last year, as we all got used to a life lived online. In many ways it gave us greater access to interesting lectures and discussions – many of them provided by other societies and groups -- and certainly took away the effort of travelling up and down our geographically awkward country, which has meant that many events had much larger audiences than would have been the case in the past. This has certainly widened our contacts and, indeed, lowered our average age! But the fact that we did manage to hold our Summer Meeting in July in Lincoln and our Autumn Meeting to celebrate our 175th Centenary in Llangollen was a great relief and reminded us that *Homo Sapiens Cambrensis* is a social animal and really likes to have a good natter across the dining table!

Our President for 2022 is **Dr Elizabeth Walker** who is the Principal Curator: Collections & Access and specialist curator for Palaeolithic & Mesolithic archaeology at Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales. She was the winner of the G.T.Clark Award for Prehistory in 2017; she is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London, and currently chairs the National Panel of Archaeological Archives in Wales. She was brought up in Porthcawl. She studied archaeology at Lancaster University under the late Roger Jacobi and, in vacations, commenced her association with the NMW, working with Stephen Aldhouse Green on his research projects including the early Neanderthal site at Pontnewydd Cave, Denbighshire, where she got her first paid employment as a temporary research assistant. Thus she got her foot into the door of the National Museum and has been there ever since, to the great advantage of our understanding of the earliest history of people in Wales. Not only has she carried out notable excavations herself, but she has devoted much of her time to the publication of others' earlier work at many cave sites, enabling new techniques to be applied to stored material. Always mindful of the need to preserve a resource into the future, she has worked closely with collaborators to help take further the understanding of some of the contents of Welsh caves.

Sadly we must record the death of eight members, Debbie Wheeler of Dublin, David Yale of Porthmadog and Mrs Elizabeth Williams-Ellis of Criccieth, who all frequently attended our meetings. We have also lost J G Williams of Criccieth, Derryann Paul of Aberystwyth; Murray McLaggan of Merthyr Mawr (in 2019), Mrs Cory of Penllyn Castle and Mr Murden of Walsall. We have not heard of any Cambrian deaths from Covid 19 but I'm sure that all members will have been affected by the pandemic in so many ways.

EVENTS and MEETINGS HELD IN 2021

The first event of our year on April 10th was **DARGANFOD - DISCOVERY** the **Day Conference on New Archaeological Research in Wales** organised by Dr Rhiannon Comeau and Dr Oliver Davis. Originally planned for 2020 it was the first of our events to fall foul of the Lockdown. This year it was planned from the start as an online event and attracted an audience of 176 viewers! There is a full account of the event in the current volume of *Arch. Camb.* (pp 333-340) with summaries of all the lectures and some analysis of the audience, for this, our first

online conference. The talks are also available on YouTube, accessed from the Talks section of the CAA website (<https://cambrians.org.uk/talks/darganfod-discovery-2021-talks/>).

SUMMER MEETING IN LINCOLN JULY 4TH – 9TH

This meeting had originally been planned for 2020 and its organisers, Nick and Eva Moore, had had a full two years of planning, re-planning and anxiety. Right up to the end of June there were uncertainties, and the programme had to be re-arranged several times. But The Lincoln Hotel was very co-operative and had worked out a way in which we could form the necessary ‘bubbles’ and comply with the law, as we occupied our own dining/ lecture room each evening. The meeting was attended by 33 people (approximately the legal maximum) and the programme had been carefully re-tweaked to give us more time out of doors. We had also hired a very effective sound system which allowed us to maintain social distancing while listening to commentaries on the buildings and sites we visited.

The meeting began on the Sunday afternoon with a tour with Dr Mick Jones and Nick Moore of Upper Lincoln, dealing particularly with the Roman remains, the first of which – the eastern gate of the 1st century fort, was actually in the garden of our hotel! From there we walked to the North Gate, or Newport Arch, which was the surviving inner face of the Roman gateway. It had been largely complete until 1784, but then partially demolished, though it is still the most substantial Roman gateway surviving in Britain. We then went down to the Mint Wall to see the very impressive remains of the wall of the Roman *basilica*. We passed several colourful Lincoln Imps, on the ‘Imp Trail’. There was one in the hotel!

That evening – when all our week-long bubbles had been sorted out – we enjoyed a wonderful introduction to the history of the City of Lincoln by the former Lincoln City Archaeologist, Dr Mick Jones.

On Monday morning we set off towards Bailgate and round to Steep Hill, all fitted with our sound system receivers which worked splendidly as we formed a thin line listening to Nick telling us about the historic pubs we passed, the Norman House, the Jew’s House and Jews’ Court. Our destination was **The Collection** (the museum) where regulations demanded smaller groups, so the management of our exploration of the town was challenging. Half the group went to the Collection. The other half went to the historic 12th century **Guildhall**. We went from cellars to roof and to parts of the building not open to visitors, in the company of guides who made the history of local government truly fascinating. At the start of the afternoon the visits were reversed. We then all met up again, to visit sites in the Lower Town and the riverside.

The lecture on Monday was by Michael Sheppard, Director of the Cathedral Works Dept. who introduced us to the architecture of the Cathedral and its conservation.

Tuesday was the day on which we explored the Cathedral, the Cathedral Close and, at the other end of the ridge, the Castle. Again we were broken up into smaller groups, alternating between those inside and outside the Cathedral. Outside we looked at the old Bishop’s Palace where a new restoration project was just getting underway, glanced at the adjacent Vicars’ Choral buildings, admired the recent cleaning and repair to the Chapter House and

also the statue of Tennyson and his huge dog. Inside of course we sought out the famous Imp but also admired the unique 'Crazy vaulting' and the Wren Library.

After lunch in the new Visitor Centre we went across to the Norman Castle built by William the Conqueror within the north-west corner of the Legionary Fortress. Little remains of the castle of 1068, except two mottes; the wall, on the Roman line, was rebuilt in the 12th and 13th centuries, as were the keeps and the gatehouse. The internal buildings are much later and relate to the use of the castle as a prison (now a museum). The Sessions House of 1826 is still used as a court house. Before returning to the hotel we visited the west side of the city, notably the early 19th century Lunatic Asylum – a fine building and the first Asylum to abandon physical restraint of patients.

The evening lecture on Tuesday was by Neil Wright who spoke on the History of Boston, the main port of Lincolnshire, around which he would guide us the following day.

On Wednesday we took off for **Boston** in a large coach, maintaining our bubbles, with commentaries on route from Neil Wright, Nick and Eva. Our first visit was to the Hussey Tower the remnant of a large manor house built for the local tax inspector in 1460 - a time when Boston was second only to London as a trading port. It set the tone for the day: Lincolnshire was thriving in the late Middle Ages!

The coach then dropped us off by the Old Grammar School built in 1567 on the site of the Franciscan Friary. From there we walked to the Guildhall Museum. Built in 1390 for a religious guild it passed to Boston Corporation in 1555. In 1607 a group of the Puritans were arrested and briefly imprisoned there – one of the stories now told in the Museum. From there we walked in the centre of the town, passing a number of notable buildings on our way to the famous 'Boston Stump' the parish church of St Botolph. This splendid church and its 50m tower dominate the town and the surrounding fenland. The bright interior is as splendid as the exterior. We returned to Fydell House 'the grandest house in town' to have a splendid lunch including Lincolnshire specialities. After lunch we continued our guided tour, dodging rain showers, crossing the river and looking at the port area.

On the way back we stopped at **Temple Bruer** to look at the Knights' Templar Preceptory. Only the 13th century tower survives of this unusual round church with a complicated history. It and its land subsequently came to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk who entertained Henry VIII here. Our return route took us along the edge of the limestone cliff which runs north through much of Lincolnshire.

That evening we enjoyed a seated reception (if you weren't sitting down you would not get any wine!) before the **inauguration of the New President, Dr Eurwyn Wiliam** by the retiring President, Professor Michael Jones who, with his wife, was staying overnight. Dr Wiliam's lecture '*Let Use be Preferred to Uniformity*' -- a history of the study of vernacular buildings - was delivered here in person and was also recorded and transmitted by Zoom after our virtual AGM in October.

Thursday was our last day in Lincolnshire and we had a day of visits which spanned seven centuries -- from the 13th to the 20th! Our first stop was in **Thimbleby** to see a street of 9

Mud and Stud houses. These houses, built of wood and mud with steep thatched roofs, were common in the poorer parts of the Fenland till the 1850s. The next was **Horncastle**, to visit the **Sir Joseph Banks Centre**. Banks (1743- 1820) was a botanist, world traveller and plant collector (a friend of Thomas Pennant among others) who dominated the world of science, with wisdom, as President of the Royal Society for more than 40 years.

We then visited the 13th century castle at **Bolingbroke**. It had been built as a wet moat and angular walled enclosure defended by 5 rounded towers and a double towered gatehouse. Now It is rather unimpressive since the final chapter in its history is the Civil War and in 1652 it was very professionally destroyed. Before this, it is more significant for its history of inheritance, than of battles. It eventually descended to John of Gaunt through his wife, and their son Henry was born here, hence his name Henry Bolingbroke/ Henry IV and the beginning of the Wars of the Roses.

Lunch was at the **Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre** at the wartime airfield of East Kirkby. We were in time to see the Lancaster Bomber taxi up and down the central runway and most people were able to visit the main hanger with its displays of material from WW2 and Bomber Command. But you would need a day to see all that was on show there.

Tattershall Castle and Tattershall Church were visited next. The National Trust were not allowing Groups into the Castle so we admired it from afar – except for Dr Peter Jarvis who dissociated himself from the rest of us, presented his card and was allowed in! The castle had been created in the 13th century and was aggrandised in the mid 15th by Ralph Cromwell, and even more by Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk who, in 1537, created a Tudor palace. During the Civil War it was badly damaged and only the Great Tower survived. By 1910 that was derelict and was about to be stripped out for the American market, but was saved by Lord Curzon. When he died he left it to the National Trust.

Tattershall Church and Almshouses (endowed by Ralph Cromwell, though they have been changed since his day) were close by and we were welcomed with tea. It is a massive church whose construction started in 1469 and was completed by 1482; the style is Perpendicular with a tower and transepts and huge tall windows.

On our return journey we stopped briefly at Woodhall Spa to see the **memorial to RAF Squadron 617 – the Dambusters**. Woodhall Spa – with lots of hotels and a fair amount of woodland -- was a base for the training of several specialist groups during World War 2.

Our route to Lincoln took us through the Witham Valley, notable for the number of major monastic sites there. Most have been destroyed, but we were able to briefly visit **Tupholme Abbey**, a house of Premonstratensian Canons founded in 1155. We also drove alongside the **Car Dyke**, a waterway of probable Roman origin whose route can be fairly confidently traced for some 57 miles.

Nick and Eva Moore were thanked very warmly for their magnificent response to the challenge of running a Cambrian Summer Meeting 'in a time of plague'. All the ear pieces for the audio system were eventually located and returned, and the following morning we

all dispersed, having enjoyed a stimulating few days in interesting and friendly company. This was something that everyone appreciated more than ever this year.

CAMBRIANS WALKING

An innovation in 2021 which we will repeat in 2022 was the programme of walks to bring Cambrians out into the healthy fresh air. Last year we found that – not surprisingly -- few people signed up in January for an afternoon walking on the moors in July! **So this year we will leave it to our now well-established e-mail circulation and to the website to give details of the dates and places for the walks in the summer of 2022. We plan to start the walking season a little earlier – in April -- this year so please keep your eye on your e-mails or the website if you want to sign up.** If you can't be bothered with either of these means of communication, do contact the General Secretary.

There were seven walks organised last summer in various parts of Wales and you can see notes of them on the Website www.cambrians.org.uk. The size of the groups averaged about 10 - 15 and most walks took about 3 hours of fairly gentle walking and a good deal of talking. The participants were a mixture of long-standing members, some new members and some non-members, several of whom became members!

CELEBRATING 175 YEARS OF ARCHAEOLOGIA CAMBRENSIS

A 'plague year' is perhaps not the best time to organise celebrations, but the Association was lucky in its timing: the **Autumn Meeting at Llangollen** took place as planned. On Friday October 22nd 34 Cambrians assembled at the Wild Pheasant Hotel in the afternoon. At 6.00pm the celebrations of *Archaeologia Cambrensis* began with a lecture by Prof Huw Pryce on Harry Longueville Jones, one of the joint founders of the Association and joint editor of the journal, to which he was a prolific contributor of both text and illustrations – the subject of our particular celebration this year.

The following morning there were 3 lectures about particular classes of antiquities and their illustration over a hundred years and more in our Journal. Professor Nancy Edwards spoke of the Early Christian monuments and the varying techniques used to bring these crucial images to the page; Frances Lynch, looking at 19th century illustration of monuments and artefacts, made a plea that we should return to the standards of observation and analysis which they embodied, and forgo the fast cheap photograph. Iain Wright, speaking next about his career behind the camera, showed what the carefully prepared photograph can do when painting interiors with light.

After lunch we set off for a coach excursion to the Pillar of Eliseg and Valle Crucis Abbey (the subject of the frontispiece to the first volume of *Arch. Camb.*) Nancy Edwards and Sian Rees spoke to us at these sites, before we drove back down the valley to the Froncysyllte Aqueduct and tea at a re-purposed Baptist Chapel in an area of the town now enjoying a tourist boom since becoming a World Heritage Site.

On our return there was a drinks reception with our President, Dr Eurwyn Wiliam, to formally launch the **175th Anniversary booklet : *Illustrating the Past in Wales***. This was

followed by a lecture by Heather James on the printing history and development of illustration in the journal – a lecture which complemented the exhibition of a range of woodblocks and copper plates which had been used in *Arch. Camb.* She is currently cataloguing this fascinating collection for deposit, it is hoped, in the National Museum.

The following morning there were three lectures dealing with modern illustrative techniques, presented by the RCHAMW (Dr Toby Driver and Sue Fielding) who are involved with projects for 'Cherish' and the 'The Digital Past' We also had a lecture from Chris Jones Jenkins on the production of his cutaway drawings and computer generated 3 D models explaining the inner workings of Holt castle.

All those present received their copy of the fascinating and very attractive booklet celebrating our 175th anniversary and, since then, all the membership will have received a free copy of it by post. The Association is very grateful to the Morgan family for a generous donation towards the cost of the publication, which was also helped by a bequest from Miss Olwen Davies of Bangor. We are especially grateful to the editors -- Heather James and Toby Driver -- and to all the authors for their sparkling essays. We are equally grateful to the members who contributed reminiscences to the website celebration of the anniversary, which was organised by our Chairman, Sian Rees. Such online celebrations are to be regretted in many ways, but perhaps they touch a larger proportion of the membership, and we must thank our social media and communications team, Rhiannon Comeau, Genevieve Cain, Toby Driver and Andrew Davidson for keeping us all in touch.

The Annual General Meeting for 2021 (October 14th) was held online like the one for 2020, and the one for 2022 will be too. Each was associated with the replaying of the Presidential Address and it is likely that this, too, will become a custom. On December 15th we inaugurated what we hope will become an annual event – a **Christmas Lecture** highlighting a particularly important recent excavation. This year we were delighted to hear the details of the **Pembrokeshire Chariot Burial** from **Adam Gwilt** of Amgueddfa Cymru.

***Archaeologia Cambrensis* : New Editor**

Members will be aware, from the note in a previous Newsletter, that our Editor of eighteen years standing, Bill Britnell, was looking to retire. The Trustees are pleased to announce that a new Editor has been found – Ken Murphy of Dyfed Archaeological Trust. Ken has a good deal of editorial experience and skill in book production and he and Bill have been working together on the final production of this year's volume of *Arch. Camb.*

The Association has always been immensely proud of its journal – a pride which our meeting at Llangollen was designed to celebrate. The roll call of its Editors over 175 years has been impressive and many of them have given long service to the membership in that role. Bill Britnell has been one of the most distinguished and most hard-working of this group of scholars, for which we are extremely grateful. When he took over the Editorship in 2003 *Arch. Camb.* had dropped behind on its publication date by some four years, because of illness, and it was his avowed intent to bring it back on line as soon as possible. This he achieved without loss of quality in scholarship or production. By 2010 the volume was appearing in the following year and from 2015 the volumes have appeared regularly within

their calendar year. That is the record of a tremendously efficient Editor! And I don't think he has made any enemies *en route*. Bill has also overseen the digitisation of current volumes by ADS, alongside the National Library's work to put all the 19th century volumes of *Arch. Camb.* online. This increased access has greatly enhanced the reputation of the Association and its journal. At a time when the quality of archaeological publication is declining on many fronts, due to pressures of money and time, and the belief that photographs and computers are an adequate substitute for knowledge, taste and hard work, *Arch. Camb.* has maintained its standards. For this we owe Bill an enormous debt of gratitude. And we wish his successor an equally successful and fruitful period of office!

MEETINGS PLANNED FOR 2022

SUMMER MEETING IN THE RIBBLE VALLEY, LANCASHIRE JULY 4TH – 9TH 2022

The Ribble Valley from Preston to Burnley may bring to mind an image of mills and smoking chimneys, of clogs and cobbles and four-loom weavers, of grabbing industrialists and downtrodden workers, but, like the South Wales valleys, there is a lot more to it than that. It's prehistory will mainly elude us because you have to walk high onto the moors to find it. But the Roman were here and we will see them at Ribchester. The Saxons and the Vikings have left traces at Whalley where there are monastic ruins and also a very fine late medieval parish church with a distinctive style seen also at Ribchester.

But perhaps one of the most notable things about this area is that the Reformation scarcely happened. The landed gentry (the magistrates) living in very fine 15th and 16th century timbered halls, took little notice of the changes and remained Catholic (or perhaps Church Papist) throughout. There were penalties -- you could not go into politics, so you didn't waste your money and there are some extraordinarily fine 17th century houses and a lot of discreet and elegant 'barn' churches -- and, at Pleasington, less discreet -which pre-date Catholic Emancipation (1829) by a generation or more. The most important focus for this recusant history is Stonyhurst which we will visit on Tuesday. This is a very impressive Tudor mansion built by the Shireburn family in the 1530s with additions in the 1660s, but extra to their requirements by the late 18th century. In 1791 it was given to the English Jesuit Mission. From the late 16th century the Jesuits had been educating the sons of English Catholics in the Low Countries for some 200 years. But in the 1790s English laws against Catholics were relaxed somewhat, and schools were allowed. From a group of 4 staff and 12 boys camping out in the damp empty mansion a major public school emerged which is still going strong.

Another aspect of the region which is less well known is the quality of its museum collections. The great wealth which came from the industrial development of the latter half of the 19th century was, in many cases, spent on collecting – art, manuscripts, books, coins Egyptology, textiles, glass; and these collections were given to the municipal museums in Preston, Blackburn, Burnley and Accrington. The Hart Collection of mediaeval manuscripts and early printed books in Blackburn Museum is second only to that in the British Library. Dr Cynthia Johnston will be lecturing to us on this collection on the Thursday evening.

The programme is below, and most days have been fully planned, but the details of Wednesday are still uncertain because of the closure of the Harris Museum in Preston – for the encouraging reason that it has obtained a large grant for re-design. And, as I write this,

the pandemic is still with us. **Please return the preliminary booking form as soon as you are happy to do so, but do not send money at this stage.**

We have booked rooms in the **Mercure Hotel Dunkenhalgh** in **Clayton le Moors**, an 1830s country house with modern additions just outside Accrington, accessed from Junction 7 of the M65, or by train to Accrington. **Please book through CAA, not the hotel.**

Costs are £48.50 per person DBB with a £18.00 single supplement. This will be a total of £485.00 for a couple; £332.50 for single occupancy; £242.50 each for 2 people sharing. The proposal is for arrival lunchtime Monday July 4th and departure Saturday July 9th pm.

PROGRAMME

Monday July 4th Arrival. Early afternoon suggested

2.30pm Depart by coach for **Helmshore Textile Museum**

6.30 **Lecture** Dr Jan Graffius on the Stonyhurst Collections

8.00 Dinner

Tuesday July 5th North side of the valley

Stonyhurst Tour of the School and Museum

Salmesbury Hall very fine 15th timbered hall

lunch at 12.00 – 1.00 then a Group guided tour

Whalley Parish church has very fine woodwork, a Roman Altar in the nave and 3 Saxon crosses in the graveyard.

Walley Abbey ruins are close by.

Lecture Reception and Presidential Address Dr Elizabeth Walker : ‘Out from the Darkness into the Light: the significance of Welsh Caves to Palaeolithic archaeology’

Dinner

Wednesday It was intended to be a split day between **A The mouth of the Ribble** and **B The Trough of Bowland** (more walking) More planning needed

A Preston , perhaps St Walberge’s church with spire 1854 Rufford Old Hall (NT) and perhaps St Mary’s, Leyland (1964)

B Bleasdale Circle (prehistoric) and Calder Vale (early industrial village), Browsholme or Clitheroe Castle No evening lecture

Thursday July 7th Burnley area

Weavers Triangle Industrial history tours in the canal district

11.30 **Townley Hall Museum** V. splendid 16th cent. building +Art Gallery Private tour : Egyptian Coll, Whalley Abbey vestments, Kashmir embroidery and Pilkington pottery. Then lunch in café.

Gawthorpe Hall (NT) Renaissance building Collections : portraits and needlework

Lecture Dr Cynthia Johnson on the E B Hart Collections in Blackburn Museum

Friday July 8th Blackburn Area

Pleasington Priory 1819 Catholic church.

Hoghton Tower A late castle with possible connections with Shakespeare. 11.00 Guided tour and archaeological features in the garden

Blackburn Cathedral A Georgian Gothic church We will have lunch here

Blackburn Museum has notable collection of coins and early books from the E B Hart Collection, as well as local archaeological material and modern material reflecting the diversity of the area.

Saturday July 9th (Last day – in private cars. Bring your luggage)

Ribchester Museum Good small Museum and exposed Roman foundations in the churchyard next door. Church is worth a visit 13-19th cent. There may be a Roman Festival going on that day!

Stydd – very narrow road access to 18th Catholic ‘barn’ church with v. large car park. Walk (c 500m) from there to Preceptory, past the ‘very curious and very engaging’ Almshouses. The Preceptory is a redundant Anglican church with 18th cent Catholic burials. Part of the Shireburn Estates.

Return to A59 and M6 (and also drop people at Preston Station if needed).

EISTEDDFOD LECTURE

It is hoped that the Eisteddfod at **Tregaron, Ceredigion**, postponed from 2020, will eventually take place in the first week of August in 2022. Our Eisteddfod Lecture which is normally on the afternoon of the Wednesday (August 3rd) will be a joint lecture by Professors David Austin and Dafydd Johnson on the ever-developing *Strata Florida Project*, now part of an AHRC funded ‘Sacred Landscapes of Mediaeval Monasteries’ interdisciplinary study.

CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION AUTUMN MEETING

COWBRIDGE, VALE OF GLAMORGAN.

12 - 14 September (Note, this is a Monday – Wednesday meeting)

The Bear Hotel, 63 High Street, Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan, CF71 7AF 01446 774814

The theme of this meeting is a study of the early medieval monasteries and the historic houses of the Vale of Glamorgan. We are based at Cowbridge, founded in the Roman period and developed as a 13th century walled town. The first visit is to the historic centre of the town, and thereafter we visit medieval defensive houses at Llanblethian, Old Beaupre, and Fonmon Castle and gardens, the early monastic sites of Llancarfan (with the recently discovered wall paintings) and St Illtud Fawr (with new displays of the early medieval stones). We hope to be able to visit the spectacular conservation of the formerly derelict 17th century Sker House, and continue to Merthyr Mawr to see the House, medieval chapel and crosses, early medieval stones and Candleston Castle.

Monday 12 September

12.00 – 14.00 Bear Hotel. Registration

Lunch (own cost) – prior booking with hotel advisable but not essential.

14.00 Perambulation of Cowbridge to include the layout of the Roman town, the Medieval Town Defences, Church, Physick Garden and the town's medieval and post-medieval architecture (Edith Evans and Bill Zajac).

15.30 Walk to St Quentin's Castle, Llanblethian (John Kenyon)

18.30 Lecture: *The Early Medieval Monasteries of Glamorgan* (Jeremy Knight)

19.45 Dinner

Tuesday 13 September

9.00 Coach (on road outside Bear) to

9.30 Old Beaupre Castle (John Kenyon and Prys Morgan)

11.30 Llancarfan Church medieval wall paintings (Ann Ballantyne)

12.30 *Fox and Hounds pub lunch*

13.30 Fonmon Castle (Prys Morgan)

14.45 Llantwit church and early medieval stones (Jeremy Knight) and view of the Old Plas restoration

16.00 Llysworney church and *Tea* at Moor Farm (by kind invitation of Jill and Edward Jacobs)

17.45 Coach leaves for Bear Hotel

18.30 Lecture: Historic Houses of the Vale of Glamorgan (Prys Morgan)

19.45 Dinner

Wednesday 14 September

9.00 Leave for Sker House (or Ewenny Priory)

9.40 Arrive Sker House (Michael Davies) or Ewenny Priory (Sian Rees)

11.30 Merthyr Mawr House Chapel and Crosses, Church and Early Christian Stones (Jeremy Knight)

12.15 Candleston Castle (Jeremy Knight)

13.00 Return to Bear Hotel *Lunch (own cost) and conference disperses.*

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING for 2022

This meeting will be held online on the evening of **Thursday October 13th** After the Business Meeting we will, as last year, have a repeat of the Presidential Address by Elizabeth Walker : 'Out from the Darkness into the Light: the significance of Welsh Caves to Palaeolithic archaeology'. Joining arrangements will be sent by e-mail. **Please ensure we have your e-mail.**

CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION RESEARCH FUND

The Association continues to reassign the greater part of any surpluses from Meetings to the Research Fund. Any member wishing to donate to this fund should send a cheque made out to *CAA Research Fund* to the Hon Treasurer, Mrs Jenny Britnell, 75, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Salop SY2 6BE.

GRANTS AWARDED DURING 2021

Emma Wager was awarded £2000 towards the costs of preparing for publication a book entitled *A Social Archaeology of Prehistoric Copper Mining: Community, Technology and*

Tradition at the Great Orme Mine, North Wales. Dr Wager has directed excavations at an early copper ore washing site on the Great Orme and completed a PhD on the character and context of Bronze Age mining at the site in 2002. The proposed Open Access book with Sidestone Press will provide an updated study utilising all previous radiocarbon dates from the site for its prehistoric chronology.

Martin Bell was awarded £2000 towards the cost of conserving 29 pieces of Mesolithic worked wood from wood structures interpreted as fish traps in the bed of a palaeochannel in the intertidal zone at Goldcliff in the Severn estuary. The structure is dated 5210-4912 cal BC. Following conservation these rare finds will be deposited at the National Museum of Wales to join other finds from the site.

Oliver Davis was awarded £2000 towards the costs of analysing a pollen core from Nant y Plac near to Caerau Causewayed Enclosure, Cardiff of Neolithic date. The sample site contains deposits from the late Glacial to the Late Bronze Age and has the potential to provide environmental evidence for the Mesolithic/Neolithic transition.

DISSERTATION PRIZE

Over the summer a sub-committee of Trustees, including past winners of the Blodwen Jerman Prize, have been working to revivify this student award. It is now called **Gwobr Archaeoleg Cambrian Archaeological Award** and application details are on our website www.cambrians.org.uk

Following an active advertising campaign that targeted several academic institutions, research groups and student associations, the successful re-launch of the dissertation prize for 2021/2 received nine eligible applicants. Judging for the prize will be undertaken over the next few months with the aim of choosing the winner by the spring of 2022. We wish good luck to those who have entered and give our thanks to those who have helped with increasing the reach and range of audience for our advertisements via social media.

SUBSCRIPTION INCREASE

Thanks to all our members who have updated their standing orders for subs payable on 1st January each year. **The new rates are £25 for individual membership, £30 for joint and £10 for associate membership (students).** If you have mislaid the BO form recently sent out, one is included with this newsletter and you can contact the Membership Secretary, Dr Rhiannon Comeau, 21 Ulleswater Road, Southgate, London, N14 7BI (email cambriansubs@gmail.com) with any queries.

EMAILS, WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

Over the past few years those members who have 'signed up' have been receiving emails from Rhiannon Comeau and now Andrew Davidson with information on events, publications and lectures likely to be of interest to members, as well as information on our own events. If you would like to join the email circulation list please contact cambrians1846@gmail.com.

Genevieve Cain continues to update the website (www.cambrians.org.uk) which now contains a wealth of material and we have a growing following on Facebook (www.facebook.com/CambriansArchaeology) and Twitter (@CambriansArch).

There are a number of interesting lectures available on our You Tube channel, including 2 Presidential addresses; more, including lectures from the Autumn Meeting this year, will be added throughout the year. Access is via the 'Talks' page on our website - <https://cambrians.org.uk/talks/>.

Cambrian Archaeological Association New subscription rates from 1st January 2022

Individual members:	£25.00
Joint members (two members of a household):	£30.00
Student members:	£10.00
<i>(Institutional rates are available from the Membership Secretary – contact details below)</i>	

If your payment for 2022 has been made at the old rate, please send a payment for the balance owed to our Membership Secretary, Dr Rhiannon Comeau. Payments can be made online or by cheque. Our bank details are as follows:

Account : Cambrian Archaeological Association Subscription Account
Account No : 07917651
Sort Code : 51 - 81 - 27

Standing Orders

Please change your Standing Orders so that the correct amount is paid the next time your subs are due (normally 1st January each year). Standing Orders are easily changed with online banking – just log in to your bank account and follow your bank's instructions. If you do not use online banking, you will need to complete our Standing Order form (enclosed) and send it back to us at the address below. We will then forward it to your bank. Alternatively, you can make the change yourself by visiting your bank, but if you do this, please let the Membership Secretary know – contact details are below.

Cheque payments

If you do not currently pay by Standing Order, could you perhaps consider doing so? It makes payment of your subscription much easier for you and for us. The easiest way to set up a Standing Order is via online banking, and instructions for this are included on the Standing Order form. If you do not use online banking, please complete the Standing Order form and send it to us.

If you pay by cheque, please note that Frances Llewellyn has retired from Membership Secretary responsibilities. The new Membership Secretary's details are given below.

Dr Rhiannon Comeau, Cambrian Archaeological Association Membership Secretary
21 Ulleswater Road, Southgate, London N14 7BL. Email: cambriansubs@gmail.com

Booking Form

Summer Meeting in the Ribble Valley

Monday July 4th - Saturday July 9th 2022

Number of People in party

Names

Address

.....

Phone number E-mail

☐

I wish to have a Single room @ £66.00 DBB x 5 = **£332.00**

☐

I wish to share a room @ £24.00 DBB x 5 = **£242.50** with

☐

We wish to have a Double room @ £48. 00 DBB x 5 = **£485.00**

Registration Fee (Conference room hire, booklet, lecturers etc) payable by all **£50 per person**

Day Costs (Coach, entrances, lunch, church donations etc.) **Please bring NT membership cards**

Monday Coach & museum entry £15

Tuesday Coach, tours and lunch £54

Wednesday not known at present Coach, church donations & NT £10 coach + ?

Thursday Coach, tours and lunch & NT £36

Friday Coach, Tour and lunch £36

Saturday Museum entry, church donations £10 **Total for week about £180 per person**

Please send the bottom slip to Frances Llewellyn, Halfway House, Halfway Bridge, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 3DG 01248 364865 flynchllewellyn@gmail.com **as soon as possible**, to register your interest.

Keep this upper section and send it with all monies (hotel, registration and day costs) to Frances Llewellyn when the situation for July is clearer and I contact you with more details.

Please make out cheques to CAA Meetings Account / Ribble Valley.

I /We are planning to come to the **Ribble Valley Meeting**

Name

Address

Phone E-mail

Single

☐

Double

☐

Sharing

☐

Booking Form
Cambrian Archaeological Association Autumn Meeting, Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan
12 -14 September 2022

Number of people in party _____

Names _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ email _____

I/We have booked at Bear Hotel ☐

I/We will be Non-Resident/staying elsewhere ☐

Registration fee (coach, conference room hire, booklet) payable by all **£50.00 per person**

To register, please enclose a cheque for £50.00 per person (registration fee) **plus relevant day fee (see below)**. Total cost if staying the whole weekend = **£146.00** made out to *Cambrian Archaeological Association Additional Meetings / Cowbridge* by 31 March 2022.

Day Fee

Monday 12 September Church donation, hotel dinner £39.00

Tuesday 13 September Lunch (Fox and Hounds), church donations, hotel dinner £57.00

Wednesday 14 September no cost – possible entrance fee to Fonmon to be paid individually

Bed and Breakfast Accommodation to be booked direct with hotel

The rooms at the Bear Hotel vary in price according to size and position in hotel so that costs cannot be given here.

Please book accommodation (conference rate for bed and breakfast) yourself with:

The Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan, CF71 7AF,
enquiries@bearhotel.com, 01446 774814

quoting the *Cambrian Archaeological Association Autumn Conference*, and specifying the duration of your stay, single, twin or double room required, with/without lunch on Monday 12 September and Wednesday 14 September, and any dietary requirements.

(NB. The Monday and Tuesday 3 course dinners are already booked as part of the Day Fee, so do not book dinners when booking accommodation.)

If the Bear Hotel is full, alternative venues can be found nearby (Cowbridge Cabins 01446 772344; Cross Inn 01446772995; Glyndwr Vineyard 01446 624759).

In case of difficulty, contact Sian Rees.

Travel: The Bear Hotel is in the centre of Cowbridge on the north side of the main street. Nearest station is Bridgend. Transport from the station can be arranged with prior notice

Return this application form + CAA cheque to Sian Rees, Datchet House, Station Road, Raglan, Monmouthshire, NP15 2EP (Tel: 01291 690695; email: richardavent@hotmail.com)