



NADOLIG LLAWEN MERRY CHRISTMAS

2025!

21 mlynedd o Trysor

Ar ddiwedd blwyddyn brysur arall, hoffem ddymuno Nadolig Llawen iawn a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda i chi gyd. Dyma oedd ein 21ain flwyddyn fel Trysor ac unwaith eto rydym wedi ymweld â lleoedd gwych ac wedi cwrdd â phobl wych. Ac wedi cyrraedd ein 1000fed prosiect fel partneriaeth!

Rydym yn ddiolchgar iawn i bawb sydd wedi rhoi'r cyfle i ni weithio gyda nhw, neu ar eu cyfer, eleni, o'r rhai sydd wedi chwilio am gymorth gyda materion cynllunio i'r rhai sy'n ymwneud â phrosiectau cymunedol.

Mae pobl yn aml yn gofyn i ni fel archaeolegwyr "beth yw'r peth mwyaf diddorol rydych chi erioed wedi'i ddarganfod?" Mae'n gwestiwn anodd i'w ateb oherwydd ein bod ni'n chwilio am wybodaeth a thystiolaeth yn fwy nag arteffactau neu drysorau, felly mae pob prosiect newydd yn rhoi cyfle gwych i ni ddysgu pethau newydd ac ehangu ein dealltwriaeth o'r gorffennol. Dyma ddetholiad byr o rai o uchafbwyntiau'r flwyddyn!

21 years of Trysor

At the end of another busy year, we want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. This was our 21st year as Trysor and once again we've seen some fabulous places and met some fantastic people. And reached our 1000th project as a partnership! We're very grateful to everyone who has given us the opportunity to work with them or for them this year, from those needing help with planning matters, to those involved in community projects.

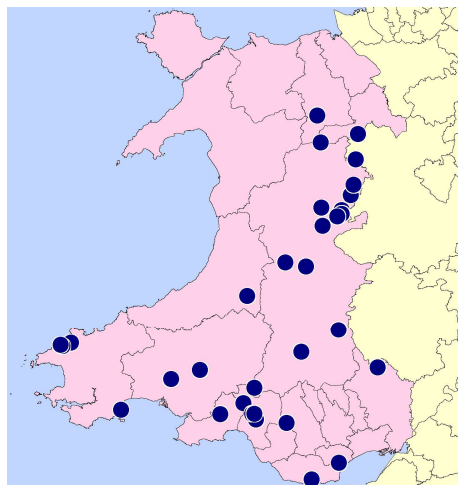
People often ask us as archaeologists "what is the most interesting thing you've ever found?" It's a hard question to answer because we search for information and knowledge more than artefacts or treasures, so every job to us is a great opportunity to learn new things and expand our understanding of the past. Here is just a short selection of some of the highlights of the year!



Unwaith eto eleni, rydym wedi bod yn brysur, gyda phrosiectau ar draws Cymru ac ambell i daith dros y ffin!



Once again this year we've been busy, with projects undertaken across Wales and a few trips over the border!



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Trysor Heritage-Treftadaeth

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Cwmffwrn 2025

Yng Ngorffennaf, roeddem yn ffodus i allu dychwelyd i gloddiad diddorol Ymddiriedolaeth Treftadaeth Abaty Cwmhir ar dŷ llwyfan a ddechreuodd yn 2023 yng Nghwmffwrn, ger Abaty Cwmhir, Powys. Cafodd y prosiect ryw faint o nawdd masnachol gan gwmni OCU a thîm rhagorol o "ddarpar-archaeolegwyr" a dalodd i hyfforddi gyda ni am yr wythnos. Eleni, ein gobaith oedd profi bod gan y tŷ llwyfan gwreiddiau canoloesol. Daethom o hyd i fwy o ddarnau crochenwaith canoloesol, gan gynnwys un darn a ddarganfuwyd yn ffabrig y plattform ei hun ar y prynhawn olaf! Bellach mae gennym ni dyllau post, slotiau pren a nodweddion eraill yn dod i'r amlwg yr ydym yn gobeithio eu cloddio yn 2026.

Cwmffwrn 2025

In July, we were fortunate to be able to return to the fascinating Abbey Cwmhir Heritage Trust excavation of a house platform started in 2023 at Cwmffwrn, near Abbey Cwmhir, Powys. The project had some commercial sponsorship from utilities company OCU and a team of excellent trainee archaeologists who paid to train with us for the week. We wanted to establish if the house has medieval origins. We found more medieval pottery sherds, including one found in the fabric of the house platform on the last afternoon! We now have post holes, timber slots and other features coming to light which we hope to excavate in 2026.



*Cloddio tŷ llwyfan Cwmffwrn, yng ngwrês yr haf – 30C!
Roedd rhaid cael y gazebo er mwyn cysgodi'r cloddwyr!*

Excavating the Cwmffwrn platform in the summer heat – 30C! We had to put up the gazebo to protect the diggers!

Golygfa o'r ty ar ddiwedd y cloddio yn 2025. Ychydig iawn o gerrig sydd ar y safle, sy'n awgrymu mai ty fframyn pren oedd Cwmffwrn.

A view of the house at the end of the 2025 dig. There is very little stone on the site, suggesting this was a timber-framed house.





Cofeb Halifax LL541 Memorial

Flwyddyn yn ôl, trefnon ni wasanaeth coffa i griw Canadaidd yr awyren fomio Halifax LL541 a ddaeth lawr yng Nghwm Elan yn Rhagfyr 1944. Ers hynny, rydym wedi llwyddo cysylltu â theuluoedd yr wyth dyn a fu farw yn y ddamwain, allan yng Nghanada. Ym mis Hydref, dychwelsom i'r cwm i gynnal gwasanaeth cyflwyno ar gyfer plac coffa parhaol i'r criw a gollwyd. Cynhaliwyd a chefnogwyd y digwyddiad hwn yn hael gan Dŵr Cymru/Welsh Water. Bydd y plac i'w weld yn eu canolfan ymwelwyr boblogaidd yng Nghwm Elan.

A year ago, we held a memorial service for the Canadian crew of the Halifax bomber LL541 which crashed in the Elan Valley in December 1944. Since then, we have been able to contact the Canadian relatives of all eight men who died in the crash. In October we returned to the valley to hold a dedication service for a permanent memorial plaque to the lost crew. This event was generously hosted and supported by Dŵr Cymru/Welsh Water. The plaque will be on display in their popular Elan Valley visitor centre.



Betty a Ken yn dadorchuddio'r gofeb.
Betty and Ken unveiling the memorial plaque.



Byd natur a threftadaeth dan fygythiad. Cerbydau anghyfreithlon yn erydu'r mawn a difrodi Crug yr Afan, crug crwm cofrestredig o'r Oes Efydd.

Nature and heritage under threat. Off-road vehicles causing peat erosion and damage to Crug yr Afan, a scheduled Bronze Age round barrow.

Mawnogydd Coll / Lost Peatlands

Fe wnaethon ni gynnal tri asesiad maes yn ymwneud â rheoli ac adfer mawnogydd yn ystod hydref 2025. Roedd y rhain yn amrywio o ucheldiroedd Ceredigion, cwm Nedd a chwm Rhondda Fawr uchaf. Mae mawn yn sinc carbon pwysig ond mae hefyd yn ffynhonnell bwysig iawn o dystiolaeth paleoamgylcheddol ac archaeolegol. Gall cydbwysio anghenion yr amgylchedd naturiol a'r amgylchedd hanesyddol fod yn dipyn o gamp weithiau! Ond mae bob amser yn bleser bod ar fynyddoedd mor brydferth!

We carried out three field assessments relating to peat management and restoration during the autumn of 2025. These ranged from upland Ceredigion, the Neath valley and the upper Rhondda Fawr valley. Peat is an important carbon sink but is also a very important source of paleoenvironmental and archaeological evidence. Balancing the needs of the natural environment and the historic environment can be quite a feat sometimes! But it's always a pleasure to be in such beautiful uplands!





Yn ôl i Lofa Gellia !

Gan barhau â thema'r cloddio, aethom yn ôl i safle hen Lofa Gellia ger Castell Nedd, De Cymru. Buom yn cloddio ar ben y tŷ injan weindio trawdiadol sy'n sefyll y tu allan i brif ddrifft y lofa. Buom hefyd yn cloddio rhannau o efail y lofa hefyd, lle daethom ar draws darganfyddiad annisgwyl iawn. Roedd gan y lofa rhwydwaith o dramffyrdd, gyda drymiau weindio yn gweithio sawl inclein. Tybiwyd y byddai ceffylau wedi tynnu dramiau ar hyd rhannau gwastad y dramffyrdd. Ond, y tu mewn i ben dwyreiniol yr efail daethom o hyd i bwl archwilio mawr, wedi'i leinio â cherrig. Mae'n debyg byddai pwl archwilio o'r fath yma wedi cael ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer cynnal a chadw peiriannau locomotif, sy'n awgrymu bod Glofa Gellia yn defnyddio trênau bach i dynnu dramiau ar ryw adeg. Dyma'n union y math o "drysor" y mae Trysor wrth ei fodd yn dod o hyd iddo! Cynhaliwyd y prosiect hwn ar gyfer Parc Gwledig Craig Gwladus.

Back to Gellia Colliery

Continuing with the excavation theme, we returned to the former Gellia Colliery near Neath, South Wales. We excavated the top of the fine winding engine house which stands outside the main drift of the mine. We also excavated parts of the colliery smithy which produced a very unexpected discovery. The colliery had an extensive tramway system, with winding drums working its inclines. It had been thought that horses would have pulled drams along the level sections of the tramway, but inside east end of the smithy we found a large, stone-lined inspection pit. The inspection pit is likely to have been used for the maintenance of locomotive engines, suggesting that Gellia Colliery was using small locomotives at some point. This is exactly the sort of "treasure" that Trysor loves to find! This project was undertaken for Craig Gwladus Country Park.



Golygfa drôn o'r ffos a agorwyd ar ben y tŷ injan weindio. Datgelwyd olion waliau llawr uchafyr adeilad oedd wedi cwmpo i lawr i guddio canol yr adeilad.

A drone view of the trench opened on top of the winding engine house. The collapsed walls of an upper storey were revealed.

Golygfa o ben gorllewinol y pwl archwilio y tu mewn i'r efail. Mae'r llawr brics yn 1.3 metr i lawr. Mae'r pwl yn 80cm o led a dros 4 metr o hyd.

A view of the west end of the inspection pit inside the smithy. The brick floor is 1.3 metres deep. The pit is 80cm wide and over 4 metres long.

