

Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales



# Resources to support the Amgueddfa Cymru Community Challenge

**SOCIAL/WELFARE**  
WAYS WE TELL STORIES

# Ways we tell stories

There are 7 museums that make up Amgueddfa Cymru  
– National Museum Wales:

**National Museum Cardiff**

**St Fagans National History Museum**

**National Waterfront Museum**

**Big Pit National Coal Museum**

**National Slate Museum**

**National Roman Legion Museum**

**National Wool Museum**

Visit [www.museumwales.ac.uk](http://www.museumwales.ac.uk) for further information.

Here are some examples of the ways in which we tell stories about Wales and our collections.

Exhibitions

Co-curated exhibitions

Online exhibitions/Catalogues

Events

Formal learning programmes

Trails/Activity sheets

Blogs

Twitter

iBooks

Books

You can use this information to help you think about the best ways to present your Community Challenge.

# Exhibitions

Exhibitions are an exciting way of presenting objects, stories, art pieces, multimedia and performances. They are usually large-scale, and are themed depending on the objects and stories. They can be displayed in one large museum exhibition space, or in many different spaces. They can also be displayed outside the museum building, for example in a marquee at the National Eisteddfod, or be based entirely online.

You must consider who your exhibition is for, as this affects the presentation of the content.

We also have an exciting changing display of temporary exhibitions. They can be a way of responding quickly to current events or news. You can view each of our museums' exhibitions on our website at [www.museumwales.ac.uk](http://www.museumwales.ac.uk)

Our exhibition programme changes regularly. Here are some examples of previous temporary exhibitions:

## Treasures: Adventures in Archaeology

26 January – 30 October 2016



To celebrate 2016, The Year of Adventure in Wales, see extraordinary treasures from popular culture including the hat, whip and jacket of **Indiana Jones**, **crystal skulls**, **Inca gold** and early finds such as **Egyptian Mummies**.

The exhibition will tell the stories behind great archaeological discoveries from the ancient civilizations of Egypt, Greece, Rome, Pre-Columbian America and Rapa Nui (Easter Island), some of which **have never been seen in Wales** before. It will include a whole host of fascinating objects and treasures from ancient worlds as well as more recent examples uncovered in Wales.





**Cambrian Mountains Wool:**  
**2015 Design & Make Challenge** (now ended)  
*National Wool Museum*

An exhibition of the work of 35 designer-makers showcasing the versatility of wool from the Cambrian Mountains region.



**Wales's Newest Dinosaur**  
*National Museum Cardiff*

The skeleton of a new Welsh dinosaur goes on display at National Museum Cardiff. The dinosaur is approximately 200 million years old, the oldest Jurassic dinosaur ever found in the UK. It belongs to the theropod group of dinosaurs and is related to *Tyrannosaurus rex*, although our dinosaur was walking the earth about 130 million years earlier than its more well-known cousin. The new Welsh dinosaur is a completely new species, previously unknown to scientists, making this discovery even more exciting.

# Co-curated exhibitions

Co-curated, co-produced or co-created exhibitions are exhibitions that involve a specific group from the beginning. They get involved in the content development and interpretation of the story, and it is a great way of giving your audience a 'voice' and making content relevant. These types of exhibitions can be very rewarding for the group, the museum and the audience, but plenty of time needs to be given for workshops and discussions. An initial strong idea and framework is essential. You also have to be flexible enough to adapt to the needs of the group.

St Fagans: National History Museum has been working in this way for a while, and have developed exhibitions with Italians in Wales, refugees and asylum seekers, young people and ethnic minorities. A blog about co-curation is here [www.amgueddfacymru.ac.uk/blog/2016-01-22/An-extreme-historical-adventure---MakingHistory-co-curation-update/](http://www.amgueddfacymru.ac.uk/blog/2016-01-22/An-extreme-historical-adventure---MakingHistory-co-curation-update/)



# Online exhibitions and catalogues

Online exhibitions are a way of presenting a wide range of collections and information that can be accessed by a much wider audience. Here is an example of a catalogue of collections from Amgueddfa Cymru's First World War collections.

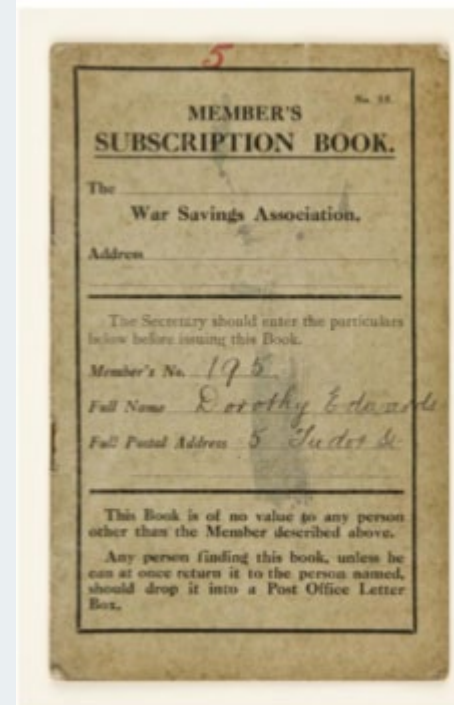
[www.museumwales.ac.uk/first-world-war/](http://www.museumwales.ac.uk/first-world-war/)

This online catalogue brings together archives, photographs and objects to create a rich resource for researchers, community groups, students and all who are interested in the history of the First World War and its impact on Wales. New records will be added as more collections are rediscovered and digitized.

Supported by the Armed Forces Community Covenant Grant Scheme.

Here are some screen shots showing the types of collections presented in the catalogue. Visit the website to find out more.

Subscription book



war savings money

Amulet



folklore good luck charm

Amulet



folklore good luck charm

# Events

One of the ways we can tell many and different stories about our collections is through offering our visitors special events. These can range from family activities, such as making pots, to specialist talks on bee identification and behind the scenes tours.

Here are some examples of special events, catering for a range of different audiences across Amgueddfa Cymru.

## Toddler Time

*National Museum Cardiff*

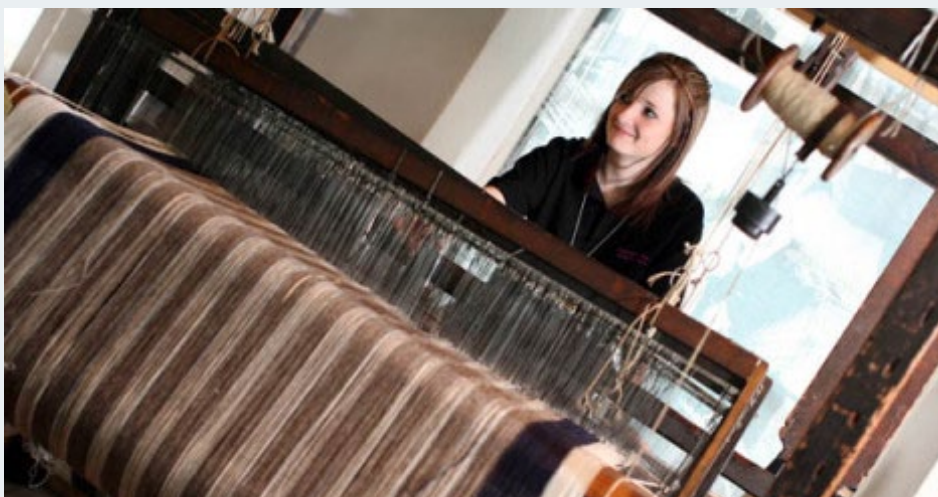
Every Friday afternoon you'll find special boxes of toys, games and books hidden in different galleries. These have been put together to help parents and children aged 1-4 years explore the Museum through play. Developed in partnership with Cardiff Language and Play.



## St Fagans Castle Ghost Tour

*St Fagans National History Museum*

Take an evening ghost tour of this Elizabethan mansion, which sits in the grounds of a Norman castle! On these ghost tours we will walk through the building with all its lights out, for stories of experiences set against tales of its very changeable fortunes over the centuries.



(IMAGES: AMGUEDDFA CYMRU)

### **Guided tours**

*National Wool Museum*

Enrich your visit to the National Wool Museum by following a guided tour by our experienced craftspeople.

### **Slate Splitting demonstrations**

*National Slate Museum*

Come and enjoy the amazing craft of splitting and dressing the slate as one of our experienced craftsmen slice the slate in front of your eyes. As well as deftly splitting slate our craftsmen also create works of art out of stone – from ordinary circles to hearts, picture frames and intricate slate fans.

### **Adult learning courses**

Adult learning courses provide opportunities for visitors to develop a skill or learn new ideas about a subject. These courses happen at specific times and there is usually a cost. For example:

### **An Introduction to Botanical Painting**

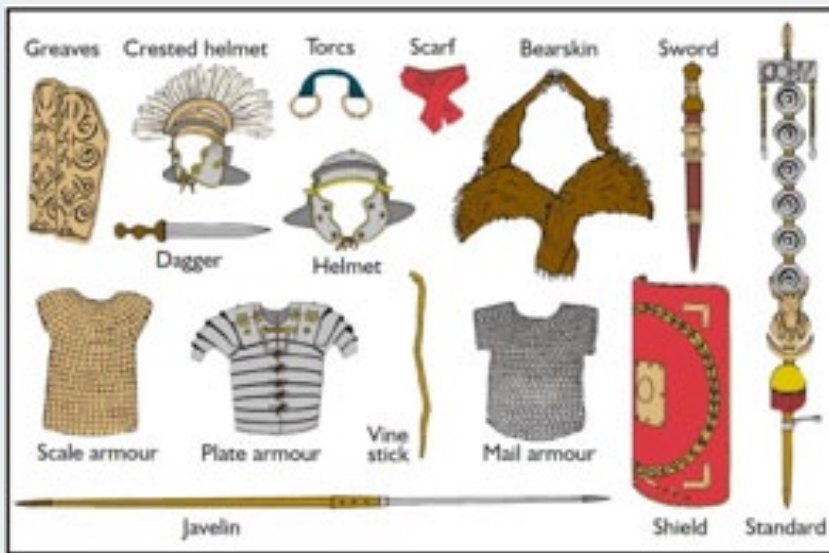
*St Fagans National History Museum*

This one-day course, held in the inspiring surroundings of St Fagans Castle, will introduce you to the art of botanical painting, a traditional way of depicting plants in watercolour.



# Trails and Activity sheets

These are resources available to download or pick up on site for visitors to explore the museum in more detail. There are usually designed for a specific audience and are developed creatively to take into account different learning styles.



## Roman Soldiers

*National Roman Legion Museum*

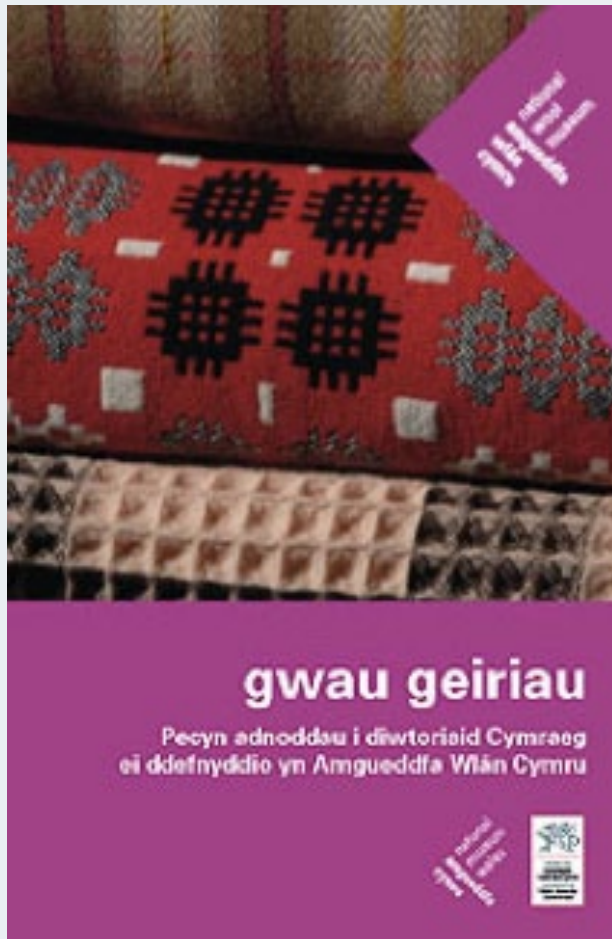
Match the soldiers to the weapons and armour, using the models in the gallery to help you.



## Museum Explorer

*National Museum Cardiff*

An activity booklet for families and other groups to explore the galleries together.



## **Gwau Geiriau (Welsh only)**

Pecyn adnoddau i diwtoriaid Cymraeg i'w ddefnyddio yn Amgueddfa Wlân Cymru.

(A resource pack for Welsh tutors to use at the National Wool Museum.)

# Formal Learning Programmes

School groups can book onto special workshops or download resources that meet the needs of the Curriculum and delve deeper into the stories behind our collections. Teachers' notes for the resources and workshops are available on our website.

Here are some examples of learning programmes at our museums:

[www.museumwales.ac.uk/learning](http://www.museumwales.ac.uk/learning)



## **Art – Colour and Impressionism**

*National Museum Cardiff*

Discover how artists used colour and light to record the world around them during the late 19th century.



### **Underground Tour**

*Big Pit National Coal Museum*

A guided tour 90 metres underground with ex-miners who recount their personal experiences of working underground. Key developments in the history of the coalfield are covered, to tell the story of how coal made Wales.

### **Vivian Quarry Walk**

*National Slate Museum*

An opportunity to go beyond the Museum itself to the foot of the Vivian Quarry and towards the Quarry Hospital. Hear more about the quarrymen's dangerous work on the rockface and in the splitting sheds, and see some innovative Victorian inventions such as the blondin and the incline.



Our workshops are developed to meet the needs of the learners and take into account differing learning styles. For more information on learning styles, or to find out your learning style, see

[www.inspiringlearningforall.gov.uk/learning/whatis.html](http://www.inspiringlearningforall.gov.uk/learning/whatis.html)



# Blogs

Visitors to our website can be kept informed about ongoing developments, new collections and learning activities through our blogs. Here are some examples:



The screenshot shows the Amgueddfa Blog website. The header is dark red with a search bar on the left and a menu icon on the right. The main title is "Amgueddfa Blog" with the subtitle "Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales".

The main content area features a blog post titled "Winter to Spring" by Penny Tomkins, dated 9 February 2015. The post begins with "Hi Bulb Buddies," and discusses sharing pictures of plants. It includes two images: a spider web on a wall and snowdrops in a field.

The sidebar on the right contains "recent entries" and "categories".

**recent entries**

- Open Doors at National Collections Centre, Nantgaw
- Foot for thought
- Bryn Ery: from house to home
- Guided Tours and Distant Shores
- Flint in Egyptian Pharaonic Warfare

**categories**

- All entries
- Collections & Research
- Community Engagement
- First World War
- General
- Learning
  - Explore the Sea Floor
  - Exploring Our Woodlands
- SCAN
- Tŷ Gwyrdd

# Amgueddfa Blog

## Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales

[← Blog Homepage](#)

## Open Doors at National Collections Centre, Nantgarw

Mark Etheridge, 21 August 2015

Open Doors is an event organised by Cadw (the Welsh Government's historic environment service). The idea behind the event is to offer people the opportunity to visit a variety of sites important to the culture and history of Wales. The highlight of the event is the opportunity to visit places that are not normally, or are infrequently, open to the public.

The National Collections Centre, Nantgarw, is part of Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales, and houses thousands of interesting and important objects that are not on display. Although not normally open to the general public we have always offered access to researchers, and also to various groups and societies. Staff at the National Collections Centre have always seen the importance of opening up the site to allow visitors access to view some of these objects and to see the work that is carried out by staff on site.

We are always looking for new ways to get visitors on site, to encourage people to learn about what we do, and provide more access to the collections in store. Therefore this year at one of our site meetings we decided that we would get involved in Open Doors. We will therefore be open as part of Open Doors on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015, and will be running tours at 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 2.00 and 3.00. Each tour will last about 45 minutes and visitors will be able to take a closer look at some of the collections held on site. One of the highlights of the tour will be the chance to see the transport collection of bicycles, motorbikes, cars (including three examples of the Welsh manufactured Gilbern car), buses and even an air sea rescue helicopter.

Booking is essential for these tours. Please ring us on 029 2057 3560 or 029 2057 3583 to book a place, or find out further information. You can also email us on [industry@museumwales.ac.uk](mailto:industry@museumwales.ac.uk)

Further details can be found on the [Cadw website](#), as well as details of all other places open as part of Open Doors.

We hope as many people as possible will be able to enjoy the tours and be able to see some of the amazing objects preserved by Amgueddfa Cymru for the people of Wales.



National Collections Centre, Nantgarw



Panorama of Interior of National Collections Centre



# Twitter and other social media

Using Twitter is a great way of letting your visitors know quickly about events and activities. It can be used to

respond to news on a daily basis and allows you to keep contact with your visitors.

**Mark Etheridge**  
@IndustryACNMW

Diwrnod 19 #AdfentAmgueddfa: Big Pit yn yr eira, 1978.  
@BigPitMuseum <https://t.co/o1e1jn9u2M>  
Retweeted by Big Pit Coal Museum

21 December 2015  
Reply • Retweet • Favourite



**Mark Etheridge**  
@IndustryACNMW

#OTD Plate commemorating the closure of Mardy Colliery. 21 December 1990. The Last Pit in the Rhondda  
@BigPitMuseum <https://t.co/21slceedDF>  
Retweeted by Big Pit Coal Museum

21 December 2015  
Reply • Retweet • Favourite



**Amgueddfa Caerdydd**  
@Museum\_Cardiff

Welsh dinosaur is officially a DRAGON #welshdino  
<https://t.co/grDdKmVTEd> via @MailOnline

1 hr  
Reply • Retweet • Favourite



**Amgueddfa Caerdydd**  
@Museum\_Cardiff

Welsh dinosaur is officially a DRAGON #welshdino  
<https://t.co/grDdKmVTEd> via @MailOnline

1 awr  
Ateb • Aildrydar • Hoffi





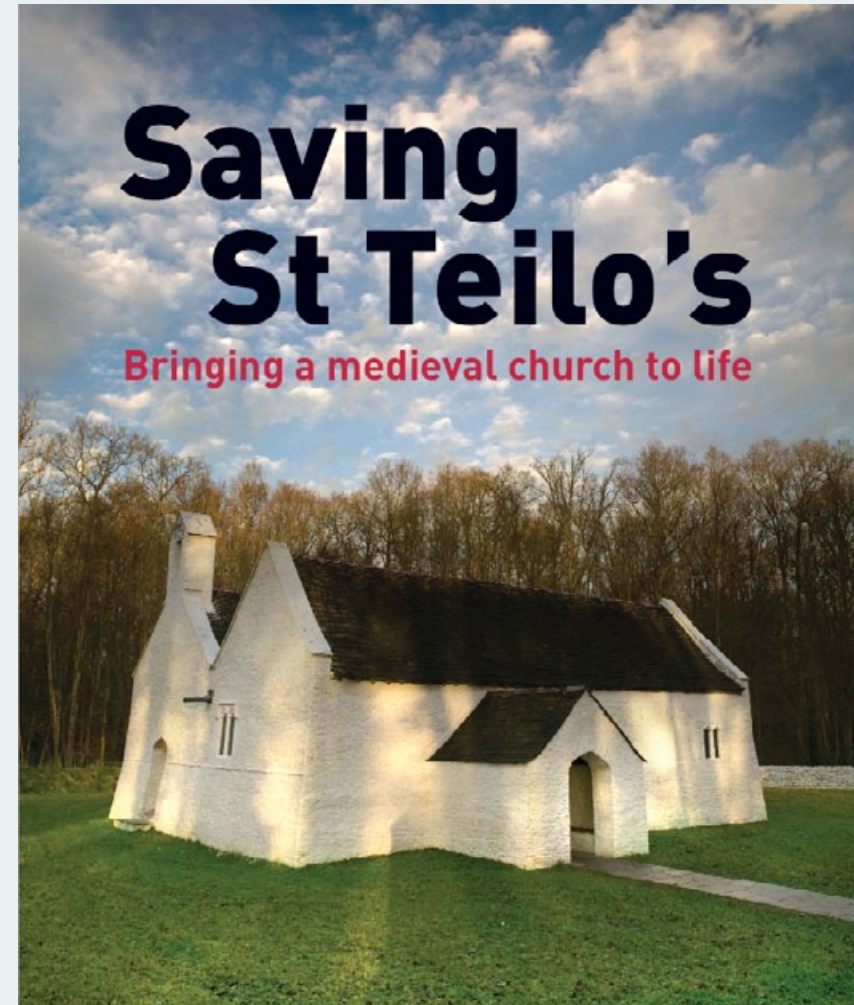
# Books about our collections

There are a number of books about our collections. These usually provide more detailed information about specific collections or exhibitions. For example:

## **Saving St Teilo's: bringing a medieval church to life**

The story of this humble yet historic church. Beginning in medieval times, the book takes us through periods of conflict, restoration and abandonment to today's splendid and much-loved building.

Saving St Teilo's explores the meticulous process of dismantling and recording the church's remains and the re-creation of the vivid place of worship it once was.





# iBooks

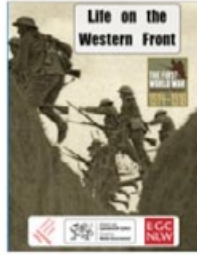
iBooks are useful digital tools and can be an exciting way to tell a story or provide information. They are interactive books that can be used on tablets and can incorporate graphs, diagrams and photographs on which the reader can include their own information or data.

## Life on the Western Front

[View More by This Author](#)

**Amgueddfa Cymru–National Museum Wales, The National Library of Wales**

This book is available for download with iBooks on your Mac or iOS device. Multi-touch books can be read with iBooks on your Mac or iOS device. Books with interactive features may work best on an iOS device. iBooks on your Mac requires OS X 10.9 or later.



### Description

This iBook uses original items from The First World War period to present information about the lives of Welsh soldiers on the Western Front. The resources were produced as part of The National Library of Wales and Amgueddfa Cymru–National Museum Wales First World War Education Project.

[View in iTunes](#)

**Free**  
**Available on iPad, iPhone and Mac.**

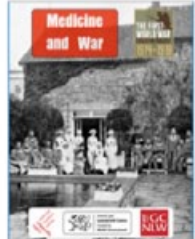
Category: Education  
Published: **Jun 05, 2015**  
Publisher: **First World War: Education Project**  
Seller: Owain Dafydd  
Print Length: 21 Pages  
Language: English  
Version: 1.0

## Medicine in the First World War

[View More by This Author](#)

**Amgueddfa Cymru–National Museum Wales**

This book is available for download with iBooks on your Mac or iOS device. Multi-touch books can be read with iBooks on your Mac or iOS device. Books with interactive features may work best on an iOS device. iBooks on your Mac requires OS X 10.9 or later.



### Description

This e-book uses original items from The First World War period to present information about medicine during the war. The resources were produced as part of The National Library of Wales and Amgueddfa Cymru–National Museum Wales First World War Education Project.

[View in iTunes](#)

**Free**  
**Available on iPad, iPhone and Mac.**

Category: Education  
Published: **Nov 15, 2015**  
Publisher: **NLW**  
Seller: Owain Dafydd  
Print Length: 16 Pages  
Language: English  
Version: 1.0