

Easy Read

AMGUEDDFA  
CYMRU

# Annual Review

## What we did from 2022 to 2023



This document was written by the **Amgueddfa Cymru - Museum Wales**. It is an easy read version of 'Annual Review 2022-23'.

August 2023

# How to use this document



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Words in **bold blue writing** may be hard to understand. You can check what the words in blue mean on **page 25**.

**AMGUEDDFA  
CYMRU**

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# Introduction

**AMGUEDDFA  
CYMRU**

We are **Amgueddfa Cymru**, we run the national museums in Wales. Amgueddfa Cymru are the Welsh words for Museum Wales.



We are a charity with 7 museums and 1 collections centre in Wales. You can visit our museums for free, and everyone is welcome.



Thank you to everyone who has visited, helped us, and worked with us this year.



Our staff made sure our museums were safe and welcoming for over 1 million people this year.



Over 2 million people looked at our website. We helped children across Wales learn online and at our museums.



Our plan called **Strategy 2030** is part of everything we do from taking care of our collections to valuing Welsh language and **culture**.



**Culture** means our way of life, creativity, arts, ideas, and customs of all the different communities in Wales.



We also want to thank Roger Lewis who was our President until December 2022, and David Anderson who was our Director General until March 2023.



This document tells you some of the things we did this year. You can learn more on our website and social media.



## In 2022 to 2023



Over 1.3 million people visited our museums.



Nearly 200 thousand people followed us on social media, and over 2.3 million people visited our website.



People in 227 places in the world looked at our website.



We have over 5 million things in our collections of art, history, and science.



More than 600 volunteers gave us more than 26 thousand hours of their time.



More than half of our staff can speak some Welsh. And 1 in 4 members of our staff have very good Welsh language skills.



We lent our collections to places and groups in 20 local authority areas in Wales.



You can see over 30 thousand pictures of art from the **National Contemporary Art Collection** online at [celfarycyd.wales](http://celfarycyd.wales)



We did 39 research projects about art, history, and science.



Over 214 thousand children and young people learned with us.

# How we get money to do what we do



We were given money by:

- National Lottery Heritage Fund,
- Paul Hamlyn Foundation
- the players of People's Postcode Lottery
- National Lottery Community Fund
- and the Welsh Government.



We also got money from visitors, trusts, foundations, patrons, supporters, and businesses.



Thank you to everyone who bought things in our cafes, shops, and at our **exhibitions** and events.



An **exhibition** is a display we develop with communities. It is where we show things like collections and art to the public.



# Our 6 commitments

There are 6 things we want to do by 2030:



1. Make sure our work includes everyone.



2. Help people be **creative** and learn at any age.

**Creative** means using your ideas and making something new. It includes things like painting, writing stories, making a film or cookery.



3. Look after nature and our **environment**.

The **environment** is where we live. It includes the land, the sea, the air, and everything that lives in and on it. For example: plants, animals and fish.



4. Support people's well-being.



5. Do more things **digitally**.

**Digital** means using things like computers, the internet, tablets, and smartphones.



6. Work with others around the world.



# 1. Make sure our work includes everyone



We are working with people and communities in Wales to involve them in our work and collections.



To make our collections fairer we have started 7 projects with different communities in Wales.



We showed the **Reframing Picton exhibition** and new pictures by award winning artist Chris Ofili. This was in an **exhibition** called the **Rules of Art?** at National Museum Cardiff.



We had new displays to celebrate **LGBTQ+** history and art, like **Wales is...Proud** at St Fagans National Museum of History.



**LGBTQ+** stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer or Questions plus others.



We also helped with **Pride** festivals – these are parades to celebrate the **LGBTQ+** community.



We are collecting new things to help tell the story of **LGBTQ+** history in Wales.



Our **Celf ar y Cyd** project asked people in Wales to choose the art they wanted to go to:

- Aberystwyth Arts Centre,
- Y Gaer, Brecon
- and Oriel Môn, Llangefni



These artworks show how different and **creative** life in Wales is. The **exhibition** will be at National Museum Cardiff this summer.

## 2. Help people be creative and learn at any age



This year we ran lots of fun activities for learners of all ages.



We helped teachers and schools with the new things they must teach. We reached more than 214 thousand learners online and at our museums.



We are helping young people learn new skills with our youth forum and **Amgueddfa Cymru Producers** programme. We got money from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for this.



We worked with the **Federation of Museum and Art Galleries of Wales** to help 16 thousand young people as part of the Welsh Government's Summer of Fun.





We opened the **BBC 100 in Wales** and the **Voices of the Red Wall** exhibitions.



We did in-person events, like the **Food Festival** at St Fagans National Museum of History.



We got the **Investors in Volunteering** award for the third time. Thank you to our volunteers who help our museums in many ways.





### 3. Look after nature and our environment



We care about the planet. We help our staff and visitors do things that help the **environment**.



We have 4 big projects at our museums to help us use less energy. We can do this because the Welsh Government gave us more money, and we worked with the Welsh Government Energy Service.



More than 300 of our staff members learnt how to help the **environment**. We got the Silver award as a **Carbon Literate Organisation**. We are trying to use fewer things and make less rubbish.



We made the **On Your Doorstep exhibition** with Oriel y Parc, St Davids and we made guides to help people explore local nature. You can get these from our website: [museum.wales/collections/on-your-doorstep/identifying-nature/spotters-guide](https://museum.wales/collections/on-your-doorstep/identifying-nature/spotters-guide)



The Spring Bulbs for Schools project is growing, 175 schools learnt about nature in a fun way.

## 4. Support people's well-being



We have been doing activities for people with different needs. We made our buildings better to make them easier to access visit and use.



We want to help people living with **dementia**.

**Dementia** is an illness that affects the brain. It makes it hard to remember, think and do things. It usually affects older people over 65 years old.



We started the **Museum Inspiring Memories** project with Alzheimer's Society Cymru. Thank you to National Lottery Community Fund for their support.



We kept doing the **Objects of Comfort** project and the **House of Memories Wales** online resource.



We have **Dementia Friendly** experiences like tours at Big Pit National Coal Museum and tea dances at the National Waterfront Museum.



We have a new walkway for National Museum Cardiff which has made it easier for people to get into the museum.



Our visitor staff are learning new things about **accessibility** and 1 out of 5 have learnt British Sign Language.

**Accessibility** and **Accessible** means it is easy to go somewhere, find something and use it.

## 5. Do more things digitally



Online ways of working are helping more people see our collections and spaces.



We have made our online networks, computers, and storage better this year. This is so we can make it easier for everyone to use and learn.



We are putting our collections online so that people everywhere can see them. Money from the **Art & Humanities Research Council** has helped this work and made our 3D pictures better.



Our online events have continued to be popular. We made a new Roman sleepover online event in 2022, which is 1 of 4 **Sleepover at Home** online events.



We started the virtual reality experience at National Museum Cardiff again. Visitors can feel like they are under the sea or walking with dinosaurs.

## 6. Work with others around the world



We are making good friends with museums across the world, like a project with **Iziko Museums of South Africa**.



We have also restored a painting by Édouard Manet thanks to the **TEFAF Museum Restoration Fund, The Finnis Scott Foundation** and the **Friends of National Museum Wales**.



We lent 11 objects which went to 7 different countries for shows and research, and 40 research loans.



Last summer we talked with people from Celtic nations and Latin America about how we can help people in the world.



We had our **Wales Week London** event with **Football Association Wales, BBC Wales**, and the Welsh Government. We talked about how sports and **culture** help celebrate Wales today.



# Other things we have done



We do a lot of work to take care of the collections we have and to make our places welcoming and **accessible**.



Our museums are often in the top lists of museums in the UK. Thank you to everyone who votes for us.



We are making it easier for people from different backgrounds to work with us by changing how we find new staff.



We started our **Honorary Research Fellows** programme again. We had 35 people from different backgrounds and places, and at different stages in their research.



We will have chances for 14 new **PhD** students next year. **PhD** is the highest level degree you can get.





The Welsh language is part of everything we do, it is in our name and how we show our values and work to the world.



Many of our staff can speak Welsh, so you can talk to us in Welsh when you visit us next.



# Coming up in 2023



There is lots to look forward to over the next year at **Amgueddfa Cymru**. We have exhibitions, events, new projects, and things to do.



We say Happy Birthday to some of our museums in 2023:

- St Fagans National Museum of History is 75.
- Big Pit National Coal Museum is 40.
- The National Collections Centre is 25.



We will work on the programme called **Safbwyntiau/Perspectives** with **Arts Council of Wales** and 7 arts organisations across Wales. It will share the views, lives, and stories of different communities, now and in the past.

## Some events and shows to look for later in 2023



Amgueddfa Cymru's stand at the **National Eisteddfod** in Boduan, Gwynedd from 5 to 12 August 2023.



**Artes Mundi 10 exhibition** from 20 October 2023 – 25 February 2024 at National Museum Cardiff.



The **Food Festival** on 9 and 10 September 2023 at St Fagans National Museum of History.



**Swansea Canal 225 exhibition** from 1 April to 17 September 2023 at National Waterfront Museum, Swansea.



**From Mine to Museum exhibition** until 1 September 2023 at Big Pit National Coal Museum.



**Slate: A Different View!** [exhibition](#) on now until 31 December 2023 at National Slate Museum.



**Family life in the Fortress** and **Gladiators** events on some days in August 2023 (check website for details) at National Roman Legion Museum.



**Welsh Story and Rhyme** on some days in August 2023 (check website for details) at National Wool Museum.



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**The Lost Words** [exhibition](#) in partnership with Amgueddfa Cymru on display until spring 2024 at Oriel y Parc, St Davids, and Yr Ysgwrn, Eryri.



The dates might change. See our website for details before you visit.

# Hard words

## Accessibility and Accessible

Accessibility and Accessible means it is easy to go somewhere, find something and use it.

## Creative

Creative means using your ideas and making something new. It includes things like painting, writing stories, making a film or cookery.

## Culture

Culture means our way of life, creativity, arts, ideas, and customs of all the different communities in Wales.

## Dementia

Dementia is an illness that affects the brain. It makes it hard to remember, think and do things. It usually affects older people over 65.

## Digital

Digital means using things like computers, the internet, tablets, and smartphones.

## Environment

The environment is where we live. It includes the land, the sea, the air, and everything that lives in and on it. For example: plants, animals, and fish.

## Exhibition

An exhibition is a display we develop with communities. It is where we show things like collections and art to the public.