

Ffederasiwn Amgueddfeydd ac Oriolau Celf Cymru
The Federation of Museums and Art Galleries of Wales
Charity Registration No. 1102270

Annual Report – April 2004-March 2005

The Federation of Museums and Galleries of Wales has continued to advocate for museums in Wales. A good relationship continues with CyMAL.

Communication

The Federation is aware that communication with its members is difficult. The development of the website we hope will improve communication and increased use of the email group will be established, when problems of access are overcome. Two copies of YMAG were produced during this period, covering topics such as documentation, Big Pit and writing text. We have considered issuing YMAG more regularly, however it is time consuming to produce and it is often not possible to keep up with 'breaking news'. Past editions can be viewed on-line.

Projects

The Digihub Project

A grant of £40,000 from CyMAL has enabled the Federation to purchase high quality digitisation equipment and make it available for loan to museums in Wales. Currently sets are being used by a consortium of museums led by Denbighshire Museums Service, and Newport Museum.

'What's in Store'

The Federation continues to work with RCHM and NMGW on a project addressing the problems of archaeological storage in Wales. Frank Olding and Gavin Evans represent the Federation on the working party. It has been agreed that the Federation should facilitate a funding bid.

Wales Database

We are looking at developing a project for getting collections throughout Wales online.

Membership

There are currently 34 members, 24 institutional and 10 individual. The income currently stands at £3500. There are currently 360 potential members on the mailing list.

Training

We have held the following sessions:
November 2004 – Agricultural Collections

Chris D had a meeting with the University of Glamorgan and Denise Lavis re: NVQ's. Very few people are taking them up and there is a concern that the University of Glamorgan will not continue to administer it if there is little uptake. Denise Lavis has grants available and we need to encourage people to study for NVQ's.

Sub Groups

Sub groups on access and learning, museum diversity and collections management, are now established.

Feedback by the Federation

Comments on the CyMAL prospectus were made by the Federation
We have commented on the Museums Association paper 'Collections for the Future'.

Appointments

Scott Reid is representing the Federation on the Sector Skills group.
Chris Delaney and Chris Wilson are representing the Federation on the Welsh Assembly Government working group for Performance Indicators.

The Business Plan

Chris Morgan has written a programme of delivery of business plan.

The Museums Association

Chris Wilson has spoken to Museum Association about a number of issues relating to Wales. We are looking at holding an event focusing on advocacy in Wales.