

Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust

2010-2011 Forward Strategy

Summary Review

Objectives	Targets	Achievement
<i>1. Fostering Public Understanding</i>		
1.1 Promote the role and assets of the Trust	1. Have accessible presence at public events (CBA Festival of Archaeology, National Eisteddfod, County Agricultural Show, Open Door, Family History Days); 2. Launch HER On-line; 3. Produce information summaries in various media on available services and resources; 4. Widen links to business and charity support organisations and agencies	1.1.1 The Trust arranged and carried out an outreach programme (see http://www.ggat.org.uk/education/english/outreachevents.html) including specific events linked to National Archaeology Week, stands at shows and events notably the National Eisteddfod at Ebbw Vale (see http://ggat.wordpress.com/page/2/), which included an additional stand devoted to research into the Ironworks on the northern Coalfield Rim and their landscapes and guided walks; 1.1.2 The HER under the joint Welsh Archaeological Trusts' branding Archwilio (http://www.archwilio.org.uk/) was launched online at the Treftadeth Conference, Swansea on 1 July 2010; 1.1.3 Not progressed. 1.1.4 It was not possible to pursue any specific initiatives.
1.2 Raise awareness of the Historic Environment through advocacy	1. Respond to government consultations; 2. Provide advice to a wide range of regulatory and non-regulatory bodies on a wide range of matters pertinent to Historic Environment interests; 3. Hold annual forum with Unitary Authorities; 4. Participate in steering groups and other fora	1.2.1 The Trust responded to six consultations; 1.2.2 Trust staff provided information for the two Shoreline Management Plans that affect our area. Trust staff continued to be involved in the development of LDPs throughout Southeast Wales; 1.2.3 Annual Forum held in March 2011; 1.2.4 Attendance on the following local groups/fora was maintained - Caerleon Research Committee, The Gower Countryside Management Forum, SELRC, SEP, SECG, SCBCEG, Uplands Committee. Trust staff also continued to serve on the steering group for the Forgotten Landscapes partnership. Staff also attend a variety of working committees taking forward a variety of thematic or topical issues at which CADW; RCAHMW and WATs normally form the core bodies.
1.3 Develop communications links	1. Improve website and continue expanding channels to other online media; 2. Improve formal links with other voluntary bodies in the historic environment sector (eg CBA, National Trust), examine possibilities of collaborative working	1.3.1 The Trust's web content was expanded Website content increased (see 2.2.2 below); 1.3.2 Not formally progressed, but links with community heritage groups were expanded.
<i>2. Improve Access and Engagement</i>		
2.1 Facilitate access to Historic Environment data	1. Effect on-line access to HER; 2 Enhance Record to agreed programme and through in-house development using grants and volunteer support; 3. Increase numbers of reports available in on-line library; 4 Implement HER audit recommendations once available; 5 Provide polygon data to Glastir scheme ¹	2.1.1 Achieved with launch of <i>Archwilio</i> (http://www.archwilio.org.uk/); 2.1.2 New events data has been added, SAM/LB corrections data has been undertaken for nine Unitary Authority areas; 2.1.3 12 reports added; 2.1.4 Revised HER audit completed and implementation of previous audit recommendations progressed; 2.1.5 HER polygons were created to support the management of the Glastir scheme.
2.2 Positively promulgate works	1. Prepare statement on Trust's specific outreach goals for 2011-2015; Improve website content (new pages on Ironworks and results arising from monument assessment surveys); 2. Revised travelling exhibition; 3. Produce web micro sites for Bulmore and Oystermouth; 4. Publish Two newsletters and circulate more widely; 5. Give lectures to various groups, societies, conferences; 6. Expand reporting in media and other heritage organisations news channels; 7. Complete and distribute Discovery and Learning booklet	2.2.1 A statement on the Trust's specific outreach goals for 2011-2015 has been prepared; 2.2.2 The website was expanded to include a discrete section on the survey of the Ironworks on the northern coalfield rim and their associated landscapes (http://www.ggat.org.uk/cadw/swi/english/index.html) and for the Romans in South Wales, the review of Cadw grant-aided projects in the past year has been added (http://www.ggat.org.uk/cadw/cadw-halfyear_reviews/Cadw_Half-Yearly%20Reports_Eng/halfyearlyfs.html); 2.2.3 A micro-website about the work at Great Bulmore (http://www.ggat.org.uk/celtic_manor/cm_index.html) was produced and that for Oystermouth Castle (http://www.ggat.org.uk/oystermouth_excav/oystermouth_index.html) enhanced; 2.2.4 Two newsletters were produced but were not more widely circulated; 2.2.5 Lectures were given to a variety of local societies and groups; 2.2.6 Media coverage was expanded, particularly as result of discoveries made during the excavations at Dwr-y-felin school and the launch of <i>Archwilio</i> , as well as newspaper articles there have also been live radio interviews (2) and filming as ancillary of the Excavating Britain TV series with some of the rushes available on-line (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GgpmGP4_JCs); 2.7 Discovery & Learning 10 produced and widely distributed.
2.3 Develop Community Archaeology provision	1. Carry out Blaenavon FLP Community Archaeology pilot project; 2. Pursue development of site specific community projects; 3. Provide inputs into developing training plans as parts of CBA Skills in the Sector Community Archaeologist development project and host placements ² ; 4.	<i>Additional</i> An additional micro-site was built for the Arfordir Project (http://www.ggat.org.uk/arfordir/index.html) and a leaflet was produced in connection with the Vale of Glamorgan Fieldwalking Work (http://www.ggat.org.uk/news/ARCHIVE/fieldwalking/Leaflet%20art.pdf). 2.3.1 Preliminary work was undertaken in connection with the Blaenavon FLP Community Archaeology project but at the request of the partnership the main works were deferred until 2011-2012; 2.3.2 Support for site specific community projects has continued to be given and in particular in connection with a project to support recording of the Clyne Valley industrial landscape; 2.3.3 Trust staff supported development of the HLF Skills for the Future Community Archaeologist Training Placement project led by the Council of British Archaeology

¹ Subject to funding

² If CBA bid is successful

	Deliver first strand of Arfordir project; 5 Carry out Monkash fieldwalking project	and represented interests of Welsh Partners on the Project Board, the recruitment of a placement to be hosted by the Trust in 2011-2012 has been carried out; 2.3.4 The first strand of the Arfordir project has been successfully carried out with over 50 volunteers recruited and trained, a number of new sites have been discovered on the Gower littoral and erosion monitored; 2.3.5 A weekend of field-walking in a field containing three bronze age barrows at Monkash was successfully undertaken with more than 70 volunteers taking part.
2.4 Develop training and placement opportunities	1. Continue to facilitate workplace opportunities for school students; 2. Continue to foster links and work experience with local universities/colleges – Oystermouth Castle Project and Cardiff AHRC doctoral research; 3. Secure further placement opportunities (eg Leonardo da Vinci; HLF CBA Skills Project; 4. Take up NVQ Assessor opportunities;	2.4.1 Three school students had work-experience tasters; 2.4.2 Links with Cardiff and Swansea Universities were strengthened, eight students from Cardiff University undertook a four week work experience/training program at the Trust offices and at Oystermouth Castle; twelve students from Swansea University took part in the Oystermouth Castle community excavation; 2.4.3 A year long Community Archaeologist Training Placement under the HLF Skills for the Future Initiative has been secured for 2011-2012; 2.4.4 NVQ Assessor opportunities were not pursued in the reporting period.
2.5 Develop lifelong learning opportunities	1. Continue discourse at national/local level to identify pathways/opportunities linking in with HEG actions and HE Strategic Statement delivery; Continue to facilitate volunteering opportunities	2.5.1 The Trust through initiatives such as the Arfordir project have expanded opportunities for volunteering on a regular basis, projects and proposals have been prepared to include HEG actions and HE Strategic Statement delivery and progress has been reported back to HEG in conjunction with other WATs.
2.6 Increase Welsh Language Use	1. Review policy; 2. Identify additional areas of language duality in presentation and documents (eg HER Accession Forms); 3. Continue to support staff learning	2.6.1 Deferred to 2011-2012; 2.6.2 Deferred to 2011-2012; 2.6.3 Support for staff Welsh language learning maintained.

3. Discovery and Research

3.1 Carry out regional wide monument, historic landscape and other surveys	1. Undertake SE Wales Medieval and early Post-Medieval Scoping Project and initial follow up works; 2 Continue with Forestry assessments	3.1.1 SE Wales Medieval and Early Medieval Threat-led Assessment Scoping Project completed, a maximum of 52 classes of monument were defined along with study numbers and criteria for each monument class, work for two classes (Holy Wells, Crosses and Cross slabs) completed; 3.1.2 Forestry Assessments continued (work in future years will be delivered under Glastir scheme arrangements).
3.2 Undertake investigation and recording works in response to landuse change	1. Undertake various desk-based assessments, watching-briefs, field evaluations, surveys and excavations (c 70 projects)	3.2.1 The Trust undertook 95 projects of which 45 were new commissions. The most notable piece of work were the excavations in two parts of the Roman fort at Neath. Six of the new projects were desk-based assessments, and six were field evaluations, four were post-excavation projects and twenty-six watching-briefs.
3.3 Undertake post-excavation assessment and analysis and publish results	1. Progress post-excavation assessment and analysis on excavation results from Castle Street Cardiff, Celtic Manor, Wilkinson Site Gwent Europark, Ffos-y-Fran Merthyr Tydfil, Cardiff Castle, Ewenny Quarry; Cabot Park, Swansea Bay Trackways and some other minor sites	3.3.1 Post-excavation assessment works finished for Castle Street, Cardiff, Oystermouth Castle, and Ffos-y-fran; Post-excavation study and analysis progressed for Wilkinson Site Gwent Europark, Swansea Bay Trackways, and Oystermouth Castle.
3.4 Encourage, support and assist investigation and research into the historic environment in Southeast Wales	1. Undertake archaeological planning management service (inc LDP works); 2. Provide access to HER and support staff to researchers; 3. Support Wales Research Agenda review and 2010 Conference	3.4.1 Service provision maintained for 12 Unitary Authorities in SE Wales and BBNP; CPDT lecture to Bridgend CBC Planning Committee; 3.4.2 Enhancement and maintenance of the record under RCAHMW funded programme, UA support and volunteer work. HER enquiry procedures continue to be an effective means of distributing data to the public and other audiences; 3.4.3 Research Agenda revisions and related conference supported.
3.5 Undertake investigation and recording works in response to climate change and disseminate results	1. Deliver Arfordir project; 2. Continue to support palaeolandscapes research	3.5.1 Arfordir project (see http://www.ggat.org.uk/arfordir/index.html) set up running; 3.5.2 Data support given to Bristol Channel palaeolandscapes research

4 Developing the Trust

4.1 Improve human resource capability through recruitment and training	1. Complete Year One training plan and deliver Year Two targets; 2. Provide support and training to ensure staff undertake CPD planning and logging correctly; 3. Ensure that identified needs arising from Professional Development Reviews are met; 4. Review ways of linking staff development to use of archaeology NVQs	4.1.1 Progress with the training plan was deferred; 4.1.2 Advice was given to staff, and particularly those who are members of the Institute for Archaeologists, in regard to preparing CPDT schedules and maintaining logs; 4.1.3 Specific needs arising from PDRs have been fed into agreed training programmes; 4.1.4 Deferred until 2011-2012, the Trust contributed to the IfA review of workplace learning. <i>Additional</i> Specific H&S Training for projects managers.
4.2 Improve Trust standing and recognition through professional networking and accreditation	1. Ensure representation on, at or to Professional Bodies at local and national level (IfA, SCAUM, ALGAO, HEG.); 2. Maintain IfA RO status; 3 Attend conferences and other fora; 4 Identify non-profession specific accreditations (eg Investors in People) and implement where feasible works to deliver these	4.2.1 At UK Wide Level the Trust continues to be represented on ALGAO UK and FAME (SCAUM). This has been widened at committee level to include the IfA RO Committee, and as an observer the ALGAO England Planning & Legislation Committee. At national level the Trust is represented on ALGAO Cymru, and the ALGAO Cymru Planning & Legislation Committee. The Chief Executive continues to represent the Welsh Archaeological Trusts on the Welsh Heritage Minister's Historic Environment Group and also sits on the National Panel for Archaeological Archives; 4.2.2 IfA status maintained; 4.2.3 The Trust was represented at the Research Agenda for Wales Conference, and Severn Estuary Forum; 4.2.4 deferred to 2011-2012.

4.3 Improve operational capacity	1. Produce new 3-year IT development strategy; 2. Improve office furniture stock; 3. Carry out minor decorative improvements to premises	4.3.1 Strategy produced; 4.3.2 Identified needs implemented; 4.3.3 Identified measures undertaken. <i>Additional</i>
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5 Archive Care & Deposition		
5.1 Improve storage and housing facilities for the GGAT HER Charitable Trust	1. Complete preparation of photographic storage facility; 2. Continue re-packaging and cataloguing of non-digital photographs	5.1 Controlled environment photograph store established; 5.2 repackaging and re-housing of negatives, prints and slides forming part of the HER photographic collection continued (volunteer project), related databases created.
5.2 Effect transfers of temporarily held material to recipient organisations in line with deposition policy	1. Transfer Wind Street, Swansea and Princess Way Swansea Archives; 2. Review with Heritage Partners best ways of improving deposition of legacy and delayed deposit-ready archives through dialogue with National Archaeological Archives Panel for Wales; 3. Complete revised GGAT Archive Policy.	5.2.1 Deferred; 5.2.2 Wales wide review commenced; 5.2.3 Deferred to 2011-2012 for completion.
5.3 Digitise retained data to improve standards	1. Continue creating pdfs of select cadw and developer project reports for website library; Continue digitisation of photographic records	5.3.1 Enacted.