THE CITY AND COUNTY OF CARDIFF, COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCILS OF BRIDGEND, CAERPHILLY, MERTHYR TYDFIL, RHONDDA CYNON TAF AND THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN

THE GLAMORGAN ARCHIVES JOINT COMMITTEE 15 June 2018

**REPORT OF:** 

THE GLAMORGAN ARCHIVIST

AGENDA ITEM NO.8

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 March -31 May 2018

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report describes the work of Glamorgan Archives (GA) for the period 1 March to 31 May 2018.

### 2. BACKGROUND

As part of the agreed reporting process the Glamorgan Archivist updates the Joint Committee quarterly on the work and achievements of the service.

Members are asked to note the content of this report.

### 3. ISSUES

### A. MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES

### 1. Staff

Maintain establishment

Jake McDonald commenced in his role as Cardiff Council Corporate Trainee with Glamorgan Archives. The post is tenable on a part time basis for a year and Jake will be working across all areas of the office.

Continue skill sharing volunteer programme

During the quarter, 47 volunteers have contributed 1,903 hours to the work of the office. Of these, 28 came from Cardiff, 9 from the Vale of Glamorgan, 5 from Bridgend, 3 from Rhondda Cynon Taf, 1 from Caerphilly, and 1 from outside the area served.

4 volunteers, originally introduced through supported employment agencies, have contributed 197 hours of the total above. Chris Miller's paid placement through the Youth Contract scheme ended in March.

Distance learning students following the Archive Administration MSc distance learning programme at Aberystwyth University continue to attend, with 2 such students each week contributing a total of 94 hours. They are assisting with work to list and index records relating to child care to facilitate a timely response to enquiries.

The current Conservation Sciences MSc student volunteers from Cardiff University have contributed 121 hours of the total above and have reached the end of their placements. Although some plan to return at the commencement of the new academic year Pamela Murray, Devin Mattlin and Joanne Hoppe have completed their course and will be moving into employment. Their contribution in the Studio has been invaluable and all staff wish them well in their careers.

For individuals considering a career in archives, one-off, 30 hour placements can be arranged to give a taste of the range of jobs available. During the quarter 2 of these were provided. These work placements are included in the volunteer hours above.

Kerry Evans, a former volunteer who has been working until recently at Gwent Archives, visited to update his knowledge of the CALM cataloguing system which will help in his new role at Denbighshire Archives.

Volunteer Andrew Booth has added polling districts to catalogue entries for all electoral registers in the Collection. This is a very useful piece of work which will simplify the process of identifying registers for a particular area.

The volunteer project to extract information about the suffrage movement in Glamorgan is drawing to a close and an excellent resource has been created. During the centenary year of the Representation of the People Act there is much interest in the topic and many enquiries have been received, particularly from students. Much of the work has already been shared by email.

Extracts from each of the diaries of Henry Fothergill (D553), compiled by volunteers, have been attached to their catalogue entries. Part diary, part travelogue, the journals describe the life of Henry Fothergill, ironmaster, from 1860 (when the Fothergill family ran the Aberdare Iron Company) until his death in 1914. Also added to the catalogue are building regulation plans of Ogmore and Garw Urban District Council, 1888-1911. The original handwritten lists compiled by volunteers back in the Glamorgan Record Office have been typed up by volunteers at Glamorgan Archives.

Volunteers have continued their involvement with the Parliamentary Archives' First World War project by undertaking research on the women featured in the Roath Road Roamer magazine. The research contributes to the Parliament and the First World War exhibition currently on display in Llynfi.

Annual reviews were held with all volunteers. The vast majority of responses were positive:

Staff are helpful and obliging

Feels supported in the role

I enjoy working here very much

Volunteers feel very welcome and included in the staff

With regards to improving the placements feedback was received in relation to slow and frustrating IT equipment, and several volunteers requested more social events.

In response to previous feedback, a behind the scenes volunteer tour of Tredegar House was arranged, hosted by the House and Collections Manager together with Archive Volunteers at the House. The event was much appreciated and similar visits will continue to be organised to reward the contribution volunteers make to the service.

One volunteer recently celebrated 20 years of volunteering at the Archives. Keith Edwards has been responsible for the deposit of a number of significant collections and was instrumental in securing the deposit of the enormous collection created by Stephenson & Alexander, Auctioneers and Chartered Surveyors. Keith is now arranging and putting together very detailed descriptions of the records. His work is being added to the online catalogue in stages with over 6,000 entries currently searchable along with additional handlists available in the searchroom.

Advice, together with examples of volunteer paperwork, has been provided to the Branch Manager at Cathays Heritage Library who is developing their volunteer programme.

### Continuing Professional Development

Personal development reviews have been completed for all staff in compliance with Cardiff Council policy.

Two Records Assistants have continued to progress towards their NVQ Level 4 course in Advice and Guidance. The commitment required has proved to be considerably greater than was indicated at the start of the course.

Three members of staff have completed the first year of the Canolradd/Intermediate Welsh course and one member of staff has completed the Mynediad/Entry course. The programmes are delivered through Cardiff University.

The Conservator has completed a professional practice assessment for accreditation as a Conservator-Restorer by the Institute of Conservation (ICON). The demanding, full day assessment was undertaken by two accredited conservators through an appraisal of a portfolio of work and an interview. The results are expected within the next weeks.

Heather Mountjoy, Archivist, attended a training course on Mentoring Young People. This will support her in her role as mentor to Corporate Trainee, Jake MacDonald.

Hannah Price, Resources Archivist attended training in how best to support colleagues and members of the public on the autistic spectrum. The course confirmed that the support currently provided to volunteers is correct and provided useful ideas and points of reference should for the future.

The Archives' Investor in People status, currently at Bronze level, is due for review this year. Costs have risen and it may not be possible to continue with the accreditation.

# Maintain commitment to good health and safety practices

In compliance with Directorate instructions, the building is examined quarterly by senior staff and a report submitted on defects. Fire alarm call points are tested weekly. Planned preventative maintenance is carried out regularly by approved contractors. During the quarter both the Kasemake box-making machine and the fume cupboard in the conservation studio have been serviced.

### **Budget**

Manage to best advantage

Regular meetings with the Resources Team address issues arising with the budget. Building issues are monitored to align repairs with planned preventative maintenance visits to avoid additional call out charges.

### Maximise benefit from income generation

On-line payment should be ready to run live on the Archives' website once a few minor amendments have been completed on the system.

Cardiff Council legal staff assisted in contract negotiations with an online content provider. The agreement would benefit users by allowing remote digital access to name-rich series in return for annual royalty payments to the Archives. County archive services in Wales are also considering options for delivering digital images of parish registers through subscription sites and negotiations are underway to maximise royalties on the existing content.

A private archive has negotiated an agreement to make parts of collection available to researchers in the searchroom on an occasional basis for an appropriate fee.

Boxmaking and conservation continue to attract external customers.

# Promote partnerships and networks National

The Glamorgan Archivist attended an International Women's Day event at the Pierhead Building on women and activism followed by a lecture on the suffrage movement in the Senedd. The previous day the Senior Archivist had attended the launch at the Senedd of the Women's Suffrage in Wales exhibition. Women's Archive Wales were involved in the organisation of both events.

She attended a meeting of Archives and Records Council Wales, and represented archive services in Wales at a meeting of the Learned Society of Wales, which is working to promote Wales specific learning opportunities at all levels of education, and at a meeting of the Archives Accreditation Panel, which assesses applicants for accreditation. The Glamorgan Archivist is the Committee member for Wales. Members (who also form the panels which award accreditation) must be of high standing in the profession and respected by their peers, able to demonstrate sound and balanced judgement, and sufficiently senior to give weight to the work of the committee.

She attended a partners meeting of Cultural Ambition, the all-Wales, Heritage Lottery funded project to deliver traineeships in heritage institutions based on the CLOCH project. The Archives is one of the regional lead bodies. With the exception of 2 local museums, national institutions comprise the other lead bodies.

With the Senior Archivist she has negotiated a review of the deposit arrangements with the Women's Archive Wales resulting in a more streamlined approach being adopted which will be easier for all Welsh services to maintain while retaining the promotional benefits resulting from the partnership.

She is working with staff of People's Collection Wales to develop the organisation's partnership with local institutions, looking initially at issues of copyright and communication. The discussion follows a presentation at ARCW.

The Senior Archivist attended a consultation at the Heritage Lottery Fund Wales on its future priorities.

She continues to contribute to the work of the Archives and Records Association's Visitor Survey Group, which organises surveys of archive users across the UK, along with the Archives and Records Council Wales' Marketing Group.

The Glamorgan's Blood Project Conservator attended the launch of National Museum Wales' Women in Focus photographic exhibition.

### **Visits**

The Welsh Government's Minister for Culture Tourism and Sport, Lord Elis-Thomas, visited in May with Peter Owen, director of Welsh Government's Museum, Library and Archives Division (MALD). This was their first official visit to an archive service and they were suitably impressed with the building and the engagement activities it facilitates.

Following his visit, Lord Elis-Thomas said: "It's been a fascinating visit to Glamorgan Archives, and an excellent opportunity to learn about the excellent work of the service. The six authorities that fund Glamorgan Archives are to be congratulated on the outcomes of this partnership, which has resulted in a state of the art building and an excellent and innovative approach to service delivery. There's such a wealth of information on offer at the Archive – where people can find out about their families, communities – their story."

David Melding AM visited in March for a similar tour. Mr Melding has been a supporter of the service for many years and continues to take an interest in archive provision in his constituency.

A small delegation from Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC was shown around the building and discussed, with the Glamorgan Archivist, service provision and the potential for improved partnership working with both heritage and educational institutions in the authority.

#### Local

The Glamorgan Archivist attends meetings of Cardiff Council's Senior Management Forum and the Directorate Management Team. She attended a presentation of Microsoft's Cloud Navigation which is to be adopted by Cardiff Council this year. She attended Cardiff Tomorrow: the future of our public services, an event organised by the Cardiff Public Services Board, at which a collaborative vision for the city was presented. She is working with the Manager of the Cardiff Story Museum to deliver the Cardiff Fusion project for Welsh Government and has attended several meetings. She was represented by the Senior Archivist at a meeting of Fusion Co-ordinators from across Wales, held at the National Waterfront Museum in Swansea. Glamorgan Archives contributes to the Caerphilly-Torfaen project as well as being a partner in the Cardiff project. She contributed to a workshop at the Temple of Peace on the future of the Temple's archive, and attended a showing of Fy Nghaerdydd, a series of films produced by IntoFilm Wales with 3 local schools which explored the story of the Welsh language in Cardiff ahead of the National Eisteddfod.

The Senior Archivist met with representatives from the Whitchurch Hospital History Society to discuss potential funding streams for future projects and agree to display of the Society's exhibition at the Archives in early-2019. She visited the newly re-opened South Wales Police Heritage Centre. She attended a workshop arranged by Caerphilly Regional Development Plan (RDP) officers to discuss the Mapping Our Heritage project to produce a comprehensive map of heritage sites, with supporting information, for the whole of Caerphilly County Borough and several neighbouring wards in Blaenau Gwent. She also had discussions with the Merthyr Tydfil RDP officer regarding a potential project to safeguard the heritage of chapels within the authority area.

Hannah Price, Archivist, attended the Gelligaer Local History Society annual conference at Llancaiach Fawr. It was a busy day with many enquires received from members of the public, and a good opportunity to develop contacts with groups from the area.

The Conservator spoke at the Collingwood Conference held at Cardiff University Special Collections and Archives. The Conference celebrated the completion of a project to catalogue and conserve the Collingwood Collection. The conservation element of the project was undertaken at Glamorgan Archives, and the presentation outlined the work involved; it was delivered with Cardiff University conservation students Devin Mattlin and Joanne Hoppe, who had worked with the Conservation team on the Collingwood items.

Laura Russell, Archivist, attended a meeting of the South Wales Heritage Education Forum at the Royal Mint Museum in Llantrisant. The Forum provides an excellent opportunity to share best practice with colleagues from across south Wales.

Support continues to be provided to the Heritage and Cultural Exchange, the successor organisation to the Butetown History and Arts Centre.

A copy of an image from the National Coal Board collection, showing union members with a banner protesting the treatment of miners with pneumoconiosis, has been provided to Rhondda Heritage Park for inclusion in its forthcoming exhibition linked to the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the NHS.

A small piece of photography work was undertaken for West Glamorgan Archives Service for inclusion in a forthcoming publication.

The Archives continues to work in partnership with Grangetown Local History Society, providing a venue for monthly meetings.

# Potential partnerships

The Senior Archivist has attended meetings of the working group for Y Lle Hanes at this year's National Eisteddfod, which will be held in Cardiff during early-August. Glamorgan Archives will be contributing to the activities programme with tours and a talk on the Glamorgan's Blood project.

A request has been accepted to receive archivists from the Zhejiang Provincial Archive Bureau in China on their European tour in September.

The Senior Archivist, along with partners from arts organisation Art Shell, met representatives from the Arts Council Wales to discuss potential funding for an artist residency based at the Archives. A funding application has been submitted.

Staff from Cardiff Council's Bereavement Services discussed with the Senior Archivist potential projects involving local schools with a focus on the Cardiff war memorial at Hendre Park in St Mellon's.

Advice has been provided to the Jewish History Association of South Wales on a funding applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

### 2. Building and systems

Maintain building

Maintenance contractors continue to carry out regular maintenance and to replace failing components as required.

As the quotations received to replace the rising bollards are expensive, alternative options are being explored. Creative Parking has offered a CCTV solution which would involve fining cars parked without permission. No cost would be incurred but no financial benefit would accrue.

As a result of changes to Cardiff Council's IT contracts support will not be available for existing computers after January 2020 and all non-compliant machines will need to be replaced. 48 of the staff, volunteer and public use machines have to be replaced in the next 2 financial years. A needs analysis is being undertaken to establish how computers are currently used so that this unexpected expense can be effectively managed.

### Ensure compliance

The Archives accredited status was confirmed at review with the comment:

The Panel were delighted to see the archive service continuing to deliver at a high level. They recognised the major challenge in resourcing which had faced the service in recent years, and commended the strong management and partnerships which had enabled the service to sustain the quality of its offer despite this.

Archives Accreditation is nationally recognised as the hallmark of a good quality archive service. An accredited service must be able to evidence a holistic, forward-looking approach to planning and implementing service delivery with a clear identification of risk and the means to benchmark progress.

On instructions from Cardiff Council the building was closed from 1pm on 1 March for staff to reach home ahead of the forecast snow storm. Staff living outside the city who had made it to work had been sent home earlier in the morning. As it was not possible for staff to reach the building on the following day, the Archives remained closed on Friday 2 March, reopening on the Monday.

Procurement staff from Cardiff Council discussed maintenance contract requirements and council procedures with the Glamorgan Archivist and the Administrative Officer.

In light of the implementation of the General Data Protection Regulations on 25<sup>th</sup> May a privacy notice has been produced and made available on the website and procedures amended to inform members of the public how their data will be held and used by Glamorgan Archives. Staff have received training in the revised procedures.

The Senior Archivist attends Cardiff Council's Welsh Language Coordinators Group where compliance with the Welsh Language Standards is monitored.

All building health and safety checks are competed and current.

# **B. THE COLLECTION**

### 1. Conservation

Repositories

Environmental conditions in the repositories are stable and within the required parameters to meet national standards for archive keeping. Both temperature and humidity recordings show a low, acceptable, seasonal drift with a 1 degree difference in temperature between the ground floor top floor rooms. The traps at the doors have caught 2 moths, 2 flies and a spider during the quarter, drawn into the rooms by the pheromones.

# Conservation and preservation plans

Staff and volunteers are working through the identified priorities. The programme of work to address collections which may be required by the ongoing Independent Inquiry on Child Sexual Abuse is continuing. 12 items identified as being in poor condition have been conserved and a condition assessment of the South Wales Police Records (DSWP) has been undertaken. The Preservation Assistants completed a survey of the Quarter Sessions Rolls to establish their current condition ahead of the planned project to flatten and loose bind them. There are approximately 900 rolls in the series. External funding will be sought for the materials needed to complete the project.

The Conservator has undertaken work to remove the image layer from the acetate substrate of three degrading cellulose acetate negatives. Although largely successful, the significant resources required mean that it is not feasible to apply this process to all degrading negatives. A report has been produced and submitted to the National Archives in support of the request to use digitisation as a means to preserve these images.

Conservation volunteers are continuing work on Glamorgan Constabulary records identified as requiring basic preservation. The cleaning of crew agreements is ongoing along with work assisting the Glamorgan's Blood Conservator.

Student volunteers have undertaken work on Poor Law Union records, assisted with the programme to bind electoral registers, and have contributed to work commissioned by Cardiff University Special Collections and Archives.

Partnership work with Cardiff University's MSc Conservation Practices course has resulted in the utilisation of studio equipment by students, including the use of the wallboard and suction table.

Studio space and equipment has been hired by a practising paper conservator.

Conservation staff respond to requests from the search room and to assess new accessions as they come in.

Details of work completed are given in Appendix IV

# 2. Cataloguing

Strategies and plans

A new version of the software for CALM and CalmView has been released and is in the process of being tested prior to installation. Once upgraded, it will be possible to continue the programme of exporting catalogue descriptions to the Archives Hub. In the meantime, staff are continuing to edit the catalogue data in preparation for upload. Of the

4,650 collections described in CALM only 40 are now missing information on their covering dates, 32 as to their extent and 88 are lacking a description (this final figure has been reduced from approximately 600). Information is being added at lower levels and descriptions for Welsh language material are being translated where necessary.

Requests from the searchroom, along with the work undertaken by the Conservation team on local authority collections which may be of potential interest to IICSA, have prompted some re-cataloguing work. Series tackled include the Llantrisant and Llantwit Fardre Rural District Council Treasurer's Department records and Glamorgan County Council Education Committee records.

A number of small changes have been made to the templates used in CALM and the cataloguing procedure, taking into account GDPR guidelines and changes in working practice.

### Collection development

Initial receipts were issued within the target time. Full receipts were issued within the target time of 15 working days for 53% of the accessions. 85% of the accessions received June-November 2017 had full receipts issued within 6 months. This continues to be slightly below the set targets owing to a temporary change in focus for collections days and closure periods when the backlog would usually be tackled. Collections which may include information relating to the care of children are instead being prioritised in light of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

Collections days this quarter have focussed on the records of the parishes of St Bride's Minor and St Luke's, Canton.

### Digital preservation

Louise Hunt, Archivist, represents the Archives on the national digital preservation working group and has contributed to meetings via telephone.

Data security questions were circulated to the heads of IT in each of the contributing authorities. Their responses will inform the work of ARCW's digital preservation project staff when developing workflows. Responses have been received from Merthyr Tydfil and Cardiff to date.

The ARCW digital preservation group will this year develop case studies from four services. Glamorgan has been selected as one of these, with council and restricted access records as a focus. Project staff will visit to gain an understanding of requirements and issues before developing the system and workflows to ingest material into the system with the first visit planned for June.

# Glamorgan's Blood

Louise Clarke, Project Archivist, has continued the cataloguing of postnationalisation records, focussing on the plan and glass plate negative collections. Colliery Tip plans and plans relating to the Aberfan Disaster have been listed. 66% of the estimated 8000 plans within the collection and 65% of a total 5440 glass plate negatives are now listed.

Following correspondence with Treorchy Library an agreement has been reached for the transfer of coal records held at the library, comprising pay books, accident books and royalty and wayleave accounts. Many volumes are part of existing series in the Collection. Thanks are due to Councillor M. Griffiths for her assistance in this matter.

Volunteers Tom Rowlands and Peter Ford have listed the photographic transparencies within the collection and are using their expertise of the coalfield to check descriptions of photographs.

Glamorgan's Blood continues to be promoted through social media. Louise Clarke gave a presentation on the project to the London Branch of the Welsh Family History Societies on 19th May. Louise Clarke and Stephanie Jamieson, Project Conservator, visited the South Wales Miners Library, South Wales Miners Museum and the Richard Burton Archives to establish links with other organisations holding related coalfield material, and to gain an understanding of how other collections link to the work of the Glamorgan's Blood project.

Stephanie Jamieson, Project Conservator, has continued with the rolled items survey, reaching 64% of the 8000 estimated total. The Arts Society volunteers clean these rolled items on a weekly basis, with 110 completed to date. The conservation treatment of 7 of the rolled items has been completed. A high percentage of the surveyed plans will need to be flattened for storage. This process has begun with those already cleaned by Arts Society volunteers. Additional plan-chests have been installed for this purpose. The same volunteers have been trained in making map bags for items too large to flatten with 2 bags completed so far.

Arts Society volunteers are cleaning the NCB volumes, with 8 large volumes completed this quarter. Conservation treatment on one of the large mould damaged volumes was completed by the Project Conservator. This has provided a more accurate time estimate for the treatment of 12 similar items which have been highlighted and await conservation in isolation.

The condition survey of the NCB photographic material has been progressed, feeding into the work of the Corporate Trainee who has begun the task of cleaning, repackaging and scanning the glass plate collection, with 248 completed to date. The Project Conservator has so

far made new enclosures for 15 of the broken glass plate negatives which the Trainee has cleaned, digitised and re-housed.

The Project Conservator has secured a place on the Conservation of Photographs on Glass Symposium and Workshop which will take place in Toronto in October. This development opportunity will inform the extensive treatment of many of the photographic items in the NCB collection. External funding will be sought for travel expenses.

#### C. ACCESS

### 1. On-site use

Monitor service and implement improvements

Ask the Experts family history advice sessions continue with 15 attendees this quarter. Sessions are delivered by an expert volunteer.

Feedback on searchroom services received this quarter includes the following:

May I ...take this opportunity of thanking the staff at GLAMRO for their kind attention and advice on my recent visit. You certainly have an impressive set-up.

...the range of activities is truly impressive. As a 'user' I would like to thank the team for so generous and friendly assistance.

Volunteers from the Welsh Women's Aid Forty Voices Forty Years project were introduced to the work of archive services and received training from the conservator in handling and packaging documents.

A group of young people from the Valleys Kids Penyrenglyn Project, participants in the Unloved Heritage initiative, visited the Archives. Unloved Heritage is being delivered by CADW, with several projects underway across Wales. The Rhondda project is working with young people to explore the history of Fernhill Colliery near Blaenrhondda. The visit took them behind the scenes and introduced them to a range of documents from the colliery which were used to inform an archaeological dig at the site during May half-term. A particular highlight was the challenge posed to the group of moving a particularly large colliery plan from the strongroom to the conservation studio.

Members of Bridgend and District Local History Society visited for a tour and to view documents relating to the Bridgend area. The members were accompanied by Secretary, Councillor N Burnett. Many members took the opportunity to register and some stayed on following the tour to carry out their own research.

The Innovate Trust Green Days group works on conservation projects in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan's green spaces. They visited for a

tour and consulted documents relating to this topic. Tours were also provided to Birchgrove Women's Institute and the Oxford House Industrial Heritage Society. The latter were particularly interested in the Glamorgan's Blood project and were able to assist with the identification of colliery plans.

Cardiff People First have established a Family History Club. The inaugural meeting was held at the Archives and advice on getting started in family history was provided by Administrative Officer Jenny Christie.

South Wales Record Society and the Glamorgan History Society held their joint AGMs at the Archives in May. Following the formal meetings a talk was delivered by Dr Adam Coward on his recent publication, 'A Spiritual Botanology by Edmund Jones'.

# Programme of user events

The events programme for the year began in March with the Cardiff Naturalists' Society's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary exhibition, which remained on display for a fortnight. During this period Andy Kendall from the Society gave a talk on its history, with reference to the extensive Cardiff Naturalists' Society archive, items from which were on display during the event.

Partnership work with the Parliamentary Archives continues. The Parliament and the First World War exhibition opened in Llynfi on 1 May and will be on display until 28 June. It will then continue its journey to venues across the UK. Glamorgan Archives volunteers have contributed to the project by researching the lives of women featured in the Roath Road Methodist Church magazine the Roath Road Roamer. Members of Grangetown Local History Society have contributed research on enemy aliens in Cardiff during the war.

An afternoon of talks on 'Women, Parliament and the First World War' was held on 24<sup>th</sup> May to coincide with the exhibition. Researcher and performer Naomi Paxton spoke about the impact of the War on the women's suffrage campaign; Mari Takayanagi from the Parliamentary Archives addressed the role of women in the Houses of Parliament during the war years; and Professor Angela John spoke about the life of prominent suffragette and survivor of the sinking of the Lusitania, Lady Rhondda. The event was a great success.

### Education

The Glamorgan Archivist attended a meeting of the Cardiff Research Participation Network organised by Cardiff University at which updates on partner projects were given, including the Fusion network projects. The Times Higher Education Local Community award to CAER Heritage Project was celebrated. The Archives has been a partner in the project since it began and is continuing to support the developing programme.

Pupils from Tonypandy Primary completed the tour and quiz and researched the history of their school, which will be closing at the end of the current school year. Two classes from Mount Stuart Primary School visited for workshops on changes in Cardiff over the last century, focusing on the Cardiff Bay area. A teacher from St John Lloyd Roman Catholic School, Trowbridge was directed to the online resources on the coal industry. She also purchased Cardiff map facsimiles to use in the classroom to illustrate changes to the course of the River Taff during the 19th century.

The Glamorgan Archivist attended the Diverse Histories conference at the University of South Wales. Sources at the Archives were quoted by speakers and staff commended for their openness to themes of diversity from researchers.

# 2. External events

Contribute to heritage events

Cathays Heritage Library held an open day on 11<sup>th</sup> May, which was attended by the Senior Archivist. Several local societies and organisations were in attendance and the event attracted a high number of visitors, including school pupils from the Cathays area.

Louise Hunt, Archivist attended a meeting of Capel: The Chapels Heritage Society held in Porthcawl. Visits were made to several of the town's chapel buildings.

Identify and respond to major anniversaries

The Glamorgan Archivist attended a performance of National Theatre Wales' Storm.2 Things Come Apart, a recreation from contemporary sources of the June 1919 race riots in Cardiff. Images of the people involved, taken from the Cardiff Borough Police registers, were used to great effect in the production and Glamorgan Archives prominently acknowledged in the programme.

Anniversaries and events of note continue to be celebrated and commemorated on social media feeds including the blog. Those featured this quarter include the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cardiff Naturalists Society, the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of circus, St David's Day, International Women's Day, the centenary of the RAF and the WRAF, the Commonwealth Games, the Festival of Wales 1958, and Nurses' Day.

### 3. Remote access

Monitor service and implement improvements

The 15 working day target on remote enquiries is met. Interesting enquiries are reported in *Appendix II*.

Results of the Archives and Records Association remote enquiries survey have been received and a full report can be found in *Appendix V*.

# **Publicity**

An article by Project Conservator Stephanie Jamieson on 'Preparing a Glass Lantern Slide' featured in the Emerging Conservator section of ICON News, published by the Institute of Conservation.

The Senior Archivist was interviewed on the Radio Cardiff 'Come on In' programme regarding the work of Glamorgan Archives.

The South Wales Echo featured an article on the impact of the First World War on hospitals in south Wales, which included a contribution by volunteer Andrew Booth.

The papers of Audrey Jones, activist and founding member of the Wales Assembly of Women, were deposited earlier this year. Jean Silvan Evans, who brought the papers to the Archives on behalf of Audrey Jones' son, has since had a letter published in several local newspapers, including the Western Mail and the Glamorgan Gazette, promoting the deposit of the papers and their availability to researchers. The letter was accompanied by a photograph of the papers arriving at the Glamorgan Archives building.

Wales Online published an interview with Clare Gallagher, project manager at the new HMRC building in central Cardiff. She discussed research undertaken by the developers on the history of the site, including the consultation of plans held at Glamorgan Archives.

New accessions are regularly publicised on social media.

The blog continues to highlight the drawings and watercolours of buildings in south Wales, many now lost, within the Mary Traynor Collection.

# **SUMMARY**

Another busy quarter has seen progress in all areas of the annual plan which is sufficiently flexible to allow for resources to be diverted in response to urgent demands and opportunities. The hard work of staff and volunteers enables the service to be responsive to individual and community needs and forward planning is constantly reviewed to minimise surprise and maximise readiness.

### 4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Glamorgan Archivist is appointed by the Committee to manage the joint archives service on behalf of the Committee; to exercise the duties powers and functions of the parties under the enactments agreements and instruments set out in the Joint Archives Committee agreement dated 11 April 2006; to comply with national standards for archive keeping; to satisfy the requirements of the National

Assembly for Wales with regard to archive services; to provide the services agreed by the parties; and to develop such additional services as may be appropriate.

The Glamorgan Archivist acts at all time under the direction and supervision of the Committee and the quarterly reports of the Glamorgan Archivist to the Committee enable the Committee to discharge its duty to provide maintain and develop a joint archives service for the parties.

# 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Any direct financial implications arising from this report have been accounted for in the 2018-2019 monitoring position and will be met from within the revenue budget, supplemented, where necessary, from the General Reserve. In line with previous agreement, any underspend will be added to the General Reserve to support future budgetary pressure.

Susan Edwards Glamorgan Archivist 7 June 2018 **Local Government Act 1972** 

As amended by the

**Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985** 

**GLAMORGAN ARCHIVES JOINT COMMITTEE** 

# REPORT OF THE GLAMORGAN ARCHIVIST

<u>Agenda Item</u>: WORK OF THE ARCHIVES

1 March- 31 May 2018

# **Background Papers**

CALM database.

Officer to Contact: Susan Edwards - 029 2087 2202

# Dashboard—how well are we doing

<u>OBJECTIVES</u>		MEASURE/TARGET	CURRENT OUTCOME	
	Promote service via anniversaries	12 social media posts	4	
Ac	Contribute to external heritage events	1 in each funding authority	Bridgend, Cardiff	
Access	Deliver educational service	10 educational visits	3	
	Deliver on-site events	6 public events	2	
	Contribute to Archive Hub	200 catalogues	0	
The Collection	Meet accessioning targets	Initial receipt 15 days 100%; formal receipt 15 days 60%; complex receipt 6 months 90%	Initial 100%; formal 53%; complex 85%	
ection	Repository conditions maintained	AHUs in full working order	Working	
	Meet conservation targets	1,000 items cleaned; 50 items conserved; 1,500 boxes made	337 cleaned; 22 conserved; 74 boxes made	
	Meet income target	£83,750	£25,462	
Re	Meet agreed revenue budget	£852,750		
sources	Manage volunteers workforce	6,600 hours; 100% reviewed	1903	
	Maintain establishment	14 fte	14 fte	

# Appendix 1

**Cardiff Magistrates Court Records** 

Accession No: 2018/34, 40, 45 Reference No: PSCBO

Court registers

Date of records: 1987

**Henry Lewis of Ton Pentre, Collection** 

Accession No: 2018/35 Reference No: D1556

War diary, postcard and group photograph of Air Raid Precaution [ARP] Wardens,

Pentre

Date of records: 1917-c1940

**Cardiff County Council Records** 

Accession No: 2018/36 Reference No: CC/C

Council and committee meeting papers

Date of records: 2017-2018

**Women's Archive of Wales** 

Accession No: 2018/37 Reference No: DWAW

Administration records

Date of records: 21st century

Ruhamah Welsh Baptist Chapel Bridgend Records

Accession No: 2018/38 Reference No: D1043

Marriage registers

Date of records: 1913-1997

**Anthony M Ernest and Robert M Ernest of Penarth Papers** 

Accession No: 2018/39, 75 Reference No: D387

Records including papers relating to Councillor Anthony Ernest serving as Mayor of Penarth and Chairman of the Vale of Glamorgan Borough Council; Costa Rica Coffee Co. Ltd; papers, newscuttings and photographs of local events and organisations, various records relating to Penarth and the Vale of Glamorgan

Date of records: 20th-21st century Date of records: c1894-c2012

**Records of Ynysybwl Community Council** 

Accession No: 2018/41 Reference No: D1569

Correspondence, accounts, minutes and project files.

Date of records: 1981-2017

Deeds relating to 35-37 Morgan Street (Morgannwg Street), Trehafod

Accession No: 2018/42 Reference No: D1553

Deeds

Date of records: 1879-c1990s

**George Guy Barry Downing Photographs** 

Accession No: 2018/43 Reference No: D1575

Family photographs

Date of records: 19th century -20th century

**Records of the Cardiff Naturalist Society** 

Accession No: 2018/44 Reference No: DCNS

Glass plate negatives includes photographs of past presidents and slides used in lectures. Correspondence between members, lecture notes. Leaflet, ticket and commemorative card from RSPB director

Date of records: 1900-2017

**Colliery Guardian Coalfield Map** 

Accession No: 2018/46 Reference No: D1554

Map showing location of collieries in south-western division

Date of records: 1959

**Underground Colliery Plans** 

Accession No: 2018/47 Reference No: D1555

Underground colliery plans for Garw colliery, Blaengarw, Fforchen level, Pontycymmer and the Caedu level, Ogmore Vale. Although we do not know exactly when the plans were drawn up, we know that they were created some time before 1985, as that was a the year when the Garw Colliery was closed by the National Coal Board. The plans were given to Dore by Councillor W.J. Trigg, BEM., of Blaengarw. Trigg was a former mine worker and Mayor of Ogwr Borough Council.

Date of records: mid 20th century

Ralph Lucas Photographs of Cardiff

Accession No: 2018/48, 81 Reference No: D1557

Photographs of Cardiff's roads and buildings. Many of the buildings photographed

have subsequently been demolished or significantly altered.

Date of records: 1950-2000

Castle Street Church, Maesteg

Accession No: 2018/49 Reference No: D1558

Sharing Agreement between The South Wales Congregational Trust and others

Date of records: 25 Oct 1983

**Glamorgan Family History Society Records** 

**Accession No:** 2018/51, 89 **Reference No:** D37/1/129-130

Journals

Date of records: 2018

**Lisvane Community Council Records** 

Accession No: 2018/52 Reference No: P56

Council minutes, 2006-2007, 2012-2016

Date of records: 2006-2016

**TP Spierling of Barry Collection** 

Accession No: 2018/53 Reference No: D1559

Barry Docks records including minute books of Transport and General Workers' Union, Licensed Boatmen, Barry; GWR register of licences. Ordnance Survey

plans; South Wales Coalfield plans Date of records: c1870s-1960s

**Tabernacle Chapel, Fenton Place, Porthcawl Records** 

Accession No: 2018/54 Reference No: D1560

Marriage registers

Date of records: 1932-1996

National Operatic and Dramatic Association., Western Area, Records

Accession No: 2018/55 Reference No: D1561

Noda News, Western Area: newsletters

Date of records: 1995-1997

Bethlehem Pentecost Church, Cefn Road, Cefn Cribwr, Records

Accession No: 2018/56 Reference No: D1562

Marriage register

Date of records: 1979-1991

**Bridgend County Borough Council Records** 

Accession No: 2018/57 Reference No: CBR

Budget Book 2018-19 Date of records: 2018

Coity, Nolton and Brackla Ecclesiastical Parish Records

Accession No: 2018/58 Reference No: P80CW

Marriage register

Date of records: 2012-2014

**General Baptist and Unitarian Church, Nottage Records** 

Accession No: 2018/59 Reference No: D1563

Marriage register

Date of records: 1998-2011

Dr T F Holley of Merthyr Tydfil Collection

Accession No: 2018/60 Reference No: D332

TF Holley's correspondence regarding Doctor Samuel Ryce and Dr Lynn Ryce; correspondence with Mr Stuart Cresswell; 'Hanes' newsletters of the Cynon Valley

History Society

Date of records: 2013-2017

**Postcard of Dunraven Castle** 

Accession No: | 2018/61 | Reference No: | D1564

Postcard of Dunraven Castle, Southerndown

Date of records: c1905

**Tonteg Women's Institute Records** 

Accession No: 2018/62 Reference No: D552

Committee minutes and monthly meeting minutes

Date of records: Jul 1999-Jul 2009

**Letter from James Harris, Merthyr Tydfil** 

2018/63 Accession No: Reference No: D1565

Letter from James Harris, Heolgerrig, Merthyr Tydfil to T Collins, Nant y ffin, colliery,

relating to W Davis appeal and matters relating to miners

Date of records: 8 Jan 1942

**Lesley Sydney Davies of Cardiff Collection** 

Accession No: 2018/64 Reference No: D1566

Photographs and negatives of Cardiff and Barry events

Date of records: 20th century

**Deeds relating to 75 Penhevad Street, Grangetown** 

Accession No: 2018/65 Reference No: D1568

Deeds for property 75 Penhavad Street, Grangetown, Cardiff

Date of records: 1895-1960

Hirwaun Ironworks Ledger

Accession No: 2018/66 Reference No: D1567

Ledger relating to Hirwaun Ironworks owned by Crawshays

Date of records: 1855-1859

**Hilary Thomas of Cowbridge Collection** 

Accession No: 2018/67 Reference No: **DXKB** 

Records relating to A Gordon Thomas, Police Officer

Date of records: 1911-1976

Welsh Historic Gardens Trust, Mid and South Glamorgan Branch Records

Accession No: 2018/68 Reference No:

Slides of gardens including Ash Hall, Cwrt yr Ala, Dimlands, Duffryn, Fonmon, Llandough juxta Cowbridge, Llantrithyd, Merthyr Mawr, Nash, St Donat's, St Fagan's, St Hilary and Talygarn in the Vale of Glamorgan; Gnoll, Margam and Penrice in West Glamorgan; Dinefwr and Laugharne Castle in Carmarthenshire; Barnsley, Painswick, Stanway and Westbury Court in Gloucestershire.

Date of records: 1961-2006

**Cardiff Royal Infirmary Aural Theatre List** 

Accession No: Reference No: 2018/69 DHC

List of operations and anaesthetics

Date of records: 1935-1949

**Penarth Ecclesiastical Parish Records** 

Accession No: 2018/70, 85 Reference No: P46CW

Records relating to maintenance of parish property and finance. Church of Holy Nativity, Penarth, register of services; St Augustine's Church, Free Will Offering;

reports to the Annual Vestry Meeting

Date of records: 1897-2018

The Reverend Dr Thomas John Prichard of Ystradyfodwg Collection

Accession No: 2018/72 Reference No: D1573

25 inch OS maps; plans of St Barnabas Church, Penygraig, parish map and

photograph of Dinas, Rhondda Date of records: 20th century

**OS Plans** 

Accession No: 2018/73 Reference No: OS

Maps of South Wales

Date of records: 1800-1940

Casgliad Philip Lloyd o'r Wyddgrug

Accession No: 2018/74 Reference No: D1510

Photographs of Cardiff trams at Whitchurch Road Tram Terminus, Newport Road Tram Depot, Roath Park Tram Terminus and St Mary Street Tram Terminus.

Date of records: 11 Gorffennaf 1949

**Gelligaer Historical society Records** 

Accession No: 2018/76 Reference No: D1499

Newsletter

Date of records: 2018

**STAR Communities First Records** 

Accession No: 2018/78 Reference No: D1570

Community newsletters, survey and report of the open spaces in the Splott and

Tremorfa Communities First area, 'Adamsdown Song'.

Date of records: 1999-2017

**Neath Ecclesiastical Parish Records** 

Accession No: 2018/79 Reference No: P76CW

Vestry meeting minute book Date of records: 1936-1939

**Gerald McCormack, Author, Papers** 

Accession No: 2018/80 Reference No: D1571

Research notes.

Date of records: 1898-c2000s

Accession No: 2018/83 Reference No: P183CW

St Theodore, marriage register Date of records: 2005-2016

# **Newcastle and Ogmore Petty Sessions Court Records**

Accession No: 2018/84 Reference No: D1572

Registers of clubs, 1920s-1961; warrants and summons register, 1856-1863; letterbook, 1925-1927; registers of fines and fees paid, 1911-1914; empty cash journal

Date of records: 1856-1961

### **Barry and District Soroptimist Records**

Accession No: 2018/86 Reference No: D647

Scrapbook, 1968-2008; 50th Anniversary menu card, 2018; History of the Club,

2018

Date of records: 1968-2018

# **Great Western Railway Records**

Accession No: 2018/87 Reference No: D1576

Contract specification and bills of quantities for new offices, Barry Dock; Barry Dock and Railways Sessions 1883 plans prepared for committees; GWR Standard Lifting

Tackle; War Record of the Great Western Railway

Date of records: 1885-1928

# **Beatrice Smith of Cardiff, Collection**

Accession No: 2018/88 Reference No: D614

Cor Cochion, Caerdydd, memorabilia Date of records: 20th-21st centuries

#### Notable accessions

### Gelligaer Historical Society Records (D1499)

Gelligaer Historical Society was established in 1961 and aims to study the local history and heritage of the ancient parish and Urban District of Gelligaer. The area includes the modern communities of Pontlottyn, Brithdir, Bargoed, Hengoed, Ystrad Mynach, Trelewis, Bedlinog, Fochrhiw and Deri as well as the village of Gelligaer itself. The Society arranges lectures, discussions and field meetings to heritage sites as well as encouraging research. The Society's records continue to accrue, with the addition of another newsletter this quarter.

# Terence Spierling of Barry Collection, (D1559)

Terence Spierling is a resident of Barry with an interest in local history. His collection includes minute books of the Transport and General Workers' Union, No 5 Branch, whose members served as licensed boatmen in Barry Dock for 1923-1958, along with a Great Western Railway Register of Licences for the period c1924-1950, which provides a great wealth of local information on those who operated as

boatmen, riggers, canvassers, dock pilots and marine store dealers in Barry. The volume records names and addresses of those being granted licences. In the case of the riggers it also records date and place of birth and the reason for leaving the occupation. In many cases this is through injury or accidents, although some have emigrated and in one case it notes 'has not worked since General Strike, 1926'.

# **Letter from James Harris, Merthyr Tydfil (D1565)**

This letter, dating from the 1940s, provides a glimpse of a local industrial dispute. Written by James Harris, Heolgerrig, Merthyr Tydfil to T Collins, Nant y ffin Colliery, it discusses a colliery dispute and subsequent appeal involving one W Davis. Mr Harris notes that the issue 'is of the most vital importance to the working classes and particularly the (Miners)' and confirms the raising of funds to fight the appeal.

# **Records of Ynysybwl Community Council (D1569)**

A collection of records has been transferred by Ynysybwl Community Council. The collection includes Council correspondence, accounts, minutes and project files. Such records provide a valuable insight into the work of the Council over a thirty year period.

# **STAR Communities First Records (D1570)**

The Communities First programme was launched in 2001 with the aim to improve opportunities and the quality of life for people living and working in the most disadvantaged communities in Wales. STAR (Splott, Tremorfa, Adamsdown and Roath) Communities First was created by the merger of Splott and Tremorfa Communities First and Adamsdown Communities First Project in 2013. The programme ended 31st March 2018. The collection comprises Community newsletters, produced by STAR and its predecessors, a survey and report of the open spaces in the Splott and Tremorfa Communities First area, and a copy of the 'Adamsdown Song'

### **Newcastle and Ogmore Petty Sessions Court Records (D1572)**

A collection of nineteenth and twentieth century court records has been deposited by Llynfi Valley Historical Society. The records were created by the Newcastle and Ogmore Petty Sessions and span a hundred years. They comprise a warrants and summons register, accounts book, ledger, registers of clubs and a letterbook. The records were passed to the Society by one of its members and complement an existing collection held at Glamorgan Archives

# Appendix II

	Numb TOTAL	er of Visits (groups and meetings)	No. of Groups	Documents Produced
Mar - May 2017	1773	(1160)	35	2847
June – Aug 2017	1513	(786)	46	2655
Sep – Nov 2017	2375	(1713)	59	2772
Dec 2017-Feb 2018	1730	(1141)	57	3277
Mar – May 2018	1871	(1245)	43	2806

	Remote Enquiries	Website Hits
Mar - May 2017	896 (+51 un-printed thank you emails)	10854
June – Aug 2017	863 (+74 un-printed thank you emails)	10485
Sep-Nov 2017	938 (+53 un-printed thank you emails)	10518
Dec 2017-Feb 2018	797 (+106 un-printed thank you emails)	10085
Mar – May 2018	924 (+90 un-printed thank you emails)	10282

# **Interesting Enquiries**

Local authority records are regularly consulted by the general public, officers of the authorities and elected members. This quarter they have contributed to research on a variety of topics, including the mortgaging and conveyance of authority properties, investigations into 19<sup>th</sup> century stopping up orders, and previous mayors of Merthyr Tydfil.

Students and academics continue to make use of the Collection, both in the searchroom and through our remote enquiries service. Students have sought assistance with dissertations on topics including youth crime and delinquency, conditions in Cardiff Prison from 1876 to the 1920s, living conditions of patients in the Glamorgan Asylum, the population of Butetown during the 19th and 20th centuries, and disability in the coalfield. Three students from Cardiff University's School of Law

visited the searchroom to undertake research for the Innocence Project. The project gathers evidence to support submissions to overturn wrongful convictions.

A number of authors undertaking research for forthcoming books have drawn on the Collection. The planned works include a biography of teacher, author and broadcaster Gwyn Thomas, which will trace his early career, much of which is detailed in the records of Glamorgan County Council; a history of the iron industry in Glamorgan, and women working in higher education. A removal order from the Society of Friends Records was consulted as part of investigations into the life of Robert Eaton, a founder of the Glamorganshire Banking Company.

Local historians remain regular visitors to the searchroom. The date of a stained glass window at Christ Church Congregational Church, Penarth was found recorded amongst the church papers. Building plans, trade directories and Ordnance Survey maps were used to ascertain the date of the construction of the Whitbread Brewery on Penarth Road. The history of several derelict stone buildings on land in Penlline was traced through estate records, enclosure and tithe plans, auctioneers particulars and land valuation records. A member of a local history society visited to undertake research for a project tracing a journey along the River Thaw, showing changes in land use along the course of the river. Records of various estate and of the Cardiff Naturalists' Society were viewed. And Lisvane Historical Society contacted us seeking permission to use a First World War welcome home certificate held within the Llanishen parish records in a book of remembrance which they are compiling.

Family history remains popular. A requests for assistance was received form the great grandson of David Pugh Jones, former architect with Cardiff Rural District Council and later county architect with Glamorgan County Council. We provided references to relevant building plans and suggested that local authority minutes and reports would prove useful. A descendent of Joshua Aurelius visited the searchroom to investigate his role as part-owner of the Rhymney Valley and Tirphil Land and Workmen's Cottage Co. Ltd, which was founded in 1889 to meet the shortage of adequate housing for workers. A visitor from Oregon in the USA consulted a wide range of 19th century records, including Fonmon Estate Records, Merthyr Tydfil Poor Law Union Records and contemporary diaries, in an effort to trace her ancestors who originated in south Wales.

Regular requests are received from the media. A TV producer contacted us regarding a programme in development for S4C on the late Rhodri Morgan's great uncle, Morgan Watkin, who taught at Howard Gardens School, Cardiff. Images of the school and its staff were provided. A researcher for a BBC programme, Home Front Heroes, was seeking information relating to Second World War ARP activity in Cardiff, and specifically any references to the work of William E. Jones, grandfather of Tanni Grey-Thompson, as an ARP warden. We recommended a search of several collections containing ARP material.

An artist based in Portland, Oregon, visited to research examples of protest knitwear worn by protesters at Greenham Common. She viewed several collections deposited by the Women's Archive Wales and found many examples of symbols and text on the garments.

# Appendix III

Local and Family History Groups	
Ask the Experts! family history sessions	15
Grangetown Local History Society	47
Cardiff People First Family History Club	2
Welsh Women's Aid	12
Bridgend and District Local History Society	22
Birchgrove WI	7
Unloved Heritage	6
Innovate Trust Greendays Project	7
Oxford House Industrial Heritage Society	9
Professional Organisations	
Glamorgan Archives Joint Committee	17
Events	
Cardiff Naturalists' Society: 150 Years of Nature and Conservation	16
Women, Parliament and the First World War	31
South Wales Record Society / Glamorgan History Society AGM	36
Exhibitions	
150 Years of Cardiff Naturalists' Society	140
Parliament and the First World War	174
Education	
Mount Stuart Primary School x 2	66
Tonypandy Primary School	36
Individuals Meeting Staff	130
Tours for prospective volunteers	
Room Hire	45.1
Cardiff Council Training/Workshop x 27	454
Scope (Lewis Martin Court) x 3	18

**Appendix IV** 

	Bench work			
RE	18 Electoral registers	Bound		
DCON	5 volumes Glamorgan Constabulary	Cleaned, consolidated, oxidised pressure sensitive tape removed, repaired, rebound and red rot treated		
DSWP	South Wales Police records	Assessed		
DSWP	6 volumes, South Wales Police Records	Cleaned, repaired and rebound		
GC, GD	6 volumes, Glamorgan County Council committee and departmental records	Cleaned, oxidised, pressure sensitive tape removed and repaired		
D1559/5/6	2 plans, Ordnance Survey	Cleaned, oxidised pressure sensitive tape removed, repaired and encapsulated		
DNCB	3 acetate negatives, National Coal Board	Image layer removed		
Q/S/R	Quarter Session Rolls	Assessed		
	Cleaning and Packaging			
DNCB	8 volumes and 13 maps, National Coal Board	Cleaned		
DSA	2 boxes, Stephenson and Alexander	Cleaned		
U	37 volumes, Poor Law Union	Cleaned and repackaged		
Q/S/R	3 rolls, Quarter Sessions	Cleaned		
DCA	204 crew agreements	Cleaned		
Various	35 "yellow spot" boxes	Cleaned and repackaged		
Various	35 Maps	New hangers attached		

Bespoke boxes made				
Various	74 boxes			
Barcoded and Relocated				
Various	967 Maps and boxes	Barcoded		
External Work				
University	24 volumes	Cleaned, repaired and rebound		

# Appendix 5 ARA UK Archives Distance Enquiry Services Survey 2017

### 1. Introduction

The UK Archives Distance Enquiry Services Survey looks at archive remote enquiry services from the adult individual's point of view. It is a survey of individuals who contact the service by post or email with an enquiry concerning the Collection. All distance enquirers were invited to take part.

The 2017 survey took place from Monday 4 September to Sunday 26 November 2017. A total of 51 archive services across the UK participated in the survey including 14 Welsh services.

The same survey questions were used in the 2017 survey as the 2015 survey, which has allowed for comparisons between the years.

# 2. Comparison with other Welsh archive services:

In comparing the results of all participating Welsh archive services, Glamorgan Archives is on a par with colleagues, with only a small variation between the scores of the majority of services. We don't excel beyond most of our neighbours, but neither are we falling behind.

# 3. What we're doing well

We aim for a score of 90% or higher across the good/very good categories. This was achieved in all areas bar those listed in section 4 below.

### Highlights include:

 How good do you think the following aspects of the distance enquiries service are at Glamorgan Archives?

	2017	2015
Overall	95%	93%
Quality of content	93%	91%
Clarity of response	97%	94%
Our website	94%	81%
Ease of navigation of our website	93%	80%
Availability of bilingual information	98%	93%

Our results have improved across all these areas since 2015. It is particularly pleasing to note the improvement in satisfaction with our website following development work undertaken during 2016.

# 4. Areas for improvement

We did not reach our target of 90% or higher across the good/very good categories in the following sections of the survey. Although not poor scores, these results

highlight areas for improvement. Recommendations for delivering these improvements are outlined in section 5.

 How good do you think the following aspects of the distance enquiries service are at Glamorgan Archives?

	2017	2015
Promptness of response	83%	89%
Charges for goods and services	80%	79%

### 5. Recommendations

# Promptness of response

We have a response target of 15 working days for remote enquiries. This target is consistently met, with responses often sent well within the 15 day period. It is therefore disappointing to note a drop in customer satisfaction in this area. We will explore ways in which we can manage customer expectations and ensure our target is clearly explained.

Charges for goods and services

Charges for goods and services are based on staff time taken to complete the work, and comprise:

- Research fee (individuals) £30 per hour
- Research fee (commercial) £60 per hour
- Certification £5 per certified copy
- Photography £2.80 per image

Research has shown that our fees and charges compare favourably with those levied by other archive services. In light of the survey results we will provide information on how fees are calculated to the public in order to ensure transparency and manage expectations.

### 6. Conclusion

The UK Archives Distance Enquiry Services Survey has shown that Glamorgan Archives has succeeded in maintaining the delivery of a high quality remote enquiries service.

Solutions have been identified which will help us to improve scores in those areas where we are currently falling below our own high standards.

Rhian Diggins Senior Archivist May 2018