

How it all began ...

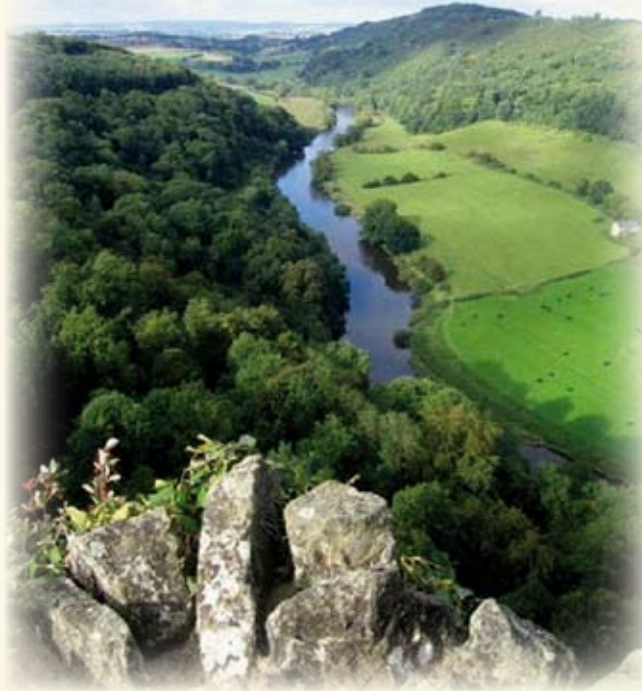
Douglas Brookes Past Secretary Cymmrodorion

Eighty years ago The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion created the opportunity and provided the resources that led to the formation of what was then known as the **Council** for the Preservation of Rural Wales.

Indeed the Cymmrodorion provided two of the founder members of its original Committee; Sir E Vincent Evans CH. LLD and Thomas Jones LLD. MA. These distinguished men were later awarded the Society's Medal given to Welsh men and women "*who by their lifetime achievements have brought distinction to their work and contributed to the greater good of Welsh society*". This medal has been awarded to only 55 people since it was first presented in 1883.

This early involvement continued with many Cymmrodorion members serving CPRW in one form or another. One active Society member Baroness (Eirene) White was CPRW President from 1973 to 1987. She was of course carrying on a family tradition as she was the daughter of Thomas Jones also an active Society member who was so important to CPRW in the early days.

The Honourable Society itself was founded in London in 1751 to promote the practice and development of literature and of the arts and sciences that are of special interest to Wales and the Welsh people. It received its Royal Charter in 1951 at its bicentenary. Though it is London based, many of its members live and work in Wales and in many other parts of the world.



Wye Valley AONB

It played a significant part in the development of the National Eisteddfod, the University of Wales, the National Library and National Museum as well as the promotion of secondary education

The Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion has been an Affiliated Member of CPRW's Council ever since the organisation's establishment in 1928.

in the Principality. That was when David Lloyd George was a member (the original as the current distinguished Earl is a Vice President at the present time) but the work of the society has continued with the publication in English and Welsh of the Bywgraffiadur Cymreig/Dictionary of Welsh Biography of over 5000 notable Welsh individuals covering the period up to 1970. And should anyone feel that it laid down this particular burden at that date, thereafter in collaboration with The National Library, future biographies for deaths after 1970 will be published on its website.

Cymmrodorion is a very fine organisation which continues to flourish and one which has always had close connections with CPRW. The Society is extremely proud of the part that its members have played in CPRW's past and we are very pleased to continue this long association as an Affiliated Member of the present Council.

It gives me great pleasure to have this opportunity to wish the Campaign a very happy birthday and all good wishes for the future!



Y Cymmrodorion a gwreiddiau YDCW

Bedwar ugain o flynyddoedd yn ôl. Cymdeithas

Vincent Evans a Thomas Jones – ymhlith aelodau'r Pwyllgor gwreiddiol. Yn ddiweddarach, bu aelod arall – y Farwnes (Eirene) White, merch Thomas Jones – yn Llywydd o 1973 i 1987.

Ers ei sefydlu yn Llundain yn 1751, mae'r Gymdeithas wedi cyfrannu'n sylweddol at ddatblygiadau yng Nghymru, gan gynnwys

yr Eisteddfod, y Brifysgol, y Llyfrgell a'r Amgueddfa, ac ar hyd yr amser mae wedi cynnal cysylltiadau clos gydag YDCW.

Mae'r Gymdeithas yn falch iawn o'r rhan a chwaraeodd ei haelodau yng ngorffennol yr Ymgyrch ac rydym yn falch o gynnal y cysylltiad hir hwn trwy fod yn Aelod Cysylltiedig o'r Cyngor presennol.

