

# The National Library of Wales



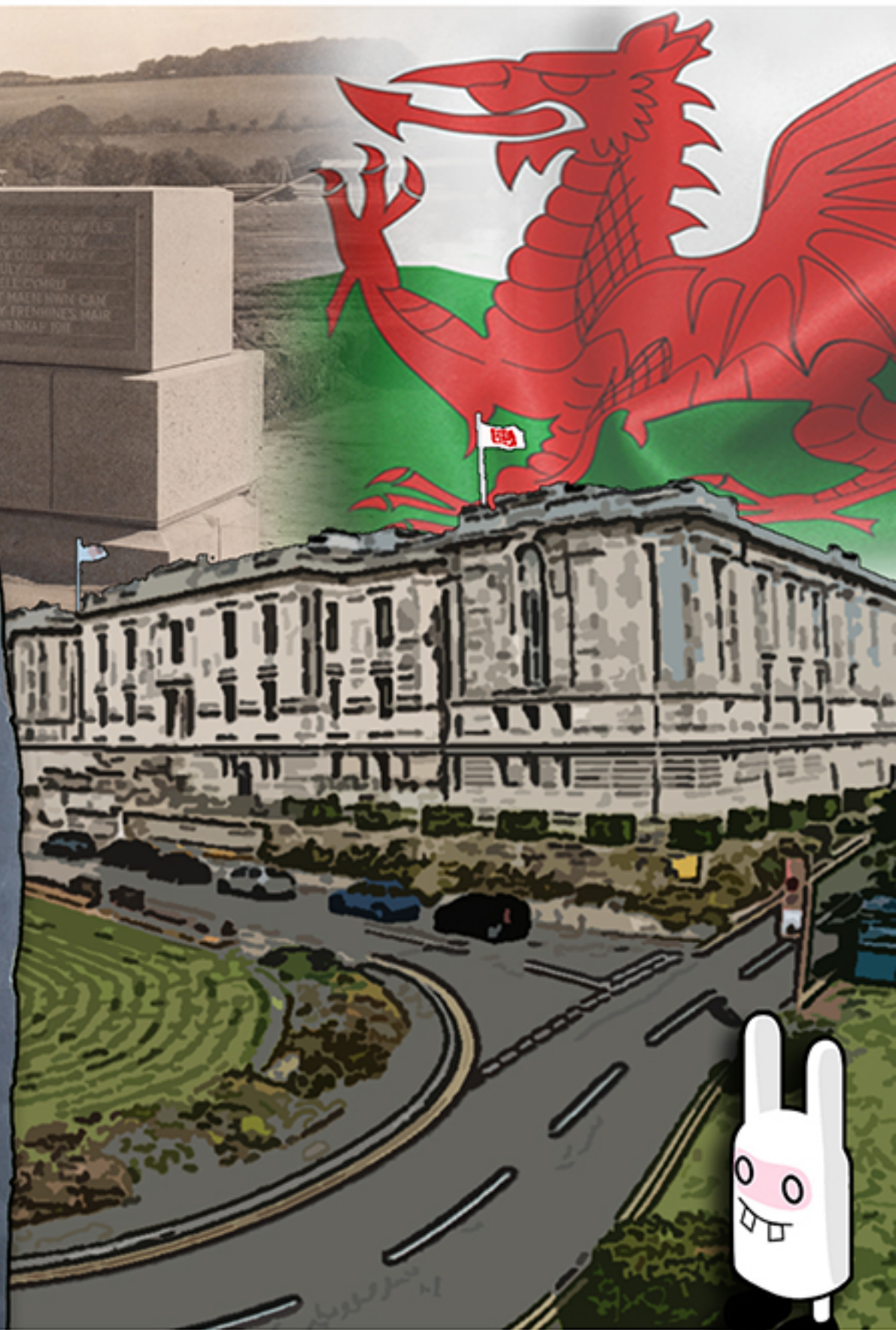
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Llyfrgell  
Genedlaethol  
Cymru

The National  
Library of  
Wales

Croeso  
Welcome

*Braint Pob Gwybodaeth*



LGC  
NLW

Sponsored by  
Welsh Assembly  
Government



Puzzles

This pack provides an introduction to the work and collections of The National Library of Wales. Although it is not aimed directly at the school curriculum it complements several areas within the curriculum in Wales, in particular Geography, History, Welsh and English. The tasks help to exercise core skills - reading, literacy and numeracy - as well as developing research and interpretation skills.

The pack is produced by The National Library of Wales Education Service.

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The National Library of Wales Education Service can offer:

- outreach service - visiting schools to present materials
- videoconferencing sessions with schools or groups of schools
- general or specialist sessions for for groups and schools
- tours of the National Library building
- worksheets and presentations designed to suit your specific needs
- an opportunity to view items from the Library's collections
- suitable rooms to work and handle materials
- Presentations in Welsh, English or bilingually

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## The National Library of Wales is one of the great libraries of the world.

This pack presents information and facts about the library and includes entertaining puzzles and tasks. Have a go at answering the questions to see how much you know about the materials held at The National Library. The answers to most of the questions can be found within the text of this booklet, but you may need to visit the Education Service website for



extra help with one or two - [addysg.llgc.org.uk](http://addysg.llgc.org.uk). There you will find resources and workbooks to help with your research. The National Library's Education Service welcomes many visitors of all ages to the Library, and these come to view and learn about the various materials that are kept there.

Most of the visitors to the service come here as part of a school or college trip, and pupils and students have an opportunity to view parts of the collection, and see where they are stored during their tour of the Library building. The service also presents workshops in the Library's Education Room, and presentations on various themes through videoconferencing.



Despite the fact that you need to be 16 years old to use the reading rooms at the Library, anyone can visit the exhibitions. There are also spaces that have been designed specifically for young users, and there you will find information, booklets and tasks based on the collection. If you happen to be in Aberystwyth please call in to see these spaces - or come and visit our stall at the Urdd National Eisteddfod, we'll be there every year.



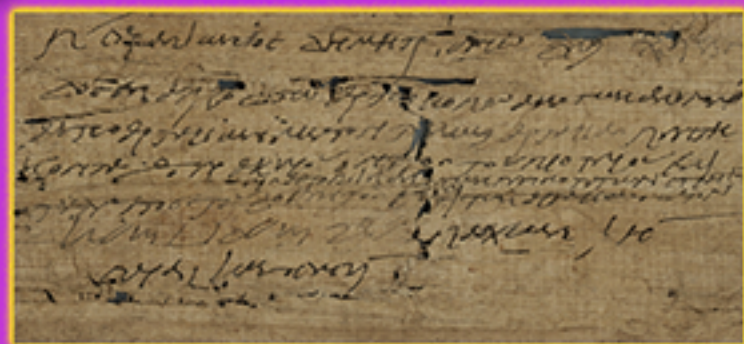
This is a picture of Nanw with her friends. These are all characters in a game on the Education Service website called Nanw's Great Adventure. Including the one opposite, how many pictures of Nanw can you count in this pack? You can count them while you read, and write the total in the box after you have reached the end.





## Establishing The National Library of Wales

A campaign for a national library for Wales had been running for decades when a committee was established at the 1873 National Eisteddfod in order to try to realise this dream. The British Government finally promised money for a National Library and Museum for Wales in its 1905 Budget. A decision was made to locate the Museum in Cardiff, and following discussions and some argument, the Grogythan estate in Aberystwyth was agreed as the location for the new National Library. Both the Museum and the Library were established by Royal Charter on the same day, which was March 19, 1907. The red wax seal of the charter is shown above.



## Papyri

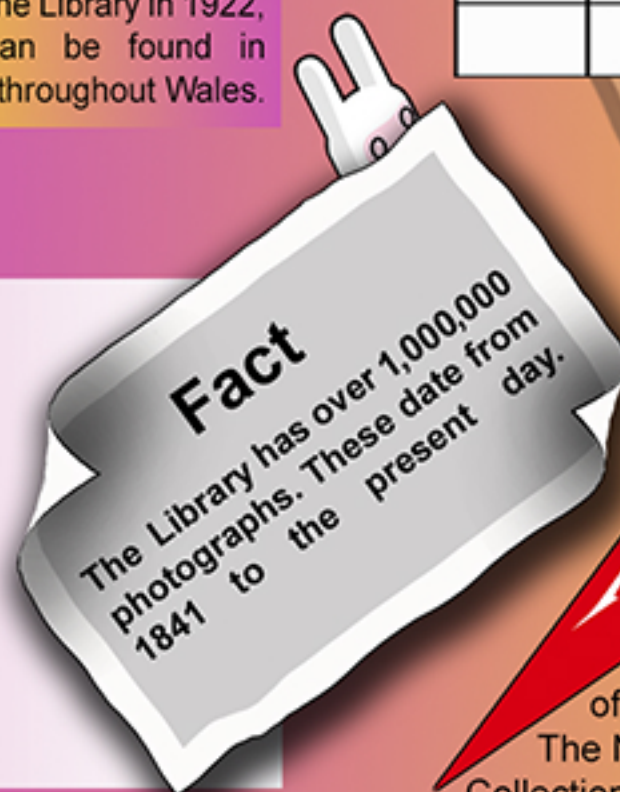
The oldest item in the Library's collections is a piece of papyrus from Egypt that dates from the year 113 A.D. Three of these were donated to the Library in 1922, and similar pieces can be found in libraries and museums throughout Wales.

## Matching descriptions

Write the term from the grid next to the correct description.

- A picture taken by a camera =
- Plan that shows the earth from above =
- Handwritten document =
- Book that describes the life of the author =
- Book of maps =
- Record of recent events =
- Picture that shows scenery =
- Book that gives the meanings of words =
- List of everything kept at the Library =
- 3D work of art =

LANDSCAPE	ATLAS	AUTOBIOGRAPHY	NEWSPAPER	DICTIONARY
MANUSCRIPT	MAP	CATALOGUE	STATUE	PHOTOGRAPH



A	B	C	D	E	F

Write the numbers that represent the correct silhouettes (shadows) in the boxes.

**Portrait** is the word used to describe a picture of a person. Portraits can vary from those that show only the face and head to those that show the whole body. The National Library of Wales has over 15,000 portraits in the Welsh Portrait Archive. These include pictures of famous people as well as members of the public. Although many of the portraits in the collection are drawings and paintings, the vast majority are photographs.

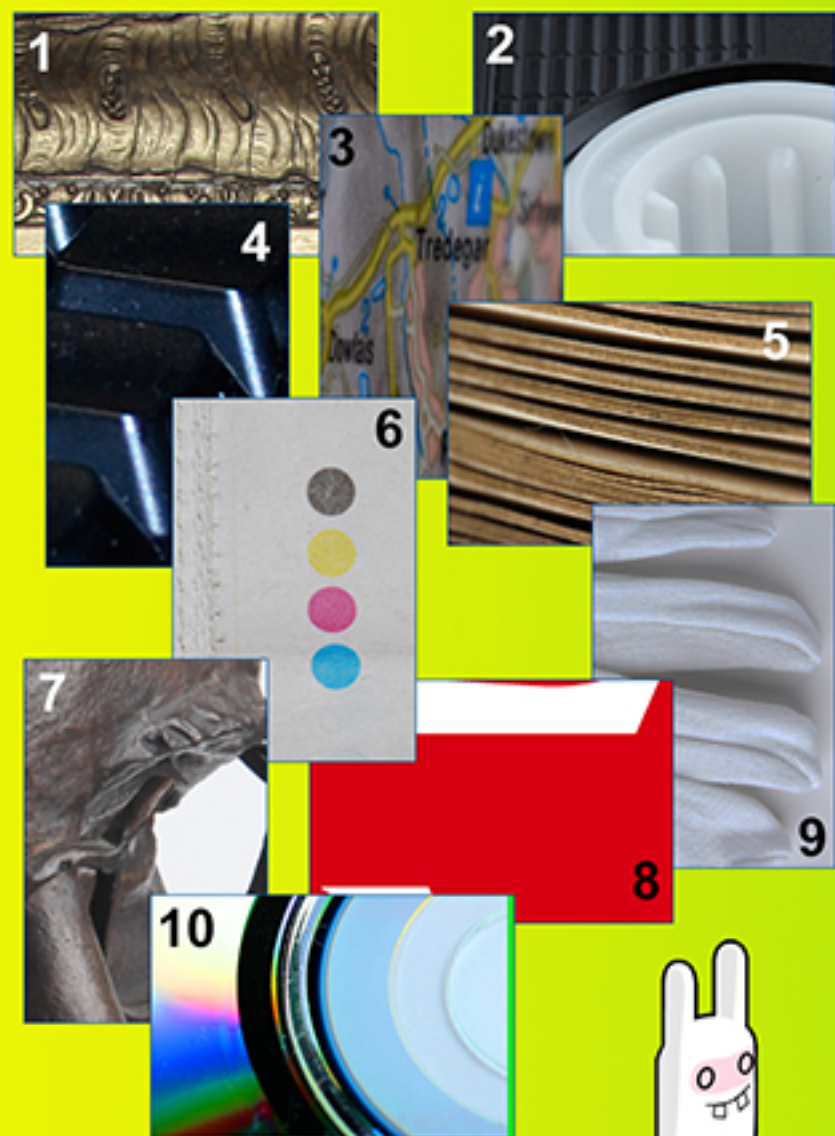


## Under one roof

In many countries you would have to visit several places in order to see various items of national interest. Here in Wales you can research all types of collections not only in the same town, but also under one roof! The National Library in Aberystwyth is home to The National Photographic Collection, The National Map Collection, The National Screen and Sound Archive of Wales, The Welsh Political Archive, The Welsh Portrait Archive, and is also a National Archive. Visitors can therefore search through all of these resources... in one place!



The Library is home to The National Screen and Sound Archive of Wales. This archive contains an unique and varied collection of films, radio and television programmes, videos, sound recordings and music that relate to Wales and Welsh people.



6

Map	
Video cassette	
Book	
DVD	
Glove	
Frame	
Statue	
The Library's logo	
Keyboard	
Newspaper	

### In Detail

These are pictures of ten items you would find at the National Library. They have been taken close up or at a strange angle. Can you name them? Write the numbers opposite the correct titles.

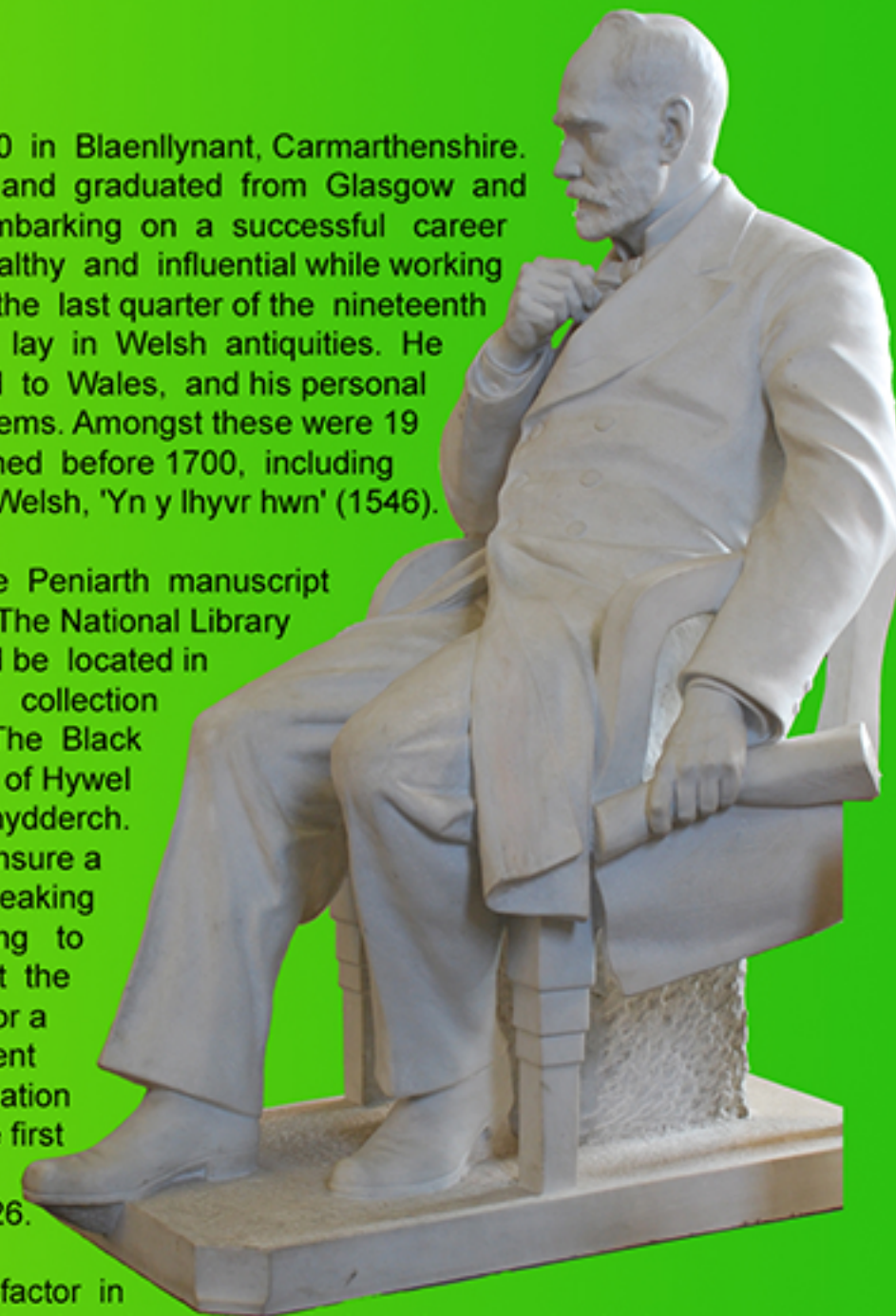


### Sir John

John Williams was born in 1840 in Blaenllynant, Carmarthenshire. He was educated in Swansea, and graduated from Glasgow and London Universities before embarking on a successful career as a surgeon. He became wealthy and influential while working as a physician in London during the last quarter of the nineteenth century, but his main interests lay in Welsh antiquities. He collected old items that related to Wales, and his personal collection grew to over 25,000 items. Amongst these were 19 of the 22 Welsh books published before 1700, including the earliest book ever printed in Welsh, 'Yn y lhyvr hwn' (1546).

In 1904 John Williams bought the Peniarth manuscript collection, and presented this to The National Library on the condition that it would be located in Aberystwyth. This priceless collection included such treasures as The Black Book of Carmarthen, The Laws of Hywel Dda, and The White Book of Rhydderch. He campaigned vigorously to ensure a national library for Wales by speaking at public meetings and writing to newspapers. He was in effect the person directing the campaign for a national library. In acknowledgment of his contribution and determination John Williams was appointed the first President of the Library, a post that he held until his death in 1926.

He is the biggest single benefactor in the history of the Library, and his donations ensured that the new institution would be acknowledged as a proper national library from the beginning. In 1911 he was knighted by the King on the occasion of laying the foundation stone for the new National Library of Wales building. This marble statue of Sir John Williams is in a prominent location overlooking the Library's Reading Room.

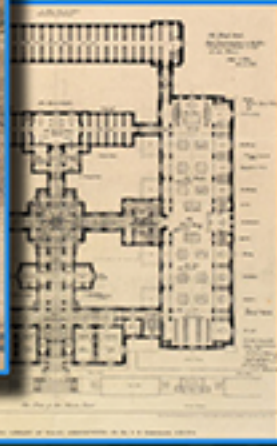


Has your photograph appeared in a newspaper or in your local 'papur bro'? If it has then your picture is part of the Library's collections, as The National Library collects EVERY newspaper and 'papur bro' published in Wales.



# The Building

In 1908 six architects were invited to submit their designs for a new Library building. The architect whose drawings were selected was Sidney Kyffin Greenslade, and in 1911 building work started on the structure that stands today on Penglais hill. The main feature of this building is the Portland stone used to build the outere walls. By 1916 the Library was open to the public, and the original building was entirely had completed when King George VI officially opened it. Several new extensions have been added since then, and many of the spaces within the Library have been adapted and modernised. On the right you can see Greenslade's plans, and a photograph of Sir John Williams standing next to the foundation stone in 1911.



# Authors and Books

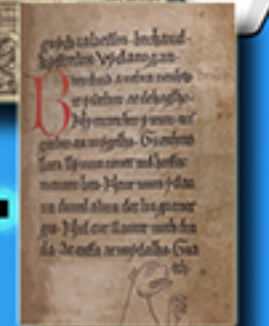
Who was responsible for creating these books from The National Library of Wales collection? The first Welsh Bible published in 1588; The Black Book of Carmarthen manuscript, c. 1250; and Un Noson Dywyll – a book that is popular with children in Wales, published in 1973. Try to follow the line to discover which book connects to which author. Write down the corresponding letter under the photograph of the author, and to complete the puzzle write the name of the author in the box above the photograph.



T. Llew Jones

Bishop William Morgan

A Monk



# Naming places

Here you will see photographs of various places in the Library. Write the correct number in the box next to the names below. If you cannot name some of these places you can find help on the Education Service website at [addysg.llgc.org.uk](http://addysg.llgc.org.uk)

- |                                       |                                     |   |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Hall | <input type="checkbox"/> Drwm       | <input type="checkbox"/> North Reading Room |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pen Dinas    | <input type="checkbox"/> Map Store  | <input type="checkbox"/> South Reading Room |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Atrium   | <input type="checkbox"/> Book Store | <input type="checkbox"/> Gregynog Gallery   |



1



2



3



4



5



6



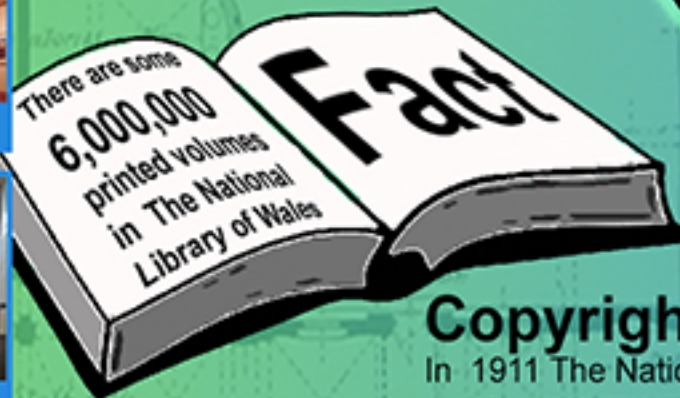
7



8



9



# Copyright Library

In 1911 The National Library was given the right to receive one copy of everything published in Britain and Ireland. It is one of six copyright libraries in Britain and Ireland that have this right to receive items such as books, maps, magazines and newspapers free of charge. The law states that publishers have to send these to the Library, and some 2,000 new items are delivered there every week. Most of these arrive on a Tuesday morning in green boxes from the Copyright Libraries Agency in Edinburgh.



## Conservation

The Library safeguards materials to ensure that they remain in a very good condition for years to come. This may involve repairing items that have been damaged over the years, or protecting them so that they won't be harmed in the future. Examples of how this is done include storing books in boxes, placing pictures and photographs in mounts, encapsulating maps or keeping magnetic tapes in a Faraday Cage (p13).

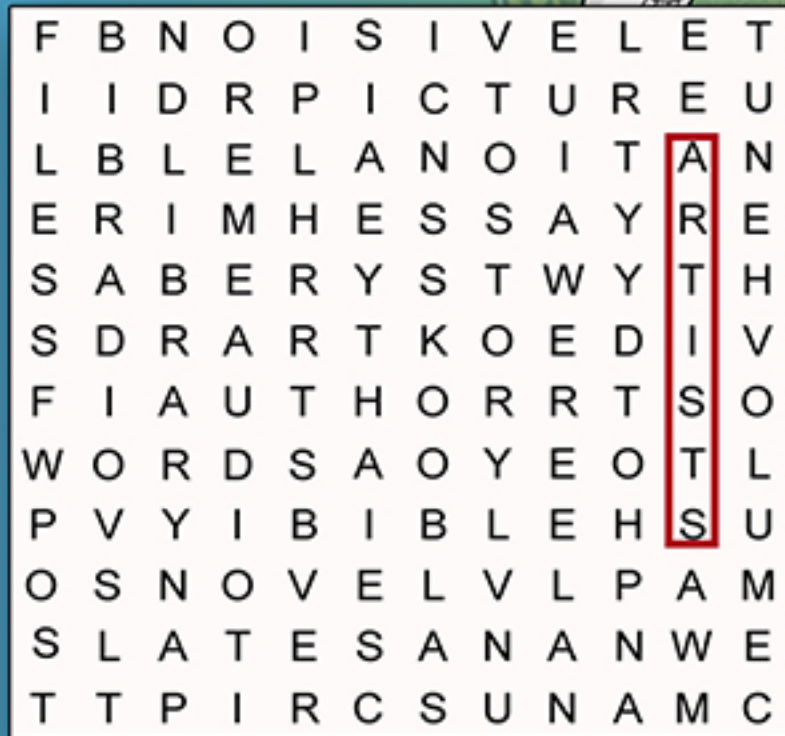
Expert staff from the conservation unit will repair items that have been damaged, and that treatment varies from cleaning old materials with special chemicals, to mending torn pages or ripped canvas.



Old books sometimes have to be rebound and covered with new leather. The Library also produces many boxes made from acid-free card, to protect materials. These boxes are created on a special machine to fit any item perfectly.

Search for the words that are listed on the left hand side. These words may read in any direction, including diagonally.

- Aberystwyth
- Art
- Artists
- Audio
- Author
- Bible
- Books
- Cave
- Essay
- File
- Film
- Library
- Manuscript
- Map
- Nanw
- National
- Novel
- Picture
- Post
- Radio
- Reel
- Slates
- Story
- Television
- Tune
- Video
- Volume
- Words



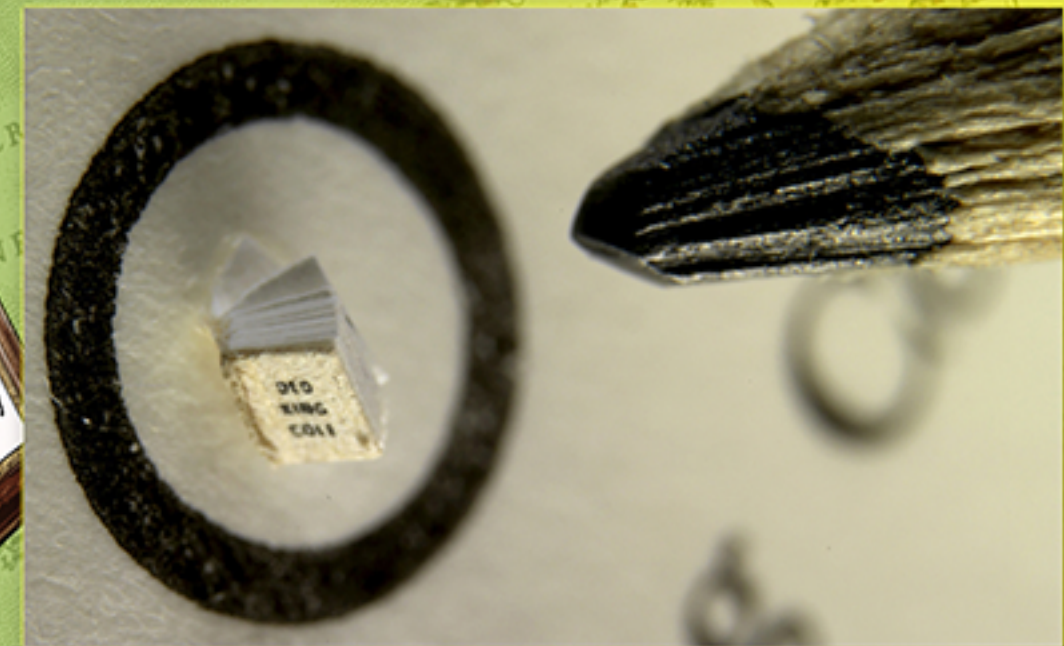
Word search

## Observation

This is a picture painted by A. C. Michael. It shows Owain Glyndŵr leading his soldiers into battle against the English during the revolt of 1401. The picture on the left is complete, but there are six differences in the picture on the right. Can you find these?



## The Smallest Book



This tiny book was produced in Scotland, and it's the smallest in the Library's collection. It measures less than 1mm x 1mm x 1mm, and is so small that you need a magnifying glass to read it. When *The Gleniffer Press* published the book in 1985 it was entered into *The Guinness Book of Records* as *The Smallest Book in the World*. The book has twelve pages with three words on each page. The text includes a nursery rhyme, *Old King Cole*.

# Where in Wales?

If we placed every shelf in the Library end to end in one long row, they would stretch for 120 miles.



Map recording the landing of French soldiers in Wales, 1797



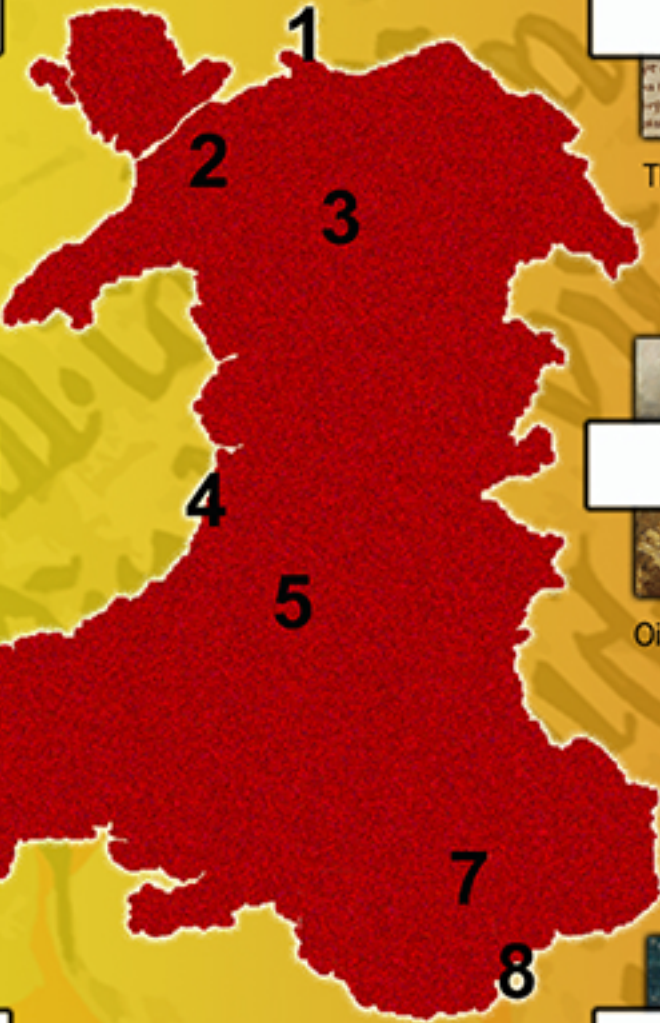
The Welsh National Anthem, Evan and James James 1856,



The first book to be published in Wales, 1587



Photograph of a Welsh Language Society protest on Trefechan Bridge, 1962



The White Book of Rhydderch, Manuscript, c.1230.



Oil painting of Dolbadarn Castle J.M.W. Turner 1799



Television broadcast of Wales winning the Grand Slam, 2005



Film recording the drowning of Capel Celyn, 1966

- Bake
- Digitise
- Plough
- Protect
- Saw
- Record
- Present
- Cook
- Harvest
- Milk
- Repair
- Collect
- Preserve
- Shear
- Learn
- Drive

Library	Other

# Verbs

On the left you will find sixteen verbs, 'doing' words, that describe different types of work. Write the eight verbs associated with the National Library in the first column and the others in the second column.



When you have completed the table, use the verbs from the 'Library' column to fill the gaps in the paragraph below.

The National Library of Wales aims to \_\_\_\_\_ various materials from all over Wales. It is important to \_\_\_\_\_ these items, and \_\_\_\_\_ materials that have been damaged. Members of staff \_\_\_\_\_ these treasures in the Library's catalogue, to keep track of everything that is held in the collection. Advanced technology is used to \_\_\_\_\_ items and \_\_\_\_\_ them on the Library's website, so that everybody can \_\_\_\_\_ more about Wales and its history. This work helps to \_\_\_\_\_ the heritage of Wales.

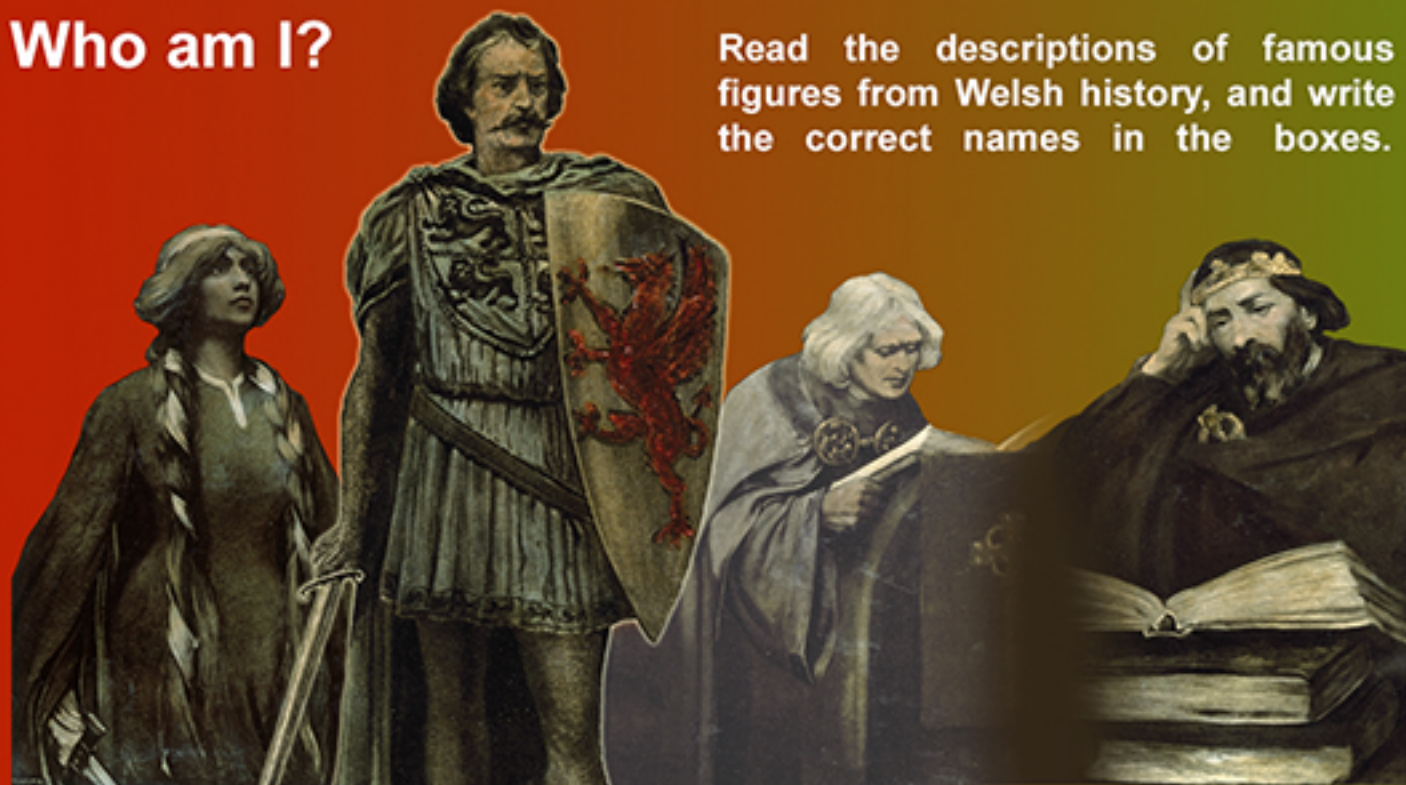
## Faraday Cage

The National Library stores information in all types of media, including television and radio programmes, films, and audiotapes. These types of items are stored in a special room known as a Faraday Cage. The walls and ceiling of this room are lined with copper to protect the tapes from electro-magnetic fields. A scientist named Michael Faraday discovered the effects of these fields, and this is the reason that this type of storage space is known as a Faraday Cell. This room is kept very cold, and 48 hours notice is required to view an item from this collection as it needs to warm up to room temperature before it can be viewed.



# Who am I?

Read the descriptions of famous figures from Welsh history, and write the correct names in the boxes.



\_\_\_\_\_

I led an army against the Normans, but was killed in a battle near Kidwelly in 1136.

\_\_\_\_\_

I am the patron saint of Wales, and my life is celebrated and remembered every year on March 1st.

\_\_\_\_\_

I was the ruler of Wales during the 10th century, and under my leadership new laws were created for the country.

\_\_\_\_\_

I was the last Welshman to be Prince of Wales, and people refer to me as 'the last'. I was killed by the English near Cilmeri in 1282.

**Hywel Dda**  
**Gwenllian**  
**St David**  
**Llywelyn**

**B fact**  
The National Library has more than 30,000 manuscripts in its collections

## Security

Unlike most libraries in Wales, the National Library does NOT lend books to members of the public. Items have to be viewed in the reading rooms, and NO original materials are allowed to leave the building. To make sure that no one breaks these rules security staff patrol the Library. They also use a CCTV system to monitor different parts of the building, and at least two security officers are present every hour of every day, throughout the year.



# Quiz

1. In which town is The National Library of Wales situated?

.....  
2. In which year was the Library established?

.....  
3. What was the name of the first President of the National Library?

.....  
4. What was the name of the architect who designed the Library?

.....  
5. In which year did the building work begin?

.....  
6. The Library was built on the lands of which estate?

.....  
7. In which year did George VI open the Library?

.....  
8. How many copyright libraries are there in Britain and Ireland?

.....  
9. What is the oldest item in The National Library of Wales?

.....  
10. What is the background colour of the Library's logo?



The answers to all of these questions can be found somewhere in this pack. If you need extra information visit the National Library of Wales Education Service website. [addysg.llgc.org.uk](http://addysg.llgc.org.uk)

## The Cave

With war looking ever more likely from early 1938 onwards, a shelter was built on land owned by The National Library of Wales to protect some of London's most important collections from Nazi bombs. During the year leading up to the war a tunnel was built into the rock on which the Library stands, some 200 yards from the Library itself. Between 1940 and 1945 precious items from the British Library, and paintings by some of the world's most famous artists were stored in this small cave on Penglais hill, alongside important treasures from the Library itself. After the war these items were all returned safely to their respective homes. The cave has been empty since 1945, but the entrance can still be seen on the path that leads from the Library down to Llanbadarn Road.



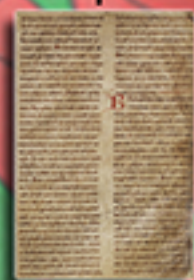
## Timeline - The National Library of Wales Materials

1. 1230 Laws of Hywel Dda
2. 1350 The White Book of Rhydderch
3. 1470 The Strata Florida Slate
4. 1588 William Morgan Bible
5. 1675 John Ogilby Map
6. 1759 John Warwick Smith Painting
7. 1841 Margam Castle Daguerreotype
8. 1939 Evacuee (Geoff Charles )
9. 2008 Wales Grand Slam DVD

1200 1300 1400 1500 1600 1700 1800 1900 2000



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9