



Heritage Interpretation

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Working with communities to help them express their sense of identity through interpretation and the arts

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Creu-ad Heritage Interpretation was founded in 2001. Since then we have filled a niche in working with communities on innovative and creative interpretation projects. In 2005-2006 Creu-ad has carried out a number of exciting contracts.



Our work with the **Forestry Commission Wales** has been very rewarding. The contract for Nant yr Arian near Aberystwyth was completed in 2005 and that for Coed y Brenin near Dolgellau is almost finished. Go along for a day out in the forests and to see the stunning cycle trail head sculptures made by Gideon Petersen, the unusual benches made by Roger Newman and David Lloyd's various walking trail head sculptures in wood and in slate. Inside the



new visitor centre, Lynne Denman and Shelagh Hourahane collaborated on a paint and mosaic wall map of the forest that interprets some of the more unusual names. Local school children provided initial design ideas. David Lloyd created a huge wooden wall mural depicting the view up the trunk of one of the huge forest trees.





In autumn 2005 we completed the **Gardd Gorwelion** project at **Fishguard Secondary School**, where Lynne Denman and Shelagh Hourahane had been appointed to carry out a residency for a partnership of clients – Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority, Menter Iaith Sir Benfro, Ysgol Bro Gwaun and Cywaith

Cymru.Artworks Wales. The two artists carried out workshops with nine primary schools and the work produced fed into the mosaics that are a part of the garden design. The work was also a commission to produce an innovative, triskel shaped garden space that interprets the history, landscape and culture of the area.



Creu-ad has been working for a year on a major project with the community of the **de Havilland Housing Development**, Hatfield, Hertfordshire. The brief was to develop ideas for art works that would enhance the development and would give



messages about the history of the site, once the de Havilland airfield, and about its aspirations for a sustainable future. An extensive report and strategy for public art, ***A Symbol and a Sense of Place***, has been produced and some designs for key sites. One of these are ideas for paving markers related to roads that are all named after flowers. Local children produced a collage based on flowers and Gideon Petersen has developed designs from them that could be used for railings around the school.

A major piece of work will also be designed for a central space.

In 2005 we wrote a **Feasibility Study** for **Clynfyw Countryside Centre, Pembrokeshire** in which we looked at the possibilities for developing the sculpture trail at the centre. Among other things it was suggested that the Clynfyw Sculpture Trail could focus on the theme of the Mabinogion, the ancient collection of mythical Welsh stories, which have a connection with that part of Pembrokeshire.

Creu-ad has produced an Interpretive Plan, ***Paths and People***, for the woldlands and graveyard at **Llandre near Aberystwyth**.



Working with Treftadaeth Llandre Heritage, the local heritage group and other groups in the community,



such as the local school, we will be designing the 'welcome' interpretive panels for the site and we will also be working on other creative interpretive media.

Meanwhile we are busy creating ***The Ash Path***, a heritage trail linking **Cwmcarn village** in Caerffili County Borough with the recreational forest nearby. The trail will unfold themes connected with the mining history of the village and more especially the way that work, leisure and tragedy were linked in the lives of the people of Cwmcarn.



The Ash Path was once a track alongside the railway that carried coal from Cwmcarn to the docks at Newport and then out to the world. Miners walked to work along this now green path that was once covered with black ash litter from the railway.

Another element in the trail will be a sculpture commemorating the 1876 disaster when a flood destroyed the village flannel factory, killing several people.



Work has been ongoing during 2005-06 on a pilot project at **Sennybridge in the Brecon Beacons** in partnership with the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, Menter Iaith Brycheiniog and the Welfare Ystradgynlais.

40 people, ages 9 to 90, worked on the 36 felt backed panels, which follow individual themes related to the life and landscape of the Sennybridge community.

An event was held in the Maescar Community Hall on September 8th to celebrate the completion of the project. Up to 200 people attended the social event. The panels can be seen on the walls of the Community Hall.



In autumn 2006 this work will be extended through development of a bigger project in the Brecon Beacons that will be titled ***Dalgylch ~ Catchment***. The idea behind this is that the importance of rivers will be celebrated as links between communities and as central to our understanding of the landscape and its cultural character.



Creu-ad projects bring communities, managers, artists and designers together to develop their ideas in practical ways from initial concept and plan to a product or event.

We have experience and skills in interpretive planning and management, creative design using a wide range of arts disciplines and in community facilitation and training. We work through both English and Welsh

For more information about Creu-ad's work please contact us.

We would like to hear from you whether you represent an organisation or community group that might want to work with us or if you are an individual who is interested in being involved with one of our projects.

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Our website, www.creu-ad.co.uk will soon be up-dated with details of the projects mentioned in this newsletter.