

# HECW

HERITAGE CONSTRUCTION IN WALES

ADEILADU YM MAES TREFTADAETH YNG NGHYMRU

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## HECW PROJECT PARTNERS



The project was funded by CITB and Cadw. Project partners Tree & Sons Ltd, Just Lime Ltd, Andrew Scott Ltd, Carmarthenshire County Council, and the Welsh Traditional Buildings Forum share a common interest in improving the training and support provision in the Heritage Industry in Wales.

# Project Launch



**CITB** **+Cadw** **Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government**

**HeCW**  
HERITAGE CONSTRUCTION IN WALES  
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**Launch event**  
Speakers to include Lord Elis- Thomas AM,  
Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport

COME ALONG TO HEAR ALL ABOUT THIS  
NEW PAN-WALES PROJECT AND ENJOY  
SOME TRADITIONAL SKILLS  
DEMONSTRATIONS

24.07.18 | 3pm | The Traditional & Sustainable Building  
Skills Marquee  
Royal Welsh Showground, Llanelwedd, LD2 3SY  
rsvp Ruth Rees on wtbfmail@gmail.com or 01558 824271

**Cymru Sir Gâr Carmarthenshire** **Tree & Sons** **Just Lime Ltd** **SCOTT**  
Conservation Specialists

HECW was officially launched on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July 2018 by Lord Elis-Thomas AM, Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport.'

The launch was held at the Ty Mawr Traditional & Sustainable Building Skills Marquee Royal Welsh Showground

Speakers included

- Lord Elis- Thomas AM, Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport
- Mark Bodger Strategic Partnership Director for Wales (CITB)
- Nell Hellier Senior Built Heritage Officer (Carmarthenshire County Council)





## Heritage Construction in Wales – Strengthening the sector through training and support

The Heritage Construction in Wales project delivered a series of training, education and networking activities.

The project aim was to strengthen the capacity and the quality of the sector by developing a deeper pool of companies that are trained, qualified, current and connected.

The project was programmed to run from May 2018- June 2022. The project drew to an end in August 2020 due to the Covid-19 crisis.

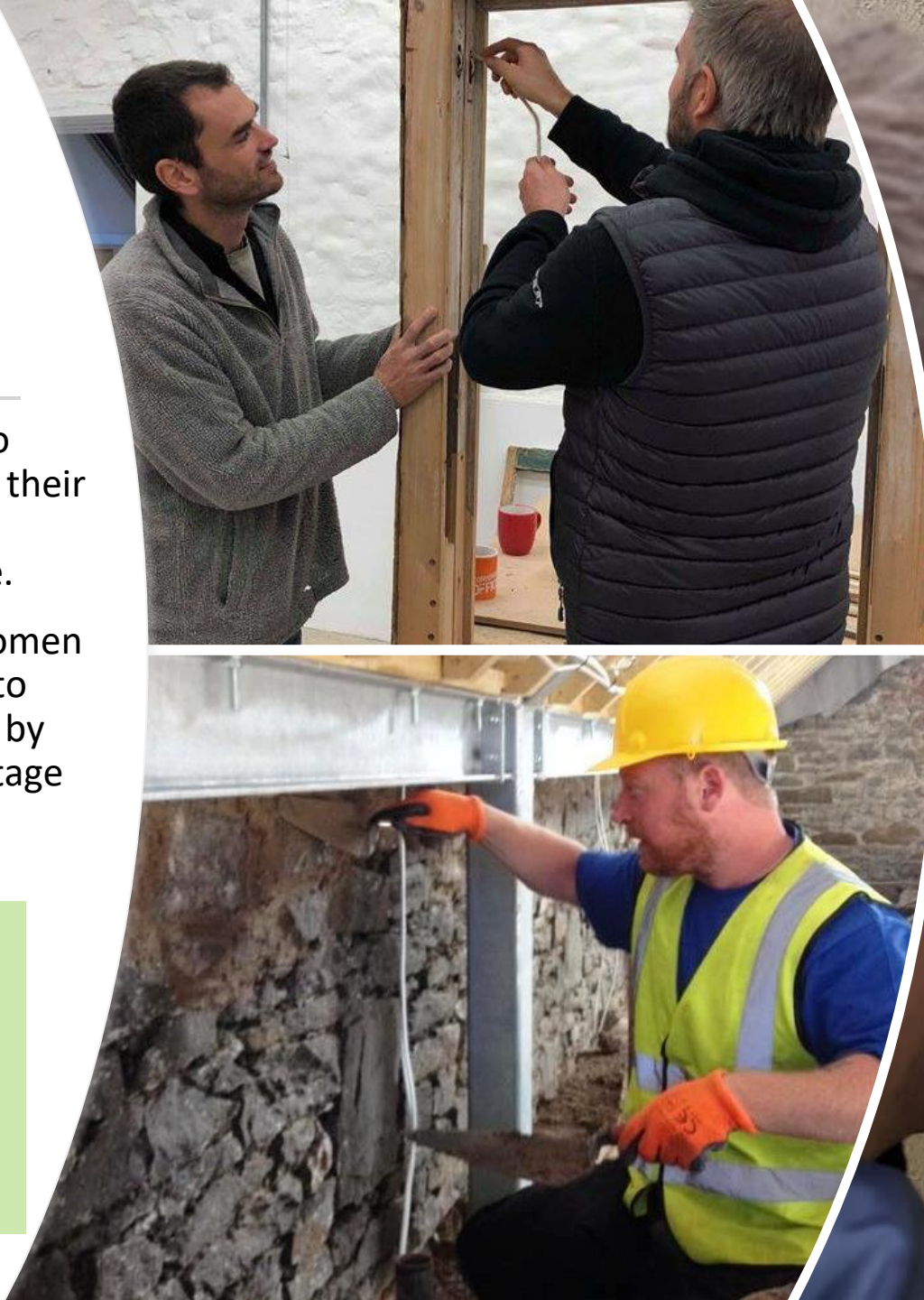


# OSAT

The scheme offered support to heritage contractors to qualify their workforce through the Onsite Assessment and Training route.

Experienced craftsmen and women were offered the opportunity to gain recognition for their skills by achieving NVQ Level 3 in Heritage Stonemasonry, Plastering and Wood Occupations.

12 learners registered for OSAT places before the project closed. An additional 28 places were available if the project had continued.





# CPD Seminars



**WELSH LEADERSHIP BUILDINGS YOMUA**

**HECW**  
HERITAGE CONSTRUCTION IN WALES  
ADEILADU YM MAES TREFTADAETH YNG NGHYMRU

## CONSERVING WELSH CHAPELS AND CHURCHES

### CONFERENCE

£25 PER PERSON - 7TH JUNE 2019  
FFWRNES THEATRE LLANELLI

#### FUTURE OPTIONS FOR OUR RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS

- SETTING THE SCENE
- HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE
- MAINTENANCE, MATERIALS AND REPAIR
- DESIGN AND CONVERSION
- CASE STUDIES

FUNDED BY

**Cadw**  
Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

## Energy Efficiency in Traditional Buildings

Half day CPD  
at Tŷ-Mawr, Llangasty  
on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
September 2018

Free to attend

9am for prompt 9.30am start  
Finish at 1pm with lunch

The course will examine the context for improving the energy efficiency of traditional buildings, and cover different perspectives with respect to improving the thermal performance of traditional buildings. It will focus on key practical considerations, such as appropriate assessment of older buildings, special considerations and limitations, the importance of choosing and using appropriate materials with visual and practical sessions to look at methods for insulating walls, floors and roofs through case studies and real life models. The course structure also provides ample opportunity for discussion and questions.

The agenda for the day will be:

- CPD
- Practical discussion (Q&As) and tour of buildings
- Lunch



HERITAGE CONSTRUCTION IN WALES  
ADEILADU YM MAES TREFTADAETH YNG NGHYMRU  
**STRENGTHENING THE SECTOR THROUGH TRAINING AND SUPPORT**



Picture credits:  
Top: Jones & Fraser Ltd  
Middle: Tŷ-Mawr Llangasty  
Bottom: Sam Hall

The project supported the growth of resilience of the smaller construction companies across Wales through ensuring that they receive heritage CPD relevant to their needs.

4 full day and 8 half day seminars were scheduled under the original programme

# Training outputs- CPD Seminars



The following CPD seminars were delivered

- Traditional Skills demonstrations- **Royal Welsh Showground** July 2018
- Energy Efficiency in Old Buildings –Brecon, September 2018
- Conserving Welsh Chapels and Churches - Llanelli June 2019.
- Energy Efficiency in Old Buildings- Newtown, November 2019.
- Working on Listed Buildings Fair, Llandeilo February 2020



# Conserving Welsh Chapels and Churches

- Venue- Y Ffwrnes Llanelli- a fine example of repurposing of a redundant Chapel
- Attended by 74 people (Target was 50)
- A full report, evaluation details and a film record of the day can be viewed by visiting <https://www.tywicentre.org.uk/news/conserving-welsh-chapels-and-churches-conference/>



**WELSH TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS FORUM**

**HECW**  
HERITAGE CONSTRUCTION IN WALES  
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**CONSERVING WELSH  
CHAPELS AND  
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AND REPAIR
- DESIGN AND CONVERSION
- CASE STUDIES
- EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE

**Cadw** **Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government**

FUNDED BY  
**citb**

**WWW.WTBF.CO.UK** **WTBFMAIL@GMAIL.COM**



The next CPD Seminar was scheduled for April 2020

# Appropriate materials for traditional buildings



An introductory day  
for Building Contractors  
Plas Tan y Bwlch, Maentwrog  
Blaenau Ffestiniog  
3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020 9-4



# 3 Modules for on-line learning

- Three modules that are each 1 hour long have been developed to support the delivery of the OSAT Level 3 diplomas.
- The modules also serve as introductory level, stand-alone courses for contractors.
- The modules are broken down into bite-size elements, with high quality, inspirational and engaging content.
- Each module will be available in both Welsh and English
- Modules are due to launch early in 2021

HECW MATERIALS AND METHODS FOR CONSERVING OLD BUILDINGS IN WALES Introduction to module

WELCOME TO MODULE 2:  
MATERIALS AND METHODS FOR  
CONSERVING OLD BUILDINGS IN WALES

In the module 'Conserving buildings in Wales' we discuss the importance of understanding the significance of a historic building before making changes.

Equally important is the need to understand the physical behaviour of traditionally constructed buildings to minimize the risk of causing damage to the physical fabric of the building.

For a more detailed understanding it is recommended that you follow the Level 3 award in the 'Repair and Maintenance of Traditional (pre-1919) Buildings'

This module is split into the following four topics:

- Topic 1: The mechanics of old buildings
- Topic 2: Understanding Lime
- Topic 3: Appropriate repair and maintenance of traditional buildings
- Topic 4: Materials, construction methods and common defects

HECW CONSERVING OLD BUILDINGS - THE RATIONALE Introduction to module

WELCOME TO MODULE 1:  
CONSERVING OLD BUILDINGS -  
THE RATIONALE

This short module will provide you with an introductory level of knowledge of how to read and understand old buildings.

When proposing any works to modify an older building it is important that it should first be properly understood.

This means understanding its construction, age and style; any legal protection that it may have; its special qualities as a building, and the way it features within its locality.

This module is split into the following three topics:

- Topic 1 - Understanding the history of old buildings
- Topic 2 - Understanding the principles of conservation
- Topic 3 - Understanding legislation relating to old buildings

HECW ENERGY SAVING AND RETROFIT IN TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS Introduction to module

WELCOME TO MODULE 3:  
ENERGY SAVING AND RETROFIT  
IN TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS

This module will outline the key considerations relating to saving energy in traditional buildings.

For a more detailed understanding of energy saving schemes it is recommended that you attend a Level 3 Award in 'Energy efficiency and retrofit in traditional buildings' or similar training.

This module is split into the following topics:

- Topic 1 - What is energy efficiency and why is it important?
- Topic 2 - What is retrofit?
- Topic 3 - Why do older buildings need a special approach to retrofit?
- Topic 4 - Options for improving energy efficiency in traditional buildings.

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# Level 3 Awards



The Project aimed to deliver:

- 8 x Level 3 Awards in the Repair and Maintenance of Traditional (pre 1919) buildings
- 4 x Level 3 Award in Energy Efficiency Retrofit of Traditional (pre 1919) buildings

# Level 3 Awards



The Level 3 Award in Repair and Maintenance was delivered in the following locations:

- Dolgellau
- Newtown
- Wrexham
- Llanelli

A further four were planned

The first Energy Efficiency Retrofit course was due to be delivered in May 2020. This will be rescheduled for April 2021.

A further 3 were planned



## Level 3 Award in Repair and Maintenance of Traditional (Pre-1919 Buildings)

### DOLGELLAU

This course was held in a listed building- Ganllwyd Village Hall in April 2019.

The learners visited the town of Dolgellau to look at building defects, styles and evolution over time. They also visited beautiful restoration project at Gwin Dylanwad Wine as an example of good practice.

Site visits also reinforce the theory of the course such as legislation and understanding conservation principles.

This format was followed for all L3 Award courses





# Conclusion

The Heritage Construction in Wales project was established based on sector consultation which evidenced the need for CPD, education and training and the creation and support of communication networks. It also supported the obligations of the strategic partnership agreement between CITB, Cadw, Historic England and Historic Scotland.

HECW was managed by a Partnership between contractors (Tree & Sons, Andrew Scott Ltd, Just Lime Ltd,) Carmarthenshire County Council and the Welsh Traditional Buildings Forum. This partnership approach had many benefits:

- Contractors were able to feed back their priorities in terms of training and the support that the industry needed to thrive.
- The Welsh Traditional Buildings Forum is a well-established organisation that provides support and information to both contractors and custodians of old buildings. Using these networks enabled strong engagement of project activities.
- Carmarthenshire County Council were able to offer management and co-ordination of the scheme,

The aim of HECW was to enable the sector to speak with a united voice and meet the CPD and up-skilling requirements of this group of employers. It did this through delivering a programme of up-skilling activities at locations across Wales and audiences with a diverse range of skills- from contractors who have worked in the heritage field for a number of years to those who had never worked with traditional materials before.



# Conclusion

Before the project closed, the targets in terms of courses delivered and number of people engaged in learning were reached and often surpassed. Not only did the project deliver on its targets but it also created additional benefits. HECW provided a focal point for all training and networking opportunities throughout Wales. It brought together training providers and disseminated information relevant to contractors. It provided signposting and support to other heritage organisations for example Townscape Heritage Initiatives in Wrexham and Blaenafon and the World Heritage status bid for the Welsh Slate towns in Blaenau Ffestiniog. Ruth Rees, the project Officer worked closely with CITB advisors and construction federations ensuring that information was passed on to contractors in all corners of Wales.

The project did encounter issues along the way. The project appointed David Somerfield as the assessor for the stonemasonry OSAT. David was an incredibly talented and experienced mason who thrived on passing on his skills and knowledge to others. He sadly died and finding someone else to take on this role was challenging. This highlighted the lack of suitably experienced and qualified people in Wales to teach and assess heritage skills and the need for more people to become qualified.

Although the HECW ended earlier than planned it will leave a strong legacy. The on-line resources will be available freely as an introduction to heritage construction. Over 215 individuals have benefited from the training and will hopefully continue to develop their knowledge and skills in this area. Four people who followed the L3 Award in Repair and Maintenance have recently signed up for the NVQ3 Diploma in Heritage Plastering.

The Partners in Heritage Construction in Wales will continue to work together to ensure that heritage training in Wales continues. We are very grateful to have been given this opportunity to work with CITB on this project.