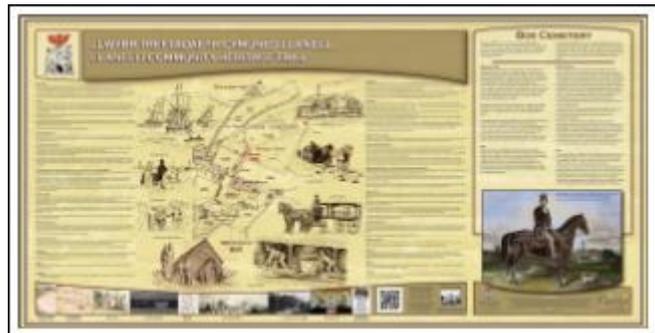




Dear Subscriber,
Welcome to Newsletter 005, July 2013
which will bring you up to date with
current developments, and tell you
something about our plans for the future.

Box Cemetery Panels

These two panels are up at last. The journey hasn't been easy, but we got there in the end. The panels tell the story of the cemetery which opened in 1852, and give some insight into the conditions of work and life experienced by the people of Llanelli in the nineteenth century and into the early years of the twentieth century. Life was uncertain, work was hard and death came all too soon for many.

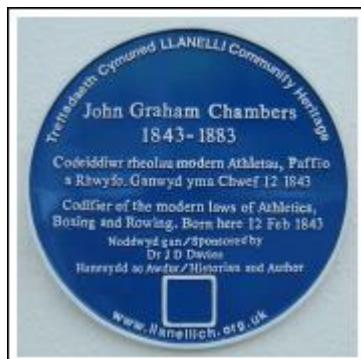


Can you help us solve a puzzle? A unique or what we believe to be unique, feature of the Box is the large number of headstone inscriptions which include the address of the deceased. We are hoping that someone visiting the cemetery will be able to throw some light on this custom, and tell us whether it is common in other parts of Britain. [Panel by Cemetery Office](#)

Machynys Mound

This project appears to be in abeyance at the moment. Carmarthenshire County Council no longer have funds available for construction of the proposed "Eco-Park" which is understandable in these straitened times. The Lost Communities group, made up of people who used to live in the village community of Machynys before they were turfed out in favour of new housing developments, are disappointed, but resigned. They hope however that the project will go ahead eventually, and that the panels we have prepared on their behalf will one day stand on the site of the old Machynys mansion and farmhouse to tell their story.

John Chambers Plaque



Note the square where the QR code will be retrofitted.

and should be ceremonially "opened" this autumn.

In a few weeks' time this plaque will go up on the west elevation of Llanelly House opposite the Library. The plaque commemorates John Graham Chambers, the man who wrote the Queensberry Rules. He was born in the house and had a successful career in journalism. As well as the world-famous boxing rules (named after the Marquess of Queensberry for he it was who handed out the prizes), Chambers also formulated the first regulations for competition rowing.

Dai Greene, the world-famous Welsh athlete whose father lives in Llanelli, will officially unveil the plaque for us some time later this year when he can take a break from his training schedule.

Llanelly House itself is still surrounded by hoardings, although what we can see of the outside of the building is looking very impressive indeed. We understand that the project is very close to completion

Ty'r Fran Plaque

In March this year a plaque went up on a house in Felinfoel Road marking an event of 30th September, 1843 during the country-wide Rebecca Riots. The house stands on the site of one of the fifteen tollgates erected on highways leading to and from Llanelli where tolls to pay for the upkeep of the roads were collected from travellers and traders. In this the last of Rebecca's attacks in Llanelli, the gate itself was removed by the rioters and thrown down a nearby mine shaft.

The Reverend Eldon Phillips and his wife, Beth, kindly sponsored the plaque.

Trostre Museum

Tall fir trees conceal a small oasis of peace and quiet set in green lawns just a few hundred yards from Parc y Scarlets. In the grounds of Tata Steel's works at Trostre is a charming little museum in a sympathetically restored seventeenth century house which gives an excellent idea of the life of minor gentry in Llanelli at the time and into the nineteenth century. The museum has an astonishing variety of artefacts and memorabilia relating to the tinsplate industry which made Llanelli famous throughout the world.



The museum is open to the public by special arrangement only, so we felt privileged to be given a guided tour in April of this year. A number of people said they would like to repeat the visit, so if you would be interested in joining us, do please let us know. [Trostre Museum](#)

Industrial Museum, Kidwelly



Our next group visit was of a different kind – this time the focus was on heavy industry and the great machines and strong men it employed. A tinsplate works established here in 1737 operated until 1941 and was slowly crumbling away until its rescue by the Kidwelly Heritage Centre and Tinsplate Museum Trust in 1982. Local volunteers have done a magnificent job in restoring the old works along with the heavy plant and machinery necessary for not only the tinsplate industry but also coal mining and brick-making. The scale of the machinery, boilers and presses once working on this site has to be seen to be appreciated - they have locomotives too.

The museum is open to the public during the summer months at limited times, but we were given a special guided tour at the beginning of May which included tea and biscuits in the little museum shop. Several of our members were unable to join us for this special visit, but we hope to be able to organise another one later this year. If you would be interested in having a guided tour of this very impressive museum with its wide range of indoor and outdoor exhibits, do please get in touch. [Kidwelly Industrial Museum](#)

Field Trips

Anyone interested in accompanying Llanelli Community Heritage on field trips, please contact our secretary, Caroline Streek: secretary@llanellich.org.uk