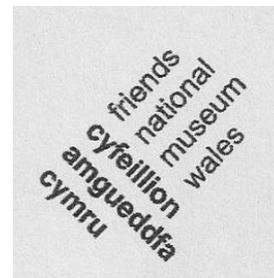


Cyfellion Amgueddfa Cymru  
Parc Cathays, Caerdydd CF10 3NP  
Elusen Gofrestrig Rhif. 701990:



Friends of National Museum Wales  
Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NP  
Registered charity: 701990

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

**Speaker: Professor Madeleine Gray**

**'Post-Reformation cross slabs in south-east Wales: closet Catholics or simply traditionalists?'**

Professor Madeleine Gray is Emeritus Professor of History at the University of South Wales. She is a medieval historian and is an honorary research fellow of National Museum of Wales. She has published extensively on late medieval and early modern history with a particular focus on visual evidence for the history of religious belief and practice. She appears regularly on television and radio and was seen recently in Professor Martin Johnes' programme on BBC 2, 'Wales: England's Colony?'

Professor Gray has been working on a survey of medieval tomb carvings in Wales and will talk to us about Post Reformation cross slabs. Cross slabs can be found on coffin lids or on ledger stones in the floor of churches. They are characterised by a central cross motif. Professor Madeleine Gray has studied both Medieval and Post Reformation cross slabs and has compared crosses on commemorative carvings in England and Wales. Her research has revealed a considerable variety in their style and decoration which points to the work of different stone-masons. Furthermore, research reveals that Post Reformation cross slabs were unusual in the two centuries after the Reformation in England, but in south-east Wales numerous examples can be found. Professor Gray's research has also revealed a number of cross slabs with the IHS trigram in the square capitals format popularised by Ignatius Loyola as the emblem of the Jesuits. Some of these memorials commemorate known recusants who refused to attend post reformation Church of England services and were consequently fined for non attendance, but other commemorate members of the local establishment and even clergy. They can be linked with the survival of traditional patterns of worship Post-Reformation and the continuation of practices such as pilgrimages and the veneration of relics. Catholicism was particularly strong in south-east Wales – but does this explain the continued use of crosses on tomb carvings? Professor Gray raises the question were they **'Closet Catholics or simply traditionalists?'**

The admission charge for the talk, which includes coffee is £8 for tickets ordered in advance or £10 at the door. Booking in advance is helpful for placing the order for coffee served after the talk.

**To take advantage of the concessionary rate please complete the form below with a cheque made out to the Friends of National Museum of Wales and send to: Christabel Hutchings, 1 Fields Park Avenue, Newport, South Wales, NP20 5BG**

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Friends of Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales: A talk by Professor Maddy Gray:  
'Post-Reformation cross slabs in south-east Wales: closet Catholics or simply traditionalists?'  
Saturday 6 July 2019 at 10.30 am in the Reardon Smith Lecture Theatre, Cathays Park

Please reserve ..... place(s) for the above event.

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