

National Archaeology Week 2007



CPAT

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CPAT at Erddig Park, 14th July 2007

On the weekend of the 14th and 15th July, hundreds of people stormed the gates at Erddig Park, the National Trust property just outside Wrexham, for a day of 'Archaeological Antics'. CPAT were there on the Saturday with lots of crafty activities for children to take part in, including colouring and making Saxon and Roman brooches, making Iron Age roundhouses and, the big winner, making Norman helmets.



Right: Luca Curtis, Nate Agnew and Sophie Davies sporting their helmets. CPAT© 2440-0013

Luckily the rains of the previous day held off and we enjoyed glorious sunshine all day and with over 200 visitors to our stand, this has been the most successful National Archaeology Week event we have been part of so far.



Left: 5 year old Ffion Baker wearing her helmet whilst colouring her Saxon brooch. CPAT© 2440-0008

Right: 10 year old Mitchell Jones wearing his fringed helmet. CPAT© 2440-0017



The National Trust events organisers had arranged other activities for the weekend. On Sunday, John Latham, local National Trust archaeologist, took visitors on a guided walk of the archaeology of Erddig. This included the Dark Age earthwork Wat's Dyke, the medieval motte and bailey castle, medieval ridge and furrow, as well as 18th and 19th century parkland features relating to Erddig Park, most notably the 'Cup and Saucer', a cascade and pool feature. The walk was particularly popular with older visitors, reminding us that National Archaeology Week is not just for children!

On both days, the early-medieval re-enactment group Cwmwd-Iâl were also at Erddig, with demonstrations of all aspects of early-medieval life including

cooking, weaving and medicine. Most exciting were the fighting displays, when real-life skirmishes between Saxon and Welsh warriors were re-enacted.

Right: The Saxons and early-medieval Welsh square off in the Cwmwd Iâl skirmish. CPAT© 2440-0021



Also present were the newly-formed Wrexham & District

branch of the Young Archaeologists' Club, with more demonstrations and hands-on activities. The Young Archaeologists' Club is available for young people aged between 8 and 16. There are several branches in Wales, but if there are none near you, you can still join the club and receive the magazine four times a year and enter competitions (including the annual Young Archaeologist of the Year award). To join the Young Archaeologists' Club, contact YAC, St Mary's House, 66 Bootham, York, YO3 7BZ, tel. 01904 671417. Click [here](#) for a full list of branches in the UK.

More photos of this year's event [here](#)

Abi McCullough, July 2007

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