

# cyfarfod â'r brodorion ...

Roedd poblogaeth fawr Oes yr Haearn, dan drefn llwythi neu deyrnasoedd, eisoes ym Mhrydain pan gyrhaeddodd y Rhufeiniaid.

Gwyddom enwau nifer o'r llwythi brodorol yng Nghymru a'r gororau, fel y gwelir ar y map isod. Roedd yr Ordofigiaid yn byw yng nghanolbarth Cymru. Roeddent yn siarad Celtaeg, yr un fath â llwythi eraill Prydain. O'r iaith hon y daw'r Gymraeg fodern.

Daeth yr enw Ordofigiaid o air tebyg i'r gair Cymraeg 'gordd', yn ôl pob tebyg. Awgryma hyn eu bod naill ai'n defnyddio'r ordd fel symbol neu mai ystyr eu henw oedd 'gordd-ymladdwyr'.

Byddai crefftwyr yn gwneud offer ac arfau o haearn, padelli a sosbenni o grochenwaith ac efydd, a gleiniau o wydr. Byddai ffermwyr yn magu gyroedd o wartheg a phreiddiau o ddefaid ac yn tyfu cnydau grawn a ffa.



Plac efydd o Oes yr Haearn a ddarganfuwyd ym mryngaer Moel Hiraddug ar fryniau Clwyd yng ngogledd Cymru. Crefftwyr arbenigol fyddai'n gwneud gwaith metel cain o'r math hwn.

Iron Age bronze plaque found at the Moel Hiraddug hillfort on the Clwydian hills in north Wales. Fine metalwork of this kind was made by specialist craftsmen.

# ... going native

When the Romans came to Britain there was already a large Iron Age population here, organised into tribes or kingdoms.

We know the names of a number of the native tribes in Wales and the borderland, shown in the map below. The Ordovices lived in mid Wales. Like other British tribes they spoke Celtic, the language from which modern Welsh comes.

The name of the Ordovices probably came from a word similar to the Welsh word gordd, meaning hammer. This suggests either that they used the hammer as a symbol or that their name meant the 'hammer-fighters'

Craftsmen made tools and weapons out of iron, pots and pans of pottery and bronze, and beads from glass. Farmers reared herds of cattle and sheep and grew crops of cereals and beans.



**Ar y chwith** Map o fryngeyrydd mwy canolbarth Cymru a'r gororau yn Oes yr Haearn, yn cynrychioli canolfannau llwythol yn ôl pob tebyg. Byddai pobl hefyd yn byw mewn ffermydd llai ag amddiffynfeydd neu mewn tai anghysbell.

**Uchod ar y dde** Model rhithwir o fryngaer Cefncarnedd rhwng Llandinam a Chaersws, yn ail-greu sut obwg fyddai ar yr amddiffynfeydd a'r adeiladau y tu mewn iddi o bosibl.

**Canol** Adluniad o dy crwn â tho gwellt o Oes yr Haearn. Gallai tai mwy o'r math hwn fod yn gartref i ddeg o bobl, neu fwy.



**Left** Map of the larger Iron Age hillforts in mid Wales and the borderland area, probably representing tribal centres. People also lived in smaller defended farmsteads or in isolated houses.

**Above** Virtual reality model of the Cefncarnedd hillfort between Llandinam and Caersws, reconstructing how the defences and buildings in the interior may have appeared.

**Centre** Reconstructed Iron Age roundhouse with thatched roof. Larger houses of this kind could have housed ten or more people.



Rhyfelwr o arweinydd fyddai'n rheoli pob llwyth, er enghraifft y frenhines adnabyddus, Buddug (neu Boudica / Boadicea). Byddai pobl yn byw mewn tai crwn o garreg neu bren, gyda thoeau gwellt, naill ai mewn trefi amddiffynnol ar y brynau, a elwir yn fryngeyrydd, neu ar ffermydd gwasgaredig.

Gwnaed y cysylltiadau cyntaf rhwng llwythi Oes yr Haearn Prydain a'r Rhufeiniaid ganrifoedd lawer yn gynharach na chonwest y Rhufeiniaid. Daeth y cysylltiadau'n fwyfwy aml o tua 200 CC ymlaen, wrth i'r ymerodraeth Rufeinig ehangu'n gyflym. Bu'n hysbys ers tro byd bod yn yr ynys hon, sef Britannia i roi enw'r Rhufeiniaid arni, yn ffynhonnell gyfoethog o fetelau, grawn ac anifeiliaid.

Each tribe was ruled by a warrior leader — like the well-known queen Boudica (or Boadicea). People lived in circular houses of stone or timber with thatched roofs, either in the fortified hill towns we call hillforts or in scattered farms.

The first contacts between the Iron Age tribes of Britain and the Romans were made many hundreds of years before the Roman conquest. Contacts became more and more frequent from about 200 BC onwards, as the Roman empire rapidly expanded. This island, known to the Romans as Britannia, had long been known as a rich source of metals, grain and animals.