

Cyfeillion Amgueddfa Cymru
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Friends of National Museum Wales
Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NP

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Saturday 11 February 2023

**Reardon Smith Lecture Theatre
National Museum Cardiff**

THE TIP GIRLS OF TREDEGAR

The talk covers the movement to abolish female labour at iron mines and collieries and it uses photographs taken in 1865 by William Clayton the Tredegar photographer of which NMW holds 6. There is a small NMW exhibition currently at Swansea at the moment which covers female workers in the 'Welsh coal industry' and states that 'this is probably the first time this topic has been covered'.

I was able to alert NMW to the existence of the photographic album at Manchester Museum and Art Gallery and so the exhibition uses these photographs as well. However, these represent iron workers but girls also worked on the coal tips and were included in attempts to legally prevent them from working. I visited Manchester to research his album of photographs and related material in Feb 2013 but time and Covid intervened. I eventually published my research in 2021.

Christabel Hutchings