



The National Archives

Press release

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500TH ANNIVERSARY OF HENRY VIII'S ACCESSION TO THE THRONE: GLAMORGAN'S GLIMPSE OF THE KING IN 1545

To mark the 500th anniversary of Henry VIII's accession to the throne, Glamorgan Record Office is exhibiting online a rare document which shows the monarch at middle age. The deed, which features a small sketch of the monarch at 54 years old, is now available for all to view on the record office's [website](#).

Henry's image has been digitised to make it accessible to a much wider audience than ever before, as part of the [Archive Awareness Campaign](#).

A small sketch from the deed, dated 1545, shows the famous monarch as a portly man, holding the orb and sceptre and seated on a throne. The sketch appears in the initial 'H' of Henricus, on the deed of purchase of Ewenny Priory, which was sold to Sir Edward Carne of Nash Manor as part of Henry's dissolution of the monasteries. The document, written in Latin, is made of parchment and sealed with the Great Seal of Henry VIII.

The deed is representative of how local records reflect national and world events. The document it adorns has been used for decades with visiting groups of school students and local historians to demonstrate the impact of a major political occurrence such as the break with the church in Rome on one family whose principal seat is a familiar local place-name.

Heather Mountjoy, Archivist, Glamorgan Record Office said:

“History doesn't just happen in London and the influence of top level governmental decisions can be traced here, in Glamorgan, in a past which belongs to us all”.

- Ends -

For further details, spokespeople or images on Archive Awareness Campaign, please contact **Angela Owusu** on **0208 392 5237** or email press@nationalarchives.gov.uk

Notes to Editors

- For more information contact Heather Mountjoy at the Glamorgan Record Office: The Glamorgan Building
King Edward VII Avenue
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NE
- Archive Awareness is spearheaded by the National Council on Archives (www.ncaonline.org.uk) and funded by The National Archives (www.nationalarchives.gov.uk) and the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (www.mla.gov.uk).
- Archive Awareness Campaign www.archiveawareness.com is an ongoing celebration of all kinds of fascinating archive treasures. It celebrates and promotes local, national and business archives. Throughout the year archives across the country open their doors to showcase history, hold open days and present workshops to help the public discover a piece of their own history.