

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I approach this section with almost as much trepidation as I did all the others, not because it is not pleasurable to be able to thank people who have generously helped me but simply because so many have helped me in so many ways that I know some will be omitted who really ought not.

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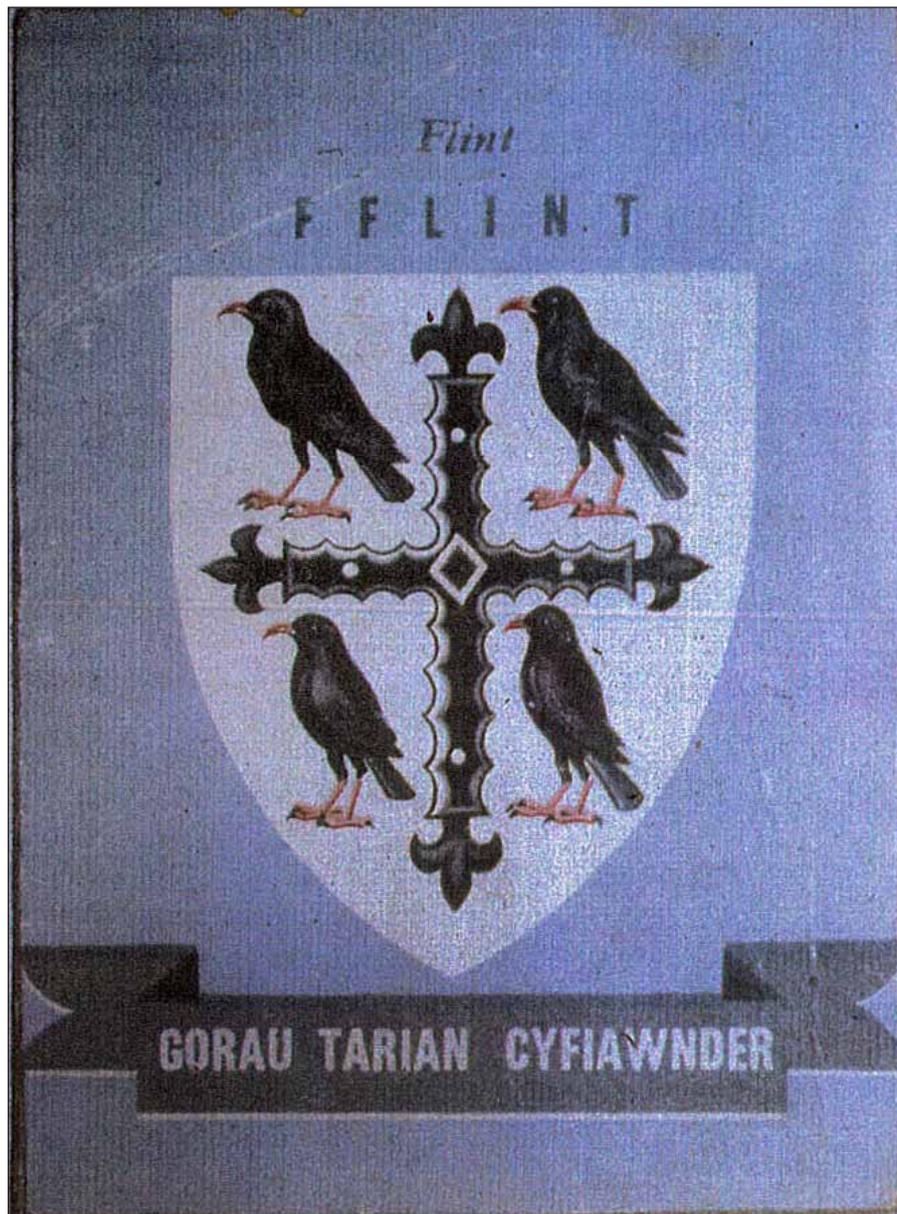
To all friends, colleagues and individuals who helped in so many ways I extend my sincere gratitude. Some require special mention for special reasons. In particular, Pat Monaghan, my long-suffering supervisor without whom I would never have finished; she and Neil Metcalfe have earned my deepest gratitude for all their help, advice and constructive comments. This mistakes and misinterpretations that remain are mine alone. Also I wish to extend my gratitude to Professor Stephen Phillips for the use of the facilities in the Zoology Department at Glasgow University, and to members of the department who have helped, in particular Liz Denton and Kenny Ensor. Roy Crowson kindly assisted with beetle identification, Paul Haworth and Clive McKay provided helpful discussion; and my good friend and cricket buddy Richard Rutnagur (late of the department) and Maggie (nee Reilly) were also forever encouraging at the times it was most needed.

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The research also took me to Brittany, where I made more good friends, in particular Alain & Annie Thomas and Maurice & Marie-Claire le Demezet; I look forward to returning and seeing their great efforts to protect their last few Choughs gaining ground.

Entomology seemed to play an increasingly big part in the project, and apart from those already mentioned, I should like to thank Helen Corrigan, Gerald Legg, Martin Luff, Alan Stubbs, Dick Loxton, David Elliott and especially Paul Buckland for expert help in identification. My thanks also to Ian Bullock, Judy (nee Warnes) and David Stroud, Eric Bignal, David Curtis, Peter Garson, Mike MacMahon and Chris Moos and Joan Bagley who all helped in various ways.

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Flintshire (now Clwyd) coat of arms.