

LIFE AND CULTURE

Burning of Coracles



When a fisherman died, the night before his funeral, his coracle and net would be burnt on the riverbank of the Towy.

Traditionally, it would only be lit when the men had heard the owl calling. The bird was believed to guide the dead to the heavens.

It is strongly believed that hundreds of years ago the custom was to burn the body of the fisherman with his coracle and net.



Today, it is only when the coracles are broken and not any use to the fisherman are they burnt on the riverbank. They joke that it is an offering to the river gods.