

CORRIDOR TO THE PAST

RHODFEYDD PR GORFFENOL

Circular walk/Approx 5 Km (3.1 miles)/1.5 hours

Taith gylch/Tua 5 Km (3.1 milltir)/1.5 awr



TREASURE TRAILS LLWYBRAU TRYSOR



TREASURE TRAIL TALES

Welcome to the Blaenavon World Heritage Site! Since the year 2000 this industrial landscape has been recognised as one of the world's top heritage treasures. This is because it is one of the very few places where you can follow the story of the industrial revolution. A story that was first carved into the landscape by an army of people, using little more than picks and shovels, some 200 years ago.

However, this industrial landscape does not reveal its secrets very easily so you will have to get out and discover

its hidden gems for yourselves! To help you, we've created this series of 'Treasure Trails', each one with a tale to tell, treasure to find and challenges to complete along the way.

We hope you have fun exploring the Blaenavon World Heritage Site. By the time you've walked our trails you'll be an expert in reading the landscape, seeing it for what it really is, full of character and historical interest - a true testament to human endeavour.

STORÏAU TEITHIAU TRYSOR

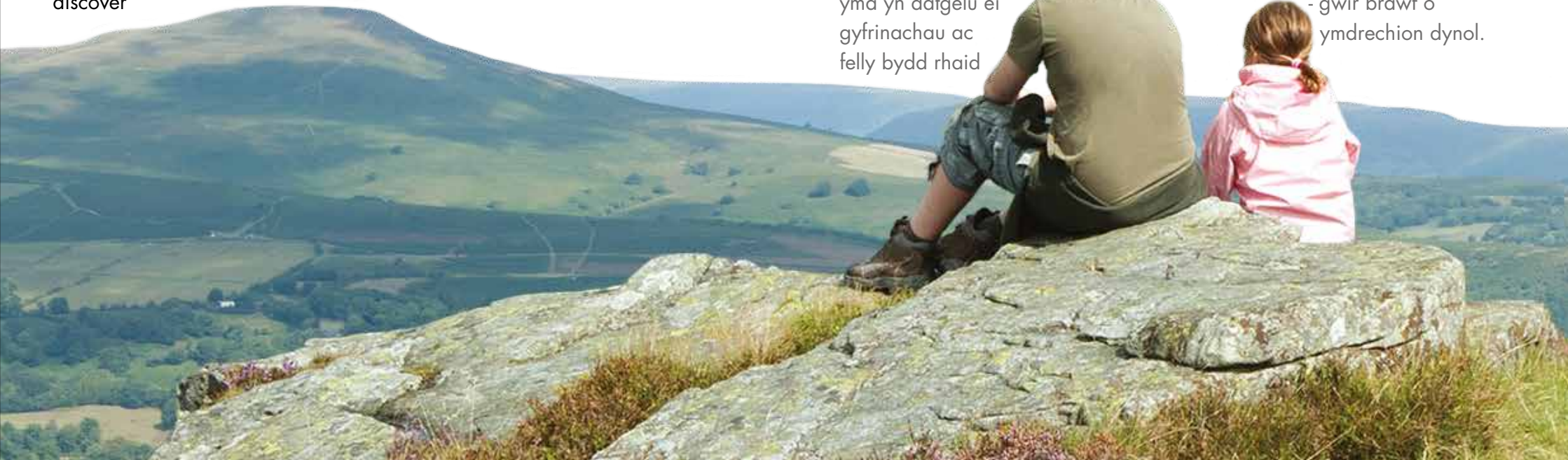
Croeso i Safle Treftadaeth Byd Blaenafon! Ers y flwyddyn 2000 mae'r tirlun diwydiannol hwn wedi'i gydnabod yn un o drysorau pennaf treftadaeth y byd. Y rheswm am hyn yw ei fod yn un o'r ychydig iawn o leoedd lle gallwch ddilyn stori'r chwyldro diwydiannol. Dyma sori a gafodd ei naddu gyntaf yn y tirlun gan fyddin o bobl yn defnyddio fawr ddim mwy na chaib a rhaw, tua 200 mlynedd yn ôl.

Er hynny, nid ar chwarae bach y mae'r tirlun diwydiannol yma yn datgelu ei gyfrinachau ac felly bydd rhaid

ichi fynd ati i ganfod ei drysorau cudd drosoch eich hunain! I'ch helpu, rydyn ni wedi creu'r gyfres yma o 'Teithiau Trysor', bob un â'i stori i'w hadrodd, ei drysor i'w ganfod a'i heriau i'w cwblhau ar hyd y ffordd.

Gobeithio y cewch chi hwyl yn crwydro Safle Treftadaeth Byd Blaenafon. Erbyn ichi gerdded ein llwybrau fe fyddwch yn arbenigwr mewn darllen y tirlun. Byddwch yn gweld beth sydd yno mewn gwirionedd, tirlun llawn cymeriad a diddordeb hanesyddol

- gwir brawf o ymdrechion dynol.



The Quarry Manager's Tale

Look up at the hillside from the old railway viaduct. The savage cuts in the rock face are now half concealed by nature. But it's a thin disguise. This is an industrial landscape. A once noisy, thriving hub of activity, founded on a desire to win limestone.

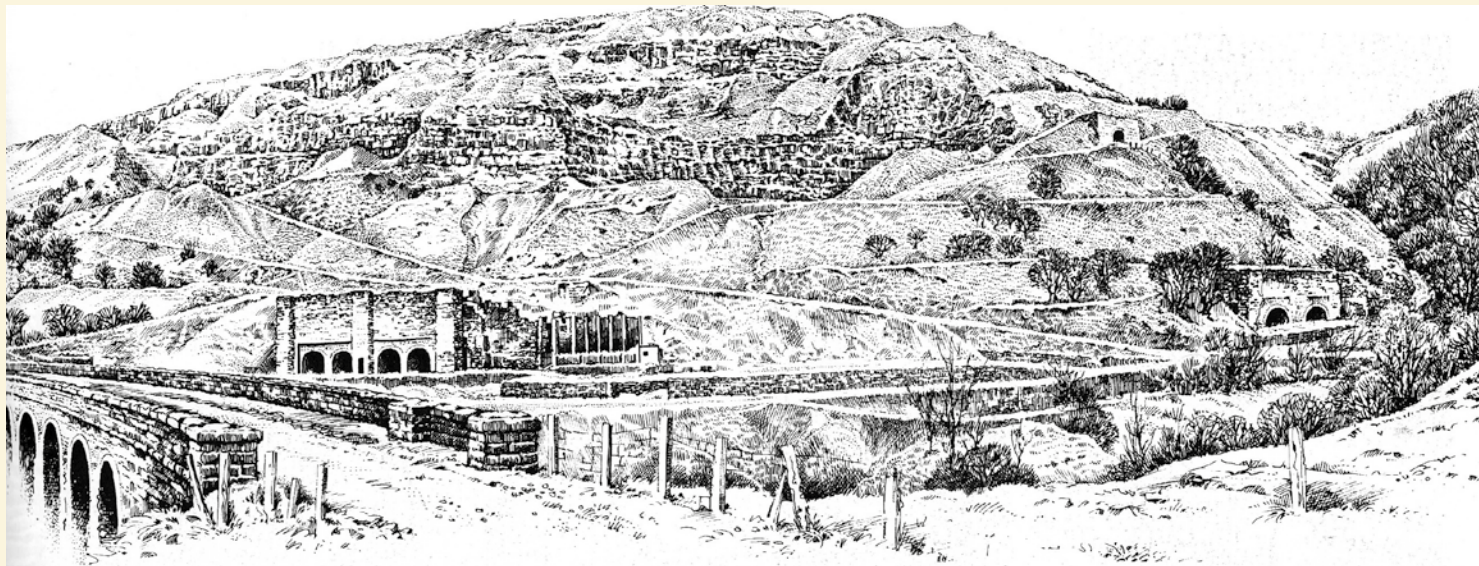
Before my time limestone was needed for iron-making by the Clydach Ironworks in the valley below. At the top of the mountain outcrops of the rock were more easily won. If you look carefully you might be able to pick out the older quarry workings and the remains of an incline – a cleverly engineered route down which the limestone was transported.

By the time my family and I arrived in 1859, the Merthyr Tredegar & Abergavenny Railway was being constructed in the Gorge utilising part of the route of an older tramroad. My first task as quarry manager was to ensure that the railway company was supplied with the stone they required for the construction of the viaduct. The one you are

standing on!

The temple like edifices are the limekilns. They were built to burn the limestone and create 'quicklime' - sold for use in mortar and as a fertiliser. Behind is the quarry. In 1896, just after I'd retired from the works, 30 men were employed here. The place would ring with the sound of the quarrymen winning the stone.

These days I prefer to turn my back on the old Clydach Limeworks and look out across the trees. The Gorge, like a corridor to the past, stretches away and into the distance.



Clydach limeworks & railway viaduct
Gwaith calch a thraphont rheilffordd Clydach

Stori Rheolwr y Chwarel

Edrychwch i fynyr llethr o hen draphont y rheilffordd. Erbyn hyn mae'r toriadau llym ar wyneb y graig wedi eu hanner cuddio, diolch i natur. Ond mân orchudd ydyw. Tirwedd ddiwydiannol yw hon. Bwrlwm o weithgarwch swllyd, bywiog a seiliwyd ar yr awydd i gloddio calchfaen.

Cyn fy amser i, roedd Gwaith Haearn Clydach yn y cwm islaw angen calchfaen i wneud haearn. Ar ben y mynydd roedd brigiadau'r graig yn haws mynd atynt. Os edrychwch yn ofalus mae'n bosib y gwelwch weithiau hŵn y chwarel a'r hyn sy'n weddill o'r inclein – llwybr clyfar am i lawr i gludo'r calchfaen.

Erbyn i mi a fy nheulu gyrraedd ym 1859, roedd Rheilffordd Merthyr Tredegar a'r Fenni yn cael ei hadeiladu yn y Ceunant, a defnyddiwyd rhan o lwybr hen dramffordd. Fy nhasg gyntaf fel rheolwr y chwarel oedd sicrhau bod cwmni'r rheilffordd yn cyflenwi'r cerrig oedd eu hangen arnynt i adeiladu'r draphont. Yr un yr ydych yn sefyll arni! Odynnau calch yw'r adeiladau sydd fel temlau. Cawsant eu hadeiladu i losgi'r calchfaen a chreu 'calch brwd' – a werthwyd i'w ddefnyddio mewn morter ac fel gwrtait. Y tu ôl, mae'r chwarel. Ym 1896, ychydig ar ôl i mi ymddeol o'r gwaith, cyflogwyd 30 o ddynion yno. Byddai'r lle'n atseinio â sain y

chwarelwyr yn cloddio'r garreg.

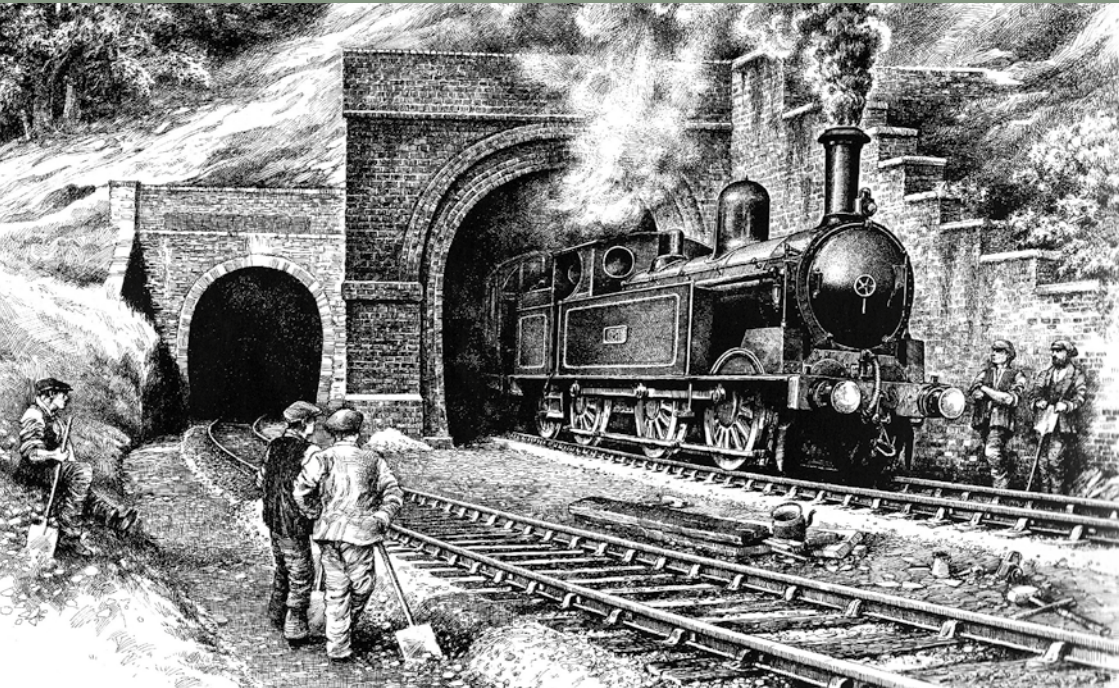
Y dyddiau yma mae'n well gen i droi fy nghefn ar hen Waith Calch Clydach ac edrych allan dros y coed. Mae'r ceunant fel rhodfa i'r gorffennol yn ymestyn i ffwrdd, i mewn i'r pellter.

The last train through the Gorge

Work started on the Merthyr, Tredegar & Abergavenny Railway in 1860 and it took 19 years to complete. The line through the Gorge was set at one of the steepest gradients on the British Railway network and as a result trains running downhill were restricted to 25 mph! It is said that when the very last train ran through the Gorge, householders along the route turned their kitchen and bedroom lights on and off to signal the trains passing.

Y trê'n olaf drwy'r Ceunant

Dechreuodd y gwaith ar Rheilffordd Merthyr, Tredegar a'r Fenni ym 1860 a chymerodd 19 mlynedd i'w chwblhau. Gosodwyd y llinell drwy'r Ceunant ar un o'r llethrau mwyaf serth ar rhwydwaith Rheilffyrdd Prydain ac o ganlyniad cafodd y cyflymder ei gyfyngu i 25 mya! Dywedyd, pan aeth y trê'n olaf un drwy'r ceunant, i'r trigolion ar hyd y llwybr droi oleuadau eu cegin a'u hystafelloedd gwely ymlaen a'u diffodd bob yn ail i gydnabod y trenau wrth iddynt fynd heibio.



Clydach Tunnel mouths circa 1950
Mynedfa Twnnel Clydach tua 1950

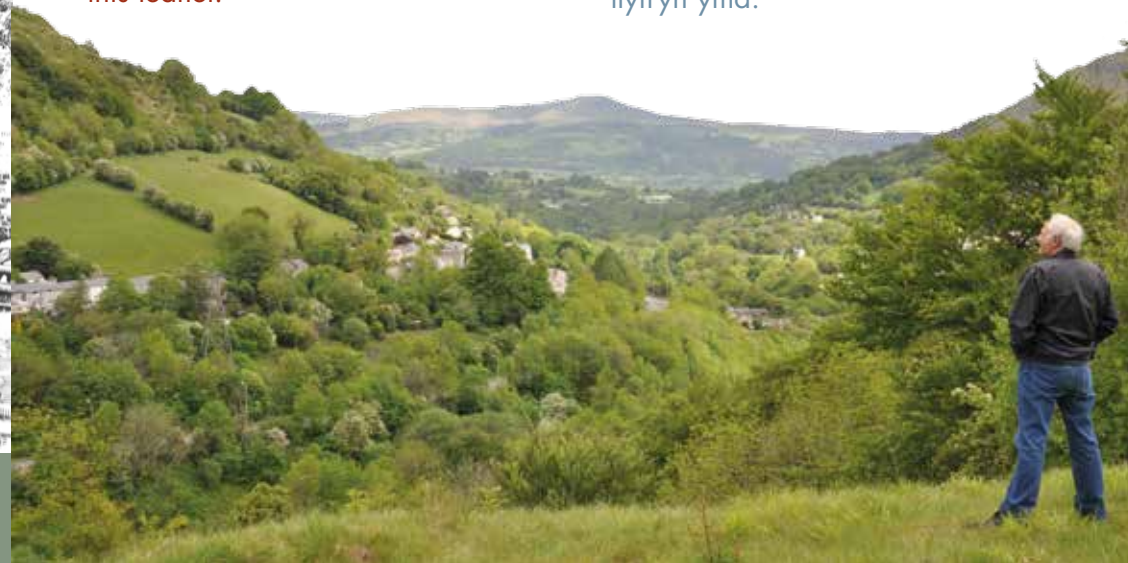
Llanelly Quarry Challenge

To take the challenge you will first need to find the Llanelly Quarry Treasure Marker... it's a cast iron disc set in the ground just off the cycle path near a bench at the entrance to the quarry. Once you've found it stand on top and look down the Gorge. If it's a clear day you'll be able to see a hilltop somewhere in the distance. Do you know the name of this hill? What direction do you need to look in to see it? How far away do you think it is? The answers to the challenge can be found on the back cover of this leaflet.



Her Chwarel Llanelli

I gymryd rhan yn yr her, yn gyntaf bydd angen i chi ddod o hyd i Farc Trysor Chwarel Llanelli... sef disg haearn bwrw wedi ei osod yn y ddaear ychydig oddi ar y llwybr beicio, ger mainc wrth fynedfa'r chwarel. Unwaith y byddwch wedi dod o hyd iddo arhoswch arno ac edrychwch i lawr y Ceunant. Os yw'n ddiwrnod clir fe welwch ben bryn yn y pellter. Wyddoch chi enw'r bryn? I ba gyfeiriad sydd angen i chi edrych i'w weld? Pamor bell i ffrwd ydy'r bryn yn eich barn chi? Mae'r atebion i'r heriau i'w gweld ar glawr cefn y llyfr yma.





SPOTTER'S GUIDE CANLLAW I WYLWYR

Ten top spots
Y Deg Mwyaf Poblogaidd

The result of all that industrial activity is a rich mosaic of habitats for wildlife and a highly diverse range of species that have made the Blaenavon World Heritage Site their home. What might you expect to see along the way? To help you identify some of the inhabitants we've highlighted a few below. See if you can spot them too...

Mae'r holl weithgarwch diwydiannol wedi arwain at frithwaith cyfoethog o gynffnoedd i fywyd gwyllt ac ystod amrywiol tu hwnt o rywogaethau sydd bellach yn byw ar Safle Treftadaeth y Byd. Beth fydddech chi'n disgwyl ei weld ar hyd y ffordd? I'ch helpu i ganfod rhai o'r rhywogaethau, rydym wedi eu hamlygu uchod. Beth am weld a fedrwrch chi eu gweld hefyd...



Grayling Butterfly
Gweirlöyn llwyd



Red Kite
Barcud coch



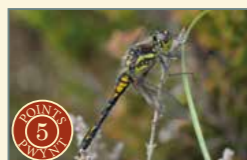
Jackdaw
Jac-y-do



Willow Warbler
Telor yr helyg



Small Heath Butterfly
Gweirlöyn bach y waun



Black Darter Dragonfly
Picellwr du



Green Woodpecker
Cnocell werdd



Jay
Sgrech y coed



Chaffinch
Ji-binc



Yellow Rattle
Cribell felen

How did you get on? Sut wnaethoch chi?

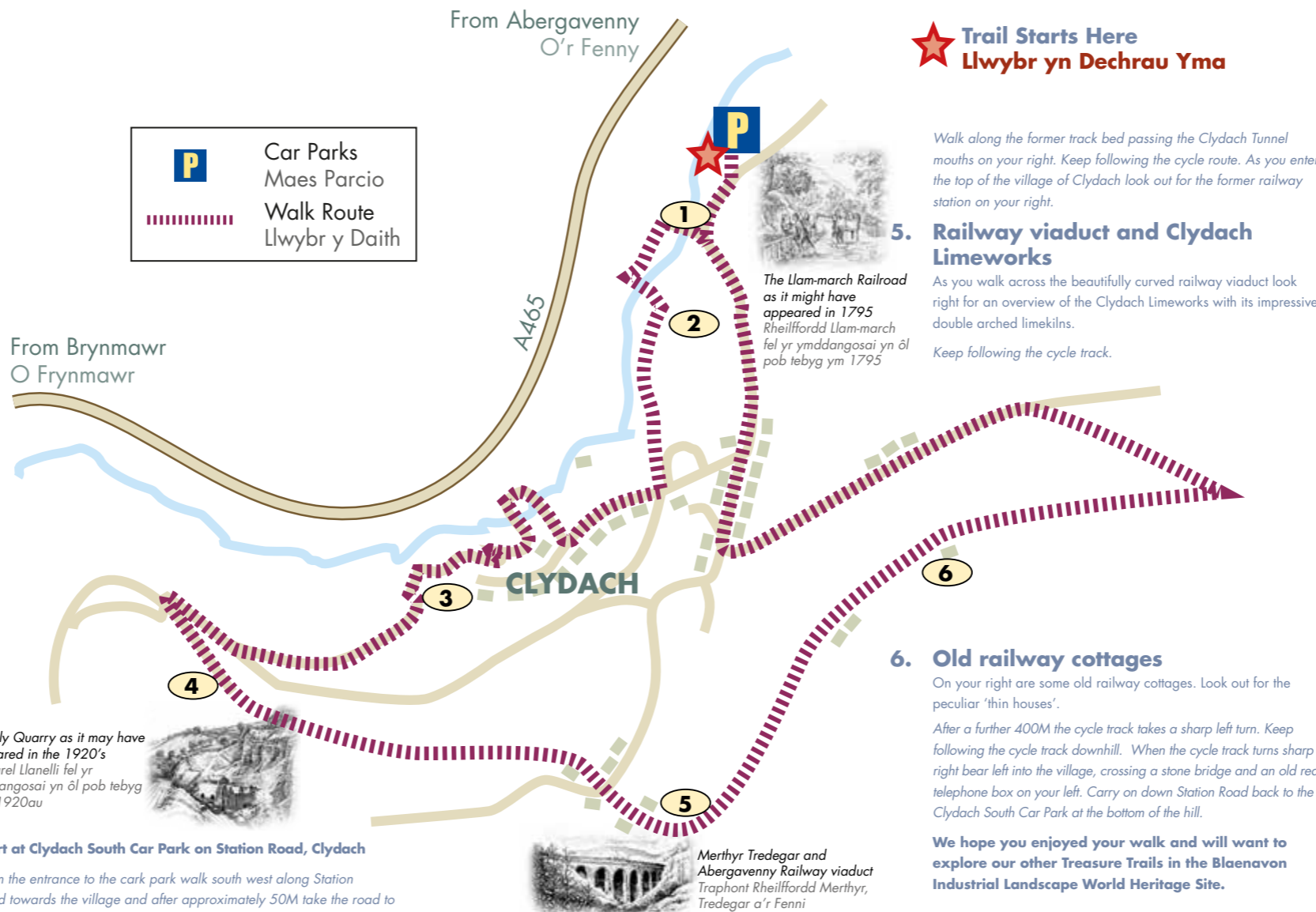
- POINTS/PWYNT 30+** you're a top spotter! rydych chi'n wylwyr gwych!
- 15-30** good spotting da iawn wir
- 5-15** room to improve your spots! lle i wella!
- <5** never mind better luck on the next Treasure Trail peidiwch â phoeni, gwell lwc ar y Llwybr Trysor nesaf!



Wildlife images courtesy of John Bridges, copyright www.northeastwildlife.co.uk
Llunia bywyd gwyllt drwy garedigrwydd John Bridges, hawftraint www.northeastwildlife.co.uk

CORRIDOR TO THE PAST RHODFA I'R GORFFENNOL

0 0.25Km



Start at Clydach South Car Park on Station Road, Clydach

From the entrance to the car park walk south west along Station Road towards the village and after approximately 50M take the road to the right and go down the hill towards the river.

After approximately 75M you will come to a stone bridge that crosses the River Clydach.

1. Old stone bridge

The old stone bridge crossing the river here once carried the Llam-march Railroad, an early form of horse drawn tramroad linking the Clydach Ironworks with the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal. Cross the bridge and go through the gate on the left. Follow this road for a further 75M until you come to an iron bridge on your left.

2. Clydach Ironworks

The romantic and peaceful ruins of the Clydach Ironworks that you see before you today are a world apart from the fire-breathing industrial monster that would have confronted you some 200 years ago. Established by the Clydach Ironworks Company in 1793, the industrial development was typical of the coke-fired blast furnaces producing cast iron across the Heads of the Valleys in the latter part of the 18th century.

Take the path to the right of the ironworks and go up the slope along the route of a former tramroad. Turn right onto Dan Y Coed Road

3. Tramroad incline

As you go up the slope you are once again following the route of a former tramroad ingeniously built on an 'inclined plane'. Using two parallel sets of rail and with some help from gravity, full wagons went down, pulling empty wagons back up the slope ready for filling.

In front of you at the top of the slope is Llanelly Quarry. Before continuing to the quarry take time out here to enjoy the spectacular views across the Clydach Gorge, then walk up Quarry Road for approximately 100M and bear left onto the cycle track.

4. Llanelly Quarry

Llanelly Quarry was originally established to supply lime to the Clydach Ironworks in the valley below. As you pass in front of the quarry the path you are on now was once the route of the Merthyr Tredegar and Abergavenny Railway. Today it's Route 46 on the National Cycle Network.

★ Trail Starts Here Llwybr yn Dechrau Yma

Walk along the former track bed passing the Clydach Tunnel mouths on your right. Keep following the cycle route. As you enter the top of the village of Clydach look out for the former railway station on your right.

5. Railway viaduct and Clydach Limeworks

As you walk across the beautifully curved railway viaduct look right for an overview of the Clydach Limeworks with its impressive double arched limekilns.

Keep following the cycle track.

6. Old railway cottages

On your right are some old railway cottages. Look out for the peculiar 'thin houses'.

After a further 400M the cycle track takes a sharp left turn. Keep following the cycle track downhill. When the cycle track turns sharp right bear left into the village, crossing a stone bridge and an old red telephone box on your left. Carry on down Station Road back to the Clydach South Car Park at the bottom of the hill.

We hope you enjoyed your walk and will want to explore our other Treasure Trails in the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site.

Dechreuwch ym Maes Parcio'r De ar Heol yr Orsaf, Clydach.

O fynedfa'r maes parcio cerddwch i gyfeiriad y de orllewin ar hyd Heol yr Orsaf tuag at y pentref, ac ar ôl tua 50m dilynwch yr heol tua'r dde ac i lawr y bryn tuag at yr afon.

Ar ôl tua 75m fe ddowch i bont garreg sy'n croesi Afon Clydach.

1. Hen bont garreg

Roedd yr hen bont garreg sy'n croesi'r afon yma unwaith yn cario rheilffordd Llam-march, ffurf gynnwr o dramffordd i geffylau a dynnai certiau, i gysylltu Gwaith Haearn Clydach â Chamlas Mynwy ac Aberhonddu.

Croeswch y bont ac ewch drwy'r giât ar y chwith. Dilynwch yr heol am 75m pellach tan i chi ddod i bont haearn ar eich ochr chwith.

2. Gwaith Haearn Clydach

Mae adfeilion rhamantus a heddychlon Gwaith Haearn Clydach y gwelwch o'ch blaenau heddiw ymhell iawn o'r anghenfil diwydiannol a anadlai dan rhyw 200 mlynedd yn ôl. Roedd y datblygiad diwydiannol a sefydlwyd gan Gwmni Gwaith Haearn

Clydach ym 1793, yn nodweddiadol o'r ffwrneisi chwyth a daniwyd â chols i gynhyrchu haearn bwrw ledled Blaenau'r Cymoedd tuag at ddiwedd y 18fed ganrif.

Dilynwch y llwybr ar ochr dde y gwaith haearn ac ewch i fyny'r llethr ar hyd hen lwybr dramffordd gynt. Trowch i'r dde ac ymunwch â Heol Dan y coed ac ar ôl tua 200m trowch i'r dde a dilynwch yr heol hyd at ei diwedd. Ewch i'r chwith ar ddiwedd yr heol gan ddilyn y llwybr glaswelltlog y tu ôl i'r tai. Ychydig ar ôl pont haearn fach â rheiliau metel, ewch i'r dde ac i fyny llethr serth.

3. Inlein y dramffordd

Wrth i chi fynd i fyny'r llethr, rydych unwaith eto'n dilyn llwybr hen dramffordd a adeiladwyd mewn ffordd ddyfeisgar iawn ar 'blân ar oleddf'. Trwy ddefnyddio dwy set o rheiliau paralel a gyda chymorth disgrychiant, byddai wagenni llawn yn mynd i lawr gan dynnu wagenni gwag yn ôl i fyny'r llethr i'w llenwi.

O'ch blaenau, ar ben y llethr mae Chwarel Llanelli. Cyn mynd ymlaen i'r chwarel, cymerwch ennyd i fwynhau'r golygfeydd trawiadol dros Geunant Clydach, yna cerddwch i fyny Heol y Chwarel am tua 100m a chadw at y chwith i ymuno â'r llwybr beicio.

4. Chwarel Llanelli

Sefydlwyd Chwarel Llanelli yn wreiddiol i gyflenwi calch i Waith Haearn Clydach yn y cwm islaw. Wrth i chi fynd heibio o flaen y chwarel, roedd y llwybr yr ydych yn sefyll arno nawr, yn llwybr Rheilffordd Merthyr Tredegar a'r Fenni ar un adeg. Heddiw, Llwybr 46 ydyw ar y Rhwydwaith Beicio Cenedlaethol.

Cerddwch ar hyd yr hen drac gan fynd heibio mynedfa Twnnel Clydach ar eich ochr dde. Cadwch at y llwybr beicio. Wrth i chi gyrraedd pen pellaf pentref Clydach cadwch lygad yn agored am yr hen orsaf rheilffordd ar eich ochr dde.

5. Trophont Rheilffordd a Gwaith Haearn Clydach

Wrth i chi gerdded ar draws y draphont rheilffordd grom, hardd edrychwch i'r dde i weld Gwaith Calch Clydach gyda'i odynnau calch trawiadol â'i bwâu dwbl.

Daliwch ymlaen i ddilyn y llwybr beicio.

6. Hen fythynnod y rheilffordd

Ar eich ochr dde mae hen fythynnod y rheilffordd. Cadwch lygad yn agored am y 'tai tenau' rhyfedd.

Ar ôl 400m pellach mae'r llwybr beicio yn troi'n sydyn i'r chwith. Daliwch ati i ddilyn y llwybr beicio i lawr y rhiw. Pan fydd y llwybr beicio'n troi'n sydyn i'r dde, ewch i'r chwith i mewn i'r pentref, gan groesi pont garreg gyda hen flwch ffôn coch ar eich ochr chwith. Ewch ymlaen i lawr Heol yr Orsaf yn ôl i Faes Parcio De, Clydach ar waelod y bryn.

Gobeithwn eich bod wedi mwynhau eich taith ac y byddwch am grwydro mwy o'n Llwybrau Trysor yn Nhirwedd Ddiwydiannol Blaenafon, Safle Treftadaeth y Byd.

Illustrations by Michael Blackmore
Llunia gan Michael Blackmore

BLAENAVON INDUSTRIAL LANDSCAPE

TIRWEDD DDIWYDIANNOL BLAENAFON

Corridor to the Past Trail

The Trail is a circular walk of approximately 5 Kms (3.1 miles) which is suitable for families with older children and should take 1.5 hours to complete. For your own safety it is recommended that you wear stout footwear and warm waterproof clothing.

Llwybr Rhodfa i'r Gorffennol

Mae'r llwybr yn daith cylch tua 5 Km (3.1 milltir) sydd yn addas i deuluoedd â phlant hŵn a dylai gymryd tua 1.5 awr i'w gwblhau. Er eich diogelwch, awgrymir eich bod yn gwisgo esgidiau cryfion a dillad glaw, cynnes.

Information/Gwybodaeth

We hope you have fun exploring the Blaenavon World Heritage Site.

For more information visit www.visitblaenavon.co.uk or contact the Blaenavon World Heritage Centre on 01495 742333.

Gobeithiwn y cewch hwyl yn crwydro Safle Treftadaeth y Byd Blaenafon. I gael mwy o wybodaeth ewch i www.visitblaenavon.co.uk neu cysylltwch â Chanolfan Treftadaeth y Byd Blaenafon ar 01495 742333.



Tel/Ffôn: 01495 742333
www.visitblaenavon.co.uk
blaenavon.tic@torfaen.gov.uk

Answer to Lanellly Quarry Challenge: Well done if you spotted 'The Sugar Loaf' in a north easterly direction approximately 8 Kms (5 miles) away. Hard luck if the weather has spoiled the view this time around.
Ateb i Her Chwarel Lanellly: Da iawn chi os welsoch chi Ben y Fal i gyfeiriad y gogledd-ddwyrain tua 8 Km (5 milltir) ! ffwrdd. Hen dro os na welsoch yr olygfa y tro yma oherwydd y fwydd.

