

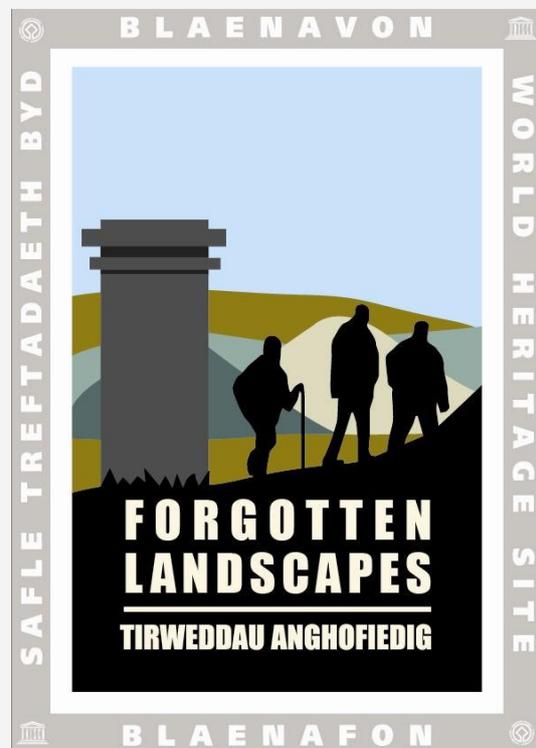


Forgotten Landscapes April News

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Welcome to the April 2013 edition of the Forgotten Landscapes e-newsletter. This month we're throwing a spotlight onto the [Blaenavon walking festival](#), which is taking place between Saturday 6th and Friday 12th of April. Read on for information on the different walks available, as well as how to sign up to those walks that aren't already fully booked.

Also, a little reminder; we're always looking for information and images for the [new Forgotten Landscapes blog](#), so if you have any local news, or if you'd like to contribute a guest blog post, please email us at landscapesblog@gmail.com



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Introducing the first ever Blaenavon Walking festival, Saturday 6th - Friday 12th April

Join us as we celebrate our first ever walking festival, which starts this weekend. There will be a new walk every day, each one focusing on the abundance of archeology and wildlife to be found in and around our fascinating landscape.

With help from a selection of Volunteer Rangers, Heritage Offers, local historians and other experts, each walk will combine some beautiful, scenic walks with an insight into what can be done to help protect the landscape for future generations.

A small booking cost of £3 per walk will help cover the running costs for the festival. There are still some spaces available, so book now to avoid disappointment! For more information, visit www.visitblaenavon.co.uk/walkingfestival

Here's a bit more on some walks with spaces still available...

Walk: Iron Mountain Trail

Sunday 7th April, 10.30am - 2.00pm

The second scheduled walk of the festival is perhaps the most challenging of the lot. Participants will follow Forgotten Landscapes' Volunteer Rangers for around five miles along the routes of former tramways and inclines and learn about some of the more interesting features of the World Heritage Site.

Meeting point: Keepers Pond car park. Book in person at the Blaenavon World Heritage Centre or call 01495 742 333.

Walk: Moorland Magic

Friday 12th April, 2.00pm - 4.00pm

The final day of the walking festival offers up the chance to take a tour of the beautiful heather moorland near Blaenavon, and to find out exactly what projects are being undertaken to help protect it for future generations. The walk is led by Alvin Nicholas, the Forgotten Landscapes Partnership Commons Officer, and offers a 3-mile, moderately challenging route.

Meeting point: Fox Hunter car park. Book in person at the Blaenavon World Heritage Centre or call 01495 742 333.

Forgotten Landscapes Blog: The rise of reed beds

If you haven't already read it on our new blog, we've put together a great two-part exploration of the rise of reed beds in the World Heritage Site.

We've taken a look into why volunteers have dedicated the last two years planting reed beds, as well as interviewing Alvin Nicholas, who is the Commons Officer at Forgotten Landscapes. Alvin tells us how reed beds are helping to transform old coal spoil sites into new habitats that will encourage wildlife.

To read these blogs, and many others, visit: forgottenlandscapes.org.uk

What's on? - For full information of events taking place in April, please visit the [events](#) section of our website or call 01495 742 333

Talk: Early Gwent

Friday 5th April, 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Gwent is regularly associated with King Arthur. Why is this so? Learn how early Gwent came into being by exploring its fascinating history after the fall of Rome and how it resisted the coming of the Saxons and the Normans by remaining Welsh in uplands such as Blaenavon. The talk is led by Paul

Talk: Images of Industry

Friday 19th April, 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Can you always believe what you see? This talk offers the chance to join local historian and author John van Laun as he compares historic images of South Wales to the evidence uncovered by archaeologists. **Booking is essential.**

Thomas, Historian and graduate of the University of Wales. **Booking is essential.**



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