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Key Stage: 2

People of Blaenavon

Dear Time Traveller,



You have been chosen by your teacher to be transported back in time between the years:

1825 up to today

Your mission is to gather information. You will need to report back to your teacher when you return to the present time.

You will find out how shopping has changed in Blaenavon between 1825 and today. Go to the wall display board called **Workers and Masters**. People who worked for the Blaenavon Ironworks were paid in a way that would be unusual today. How was this done and where did the people buy what they needed?

Later on, from 1840, a number of different shops appeared in the town of Blaenavon. You can find a photograph of one of these shops called Witchell's on Broad Street taken about 1900 on the timeline underneath the wall panel called **King Coal Reigns**. What did Witchell's sell?

In 1861, the first co-operative store was opened in Blaenavon. The Blaenavon Co-operative society had a large store at Ivor Street. It was popular because the profits of the company were shared out to its customers each year in a payment called a dividend. There is a receipt on the timeline for goods bought from the Co-op in 1895. It is written in old handwriting. Can you work out what was sold to Mrs Morgan?

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Look for the photograph of Fowler's shop in the 1930s. What did Fowler's sell?

Next, find the photograph of the same shop in 1975. What do you notice?

Look for the photograph of Dando's shop? (Clue: It's near the large 1947)
What can you see in the photograph? How is this shop different to a supermarket?

Dando's shop	Supermarket

You can find out more about Dando's and many other shops in Blaenavon by listening carefully on the audio phone to Margaret Goodwin and Netta Oates. They both talk about how the town and shopping habits have changed over the years in Blaenavon.

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What types of shop were in Blaenavon before the supermarkets appeared?

How many shops were there in Blaenavon at one time?

How has the main shopping area called Broad Street changed?

Why did the shops that sold meat and fish have to sell everything off before they closed?

Why don't they think that Broad Street will go back to the way it once was for shopping?

Do your parents do most of their shopping in a supermarket? Why? Discuss this with your group.

