

LEGINDARY

The legends behind the Valleys That Changed the World!

Here in South Wales, we are very proud of our industrial heritage. During the Industrial Revolution, this little corner of the world went global! A landscape of roughly 25 miles long and 70 miles wide played host to: the biggest iron and copper works in the world; the first true train journey; the largest lump of coal; and technological advances that shaped the modern world. Our list of industrial facts and firsts is endless and even includes a few 6 foot long spanners!

But the real power behind our industrial story was the people. From canny incomers who took a risk on setting up industries in a virgin land and on a scale never seen before... to brilliant minds whose inventions helped shape our modern world... to social reformers who sometimes made the ultimate sacrifice in their struggle to make life better for ordinary working people.

These are our legends, or as we like to think of them, **leginds** and their **Legindary** places for you to discover.

Why not take a few snaps and selfies along the way and create your own **legindary** memories of **The Valleys that Changed the World!**

Plot your route using our interactive map - <http://www.visitblaenavon.co.uk/en/VisitBlaenavon/Explore-the-valleys-that-changed-the-world/Interactive-Map.aspx>

Blaenavon - a Legindary World Heritage Site

Only here for a short time? You can tick off a number of 'Legends' at the World Heritage site:

Have your photo taken by the silhouette of **legindary** inventor and scientist Sidney Gilchrist Thomas at Blaenavon Ironworks;

Take a snap of yourself with local **legind** John Worton at Blaenavon's Community Museum in the Workmen's Hall;

Sit and take a selfie in the Victorian class room in the World Heritage Centre - formerly the school built by philanthropic **legind** Sarah Hopkins.

This is just a sample of our many **leginds**. We hope their stories have inspired you to explore our amazing industrial heritage story. For more ideas, visit our web pages: <http://visitblaenavon.co.uk/TVTCTW> and follow us on Facebook (@TVTCTW) and Twitter (@tvctw).



Please note, all details correct at time of going to press. 'The Valleys that changed the World' is a partnership of over 70 sites and organisations working together to promote and interpret the story of our industrial past. 'The Valleys that changed the World' is also part of the European Route of Industrial Heritage. We are supported by the following public sector bodies:



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Y chwedlau sy'n sail i'r Cymoedd a Newidiodd y Byd
The legends behind the Valleys That Changed the World



Trail 1:
Legindary Leaders
of Industry



Trail 1: Legindary Leaders of Industry

These are just a few of our Legindary leaders of Industry. Why not find some more and post them on our Facebook (@TVTCTW) and twitter (@tvctw) feeds?

Charles Gwynn of Kidwelly



He set up a tinworks near Kidwelly on August 14th 1737. Charles was obviously a man with vision, as during the 19th century the Kidwelly and Llanelli area was home to around half the world's production of tinplate.

Visit the site of Charles's works – Kidwelly Industrial Museum – the oldest surviving tinplate works in the world, and have a snap with a six-foot spanner!

www.kidwellyindustrialmuseum.org.uk

Crawshay Dynasty

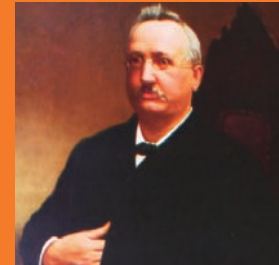


It was self made man, Richard Crawshay who first came to Merthyr Tydfil in around 1777 to become a partner in an ironmaking venture. By 1794, he was the sole owner of the business and took it from strength to strength. The family business continued under his grandson William Crawshay II and great grandson Robert Thompson Crawshay continued to run the business.

Find out more about this powerful industrial dynasty at Cyfarthfa Castle and take a picture in one of the sumptuous Regency rooms:

[www.cyfarthfa.com/attractions/museum art gallery](http://www.cyfarthfa.com/attractions/museum_art_gallery)

John Worton JP



John Worton, General Manager of the iron and steel works in Blaenavon was also well known for his charitable activities. He put money in to the Metal Trades Pension Society and was influential in establishing the Blaenavon Workmen's Institute. He formally opened the first Institute in Lion Street in 1883. He then supported the scheme to build the Workmen's Hall in High Street. Sadly, he did not live to see the project come to fruition. However, the town's fire engine, named the John Worton, led the parade on the day the foundation stone was laid in 1893. Today he is remembered in the community museum, fittingly housed within the Workmen's Hall.

Pop in and snap yourself alongside his portrait: www.visitblaenavon.co.uk/en/VisitBlaenavon/ThingsToDo/Blaenavon_Community_Museum.aspx
Alternatively, nip in to Pontypool museum where the John Worton fire engine (built 1887) is proudly on display: www.pontypoolmuseum.org.uk

Vivian Dynasty



Cornishman John Vivian first came to Wales to be a managing partner in the copper works at Penclawdd and Loughor. By 1806 his son, John Henry Vivian had joined the business and by 1810, they had leased land at the Hafod in Swansea under the company name Vivian & Sons. By the 1840s, the Hafod Works were the largest of their kind in the world, and were responsible for around a quarter of the UK's copper trade. John Henry's son, Henry Hussey Vivian also successfully followed in the family business.

Visit the site of the Hafod Morfa works www.hafodmorfacopperworks.com or enjoy the site from the luxury of a short river cruise www.scbt.org.uk/about/boat_trips

The Butes



This aristocratic family owned swathes of land around Cardiff including much of the bay. Spotting the potential of their landholdings for industry and export, they turned Cardiff "from a sleepy backwater into one of the greatest coal exporting ports in the world". The family gained so much additional wealth that John Patrick Crichton-Stuart, 3rd Marquess of Bute was able to indulge in the restoration and elaborate decoration of sites like Castell Coch and Cardiff Castle.

Visit the Pierhead building to find out more about the development of Cardiff Bay: www.pierhead.org
See how their wealth was put to spectacular use at Cardiff Castle www.cardiffcastle.com and Castell Coch www.cadw.gov.wales/daysout/castell-coch

Sir George Elliot



He established the Powell Duffryn Steam Coal Co. in 1864. It soon grew to be the largest coal company in south Wales. A self made man, he thrived in business and politics.

To see an example of his coal empire, visit The Winding House museum – originally part of Elliot's Colliery, New Tredegar, named after Sir George himself! Time it right and you could see the winding engine running:

www.your.caerphilly.gov.uk/windinghouse