

HERITAGE NEWS

BLAENAVON WORLD HERITAGE SITE NEWSLETTER ISSUE 3 - JUNE 2006

World Heritage Day 2006

This year organisers have decided to combine World Heritage Day and Garn Lakes Countryside and Recreation Fayre into one big weekend of events and activities for all the family! The weekend of 24th and 25th June 2006 promises to be better than ever with a host of exciting acts and street entertainment taking place throughout the day.

World Heritage Day's line up on Saturday

24th June includes BBC Wales TV and Radio presenter Owen Money and his band the "Soul Sharks" who will be providing comedy and toe tapping musical entertainment during the day. A fantastic Victorian Fair complete with Victorian fairground rides and traditional stalls including Giant Test of Strength, a Donkey Derby, Helter Skelter and Swing Boats will also dazzle the crowds!

Come along and take part in the traditional Heritage Costume Parade which will start at 1.30pm from the top of Broad Street / King Street and wind its way through the town centre before finishing in the Lion Street Car Park. This is a great day out for all

the family. It's an opportunity for the local community to get together and enjoy one big town party! Public address for both events will be provided by Dil in aid of MYPT, a UK charity that helps orphans and disadvantaged young people in Romania. For more information on World Heritage Day please visit www.world-heritage-blaenavon.org.uk or telephone 01633 648812.



Owen Money and the Soul Sharks

Garn Lakes Country Crafts & Recreation Fayre 2006

The annual Garn Lakes Country Crafts & Recreation Fayre will be taking place on Sunday 25th June 2006. Building on the success of last year's event, this year will have a variety of activities, exhibitions and entertainment for all the family to enjoy.

Garn-yr-Erw Fishing Club will be giving visitors fishing tuition and demonstrations. Have a go at canoeing on the lake, take part in the mountain bike challenge or scale the heights of the climbing wall! Wind-Dreams will have kites you can try out and buy. Try your hand at archery or see how well you can steer a coracle. As well as all of these fantastic activities there is a craft marquee, hog roast and locally made ice-cream.

Exhibitors include Sustrans, the cycling organisation; Brecon Beacons National Park and Torfaen County Borough Council's Countryside Services. Entry is FREE to all visitors. Cars will be charged £1 to park. But take advantage of the FREE Vintage Bus which will pick up visitors from various points around the World Heritage Site.

For further information, or if you would like to exhibit at the fayre please contact Katie Gates, Countryside Services, Torfaen County Borough Council, Tel: 01633 648329, email: Katie.gates@torfaen.gov.uk.



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Heads We Win!



Pedestrian finger post sign

Blaenavon benefited from £185,000 grant funding from the Heads of the Valleys – a new Welsh Assembly Government initiative aimed at tackling the social, economic and physical regeneration of the Heads of the Valleys area. The money was spent on installation of pedestrian finger post signs within the town centre. The signs have been designed in the World Heritage Site brand and have been placed in locations encouraging visitors to follow a route right through the town which takes in the main retail area helping to support local businesses and encourage trade. Blaenavon Park also got a face lift with improvements to the rugby and bowling

club viewing areas, refurbishment of gateways and street furniture and restoration of walls. The car park improvement works at Pontypool and Blaenavon Railway have had a major impact providing their visitors with much improved facilities. Street lighting has also been replaced around the town. Executive Member for Regeneration, Councillor Neil Lewis said "these projects are tremendous and are part of a much welcomed long term strategy aimed at encouraging the regeneration of the town and wider area within Torfaen extending down the Valley to include Trevethin, Pontnewynydd, Abersychan and Snatchwood".

Big Pit on top of the World!

Big Pit National Coal Museum saw a fantastic year in 2005. As well as attracting a record number of visitors the museum won the prestigious Gulbenkian Award for Museum of the Year along with the Sandford Award for Heritage Education. Peter Walker, Keeper and Mine Manager said "last year was a tremendous time for us at Big Pit. Almost 157,000 people visited us during 2005, and after winning the Gulbenkian Prize for best UK Museum, we've continued to go from strength to strength."

Alun Pugh, Welsh Assembly Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport said "being chosen as Museum of the Year is a fantastic achievement for Big Pit and one that the museum fully deserves. Thanks to the dedication and enthusiasm of its staff as well as the recent redevelopment work, Big Pit is now a world-class attraction". After staying open throughout the winter, Big Pit is looking forward to another excellent year and has a range of activities planned for the whole family this summer.

As part of the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site, Big Pit is key to telling the story of the industrial heritage of South Wales. As well as taking the world-famous underground tour, visitors can experience the Mining Galleries where modern mining methods are brought to life, or stroll through the Pithead Baths exhibitions and learn about the industry that shaped modern Wales. With facilities to educate and entertain all ages, Big Pit is an exciting and informative day out.



Launch of Govilon Heritage Trail

The village of Govilon, nestling at the foot of the Bloreng, is proud to be a part of the World Heritage Site. Govilon Heritage, a grassroots community group, is making the rich history of this village available to residents and visitors alike. They run a growing community website, www.govilon.com, and have re-published the wonderful little book of residents' stories, "Govilon Heritage - The Village of Govilon in Living Memory". They have just opened their new Village Heritage Trails. Three easy walks, described in an attractive leaflet with a colourful, detailed map, take the visitor around many features of interest including the oldest Baptist Chapel in Wales; the route of Crawshaw Bailey's Tramroad; historic Govilon Wharf; the canal aqueduct; the site of an ancient forge which may have given the village its name and, of course, the two village pubs! Interpretation Boards are also being installed around the trails.

The new leaflet, price 20p, is available from local shops and tourist information centres.



Govilon Heritage Trail

We've got a Winner!



Congratulations to Mrs Sharon Jones of Blaenavon, on winning the first prize hamper in the local "Shop @ Blaenavon" campaign. Mrs Jones, pictured with her daughter Georgia aged 9, wins a hamper packed full of local produce all kindly supplied by the traders of Blaenavon. The campaign, which runs through March, April and May, has sought to encourage local residents to support their local traders by rewarding local custom with a free raffle ticket for the prize draw. Chair of the Blaenavon Traders and Tourism Association, Mrs Barbara Lewis of Morris Butchers said "the campaign has sought to support local businesses and promote to local residents the variety and quality of goods on offer in their

town. Traders in the town have welcomed this campaign and hope that residents will continue to support their local town". Blaenavon Project and Marketing Manager, Cath Thomas said "the campaign has been aimed at encouraging local residents into the town centre and to use their local shops. Blaenavon is a small town and like many other similar towns is operating in an increasingly competitive market. Unless we continue to support these businesses we could lose them and the identity of this wonderful town centre". The campaign has been supported by European Objective 1 funding.



We're off!

Construction works on the first of seven sites to be improved within the town centre over the next three years have commenced. The £1.7 million scheme, which is jointly funded by the Welsh Assembly Government and Welsh Development Agency, will see the transformation of some of the most blighted areas of the town. Prince Street Car Park is the first site to be improved and will see the car park transformed into a first class visitor car parking facility incorporating visitor information and interpretation together with a footpath link to the new World Heritage Centre. Local contractor, Galboola are undertaking the works which will include Broad Street Car Park, Boot Lane, Bethlehem Court, Lower Broad Street, the rear of 32-39 Broad Street and the area adjacent to 57 and 60 Broad Street.



Bant â ni!

Dechreuwyd ar y gwaith adeiladu i adnewyddu saith safle yng nghanol y dref dros y tair blynedd nesaf. Bydd y cynllun, gwerth £1.7 miliwn, sydd wedi ei ariannu ar y cyd gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru ac Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru yn gweld ardaloedd adfeiliedig y dref yn trawsnewid. Maes Parcio Stryd y Tywysog yw'r cyntaf i'w adnewyddu a bydd yn cael ei drawsnewid i faes parcio ymwelwyr o'r radd flaenaf gan gynnwys gwybodaeth a dadansoddiad i ymwelwyr yn ogystal â chyswllt llwybr troed i'r Ganolfan Treftadaeth Byd newydd. Ymgwymerwyd y gwaith gan y cwmni lleol, Galboola a fydd yn cynnwys Maes Parcio Heol y Nant, Lôn Bwt, Llys Bethlehem, gwaelod Heol y Nant, tu cefn 32-39 Heol y Nant a'r ardal ger 57 a 60 Heol y Nant.

Operation Bloreng

Over the Easter weekend several organisations, with a police helicopter in support, followed up last year's successful operation to raise awareness and deter arson on the Bloreng. The mountain is an important habitat for many species of plants and animals and it is essential that the landscape is protected. The organisations that took part included the Fire and Rescue service, Gwent Police, Torfaen County Borough Council, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority and Forestry Commission.



Ymgyrch y Blorens

Dros benwythnos y Pasg parhawyd ar waith a ddechreuodd y llynedd gan nifer o sefydliadau, gyda chefnogaeth hofrennydd yr Heddlu, i godi ymwybyddiaeth ac atal llosgi bwriadol ar y Blorens. Mae'r mynydd yn gynefin pwysig i lawer o fathau o blanhigion ac anifeiliaid ac mae'n hanfodol bod y dirwedd yn cael ei diogelu. Y sefydliadau a gymrodd rhan oedd y Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub, Heddlu Gwent, Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Torfaen, Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog a'r Comisiwn Coedwigaeth.

It was like the Oscars!

Blaenavon Workmen's Hall hosted a spectacular film premiere which celebrated the culmination of the SWICA Film Forge Project. The evening included twenty short films which brought photographs of old Blaenavon to life with local peoples' recorded reminiscences. Twelve multimedia animations based upon local history and tales were designed and created by year



six pupils from Hillside and St. Peters Primary Schools. Don't worry if you didn't get a chance to enjoy the event, all of the films will be shown at Blaenavon World Heritage Day on Saturday 24th June.

Are you the Outdoor Type? Could you be a Volunteer Ranger?

The World Heritage Site Volunteer rangers have been very active with nine of our volunteers successfully completing a First Aid and Mountain Safety training course. They carry out various improvements ranging from clearance of overgrown vegetation at St. Peter's Church to Red Grouse surveys on the Bloreng. Their continued efforts are much appreciated and we hope that the number of people getting involved will continue to grow. The volunteer rangers undertake a range of activities to suit all abilities throughout the year. If you are interested in taking part in volunteer ranger activities, please contact Alvin Nicholas, World Heritage Ranger on 07980 682749 or e-mail Alvin.nicholas@torfaen.gov.uk.



Volunteer rangers Easter 2006. L to R: Alvin Nicholas, World Heritage Site Ranger, Brian Jones, Gerry Woodhouse, Sue Woodhouse, Robert Gillard, Kieran Mullins, Dil Caddick

Ydych chi'n hoffi'r awyr agored? Allech chi fod yn Geidwaid Gwirfoddol?

Mae Ceidwaid Gwirfoddol Canolfan Treftadaeth y Byd wedi bod yn weithgar iawn gyda naw o ein gwirfoddolwyr yn cwblhau hyfforddiant mewn Cymorth Cyntaf a Diogelwch Mynydd yn llwyddiannus. Maent yn ymgymryd â amrywiaeth o welliannau yn cynnwys clirio gordyfiant yn Eglwys San Pedr i gynnal arolwg o aderyn Coch y Grug ar y Blorens. Mae eu hymdrechion parhaus yn cael eu gwerthfawrogi'n fawr a gobeithiwn y bydd y nifer o bobl sy'n ymwneud â'r cynllun parhau i gynyddu. Mae'r ceidwaid gwirfoddol yn ymgymryd ag amrywiaeth o weithgareddau ar gyfer gwahanol alluoedd drwy'r flwyddyn. Os oes gennych ddi-ddordeb cymryd rhan yng ngweithgareddau'r ceidwaid gwirfoddol, cysylltwch ag Alvin Nicholas, Ceidwad Treftadaeth Byd ar 07980 682749 neu e-bost Alvin.nicholas@torfaen.gov.uk.

The UK's First World Heritage Centre



The restoration and conservation works of St Peters School was completed in December 2005. Internal works on the project has started and will continue up until the opening of the World Heritage Centre in 2007. This work will involve constructing the new link building between the two former school buildings which will house a café and reception area. Other work will involve landscaping the surrounding grounds. The World Heritage Centre will explain the story of the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape through the eyes of the people who have lived and worked within it up to the present day. Local residents are invited to contribute their stories and memories, however ordinary they feel they may be, to the project. If anyone has any photographs or memories that they would like to share with us, please contact a member of the Blaenavon Project Team on 01633 648326. Over the summer we will be exhibiting plans of our proposals locally and inviting the community to give us their views and suggestions for the Heritage Centre which will be the first of its kind in the UK devoted to the interpretation of a World Heritage Site.

Local Group Improves Greenspace

Future Blaenavon in partnership with the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers and the Greenspace Project, funded by Torfaen County Borough and the Big Lottery Fund, has started an environmental project opposite Prince Street Post Office. Weeping willows, roses and native wild flowers have been planted with the aim of creating a pleasant space that local residents and visitors can enjoy. Volunteers from the Future Blaenavon Group worked hard to create the space with the enthusiastic help of



pupils from local schools. The Group hope that the project will lead to other similar projects around the town. Future Blaenavon meets at 6.45pm on the first Thursday of each month at the Torfaen Voluntary Alliance offices at Church View, and all are welcome!



Future Blaenavon Prince Street works

Heads of the Valleys Cycleway

Sustrans, the UK's leading sustainable transport charity behind the National Cycle Network, has received planning permission for improvements to the Heads of the Valleys Cycleway, NCR 46 between Abergavenny and Brynmawr. When complete this will enable long-distance users to travel on mostly off-road sections via Merthyr to west Wales. The current phase will provide a continuous route between Abergavenny and Clydach with the next phase extending the cycleway to Brynmawr. The route follows the gentle incline of the former Merthyr to Abergavenny railway passing many natural and historic sites which offer spectacular views over the industrial landscape and the Brecon Beacons to the north. Users can access the World Heritage Site via a network of rights of way connecting to local villages, the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal, Hills Tramroad and the Iron Mountain Trail. These paths have been

improved in recent years by Brecon Beacons National Park rangers working with local volunteers through a programme of work funded by Monmouthshire County Council. Visitors will also be able to explore local village heritage trails such as those promoted at Llanfoist, Govilon and Clydach Gorge. The cycleway starts at the Llanfoist Crossing Gateway Car Park near Abergavenny, where cast iron interpretive panels are being installed to celebrate the importance of transport systems in shaping the industrial landscape. The cycleway is within easy walking and cycling distance from both the bus and rail stations in Abergavenny, via Routes 42 and 46 of the National Cycle Network through Castle Meadows. Visitors arriving from the A465 can use the car park and picnic site below Clydach south village as a base to access the cycle route and explore the World Heritage Site. For further information visit the Sustrans website (www.sustrans.org.uk).

Travel by Train!

The Pontypool and Blaenavon Railway is a rather modest member of over a hundred Heritage Railways in the UK. Its runs on a line that was closed to passengers in 1941, to goods a few years later and finally to coal in 1980. The line suffered grievously in the early sixties during the 'out with the old in with the new' that pervaded our society then, and, as a result, what remained of the built environment was scant to the point of non-existence. So is the railway truly a Heritage Railway? Visitors to Heritage Railways do not necessarily arrive with lofty ideals in mind, not for them the worthy notion of 'interpretation', but rather a day out with the kids and a ride on the train, a cup of tea, and pop and bag of crisps for the youngsters. On the face of it, we are simply a tourist attraction.



Under a brooding sky, one of our elderly Diesel Multiple Units rasps noisily up the bank to Whistle Inn, offering peerless views of the workings at Pwll-Du – a central element in the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape

Our heritage is our trains. They may be rather an eclectic collection, and some, by traditional museum standards are relatively modern. But 'heritage', insofar as railways go doesn't stop with the Victorian age, and most of our working engines are ex-steelworks locomotives, entirely at home in our neck of the woods. We also run elderly Diesel Multiple Units which provide stunning views of the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape unparalleled elsewhere in the area. Above all, we talk to our passengers, giving them all the 'interpretation' they need. They go away, not only having been exposed to both visual and aural experiences, but having established a personal relationship with our volunteers. Heritage? We think so. Come and see for yourself!



Ironworks Uncovered

Many of you will have noticed the improvement works taking place, in partnership with Cadw, to the perimeter of the Blaenavon Ironworks. The unsightly fencing has been removed and replaced with high quality steel railings. Views

have also been opened up at the junction with the Gilchrist Thomas industrial estate and signs erected with the aim of drawing attention to the Ironworks and to encourage visitors travelling from Big Pit to stop and visit.

Torfaen Council has also undertaken significant improvements at the Gilchrist Thomas Industrial Estate itself by creating a high quality avenue aimed at improving the image of the estate and route to Big Pit. Works have

included erection of new natural stone walls and signage, planting of trees and improving wildlife habitat in the area. The works were financed by the Welsh Development Agency and Rural Key Fund.



Gwaith Haearn Wedi ei Ddadorchuddio

Mae'n siŵr i chi sylwi ar y gwaith o atgyweirio'r gwaith haearn sy'n digwydd mewn partneriaeth gyda Cadw, i ffiniau Gwaith Haearn Blaenafon. Mae'r ffens ddiolwg wedi ei thynnu a rheiliau o safon uchel wedi eu rhoi yn ei le.

Mae golygfannau wedi eu hagor yn ogystal wrth gyffordd stad ddiwydiannol Gilchrist Thomas ac arwyddion wedi eu codi gyda'r bwriad o dynnu sylw ymwelwyr i'r Gwaith Haearn a'u denu i ymweld wrth iddynt

deithio o'r Pwll Mawr. Mae Cyngor Torfaen Council wedi sicrhau gwelliannau arwyddocaol yn Stad Ddiwydiannol Gilchrist Thomas ei hun gan greu rhodfa o safon uchel wedi ei anelu at wella delwedd y stad a'r ffordd i'r Pwll Mawr. Mae

waliau cerrig naturiol newydd ac arwyddion wedi eu codi, plannu coed a gwella cynefin bywyd gwylt yn yr ardal. Ariannwyd y gwaith gan Awdurdod Datblygu Cymru a'r Gronfa Allweddol Wledig.

Newly furnished cottages at Blaenavon Ironworks



1841 cottage

Assembly Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport, Alan Pugh recently visited Blaenavon to formally open the newly furnished and decorated Engine Row cottages at Blaenavon Ironworks. The cottages – part of what later became known as Stack Square, were built by the proprietors of the Ironworks to attract key employees. Erected in around 1788, when the works was first established, they continued in occupation until 1971 and are a rare survival of early company housing. Two of them have been newly furnished to illustrate occupancy at different periods in the history of the ironworks.



1790 cottage

The first is shown as it might have appeared when almost new in 1790. It has been recreated as the home of an experienced iron worker from the west Midlands, attracted to Blaenavon by better employment prospects and comparatively good housing. The second cottage is shown some fifty years later, in 1841, by which time cottages and works had declined in status. According to the census of that year, one house in the row was occupied by nine members of the McCarthy family from County Cork, in Ireland. It has been furnished as their home.

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Major improvements for key tourist attractions

Torfaen County Borough, in partnership with many other organisations has been very busy over the winter period improving the environment of many of the town's key visitor attractions ahead of the tourist season. The Pontypool and Blaenavon Railway car park has been the focus of intensive improvement work with impressive information and meeting points being erected and improved surfacing and street furniture being installed. This has been the culmination of much work in the World Heritage Site aimed at creating quality gateways to the



landscape from some of the key car parks through the EU Boundless Parks, Naturally! Project. Bespoke World Heritage Site branded information boards are being installed at twelve of these sites which aim to encourage visitors to explore the landscape and visit attractions in and around Blaenavon World Heritage Site.



We're so very European!

On the 30-31st March, Blaenavon welcomed visitors from Hengelo (Netherlands), Stuttgart (Germany), Nantes (France), Australia and Medway (Essex), who came to attend a two day Industrial Heritage Conference organised by Torfaen Council as part of the REVIT project – a European Interreg IIIB initiative.

REVIT is a transnational project between six North West European countries. The project's mission is to contribute towards improving efficiency and sustainability of brownfield regeneration projects. In regions such as the South Wales valleys, the legacy of the Industrial Revolution lives on in the relics of abandoned mineshafts, old collieries, slag heaps and abandoned tramways. How we

assign value to these industrial artefacts, and explore innovative means of preserving them, was at the heart of the 'sustainability agenda' underpinning this two day Conference.

To gain a local perspective on 'our heritage', a local photographic competition was run. A first prize of £250 was sponsored by HERIAN - a unique partnership with a mission to bring alive the amazing story of the world's first industrial nation. The top three places in the open category went to Allan Scriven, Rob Lloyd and Elisabeth Bullimore. The under sixteen winners were David Malson and Lewis Barber. A book is currently being compiled of all 110 entries, and will be sent to all who participated in the competition.



Some of the winning entries

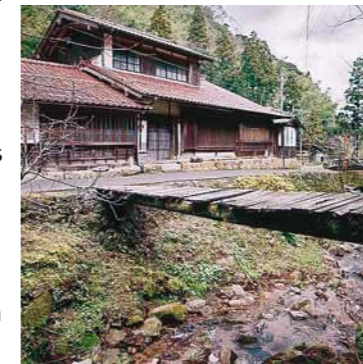


Talking Japanese!

John Rodger who spearheaded the Blaenavon bid for World Heritage Status has been invited to present a paper on the Blaenavon World Heritage Site at a conference to be held in Japan on 28 May 2006. The meeting includes heritage experts from Japan and Germany and will be held at the site of the Iwami – Ginzan Silver mine in Shimane province on the west coast of Honshu, Japan's largest island. The silver mine dates from 1309 and was in its prime in the middle of the 16th and 17th centuries when Japan was one of the most important silver

producing areas in the world.

John Rodger said "this is a wonderful opportunity to present the importance of Blaenavon and Britain's leading contributions to the Industrial Revolution which created the world as we know it".



Iwami – Ginzan Silver mine

Blaenavon Property Improvement Grant

The Blaenavon Regeneration Partnership has launched the Blaenavon Property Improvement Grant, which provides funding for external improvements which enhance the appearance of the facades of commercial and community buildings within Blaenavon town centre. The grant is offered at a rate of up to 80% of eligible costs for commercial buildings up

to a maximum of £1000. Community buildings will be offered up to 100% of eligible costs up to a maximum of £1000. As funds are limited, the grant will be offered on a first come first served basis. Anyone interested in applying for a grant is asked to contact Rebecca Hartley on (01633) 648293 for an application form and copy of the terms and conditions.

Spring Festival

Spring arrived in Blaenavon this year in great style with the Spring Festival providing a host of exciting events and activities throughout the weekend of 31st March – 2nd April. This year saw a variety of events taking place from cookery demonstrations, poetry readings, children's storytelling and a flea and collectors market. The event began with a watercolour demonstration by renowned artist David Bellamy and a Blues spectacular at Blaenavon Rugby Club. Rugby fans also got the chance to meet Wales's rugby legend John Dawes and Broadcaster David Parry-Jones who provided a candid insight into the pressures faced by captain and coach in this county of high expectations.



Daniel Morden - children's storyteller



David Bellamy - artist

Coming Events

Music in the Coalfield at Big Pit, Music on the Patio

Some of the best Brass Bands and Male Voice Choirs from around south Wales bringing their music to visitors in a series of free Sunday afternoon concerts during May and June. All concerts start at 2.30pm, and will be taking place on the Patio outside the Pithead Baths:

28 May – Beaufort Male Voice Choir

4 June – Tredegar Town Band

11 June – Blaenavon Male Voice Choir

18 June – Markham & District Colliery Band

Make Merry Music at Big Pit

Try your hand at playing a range of musical instruments, and have a go at making your own instrument to play in our mini-concert.

Saturday 27 May – Sunday 4 June. 11am – 3pm

Tel: 01495 790311, www.museumwales.ac.uk, bigpit@museumwales.ac.uk

Birds of Hill and Moor Guided Walk

Saturday June 10th 10.30am – 3pm

(9km / 5 1/2 miles / Moderate).

From Foxhunter Car Park. A circular walk around Mynydd Y Garn Fawr. Bring Binoculars if you have them.

Fathers Day Special

Sunday 18th June

Pontypool & Blaenavon Railway

For further details phone 01495 792263

Minescapes of the World Heritage Site Guided Walk

Wednesday June 21st 10.30am – 2.30pm

(8km / 5 miles Moderate) From Big Pit - meet at the main entrance.

Keeper and Mine Manager Peter Walker will give a talk about the geology and industrial archaeology of the Blaenavon area, followed by a walk through the industrial landscape.

Blaenavon World Heritage Day

24th June 2006, Blaenavon Town Centre

For further details phone: 01633 648002

Garn Lakes Country Fayre

25th June 2006, Garn Lakes

For further details phone: 01633 648066

Fossil Hunt Guided Walk

Thursday July 27th 10.30am-1.30pm

(5km / 3 miles / Moderate) Meet at the Ironworks Car Park, Blaenavon. A walk looking at the geological diversity of the World Heritage Site.

Railwayana Display

Saturday 29th, Sunday 30th, July

Pontypool & Blaenavon Railway

For further details phone 01495 792263

DMU and DEMU Week

Monday 21st- Saturday 26th August

Pontypool & Blaenavon Railway

For further details phone 01495 792263

Fourth Grand Transport Rally

Saturday 27th & Monday 28th August

Pontypool & Blaenavon Railway

For further details phone 01495 792263

Ask the Wardens / Junior Ranger Activities

Sunday August 27th 10.30am (Junior Ranger Activities on the hour from 12)

From Keepers Pond car park. Rangers will be on hand to answer questions and provide information about the landscape. Children can take part in regular Junior Ranger activities such as wildlife spotting to earn a badge and Junior Ranger Pack! Weather dependent.

To book place on any of the walks or for further information call Alvin Nicholas on 01633 648045 or mobile: 07980 682749

Blaenavon Blues Weekend

Thursday 5th October - Sunday 8th October 2006

For further details phone: Peter Cottridge on 01495 792946 or e-mail: blues@webster.uk.net

