

HERITAGE NEWS NEWYDDION TREFTADAETH

**BLAENAVON WORLD HERITAGE SITE NEWSLETTER ISSUE 17 WINTER 2013
CYLCHLYTHYR SAFLE TREFTADAETH Y BYD BLAENAFON RHIFYN 17 GAEIF 2013**

CHRISTMAS IS COMING TO TOWN! DAW'R NADOLIG AR DROED I'R DREF!

Visit Blaenavon Heritage Town on Saturday 7 December and join the festive fun with this year's Blaenavon Winter Wonderland! Explore the Christmas market where there's every chance you'll pick up some lovely gifts for the festive season including the finest local produce and handmade gifts from the local area. Plus remember to visit the range of quality shops already in town!

Don't forget to visit Santa in his grotto and take part in festive craft workshops at Bethlehem Court. The fun fair, go-karts and pony rides all return to ensure fun for all the family this festive season! Live music will be provided by Blaenavon Town Band, Blaenavon Junior Band, Blaenavon Heritage VC Primary choir and brass band.

The event is being delivered by the Blaenavon Town Team with the support of the Blaenavon World Heritage Committee. Louise Doran Chair of the Blaenavon Town Team said 'We hope it will get everyone into the Christmas spirit and start looking forward to Christmas'.

For more information about the Winter Wonderland or Blaenavon Heritage Town please visit www.visitblaenavon.co.uk or telephone 01495 742333.

Galwch heibio i Dref Treftadaeth Blaenafon ar ddydd Sadwrn 7 Rhagfyr ac ymunwch yn hwyl yr ŵyl gyda Gwledd y Gaeaf ym Mlaenafon! Dewch i archwilio'r farchnad Nadolig gyda chyfle i chi ddewis rhoddion hyfryd ar gyfer yr ŵyl gan gynnwys y cynnyrch lleol gorau a rhoddion a wnaed â llaw o'r ardal leol. A chofiwch hefyd eich bod yn ymweld â'r amrywiaeth o siopau o ansawdd uchel sydd eisoes yn y dref!

Peidiwch ag anghofio galw i weld Siôn Corn yn ei grotto a chymryd rhan mewn gweithdai crefftau Nadoligaidd yn Llys Bethlehem. Daw'r ffair, y gwibgerti a'r merlod yn ôl hefyd eleni i sicrhau bod yna hwyl i'r teulu cyfan y tymor hwn! Ceir cerddoriaeth fyw gan Fand Tref Blaenafon, Band lau Blaenafon a chôr a band pres Ysgol Gynradd Wirfoddol a Reolir Treftadaeth Blaenafon.

Caiff y digwyddiad ei drosglwyddo gan Dim Tref Blaenafon gyda chefnogaeth Pwyllgor Treftadaeth Byd Blaenafon. Meddai Louise Doran, Cadeirydd Tîm Tref Blaenafon 'Rydyn ni'n gobeithio y bydd hyn yn cael pawb i gydio yn ysbryd y Nadolig ac i ddechrau edrych ymlaen at yr ŵyl.

Am fwy o wybodaeth am Wledd y Gaeaf neu Dref Treftadaeth Blaenafon rhowch glic ar www.visitblaenavon.co.uk neu ffoniwch 01495 742333.



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Exploring Blaenavon's Medical History

When the Blaenavon ironworks opened in 1789, people flocked to the area to find work in its various industries. Heavy industry involved dangerous work and accidents were commonplace. Furthermore, this was an era when sanitation was poor and houses were often overcrowded, providing an environment in which illness and disease were rife.

So what level of medical provision was there for the sick and injured of Blaenavon during the nineteenth century? This question and many more have been answered in *Farewell to Welfare*, a new publication by the Blaenavon Local History Group, which charts the story of medical provision in Blaenavon from the Industrial Revolution to present day. It includes new research on philanthropy, sick clubs, medical practitioners, and the Blaenavon Medical Aid Society. It also features modern day anecdotes and reflections from patients and doctors, including Dr Wayne Lewis and Dr Gareth Buffett.

The book has been produced by a group of enthusiastic volunteers, who meet weekly at the Blaenavon World Heritage Centre, and has been beautifully illustrated by local artist Mary Challenger. *Farewell to Welfare* is now available for purchase at the Blaenavon World Heritage Centre's gift shop and would make an ideal Christmas present!



The Blaenavon Workers Hospital, The Park. © Mary Challenger

Archwilio Hanes Meddygol Blaenafon

Pan agorodd Gwaith Haearn Blaenafon ym 1789, daeth pobl yn eu heidiau i'r ardal i ddod o hyd i waith yn ei diwydiannau amrywiol. Roedd y diwydiannau trwm yn golygu gwaith peryglus ac roedd damweiniau'n digwydd yn rheolaidd. Dyma adeg hefyd pan yr oedd glanweithdra'n wael a'r tai'n aml wedi eu gorboblogi, ac yn yr amgylchedd hwn roedd salwch a chlefyd yn rhemp.

Felly pa fath o ddarpariaeth feddygol oedd ar gael i'r sâl a'r claf ym Mlaenafon yn ystod y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg? Atebwyd y cwestiwn hwn a sawl un arall mewn cyhoeddiad newydd, *Farewell to Welfare*, gan Grŵp Hanes Lleol Blaenafon, sy'n olrhain hanes y ddarpariaeth feddygol ym Mlaenafon o'r Chwyldro Diwydiannol hyd heddiw. Mae'n cynnwys ymchwil newydd ar ddyngarwch, clybiau i'r sâl, meddygon a Chymdeithas Cymorth Meddygol Blaenafon. Mae hefyd yn cynnwys hanesion meddygol modern ac atgofion cleifion a meddygon, gan gynnwys Dr Wayne Lewis a Dr Gareth Buffett.

Cynhyrwyd y llyfr gan grŵp o wirfoddolwyr brwdfrydig sy'n cwrdd yn wythnosol yng Nghanolfan Treftadaeth Byd Blaenafon, ac mae'n cynnwys darluniau hardd gan yr artist lleol Mary Challenger. Mae *Farewell to Welfare* ar gael nawr i'w brynu yn siop rhoddion Canolfan Treftadaeth Byd Blaenafon ac fe fyddai'n anrheg delfrydol ar gyfer y Nadolig!

Railway News

Y Clecs o'r Cledrau



The heritage railway has had a very good year, and despite operating for 5 less days, passenger figures are almost identical to the same point as 2012. The biggest rise came in the midweek summer trains which saw a significant rise over last years. The events have all been very popular, with the highlight being the September 14/15 30th Anniversary Gala which saw many local people attending to see the recreation of the last train over the Heads of the Valleys railway, and to share their memories. The event even made the BBC Wales news.

The railway rounds off the year with its very popular Santa Steam Specials which run every December weekend (and November 30th). With presents for the children, sherry for the grown ups (plus mince pies for all) and a chance to meet Santa these fill up pretty quickly! To make sure you don't miss out call 01495 792263, email santa@pbrly.co.uk or book online via the railways website - www.pontypool-and-blaenavon.co.uk. The railway then closes until 2014 when it will reopen in April, with the popular Easter Bunny Trains running at Easter.

The railway is always looking for new volunteers, so if you fancy helping out why not pop along on a weekend and see what you can do.

Mae wedi bod yn flwyddyn dda iawn i'r rheilffordd treftadaeth, ac er gwaethaf y ffaith iddi weithredu am 5 diwrnod yn llai, mae ffigurau'r teithwyr bron yn union yr un peth â'r un pwynt yn 2012. Gwelwyd y cynnydd mwyaf yn nhrenau ganol wythnos yr haf, sydd wedi gweld cynnydd sylweddol dros y blynnyddoedd diwethaf. Roedd pob un o'r digwyddiadau'n boblogaidd iawn, a'r uchafbwynt oedd y Gala Dathlu 30 ar 14/15 Medi a welodd lawer o bobl leol yn dod i'w gweld yn ail-greu taith y trên olaf dros reilffordd Blaenau'r Cymoedd ac i rannu eu hatgofion. Rhoddwyd sylw i'r digwyddiad ar newyddion BBC Cymru.

Fe fydd y rheilffordd yn diweddur flwyddyn gyda digwyddiadau poblogaidd Trenau Stêm Siôn Corn sy'n rhedeg bob penwythnos yn ystod mis Rhagfyr (ac ar 30 Tachwedd). Gydag anrhegion i'r plant, sieri i'r oedolion (a mins peis i bawb) a chyfle i gwrrd â Siôn Corn, mae'r llefydd yn llenwi'n fuan! Er mwyn sicrhau na fyddwch chi'n colli'ch cyfle, ffoniwch 01495 792263, e-bostiwch santa@pbrly.co.uk neu trefnwch eich lle ar-lein trwy wefan y rheilffordd - www.pontypool-and-blaenavon.co.uk. Yna, fe fydd y rheilffordd yn cau tan 2014 ac yn ailagor ym mis Ebrill, gyda Threnau Cwningen y Pasg poblogaidd yn rhedeg dros y Pasg.

Ac maen nhw'n chwilio am wirfoddolwyr newydd ar y rheilffordd, felly os hoffech chi estyn llaw beth am alw draw ar un o'r penwythnosau i weld beth allwch chi ei wneud.



'Handmade Christmas' at the Blaenavon World Heritage Centre

Join us for a festive Christmas shopping experience at the Blaenavon World Heritage Centre on Sunday 24th November 2013, 11-3 pm. The Centre will be filled with variety of quality craft and food stalls perfect for you to find that unique Christmas gift. Browse the beautiful handmade gifts and local produce on offer or have a go at our 'Make & Take' workshops including make your own yummy chocolates or traditional festive wreath. There will also be a free craft stall where children can have a go at making a Christmas 'glo lantern' or card. In addition to the stalls and activities the Heritage Café will be serving delicious traditional Christmas lunches* and seasonal refreshments will be available all day. For further information www.visitblaenavon.co.uk/ events or contact the Blaenavon Tourist Information Centre on 01495 742333. **booking in advance is recommended. The event is organised by Forgotten Landscapes Partnership in conjunction with Willowlane Craft Fairs.

Victorian Christmas at Blaenavon World Heritage Centre

Get into the Christmas spirit every Saturday in December with a "Victorian Christmas" at Blaenavon World Heritage Centre. Have a go at making traditional Christmas decorations and gifts before visiting Santa in his Victorian Grotto! Plus, enjoy seasonal music and a delicious Christmas menu at the Heritage Café including home made Mince Pies and Mulled Wine.

'Nadolig Cartref' yng Nghanolfan Treftadaeth Byd Blaenafon

Ymunwch â ni am brofiad siopa Nadoligaidd yng Nghanolfan Treftadaeth Byd Blaenafon ar ddydd Sul 24 Tachwedd 2013, 11-3yp. Fe fydd y Ganolfan dan ei sang ag amrywiaeth o stondinau crefft a bwyd o ansawdd uchel, felly dyma'r cyfle perffaith i chi ddod o hyd i rodd unigryw ar gyfer y Nadolig. Porwch drwy'r rhoddion hardd a wnaed â llaw, a'r cynnyrch lleol, a fydd yn rhan o'r arlwy neu throwch eich llaw at ein gweithdai arbennig i wneud rhywbeth i fynd adref gyda chi, gan gynnwys cyfle i wneud eich siocledi blasus eich hun neu blethdorch Nadoligaidd draddodiadol. Fe fydd stonidin grefftau rhad ac am ddim hefyd gyda chyfle i'r plant gael tro ar wneud llusern neu gerdyn Nadoligaidd. Ac ar ben y stondinau a'r gweithgareddau, fe fydd y Caffi Treftadaeth yn gweini pryd Nadolig traddodiadol * hynod o flasus ac fe fydd lluniaeth tymhorol ar gael trwy'r dydd. Am wybodaeth bellach, rhowch glic ar www.visitblaenavon.co.uk/events neu cysylltwch â Chanolfan Croeso Blaenafon ar 01495 742333. **argymhellir eich bod yn cadw'ch lle ymlaen llaw. Trefnwyr y digwyddiad yw Partneriaeth Tirweddau Angof mewn cydweithrediad â Willowlane Craft Fairs.

£2.50 charge per child for Santa to include a gift. 7th/14th/21st December, 12pm-4pm. All other activities free of charge. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Tel 01495 742333.

Don't forget, the Heritage Café will be serving Christmas lunch every Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday throughout December.

Mini Explorers Club at Big Pit

Big Pit have recently been improving their provision for very young visitors. A range of new activities and resources have been developed to help under-fives get more out of a visit to Big Pit. One new resource is the 'Mini Miners Trail' booklet with activities for children, which also includes ideas to help parents guide their little ones around Big Pit. These have been developed in conjunction with Torfaen's Language and Play Coordinator and Torfaen Bookstart. They were trialled and tested with an audience of toddlers from Flying Start and Busy Bees Blaenavon, along with some families who regularly attend 'Bookstart Rhymetime' events in Torfaen libraries. The Welsh language version was trialled by pupils from Ysgol Bryn Onnen.

There are also plans for a regular programme of events aimed at under-fives, and the opportunity for children

to join the 'Little Pit Explorers Club' for 0-4 year olds or the 'Big Pit Explorers Club' for 5-7 year olds. Members of both clubs will receive a certificate, badge, activity pack and VIP invitations to special events four times a year. The first events will be Father Christmas on Saturday 7 December for children of all ages and Mother Christmas on Sunday 15 December for 0-4 year olds.

To find out more about joining the Explorers Clubs or to book for Mother Christmas, ring 029 2057 3650.



Clwb Fforwyr Bach yn Big Pit

Yn ddiweddar, mae Big Pit wedi bod yn gwella'r ddarpariaeth ar gyfer ymwelwyr ifanc iawn. Datblygwyd cyfres o weithgareddau ac adnoddau newydd i helpu plant dan bump i gael mwy allan o ymweliad â Big Pit. Un o'r adnoddau newydd yw'r llyfryn 'Llwybr Glowyr Bach' gyda gweithgareddau i blant, sydd hefyd yn cynnwys syniadau i helpu rhieni i dywys eu rhai bach o amgylch Big Pit. Datblygwyd y rhain mewn cydweithrediad â Chydlynnydd Iaita a Chwarae Torfaen a Dechrau Da Torfaen. Cawsant

eu treialu a'u profi gyda chynulleidfa o rai bach o Dechrau'n Deg a Busy Bees Blaenavon, ynghyd â rhai o'r teuluoedd sy'n dod i ddigwyddiadau 'Amser Rhigwm Dechrau Da' yn rheolaidd yn llyfrgelloedd Torfaen. Treialwyd y fersiwn Gymraeg gan ddisgyblion o Ysgol Bryn Onnen.

Mae yna gynlluniau ar

droed hefyd i gynnal rhaglen reolaidd o ddigwyddiadau sy'n targedu plant dan bump, a chyfle i blant ymaelodi â Chlwb Fforwyr 'Little Pit' i blant bach 0-4 oed neu Glwb Fforwyr 'Big Pit' i blant 5-7 oed. Caiff aelodau'r ddau glwb dystysgrif, bathodyn, pecyn gweithgareddau a gwahoddiad arbennig i ddigwyddiadau arbennig bedair gwaith y flwyddyn. Y digwyddiadau cyntaf fydd Siôn Corn ar ddydd Sadwrn 7 Rhagfyr i blant o bob oed a Siân Corn ar ddydd Sul 15 Rhagfyr i blant bach 0-4 oed.

I ddarganfod mwy am ymuno â'r Clybiau Fforwyr neu i drefnu lle ar gyfer Siân Corn, ffoniwch 029 2057 3650.



Join the Junior Rangers!

We currently have spaces available for new members to join our club, so if you aged between 7 -11 years, love wildlife and enjoy the outdoors then Junior Rangers is the club for you!

We meet on the 2nd Sunday of every month at the Blaenavon World Heritage Centre from 10.30-12.30, during 2014 we will be learning bushcraft skills, foraging, hunting for fossils, pond dipping, bug hunting as well as doing our usual craft activities and games.

For more information please contact Tracey at tracey.marsh@torfaen.gov.uk or telephone 01495 742945.

Join your Blaenavon Town Team!

If you would like to get involved or have some positive ideas to help your town centre, then why not come along and join the Blaenavon Town Team!

The Town Team is a small but enthusiastic volunteer group made up from all walks of life and represents all aspects of the Blaenavon community. The team is chaired by Louise Doran a proactive local resident; Peter Griffiths has recently been appointed as that the Vice Chair and Ryan Redman as the Treasurer.

The aims of the Town Team are to promote the Town and what it has to offer. At the moment the Team is busy organising Blaenavon Winter Wonderland but are keen to start new projects in the Town such as car boot sales, local markets, activities for children in the school holidays, an events programme, a town clean up, as well as supporting long term projects such as creating a community facility in Bethlehem Chapel.

The next meeting is on Monday 9 December at 6pm in the Blaenavon's Workmen's Hall so please come along! We know there are lots of you out there with perhaps just a couple of hours to spare or a specialist skill that would add so much to the team.

The Town team meet once a month in the Blaenavon Workmen's Hall, all welcome, for more information please contact Louise Doran, Tel: 01495 790489 or louisedoran@btopenworld.com

Ymunwch â'r Parcmyn Bach!

Ar hyn o bryd, mae gennym le i aelodau newydd sydd am ymuno â'n clwb, felly os ydych chi rhwng 7 ac 11 oed, wrth eich bodd â bywyd gwylt ac yn mwynhau'r awyr agored, yna Parcmyn Bach yw'r clwb i chi!

Rydyn ni'n cwrdd ar 2il ddydd Sul y mis yng Nghanolfan Treftadaeth Byd Blaenafon o 10.30-12.30, ac yn ystod 2014 fe fyddwn ni'n dysgu sgiliau byw yn y gwylt, chwilota am fwyd, fforio am ffosiliau, pori'r pyllau, chwilio chwilod yn ogystal â'n gêmiau a'n gweithgareddau crefft arferol.

Am fwy o wybodaeth cysylltwch â Tracey trwy e-bostio tracey.marsh@torfaen.gov.uk neu ffonio 01495 742945.

Ymunwch â Thîm Tref Blaenafon!

Os hoffech chi gymryd rhan neu os oes gennych syniadau positif i helpu canol eich tref, dewch draw i ymuno â Thîm Tref Blaenafon!

Mae Thîm y Dref yn grŵp bach ond brwdfrydig o wirfoddolwyr o bob cefndir ac mae'n cynrychioli pob agwedd ar gymuned Blaenafon. Cadeirydd y tîm yw Louise Doran sy'n un o'r trigolion lleol gweithgar; penodwyd Peter Griffiths yn ddiweddar fel Is-gadeirydd a Ryan Redman fel y Trysorydd.

Nod Thîm y Dref yw hybu'r Dref a'r hyn sydd ganddi i'w gynnig. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r Thîm yn brysur yn trefnu Gwledd y Nadolig ym Mlaenafon ond mae'n awyddus i ddechrau prosiectau newydd yn y Dref fel gwerthu o gist car, marchnadoedd lleol, gweithgareddau i blant yn ystod gwyliau ysgol a rhaglen o ddigwyddiadau, ymgyrch tacluso'r dref, a chefnogi prosiectau hir dymor fel creu cyfleuster cymunedol yng Nghapel Bethlehem.

Cynhelir y cyfarfod nesaf ar ddydd Llun 9 Rhagfyr am 6yh yn Neuadd y Gweithwyr Blaenafon felly da chi, dewch draw! Rydyn ni'n gwybod bod yna lawer ohonoch sydd ag ychydig oriau i'w sbario neu sgiliau arbenigol a fyddai'n golygu llawer iawn i'r tîm.

Mae Thîm y Dref yn cwrdd unwaith y mis yn Neuadd y Gweithwyr Blaenafon, ac mae croeso i bawb. Am fwy o wybodaeth mae croeso i chi gysylltu â Louise Doran, ffoniwch 01495 790489 neu e-bostiwch louisedoran@btopenworld.com

Christmas at the Ironworks

Step back in time to experience the sights, sounds and smells of Christmas throughout the decades in the period cottages of Stack Square. Our story teller will capture the spirit of Christmas with tales of winters past and Coal House family's will share their Stack Square memories. The Blaenavon Town Band will provide a seasonal soundtrack with regular performances throughout the day.

There will be an Elves' workshop where you can create your own decorations, and we'll also be joined by Father Christmas, on hand to hear about how good you have been all year and it's your chance to tell him your wish list. 15 December 2013, 11am-3.30pm, Tel: 01495 792615 or visit www.cadw.wales.gsi.gov.uk

Nadolig yn y Gwaith Haearn

Camwch yn ôl i gyfnod arall i brofi golygfeydd, synau ac arogleuon y Nadolig dros y degawdau ym mythynnod cyfnod Stack Square. Fe fydd ein storiwr yn crisialu ysbryd y Nadolig gyda straeon am aeafau a fu ac fe fydd teuluoedd Tŷ Glo yn rhannu eu hatgofion am Stack Square. Fe fydd Band Tref Blaenafon hefyd yn darparu cyfeiliant tymhorol gyda pherfformiadau rheolaidd trwy gydol y dydd.

Fe fydd gweithdy'r Coblynnod yn brysur hefyd, gyda chyfle i chi greu rhai o'ch addurniadau eich hunain, ac fe fydd Siôn Corn yn galw heibio i gael gwybod os ydych chi wedi bod yn dda trwy'r flwyddyn. Dyma'ch cyfle chi i ddweud wrtho beth sydd ar eich rhestr Nadolig chi. 15 Rhagfyr 2013, 11yb-3.30yp, Ffoniwch 01495 792615 neu rhowch glic ar www.cadw.wales.gsi.gov.uk



Sarah Hopkins' Legacy Lives On!



The World Heritage Centre has had yet another busy term providing varied education packages, which range from film making, to Celts and warrior training, pond dipping to our strict Victorian Schoolroom and object handling days. Building on this success, the Centre is now developing further ideas. At the moment the Centre caters for younger schoolchildren but it aims to develop more packages for different parts of the curriculum and cater for older children.

A good mix of local schools visit each year with more schools willing to travel from further afield to visit, learn and understand the global significance of the Blaenavon World Heritage Site.

The Centre works closely with partner organisations including the National Museum of Wales and Cadw to create memorable and educational visits with children often returning with their parents to visit the World Heritage Site!

So if you want to bring an education group, of any age, to the World Heritage Centre, get in touch and see what can be offered! Telephone 01495 742333 or email Blaenavon.tic@torfaen.gov.uk

Etifeddiaeth Sarah Hopkins yn Parhau!

Mae'n ddechrau ar dymor prysur arall i'r Ganolfan Treftadaeth Byd wrth iddi ddarparu pecynnau addysg amrywiol, sy'n amrywio o wneud ffilmiau, i hyfforddi Celtiaid a rhyfelwyr, pori'r pyllau, diwrnodau llym mewn Dosbarth o Gyfnod Victoria a thrin a thrafod gwrthrychau. I adeiladu ar y llwyddiant hwn, mae'r Ganolfan nawr yn datblygu syniadau pellach. Ar hyn o bryd, mae'r Ganolfan yn darparu ar gyfer plant ysgol ifancach ond mae'n anelu at ddatblygu mwy o becynnau ar gyfer adrannau gwahanol o'r cwricwlwm a darparu ar gyfer plant hŷn.

Mae cyfuniad da o ysgolion lleol yn ymweld bob blwyddyn a mwy a mwy o ysgolion yn teithio pellteroedd mwy i ymweld, dysgu a deall pwysigrwydd byd-eang Safle Treftadaeth Byd Blaenavon.

Mae'r Ganolfan yn gweithio'n agos gyda mudiadau partner gan gynnwys Amgueddfa Cymru a Cadw i greu ymweliadau addysgol a chofiadwy ac mae plant yn aml yn dychwelyd gyda'u rhieni i ymweld â'r Safle Treftadaeth Byd!

Felly os hoffech chi ddod â grŵp addysgol, o unrhyw oed, i'r Safle Treftadaeth Byd, cysylltwch â ni i weld beth allwn ni ei gynig! Ffoniwch 01495 742333 neu e-bostiwch Blaenavon.tic@torfaen.gov.uk

Blaenavon Museum to Mark Centenary of World War One

2014 marks the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War. During this global conflict some 40,000 Welshmen lost their lives, including over a hundred soldiers from the town of Blaenavon. All families were affected by the war in some way and many of us know of relatives who served their country in the armed forces, in the coalmines, on the land, in the munitions factories or on the Home Front.

The Blaenavon Community Heritage and Cordell Museum has recently been awarded a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to produce a book that tells the story of the people of Blaenavon in the years between 1914 and 1918. The museum will be working with volunteers, students, the Royal British Legion and Gwent Archives to research this significant period in history and the findings will be made available to the public, local schools and libraries.

If you have any personal stories, photographs or documents related to the First World War, the museum would be pleased to hear from you. Anything you contribute will be digitised and safely returned to you.

For further information, including details of volunteering opportunities, please phone 01495 790991 or email blaenavoncordellmuseum@hotmail.co.uk



Amgueddfa Blaenavon yn Cofio Canrif ers y Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf

Mae 2014 yn nodi canrif ers dechrau'r Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf. Yn ystod y brwydro byd-eang hwn, gwelwyd tua 40,000 o ddynion Cymru'n colli eu bywydau, gan gynnwys dros gan o filwyr o dref Blaenavon. Effeithiodd y rhyfel ar bob teulu mewn rhyw ffordd neu'i gilydd, ac mae llawer ohonom yn gwybod am berthnasau a fu'n gwasanaethu'u gwlad yn y lluoedd arfog, yn y pyllau glo, ar y tir, yn y ffatrioedd arfau neu ar y Ffrynt Cartref.

Yn ddiweddar, mae Treftadaeth Gymunedol Blaenavon ac Amgueddfa Cordell wedi sicrhau grant gan Gronfa Treftadaeth y Loteri i gynhyrchu llyfr sy'n adrodd stori pobl Blaenavon yn ystod y blynyddoedd rhwng 1914 a 1918. Fe fydd yr amgueddfa'n gweithio gyda gwirfoddolwyr, myfyrwyr, y Llenng Brydeinig Frenhinol ac Archifau Gwent i ymchwilio i'r cyfnod hanesyddol pwysig hwn ac fe fydd y darganfyddiadau ar gael i'r cyhoedd, ysgolion lleol a llyfrgelloedd.

Os oes gennych chi unrhyw straeon personol, ffotograffau neu ddogfennau sy'n gysylltiedig â'r Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf, mi fuasai'r amgueddfa'n falch iawn o glywed gennych. Fe fydd unrhyw beth y gallwch chi ei gyfrannu yn cael ei ddigideiddio a'i dychwelyd yn ddiogel atoch chi.

Am wybodaeth bellach, gan gynnwys manylion cyfleoedd gwirfoddoli, mae croeso i chi ffonio 01495 790991 neu e-bostio blaenavoncordellmuseum@hotmail.co.uk



Blaenavon Ironworks – a model of interpretation

If you've been to the Ironworks lately, you'll have seen the exciting new interpretation scheme taking shape. One of the most obvious and popular new additions is a fantastic scale model of the works circa 1836. The model, two meters in diameter and made of Corten steel, is ideally placed to help visitors orientate themselves and to understand just how built-up the whole area would have been when the works were in full blast. Throughout the 19th century Blaenavon was at the centre of technological advances, and the model continues in that vein. Designed by artist Rubin Eynon, it was manufactured in Bridgend by engineering firm SMF using the latest in laser-cutting technology. They constructed the model by building up individually cut layers of steel jointed together just like a giant 3D jigsaw. This was the first time the machinery had been used for this type of work. Indeed, the makers of the laser-cutter, Trumpf felt the model was so 'cutting edge' that it featured at their open-house exhibition in Luton prior to it being positioned on site.

The Blaenavon Ironworks project is part of Cadw's £19 million Heritage Tourism Project which is funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Welsh Government.



Image courtesy of Bright 3D

Gwaith Haearn Blaenafon – dehongli dyfeisgar

Os fuoch chi i'r Gwaith Haearn yn ddiweddar, fe fyddwch chi wedi gweld y cynllun dehongli cyffrous newydd yn dod yn ei flaen. Un o'r ychwanegiadau newydd amlycaf a mwyaf poblogaidd yw model gwych o'r gwaith tua 1836, wrth raddfa. Mae'r model, sydd â diamedr o ddau fetr ac wedi ei wneud o ddr Corten, mewn lle delfrydol i helpu ymwelwyr i ffeindio'u traed ac i ddeall pa mor adeiledig oedd yr ardal gyfan pan oedd y gwaith ar ei anterth. Trwy gydol y 19eg ganrif, roedd Blaenafon wrth galon datblygiadau technolegol, ac mae'r model yn parhau gyda'r traddodiad hwnnw. Fe'i cynlluniwyd gan yr artist Rubin Eynon, ac fe'i gwnaed ym Mhen-y-bont ar Ogwr gan y cwmni peirianeg SMF gan ddefnyddio'r dechnoleg laser ddiweddaraf. Crëwyd y model trwy adeiladu haenau o ddr wedi eu hasio at ei gilydd fel jig-so 3 dimensiwn anferthol. Dyma'r tro cyntaf i'r peiriant gael ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer y math yma o waith. A dweud y gwir, roedd gwneuthurwyr y torrwr laser, Trumpf, yn teimlo bod y model mor flaengar nes iddynt ei gynnwys yn eu harddangosfa yn Luton cyn ei osod ar y safle.

Mae prosiect Gwaith Haearn Blaenafon yn rhan o Brosiect Twristiaeth Treftadaeth Cadw, sy'n werth £19 miliwn ac yn cael ei ariannu gan Gronfa Datblygu Rhanbarthol Ewrop trwy Lywodraeth Cymru.

Countryfile at Blaenavon



Did you see the recent episode of BBC Countryfile which focussed on Abergavenny, the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal and the Blaenavon World Heritage Site? It was fantastic! Julia Bradbury and Matt Baker did a great job bringing the story of the World Heritage Site to life. Tom Sharpe, from the National Museum, explained how the geology and landform enabled iron making and coal mining to become such important industries. Michael Blackmore, local artist and historian, described how the Bloreng tram road incline operated and Steve Williams, Torfaen Council Ecologist, demonstrated the value of coal spoil for rare and unusual plants and animals. There were some amazing flyover shots too which really showed the impact past industry has had with the Canada Tips looking like an alien planet.

And the BMX race at the end ... well! Have a look for yourself at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1OykpvM6Ek>

Countryfile ym Blaenafon

A welsoch chi raglen ddiweddar BBC Countryfile a oedd yn canolbwyntio ar y Fenni, Camlas Sir Fynwy a Brycheiniog a Safle Treftadaeth Byd Blaenafon? Roedd hi'n rhaglen wych! Gwnaeth Julia Bradbury a Matt Baker waith arbennig wrth ddod â stori'r Safle Treftadaeth Byd yn fyw. Fe fu Tom Sharpe, o'r Amgueddfa Genedlaethol, yn esbonio sut yr oedd y ddaear a'r tirffurf wedi galluogi gwaith haearn a chloddio am lo i fod yn ddiwydiannau mor bwysig. Fe fu Michael Blackmore, artist a hanesydd lleol, yn disgrifio sut yr oedd incllein tramffordd Bloreng yn gweithio a Steve Williams, Colegydd Cyngor Torfaen, yn dangos gwerth storfa lo leol i blanhigion ac anifeiliaid prin ac anarferol. Roedd yna luniau gwych o'r awyr hefyd i ddangos effaith diwydiant y gorffennol, gyda Thipiau Canada yn edrych fel planed estron.

A'r ras BMX ar y diwedd ... wel, beth am i chi weld drosoch chi'ch hun trwy glicio ar: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1OykpvM6Ek>



Coming Events

Christmas Craft Fayre

24 November/Tachwedd 2013
A range of craft stalls provided by Willow Lane Crafts, 11am-4pm, Blaenavon World Heritage Centre, Tel: 01495 742333.

The Blessing of the Crib

25 November/Tachwedd 2013
Carol Service, readings, prayers and Christmas lights switch on, Bethlehem Court, 7pm.

Friends of the Green

2 December/Rhagfyr 2013
Come along and join in singing Christmas carols around the tree, Charles Street, Blaenavon, 6.30pm, Tel: 01495 792335.

Blaenavon Male Voice Choir – Annual Concert

7 December/Rhagfyr 2013
Come and join Blaenavon Male Voice Choir for their Annual Concert, at Blaenavon Workmen's Hall, 7pm, Tel: 01873 830912.

Handmade Victorian Christmas

7/14/21 December 2013
Get into the Christmas spirit every Saturday in December with a "Handmade Victorian Christmas" at Blaenavon World Heritage Centre. Have a go at making traditional Christmas decorations and gifts before visiting Santa in his Victorian Grotto! Plus, enjoy seasonal music and a delicious Christmas menu at the Heritage Café including home made Mince Pies and Mulled Wine. £2.50 per child for Santa to include a gift. All other activities free of charge. Children must be accompanied by an adult. 12-4pm. Tel 01495 742333.

Santa Steam Specials

30/1, 7/8, 14/15, 21/22 December/Rhagfyr 2013
Travel by steam to see Santa's Grotto, where there will be presents for children and sherry and mince pies for adults. Blaenavon Heritage Railway. Advanced booking essential to avoid disappointment. Tel: 01495 792263 or email: santa@pbrly.co.uk

Blaenavon Winter Wonderland

7 December/Rhagfyr 2013
Festive fun for all the family to enjoy with Christmas Market, Santa, real reindeer and Victorian fun fair, Blaenavon Heritage Town, 12-6pm. Tel: 01495 742333.

A Thrifty Christmas

7 December/Rhagfyr 2013
Join us for a day of activities to make this Christmas a thrifty one plus an opportunity to meet Father Christmas. Make your own Christmas cards or create individual and unique Christmas decorations. Big Pit, 11am-4pm, (small charge applies for craft activities), Tel: 01495 790311 or visit www.museumwales.ac.uk

Festive Trails

14 December/Rhagfyr 2013–3 January/Ionawr
Pick up a trail sheet and solve the festive quiz, Big Pit, Tel: 01495 790311 or visit www.museumwales.ac.uk

Big Pit Babies

15 December/Rhagfyr 2013
Make a Rudolph mask and meet Mother Christmas. Suitable for 0-5 years. £2 per child, booking essential. 2pm-4pm, Tel: 01495 790322 or visit www.museumwales.co.uk

Christmas at the Ironworks

15 December/Rhagfyr 2013
Step back in time to experience the

sights, sounds and smells of Christmas throughout the decades in the period cottages of Stack Square. Our story teller will capture the spirit of Christmas with tales of winters past and Coal House family's will share their Stack Square memories. While seasonal music will be performed throughout the day.

There'll be an Elves' workshop where you can create your own decorations, and we'll also be joined by Father Christmas, on hand to hear about how good you have been all year and it's your chance to tell him your wish list. 11am-3.30pm, Tel: 01495 792615 or visit www.cadw.wales.gsi.gov.uk

St Peter's Church

22 December/Rhagfyr 2013
Nine Lessons and Carols's, 6pm.

Horeb Baptist

24 December/Rhagfyr 2013
Candlelight Service, 6pm.

St Peter's Church

24 December/Rhagfyr 2013
Family Crib Service, 6pm.

St Paul's Church

24 December/Rhagfyr 2013
Midnight Mass, 10.45pm.

St Peter's Church

25 December/Rhagfyr 2013
Christmas Eucharist with Carols, 10am.

Horeb Baptist

25 December/Rhagfyr 2013
Family worship and Communion, 10am.

Love Food

Saturday 25 January/Ionawr 2013
Celebrate St Dwynwen's Day with us and sample and buy the best of local Welsh produce to take home and share with your loved one! Also opportunity to buy unique handmade tokens and gifts, Big Pit, 11am-4pm, Tel: 01495 792615 or visit www.museumwales.ac.uk

