



Forgotten Landscapes May News

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Welcome to the May 2013 edition of the Forgotten Landscapes e-newsletter. This month we're taking a look at the upcoming events in and around the Blaenavon World Heritage Site. This includes everything from the Community Archeological Dig to our [volunteer special](#) on the Forgotten Landscapes blog. We also see what will be going on as part of the national 'Museums at Night' event.



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](mailto:landscapesblog@gmail.com)



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### The Forgotten Landscapes Community Archeology Dig

This June, Forgotten Landscapes volunteers will once again join forces with Dr Amelia Pannett from Archeology Wales to investigate the site of four ruined cottages and their associated outbuildings within one of the main areas of early mining in the landscape. The buildings being investigated date back to at least 1820.

Dr Pannett was on hand last year to help make headway defining the walls of the cottages

alongside the Hills Pit Chimney site. The 2013 course aims to train volunteers in the skills they need to run their own research projects, as well as how to monitor sites in the World Heritage Site to ensure their long term preservation. For the dig itself, Dr Pannett and her colleagues will be training the volunteers in all aspects of excavation, recording and surveying.

If you're interested in taking part, contact Sarah Lewis, Volunteer Recruitment and Training Officer, on 01495 742 335

### **The Forgotten Landscapes blog *Volunteer special***

From the very beginning, volunteers have played a hugely important role in the success of the Forgotten Landscapes Project. Now, with winter finally having retreated and the sun beginning to shine, there's no better time to get out and help our volunteers and learn some new skills in the process.

Take a look at [our blog](#) to find out all about the five different volunteering groups, from practical conservation to dry stone walling, and to discover the individual benefits of each one as well as how to sign up.

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

### **Event: Night at the Museum**

May 10th, 14th & 16th

As part of the hugely popular '*Museums at Night*' event taking place in museums, galleries and heritage sites throughout the UK, the World Heritage Site is putting on three events of their very own.

Over three nights (May 10th, 14th & 16th), the Blaenavon World Heritage Centre will come alive to explore the historic magical landscape at night with a *Dark Skies* walk, a *Myths and Legends* talk and a *Bat Walk*. So if you'd like to try your hand at anything from stargazing with a professional to exploring for bats in the wilderness, contact the World Heritage Centre on 01495 742 333 or visit [www.visitblaenavon.co.uk](http://www.visitblaenavon.co.uk).

### Family Nature Detectives

Tuesday 28th May, 1.30pm - 3.30pm

2 miles / 3km / easy

A fantastic opportunity for kids to come and have a really fun time outdoors. Meeting at the Big Pit National Mining Museum, there's the chance to explore the natural area of Coity Tip and discover all the various wildlife that has made the place its home.

Complete the nature trail, hunt for mini beasts and have a go at pond dipping on the family-friendly adventure (suitable for children aged 5-11, children must be accompanied by an adult). **Tickets cost £2 per child, booking is essential. Be sure to bring wellies, outdoor clothing and a drink.**

### Talk: Forgotten Churchyards

Tuesday 21st May, 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Churchyards contain a great wealth of information about the history of any community. Join David Howell, Archeologist and Heritage lecturer at the University of Wales, Newport, to hear some of the fascinating stories to have been uncovered through recent work on St Peter's Church in Blaenavon, as well as how historic churchyards are being conserved around South Wales. It is free to get involved and takes place at the Blaenavon World Heritage Centre. **Booking is essential.**

### Walk: Morning Chorus Walk

Saturday 4th May, 6.00am - 9.00am  
2 miles / 3km / easy

Experience the true wonder of the morning chorus as you join Brecon Beacons National Park Ranger and naturalist Steve Smith on an early-morning walk through some of the most picturesque routes the region has to offer. The walk will then be followed by a hard-earned cooked breakfast (plus a tea or coffee) at the Blaenavon World Heritage Centre café. **The walk costs £10 per person (including breakfast)** and walkers are reminded to bring walking boots and waterproofs.





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