

In the first half of the 20th century this scene looked very different from today. The black mound of Khartoum Tip towered over rows of miners' cottages, a pub, school and chapel.

### Homes for the workers

Onllwyn was the first industrial village in the Dulais Valley. Front and Back Rows were built in the 1840s to house miners and ironworkers. Khartoum and Gordon Terraces were rows of corrugated iron bungalows, added as a cheap and quick way to house more workers. But after World War II the mines declined and nearly all of the houses were demolished in the 1960s.



### Onllwyn School

The new infants school replaced an earlier makeshift school in 1892. It was extended in 1907 to cope with growing pupil numbers, but half a century later the numbers were falling and the school closed in 1962.

Yn hanner cyntaf yr ugeinffed ganrif, roedd yr olygfa yma yn wahanol iawn i'r hyn a welwn heddiw. Roedd Tomen Khartoum fel mynydd du yn taflu ei gysgod dros resi o dai glowyr, tafarn, ysgol a chapel.

### Cartrefi'r gweithwyr

Onllwyn oedd pentref diwydiannol cyntaf Cwm Dulais. Codwyd Front Row a Back Row yn y 1840au yn gartrefi ar gyfer glowyr a gweithwyr haearn. Rhesi o fyngholos sinc oedd Khartoum Terrace a Gordon Terrace, a godwyd fel ffordd rad a chyflym o gael rhagor o dai ar gyfer gweithwyr. Ond bu dirywiad yn y pyllau glo ar ôl yr Ail Ryfel Byd a chafodd y tai bron i gyd eu dymchwel yn y 1960au.

### Ysgol Onllwyn

Codwyd ysgol newydd i blant bach ym 1892 i gymryd lle ysgol ddigon sâl a godwyd cyn hynny. Codwyd estyniad ym 1907 am fod nifer y disgylion yn codi ond, ymhene hanner canrif, roedd llai o blant yn dod i'r ysgol ac fe gafodd ei chau ym 1962.

### Onllwyn Chapel

The first chapel was built here in 1846 and was replaced by a larger building in 1910. The chapel was demolished in 1992, leaving just the graveyard today.



### Capel Onllwyn

Adeiladwyd y capel cyntaf yma ym 1846 a chodwyd adeilad mwy yn ei le ym 1910. Dymchwelwyd y capel ym 1992 a dim ond y fynwent sydd ar ôl yno heddiw.



### Khartoum (Tip) Park

This was the spoil tip for Onllwyn No. 1, named after the siege of Khartoum in 1884. Now replanted it is a popular and peaceful place for walks and picnics. A sculpture commemorates two local men killed in the Spanish Civil War. The mines attracted workers to this valley from throughout Wales and beyond. Spanish miners who worked here inspired much local support for the Republican cause in Spain.



### Onllwyn No. 1 Colliery

Opened in 1845, this was the first of a series of anthracite slants at Onllwyn. It was owned by Evans & Bevan Ltd until nationalisation in 1947, and continued working until 1964, employing around 600 men for much of that time.



### Parc (Tomen) Khartoum

Tomen wastraff pwall Onllwyn Rhif 1 oedd hon. Cafodd ei henwi ar ôl y gwarchae a gafwyd yn Khartoum ym 1884. Erbyn hyn, mae'n llecyn glas braf i fynd am dro neu am bicnic. Mae yno gerflun i gofio am ddau ddyn o'r ardal a laddwyd yn Rhyfel Cartref Sbaen. Daeth dynion o bob rhan o Gymru a'r tu hwnt i'r dyffryn i weithio yn y pyllau glo. Llwyddodd glowyr o Sbaen i ysbrydoli pobl yr ardal i gefnogi achos y Gweriniaethwyr yn y Rhyfel Cartref.

### Glofa Onllwyn Rhif 1

Y lofa hon, a agorwyd ym 1845, oedd y gyntaf mewn cyfres o slantiau glo carreg yn Onllwyn. Roedd yn eiddo i gwmni Evans & Bevan Ltd tan i'r diwydiant glo gael ei wladoli ym 1947 a bu'n gweithio tan 1964, gan gyflogi tua 600 o ddynion am gyfnod helaeth.

Oct 2nd 1908	The attendance has fallen off considerably for the week owing to the exclusion of children of the families affected by typhoid fever.
Oct 9th 1940	The attendance cont'd 392
2 June 1940	Evacuees from Billingham Kent were received to the School today for distribution in the district concerning Denbawen Farm to Roman Road. Number received = 93. Of these, 28 (33B + 5G) were to attend Dulais Council School.
15 July. 1962	Due to the early morning air raid warning at eleven this morning and children were sent home or houses near school. The 'all clear' followed in about 3 hours. School reopened in afternoon in accordance with instructions from Cardiff School now opens at 7.00am instead of 8.55 until further orders. This is owing to nightly air raid warnings and the inconvenience with children and parents' sleep.
April 30th to May 1st 1962	This entry terminates an era in the life of Gelliop School 1892 - 1962. Only the future can tell whether its closure is a progressive or retrograde step, but from my own part as the last Head Teacher of Gelliop School it is with regret that I sever an association.

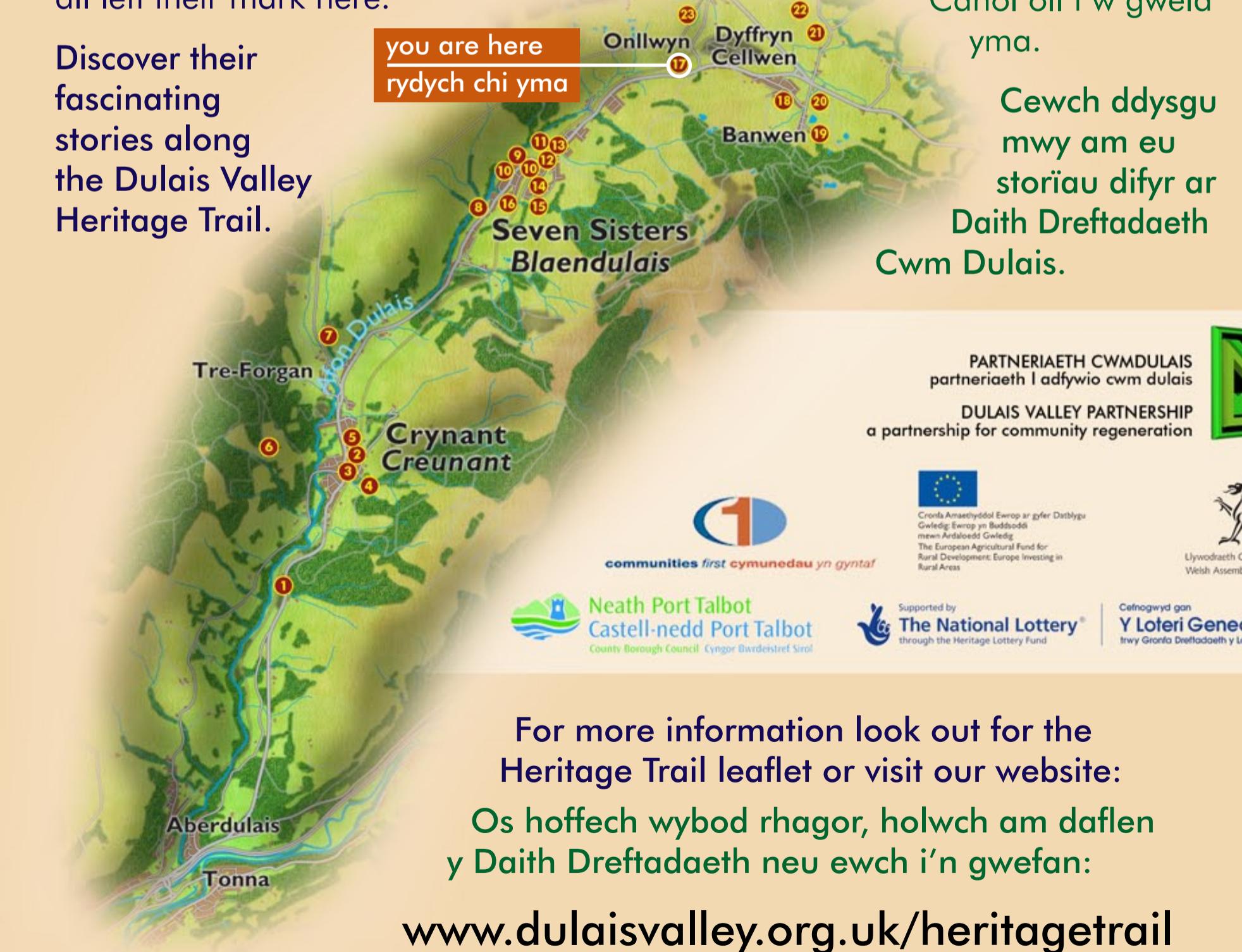
Extracts from Onllwyn School log books  
Dyfyniadau o lyfrau lög Ysgol Onllwyn

20th Dec	School closed after morning session for Christmas holidays
29th Dec	Use of school granted to Home Guards Monday and Wednesday evenings. The top Class-room is used.
1962	1962

### Exploring the Dulais Valley

This is one of the famous 'valleys' of the south Wales coalfield. Thousands of men once worked the difficult anthracite seams deep below ground. But the valley's story did not start with coal. Bronze Age farmers, Roman soldiers and medieval monks have all left their mark here.

Discover their fascinating stories along the Dulais Valley Heritage Trail.



### Crwydro Cwm Dulais

Dyma un o 'gyrdded' enwog maes glo'r de. Slawer dydd, roedd miloedd o ddynion yn gweithio'r gwythiennau glo carreg anodd eu trin o dan y ddaear. Ond nid y glo oedd dechrau'r stori. Mae olion ffermwyr yr Oes Efydd, milwyr Rhufeiniog a mlynachod o'r Oesoedd Canol oll i'w gweld yma.

Cewch ddysgu mwy am eu storïau difyr ar Daith Dreftadaeth Cwm Dulais.

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partneriaeth i adfywio cwm dulais  
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Y Lloeri Genedlaethol  
Irryd Gronti Ddefodol y Lloeri



For more information look out for the Heritage Trail leaflet or visit our website:

Os hoffech wybod rhagor, holwch am daflen y Daith Dreftadaeth neu ewch i'n gwefan:

[www.dulaisvalley.org.uk/heritagetrail](http://www.dulaisvalley.org.uk/heritagetrail)

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