

# Aberduna Nature Reserve

## Gwarchodfa Natur Aberduna



# Hanes Aberduna The Story of Aberduna

## Amser maith yn ôl...

Dechreuodd hanes Gwarchodfa Natur Aberduna tua 350 miliwn o flynyddoedd yn ôl pan roedd Cymru'n gorwedd i'r de o'r cyhydedd mewn môr cynnes, trofannol oedd yn ferw o fywyd.

O dan Aberduna mae haen o galchfaen -craig waddolol a ffurfiwyd o weddillion (ffosiliau) creaduriaid y môr fel pysgod cregyn (brachiopoda), lili'r môr (crinoidiau), cwrel a phlanhigion algae sy'n byw yn y môr. Pan fu farw'r anifeiliaid hyn aeth eu cyrrif i waelod y môr gan ffurio galchfaen ymhnen amser. Ers yr oes honno caffod y creigiau eu plygu, eu ffawtio a'u codi gan rymoedd daearegol anferth a chreu haenau o galchfaen ar ogwyd ac agennau mawr.

## A long long time ago...

The story of Aberduna Nature Reserve began about 350 million years ago when Wales lay south of the Equator in warm, tropical seas teaming with life.

Aberduna is underlain by limestone, a sedimentary rock, formed from the remains (fossils) of sea creatures such as shellfish (brachiopods), sea-lilies (crinoids), corals and algal plants that lived in the sea. When the animals and plants died they fell to the sea-bed and, over time formed limestone. Since then the rocks have been folded, faulted and uplifted by massive geological forces, resulting in fissures or large cracks, faults and tilted limestone layers.



## Ac yna daeth y rhew...

Tua 20,000 o flynyddoedd yn ôl, roedd Cymru wedi'i gorchuddio gan haen o rew oedd tua 1 km o drwch. Wrth iddi symud dros y tir, llyfnodd yr haen rhew y bryniau a chafnau peirannau (lle ffurfiodd y rhewlifioedd), a dyffrynnioedd wrth iddi grafu a dinethi'r calchfaen. Lledodd y glaw - sydd ychydig yn asid yn naturiol - y cracau a ffurio pafinau calchfaen.

## And then came the ice...

About 20,000 years ago, Wales was covered by a sheet of ice up to 1 km thick. As the ice moved over the land it smoothed the hills and gouged out cwms (areas where glaciers formed) and valleys, as it scraped and exposed the limestone. Rain, which is naturally slightly acid, has enlarged cracks to form the limestone pavements.



## Tirwedd fyw...

Yn ystod symudiadau'r Ddaear, llifodd hylifau o flynyau drwy hafnau yn y calchfaen gan setio yn wythiennau o flynyau plwm, sinc ac arian.

Bu pobl yn cloddio am flynyau gwerthfawr ac am galchfaen yn yr ardal hon ers hen oesoedd. Mae'r cofnod cyntaf o flyngloddio yn Llanferres yn 1641, ac roedd y diwydiant ar ei anterth rhwng 1862 a 1870. Ar ôl i'r dyddodion ar yr wyneb ddod i ben aethwyd ati i glodio'n ddyfnach o dan y ddaear. Roedd bron i 400 o ddyrnion yn gweithio yn y mwyngloddiau, ac roedd tri thy' inian yn y pentref gyda'u simneiau tal a'u tomenni sbwriel anferth. Yr unig dŷ inian sydd yn para yw Tŷ Injan Aberduna i'r gogledd o Chwarel Aberduna.

## A living landscape...

During Earth movements, mineral-rich fluids flowed through the limestone and minerals such as lead, zinc and silver ores settled in the cracks to form mineral-rich veins.

Precious metal ores and limestone have been mined and quarried in this area since ancient times. Mining 'at Llanverres' is first mentioned in 1641 but was at its height between 1862 – 1870. After the surface deposits were exhausted, lead was mined deeper underground. Nearly 400 men worked the mines and there were 3 engine houses within the village with tall chimneys and huge waste heaps. The only engine house left is the Aberduna Engine House, north of Aberduna Quarry.

## Cyfe newydd i fywyd gwylt...

Yn 1992 sefydlwyd Gwarchodfa ar ochr de orllewin Chwarel Aberduna yn rhan o'r cytundeb am gael caniatâd i chwarelu. Yn 2008 prynodd Ymddiriedolaeth Gogledd Cymru'r tir i'r de o Chwarel Aberduna oddi wrth Hanson UK i'w ddiogelu am byth ar gyfer gwarchod natur.

## A new dawn for wildlife...

In 1992 a nature reserve was established to the south-west of Aberduna Quarry as a part of the conditions for quarrying planning permission. In 2008 North Wales Wildlife Trust purchased the land to the south of Aberduna Quarry from Hanson UK to protect it in perpetuity for nature conservation.

## Beth mae'r dyfodol yn ei gynnig

Mae Gwarchodfa Natur Aberduna yn gwarchod cynefinnodd prin a phwysig i fywyd gwylt. Diolch i'r geoamrywiaeth diddorol, y gwaith a fu yma'n flaenorol ac sydd yma ar hyn o bryd, hyderwn y bydd y bywyd gwylt yn elwa drwy gydweithrediad â'r gymuned leol.



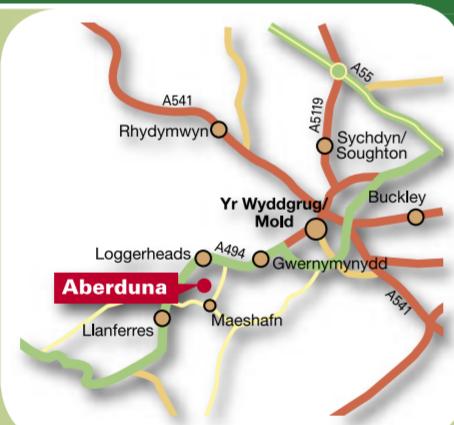
## What the future holds

Aberduna Nature Reserve protects rare and important wildlife habitats. We hope that working with the local community, wildlife will benefit future generations.

Gwarchod Natur ar gyfer y Dyfodol

Protecting Wildlife for the future

**Dewch i'n gweld!**  
Mae Gwarchodfa Natur Aberduna wrth ymwl pentref Maeshafn, dair milltir i'r gorllewin o'r Wyddgrug. O'r Wyddgrug, ar yr A494 trwch i'r chwith ar ôl Gwernymynydd ac i gyfeiriad Maeshafn. Mae mae's parcio yn Chwarel Aberduna, neu gallwch barcio ym mhentref Maeshafn.



## Come and see us

Aberduna Nature Reserve is 3 miles west of Mold at Maeshafn. From Mold on the A494 take the left hand turning to Maeshafn after Gwernymynydd. There is a car park at Aberduna Quarry or park in the village of Maeshafn.

## Ymddiriedolaeth Bywyd Gwylt Gogledd Cymru

Mae Ymddiriedolaeth Bywyd Gwylt Gogledd Cymru yn un o 47 o Ymddiriedolaethau Bywyd Gwylt yn y DU. Rydym yn elusen gofrestredig, yn dibynnu ar roddion a chefnogaeth ein haelodau. Drwy ein gwaith, anelwn at hyrwyddo cadwraeth bywyd gwylt ar ein gwarchodfeydd Natur ac yn cefn gwlad yn gyffredinol. Rydym yn rheoli dros 30 o Warchodfeydd Natur sy'n agored i'r cyhoedd ledled Gogledd Cymru.

I gael gwylod mwy am ewch i'n gwefan:

[www.wildlifetrust.org.uk/northwales](http://www.wildlifetrust.org.uk/northwales) neu ffonio 01248 351541.

## About North Wales Wildlife Trust

The North Wales Wildlife Trust is one of 47 Wildlife Trusts in the UK. We are a registered charity, dependent on donations and the support of our members. Through our work we aim to encourage conservation of wildlife on our nature reserves and in the wider countryside. We manage over 30 nature reserves across North Wales which are open to the public.

For more information please visit our website:  
[www.wildlifetrust.org.uk/northwales](http://www.wildlifetrust.org.uk/northwales) or call 01248 351541.

I gael gwylod mwy am Ffyniau Clwyd AHNE ewch i  
[www.clwydianrangeonb.org.uk](http://www.clwydianrangeonb.org.uk) neu ffonio 01352 810614  
For information on the Clwydian Range AONB visit  
[www.clwydianrangeonb.org.uk](http://www.clwydianrangeonb.org.uk) or call 01352 810614

**Darlen pellach**  
Darganfan Maeshafn gan Tony King, Pentrefi Bryniau Clwyd, cyhoeddwyd gan AHNE Bryniau Clwyd

**Further reading**  
Explore Maeshafn by Tony King, The Villages of the Clwydian Range, published by The Clwydian Range AONB, Denbighshire Countryside

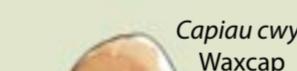


## Y bywyd gwylt sydd i'w weld yma

### Coetir

Coedlan onnen a derw sy'n ffurio rhan helaeth terfyn gorllewinol y warchodfa. Yn tyfu o dan y coed mae cyll, draenen wen a chelyn. Ar lawr y goedwig ceir cyfoeth o fwsogl, rhedyn a phlanhigion eraill gan gynnwys cwlmw cariad a'r gwynlys mynydd-dir prin yn ogystal â 23 o blanhigion eraill, sy'n dyst o ba mor hen yw'r goedlan.

Crëwyd 'llenyrch' bach ar hyd y llwybr cyhoeddus i hybu'r pryfed a'r adar. Mae yma olygfeydd gwych dros Ddyffryn yr Alun i Foel Famau.



### Woodland

Much of the western boundary of the reserve is ash / oak woodland with an under-story of hazel, blackthorn and holly.

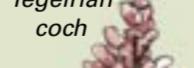
On the woodland floor there is a rich array of mosses, ferns and plants including herb-paris and rare upland enchanter's-nightshade as well as 23 other plants, evidence of the woodland's ancient origins.

Small 'glades' have been created along the public footpaths to benefit woodland insects and birds, they also offer stunning views over the Alyn Valley to Moel Famau.

### Glaswelltir

Mae planhigion y glaswelltir yn amrywio yn ôl y pridd. Ar y briгадau calchfaen mae blodau gwylt, prin yn tyfu; fel lloerlys, cor-rosyn, tegeirian coch, tegeirian pêr, a briallu Mair. Mewn cymhariaeth, yn y priddoedd dynach a mwya maeathlon (yn y pantau rhwng y briгадau o galchfaen) ceir pengaled, rhywogaethau o ysgall, rhedyn ac eithin.

Rheolir y rhedyn a'r eithin i greu cymysgedd o laswelltir agored a llwyni sy'n hoff gan loÿnnod byw. Caiff y rhedyn ei rolio ganol yr haf a chaiff y glaswelltir ei bori ym misoedd y gaeaf i ofalu bod y pridd yn isel o ran maeth, ar gyfer y planhigion prinach.



### Grassland

Grassland plant communities vary with changing soils. The limestone outcrops are colonised by rare wildflowers such as moonwort, common rock-rose, fragrant orchids, early-purple orchids and cowslips. In contrast, deeper, nutrient-rich soils (in the dips between the limestone outcrops) are home to knapweed, thistle species, bracken and gorse.

The bracken and gorse are managed to produce a mixture of open grassland and scrub favoured by butterflies. Bracken is rolled in mid-summer and the grassland is grazed in the winter months to ensure the soils remain low in nutrients for rarer plants.



## Wildlife you may see

### Gloÿnnod byw

Mae'r ardal yn gyforiog o loÿnnod a gwyfynod, cofnodwyd 28 o rywogaethau. Ceir yma'r frithribin borfor a brithribin llythren wen. Prif fwyd lafa'r fritheg berlog fawr, y fritheg fach a'r fritheg werdd yw'r fioledau sy'n tyfu o dan y rhedyn. Ar y glaswelltir ceir y gwibiwr llwyd, brithribin gwyrdd, gwrmyn glas y gogledd, a nifer o fathau o rywogaethau mwy cyffredin.



### Butterflies

Butterflies are abundant with 28 recorded species including the purple and white-letter hairstreak butterflies. Violets growing under bracken are the larval food plants of the pearl-bordered, small pearl-bordered and dark green fritillary butterflies. Dingy skipper, green hairstreak and northern brown argus butterflies occur on the grassland, together with many more common species.

### Adar

Mae'r adar sydd yn y warchodfa yn dangos pa mor amrywiol yw'r cynefin. Yn eu plith ceir llwydfron a thelor penddu, cyfflog yn gaeafu, ac ambell hebog tramor sy'n nythu ar 'glogwyn' y chwarel.

Yng nghanol y warchodfa mae caeau bychain ac ynddynt ceir walau cerrig a hen wrychoedd nodweddiadol. Mae pridd y caeau yn isel o ran maeth ac mae defaid yn eu pori, gan eu gwneud yn lleoedd gwych ar gyfer y ffwng llwgar a phrin, capiau cwyr a welir yn yr hydref. Dyma'r pafin calchfaen prin.

### Birds

The birds found on the reserve reflect the variety of habitats and include breeding whitethroat and blackcap, over-wintering woodcock and the occasional peregrine falcon, which nest on the quarry 'cliffs'.

In the centre of the reserve there are small field systems with characteristic, lichen-clad, dry stone walls and ancient hedges. The fields are nutrient-poor and grazed by sheep producing ideal conditions for the brightly coloured rare waxcap fungi which can be seen in the autumn. Here is the rare limestone pavement.



# Darganfod Gwarchodfa Natur Aberduna

# Discover Aberduna Nature Reserve



Rydych yn sefyll ymhliith briгадau calchfaen, sef y grisiau creigioedd lle mae planhigion prin y glaswellt a llwyni eithin yn tyfu. Mae'r coed yn tyfu ar y rhannau isaf sy'n gartref i nifer o adar, mammaliaid a'r planhigion prin hwnnw - cwlwm cariad.

Yn yr haf, gwelir gloynnodd byw fel gwrymn glas y gogledd, gwibiwr llwyd, gwibiwr cyffredin, a gwibiwr glas. O ddiweddu yr haf ymlaen, gwelir y ffwng cap cwyr lliwgar yn y caeau pori. Yma, ceir golygfeydd gwych o Ffwrnas Mamau, copa uchaf Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol Bryniau Clwyd.

You are now stood amongst the limestone outcrops, a series of rocky steps colonised by rare grassland plants and gorse scrub. Woodland grows on the lower slopes and is home to many birds, mammals and a rare plant called herb paris.

Butterflies like the northern brown argus, common blue and the dingy skipper can be seen here in the summer. Brightly coloured wax cap fungi can be found in the grazed fields from late summer. From this part of the reserve there are fantastic views of Moel Famau, the highest peak in the Clwydian Range Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.



Dychmygwch fywyd y mwynwr yma yn yr 1860au. Roedd llai o goed, cawsant eu torri i flwyngloddio, ac roedd Tŷ Injan mawr a godwyd yn 1841. Roedd simneiau uchel ac injan stem.

Roedd yr injan hon yn pwmpio dŵr o Siafft Rhif 3 oedd 292m (960 troedfedd) o ddyfnder ac yn codi a disgyn dynion a deunyddiau i mewn ac allan. Roedd yr injan stem yn ddistaw iawn - hisian tawel y stem oedd i'w glywyd yn unig. Gwelir sypiau o ludw ar hyd y llwybr, ond mae caead ar y pwll er diogelwch.

Can you imagine what it must have been like to be a miner here in the 1860s? There were fewer trees, cleared for mining, a large engine house built in 1841, with a tall chimney and a steam engine.

This engine pumped water out of the No. 3 shaft 292m (960 feet) deep and lifted and lowered men and materials into the mine. The steam engine was very quiet - only a gentle hiss of steam and there are still ash heaps in mounds along the footpath. The mine shaft is now safely capped.



## Allwedd / Key

Isffordd	Minor road
Lôn gwl	Narrow lane
Taith	Route
Howl Tramwyo	Right of way
Llwybr goddefol	Permissive way
Ffin y Warchodfa Natur	Nature reserve boundary

Parcio

Tafarny

Hysbysfwrdd

Golygfa

Llyn

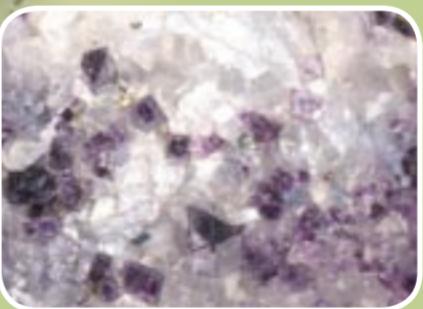
Pond

Brigadau Calchfaen



Cafodd y calchfaen ei dreulio gan y twydd, a'i erydu gan y glaw gan greu hafnau dyfnyon a slabiau o graig. Yn yr hafnau mae coed bach 'bonsai' yn tyfu am fod y lle gysgodol ac yn llai.

The limestone has been weathered and eroded by rain to create deep cracks called grikes and the slabs are called clints. There are dwarf 'bonsai' trees and ferns growing in the grikes, these provide a sheltered, damp microclimate.

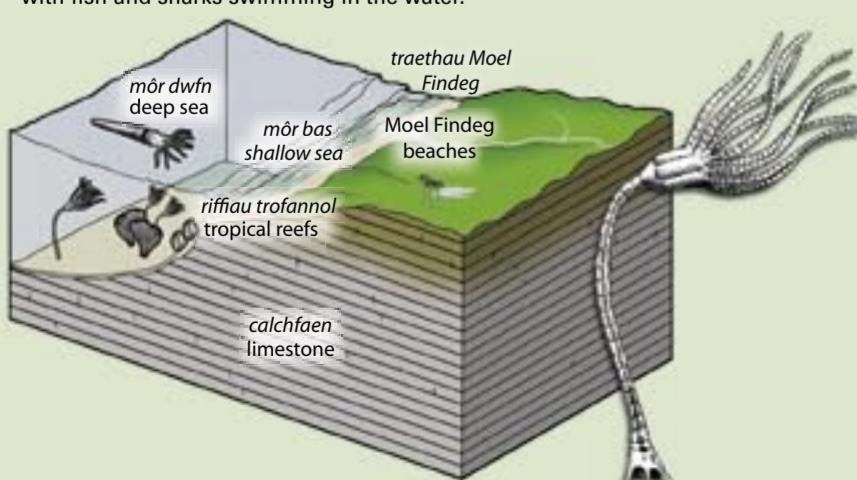


Calsit a ffwrit  
Calcite and fluorite

## OES CARBONIFERAIDD CARBONIFEROUS PERIOD

Yn y cyfnod hwn roedd Cymru'n gorwedd i'r de o'r cyhydedd ac roedd moroedd trofannol yn gorchuddio'r ardal. Roedd yma rifybau a chwrelau, lili'r môr (crinoidau) a physgod cregyn (brachiopoda). Nofiai pysgod a siarcod yn y dŵr.

At this time Wales lay south of the Equator and tropical seas covered most of the area. There were reefs with corals, sea lilies (crinoids) and shellfish (brachiopods) with fish and sharks swimming in the water.

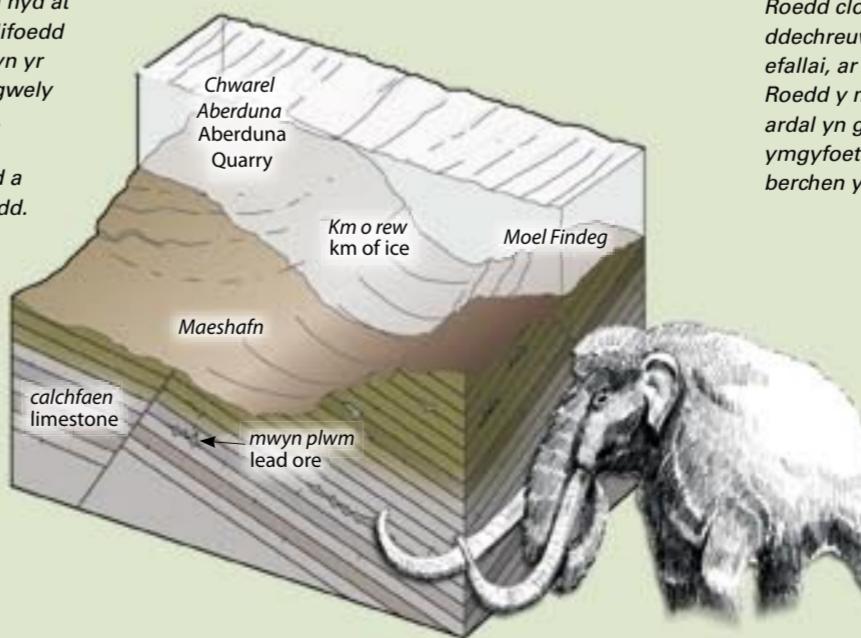


350 - 300 miliwn o flynyddoedd yn ôl  
350 - 300 million years ago

## YR OES IÂ DDIWETHAF LAST ICE AGE

Roedd y rhan hon o Gymru o dan hyd at 1 cilomedr o rew. Ffurfiodd rhewlifoedd yng Nghwm Moel Famau a Dyffryn yr Afon Alun. Craffod y rhew y creigwely gan ffurfi palmentydd calchfaen. Pan doddodd y rhew, daeth llif anferth o ddŵr a cherfio ogofeydd a cheunentydd a lledu y dyffynnoedd.

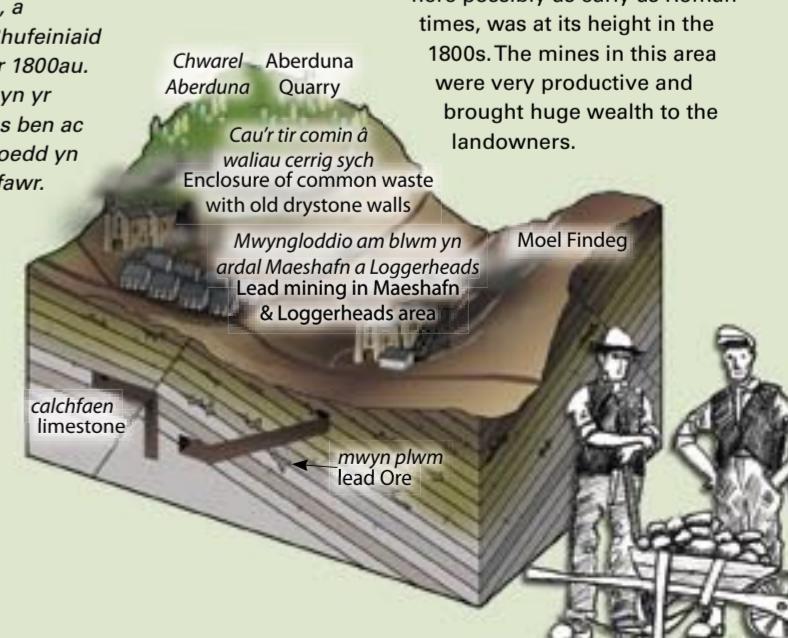
This part of Wales was covered with up to a kilometre of ice. Glaciers formed in Cwm Moel Famau and the Alyn Valley. Ice scraped the bedrock and formed limestone pavements. When the ice melted vast amounts of water carved out caves and gorges and enlarged the valleys.



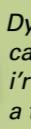
20,000 o flynyddoedd yn ôl  
20,000 years ago

## OES FICTORIA VICTORIAN TIMES

Roedd clodio am blwm, a ddechrewyd yn oes y Rhufeiniaid efallai, ar ei anterth yn yr 1800au. Roedd y mwynghoddiau yn yr ardal yn gynhyrchiol dros ben ac ymgynghodd y rhai oedd yn berchen y mwynau'n enfawr.



1819-1901



Dyma ddyffryn rhewlifol ffurf U. Nid oes nant yn y dyffryn, cafodd ei ffurio gan y rhew yn ystod yr Oes iâ ddiwethaf. Wrth i'r rhew symud dros y tir, cafodd rhai o'r creigiau eu malu'n glai a thywod a chrewyd pridd oedd yn llawn maeth. Cloddiwyd y clai i wneud brics yn y Blanhigfa Odyn Brics. Y cwbl sydd ar ôl yw llyn yn y coed.

O'r fan yma gallwch weld porfeydd a wellhawyd yn rhannol, a hen wrychoedd a waliau cerrig. Erbyn hyn caiff y porfeydd hyn eu rheoli yn ddolodyd blodau gwyllt sy'n denu nifer o loynnod byw brodorol.

Here is a small, U-shaped, glacial valley. There is no stream in this valley as it was carved out by ice during the last Ice Age. As ice moved over the land, some of the rock was ground up into sand and clay which was left behind creating nutrient-rich soils. The clay was extracted to make bricks in 'Brick Kiln Plantation'. All that is left is a pond in the woodland.

From here you can see the semi-improved pastures with their ancient hedgerows and dry stone walls. These pastures are now managed as wildflower meadows attracting a wide array of native butterflies.



Allwch chi weld fosiliau yn y wal gerrig? Pan fu farw'r creaduriaid môr, aeth eu cregyn i waelod y môr a ffurio craig calchfaen. Mae yma nifer o fathau gwahanol o gwrel yn ogystal a chregyn a choesau crinoid (sy'n debyg i Polo Mints ar eu pen). Yn y cyfnod hwn, roedd yr ardal o dan fôr dwfn trofannol oedd yn debyg i'r Great Barrier Reef oddi ar afordir Awstralia. Gallwch weld mwynau gwahanol yn y wal a'r creigiau, caltsi yw'r un gwyn a ffiwir yw'r un porffor.

Yn y walau cerrig traddodiadol hyn ceir nifer o ymlusgiaid brodorol fel y fadfall gyffredin a neidr y borfa ac mae yma famaliad bychain fel llygoden, carlwm a gwenci. Dros amser bydd fwsogl a chen yn tyfu ar y wal hon.

O'r safle hon gallwch weld haenau o galchfaen yng nghlogfeini'r chwarel. Pan osodwyd y rhain ar waelod y môr, roedd yr haenau'n wastad ond erbyn hyn maent yn goleddf u 20° tua'r dŵr yrain.

Ymhen amser, bydd natur unwaith eto'n meddiannu'r chwarel wrth i'r planhigion a'r anifeiliaid ymgartrefu yma.

Can you find the fossils in the drystone wall? When sea creatures died their shells fell to the bottom of the sea and eventually formed the limestone rock. There are several different types of coral as well as shells and crinoid stems (they look like polo mints end on). At this time the area was under a warm, tropical sea similar to the Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Australia. The wall and rocks also contain minerals; the white mineral is calcite and the purple is fluorite.

These traditional dry stone walls are home to many native reptiles such as the common lizard and grass snake, and small mammals such as mice, stoats and weasel. Over time, this wall will become colonised by mosses and lichens.

From this viewpoint you can see the layers of limestone in the quarry cliffs. When these were laid down at the bottom of the sea the layers were level, but now they are tilted 20° to the east.

In time, the quarry site will once again be reclaimed by nature as plant and animal species colonise the site.

Lead mining, which had begun here possibly as early as Roman times, was at its height in the 1800s. The mines in this area were very productive and brought huge wealth to the landowners.

