



# Pen Dinas & Tanybwllch

local nature reserve  
aberystwyth

*Those who prefer an eminence to the  
champaign in their recreative walk... should  
take the path which leads up on a gradual  
ascent along the side of Pendinas Hill till the  
top is attained; from whence, perhaps, the best  
prospects of Aberystwyth present themselves.  
Not least among the beauties of the scenery, is  
the curious sight of the two noble rivers,  
Ystwyth and Rheidol, seen at once, threading  
their respective vallies, and running their  
distant parallel course, gradually nearing till  
they meet, embrace and march side by side  
into the open arms of old ocean.*

T.J.L. PRICHARD 1824  
'NEW ABERYSTWYTH GUIDE'

*Many vestiges of antiquity have been found on  
this hill; a Celt or British battle-axe, of which  
an engraving may be seen in Meyrick's  
History of Cardiganshire, and a gold angel of  
the time of Henry VII, found by some men  
digging a trench...*

REV. T.O. MORGAN 1864  
'ABERYSTWYTH GUIDE'



## Pen Dinas & Tanybwllch

Local Nature Reserve

The beach and surrounding area was made a Local Nature Reserve in 1999. It comprises diverse habitats including meadows, shrub covered slopes, a hillfort, an old rubbish tip and a shingle bank. Horses have grazed the 40 hectares for about 50 years.

**Wild Place?** Actually, people have been using the area for thousands of years, even before the Iron Age Hill fort of Pen Dinas was built. Hunter-gatherers who had settled on the lower slopes some 7000-9000 years ago used part of the beach area as a flint factory. The remains of a house last occupied in the 1930s can still be seen alongside the main path, and the field boundaries on the hill probably date back to the mid to late 18th century. Steam trains ran along the valley floor from the middle of the 19th century.

**Barren Place?** The shingle ridge may look as if nothing could live in such exposed conditions, but it's actually the best example of a vegetated spit in Ceredigion and consequently a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Sea Radish and a prostrate blackthorn thought to be about 200 years old grow here, and ringed plovers lay their eggs amongst the bare shingle.

**Unchanging?** Over one hundred local people attended the public meeting in 1998 to support the idea of the area becoming a local nature reserve. Nobody wanted to see the land disappear under encroaching development from the town. Local people continue to be involved, helping to ensure that future generations will enjoy walking and playing in the area as many do now.

Pen Dinas has been an inspiration for artists and photographers for generations. Artists have interpreted the hill fort and the coastal strip in many individual ways.



Karen Pearce



Rebecca Frear

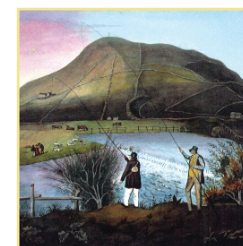


Plant / Children of Ysgol Llwyn yr Eos

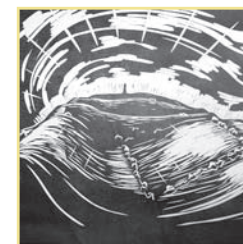


Casgliad / Collection of Arthur Chater

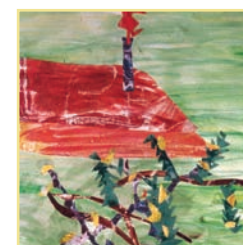
Mae Pen Dinas wedi bod yn ysbrydoliaeth i artistiaid a ffotograffwyr am genhedlaethau. Mae artistiaid wedi dehongli y bryn caer a'r llain arfordirol mewn nifer o fodd unigol.



Trwy ganiatad Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru By permission of the National Library of Wales



Tim Hardiment



Penparcau After School group with Jenny Fell



Casgliad / Collection of Arthur Chater

Gwarchodfa Natur Leol

## Pen Dinas a Thanybwllch

Cafodd y traeth a'r tir o'i amgylch eu gwneud yn Warchodfa Natur leol ym 1999. Mae'n ardal amrywiol sy'n cynnwys dolydd, llethrau llawn prysgoed, morfeydd heli sy'n datblygu, bryngaer, hen domen sbwriel a chrib o raean. Bu ceffylau'n pori ar lawer o'r 40 hectar ers tua 50 mlynedd.

**Lle Gwylt?** Mewn gwirionedd, mae dynion wedi bod yn defnyddio'r ardal ers miloedd o flynyddoedd, cyn codi bryngaer Pen Dinas yn ystod Oes yr Haearn. Arferai'r gymdeithas o helwyr a chasglwyr a drigai ar y llethrau isaf tua 7000-9000 o flynyddoedd yn ôl ddefnyddio rhan o'r traeth fel ffatri fflint. Mae adfeilion tŷyr arferai pobl fyw yn ddo hyd y 1930au i'w weld ger y prif lwybr, ac mae'n debyg bod terfynau'r caeau ar y bryn yn tarddu o ganol neu ddiwedd y 18fed ganrif. Rhedai trenau stêm ar hyd llawr y dyffryn o ganol y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg ymlaen.

**Lle Hesb?** Efallai fod golwg hesb ar y grib raean, ond mewn gwirionedd hon yw'r enghraifft orau o draethell llystyfiannol yng Ngheredigion a dyna pam y mae'n Safle o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Neilltuol. Mae rhuddygl môr a draenen ddu ymledol y tybir ei bod yn 200 mlynedd oed yn tyfu yma, ac mae'r cwtiad torchog yn dodwy wyau ar y graean.

**Byth yn Newid?** Aeth rhagor na chant o bobl leol i'r cyfarfod cyhoeddus ym 1998 i gefnogi'r syniad o droi'r ardal yn warchodfa natur leol. Nid oedd neb am weld y tir yn diflannu wrth i'r dref ddatblygu. Mae'r bobl leol yn dal i helpu i sicrhau y caiff cenedlaethau'r dyfodol fwynhau cerdded a chwarae yn yr ardal fel y maent ar hyn o bryd.

gwarchodfa natur lleol

## Pen Dinas a Thanybwllch

aberystwyth



**1. Wellington Monument** on the south summit of Pen Dinas, erected circa 1858 as a memorial to the Duke of Wellington.

**2. Hillfort** A scheduled Ancient Monument and well-known local landmark, dates from between circa 300 BC and AD 43.

**3. Ystwyth Cycle Trail** - The line of the Manchester and Milford railway closed in 1964 and is now the Ystwyth Cycle Trail. Maps from the turn of the century show a signal box and a network of smaller tramways serving the main line from the harbour.

**4. Stonechats** have a close affinity with gorse and are often to be seen perched on bushes and fence posts amongst the scrub-covered slopes of Pen Dinas.



**5.** There is no mistaking the brilliant flash of pale blue flying low and fast over the river surface as being the **Kingfisher**.

**6. Two waders** to look out for on the foreshore are the **oystercatcher** and the **ringed plover**. The small chunky ringed plover makes a scrape amongst the shingle to produce 3-4 spotted eggs between April and August whilst the bigger, boldly coloured Oystercatcher searches for mussel and cockle-shells along the tide-line.

**7. Yellow Oat grass** occurs in the botanically rich haymeadow.



**8. Knotted hedgeparsley** is often found behind sea walls that have a sunny aspect. The ruin of Pant yr Allt once a large stone-built cottage with a rock cut well, can still be seen halfway up the footpath to the hill-fort and provides a good spot for this plant to thrive.



**9. A prostrate blackthorn** grows on the shingle bank.

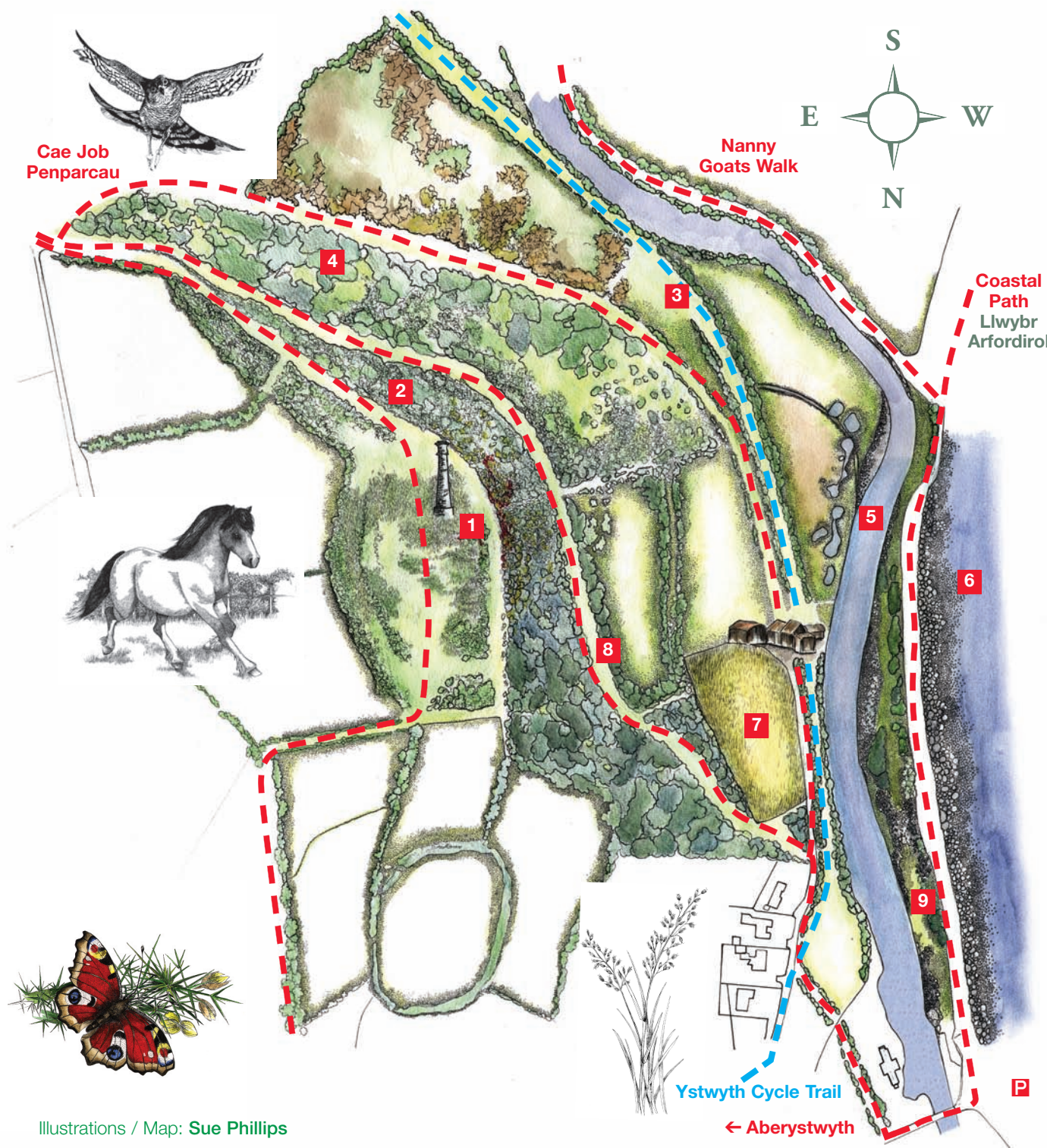
#### Further details:

Coast & Countryside Section,  
Ceredigion County Council,  
Department of Environmental Services and  
Housing, Penmorfa, Aberaeron, SA46 OPA  
Tel: 01545 572142

#### Further information:

Books and articles have been published about the history and wildlife of the reserve. Records, photographs and other information about many of the sites at Pen Dinas and Tanybwllch can be seen at the Cardigan Museum and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales, Aberystwyth (01970 621200).

**Website:** [www.rcahmw.org.uk](http://www.rcahmw.org.uk)



Illustrations / Map: Sue Phillips

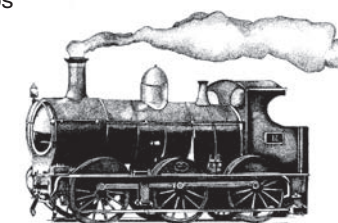


**1. Cofgolofn Wellington** ar gopa deheuol Pen Dinas, codwyd circa 1858 fel cofgolofn i Ddug Wellington.

**2. Bryngaer** Heneb restredig a safle sy'n hysbys iawn yn lleol, yn dyddio o circa 300 CC ac OC 43

**3. Llwybr Ystwyth** - Caeodd rheilffordd Manchester a Milford ym 1964. Mae mapiau o ddechrau'r ganrif yn dangos

blwch signalau a rhwydwaith o lwybr tramiau bach yn gwasanaethu'r brif reilffordd o'r harbwr.



#### 4. Clochdar y Graig

Mae'r rhain yn hoff iawn o'r eithin ac fe'u gwelir ar y llwyni a physt y ffensys a'r prysgoed ar lethrau Pen Dinas.

**5. Glas y Dorlan** Mae'n amhosib camgymryd glas golau fflachiog yr aderyn hwn yn gwibio'n isel dros wyneb y dŵr.



**6.** Ar y blaendraeth fe welwch chi **Bioden y Môr** a'r **Cwtiad Torchog** yn



cerdded trwy'r dŵr. Bydd y cwtiad torchog bach yn crafu yn y graean ac yn dodwy 3 - 4 o wyau brith rhwng Ebrill ac Awst.

**7.** Mae **Ceirchwellt melyn** yn tyfu yn y dolydd.

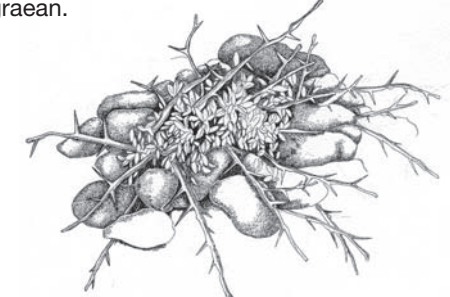


**8.** Fe welwch chi **Droed y Cyw Clymog** y tu ôl i'r morfuriau sy'n wynebu'r haul. Mae adfeilion Pant yr Allt, hen fwthyn o gerrig a ffynnon wedi ei thorri o'r graig, i'w gweld hyd heddiw hanner ffordd i fyny'r



llwybr troed at y fryngaer ac mae'r lanhigyn hwn yn tyfu yno.

**9.** Mae'r **Draenen Ddu Ymledol** yn tyfu ar y graean.



#### Rhagor o fanylion:

Adain yr Arfordir a Chefn Gwlad, Cyngor Sir Ceredigion, Adran y Gwasanaethau Amgylcheddol a Thai, Penmorfa, Aberaeron, SA46 OPA Ffôn: 01545 572142

#### Rhagor o wybodaeth:

Cyhoeddwyd llyfrau ac erthyglau sydd yn disgrifio bywyd gwylt y gwarchodfa. Cewch weld cofnodion a gwybodaeth arall am y safleoedd ar Ben Dinas a Thanybwllch yn Amgueddfa Ceredigion a'r Comisiwn Brenhinol Henebion Hynafol a Hanesyddol Cymru, Aberystwyth (01970 621200).

**Gwefan:** [www.rcahmw.org.uk](http://www.rcahmw.org.uk)