



# The Swan of the Usk Henry Vaughan Alarch yr Wysg



A gentle stroll through the scenic, historic and poetic landscape of the Talybont valley

Taith hamddenol trwy dirwedd dyffryn Talybont gyda'i golygfeydd, ei hanes a'i barddoniaeth



Much has changed around Talybont in the centuries since Henry Vaughan, and his brother Thomas, lived here. But they would still recognise the peace and beauty of this special corner of the Brecon Beacons

The **Henry Vaughan Walk** is an easy 4km stroll with extracts of the brothers' poetry on posts along the way. It will take about 1.5 hours to walk, but why hurry? Relax and enjoy the scenery and atmosphere that inspired the poets' work.

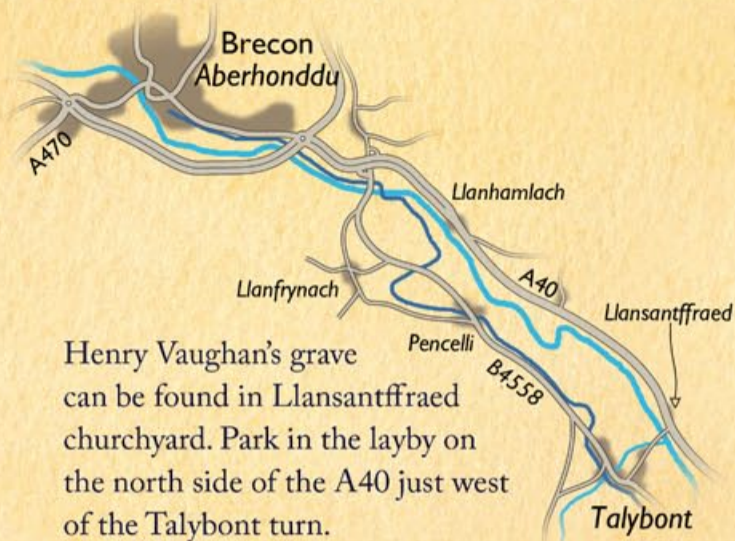
Mae nifer o newidiadau wedi digwydd o gwmpas Talybont yn y canrifoedd er pan drigai Henry Vaughan a'i frawd Thomas yma. Ond buasent yn dal i werthfawrogi heddwch a phrydferthwch y gornel arbennig hon o Fannau Brycheiniog.

Mae **Llwybr Henry Vaughan** yn daith hamddenol o 4 cilomedr gyda phigion o farddoniaeth y brodyr ar byst ar y ffordd. Mae'n waith tua awr a hanner o gerdded ond nid oes dim brys. Ymlaciwch a mwynhewch yr olygfa a'r awyrgylch a ysbrydolodd y beirdd i gyfansoddi.



Talybont-on-Usk is situated just off the A40 about 5 miles south east of Brecon.

Lleolir Talybont-ar-Wysg yn agos i'r A40 tua 5 milltir i'r de ddwyrain o Aberhonddu.



Henry Vaughan's grave can be found in Llanantffraed churchyard. Park in the layby on the north side of the A40 just west of the Talybont turn.

Gallwch ddarganfod bedd Henry Vaughan ym mynwent eglwys Llanantffraed. Parciwch yn y gilfach barcio ar ochr ogleddol yr A40 i'r gorllewin o droad Talybont.



[www.talybontonusk.com](http://www.talybontonusk.com)



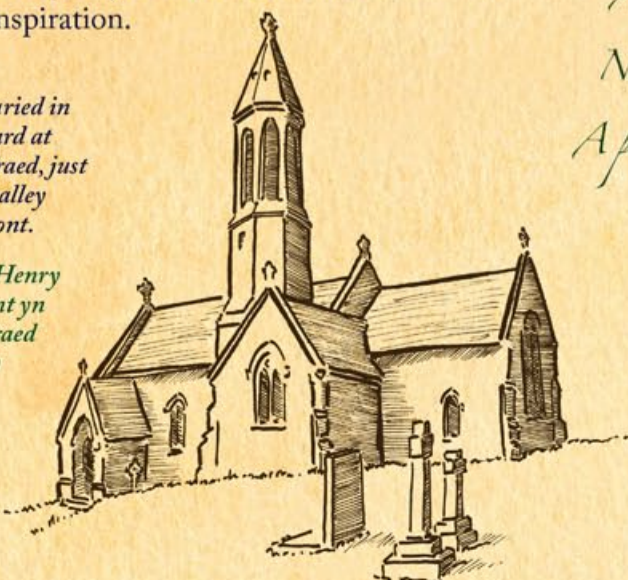
# The Swan of the Usk Henry Vaughan Alarch yr Wysg Scholar, Soldier, Poet and Doctor Ysgolhaig, Milwr, Bardd a Meddyg

Henry Vaughan, poet and doctor (1621-95) and his twin Thomas, priest and alchemist (1621-66) were born at Newton Farm across the valley from Talybont. Their childhood and youth were passed in times of peace before the Civil War, in which they fought for the King, tore their world apart. Reinventing themselves afterwards, Henry as 'Silurist' and Thomas as 'Eugenius Philalethes', they published over a dozen devotional, alchemical, medical and poetic volumes.

Henry was ultimately recognised as one of the great confessional, visionary poets and he influenced many later poets including Wordsworth. The landscape of this magical valley where as children they first felt the power and mystery of nature was their abiding inspiration.

Henry is buried in the graveyard at Llanantffraed, just across the valley from Talybont.

Claddwyd Henry yn y fynwent yn Llanantffraed draw dros y dyffryn o Dalybont.



*Walk with thy fellow creatures: note the hush  
And whispers amongst them. There's not a spring,  
Or leaf but hath his morning hymn. Each bush  
And oak doth know I AM; can't thou not sing?*



*Cerddu gyda' th gymheiriaid: nodu'r distawrwydd  
Ar sibrydion yn eu plith. Nid oes na ffunnon  
Na deilen heb ei hemyu boreol. Mae pob llywyn  
A phob derwen yn gwybod YR WYF FI;  
oni febrî di ganu?*



Ganwyd yr efeilliaid, Henry Vaughan, bardd a meddyg (1621-95), a Thomas Vaughan, offeiriad ac alcemydd (1621-66), yn Ffermdy Newton draw dros y dyffryn o Dalybont. Mwynhaodd y ddau blentyndod ac ieuentid heddychlon a dorwyd gan y Rhyfel Cartref (ymhladdodd yr efeilliaid dros y Brenin). Wedi hynny, wrth ailddyfeisio eu hunain, Henry fel "Silwriad" a Thomas fel "Eugenius Philalethes", cyhoeddodd y ddau dros ddwsin o gyfrolau defosiynol, alcemegol, meddygol a barddol.

Daeth cydnabyddiaeth i Henry yn y diwedd fel un o'r mawrion ymhlith y beirdd cyffesiadol a gweledigaethol a bu'n ddylanwad ar nifer o feirdd diweddarach megis Wordsworth. Yn eu plentyndod teimlodd Henry a Thomas Vaughan gyntaf nerth a dirgelwch natur ond bu tirlun y dyffryn hudol hwn yn ysbrydoliaeth barhaol iddynt hwy.



The route is clearly waymarked and can be walked in either direction - just follow the Swan logos.

Mae'r llwybr wedi 'i gyfeirbwyntio'n eglur - dilynwch arwyddion yr Alarch yn union.



Across the valley you can see the Allt, at the foot of which the Vaughan brothers were born and where Henry now lies in the churchyard at Llansantffraed.

Dros y dyffryn gellwch weld yr Allt, lle wrth ei throed ganwyd y brodyr a lle mae Henry yn awr yn gorwedd ym mynwent yr eglwys yn Llansantffraed.

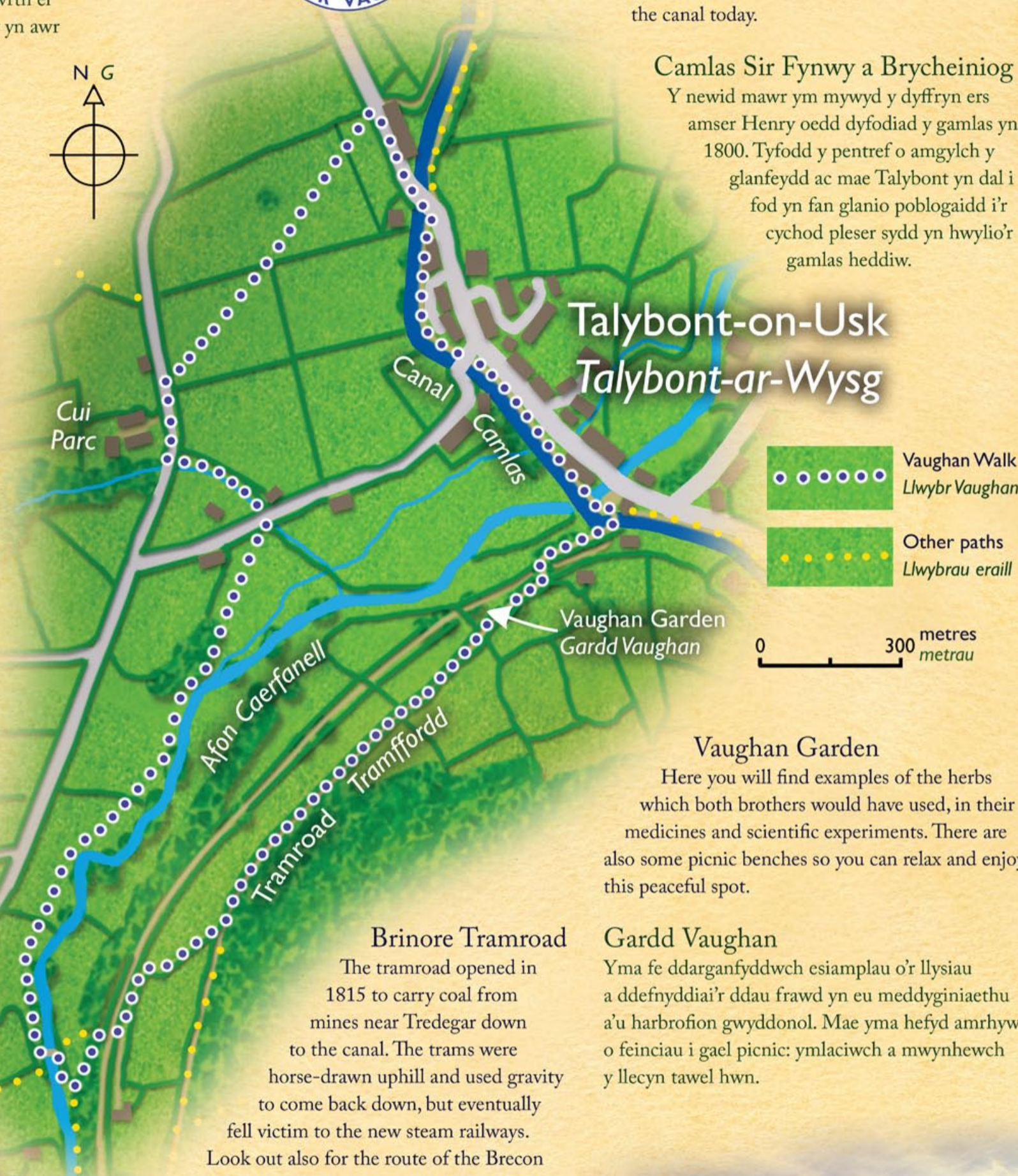


### Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal

A big change in the valley since Henry's time was the arrival of the canal in 1800. The village grew up around the wharves and Talybont is still a popular stopping point for the pleasure boats which use the canal today.

### Camlas Sir Fynwy a Brycheiniog

Y newid mawr ym mywyd y dyffryn ers amser Henry oedd dyfodiad y gamlas yn 1800. Tyfodd y pentref o amgylch y glanfeydd ac mae Talybont yn dal i fod yn fan glanio poblogaidd i'r cychod pleser sydd yn hwylio'r gamlas heddiw.



### Afon Caerfanell

This little river has a short, but eventful, journey. Rising high in the mountains, it drops down impressive waterfalls before flowing into Talybont Reservoir, through a hydro-electric turbine and then down through the village to the River Usk

### Afon Caerfanell

Mae hynt yr afonig hon yn fer ond yn helyntus. Mae'n tarddu yn y mynyddoedd ac yn disgyn yn rhoadrau trawiadol cyn llifo i Gronfa Ddŵr Talybont, trwy dyrbin trydan dŵr ac wedyn trwy'r pentref i'r Afon Wysg.

### Brinore Tramroad

The tramroad opened in 1815 to carry coal from mines near Tredegar down to the canal. The trams were horse-drawn uphill and used gravity to come back down, but eventually fell victim to the new steam railways. Look out also for the route of the Brecon & Merthyr Railway, now disused too.

### Tramffordd Brynoer

Agorwyd y dramffordd yn 1815 i gludo glo o'r pyllau ger Tredegar i lawr i'r gamlas. Tynnwyd y tramiau gan geffylau ar i fyny a defnyddiwyd disgyrchiant i ddisgyn. Ymhen amser trechwyd y tramiau gan y rheilffyrdd stêm newydd. Cadwch lygad yn ogystal am lwybr Rheilffordd Brycheiniog & Merthyr sydd yn segur hefyd 'nawr.

### Vaughan Garden

Here you will find examples of the herbs which both brothers would have used, in their medicines and scientific experiments. There are also some picnic benches so you can relax and enjoy this peaceful spot.

### Gardd Vaughan

Yma fe ddarganfyddwch esiamplau o'r llysiau a ddefnyddiai'r ddau frawd yn eu meddyginiaethu a'u harbrofion gwyddonol. Mae yma hefyd amrhyw o feinciau i gael picnic: ymlaciwch a mwynhewch y llecyn tawel hwn.

