

MYTHS & LEGENDS

Mythau a Chwedlau

There are a number of historical legends, ancient myths and terrifying ghost stories that surround the Wye Valley and Forest of Dean. With 2017 marking the Year of Legends, immerse yourself into the stories of the Dean Wye.

Mae nifer o chwedlau hanesyddol, mythau hynafol a straeon ysbryd arswydus yn ymwneud â Dyffryn Gwy a Fforest y Ddena.

Gyda 2017 yn nodi Blwyddyn Mythau a Chwedlau, beth am ymgolli yn straeon Dena Gwy.



The Devil's Pulpit
Pulpud y Diafol



THE WYE VALLEY

Explore the myths and legends of the Wye Valley from the many encounters of the Devil to mischievous creatures known as Pwcas.



Ymchwiliwch chwedlau a mythau Dyffryn Gwy o'r llu o gyfarfodydd gyda'r Diafol i greaduriaid direidus y Pwca.



The Devil's Pulpit - A rocky viewpoint which overlooks the 13th Century Tintern Abbey. Local myth states the Devil created the Pulpit to preach to the Monks of Tintern, in the hopes that he could tempt them away from their religious ways.

Pulpud y Diafol - Mae Pulpud y Diafol yn graig sy'n edrych dros Abaty Tyndym a godwyd yn y 13eg ganrif. Y myth lleol yw i'r Diawl greu'r 'Pulpud' i bregethu i Fynachod Tyndym, gan obeithio y gallai eu hudo o'u ffyrdd crefyddol.



The Ghostly Figures of Swan Pool - On the road to Newland, near Redbrook lies the ghostly Swan Pool. The apparition of a ghostly woman carrying her child is said to haunt the pool. The ghostly figure can be seen rising from the depths of the water and the sound of a baby's cry rings in the air as well as a ghostly dog that circles the pool.

Bwganod Llyn yr Alarch - Mae Llyn yr Alarch ar y ffordd i Newland, ger Redbrook. Dywedir bod ysbryd menyw yn cario ei phlentyn yn y pwll. Gellir gweld yr ysbryd yn codi o'r dŵr dwfn ac mae sŵn baban yn wylo yn llenwi'r awyr yn ogystal â bwgan ci sy'n mynd o amgylch y llyn.



Fairy Transport - In old Welsh folklore, Corgis were the preferred method of transport for fairies!

Cludo Tywydd Teg - Yn hen chwedlau Cymru, corgwn oedd hoff ddull teithio tylwyth teg.



Mischievous Pwcas - In Monmouth, mischievous strange creatures known in Welsh mythology as Pwcas, used to offer help to local farmers in exchange for milk. If the Pwca wasn't rewarded, they would cause mischief for the householder.

Pwca Drygionus - Yn Sir Fynwy, arferai creaduriaid rhyfedd direidus a elwid yn Pwca yn chwedloniaeth Cymru gynnig help i ffermwyr lleol yn ôl am laeth. Byddai'r Pwca yn achosi trafferthion i ffermwyr nad oedd yn eu gwobrwyo.



King Arthur's Cave - Legend says that a giant human skeleton was discovered in King Arthur's Cave on the Doward in the 1700s. The cave is shrouded in local superstition and many bones of exotic and extinct animals have also been excavated from the site.

Ogof y Brenin Arthur - Dwed chwedl y darganfuwyd sgerbwd dynol enfawr yn ogof y Brenin Arthur ar y Doward yn y 1700au. Mae llawer o ofergoeliaeth leol am yr ogof a chafodd llawer o esgym anifeiliaid ecsotig a phrin eu canfod yno.



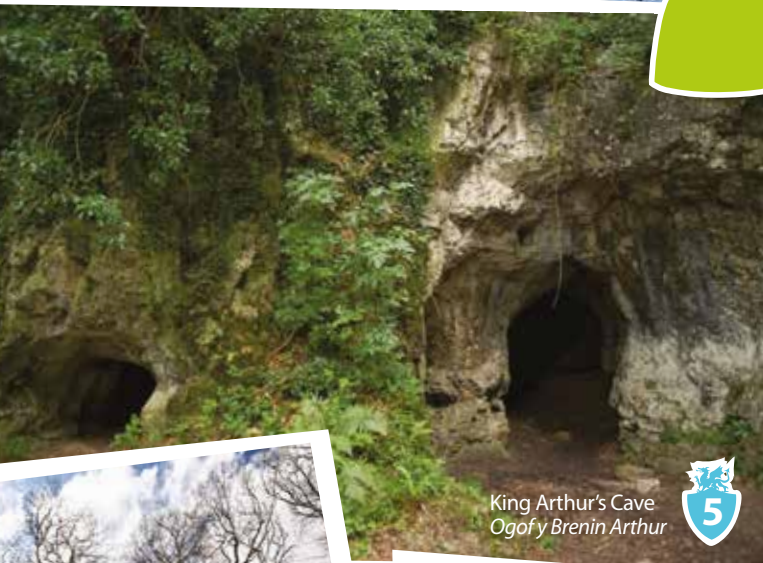
The Mordiford Dragon - Said to have resided just outside of the Herefordshire village of Mordiford, at the confluence of the River Wye and the River Lugg. The legend says that the dragon was green in colour and was looked after by a small girl named Maud. The dragon was destroyed after causing havoc in the village leaving Maud distraught.

Draig Mordiford - Dywedwyd fod Draig Mordiford wedi byw ar gyrion pentref Mordiford yn swydd Henffordd, lle mae'r Afon Gwy a'r Afon Lugg yn uno. Y chwedl yw fod y ddraig yn werdd a bod merch fach o'r enw Maud yn gofal amdani. Cafodd y ddraig ei lladd ar ôl achosi anrhefn yn y pentref gan dorri calon Maud.



St Tewdrig Springs - St Tewdrig was mortally wounded during battle and wished to be buried at sea. Everywhere he and his people stopped during the long journey, a spring of water appeared. St Tewdrig died at Mathern, a small village near Monmouthshire before reaching the sea but was laid to rest as per his request, however there is a well in Mathern which has never dried out.

Ffynhonnau Tewdrig Sant - Cafodd Tewdrig Sant ei glwyfo hyd angau mewn brwydr a dymunai gael ei gladdu yn y môr. Ymddangosai ffynnon ddŵr bobman yr oedd ef a'i bobl yn stopio yn ystod y daith hir. Bu farw Tewdrig Sant yn Matharn, pentref bach yn Sir Fynwy, cyn cyrraedd y môr ond cafodd ei gladdu yn ôl ei ddymuniad. Fodd bynnag, mae ffynnon ym Matharn nad yw erioed wedi sychu.



King Arthur's Cave
Ogof y Brenin Arthur



WANT TO FIND OUT MORE...?

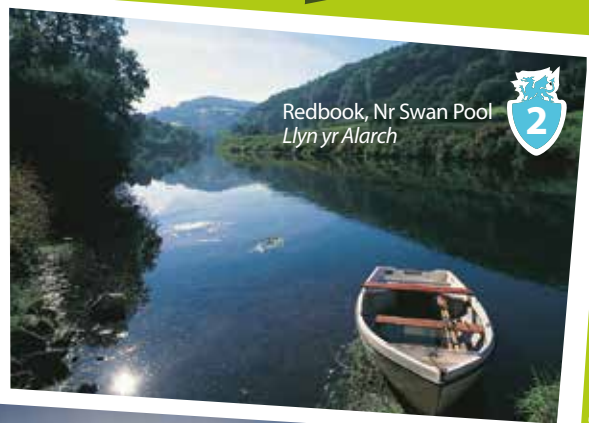
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EISI AU GWYBOD MWY...?

Cymerwch olwg ar deanwyelegends.co.uk

MYTHS & LEGENDS

Mythau a Chwedlau



Redbook, Nr Swan Pool
Llyn yr Alarch



River Severn
Afon Hafren



The Devil's Pulpit
Pulpud y Diafol



8 The Well that Heals - The Virtuous Well in Trellech is also well known as St Anne's Well. In the 18th and 19th centuries the water was considered to be beneficial to the treatments of eye ailments and women's illnesses. It is also said that fairies used to dance at the site.

Y ffynnon sy'n iachau - Caiff y Ffynnon Iachau yn Nhryleg hefyd ei hadnabod fel Ffynnon y Santes Anne. Yn y 18fed a'r 19eg ganrif ystyriwyd fod y dŵr yn llesol i drin anhwylderau llygaid a salchw menywod. Dywedir hefyd fod tylwyth teg yn arfer dawnsio ar y safle!

9 Penyard Castle - According to legend, a local farmer once discovered two iron doors beneath the ruins of Penyard Castle. The farmer collected a team of 20 oxen to tear the doors open and as a precaution, created a whip of Rowan to protect against any evil and kept a splinter from a Yew Tree in his pocket. After much force the doors opened to reveal two great big caskets of treasure with a Jackdaw perched above them. As the farmer was about to enter, the doors slammed shut and a voice bellowed out "Had it not been for your quicken-tree goad and your yew tree pin, you and your cattle had all been drawn in."

Castell Penyard - Y chwedl yw i ffermwr lleol unwaith ddarganfod dau ddwrws haearn o dan olion Castell Penyard. Casglodd y ffermwr dîm o 20 ychen i rwygo'r drysau ar agor a rhag ofn, creodd chwip o goed cerdinen i'w ddiogelu rhag unrhyw ysbryd drwg a chadwodd ysgyren o goeden ywen yn ei boced. Ar ôl llawer o ymdrech, agorodd y drysau i ddangos dwy gasged fawr o drysor gyda jac-y-do yn clwydo arnynt. Fel yr oedd y ffermwr ar fin mynd mewn, caeodd y drysau'n glep a gweiddodd llais "Onibai am dy chwip o goed cerdinen a'ch bin coeden ywen, byddet ti 'th wartheg i gyd wedi'ch tynnu mewn."

10 Jack O'Kent - A well known folkloric character based in the Welsh Marches. Legend has it that Jack O'Kent was a wizard that regularly beat the Devil in bets and games.

Jack O'Kent - Mae Jack O'Kent yn gymeriad cyfarwydd mewn chwedlau gwerin o'r Gororau. Y sôn yw fod Jack O'Kent yn ddewin oedd yn curo'r Diafol yn rheolaidd mewn betiau a gemau.

11 The Ghost of Isobel Chandos - The daughter of the Governor of Hereford Castle fell in love with King Edward II's favourite, Hugh Despenser. After her true love's death, she left in a small boat which capsized and she unfortunately drowned. Her spirit is said to still sail along the River and the apparition is said to bring ill fortune to those who see it.

Ysbryd Isobel Chandos - Isobel Chandos oedd merch Llywodraethwr Castell Henffordd a syrthiodd mewn cariad gyda Hugh Despenser, oedd yn ffefryn i'r Brenin Edward II. Ar ôl marwolaeth ei gwir gariad, gadawodd mewn cwch bychan a drodd ac yn anffodus bu fodd. Dywedir fod ei hysbryd yn dal i hwylio ar hyd yr afon ac yn dod ac nlwc i bawb sy'n ei weld.

12 Harold's Stones - Legend has it that three of Harold's Chieftains died during a battle in Trellech, hence the three stones standing tall. However these standing stones actually date back 3,500 years to the Bronze Age.

Cerrig Harold - Y chwedl yw y bu tri o benaethiaid Harold farw yn ystod brwydr yn Nhryleg, felly y tri maen hir. Fodd bynnag, mae'r meini hirion mewn gwirionedd yma o'r Oes Efydd, 3,500 mlynedd yn ôl.

13 The Otter Hole - The entrance was discovered by local man George Gardiner in 1970 whilst he was searching for Shakespeare's last manuscripts which according to legend were buried beside the River Wye. The Otter Hole is known as one of the best decorated caves in Britain and is located on the Wales - England border.

Twll Dyfrigwn - Cafodd y fynedfa i'r Twll Dyfrigwn ei ddarganfod gan y trydanwr lleol George Gardiner yn 1970 pan oedd yn chwilio am lawysgrifau olaf Shakespeare a oedd, yn ôl y chwedl, wedi'u claddu ger yr Afon Gwy. Mae'r Twll Dyfrigwn yn un o'r ogofau mwyaf addurnedig ym Mhrydain ac mae ar y ffin rhwng Cymru a Lloegr.



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YMUHWCH Â'R SGWRS
#DeanWyeLegends



The Devil's Pulpit
Pulpud y Diafol

MYTHS & LEGENDS



THE FOREST OF DEAN

Discover the myths and legends of the Forest of Dean from the age old question of 'who killed the bears?' to the mysterious bleeding stone.

A Who killed the bears? - In the 1800s, two Russian bears were brought to the Forest of Dean by some Frenchmen. While en route to Ruardean, an angry mob launched a deadly attack on the bears. Some Ruardean residents witnessed the brutal attack and sheltered the injured. The assailants were later fined for the attack but during legal processes the attackers were thought to be described as residents of Ruardean. The mocking refrain "Who killed the bears?" still taunts the residents to this day...

B Littledean Hall - A country house in the village of Littledean. It is reputedly one of the most haunted houses in England. It is known for its phantom blood stains in the dining room hall and a ghost of the manservant to Charles Pyrke of Littledean Hall from the 18th Century. The manservant haunts the 1st floor landing with a candle in his hand and if white flowers are set out in the dining room they are later found strewn across the floor.

C Bleeding Stone - The Staunton Longstone is a Bronze Age standing stone that stands at seven feet tall. Local folklore says that the stone will bleed if it's pricked with a pin at precisely midnight.

D The Last Witch of Gloucestershire? - A Cinderford wise woman, Ellen Hayward was the last person charged with Witchcraft in Gloucestershire. She was tried at Littledean Jail in 1906.

E The Beast of Dean - There have been many, historical and contemporary, reports of mysterious creatures living in the woods especially around Parkend. One notable example is the 'The Beast of Dean' which was also given the name 'Moose-Pig'. Long before reintroduction of wild boar in the area, an animal said to resemble a boar but large enough to crush hedges and make trees fall lurked in the depths of the woods.

F The Dymock Curse - An inscribed lead tablet was found in a house in Wilton Place, Dymock. The name Sarah Ellis was written backwards at the top and there were also inscriptions on the tablet representing the good and evil spirits, there is also a curse written on the tablet. Sarah Ellis was never found and the local legend is that the curse affected her so much that she committed suicide. The tablet is now displayed in Gloucester Folk Museum.

G Lydney Park Roman Temple Curse - One of the artifacts found at the Lydney Park Roman Temple Site was a cursed tablet. The tablet read "O the God Nodens. Silvanus has lost a ring. He has [vowed] half its value to Nodens. Amongst all who bear the name of Senicianus, refuse thou to grant health to exist, until he bring back the ring to the Temple of Nodens." Extraordinarily, the exact ring was found in a farmer's field in Hampshire. The ring itself is now housed in The Vyne Museum, it also lives with Tolkien memorabilia and the question remains as to whether or not the ancient ring might have been the very one that inspired J.R.R Tolkien.



2

Rebrook, Nr Swan Pool



River Severn

13



The Beast of Dean

E



Bleeding Stone

G

A MYTH...
is a story without
any natural explanation

A LEGEND...
is a historic story
that cannot be
proved to be true

WANT TO FIND OUT MORE...?
Take a look at deanwyelegends.co.uk

FOREST OF DEAN & WYE VALLEY



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Pulpuŵ y Diafol
Tintern Tyndyrn
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Bwganod Llyn yr Alarch
Redbrook Redbrook
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Cludo Tywydd Teg
Wales Cymru
- 4** Mischievous Pwacs
Pwca Drygionus
Monmouth Mafonmouth
- 5** King Arthurs Cave
Ogof y Brenin Arthur
The Doward The Doward
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Draig Mordiford
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Mordiford, Swydd Henffordd
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Y ffynnon sy'n iachau
Trellech Trelleg

- 9** Penyard Castle
Castell Penyard
Penyard Penyard
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Jack O'Kent
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Cerrig Harold
Trellech Trelleg
- 13** Otter Hole
Twll Dyfrigwn
Chepstow Cas-gwent

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WHAT IS A MYTH?

A myth is known as a traditional story concerning the early history of a person or area without any basis of fact or natural explanation.

Beth yw Myth?

Mae myth yn stori draddodiadol yn ymwneud â hanes cynnar person neu ardal heb fod yn seiliedig ar ffeithiau neu esboniad naturiol.

WHAT IS A LEGEND?

A legend is a story from history that is often believed by many people but cannot be proved to be true.

Beth yw Chwedl?

Mae chwedl yn stori o hanes y mae llawer o bobl yn credu ynnddi ond na ellir profi ei bod yn wir.



- A** Who killed the bears?
Ruardean
- B** Littledean Hall
Littledean
- C** Bleeding Stone
Staunton
- D** The Last Witch of Glos
Cinderford
- E** The Beast of Dean
Parkend
- F** The Dymock Curse
Dymock
- G** Roman Temple Curse
Lydney Park, Lydney

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Eisiau ymchwilio mwy?

Edrychwch yn wyedeantourism.co.uk am leoedd i aros, bwyta ac ymweld â nhw yn ardal DenaGwy he!



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