

HISTORY
GUIDE
CANLLAW
HANES

Discover the Severn

Darganfod Aber Hafren

#DISCOVERTHESEVERN



History of the Severn Estuary

The Severn Estuary has an impressive history, rising to prominence as one of the most important waterways in the world. It housed the bustling ports of Bristol, Cardiff, Barry, Newport and Gloucester throughout the industrial revolution, with trading connections on every continent! Today, much of this industrial landscape has changed from canals and railways to large shipping ports and estuarine industries, but you can still catch a glimpse of these historically significant places all around the estuary.

Flip through this booklet to hear stories of piracy, smuggling, trade, war and daily life on the Severn Estuary from the last Ice Age to the present day. There is so much to see so don't forget to take a look at the places to visit around the estuary on the back of this guide!



Hanes Aber Hafren

Mae hanes trawiadol i Aber Hafren, cymaint felly fel ei fod yn un o'r dyfrffyrdd pwysicaf yn y byd. Ar ei lannau ceid porthladdoedd prysur Bryste, Caerdydd, Y Barri, Casnewydd, a Chaerloyw trwy gydol y Chwyldro Diwydiannol, gyda chysylltiadau masnachu ar bob cyfandir! Heddiw, mae llawer o'r tirlun diwydiannol hwn wedi newid o fod yn gamles i rheilffyrdd i borthladdoedd llwytho mawr a diwydiannau aberol, ond gallwch weld olion y llefydd hanesyddol bwysig hyn amgylch yr aber o hyd.

Darllenwch drwy'r llyfrynn hwn i glywed straeon am fôr-ladrata, smyglo, masnachu, rhyfel, a bywyd beunyddiol ar Aber Hafren o'r Oes là ddiwethaf hyd y dydd hwn. Mae llawer i'w weld, felly peidiwch ag anghofio edrych ar y llefydd i ymweld â nhw ar gefn y canllaw hwn!

Key

	Disaster Trychineb
	Geology Daeareg
	Archaeology Archaeoleg
	Energy Egni
	Mythology Mytholeg
	Shipwreck Llongddrylliad
	Trade Masnach
	Piracy Môr-ladrata
	Smuggling Smyglo
	Exploration Archwilio
	Bridges Pontydd
	Engineering Peirianneg
	Energy Egni
	Conservation Cadwraeth
	Management Rheoli
	Communications Cyfathrebu
	Medicine Meddygaeth
	Military Milwrol
	Event Digwyddiad
	Fisheries Pysgodfeydd

Safety on the Severn



Check the tide times and weather forecast before you visit the coast.

- Keep safe on the foreshore, taking care of slippery rocks and the mudflats – the risk of getting stuck is real.
- The Severn has one of the highest tidal ranges in the world – remember how quickly the tide moves and changes – up to 1 metre in little more than 20 minutes on some tides.
- Wear suitable clothing and footwear, it can be muddy.
- Remember to check Public Rights of Way before setting off.

Always bring a charged mobile phone and let friends or family know where you are and when you are likely to return home.

The estuary is a home for wildlife – take care not to disturb feeding, breeding and resting birds.

Stay on the footpaths where possible – help to protect the mudflats and saltmarsh that support wildlife.

Help to keep the coast enjoyable for all and take all litter home with you.

Diogelwch Afon Hafren



Gwiriwch amseroedd y llanw a'r rhagolygon tywydd cyn ymweld â'r arfordir.

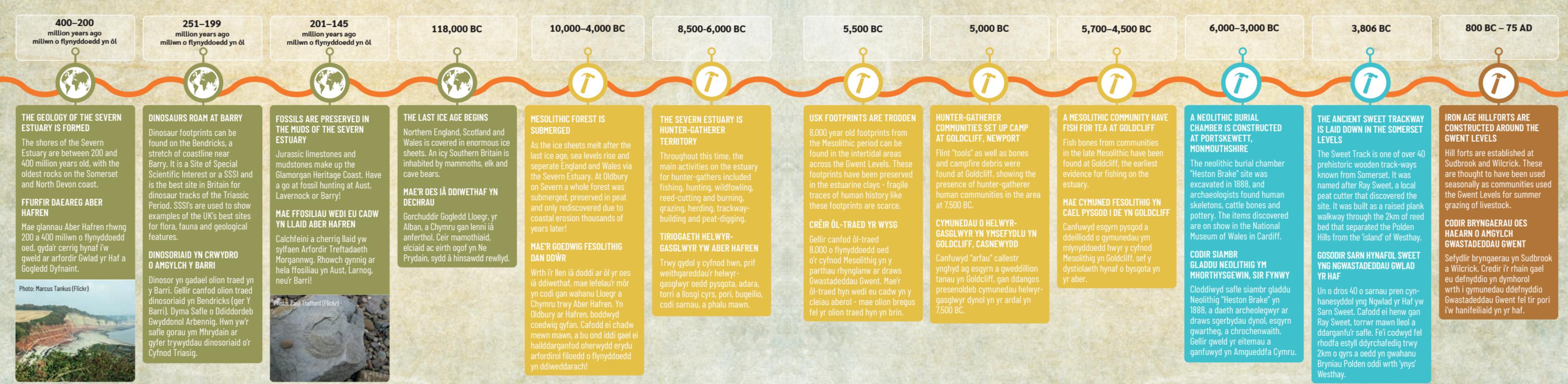
- Cadwch yn ddiogel ar flaen y traeth, byddwch yn ofalus o greigiau llithrig a'r fflatiau llaid – mae'r perygl o fynd yn soudn yn un go iawn.
- Mae gan yr Hafren un o amrediadau llanw mwya'r byd – cofiwch pa mor gyflym mae'r llanw'n symud a newid – hyd at 1m mewn ychydig dros 20 munud ar adegau.
- Gwisgwch ddillad ac esgidiau addas oherwydd y gall fod yn fwdlyd.
- Cofiwch wirio Hawliau Tramwy Cyhoeddus cyn mentro allan.

Cofiwch ddod â ffôn symudol wedi'i wefru'n llawn a gadael i ffrindiau neu deulu wybod ble rydych chi a phryd rydych yn debygol o ddychwelyd adref.

Mae'r aber yn gartref i fywyd gwylt – gofalwch rhag i chi beidio â tharf u ar gyfnodau bwydo, bridio a gorffwys adar.

Arhoswch ar y llwybrau lle bo'n bosibl – helpwch i ddiogelu'r fflatiau llaid a'r morfa heli sy'n cefnogi bywyd gwylt.

Helpwch i gadw'r arfordir yn hyfryd i bawb ac ewch â sbwriel adref gyda chi.



Pleistocene-Palaeolithic / Pleistosen-Paleolithig

Mesolithic / Mesolithig

Mesolithic / Mesolithig

Neolithic / Neolithig

700 BC – 43 AD**43 AD****75-300 AD****200 AD****c.300 AD****c.364 AD****400 AD****410 AD****1086 AD****c.1138 AD****c.1200****1300's****AUST GODDESS**

Found over 100 years ago below the Aust cliffs in south Gloucestershire, the bronze statuette is 15cm in length and is thought to date to the Iron Age period, just before the Roman invasion.

DUWIES AUST CLOGWYNI AUST, DE SWYDD GAERLOYW

Wedi ei chanfod 100 o flynyddoedd yn ôl is clogwyni Aust, mae'r ddelwan efydd hon yn 15cm ar ei hyd a chredir ei bod yn deillio o gyfnod yr Oes Haearn, fymryn cyn goresgyniad y Rhufeiniad.

THE ROMAN INVASION

Emperor Claudius invades Britain. This marks the beginning of the Roman legions presence in Southern Britain - particularly the subjugation of Welsh tribes.

GORESGYNIAID Y RHUFEINIAD

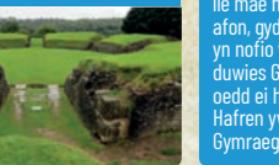
Yr Ymerawdwr Claudius yn goresgyn Prydain. Dyma ddechreuaeth presenoldeb llengoedd Rhufeiniog yn Ne Prydain - yn enwedig darostyngiad llwythau Cymreig.

CAERLEON - A THRIVING ROMAN MILITARY TOWN

The ruins of Caerleon are extensive, and have an amphitheatre, swimming pool and bath house. It was one of three permanent Roman fortresses in Britain and was used for over 200 years.

CAERLEON - TREF FILWROL RHFUFEINIG FFYNIANNUS

Mae adfeilion Caerleon yn helaeth. Ceir amchwaraef a, pwlw nofio, a baddodyn. Roedd yn un o dair caer Rufeiniog barhaol ym Mhrydain, a chafodd ei defnyddio am dros 200 o flynyddoedd.

**ROMAN ORIGINS OF THE SEVERN**

Sabrina is one of the earliest recorded goddesses of British rivers, appearing as early as 100 AD in Roman accounts where she rides in a chariot through the river, with dolphins and salmon swimming alongside her. It is thought she was a Celtic goddess, known as Hafren in Welsh. Hafren is still used as the Welsh name for the Severn!

TARDIADAU'R RHUFEINIG HAFREN

Sabrina yw un o duwiesau cynharaf afonysodwyd Prydain y mae cofnud amdanu, gan iddi ymddangos mor gynnar â 100 AD mewn cofnodi Rhufeiniog, lle mae hîn gyrru cerbyd trwy'r afon, gydag eogiad a dolfiniaid yn nifio wrth ei hochr. Credir taw duwies Geltaidd oedd hi. Hafren oedd ei henw yn y Gymraeg. Hafren yw enw'r afon yn y Gymraeg hyd heddiw, wrth gwrs!

A TINY CHAPEL IS BUILT ON ROCK ISLAND, BEACHLEY

The distinctive ruins of a chapel on Chapel Rock, a tiny island in the Severn Estuary only accessible at low water, can be seen from Beachley. It was later dedicated St Twrog who lit a beacon on the island to prevent ships from grounding.

CODIR CAPEL BYCHAN IAWN AR ROCK ISLAND, BEACHLEY

Gellir gweld adfeilion nodweddial capel ar Chapel Rock, ynys fechan iawn yn Aber Hafren sydd ond yn hygyrch ar lanw isel, o Beachley. Fe'i cysegrwyd i Sant Twrog, a gynfuodd ffagl ar yr ynys yn gadw llongau rhag tirio.

LYDNEY PARK CELTIC TEMPLE IS BUILT

Atop the promontory of an Iron Age hillfort, the ruins of a Roman temple and bath complex stands in Lydney Park. Archaeological finds at the site include over 8,000 coins and bronze and stone dog statuettes! Romans thought that dogs healed people - probably because they saw dogs licking their wounds to heal themselves!

CODIR TEML CELTAIDD LYDNEY PARK

Ar bentir bryngaer o'r Oes Haearn, ceir adfeilion teml Rhufeiniog a chyffres o eisteddoleodd baddondai yn Lydney Park. Mae darganfyddiadau archeolegol o'r safle yn cynnwys dros 8,000 o geiniogau, a delwau cerrig ac efydd o gŵn! Roedd y Rhufeiniad yn credu bod cŵn yn iachau pobl - am iddynt weld cŵn yn llyfrau eu clwyfau i w hiachâu, mae'n debyg.

ST CADOC COMES TO FLAT HOLM

St Cadoc, an Abbot of Llancarfan (Vale of Glamorgan), a famous monastery at the time, was the earliest known visitor to Flat Holm. He is thought to have visited the island frequently as a retreat to practice meditation, particularly during Lent.

SANT CADOG YN YMWELED AG YNYS ECHNI

Sant Cadog, Abad Llancarfan (Bro Morgannwg), sef mynachlog enwog ar y pryd, oedd ymwmweld hysbs cyntaf Ynys Echni. Credir iddo ymwmweld â'r ynys yn amf fel encilfa i fyfyr ynddi, yn enwedig yn ystod y Grawys.

END OF THE ROMAN OCCUPATION

With successive invasions and attacks from all sides on the Roman Empire, including the Picts and Saxons in Britain, the emperor Honorius could not send any aid to the Roman legions in Britain. He drafted a letter stating that they must 'look to their own defences', marking the official end of the Roman Occupation of Britain.

DIWEDD MEDDIANAETH Y RHUFEINIAD

Gyda goresgyniadau olynol ac ymosodiadau ar bob tur' Ymerodraeth Rhufeiniog, gan gynnwys gan y Ffichtiâd a'r Sacsoniaid ym Mhrydain, nid oedd yr ymerawdwr Honorius yn gallu anfon unrhyw gymorth i'r llengoedd Rhufeiniog ym Mhrydain. Mae'n llunio llythyr sy'n datgan bod rhaid iddynt 'ofalu am eu ham-diffynfeydd eu hunain', gan nodi diwedd swyddogol Mediannaeth y Rhufeiniad ar Brydain.

DOMESDAY BOOK RECORDS 63 FISHERIES IN TIDENHAM

The Domesday Book was the recording of industry to determine what taxes were owed to the new King, William the Conqueror, and was the first large-scale survey of industry throughout England and parts of Wales. A survey of this size was not attempted again until 1873!

LLYFR DOMESDAY YN COFNODI 63 O BYSGODFEYDD YN TIDENHAM, FFOREST Y DDENA

Fe wnaeth Llyfr Domesday gofnodi diwydiannau er mwyn penu pa drethi oedd yn ddyledus i'r brenin newydd, Gwilym y Gorchfygwr, a dyma oedd yr arolwg graddfa fawr gyntaf o ddiwydiant trwy gydol Lloegr a rhannau o Gymru. Ni roddwyd cynnig ar arolwg o'r maint hwn eto tan 1873!

HOW THE SEVERN GOT ITS NAME

The Severn may have been named after the Welsh legend of Sabrina, where King Locrine of Loegria (England) fell in love with princess Estrildis despite being married to Gwendoline. Locrine had a daughter with Estrildis called Sabrina but when Gwendoline found out she ordered that they both be thrown into the river!

From then on, the river was named Sabrina or Hafren in Welsh.

LLONG Y MAGOR PILL YN CAEL EI DRYLLIO YN LLAIAD ABER HAFREN

Cafodd y llon ganoloesol ei boddi yn llaiad Aber Hafren, a hithau'n cludo mwyn haearn o Forgannwg. Cafodd ei darganfod yn 1994, 700 o flynyddoedd yn ddiweddarach.

Photo: David Merrett (Flickr)

MAGOR PILL IS WRECKED IN THE SEVERN MUD

The Medieval vessel is submerged in Severn mud carrying a cargo of iron ore from Glamorgan, only to be found in 1994, 700 years later.

LLONG Y MAGOR PILL YN CAEL EI DRYLLIO YN LLAIAD ABER HAFREN

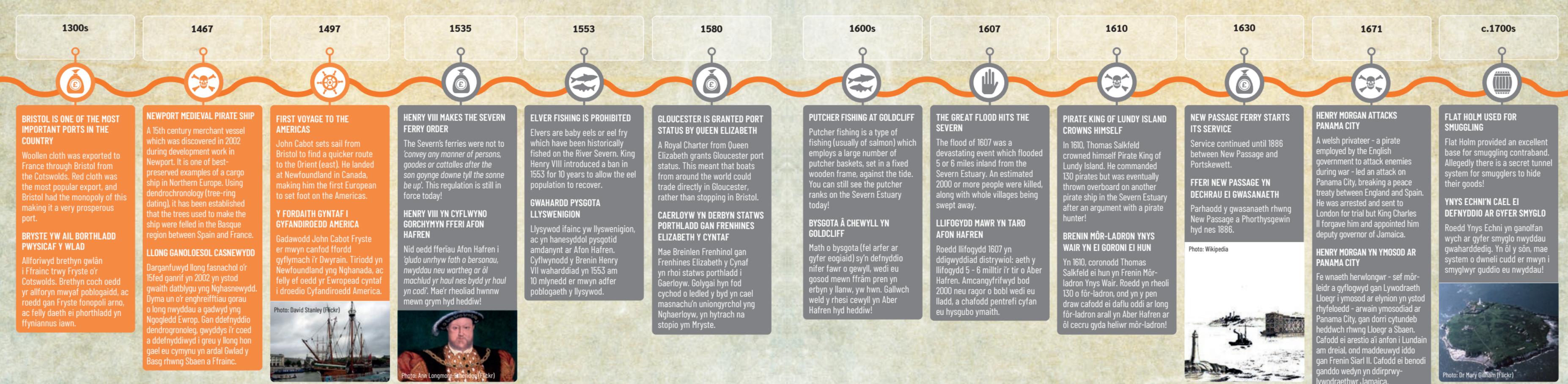
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SMUGGLING ON THE SEVERN

A customs duty was placed on the export of wool - a good in great demand in Europe. The ports of Barry and Cardiff had no permanent customs officers, so it was easier to smuggle goods in and out. These ports became hotspots for smuggling activity, continuing for centuries!

SMYGLO AR AFON HAFREN

Gosodwyd toll ar allforo gwlân - nwydd yr oedd galw mawr amdano. Nid oedd swyddogion tollau parhaol ym mhorthladdoedd y Barri a Chaerdydd, felly roedd yn haws smyglo nwyddau mewn a mas o'r llefydd hyn. Daeth y porthladdoedd hyn yn ganolbwytiau i smyglo, gan barhau am ganrifioedd!



Medieval / Canoloesol

Pre-Industrial / Cyn-ddiwyaiddiannol

Pre-Industrial / Cyn-ddiwyaiddiannol

1700s

1737

1738

1747

1785

1794

1795

1799

1807

1809

1810

1827



EARLIEST EVIDENCE OF LAVE NET FISHING ON THE SEVERN

Lave net fishing is still used traditionally in the estuary today, passed down through generations of fishermen at Sudbrook, Porthkewett and Caldicot.

Y DYSTIOLAETH GYNHARAF O BYSGOTA Â RHWYDI LAMPO AR AFON HAFREN

Mae pobl yn dal i ddefnyddio'r dull traddodiadol o bysgota â rhwydi lampo yn yr aber hyd heddw i'n Sudbrook, Porthysgwin a Chil-y-Coed.

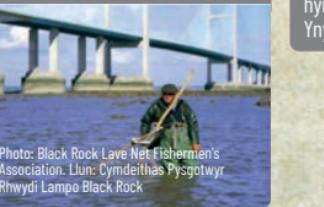


Photo: Black Rock Lave Net Fishermen's Association, Llun: Cyndeithas Bysgota'r Rhwydi Lampo Black Rock



FLAT HOLM LIGHTHOUSE IS BUILT AFTER THE DEATH OF 60 SOLDIERS

60 soldiers were killed when their ship hit 'the Wolves' - a string of rocks just off the coast of the island. This sparked the construction of the first lighthouse on Flat Holm.

CODIR GOLEUDY YNYS ECHNI WEDI MARWOLAETH 60 O FILWYR

Liaddwyd 60 o filwyr pan darodd eu llon 'y Bleiddiaid', sef cyfres o greigiau fyrryn oddi ar affordir yr yns. O ganlyniad i hyn, codwyd y goleudy cyntaf ar Ynys Echni.



THOMAS KNIGHT RULES BARRY

Smuggling spirits and tobacco from the Channel Islands and soap from Ireland on the 24 gun John O'Combe through Barry, Knight turned Barry into his own town. He had between 60-70 people guarding his activities, and reportedly local people had more respect for him than the real king. He was eventually removed and retreated to Lundy Island.

ANTERTH Y FASNACH GAETHWEISION YM MRYSSTE

Masnachwyd caethweision fel rhan o rwydwaith rhwng Gorllewin Affrica, Ewrop, a'r Caribi. Rhwng 1501 ac 14, amcangyfrifir bod dros 12 miliwn o Africanaid wedi eu cludo i'r Byd Newydd, gydag oddeutu 2 filiwn ohonynt yn marw a ffodd.



WILLIAM ARTHUR RULES BARRY

Slaves were traded as part of a network between West Africa, Europe and the Caribbean. Between 1501 and 1866, over 12 million Africans are estimated to have been transported to the New World, with sadly around 2 million dying en route.

WILLIAM ARTHUR YN RHEOLI'R BARRI

Ar ôl i Knight adael, Arthur oedd yn rheoli'r Barri, ac fe'i disgrifiwyd fel y smyglwr mwyaf efn ym Morgannwg yn y 18fed ganrif.



GLAMORGANSHIRE CANAL IS COMPLETED

After the departure of Knight, Arthur ruled Barry and was described as being the most daring smuggler in Glamorgan in the 18th century.

CWBLLHEIR CAMLAS MORGANNWG

Roedd Camlas Morgannwg yn cysylltu Merthyr a Chaerdydd, gan alluogi i lo gael ei allforio trwy Borthladd Caerdydd. Fe wnaeth hyn gyfrannu at dwf y fasnach lo a mwynghloddu.



EARLIEST RECORD OF BRISTOL PILOT CUTTERS

Bristol Channel Pilot Cutters are specialised sailing boats, modified to be used on the Bristol Channel. Their main purpose was to quickly ferry local maritime pilots to large ships to assist in navigating the channel. Only a few remain.

CAMLAS SIR FYNWY YN AGOR MORGANNWG

Defnyddiwyd y gamlas i gludo Mwyn Haearn, Glo a Chalchfaen. Yn ddiweddarach, cafodd ei chysylltu â'r rhwydwaith ehangach, gyda Chamblas Brycheiniog a'r Fenni.



THE MONMOUTHSHIRE CANAL OPENS

The canal was used to transport Iron Ore, Coal and Limestone. It was later linked into the wider canal network with the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal.

Y COFNOD CYNAF O BEILOTIAID CYCHOD YSGAFN BRYSTE

Cychod hwyllo arbenigol oedd Peilotiaid Cychod Ysgafn Bryste, wedi eu haddasu er mwyn eu defnyddio ym Môr Hafren. Eu prif ddiben oedd cludo peilotiaid morwrol lleol i longau mawr er mwyn eu cynorthwyo wrth forylwio Môr Hafren. Dim ond ychydig sy'n weddill.

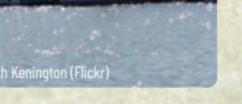


THE SLAVE TRADE IS ABOLISHED IN BRITAIN

80 acres of river were enclosed to allow ships to remain afloat in the harbour without relying on the tides.

CODIR HARWR ARNOFIOL BRYSTE

Amgaeir 80 erw o'r afon er mwyn galluogi llonau i arnofio a hwyluso masnachu.



BRISTOL FLOATING HARBOUR IS BUILT

The slave trade is abolished but not all trading is stopped straight away marking the beginning of a decline in trade with the West Indies from Bristol.

Y FASNACH GAETHWEISION YM MHRYDAIN YN CAEL EI DIDDYMU

Diddymir y fasnach gaethweision, gan sbarduno dirywiad y masnachu ag Ynysedd y Caribî.



AN EARLY ATTEMPT AT SEVERN TUNNEL

The first Severn Railway Tunnel is attempted to link South Wales and England. Unfortunately, the tunnel breached in 1812, about half-way across the river and filled up with water before any more progress could be made!

YMGAIIS GYNNAF AT DWNNEL YR HAFREN

Bu ymgais i gysylltu De Cymru a Lloegr drwy adeiladu Twnnel Rheilfordd Hafren. Yn anffodus, bu bwllch yn y tunnel ym 1812, tua hanner ffodd ar draws yr afon, gan ei lenwi â dŵr cyn y gelid gwneud unrhyw gynnydd pellach!



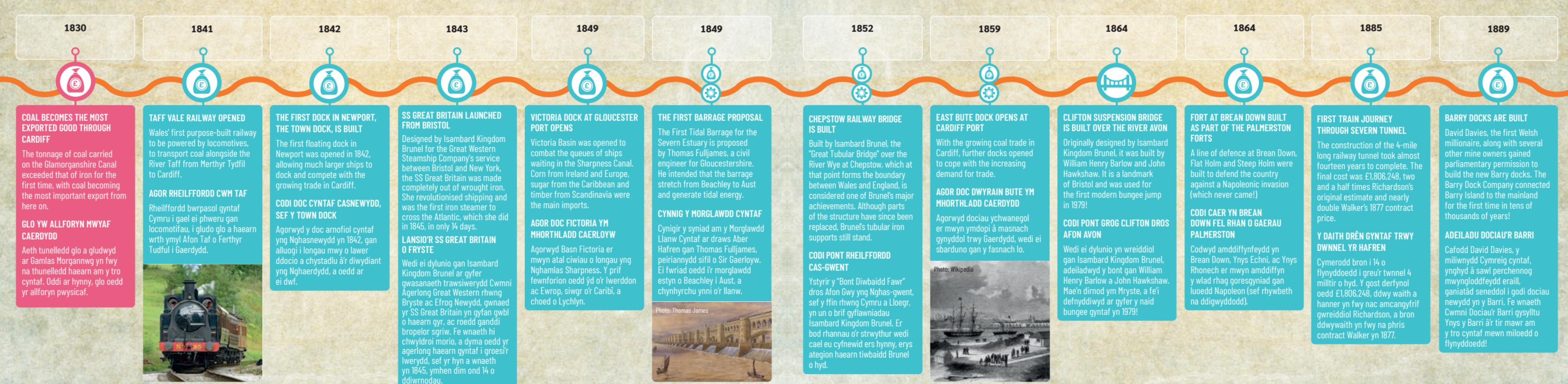
SHARPNESS CANAL IS OPENED

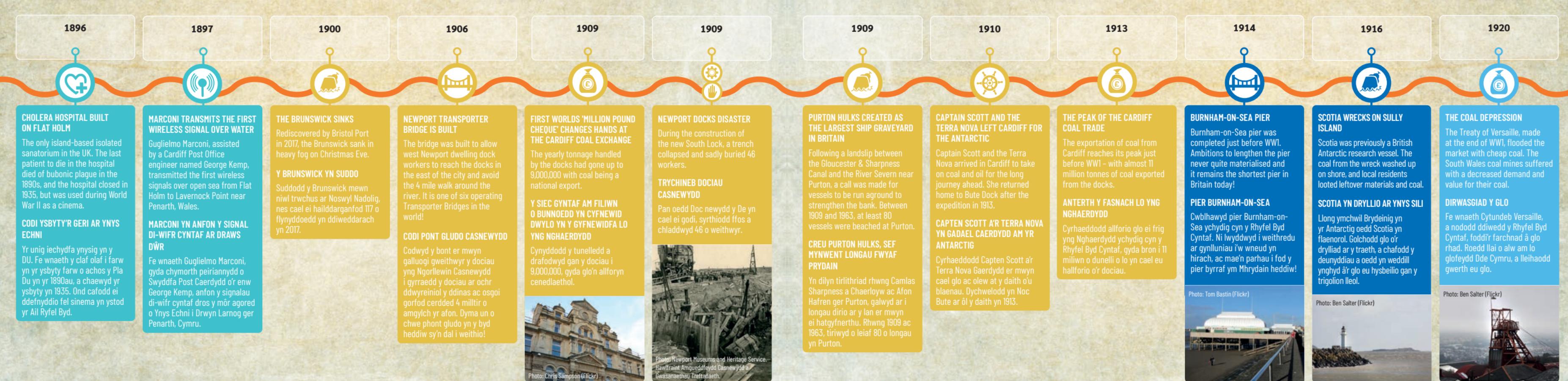
Once the broadest and deepest in the world, the 16-mile long Sharpness Canal was built to bypass a winding and treacherous stretch of the River Severn, creating the most inland port in Britain.

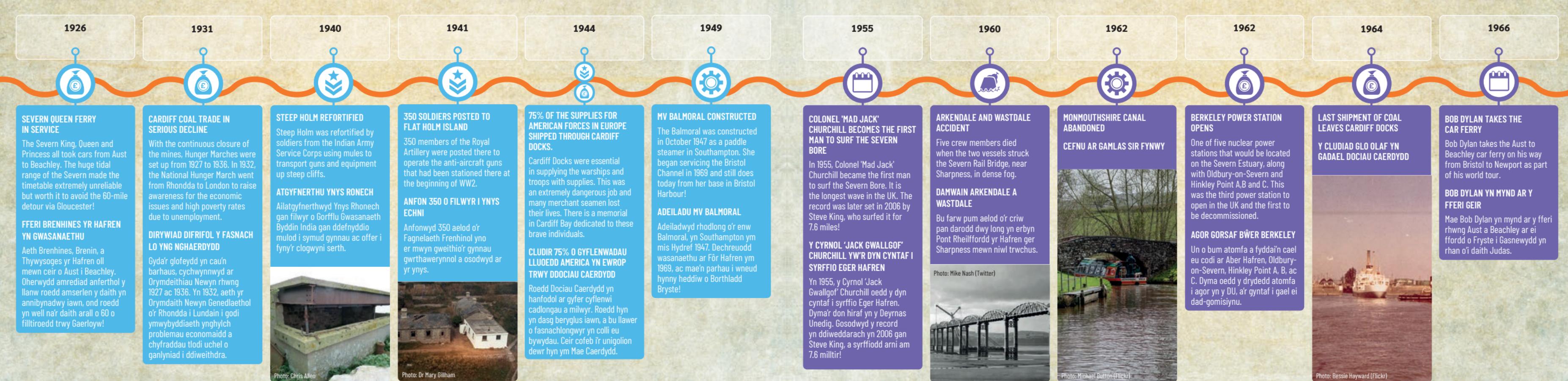
AGORIR CAMLAS SHARPNESS YR HAFREN

Ar un adeg, y gamlas 16 milltir hon oedd y ddfynaf a'r lliefat y byd. Fe'i cloddwyd er mwyn osgoi rhai ddolenog a pheryglus o Afon Hafren, gan greu'r porthladd mwyaf mewndirol ym Mhrydain.





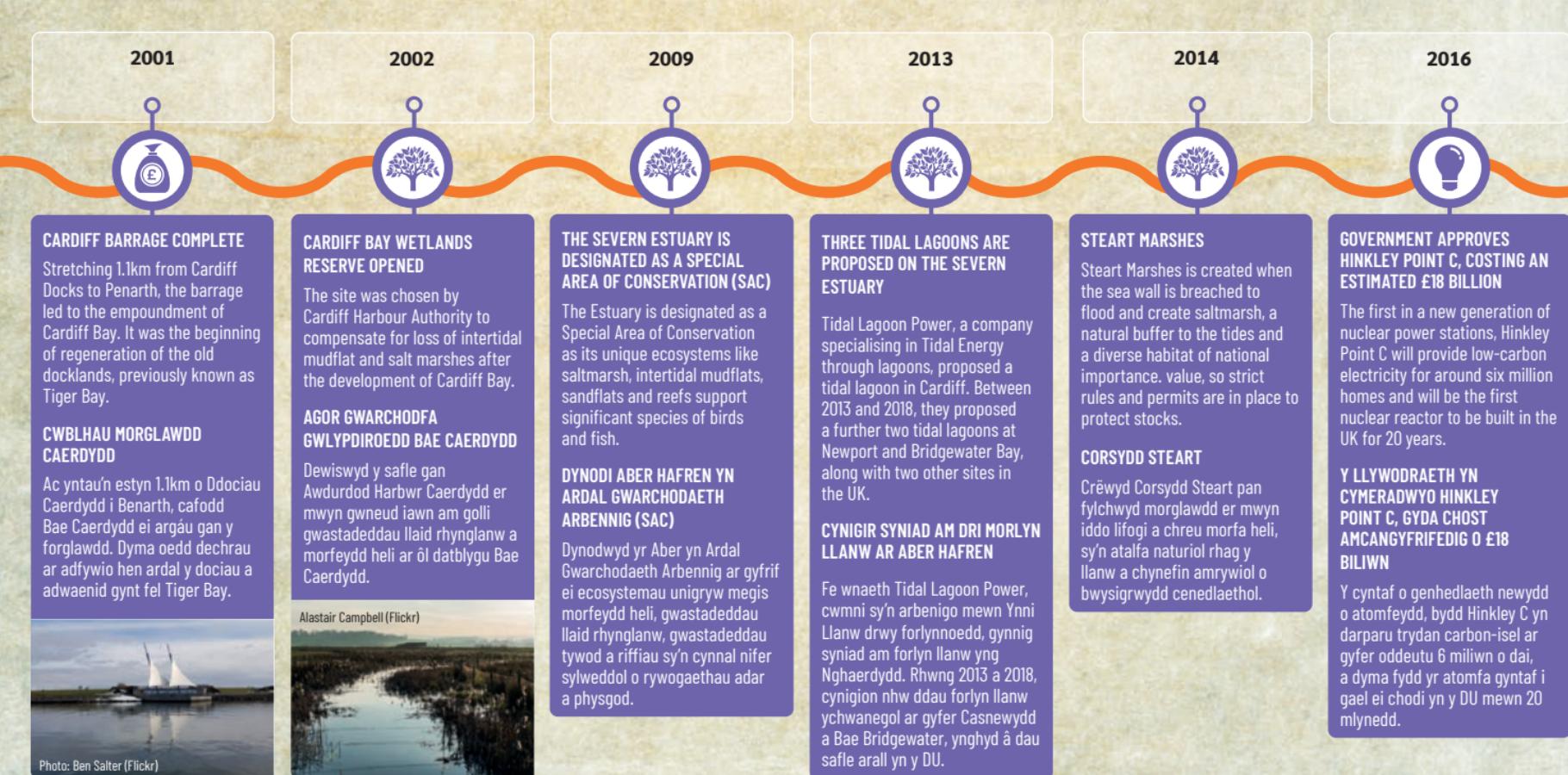






Modern Day / Yr Oes Fodern

Modern Day / Yr Oes Fodern



Modern Day / Yr Oes Fodern



Severn Estuary Top Historic Spots

Smotiau Hanesyddol Uchaf Aber Haf

-
- 1 Goldecliff | Goldcliff, Casnewydd
 - 2 Whitmore Bay | Bae Whitmore
 - 3 Black Rock | Y Graig Ddu
 - 4 Lavernock Point | Trwyn Larnog
 - 5 Flat Holm | Ynys Echii
 - 6 Sudbrook Hill Fort | Bryngae'r Sudbrook
 - 7 Wilcrick Hill Fort | Bryngae'r Wilcrick
 - 8 Caerleon | Caerlioni
 - 9 Lydney Park | Parc Lydney
 - 10 Newport Wetlands | Gwylioedd Casnewydd
 - 11 Portskewett | Portysgwin
 - 12 Slimbridge Wetland Centre WWT | Canolfan Gwyltir Slimbridge WWT
 - 13 Aust Cliff | Clogwyn Aust
 - 14 Bristol Floating Harbour | Harbwr Arnofiol Bryste
 - 15 Cardiff Bay | Bae Caerdydd
 - 16 Newport Transporter Bridge | Pont Gludo Casnewydd
 - 17 Brean Down | Twyni Brean
 - 18 Newport Medieval Ship | Llong Ganoloesol Casnewydd
 - 19 Purton Hulks | Hydciau Purton
 - 20 Burnham-on-Sea

Produced by the Severn Estuary Partnership as part of the Discover the Severn project. Kindly funded through support from Natural Resources Wales.

Cyhoeddwyd gan Bartheriaeth Aber Hafren yn rhian o bresodol. Daeth i'r holl ardal Cyfeith Naturiol Cymru.



SEVERN
ESTUARY
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Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

