



TAITH PYLLAU
GLO CYMRU
PARC TREFTADAETH CWM RHONDDA
A WELSH COAL
MINING EXPERIENCE
RHONDDA HERITAGE PARK

GWRTHRYCHAU O'R AIL RYFEL BYD WORLD WAR TWO ARTEFACTS



RATL CYRCH AWYR PREN

Cafodd y ratl yma ei defnyddio gan Wardeiniaid Cyrch Awyr i rybuddio pobl o ymosodiad nwy neu gyrch awyr. Byddai wedi cael ei seinio yn y stryd, mewn ysgol, neu mewn ardal gyhoeddus. Byddai'r sŵn wedi rhybuddio pobl i wisgo'u mwgwd nwy ac i fynd i guddio mewn lloches cyrch awyr. Wedyn byddai'r Warden Cyrch Awyr yn canu cloch i ddweud wrth y cyhoedd ei bod hi'n ddiogel iddyn nhw fynd ymlaen â'u bywyd pob dydd.

AIR RAID WARDEN RATTLE

This rattle was used by Air Raid Wardens to warn people of a gas attack or air raid. It would have been rang in the middle of the street, a school, or any public area. This noise would signal people to use their gas masks and go into hiding in an air raid shelter. The Air Raid Warden would then ring a bell to tell the public that it was now safe and they could go about their daily lives.



HELMED WARDEN CYRCH AWYR

Roedd y Warden Cyrch Awyr (ARW) yn rhan o'r Corfflu Amddiffyn Sifil a oedd yn cynnwys grwpiau o ddynion a menywod. Cafodd y bobl yma eu hystyried yn anaddas i ymladd ond roedd eu sgiliau yn hanfodol gartref.

Roedd llawer o swyddi pwysig yn y Corfflu Amddiffyn Sifil gan gynnwys Gwardeiniaid Cyrch Awyr, Carfanau Cymorth Cyntaf, Cludwyr Elorwely, Carfanau Achub, Carfanau Dymchwel, Carfanau Dadlygru a Gwarchodwyr Tân. Ar ddechrau'r Rhyfel doedd gan y gwirfoddolwyr yma ddim gwisg unffurf ar wahân i rwymyn braich a helmed dur. Yn ddiweddarach, cawson nhw oferôls a chotiau mawr ar gyfer y tywydd oer.

Cafodd swyddi amddiffyn sifil eu gwneud yn ogystal â'u swyddi arferol, er enghraifft gwneud ffrwydrion mewn ffatri. Fe wnaethon nhw arbed llawer o fywydau ac roedden nhw'n hanfodol yn ystod cyrchoedd awyr. Rhan o waith y Warden Cyrch Awyr oedd cerdded y strydoedd yn ystod y nos i sicrhau bod pob ffenestr yn dywyll ac nad oedd golau'n dangos drwodd. Pe byddai golau'n dangos, bydden nhw'n gweiddi "Gorchuddiwch y ffenestr!" Bydden nhw hefyd yn rhoi gwybod am unrhyw ddifrod a sicrhau bod modd i'r gwasanaethau brys gyrraedd pobl sydd wedi'u hanafu. Y ffordd haws i adnabod y gwardeiniaid yma oedd yr 'W' fawr ar eu helmedau. Roedd yr Heddlu hefyd yn gwisgo helmedau tebyg i'w hamddiffyn rhag cyrchoedd awyr.

AIR RAID WARDEN HELMET

The Air Raid Warden (ARW) was part of the Civil Defence that was made up from groups of men and women. These people were deemed unfit to fight but their skills were essential to the home front.

There were many important jobs in the Civil Defence including Air Raid Wardens, First Aid or Stretcher Parties, Rescue Parties, Demolition Parties, Decontamination Squads and Fire Guards. Originally these volunteers had no uniform apart from an armlet and steel helmet, but eventually were supplied with overalls and heavy-duty coats for the cold weather.

Civil defence duties were often undertaken in addition to a more regular day job for example, making ammunition in a factory. They helped save many lives and were essential during bombing raids. Part of an ARW's job was to patrol the streets at night ensuring that all windows were blacked out and no light was seeping through. If there was they would shout "Cover that window!" They would also report on any damage and ensure that emergency services could attend the casualties. The easiest way to recognise these wardens was with the big 'W' on their helmets. The Police also wore similar helmets which protected them from air raids.



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MWGWDD NWY

Erbyn diwedd mis Medi 1938, roedd 38 miliwn o fygydau nwy wedi'u dosbarthu i deuluoedd Prydain. Roedd yn rhaid eu cario i bobman er mwyn eich amddiffyn rhag ymosodiad nwy gwenwynig. Byddai'r hidlydd blwch yn y mwgwd. Byddai'r rhan agosaf at wyneb y gwisgwr yn atal nwyon a darnau o lwch rhag mynd i mewn i geg y gwisgwr. Pe baet ti ddim yn cario dy fwgwd nwy drwy'r amser, byddai modd i'r Llywodraeth godi dirwy arnat ti. Roedd rhaid i blant gario mwgwd nwy hefyd. Gan gall mygydau nwy edrych yn frawychus, fe wnaeth y llywodraeth ddsbarthu mygydau i blant mewn lliwiau llachar. Roedd y rhain yn cael eu galw'n mygydau Mickey Mouse. Ni waeth faint o liwiau ychwanegodd y llywodraeth at y mwgwd, roedden nhw'n dal yn drewi. Roedd gan y rwyber a'r diheintydd arogl penodol a byddai'n aml yn gwneud i bobl deimlo'n sâl. Serch hynny, byddai plant yn gwneud gwisgo mwgwd nwy'n gêm. Pe byddet ti'n chwythu'n galed i mewn i'r mwgwd pan oeddet ti'n ei wisgo, byddai'r sêl yn dirgrynu gan wneud sŵn budur. Roedd siopau, ysgolion a ffatrioedd yn cynnal ymarferion mygydau nwy i baratoi ar gyfer ymosodiadau nwy. Yn ffodus, doedd dim angen mygydau nwy ym Mhrydain yn ystod yr Ail Ryfel Byd gan na chafodd nwy ei ddefnyddio mewn ymosodiadau yn erbyn Prydain. Unwaith dy fod wedi defnyddio'r mwgwd, rydyn ni'n argymhell dy fod yn ei lanhau â diheintydd.

GAS MASK

By the end of September 1938, 38 million gas masks had been given out to British families. They had to be carried everywhere to protect the carrier against the risk of a poisonous gas attack. The filter in the canister of the mask, the part closest to mask would prevent gasses and dust particles gaining entry into the mouth of the wearer. If you didn't carry your gas mask with you at all times you could be fined by the Government.

Children also had to carry gas masks. As gas masks looked quite scary, the government released some for children in bright colours. These were called Mickey Mouse gas masks. No matter how many colours the government added to the mask they were still smelly, as the rubber and disinfectant had a distinct smell and this often made people feel sick. However, children would make games out of wearing their gas mask as blowing hard into the mask when worn would cause the seal to vibrate and make a rude noise.

Shops, schools and factories all held gas mask drills to prepare for gas attacks. Fortunately, gas masks were never actually needed in Britain during World War II as gas was never used as a weapon in the country.

Once you have used the mask we recommend that you wipe it down afterwards with a disinfectant.



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OËS DILLAD FACIWÎ

O fis Medi 1939 daeth yn bolisi ym Mhrydain i symud plant ac weithiau eu mamau o'r dinasoedd i'r cefn gwlad, yn benodol i Gymru, Cernyw a Dyfnaint. Cafodd plant eu hanfon dramor i Ganada, Awstralia ac America. Aeth plant eraill i fyw ar ffermydd ac roedden nhw'n hapus iawn yno. Roedden nhw'n cofio pigo mafon a phys, chwarae yn y caeau a mynd i ysgol neis. Doedd pawb ddim mor ffodus ac roedd rhai plant yn ei chael hi'n anodd bod oddi cartref. Serch hynny, pan gyrhaeddodd y faciwîs a gafodd eu hanfon i Bontypridd ar 19 Mai 1940 cawson nhw eu croesawu gan bobl yn dathlu yn yr orsaf reilffordd gyda Byddin yr Iachwadwriaeth yn chwarae cerddoriaeth. Cyrhaeddodd 500 o blant o Gaint ar y diwrnod hwnnw a chafodd pob un anrheg o dun o laeth tewychedig a thun o gorn-bîff.



Teithiodd llawer o blant ar drenau arbennig a doedden nhw ddim yn gwybod ble'r oedden nhw'n mynd. Roedd llawer ohonyn nhw'n meddwl eu bod yn mynd ar wyliau. Roedd yn rhaid i blant fynd â chês fel yr un yma gyda nhw. Roedd yn cynnwys eu cerdyn adnabod, digon o fwyd ar gyfer y daith, dillad a'u mygydau nwy. Roedd yn rhaid iddyn nhw hefyd gael label wedi'i osod ar eu brest yn nodi eu henw, eu cyfeiriad, eu hysgol a'u cyrchfan. Oherwydd bod eu teithiau'n hir, efallai bydden nhw wedi cymryd rhywbeth i ddiddannu eu hunain fel y llyfr bodio bach yn y chês. Er gwaethaf y mudo mawr, aeth llawer o blant yn ôl i'w cartrefi erbyn 1940 gan na chafodd Prydain ei bomio'n drwm yn ystod 2 flynedd gyntaf y rhyfel. Serch hynny, fe wnaeth llawer o blant gadw mewn cysylltiad â'r teuluoedd oedd wedi bod yn gofalu amdany'n nhw drwy ysgrifennu llythyron.

EVACUEE SUITCASE

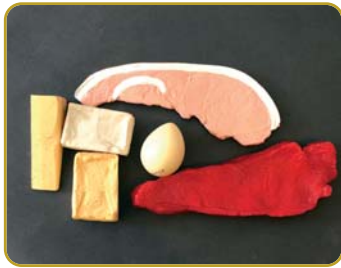
From September 1939 it became a policy in Britain for children and sometimes mothers to be evacuated from cities to the countryside, most notably to Wales, Cornwall and Devon. Children were sent overseas to Canada, Australia and America. Others went to live on farms and were very happy there and remember picking raspberries and peas and playing in the fields and having a nice school. But not everyone was so lucky and some children found it very difficult being away from home. However, when evacuees sent to Pontypridd arrived on 19th May 1940 they were greeted by mass celebration at the train station with the Salvation Army playing music. 500 children from Kent schools arrived that day and all received gifts from the council of a can of condensed milk and a tin of corn beef.

Many children travelled on special trains and did not understand where they were going and most commonly thought they were going on holiday. Children had to take a suitcase like this one with them, which contained their identity card, enough food for the journey, clothes and their gas masks. They also had to have a label pinned to their chest stating their name, address, school and their destination. Due to the long journeys they may have also taken with them something to entertain themselves such as the small flip book in the case. However, despite the mass evacuation many children were returned home by 1940 as Britain had not been heavily bombed in the first 2 years of war. Despite this, many children kept in touch with their host families during the war by writing letters.



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PECYN DOGNI

I'r rhai oedd wedi aros gartref, roedd bywyd yn undonog ac weithiau'n anodd. Cafodd bwyd ei ddogni'n wythnosol fel a ganlyn:

- 4 owns o facwn
- 8 owns o siwgr
- 2 owns o de
- 1 owns o gaws
- 2 owns o fenyn/margarin
- 2 owns o saim

Cafodd eitemau moethus, fel jamiau neu wyau, eu rhoi'n fisol.

Yn 1939 roedd Prydain yn ddibynnol ar fewnforion rhad o fwyd o dramor, a dim ond 30 y cant o fwyd oedd yn cael ei gynhyrchu gartref. Daeth yn hanfodol i'r Weinyddiaeth Fwyd gyflwyno dogni ym mis Ionawr 1940. Erbyn 1943 roedd dros 1.4 miliwn o randiroedd. Cynhyrchodd y rhain dros filiwn o dunelli o lysiau'r flwyddyn honno. Cafodd dillad eu dogni yn ystod y rhyfel a daeth dogni dillad i ben ar 15 Mawrth 1949.

RATION PACK

For those at home, life was humdrum and sometimes hard. Food was rationed weekly as follows:

- 4oz bacon
- 8oz sugar
- 2oz tea
- 1oz cheese
- 2oz butter/margarine
- 2oz lard

Luxury items, like jams or eggs, were allotted monthly.

In 1939 Britain was reliant on cheap imports of food from overseas, and only 30 per cent of food was home-produced. The introduction of rationing by the Ministry of Food became essential in January 1940. By 1943 there were over 1.4 million allotments, producing over a million tons of vegetables that year. Clothes were also rationed during the war and clothes rationing ended on 15 March 1949.



MEDAL SEREN 1939-1945

Mae'r medallau yma'n rhai o'r medallau ymgyrchoedd milwrol a gafodd eu cyflwyno gan Lywodraeth Prydain i gydnabod gwasanaeth milwyr y Gymanwlad Brydeinig yn ystod yr Ail Ryfel Byd. Er mwyn bod yn gymwys ar gyfer Seren 1939-1945 (yn y llun ar y chwith) roedd yn rhaid ichi fod wedi cyflawni 180 diwrnod o wasanaeth milwrol rhwng 3 Medi 1939 ac 8 Mai 1945. Ar gyfer y fedal Criw Awyr (yn y llun ar y dde), byddet ti'n gymwys ar ôl 60 diwrnod o wasanaeth yn yr awyr mewn ymgyrchoedd milwrol. Roedd hyn yn wobwr fawreddog a byddai'r milwyr yn falch o dderbyn hyn fel cydnabyddiaeth eu bod wedi amddiffyn eu gwlad.

1939-1945 STAR MEDAL

These medals are some of the military campaign medals awarded by the British government to recognise the service of British Commonwealth troops during the Second World War. In order to qualify for the 1939- 1945 Star (pictured left) you had to of performed 180 days of military service between 3rd September 1939 and 8th may 1945. For the Air Crew medal (pictured right) you would be eligible after 60 days of service in the air on military operations. This was a prestigious award and the soldiers would have been proud to receive this as recognition of their protection of the country.



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BOM TÂN O'R ALMAEN

Roedd Bomiau Tân yn cael eu defnyddio gan y Luftwaffe (Awyrlu'r Almaen) i ymosod ar sifiliaid ym Mhrydain. Cafodd bomiau tân eu cynllunio i greu tanau ac achosi i ddarnau o shrapnel gael eu dal yn y belen dân gan achosi llawer o ddifrod. Cawson nhw eu defnyddio gan Awyrlu Brenhinol Prydain hefyd fel mesur amddiffynnol yn ateb i fomio gan yr Almaen.

Cafodd llawer o fomiau tân eu defnyddio yn ystod y 'Blitzkrieg', sy'n golygu 'ymosodiad sydyn' yn Almaeneg. Roedd hyn yn ymgyrch fomio gan y Luftwaffe yn erbyn Prydain rhwng 1940 a 1941 oedd yn targedu Llundain. Yn ffodus, nid oedd yr ymgyrch fomio'n llwyddiannus oherwydd nad oedd gan y Luftwaffe ddull digon cryf i ddinistrio diwydiant Prydain.

Cafodd bomiau tân a mathau eraill o ffrwydrion eu gollwng ar ardal Rhondda Cynon Taf; yn ogystal â Llundain. Ar 12 Gorffennaf 1940 glaniodd bom ar Gomin Craig Evan Leyshon ger Pontypridd gan achosi twll o'r pentref i Abercynon. Disgynnodd bom tân ar Drehopcyn lle'r oedd rhaid i wardeiniaid ddiffodd y tân yn gyflym cyn iddo gyrraedd depo olew cyfagos. Er bod y bomiau yma'n beryglus, roedd llawer o blant yn mwynhau casglu shrapnel ohonyn nhw er mwyn cymharu'r darnau gyda'u ffrindiau.

GERMAN INCENDIARY BOMB

German Incendiary Bombs were used by the German Luftwaffe (the German Air Force) to attack British civilians. These weapons were designed to create fires and cause parts of shrapnel to get caught up within the fire ball and create mass destruction. They were also used by the British RAF as a defence measure in response to German Bombing.

Most notably the incendiary bombs were used during the 'Blitzkrieg', meaning 'Lightening War' in German. This was a bombing operation by the Luftwaffe in Britain between 1940 and 1941 that targeted London. Fortunately, the bombing operation was not successful because the Luftwaffe did not have a strong enough method to destroy British industry.

Incendiary bombs and other forms of explosives were used in the Rhondda Cynon Taf area; as well as London. On 12th July 1940 a bomb hit Craig Evan Leyshon Common near Pontypridd, which caused a crater from the village to Abercynon. An incendiary bomb also fell on Hopkinstown where wardens had to quickly put the fire out before it spread to a nearby oil depot. Despite the danger these bombs posed, many children enjoyed collecting the shrapnel from them so that they could then compare the pieces with their friends collection.



BANERI JAC YR UNDEB

Cafodd heddwch ei gyhoeddi ar 8 Mai 1945. Cafodd y diwrnod yma ei nodi gyda phartïon stryd drwy Brydain. Roedd gan lawer o'r partiïon yma faneri Jac yr Undeb a gafodd eu hongian yn falch rhwng tai, ar flaen siopau ac mewn cartrefi. Roedd yn symbol o'r rhyddid a'r fuddugoliaeth yr oedd pawb yn falch o ennill ym Mhrydain.

Wedi hyn, cafodd y diwrnod yma ei adnabod fel Diwrnod Buddugoliaeth yn Ewrop gan yr oedd yn nodi diwedd swyddogol y rhyfel a'r cyfnod o bryder i bobl Prydain.

UNION JACK BUNTING

On 8th of May 1945 peace was declared. This day was marked with mass street parties throughout the country and a staple of these parties was the Union Jack bunting that was proudly hung between houses, on shop fronts and in homes. It was a mark of freedom and victory in Britain that everyone was grateful for.

Hence forth this day was known as Victory in Europe day as it marked the official end of the war and a period of worry for the British public.