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FUND

Living Levels

Landfill

In the mid-nineties the lake at Parc Tredelerch was an oxbow lake that had been cut off from the River Rhymney. It was drying out and turning into a small woodland with shrubby trees, but was saved from becoming part of the Lamby Way landfill site in 1999 and became a park for people and wildlife in 2003. In this photo from 1995 you can see the open space looking towards the A4232, the road which travels over a viaduct.



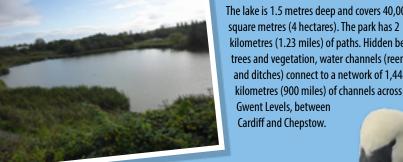
Landfill or nature area?

How is the park used by the people who live here? Why is this place important for their lives, and why is it important to look after environments like this?

I spy...

Mute swans (right) – large and white with a long neck Mallard – a common duck that comes to food Common reed – purple flowers and green stems in the summer and yellow-brown stems in the winter Tufted duck (above) – often diving or sat on water in pairs or small groups





Lake facts and figures

London is about 240 kilometres (150 miles) away. If you stretched out the network of water channels into a long line, how many times could they go to London and back? Why do we need so many?

The lake contains about 60,000 cubic metres of

water. A swimming pool contains about 300 cubic metres of water. How many swimming pools could the lake fill? Think about what would happen if we didn't have the lake, or the reens. Look around – how might the landscape look instead?

Gwent Levels, between Cardiff and Chepstow.

kilometres (1.23 miles) of paths. Hidden behind trees and vegetation, water channels (reens and ditches) connect to a network of 1,448 kilometres (900 miles) of channels across the

Transport

You can see or visit the park by walking, cycling or driving, as well as passing through on the train. Each method of travelling provides a different way of experiencing



and learning about your local area. A long time ago the park was a very different and wilder place, sometimes flooded by tidal water and covered in salt-loving plants to produce a habitat called saltmarsh.

Travel log

Imagine you are a travel writer and you have travelled to the area using one of the transport methods you can see in the park. Discuss or write about how you travelled here, and what you saw and experienced. Was the journey fast or slow? Did you enjoy your views of the area? Did you see anyone else using a different form of transport?

Front cover photos: Boardwalk lichen, Lake view and 2003 plaque, Male Tufted Duck, Ed Drewitt; Kingfisher Ben Andrew | Photos: Common Reed Andy Karran; Lapwing illustration Ned Joliffe; Tredelerch Parc in 1995 Cardiff City Council; Tredelerch Parc in 2019, Tufted Duck, Mallard and Mute Swan Ed Drewitt