



M712
LJT

EXPRESS

LEWIS

M712
LJT





PAGES FROM
HERITAGE
BOOK NET



The original well-sheltered harbour in **Saundersfoot**, was built in 1829, in response to the rapid growth of the thriving coal industry in the area which was developed by the **Vickerman family**. They lived in Hean Castle and later at St Issells' house - now the Captain's Table on the harbour. Before the harbour's development, coal was loaded into boats at Swallow Tree Bay and **Coppet Hall**, (thought to derive from 'coal pit haul').

Before the railway was built in the early 1830's, the coal carts were pulled to the beaches by horses and oxen from the pits around the church. The route became known as **Black Walk**. Slater's Directory of 1868 referred to Saundersfoot and the harbour as "a flourishing little port, connected by tramways with extensive collieries, the coals from which are excellent....". In 1840, 39,405 tons of coal were shipped from the harbour.

To find out about Charles Ranken Vickerman, a leading industrialist at the time, and boat building in the Strand (previously Railway Street) go to www.saundersfoothistory.org.uk

2. The Saundersfoot Coal Office

2. Stryddfa Lo Saundersfoot

The Coal Office in Saundersfoot stands proudly by the harbour. Together with the harbour, the Coal Office was the operations centre of the coal industry in the area.

It was built in 1860 and was the operations hub of the **Saundersfoot Railway and Harbour Company**. When the coal industry ceased, the Coal Office was utilised in many ways including some years as a Tourist Information Centre.

To find out more go to www.saundersfoothistory.org.uk

You can follow the route the miners took to the pits by walking up the Incline or down the Strand through the tunnels at Coppet Hall and onto Wiseman's Bridge. To find out more about the railway engines Rosalind and Bulldog that transported the miners and coal go to www.saundersfoothistory.org.uk



"You can detour here if you wish to see the Incline above the village ③"

Follow the Blue Route from the Coal Office"

"My name is Tomos, I am 12 years old and I used to work down the coal mine at Bonville's Court on top of the hill in Saundersfoot. The work was very hard, we often worked for 12 hours a day crawling through the tunnels dragging a tram full of coal.

Come with me on the journey and we will find out about some of the history and heritage of Saundersfoot Bay. You can imagine what life was like for me 150 years ago. Our circular walk is about 9 miles. You can choose much shorter walks or add detours along the way. You will find a map of the walk(s) on the centre pages"



"There have always been small mining developments owned by farmers in Saundersfoot Bay but from 1830 onwards, with the onset of the industrial revolution, coal was in great demand and due to the large quantities found in this area, over fifteen coalmines came into operation. Follow me to find out more and look out for signs with pictures of me to help you find your way.

Why not see if you can find the answers to the questions in Tomos's Teasers? (See last page)"

Begin your walk at Saundersfoot Harbour

"A harbour of this size was not built for a few fishing boats to land their catch. So what was it built for? The answer is COAL. The coal boats would leave the harbour loaded with coal, returning with a range of materials used as ballast which they dumped on local beaches. You can still find interesting stones from this ballast including Connemara Marble."



"Fy enw i yw Tomos, rydw i'n 12 mlwydd oed a bŵm yn arfer gweithio i lawr yn y pwell glo yng Nghwrt Bonville ar ben yr allt yn Saundersfoot. Roedd y gwaith yn galed iawn, roeddem yn gweithio am 12 awr y diwrnod yn aml yn cropian drwy'r twneli yn llusgo tram wedi'i llenwi â glo. Tyrd gyda mi ar y daith ac fe ddarganfyddwn ychydig am hanes a threftadaeth Bae Saundersfoot. Gallwch ddychmygu sut fu bywyd i mi 150 mlynedd yn ôl. Mae ein taith gyfchol oddeutu 9 milltir. Gallwch ddewis teithiau cerdded llawer byrrach neu ychwanegu gwyradau ar hyd y ffordd. Fe welwch fap o'r daith (teithiau) ar y tudalennau canol."