

CTS Achievements so far

Since its inception in 2010 Cymdeithas Twmbarlwm Society has achieved a great deal, including:

- Litter picking expeditions involving Keep Wales Tidy
- The reintroduction of the traditional Good Friday walk to the "tump"
- Prompted Caerphilly County Borough Council into providing a car park and much needed repairs to the "tump"
- Involved Twmbarlwm as part of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations
- Inaugurated a project involving 3 councils, Cadw, Forestry Commission and other bodies with an interest in the restoration and preservation of Twmbarlwm
- Persuaded the police to provide a police officer whose duties include warning illegal motorbike riders off the area
- Hosted public lectures by experts on various aspects of Twmbarlwm



What next?

However we still have much we want to do, for example:

- Make Twmbarlwm a safe place for all to visit
- Repair the worst excesses caused by off road vehicles
- Be an active partner in the management of the area together with the local councils and other interested bodies
- Encourage local communities and schools to be involved in the management and protection of the area
- Install information boards to show people the importance of Twmbarlwm.



Do you want to be part of all this? Have you any particular skills or expertise to help us achieve these aims? Then please contact us and get involved.

How you can help

- Take a walk to the top of Twmbarlwm and enjoy it
- Report illegal fly tipping and off road motorbikes to the police by **dialling 101**
- Help us gather information on motorbike activity – we call it Tump Watch
- Come along to one of our organised events – the talks are free to members
- Become a member – it's only £10 a year – and you can join online. *We should work together to put Twmbarlwm in its rightful place as...*

...the Icon of South East Wales

How to get there



Co-ordinates: 51.62736, -3.09365

OS Grid reference: ST 24394 92627

There are many routes "up the tump" some more strenuous than others. You can get within reasonable striking distance by car or you can choose a longer more picturesque walking route.

Driving and closest parking

Route 1 – From the Risca by-pass through Ty-Sign, follow Mountain Road, past Upper Grippath Farm – to the new car park and walk the last half mile to the top.

Route 2 – Through the Cwmcarn Forest drive (there is an entry charge) to car park 7 and walk along the ridge (2a) to the tump (approx 1 mile).

Walking from Risca

Route 3 – Starts from the canal behind the Darren pub follow Darren Road to Pegwyn-y-Bwlch and the final steep climb to the top (approx 4 miles).

Walking from Cwmcarn

Route 4 – Park at the Cwmcarn Forest drive Visitor Centre (there's a very good camp site here and parking charges apply). Follow the sign-posted route which cuts through the Forest drive – up to Pegwyn-y-Bwlch and the final steep climb to the top (approx 4 miles).

Space in this leaflet does not allow full descriptions of the many routes available, more details can be found on our website:

www.twmbarlwm.co.uk

Twmbarlwm

The Iconic Landmark at the Gateway to South Wales

Design: WheelBarrowStudios.com



**Campaign to Research,
Restore and Protect Mynydd
Twmbarlwm – Gwent's Most
Iconic Landmark**



Mynydd Twmbarlwm – The Icon of South East Wales

The majestic mountain of Twmbarlwm (historically Twyn Barlwm) has a strong hold on locals and visitors alike. It is the first mountain seen on the horizon as travellers cross the Severn Bridge and the last seen as Wales is left.

Its distinctive silhouette draws many to its summit. Those who trek to the top are rewarded with magnificent views over the Severn Estuary - on clear days it is alleged the panorama includes seven counties.

It has cast its long shadow over the culture, geography, and psychology of south-east Wales and its people since pre-history. As the site of a Bronze-age cairn, Iron-age hill fort, Roman beacon and early Norman motte and bailey castle, Twmbarlwm is an iconic landmark which has attracted pilgrimages for centuries, even up to recent times. There are many theories and opinions on its history – and as many myths and legends written into its folklore.

Twmbarlwm Today

Sadly, Twmbarlwm has fallen into disrepair and has been neglected for too long.

- Litter is strewn over the landscape
- It has become a dumping ground for household rubbish
- Motorbikes, quads and 4x4 vehicles roam the hillside, creating danger for walkers
- These vehicles have left huge ugly scars, ruining the countryside
- These scars have been eroded by the elements, making access difficult
- People have become reluctant to visit Twmbarlwm because of all this.



Above: Aerial (with permission of RCAHMW) and landscape photographs showing the extent of the tumulus.

Photos on the right show the problems caused by the continued use of motor vehicles on the slopes of Twmbarlwm.



That is why Cymdeithas Twmbarlwm Society was formed – a group of like minded people who decided to do something about the abuse of the landscape.

Our Aims Are Simple

- To protect and preserve the ancient monument of Twmbarlwm and the significant historical remains on Mynydd Medart, Mynydd Henllys and Mynydd Maen.
- To restore Twmbarlwm to a site of natural beauty and manage it to maintain the area for future generations.
- To research into the historical significance of the site.
- To promote the sensitive use of the site to the residents of South East Wales and beyond.

Do you think like us? Then please help us!



Above - CTS promoted the tradition of walking the Tump on Good Friday - it has proved very popular.



Below - Litterpick Day - one of the regular activities organised by the society – we always need volunteers for this simple task.



The Future

Our work will never finish because once we've established our primary aims we will need to ensure its continued protection.

We intend to play a major role in the ongoing stewardship of the area - we will need volunteers to get involved, to report suspicious activities and vandalism and to help with litter-picks or construction projects.

With your help, Twmbarlwm and its "twmp" can once again become an area of natural beauty and historical significance to be proud of – for generations to come.