

The Gullies and Lanes of Nant y Glo

Wandering around Nant y Glo on my daily walks I realised that many of the streets and roads were joined by numerous paths or gullies, short cuts from one part of the village to the other. Naturally, when there were few cars or none at all, a short cut was essential, especially if you were late for work. I took to exploring some of these lanes and began to wonder if any of them had names. For this, I was fortunate enough to know Mr Gwyn George who was born and lived most of his life in Nant y Glo. It took a pleasant afternoon's walking to put a name to many of the paths. I'm sure there are some we've left out; if you know of any, then contact the Town Clerk at the Nant y Glo and Blaina Council Chambers and they will be added to the next edition.

These are not in any particular order but why not explore them for yourself and use their given name as it would be a shame if they disappeared. Of course, many of you may have your own name for these gullies, that's fine but do pass it on to others. For this guide I have started at the Brynmawr end of the main street just after Tresillian Terrace on New Road.

- On the right hand side a path drops down towards the Greyhound Pitch and the Rehobeth Sunday School, now a private house. This was called ***Mrs Stanley's Back***. She was a lady from Hereford and lived in the house on the end of the row.
- On the left just after Thomas the Colliery Managers house a path leads up to Garn Road. This is ***John Off's Gully***
- At the top of the Greyhound Pitch opposite St. Anne's Church a gully runs up to Prince Street. This is the ***Greyhound Gully***. The house on the corner was once the Greyhound Pub.
- Running past St. Anne's Church is ***Baileys Row***. There are two or three houses still surviving but the "row" continues and comes out on the Nursery Path ad Farm Road.
- Further along from the Greyhound Gully is ***Cam's Gully***, again this runs up to Prince Street. This was named after Cam Williams

- We're now on King Street and on the right hand side is a short gully that runs behind the shops and houses. This is **Ogwen's Gully**. Ogwen Evans was originally from the Winches area.
- Near the Fish and Chips Shop opposite the Ger y Bryn Social Club, there are steps leading up towards the back of Garn Road. This is **Prince Gully**. It led to Prince Street where there was a pub named the Prince of Wales.
- The lane leading past the Club takes you to the car park and the **Nursery Path** which leads down to Station Road and of course at one time, Hafod y Ddol. I'm told the path would be full in the mornings with students walking to the school but does anyone know why it's called the Nursery Path?
- At the end of the Nursery Path is **Station Road** and a path to walk through to the newly formed Trevor Rawson Memorial Park
- Back on Garn Road and on the right opposite Garn Cross and the site of the chapel and you have **Meyer's Gully**. Again this will take you around the back of the shops and houses joining up with Ogwen's Gully.
- Further on along Garn Road on your left is **Dan Sharper's Gully**. This led to Blaina Hospital.
- More or less opposite Dan Sharper's Gully and on the right you have **Green's Gully**. Bill Green was a local ironmonger. This gully led down to Boot Row now renamed Beaumont Close. There was a tip here called The Boot Tip. I believe The Boot was a public house.
- Finally, before we leave Nant y Glo, on your right we have **Lion's Gully**, named after the pub that stood on the corner'

Eifion Lloyd Davies & Gwyn George