

## About Romans to Races Walk

Today, Trelai Park is one of the largest open spaces in Cardiff and is mostly taken up by sports pitches. Yet 2,000 years ago it was the location of a large Roman villa – the house of a rich Roman aristocrat and his family – the remains of which lie under the long grass at the centre of the park. In more recent times, the park was farmland where the dairy cows of Ely Farm grazed, but, in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century it was converted to Cardiff's National Hunt horse racing track attracting crowds of 40,000 to watch the Welsh Grand National. At the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century it was used occasionally as an airfield and during the Second World War it was home to an anti-aircraft gun and rocket battery before reverting to the pleasure and leisure park it is today.

### Access:

The walk is generally flat, combining hard surfaced paths with areas of grass which is fine for pushchairs and wheelchairs.

### Getting there:

The main access route to the park is down the lane leading off Vincent Road where there is a large car park. The closest bus stop to the park is Heol-y-Felin.



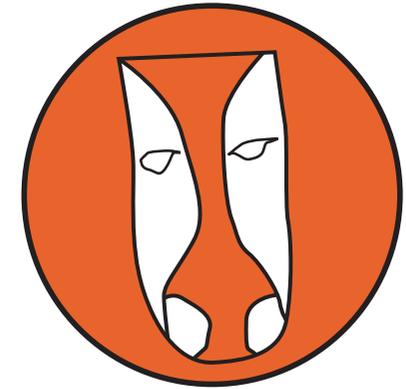
## About HEART of Cardiff

Since 2011 the CAER Heritage Project has been exploring the history and archaeology of two west Cardiff suburbs, Caerau and Ely. Here, the homes of more than 25,000 people surround several of the most significant, but under-studied, archaeological sites in south Wales, including a large Iron Age hillfort, a Roman Villa and the remains of Cardiff's National Hunt Racecourse. However, despite this amazing heritage and close community ties, the people who live here face many social and economic challenges. Aiming to directly address issues of health and wellbeing and promote learning opportunities the CAER Heritage Project has worked with local people of all ages in the design and creation of the HEART of Cardiff Heritage trails. By researching the history of local heritage and recording stories and folk memories about important local places four circular heritage trails have been established. The trails are signposted by heritage themed artwork created by local people and supported by a digital resource trail hosted by the People's Collection Wales website. Come and discover these amazing stories and histories at the heart of West Cardiff.

- Trail I – Medieval Michaelston Walk
- Trail II – Plymouth Woodland Walk
- Trail III – Caerau Celtic Hillfort Walk
- Trail IV – Romans to Races Walk

[www.caerheritageproject.com/  
projects/heart-of-cardiff](http://www.caerheritageproject.com/projects/heart-of-cardiff)

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## HEART of Cardiff heritage trails



Trail IV - **BLUETRAIL**  
Romans to Races

# HEART of Cardiff heritage trails

## Trail IV - BLUE TRAIL Romans to Races

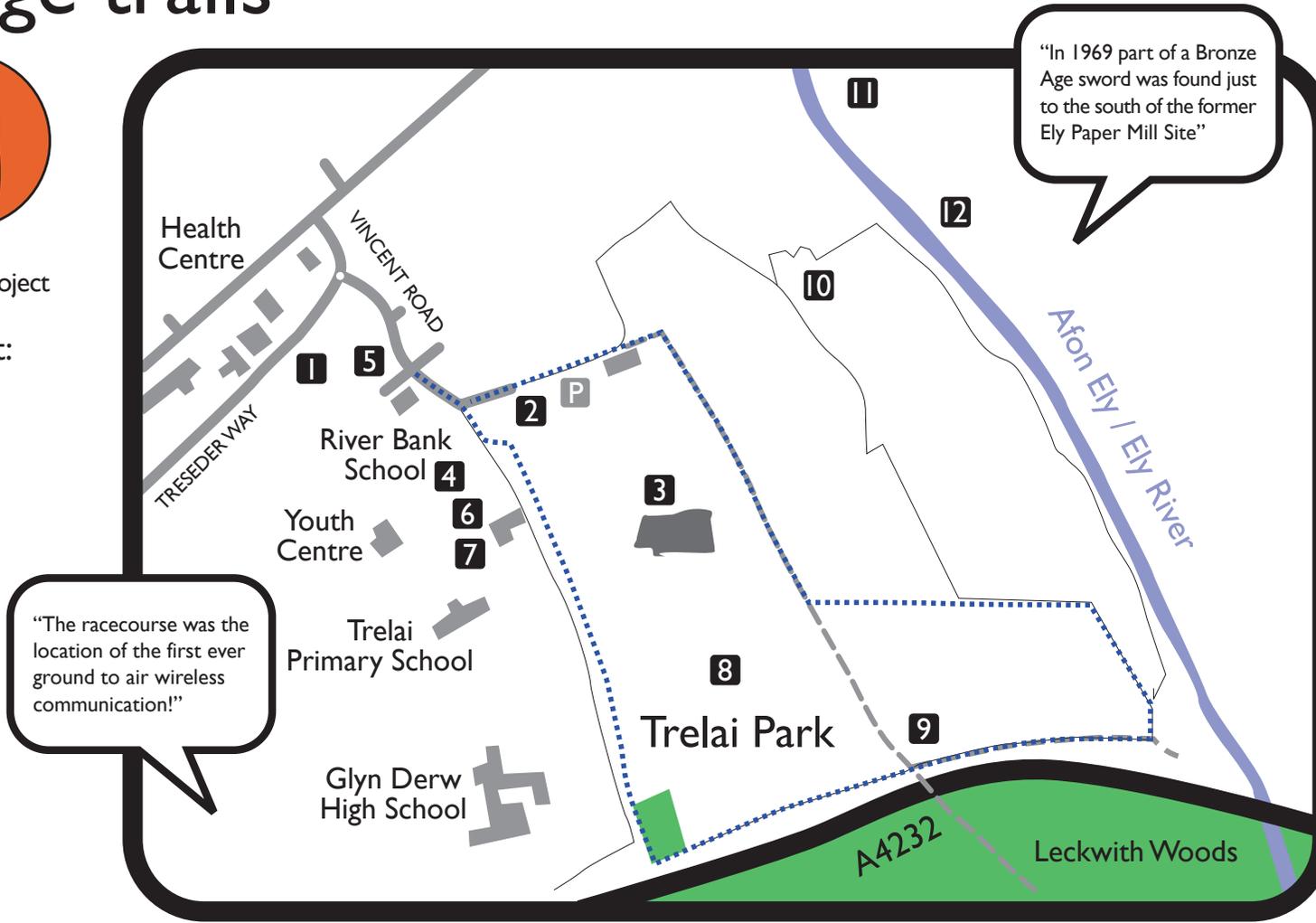
Trail Mark designed by pupils from Glyn Derw High School



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### Sites of interest:

1. Ely Hospital
2. Ely Racecourse
3. Roman Villa
4. Sportsdays
5. WWI Victory Celebrations
6. Anti-Aircraft Battery
7. Nissen huts
8. Airfield
9. Graffiti Art
10. Ely Farm
11. Ely Paper Mill
12. Bronze Age Sword



"In 1969 part of a Bronze Age sword was found just to the south of the former Ely Paper Mill Site"

"The racecourse was the location of the first ever ground to air wireless communication!"

- Dual Carriageway
- Road
- Track
- Heritage Trail



Scan the QR code or visit the webpage to listen along to audio, see photographs and discover more about the sites on the map.

[www.peoplescollectionwales/trails/381836](http://www.peoplescollectionwales/trails/381836)



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