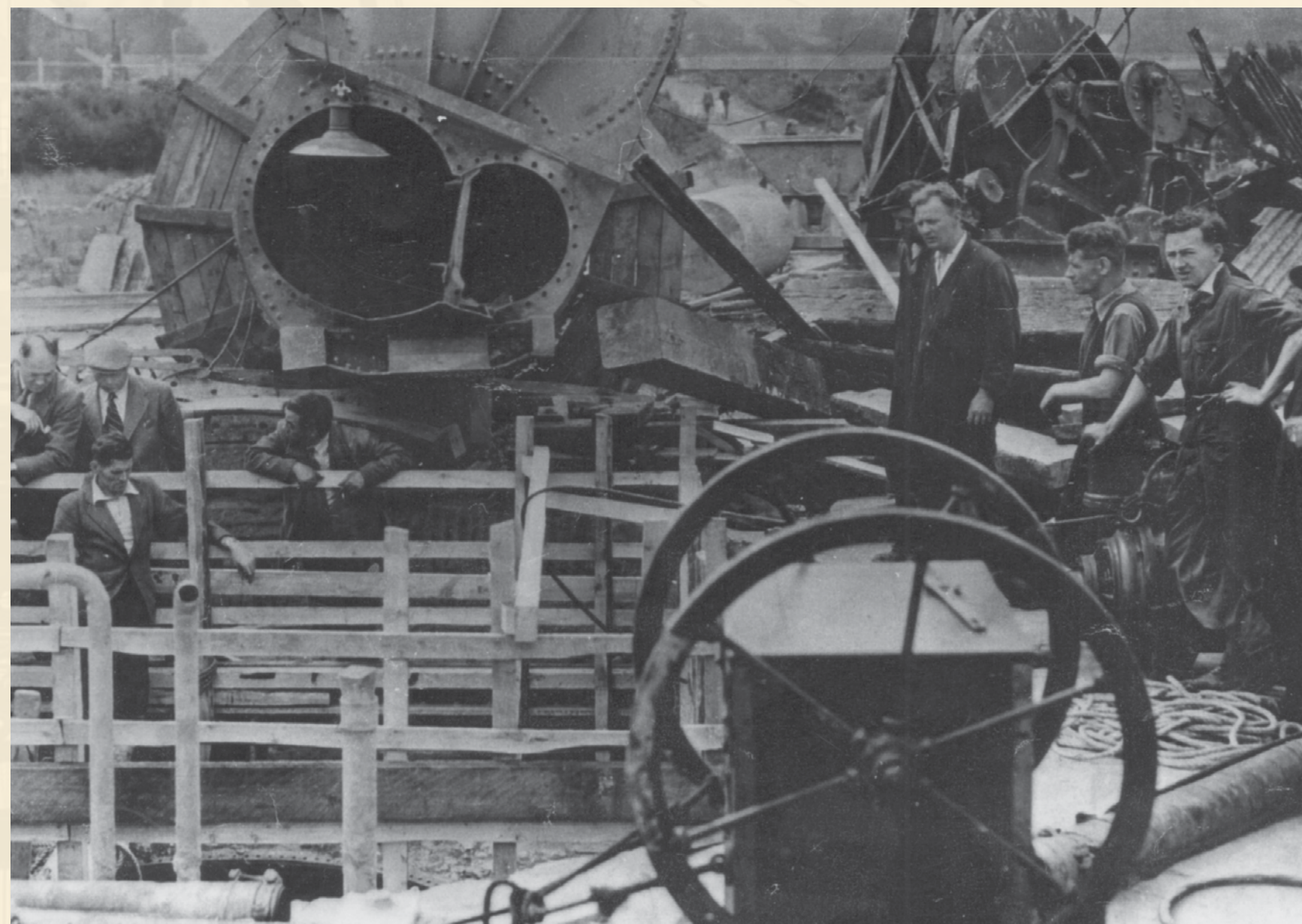


Point of Ayr Mining Disaster

This panel commemorates the six men who were killed in a tragic accident during the sinking of No 3 shaft in 1952.

The National Coal Board modernised and reorganised the colliery between 1950 and 1957. This work included the sinking of No. 3 shaft to a depth of 1,095 feet to improve air circulation and increase production by gaining access to untouched coal reserves in the northern area.



The scene of the disaster the following day

The accident occurred on July 4th. The ground was soft so compressed air was pumped down the shaft to support the sidewalls. Unfortunately, the compressed air seeped through the shaft walls and could be seen bubbling up in the dock area at high tide. To counter the loss, the pressure was increased steadily. Eventually the airlock on the top of the shaft could no longer cope with the pressure and it blew off. This caused the walls of the shaft to collapse onto the men working

below and the shaft to flood. Five men died underground. The inquest reported 'death by drowning with no means of escape'. Another man died on the surface when the airlock blew off.

It was the last serious accident at the colliery and the last mining shaft disaster in Britain. It had a big impact on the colliery and the surrounding area.

James Nicolas Thompson, 43, Prestatyn
Samuel Dempster, 37, Prestatyn
Percy Maisey, 33, Ffynnongroyw
Edward James Hill, 31, Deptford, London
Goronwy Jones, 30, Holywell
Patrick Joseph McPartland, 28, Dyserth
Rest in Peace Gorffwysed mewn hedd



Dechrau agor y siafft

Trychineb Glofaol Y Parlwr Du

Mae'r panel hwn yn cofio am y chwe gŵr a laddwyd mewn damwain erchyll tra'n agor siafft Rhif 3 yn 1952.

Bu'r Bwrdd Glo Cenedlaethol yn moderneiddio ac aildrefnu'r lofa rhwng 1950 a 1957. Roedd y gwaith hwn yn cynnwys turio siafft Rhif 3 i ddyfnder o 1,095 troedfedd i wella cylchrediad aer a chynyddu cynhyrchiant drwy gael mynediad at welyau glo heb eu cyffwrdd yn yr ardal ogleddol.

Digwyddodd y ddamwain ar Orffennaf 4ydd. Roedd y tir yn feddal felly pwmpwyd aer cywasgedig i lawr y siafft i gynnal y waliau ochr. Yn anffodus, roedd yr aer cywasgedig yn treiddio drwy waliau'r siafft a gellid ei weld yn byrlymu i fyny yn ardal y doc ar lanw uchel. I wneud yn iawn am yr hyn a gollwyd, cynyddwyd y gwasgedd yn raddol. Yn y diwedd ni allai'r aerglo ar ben y siafft ddal y gwasgedd ac fe chwythodd i fwrdd. Achosodd hyn i waliau'r siafft ddymchwel ar y dynion oedd yn gweithio dan yr wyneb a boddi'r siafft. Bu farw pump o ddynion dan ddaear. Dywedodd y cwêst 'marwolaeth trwy fodd heb ffordd o ddianc'. Bu farw dyn arall ar yr wyneb pan chwythodd yr aerglo i fwrdd.

Dyna'r ddamwain ddifrifol olaf yn y lofa a'r trychineb olaf mewn siafft pwll ym Mhrydain. Cafodd effaith mawr ar y lofa a'r ardal.



Golygfa o'r trychineb y diwrnod canlynol

