



## Geology and History

-  The predominant rock is slate, locally known as Killas which was changed when molten rock, sometimes called greenstone pushed into the area. These rocks were then altered by heat and pressure when the large granite intrusion occurred at Carnmenellis.
-  The prehistoric canoe and adze found locally show people have been visiting Tuckingmill Valley for a long time. A mill was built in the 13th century but otherwise there is little other archaeological evidence of activities in the valley until underground mining began in earnest in the 19th century.
-  A great many mine shafts were sunk within the park area. Arsenic works and tin streaming all created jobs. It has been estimated that there were 1,000 bal maidens working in the whole Red River Valley at the peak of production.
-  Other industries such as gas works, quarrying and the sale of coke & tar also operated alongside the mining.

## Transformation

-  Following the huge quantity of mining and other industrial activity during the 19th century, the site began to fall into dereliction as the 20th century began. The poisons that had been produced as a result of the works stayed, continuing to contaminate the ground. As the industrial activities ceased part of the site began to be used as a rubbish dump and 30 years of land fill continued to pollute the valley.
  -  Kerrier District Council bought the site so that the contamination could be treated and the derelict site transformed into a safe open space for the public.
  -  Twenty-five, 20 tonne lorry, loads of rubbish were removed, mine shafts capped, derelict buildings demolished, valuable archaeological remains treated & retained, poisonous tin sands buried, methane vents from the old land fill constructed and the earth cover consolidated with land mesh.
- When the site was safe the rest of the work could begin!***

## Did you know that now...

-  A network of footpaths throughout the park, which also link with many footpath routes beyond the park boundary, provide safe off road routes for a gentle stroll or marathon training!
-  There are benches for those who prefer more restful forms of recreation and a new skate park for those who definitely don't.
-  A play area, with interesting new equipment, has been built at the top of the path which leads down into the skate park / performance space.
-  The large, open recreation area will allow for a wide range of activities, including informal team sports.
-  The play area is in one corner of the space, a ball wall and picnic area have also been installed and other items will be added as soon as funds allow.
-  A picnic and barbecue area have been sited beside the wetland.
-  Throughout the park you can see a range of sculptures, created by local artists which reflect aspects of the valley's history and wildlife.

