

# Ghosts 1

## The Manor House

House history & name

Colonel Prichard and Family

The King and the Civil War

The Gardens

Haunted Llancaiach

Characters you might meet

Developing the Past

## Haunted Llancaiach

In a recent poll Llancaiach Fawr was named as one of the Top Ten most haunted buildings in Britain.

Strange things have been experienced in almost every room, along corridors and upon stairs. Things seen, heard or felt, or sometimes odours in the air of violets or lavender - and on some occasions, roast beef!



Perhaps the figure most often experienced is that of what we believe to be a nineteenth century housekeeper known as "Mattie". The rustle of her petticoats has been heard in the bedchamber where it is believed she died, tragically, so many years ago and yet the saddest is the ghost of a little boy who fell to his death from one of the upper rooms. He sometimes makes his presence felt by a little mischievous tug of a sleeve or someone's hair, or else he'll slip his hand into the hand of whoever is in the room as though he is looking for someone to take him home.

Others are more puzzling - the figure seen in the vicinity of the Manor, although not within - could it be a suicide or the victim of a grisly murder?

And what of the figure seen deep in contemplation - could this be Edward Prichard, master of Llancaiach Fawr during the Civil War period, his mind in turmoil about his support for the King?

Then there is the puzzle of the carved stone Pentangle found hidden in the wall of the Manor - could it have been put there to ward away evil - or is it a curse!

## Want to see for yourself?

For full details of the Ghost Tour season see [Events section Ghost Tours page](#).

## Quick Links

Colonel Prichard

The Gardens

Gift Shop

Haunted Llancaiach

King Charles I

Access guide

Visitor feedback

How to find us



Quality Assured  
Visitor Attraction.

## Source

<http://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/llancaiachfawr/manor-gardens/haunted-llancaiach>  
[Accessed 15 December 2014] © Courtesy of Llancaiach Fawr Manor

## Reading

1. The website refers to 'strange things' which have been experienced at the manor. Which of the following is NOT among the experiences described on the webpage? (Tick one box.)

*This question tests your ability to read the text closely and retrieve information.*

- a. the smell of roast beef
- b. the rustle of petticoats
- c. ghostly howling
- d. the feel of a small hand

2. What is the meaning of 'vicinity' as used in the text? (Tick one box.)

*This is a context question. It tests your ability to understand the meaning of a word by understanding the text.*

- a. neighbouring
- b. surrounding area
- c. adjacent
- d. nearby

3. Which of the below best describes the purpose of this website? (Tick one box.)

*This question tests your ability to identify the purpose of a text using inference and deduction.*

- a. to attract visitors to the Manor
- b. to share ghost stories
- c. to warn readers to stay away from the Manor because it is haunted
- d. to entertain children

4. A visit to Llancaiach Fawr is not only about ghosts. List three other things that you would expect to see on a visit to the manor.

*This question tests your ability to retrieve information from the text.*

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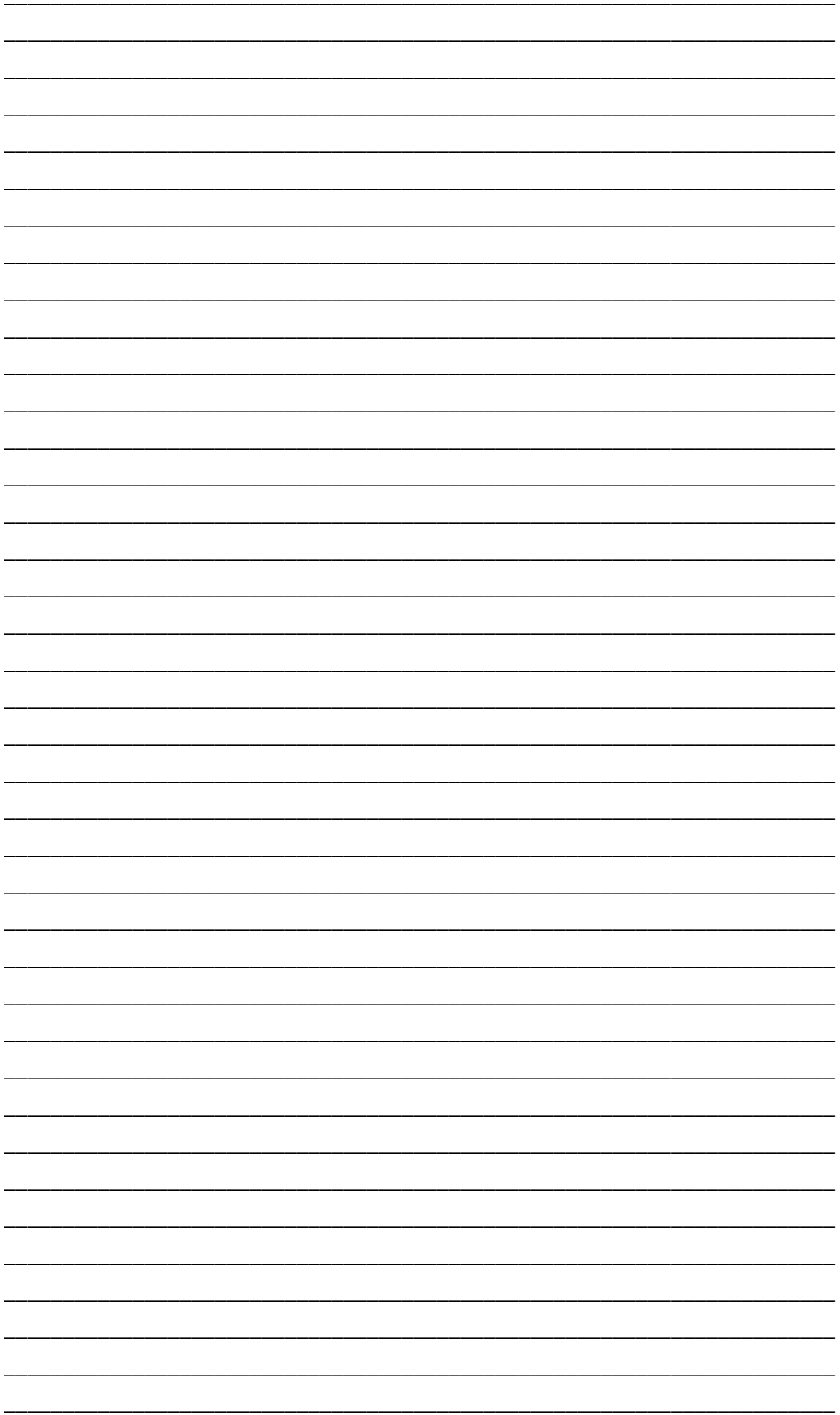
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5. Compare the way in which ghosts are presented in this text and in the extract from *The Little Stranger* [see **Ghosts 2**].

*This is an analysis question which asks you to compare two articles. Look at the language used in the text and think about what the writer of each text is trying to convey. Remember to refer to both texts in your answer.*

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## Oracy

6. Prepare and present a short speech to your class on the subject of ghosts. The speech should last 2-3 minutes.

The following are suggestions but you are not limited to these.

- Share a local ghost story or anecdote. Make sure you use interesting and appropriate language to gain the attention of your audience.
- Discuss or review a TV programme or book related to ghosts. Give your own opinion.
- Discuss the arguments for and against the existence of ghosts. You will need to research the topic and present both sides of the argument.

*Remember to speak clearly and look at your audience. Include interesting information to keep their attention.*

## Writing

7. The website says that 'we cannot guarantee that the House will be active'. Imagine that you have attended a ghost tour at Llancaiach Fawr. Write a review for TripAdvisor about your experience. Your review can be positive or negative. Write about 200 words.

*You may write from the perspective of a satisfied visitor who has experienced the ghosts or enjoyed any of the other things that the manor has to offer, or a disappointed visitor who has not had the experience they hoped for.*

8. Your school newsletter has asked for ghost stories to publish in their Halloween edition. Write an account of a ghostly experience you have had or heard about from friends or family, or invent your own. Write 300-400 words.