

Walks from 2009

Programme for May 2009

Tuesday 5th May **Bluebell Walk, Penyard Woods, 3 miles, Easy**
Leave: 5.00 pm (**From Fernbank**) **Supper:** Fish & Chips - Audrey's, Tudorville
Route: An ascent into Penyard Woods which will be taken at a leisurely pace to enable all members to enjoy the bluebells. Followed by fish and chips from Audrey's.

Wednesday 6th May **Much Marcle, 4½ miles, Easy**
Leave: 10.00 am **Lunch:** Slip Inn (order before walk)
Route: Visit the church and the famous yew tree. Then by field paths ascending towards the mast, with panoramic views all round.

Thursday 7th May **Rushock Hill – Kington, 9 miles, Moderate**
Leave: 8.45 am **Lunch:** Picnic
Route: Leave Kington on Offa's Dyke Path north up Bradnor Hill, to Rushock Hill. The route takes in Knill Carraway Woods to return to Rushock Hill and Kington. Hills and stiles

Tuesday 12th May **Forest of Dean 4½ miles, Easy**
Leave: 9.30 am **Lunch:** Optional Picnic /Cafe at end
Route: A gentle stroll following the Sculpture Trail. 4 gentle climbs, no stiles.

Thursday 19th May **Two loops around Titley 9 miles, Moderate**
Leave: 8.45 am **Lunch:** Picnic
Route: Footpaths to Stansbatch and return to cars for coffee. Then over the Knill Garraway ridge and down through the woods via Knill Bridge and Little Brampton.

Tuesday 26th May **Fan Fawr & Fan Frynych 7½ miles Hard**
Leave: 8.15 am **Lunch:** Picnic
Route: From Storey Arms, ascend Fan Fawr (2409') by direct route. Cross plateau slightly west of north for Craig Cerrig-gleisiad (2060'), then on to Fan Frynych (2063'). Down ridge to Twyn Dylluan-ddu, then back along wall to picnic site on A470.

Thursday 28th May **Upton-upon-Severn and Hanley Castle 5 miles, Easy**
Leave: 9.15 am **Lunch:** optional at pub or cafe in Upton
Route: A flat walk around Upton-on-Severn, through low lying meadows and orchards and passing the remains of Hanley's Castle, before returning alongside the river to Upton-on-Severn. 13 stiles.

Saturday 30th May **Waterfalls near Ystradfellte 10 miles, Hard**
Leave: 8.30 am **Lunch:** Picnic
Route: Exhilarating and beautiful walk along the Rivers Mellte Hepste and Nedd Fechan which plunge over numerous small, and large waterfalls, one of which we walk behind – Swed Y Eira. There will be time to stop and admire the falls and take photographs. Several short, steep ascents and descents with sections over rocky terrain. Bring you cameras and walking poles could be useful.

Programme for June 2009

Tuesday 2nd June **Croft Ambrey and Yarpole 9 miles Moderate Grade 3**

Leave: 8.45 am **Lunch** Picnic

Route: From Orleton across the top of Bircher Common and through the forest to reach Croft Ambrey with extensive views. Descend down Fishpool Valley to Croft Lodge and on to Yarpole. After picnic go to Bircher and between Oaker Coppice and Bircher Coppice to Orleton. Hills and one stile.

Tuesday 9th June Taynton and Glasshouse 4 Miles Easy

Leave: 9.30 am **Lunch:** Optional at Glasshouse Inn. Order at pub before walk.

Route: Relatively easy walk offering good views. Through fields, woodland paths and lanes around Taynton, then via Coles Barn, Greencroft Farm and Byfords Farm, then via Castle Hill Wood and back to the cars. 9 stiles.

Saturday 13th – Sunday 21st June Herefordshire Walking Festival

Details of the walks are in the Festival Walking Programme which is available from the Tourist Information Centre, Swan House.

Thursday 18th June Redbrook – Newland 5 miles Moderate

Leave: 9.30 am **Lunch:** Picnic or at The Boat, Redbrook

Route: Fairly steep climb through woods to Newland. Visit the church. Gradual descent through fields to Redbrook. Several stiles.

Tuesday 23rd June Monnow Valley 7 – Clodock to Blackhill 6½ miles Moderate

Leave: 9.00 am **Lunch:** picnic

Route: From Clodock follow Monnow Valley through Longtown to Pontynys along valley to Llanwonnog Farm, crossing river to Pontymoody and on to Cwm Farms before re-crossing river and climbing to Little Black Hill car park. Many stiles and bridges. Steady climb up Black Hill.

Thursday 25th June Fownhope and Mordiford 5½ miles Moderate

Leave: 9.15 am **Lunch:** Optional at Bunch of Carrots (GR 550382)

Route: Join the Wye Valley Walk and follow the valley between Haugh Wood and Bagpiper's Tump. From here there are good views over the Wye. Climb gradually to reach the ridge and follow this back over the old Hill Fort to return to Fownhope. Few stiles, reasonable paths and 2 gradual climbs.

Tuesday 30th June Blaize Bailey, Forest of Dean 3 miles Easy

Leave : 9.30 am **Lunch:** Hope to collect Fish & Chips to have as a picnic after walk.

Route: Forest tracks. Steady uphill to viewpoint, then fairly level with some up and down. Downhill to car park. No stiles.

Programme for July 2009

Thursday 2nd July Vagar Hill & Snodhill Castle 7½ miles Moderate

Leave: 9.30 am **Lunch:** Picnic

Route: Walk past communications tower and along Vagar Ridge (great views of Black Hill, Hay Bluff etc). Then by paths, farm tracks and minor roads down to Snodhill Castle ruins. Return by similar paths up long gradual ascent. Some stiles.

Tuesday 7th July Ewyas Harold / Abbey Dore 7 miles Moderate

Leave: 9.15 am **Lunch:** Picnic

Route: From Abbey, climb crossing fields and paths to Ewyas Harold Common. Following paths and lanes to Hollingwood Farm on to Bacton Church. From Bacton cross River Dore to Moorhampton Bridge. Follow River Dore to return to Abbey. Initial steep ascent and many stiles.

Chwarel Ddu, returning for celebration tea in Hay-on-Wye. Wonderful views. Stiles and some steep climbs.

Thursday 13th August Forest of Dean - Blaize Bailey 5½ miles Moderate
Leave: 9.30 am **Lunch:** Optional Picnic /Cafe at end
Route: Along riverside by lakes & field tracks up Dean Hill, cross to Blaize Bailey & return.
Walk will be at a gentle pace. Views, stiles, long gentle climb, 1 short, steep climb.

Thursday 20th August Brecon Beacons Horseshoe 8+
miles Hard
Leave: 8.45 am **Lunch:** Picnic
Route: Cross the valley below reservoir, then steep climb onto Graig Fan Ddu Ridge. Three peaks – Corn Du, Pen Y Fan & Cribyn. Return by the Roman Road. Bring your camera.

Saturday 22nd August Sugar Loaf/Mynydd Pen-Y-Fal 7
miles Moderate
Leave: 9.15 am **Lunch:** Picnic
Route: Climb up Sugar Loaf in SW direction, leave summit in SE direction down to valley then return by Deri/Allt, Cai-Drain, Great Gett and Blaenaway to cars. Some stiles and 1600 feet of uphill climb

Thursday 27th August Welsh Bicknor & Coppet Hill 7½
miles Moderate
Leave: 9.30 am **Lunch:** Picnic
Route: Down to Welsh Bicknor and River Wye. Follow River below Yat Rock then climb up Coppet Hill -fine views. Drop down to Goodrich. Some stiles and steep (downhill) steps towards end of walk. **Leaders will meet walkers at parking place.**

Programme for September 2009

Thursday 3rd September May Hill 9+
miles Moderate
Leave: 9.00 am **Lunch:** Picnic
Route: Gorsley via Kilcot to May Hill, return via Aston Ingham. Stiles and hills. Leaders will meet walkers at Dalcross.

Tuesday 8th September Newent 7½
Miles Easy
Leave: 9.15 am **Lunch:** Picnic
Route: Easy walk, virtually flat with fine views, along traffic free lanes and through Hay Wood. Back by Hereford Gloucester Canal towpath. 2 stiles.

Tuesday 15th September Backney & Brampton Abbots 5
Miles Easy
Leave: 9.15 am **Lunch:** Hope and Anchor
Route: Along River and back through Brampton Abbots. One short, sharp climb.

Thursday 17th September Taff Trail 1 – Castell Coch - 9 miles Moderate
Pontypridd
Leave: 8.00 am **Lunch:** Picnic
Route: Bus to Tongwynlais (bring bus pass for half fare transport). Climb to Castell Coch, then old railway routes to Pontypridd. Transport organised at Wilton Car Park.

Tuesday 22nd September Peterchurch
miles Moderate

4½

Leave: 9.30 am

Lunch: Optional at Boughton Arms

Route: Easy, undulating walk on paths and back lanes, rising gently for views of distant hills and mountains. 11 stiles + 2 stile bridges.

Thursday 24th September
miles Moderate

Grwyne Fawr Valley

5½

Leave: 9.30 am

Lunch: picnic

Route: Through forest past Crug Mawr to Patricio Church, return past Tabernacle Chapel and descend to one mile walk along road to cars. Fairly steep climb, a ford and stiles.

Wednesday 30th September
miles Moderate

Grwyne Fawr Valley

7½

Leave: 9.30 am

Lunch: picnic

Route: Ascend to Ffawyddog Fawr, then Bali Mawr and Chwarel Y Fan. Return via Blaen-y-cwm and Cefn-coed. Two steep ascents.

Programme for October 2009

Thursday 1st October
miles Easy

Bixlade Tramroad Trail

3

Leave: 9.30 am

Lunch: Optional pub after walk

Route: Forest of Dean Local History Society Bixlade tramway. Mines and quarries from the industrial past. No stiles – long uphill stretch taken slowly.

Tuesday 6th October

Taff Trail 2 – Pontypridd – Troed-y-rhiw

10 miles

Easy

Leave: 8.15 am

Lunch: Picnic

Route: 9.45 train from Troed-y-rhiw to Pontypridd (bring your rail card). Walk out of town to old tramroad through Quakers Yard, joining canal tow path at Pont-y-gwaith to Troed-y-rhiw. Transport will be organised at Wilton Car Park.

Thursday 15th October
miles Moderate

Tidenham Chase

7

Leave: 9.30 am

Lunch: Picnic

Route: Relatively easy walk with extensive views of the Severn Estuary and River Wye and Wintours Leap. Many stiles.

Thursday 22nd October
miles Moderate

Llangrove

6

Leave: 9.30

Lunch: Picnic

Route: To Tredunnock, Much Birch and Treworgan. Stiles and ups and downs.

Thursday 29th October
miles Moderate

Red Marley, Ketford & Dymock

9

Leave: 9.00

Lunch: Picnic

Route: Much of Poets Path No. 1 – Cobhill Rough, Durbridge, Ketford, Dymock and Ryton. Gently undulating with a few stiles.

Programme for November 2009

Tuesday 3rd November

Clehonger

4 miles

Easy

Leave: 9.30 am

Lunch: optional at Comet Inn, Madley

Route: Gently, undulating walk with good views of River Wye, rising to ridge between Ruckhall and Clehonger. 8 stiles, 2 stile bridges.

Saturday 7th November Little Doward 5
miles Moderate

Leave : 9.30 am **Lunch:** optional Whitchurch at end of walk

Route: Wyastone Deer Park to King Arthur's Cave and Seven Sisters. Descend to Biblins Bridge along river, return through Woodland Trust passing preserved Lime Kiln. Fairly steep gradients.

Tuesday 10th November Forest of Dean - Joyford 4½
miles Moderate

Leave : 9.30 am **Lunch:** Dog & Muffler (order before walk)

Route: via Wysis Way to Carter's Piece, then Nine Wells Way and back to Dog & Muffler. A few stiles and a modest climb.

Wednesday 18th November Trellech (social amble before lunch) 2
miles Easy

Leave : 10.15 am **Lunch:** optional at Comet Inn, Madley

Route: It is **not at all** wet. Good level forestry path designed especially for exercise. No stiles, no steep hills. Ideal for walkers with knee problems etc!! Optional short historical tour of Trellech after lunch to Harold Stones, Tump & Well - about 1 mile – level.

Tuesday 24th November Mitchel Troy 5
miles Moderate

Leave : 9.15 am **Lunch:** optional at garden centre

Route: Steady climb to Trellech Road, then the Craig and on to Chapel Farm. Descend to cars. Numerous stiles and gates that do not open.

Thursday 26th November Forest of Dean - Joyford 6½
miles Moderate

Leave : 9.00 am **Lunch:** Optional at Dog & Muffler

Route: via English Bicknor - Mailscot Wood - Hillersland. Stunning views if we are lucky. Couple of short steep climbs & stiles but otherwise quite easy. One ancient church

Programme for December 2009

Tuesday 1st December Redbrook and Penallt 8 miles Moderate

Leave: 9.00 am **RTVD** £1.50 **Lunch:** Picnic / Snack at Boat Inn

Route: Redbrook to Cadora Wood, views across Wye Valley. Return for lunch. Riverside path to Penallt Church, Common & woods. Steep climb on either side of valley. Some stiles.

Thursday 3rd December Hasfield & Ashleworth 9 miles Moderate

Leave: 9.00 am **RTVD** £2.00 **Lunch:** Picnic

Route: Via Corse Wood Hill, Hasfield, Ashleworth Quay and Foscombe.

Tuesday 8th December Peterstow & Bridstow 5½ miles Easy
Leave: 9.30 am **RTVD** £0 **Lunch:** Optional at pub at the end
Route: Down River to Weir End and Peterstow. Return through apple orchards via Bridstow Church, past Wilton Castle to cars. Several stiles

Thursday 10th December Round the Houses 4½ miles Easy
Leave Fernbank Car Park: 9.45 am **RTVD** £0 **Lunch:** Picnic
Route: A tour around the hidden lanes of Ross from Fernbank Car Park. 3 'mystery hosts' will provide drinks at coffee time, lunch and tea time. **Please bring your slippers and a drinks mug along with your picnic!** Easy walking in stout shoes – no need for sticks! No stiles only kissing gates!

Thursday 17th December Gorsley and Linton 4½ miles Moderate
Leave: 9.30 am **RTVD** £0.75 **Lunch:** Picnic at Dalcross
Route: Gorsley Common to Linton. Over Ridge and climb Linton Hill. Return via Little Gorsley