



RAMBLERS' GROUP NEWS – APRIL 2015

Current Programme Reports: 30th Anniversary Celebrations.

At the AGM in November 2014 it was agreed to establish a Social Sub-Committee which would co-ordinate the social activities of the group. The inaugural meeting of the Sub-Committee was held in January 2015 and there have been two further meetings to date. As well as planning the more traditional annual activities, the members of the Sub-Committee have come up with some new and exciting ideas for Social Evenings – so have a look at the Autumn/Winter programme when it is issued and see if anything 'takes your fancy'! If you have an idea for a social activity which you would like to see developed, please get in touch with Margaret Brindley, Chair of the Sub-Committee, who would be more than willing to help you develop it!

30th Anniversary Celebrations Sub-Committee.

Following a very successful launch of the 30th Anniversary celebrations in October and November 2014, the Sub-Committee took a break over the Christmas and New Year period before re-launching the Llanelli Circular Walk programme in February 2015. 27 members took part in the 'short' Walk 3 (from Penclacwydd to Pwll) and 16 in the 'long' Walk 3 (from Bynea Gate to Burry Port) on February 28th 2015, and 24 members walked from Pwll to Penybedd on 21st March 2015 (Walk 4). The celebrations will draw to a close on 11th April 2015 when members will walk from either Penybedd to Stradey Castle ('short' Walk 5) or complete a circular walk starting in Burry Port ('long' Walk 5). The walks will finish at Stradey Castle where the celebrations will be brought to a fitting conclusion with a Hog Roast in the Wilderness Gardens in the Castle grounds. It is hoped that everyone who has taken part in the celebrations has enjoyed doing so and feel justly proud of having walked 30 miles around the perimeter of Llanelli! A full report of the celebrations will be presented later in the year and so keep everyone happy.

With this in mind, for various reasons, it's not always possible for members to get away on these trips, but feel free to speak with John M., if you would like to lead a local walk on these occasions, and walk details can then be circulated by e-mail. After all, with over 300 members the group can certainly support such alternatives and so keep everyone happy.

Big Welsh Walk – May 2015

Throughout May, Ramblers' Cymru have asked groups to stage walks under this banner. We will be kicking off our contribution with our usual family-friendly walk on Bank Holiday Monday – 4th May.

A bus will take walkers from the leisure centre to the start of the walk in Burry Port for a walk back to Llanelli on the Coast Path. Activities are planned en route, such as : kite-flying, visit to RNLI Burry Port, finishing with light refreshments in the Catholic Hall.

Later in the month, there will be a Tea Walk, (12th May), and an evening walk in Cwm Dulais, (14th May), whilst the finale will be the Festival of Walks over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend.

All other walks during the month will also be advertised under the Big Welsh Walk banner.

Cambrian Way – Journey’s End, Conwy.

During the course of this programme, all being well, on 28th June, our final goal, Conwy, is reached on our trek from south to north. This 276 mile journey, which started in Cardiff on 1st December 2012, has been staged over 32 legs and is still attracting a hardcore of 15 – 20 walkers, plus half-a-dozen from our sister group in Lampeter. Throughout, the project has been self-financing. Here’s hoping we manage a successful and safe conclusion to our endeavours.

After the Cambrian Way – What next for long-distance walkers?

Well, that question has already been answered in the shape of Hannah – continuing her Coast Path venture eastwards to the border with England, and Peter and Ian – pushing ever further northward along Offa’s Dyke Path, not to mention Rob and Jan attempting the Aeron Valley Trail in October. What with Huw and Adrienne’s continued SWCP project, long-distance path walkers need not suffer any withdrawal symptoms at all.

Cornwall September Holiday 5th to 12th September 2015:

Staying in Hayle for a holiday with walks. Walking the Southwest Coastal Path from Lands End to The Lizard and a little beyond. For further details contact Adrienne/Huw 01554-751777

Agen Ramblers Visit:

26 Agen Ramblers are visiting us 29th September 2015 to 6th October 2015. Their itinerary is to stay in the Marine Hotel Aberystwyth for three nights 29th September to 2nd October; followed by a four night stay in Llanelli. A group of Llanelli Ramblers’ will accompany our Agen friends in Aberystwyth; (also staying in the Marine Hotel). In addition there are others who plan to stay in other accommodation in Aberystwyth.

For our Agen visitors stay the following walks itinerary has been planned:

Wednesday, 30th September: Coach to Borth, Grade C+ walk 7 miles back to Aberystwyth on coastal path. Leader: Pat Pope.

Thursday, 1st October: Choice of 2 coastal path walks:

- (1) Cwmttydu to Aberaeron – 10 miles, Grade B. Leader Jeff D.
 - (2) New Quay to Aberaeron – 6 miles, Grade C+. Leader Greison.
- Travel to start and return to Aberystwyth by coach.

Friday, 2nd October: Walk/sightseeing at Devil’s Bridge, travelling from Aberystwyth to Devil’s Bridge by coach (*Note:* No train service on Fridays), before returning to Llanelli and Trimsaran by coach. (The visitors will once again be staying at the Coastal Park B&B in Queen Victoria Rd., Llanelli).

Saturday, 3rd October: Start time from Llanelli 9 am, travel by car to Dan yr Ogof, from there a choice of two walks:

- (1) to Wellington Bomber crash site and back (6 miles, C+ walk – leader: Alwyn. Tel. 01554 773597) followed by a guided tour of the caves (free entry has been offered to the French visitors);
- (2) to Wellington bomber crash site and back to Dan yr Ogof via Sinc y Giedd (10 miles, B walk – leader: John D. Tel. 01792 864525)

Sunday, 4th October: Coach trip to St. Fagans. Leave Llanelli at 9 am. Space on the coach for 33 Llanelli Ramblers on a first-come, first-served basis – cost £9 each if all seats booked.

We will not be asking the visitors to pay a share of the cost. Contact Alwyn, Tel. 01554 773597.

Monday, 5th October: Walk on Mynydd Penbre, 6 miles, C. Leader: Huw. Tel. 01554 751777. Travel by car from Llanelli 9 am. Return to Llanelli by 4 pm latest. 5.30 pm: The Town Council will host a Reception with pre-dinner drinks at the Old Vicarage, Llanelli, for 24 visitors plus 12 Llanelli Ramblers. 7.30 pm: Dinner at the Stag pub, Five Roads. 3-course Welsh fare menu. Cost £12.99 a head. Contact Eileen, tel. 01554 741306. (*Note:* There is sufficient money in the Social Fund, ring-fenced for the Agen Randonneurs, to cover the cost of the visitors' meals.) We propose organising a coach to take us from Llanelli to and from Five Roads – more information on this to follow. The Stag say they can accommodate 70 people comfortably. 46 places will be offered to the group as a whole on a first-come, first-served basis.

Tuesday, 6th October: Visitors return to France. No doubt some Llanelli Ramblers will want to wave them off, as in previous years. Flight leaves Bristol Airport at 1.30 pm. Transport to the airport still to be arranged.

For further information contact Nina Clement 01554-810979.

Twmpath Dawns:

Held on Friday 27th February thanks to the organization of Monica Rees and her fellow Social Committee Members, 60 enthusiastic dancers attended the Twmpath Dawns at Llanelli Catholic Hall. The caller Paul Amor led the attendees through some excellent Welsh Folk Dances. During the interval a meal of Fish and Chips was provided, washed down with copious amounts of soft and alcoholic drinks.

Cawl Walk:

Was held on Wednesday 4th March 2015; led by Alwyn Williams in glorious spring sunshine 70 walkers completed a six mile walk in Pembrey Country Park. The walk was complemented by an excellent meal of cawl, cheese and bread; followed by welshcakes; all prepared by Diana and Jeff ably assisted by Mrs Daffodil and Mr Leek (Ann and John Maudsley). Literally the "icing on the cake" was the celebration of John Hanley's 50th Birthday; with a cake baked and appropriately decorated by Diana and Jeff.

Programme Notes:

This year's summer programme is now available. Thanks to Ray William's expertise the Summer Programme can also be viewed on our new website.

Surprisingly little work has been needed on the programme, thanks largely to the keenness and enthusiasm of walk leaders in volunteering walks aplenty, for which John Maudsley is very grateful. For those who couldn't get their walk included John apologies. You'll get first shout, next time. There are some inevitable gaps, however: Sunday 16th August, Saturday 22nd August and on seven Thursdays throughout the programme. So, if you fancy leading a walk, drop John Maudsley a line, or ring, 01792 298354. Thursday walks, in particular, offer everyone a chance to try their hand at leading a short local walk. It's good experience, and, you may catch the bug. Be warned!!

Weekends-away and alternative walks closer to home:

This summer, there's plenty of opportunity to enjoy walking in other parts of the country, with weekends-away in Conwy, (final leg of the Cambrian Way), Hay-on-Wye, (Offa's Dyke), Betws-y-Coed, (Hywel's Birthday Bash on Snowdon), Cornwall, (South West Coast

Path), Aberystwyth, (Agen twinning visit), Llangrannog, (Aeron Valley Trail) not to mention the Pembrey summer camp closer to home.

Festival of Walks 2015.

It's all systems go for an exciting festival. Brochures have been distributed to both members and non-members; packs have also been sent out to other rambling groups such as: Carmarthen, Dynefwr and Lampeter. An advert has appeared in the spring edition of Walk Magazine; plus flyers are airborne. The last Walks Leaders meeting is on 7th April, transport is organized, so now everything is in place to make a good 20th Walking Festival. Bookings have started landing on Eileen Beaumont's door mat; **so don't delay get yours off today and avoid disappointment.**

Homers' Monday Group:

We meet at the Leisure Centre/ Selwyn Samuel Centre every Monday at 10.30am. Our walks are easy approximately 4miles and most often in the Llanelli area. During school holidays children are welcome to join us.

We have had great pleasure in joining, -The Anniversary Walks, The Cawl Walk and the Twmpath. We look forward to Anniversary Walk 5 and the Hog Roast in April and to joining both The Big Welsh Walk and the Festival of Walks in May.

For further information contact Eileen on: 01554-741306

Roamers: The Monday Roamers have put together their programme for the three month period April to June inclusive; for details see Llanelli Ramblers web-site.

For further information contact David Quarmby on: 01792-904133.

Crickhowell Weekend:

25th/26th April 2015; there are two walks on offer each day. A short (C grade) walk with Hazel Blewett and a longer (A/B grade) walk with Jeff Davies. As Crickhowell is within reasonable commuting distance of Llanelli there is the option of either staying over the weekend or travelling each day.

For further information contact: Hazel on: 01554-755331 or Diana/Jeff on 01554-833099

Pembrey Camp: 28th to 31st August 2015 – A weekend of entertainment for both children and adults either outdoors or in the marquee. Camping is more fun; but if this is not possible come for the day.

For further information contact Hazel on: 01554-755331

Llangrannog Weekend:

Organised by Janet and Robert Davies. Staying in the Gwersyll y Urdd Llangrannog 16th to 18th October 2015 – Walking the 21 mile Aberaeron Trail over two days. This weekend is now fully booked, but there is a reserve list.

For further information contact Janet/Robert on 01554-753596.

Rights of Way Snippet

Your legal right is to “pass and repass along the way”. You may stop to rest or admire the view, or to consume refreshments, providing you stay on the path and do not cause an obstruction. You can also take with you a “natural accompaniment” which includes a pram, or pushchair.

You can also legally take a manual or powered wheelchair (mobility scooter) provided you follow the regulations for taking these vehicles on ordinary roads. However there is no guarantee that the surface of the path will be suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs.

You can take a dog with you, but you must ensure it is under close control. Note that there is no requirement for stiles to be suitable for use by dogs.