

9 and 16 June 2013

May Hill walk Sunday 9 June:

In perfect walking weather a Lower Wye group of 22 ramblers walked to May Hill in Gloucester. Starting at the Wilderness Centre Plump Hill we headed through woods past the Standing Stones, down through Mitcheldean, then cut off towards our goal. We had a coffee stop with panoramic views in a cooling wind. Eventually climbing up to May Hill for a lunch stop, enjoying views down to the River Severn and across to the Black Mountains. We made our way back finishing with a strenuous climb back to the start.

Trefil walk 16 June 2013

Despite it being June and summer, 11 Lower Wye Ramblers braved the rain and cold wind on Sunday 16th and enjoyed (is that what we call it, enjoyment?) an 8½ mile walk from Trefil, near Tredegar. Advertised as Aneurin Bevan's favourite area to walk, the high level, but fairly flat walk encompassed the famous Chartist Cave where a plaque commemorates the famous (or infamous) uprising in 1839, and where the muskets and weapons were stored before the march into Newport, an Iron Age cairn and a disused quarry supposedly a film set for "Merlin" and "Doctor Who".

On a clear day Pen y fan can be seen in the distance, along with glorious views towards the other Brecon peaks and lovely valley views towards Llangnydr and beyond. Sadly though, that beauty was denied the eleven intrepid wet walkers, who ate their sandwiches with rain dripping off their hoods and with wet squelchy feet. All declared that they had enjoyed the walk, and perhaps needed to walk the area again on a sunnier and warmer day, (but were they lying to save the blushes of the walks leaders?)