

Sunday 28 December 2014: Dawn's Memorial Walk



On Sunday December 28, for their final ramble of 2014, members of the LWR turned out on a beautiful sunny day for an 8-mile walk in memory of former chairman Dawn, who sadly passed away in April. They were joined on the walk by members of Dawn's family, including daughter Amber, son Gary, daughter-in-law Jenny, son-in-law Dale, grandson Matt, and five-year-old granddaughter Rosanna, who did her grandma proud by completing about 5 miles of the walk.

Welcoming everyone to the walk, Allan Thomas spoke of Dawn's great courage and fortitude during the final months of her life and described her contribution to the LWR and the impact her loss had on the group. After a short period of silence for assembled friends and family members to remember Dawn, the group set off.



The walk covered areas of the Forest of Dean that Dawn particularly enjoyed walking. Starting from Ellwood, the group walked through the woods to the outskirts of Bream. After a brief stop at Flour Mill to look at the engines under repair, they continued through Oakwood Bottom, Bream's Meend, and Noxon Wood and then made a steep climb on a somewhat overgrown path to reach Clement's End Road just below the Montague Inn. After a short stretch of road walking, they stopped for a picnic lunch in Sling at a lovely spot overlooking Clearwell.



Suitably refreshed and with renewed spring in their feet, they headed down to a still frosty Clearwell, passing the preaching cross and making a quick detour to the village well. They then climbed up through fields and Great Lambsquay Wood, passing hundreds of chickens and a herd of Highland cattle en route before finally reaching the main road by Lambsquay Hotel. The final leg of the walk took the group through the woods back to Ellwood. All who took part agreed that the walk had been a fitting memorial to Dawn.