

Monmouth Rambling and Hillwalking Club

Affiliated to HF Holidays Ltd

PROGRAMME FOR WALKS March to May 2024

(compiled by Claire James)

Please note that Walk Leaders should pre-walk their route and advise on the Walk Leader Form of any relevant risks (such as steep climbs, risky river crossings, steep drops etc.)

Insurance - The only cover provided is Public Liability: the damage or injury that any member of the Club may cause to a third party or property. Walkers walk with the club at their own risk and therefore need to be mindful of and responsible for their own safety. Appropriate clothing and footwear is essential and bring packed lunch and drink.

Walks start at 10am. Departure Time from Rockfield Road Car park (RRCP) is given for each walk.

Car sharing: Fuel contribution is calculated at 30p per mile, shown as cost per car for each walk, to be shared equally between the number of people in the car. It has been increased to reflect the rise in costs of running a car. Please read the notes on car-sharing in the Club's Guidance for Members Revision C, dated 21 Aug 2021.

No dogs please.

On the first Sunday of each month there will be a longer, more strenuous walk for those members who enjoy a more challenging day. There will be alternative short walks on the 1st Sunday and also on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Please see programme below for details. *The short walks are intended for those members who prefer a less demanding walk and a more leisurely pace. All our walks will be paced at the speed of the slowest walker. Please assist the walk leaders by not getting too far ahead of the leader, especially when the pace is leisurely.*

Covid – see our revised Guidance for Members Revision C, dated 21 August 2021. All participants need to have signed the declaration form to say they have read and agree to abide by these guidance notes.

Please book in with the walk leader so that we know who's coming on the walk.

Date	Time RRCP	Walk Length (miles)	Leader(s)	Start	Description and Further Information
3.3.24	09.30	9.5			<p>After crossing Brockweir Bridge we head south through the Old Station to reach a small, quaint church at Tintern. A gradual ascent takes us up to Whitelye before descending to the Fountain Inn near Trellech. From here we drop down to Tintern Cross before rising through woods and a lane to ultimately reach the Eagles Nest view point, with excellent views over the River Severn and towards Chepstow. It's all downhill from here to Tintern, before crossing the river for the footpath back to our starting point.</p> <p>5 stiles. Free parking on Mill Hill. No toilets. Fuel Cost: £7.20</p>
3.3.24	09.30	4	Short Walk		<p>Circular walk on forestry tracks around Bracelands. Good footpaths with varied scenery and lovely views.</p> <p>One steep decent and ascent.</p> <p>No stiles</p> <p>Toilets at start point via café.</p> <p>Fuel cost: £5.20</p>
10.3.24	9.25	7.5			<p>From Llangattock Lingoed we follow the Offas Dyke path to White Castle, the best preserved of the three Norman border fortifications known as the Three Castles.</p> <p>The return route follows the Three Castles walk to the imposing Glen Trothy, then along lanes and field paths back to the start.</p> <p>Parking at White Castle is very limited, so please car share if at all possible.</p> <p>Undulating walk, with one steeper climb up to the castle. About 4 stiles.</p> <p>Optional drink at the Hunters Moon afterwards.</p> <p>Fuel Cost: £8</p>

Date	Time RRCP	Walk Length (miles)	Leader(s)	Start	Description and Further Information
17.3.24	RRCP 9.30	6.5			<p>From the centre of Bream village, we walk the surrounding area following ancient paths, former tram lines and even a railway line passing sites of important industrial heritage. A couple of modest climbs, with the highest point on the walk being just 170m. A few stiles. Fuel cost: £7.20</p>
17.3.24	9.20	3.7	Short Walk		<p>Medium climb from start to Crabtree Hill. Possible 1.5m extension around Woodgreen. May see Highland cattle, which roam the area. Return downhill along woodland track to join original pathway back to the start. Medium climb at start of walk. No toilets. No toilets. We can go to Muzos Café in Cinderford after the walk. Fuel Cost: £8.50</p>
24.3.24	9.15	8.5			<p>Circular walk taking in the wild daffodils of Gwen and Vera's fields, Betty Daw's Wood, Ketford Bank and Vell Mill Meadow. Leave the car park and head north east towards Ketford, turning west towards Dymock and return via Daffodil Way (via Boyce Court and not the long way round!). No notable ascents. Fuel cost: £11</p>
31.3.24	09:20	6.5			<p>After crossing the A465 we pass Llanvihangel Court to head across gradually ascending fields to reach a lane. After a short lane walk we cross a few more fields to reach the base of the Skirrid. We circumnavigate the lower reaches before turning steeply uphill on the Beacon Way to reach the plateau at circa 400 metres. A mile of exhilarating hill top walking takes us to the summit trig point, with 360 degree views all along the way. We gradually descend to the lane, before taking a track back to our starting point. Gradual ascent to the base of the Skirrid for approximately 2 miles, then short steep climb to top. 5 stiles. Fuel cost: £12.50</p>

Date	Time RRCP	Walk Length (miles)	Leader(s)	Start	Description and Further Information
7.4.24	08.45	7			<p>From the grassland free car park, we start to climb almost immediately up a sometimes steep, fairly long ascent on a good footpath, to the head of the cwm. We then continue north east along the wide ridge for 1.5 miles to the Rhos Dirion trig point (713m), then continue on the ridge to climb Twmpa (690m). We retrace our steps down off Twmpa and descend down to the valley floor. There is a fairly flat return to the cars.</p> <p>One prolonged, steep ascent at the start and a more gentle descent back down to the valley floor.</p> <p>We do have an option to extend the walk by one mile to visit Mynydd Bychan's cairn (650m). This will depend on the weather and the feeling of the group. Toilets and pub in Talgarth.</p> <p>Fuel cost: £23</p>
7.4.24	09:45	3.5	Short Walk		<p>A walk through woods and open fields with good views. We follow tracks created by the owner in Victorian times. Interesting rock formations.</p> <p>2 gradual ascents. No stiles.</p> <p>Fuel cost: £2.20</p>
14.4.24	09:20	7.3			<p>A gentle stroll around Herefordshire taking in some magnificent scenery with two crossings of the river Wye (by bridge!) and allowing us to visit four interesting and different churches en-route: St Dubricious, Hentland, St Catherines, Hoarwithy, St Tysilios, Sellack and St John the Baptist, Kings Chapel.</p> <p>Some road walking mostly on very quiet rural roads but caution is required around Hoarwithy where single file walking will be essential as we need to cross the A49. 3 stiles.</p> <p>Fuel cost: £6.50</p>

Date	Time RRCP	Walk Length (miles)	Leader(s)	Start	Description and Further Information
21.4.24	09:25	8.8			<p>Wormelow Tump and Alconbury Hill. A mix of woodland and field walking, overlooking Hereford and with views of the Black Mountains. Early on we pass the small museum dedicated to Violette Szabo, one of our greatest war heroes, and later follow part of the trail named after her.</p> <p>Some steady moderate ascents at intervals throughout the walk with a total climb of around 1500ft. No very steep climbs Can be muddy and slippery in places, walking poles will be useful. 5 or 6 stiles. Fuel cost: £7.20</p>
21.4.24	09:20	3.5	Short Walk		<p>Easy going walk on lanes and tracks with one short, steep climb. Lovely views. One short, steep climb. 2 stiles Fuel cost: £11.50</p>
28.4.24	09:15	6.5			<p>To Sand House, Pembridge Castle, Tregate Bridge, Ruthlin and Coedanghred Hill. The route follows an attractive stretch of the River Monnow, including a travertine waterfall, then up through woods to the top of Coedanghred Hill, overlooking Skenfrith and its castle, with great views across to the Sugar Loaf and Skirrid. One steep ascent up to Coedanghred Hill. 15 stiles. Fuel cost: £4.50</p>
5.5.24	09:05	6.8			<p>From car park we descend to cross Olchon Brook via footbridge onto the flank of Hatterrall Hill. Initially gentle, then long steep climb diagonally up steep, rough tracks, turning right to reach the Offa's Dyke path. We follow the crest of Hatterrall Hill, past the summit at 703m, then on towards Hay Bluff before taking a lesser path which leads onto Black Hill and the trig point at 640m. We then follow the narrow Cat's Back ridge, descending steadily over rocky terrain and taking us back to our starting point. Fuel cost: £14</p>

Date	Time RRCP	Walk Length (miles)	Leader(s)	Start	Description and Further Information
5.5.24	09:30	3.5	Short Walk		An easy walk through woodland where hopefully the bluebells will be at their best. No very steep ascents or descents. No stiles. Fuel cost: £3.50
12.5.24			Walk the Wye Charity Event	Monmouth Showground	An opportunity to join in with a great day out in the beautiful Wye Valley whilst helping to support the breast cancer research work at the Velindre Centre For walks details and registration visit www.walkthewye.com
19.5.24	09.30	7			A steady climb to Ruardean Hill, the highest point in the Forest of Dean (290 metres) then on to Pan Tod Beacon, Ruardean and The Pludds. Panoramic views of The Malvern Hills, the Forest of Dean, the Black Mountains and the River Wye. Return via Greathough Brook and beaver enclosure, and back along forestry tracks to the start. 3 or 4 stiles. Some uphill stretches but nothing too exhausting. Fuel cost £7.00 per car.
19.5.24	09.30	5	Short Walk		Circular walk through Hendre woods. One steep climb through Little Garrow and Great Garrow woods to view point over to Sugarloaf. (short break.) We continue our walk on the Offas Dyke path, leading to the Lower Hendre via Country Lane passing the golf course and returning to start point for coffee and cake (lunch break). Toilets: Beginning an end of walk Fuel cost: £2.50

Date	Time RRCP	Walk Length (miles)	Leader(s)	Start	Description and Further Information
26.5.24	09.20	7			<p>To Chase End Hill, Ragged Stone Hill, Swinyard Hill and Hollybed Common.</p> <p>The route passes ancient stocks at Whiteleaved Oak, the millpond at Golden Valley, and Gullet Quarry Lake. There are far-reaching views of Eastnor Castle, the Cotswolds and the Black Mountains.</p> <p>Fuel cost: £16</p>
