

Monmouth Rambling and Hillwalking Club

PROGRAMME FOR WALKS MARCH TO MAY 2025

Compiled by Mike Brewer

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, by 2.00pm on the previous day, so that we know who's coming on the walk.

Note – to ensure the health and safety of attendees, a walk must have at least 4 participants. The leader must cancel the walk if numbers fall below 4.

Date	Time RRCP	Walk Length (miles)	Leader(s)	Start	Description and Further Information
2.03.25	09.00	8			<p>The walk begins near the church in Bredwardine. There is a motte and bailey and fish ponds nearby, then we will head to Arthur's Stone (burial chamber). Later we will pass Newton Tump motte and Bailey before heading back to Bredwardine via Merbach hill.</p> <p>Two gradual ascents.</p> <p>Fuel cost: £16.75</p>
2.03.25	09:45	4.5	Short Walk		<p>A walk on quiet lanes and tracks through woodland to the site of the Iron-age Fort in Buckholt Wood. Breathtaking views of the Black Mountains along the way as well as the new sculpture trail created by students from Hereford College of Arts.</p> <p>A steady climb of around 650 ft on quiet lanes over the first half then downhill all the way back. 2 stiles.</p> <p>Fuel cost: £1</p>
9.03.25	09:35	8			<p>Trellech, Llanishen, Lloysey Woods. A mix of open country and woodlands with fine views of the Abergavenny mountains. An undulating walk with one short steep section. Total ascent of around 1000ft.</p> <p>5 or 6 stiles.</p> <p>Fuel cost: £3.50</p>
16.03.25	09:30*	6.5			<p>This walk was first led by Gordon several years back and is advertised by the Times as a 'Calming Walk!'. It takes us from the busy docks in Sharpness up into the hills, down into Purton. There is crosses the swing bridge across the canal and we follow the Gloucester and Sharpness Canal passing through what is known as the Purton Ships' graveyard on the banks of the River Severn. We then pass the remains of the old Severn Rail Bridge destroyed by fire before returning into Sharpness Docks.</p> <p>Fuel cost: £24</p>

Date	Time RRCP	Walk Length (miles)	Leader(s)	Start	Description and Further Information
16.03.25	09:40	3.5	Short Walk:		<p>Perthir Grove, Old Mill House, Return via the Monnow Valley walk. Mostly flat, one short uphill section. 5 stiles. Fuel cost: £2.50</p>
23.03.25	09:10	9			<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/descents. Fuel cost: £12</p>
30.03.25					<p>Details to be sent out.</p>
06.04.25	09.10	7.5			<p>From village, ascent of Pen Tir, via fields then steep track to open hill then steep footpath up to the ridge – great views back down the Usk Valley when a breather becomes essential! Continue past ruins and boggy area to reach the broad summit of Pen Tir at about 450m. Descend via Cefn Moel ridge, with optional detour to Mynydd Llnagorse trig point at 506m, Great views out west towards the Beacons and glimpses of nearby Llangorse Lake, with its prehistoric village. After some miles, branch left at a fork downhill to a metalled road at Tremynfa. Follow it as it winds downhill to emerge close to the foot of Pen Tir. Initial climb up Pen Tir 1000+ feet. Pretty steep at first but progressively slackens off. Thereafter reasonably gentle. Fuel cost: £16.25</p>

Date	Time RRCP	Walk Length (miles)	Leader(s)	Start	Description and Further Information
06.04.25	09:30	4.5	Short Walk		<p>We start our walk at Shaw Common, with what should be a magnificent display of wild daffodils. We continue on through several linked woodlands. Be prepared for some muddy footpaths</p> <p>Some road walking prior to crossing over M50 into Dymock Woods. We stop for a short break at Kempley church, before returning back to start of the walk.</p> <p>No steep assents/decents. Fuel cost: £12</p>
13..04.25	09.15	8.5			<p>From the village we drop down to follow a brook briefly, before climbing to the ridge of Mynyddoedd Duon onto the Beacons Way. After a couple of miles enjoying the panoramic views we turn west for a gradual descent of the valley to Blaenau. Pleasant walking on a quiet lane takes us the last few miles back to Llanbedr.</p> <p>One gradual ascent on a good track lasting approximately 1 mile, with a similar descent down a valley between miles 5 and 6. 5 stiles. Fuel cost: £13.75</p>
20.04.25	09.30	7.5			<p>Apple blossom, a hillfort and wildlife lagoons. From Wilton, we ascend to Ross Church, then through Chase Wood to Coughton and Walford Lagoons. Return via apple orchards and Wye riverbank.</p> <p>One steep uphill, one steep descent. Total ascent 200m/660ft. 8 stiles Fuel cost: £7.25</p>
20.04.25			Short Walk No walk leader		Walk leader required: any offers?

Date	Time RRCP	Walk Length (miles)	Leader(s)	Start	Description and Further Information
27.04.25	9.300	7.5			<p>We follow a flat path to Milkwall, then pass the remains of former iron and steel works, where information boards relate their history. Continue through woods, passing a quarry, to reach the Mary Rose Young pottery, where we'll have coffee, with optional visit to the pottery showroom. From there good tracks take us through forestry to reach the village of Little Drybrook, for our lunch stop. Further tracks lead up to Ellwood then on to walk through the Dark Hill inclosure, to pick up our return path to the start.</p> <p>One gradual ascent for 1.5 miles on good forest tracks. No stiles.</p> <p>Fuel cost: £4.75</p>
04.05.25	09.10	8			<p>From Keepers Pond car park we walk over to the industrial heritage town of Blaenavon where we will have a tea stop. Return to Keepers Pond with stop for lunch.</p> <p>As the walk starts on the Bloreng, there are no significant ascents or descents.</p> <p>No stiles.</p> <p>Fuel cost: £12.50</p>
04.05.25	09.30	3.5	Short Walk		<p>Easy walk through woodland where hopefully, as in previous years the bluebells will be a spectacular sight.</p> <p>No very steep ascents or descents</p> <p>No stiles.</p> <p>Fuel cost: £3.50</p>
11.05.25			Walk the Wye, Charity event	Monmouth Showground	<p>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. Choice of 6 walks between 4 and 15 miles, With lifts to the start for 3 of them.</p> <p>For walks details and registration visit www.walkthewye.com</p>

Date	Time RRCP	Walk Length (miles)	Leader(s)	Start	Description and Further Information
18.05.25	08:50	6			<p>Starting at the foot of Hay Bluff (Penybegwn)we climb to the peak We then walk along the ridge before making the descent to Gospel Pass Then cross the road and prepare for the next ascent up to Lord Hereford's Knob (Twmpa) Great views 2 ascents and descents. Fuel cost: £16.75</p>
18.05.25	09:10	4	Short Walk		<p>Flat walk on Usk riverside, Glanusk park and Mon and Brecon Canal. One short steep ascent up lane to the canal. No stiles. Toilets in main car park behind fire station. Fuel cost: £13.75</p>
25.05.25	09:45	Choice of 5 or 8.5			<p>A figure of 8 walk in the Wye meanders. For the first loop we cross the Foy footbridge to Brampton Abbots and café for coffee stop. Return via a sandmartin colony and riverside walk to Foy Church for lunch. The post-lunch loop goes to Strangford and Backney viewpoint. 2 easy hills, total ascent 100m/330ft. 6 stiles. Fuel cost: £8.50</p>