

Monmouth Rambling and Hillwalking Club

Programme For Walks September 26 - November 26

Compiled by Martin Shipley

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.

Appropriate clothing and footwear is essential and bring a packed lunch and drink. No dogs please.

Date	Time	Length (miles)	Description and Further Information
06/09/26	09:15	8.2	Repeated by popular demand. Crossing and recrossing the Clydach River, view the impressive ruins of Clydach ironworks and Cwm Pwca (Puck's Valley) - supposedly inspiration for "A Midsummer Night's Dream", before climbing to the Gellifelen tunnels on one of the steepest lines on the BR system. Returning above the tunnels, follow Quarry Road up past the Jolly Colliers pub onto open moorland. Skirt east below the crest of Llanelli Hill, with magnificent views across to the Black Mountains. After crossing a minor road, follow a track up Gilwern Hill to its summit Carreg Gywir (441m = 1447 feet), its radio masts visible for miles. Descend through the spectacularly quarried hill which fed an enormous lime works below, then join minor roads down to the Clydach viaduct. Drop into magical Cwm Nant Dyar beneath the viaduct and back down to the start. About 1100 feet of climb, some steep and rugged, but spectacular mix of nature and former industry. Fuel cost: £15.00
06/09/26	09:30	3.0	A couple of short steep climbs up to Canal tow path otherwise a fairly flat walk through woodland , open fields, leading to Canal; with plenty of interest along the way. Toilets and coffee stop at end of walk at Goytre Wharf Fuel cost: £7.80
13/09/26	09:15	7.0	Following the signposted walk around the reservoir with a cafe available at coffee time and the possibility of seeing ospreys and other migrating birds. Two short climbs and seven stiles. Fuel cost: £10.20
20/09/26	09:30	6.5	From Lower Lydbrook we have a steady climb up through Lydbrook to Upper Lydbrook. We follow the Beaver enclosure where we should see evidence of beaver activity. From Piano Corner we then have another steady climb up to Ruardean before we descend back to the river. Free parking. Public toilets at the start. Fuel cost: £3.30
20/09/26	09:30	3.5	Walk along River and through John Kyle memorial gardens past Ross parish church. Taking path along ridge and back to river. Some steps. Fuel cost: £6.00
27/09/26	09:15	8.0	From the village we drop down to follow a brook briefly, before climbing steadily to the ridge of Mynyddoedd Duon to pick up the Beacons Way. After a couple of miles enjoying the amazing panoramic views, we turn west for a gradual descent of the impressive valley to Blaenau. Pleasant walking on a quiet lane and a final short descent through a wood takes us the last few miles back to Llanbedr. Fuel cost: £12.60

Date	Time	Length (miles)	Description and Further Information
04/10/26	09:35	2.0	Interesting walk around Goodrich Village passing Church and Pool Ellocks Community Orchard. Coffee stop at Cafe at entrance to Goodrich Castle Fuel cost: £4.50
04/10/26	09:05	8.6	Follow the Beacons Way up to join Offa's Dyke Path at the hillcrest. After about 1.1km, diverge right onto the spur above Cwmyoy (310 metres (1010 feet) above the Priory). Descend the increasingly steep track bypassing the break-away hill immediately west and the twisted church - both products of massive, slow but continuing landslip since the last Ice Age. Turn right following a minor road then field paths to meet the valley road near Tŷ-ddraenen. Crossing the Honddu, turn left then shortly right onto a track which zig-zags up to join the Beacons Way at the hillcrest. Follow this up to Garn Wen then Bal Bach, some 350 metres (1150 feet) above the valley below. Descend the ravine of Cwm Bwchel, recrossing the Honddu via a footbridge back to the start. Involves some 2000 feet of climb split between two stretches, but benefits from classic open Black Mountains moorland and panoramic views. Stiles subject to recce. Fuel cost: £17.00
11/10/26	09:30	7.5	From Fownhope we head south on field and riverside paths, then take an uphill track to Brinkley Hill and Brockhampton Arts and Crafts church. Return via Capler Camp and Pagets wood on the Wye Valley walk. One gradual uphill, then undulating. Approx. 8 stiles. Fuel cost: £11.50
18/10/26	09:25	4.5	Easy gradient on forestry tracks, no stiles. Stop for refreshments at Forestry Centre. There should be lovely Autumn colours. Fuel cost: £6.00
18/10/26	09:15	7.0	This walk starts on the banks of the River Severn. After a wander through the historic back roads of Newnham we follow a gradual ascent inland, with views back to the river, to reach Dry Wood. Heading south through the woods, we curl round to Lower Soudley and its delightful ponds. Following Little Dean Walk on good paths through the trees, we emerge at Dean Hill, with panoramic views up and down the Severn Valley. It's all downhill from here, through several pastures and back through Newnham to the start. Fuel cost: £10.20
25/10/26	09:15	7.2	Steady uphill climb of about 1200ft from Llangattock to the Llangattock escarpment passing the Ogof y Daren Cilau cave system. Bring a head torch if you want to explore the caves. Mixture of fields, very quiet roads and tracks, grass and stony paths, with a short canal section. Wonderful views from the escarpment. Fuel cost: £14.00

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01/11/26	09:30	3.5	Fuel cost: £0.00
01/11/26	09:15	8.0	An undulating walk starting near Redmarley D Abitot and visiting Pendock, Eldersfield Marsh, Eldersfield and Lowbands. Fuel cost: £15.00
08/11/26	09:25	6.5	Follow River Monnow to Sand House then ascend towards Pembridge Castle. Descend back to River Monnow at Llanrothal and return to Skenfrith. A few stiles. Fuel cost: £6.40
15/11/26	09:30	7.0	From English Bicknor we head down to the River Wye on quiet lanes and tracks, with spectacular views across the Wye Valley. We follow the river on good paths to scenic Symonds Yat East, before taking steps up to the Rock viewpoint for our lunch stop. After admiring the views we set off through the forest on mainly flat tracks, then take our downhill route back to English Bicknor Village Hall. Fuel cost: £5.70
15/11/26	09:30	3.0	Details later Fuel cost: £0.00
22/11/26	09:20	7.0	From the Leisure Centre Car Park (free parking allowed at the far end car park), we follow the Wye Valley Walk through the former Piercefield Estate NB, this is an uneven and at times a narrow path with some short steep climbs. At the Wyndcliff we climb the 365 steps to the view point overlooking the Rivers Severn and Wye. We return through fields situated between the Racecourse and the newly refurbished Piercefield Park House (some stiles). Fuel cost: £12.40

Date	Time	Length (miles)	Description and Further Information
29/11/26	09:25	7.5	From Garway Common a stroll down towards Garway Court then through Great Demesne. An ascent to White Rocks and a final push to the top of Garway Hill with its spectacular views. A more gentle descent through Little Garway and rejoin the road near Tannersfield for the last half mile. Some steep climbs and some road walking. Ten stiles. Total ascent 1350 ft Fuel cost: £5.10