



RAMBLERS

Taff Ely

November 2022

The group AGM was a success with three new committee members jumping on board the Taff Ely Ramblers ship, plus three new roles have been filled: a second Footpath Officer, a Publicity Officer, and a new Chairperson, Derek Wallis. The committee members are listed on the last page of this newsletter. 2022 brought a positive step forward after the two pandemic years, with a full programme in force and an increase in club membership; I hope those new to the group are enjoying it so far. Exciting times ahead!

TER will be celebrating its 30-year anniversary next year; therefore it would be nice if any of the long-time members have any old memories and/or photographs from the group's formative years they'd like to share? Contact details are down below.

One last thing, I would like to wish you all a happy festive season and a prosperous New Year. ☺

Steve Craven
Publicity Officer



Saturday 5th November: Tyn-y-Coed, Pentyrch and ridgeway.

- Led by Tony Yule

There was an interesting collection of people on the walk around Tyn-y-Coed Woods; two had been with the group since its formation, three were stalwarts on Saturdays, while four were very recent recruits (first walk for two and second walk for one). The weather was not kind; there were no views due to low cloud and there was plenty of mud. Despite this a good time was had by all. Unfortunately, no photographs were taken.

Sunday 6th November: Cosmeston Lakes, Penarth & Lavernock Point

- Led by Derek Wallis

The walk on 6th November was a moderate one starting at Cosmeston Lakes passing Old Cogan, and the old church St. Peters, which dates to the 12th century, up to the suburb of Murch. We then threaded our way through Penarth, past the Art Deco building up to the viewing point at Penarth Head. The start of the walk was marred by several hefty showers, but fortunately for most of the route through open urban Penarth it remained dry.



We were treated to very fine views across the Bristol Channel at Penarth Head with the sun making a brief appearance.

We descended through Alexandra Park to the esplanade followed by a stroll along the pier. Following the coastal path, we continued to have fine views of the Bristol Channel to Lavernock Point, and the plaque on the outer wall of the church marking the first transmission across sea in 1897 by Marconi from Flat Holm to Lavernock Point. Returning to the Cosmeston Lakes the rain returned, but it didn't dampen our spirits. I hope that the walk showed that it is possible to find less well-known parts of commonly visited places.



Sunday 13th November: Brecon Beacons National Park Visitor Centre, Libanus - Twyn y Gaer - Led by Tony Lawrence

The walk started at the Brecon Beacons National Park Visitor Centre on a surprisingly sunny (fortunately for the leader) November day. Leaving the car park, we joined a rough track and eventually a minor road which headed downhill to the vicinity of Libanus. At 11 o'clock we stopped to observe two minutes silence in memory of the war/s dead before continuing to Libanus. Here we crossed the A470 and followed a narrow road for a short distance to Libanus Mill and the small bridge over the Afon Tarell. At this attractive spot we had our first stop making use of the bridge walls for seating. The former mill building is now a brightly coloured house with a wall mounted plaque identifying the mill. From the mill we followed the winding country road for 2 kilometres before joining the Taff Trail.



Road walking is not the best option, but ahead were the hills of Twyn y Dyfnant and Twyn Cil-rhiw to rest the eye. The Taff Trail took us northeast across fields and many stiles on route before joining a track heading north at Pont rhyd-goch. We had a brief stop to admire a waterfall then followed the rough track high above the Afon Llŵch. Our lunch stop was again on a bridge, this time over the Afon Llŵch. We made a slight detour to the new, substantial wooden bridges spanning the weir near Rhydywernen Farm. Quite a noise here as the Afon Tarell and its tributary the Afon Llŵch tumble over the rough riverbed.



The walk resumed along a country road before turning north and crossing a stile into the lovely Tarell Valley. Unfortunately, the valley only has a short right of way which crosses diagonally to another stile and the busy A470 Merthyr to Brecon road. Crossing the road, we joined a fairly long ascent through fields at Bolgoed Farm to a stile and a minor road.



We followed the road uphill before leaving and negotiating farmland and tracks which eventually led to open moorland and a fairly short ascent to the trig point at Twyn y Gaer. By this time the afternoon light was fading so the panoramic views were somewhat disappointing. We took the opportunity for a group photo before the 2 kilometre moorland walk back to the visitor centre car park.

The journey home was interrupted by a Welcome Break short refreshment stop and chat at the Nant Ddu lodge.

Saturday 19th November: Roath Park & Waterloo Gardens, Cardiff (reshuffled walk) - Led by Huw Evans

15 of us ventured into central Cardiff on a nice crisp November morning for a 5-mile Saturday stroll around Roath Park and Waterloo Gardens. Thankfully, the Cardiff traffic wasn't too bad, and we were able to start on time from the north end of the lake. The first leg was a loop around the woodland, a section many commented that they had not visited previously, before making our way past the ducks down the east side of the lake. We then visited the gardens section, before crossing the road to the recreation part of Roath Park. The last leg saw us walk alongside the playing fields where several junior football matches were being played. Crossing Penylan Road we entered Waterloo Gardens and walked its entire length down to St. Peter's rugby ground. Again, many commented that this was the first time they had been to this area of Cardiff. We had a quick look at St. Margaret's Church where some historical facts were exchanged, with varying degrees of interest from the group, before making our way back up Waterloo Gardens and the west side of Roath Park. Most seemed to have enjoyed the walk, helped immensely by the good weather we enjoyed.



Sunday 20th November: Blaengarw to Llangeinor linear walk - Led by Tony Yule

The blue skies above Llangeinor's car park resulted in some members leaving their wet weather gear in the cars, prior to the 25-strong group nearly filling an empty bus driving up Cwm Garw to Blaengarw. Fifteen minutes from the "off", heavy rain started, followed by a period of hailstones. An hour later, after exchanging views on the weather with a group of nine cyclists, the ridge was reached, and the rain stopped for the day, just in time for coffee! While on the ridge walking through the forest, views of the surrounding hills and valleys occasionally appeared. After a long zigzag descent, lunch was served in an area that included works of the local school children. The path narrowed alongside the Garw Fechan before reaching Pont-y-rhyl where the Garw community route, by the Afon Garw, returned the group to the start.



Sunday 27th November:

Llantrisant Leisure Centre - Creigiau

(replacement for cancelled walk) -

Led by Tony Yule

Despite the amount of rain during the previous week, the conditions were not too wet underfoot for 50 feet (19 people and 3 dogs) to take a trip along part of the Glamorgan Ridgeway Walk (and a section of railway line between Pontypridd and Barry) to reach Creigiau, before returning across fields and along roads to the start at the leisure centre. Some stayed for a drink at the Penny Farthing, where despite being full, were very accommodating.



BLOCKED PATH GETS THE TERRY TREETMENT!!

During Julie's walk around Pontyclun at the end of October, our group stumbled across a fallen tree blocking the path, which caused some problems for our walkers. A couple of days later the path was clear, thanks to one of our maintenance team, Mr Terry Clarke, who came out with his tools and elbow grease to give us and other walkers our right of way back. He is very humble about it, but I would like to thank him and all other volunteers for their time in keeping our paths and stiles in good order where possible.





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COMING
SOON

2023 - Spring and Autumn
weekend walking holidays and
summer day trip - WATCH THIS
SPACE!

A reminder to those
who have booked

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday December 3rd, 7:00 pm
All Hallows Catholic Church Hall
Miskin, CF72 8PG.
An Exclusive Roast Experience &
B.Y.O. Drinks.
Entertainment in the form of
Words, Art & Music.

Social Media



taff_ely_ramblers

Taff Ely Ramblers



December 2022 walks programme

Saturday 3rd

Llanfabon, Nr. Nelson
4 miles L - Led by Tony Lawrence

Sunday 4th

Llanharan
7 miles M - Led by Geoff Williams

Sunday 11th

Coity Castle, Bridgend
8.5 miles M - Led by Andy & Hayley

Saturday 17th

Pendoylan
4 miles L - Led by Tracey Williams

Sunday 18th

Barry Sidings to Ynysybwll
9 miles M - Led by Tony Lawrence

Saturday 31st

Cross Inn local walk
3-4 miles L - Led by Martyne & Geraldine

