

The Countryside Code

◆ Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs.

Even when going out locally, it's best to get the latest information about where and when you can go; for example your rights to go onto some areas of open land may be restricted while work is carried out for safety reasons or during breeding seasons. Follow advice and local signs; be prepared for the unexpected.

◆ Leave gates and property as you find them.

◆ Protect plants and animals; take your litter home.

◆ Keep dogs under close control.

◆ Consider other people.

Enjoyed this walk?

This walk is one of a second series of walks produced by the Taff Ely (Llantrisant) Ramblers.

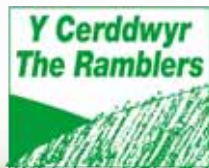
The association is a registered charity (no. 1093577) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (No 4458492).

The Ramblers' Association promotes rambling, protects rights of way, campaigns for access to open country and defends the beauty of the countryside.

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About the walk

◆ How far is it? An easy 3 miles or 5 kilometres.

◆ Where does it start? At the car park just off Heol-y-Sarn. (ST 047837)

◆ Which map should I take? O.S. Explorer 151.

◆ Where can I get a drink? There are a number of pubs in Llantrisant town. During the walk you pass the Black Prince in the industrial estate.

Getting there

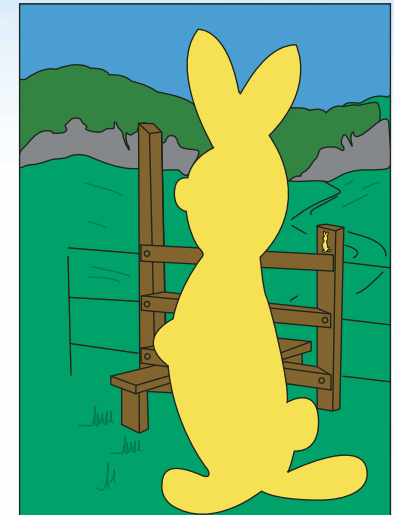
From J34, M4 take the A4119 towards Llantrisant. Pass two sets of lights and go straight on at the roundabout. Turn right at the next set of lights and then turn sharp left at the turning where the road starts to descend. Follow road up to Llantrisant and turn left by Cross Keys pub. Pass the Bullring and descend down Heol-y-Sarn. The car park is on the right just before the start of the common.

Acknowledgements

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LLANTRISANT COMMON

Walk 1 in a series of 6



LLANTRISANT COMMUNITY COUNCIL





Stile



Kissing Gate

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The rabbit logo that has been used on this and other circular walks was first used in the 1970s to designate selected footpaths in the Llantrisant area.

Rebecca James and Zoe Azzopardi who were members of the 1st Llantrisant Brownies designed the logo.

Finding your Way

- 1 From car park walk down hill to the common.
The route follows the road ahead to the factories. (Alternatively, walk on the common parallel to the road.) When near the factories cross the cattle grid and bear left for 100 metres, take second turning on right.
- 2 After 150 metres turn right onto public footpath with river on your left and the timber yard on your right. Continue across stile into the woods with fence on your right. Bear right into raised field and head to the left of the farmhouse, passing a boundary stone. Cross stile at farmyard and continue along track to road. Turn right and walk up road to common. Cross cattle grid onto the common.
- 3 After 50 metres turn left at footpath sign and after 20 metres take right fork along disused tramway and around old pit. Continue forward along edge of stream. Bear right along the green path keeping the edge of the common on your left. The path can be very wet in this area. After climbing a slight rise continue in direction of Red Houses in the distance past seat to the disused railway bridge. Cross over bridge and continue on track bearing right to the start of the walk.

On the Way

- ◆ The Boundary Stone is one such stone passed in the "Beating of the Bounds." This takes place every seven years and the first recorded instance of the ceremony in Llantrisant is 1781. Knowledge of the boundary was important to ensure that the Burgesses of Llantrisant could enforce their commercial and trading rights. Children, led by the clergy and civic heads, walk the boundary and at certain points (marked by stones) a child would be "bumped" to impress on their minds the Parish limits.
- ◆ Llantrisant Common was originally an area cleared of its trees to the North of Llantrisant to allow a clear view from the castle so that the Welsh to the North, who had not been subdued by the Anglo-Normans, could not mount a surprise attack. Richard de Clare built the castle in 1245/6.
- ◆ The Railway Bridge passes over the cutting produced for a railway line that was built in 1883 across the Common and up the Mychydd Valley to the Glyn Colliery to the East of Tonyrefail. The colliery closed in 1903 but the line continued as a goods line for farmers until 1925.