



Rail Rambles Troeon Trên

www.railrambles.org

*Guided walks from Railway Stations in
Mid-Wales and the Marches
Teithiau Cerdded Tywysedig o Orsafoedd Rheilffyrdd yng
Nghanolbarth Cymru a'r Gororau*

7 July – 29 December 2018
7 Gorffennaf – 29 Rhagfyr 2018

Welcome to Rail Rambles

The walks are free to join. Each walk is planned to be accessible by a day return rail journey from a number of main line and connecting bus and rail stations.

The programme

The Rail Rambles programme is organised by members of the Rail Rambles association and produced with the support of Arriva Trains Wales.

For more information please contact:

enquiries@railrambles.org, or

Clare Gathercole (chairperson) clare@railrambles.org

Bob Owen (walks programme) rcowenandcoltd@yahoo.co.uk

If you are printing this at home, use the "booklet" setting

The Rail Rambles association

The Rail Rambles programme is now managed through the Rail Rambles association, which is a membership organisation for our leaders and organisers. This slightly more formal setup will make it easier for us to look after everybody involved, including you.

The walks themselves are, as they always have been, free and open to the public, with no membership of any organisation required.

Walk descriptions

The term '**strenuous**' refers to a fast pace due to mileage and/or the return train time and these walks are for experienced country walkers with an above average fitness level; '**moderate**' indicates some steep paths and a steady pace for people with country walking experience and a good level of fitness; '**energetic**' means as moderate but with probably over 1000' of ascent; '**leisurely**' means gentle climbs and some level ground for reasonably fit people; '**easy**' means mostly level ground and a gentle pace.

Preparation and safety

Walks are led by experienced volunteer leaders, all of whom are members of the Rail Rambles association and many of whom are also members of the Ramblers. Whilst every care will be taken to keep to the advertised programme, walk leaders reserve the right to make changes to suit weather conditions, the needs of the party or other unforeseen circumstances.

Most Rail Rambles are off-road in rural areas. Please have suitable footwear and clothing for the walk you intend to join, and bring some food and drink. Leaders may refuse to accept participants who in their opinion are inadequately equipped or unfit. When in doubt, contact the organisers or the walk leader in advance.

For your own and others' safety please abide by any instructions issued by the walk leader. Though walking is inherently one of the safest outdoor activities, no activity is completely without risk and it is your responsibility to behave sensibly and to minimise the potential for accidents to occur.

Cont. on rear cover

Rail Rambles July to December 2018

Saturday 7 July

Gobowen to Chirk via New Marton Lock, Shropshire Union Canal. (7 miles easy) Leaders Pete Lightwood and John Mattocks. Depart Shrewsbury 09.25 (book Chirk return), return Chirk 16.05.

Saturday 14 July

NEW Queenswood Circular via Hope under Dinmore, Upper Hill and Westhope Hill. (9 miles moderate) Leaders Pamela H and Steve Paynter. Depart Shrewsbury 09.40 (book Leominster return), **BUS** to Queenswood, return bus to Leominster (bus fares extra), return Leominster 17.13.

Wednesday 18 July

Abergavenny Circular via Sugar Loaf. (10 miles energetic) Leaders Les Lumsdon and Mike Ledlie. Depart Shrewsbury 09.14, return Abergavenny 16.57.

Saturday 21 July

Caersws Circular via Little London, Ty'n-y-celyn, Llandinam and Cefn Carnedd. (8 miles moderate) Leaders Bob and Liz Owen. Depart Shrewsbury 09.31, return 16.31.

Saturday 28 July

Knucklas to Knighton via Upper Trebert, Llandinshop, Offa's Dyke Path. (7.5 miles energetic) Leaders Graham Baker and Peter J Jones. Depart Shrewsbury 09.00 (book Knucklas return), return Knighton 16.21.

Saturday 4 August

Dolau to Llandrindod Wells via Penybont, Alpine Bridge, Bailey Einon Wood and Happy Valley. (9 miles moderate) Leaders Pam Swales and Clare Gathercole. Depart Shrewsbury 09.00 (book Llandrindod return), return Llandrindod Wells 15.42.

Saturday 11 August

Tywyn Circular via Dysynni Broadwater, Bryncreug, Rhyd-yr-onen and Hendy. (8 miles moderate) Leaders Neville Homent and John Newnham. Depart Shrewsbury 09.31, return 15.26 or 17.27. **(Check update)**

Wednesday 15 August

NEW Merrington to Nesscliffe via Ruyton-XI-Towns. (8 miles leisurely) Leaders Les Lumsdon and Mike Ledlie. Depart Shrewsbury **BUS** station (576, Stand R) 11.00, return Nesscliffe 16.11.

Saturday 18 August

Llanbister Road to Knucklas via Rhos-grug, Pool Hill, and Wernyegefron Hill. (10 miles energetic) Leaders Douglas Hill and Mick Hemming. Depart Shrewsbury 09.00 (book Llanbister Road return), return Knucklas 16.13.

Saturday 25 August

Garth to Llanwrtyd Wells via Treflys, Afon Cammarch and Brynmoel. (7 miles moderate) Leaders Liz Owen and Peter J Jones. Depart Shrewsbury 09.00 (book Llanwrtyd Wells return), return Llanwrtyd 15.01.

Saturday 1 September

Ludlow Circular via Halfway House, Ludlow Golf Course, Bromfield Park and Oakley Park. (8 miles moderate) Leaders Trevor Allison and Marion Law. Depart Shrewsbury 09.40, return 16.54.

Saturday 8 September

Welshpool Circular via Llanerch-y-Ddol, Castle Caereinion and Powys Estate. (9.5 miles moderate) Leaders Pamela H and John Mattocks. Depart Shrewsbury 09.31, return 16.56.

Wednesday 12 September

NEW Wellington to Oakengates – A stage of Telford's new 50-mile trail (T 50) via Horsehay, Lawley and Ketley. (10 miles moderate) Leaders Steve Paynter and Naomi Wrighton, in conjunction with Wellington Walking Festival. Depart Shrewsbury 09.33 (book Oakengates return), return Oakengates 16.54.

Saturday 15 September

Church Stretton Circular via Rectory Wood, Carding Mill, Long Mynd, Batch Valley, Cwmdale and Madeira Walk. (8 miles moderate) Leaders Trevor Allison and Darren. Depart Shrewsbury 09.40, return 16.39.

Saturday 22 September

Llwyngwriil to Barmouth via Rhiw-corniau, Bryn Seward and Morfa Mawddach. (7 miles energetic) Leaders Clare Gathercole and Pam Swales. Depart Shrewsbury 09.31 (book Barmouth return), return Barmouth 16.56.

Saturday 29 September

Newtown to Caersws via Fachwen Pool, Bwlch-y-ffridd and Llanwnog. (10 miles strenuous) Leaders Pete Lightwood and Neville Homent. Depart Shrewsbury 09.31 (book Caersws return), return Caersws 16.31.

Check the website for news of our Christmas get together!

Saturday 6 October

Broome to Craven Arms via Hopesay Hill and Sibdon Castle. (8 miles moderate) Leaders Peter J Jones and Jean. Depart Shrewsbury 09.00 (book Broome return), return Craven Arms 14.56 or 16.30. **(Check update)**

Saturday 13 October

NEW Whitchurch Circular via Greenfields Nature Reserve, Stockton Strider, Pear Tree Lane and Llangollen Canal. (6 miles easy) Leaders Janet Nowill and Susan McCormack. Depart Shrewsbury 10.18, return 15.43.

KeolisAmey new rail franchise expected to start 14 October

Wednesday 17 October

Callow to Hereford via Dinedor Camp and River Wye. (8 miles moderate) Leaders Pete Lightwood and Graham Baker. Depart Shrewsbury 09.40 (book Hereford return), **BUS** to Callow (service 33, fare extra), return Hereford 16.54.

Saturday 20 October

Church Stretton Circular via Rectory Wood, Town Brook Valley, Barrister's Plane and Little Stretton. (8 miles moderate) Leaders John Newnham and Darren. Depart Shrewsbury 09.40, return 16.39.

Saturday 27 October

Machynlleth Circular via Pont-ar-Ddyfi, Cwm gila, Tywyllnodwydd and Llugwy. (9 miles moderate) Leaders Judith Griffiths and Nick Marshall. Depart Shrewsbury 09.31, return 16.08.

Saturday 3 November

NEW Nantwich Circular via River Weaver, Nantwich lake and Shropshire Union Canal. (6 miles easy) Leaders Janet Nowill and Steve Paynter. Depart Shrewsbury 09.47, return 15.28.

Saturday 10 November

Knighton Circular via Offa's Dyke Path, Llan-wen Hill and Farrington Lane. (6 miles moderate) Leaders Marion Law and Susan McCormack. Depart Shrewsbury 09.00, return 16.21.

Wednesday 14 November

Penhelig to Aberdovey via Bryneithyn, Trefrifawr, Ffridd yr Ychen, Erw-Gwenllian and Cwm Safn-ast. (8 miles energetic) Leaders Bob Owen and Steve Paynter. Depart Shrewsbury 09.30 (book Aberdovey return), return Aberdovey 15.32 or 17.33. **(Check update)**

Saturday 17 November

Bucknell to Knighton via Five Turnings and Offa's Dyke Path, using part of Heart of Wales Trail. (9 miles moderate/energetic) Leaders Audrey Menhinick and Neville Homent. Depart Shrewsbury 09.00 (book Knighton return), return Knighton 16.21.

Saturday 24 November

Welshpool Circular via Raven Square, Wern Wood, Y Golfa and Raven Square. (7 miles moderate) Leaders Linda and Mick Hemming. Depart Shrewsbury 09.31, return 14.55.

Saturday 1 December

Craven Arms Circular via Sibdon Castle and Onny Trail. (7 miles moderate) Leaders Douglas Hill and Pete Lightwood. Depart Shrewsbury 09.40, return 14.56 or 16.30. **(Check update)**

Saturday 8 December

Ruabon Circular via Wynstay Park, Sodylt Ford and Park Eyton. (8 miles moderate) Leaders Clare Gathercole and Pam Swales. Depart Shrewsbury 09.25, return 16.43.

New train timetable from Sunday 9 December

Wednesday 12 December

Leominster Circular via Humber, Risbury and Stoke Prior. (10 miles moderate) Leaders Mike Ledlie and Les Lumsdon. Depart Shrewsbury 09.40, return 16.41.

Saturday 15 December

Ludlow Circular – A short walk of 5–6 miles following a visit to the Ludlow Brewery for coffee/tea and mince pies. Leaders Linda and Mick Hemming. Depart Shrewsbury 09.40, return 16.22.

Saturday 22 December

Craven Arms to Church Stretton via Strefford, Marshbrook and Ragdon. (9 miles moderate) Leaders Judith Griffiths and Nick Marshall. Depart Shrewsbury 09.00 (book Craven Arms return), return Church Stretton 16.39.

Saturday 29 December

Chirk Circular via Oliver's Wood, Glynmorlas, Pont-y-blew. (7 miles moderate) Leaders Bob and Liz Owen. Depart Shrewsbury 09.25, return 16.05.

Reduced programme

You may have noticed that this is a shorter programme than usual (in terms of both number of walks and walk length). This is because some former leaders have not joined the Rail Rambles association, though they are still planning to lead rail walks independently. Keep an eye on our website in case we can bring you news of where to find these additional walks.

Dogs

To comply with the wishes of the majority of our walkers, we regret that dogs cannot be taken on any Rail Ramble.

Train times

Outward times from Shrewsbury and return times from the walks destination stations are indicated in the programme details for each walk.

For details of departure times from other locations and connecting services, please ring National Rail Enquiries (03457 48 49 50), ask at your local station, or visit www.nationalrail.co.uk or www.arrivatrainswales.co.uk (until October).

Time details may be subject to minor change. Walkers are strongly advised to check times of trains before travelling, and to check our website, www.railrambles.org, in case of last minute changes to the programme.

Fares

The normal range of tickets can be used to travel to the walk start point. Where a walk returns from a different location, a ticket to the furthest point should be purchased. Discounted fares are available to holders of railcards.

It is always worth enquiring about the availability of group discounts.

Please try to use the train for at least part of your journey – these are after all RAIL Rambles!

Join the Ramblers from just £3.25 a month*

If you'd like to get out more and enjoy your local area with like-minded people, the **Ramblers** could be for you, with walk programmes catering for all abilities, many aimed specifically at beginners. Single membership is just £35 a year (or £3.25 a month if paid by monthly Direct Debit) and comes with a host of fantastic benefits, including a 15% discretionary discount at Cotswold Outdoor.



Your membership will also help to protect footpaths and walking spaces for everyone to enjoy.

To join, visit www.ramblers.org.uk/join or call 020 7339 8595.

**Please note that Rail Rambles is neither an official Ramblers group nor yet an affiliated club (we plan to affiliate during the course of this programme). We have received a lot of support from the Ramblers over the years and very much share their values and aims. Ramblers members, please be aware that the Rail Rambles themselves are not official Ramblers activities, so your Ramblers insurance policy does not cover them.*

Thank you, Arriva Trains Wales

This will be the last Rail Rambles programme bearing the Arriva Trains Wales logo, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the company and the friendly ATW staff for their support over the years. It has been this support which has made it possible for us to run the Rail Rambles programmes.



a **DB** company | un o gwmnïau **DB**

