

There is an old tradition in the
Ceiriog Valley that you always
get a little more than you ask for!

**So buy this
pack of five
walks and
you get the
sixth one
, just
'for luck'!**

The Ceiriog Country Code

Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.
Guard against all risk of fire.
Leave gates as you find them.
Keep any dogs under close control.
No dogs during lambing!
Keep to public rights of way across farmland.
Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.
Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone.
Take all litter home.
Keep all water clean.
Protect wildlife, plants and trees.
Take great care on narrow country lanes.
Make no unnecessary noise.
Promote goodwill with all users of the land.

If you encounter a problem

with the route, please report the details to:
The Rights of Way Officer,
Wrexham County Borough Council, Crown Buildings,
PO Box 1293, Wrexham LL11 1WQ.
Telephone (01978) 292057.

This is one of a series of leaflets for walkers of the 21st Century.

Compiled by The Chirk and Ceiriog Valley Partnership.

**This leaflet was produced with the support of Cadwyn through the European
Leader II programme, and of Wrexham County Borough Council.**

Welcoming walks in the **Ceiriog Valley**
Part Two of a series of Walk Information Leaflets
describing routes from selected villages along the
length of this beautiful valley.

Glyn Ceiriog



Each walk description shows the distance, height gain and the average actual walking time. Please add on any time for stops. These walks are not suitable for wheel chairs, pushchairs, horses or cycles. The public footpaths are well signed and way marked.

It is strongly recommended that you carry an Ordnance Survey map and compass. Use (in order of preference) either the OS Explorer no. 255 Berwyn & Llangollen; Pathfinder 827 and Pathfinder 826; or Landranger 126 and 125.

For your own safety, wear boots or strong heavy tread shoes and take warm and waterproof clothing, a drink and a snack. Whilst these walks are all on public rights of way, please remember that you are crossing private land. Respect the land and the people who earn their living from it. Please read the **CEIRIOG COUNTRY CODE** printed on the back page. Local people will almost always appreciate a friendly word from walkers, so please find the time to stop and speak!

TO FIND GLYN CEIRIOG

The village is easy to find. By rail use the Birmingham to Chester line to Chirk thence by bus or taxi for 7 miles up the Ceiriog Valley. Buses run from the Station and from Chirk centre. By car, use the A483 from Chester or the A5 from the Midlands or Snowdonia to Chirk (on the English/Welsh border). Then take the B4500 for 7 miles to Glyn Ceiriog.

THE DISTRICT

More correctly called Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog, the village expanded greatly in the 19th century with the working of slate and other minerals. By a combination of skillful planting and natural regeneration, the mining scars have been almost eliminated by attractive woodland.

The village lies at a great bend in the river, and marks a dramatic change in the landscape, from an open flat-bottomed valley to the east, and a narrow enclosed gorge upstream to the south. For more detail, copies of a leaflet on the heritage of Glyn Ceiriog, also produced by the Partnership, are available locally.

PARKING

Parking is generally on the roadside, though there are limited parking areas in the High Sreet, by the Medical Centre, above the Recreation Ground, and (at weekends and holidays) outside the school. Do not park in gateways to fields or premises. Better still come by bus from Chirk. Bus numbers 60, 64 and 65 provide a service at least hourly and often more frequently. Timetables are available by phoning (01978) 266166.

SERVICES

The village has public toilets, a PO, general store, butcher and greengrocer, a chemist, part-time bank, cash point, a Christian Centre with café, a pub, two hotels and a repair garage (no fuel). There is a very interesting Institute, and it is hoped to open a Tramway and mining museum shortly

DONT RUSH AWAY!

Stay for a few days in the Ceiriog Valley! There are more walk leaflets in this series for other parts of the valley and literally dozens more walks locally. You won't find a more beautiful area in Britain!

There is a wide selection of Hotel, Guest House, B&B and self-catering premises, and a good caravan and camping site. Details from Tourist Information Centres at Llangollen (01978)860828, Wrexham (01978) 292015 and Oswestry (01691)662488.

Or use the Freephone booking service on 0800 834820.

PLEASE HELP US PRESERVE OUR BEAUTIFUL VALLEY

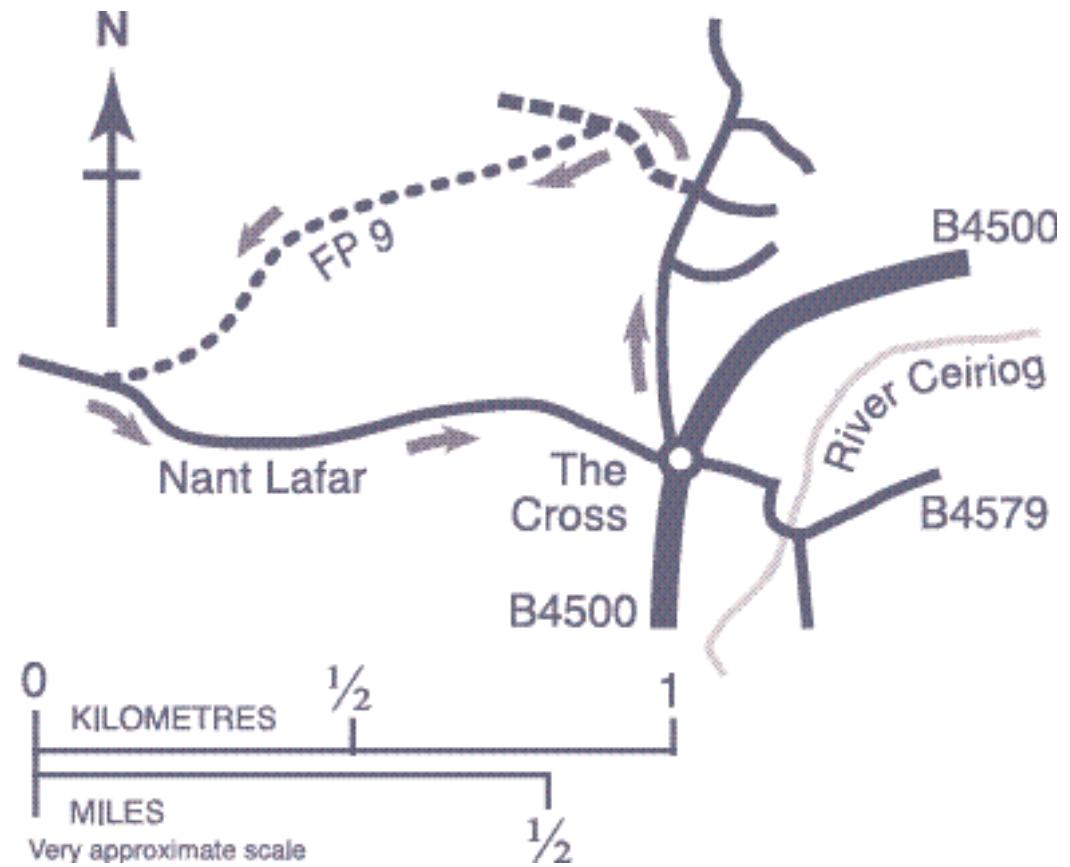
The people who live and work in the Ceiriog valley are proud that it remains largely unspoilt, peaceful and not swarming with visitors! We welcome those who love and respect the countryside but we do ask that you abide by the Ceiriog Country Code and take especial care during lambing time (generally in March and April).

Across the Slate Caverns.

A short walk which winds around and above the slate quarries which were once the life-blood (and the death knell) of many local families. 2 km (1½ miles); height gain 120m (400ft); about 45 mins.

Roads, lanes and a footpath.

From The Cross walk up Stryt Uchaf (High St.) for 4 or 5 minutes. At the far end of the Vicarage wall go L at a PO letterbox. Uphill quite steeply for 6 or 7 mins, then take path 9 on L opposite farm buildings. Keep along this for about 15 mins, passing above the three-level caverns and quarry of Chwarel Wynne. Emerging onto a lane, there are many more slate workings in the Cambrian quarry above, but our short walk goes L downhill for 9 mins, back to 'The Cross'.



Walk 'B'

Nant Y Wenair.

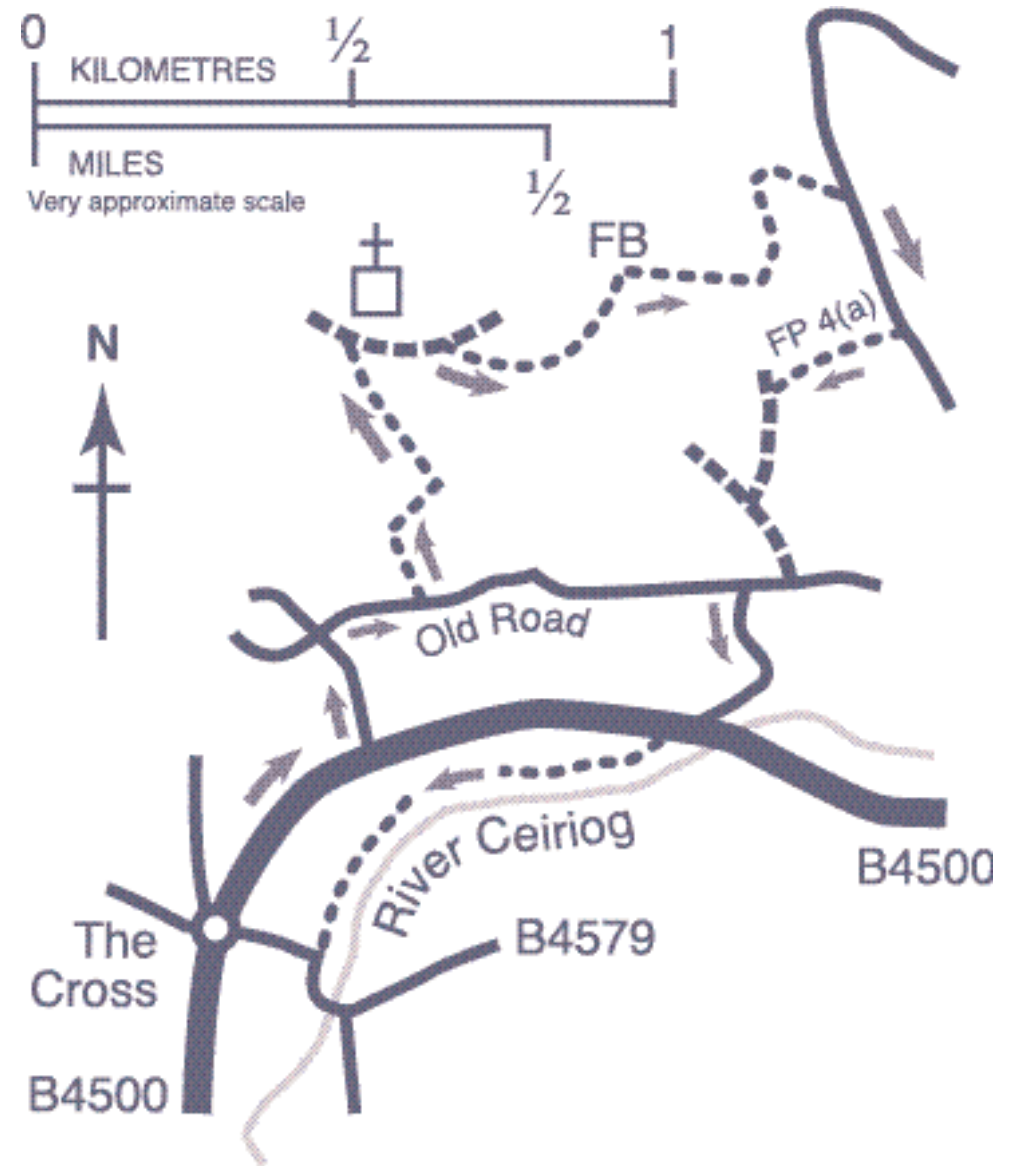
**A circuit of this lovely valley
just north of the village.**

**3 Km (2 Miles); height gain 65m. (215 ft);
about 1 hour.**

Roads, footpaths, country lanes & tracks.

From "The Cross" take the main road (New Road) downhill for 3 minutes, turning L at the PO letter box into 'Y Maes'. In 2 mins R into 'Old Road' and in a further 2 mins (before de-restriction signs) go L onto footpath 5. Follow this uphill for about 11 mins ,crossing 3 stiles, to emerge on a lane by the Church car park. Walk up to the main Church gate. A track on R, following the Church wall, leads to a stile. Cross this onto path 7. Initially on a hard drive, but almost immediately drop down below a line of hawthorn trees and swing L (below the covered reservoir), dropping gradually below a hedgerow to cross a stream at a footbridge. Follow a sunken track ahead for two mins to ford a second small stream, then sharp L up a treelined track, with a sharp R bend and up to a lane. Downhill for 4 mins, passing the house 'Pant Du', to a stile and steps on R onto path 4a. Keep parallel to the stream, dropping to a

further stile and steps, then L down a sunken track for 1 min, L again for 2 mins to a tarmac lane. Go R following the lane round to the L by a metal wayside seat, and continue to main road by school entrance. Cross road and take path alongside the white house (Yr Hen Bandy). Keep on this riverside path until its end, go R uphill for 1 min to 'The Cross'.



Walk 'B'

Nant Y Wenair and Pen Y Bryn.

A sunny hillside walk with fine views.

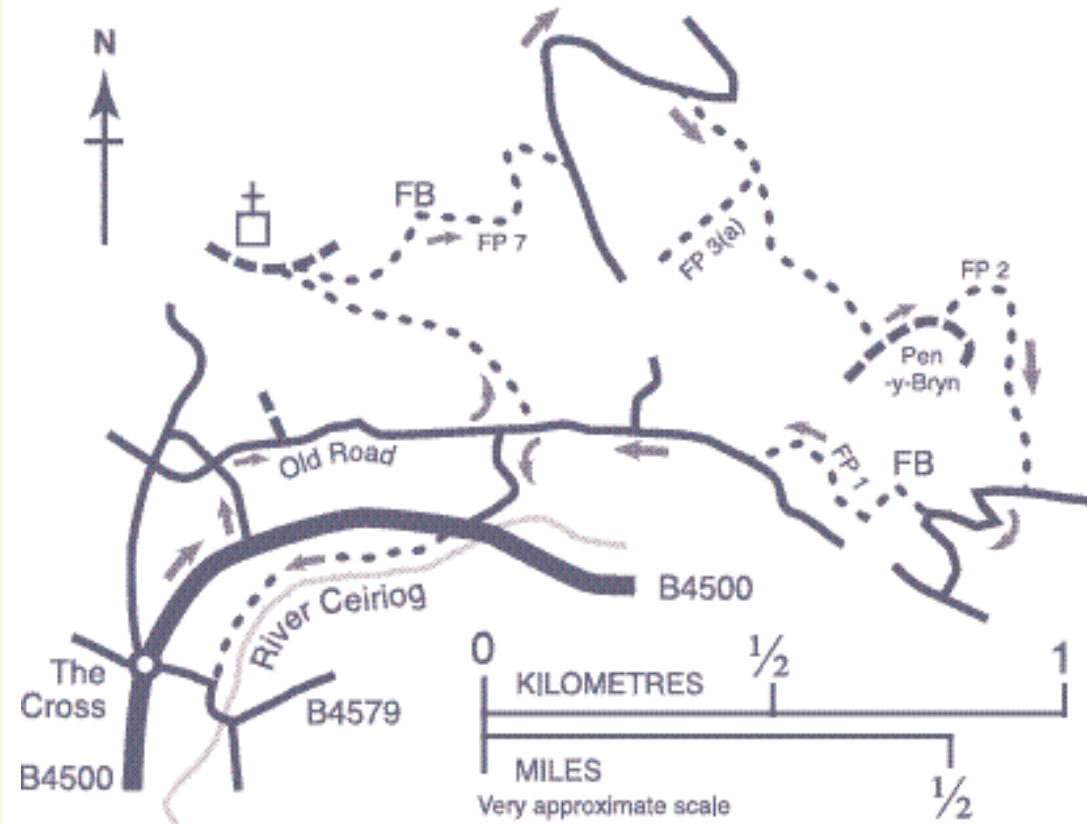
**4½Km (3 miles); height gain 140m (460 ft);
about 1½ hours.**

**Roads, tracks, paths, lanes. Slightly precipitous when
approaching Pen y bryn farm.**

From 'The Cross' walk down the main road (New Road) for 3 mins, then turn L into Y Maes by the PO letterbox. After 2 mins go R into Old Road, and continue ahead for 6 minutes, passing the school playing fields and road junction, to a clear track on L (by field gate with alternate round and square rails). Follow the track, keeping L at fork, for 14 mins to emerge onto Church car park. Walk up to main Church gate. A track on R, following the church wall, leads to a stile. Cross this onto path 7. Initially on a hard drive but almost immediately drop down below a line of hawthorn trees and swing L (below the covered reservoir) dropping gradually below a hedgeline to cross a stream at a footbridge. Follow a sunken track ahead for 2 mins to ford a second small stream, then sharp L up a treelined track with a sharp R bend

which leads up to a lane. Steeply uphill on the lane for 10 mins, rounding a R-hand hairpin, and on upward to a walled track on R. Two gates lead you into the garden of Hafod y Haidd, pass behind the cottage, over a ladder stile, and cross an open field following the hedge on your L. Reaching the next cross-hedge, you can opt out and take paths 3a and 4a back to base. But you will miss the superb high terrace path which contours ahead to Pen y Bryn Farm. Immediately before the farm, the route rises through trees to a farm gate. Go R around the rear of the buildings. Behind the farmhouse, leave the farm drive. going L onto path 2 which initially dips, then rises to cross a stile on

your R. Cross a field below a birch hedge, passing big fallen trees and ahead to a tarmac lane. Go down the lane for 3 mins then R onto path 1 along a house drive then across a field below stables to cross a brook and stile. Go downhill to a hedgerow, then R along it to the rear of Plas Wynne Residential Home, then diagonally L to a stile onto a lane. Follow the lane R for 10 mins, swinging L by a metal wayside seat, to reach the main road near the school entrance. Cross the road and take the path alongside the first white house (Yr Hen Bandy). Keep on this riverside path to its end, then R uphill for 1 min to "The Cross".

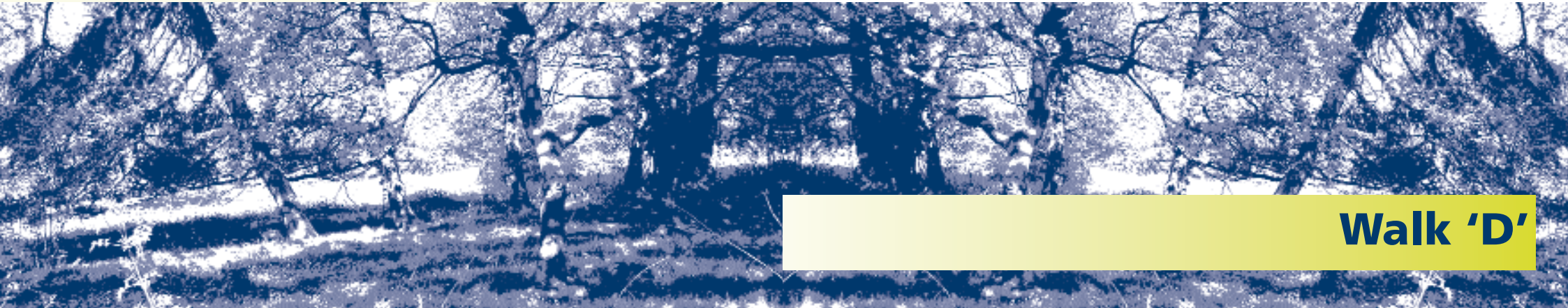
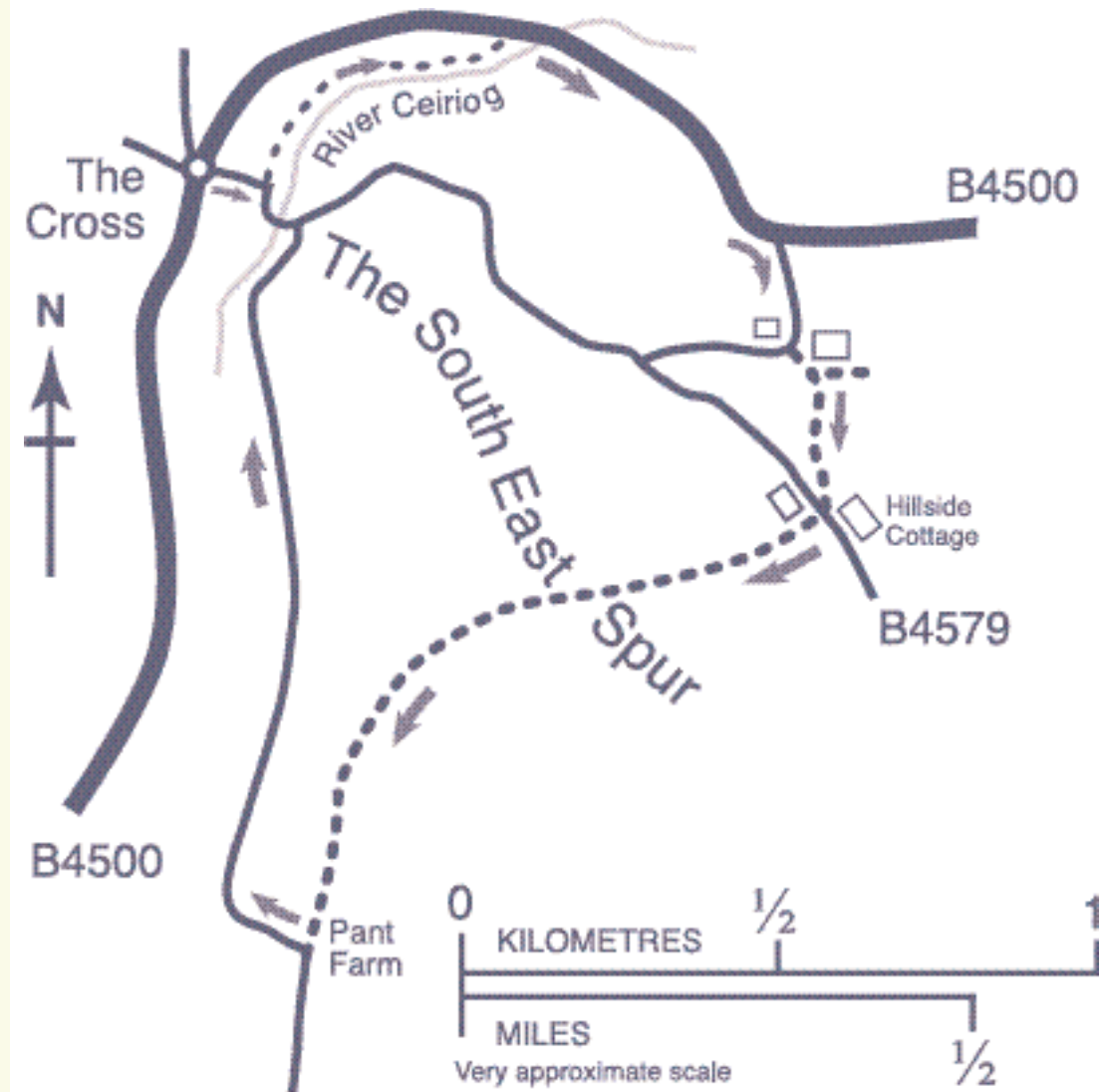


Glyn's south-east spur.

A great spur of hillside to the SW of the village lies cradled within the sweeping bend of the Ceiriog river.

**This walk climbs and crosses the spur.
5km (3½ miles); height gain 190m (625 ft);
1 hour 40 mins,
Lanes and paths.**

Leave The Cross taking the road downhill past the Post Office. As the road swings R to the river bridge, take the riverside path L to its end opposite the school. Turn R and follow the main road for 7 mins where a lane leads R (just before a modern river bridge) Follow this lane to buildings and pass behind the house on L. Take the R fork onto a track to a field gate. Keep diagonally uphill, just L of treeline, to reach the gable end of the roughcast 'Hillside Cottage'. Cross the lane (B4579) and keeping L of the cottage and its oil tank, climb stone steps to a stile. Keep uphill, following the fence on your R for 1 min, then cross 2nd stile, and follow same fence, now on your L. A 3rd stile leads you into a rising avenue of mixed trees with ever-widening views to the north and west. Keep in this avenue, forking R as the gradient eases and continue to the brow of the hill. Routes divide here (a waymarker post). This walk goes ahead (not the option turning L.) A good place to rest and soak up the landscape! The path ahead soon hugs the top edge of steep woodland, and descends down a track to reach a lane at Pant Farm. Turn R down the lane for 20 mins, reaching a junction and turning L over the river bridge, and so back up to The Cross.



Hilltop and Woodland

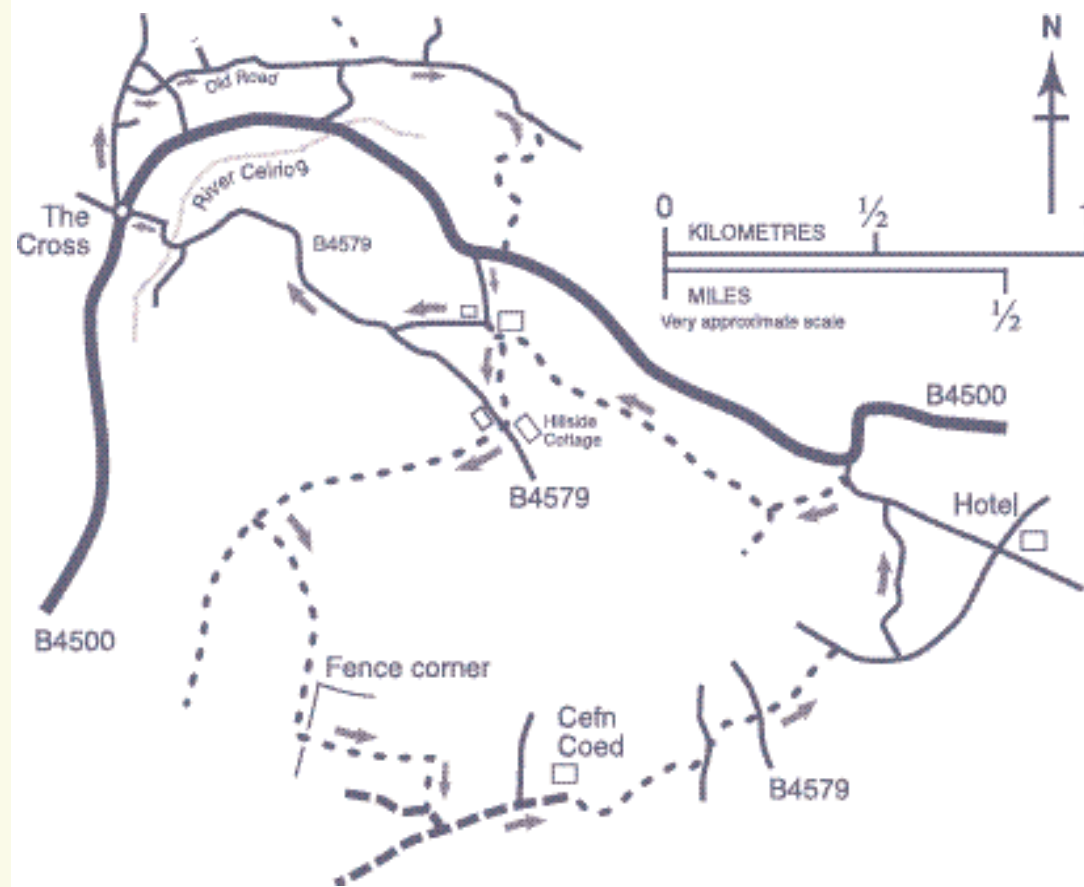
A longer walk taking in the hill SE of Glyn Ceiriog, the lovely descent to Llwynmawr, woodland at Coed Collfryn, and a terrace walk home.

8 km (5 miles); height gain 330m (1082 ft).

About 3 hours.

Take Stryt Uchaf (High St.) for 5 mins and at the far end of the Vicarage wall, at PO letterbox, turn R, downhill on lane for 2 mins to crossroad. Straight across into Old Rd, with white cottages on the R. Continue for 10 mins, then take driveway on R down to white cottage and follow waymarks across fields to pass between buildings to the river bridge. Cross the river and the road, R on grass verge then immediately L up lane to house and stables at Talygarth Ucha. Go L behind the house and fork R up to a field gate. Continue diagonally uphill following close to the line of mixed trees on your R, to reach the gable of a roughcast cottage, up steps to the road (B 4579). Cross to climb stone steps to L of cottage and its oil tank, to a stile. Follow fence on R for 1 min. to cross a second stile. Continue uphill following fence (now on your L) to enter an avenue of trees at a third stile. Continue up this avenue, forking R as the gradient eases and continue to the brow of the spur. The routes divide here (a waymarker post.) Go L, following a wall and gorse on your L for 160 mt., to reach a cross-wall. Our 'guiding wall' ends abruptly in a stony mound here! Your direction across the hillside is generally magnetic south, keeping fairly level and following a gentle arc indicated by marker posts. You pass L of a horizontal holly tree and follow a path through a gap in the gorse to fence corner. Follow to R. of the fence downhill for 50m to cross a stile. Now keep level following a fence on your L until reaching a cross-fence and waymark post. Turn R and keep downhill to a stile by a 'double hurdle' gate. Keep on directly downhill with a fence on your L to a stile and gate in the field corner. Go straight ahead for 20 m and swing L around the end of the Dutch barn onto a clear track. Reach farm buildings (Cefn coed) and fork R into an open field. Follow the double-treeline downhill to a gate. Continue, to turn briefly L at a tarmac lane, but after 10mt. turn R through double gates (often open) and a yard, continuing down and L of an open shed and down a sunken track. Take care crossing a tarmac road (the B4579 again) and keep ahead down the track which soon becomes a delightful streamside route. Turn R at a tarmac lane and in 3 mins reach a fingerpost leading us L on a lane towards Dolywern. (You could divert

straight ahead for 350m for refreshment at The Golden Pheasant). 500 m towards Dolywern (from fingerpost or hotel!) then take the path sharp L alongside the last house on the L before the main B4500 road. Follow along the garden boundary and into the wood. Continue until reaching a waymark post and go R, gradually downhill to leave the wood at a stile. Ahead over a field, crossing a small stream, to a further stile. Contour below the hedgeline for about 7 minutes. If waymarked, use an alternative permissive path for approximately the last 100m. before buildings, to avoid a garden area, and reach a lane. Go L, uphill, on a gated lane to reach a road then downhill, cross the river bridge and rise to 'The Cross'.



The one for Luck! Nant Lafar Circular.

Wander upward between the Cambrian Quarries and descend the "Vicarage old track"

4 km (2½ miles); height gain 220m (725ft); about 1½ hours.

(Or extend it up to the Ceiriog Forest for as far as you wish!)

Lanes, tracks, paths.

Go uphill L of the Cross Stores, passing the Plas Owen Hotel driveway, and toiling on up Nant Lafar. Where the tarmac ends fork R. and continue on the gated track. The track gradually degenerates into a path and this turns sharply R. and up to a lane. Turn R up this lane for 4 mins to a roadsign and grass triangle. Go R down this clear track, passing Cefn Canol and on down with the track swinging L and R and deteriorating into a narrow sunken awkward gully. It is a County Road, and it does improve again and becomes a tarmac lane! It reaches Glyn High Street beside the Vicarage. Turn R and in 4 minutes you are back at base.



Cambrian Quarries

