

## The Countryside Code

- ◆ Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs.
- ◆ Leave gates and property as you find them.  
Please respect the working life of the countryside, as our actions can affect people's livelihoods, our heritage and the safety and welfare of animals and ourselves.
- ◆ Protect plants and animals; take your litter home.
- ◆ Keep dogs under close control.
- ◆ Consider other people.

## Enjoyed this walk?

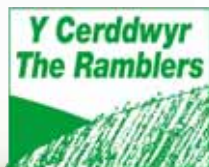
This walk is one of a second series of walks produced by the Taff Ely (Llantrisant) Ramblers.

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 4 miles or 7 kilometres. There is one short steep descent from the old railway line to the Ely river.
- ◆ Where does it start? At Llantrisant Leisure Centre. (ST 047831)
- ◆ Which map should I take? O.S. Explorer 151.
- ◆ Where can I get a drink? The Penny Farthing is behind the Leisure Centre. There are a number of pubs in Llantrisant town.

## Getting there

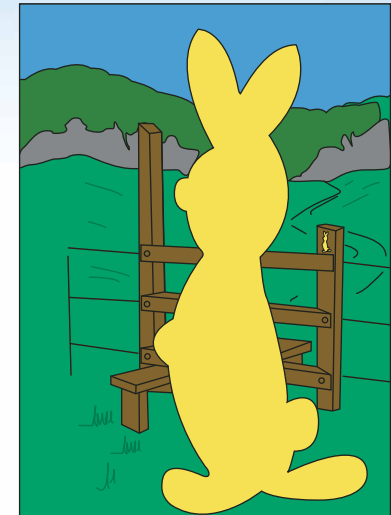
From J34, M4 take the A4119 towards Llantrisant. Go past two sets of lights and straight on at the first roundabout. Turn right at the next set of lights and the Leisure Centre is on the right, halfway up the hill.

## Acknowledgements

Thanks to the following for financial assistance in producing this leaflet: Llantrisant Community Council; Community Chest, a sports council for Wales grant aid scheme funded by the National Lottery; the Glamorgan area of the Ramblers Association.

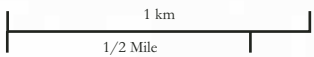
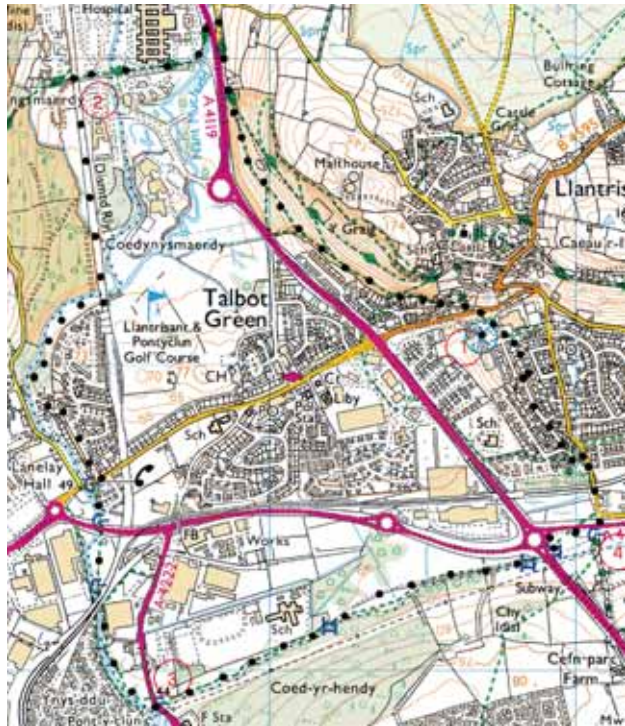
## AFON ELAI

Walk 2 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 Leisure Centre car park go up the ramp. Cross road, beware fast moving traffic. Walk up Insole terrace on your left. Cross cobbled lane and on through gate. At the seat continue on level path. Continue on until you join a track way that descends to the main road. At bottom of slope follow old road for 50 metres before turning left to cross busy dual carriageway. Take (left) gravel path around hospital, cross bridge over river and on to crossing path with large high wall in front of you.
- 2 Turn sharp left and follow old railway line until you cross the Ely river. Turn right and descend carefully to river and follow path through woodland by river. Continue between houses and walk through estate to the main road. (Please note that the above paths are not currently public rights of way.) Take public footpath opposite (cross road on nearby Zebra crossing) and continue by side of river, under road and railway bridges, past factory and houses until the path climbs to a road bridge over the river. Turn left to reach busy main road
- 3 Take path opposite (cross road via Pelican crossing) through kissing gate along side the Afon Clun and straight across fields. Cross stile on left immediately after passing under dual carriageway. Continue to road..

- 4 Turn left under bridge and continue straight on over disused railway bridge. Just past Burgesse Crescent take track on left past house called Fedora; turn right after 20 metres. Bear right and continue up the road and then up paved way back to the leisure centre

## On the Way

- ◆ The River Ely runs from its source a mile to the North of Tonyrefail down to Penarth. It now empties into Cardiff Bay.
- ◆ The Hospital is built on Ynys Y Plwm, the meadow of lead, which was the home of the Thomas/Cozens family who owned the greater part of the valley from Talbot Green to Tonyrefail.
- ◆ Ynys Maerdy – The remains of the mine on Ynys Maerdy farm can still be seen. Sunk between 1922 and 1926 it was never a success and closed following an explosion, which occurred on 2nd June 1941.
- ◆ The Afon Clun has been cleaned over the past few years. It used to carry waste from Beddau coking works. However fish and kingfishers now frequent the stream.