

## 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?

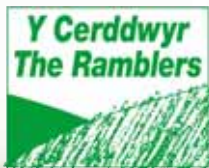
This walk is one of a second series of walks produced by the Taff Ely (Llantrisant) Ramblers.

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.

RA Wales, 3 Coopers Yard,  
Curran Rd, Cardiff, CF10 5NB.

Tel: 029 2064 4308  
Email: cerddwyr@ramblers.org.uk



## About the walk

- ◆ How far is it? An easy 3 1/2 miles or 6 kilometres.
- ◆ Where does it start? On the road near the Castellau Congregational Chapel (ST 050856)
- ◆ Which maps should I take? O.S. Explorers 151 and 166.
- ◆ Where can I get a drink? The Queen's Head in Penycodcae.

## Getting there

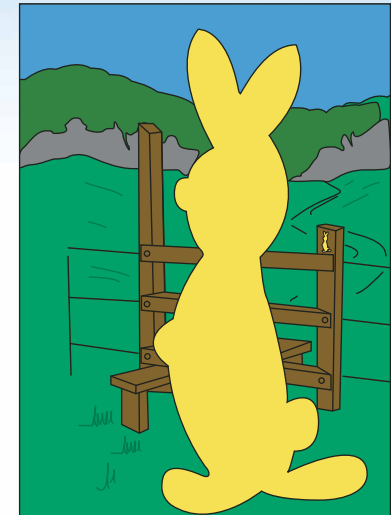
From J34, M4 take the A4119 towards Llantrisant. Turn right at the first roundabout onto the A473. Follow this road towards Pontypridd for just under two miles where you turn left towards Beddau. Go straight on at two mini-roundabouts and park in the car park on the right of Castellau Congregational Chapel.

## 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.

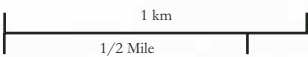
## CASTELLAU

Walk 6 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 Azgopardi who were members of the 1st Llantrisant Brownies designed the logo.*

## Finding your Way

- 1 Take kissing gate opposite house, walk uphill with fence on your right to cross bridge. Continue uphill with fence on your left. After stile and gate continue on track into the farmyard and through double gate.
- 2 Turn left at facing wall, immediately after leaving the farm take gate on left into field. Walk uphill with fence on left and continue through gate and past black barn. Continue on same line now with the fence on your right, across stile and diagonally across field towards gate and stile. Continue across field to the right of barns, over two stiles and farm track. Join the road at stile in top right hand corner of field. Turn left and follow very busy road for half a mile to Queen's Head. Continue on road on left of pub for half a mile, passing farm on your left.
- 3 Cross stone stile in wall on your left below the farm and continue diagonally across field. Cross two stiles and bear left towards trees. Continue through gate and down track.
- 4 After crossing stream and stile turn left into woodland. Continue through wood until the track brings you to a gate and fence; do not go through but turn left immediately and follow track keeping the fence on your right hand side to a stile in the corner. After crossing stile keep walking with fence on your right. And exit woodland by gate and head towards tree and kissing gate to the right of bungalow. Turn left and follow road to start of walk.

## On the Way

- ◆ The Lamb and Flag was built during the 16th century. The original building was called "The Inn". Adjoining the inn used to be a mill and oasthouse. The Inn was remodelled in the early 1920's and the symbol of the "Lamb and Flag" comes from the coat of arms of the famous Williams family of Aberpergwm. The last Inn was burnt down and has been replaced by a private residence.
- ◆ Darren Deusant (The Cliff of the two Saints). Described in 1696 by Edward Llwyd who only mentions two faces, although there are now at least eight. The two heads with incised eyebrows, slit mouths and moustaches are probably linked to a Pre-Christian Celtic cult site.
- ◆ Castellau Fawr. A fortified mansion built alongside a dark age highway which linked Hirwaun with Llanwit Major – Gwrgan's way. Castellau – "Cist-y-Lle" (fortification) – in the Iron Age would be a place of safe keeping during troubled times. This was the early seat of the Traherne family, one of whom was involved in the battle of St Fagans in 1648 during the civil war between King and Parliament.
- ◆ Castellau Congregational Chapel. Built originally in 1843 it was rebuilt in 1877. Until 1939 the chapel was the centre for an annual Eisteddfod.