

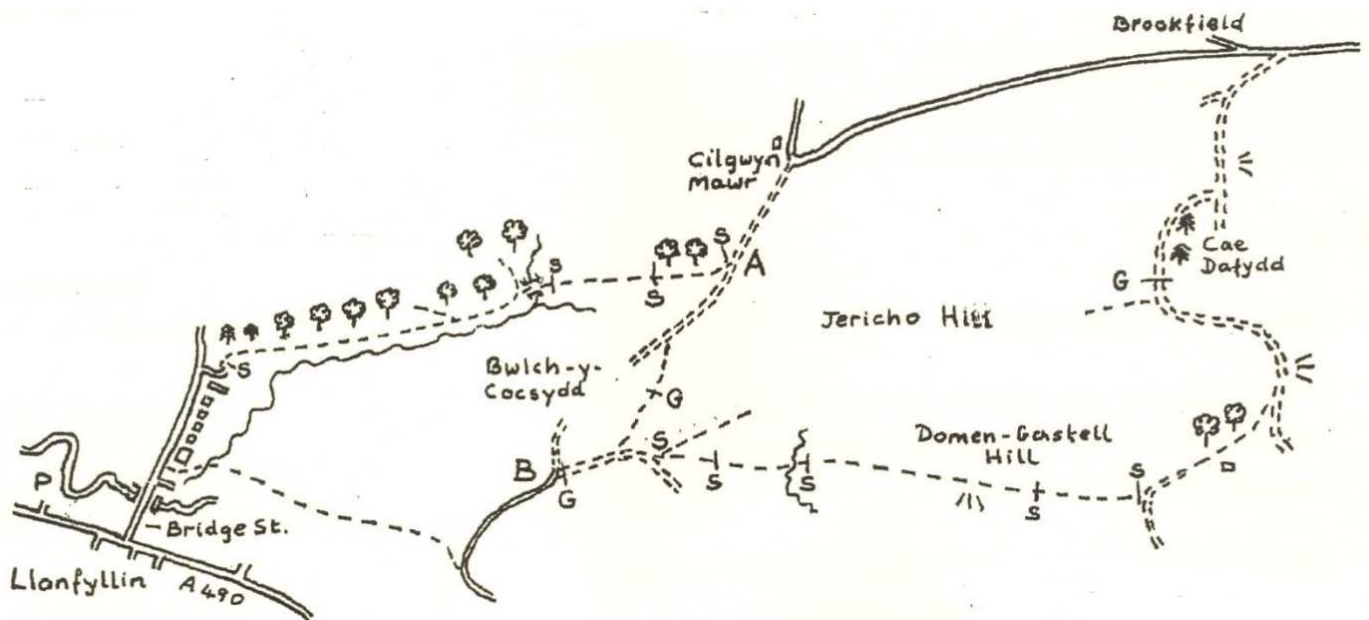
Walks from Llanfyllin

EAST

The Dingle, Domen-Gastell Hill and Bwlch-y-Cocsydd

Walks of 2 or 4½ miles

A varied route that begins with woodland, quiet fields and country lanes. The return is an exhilarating walk over higher ground with extensive views. There are no very steep climbs.



From the car park in Llanfyllin turn left, then left again down Bridge Street. Cross the River Cain, passing y Tabernacl (The Wesleyan chapel of 1904) and continue pass some newer houses. Immediately after a black and white house at right angles to the road, turn right down a track.

Soon you will see a stile on your left: cross this and follow the path through the wooded Dingle with the stream on your right. At one point, where the bank has given way, the County Council has built a short, steep set of steps. Take care as you walk along: in places the hillside slopes down quite steeply into the trees. Join an old road coming down from your left and proceed until the path divides. Ignore the clear path to the left and go straight on over a footbridge and stile (half hidden by a clump of brambles) into a field.

Go straight across to the corner of the wood ahead, to another stile. Cross this and proceed along a wooded path. When you reach the gate, do not go through, but go left a few yards and over a stile onto a farm road (**Point A**).

For the shorter walk, *turn sharp right here and follow the farm road through a pleasant, pastoral landscape. Just as farm buildings come into sight there is a track ahead, barely recognisable at times, that branches off to your left. Follow it up a slope: when you come to two metal gates, go through the right hand one. Continue up past some fine Beech trees (this part can be muddy). Join another track and continue until you come back down through a gate beside the cattle grid onto a lane (Point B).*

For the longer walk, turn left and follow the farm road to reach the lane at Cilgwyn Mawr. Here turn right and follow this quiet lane along a pleasant valley for about half a mile. Pass "Brookfield" – a modern house down on your left – and after 100 yards double back sharp right up a track. Ignore a gate on the right and follow the track uphill. On your left a view soon opens out looking over Llanfechain, lying in its verdant bowl among the hills. When you reach a blue gate leading to Cae-Dafydd do not go through but turn right, continuing uphill with mixed woodland (not shown on the OS map) on your left. Just after the track begins to descend, pass through a gate at the end of the wood. The track now contours round the hill: nice level going with constantly changing views as far as Criggion and Rodney's Pillar.

As the track bends right, you will see a field gate on the left, closely followed by a fence line dropping down into the valley. Between the two on the right hand side, a fainter track branches off. Follow it: soon it becomes clearer and passes above a ruined cottage. Where the track turns sharp left to drop down towards the road, leave it and go right over a stile.

Walk ahead right up the right hand edge of the pasture and take a path bearing uphill to the right between gorse bushes. As it levels out, make for a fine stone wall ahead, recently rebuilt by Powys County Council. Cross this and continue straight ahead along the flank of Domen-Gastell Hill – an exhilarating walk with good views.

There is no discernible path now, but walk straight ahead through a long, narrow field with gorse on your right until you drop down into a little valley with scattered trees. The field boundary comes to a point: at its furthest extremity is a stile beside a stream, concealed by tree branches. Cross this and the stream and carry straight on up the next field. Go over another stile in the hedge ahead (a little to your left) and continue along the right hand side of a fence to a further stile beside a gate. Go over this and join a track which passes above the farm buildings of Bwlch-y-cocsydd and then descends to a gate beside a cattle grid. Go onto the tarred road (**Point B**).

The lane drops down quite steeply towards Llanfyllin. Just before a public footpath sign on the left, turn back sharp right through a gate. Follow the track through another gate, descending to emerge onto the road by Y Tabernacl. Turn left over the bridge to return to the centre of town.

Please:

- **Keep to the rights of way and marked footpaths**
- **Keep your dog on a lead and do not allow it to foul footpaths or pastures. Take extra care during the lambing season – January to June.**
- **Take care not to damage gates, fences or stiles. Leave all gates as you find them or re-fasten securely those that you have to open.**
- **Respect the environment and help maintain a viable countryside.**
- **Go equipped with adequate footwear: the walks cross open countryside even though close to Llanfyllin.**