

SUPER POWER 2006

GUIDED WALK

Saturday 9th September

Ynysypandy Slate Mill to Rhyd Ddu

ITINERARY

The walk starts at Ynysypandy Slate Mill (SH 549 433). Leaving the mill the walk follows the trackbed of the 'Gorseddau Junction and Portmadoc Railways' to Braich y Bib junction. The trackbed is then followed for a further four miles - as far as the foot of the 'Prince of Wales' Quarry incline. It is at this point that the extension to Cwm Dwyfor copper mine branches off.

So far the walk has been an on easy gradient. It is now necessary to gradually climb the levels of the 'Prince of Wales' quarry, with pauses to have a look at the remains. Once at the top it is a short climb to the summit of the pass that takes us from Cwm Pennant over to Cwm Gwyrfa. The descent is initially on a forest path but soon reaching forestry tracks.

Depending on time, and the feelings of the walkers, a choice of route will now be made. A slightly longer route takes the path down to Llyn y Gadair quarry and then - thanks to the permission given by the land-owner - will return to Rhyd Ddu by way of the private causeway. A simpler shorter route may be taken, following the main walkers' path above the quarry, to Rhyd Ddu.

The walk is fairly long - being about eight miles in total. However, apart from the ascent of the 'Prince of Wales' quarry - which takes about twenty minutes - it is moderately easy. Along the route the ground is boggy and rough in places - so walking boots or stout shoes are necessary. Stops will be included for rest and refreshments.

Walkers must bring food and water (at least a litre is recommended) with them. It can quickly get cold and wet in the mountains so extra clothing and waterproofs should be brought - even if the weather looks wonderful..!

Walkers should meet at Dinas Station by 09:15 - for an 09:30 departure by minibus to Ynysypandy. The walk should start from Ynysypandy Slate Mill at about 10:15. The final leg of the day is a return to Dinas on the 16:50 train from Rhyd Ddu, or the 18:05 train if the walk takes longer. Arrival back at Dinas will be 17:35, or 18:45 on the later train.

There is a strict limit on the number of walkers. So, if you are interested in joining the walk, we recommend you phone Porthmadog Booking Office as soon as possible to reserve your place. There will be no charge for this walk, but participants must hold a valid Super Power Rover Ticket.

To reserve your place - phone 01766 516024

1 Interior of Ynysypandy Mill

2 GJ&PR trackbed in Cwm Pennant

3 'Prince of Wales' Quarry

4 Causeway to Llyn y Gadair Quarry

