



## ARCHITECT OF THE WELSH NATION SAER CENEDL Y CYMRY

Iolo Morganwg (1747–1826) was an architect of the Welsh nation on the strength of his contribution to the eighteenth-century cultural renaissance of Wales. His legacy lives on today, not least through his creation the Gorsedd of the Bards, which is an integral part of the National Eisteddfod of Wales, Wales's biggest cultural festival.

Born Edward Williams, he was better known by his bardic name Iolo Morganwg. A stonemason by trade, he was also a romantic poet, a literary and historical forger, a political radical, a humanitarian and the most extraordinary and colourful character ever to have lived in the Vale of Glamorgan.

*Use this OS map which includes directions for walkers and points of interest. The accompanying Iolo Morganwg Vale of Glamorgan Trail booklet provides more information for each of these points. The numbering / colouring on the map correlates to the booklet.*

Walk in Iolo's footsteps to learn more about this extraordinary figure.

Dilynwch ôl troed Iolo i ddysgu mwy am y cymeriad rhyfuddol hwn.

**Roedd Iolo Morganwg (1747–1826) yn un o seiri cenedl y Cymry ar sail ei gyfraniad at ddadeni diwylliannol Cymru yn y ddeunawfed ganrif. Mae ei etifeddiaeth yn parhau hyd heddiw, yn bennaf am iddo greu Gorsedd y Beirdd, sy'n rhan annatod o Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru, ein gŵyl diwylliannol fwyaf.**

Edward Williams oedd ei enw bedydd, ond roedd yn fwy adnabyddus wrth ei enw barddol, Iolo Morganwg. Yn saer maen wrth ei waith, roedd hefyd yn fardd rhamantaidd, yn ffugiw'r llenyddol a hanesyddol, yn radical gwleidyddol, ac yn ddyngarwr. Ef oedd y cymeriad mwyaf rhyfuddol a lliwgar a fu'n byw ym Mro Morgannwg erioed.

*Defnyddiwr y map Arolwg Ordnans hwn sy'n cynnws cyfarwyddiadau i gerddwyr a manau o ddiddordeb – euch â llifynn Taith Iolo Morganwg gyda chi er mwyn cael rhagor o wybodaeth am bob un o'r manau hyn. Mae'r rhifau / lliwiau ar y map yn cyfateb i'r llifynn.*

**ACCESS: ROUTE INCLUDES STILES AND ONE FAIRLY LONG MODERATE CLIMB NEEDED TO ASCEND ONTO SALLING DOWN AND THEN UP TO THE CLUMP.**

**DISTANCE:** Main walk 6.5 miles/10.5 km; shorter version 4.7 miles/7.5 km

**PARKING:** For car parking in Cowbridge see map

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT:** For bus times to Cowbridge contact Traveline Cymru 0871 2002233 [www.traveline-cymru.co.uk](http://www.traveline-cymru.co.uk)

**REFRESHMENTS:** Costa Coffee in Cowbridge (10% discount if you reference fair-trade). The Bush St Hilary and the Bear Hotel are points of interest or there are other places along the way.

**TOILETS:** Public toilets behind Cowbridge Town Hall

**START:** Cowbridge Old Hall Gardens

**For more information, please contact:**

OneVale: 01446 700111  
or email: [contactonevale@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:contactonevale@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

[www.visitthevale.com](http://www.visitthevale.com)

**MYNEDIAD: MAE'R LLWYBR YN CYNNWYS SAWL CAMFA A RHAI DRINGO UN LLETHR CYMEDROL OND GWEDDOL HIR I GYRRAEDD BRYN OWAIN AC YNA I FYNY I'R CLWMP**

**PELLTER:** Prif daith gerdded 6.5 milltir/10.5 km; fersiwn byrrach 4.7 milltir/7.5 km

**PARCIO:** Maes parcio yn Y Bont-faen, gweler y map

**TRAFNIDIAETH GYHOEDDUS:**

Cysylltwch â Traveline Cymru ar 0871 2002233 neu [www.traveline-cymru.co.uk](http://www.traveline-cymru.co.uk)

i ddod o hyd i amseroedd bysiau i'r Bont-faen.

**LLUNIATH:** Costa Coffee yn Y Bont-faen, gostyngiad o 10% trwy ddyfynnu'r gair 'Fair-trade'. Mae tafarn dai'r Bush yn Saint Hilari a Gwesty'r Bear yn fannau o ddiddordeb neu ceir llawer o ddewis ar hyd y ffordd.

**TOILEDAU:** Toiledau cyhoeddus y tu ôl i Neuadd y Dref yn Y Bont-faen.

**MAN CYCHWYN:** Gerddi Hen Neuadd Y Bont-faen

**I gael rhagor o wybodaeth, cysylltwch ag:**

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neu e-bost [contactonevale@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:contactonevale@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

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**LLWYBR BR+**  
*Iolo  
organizing*

**VALE OF GLAMORGAN TRAIL**



## CIRCULAR WALK

### 1 Old Hall Gardens Start

You are standing in the very heart of historic Cowbridge. The town walls date from 1254 and the gardens you see today were created by the Edmondes family who moved into Old Hall in Iolo's time (from 1750). The Physic Garden was one of their gardens. *For more information see the lectern.*

### 2 The Physic Garden The Opium Eater

Take a minute to explore this garden devoted to plants cultivated for medicinal use. Iolo relied on a great variety of therapeutic herbs and medicines and became addicted to laudanum (a drink made of 10% opium from poppies and 90% alcohol), which both stimulated and confused his imagination. *See a verse from his Ode 'To Laudanum' on the left wall as you enter the garden.*

### 3 Holy Cross Church

**The Stonemason and Word Collector**  
Iolo followed his father into stonemasonry. The commemoration plaque in the chancel to Daniel and William Walters may be his work. Their father was the great lexicographer the Revd John Walters who taught Iolo to love the Welsh language and encouraged his fascination with Welsh words and dialects of which he collected over 25,000.

### 4 Costa Coffee The Radical and Anti-Slave Trade Campaigner

Here is Iolo's shop, the first-fair trade shop in Wales. He boycotted tainted produce from the Caribbean, and posted a notice in the window: 'East India sweets: uncontaminated with human gore' and sold radical books.

*In true Iolo tradition the Bush has a resident poet. This inn also serves as an ideal stop off point for refreshments or a speciality pie, and has a roaring fire on a cold day!*

### 5 Cowbridge Town Hall The Builder and Architect

In 1782 Iolo drew up a number of striking designs for an extension to Cowbridge town hall. His scheme was not adopted, but he remained deeply interested in surveying, architecture and building. The hall is home to the Cowbridge Museum (open on the first and third Saturdays of each month). It contains information on Iolo and related footage from the BBC's History of Wales series.

### 6 \* Site of Scientific Special Interest The Agricultural Commentator and Farmer

*This field is designated a SSSI site because of its special grassland.*  
For Iolo, Glamorgan was 'the paradise of Britain's land'. He came to know every inch of the county and was familiar with every species of bird and flower.

*Go into the Bear for an end of walk drink. See one of Iolo's poems on the wall and if you listen carefully or request it, you may hear his Stonecutter's Song.*

As a humanitarian, he refused to ride a horse. Instead he travelled everywhere on foot, recording everything that he saw in notebooks.

### 7 Stalling Down The Architect of a Nation and the Gorsedd of the Bards

This is the site of the first meeting (1795) in Wales of Iolo's creation – the Gorsedd of the Bards of the Island of Britain, in essence the first Welsh national institution.

He managed to convince scholars of his time that it was an authentic institution.

In 1819 Iolo held a Gorsedd as part of the Provincial Eisteddfod which took place in Carmarthen, and still to this day the colourful ceremonies of the Gorsedd form an integral part of the National Eisteddfod.

### 8 The Clump The Humanitarian

The Clump was the viewing site for public hangings in Iolo's day. He prided himself on never having attended such gory events. He was deeply affected by cases of injustice, having been confined to a debtors' prison. He also petitioned on behalf of common people unjustly sentenced to transportation or death.

### 9 The Bush Inn The Poet and Forger

Iolo had a more profound knowledge of the Welsh bardic tradition than any of his contemporaries. He was a prolific poet in both Welsh and English. He was also a splendid literary forger, a fact not discovered until a century after his death in 1826.

*In true Iolo tradition the Bush has a resident poet. This inn also serves as an ideal stop off point for refreshments or a speciality pie, and has a roaring fire on a cold day!*

### 10 Llanblethian / St Quentin's Castle

Venture up to the Castle to learn more using the audio guide within the gatehouse and enjoy the views.

### 11 The Eagles Academy

**Iolo and his Children**  
Iolo's three children, Margaret, Ann and Taliesin, were educated here in the splendid upstairs assembly room.

### 12 The Bear Hotel Iolo and the Cowbridge Drinkers and Collector of Songs

This was Iolo's old meeting place and drinking hole. A big drinker in his youth 'Neddy the Stonecutter', as locals called him, later renounced alcohol and mocked the hard drinkers of the town in verse: 'pitifully little in every thing but moral turpitude'.

Iolo could be called the first collector of traditional Welsh songs. He could play the flute and he composed over 3000 hymns during his lifetime.

*Go into the Bear for an end of walk drink. See one of Iolo's poems on the wall and if you listen carefully or request it, you may hear his Stonecutter's Song.*

## CYLCHDAITH

### 1 Gerddi'r Hen Neuadd Man Cychwyn

Rydych yn sefyl yng nghalon tref hanesyddol Y Bont-faen. Mae muriau'r dref yn dyddio o 1254, a chrewyd y gerddi a welwch heddiw gan deulu Edmondes a symudodd i mewn i'r Hen Neuadd yn nyddiau Iolo (1750). Un o'u gerddi nhw oedd yr Ardd Berlysiau. *Mae mwya o wybodaeth ar y ddarllenfa.*

### 2 Yr Ardd Berlysiau Y Bwytaŵr Opwrm

Treuliwr fundud yn edrych o gwmpas yr ardd hon sydd wedi'i neilltu i dyfu planhigion at ddefnydd meddyginaethol. Roedd Iolo'n dibynnu ar amrywiaeth eang o berlysiau a meddyginaethau therapiwtig a daeth yn gaeth i lodnwm (diod sy'n cynnws 10% o opwrm o flodau'r pabi a 90% o alcohol), a oedd yn cyffroi ac yn drysui ei ddychymyg. *Gellir gweld pennill o'i gerdd 'To Laudanum' ar y wal chwith wrth i chi fynd i mewn i'r ardd.*

### 3 Eglwys y Groes Sanctaidd

**Y Saer Maen a'r Casglwr Geiriau**  
Dilynnod Iolo ei dad i weithio fel saer maen. Mae'n bosibl mai ei waith ef yw'r plac coffa i Daniel a William Walters yn y gangell. Eu tad oedd y geiriarurwr enwog, y Parchedig John Walters, a ddysgodd Iolo i ymfalchi yn yr iaith Gymraeg a'i annog i ymddiddor mewn geiriau a thafodieithoedd Cymraeg. Casglodd Iolo dros 25,000 o eiriau ac idiomau.

### 4 Costa Coffee Y Radical a'r

**Ymgrychwyr Gwrth-gaethwisiaeth**  
Dyma siop Iolo, siop fasnach deg gyntaf Cymru. Gwrthodai werthu cynhyrchion amheus o'r Caribi, a rhoddodd nodyn yn ffenestr: 'East India sweets: uncontaminated with human gore'.

Roedd hefyd yn gwerthu llyfrau radical.

*Galwch i mewn i bori trwy'r llyfrau a gyhoeddwyd ar Iolo. Darllenwr y gerdd ysgrifennodd i hysbysbeu'r siop, a'r cyfeithiad o'r plac y tu allan. Gall y rhai sydd ar y daith gerdded ddefnyddio'r geiriau 'fair-trade' i hawlio gostyngiad o 10%.*

### 5 Neuadd y Dref, Y Bont-faen

**Yr Adeiladwr a'r Pensaer**  
Ym 1782 lluniodd Iolo nifer o ddylnuniadau trawiadol ar gyfer estyniad i neuadd y dref yn Y Bont-faen. Ni fabwysiadwyd ei gynllun, ond parhaodd ei ddiddordeb brwd mewn tifesur, pensaernïaeth ac adeiladu.

*Y neuadd yw cartref Amgueddfa'r Bont-faen (sydd ar agor ar ddydd Sadwrn cyntaf a thrydydd dydd Sadwrn pob mis). Ceir yno wybodaeth am Iolo, a darnau ffilm o'r gyfres History of Wales gan y BBC.*

### 6 \* Safle o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol

**Arbennig Y Sylwebydd Amaeth a'r Ffermwyr**  
Mae'r cae hwn yn Safle o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Arbennig oherwydd ei safle o ddiweddarach a gwawdai yw'r lle.

*Iolo, Morgannwg oedd 'paradwys tir Prydain'. Daeth i adnabod pob modfedd o'r sir ac roedd yn gyfarwydd â phob rhywogaeth o aderyn a blodyn.*

Fel dyngarwr, roedd Iolo'n gwrrhod marchogaeth. Yn hytrach, roedd yn cerdded i bobman, gan gofnodi popeth a welai mewn llyfrau nodiadau..

### 7 Bryn Owain Saer Cenedl a Gorsedd y Beirdd

Dyma safle cyfarfod cyntaf creadigaeth Iolo – Gorsedd Beirdd Ynys Prydain – yng Nghymru (1795). Hwn, yn ei hanfod, oedd ein sefydliad cenedlaethol cyntaf. Lwyddodd Iolo i argyhoeddi ysgolheigion ei ddydd ei fod yn sefydliad diliys.

### 8 Y Clwmp Y Dyngarwr

**Y Clwmp oedd y man lle fydd pobl yn gwyllo pobl yn cael eu dienyddio'n gyhoeddus yn nyddiau Iolo. Ymfalchi yw'n ffaith nad oedd eroed wedi mynd i weld digwyddiadau gwaedol y'r fath. Roedd achosion o anghywiaunder yn cael effaith fawr arno a ôl iddo gael ei garcharu mewn carchar dyledwyr. Ymgrychodd hefyd ar ran pobl gyffredin a oedd wedi cael eu dedryfud yng Nghymru i altiadaeth neu farwlaeth.**

### 9 Tafarn y Bush Y Bardd a'r Ffugiwyr

Roedd gan Iolo wybodaeth fwy trwlwyr am draddodiad bardol Cymru nag unrhyw un o'i gyfoeswyr. Roedd yn fardd cynhyrchiol yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg. Roedd hefyd yn ffugiw'r llenyddol gwych, ffraith na ddaeth i'r amlwg am ganrif a ôl ei farw ym 1826.

### 10 Castell Sain Quentin / Llanfleiddan

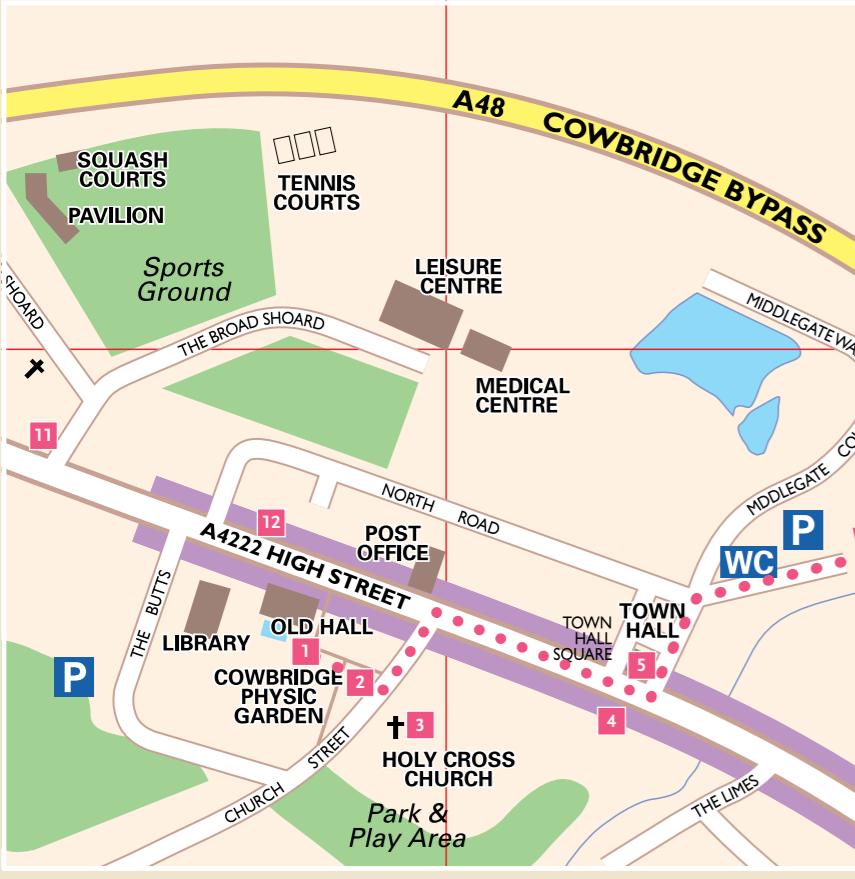
Ewch am dro i'r Castell i ddysgu mwy gan ddefnyddio'r canllaw sain yn y porthdy ac i fwynhau'r golgyfeydd.

### 11 Academi'r Eagles Iolo a'i Blant

Addysgwyd tri phlentyn Iolo – Margaret, Ann a Taliesin – yn yr ystafell ymgynnull ysblennydd ar y llawr cyntaf.

### 12 Gwesty'r Bear Iolo ac Yfwyrr

**Y Bont-faen a Chasglwr Caneuon**  
Hwn oedd man cyfarfod a hoff le yfed Iolo. Roedd 'Neddy'r Saer Maen', fel y byddai'r bobl leol yn ei alw, yn yfwr maw



## Y LLWYBR

Gan gychwyn yng Ngerddi'r Hen Neuadd, dilynwch y map manwl o'r Bont-faen o 1 i 5. Wrth Neuadd y Dref, trwch oddi ar y Stryd Fawr i lawr Sgwâr Neuadd y Dref tuag at y maes parcio.

Cerddwch ar hyd ochr dde'r maes parcio ac ewch yn eich blaen at lwybr troed yn y gornel dde bellaf sy'n dilyn yr afon.

Croeswch y bont droed ac yna cymerwch y troad cyntaf i'r chwith dan y draphont.

Ewch yn eich blaen i'r un cyfeiriad am rwy ganllath. Yna, cadwch i'r chwith ar y llwybr pren, heibio'r ysgol leol. Nawr ewch yn eich blaen i'r un cyfeiriad cyffredinol, trwy gyfres o gaeau â'u camfeidd, pontydd, llwybrau pren a phrennau camu. Safle o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Arbenig 6 Croeswch y gamfa y byddwch yn ei chyrraedd ar ôl y prennau camu. Dylai cerddwyr lleol droi i'r dde a cherdded ar draws y cae hyd at fwlch yng nghornel y cae (mae Hawliau Tramwy yn mynd â chi'n syth ymlaen i'r gornel chwith ac yna'n lletraws yn ôl i'r un bwlc hwn). Yna, croeswch gae arall hyd at gât mochyn. Ewch yn eich blaen yn y cae nesaf, â'r clawdd ar y chwith i chi bellach, hyd at gamfa sydd wrth ymwl clwyd. Yna, byddwch yn croesi darn cul o gae hyd at gât mochyn arall. Nawr ewch ar hyd llwybr a llawer o ôl cerdded arno i gyrraedd pentref Aberthin. Trowch i'r dde wrth y briffordd a chroeswch yn ofalus, a lle mae'r ffordd hon yn gwyo tua'r dde rhwng dau dý tafarn y pentref, trowch i'r

chwith ar hyd Ffordd Llanquian. Ddim ymhell ar hyd y ffordd hon fe welwch bostyn yn nodi llwybr ar y llaw dde. Trwch i'r dde yma ar hyd y llwybr sy'n arwain yn lletraws i fyny i'r chwith hyd at Fryn Owen. 7. Dilynwch y llwybr hwn i gyrraedd y tir comin glaswelltog gan ddilyn y llwybr yn y cyfeiriad cyffredinol hwn wrth iddo wyro'n raddol i'r dde. Mae'r llwybr yn arwain at rodfa fferm lle byddwch yn troi i'r dde. Cyn bo hir byddwch yn cyrraedd lôn fach a chaffi. Ewch yn eich blaen i'r chwith i gyrraedd y briffordd – yr A48. Yma, er mwyn bod yn ddiogel, fe'ch cynghorir i ddefnyddio'r drosffordd i groesi'r ffordd. Ar ôl cyrraedd yr ochr ddeheuol, defnyddiwr y ffordd ymadael i gyrraedd a mynd heibio'r bwty Indiaidd a chaffi arall. Bron ar unwaith, trwch i'r dde ar llwybr troed sy'n dringo'n raddol trwy lystyfiant eithaf trwchus hyd at frig y cribyn. Yno, byddwch yn cyrraedd coedlan gron sy'n cael ei hadnabod fel 'Y Clwmp' 8 â mastiau trosglwyddo i'r chwith ohoni (\* o'r fan hon gallwch ddilyn llwybr byrrach trwy

## THE ROUTE

Starting at the Old Hall Gardens follow the detailed map of Cowbridge from 1 to 5. At the Town Hall turn off the High Street down Town Hall Square towards the car park.

Walk along the right side of the car park and proceed to a footpath at the far right-hand corner which runs alongside the river, cross the foot-bridge then take first left to pass under the viaduct. Continue in the same direction for a hundred or so yards. Then bear left onto the board walk, past the local school.

Now proceed, keeping in the same general direction, through a succession of fields with their stiles, bridges, boardwalks and stepping woods. \* SSSI site 6 Cross the stile reached after the stepping woods. Local walkers turn right and walk across the field to a gap in the field's corner

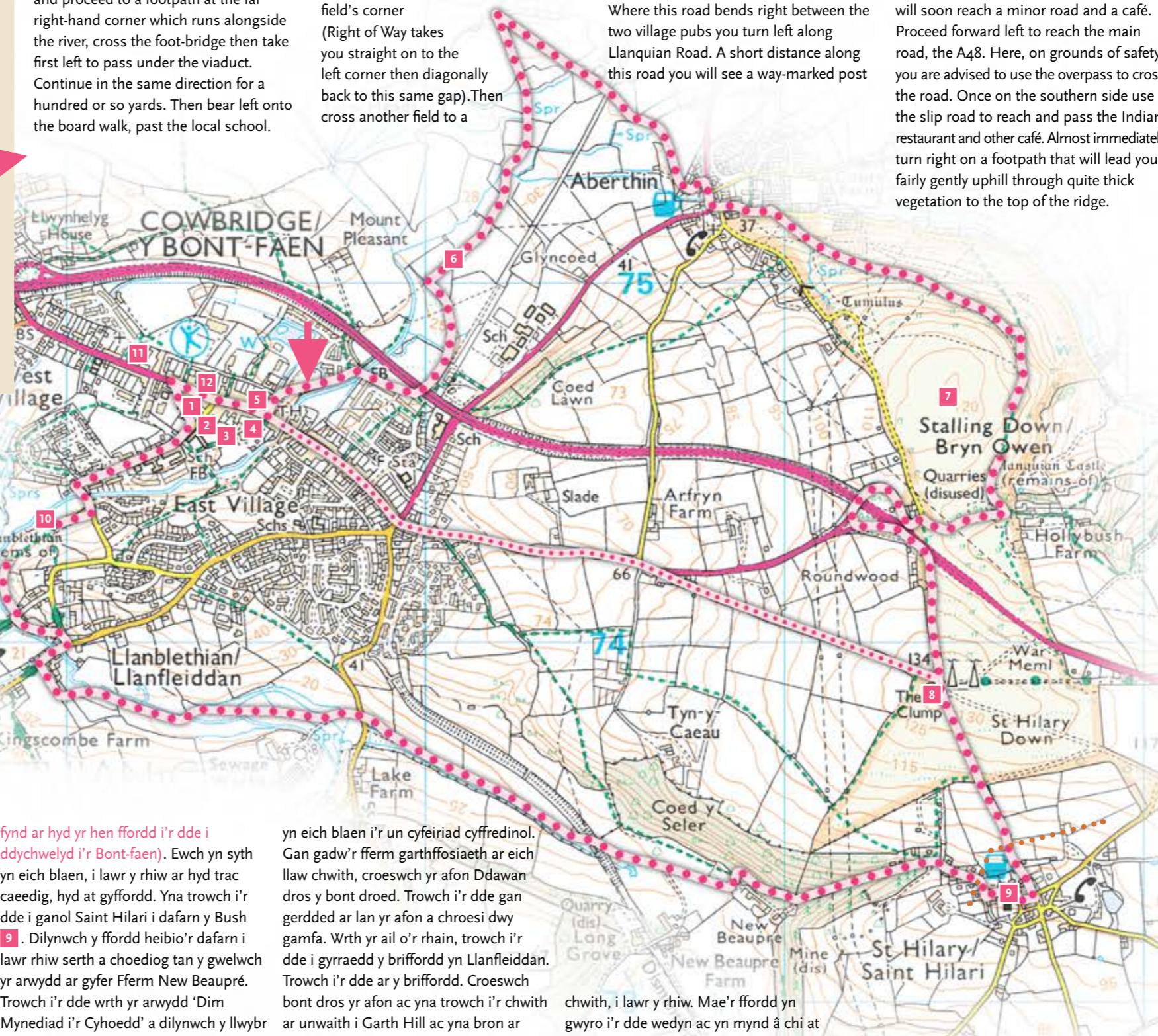
(Right of Way takes you straight on to the left corner then diagonally back to this same gap). Then cross another field to a

kissing gate. Continue in the subsequent field, the hedge now on your left, to a stile adjacent to a gate. Here you cross a narrow stretch of field to another kissing gate. Now go along a well-used track to reach the village of Aberthin. Turn right at the main road and cross over with care. Where this road bends right between the two village pubs you turn left along Llanquian Road. A short distance along this road you will see a way-marked post

on your right. Turn right here along the path that leads diagonally left uphill on to Stalling Down 7. Follow this path to reach the grassy common land following the path in this general direction as it swings gradually right. The path leads on to a farm drive where you turn right. You will soon reach a minor road and a café. Proceed forward left to reach the main road, the A48. Here, on grounds of safety, you are advised to use the overpass to cross the road. Once on the southern side use the slip road to reach and pass the Indian restaurant and other café. Almost immediately turn right on a footpath that will lead you fairly gently uphill through quite thick vegetation to the top of the ridge.

At the ridge crest you emerge on to a circular copse termed 'The Clump' 8 with transmitting masts to its left (\*for a shorter walk take the old road right to return to Cowbridge). Proceed straight ahead, downhill along an enclosed track, to a road junction, turn right into the heart of St Hilary to the Bush Inn 9. Follow the road past the inn down a steep, tree-lined hill until you can see the sign for New Beaupré Farm. Turn right at the sign 'No Public Access' and follow the footpath through the wood. The path leads downhill to a stile giving on to a field. There are stables on the left. Walk straight along the left of this field, to a stile and onto the flat drive. Turn right. You now walk along the drive to arrive at the Cowbridge-St Athan road. Cross the road and continue in the same general direction. Keeping the sewage farm to your left, cross the river Thaw via the foot-bridge. Turn right walking by the river to cross two stiles. At the second of these turn right to reach the main road at Llanblethian. Turn right on the main road. Cross a river bridge then turn immediately left into Garth Hill and almost as quickly, left again into Greenfield Way. Then turn right into the road named St Quentin's Hill. Soon on the left you will see a footpath sign and kissing gate. Go through and walk on along a path that curves to the right through three fields with St Quentin's Castle 10 on your right. You then arrive at a road. Turn left, downhill. The road then bends to the right and takes you up to the Town's South Gate and back on to the High Street. Cross and turn left for the Eagles Academy 11 then back down to finish at the Bear Hotel 12.

*Based on Valeway's Eastward from Cowbridge & Llanblethian and directions written by Graham Woosnam.*



fynd ar hyd yr hen ffordd i'r dde i ddychwelyd i'r Bont-faen). Ewch yn syth yn eich blaen, i lawr y rhiw ar hyd trac caeedig, hyd at gyffordd. Yna trwch i'r dde i ganol Saint Hilari i dafarn y Bush 9. Dilynwch y ffordd heibio'r dafarn i lawr rhiw serth a choedig tan y gwelwch yr arwydd ar gyfer Fferm New Beaupré. Trowch i'r dde wrth yr arwydd 'Dim Mynediad i'r Cyhoedd' a dilynwch y llwybr troed drwy'r coed. Mae'r llwybr yn arwain i lawr at gamfa i mewn i gae. Ceir stablau ar y chwith. Cerddwch yn syth ar hyd ochr chwith y cae hwn hyd at gamfa ac ymlaen at y rhodfa wastad. Trowch i'r dde. Nawr byddwch yn cerdded ar hyd y rhodfa i gyrraedd y ffordd rhwng Y Bont-faen a Sain Quentin ar y llaw dde 10. Byddwch yn cyrraedd ffordd wedyn. Trowch i'r

chwith, i lawr y rhiw. Mae'r ffordd yn gwyo i'r dde wedyn ac yn mynd â chi at Borth Deheuol y Dref ac yn ôl i'r Stryd Fawr. Croeswch a thrwch i'r chwith ar gyfer Academi'r Eagles 11 ac yna yn ôl i lawr i orffen yng Ngwesty'r Bear 12.

*Wedi ei selio ar llwybr Valeway's, Tua'r Dwyrain o'r Bont-faen a Llanfleiddian, a chyfarwyddiadau gan Graham Woosnam.*

## KEY / ALLWEDD

|               |           |
|---------------|-----------|
| Main Route    | • • • • • |
| Prif Lwybr    | •         |
| Shorter Route | • • • • • |
| Llybr Byrrach | •         |