

European Geopark Week 2015

GeoMôn is a member of the prestigious European Geopark Network of which there are 64 members in Europe, and is also a Global Geopark (UNESCO) with 111 members. Geomon is grateful to Mentermon for uniting the walking festival and combining their activities as part of the European Geopark week

Welcome to the Isle of Anglesey Walking and Cycling Festival with Walkathon 2015

From May 17th to June 1st you can walk, see and learn about the beautiful island of Anglesey with its many myths and legends. Visit quaint coastal and rural villages with their tales of shipwrecks and ghosts and explore the island's industrial heritage on the Holyhead and Copper Coin tours. See the variety of wildlife and wetlands at local Nature Reserves and try to find the elusive Red Squirrel, an Otter or Water Vole!

Join us on the 2nd Anglesey Walkathon where you can walk 26.2 or 13.1 miles in a day or take part in one of the many cycling challenges including 'DIY to Anglesey', Adult and Child 25 miles, plus 100 and 50k Audax rides starting and finishing in Llangefni. There will also be a thrilling Mountain Bike Challenge on Parys Mountain and New for 2015 a 120k cycle, a 3 day competitive cycle chase and a mini triathlon.

Should this be too challenging why not take a relaxing bus tour and explore the many hidden treasures of Anglesey or wander the coast looking for fossils and discovering the unique geology of the island and its coastline.

The festival also includes more family-friendly events including an exciting bike and seek opportunity along Lon Las Cefni looking for natural treasures, walks accessible to all and an exciting programme for schools.

All our walks are guided by experienced, informative guides who will ensure your enjoyment of the festival. Several walks are on the Coastal Footpath and feature stunning scenery, flora and fauna, varied geological rock formations and a large variety of nesting bird colonies - ideal for birdwatchers.

GeoMon is grateful to Menter Môn, a partner of the geopark, as it continues our close working relationship and our activities that are combined with our other partners, the Isle of Anglesey County Council, especially the Countryside Officers of the Area Of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Natural Resources Wales, The Ramblers Association (Ynys Môn Group), Anglesey Coastal Path Team, North Wales Wildlife Trust and the National Trust.

Walks will start promptly at the indicated start times. Walkers must report to the walk leader no later than 15 minutes before the start time

Saturday May 23rd

Organisers:- Llangefni Social Enterprise and Menter Môn

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Sunday May 24th

Rhoscolyn Circular 10.00a.m.

This walk on the western side of Ynys Mon will be a circular walk featuring the Isle of Anglesey Coastal Path, beaches, two splendid sea arches, Bwa Du (Black Arch) and Bwa Gwyn (White Arch), passing St Gwenfaen's ancient well and Coastguard Lookout.

Start: Rhoscolyn Beach Borthwen Car Park SH 272 752
Length and Grade: 9 miles Moderate
Leader: Kerry Zalot 01248 810251

William Bulkeley Diaries Walk 1.30pm

William Bulkeley's 18th-century diary of life around Llanfechell is one of Anglesey's best-loved historical documents. Join us on a fascinating ramble round some of the diarist's key sites – including St Mechell's church, Coedan farm, and Brynddu, his ancestral home, with its 400-year-old walled garden. The afternoon will be led by a direct descendant of William Bulkeley, and will include short readings from the Diary en route - finishing with a cup of tea at Brynddu itself.

Start: Pont y Plas Community Garden, SH 368913
Length: approx 3 miles (5 km). Moderate, possibly muddy.

Leaders: Robin Grove-White and Carol and Jac Jones

The Red Squirrel of Henllys Hall 2.00 pm

A wonderful woodland walk where you can discover the fascinating habitat of the Red Squirrel. Learn about their fight for survival and how they have thrived due to conservation programmes led by Menter Môn.

Start: H.p.b. Henllys, Beaumaris: SH 600776
Length and Grade of walk: 1 miles, 2 hrs, easy
Leader: Dr Craig Shuttleworth

Monday May 25th

Mynydd Parys and Llaneilian Beach Circular 10.00 a.m.

This walk jointly led by the Ramblers Association and Rhun Ap Iorwerth AM for Anglesey takes us through the old Copper Mine workings through to Penysarn, then climbing to the summit of Mynydd Eilian to enjoy the views on a clear day. The path then meanders down to Llaneilian beach and follows the coastal path to Amlwch Port. The path then turns inland across the fields to join the old copper road back to Parys mountain and more mine workings and restored buildings of the copper mining industry.

Start: Parys Mountain Car Park SH 438 906
Length and Grade: 8.5 miles Moderate
Leader: John Jones. 01407 831728, Rhun Ap Iorwerth AM
No dogs, Picnic and Stout Boots symbols

Geological Walk from Lligwy Bay to Moelfre, including descriptions of the last voyages and wrecks of "Royal Charter" and "Hindlea". 10.30

Commencing with descriptions of the Devonian 'Old Red Sandstone' and Carboniferous Limestone that border Lligwy Bay, the walk then proceeds along the beach to look at the long and short term time cycles evident in the rocks on the south side of the bay. Past and present uses of limestone are described and classic limestone formations are viewed as we progress along Anglesey's Coastal Path towards Moelfre. At the wreck sites of "Royal Charter" and "Hindlea", the circumstances leading to both shipwrecks are described in detail.

Start point: Main Car Park on south side of Lligwy Bay: Grid Ref: SH496 871. (Last toilets before Moelfre).

Length of walk: A linear walk of less than 2 miles / 3 kilometres.

Grade of Walk: Moderate, possibly muddy, popular (tourists and dogs!).

Guide: Terry Beggs.

Return transport: Participants requiring transport back from Moelfre to Lligwy, please meet your Guide at Lligwy at 09.45.

The Vikings and Romans of Llanbedrgoch 11.30am

Meet at the newly refurbished Canolfan in Llanbedrgoch and take a step back in time with our Archaeologist and Historian Neil Johnstone. Learn about the settlement and lives of the Vikings and Romans as you walk to the 'Dig' site you will then return to the Ganolfan for refreshments at your own cost

Start: Canolfan Llanbedrgoch SH 511805
Length and Grade of walk: 4 miles, 5 hrs, Moderate
Leader: Neil Johnstone, Jenet Peers

The Stunning Mynydd Llwydiarth 2.00 pm

Walk along Llanddona beach towards Llwydiarth forest, where Red Squirrels are known to reside. Enjoy panoramic views of the Eastern coast of Anglesey as you climb the slopes of Mynydd Llwydiarth whilst exploring flora and fauna with our guide

Start: Pentraeth Beach Car Park SH535799
Length & Grade of Walk: 4 miles, 5 hrs, Moderate
Leader: Bethan Jones

Cycling at Track Môn – 6.00 – 8.30pm

Why not come along and taste the thrills of cycling on a racing track. 2.1 miles of smooth 12 meter wide traffic free area to cycle on. This session will include cycle coaching sessions under the instruction of BC Level 2 qualified Coaches. Open to all from 10yrs old and upwards.

Venue: Track Môn: SH 332 688
Leader: Dewi Jones 07733121585

Tuesday May 26th

Dry Stone Walling, 10am- 4pm

Join staff from the Anglesey Countryside and AONB team as they work with local landowners to repair traditional stone walls which are a special quality of the AONB. Whether you are new to this traditional skill or just want a refresher, this day will give you a taste of the basic skills required. Places limited to 8 please bring steel-toe capped boots

Location: tbc
Leader: AONB Community Wardens

The Weatherman Walk (as seen on BBC TV) 10.00 am

Join our expert guide on one of Anglesey's most stunning coastal walks with its rich historical and ecological interest. This circular walk takes you around Wylfa Head passing close to Porth yr Ogof, Porth Wylfa and into Cemaes Bay. From here to Penrhyn Mawr, Llanbadrig and Llanlleiana where there will be an opportunity to climb up to the top of Dinas Gynfor, then returning back to Porth Wylfa.

Start: Wylfa Power Station (Old Wylfa Manor) SH 356 938
Length & Grade of Walk: 6 miles, 4 hours, moderate to difficult some steep cliffs
Leader: Dave Salter

Benllech to Red Wharf Bay 10.00 am

Follow the shore to see rare sandstone pipes in the Carboniferous Limestone. Understand how Anglesey started its 'life' in the Southern hemisphere and crossed the equator 300 million years ago when these rocks formed in the warm shallow seas of the tropics.

Start: Benllech Beach Car Park Grid ref: SH 523 825

Length and grade of walk: 2 miles, 3 hrs, moderate

Leader: Jon Pinnington

The Wonders of Cemlyn 2.00 pm

Cemlyn is one of the iconic coastal locations on Anglesey. It is an internationally important seabird site with Wales' single most important Sandwich tern colony and also has opportunities to see lots of other wildlife both on the shore and in the coastal waters of North Anglesey. This walk will provide the opportunity to learn about the life of the seabird colony as they return to roost for the evening and explore coastal habitats along with the chance of seeing seals or a really exciting wildlife sighting!

Start: Bryn Car Park, Cemlyn SH 329925

Length & grade of walk: 2 miles, 2 hrs, moderate to difficult

Leaders: National Trust Colony Warden

Cycling Event 3

The Giach 6.00pm

Cycle the Giach route past Llyn Coron, Din Dyfrol Ancient Monument and Malltraeth Village & Estuary. Should you wish you can reduce this loop to 11 miles and stop off at Malltraeth to take in the views and treat yourselves to some local 'Fish and Chips' whilst bird watching at the 'Cwt Glas' picnic area.

Start Point: Llys Llewelyn, Aberffraw – SH355691

Length & Grade of loop: 11 or 15 miles, moderate

Leader: Members of Holyhead Cycling Club

Wednesday 27th May

The Llyn Cefni Walk 10.00am

Come and join the Anglesey Countryside & AONB team on this part boardwalk part cycle path walk which starts at the Dingle in the market town of Llangefni, and meanders through wooded areas up to Llyn Cefni where you can relax a while before returning to the start. If you're lucky you may spot the recently reintroduced red squirrels or the elusive kingfisher!

Start: St Cyngar's Church, the Dingle; SH 458 759
Length & Grade of Walk: 4 miles, 3hrs, easy-Suitable for Wheelchairs
please note there is a fee for parking
Leader: Gareth Evans, Countryside Warden

Moelfre Circular 10.30 am

We will enter public footpaths shortly after leaving the Car Park and come out into a country lane where we will call to see Lligwy Burial Chamber erected towards the end of the Neolithic period (2500 to 2000 B.C.) followed by a visit to Din Lligwy a well preserved example of a defended settlement built during the latter part of the Roman occupation of Wales. The downhill lane will take us to the magnificent beach at Lligwy where we will return along the Isle of Anglesey Coastal Path to Moelfre, passing the treacherous coast where the Royal Charter was wrecked in 1859.

Start: Moelfre, Ffordd Lligwy Car Park SH 511 862
Length and Grade: 5 miles Easy
Leader: Hefin Lloyd Roberts. 01248 722764

Mariandyrys Nature Trail, SE Anglesey – 2.00pm

Enjoy an afternoon walk with Wildlife Trust ecologists through a variety of habitats on the Trust's Mariandyrys Nature Reserve. Explore flower-rich limestone grassland and heathland, with every chance of seeing a variety of butterflies, and take in fabulous views from the Great Orme to the Rivals.

Start: Glanrafon car park, Llangoed; SH604807
Length & Grade of walk: 2 miles, 2 hours, moderate (some steep slopes)
Leader: Geoff & Penny Radford

Penrhosfeilw to South Stack, Ynys Cybi 5.30pm

Join the Anglesey Countryside & AONB team on an evening walk along this fine stretch of the coastal path towards Penrhosfeilw, where you will find a pair of standing stones almost 3m high dating from the Bronze Age. Walk on to Cytiau'r Gwyddelod, a Neolithic Hut Circle site which was most recently excavated in the 1970/80s, then on to Caer Y Tŵr, a hillfort dating back to Roman times and deemed to be a signal station protecting the North and East side of Holyhead.

Start: Penrhosfeilw (Range car park); SH 215 804
Length & Grade of Walk: 4 miles, 3 hrs, moderate
Leader: William Stewart, Countryside Warden

Thursday May 28

A 'Maritime Interest' Walk Along The Menai Straits 10.30

The walk follows the route of Anglesey's Coastal Path from Pwllfanogl to Menai Bridge.

Commencing with Pwllfanogl's tiny harbour and little known industry, the famous training ships HMS "Conway" and "Indefatigable" are described, as is the geological formation of the Menai Strait itself. There is then the story of Nelson's statue and St. Mary's Church before we walk down to the Britannia road/rail bridge. Here, Stephenson's original tubular bridge design and construction are described, along with its disastrous fire and reconstruction.

Now in the Swellies, the dangers of navigation are considered, along with a famous shipwreck. Ancient fish traps are mentioned, as is a "Gorad Tea" for one shilling! Finally, the walk takes in St. Tysilio's Church, (which may be open), the Belgian Promenade and ends beneath Telford's famous suspension bridge.

Start point: Pwllfanogl Harbour: Grid Ref: SH530 709; (Quarter of a mile from the old Toll House in Llanfairpwll, on the A4080 going south, go left into and walk down the lane.)

Length of walk: A linear walk of 2 miles / 3 kilometres. There are no refreshment or toilet facilities until we reach Menai Bridge.

Grade of walk: Moderate. Very muddy in parts.

Duration: 2 - 3 hours.

Guide: Terry Beggs.

Car parking: There is no parking down at Pwllfanogl itself, (private houses). Careful parking at the top of the lane, LHS, (allowing for passing vehicles), is possible. As an alternative, park in the 'railway crossing' road to Llanfairpwll and then walk along to the lane.

Return transport: Participants requiring transport back from Menai Bridge to Pwllfanogl, please meet your Guide at Menai Bridge car park, Grid Ref: SH555 718, (adjacent to the Jade Village Chinese Restaurant), at 0945

Landscape through a Lens 10:30am

Join staff from the Anglesey Countryside & AONB team and an experienced landscape photographer on a walk from Bull Bay to Cemaes, taking in the beautiful coastal landscape. Along the way you will be able to discuss the attributes of landscape photography, as well as brushing up on your existing skills whilst sharing and learning new ones. (Places limited to 12)

Start: Bull Bay car park; SH 426 944

Length & Grade of Walk: 4/5 miles, moderate

Leader: AONB Community Wardens

To the Church on the Island; Aberffraw-Porth Cwyfan 11.00am

Join us for this lovely walk down the Aberffraw Estuary and along country lanes to Porth Cwyfan where the famous church on the island is found, then walk back along the coastal path enjoying the little coves and headland along the way. We'll picnic somewhere along the way, and there will be plenty of opportunity to learn about the plants, wildlife and landscape, and maybe try your hand at some beach art.

Please dress sensibly for the weather, bring suncream, comfortable footwear and a picnic lunch with plenty to drink.

Start: Aberffraw beach car park: SH357 690

Length and grade of the walk: approx 3 miles, 4-5hours (includes half hour for lunch), Moderate

Leader: Karen Rawlins

Cycle Event 3

The Nico 6.00pm

Another opportunity to cycle instead of walking this very rural part of Anglesey. Pass Llyn Llywenan, Llynnon Wind Mill and Hywel's Watermill on this 20 mile route

Two Bridges of Menai Walk 2pm

Starting from Canolfan Thomas Telford, walk over the Suspension Bridge with an explanation of how it was built and later reconstructed. Walk along the Gwynedd Coastal path to Britannia Bridge. See the piece of tube preserved from the original bridge, get close to a lion, down to the shore and see how the bridge was constructed and later reconstructed. Return through the University Botanical Gardens, recross Menai Bridge and then walk down under the bridge and back up to the Canolfan.

Start: Canolfan Thomas Telford, SH555718

Length and grade of the walk: 3 miles, 2.5 hrs, Moderate

Leader: Bob Daimond and other Menai Heritage Guides

Parys Mountain Heritage Trail 2.00pm

Parys Mountain has been ravaged by mining since the Bronze Age, and now presents an almost Martian landscape, the setting for several science fiction films. Learn about how the mines dominated the world copper market, making huge fortunes, and how the copper helped Nelson defeat the Armada! Discover too the fascinating geological history that produced the copper, lead, zinc and tin, and possibly silver and gold too!

Start: Parys Mountain Car Park SH 438 905
Length and grade of walk: 2 mile, 1-2 hrs. Moderate, stout walking boots required
Leader: Amlwch Industrial Heritage Trust Guide

Sunday 31th May

Cycle Event 4

Bike and Seek! 10.30am

Join us on this unique experience of a cycling treasure hunt. During the day visit food producers, attractions and businesses en route where treasures can be found! Enter free, an ideal day for singles and families with prizes for the ones who find the most treasure!

Parys Mountain - Mountain Bike Challenge 11.00am

Want to be challenged? Come and try out our newest mountain bike trail on Parys Mountain. This trail designed by Chris Purt is a lunar experience and meanders through a landscape of colours and textures second to none.

Start: Amlwch Leisure Centre; SH 438923
Grade of course: Technical
Leader: Dewi Jones 07733121588

Llangoed and Penmon Circular 10:00 a.m.

We will walk past Lleiniog Castle to Penmon Priory and on to Penmon Point. Following the Anglesey Coastal Path, we will see views of the spectacular coastal scenery and mountains of Snowdonia. We will visit several nature reserves before turning inland across fields and along quiet lanes back to our start point.

Start: Llangoed Village Car Park SH 611 797
Length and Grade: 8 miles Moderate
Leader: Dave Melling. 01248 812987

No dogs. Picnic and Stout Boots symbols.

The Wonders of the Red Squirrel – 11.00am

Discover the hidden treasures of Newborough Forest. The fascinating habitat of the Red Squirrel will be revealed to you along with the lives of other species that take refuge in the forest

Start: Llyn Parc Mawr Car Park: SH 415 672
Length & Grade of Walk: 2 miles, 2 hrs, easy

Leaders: Dr Craig Shuttleworth, Raj Jones

Monday June 1st

Celebrate Moelfre 10.00am

Come and enjoy a guided walk along the coast path in Moelfre where you will see the most breathtaking views of Anglesey. See the statues recently erected to commemorate the shipwrecked Royal Charter and Hindlea. Learn about the tragedy of the submarine the Thetis and the history of the fishing industry in Moelfre. Listen to the interesting and exciting stories of the Moelfre Lifeboat over the years, you may even see the Kiwi, the area's new 1st class Tamar Lifeboat whilst hearing about the area's naval heroes.

This walk also visits the fabulous beaches of Porth Helaeth, Porth Frollwyd, and Lligwy Beach moving on to the ruined site of Din Lligwy before returning to the Seawatch Centre.

Start: Seawatch Centre: SH514864.

Length and grade of walk:- 5 miles, 3 Hrs, easy to moderate (some steep areas)

Guide: Bedwyr Rees

Malltraeth Estuary. 1.00pm

A great place to spot sea birds and waders but the present day tranquillity belies the violent tectonic event that created the estuary, the evidence still preserved in the geology lining the second part of our walk. Discover impressions left in the rock by the roots of coal measure trees, and a dolerite dyke, possibly formed when the Atlantic Ocean opened up.

Suggested dates/times: Monday 26th.May, 1.00pm start **or** Tuesday 27th.May, 2.00pm start (times and dates are fixed as tide dependant).

Start: Malltraeth Cwt Glas Car Park SH 407688

Length and grade of walk:-3 miles, 2-3 hrs. **Moderate**, please bring wellington boots

Guide: Paul Gasson

Llangoed Castle Tour 2.00 pm

Walk from the pretty village of Llangoed to Aberlleiniog. Listen as our knowledgeable guide tells you about the recently completed renovation of ‘Castell Aberlleiniog’ one of the earliest Norman castle sites in North Wales and dates back to the 11th century. Apart from its historical and archaeological value the castle is important locally as a focus for recreation and as a beauty spot with wonderful views. Continue on to the medieval monastery at Penmon and back to Llangoed.

Start: Llangoed car park opposite Rhyd Pub – Grid Ref SH 616790

Length and grade of walk: 4 miles, 4 hrs, moderate

Leader: Neil Johnstone

Otters and Water Voles 4.00pm

Come for a journey through Malltraeth Marsh on the hunt for signs of Otters and Water Voles. Learn about these shy creatures their habits and habitats and the conservation measures that are being taken to protect them today.

Start: RSPB Reserve Car Park Pentre Berw, Gaerwen

Length and grade of walk: 2.5 miles, easy.

Leader: Gareth Pritchard Conservation Officer Menter Môn

Cycling Event 5

The Hebog 6.00pm

Cycle this lovely coastal area of Anglesey past Lligwy Beach, Din Lligwy, Mynydd Bodafon, Bryn Refail Craft Centre(Anglesey Good Gifts) and the Cefni Reservoir on this 20 mile route. Should you wish you can reduce this loop to 15 miles

Start: Benllech Public Library – SH517825

Length & Grade of loop: 15 or 22 miles, moderate

Leaders: Members of Holyhead Cycling Club

Tuesday June 2nd

Cemlyn and Carmel Head Circular 10:30 a.m.

Starting from Bryn Aber Car Park we join the Isle of Anglesey Coastal Path and follow it to Carmel Head passing the White Ladies and Ynys y Fydlyn, from here we carry on following the Coastal Path then turn inland and return to the starting point enjoying the fauna and flora via country lanes and footpaths.

Start: Bryn Aber Car Park SH 329 935

Length and grade: 7.5 miles Easy

Leader: Allan Norris. 01407 740013

Walking for Wildlife at Cors Goch NNR 10.30am

Explore the history, landscape and biodiversity of one of Anglesey's internationally important wildlife sites. The walk will take in some of the outstanding features of Cors Goch, with excellent opportunities to encounter a varied range of wildlife in heathland, flower-rich grassland, woodland and wetland habitats, all in the company of the reserve's warden.

Start: Private parking at Lôn Lydan, Llanbedrgoch, to the east of Pen y Cefn farm (signposted for the event) SH498803

Length & Grade of walk: 3-4 miles, 5 hours; moderate; damp/wet conditions underfoot

Leader: Jon Rowe, Cors Goch Warden

Sand Dunes and Salty Air, Aberffraw 10.30am

Sand-dunes are fascinating places crammed full of special plants, birds and animals, making for unique sights, sounds and smells. So too are beaches, strandlines and estuaries, and you'll get to enjoy them all at Aberffraw! Come and learn about the wildlife we encounter as we meander through these different habitats, and why managing these places is so important. Bring a picnic for lunch and a paddle (if you fancy) on the beach.

Please dress sensibly for the weather, bring suncream, comfortable footwear and a picnic lunch with plenty to drink.

Start point: Aberffraw beach car park: SH357 690

Length and grade of the walk: 1.5 miles, 2.5-3 hours (includes half hour for lunch), Easy/Moderate

Leader: Karen Rawlins

Red Squirrel of Plas Cadnant 2.00 pm

Discover the hidden treasures of Plas Cadnant Hidden Gardens, Menai Bridge. Led by experts from the local Red Squirrel Trust the fascinating habitat of Red Squirrels will be revealed along with the lives of other species that take refuge in this beautiful setting which is a designate Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Start: Plas Cadnant Hidden Gardens: SH 553 733 Look for brown tourist signs. Take the drive half a mile, following signs for Cottages/Hidden Gardens/parking. Meet at garden entrance. Sorry no dogs. Tea Room open.

Length and Grade of walk: 1 mile, 1.5 hrs, Easy/Moderate

Leader: Plas Cadnant Garden Guide, Dr Craig Shuttleworth

Wednesday June 3rd

Flowers and Potions - Llanddwyn Island 2.00pm

Walk through the forest of Newborough down to Llanddwyn Island exploring a wide variety of flora and seaweed and learning about the medicinal plants that have been used since mediaeval times

Start: Newborough Beach car park (please note there is a £3.00 parking fee: SH 405 634

Length & Grade of Walk: 4 miles, 3 hrs, moderate with some steep cliffs

Leader: Bethan Jones

A Rocky Road to Sainthood 1.30pm

The Cemaes and Llanbadrig areas contain the oldest fossils in England or Wales, 860 million year old bacteria (stromatolites) that produced oxygen that made the Earth able to create other life and kick start evolution. They are found in blocks of jumbled rock called *mélange* for which Anglesey is famous. Melange also includes rocks injected as lava (dykes) when southern England and Wales crashed into Scotland 450 million years ago. Follow the rock trail to see all Anglesey's rocks at Trwyn y Penrhyn. At Llanbadrig, also in *mélange*, St Patrick on his way to convert Ireland was wrecked near the coast. Come and see the story unfold at his cave, well and church that he founded. Between the 2 sites be amazed at the time and tide bell that chimes when the tide comes in by the harbour beach.

Start: National Trust Car Park Llanbadrig Church: SH 376947

Length & Grade of Walk: 2 miles, 3 hrs, moderate with some uneven paths, not suitable for disabled or wheelchairs.

Leader: Johnathon Walsh

NO DOGS BOOTS DILLAD

Marine Treasures - Rock-pooling at Rhosneigr 4.00pm

Come and see what lurks beneath the waves and gets left behind when the tide goes out. Natural Resources Wales marine staff will help you discover that there is a lot more to the beach than sand and surfing!

Very young children may not be able to reach the furthest rock pools but are welcome to join in as far as they are able.

Please dress sensibly for the weather, bring suncream and plenty to drink.

Be prepared to get wet – especially you feet and shoes. Wear shorts and beach shoes or sandals you can paddle in or Wellingtons.

Bring your own net and bucket if you want, or use one of ours.

Start point: Rhosneigr slipway, at the end of Beach Road; SH316 732

Length and grade of walk: Short; rocks could be slippery

Leader: Rowland Sharp

Hidden Treasures of South West Anglesey 10.00 am - 16.30 pm

Excellent opportunity to visit some of the hidden treasures of the Menai Straits and South West region of Anglesey on a 'Walk & Ride' guided tour. Short walks and mini

bus hops will enable us to visit historical and interesting locations such as the site of the Roman invasion, old ferry locations that were in use before the building of bridges, walk the stepping stones over the river Braint and much more; your knowledgeable guide will have interesting stories and old pictures to enhance the enjoyment of the day.

Start: Victoria Hotel: SH 556 717

Total walking distance – minimal, Early booking advisable

Leader: Alwyn Griffith www.celticos.com

The Telor 6.00 pm

A great opportunity to see this stunning area on a bike. Feel the wind in your hair as you cycle the Telor loop and stop for a short while at Penmon Priory. Proceed back to the start and treat yourself to a glass of wine a pint or a good meal! before cycling home

Start: Beaumaris Pier

Length & Grade of loop: 16 miles, Moderate

Leaders: Members of Mona Cycling Club

Thursday June 4th

Bike and Seek – Lon Las Cefni 11.00 am

Bike Lon Las Cefni from Malltraeth to Llangefni in search of natural treasures – what will you find in the variety of landscapes at Malltraeth Cob?

Start point: Cwt Glas car park;

Organiser: Dewi Jones

Heathland Restoration, East Anglesey (near Moelfre) 10.00am-3.30pm

Volunteering is a great way to get out and about, keep fit, meet new people and have some fun, as well as help care for the special qualities and outstanding landscape of Anglesey. Why not give it a go and join staff and other volunteers from the Anglesey Countryside and AONB team, as they carry out work to restore and improve the heathland at this special site near Moelfre. The work will involve clearing and burning scrub to allow the heathland plants and animals to flourish once again.

Start point: Llanallgo Church car park, near Moelfre (we will move on from here); SH502851

Leader: AONB Community Wardens

Newborough Warren and Ynys Llanddwyn NNR 11am

Newborough Warren and Ynys Llanddwyn National Nature Reserve is one of our most spectacular and important sand dune systems. On this walk, led by the Senior Reserve Manager, you will discover how the sand dune system and its plants and animals have evolved through constant change and what is being done today to manage and protect it.

Start: NRW Car park at Llyn Rhos Ddu: SH 426 647

Length and grade of walk: 4 miles, approx 4 hours, easy, suitable for children.

Facilities: Shop and Post office in Newborough village.

Event Leader: Graham Williams

Creative Writing – Llanbadrig Church 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Join Will Stewart for a creative writing session at one of Ynys Mon / Anglesey's most amazing and atmospheric places - Llanbadrig Church. Let the centuries-old building, set against an amazing backdrop - the restless Irish Sea, inspire you to reach a higher plane with your writing. Will's workshops are fun and informal but feel free to challenge yourselves. Will has a Masters degree in Writing: Practice and Context, from Bangor University, while his profession involves being part of Ynys Mon / Anglesey's Countryside & AONB Service.

Venue:- St Patricks Church, Llanbadrig: SH 376 947

Speaker:- Will Stewart

The Trials of Beaumaris Court 6.00pm

Join us on an unique experience of Crime and Punishment on Anglesey. Firstly at Beaumaris Courthouse, one of the oldest in the country and celebrating its 400th anniversary this year, take part in a mock trial. Each individual will take on the sentence of real individuals from the past. Then move on to the old County Gaol (Jail) to see what was in store for the guilty!

Start: Beaumaris Green Car Park: SH 607 763

Length and Grade: 2 miles, Easy

Leader: Pat West

Friday June 5th

Holyhead Mountain Circular 10.00 a.m.

This is a stony, rocky walk in most places with spectacular views. Some short steepish ascents and some sheer cliffs. Come prepared, there is no shelter from wind, rain or sunshine, nor vehicle access for rescue. There is a cafe and toilets at the breakwater heritage park half way round, but if fine we will picnic on the summit of Holyhead Mountain for excellent views. It may be possible to visit the lighthouse at the end of the walk if requested, a small charge is made by the RSPB.

Start: RSPB South Stack Plas Nico Car Park SH 211 819

Length and Grade: 5.5 miles Moderate

Leader: Trevor Brown 01407 730173

No dogs, Picnic and Stout Boots symbols

Cors Bodeilo; Access for all! 11am

Because they're so wet, wetlands are places we don't often visit, so we don't always appreciate the richness of the wildlife and plants they support. Cors Bodeilio National Nature Reserve has the benefit of a new boardwalk leading into the very heart of the site which gives the opportunity for everyone to enjoy this fabulous place. There will be a chance to take part in some pond-dipping for those that fancy and discover what lurks in the murk!

Everyone is welcome!

Please dress sensibly for the weather, bring suncream, comfortable footwear and a picnic lunch with plenty to drink.

Start: Talwrn Community Hall Car Park: SH490 771

Length and grade of the walk: 1 mile, Easy, 2hr (including lunch) , Easy/Moderate

Leader: Emyr Humphreys

Wild Food Foraging Event, Holyhead Breakwater Country Park 11am-4pm

Come and learn about the edible, medicinal and useful properties of wild plants. The event is led by "Wild Food Enthusiast" Jules Cooper from The Incredible Edible Hedgerow Project, in collaboration with the Anglesey Countryside & AONB team. A display of wild food and information will be available from 11-4pm in the visitors centre. Forage at 2pm. For more information about Jules go to www.cornhelyg-permaculture.co.uk

Location: Holyhead Breakwater Country Park; SH 226 834

Length & Grade of Walk: tbc

Leader: Jules Cooper, AONB Community Warden

Llanddwyn Island. 11.30

Visit magical Llanddwyn Island, learn about Dwynwen the patron saint for love in Wales, the connections with some of the oldest Welsh folk tales (the Mabinogion), and discover the world class geology of this fascinating area, much of which is globally unique.

Start point: Newborough beach car park: SH357 690

Length and grade of the walk: 4 miles, 5 hours Moderate

Leader: Paul Gasson

The Grimm's Fairytale Event 6.00 pm

Enjoy an evening walk through Tyddyn Môn, which will be transformed in to a land of fairy tales! Hear the stories and meet the characters from stories inspired by the tales of the brothers Grimm. Finish the walk in our cafe, where we will be providing refreshments.

Start: Tyddyn Môn Café: SH 484 869

Length & grade of Walk: approx 0.5 miles, 1 hr, easy.

Leader: Rhiannon Williams

Tyddyn Môn is a social enterprise providing day care facilities in a working environment for adults with learning difficulties. Tyddyn Môn farm is located in Brynrefail, Dulas in a scenic location and within extensive grounds.

Saturday June 6th

Rhoscolyn and Silver Bay - Wildlife and Conservation Walk 11.00pm

Discover this lesser known walk around Rhoscolyn and why it is so special for wildlife and nature conservation. We walk through lots of different habitats; quiet fields and lanes, the sheltered pine wood to Silver Bay, secluded sandy beaches, coastal heathland with spectacular glacial rock features and finishing with spectacular views from Rhoscolyn coast-watch lookout.

The rare chough is often seen here, breeding peregrine falcon, and a variety of special wild flowers, birds and butterflies. Learn some of the Welsh names for the wildlife and what they mean, discover the traditional uses of the flowers and enjoy the simple pleasure of walking in beautiful scenery.

Start: St. Gwenfaen's Church Rhoscolyn SH267756

Length and Grade: 3.7 miles, 2-3 hrs, Moderate, mostly flat, some rough, rocky and boggy ground, one hill.

Leader: Caroline Bateson, Walking Group Leader & Wildlife Guide

07725174087

<http://www.angleseywildlifewalks.com>

picnic no dogs stout boots symbols

Maritime and Natural History Walk – Holyhead Maritime Museum to the Breakwater Country Park. 2.00pm

Join the Anglesey Countryside & AONB team and members of the Holyhead Maritime Museum on this walk along Anglesey's Coastal Path, while learning about the fascinating maritime and natural history of the area. Once you reach the Breakwater Country Park you will be treated to a wealth of information on the flora, fauna and industrial history of this special corner of Holy Island, including a guided tour of the innovative open air brick shed gallery.

Start: Holyhead Maritime Museum, Newry Beach; SH 245 833

Length & Grade of Walk: 2.5 miles, 3-4 hrs, easy

Leader: Gareth Evans, Countryside Warden

Menai Suspension Bridge and Historic Waterfront 2pm

Starting from Canolfan Thomas Telford, a guided walk over and under Menai Suspension Bridge with detailed explanations of how the bridge was built and its later reconstruction. After passing under the bridge walk along the historic waterfront to Church Island, with commentary on the Belgian Prom, Coed Cynol, etc., and return to the Canolfan.

Start: Canolfan Thomas Telford, SH 555 718
Length and grade of the walk: 1.5 miles, 2 hrs, Moderate
Leader: Bob Daimond and Joanna Robertson and others

Sunday June 7th

Copper Kingdom - Mini Triathlon

Are you between 16 and 25, would you like a new challenge? Why not try the Copper Kingdom Triathlon – row the waters of Amlwch Harbour, climb the hill to Parys Mountain and then run the 5 kilometre course around the mountain – would you like to be crowned King or Queen of Copper Kingdom

Start: Sail Loft Amlwch Port: SH
Organisers: LLangefni Social Enterprise/Menter Môn

Bird Watching and Historical Tour of the Valley Lakes 9.30 am

A bird watching and historical walk around Llyn Cerrig Bach where Iron age artefacts including a slave chain, tools, and chariot parts were found by local M.O.D. grounds man W O Roberts in 1943. His daughter, a local historian will provide an interesting talk about the artefacts by the Lake at the beginning of this walk. This area is also one of the most important reserves and historical sites on Anglesey and your guide an RSPB warden will explain how the lakes are cultivated and managed for the protection of migratory wildfowl and other wildlife living on this reserve.

Start: RSPB Car Park, RAF Valley; SH 312 765
Length & Grade of Walk: 2 miles: 2-3 hrs, easy
Binoculars required
Guide: Eflyn Owen-Jones (at Llyn Cerrig Bach) and Ian Sims

Dulas Coastal Walk – 10.00 am

Discover the previously inaccessible coastline south of Point Lynas. This new section of Coastal Path has spectacular scenery and views, and will form part of a circular walk also taking in Mynydd Eilian - with its flora and lake.

For all church lovers a visit to the beautiful church of Llanwenllwyfo with its fine example of 16th and 17th century Flemish Glass.

Starting point – Llaneilian car park – Grid ref: 475928

Length of walk – 7 miles

Grade of walk – Moderate with some steep sections.

Cautionary Note – Care should be taken above sea cliffs

Leader: Peter Bratton

The 410 Steps - 1.30 pm

Spend some time birdwatching with an RSPB warden on this spectacular North Western coast of Anglesey. Learn about the many species of birds including guillemots, puffins, peregrines and choughs that nest on the cliffs. Visit the Lighthouse ‘410 steps down’ and walk among nesting gulls on the ground under foot and wonder at the world famous folded rocks and cliffs of the Island of South Stack.

Start Point: RSPB Car Park near South Stack: SH 211 817

Length and Grade of walk: 2 miles, strenuous – not suitable for people with mobility problems

Fee: £4.00 per person

Leader: Jonathan Walsh, RSPB Guide

Maelog Trail 9.30 am

The first part of the walk will be a circuit of Llyn Maelog on a boardwalk and well defined footpaths passing a wildlife conservation area and a small island where you will always see a variety of birds (bring binoculars). You will cross a footbridge over the stream at the furthest point of the lake and walk around the west shore to cross the A4080 to reach the Anglesey Coastal Footpath which passes through the dunes to Porth Nobla beach where you inevitably see some oyster-catchers as featured on the Isle of Anglesey AONB logo. The walk then follows the coast to the Neolithic period burial chamber of Barclodiad y Gawres. The walk returns to Porth Nobla and along the beach towards Traeth Llydan to enter the dunes and follow the footpath at the rear of The Oyster Catcher where you will be treated to a seafood sampling taster session by the Cadets (trainee chefs) of the establishment supported by Timpsons.

Start: Off road parking area at SH 321 727 to the left immediately past the road bridge on the A4080 bring torch (Barcloddiad y Gawres)

Length & Grade of Walk: 5 miles, 5 hrs, easy

Leaders: Roy Nally

WALKING FOR SCHOOLS

The Isle of Anglesey Walking Festival is pleased to include walks designed for primary school children years 5 and 6 and secondary school children years 7 and 8/ with some activities geared for yrs 9/10 - please note packed lunches will be required.

These tours will be guided by experienced people and will include not only local history trails, flora and fauna, marine life, heritage and culture, but also activities involving the media and radio presenting.

Monday (primary only)

Come to Tyddyn Môn for a fun and informative tour of the farm. Meet our animals and find out what goes on around the farm, with fun and games along the way! Finish the walk in our cafe, where there will be plenty to do, with fun activities, a children's pool table and a soft play area.

Start: Tyddyn Môn Café: SH 384 869

Leader: Gethin Crump

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Cors Erddreiniog; Wet and Wonderful! (primary only)

Cors Erddreiniog is one of the biggest fenland areas in Europe and is internationally important. It is home to some amazing wild aquatic life including swan mussel, water scorpion, dragonflies, adders, frogs, newts and water voles. We'll walk through the sedges and rushes taking time to admire some of the very special plants that live here, such as marsh orchids and the insectivorous bladderwort. At the heart of the site lies Llyn yr Wyth Eidion with its bird hide. You'll have to watch and listen carefully to see many of the birds here. You'll spend some time pond-dipping to see what lies beneath the water and we'll have expert advice to help identify what you find.

Bring a picnic and plenty to drink, and the minimum essential kit to prevent you getting very wet, cold and muddy includes wellies, waterproofs, warm clothing, sun-hat, sun-cream and a rucksack to carry everything.

Start: Capel Coch, SH458 821

Length and grade of the walk: 2 miles, Easy, 3-4hrs (including lunch)

Leader: Emyr Humphreys

Tuesday.

Seashells and Sand Sculptures, Porth Nobla 10.00am (primary only)

This is a great opportunity for kids to get involved and have fun! We will be scouring the stand line for shells and other things of interest, and using them later to create some fabulous beach art. Marine specialists and shell enthusiasts will be on hand to help identify your finds and we will also have plenty of keen creative-types to help you along with your sand sculptures.

Please dress sensibly for the weather, bring suncream, comfortable footwear and a picnic lunch with plenty to drink.

Location: Porth Nobla Car Park; SH330 717

Duration: approx 3.5hrs (including picnic lunch)

Leader: Karen Rawlins

Introduction to Aviation 10.00 am 1.00 pm (secondary school only)

Visit Mona Airfield and learn all about flying. Take turns with the simulator and see a 'real aircraft' before it takes off.

Venue: Mona Airfield Gwalchmai: SH 412 758

Leader: David Frankland

Wednesday

Amazing Sand dunes! 10.00am 1.00pm (secondary only)

Aimed at KS3 and 4, kids will learn how sand dunes are formed, and how the plants and animals that live here survive some pretty harsh conditions that would finish off most others!

Please dress sensibly for the weather, bring suncream, comfortable footwear and a picnic lunch with plenty to drink.

Start: NRW Car park at Llyn Rhos Ddu, SH426 647

Length and grade of the walk: approx 2 miles, approx 3.5hours (includes half hour for lunch), Easy

Leader: Karen Rawlins

The Copper Coin Trail 10.00am and 1.00 pm (primary and secondary)

Visit the Copper Bins in the old harbour of Amlwch, hear about the history of the copper coin and the druids head and how it contributed to the development of currency world wide. Learn about the history of boat building and shipping of copper mined on Parys Mountain.

Start: Sail Loft Car Park: SH 453 935

Length and grade of walk: 1 mile, easy.

Leader: Peter Williams

Thursday May 22nd

Geo-Caching the High Tech Treasure Hunt 9.30am – 11.30am and 12.00pm - 3.00pm (primary only)

Come and try the increasingly popular sport of geo-caching at the Breakwater Country Park. This high tech treasure hunt uses Geographical Positioning System (GPS) units to find hidden treasure boxes or ‘caches’ in interesting places.

Start point: Breakwater Country Park: SH 228 834
Length and grade of walk: 1 mile, 4 hours moderate
Leader: Peter Hewlett

Trwyn Cemlyn Walk 10.00am and 1.00pm (primary only)

Walk and discover the heritage and wildlife of Cemlyn. Visit Bryn Aber the home of Captain Vivian Hewitt the first man to fly across the Irish and the monument to the island’s first lifeboat which closed in 1918. Then move on to Mynachdy which to this day retains original navigation markers linking it to copper mining and industrial heritage of the island, whilst birdwatching and discovering a variety of wildlife en route

Start Point: Bryn Aber Car Park, Cemlyn SH328936
Length & Grade: Mostly easy
Leader: Bryn Jones, Gwynfor Owen

Friday May 23

Introduction to Fashion 10.00am and 1.00pm (secondary only yrs 9 and 10 - 2 x 1.30hr sessions)

An introduction to Fashion by Robert Jones of Menter Môn. Visit the Ffiws Project in Llangefni where you will be introduced to the world of fashion and design. Listen as Rob instructs you on ‘treading the catwalk’ and learn about the origins of the fabrics used in the clothes we wear today.

Otters and Water Voles (primary only)

Come for a journey through Malltraeth Marsh on the hunt for signs of Otters and Water Voles. Learn about these shy creatures their habits and habitats and the conservation measures that are being taken to protect them today.

Start: RSPB Reserve Car Park Pentre Berw, Gaerwen: SH 464 724
Length and grade of walk: 2.5 miles, easy.
Leader: Gareth Pritchard Conservation Officer Menter Môn