KNUCKLAS CIRCULAR WALKS –2

DESCRIPTION

Visit our Castle Hill monument and go via Bwlch-y-Plain to Goytre Hill. Return via the Heyope valley, visiting the church for Knucklas.

More info: www.knucklas.org.uk www.knucklascastle.org.uk

DISTANCE AND TIME

OS Map - Explorer 201/Landranger 148 Distance 6km (4m) Ascent - 275m. Highest point 370m. Allow 2 hours with stops. The route can be followed in either direction.

START

The walk begins in Knucklas village. Car parking: Community Centre car park; (for group walks please ask permission for cars).

Rail: Knucklas rail station. Bus: route 41

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ROUTE

NOTE: Distances are cumulative, from the stream bridge/telephone box in the village.

- 1. With the telephone box behind you look for the steps or field gate on the left going into the village orchard and allotments.
- 2. Cross the orchard to an interpretation board showing the paths on the Castle Hill. Follow the steps up the hill, and the path through some woodland to an opening where you can go right, up to the summit. Enjoy the view and then find a way down to a field gate in the NW corner of the hill. (If you can see the main road going in a long straight below you, go left to reach the boundary fence and follow it right.)
- 3. 1km: through the gate follow the fence on your left to another gate; go through onto a farm track. Where it bends left there is a gate on the right by an old barn. Go through and straight ahead.
- 4. 1.5km: Cross the field to a gate and through this follow the farm track to a farm yard. Go to the left of the fence but in the same direction to pass the yard and then head up hill about 45deg right. A gate comes into view, now follow the hedge on your left until you meet the houses. This is Bwlch-y-Plain.
- 5. 2.2km: Follow the road past the houses and straight across at the junction, to come to a gate. Here head up the hill to join a farm track and follow it up the hill to an old hedge. Pause to enjoy the view

 the steepest bit is now over. Turn slightly left along the vehicle track rising slowly and following the fence.

- 6. 3.km: In about 200m along the level section of path, look for a gate on the left (crossing footpath). Go through and head down hill.
- 7. 3.2km: Follow the vehicle tracks down until bearing a bit leftwards you join a farm track. Follow this under the railway bridge and take a small gate on the left (to avoid the farm yard). Go straight on heading for the church spire ahead. You approach a stream and follow it to a footbridge behind the church. You can visit the Heyope church and return by the road, or shortly look for a hedge corner ahead. The footpath goes through the hedge a little left of the corner, otherwise you may have to go to the railway line and go right there.
- 8. 4.5km: The path follows the side of the railway embankment (initially very boggy!) to a stile on the left. Cross the railway line (looking carefully first!!) and join the track in front. Turn right and follow the road into the village.

