



Penallt Circular Walks – Hawk

Length:	7.3 km; total ascent: 125m
Time:	90 to 110 minutes
Grade:	Two moderate climbs, several stiles
Starting point:	Tre-gagle bus shelter (SO 5206 0840).

The route takes in pasture, ancient woodland, mixed woodland and arable with short stretches on road.

THE ROUTE

- a. From the Tre-gagle bus stop walk 200m South West along the main road just past the brow of the hill. Find the footpath sign and turn left, between the workshop buildings and a bungalow. Straight down a short track to the stile and then follow the hedge line on your right. When the hedge turns a corner, keep going straight across to the next stile.
- b. Over this stile the path heads off at 45° to the right aiming 20 to 30 m to the right of the large tree in the centre of the field. At the far corner of this field cross into the next field through the open gateway and turn left keeping the hedge on your left – you are on the field access track. Over the stile at the end and turn right onto the metalled road. After about 40m enter the woods on your left (between two boulders) and then immediately turn right on a woodland path.
- c. Keep no more than 50 m from the road staying in the woods, ignoring paths off to the left. Keep going until you arrive at a small parking area. Enter this and you will find a continuation of the path starting close to the road at a gap in some fencing and then gradually diverging left.
- d. Follow this path down to a path T-junction where you turn right and continue until reaching a gap in a short fence. At this point the footpath enters a garden so be careful to stick to the path which exits the property along their drive. Keep any dogs on a lead.
- e. At the metalled road cross straight over. Open the gate into Newmills House and follow the drive past the house and garden - ducks, geese and chicks abound so be careful - keep any dog on a lead. Go through a gate and into an adjacent field– keep straight on until you see a way-mark pointing 45° to the left (just before a pond on your right – ignore those on the left). Cross a footbridge and follow the path to the metalled road; turn left and follow the road for 50m to the cross roads.
- f. At the cross roads look for an entrance to the woodland directly opposite and slightly right. Enter the woodland and follow the path up the hill until you meet a forestry gravel road. Here, turn right and follow the forest road for some 600m. Pass through a parking area, then turn right onto a metalled road. Follow the road for 100m, then turn left onto a path through the woods.
- g. Follow the path for 200m to a metalled road. Turn left and in 20m cross over a stile on your right into a field. Head off at about 11 o'clock to an obvious electricity pole, then turn a little more to the left, heading towards the stile in the hedge. Cross over the stile and immediately turn right onto the verge of the busy B2493 road.
- h. Turn right and walk carefully along the verge for 300m, past the entrance to the bungalow at Five Trees Farm. At the bus stop, turn right down a metalled farm road. Walk along the farm road for 150m until the tarmac ends outside a house, then continue in the same direction down a grassy path. On approaching a wooded area, cross a small stream using the stones provided, then continue straight ahead between two rhododendron trees. After 30m cross a wooden footbridge over a slightly larger stream, then cross a stile into the field and head off uphill and slightly to the right, heading for a single oak tree between two copses. Approaching the oak tree, look right to find a stile by a farm gate. Cross the stile and, passing a dilapidated stone farm building on your left, follow the field boundary round to the left, over another two stiles, to reach a lane.

- i. Turn right and follow the lane for 120m, passing the entrance to the Society of the Sacred Cross. After a further 60m you will find a pedestrian gate on the left. Enter the field and walk across generally parallel to the hedge line to your left. At the far corner pass through a metal farm gate and then walk 45° to the left heading towards a group of conifer trees, passing through another field gate. Continue on the same line until you come to a wooden stile followed by a stone stile adjacent to the field gate. Emerge onto a metalled lane.
- j. Cross the lane and enter a field by another stile adjacent to a farm gate. Keep tight to the field boundary on your left, passing the end of an old wall, keeping left and eventually arriving at a junction of field entrances. Over a stile, enter the field to your right and keep tight to the hedge on the left, looking out for a stile in the hedge after 100m. Cross the stile and turn right, now keeping the field boundary on your right. Follow the edge of the field into the corner and round to the left, then uphill to the right hand corner of the field, turning further right after crossing the old wall. A little further on to the right, a pair of stiles (wooden and stone) can be found which take you onto a track where you turn right.
- k. Follow the track until it turns sharp left. In front of you is the stile you need. Cross over this stile, keeping the hedge close on the right. Over a stone stile, turn left and look for a second stone stile set in the stone wall some 40m in front of you. Cross this, head 45° right and, bearing to the right of the holly tree on the other side of the field, look carefully for a stile and stream under some tree cover. Cross the stile and stream, and keeping the hedge on your left, crossing this field and the next two, passing a footpath junction to the left along the way. Keep straight ahead to a ladder stile. Over this stile you are entering two arable fields where the footpath crosses in a straight line continuation, cross one further stile between the two fields and a final one back onto the road where you started (aim for the bus shelter). Turn left to return to Penallt.

MAP

