

BUMS Trip Report – Cadair Bronwen/North Berwyns Friday June 13th, 2025

Group Participants: Iain (leader), Steve & Sarah, Ann & Neil, Christine & Dave, Lesley, Chrissie, Ray (with Flora), and Gordon (with Nula)

Departure Location: Llandrillo village car park

Planned Route: circular walk taking in Cadair Bronwen summit

Planned Distance: 10.75 miles **Total Ascent:** 2423 ft **Time** 5hrs 15mins (approx.)

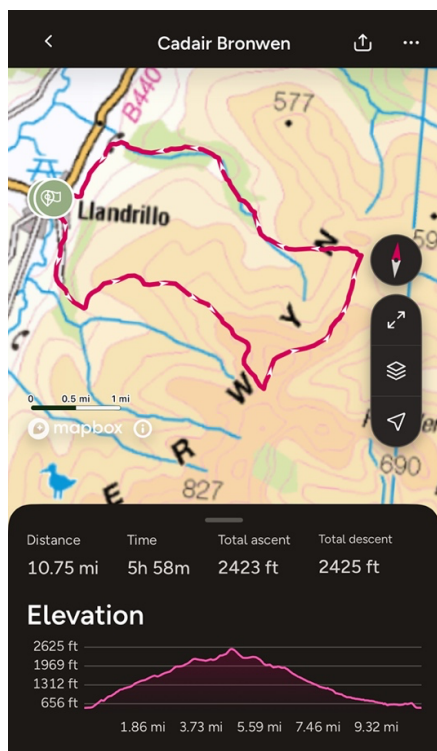
Weather: forecast had been quite changeable during the days leading up to walk day, with a gradual improvement to sunny conditions. Three cars optimistically departed the Pavilion car park at 08:15.

A sedate drive despite the rush hour traffic around Wrexham – that is until the walk leader who in his eagerness, shot a red light coming off the Wrexham bypass. We made our way to sleepy Llandrillo in the upper reaches of the Dee Valley and parked up in the village car park, which was free and had clean public toilets. Always a bonus! The walk commenced with some brooding clouds overhead and as we made our way up through the wooded lower slopes, the fine summer rain gave way to sunny conditions. The reccy route made during April had followed a gully where the path crisscrossed a stream bed, which at the time was quite dry, but there were boggy sections of peat and so the final route kept to higher ground as there had been a fair amount of rain during the intervening weeks.

We followed quad bike tracks which wound their way through the heather directly to the stile adjacent to the Bronwen summit cairn. Heading north from the summit, the moorland fell away gradually, and our path could be easily followed despite the numerous eroded hollows of peat. We noted a surprising amount of water held up on the summit ridge which made for boggy walking at times. There were lovely views down into the Nant Rhydwylym and Ceiriog valleys, but despite this there were some grumblings about a lunch stop and so we made our way onto a rocky escarpment to quell the tummy rumblings, while we gazed down into the valley.

Shortly after lunch we joined a track which headed back down towards the Dee Valley. The earlier reccy had been curtailed further down the slope as the farmer was in the process of erecting a new fence and the gate was not in operation at the time. Thankfully everything was now functioning, and we were able to head down into the forest and pick up the forestry track which took us back into the valley where we walked parallel to the main road below, through a series of fields before dropping back into the village.

The two dogs were extremely well behaved, and the walk passed without any walking injuries or incidents despite it being Friday 13th! The cars headed home, and we were back in The Dysart at around 16:20 for refreshments in the sunny garden.



Iain