

WALK 10 LIXWM - BRYNFORD ROUND

DESCRIPTION A 6 mile walk exploring pastureland, and open common lying between the old communities of Lixwm and Brynford. The route features impressive lime kilns and good views. Allow about 3½ hours

START Lixwm [S] 167716].

DIRECTIONS As you enter Lixwm on the B5121 from Holywell/Brynford direction, park in a large lay-by on the bend on the right.

Lixwm takes its name from Derbyshire miners who came to work in the local lead mines. They referred to their new home as a 'likesome place' and the settlement became known as 'Likesome Green'. It later became 'Licswm', then adapted its current form.

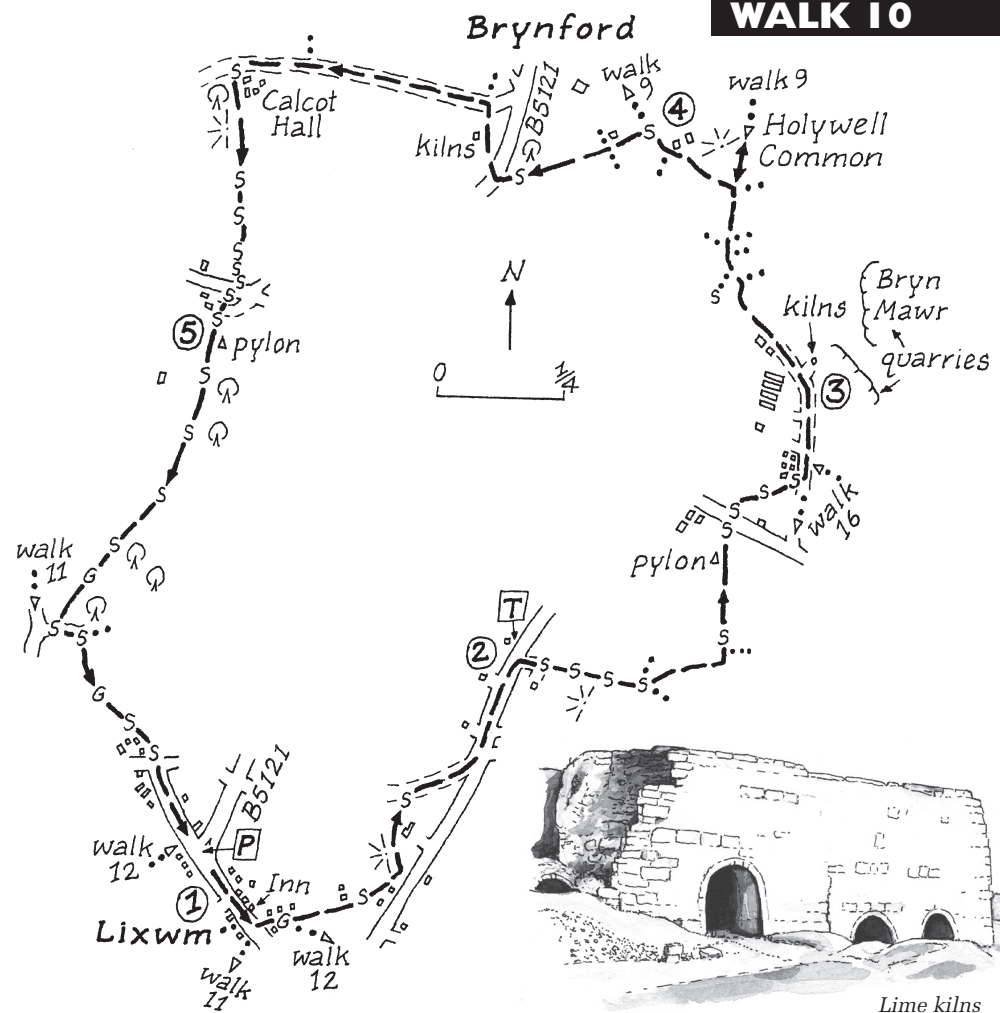
1 Follow the road through the village. Just beyond the 17thC Crown Inn's car park, take a signposted path on the left. Follow the boundary on the right round to a kissing gate into a field. Turn LEFT past another kissing gate and continue alongside the meandering tree boundary. After passing a stone ruin, cross a stile ahead, then go up the field edge. At the gate in the top corner, turn LEFT along the field edge, then pass to the left of a farm and continue ahead to a stile onto a hedge-lined lane. Follow it RIGHT, then turn LEFT along the road.

2 After passing Bryn Hyfrydd, with a telephone box ahead, turn RIGHT up a track to a stile/gate on its bend. Go up the field edge to another stile/gate, then follow the boundary on your right up the next field to go through a waymarked gap in the corner. Continue across the next field to cross a ladder-stile. Now go half-LEFT past a nearby tree/wall boundary corner. Ignore a path, and continue in the same direction across rough pasture to cross the low wall ahead and on towards the far field corner. Here cross a stile

by a telegraph pole just beyond a fenced off shaft. Now head along the long mine-capped field. Pass to the right of a pylon and continue to a stile/gate onto a road. Cross the stile almost opposite, then go half-RIGHT across the field to cross adjoining stiles, and on down to cross a stile in the corner by out-buildings. Turn LEFT along a nearby track passing in front of two 19th C stone houses, and a poultry farm.

3 When the track splits near an impressive set of five lime kilns by Pant y Pydew quarry take the LEFT fork to Waen y Broddlas. During the 19thC, Pant y Pydew quarry provided aberdo limestone used in the building of Menai and Runcorn bridges, and docks at Liverpool and Birkenhead. Its use as a cement that set under water made it a valuable commodity. Nearby is Bryn Mawr cherstone quarry. From early last century, cherstone, used in the china-making process, was transported from here in blocks to Staffordshire. Continue ahead with the green track past a large barn. As it bends left into a field, go half-RIGHT across an area of old workings to a good viewpoint after 70 yards. Here bear RIGHT for about 15 yards, then turn LEFT down a path through gorse. At the bottom of the slope, go half-RIGHT across an intersection of wide paths to follow the path ahead through a small area of bracken/gorse/small trees. Keep ahead, aiming for a wide green path rising up the gorse-covered slope of Holywell Common ahead, midway between two telegraph posts. Follow it up to a wide green cross-track. First continue ahead up the slope to enjoy extensive all-round views from its low summit. Now return down to the green cross-track. Follow it RIGHT and just before two cottages, bear LEFT to walk around the boundary of the left cottage.

4 About 35 yards beyond its boundary corner cross a stile on the left into a field. Go ahead down the field to pass a waymarked telegraph pole near a cottage and on down the large field towards Moel y Parc's TV transmitter mast to a stile/gate in the bottom corner. Continue to the nearby B5121. Cross the road, then bear RIGHT on a



signposted path, soon passing old lime kilns. At an access track, turn LEFT and follow it to Calcot Hall. Follow the track ahead past the large barn and cross a stile on the left just beyond. Go along the edge of a small wood, then the left-hand edge of a long field – enjoying extensive views. Cross a stile in the corner. Keep ahead, soon descending to a stile. Follow the edge of the next field round to another stile. Follow the stiled path to a road. Cross the stile opposite, then another at the rear left-hand corner the barn ahead.

5 Go up the field and on to cross a stile in its right-hand corner. Keep ahead alongside the boundary, soon descending to a stile. Continue ahead across the middle of the next four fields to eventually cross a stone stile near the final field corner to reach an enclosed bridgeway near a road. Turn LEFT along the bridgeway, and after about 80 yards, cross a stile on your right. Go up the field edge and through a gate in the top corner. Go up the field to clip a hedge corner and cross a stile just before a farm. Pass to the left of buildings to a stile onto a road. Go along the lane opposite past Pentre Farm, soon reaching the start.