# Nick Kaye Special: 7 – Brecon to Cardiff

## Date: 29th January 1988

## Distance/Ascent: 51.9 miles, 9053 feet

## Leader: Nick Kaye

## Route Description:

* Start at Brecon (outside gates of Christ College) at (SO 043 286).
* Track from bridge over River Usk south to road junction at (SO 051 267).
* Road west past Cefn Cantref to road junction at (SO 041264).
* South to road junction at (SO 039 255).
* Then westwards to junction with farm track at (SO 031 251).
* South up farm track then hillside, over Allt Ddu, then up Cefn Cwm Llwch to summit of Pen y Fan (2906 feet). Then Craig Cwm Sere to path round side of Cribyn to Roman Road.
* Roman Road south to Blaen Taf Fechan then track round to Torpantau Station.
* Note: the next paragraph cannot now be followed because the Brecon Mountain Railway now uses the course of the old railway.
* Course of old railway south past Pontsticill Reservoir descending to road at (SO 060 114).
* Road south rejoining course of old railway at (SO 061 106).
* Railway followed as far as viaduct at (SO 045 099).
* Road down to Pont Sarn at (SO 045 097). Path down left bank of Afon Taf Fechan to Pont y Cefn and A470 (now A4054) at (SO 037 076).
* Main road into Merthyr Tydfil to central road junction at (SO 050 066). South down high street, west through shopping precinct crossing Afon Taf via footbridge at (SO 047 061).
* Pathway past Rhyd-y-car Leisure Centre and under A470 dual carriageway.
* Follow old Glamorgan canal past Abercanaid, Troedyrhiw and Aberfan.
* Through fields to Pont y Gwaith at (ST 080 976) and across Afon Taf.
* Penydarren tramroad past Edwardsville to re-cross Afon Taf at (ST 090 965).
* Pathway southwards beside Afon Taf passing under the new road bridges to cross railway at (ST 089 955).
* Roads through Abercynon, crossing Afon Cynon at (ST 083 950) to leave houses on track at (ST 080 953).
* Track and road past Gilfach-rhydd to junction at (ST 063 957).
* Track south past Gellifendigaid Farm then south-west to cross Nant Clydach at (ST 066 931)
* Across B4273 then track south-east to B4273 at (ST 076 910).
* North-east on B44273 for short way then across Afon Taf via bridge at (ST 077 910).
* Roads south through Pontypridd to enter Memorial Park at (ST 078 904).
* Path south-east through park then path via Hendre-Prosser and Ffynnon Rhingyll to Eglwysilan.
* Road southwards to Ffynnonbwla at (ST 112 878).
* Path south-west downhill, past new superstores, under A470 and across Treforest Industrial Estate to road junction at (ST 103 866).
* Path south-east via Coed Maes-bach to road at (ST 111 855).
* Road then track south via Garth Fawr to summit of Garth Hill.
* Path east along ridge then down to road and through Gwaelod-y-garth to top of zig-zag path at (ST 116 838).
* Down zig-zag path, across Afon Taf via footbridge.
* Across main road at Taff’s Well Inn, across railway via footbridge at (ST 121 838) and over A470 into Glan-y-llyn estate. North through estate to (ST 122 843).
* Path to old railway at (ST 123 846) then old railway north to (ST 122 849).
* Path up ridge to summit of Craig yr Allt then down east ridge to road and road junction at (ST 142 853).
* Road then path to Waun-waelod. Path to summit of Caerphilly Common.
* East across A469 then path and track down The Warren via (ST 167 859) to join road at (ST 170 857).
* Road south to track junction at (ST 169 855). Track south over ridge and Graig Llanishen.
* Down Heol Hir to home.

## Weather: Mild to start, windy with snow on Pen y Fan at midnight, rain then to Merthyr. Cool, dry and calm to Treforest except windy on the ridges. Misty and windy on Garth Hill, bright and clear for rest of walk, even with some sun.

## Participants: Nick Kaye, Chris Coy, Mike Evans, Alun Jones, Andrew Clabon, Brian Williams, Bob Ford, Tony Rowley, Mac McArthur, Mac Wilkins, Richard Brooke, Chris & Shirley Hume, Ken & Isabel Falconer, John Bickerstaffe