## Notes on the walk (following an anti-clockwise course)

The directions follow an anti-clockwise course. The route starts on the road known as 'the City lane'.

- 1. Car Parking available at Sarn Village Hall opposite the pub.
- 2. Crossing the Caebitra brook flowing east.
- 3. A small stream from 'The City'. After 100 mtrs turn left left past 2 cottages
- 4. On the right are field ridges 'humps & bumps' probably part of a mediaeval monastery farm: 'Bachaethlon'
- 5. At Cyfenni farm by the end of track, through gate on right a& cross fields containing several large oaks. The first on the right probably 500 years old
- 6. A rocky depression with a spring & marshy pool. Once home to curlews.
- 7. A line of ancient oak trees & a large spring & pool. The water probably used to drive the monastery water-mill at Gwernygo ( mile away)
- 8. The largest & oldest oak tree probably 800 years old. May have been in existence when Henry 3rd's English army tried (unsuccessfully) to force its way up the valley in September 1228



9. View point of the glaciated valley towards Corndon Hill & the Long Mynd. Much of the landscape was anciently lake or marshland





- 10. Wood House built on rocky promontory; oldest part maybe 400 years old.
- 11. View point looking across the valley of the River Mule. A glacier 300 metres deep (almost as high as the hill tops) deposited rocks and soil (now part of the gently rolling landscape) & diverted the River Mule. which created a deep valley leading north (to Abermule)



## THE SARN OAKS TRAIL







Dyffryn Ceri (The Vale of Kerry) has many old oaks; some possible survivors from ancient woodland that existed ago.

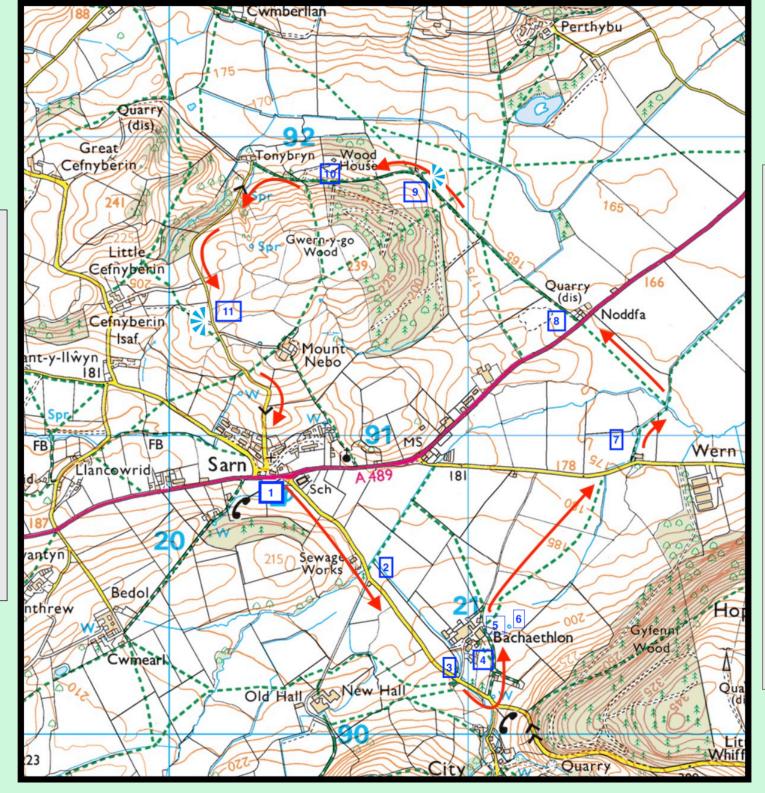
The valley, was created by a glacier flowing west to east, to the Long Mynd. The glacier left material over the hills & valley to the west of the Sarn The U bend shape of the valley produces springs on the sides of hills and in the valley. The road behind the pub is 'Spring Bank' because occasionally after heavy rain water, under pressure, burst out causing flooding.

'Y Sarn' in English is 'the paved causeway', (over wet ground) where an ancient route from the Kerry Ridgeway to the Severn valley crossed a route along the valley. (now the A489). Until the mid 19th century there was only the pub, a Baptist Chapel & the houses between those two buildings.

The old oaks in the valley provided building timber - growing again (at various angles) over the centuries.



Other oaks were planted alongside roads made or straightened 200 years ago. These oaks, generally unused, have straighter trunks. Point 7 on the route has old oaks in the field & newer oaks along the road





The trail is a 5+ km (3 miles) circular route around the watershed lands of 'Y Sarn' in Dyffryn Ceri.
The trail has a 'view' symbol of for 2 places with contrasting views over Dyffryn Ceri.

The route starts at 'The Sarn': a watershed between two streams

To the west the landscape 'rolls' & slopes into the River Mule (Afon Miheli). To the east, the land gradually descends along side Nant Caebitra... & can flood



The Sarn Oaks leaflet is

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