

Carrow Hill - St Brides area

Walk Saturday 19th June

Covering the Larches Hill Fort, Carrow Hill, the deserted village of St Brides and Penhow. Meet at the Cadw car park Caerwent at 2.30 pm. Time 2 hours or less. *All welcome.*

"Harry Potter with the Lid Off"

Talk Monday 12th July 7.30pm

The best story of the 21st century – how much is real and how much is imaginary? How do the places and people of the books relate to the Chepstow area and even to Caerwent? Much will be revealed by J K Rowling's humble Potions teacher. All welcome to this illustrated talk at the Westgate Barns, knowledge of the books or films is not essential.

Cas Troggy

We are immensely fortunate in Gwent to have so many places of historical interest, many of which are right on our doorstep here in Caerwent. One such place is Cas Troggy situated at Pen-y-cae-mawr by the road to Shirenewton, just beyond Wentwood. It's on private land well hidden from the road and you need a guide to get there.



Hidden among the bushes and trees are the remains of a castle built by Roger Bigod III, Earl of Norfolk, as a hunting lodge in 1303 but soon after abandoned. The name Cas (Castell = Castle), Troggy comes from the brook that runs by it which could derive from the Welsh word Trochydd or "the Plunger" meaning headlong mountain brook. There is a moat surrounding the castle, fed by the source of the brook.

At the time it was built claims on your land were likely to be made by your neighbour and since Roger Bigod's neighbour was Gilbert de Clare the Earl of Gloucester, the castle would have been useful to defend his forest land as well use as a hunting lodge.

It is well worth a visit as you can still clearly see the remains of the walls. It has an eerie feel, the remains greatly resemble a Cambodian temple half emerging from the jungle.

Rob Jones

N.B. we take every care in preparation of walks etc but you take part at your own risk