



INSPIRATIONS
01594 841416 Open Monday-Saturday
Hill Street, Lydney, GL15 5HW
Picture framing and gift shop.

THE COFFEE HOUSE IN BATHURST PARK
07511 835551 Open from Spring to Autumn
A lovely cafe in the Park serving home-made cakes,
good coffee and snacks.
Tables inside and out if the weather is good.

REGENTS WALK
Newerne Street, Lydney, GL15 5RF
A selection of interesting shops and cafes off
Newerne Street in the centre of Lydney.

LYDNEY OPEN AIR SWIMMING POOL
01594 842625 Open during summer 12-6pm
High Street, Lydney, GL15 5DY
An excellent 38m open air pool with snack shop,
an extensive area for picnics, sunbathing etc & toilets.
*The pool is fully supervised by
qualified lifeguards.*

KEY INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

Bathurst Park is open during daylight hours throughout the year.



Public toilets can be found at
Albert Street Car Park
Bathurst Park Pavilion



Disabled Access Toilet and Changing Place
can be found at

The Coffee House in Bathurst Park Pavilion



Tourist Information can be found at
www.wyedeantourism.co.uk



Tourist Information Centres can be found at
Coleford and **Monmouth**



Public Transport

Lydney has a train station located on the
Gloucestershire-Newport line
www.nationalrail.co.uk

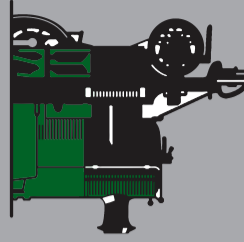


Lydney bus station has a range of
bus services available
www.travelinesw.com



01594 845840 Open selected days
Norcard Station, Forest Road, Lydney, GL15 4ET
Steam and Heritage Railway with 5 stations so you
can get off to explore the local area and get a chance
to experience the relaxing pace of a typical country
branch line.

**Forest
of Dean
Railway
Limited**



TAURUS CRAFTS
01594 844841 Open everyday from 10am
The Old Park, Lydney, GL15 6BU
An arts and crafts visitor centre, with over 15 small
artisan businesses, gift shop, wholesale and gluten
free cafe, and local farm shop and deli.



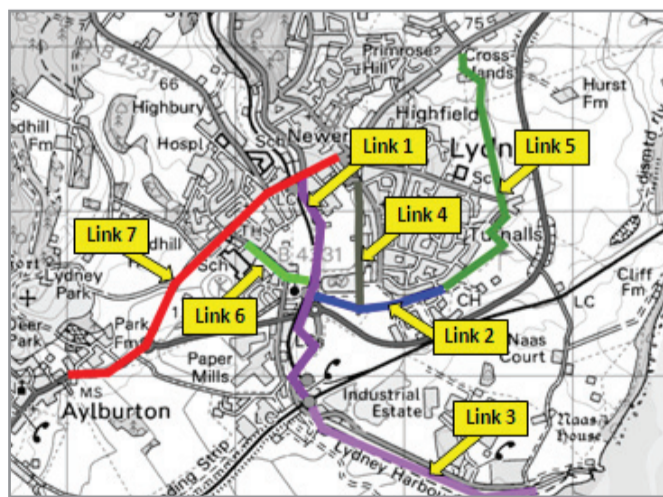
Other places to visit in and around Lydney.
Contact the businesses direct for opening times/availability
opening times here are only to be used as a guide

PLACES TO VISIT

FOLLOW THE LINK LYDNEY SIGNS ON THIS WALK



A network of cycle and footpaths are being developed in Lydney to make it easier and safer to navigate the town and surrounding area. The paths will be phased in over a number of years, and although there maybe changes to the exact routes taken, the map below shows the planned routes in the network.



The images used in this leaflet are used with the kind permission of:
Dave Street, Richard Trigg, Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Tourism Association,
Herbert Howells Trust and Lydney Town Council

Print edition 16

Lydney Town
**Heritage
Walk**



Lydney's harbour area was always strategically important and in the early
19th century the building of a tramroad and harbour to serve the coal
trade of the Forest of Dean began to transform Lydney's economy, which
later benefited from the growth of the ironworks into a tinplate factory
and from railway building.

of the 17th century and the reclamation of saltmarsh in the early 18th.
establishment of ironworks at the start
Its owners also profited from the
deposits, and extensive woodland,
resources, including fisheries, mineral
was unusually rich in non-agricultural
The Bathurst family in 1723. The estate
were later succeeded in possession by
into a large estate by the Winters, who
century most of the land was formed
markets were held. After the late 16th
Lydney had a market from 1268 and
the Market Cross which this walk takes
you past, still marks where the original



the forest was then used by the late Anglo Saxon, Norman and Tudor
kings as their personal hunting ground. The area was kept stocked
with deer and wild boar and survived into the modern period as one of
the principal Crown forests in England, the largest after the New Forest.
Its timber was particularly fine and was regarded as the best source for
building ships including the ships that opposed the Spanish Armada,
which were built from the Forest's great oaks.

the Lydney Park Estate gardens and can still be visited.
healing, the sea, hunting and dogs. The temple is located next to
temple complex dedicated to the god Nodens who was associated with
the end of the Roman period, around the year 370, a major Roman
river crossing at Newnham on Severn and the port at Lydney. Towards
under Penyard near Ross-on-Wye, and a road was built from there to a
The area was governed from the Roman town of Ariconium at Weston
natural resources which included iron ore, limestone, ochre and charcoal.
the area in around 50 AD by its



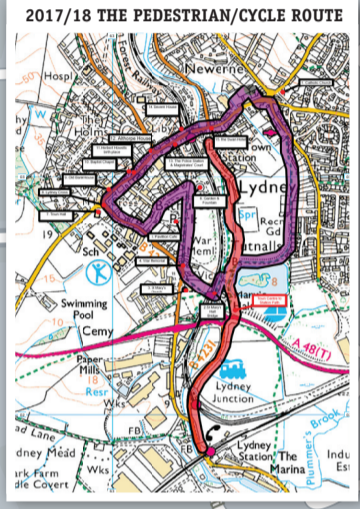
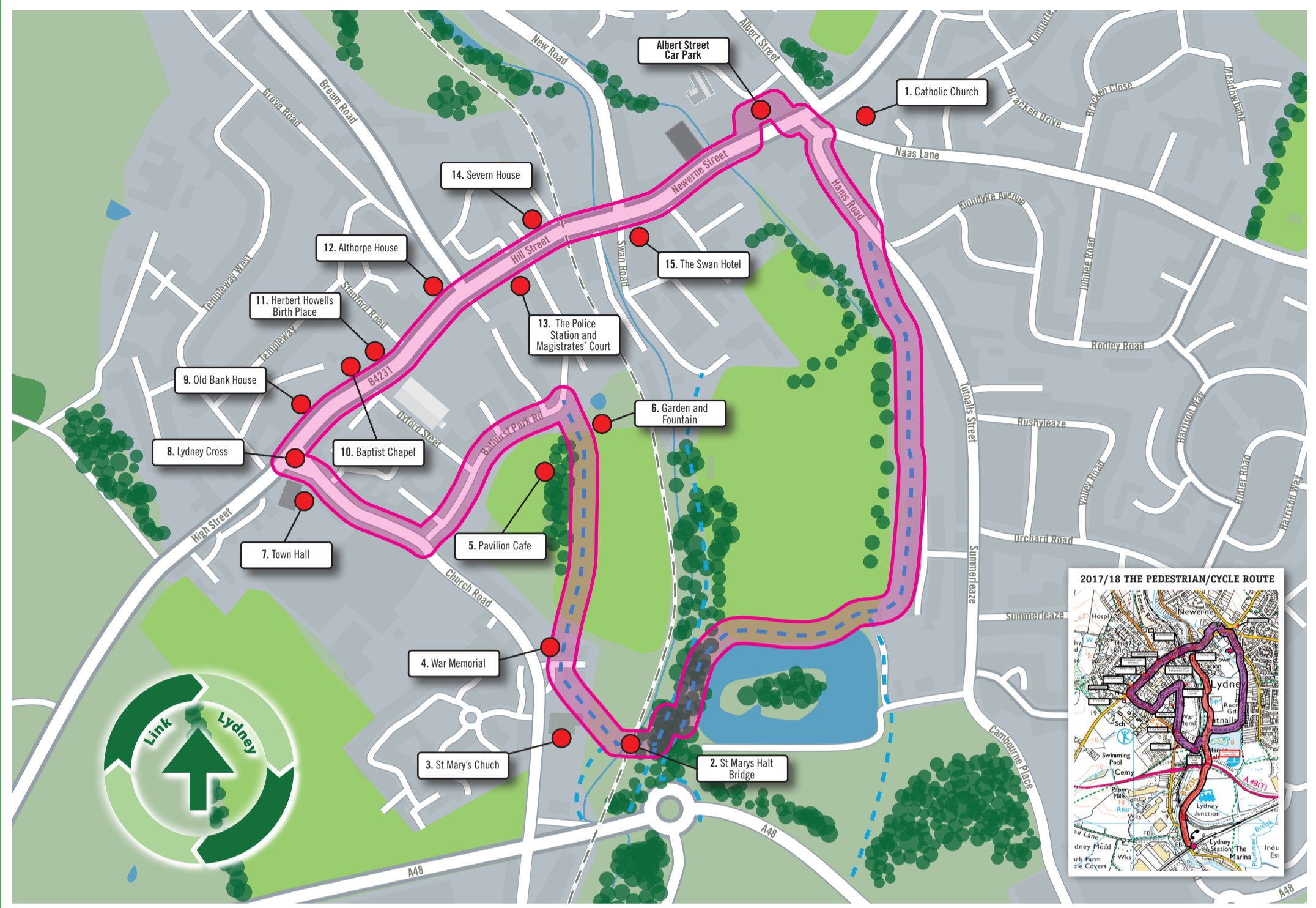
Lydney is a bustling Forest of
Severn Estuary, with a
fascinating history spanning
back to Roman times. This
walk has been developed to
start to bring some of that
history back to life.

Lydney Town Heritage Walk



**1.8 miles on good paths and
pavements that bring the history
of the town back to life.**





Lydney Town Heritage Walk

1.8 miles on good paths and pavements.

Start - Albert Street car park, GL15 5LU (parking charges apply)



Cross over the zebra crossing by the toilet block and ahead through alley way to emerge into Newerne Street. Go over the pedestrian crossing and bear left to follow pavement round into Hams Road.

If you look up Highfield Hill the (1) Catholic Church is in view.

Continue along the pavement to pass the bus station (carefully crossing the busy entrance) and bear right to follow path behind properties keeping River Lyd & recreation ground on your right.

On 3rd April 1946, the first Viscount Bledisloe and his friend John Watts gave 29 acres for playing fields 'for the healthful recreation of the public of Lydney' and the Lydney Recreation Trust was formed to manage the land. In 1949 the Cricket Club and Football Club started to play on the land and in 1950 the Trust increased its acreage from 29 to 45 acres; diverted part of the River Lyd and turned a marshy section of land into a lake. Six tennis courts (four hard, two grass) were also created and other parts of the Trust's land were improved. However, the land was prone to flooding and in 1954 a drainage scheme and comprehensive pumping equipment were installed.



Follow the path as it bears right and continue with the lake on your left and the river on your right.

The Lake is now used for angling and there are a fine range of birds which visit the lake.

Turn right over a brick parapet bridge to ascend through a wooded area to reach a narrow waterway called the Cut.

The Cut is part of the old Pidcock's canal built around 1778 to connect the iron forges north of Lydney. It was eventually extended to join up to Lydney Docks in around 1830, but became disused in the 1840s with the introduction of the railway. It is now a water supply to a local paper works.

Turn left to St Mary's Halt bridge and the Dean Forest Railway tracks (2).

This bridge was supplied to the Severn & Wye Valley railway in 1893 by George Smith (Sun Foundry) Glasgow. The Halt was created & opened by the Dean Forest Railway in 1991. The bridge is now a listed grade II structure which is due for refurbishment.

EITHER Cross bridge and go through St Mary's Churchyard to Church Road

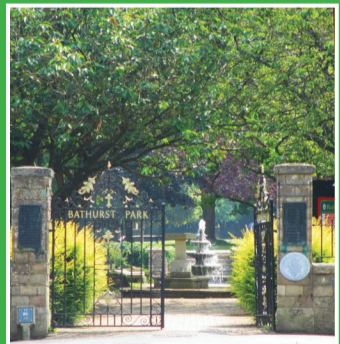
OR ALTERNATIVELY Pass bridge to reach by-pass and turn right to cross the level crossing and take the first right into Church Road. Continue on to reach St Mary's Church.



St Mary's Church (3) has a tower, aisled nave and chancel that date from the 13th century. The east and south aisle window contain early English stained glass, whilst in contrast the north aisle window is a modern depiction of the Franz Joseph glacier in New Zealand. Presented in 1941 by Lord Bledisloe to commemorate his tour of duty as Governor of New Zealand.

Passing the church on your right you come to Lydney War Memorial (4). Pass under the Alms houses arch into Avenue André Clément which passes through the middle of Bathurst Park.

Bathurst Park features a pavilion with café (5), toilets & disabled access Changing Place, bowling green, children's play area, multi-purpose grass playing pitches, band stand & ornamental pond & gardens (6). The Park was given to the town by Charles Bathurst in 1892 to mark his son's coming of age, who later became Viscount Bledisloe. The Park is now managed by the Bathurst Park Recreation Trust.



Leave the Park through the park gates and turn left along Bathurst Park Road which becomes Whitecross Road. At the end turn right along Church Road to view Lydney Cross & Town Hall.

Lydney Town Hall (7) was built in 1888-9, and designed in Jacobean style by W. H. Seth Smith as a concert and dance hall with sprung wooden dance floor. It was a Voluntary Aid Detachment Hospital during the First World War and on 31 August 1962, the Beatles performed here.



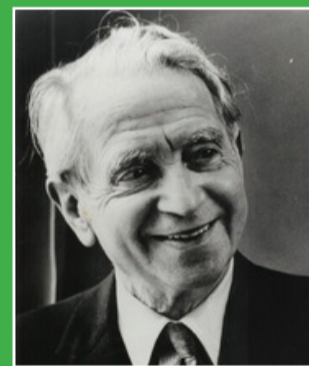
The Grade II listed cross (8) marks the old Lydney market place and dates from the 14th century.

Turn right along the High Street and cross the pedestrian crossing. Continue right and in 50 yards you will pass Old Bank House (9).

Frederick William Harvey (1888-1957) had offices at Bank House in his later years and wrote poetry here including the famous, 'Lydney to Coleford by Rail'. He was a friend of Herbert Howells & Ivor Gurney, the later set his poem 'In Flanders' to music.

In a further 100 yards you reach the Baptist chapel (10).

Originally in 1819 local Baptists met in the house of John Trotter and in 1836, when the group had 30 members, a chapel was built on land bought by Trotter. By 1851 the chapel had average morning congregations of 140 and evening congregations of 180.



The next building has a blue plaque commemorating the birth place of Herbert Howells (11).

Herbert Howells (photo on left) was in born in Lydney, on 17 October 1892 and had a reputation locally as a promising musician. The local squire, Charles Bathurst, arranged for him to have lessons with Herbert Brewer, organist of Gloucester Cathedral. In 1912 Howells won an open scholarship to the Royal College of Music and he went on to compose many important works. Later he was appointed to teach composition at the Royal College of Music, a position he was to hold for nearly sixty years. Following the death of his nine year old son in 1935, Howells went on to compose his masterpiece 'Hymnus Paradisi' for soloists, chorus and orchestra. Howells succeeded Holst as Director of Music at St Paul's Girls' School (1936-62) and was King Edward VII Professor of Music in the University of London (1950-64). He stood in for Robin Orr as Organist of St John's College, Cambridge from 1941-1945. He was appointed CBE in 1953 and a Companion of Honour in 1972. Herbert Howells died in London on 23 February 1983.

In a further 130 yards at the junction with Bream Road is Althorpe House (12).

Built in the early 19th-century it was the home of the coal proprietor David Davies and later became the headquarters of Watts Group of Lydney, who a 100 years later still have their headquarters here.



Cross the Bream Road with care to continue down Hill Street for 100 yards. On the opposite side of the road at the junction with Bathurst Park Road will be seen the former Police Station and Magistrates' Court (13).

Continue down Hill Street & just before the Dean Forest Railway level crossing note the building on your left (14).

Formerly called Severn House, it was the Severn and Wye Railway Company Headquarters built next to the railway in 1829. The level crossing now carries the Dean Forest Railway which runs from Lydney Junction near the mainline station, through Lydney via Norchard & Whitecroft to Parkend. Norchard is the main ticket office, shop, museum & café ¾ mile north of Lydney along Forest Road.



Beyond the level crossing you will find the Swan Hotel opposite the Swan Road junction (15).

Dating from before 1777 it was one of 14 public houses in Lydney at that time.

In a further 140 yards immediately before the bridge over the River Lyd turn left for 25 yards then turn right to cross the river and down steps to the Albert Street car park.