

## Y MYNYDD DU

The larger hills of Y Mynydd Du is one fairly homogenous mass, differing sections of it were given names, but the whole scarp could be seen as being one range; therefore, *mynydd* 'mountain' can be used as a singular. Building up gradually from the south and come to an abrupt stop at a prominent scarp. It is the northerly aspect of this scarp, coupled with a number of glacial cwms hollowing out the edge even more, that creates a band of deep shadows and shade to give the name. This scarp is even more pronounced on a bright sunny day, looking very *du* 'dark, shaded'. The element *du* is linked to Cornish *du*, Breton *du*, Old Irish *dub*.

This is the western area of the National Park, that is the hills to the west of the Tawe and Crai valleys. The black mountayne 1578 Saxton, The Black Montayne 1610 Speed, Mynydd Du or Black Mountain 1729 Bowen Map, The black montayne 1718 Taylor Map.

One of the Charters in the Book of Llandaf (c.1120-34) deliniates the ecclesiastical boundary and shows that the name for the mountain was recorded as Mynid Du: '*y blain uysc hyt y mynid du, y mynyd dunyhyt hyt blain turch*'; this translates as 'to blaen 'source' Wysg along to Mynydd Du, the Mynydd Du down towards blaen Twrch'.

## Y Fan Brycheiniog 802m SN 825217

The name Y Fan Brycheiniog is not found on all maps, for example on the 1885 1" OS map Y Fan Foel was the only name for the mountain. The summit has been given to this name as it is the highest part of the mountain mass of Mynydd Du that is to be found inside the former county of Brycheiniog. The *fan* element is the lenited form of *ban* 'top, end, point, crest, summit, height, pinnacle, peak, hill, mountain'; this is cognate with the Cornish *ban* 'height' (lenited form *van*), Irish *benn* 'mountain, horn, peak'.

There are a number of references to Y Fan Foel at various locations to the South, for example Mawnog Cefn y Fan Foel (SN 838215). One would suppose that the name Y Fan Foel, with *moel* 'bald, bare; smooth' would be a good descriptor of a treeless rounded terrain, when viewing the mountain from the South. Note that the name has been moved by the early surveyors to a lesser hill. Brecknock Van 1828 Greenwood Map, Y Fan Brecheiniog 1832 OS.

## Tŵr y Fan Foel 802m SN 822223

The *tŵr* 'tower'; from the proto-celtic \**turi* 'tower', linked to or borrowed from the Latin *turris* 'tower, castle'; or, borrowed from the Middle English or Early French *tour* 'tower'. It may well be a later addition to the landscape and reinforces the presence of an older name. Looking at the OS maps and out in the field, one can see that there is a large and separate buttress forming the feature that resembled a tower. However, one needs to be wary of a possible corruption of *twr* 'pile, heap' as being the element being used in the name.

## Y Fan Foel 781m SN 824221

This *ban* 'height, top' (lenited to *fan*) would seem to be *moel* 'bald, bare; smooth' to describe hills that are rounded and smooth or generally bare of trees, but only from the South. This is the meaning that nearly everyone associates with the term *moel*. However, from the North, it would look far more like a *ban* 'peaked, point' and also allow alternative and lesser known meanings of the *moel* element to be viable. The other meanings are those of *moel* 'summit, peak', which can refer to the summit of a mountain being pointed; or, *moel* 'cone, conical'. The latter is cognate with the Old Irish *moil* 'conical hill'. The remains of a large bronze age round barrow can be found at the summit and this might imply *moel* 'peak'.

## Y Fan Hir 760m SN 831209

This particular *ban* 'peak, point, protrubance' is given a simple but very descriptive name, *hir*

'long, extensive, cognate with Cornish *hyr* 'long, lengthy'. This is certainly a long hill, the summit ridge extends South for about two kilometres from Bwlch y Giedd.

### **Picws Du 749m SN 812218**

One rarely finds the word *picws* 'little peak' in the landscape and is mainly in South Wales. *Picws* is a diminutive of the Welsh word *pic*, *pig* 'peak, point', a word borrowed from the Old English *pic* 'pike, spear'. Out into the field one can see a pyramidal or pointed form to the mountain. Also, there was also a cairn at the summit, which could have been far more prominent at one time; the cairn may well be the *picws*. The *du* 'black, dark' element of its name is probably due to the fact that the scarp is North facing, this puts the steep northerly slopes into the shade for most of the day, giving the overall impression is of a dark mountain. *Picws Du* OS 6" 1886.

### **Bannau Sir Gaer 677m SN 798214**

A name that appears twice on the maps, it is a later general term for the mountain(s) as being in the old county of Sir Gaerfyrddin 'Carmarthenshire'; normally termed Sir Gaer in Welsh. It is used as a counterpoint to Y Fan Brycheiniog. It is possible that Tyle Gwyn (SN 792219) is an older name for this hill; *tyle* 'heap, height' [is linked to the Irish *tulach*, *taloch* 'eminence, height, hill, hillock, ridge'] + *gwyn* 'white, pale, bright, fair': Tir y Tyle Gwyn 1605 Dynevor Deeds. Carmarthenshire Van 1828 Greenwood Map, Fan-sirgaer 1832 OS.

### **Y Garreg Las 635m SN 777203**

The flanks of the mountain are quite rocky and the summit is the location of two large rock cairns and a boulder field. The cairns are named Carnau'r Garreg Las, they are a pair of 'robbed out' Bronze Age round barrows and are in a prominent position on this ridge; passed as it was by two ancient tracks, one to the East following the Twrch valley and the other to the west along the Sawdde.

The *carreg* 'stone, rock' in the area does have a grey-blue tint to it and the element *glas* 'blue, green, grey' is quite apt. Carreg-las OS 1831. The other name of the mountain is Esgair Hir (SN 779197) and here the terms *esgair* 'scarp, ridge' + *hir* 'long' is also quite apt as a descriptor; linked to Breton *esker*, Old Cornish *escher*, Middle Irish *escir* 'spur, long ridge'.

### **Moel Gornach/Y Garreg Lwyd 616m SN 741179**

The word *moel* 'bald, bare' in this instance probably refers to the relatively rounded or treeless top; however, there may just be enough of a pointed shape to the hill when seen from the North for the *moel* 'summit, peak' to apply. In the second part of the the name, Gornach one probably derives from *corn* 'cairn, point' + *-ach* suffix. One must decide between i) *-ach* a diminutive Welsh ending e.g. crachach, dreiniach; or, ii) the Irish *-ach* suffix linked to Welsh *-iog*, *-og* with the sense of 'abounding in, full of, having, rich in'. There was a substantial round cairn at the summit at one time, it was about 20m in diameter, this was probably the corn. *Y* 'the' + *carreg* 'rock' (lenited to *garreg*) + (*l*)*lwyd* 'grey' probably refers to the limestone in the geology of the area. Gornagh 1513, Carreg Llyyd 1828 Greenwood Map

### **Y Foel Fraith 602m SN 757183**

The lenited form of *braith* 'speckled, mottled' might be being used here because the hill is variagated due to a number of possible factors. Areas of heather may be burnt off in strips to improve grazing o'r one might find a patchwork of colours produced naturally by the heather, rocks and bracken against the pasture, especially in the autumn. Fael Ffraith 1828 Greenwood Map, 'Foel-ffraith 1832 OS.

### **Moel Feity 591m SN 848231**

This *moel* is both a 'rounded' and also a rather 'bare' hill, there is no peak or conical shape to it as

such. The other element in the name probably refers to a hill where there would have been a *defeity* 'sheepcote, sheepfold'. From the plural form of *dafad*, namely *defaid* 'sheep' + *ty* 'dwelling, shelter', Cornish *devetty* 'sheepcote'. This becomes defeity with usage, then with the loss of the initial letters, (de)feity changes to feity. Moel-feu-dy on the early OS maps in 1832 may be a confusion with a corrupted *beudy* 'cowshed'; or, *meudwy* 'hermit' as it is noted as Moel Feudwy on the 1884 6" OS map. However, the form *meity* is seen in the valley and farm names below, for some, this allowed one to suggest a *mei*- 'middle' + *ty* 'dwelling' as an interpretation. Voel Mity 1828 Greenwood Map.

### **Carreg yr Ogof 585m SN 777215**

The main name given on the map simply means *carreg* 'rock' + *yr* 'the' + *ogof* 'cave', Cornish *ogo*, *fogo*, *gogo* 'cave'. The caves that can frequently be found on Limestone uplands are usually sink holes. The other names in this area, near (SN 777218), are Carn y Gigfran 'Raven Cairn' and Carn Pica 'Peaked Cairn', both names refer to the cairn marked on the OS map, but are also used as the hill name.

It must be noted that the cairn is visible from afar as it is built out of red sandstone while the rocks around it are all the pale white or greys of Carboniferous Limestone. The cairn is in fact a disturbed Bronze Age round barrow and it was probably far more pointed at one time, to have earned the term *pica* 'pointed'. The other name hereabouts is Tyle Du (SN 778221), *tyle* 'heap, height' + *du* 'black, dark'.

### **Cefn Cul/Waun Leuci 562m SN 862206**

The narrow ridge leading up from the upper Tawe valley is described well by its name *cefn* 'ridge, back' + *cul* 'narrow', cognate to Cornish *cul*, *kyl* 'narrow, thin' from the Brittonic *\*coilo-* 'narrow'. This is the only name seen anywhere near the summit of this hill, but on the early OS maps the name was closer to the top. The hill has been noted as Castell Cryfer and this is part of Fforest Fawr on some maps. Waun Leuci is the name on the the Northern slopes and was recorded as Waen Lleuci on the 1840-80 6" OS map; Lleuci, Lleucu was a common feminine personal name at one time. Cefn Cul 1828 Greenwood.

### **Carreg Goch 558m SN 819170**

*Carreg* 'a rock, rocky location' + *coch* 'red, tan, brown, sallow'; Old Welsh '*carrecc*', Brittonic *\*carricā* 'rock, rocky location'. This really is an extensive location of numerous rocky outcrops, but mainly limestones. In English, the landscape colours described by *red* 'coch' does not cover the same breadth of colours as the Welsh term. In Welsh *coch* includes yellow to brown through orange all the way to red; as there were no specific words in Welsh for brown or for orange. *Coch* is often used for many of the varied autumnal/winter colours of bracken, heather, bilberry and tussocky grasses in the mountains.

### **Cefn y Cylchau 556m SN 757197**

To the North at (SN 759206), one can see the word Cylchau on the present day OS maps, very close to a feature marked as enclosure. At one time, the grazing of the uplands was done by cattle; these would have been herded back into an enclosure for safety from predators such as wolves. Initially these enclosures could have been thorn barricades shored up with wooden hurdles. The later introduction of sheep still required the sheep to be herded back at night; it took many generations before the sheep 'learnt' to stay in their area of mountain pasturage; in Welsh *cynefin* 'accustomed' is a term for a sheepwalk, the tract of mountain on which the sheep are settled.

The element *cylchau* 'circles' does not refer to the enclosure, it is probably linked to the round features of the cairn-field known as Tir y Beddau 'area/land the graves'. On the stretch of land between the Sawdde Fechan and Afon Ceulan are a number of disturbed and scattered circular

patches of stones which seem to be the bases of small cairns; which may be clearance cairns rather than graves. However, there is a local legend that links Tir y Beddau to Brychan; after a victory in battle, Brychan walked from the battlefield and its graves, to the summit of Y Garreg Las, drinking the water from the hollows of the stones he passed on his way to the summit. Cefn-y-cylchau 1831 OS.

#### **Disgwylfa 544m SN 815179**

This is the only name to be found anywhere near the hill on the present OS maps; on the old maps the name is much closer to the summit. Here, the meaning of *disgwylfa* 'lookout' probably does not have a defensive connotation but rather a place for watching over of flocks or herds. Disgwylfa 1832 OS.

#### **Y Foel Fawr 550m SN 735187**

This spur is part of a larger hill namely Moel Gornach.

#### **Carreg Cadno 538m SN 875177**

The only name in the area of these rocky tors is *carreg* 'stone, rock, cliff' + *cadno* 'fox'; the word *cadno* is almost exclusively used in South Wales.

#### **Carn Pen Rhiwddu 530m SN 726187**

One can see the *carn* 'cairn, pile of stones', linked to Cornish *carn* 'pile of stones', both from the Brittonic *\*carna-* 'heap of stones' at SN 727189. On this *pen* 'head, atop' with the sense of above, a *rhiw* 'steep slope' + *du* 'dark, black, shaded'. The slope is shaded because of its northerly aspect, a common occurrence in this area because of the scarp. The term *carn* can have a varied usage in the landscape; burial mounds, rocky tors and hills and even scree slopes can find this term applied to them. However, here one can find a large Bronze Age cairn made of small loose boulders piled within a turf-consolidated ring.

#### **Carn Pen y Clogau 523m SN 717186**

The name element *clogau* is one plural of the word *clog* 'a rock, a crag, steep cliff', linked to Cornish *clog* 'crag'; *clog* is from the Brittonic word *\*clocā*, itself from early Celtic *\*clucā*. Looking at an OS map one can note the cairn and the numerous crags surrounding it. Once again, *carn* 'cairn' refers to a large Bronze Age cairn in a prominent position on a ridge line, probably a funerary site and a boundary feature. Carreg Lhuyd Carn 1834 Greenwood Map.

#### **Carn Fadog 512m SN 767152**

Madog is a common personal name, from *mad* 'good' + *-og*; the name could refer to a local landowner or a historical personage. However, one must keep in mind that the element *madoc*, *madog* 'fox' is found in landscape names. Carn fadog & Cefn-y-carn-fadog 1831 OS.

#### **Y Garreg Fraith 504m SN 717179**

*Carreg* 'rock, stone' + *braith* 'mottled, speckled', *fraith* is the lenited form of the word. Perhaps the rocks are speckled due to lichen or multicoloured due to staining by water. However, it is probably the scattered rock outcrops on this hillside that give rise to the name.

#### **Tair Carn Uchaf 480m SN 94174**

*Tair* is the feminine form of *tri* 'three' + *carn* 'cairn' + *uchaf* 'higher'. One does indeed find three large Bronze Age cairns, these can be seen from quite some distance away. Most cairns were built to be in view, so that the tribe or group that built them could see the resting place(s) of their ancestors. Tair carn uchaf 1831 OS.

#### **Carreg Lem 474m SN 804174**

*Carreg* 'rock' + *llem* 'sharp', a feminine form of the word *llym* and probably not a corruption of the word *llam* 'leap, step'. In 1502 the name was recorded as Karrec Lem.

#### **Llorfa 474m SN 791177**

Llorfa is the name of the ridge rising to this top, there is no name near the actual top, even on the early 1831 OS map Llorfa is the only name to be seen. The term *llorfa* denotes a flat area of ground is linked to *llawr* 'floor', Old Welsh *laur* 'floor', Brittonic *\*laro-* 'floor, ground', early Celtic *\*laro-* 'floor, ground, flat area'. The area where the name is seen is indeed pretty flat, forming a shallow hollow with a number of Bronze Age features, including a stone circle.

#### **Tyle Garw 468m SN 785178**

Tyle Garw is the only name recorded near this hilltop. This *tyle* 'bank, steep hill, steep slope' is rather craggy and deserves the descriptor *garw* 'rough, difficult, wild'; it is cognate to Cornish *garow* 'rough, harsh'. Tyle is a very common landscape term in South Wales, although it is quite rare further north. It can denote a variety of landscape features: large ones such as *tyle* 'eminence, height, hill, hillock, ridge', to the somewhat smaller features of *tyle* 'bank, steep slope, steep hill'. Tyllegarw 1745 Tredegar Manuscripts, Tyle-garw 1831 OS.

#### **Y Foel 463m SN 801243**

This is a rather flat ridge, which is bare; however, from the valley it does look rather pointed so could give the meaning of *moel* 'peak, conical hill' rather than *moel* 'rounded and/or bare hill'.

#### **Tair Carn Isaf 459m SN 684167**

Once again, because of the feminine element *tair* 'three' and *carn* 'cairn', one would expect to find three cairns on this *isaf* 'lower' section of the spur. There are certainly three main cairns, with a further carn a little lower down to the West. Tair carn isaf 1831 OS.

#### **Bryn Mawr 457m SN 805248**

*Bryn* 'hill' + *mawr* 'large, extensive' The word *bryn* is not one that is used that much in the Bannau; it is cognate with Cornish *bren*, from the Brittonic *\*brunniā*, which is similar to Old Irish *bruinne* 'breast, brow'. However, the word *mawr* is quite common in the landscape; Middle Welsh *mawr*, linked to Cornish *meur*, Breton *mor* are derived from Brittonic & Gaulish *\*māro-/ā-* 'big, great'.

#### **Mynydd Myddfai 440m SN 807297**

The hill is named after the village, which was recorded as Methvey in 1535, Mothvey 1754. The area is the location of the Physicians of Myddfai, a long line of physicians that, according to legend, began their services in the 13th Century with the famous Rhiwallon. The book *Meddygon Myddvai*, published in 1861 by John Pughe, collected together much of the materials attributed to the physicians.

#### **Twyn Perfedd 426m SN 832254**

The meaning of *twyn* is a hillock, pile, banc or knoll; while *perfedd* 'central, middle' is linked to Cornish *perveth* 'middle', can denote a feature in a central location or being among others. This hill is sandwiched between Moel Feity and Y Foel Darw. Other tops can be found at (SN 905277) 381m and (SN 908264) 382m; however, they are not named on the maps.

#### **Cribarth 426m SN 829145**

*Crib* 'crest, spur' + *garth* 'ridge of land, headland, hill, promontory' is a good descriptor; the alternative *garth* 'enclosure' is not really an option. There is an obvious crest to this hill, but the landscape has been changed a great deal due to industrial activity, with many quarries and tramways. Other There are a number of little peaks here as well as two Bronze Age Cairns. The

most northerly is in the best condition with a number of red sandstone slabs that have been transported there to make the cairn much more striking. Gribarth 1626 Glamorgan Records Office.

### **Y Foel Darw 424m SN 826259**

The element *darw* is the lenited form of *tarw* 'bull'; a name that is probably derived from the river Nant Tarw, *tarw* is a good hydronym for a strong, fast flowing stream. Alternatively, the name may simply be derived from an area where cattle were grazed; there is a Nant Lloi 'Calf Stream' nearby (SN 8125). However, some could imply that there was another option is for the name, being linked to the ritual complex to be found in the valley of Nant Tarw. There are two stone circles and a stone row to be found nearby and the bull was a common symbol for many prehistoric cultures. Animals were also an important part of 'Celtic' culture, the bull was particularly revered for its strength. Another name for this spot, on the Greenwood map of 1828 was Voel Fawr.

### **Mynydd y Llan 423m SN 791248**

It is probable that the element *llan* in this name records the village of Llanddeusant nearby and may denote this hill as being the area of rough grazing for the village. It is also probable that the name is recent in comparison to Bryn Cedni, which it may have replaced. The meaning of *llan* is now 'church'; linked to Cornish *lan*, Breton *lann* 'church'.

### **Bryn Cedni 421m SN 792254**

A fairly straightforward explanation of this name can be given once that it is known that the word *cedni* is a local plural of the word *cadno* 'fox'.

### **Pen y Bicws 415m SN 699229**

The meaning is fairly straightforward with *pen* 'top' + *y* 'the' + *picws* 'small peak', it is a diminutive of a word borrowed from the English, namely *pic* 'pike, spear'. The hill could be named due to its rather conical shape ending in a point. The name Trichrug (SN 697231), is probably the older name; *tri* 'three' + *crug* 'hillock, knoll, heap' shows this; there are three Bronze Age cairns to be found here. The 1729 Bowen Map of South Wales one finds Mynydd Tre chrug being recorded, Trichrug 1831 OS.

### **Carn y Pigwn 412m SN 828313**

*Carn* 'cairn' + *y* 'the' + *pigwn* 'cone' indicates a summit that is especially a pointed peak or one with a cairn; locally *pigwn* 'cone' is the interpretation. However, when one looks at the OS map one can see that there are cairns here, but not at the very top, at (SN 831313) and (SN 832310). These cairns date from the Bronze Age and funerary urns were found in one. Another name for this general area is that of Mynydd Bach Tre Castell 'Little Mountain (of) Tre Castell'. A name that probably denotes the rough pasturage used by the villagers of Tre Castell. The landscape hereabouts has seen a great deal of historical usage; Roman Camps, a Roman Road as well as Mediaeval enclosures and fields. Pigwn 1832 OS.

### **Y Drysgol 393m SN 688162**

Whether the spelling is *trwsgr*, *trwsgrwl* or *trysgol* the meanings of this rather common topographic term are varied, it can denote ground that is 'poor, rough, desolate' or terrain that is 'awkward, difficult' to traverse. Generally speaking, whenever one of the forms is seen in a name, one has then to decide whether the term refers to uncultivated land or to the difficulty in moving through that area of ground. It is probable that the name here refers to having to tackle heathery areas or tussocky grass, as well as patches of stony ground. The name is seen in the Dynefor Deeds as Y dryscole 1566 and Y Droskol 1597.

### **Twyn Henwen 391m SN 833304**

The word *twyn* 'hill, cairn or a knoll' is quite common and there are a number of other examples of

the word can be found in the area, even as a term for a mountain. This feature, a knoll, has been named after the stream, Nant Henwen (SN 8329).

#### **Arhosfa'r Garreg Lwyd 388m SN 805262**

The word *arhosfa* 'stopping place' in the name may refer to the very well preserved Roman Camp that can be seen a little to the West of this point, at (SN 803263). Some propose that *arhosfa* is a local term for a 'sheep-walk, mountain pasture'. The *carreg* 'rock' + *llwyd* 'grey' probably referred to the nearby round barrow, which is now turf covered.

#### **Y Foel Deg ar Bedol 385m SN 705160**

The initial elements are the lenited form of *moel* 'hill' + *teg* 'fair, beautiful'; however, the last element is not a corruption of the word *arbedol* 'keeping, saving'. Here, the probability is that *ar* 'above, facing' + *pedol* is used to describe the hill above the river Nant Pedol [*bedol* being the lenited form] and its valley Cwm Pedol. The *pedol* 'horseshoe' may refer to the deeply incised valley form. Y Foeldegarbedol 1831 OS.

#### **Bryn Du 384m SN 855255**

*Bryn* 'hill' + *du* 'black, dark', the name has moved, on the 1888 OS maps it was closer to the top.

#### **Llwyn Cwnstabl 371m SN 778152**

The erroneous form Llwyncwmstabl is the only name on the present OS maps anywhere near this small hill; however, this is not *llwyn* 'grove' with the addition of *cwm* 'vale' + *stabl* 'stable'. The *llwyn* element is correct, Middle Welsh *llwyn* 'bush, grove, wood'; but the *cwmstabl* section of the name is a corruption of the word *cwnstabl* 'constable' borrowed from the Middle English *constable*. Constables were at one time the castellan, the Kings officer in charge of a castle. Llwyn cwnstable 1831 OS.

#### **Y Fedw Fawr 370m SN 804275**

The lenited forms of *bedw* 'birch' + *mawr* 'large'. *Bedw* is the name for a very common tree or an area of these trees in upland areas; or, anything to do with a birch tree. Old Cornish *bedwen*, Irish *brethe*, Celtic \**betu*; from the Indo-European root \**buet*, meaning incense or sap, as in the Latin *betulla* 'bitumen of the birch, pitch'. At one time, the tree sap was collected in early spring and used with honey to make a birch beer. Cefn-fedw-fawr 1832 OS.

#### **Y Foel Deg 321m SN 740153**

Both the *moel* 'hill' + *teg* 'fair, fine, beautiful, warm' are lenited; as a name for a hill it may denote a fine sunny location with good pasture.

#### **Twyn Rhyblid 316m SN 783284**

*Twyn* 'hill, hillock, mountain' + *Rhyblid* the farm at SN 780282 [Rhibleid 1831 OS].

#### **Cribyn Du 309m SN 737254**

This is the nearest name to this top on the OS maps, *cribyn* or *cribin* is a diminutive of the word *crib* 'crest, ridge'. There were other spellings of *crib*, 13<sup>th</sup> Century Welsh laws also had *crip* and *cryb* forms.

#### **Twyn y Fan 256m SN 794311**

*Twyn* 'hill, hillock, mountain' + *ban* 'peak, promontory'; an apt descriptor for a prominent little hill.

#### **Cefn Golau 254m SN 794304**

*Cefn* 'back, ridge' + *golau* 'light, bright' or *golau* 'evident'; the hill is quite evident in the landscape despite its stature. However, in some *golau/goleu* names a corruption of *olau* 'pathways' may have

taken place; or, there is also a suggestion that *golau* could infer to an area without trees. Cefn goleu 1831 OS.

### **Gwerddon 238m SN 769344**

A particularly interesting term to describe a good area of pasture in the hills, *gwerddon* 'glade, grove, a green area among rocks'.

### **Carn Goch 236m SN 691243**

*Carn* is a fairly descriptive topographical term; this is shown also in Breton *karn*, Irish *carn* 'pile of rocks'. The word is therefore used to describe a hill with a pile of rocks at its peak; or, at least a cliff which resembles a heap of stones. Looking on the map one will find the huge fortification of Y Gaer Fawr, one of the best hillforts in Britain. This hillfort is defended with some massive stone walls, it is probably a later iron age site, perhaps with post-roman use, and is rather reminiscent of Tre'r Ceiri in North Wales. The location provides good views over the valley of the Tywi, with another smaller fort a little below and a large cairn and burial mounds, it provides a great place to appreciate these pre-historic complexes,

### **Allt Troed Rhiwfelen 233m SN 786355**

*Allt* 'bluff, slope' + *troed* 'base of, foot' + *rhiw* 'rise, slope' + *felen* 'yellow; brown'.