

Gloucester Cathedral Ramblers Walks - Saturday 26 July 2025 - Report

Long Walk - Wysis Way - Mitcheldean to Gloucester

Four of us rendezvoused at the Transport Hub for the 07.50 bus to Mitcheldean. Much to our surprise, it started to rain but luckily cleared as we disembarked and set off about 08.20. My blithe assumption of a single climb up May Hill was misplaced as the hill before the Longhope valley had to be crossed first. All nice, quiet, rural landscape with fields turned to burnt umber by the drought.

After picnic lunches sweetened by Laurie's chocolate biscuits, we went down off the Hill following the Wysis Way, after a bit of muddled navigation, and headed for Glasshouse. The Way led through a very fine stand of Coastal Redwoods grown to a substantial height and girth.

The 'For Sale' sign on Byfords Farm raised interest. It is an appealing half-timbered building with arrays of outbuildings still sheltering antique vehicles and farm machinery e.g. horse drawn ploughs. A bargain at £1.3m with 57 acres, although there are now fewer blackberries by the old orchard.

It was definitely flat after this all the way through Taynton, Tibberton, and Rudford. We stopped at Lassington's old St Oswald's Tower then on down to the café at Over Farm. Finally, back to Gloucester on familiar ground with a full sweep around the periphery of Alney Island.

Bruce Matheson

29 July 2025