



A 'Black Pear 50' Route Description

The walk can be undertaken as a continuous 52-mile route or can be broken into three separate sections of approximately 20 miles, 18 miles and 18 miles by means of a short diversion to Kidderminster station. This route description uses mileage totals based on the continuous 52-mile route. The route is covered by OS Explorer maps 218 Wyre Forest and Kidderminster and 219 Wolverhampton and Dudley. Each paragraph finishes with a grid reference for the point reached.

Key:

AHD – Ahead, BL – Bear Left, BR – Bear Right, BW – Bridle Way, BWS – Bridle Way Sign, CB – Compass Bearing, FB – Footbridge, FLD – Field, FP – Footpath, FPS – Footpath Sign, GPW – Geopark Way, KGT – Kissing Gate, LT – Left, LMG – Large Metal Gate, LWG – Large Wooden Gate, MW – Monarch's Way, NWP – North Worcestershire Path, RD – Road, RT – Right, SLOT – Same Line of Travel, SO – Straight On, ST – Stile, STW – Staffordshire Way, SWG – Small Wooden Gate, T JCN – T Junction, TK – Track, TL – Turn Left, TR – Turn Right, X – Cross, YDS – Yards

START – Hagley Station, near Stourbridge (grid reference SO901805, post code DYN ONX) Hagley Station is on the line between Birmingham Moor Street and Kidderminster stations. There is a limited amount of parking available (free at time of writing).

STAGE 1: HAGLEY TO KIDDERMINSTER 18.4 MILES (excluding 2-mile detour to station at finish)

1. Leave station to RD and TL between high schools on Brake Lane. AHD down RD, NWP joins from RT. RD becomes TK. BR on TK then, after 70 yds, BL and continue to RD. X RD. Continue AHD on NWP for 500 YDS to main RD. SO878808
2. X RD (**CAUTION**) and TL on narrow pavement opposite. After 30 YDS TR on TK (NWP) and continue AHD to RD. TR and immediately TL on TK. Pass farm on LT, AHD thru 4 SMGs. AHD on RT hand side FLD to SMG, then descend LT hand side FLD to pass thru LMG by house. AHD on TK for 350 YDS to ST on L. X ST and AHD CB 300 to X 2 FLDs to SMG, then SLOT thru 2 KGs to RD. TL on RD to reach main RD. (Medieval origin dovecote on LT just after farm). SO857826
3. X RD (**CAUTION**) and AHD down Horse Bridge Lane, BL on tarmac lane past cottages to X Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal and then River Stour. BL around cottages AHD on RD to T JCN, where TL through housing on Dark Lane to RD. (The half-timbered building on the right is part of Ye Olde Grammar School, dating from 1511. Shops, pubs etc available by turning RT on RD for 300 YDS into Kinver village). SO848831 **4.2 miles**

Kinver is the home of the famous rock houses at the base of Holy Austin Rock, an impressive sandstone outcrop, and were reputedly the inspiration for JRR Tolkien's hobbit holes. For centuries - until the 1960s - enterprising people made their homes here by tunnelling into the sandstone to create comfortable and weatherproof rooms. The site is now owned by the National Trust (check opening times for the houses and tea room).

4. X RD, thru SWG and climb FP opposite. Continue AHD, ignoring side paths, to RD where TR. Descend RD to T JCN and TL on Comber Road. After 100 YDS TR on Astles Rock Walk, bearing LT to go through house entrance by Sherwood Cottage. Pass to LT of house (Brackendale) on narrow path. At Y JCN BR for 20 YDS and meet X path. TR and climb sandy path for 200 YDS and TR onto wider path into grassy clearing. (continue AHD approx. 400 YDS if you want to visit the rock houses). TL by bench to climb slope to KG. Pass thru and climb steps to toposcope on Kinver Edge (and admire the views, if available). TL along ridge to join STW. Follow ridge for approx. 1 mile, passing trig. point, with steep wooded scarp on RT, ignoring paths to RT and LT, to meet NWP at X TKs (FPS). SO829822 (You will now follow the well-signed NWP for approx. 4 miles until you emerge from woodland onto the RD at Eymore Wood). SO829822
5. SO on for 400 YDS, pass LT of reservoir to T JCN, where TR then TL on NWP. Continue to T JCN at edge of wood. TR, descending on NWP thru woodland. At X TK at bottom TL (NWP). After 250 YDS thru wooden barrier onto narrow path (NWP), ignoring wide TK on RT. SO at X TK past metal barrier and climb 120 steps to ST. X ST into FLD and SO with fence on LT to KG and RD. TR into cul-de-sac, soon becomes TK. After 800 YDS reach RD. SO818806
6. X RD SO into Sladd Lane opposite, using pavement on LHS. Follow lane as it bears LT over bridge. At entrance to Kingsford Caravan Park on RHS, X RD to enter park (NWP). SO on tarmac RD through park, ignoring turns, to reach SMG and exit onto RD. TL for 25 YDS then TR thru SMG into FLD. AHD with fence on LT for 80 YDS, then ½ RT across FLD to KGT. AHD and thru further KGT on LT. TR, climb FLD gradually with fence then shallow ditch on RT. At end of ditch, ½ RT to KGT. X drive, thru KGT and ascend FLD with fence on LT. Thru SWG, SO with trees/fence on LT to X ST into lane. TL to reach main RD. SO798805 **9.1 miles**
7. X RD (**CAUTION**) to minor RD opposite and follow for 600 YDS to T JCN. TR for 50 YDS then X Rd and X grass (Gloewood on LT) to cross TK. TL (NWP) thru LWG and continue past houses, thru LMG, with high wooden fence, then derelict structure on RT, into woodland. Follow NWP downhill to wood edge and thru KG. TL on narrow path around FLD, descending to stream and TL to X FB on LT. Climb path to meet forest TK. TR and follow clearly way-marked NWP on SLOT for 1,000 YDS to where main TK bears RT. SO on muddy path CB 180 (NWP). After 70 YDS BL on narrow path thru trees. At T JCN TR (NWP), descending to stream, then climbing steps to emerge from woodland at carpark on RD. SO778792
8. TL on RD, leaving NWP. AHD on RD for 800 YDS. Where RD bears LT, TR at end of car park area to X ST. SO X FLD CB 120, gradually leaving fence on RT, to ST opposite, alongside LMG. X ST and then bear ½LT CB 90 to X ST at LT of large farm house. ½LT thru 2 small enclosures and over ST onto farm drive. TR on drive to ST by LMG, LT of farm buildings (FPS). SO into small FLD and X to ST. SO over large FLD CB 180 to X ST in fence then SLOT to obscure ST in hedge on RT of line of houses. X ST and AHD with house gardens on LT for 180 YDS to X ST on LT to TK, then RD. TR and as RD bears LT into farm yard, BR on BW. After 30 YDS TR then TL between farm buildings (brick barn on LT, open-sided metal barn on RT). AHD into small FLD, bearing LT on TK via BWS to FLD corner. Thru LMG and SO, hedge on LT across large FLD, thru LMG in corner and AHD on enclosed path to drive then RD. SO786771

9. AHD on RD for 500 YDS. Just past Woodland View TR (FPS) into yard then over ST into FLD. Keep fence on LHS for 60 YDS and at fence corner bear ½ LT to LMG. Thru and TR with hedge on RT to X ST by LMG. SO to emerge into FLD, where descend ½ LT CB 180 to X ST by LWG and go under railway bridge (Severn Valley Railway) to RD. TL for 200 YDS and then TR into caravan park. Where site road divides, SO to X open grass area diagonally to X drive, then SO down path to SWG. AHD to emerge on main RD. TR and X Thomas Telford's 1798 bridge on RT hand pavement into town centre for shops, pubs etc. SO786753 **14.2 miles**.

Bewdley was an important inland port from the middle ages onwards, representing the highest point at which the River Severn could be reliably navigated by heavy barges and large sailing boats (the Severn Trow) without the assistance of heavy rain to raise the river level. It handled goods brought overland from the Black Country, the Staffordshire Potteries and beyond, allowing them to reach the ports of Gloucester and Bristol by the Severn. The 'nautical' character of the town is suggested by the fact that it housed 8 brothels by the 19th Century! After James Brindley's Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal opened in 1771, Bewdley gradually declined in importance, as trade was diverted to neighbouring Stourport, where the canal meets the Severn.

10. At George Hotel on RT, TL over pedestrian crossing then TL on pavement. Before bridge, TR into Severn Side South and AHD, river on LT (note the metal inlays listing the goods landed at this port and also the height of the base plates for the flood defences). Pass car park and cricket club onto narrow riverside path. After 600 YDS, before RD bridge, climb steps to emerge onto bridge and TL on verge, crossing bridge. At bridge end, TL down steps and immediately TR, away from river, on narrow FP with RD on RT. At end TL on pavement for 200 YDS to X busy main RD (**CAUTION**) using pedestrian crossing. SO796745
11. TR on pavement opposite and immediately TL onto BW, past metal barrier into nature reserve. Follow TK under railway bridge and BL on TK (BW). After 400 YDS TL, leave main TK (BW), under railway bridge (Severn Valley Railway) and thru SMG. After 80 YDS TR thru SMG into Devil's Spittleful nature reserve. After 100YDS BL on sandy path thru heathland with rocky outcrop on LT. AT LMG and 2 SMGs thru RT hand SMG. Follow sandy path, eventually bearing LT to LMG. Thru and TR on TK. After 10 YDS keep AHD on TK, ignoring FPS. After further 30 YDS TR (FPS) between fences to enter woodland. Ignore path on RT after 80 YDS but continue AHD, climbing holloway to metal barriers. Thru, TL and immediately TR before next metal barriers. Up narrow path, keeping metal fence on LT, to reach KG and cyclepath. SO815746
12. TR into drive then LT onto RD. After 30 YDS reach larger RD (Walter Nash Road East). SO815745TL on LHS pavement for 230 YDS and, immediately after house number 42, TL into Wrekin Close (street sign on bungalow on LT). Through close and over verge to RD (Clee Avenue) with KFC sign AHD. Follow RT hand pavement to main RD, where TR for 10 YDS to pedestrian crossing. X main RD and TL on pavement opposite. In 250 YDs, just after car wash, TR into Lisle Avenue. Follow to end, where TR under railway bridge. Follow TK down over bridge and TR onto towpath of Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal. S0829750 **18.4 miles**

Main route turns RT here and follows canal to Stourport. To divert to Kidderminster Station, TL on canal for 1 mile, passing under 3 RD bridges. 200 YDS after 3^d bridge TR at large factory chimney. BR past Premier Inn and BL into Weaver's Wharf to X River Stour. (The hotel and shopping complex which you pass was the former Slingford Mill, one of some 50 carpet factories operating in Kidderminster in the 19th and 20th Centuries. The richer mill owners indulged in competitive building and the owner of this mill trumped his colleagues by employing the same architects who designed the Saltaire mills in Yorkshire, now a World Heritage Site). At end of pedestrian area (cafes, shops) TR into Oxford Street (Council offices and statue of Sir Rowland Hill, inventor of the postage stamp and founder of the modern postal service, on RT). Keep on LT hand pavement to reach underpass beneath busy ring road. Down underpass and in central area take exit AHD to RT hand pavement of Comberton Hill and to station in 250 YDS. (The Severn Valley Railway station on the right has a pub, café, toilets and steam train exhibition while you wait for your train at the Network Rail station 100 YDS away). Train journey to Hagley takes approximately 10 minutes.

STAGE 2: KIDDERMINSTER TO HAGLEY 16.7 MILES (excluding 1.8-mile detour from Kidderminster to start).

If starting stage from Kidderminster Station, TL down Comberton Hill, SO thru underpass signed Town Centre, SO street with gothic clock/water fountain on RT. Just before Town Hall TL into Exchange Street, X river and bus station, between "Piano Building" (note plaque on wall) and hotel to canal. TL for approx. 1.5 miles to railway viaduct and Bridge No 11 to resume route

- 13.** Follow towpath for approx. 3 miles into Stourport. (The rather unprepossessing waterway on your left is the River Stour, the source of power for Kidderminster's carpet mills before the arrival of steam powered carpet looms in the 1850s). After Bridge No. 5, where towpath emerges onto RD at lock, X York Street carefully AHD using traffic island into Mart Lane, with canal basin on RT. X road bridge, BR across yard in front of The Tontine (former hotel) and then bear LT alongside canal as it emerges via locks into River Severn. (Detour RT into Stourport for shops, cafes, pubs etc.) SO810709 **21.6 miles**

Stourport-on-Severn is the equivalent of a brash young teenager in comparison with the faded maiden aunt that is Bewdley (note amusement park by river). James Brindley's 1771 Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal, which meets the Severn here, formed part of his "Grand Cross" design to link the ports of Liverpool, Hull, Bristol and London by the canal and river system. The inhabitants of Bewdley reputedly turned down the opportunity to have "Brindley's stinking ditch" come through their own town, so consigning themselves to commercial oblivion, as trade diverted onto the canal to avoid the overland route to Bewdley. This story is probably apocryphal as the easiest route for the canal was always to follow the Stour valley, hence the need to create a totally new town at Stourport to serve the canal basin.

- 14.** TL alongside River Severn and AHD 300YDS to X River Stour. At grassy area, ½ LT CB 140 over grass and leaving river for 150 YDS to meet tarmac FP, where TL. AHD into RD and SLOT on pavement for 200YDS. Where RD bears LT into Resolution Way, X RD and continue SO on unnamed RD opposite. After 50 YDS, after last house on RT, TR (FPS) and immediately TL on path to meet main RD. X RD (**CAUTION**) and thru SWG to enter Hartlebury Common. SO, bearing RT as 2 paths join from LT, with housing on LT. After 200 YDS at fence corner, SO on sandy path (FPS Geopark Way) across common CB 90. After 90 YDS bear LT CB 30 (FPS GPW) on sandy path. Path climbs through gorse to X TK. SO (FPS GPW) heading for pylon. After 10 YDS ½ LT CB 60 to FPS GPW, then ½ LT CB 30. AHD 50 YDS to wide X TK, where TL. AHD, with boundary of Common on RT, following GPW signs. 30 YDS before car park gate, TR past SWG and trig point to exit common thru SWG. SO827713
- 15.** AHD on enclosed FP to pass riding centre, bearing RT across car park and access RD. Down enclosed path opposite to LT of pylon with hedge on RT (ignore FPS to RT) and then climb steps. TR (FPS) and immediately LT, keeping fence on LT. At fence end SO into enclosed path with house on LT, then SWG to house drive. X drive and TR. Drive soon becomes path, thru SMG, past mill wheel, past LMG to RD (view of Hartlebury Castle AHD). X RD and TR on pavement for 400 YDS. (It is possible to detour LT here to Hartlebury Castle, now the County Museum for Worcestershire, for a visit or refreshments at café/picnic area). SO838709 **23.9 miles**
- 16.** Where main RD bears LT, X RD and thru SMG into churchyard. At church fork LT on tarmac path thru churchyard to meet RD. TR on pavement for 500 YDS to RD junction. X RD and TL on pavement. After 20 YDS TR to go thru underpass and AHD on pavement to Hartlebury Station (possible trains back to Kidderminster and Hagley). After crossing railway lines TL to X RD into lane opposite. 100 YDS past brickworks overhead conveyor, TR (FPS) thru SWG and AHD for 500 YDS

between brick workings, crossing plant access RD. At path end TL to X plant access RD and AHD thru 4 SMGs, then SWG, X drive and finally thru SMG to tarmac TK. TL past Walton Farm Cottage and thru LMG. Follow BWS ½ RT across FLD CB 60 and thru LMG onto TK. AHD thru 2 further LMGs for 300 YDS to RD. X RD, thru SMG, SO cross FLD CB 60, aiming 50 YDS RT of nearest house. X FB over ditch in small row of trees and climb FLD SLOT to ST and RD. SO868714

- 17. X RD (EXTREME CAUTION - BUSY MAIN RD).** Thru SMG and over ST on RT. TL with tennis court on LT. Thru fence and ½ RT to ST in fence. SLOT to SMG on RT of stabling. Thru and TR on farm TK, immediately bearing LT (FPS). After 300 YDS thru 2nd LMG on RT into FLD. In FLD go ½ LT CB 50 to X ST in fence. SLOT to LMG and RD. SLOT on RD for 400 YDS. At RD fork, BL to pass The Old Barn and Mintz Cottage. After 600 YDS, at Longmore Farm sign, BL at RD fork, with sports pitch on RT, for 800 YDS. When RD bears LT, with gold-topped metal house gates ahead, continue SLOT on enclosed FP to RD. SO888736 **28.3 miles**
- 18. X RD (EXTREME CAUTION - BUSY MAIN RD)** and AHD on track opposite, passing Village Hall. After 200 YDS, where TK turns LT, go SO on path over FLD, aiming LT of bungalow and joining hedge on LT. Thru KG onto enclosed path and after 20 YDS TL (FPS), joining Monarch's Way (MW), which you now follow back to Hagley. Where path meets cross TK, TL downhill and thru SMG. 150 YDS after gate, as TK peters out, X ST on RT and TL, with ditch on LT. X 2 STs into FLD, hedge on LT for 250 YDS. At hedge end, up steps on LT and TL (MW), hedge on LT. Follow TK RT at FLD corner. After 500 YDS, as TK turns LT, TR (FPS) with hedge on RT. SO877747 **29.8 miles** (TL here for 150 YDS, then LT on RD for a short detour to Harvington Hall, a beautiful medieval moated manor house and hotbed of catholic recusancy in the 16th Century. The house boasts 7 hidden priest-holes. Check website <https://www.harvingtonhall.com/> for opening times, tea-rooms etc.)
- 19.** (Return to MW). Continue with hedge on RT for 400 YDS and at FLD end thru gap to continue SLOT with hedge now on LT. After 400 YDS TL down steps in hedge (FPS) into FLD and TR, with hedge now on RT. AHD 250 YDS and thru KG CB. X FLD ½ LT CB 350 to X ST. AHD on enclosed path and over ST on LT. TR with fence on RT to X ST into RD. TL to main RD. X RD (**EXTREME CAUTION**). SO883759
- 20.** AHD on Deansford Lane for 250 YDS. TR on grassy TK between fields (permissive path becomes MW), gradually bearing LT to meet farm RD. SLOT and when RD turns LT, TR thru SWG and immediately TL (MW). Thru LMG, X ST and descend SLOT to X ST and FB. AHD and ascend, following signs for MW. X minor RD, thru SWG and AHD around FLD to SWG on LT. Ascend FLD ½ RT CB 70 to X ST in top RT corner. TL on PTH (soon becomes TK) and descend hill to minor RD. SO883774
- 21.** TR on RD and in 30 YDS AHD on BW (MW) descending to X stream, then climbing gradually beside paddocks to RD. X and AHD down TK with woods on RT. After 800 YDS descend on enclosed path between pool and house and ascend on access RD to main RD. X RD (**EXTREME CAUTION**) and TR for 30 YDS, then TL on TK (MW). AHD for 500 YDS to RD. TL on pavement and go under railway. After 30 YDS X RD onto enclosed FP by pool. AHD on path thru woods to join access RD at Brake Mill Farm. At T junction TL on TK with Brake Mill Cottage on LT, thru KGT. AHD on enclosed path for 500 YDS to RD, where TR. Continue AHD on Brake's Lane, between schools, for 250 YDS to station entrance on RT. SO901805 **34 miles**

STAGE 3: HAGLEY TO HAGLEY 18 MILES

22. (If starting at Hagley, leave station and TR on RD). Continue past station to traffic lights, where TR on pavement (Worcester Road, shops, cafes and pubs available). After 300 YDS TL to X RD using pedestrian crossing, then TR on pavement to continue on Worcester Road. At RD end, X main RD using pedestrian crossing and TR on pavement. After 10 YDS TL into Western Road. Keep on LT hand pavement for 800 YDS as RD turns RT then LT, ignoring all other RDs. At end of housing on LT TR and X RD (**CAUTION**) to tarmac drive (BWS) to Field House Farm and to residential home. Follow drive, becoming TK, past houses and residential home to reach RD. SO914790
23. X RD (**CAUTION**) and AHD on RD opposite. After 450 YDS, at *road bends* traffic sign, TL up wooden steps. AHD on narrow path, which may be overgrown in parts, with fence on RT, then on LT, for 600 YDS. At end of path thru SMG to reach RD. TL on pavement for 80 YDS then X RD (**CAUTION**) to go thru KGT and then SMG. AHD on RT side of field and thru SMG. BR on RT of field and thru SMG and over FB. AHD SLOT aiming for fence corner to LT of houses CB 110. AHD with fence on RT, thru KGT, down steps to RD. X RD (**CAUTION**) to pavement opposite and TL. Continue on pavement for 350 YDS to centre of Clent village SO928792
24. TR on RD in front of church for 15 YDS and TL up house drive to find enclosed FP on LT, between churchyard on LT and brick wall. Thru KGT to ascend hill bearing ½RT after 40 YDS CB 210. Thru KGT and AHD SLOT to enter woods via KGT. AHD on path on RT edge of wood, ignoring all paths on LT and RT. After 500 YDS emerge on open hillside. In 40 YDS, at wooden benches on RT, TR to reach wire fence. TL with fence on RT. AHD 200 YDS and BR at X TK. After 50 YDS TR thru KGT (FPS NWP). AHD with fence and Walton Hill Farm on RT. SO941794
25. Thru SWG and AHD following FPS NWP to reach wooded area (beware of tree roots in path). Emerge from wood and AHD, contouring around hill side. Over ST and thru wooded area to eventually pass thru KGT into FLD. TL (FPS NWP) and descend, keeping fence on LT and passing thru further KGT. When fence bears LT, SO down FLD CB 80. Fence re-joins from LT. Descend to KGT and RD. TR on RD for 30 YDS and TL into Windwood Heath Road. RD climbs steeply to reach T-JCN after 900 YDS. X RD to verge opposite and TR. AHD for 150 YDS to TL thru KGT (FPS NWP). AHD thru FLD CB 180, X ST and AHD in FLD with hedge on RT. X ST, then TK, then further ST. AHD with trees on RT thru gap in hedge. Where trees BR, AHD SLOT down FLD aiming just LT of nearest house. X ST to RD. SO964780
26. TR on pavement for 100 YDS, the X RD into cul-de-sac opposite (FPS NWP). Up RD, becomes TK, to cross motorway and pass farm buildings on LT. At TK JCN continue AHD, leaving NWP. TK turns LT to become holloway (BWS). At path JCN TR, continuing on BW with houses on RT then LT. Thru SWG, X drive and thru SMG (BWS). AHD for 300 YDS. Where TK turns RT into farm yard, TL thru SMG (BWS). Immediately TR then TR again thru gap in hedge into FLD. Bear ½ LT following faint FP, aiming for bottom RT hand corner of FLD in trees CB 150. X ST into woodland (FPS). AHD 200 YDS to X ST into FLD. TR then TL on concrete farm TK for 250 YDS. At large oak tree on RT, go ½ RT across grass for 50 YDS to X ST in hedge to RD. SO973763
27. TR and AHD on RD (**CAUTION no grass verges at first**). 200 YDS after passing under bridge, where RD turns RT, TL into cul-de-sac. After 50 YDS TR onto house drive (FPS). AHD passing Winsel Cottage on LT onto tarmac path thru private gardens (**please show consideration**). At end of garden, thru LMG, over FB and AHD thru woodland for 700 YDS, eventually climbing between fences to emerge into farm yard. AHD to RD. X RD to verge opposite and TL uphill for 500 YDS. After crossing Monument Lane on RT, immediately TR, passing wooden barriers and tree trunks onto grassy area. AHD bearing LT to castellated toposcope (built to commemorate the gift of the land to the City of Birmingham in 1907 by the Cadbury family) at top of Beacon Hill. (Views north to Birmingham city centre) SO987759

- 28.** Pass to LT of toposcope towards benches and steep slope CB 0. After 100 YDS, below benches, TL on path along top of slope to enter woodland (red FPS Woodpecker Trail). SLOT 70 YDS to T-JCN where TR (red FPS on tree AHD). Descend gradually with golf course on RT and RD on LT (FPS NWP). Reach TK where TL to X RD and thru KGT opposite (FPS NWP). After 250 YDS at T-JCN TR onto broader TX. Follow past LMG to reach RD. TL on pavement over RD bridge then AHD on verge to X Holywell Lane and TL on pavement opposite (FPS NWP). After 50 YDS TR into Waseley Hills Country Park car park. SO979768
- 29.** At end of car park climb path (FPS NWP) to KGT. Thru and AHD uphill. Where path emerges onto open hillside, keep on RT hand boundary of open space following NWP. Thru KGT and further KGT to climb open hillside CB 320 aiming to RT of stand of pine trees. 150 YDS after trees thru KGT, SO thru KGT opposite (FPS NWP, MW). TL uphill aiming RT of pylon to toposcope (views ahead to Dudley and Black Country). Descend SLOT to SMG 30 YDS RT of pylon. Down steps and ½ RT downhill to pass through SMW into Waseley Hills Country Park visitor centre (café, toilets, picnic area, cold water tap on outside wall of toilets). SO971782
- 30.** Exit car park to LT and emerge onto RD. X RD and TL on grass verge to X motorway. Immediately TR into Newtown Road. After 70 YDS X RD and X ST into FLD. AHD hedge on RT thru 3 FLDS (FPS MW). 20 YDS before end of 3rd FLD ignore FPS on RT and BL diagonally across FLD corner towards KGT. DO NO GO THRU but TL on FLD margin, hedge on RT, leaving MW. After 80 YDS TR down steps and thru KGT. AHD hedge on RT thru KGT to cross TK ½ LT and down path (FPS) with fishing pool on RT. Thru KGT and SLOT diagonally across FLD, thru KGT to TK. After 50 YDS thru SMG and AHD in FLD with fence on RT. After 100 YDS at FPS bear ½ LT across FLD to KGT. Thru KGT and SLOT thru FLD CB 290. Thru KGT to emerge on RD by pub. SO961795
- 31.** X RD (**CAUTION**) to pavement opposite and TL. (TR on pavement to detour downhill to shops in Romsley). After 10 YDS TR into Poplar Lane. After 150 YDS X RD to pavement opposite and TR to go behind wooden railing at 30 mph sign (FPS). Up steps, thru KGT, up FLD and thru further KGT. TR (FPS) to keep to RT hand side of scrubland to path in RT hand corner, thru wooded area. Emerge over ST into FLD. AHD hedge on RT to X ST in far RT field corner. Thru further field hedge on RT and thru KGT to RD. SO947800
- 32.** X RD ½ LT, X ST and AHD in FLD with hedge on LT for 600 YDS, ignoring other paths. At FLD end over ST in LT hand corner. TL on RD for 30 YDS then TR on RD. At JCN after 250 YDS TR then AHD on RD for 600 YDS, re-joining NWP, which you now follow back to Hagley. At T JCN with St Kenelm's Pass X RD and TL on verge opposite. After 50 YDS at car park area TR past LMG (FPS NWP). Climb path thru woodland, keeping to central path at junction (FPS NWP). After 500 YDS TL on wide TK at top of climb to reach viewing area, with standing stones sculpture and toposcope on LT. SO932803
- 33.** AHD SLOT 80 YDS to fenced trees, where BR with wooden fence on LT (FPS NWP). At fence end bear ½RT CB 310. X main TK to continue down TK opposite CB 310. Descend thru wood, ignoring turns on LT and RT, following signs for NWP. At T JCN at bottom TL then immediately TR, past LWG. AHD on RT side of wood for 200 YDS. At T JCN TL past small car park and immediately before LWGs, TR on enclosed path (FPS NWP). After 200 YDS, at X paths, TR (FPS NWP). Follow enclosed path for 1,000 YDS, ignoring all turns off NWP, to reach RD. SO916807
- 34.** X RD (**CAUTION**) and TL on pavement opposite. AHD, housing on RT, to T JCN. TR on pavement and follow Bromsgrove Road to end. Just before dual carriageway, TL and X Bromsgrove Road using traffic islands to reach pavement in front of car dealership. Use pedestrian crossing to X dual carriageway (**EXTREME CAUTION – YOU MUST WAIT FOR THE LIGHTS TO ALLOW YOU TO CROSS THIS BUSY HIGHWAY**) and TL on pavement. SO913808

35. After 20 YDS, just past bus shelter, TR on enclosed FP (FPS NWP and MW). Path turns RT and LT (ignore FP on RT). When path crosses open ground, keep hedge on RT and when enclosed path resumes with wooden fence and paddock on LT, beware prominent root in path. Eventually reach ST and emerge on RD. X RD (**CAUTION**) into enclosed FP opposite (FPS NWP). AHD with housing on LT to reach RD (Winds Point). Follow RD as it bears RT, ignoring RDs to LT and RT, to end of cul-de-sac. Look for path (FPS NWP) in far RT corner (may be hidden behind vegetation) by tall wooden fence. Enclosed path turns LT to X railway. AHD for 300 YDS with metal fence and school playing fields on LT. At fence corner TL (ignore KGT on RT and leaving NWP) and continue on enclosed path, with metal fence on LT, to KGT. Thru to RD and TL for 300 YDS to T JCN. X RD to pavement opposite (**CAUTION**) and TL on Brake's Lane, between schools, for 250 YDS to station entrance on RT and **FINISH**. SO901805

(Total Distance 52 miles & 5,876 feet ascent)