

Abbreviations: **L** = Left, **R** = Right, **TL** = Turn Left, **TR** = Turn Right, **AH** = Ahead, **X** = Cross, **Thru** = through, Immed = immediately, FP = Footpath, BW = Bridleway, KG = Kissing Gate, WP = Waymark Post, FB = footbridge, CW = Chiltern Way, IW = Icknield Way, CB:320 = Compass Bearing 320, GR = Grid Reference. Each paragraph starts with distance (0.6M) then next number is 6 figure grid reference.

Emergency number during event – 07775 296 585

Start – Barton Village Hall: GR: TL 082 306

Leave Barton Village Hall site & **TR** on pavement and soon **bear R** at NO ENTRY road signs to pass the Café Goa on R. At mini roundabout **X road with care** & **AH** into Sharpenhoe Road on R hand pavement. Continue for 500yds, over the bridge with A6 Dual Carriageway below. 80yds beyond bridge **X road with care** to FP sign on opposite side. Descend steps & at bottom **TL**, & then follow track round to **R**.

0.6M 075 306 At WP by culvert **bear L** with path to follow permissive path waymarks. In 20yds **bear R** on track between trees for 180yds to WP. **AH** on narrow path between trees, with ditch on R & steep bank on L, for 400yds. On reaching barrier & road **T sharp R** (*not tarmac path*) to continue on permissive path **thru** trees - later with fence on R. In 500yds, at end of fence, **AH** into scrubby area with ditch on R. On reaching open steep bank on L, **AH** with ditch on R for 120yds. At WP with permissive path sign **TR, X FB** & **thru KG**.

1.4M 075 294 **AH X** field (CB:320) to KG on hillside. **Thru KG** & **AH** up steps to follow path up 2nd set of steps where **bear R** on path. In 100yds **bear L** up 3rd set of steps & **AH** up steps & **thru KG**. **AH** up field boundary to KG. **Thru KG** & **bear R** on path between fences. At WP **AH thru** gap to **TL thru KG** & **AH** uphill between hedge on L & fence on R. In 500yds go **thru KG** beside field gate.

2.1M 066 293 **X road ½L with care**, to go **thru KG** & **AH** with trees on L & track on R. In 80yds (ignore KG on R) **bear L**, with WP on L, on track between fence & trees. In 250yds at path junction (with wooden gate AH) **bear R** by WP & then **bear L thru** trees. In 300yds, after short descent, pass WP on L, ignore L fork, & **AH** to T junction at WP with CW disc. **TR** down 4 steps & **fork L** (*do not continue down steps to R*) on winding path **thru** trees, with steep bank on R. In 200yds reach X path – with KG to L. [*This is Sundon Hills Country Park.*] **TR** with WP on L, down path **thru** trees. Keep **AH** down L of open area (with large anthills) & **AH** down steps.

2.7M 058 292 At X path, with gate AH, (*do not go thru gate*) but **TL** on enclosed path. **AH** for 650yds, passing butterfly marker post on R, to KG beside field gate. **Thru KG** & **AH** to immed **fork L** uphill away from hedge on R. **Bear L** on ridge uphill, passing seat on L, to KG. **Thru KG** & **AH** with fence on R. In 80yds, near brow of hill, **bear ½L** (CB:190) away from fence - aiming to L of 3 trees on skyline. At crest keep **AH** to top edge of coomb to pass yellow bowser on R.

Do not follow 18 mile route which continues ahead to fence here.

3.4M 051 287 At yellow bowser **bear R** (CB:280) towards fence, to pass between post on L & tree filled coomb on R. Follow path with fence R, avoiding large holes. **Thru** KG beside field gate, at WP with kite, & **AH** towards WP & seat. Just before WP **TL** down steps into quarry. Follow grassy path **thru** base of quarry to exit by red topped WP. **AH** down steps to **bear L** on path & in 60yds, at red topped WP, **TR** on winding path **thru** scrub to KG. **Thru** KG & **AH** down permissive path for 300yds. **Thru** KG to L of field gate & **TL** on lane to road - *memorial on R.*

3.9M 047 292 **X Sundon Road with great care**, to go **thru** gap in hedge & **TL** up permissive BW, with hedge & road on L. Continue **AH** over brow to **bear R** with track downhill, then **sharp L** at bottom - with fence on L. After 170yds **fork R**, cutting across edge of cropped field, to rejoin main track & **AH** for 150yds.

[Do not follow walkers returning on short course coming down!]

4.6M 041 287 At gap in fence on L, by tyres, **TL** up path between trees – signed 'A walk on the Wild Side'. Continue **AH** up path for 450yds to open area at WP. **Bear R** on faint path (CB:170) to WP & **thru** gap beside old gate.

18 mile route re-joins from left here.

5.0M 043 281 **TL** on track, becoming enclosed, for 450yds to road. **X road with care** & **TL** on pavement. Pass phone box, & at road junction **TR** on pavement – signed **Streatley**. Opposite Village Hall **TL** & **X road with care**, to checkpoint.

CP1 Sundon Village Hall
Opens 9:00

GR: TL 048 278
Closes 13:00

5.5 miles

Leave checkpoint & **return** to road (over grass in corner of car park) where **TL** on pavement. At end of pavement **TR**, **X road with care** & down drive, to pass front of White Hart pub, to FP sign. At sign **bear R** to go **thru** gap on L of garages. **Thru** KG & **AH** to go **thru** gap in fence. 10yds beyond gap **TR** with fence on R to KG. **Thru** KG & **TL** along edge of playing field, with hedge on L, to corner. **Thru** KG, then **TR** & **L** on pavement. Pass garages on L & **AH** on pavement between tree on L & sign (**Church Road**) on R. **AH** on alley between houses to road.

5.9M 045 275 **TL** on pavement for 40yds & **TR X road with care** & along lane, **thru** gap beside gate. In 80yds **TL** at FP sign up steps [*stop to admire view*] then descend steps into Sundon quarry. [Follow red/white tapes thru quarry.] At bottom of steps, ignore minor path to L, & follow obvious path curving **R** to path junction. At **X** path **TR** for 100yds to next path junction (fork **AH**) where **T sharp L**. In 20yds **fork R** on minor path, with ponds below on R. **Take care round steep hole** on R, to **bear R** on joining main path. Approaching hedgeline **AH**, **bear R thru** gap with vertical drop on R; then **AH thru** gap in scrub to descend on gravelly path.

6.4M 040 272 At bottom **AH** into open area, where **TR** on stony track. Continue **AH** on chalky track with steep scrubby banks either side, ignoring any paths L or R, for 400yds. At open area, with concrete base & low wall on R, **TR** in front of wall, then **TL** on grassy track. In 70yds, where main track goes uphill, **bear R** on path between scrub. In 40yds **bear R X** open area to ascend concrete steps. **AH** onto tarmac where **bear R** between posts to lane.

Longer routes turn sharp left here, on narrow FP – do not follow.

6.8M 036 277 **TR** up lane for 280yds to gap in hedge just before 7th power pole. ***[Take extra care on paths thru this second part of quarry if it's wet!]***
TL up steep bank ***[Take care could be, slippery]*** & down on chalky track.
Keep **AH** on obvious path towards sandy cliff on R. At fork in open area, with sandy cliff on R, **bear R thru** scrub & ancient pits – ***take care on adverse camber.*** Follow winding path & at junction **TR** down path.
At next junction **bear R** on chalky path between scrub, becoming narrow & rutty.

7.2M 040281 After 130yds & short steep descent, pass **thru** more open area with fence & landfill site on L. Continue **AH** on obvious path to emerge on large open grassy area. Here **bear R** for 20yds to go **thru** gap in scrub, with burnt out car on R. **Take care** on chalky path down steep bank – ***very slippery when wet!***
AH up & down steep banks to enclosed path, where **TL** downhill to junction at bottom.

Do not be surprised by later starters who may be coming up this path!
At bottom all routes join from right – do not follow!

7.7M 041 287 **TL** on path around field edge to **bear R** in 110yds, with hedge & landfill site on L. **AH** at gap with WP, still hedge on L, & in 180yds **TR** with path. In 60yds **TL** (***do not TL on path thru gap at WP***) & continue **AH**, with hedge on L, to WP in field corner. Here **TR** with hedge on L & keep **AH** for 650yds to KG on L.

8.6M 039 297 **Thru** KG & **AH** with wire fence on R for 100yds to pass track with containers on R. In 30yds **TR thru** KG & **TL** with fence on L to KG 10yds from L corner. **Thru** KG, **thru** trees & **thru** KG. **AH** (CB:330) on feint path **X** field to field gate. **Thru** gate & **AH** to go **thru** KG beside power pole.
Go between wires & **thru** gap in hedge & **TR** to road.

8.9M 038 300 **X road with care** & **TL** on pavement. In 120yds **TR** at FP sign, just before white house, on enclosed FP. **AH X FB** & **bear R** (CB:90) [*view of Sharpenhoe Clappers AH*] for 400yds to reach WP at FB.

Longer routes join here on FP from L.

9.4M 042 302 **X FB** & **TR** along field edge to corner. At WP, **bear L** with trees & ditch on R. In 300yds, at next WP **bear R**, now with hedge & ditch on L. **AH** 150yds to go **thru** gap on R of gate to lane. **X lane with care**, & **X FB**. **AH** with hedge & ditch on R for 480yds. **Bear L** with path to WP beside small FB. **AH** 15yds to **TR** over large new bridge & **thru** hedge gap.

10.0M 050 304 At WP **TL** on grassy path with hedge on L, & follow to **R** & **L** at next 2 WPs. In 150yds at field corner **bear L thru** gap to go between FB & WP. At open field **bear L** & **R** with path. Continue **AH** along field edge with hedge on L for 600yds. At field corner with WP (***do not exit onto road***) but **TR**, still hedge on left, for 80yds to **TL thru** small gap in hedge – just before 3rd power pole.

10.7M 056 312 **X road with great care (*blind bends both ways*)** to pass **R** of digger & **thru** scrub on path, with stone edging on R. In 40yds, at X path, **TR** over stone edging, on obvious path (CB:90) to gap in hedge. **Thru** gap & **AH** (CB:90) **X** field to WP at corner of wood. Continue **AH**, with wood on R, for 250yds to **X** FB in field corner. **TL** on track & in 20yds **TR** on FP with hedge on R. At WP at end of hedge, continue **AH** (CB:90) **X** field to WP on R of large tree. **AH** over FB & **TR** on enclosed FP. At end of trees by WP, **TL thru** open area directly under power lines.

11.4M 066 312 **AH thru** gap in hedge, following power lines, between hedges for 400yds. [*Note WW2 bunker on L by power pole.*] At hedge end **AH** to WP where **bear L** on grassy track. In 10yds **TR thru** KG & **AH X** field under power lines to KG. **Thru** KG & **AH**, with hedge on L, to KG. **Thru** KG & **X** FB to follow winding path **AH thru** spinney. At end of spinney **AH**, soon with hedge on R, for 250yds.

12.0M 076 312 At field corner, with conifers **AH**, **TR** on gravel path, with fence on R & trees on L. In 200yds **TL** over FB & **TR**, with ditch on R & trees on L. In 180yds at WP **TR** over culvert & in 10yds **TL** up steps to road. **TL** on pavement over bridge & continue on pavement for 500yds to the mini roundabout. Here **X** road **with care** and **TR** along the one way street, passing the Café Goa on L. Follow pavement as it **bears L** & shortly **TL** to the Village Hall and the end.

BARTON VILLAGE HALL and FINISH Total 12.8 miles

WELL DONE