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An LDWA KENT GROUP

20 MILE HIGH WEALD CHALLENGE

A WALK WITH THE SMUGGLERS

SUNDAY 12th JULY 2015

TAKE CARE CROSSING AND WALKING ON ROADS

Compass bearings are figures in brackets, e.g. (CB 230)

Abbreviations (alphabetically):

ahd—ahead; **BL**—bear left; **BR**—bear right; **btw**—between; **cnr**—corner; **cont**—continue; **enc**—enclosed; **fld**—field; **flw**—follow; **FL**—fork left; **fp**—footpath; **fsp**—footpath signpost; **FR**—fork right; **GR**—grid reference; **GT**—gate; **HWLT**— High Weald Landscape Trail; **immed**—immediately; **jcn** or **jnc**—junction; **kg**—kissing gate; **L**—left; **LH**—left hand; **LHS**—left hand side; **opp**—opposite; **R**—right; **rd**—road; **RH**—right hand; **RHS**—right hand side; **ST**—stile; **thru**—through; **TK**—track; **TL**—turn left; **TR**—turn right; **wmk**—waymark; **X**—cross; **yds**—yards.

NB The three routes (15, 20 and 26 miles) intertwine – so please follow *your* route, and *not* the person in front, else you could end up walking the wrong distance.

- 1 From Village Hall, ahd to BL past pond. With **GREAT CARE**, X main rd and TR to War Memorial. TL down driveway to KG. Thru and at top of fld, BL to descend fld (going behind tree) on obvious fp. Ahd to KG into wood, and flw to rd. BR across rd and TL into private drive. BL on TK, pass iron gates, TR and flw TK to just before farmhouse (seat in garden on L). TR thru GT (WC35) and ahd on grass TK to reach drive.
- 2 TR on drive, thru GT and flw to jnc where TR. Ahd on gravel to X new ST on L, and ahd on fp around top, then far side of fld, and down to TL to X ST. Ahd on RHS fld and in 150 yds, at low wooden post (before end of fld), BR and over ST. TL and btw fences, ahd to X wobbly ST and around RHS of GT to reach main rd. **GR 709 372**

- 3 With **GREAT CARE**, X main rd to TR (*best to be in pub car park*) and then ahd on verge for 45 yds to TL (sp Finchcocks). Ahd on driveway to jnc where BR over bridge. Keep ahd on rd for 500 yds to cnr where TR and immed TL over ST into fld, and ahd - passing 3 visible large trees - heading diagonally up fld (CB 230).
- 4 At top of fld, pass optional ST, then TL over ST and ahd into green lane, passing cottage and ahd at jnc, now on narrowing fp ascending. After 150 yds, at fsp on L, TR (WC 50) and up concrete steps to X ST. Ahd along top edge of fld, then B½R making for R bottom cnr of fld. Find gap in hedge just to R of cnr, X ST and TL to X next ST. Immed TR (*on bank – do not descend to fld*) and ahd to X ST by GT into wood and descend on fp. At end, over ST and BL down fld to find ST in far L cnr. To TK, TL and over bridge, and immed TR and along dirt TK, soon with hops on R. **GR 697 364**
- 5 At end of first hop fld, ahd on grass fp in second hop fld. After 80 yds, TL uphill (NT24) with hops on R. At top TR alongside hedge on L. At end thru GT (please close) and immed TL with fence. At 3 way fsp, keep ahd and BR to obvious ST ahd. X ST and ahd to X next ST into rape fld, pass tree and downhill towards River Teise. At T-jnc, TL (still in fld) and ahd on RHS fld (with A21 to R), passing one fsp. At next fsp, BL uphill through vegetation to trees.
- 6 Ahd over driveway with hedge on L, ascending and ahd thru gap, TL and X ST into second fld, by GT. Ahd btw fence and hedge. At cnr (3 way fsp), TR (Scotney Castle) down RHS fld - **15 milers keep ahd here** - and ahd to X GT at wood edge. Over TK and ahd thru woods to swing L and down steps to driveway (to **Scotney Castle**). **GR 684 353**
- 7 X driveway and over ST and B½L (CB 120) in fld to pass tree and post and down to join rough TK where TR and over stone bridge and ahd to go thru small GT. Over next bridge and thru GT. Uphill for 400 yds – ignore major fp to L after 200 yds - over ST by white gate and ahd for further 250 yds. At TK jnc (WC53), TL on TK and ahd for 500 yds ignore all turnings, going uphill. BL on fp (fsp Kilndown) and ahd under trees, ignore driveway to R and ahd on fp for 60 yds to TR at roofed Noticeboard / Shelter, and keep L on fp to rd at **Kilndown Village Hall**. **GR 699 352** **15 milers rejoin**

Checkpoint 1 – seating outside Kilndown Village Hall – 5.4 Miles GR 700 352

26 milers take a different route for next few miles

- 8 **TL** on rd and ahd to rd jnc. TR and flw rd as it swings L at next jnc (Rough Road). At foot of hill (fld on L), over brook then TL at fsp, over bridge and on fp uphill. At dogleg, go R then L and eventually TR down to rd. Go straight over on rd ahd (ie do not TL) to end. TL on rd (**CARE**) (B2079) and TR after 50 yds to go past garages, thru KG into fld. Downhill to prominent trees ahd (look for small white box on L), where TR in opening and TL (to Hawkhurst). Ahd with lake on R, over ST and up to next ST, then uphill (R of trees) and BL to cnr by shed (**Three Chimneys Farm**). **GR 727 347**
- 9 X ST and TR along TK, then L on enc FP. At end, TL on fp thru trees and up to main TK. **TR** and keep ahd on main TK for 1,500 yds - going thru logging area, ignoring all turnings and keeping R at major jnc (after 1,000 yds) slightly uphill - eventually to reach barrier (which may be open). **26 milers re-join you here** **GR 739 334**
- 10 **TL** on main TK, passing cottages (**Louisa Lodge**) and flw main TK, soon uphill. At top of rise (after 600 yds), with small car park on L, TR along TK and ahd on TK btw open flds. Cont into second fld, then TL by telegraph pole (and hidden fsp) down RHS fld to bottom cnr, where TL for 50 yds (approx ½ way along) and TR into trees (beware large footholes) down into gully

- and up other side to fsp. Ahd across fld to join TK coming in from L, nr cnr, and uphill on TK with trees on L. Thru tree gap and ahd on faint fp across crop to rougher vegetation, where B slight L and, at brow of hill, TR on fp downhill, soon with hedge on L, and cont downhill.
- 11 Over TK and ahd on mown grass strip (LHS fld). After next large tree, 150 yds before end of fld, TL thru GT and along RHS fld and thru GT, over ST, down fld. **Unlikely, but if motocross rally / races actually taking place (you would hear before you saw), please TL at top of this fld and go L around racing TK to reach opposite side – please do not dice with the riders (or officials)! Over TK, steeply down, over bridge and steeply up, over TK again, up 2 dirt steps and ahd to L of house ahd. Thru GT and down to rd. (Gill’s Green) GR 756 324**
- 12 TL and after 20 yds TR into next rd (Limes Grove), gently rising. At end, BL and with **GREAT CARE** X rd (A229) and TL (single file please) along verge for 45 yds. TR into minor rd, Potters Lane (**GR 757 324**) and ahd for 500 yds to

Checkpoint 2 – roadside – 10.8 Miles GR 762 328
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- 13 Leave Checkpoint (heading same direction, eastwards) on rd for further 550 yds to end. (**Four Wents**) **GR 766 328**
- 14 At Xrds, TL (sp Cranbrook) and in 150 yds (at end of hedge on R) TR over ST (beware exposed nail) into fld. Ahd, soon meeting fence on R, ahd in same direction and down to GT. Thru (lift LHS GT) - **please close GT as best you can**. Continue down middle of fld. Over bridge and up to go thru small GT on R and ahd on RHS fld to X ST. Down to X bridge and up and over rickety ST (barbed wire), and ahd up fld (electric fence on R).
- 15 At top of fld with **GREAT CARE X ELECTRIC FENCE** and thru GT (**please close**). **Beware possible Bull in fld**. Ahd and, at hedge cnr, BL down fld to fsp and ahd thru woods, Xing earth bridge. Immed TR in next fld, downhill (CB 040) to centre of trees ahd, over ST down to X bridge and up steps to fld. Ahd uphill with trees on L and fld to R. At first hedge cnr, go **ahd** across gap to join (line of) trees, now on R. At top of tree line, TR for 15 yds, and fillw main TK to L. Pass wmk, ahd into green avenue and, at end, over ST and ahd with large trees to reach ST. (**Swattenden Centre**) **GR 774 344**
- 16 X rd and thru gap into fld. Fillw down LHS fld, TR at bottom cnr then TL at KG. Keep R and TR at cnr to find next KG on R after 100 yds. TL along fld edge. At end, TL down fp and ahd along LHS fld. Ahd, soon uphill, on TK btw trees. Dogleg R and L and, in 80 yds – **26 milers carry straight on here** – TL along driveway (Mt Ephraim Farmhouse / The Freight).
- 17 Over ST and ahd to TR thru KG just before barn, heading downhill just to L of largest tree. Thru KG down, across bridge, TL on main fp and ascend fld to pass defunct gatepost and ahd to wmk post. Ahd on RHS fld to KG, X fld to next KG and TR on grassy TK to end. (**Cranbrook**) With **CARE** X rd to New Road (HWLT) and ahead on this minor / unmade rd. With **CARE** X next major rd and ahd on TK thru squeeze GT. **GR 768 359**
- 18 Ahd for 220 yds to **ignore** HWLT going off to L. **15 milers go L here** **Cont ahd**, soon swinging to R to go thru logging area, keeping R on FP into trees (wmk visible). Soon swing L and downhill. In 300 yds, BR at fp jnc and ahd (level contour) with barbed wire fence on R. In further 300 yds, TL with TK and gently descend, soon in gully. At bottom, swing R on fp to reach and thru black squeeze GT. At next jnc, BL on raised TK then over grass and onto concrete driveway thru Spratsbourne Farm and ahd for 800 yds. **GR 759 377**
- 19 With **GREAT CARE**, BL X main rd (A262) to driveway and TR on TK to X ST (**KG chained shut**) and ahd along wide fp. At end – **26 milers re-join here** – BL thru KG and BL, but immed TR

- down slope (holly hedge on R), join fp from L and ahd. After 250 yds - at dogleg ahd with blank wooden board high up on tree ahd and “**evil eye**” at head height - TR on fp (yellow marker on tree on L after 10 yds, WC85) and ahd to left cnr and down to rd. (*If you miss turning and reach grass by white house, you have gone too far, please return to dogleg*). **GR 762 384**
- 20 TL on minor rd for 450 yds past Clayhill Farm (please keep to RHS and single file as you go round corner). At School sign, immed TL over small bridge and thru GT into enclosure. Keep ahd / RHS to X GT. (**Colliers’ Green**)

Checkpoint 4 – roadside – 15.9 Miles GR 758 387
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- 21 X RD and thru smaller (L) of two GTs directly opp (NOT gate 10 yds to R) and ahead on enclosed fp. At end of fence on L, BR past wmk-post, thru gap and along RHS of fld. Thru gap in cnr and keep ahd thru wood. Over major X-TK and ahd to exit wood at GT. Ahd X fld (CB 310) (*crop may make progress difficult*) to reach wmk-post. X ST and into wood. X small stream, and up to X ST and along RHS of fld. Thru gate and ahd, initially on green lane, soon TK. Dogleg L and R to pass buildings and then ahd on unmade drive, eventually reaching RD. **GR 742 397**
- 22 TL and immed TL into Jarvis Lane and in 10 yds X rd and over ST. Along LHS of fld, X ST in cnr and ahd along LHS of next fld. X ST and ahd on L, keeping close to hedge. X ST in bottom left cnr into next fld and ahd with hedge on L. TL with fld edge in front of crop and TR along edge of fld still (with trees on L). *NB official path may go thru crop ahd, but not visible*. At end, swing R to go thru gap in hedge, 35 yds from cnr, and immed TL down fld and **ahd** to 4 bar GT in bottom LH cnr. X ST and over bridge and, after 80 yds, at fp jnc, FR up steps, over bridge and up to sp (**Ladham Estate**). **GR 735 396**
- 23 Ahd X fld on clear fp, to go up steps and along LHS next fld, turning R at top and then TL at fpsp uphill to reach TK (bridleway). TR on TK and flw as this descends. At bottom of slope, swing R and soon uphill again. At XTK at top, TL on TK and soon swing R (fpsp) onto grassy fp, over “jump”. TL along driveway / TK and cont on this TK, to eventually reach grass triangle just before busy rd. TR on verge then, **when safe & with EXTREME CARE**, X rd to LHS and TR (single file) to cnr. (**Brandfold**) **GR 723 393**
- 24 At cnr, TL down fp, BR and over ST, continuing to descend. Go thru gap and into fld, where **BL** (not ahd) around fld edge. Over wooden bridge and along LHS fld to meet fp from R and go thru gap in hedge and over ST. BR (WC24) and cont basically ahd in straight line. X ST and ahd on faint fp across middle of fld, aiming just L of white boarded house. X next ST and ahd on bank with fence on L. Ahd along driveway and BL at jnc (with houses in Close on R) and up to rd. TR on rd, pass tennis courts and TL at fpsp (HWLT) at cnr. **GR 717 383**
- 25 Up steps, over ST and BL in fld, keeping slightly R of 2 oak trees and X ST in hedge ahd into lane. X lane, BR thru KG opp, over plank fb, ahead with fence on R. X two further KGs and cont uphill with fence on R to X KG. Cont up LHS of fld. At top L cnr, X footbridge, thru KG and ascend sharply, flw obvious fp as it BR to X fb and thru KG in hedge. TL sharply uphill and make the most of the final bit of climbing before the finish, along a boardwalk. Thru KG and ahd up btw fences on enc fp to rd. TR (leaving HWLT) to crossroads. With **GREAT CARE**, X main rd and along rd opp. In 60yds, immed after pond on R, FR to Goudhurst Village Hall and Finish. **GR 722 376** **20.0 miles**

Congratulations