

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE: **07979 503990**

15 MILE HIGH WEALD CHALLENGE

An LDWA KENT GROUP Event

ANDREDSWEALD CIRCUIT

SUNDAY 14th JULY 2019

TAKE CARE CROSSING AND WALKING ON ROADS

All distances and grid refs approximate

Abbreviations

CB XXX – Compass Bearing XXX degrees; **ahd** – ahead; *asl* – above sea level; **BL** – bear left; **BR** – bear right; **cnr** – corner; **enc** – enclosed; **fld** – field; **flw** – follow; **fp** – footpath; **fp sp** – footpath signpost; **HWLT** – High Weald Landscape Trail; **kg** – kissing gate; **L** – left; **LHS** – left hand side; **obv** – obvious; **R** – right; **rd** – road; **RHS** – right hand side; **sp** – signpost; **ST** – stile; **thru** – through; **TL** – turn left; **TR** – turn right; **VGW** – Vanguard Way; **WM** – (fp) waymark; **WW** – Weald Way; **X** – cross; **Xing** – crossing; **yds** – yards
eg **CHUCK HATCH** – name of hamlet / village

Roads etc are designated thus:

main rd (A22, A26) – **main forest rd** (B2026) – **rd** (two way traffic, perhaps fast) – **minor rd** – **track/driveway**

Path or track (particularly in the forest)? **track – wide fp – (forest) ride** are used interchangeably

You are permitted – nay, **encouraged** – to look all around you at the beautiful and stunning countryside.

The 15-mile route visits Checkpoints 1 and 2

The 20-mile route visits Checkpoints 1, 2, 3 and 4

The 26-mile route visits Checkpoints 1, 2, 3 and 4

Please follow your route, not necessarily the person in front; you could end up walking the wrong distance.

1. Leave Village Hall and TR, after 5 yds TR on pavement. After 50 yds, at pedestrian lights, **GREAT CARE** cross main rd (A22), TR on pavement. After 40 yds at lamp post, with fsp, TL thru archway, down steps and X car park. Ahd on gravel fp with wooden fence on L, behind houses. After 100 yds cross bridge and ahd on fp uphill.
2. After 130 yds, X ST and ahd on RHS fld. X ST in cnr, then BL and X 2nd ST at black wooden barn. Ahd with barn on L, after 20 yards, TL to X ST. TR down wide track between hedges. After 50 yds X ST, after 20 yds X 2nd ST (gate may be open). BL to cross field (CB 260) then X ST to continue ahd with wire fence on left and bushes on right. After 200 yds go thru kg to reach cross path.
TQ 417352
3. TR to X stone bridge and ahd. After 60 yds, swing L then R on wide track and ahd. After 220 yds, at end of track, TR soon on tarmac rd. Ahd (*passing impressive ruins on R, Brambletye House*), flw rd L and then uphill, Xing Forest Way (*old railway line*). **1.0 miles** **TQ 419357**
4. **GREAT CARE**, X main rd (A22) and ahd up fp opposite. At top, ahd on gravel driveway to rd. **CARE**, X rd and pass barrier to TL on fp. *Enjoy your short visit to John Pears Field, by remaining* On fp as it passes 'Street Snooker' and Tennis Courts. BL to exit fld by gate in cnr. **ASHURST WOOD**
5. TR and in 30 yds TR up Forge Twitten (*narrow fp*), to TR on minor rd. Ahd (*dead end, Hammerwood Road*) for 500 yds. Just after passing white buildings / Ashurstwood Abbey on R, fork R on Cansiron Lane. **1.8 miles** **TQ 425367**
6. Ahd for 700 yds (ignore Xing fp) and at rd/track junction, BR soon past Nos 1 and 2, Grove Farm Cottages, and immediately TL over ST down steps and along LHS fld. At bottom of fld, just before large tree, BR on fp across fld (CB 110 initially), aiming for 'hole' in hedge (*if visible*) on skyline. Pass thru hedgerow and ahd uphill to X ST in hedge (at the 'hole').
7. Ahd same direction, to BR past telegraph pole by cnr, and now along LHS fld. Over ST / thru gate at bottom cnr and soon BR to ascend next fld. X ST, track and next ST and ahd along LHS fld to X ST / thru gate into large fld (now on HWLT). **2.9 miles** **TQ 442365**
8. At fence cnr on L after 30 yds, **BslightlyL** (CB 080) – **NOT** on main mown fp – and ahd down and across middle of fld aiming for far cnr. X ST, over wooden bridge, and ahead on broad fp thru woodlands. Continue ahd for 950 yds, along LHS of 3 flds (HWLT), to reach St Ives Farm campsite. **ST IVES FARM** **4.0 miles** **TQ 458367**
9. Over / around ST in L cnr and ahd as best can, to find **dirt track**. Swing R around top of pond, but after **20 yds BL** across grass to find clear fp across middle of fld (CB 110) – ***grass area may be obscured by tents, caravans etc (if in doubt, keep to LHS camp site / hedge to reach grass / fld join, then TR for about 50 yds to find fp)***
10. X minor road and immediately thru / X "**gated**" ST – *beware, **flimsy gate**, stable ST* – and continue same direction (CB 110) across fld. Over ST / thru gate and BR (CB 120) across fld to bottom LH cnr. **BL to X ST into trees** (HWLT) and TR on fp to X bridges. Flw fp as it descends. X ST at wood edge and ahd on LHS across fld. Over **ST** (*beware, gate "drops" on you, should you choose this option*) and cross top of next fld. **TQ 471363**

11. Over ST and continue in same direction in 3rd fld (*view of Hartfield Church spire ahd*). At 4-way fsp in hedgerow, TR inside **this** fld (leaving HWLT) and along LHS fld. Ahd thru 2 gates, X bridge, thru gate, TR (CB 190) across fld to next gate, thru tunnel under Forest Way (*old railway line – yep, same one!*) **TQ 472360** and thru next gate. BR across fld to go thru another gate and uphill thru wood (often muddy).
12. At top, keep R and thru yet another small gate, and ahd on LHS fld (maybe fenced). Thru large gate and on RHS next fld (maybe fenced), thru next large gate and keep ahd (on RHS farmyard) to ascend gravel track, passing houses. At top of track, **CARE** (*beware speeding cyclists from R*) X rd and TL on pavement for 130 yds. At Hook Farm House, TR (WM) up driveway.

NEWTON'S HILL / GALLIPOT STREET**Checkpoint 1****HOOK FARM HOUSE driveway****5.7 miles****TQ 474353****Opens 09:45 – Closes 12:50**

13. Pass by gate and flw concrete fp ascending. BR and flw fp. After dried out pond, TR on enclosed fp between fences and flw this for 330 yds. At end, thru kg or gate and X tarmac drive, over ST (Pooh Bridge sp) and head down middle of fld on obv fp to far cnr. Thru kg and ahd down next fld to RH cnr. Thru kg and TL down minor rd (passing impressive Mole End). When rd bends L, go ahd (WM on R) and very soon ahd on gravel fp to reach **POOH BRIDGE**. **TQ 470339**
Twig / stick races optional – but no time allowance added.
14. BR to continue on fp. TL at gate ahd (*sign to Car Park*) and soon over 'NOT Pooh Bridge' (*I made that one up!*). TR on fp going uphill and, after 270 yds, **at fsp on L, TsharpL** over wood plank and flw fp over more substantial wooden plank to find and X ST into fld (WM). Along LHS fld to end. TR (WM) up track. At top L cnr, BL (WM) to go thru 4 small but high up gates (*easy to open & close if you are tall!*) crossing horse track and paddock. **GREAT CARE** TL over ST to main forest rd.
CHUCK HATCH **6.9 miles** **TQ 475334**
15. **CARE** X rd (*fast traffic, max 40 mph, allegedly*) and TL on grass verge (facing traffic). In 200 yds (30 yds after passing mirrors), BR **down** fp ('hidden' white concrete sp on R). Down wide, dark, gully, turning L at first junction, to X wooden footbridge. Ahd on wide fp, gradually rising, for 575 yds to fp junction, meeting Weald Way (WW) - **fsp on L** / Hazard notice and **barrier** on R.
7.7 miles **TQ 483335**
16. **TR** past metal barrier (CB 220 initially) and begin a remorseless ascent (on sandy / grassy track), passing occasional WW posts. *Now in Five Hundred Acre Wood*. After 700 yds, just past a Hazard notice, where track makes distinct turn L, **go ahd** thru (small) gate (WW) and continue ascending (**fp now**, thru trees) on this main fp – ignoring all possible deviations – for a further 800 yds. When view starts to open out, BR on wide grassy track (WW post), still uphill. **TQ 479323**
17. In further 350 yds, ahd at next junction (track joins from L), now at top (*phew!*) and continue on wide grassy track for 600 yds. **BL** in front of clump of trees, but soon TR to shimmy **thru** clump (WW), to TR on next track.
9.2 miles

18. In 100 yds, at track junction, **BL** (*leaving WW*) and ahd on wide track (*paralleling unseen rd, some 100 yds to L*) with trees on R. (*After 330 yds, clear view - 60 yds to R - of Greenwood Gate Clump (and sign), this is the highest point of walk (223 metres / 731 feet asl)*). After 600 yds, cross old rd (lattice structure) and in 130 yds, TL down to

Checkpoint 2**BLACK HILL CAR PARK****9.8 miles****TQ 474306****Opens 10:30 – Closes 15:00**

19. From car park, return past posts and ahd **over** wide grass track and **thru** tree clump (keeping L). At far side, **TL** for 40 yds, then TR on more minor fp. Ahd between two trees and – *15 milers need to STOP and turn around for views of South Downs* - at fp junction (with hedge ahead), **TR** (CB 050) for 85 yds to **TL** (CB 310) on a main grassy forest ride, soon becoming rutted, for 230 yds (with rd (and ice cream van?) visible some 500+ yds directly ahd). *Extensive views, to R, of where you were earlier, and with the North Downs on horizon beyond and ahd.*
20. Ahd over X track for further 300 yds and, at end, BR onto another main ride – you are now on the Vanguard Way (VGW). After 20 yds, at multipath junction, BL. After 90 yds BR and in 120 yds, at small post(s) (VGW), BR on **small** fp for 35 yds to reach main forest rd opposite an entrance to Gills Lap car park. *Ice cream van may be in car park* **10.6 miles** **TQ 467316**
21. **CARE** X rd to go between two concrete blocks (VGW) and ascend horse ride. At top, TR on main track (VGW) and keep ahd, after 350 yds passing trig point (30 yds on R) and Gills Lap Clump. Keep on main track for 200 yds and TL – before more major descent – thru / past wooden barrier (VGW) to viewpoint / memorial (A.A. Milne, E.G. Shepard). **11.1 miles**
22. Exit viewpoint at **other** end (VGW), TR down small fp to wide grass path. **TL** and flw this fp for 330 yds to cnr of hedge on R. **TQ 467322**
23. TR downhill on wide fp, with open ground to L, over Xing track and continue descending (*dead foliage forms hedge on R*). Ahd on sandy track, swinging L, for 275 yds, with woods on R (*ignore small fps going into trees*). At major track junction, TR (CB 315) down wide sandy track (now between trees) and continue down as, later, track becomes rutted and passes buildings and gardens on R. Continue to pass wooden barrier and TL on minor road. X bridge - *or ford stream!*
NEWBRIDGE **12.1 miles** **TQ 457326**
24. **TR** on rd (**CARE**) for 120yd. Pass over bridge, then immediately **TL** (VGW) along fp, soon going uphill. Meet and TL along track. In 40yd BR (ahd) along fp (CB 250) to continue uphill. After 200 yds ignore fp leaving on L, continue uphill (CB 280) for 360 yds. Just before main fp bears L, **BR** (CB 320) **into trees** along minor fp to pass cricket ground & pavilion on L.
25. X minor road diagonally L, then BR and ahd on wide track (VGW) to go **behind** bowling green (on R). Ahd on track to reach rd (VGW). **12.4 miles** **TQ 447330**
26. **CARE**, X rd & ahd for 40 yds, then **TL** along level fp (CB 240) (VGW). After 260 yds, TR onto brick & gravel track (leaving VGW) and flw for 350 yds down to end, by wooden barrier (WM), with house on R. **TQ 444334**

27. Golf Course, **always be aware of flying golf balls**, CARE – X diagonally over fairway (CB310), to pass behind yellow hydrant. TR on rough grass, but almost immediately TL thru obv gap in trees (CB 310), rough grass still. Immediately TR on sandy path on next fairway, but in 50 yds, CARE, BL (now CB 300) for 60 yds, directly across fairway, heading for nearest tree (WM) and low noticeboard (*LHS of fp*).
28. Fllw fp down, to pass idyllic houses on R. X concrete stepping stones and ascend on main fp to soon pass along top of (*golfing*) green. **13.5 miles** **TQ 438337**
29. Ahd on track / driveway ("*150 yds to 14th tee*"). Ignore fp at (first) cnr, but after 30 yds TL on fp (WM, *tree*) and ahd. BR at next WM (*tree*), and ahd behind houses to reach and X wooden bridge. Soon negotiate fallen tree and reach edge of another fairway (WM). CARE X directly ahd over fairway (CB 300), passing by the two trees and CARE continue to strange post (WM) near fairway edge.
30. Here TL (CB 240) for 40 yds (*passing lone tree on R, and 30 yds before conifer ahead*), to find distinct fp on R (CB 270 initially) going into low bracken. Fllw down into trees and TR down and onto grass bank above next fairway. TR on grass bank and soon go down to X fairway CARE and X handrailed bridge (WM). **TQ 432339**
31. CARE BslightlyR over next fairway and soon TL up gravel driveway (WM). Ahd up thru (tarmac) car park, continue on driveway, CARE swinging L. Keep L of GIVE WAY sign. **14.1 miles**
32. Ahd, soon bearing R (ahd) on Highgate Road, which becomes unmade. Continue, past houses both sides, and descend to meeting of unmade roads. TR into Spring Meadows and, at end, continue on narrow tarmac fp by gates. **TQ 426346**
33. Ahd on fp across top of grass triangle, and continue ahd on fp between houses. Thru metal barrier, X rd and TL on pavement downhill. TL to X rd again and TR to CARE X main rd via pedestrian crossing.
34. Ahd past front of Co-op and almost immediately TL into Lower Road, passing car park on R. Ahd for 190 yds and, just after Cynnel Bakery, at low white concrete cone on L, TsharpL up slope, to X minor rd to **FINISH** **15.0 miles** **TQ 425322**

Congratulations