



## FOOTPATH WALKS AROUND LONG ASHTON WITH A PUB HALFWAY **THE DUNDRY INN**

All the walks in this series are on tracks and paths across fields, and some are by streams, so be prepared for some mud and occasionally livestock.

The route starts and finishes at **The Little Tipple** at 50 **Weston Road**. The return has two slight variations from the outward route so as to get some good views. The roads encountered are shown in bold type; hopefully residents will find a starting point near home. Not all the paths in the area are rights of way. Some paths are 'Permissive' so please use them but do not abuse them.

Walking time will depend on your starting point and your speed. As a rough guide allow about 1½ hours to the Dundry Inn and the same for the return. To check opening and meal times telephone 0119 964 1722.

Note it is **not** uphill all the way. This walk is best done on a clear day, as there can be good views of Chew Lake and towards the airport and the Mendips; and also of the two Severn Bridges. Parts of the route are on the national long distance path, Monarchs Way. Books (by the late Trevor Antill) describing this are available from the path, library or contact@monarchsway.50megs.com Use either Ordnance Survey Map Explorer 154 or 155.

From **The Little Tipple** carefully cross the main road to the opposite bus stop and continue ahead to pass the shops and the library. At the end of **Lovelinch Gardens** turn left, and first right into **Bradville Gardens**. At the junction turn left into **Fenshurst Gardens** then first right into **Paulman Gardens**. At the end of the cul de sac go down the footpath which is also a cycle path. Turn left to cross the railway bridge (near **Perry Road**). Immediately after crossing the railway turn left on a wide path, which later crosses a stone bridge and turns away

from the railway. On nearing the bypass go through a kissing gate, turn right and then bear left to go under the bypass. The path is then to the right of a concrete channel.

Cross the board walk (or walk alongside it as the boards can be slippery). Go up the stony path by the stream, cross a stile and concrete bridge (no hand-rail) and go up a slope to cross a stile into a field. Continue ahead and cross a stile on to a hedge-lined path. At the end cross a stile into a field and continue ahead downhill to cross two more stiles. Then bear left to cross a stile by a gate. Cross the next large field going up and diagonally to the right.

The wood ahead is Barrow Big Wood and the way into it is about 50 metres from the left hand corner of the wood. Keep to the main path through the wood and at the other side cross the wooden bridge. Continue ahead on the gravel path and, on reaching the houses, go along the short narrow path to the left of a gate to reach the **A38 Bridgwater Road**.

Carefully cross the road and turn right and then left to go up **Dundry Lane** using the right hand pavement. When the pavement ends continue ahead near the verge, passing **Nutgrove Cottage**. At the brow of the hill turn right to rejoin the Monarch's Way on the signed bridleway. Go through a bridle gate into a field and continue ahead towards a metal gate. Either (a) turn sharp left before the gate and go up this field near the hedge on your right and, in the top corner, cross an old stone stile or (b) go through the gate and immediately turn left to the top left corner of field and cross a wooden stile. You are then in a large field with radio masts.

Aiming for the track that crosses the field, go a few yards to the left of the first mast. The track soon curves right and leads in the direction of the church. On the far side of the field go through the gate and through

the public car park. Continue ahead on **Downs Road** aiming for the church. The Dundry Inn is opposite.

From the inn return along **Downs Road** towards the public car park passed earlier but, to get the best views, do not go through the car park or field. Instead, bear left on the lane passing Downs Farm. At the T-junction turn right down **Winford Lane**, keeping to the right hand verge. Ignore the turning on the right and continue ahead to a bend near a bungalow called The Wansdyke. Leave the lane here by going ahead through the gate into a field signed: RUPP – Road Used as Public Path – to be renamed Restricted Byway. A short way along, BEFORE THE TRACK GOES STEEPLY DOWNHILL leave the track by turning right through a gate and cross the field aiming for the left side of the house ahead [Castle Farm].

*This is another section of Monarchs Way*

Cross the lane and go down the signed 'restricted byway' that goes to the left of the house and through the farm. Continue straight ahead to rejoin the section of bridleway used earlier, ending in **Dundry Lane**.

As there is no pavement to begin with, cross the lane and turn left, keeping near the right hand verge so as to face the on-coming traffic. Re-cross the road later when there is a pavement and retrace steps as far as the **Long Ashton bypass**.

Just after passing the concrete channel and going under the by-pass, turn left and go through a kissing gate into a small wood. Go up a flight of steps and through a gate. Turn right, go along the right hand edge of the field, to another gate.

Go diagonally downhill to a kissing gate and on to a fenced path down to the railway bridge by **Paulman Gardens**. From here retrace steps to the start.