

### Route description continued:

Cross over two brooks to climb a moderate gradient. At the top of this climb, at Nash Farm there are views across to Fownhope (4) and opportunities to shorten the walk to 4km by looping back to the recreation field. Make note of St Mary's Church and its noticeably twisted tower, caused by uneven heating by the sun.

Cross over the B4224 into Hawkers Lane and in 50m cross the stile on the left and go straight ahead. Turn right, to ascend up the right through Dark Orchard. Make sure to take in views across Fownhope and up the Wye Valley onto Hereford (5).

Continue until you come again to Hawkers Lane. Walk up the road to its summit where you will be on Common Hill. Look out for deer hereabouts.

Take the Wye Valley Walk on the left-hand-side of the road which ascends for 100m and soon descends through a nature reserve. Here there are fine views of the Woolhope Valley (6).

The reserve lies on the north slope of a limestone ridge where thin, free-draining soil produces spectacular herb grassland. Look for cowslips, marjoram, dyer's greenweed and twayblade

At the 'Fiveways' path junction, bear right to descend to the Woolhope road. Consider a brief detour to the Memorial to Tom Spring, who was a champion bare-knuckle boxer and resident of Fownhope, (7).

Cross over the road to walk parallel to Haugh Woods. Here there is an opportunity to loop up into the woods.

Take the second footpath on the left to rejoin the Wye Valley Walk at (8), taking in views up the Woolhope Valley to Marcle Ridge.

Re-cross the Woolhope Road onto an uphill track and take the first footpath on the right. The route then descends back into Fownhope Village.

Walk past the Fire station and along the High Street, making sure to stop in in local businesses for a souvenir, drink and food (9).

At the church crossroads you may visit the church, and the historic stocks and whipping post, which are unique within the county (10).

Conclude the walk by turning up Capler Lane towards the recreation field.

For more information on Fownhope Parish, or to obtain a digital copy of this leaflet please visit, [www.fownhopeparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.fownhopeparishcouncil.gov.uk)



Walk proposed by W.Morris  
and realised with the support of the Fownhope Parish Council,  
Parishioners, FiPL and the AONB Trust

Fownhope Parish Council

*Serving the community*



Walk length: 6.7 miles  
(3 hours - approximate)

This circular walk was created to include what are considered to be the highlights of Fownhope Parish.

The route has sections along the River Wye, through traditional orchards, woodland and species rich grassland. There will be plenty of diverse flora and fauna to be found. You can enjoy views of Fownhope, the wider Wye Valley and of the Woolhope Dome.

This walk has been made as accessible as possible, with gates being installed where appropriate. There are several opportunities for self-directed diversions to either extend or shorten the walk.

## About this walk

The Fownhope Coronation Walk was created in celebration of the nature and heritage of Fownhope Parish, and to commemorate the King's Coronation.

The route is signposted with the unique waymarkers for this walk. The design was created in consultation with Parishioners, who requested the following features:

- Fownhope's 'Dark Skies' policy
- Warped steeple of St Mary's Church
- Meandering River Wye
- Fownhope's Heart of Oak Society
- Coronation Crown
- Red, white and blue colour scheme

## Route description:

The route leaves the Fownhope recreation field to the south-west with a short climb. Once crested, there are views across the Wye Valley floodplains to Ballingham, a village that is built into a hillside and rises from the river banks (1).

Descend to the flood plain, passing through meadows and farmland to Mancell's Ferry (2), which was one of 25 hand ferries operating between Hereford and Chepstow.

Now follow the River Wye downstream. This stretch of the river features significant wildlife and keep an eye out for the kingfisher's flash of turquoise.

As you near Capler Hill, the river begins its meander (3). Ascend to the road and turn left towards Fownhope along Capler Lane before turning right off the road at Rise Farm. Take the left-hand path behind the farmyard. In 400m take the left fork.

## Key:

- 1) View across Wye Valley to Ballingham
- 2) Mancell's Ferry
- 3) Capler Hill
- 4) Views to Fownhope
- 5) Dark Orchard viewpoint to Hereford
- 6) Common Hill Nature Reserves
- 7) Tom Spring Memorial
- 8) View to Marcle Ridge
- 9) Fownhope High Street
- 10) St Mary's Church, Stocks and Whipping Post

