



## THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

- Stay on the public rights of way unless you are on open access land or where there are permissive roaming rights.
- Be safe: plan ahead and follow waymarkers.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Protect plants and animals.
- Take your litter home.
- Keep dogs under close control.
- Be considerate to other people.



## TAKING NOTHING BUT PHOTOGRAPHS LEAVING NOTHING BUT FOOTPRINTS

Walks updated by S. Eames - May 2021

Route maps, drawings & photographs provided by N. Kingsford



## Fownhope Village Walk 2



Walk Length 4.5 miles (2 hours)

The walk has a couple of uphill climbs to the Iron Age fort on Cherry Hill and the ridge on Common Hill towards the end of the walk. A very minor detour takes you to the Tom Spring Memorial, which celebrates the feats of the local boxer.

The paths are mostly waymarked and cross a mixture of pastureland and wooded areas with views across the Wye valley & Haugh Woods from the higher sections.

From the recreation field pavilion, cross the recreation field to the diagonally opposite corner where there is a bench beside a small pond. Continue over the small wooden bridge and follow in the direction of the hedge on your left past the gardens on your right of the houses which front onto the High Street. Continue past the car parks of The Green Man pub, Wye Leisure Health & Leisure club on your right to the end of the field. Cross over the concrete bridge and follow the track up to where it meets Ferry Lane - opposite a house, "The Forge and Ferry" (1).

Turn right and walk up the road, ignoring the public footpath on your left, past industrial buildings on your left and a cream painted house and workshops on your right, "The Tan House Workshops" until you reach the main road (B4224). Cross the road and proceed up the road opposite, Woolhope Road. You will pass several houses on your right, "Jos, Warley & Court Lodge", and then a public footpath on your left and a private road on our right to Fownhope Court, both of which you should ignore. After a further 30 metres turn left at the green and white metal pathway sign on your left (2).

Continue on the path to some steps, climb these and at the top follow the path round to the right towards a way marked post ahead. Go on the path uphill past the way marked post (ignore the path to your left). The path climbs quite steeply upwards, passing another waymarked post on your right, leading you eventually to the site of an Iron Age camp at the top of Cherry Hill, where the path levels out as it passes around the camp (3).

The path descends as it leaves the camp and after a short steep descent begins to gently raise again. Ignore the track on your left with a view across the Wye Valley (opposite a way marked tree). Continue upward and at the way marked post on your left take a right turn down a steep track. Follow the track to a junction with another track and turn left. Continue on this path until you reach a second way marked post and take the path to the right uphill. At the next way marked post take the right fork and follow the narrow path straight ahead (ignore the downhill track on our left) to some steps. Climb the steps and bear slightly right at the top and immediately left by the way mark down through the lines of planted conifers. Follow the path down, crossing over a

wide track to the planked bridge and stile at the edge of the wood (4).

Cross the stile into the field. Continue across the field towards a house to another bridge into a second field. Walk across the field towards a prominent oak tree and turn right to follow the direction of the electricity pylons across the field and into the next field via a gap in the hedge. Continue across another field following the hedge on your left to a galvanised gate and stile (5). Enter the next field and turn left, walk down with the hedge on your left to a row of trees and find a stile at the bottom. Go over the stile into a field and continue straight ahead to another stile at the other side of the field. Go over the stile and bridge, then turn right, following the track for approximately 1/2 mile, through a galvanised gate, ignoring the public footpath on your right and eventually to where it meets the Woolhope to Fownhope road with a cottage, "Hill View Cottage" on your right. Turn right and walk along the road (6). After approximately 200m you will see a sign on the left indicating the opportunity of visiting (by a permissive field edge path) the Tom Spring Memorial, situated in the adjoining field to your left through a metal gate. Make sure you read the inscription on the roadside of the monument which explains the history of Tom Spring. After a visit, retrace your steps and turn left to continue along the road. In the distance you will see the roof of a cottage on the left, "The Horns", which was once a public house. Walk to it and turn left immediately after it and through a gate set into a holly hedge. Take the path through woodland to a gate into mature woodland (7). Follow the path as it ascends, passing a waymark post on your left, until it skirts a cottage on your left, "Shears Hill Cottage". Cross the track ahead, which is a further section of the Wye Valley walk, and descend through woodland, to a stile which crosses into a small field. Continue across the field to another stile. Go over the stile and turn right into green lane (8). After approximately 100 m this lane descends into the village. Bear left where the lane meets a road and follow the road down to a T junction. Turn right and follow the road to the main road (B4224) with St Mary's Church and

Pritchard's butchers opposite. Cross over the road and into Capler Lane opposite, walk along for about 200 metres and turn right at the Recreation Field sign and follow the track towards the pavilion and the car park.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FOWNHOPE

Visit the parish website, www.fownhope.org.uk or find us on Facebook.

You might choose to walk the other village walks; there are leaflets for them available from the

West End Stores or The Shop@ Coo Corner in the High Street as well as copies which you can download from the parish website.

Or check out the Parish Trail which you can see on the High Street or Recreation Field noticeboards.



The Tom Spring Memorial