

## THE VILLAGE CIRCULAR WALK in LONG ASHTON *Clockwise*

See separate leaflet for **anti-clockwise** direction.

*The suggested starting point is The Little Tipple but you can start anywhere in the circuit. The roads encountered are shown in **Bold Type** and are alternative starting points. The walk is mainly on fields and tracks so be prepared for some mud - and sometimes livestock. It is not "buggy friendly" but there are no stiles. Much of it is way marked.*

*The complete circuit is from **The Angel Inn** at the eastern end of the village to just beyond **Gatcombe Farm Shop, Carvery and Tea Rooms** at the western end. Allow about 3 ½ hours; you may do it in less.*

Starting from **The Little Tipple, 50 Weston Road** turn up the lane at the side of the estate agents office. This signed footpath to golf course is known as **Keeds Lane**. Cross **Rayens Cross Road** and continue ahead on the track, passing recreation fields on either side. On reaching cottages turn right on a signed path [*part of Monarchs Way*]. This goes uphill on a broad woodland path and, near the rear of houses, forks right to **Providence Lane**.

On the opposite side of the lane, and to the right, the way is on a narrow fenced footpath to the edge of the golf course. There are a few paths on the course that are rights of way and they are marked with a concrete bollard or special signs. Please keep to the paths. *When you are on the edge of fairways, or crossing them, it is safest to stand still until golfers have completed their shot; they usually signal if it is safe to cross.*

Continue ahead, keeping close to the woodland on your left *and be aware that golfers are driving towards you.*

Stay on the grass to the far left corner of the golf course, [*NOT on the path by the pond*] and then turn right. If the way is clear pass by a tee and then cross a fairway, near a green. Golfers play from your right to reach this green. Then go ahead up the slope to pass between some trees to the edge of a fairway where play is from the left.

When the way is clear, cross the fairway going to the left of the pond. There is then another fairway to cross, where play is from the right. When clear, cross to a way-marked path that goes downhill. At the bottom there is a narrow path leading into **Folleigh Lane**. Go down the lane and take the first turning on the left to go up a lane [towards The Coach House] and turn right down the first gravel drive. Keep to the left of Fernhill House and then turn right down a fenced path to a kissing gate. In the field go downhill aiming for the far left hand corner to go through a kissing gate into **Hobwell Lane**. This leads down to the main **Long Ashton Road**, near **Glebe Close**.

Turn left and, opposite **The Angel Inn**, cross over and go down **Church Lane**. Go through the first churchyard gate and, part way down the path, turn right through a kissing gate. Continue ahead in the fields, keeping near the back of Parsonage Farm and the back gardens of houses in **Parsonage Road**. In the fourth field bear left towards the cycle path fence where there is a small gate. *\* at this point you can choose to turn right along the cycle path to reach Yanley Lane and so to the next section of the cycle path by the school.*

**Cross** the cycle path and a gated footbridge. Then keep to the right hand hedge to a metal kissing gate on **Yanley Lane**.

Bearing right, carefully cross the lane to go along the **cycle path** by **Northleaze School**. The official route then turns right into **Brook Close** and then left along **Copford Lane** and then to the cycle path. [You can take a short cut by continuing ahead behind the houses, with the stream on your left.] On rejoining the cycle path turn left to cross a footbridge. The way is then straight uphill, cross the bridge over the railway, and then ahead to reach the fence by the by-pass. Here turn right on to a clear fenced path. At the end of the fence on the right, turn right down a few steps towards a kissing gate but **DON'T GO THROUGH IT**. Turn left so that the stream is on your right, and go through the next kissing gate on the right. [**Don't** go under the by-pass] The way from here is up a flight of steps, through a small copse. (*This is another part of the Monarchs Way*)

At the top turn right and go along the edge of the field to a gate. The path is then diagonally downhill to another kissing gate and a hedge-lined path. **Don't** cross the railway bridge. [the ends of **Perry Road** and **Paulman Gardens** are on the far side]. Turn left up some steps on to a fenced path alongside the railway and follow it to **Wild Country Lane**. Turn left and in about 100 yards cross the road to go through a metal kissing gate. Keep to the left hand edge of the field as far as the hedge gap and then bear right to cross a gated footbridge. Cross the field diagonally to the right to another kissing gate. Bear to the **left** towards a power line post to go through a gate by a field gate. Then go right to a gate at the left of the farm building and then straight ahead to a large gate that has a walker's gate built within it. **PLEASE SHUT THIS GATE.**

With care, cross the **Weston Road**, turn right and then sharp left to go down **Gatcombe Lane**. Unless calling at the farm shop or **Gatcombe Carvery and Tea Rooms**, turn left along the lane passing an historic house (Gatcombe Court.) **Don't** bear left to the weak bridge but continue straight ahead and in a few yards go into a field by, or (if not overgrown) through a metal kissing gate on your right. Keep to the right and go through another kissing gate. In the next field the path goes diagonally to a kissing gate and then continues in the same direction to another kissing gate. In the next field the right of way is across the middle but it is usually best to turn right for a few yards and then turn left to the opposite hedge. Then turn left to reach a metal kissing gate. (*Ignore the wide path to the right unless you choose to return to the Weston Road via **Warren Lane***) The circular walk goes a short way uphill, to the left, and then turns right. In this field keep near to the fencing on the right. After the kissing gate the way is between the power line posts to a kissing gate and a narrow footpath, with cottages to the left. At the end turn right and go down the track [**Keeds Lane**] to complete the circuit.

*Revised December 2012*

*TH + friends*