**Costwold Challenge 26 ml**  20/06/21

Abbreviations:

CB= compass bearing; AH=Ahead; R=Right; L=Left; TL=Turn Left; FL= Fork left; BL=Bear left; TR=Turn Right; FR=Fork Right; BR=Bear Right; BW=Bridleway; FP=Footpath; FPS= Footpath sign; TK=Track; X = Cross/over; CW= Cotswold Way; WW= Wysis Way; WMK=Waymark; RD=Road; ST=Stile; KG=Kissing gate; SWG= Small wooden gate; LMG= large metal gate; FB=Footbridge

**Start: Birdlip Village Hall. GR SO928143**

**1.** From Birdlip Village Hall TL to RD. TL on RD for ¼ ml & at end of pavement on L, TR on BW (concrete path) between ‘Hilcot’ & ‘Birdlip View’. In 10yds thru gate. AH on stony BW for 150 yds & on reaching stone wall on R TL thru metal gate opposite into field. AH, keeping parallel to and about 20yds from hedge on R. In 200yds at hedge corner ignore gate & AH with hedge on R. In further 50yds, as hedge descends & veers to R AH to reach ST by gate & tree. **(O.7** **mls GR SO 933136)**

**2.** Over ST & TL (CB 110) on track. In 200yds BR to follow hedge on R. On reaching hedge corner, descend slightly to R & AH with lowest hedge on R & bushes on L. After 200yds TR over ST by gate. Ascend field diagonally L (CB 130) to reach hidden LMG in far top R corner (ignoring LMG on R) **(1.1 mls GR SO938132)**

**3.** Thru gate, TR & with hedge on R, ascend grassy TK which bends to L around a copse. At end of copse, AH in field with hedge on R. In 100yds TR thru KG. AH on TK between hedges to reach road at edge of Brimpsfield. **(1.3 mls GR SO 940130)**

**4.** TR on road. In 300yds at RD junction by War Memorial, AH, SP ‘Caudle Green’.

**Clue A GR SO 939127**

AH on RD for 300yds to pass blue ‘Single Track Road’ & ‘30mph’ signs. In a further 50yds TR on FP & thru KG to L of LMG. AH with hedge on R. In 250 yds drop R, into ditch, to go thru hidden SMG by LMG & descend on path. **(1.9 mls)**

**5.** AH with wood on R & grassy slope on L to reach ST. Over ST & in 50 yds X 2nd ST. Continue AH (SSE) with woods on either side, following valley bottom on grass path for ¾ ml. AH thru KG. 50yds before cottages TR onto stony path following valley to gate & RD. Thru gate (WMK), TR & in 10 yds TR (FPS) X stone ST to ascend steep bank to X stone ST to RD. TR on RD passing sign ‘Caudle Green’. Ascend RD to village green.

**Clue B GR SO943104**

TL across green to FPS, stone ST & wooden gate. **(3.0 mls GR SO 934105)**

**6.** Over ST & in 30 yds over further ST. Cross narrow field & over ST in hedge. Up steps, BL & AH on narrow FP thru crops (cutting corner of field) to reach WMK post 15 yds before wooden electricity pole at edge of woods. TR & follow edge of field with woods on L. 20 yds before wall TL on TK thru gap to T-jct. TR **(3.2 mls GR SO942102)**

**(1)**

**26 ml route cont.**

**7**. In 50 yds at WMK TL on TK. AH on TK (initially CB 210) for 500 yds, ignoring forks on R. FL. In 50 yds X TK onto initially faint path & descend steep slope. X narrow FB.

X TK & AH to ascend FP (indistinct WMK on tree) (CB 190). At top of steep bank by largest tree, BL (no obvious path) (CB 180) for 40 yds to WMK. TR to reach ST in fence. Over ST & BL on faint path to reach sunken grassy TK. TR & follow TK with fence on L to reach drive. TL on drive & descend. At X Tk AH, shortly going thru LWG & ascend on drive to reach gates & RD. AH on RD to reach circular bus shelter. (**4.3 mls GR SO 937089)**

**Clue C**

**8.** FL on RD (pub on R) for 400 yds to reach T-junction. TL (ignoring 1st L) for 30yds. TR at Lypiatt Cottage on enclosed FP, thru 2 gates & field (hedge on L) to reach gates. AH, X RD, thru gate, AH to ST, X & descend steeply to reach TK. TL for 50 yds. TR thru metal gate & descend into valley, joining TK from L (CB 262.) Thru LMG, into trees & thru LMG, AH on descending FP to bottom, then ascend on FP (CB 226) to reach KG at copse. **(5.3 mls GR SO 927075).**

**9.** Thru KG, AH thru copse on FP to field. AH on FP (CB 225), X 2 fields to X stone ST. X TK, AH on same FP to X ST, AH X field to X double ST. TL along LH field edge thru gate to RD. TL for 40 yds, TR thru LMG & TR to descend FP (CB 260), aiming for wall on R (ignore LMG in wall). Thru SWG & descend on FP (CB 260) to reach stream at bottom. Thru SWG & stream to ascend on FP opposite, keeping trees on L. 30 yds before top LH corner BR to LMG.  **(6.4 mls GR SO 915064)**

**10.** Thru gate, AH on wide TK, with fields on R, to RD, then AH to T Jct. **(7.3 mls GR SO 915064)**

**Clue D**

**11** At T-junction take 2nd RD on L ‘’Village Only’’. AH for 150 yds, FR on RD ‘’Unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles’’, past wells on R. Follow RD round LH bend. In 75 yds (just after Hill House, at 20 mph sign) FR up tarmac FP, becoming enclosed, for 500yds (beware of large holes) to X ST. AH on FP & permissive path thru copse to ST by large wooden barrier. **(8.0 mls GR SO 895055)**

**12.** X ST & TL for 30 yds, then AH across open hillside, (CB 230). Ignore gate on L. Cross under power lines, X ST. AH on faint path that contours slope, passing short marker posts to reach wood. X ST & descend on FP. X TK. AH down steps, X ST, X FB. AH up steep FP, X ST, up steps X ST. AH up field, following marker posts to X ST. Up more steps, X ST. AH with fence on R to KG & RD. TR **(8.8 mls GR SO 884054)**

**Clue 1 (SO 883054)**

**13.** On RD for 300 yds to jct. TR & in 200 yds TL over stone ST, X field to RD, X with care. X ST opposite & AH on enclosed FPs to field corner. X STs & field to gap in wood to L of LMG. X ST & descend narrow enclosed FP. X ST to reach TK. TL. In 60 yds path bends R. Descend steeply. Ignore TR at WMS & in 10 yds, at TK junction, TR to bench. TL down track beyond bench to reach RD. **(9.8 ml GR so 873064)**

**14.** TR on RD for 500 yds to reach T jct. TL.

**Clue 2 (GR SO 872066)**

**(2)**

**26 ml cont**

After 250 yds, by house, reach ST on R, X & ascend FP to RD. TR on pavement for 150 yds. X RD with care to ascend tarmac FP opposite**. (10.4 mls GR SO 872069)**

**15.** AH, X ST next to LMG, AH keeping to R edge of field to reach ST. X, enter wood & ascend enclosed path to eventually reach RD at top. TL for 250 yds. TR at FPS, thru SMG on L, AH to LMG. Thru, & AH with field boundary on R. In 350 yds at end of 1st field ignore LMG on R, AH down edge of 2nd field to ST in RH corner. X & TL down TK to reach RD **(11.8 ml GR 853067)**

**16.** X RD & AH on drive opposite (Hammonds Farm) to reach FPS on R (just before farm buildings) TR along LH edge of field to corner. AH to X STs, TL along field edge to KG. AH for 15 yds to RD. TL downhill to reach A 46 **(12.4 mls GR SO 850076)**

**17.** TR on pavement for 20 yds then X RD with care to FP opposite. Thru KG, up field, thru KGs to RD. TR for 15 yds then TL up path between houses to RD. TL to jct.

AH on BW/No Through Road to gate. AH to ascend field keeping field boundary on R. Thru wide gap in trees & AH, ascending hillside to reach ST in top LH corner. X & AH up enclosed FP to reach RD**. (13.3 mls GR SO 839082)**

**18.** X to verge opposite. TL for 20 yds, TR on minor RD for 50 yds. TR over ST, along enclosed path for ½ ml to reach RD & car park on L. **(13.9 mls GR SO 832086)**

**19.** (Join CW in this section) Cross car park to RH KG. Thru & AH on grassy path (CB 250) for 500 yds to Topogragh

**Clue 3 (GR SO 827083)**

TR (CB 0) on path to WMKs near hedge, At CW sign TL on broad TK thru trees. AH on TK for 500 yds then BR on CW, up steps to TL at National Trust board. Follow CW thru gates, contouring round hill to reach Trig Point. **(15.0 ml GR SO 820089)**

**Clue 4**

**20.** (Stay on CW in this section). TR & AH on path with field boundary on L. Thru KG. AH on FP to reach metal gates & RD. **(15.2 mls GR SO 823092)**

**21.** (Stay on CW in this section) TL on RD for 15 yds. TR on TK thru wood for ½ ml to reach RD. TR on RD for 250 yds then FL onto FP (becomes TK) for ½ ml to reach houses. 200 yds after Woodside Cottage reach FPS on R. TR up FP to RD. **(17.1 ml GR SO 845092)**

**22.** (Stay on CW in this section) X RD with care. AH on FP opposite & up steps. Follow CW markers across open hillside, then trees to reach RD. (Painswick Beacon across to your L) (**17.4 mls GR SO 850090)**

**23.** (Stay on CW in this section) X RD with care to pub & pavement opposite. TR & in 35 yds TL down Jenkins Lane. In 250 yds TL thru KG. AH on FP (fence on R). TR thru SWG. AH down field, hedge on R. Pass CW stone, to SWG. Thru & AH. X FB, TR to KG. Thru & AH on FP to KG. Thru & TR on TK past house on R. **(18.0 mls GR SO 859094)**

**(3)**

**26 ml cont**

**26ml cont**

**24.** (Stay on CW in this section) Follow CW round front of house (interesting stonework) & AH to KG. Thru & AH on FP with hedge on L. At hedge corner AH to KG in opposite hedge. **(Do not go thru).** TL to KG, thru & uphill across field to KG in top L corner. Thru & along enclosed path. TR at end along 2nd enclosed path. Thru KG into field & AH with hedge on R. to Finger Post.

**Clue. 5**

Cont. to RD **(18.5 ml GR SO 863097)**

**25.** TR on RD for 50 yds. TL into lane by post box (Hambutts Barn on L) which becomes RD. Follow RD to R (passing school on L) to reach T-jct at Gloucester Road ‘One Way’. TL. Ignore L at Butt Green. At Jct by cattle pound TL & follow RD for 300 yds.

(Back on CW) TR into Golf Course Rd. In 100yds BL thru ‘Ramblers Car Park’ then rejoin RD. In 50 yds TL at FPS. In 10 yds TR & follow FP thru scrub/grass to minor RD. **(19.3 ml GR SO 868107)**

**26.** (Stay on CW in this section) X RD & AH to reach corner of cemetery wall. Follow path along wall. AH over fairway to continue on CW FP opposite. AH on FP thru trees, past quarry. At ‘Fire Assembly Point’ sign FR on path thru trees to RD. **(19.9 mls GR SO 867 116)**

**Clue G**

TL. In 75 yds at FPS TR on CW.

**Beware Golf Course. Keep to LHS.**

**27**. (On CW in this section) AH with wooded slope on L to reach earth work. BL up steps to ascend earthwork. Follow path along top to pass Trig. Point with topograph. (Extensive views.) BR down with path to continue NE with wooded slope on L & golf course on R. At end of golf course AH on TK to reach metalled RD. AH on RD for 200 yds then FL into Buckholt Wood. In ¼ ml X minor RD & AH on winding FP opposite to reach A46**. (21.6 mls GR SO 881130)**

**28.** (Stay on CW in this section) X RD with care & AH along Buckholt Road opposite. In 100 yds TL at CW sign. (Follow CW WMKs or white/yellow spots thru woods.) Ascend on TK. (Ignore L & R forks) to reach T-junction. TL & AH on TK

**Clue H GR SO 886135**

At forks BL to descend following wall on L. At bottom by grass triangle, FR to continue following CW. In 300yds by fork AH on lower FP. In 200 yds FR to follow upper FP. In 80 yds up steps & TR thru KG. In 50 yds TL on CW. In ¼ ml by FPS TR to ascend on L FP. At top BL across open ground towards FPS and fence across steep drop. Coopers Hill (cheese rolling fame) (Extensive views.) TL & descend into woods on WMK path. At WMK TR on path, TR on path to car park below Coopers Hill. **(23.0 mls GR SO 982184)**

**29.** (Leave CW in this section). Leave car park & TR on RD. In 50 yds ignore KG on L. In further 130 yds, by telegraph pole no. 67, ignore ST on L, & go thru rusty gate, leaving CW. AH along narrow field & thru green gate AH. Descend on LH side of field to X ST (WMK) in far L corner. (Ignore ST in corner of LH hedge) Into large open field & bear diagonally L, (CB 106) over rough, uneven ground to reach gate in LH corner. Thru gate & AH to X ST by TK. (**23.5 ml GR SO 899146)**

**(4)**

**26 ml cont**

**30.** X TK & thru gap to X narrow field to trees. TL & AH with trees on R for 120 yds to power lines. TR to X ST & FB. TL & AH with stream on L to X ST in field corner.TL on TK for 5 yds then TR into field & continue AH with stream on L. (Rough tracks being laid) At end of field TL & follow TK with reservoir on R **(23.7 ml** **GR SO 903146)**

**31.** TR on causeway between reservoirs. At end of reservoirs turn sharp R across ST. Cross field, BL under power lines to reach ST in far hedge. X ST & X next field to X ST to L of farm buildings. TL on farm TK, thru LMG to RD. TR on RD to church. **(24.4 mls GR 910147)**

**Clue I**

**32.** Pass church, keep R, passing ‘No Thru Road’ sign, to reach FPS, green gate & KG. TL thru KG. Follow LH hedge thru field & X ST. Continue along LH hedge, at end of field thru KG. Ascend AH, gradually aiming L to reach KG in top L corner. **(25.2 mls** **GR SO 917144)**

**33.** Thru KG, X TK & AH to enter woods, ascend on FP, AH across TK, to reach TK junction with CW. Ignore CW path that descends L & TL on gently ascending TK to reach RD in Birdlip. X RD, TL on raised pavement, round bend & AH for 300 yds, X RD to opposite pavement, AH along ‘No Thru Road’ & in 75 yds TL at school to village hall.

**FINISH 26.1 mls 4,333’ ascent GR SO 928143**

**Congratulations**

**(5)**