

WALK NUMBER

Emergency Telephone Number 07979 503990 (Neil)

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE: 07979 503990

**16 MILES**

**HIGH WEALD CHALLENGE**

**An LDWA KENT GROUP Event**

# HIGH WEALD WALK

**SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup> JULY 2022**

**TAKE CARE CROSSING AND WALKING ON BUSY ROADS**

All distances and grid references are approximate

This Route Description is the definitive document, the GPX gives approximate co-ordinates only

Please ensure that all gates are closed

## **LEGEND**

WW – Weald Way; TWC – Tunbridge Wells Circular; *SBP – Sussex Border Path*  
WM – waymark (*often yellow*); CP – Checkpoint; R/L – Right/Left; RHS/LHS – Right Hand Side/Left Hand Side; BR/BL – Bear Right/Bear Left; TR/TL – Turn Right/Turn Left;  
fp – footpath; fsp – footpath signpost; ST – stile; ahd – ahead; rd – road; yds – yards;  
ftbg – footbridge; jcn – junction; T-jcn – T junction; flw(ing) – follow(ing); btw – between;  
fld – field; X – cross; immed – immediately; opp – opposite; cnr – cnr  
SMG/LMG – Small/Large **Metal** Gate; SWG/LWG – Small/Large **Wooden** Gate;  
KG – Kissing Gate; CombiG – a “2 for the price of 1” gate, with an SMG ‘inside’ or attached to an LMG, so choose latch carefully!!; RG – Ramblers Gate (*squeeze stile, with chains*);  
Compass Bearings are shown as (XXX deg)      Grid References are shown as **(TQ 999 999)**

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1. Ahd past Langton Green Pavilion on L, BL thru line of trees to tarmac fp, where TR, with school playground on L. Thru squeeze ST and ahd LHS fld. At end, **TR** on grass track (TWC) (*ignore any going L*), with Sutton House visible on L. Thru 2 KGs, then ahd to next KG. X drive, thru KG and ahd LHS fld thru next KG. Now B¼R across fld to KG in far R cnr. **(TQ 544 401)**
  2. **TR** on minor rd and in 170 yds, **TL** at fsp (TWC), down steps, thru SMG, cross wooden ftbg, and then along LHS fld. Ahd on main fp, soon BL under trees, always keeping ahd, with barbed wire fencing on L. Swing R, over ST, cross drive and over ST. Ahd on RHS fld (*possible bull in fld*) for 150 yds to BR to enter woods (TWC). Soon thru LMG and ahd. In 250 yds, BL (TWC) at marker post, and flw yellow WMs (either of parallel paths is OK). BR at later WM, soon going slightly downhill. Ahd over wooden ftbg and soon uphill. **(TQ 544 411)**
  3. After going up steps, and at fp jcn, **TL** on WW going **downhill** (*and leaving TWC*). Swing L then R, to cross substantial wooden ftbg. Up over tree roots and ahd on fp, curving L and rising gently for 350 yds. Now steeper and then up to flw level fp (fence on L, fld visible on R). Over ST and ahd across middle of fld (250 deg) heading for metal KG in far/top L corner. Thru KG and ahd on same bearing. Thru next KG and ahd over occasional concrete slabs to go over/past ST and reach rd. **(TQ 536 407)**  
*NB Others may be joining from rd on L*
  4. With care, cross rd (*leaving WW*) and **ahd** down Coopers Lane. In 240 yds, at first cnr, TR thru SMG (or use LMG) and, **PLEASE WALK IN SINGLE FILE**, descend fld diagonally (359 deg) – with view of Penshurst Place directly ahd, on near horizon. Thru hedgerow and cont on same bearing down next fld, to go thru SMG. **TR** on minor rd for 220 yds. Immed after 'last' house on L, **TL** btw hedges, fsp, down grass fp. At end, thru squeaky SMG and ahd to BR, keeping RHS fld to reach bank of River Medway. **(TQ 533 418)**
  5. **TR** and over wooden ftbg, thru Rambler's Gate and ahd, keeping to LHS fld. **TL** onto 'fortified' ftbg, thru SMG into Penshurst Place Estate, and BR, barbed wire fence on L. At top of rise, ahd to go thru **SMG** (by LMG) and **TR thru hedge gap** to go along RHS fld – River Medway is soon on R. Over

wooden ftbg and ahd on **RHS** in this next fld (*ignore map indicating fp going across middle of fld*). Cont on RHS for 640 yds to reach fp jcn (with large tree 20yds infield). **(TQ 530 427)**

**Routes split here, so choose carefully .....**

**Short Route (16 miles) ONLY**

6. TR (thru KG) and over long ftbg. TL on fp across bottom of fld, avoiding fallen tree, and at far side TR and cont around LHS fld. At top of fld (WMs), **TL** on track and flw for 750 yds to go thru CombiG. **(TQ 530 435)**
7. Cross rd (B2176) and **TL down RHS** rd, on verge where possible. Cross bridge and ahd on RHS pavement. Cross next bridge, keep on RHS. At rd cnr (*entrance to Penshurst Place on R*), **BL** and in 40 yds TR up steps. Ahd under arch to BL on brick path to pass L of church. Thru KG and BR. Keep **ahd** (*ignore allure of fsp to L*), with Penshurst Place on R. Ahd to temporary 'gate,' then thru KG, cross driveway, thru KG and ahd on gravel path, with cricket pitch on R. Swing R with gravel path out of tree-lined avenue, but keep in previous direction, aiming for KG ahd. **(TQ 526 445)**

*NOTE: We understand that there will be a VOLKSWAGEN 'convention' hereabouts, so some gates may be open - essentially keep going northwards but .....TR in the final fld, as immediately below, before ascending*

8. Thru (KG) and TR aiming for visible LWG, but go thru SMG. TL (*passing Sidney Oak, aka the Bear Oak, expired 2016*). Uphill towards next LWG, but thru SMG and ahd uphill. At top of rise, at fsp, **ahd**. In 50 yds **BR (with fsp)** onto secondary fp. Now flw this fp L (040 deg) and ahd down to forest road (LWG on R). Cross this and ahd on fp for 350 yds, then BL to go thru SMG, and down to

<b>CHECKPOINT 3</b>	<b>PENSHURST PARK/CINDER HILL TQ 534 459</b>
<b>Opens 10:55</b>	<b>Closes 15:30</b>
<b>6.3 MILES DONE</b>	<b>5.5 MILES TO NEXT CP</b>

***From here, all flw same route back to Langton Green***

9. From CP go ahd up track (*do not TR thru SMG*). At end BR and ahd to LMG (with barn on R). Go thru SMG and fllw track down, then up, bearing L, still on track. Just before top (with WM visible up on L), BR for 20 yds to reach **wide** fp, where **TR**. In 350 yds, at gateposts (WM)/LMG, ahd for further **100** yds to **TL** on gravel track (170 deg). Keep ahd on track for 800 yds. (**TQ 536 447**)
10. When track bears L, go **ahd**, thru squeeze ST and ahd (*views towards Penshurst Place on R*) and in 200 yds, in front of obvious tree stump, **TL** thru squeeze ST and ahd on track with barbed wire on R. Thru SMG and keep ahd on track (*views towards Tonbridge front R*). After passing house on R, TR down concrete driveway and in 20 yds TL thru SMG (Eden Valley Way). Fllw fp as it descends and crosses substantial ftbg via SMGs. Fllw fp passing post (WM) and ahd with River Medway on R to reach KG and rd. (**TQ 547 453**)
11. **TR** on rd, over bridge. In 35 yds **TL** over rd and ahd on gravel path / cycleway (*Tonbridge 3½*). When path veers down to river (on L), keep ahd thru SMG (*Beware of Bull*) and ahd LHS fld. Thru SMG, over ftbg and ahd for **20 yds**. Do not TL, but **TR up fld** (140 deg, view of looming hill ahd). Pass lonely WM and ahd to X ST. BslightlyR towards larger trees, over drainage ditch, and ahd swinging L to TR thru KG in hedge. (**TQ 557 451**)
12. **TL along fld edge** for 260 yds to **WM** on L. TR across fld, aiming **5 yds L of telegraph pole** (fp may be visible). At telegraph pole, **TL** (140 deg) on fp to first tree (WM on post). Ahd thru SMG and then up LHS fld. Over ST (10 yds L of LMG). Ahd on LHS fld, to swing L to go thru KG to reach busy rd. (**TQ 561 446**)

**VERY GREAT CARE** needed, **fast traffic**; warning signs in place for motorists

13. **TR** on **RHS**, using verge if possible, for 50 yds. Where verge ends (*by wooden 'deer' sign, facing other way*) and **when safe**, cross rd and go thru **gap into fld**. (*With kind permission of the farmer*)
14. Immed **TR** along bottom fld edge and in **170** yds (*with fpsp in gap, on rd on R*), **TL** on fp thru crop (120 deg initially) up and across middle of fld, as it

wends its way L of copse. Continue uphill on fp aiming for base of electricity pylon. Ahd to fallen fsp, BR on edge of fld for 25 yds. At cnr, TL to pass thru Ramblers Gate (**RG**) and ahd to exit thru RG. Ahd to cross small ftbg and thru next RG. Ahd on LHS fld, thru RG and SWG to reach minor rd. Ahd uphill to B2176 at Bidborough Ridge (Alf's Corner). **(TQ 565 435)**

15. TL on **LHS** pavement (*keeping to this side for views*) for 300 yds. On reaching **40** mph signs, X rd **With Care**. Ahd on tarmac fp (WW). In **150 yds**, **TL** off tarmac, leaving WW, and ahd btw high wooden fences. Over minor rd and ahd on fp, passing old LWG. Flw fp downhill, bearing R, then swinging L to pass pond (on L). Uphill, over wooden sleepers. At last sleeper (WMs on post on L), **TsharpR** and ahd to soon go thru KG. **(TQ 570 431)**
16. Keep to top (ie LHS) of fld (Brookhurst Field), passing behind two wooden seats and, later, wooden bench. **TL** up fp (WW again), thru KG and **TR**. In 20 yds **BL** up main fp and flw to go thru KG into fld (WW). BR initially, but ahd across fld (140 deg) to fence and KG. Thru KG/gap and down RHS fld. Thru KG and downhill with railings on R. Over substantial ftbg and ahd. At marker post (top of small rise) **TR** (WW) and ahd, soon on track to reach properties at Modest Corner. **(TQ 571 424)**
17. TR on minor rd (WW). At end, ahd down tarmac fp to rd and

<b>CHECKPOINT 4</b>	<b>MODEST CORNER</b>	<b>TQ 570 423</b>
<b>Opens 11:40</b>		<b>Closes 17:35</b>
<b>11.8 MILES DONE</b>		<b>3.5 MILES TO FINISH</b>

18. **With Care**, TR ahd and uphill on rd (this is the WW) keeping to LHS around cnr, then RHS of rd for 500 yds. Pass rd coming in from L. In **further** 350yds, white posts on R and obvious low white fencing just ahead on R, **TL** across rd to go thru old metal KG (WW) and on fp. **(TQ 564 421)**
19. At end, over ST and ahd on fp (*beware overhanging branch*). Over **very wobbly** ST and up LHS fld. **TR** at top of fld, soon thru SMG and ahd on fp

btw fences and, later, hedges, for a total of 650 yds (crossing one ST), to go down steps to minor rd. **(TQ 560 417)**

*Next paragraph - **EITHER A** (if fp is re-opened) **OR B** (if fp still closed). NO real difference in mileage, but **A** means no walking on busy road. fp due to re-open by 7<sup>th</sup> July. You will be told at registration which paragraph applies. GPXs assume that paragraph **A** prevails.*

**A** **TR** for 100 yds. At Forge House, TL (WW) thru metal barriers and directly **over** driveway to go down fp btw hedges. Fllw main fp to bottom (*ignore BB sign*), over ST (*now a new gate?*) and ahead on driveway past absolutely brand spanking new/newly refurbished properties. Up driveway and fllw out to busy rd. X **with care** and **TL** on pavement. In 50 yds TR ..... **into Lower Green Road. (TQ 558 415)**

**OR**

**B** **TL** (*leaving WW & TWC*) down minor rd. In 130 yds, **BR** on next rd (signed Speldhurst), which can be very busy. **With care** X to LHS before bend. At grassy triangle, TL ..... **into Lower Green Road. (TQ 558415)**

20. In 100 yds, at cnr, **TR** on bridleway. At top of rise, keep ahd on good fp for 700 yds. **TL onto track** coming in from R (TWC) and in **30 yds keep R** (and descending, leaving TWC). Fllw fp around bend, then ahd (ie **BR**) on **level** fp (fpsp on L) for 550 yds going over two sets of duck boards, **care** required for some **loose wire netting**. Ignore crossing fp (with wooden ftbg on R) and keep ahd, soon with newish wooden fence on L. Over wooden ftbg, over ST, up LHS fld, and over ST to go ahd on minor (and very narrow) rd. **(TQ 553 402)**
21. Go past minor rd on R. In 50 yds **TR** over ST (fpsp). Down to cross ftbg. BL up fld (250 deg) to **BR** around internal cnr, and now up RHS fld. At top, **thru gap on R**, then immed BL across fld, **resuming** previous direction. Ahd on fp into trees, with pond below on L, and ahd to **BR** around large tree and then L to pass ST and reach busy rd. **(TQ 547 401)**

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22. TL on pavement for 100 yds then, **with care**, TR to **X rd** into Leggs Lane (minor rd). In **300** yds, just before 'kink' in rd, **TL** thru KG and ahd across fld. Thru KG, and ahd RHS fld. Thru KG, over drive, thru KG and ahd. Thru next 2 KGs (both wooden) and ahd. In 180 yds, immediately after sports fld on L, BL on worn fp under tree branch, and in further 60 yds BL to fence to go thru posts into sports fld. TR and ahd to

**FINISH**

**Congratulations**