

Heart of the Weald Challenge

8th July 2023

Route Description – 15 mile



Welcome to the Heart of the Weald Challenge Walk. Please ensure that your number is recorded at each checkpoint, we track all entrants and will try to find you if we miss you at a checkpoint. Entrants who arrive at checkpoints after closing time will be retired. However, if necessary, each checkpoint will remain manned after closing time in an attempt to account for everyone. It is therefore important that anyone wishing to retire does so at a checkpoint. If this is not possible, then the organisers must be notified, giving your name and walk number, without delay.

Respect the Countryside Code – Leave gates as you found them and Leave No Trace (Checkpoints have litter bags)

Compass bearings in degrees are figures in brackets, e.g. (150°) Distances are approximate.

Abbreviations (alphabetical):

ahd	ahead	LHS	Left Hand Side
BL	Bear left	LMG	Large Metal Gate
BR	Bear right	LWG	Large Wooden Gate
B/sl/L	Bear slightly left	opp	Opposite
B/sl/R	Bear slightly right	O/S	Outside
BW	Bridleway	Pls	Please
cnr	Corner	R	Right
cont	Continue	rd	Road
encl	Enclosed	RHS	Right Hand Side
fb	Footbridge	SMG	Small Metal Gate
FL	Fork Left	SO	Straight On
fld	Field	st	Stile
flw	Follow	SWG	Small Wooden Gate
fp	Footpath	thru	Through
f-post	Finger post	tk	Track
FR	Fork Right	TL	Turn Left
GR	Grid Reference	TR	Turn Right
immed	Immediately	wmk	Waymark
jcn	Junction	X	Cross
kg	Kissing gate	yds	Yards
L	Left		

Please take care when crossing and walking along roads

We hope you enjoy the walk!

Stonegate Village Hall to Edge of Dallington Forest – 7.2 miles Start at 10:00

1.	<p>From door ahd thru car park to reach main rd & TR. Cont on verge on RHS of rd for 70 yds. X Rd with CARE to LMG & st on L.</p> <p>X st & ahd RHS of field to reach gap in hedge. Thru and BL (160°) to SWG in cnr. Thru & ahd across grass, then BL over drive (water treatment works on L) to X st.</p> <p>Ahd on encl fp. TL at fence cnr (now in trees) & cont downhill on fp, which bears R, to reach & X fb on L.</p> <p>BR, up bank to X st & BR (150°) across grass to go thru LMG. X fld (170°) X fb & st in R cnr of fld to enter wood.</p> <p>Ahd to flw fp thru wood, over fallen tree & in 35 yds reach fork in path and wmk on tree on L. BL up into fld & TR now with wood on R.</p> <p>On reaching overgrown gap in trees cont along RHS of fld, soon rising gently, to far cnr. BL uphill with trees on R for 90 yds to pass pond & reach f-post on R</p>	<p>0.77 mile (1.24km) GR669275</p>
2.	<p>TR between ponds & cont into fld. BL LHS of fld (pond & trees now on L). At gap & wmk on R, BR on winding fp across fld to X fb to gravel drive.</p> <p>TR downhill for a total of 530 yds, soon joining trees & hedge on L. 15 yds before gate (may be open) TL off drive onto encl path to X st in front of barn. TR, hedge on R & barn on L.</p> <p>Cont with fence on R to pass or go thru doorway. X st and SO to reach double doors. Thru and ahd to SMG to X Railway (CARE). Thru another SMG</p> <p>Down fld keeping to RHS of field to pass house on R & reach fence cnr post with yellow tape (pond to R). BL across fld (160°) to cnr of ditch with wire fencing.</p> <p>Cont ahd LHS of fld to TR at cnr to reach & X bridge on L. Ahd towards LH cnr of trees (110°). TR for 50 yds to next cnr & TL for 40 yds to reach f-post on L, then BR downhill (180°) towards bridge. X and thru LMG. BL to join hedge on L & cont to end of fld.</p>	<p>1.97 mile (3.17km) GR670259</p>
3.	<p>TL to X st beside double LMG's & TR RHS of fld. Cont down fld to X fb via 2 SMGs & ahd (180°) to O/S fence cnr.</p> <p>Ahd with fence on R & in 400 yds reach fb on R. Do not X, but TL uphill to X st. BR to join fence & BL up RHS of fld to reach & X fb on R.</p> <p>Along encl fp & at end X st by LWG & cont ahd uphill on drive to main rd (A265) at Burwash.</p>	<p>2.86 mile (4.6km) GR672247</p>

4.	<p>X rd with EXTREME CARE and TR on pavement. Cont to pass lane on L, signposted to Batemans, & then garage on R. Ahd to 50 mile limit sign, & in 115 yds reach steps on L with handrail.</p> <p>Up steps & thru KG. Cont down RHS of fld to bottom. BR thru SMG & flw path which swings L downhill to go over fb & thru SMG into fld.</p> <p>In 10 yds BR with hedge to go thru SMG, over fb & BL with path with pond on R. X fb, thru SMG & ahd down field (160°) to gap.</p> <p>Thru & BR across fld (190°) to NT wmk post & cont to far RH cnr of fld. Thru SMG & TR on encl tk. Cont ahd to reach house on L (Rye Green Farm).</p> <p>Join drive from house & in 25 yds, when drive bears R, BL up bank thru gateway into fld (wmk on tree). BR across fld (250°) to pass thru bushes to reach & go thru SMG.</p> <p>Cont initially between bushes & then uphill LHS of fld. At top BL thru LMG & cont with hedge on R and young trees on L to meet & X st to R of LMG.</p> <p>TL on LHS fld downhill (110°) to reach kg on R just before far cnr. Thru into wood & cont downhill on winding path.</p> <p>Thru KG & ahd to field with trees and stream on R for 100 yds to X bridge on R. Thru LMG & TR along narrow fld, then as fld opens out cont uphill on fp. Path swings R & then L to reach kg.</p> <p>Thru & B/sl/R thru trees to X st, then ahd to X a second st. SO on encl path. At end X st & cont to flw path to BR downhill towards road sign to reach & X st.</p>	5.27 mile (8.49 km) GR658226
5.	<p>With CARE X lane & ahd thru SMG onto BW encl by hedges. At end ahd up gulley to reach garden wall cnr.</p> <p>Ahd now with wall and then garden fence on R. When fence ends, ahd (210°) to RHS field O/S hedge cnr passing L of farm roller. Cont, keeping hedge on R, ignore overgrown track on R, to meet LWG in cnr & thru onto encl tk to reach & pass thru another LWG.</p> <p>Cont ahd to reach small, isolated tree. BL (220°), keeping parallel to telegraph poles, & ahd to go thru gateway. SO LHS of fld to go thru SWG to X earth bridge into fld.</p> <p>Cont ahd for 5 yds, ignore open gateway on L, & ahd (240°) for 60 yds to TL to find hidden SWG in trees .</p> <p>Cont on path thru wood [tree has fallen on power line but may be cleared], gently climbing, for approx 250 yds to pass wmk post on R & ahd to X fb. Cont flwing wmk's downhill to X fb then ahd on path uphill to top to find next wmk on L. BR over fallen tree, to go downhill to X small stream & then cont uphill on winding path bearing R & L to reach barriers & X tk.</p> <p>Thru & TR on eroded fp steeply downhill to reach drive at bottom.</p>	6.38 mile (10.26 km) GR651213

6.	<p>TR & then BL with drive to X bridge. At Glaziers Forge Farm BR to wall (f-post on R) & TL steeply uphill on encl fp.</p> <p>Cont for 1,100 yds, tk enters woodland & widens as gradient eases, to reach LMG & 'Private Keep Out' sign on R.</p> <p>Then ahd with fence on R for a further 400 yds, passing barn on L, to reach rd. TL to arrive at</p>	7.33 miles (11.8 km) GR638208
<p>Checkpoint 1 – Edge of Dallington Forest</p> <p>Opens: 10:15 Closes: 14:30</p> <p>What3Words – operation.lakeside.park</p>		
<p>Dallington Forest to Stonegate – 8.3 miles</p>		
7.	<p>From Checkpoint TL uphill on Private Road for 400 yds to reach red "SLOW Children & Animals" sign on L. Cont ahd uphill for a further 450 yds to reach railed fence on L (check views of South Downs and Sea? on left)</p> <p>TR thru SWG beside LMG, black sign on gate 'Footpath Preferred Route' (ignoring 26 & 20 milers continuing straight on). Immed TR on encl fp, between hedge & fence. Path swings L, R & L again to LWG (Busy Bees).</p> <p>Thru & ahd LHS field to cnr. TR to reach LMG, TL thru gate & immed TL LHS of fld. At cnr TR LHS of fld, thru SMG & cont ahd LHS of fld downhill.</p> <p>Thru LMG & ahd to bottom, with shed on R TL thru LWG onto drive & TR downhill on Private Road to T-jcn. TR down lane.</p> <p>At end of lane at Greenwoods Farm [check that overfriendly dogs are not present, shout if they are] thru KG & ahd across gravel to encl fp. Path bends L & R & conts downhill.</p> <p>At end of fence, do not X st ahd, instead TR over st. BL down fld (20°) to X st to L of LWG. Cont ahd (050°) down fld to reach yellow topped post with wmk. BL downhill to X st under trees, X fb & BR up bank into fld.</p>	8.82 mile (14.2 km) GR634219
8.	<p><i>Note: This field may contain cattle, who may follow you in anticipation that you bring food. Keep calm and ignore them. Ahd up fld (020°) towards gap, at gap BL passing between a few trees on slightly worn track to pass yellow topped post with wmk .</i></p> <p>Ahd North for total of 700 yds: keeping initially to LHS of fld, passing oak tree after 150 yds; then pass R of a line of large trees, to join hedge on L & keep with hedge on L to reach & X st at top, 90yds after start of hedge on R.</p> <p>Ahd on encl path to go thru LWG onto drive. Drive bears R & then L around buildings. X st to R of LWG & cont on drive for 85 yds to reach fp on R. Do not turn R, but cont ahd on drive for a further 250 yds.</p> <p>With LWG to L and before house, immed turn sharp R to X st. TL LHS of fld to X st in cnr. Ignore path to R & cont ahd (90°) towards LMG.</p>	

	<p>Thru SWG next to LMG & ahd on encl fp. Pass between buildings & thru LWG to go ahd on encl path.</p> <p>On reaching lane TR uphill. In 50 yds TL thru KG onto encl fp. Thru barrier into fld & flw path round to R & then L down into trees.</p> <p>At fork BR with hedge on R. Pass to R of LMG & cont downhill to lane. TR & in 90 yds at private road signed April Cottage, BL off rd Xing drive to X st.</p>	<p>10.38 miles (16.7 km) GR643231</p>
9.	<p>TL & cont along LHS of fld to BL & cont on encl fp. X st & cont ahd still encl. At end X st down to drive, Swanfield Farm on R.</p> <p>Over drive & ahd thru garden at Quayham. Pass to R of house & cont on fp thru trees. Thru tall wooden gate & flw winding path thru scrub area.</p> <p>Thru trees to X st into fld & BR (120°) to go thru LWG in R corner. Ahd RHS of fld, thru LMG to TL on Lane. Pass buildings on R & as lane bends L, X st on R to L of LMG, into fld.</p> <p>Cont steeply down RHS of fld. X st with care & cont downhill in woodland. Nearing bottom swing L with path to X fb & then round or thru SWG to cont on winding encl path steeply uphill to top. Reach (Willingford) Lane & TL to meet main A265 Road at Burwash Weald.</p>	<p>11.25 miles (18.1 km) GR651232</p>
10.	<p>With CARE X BUSY ROAD & TR on pavement. When pavement ends X drive & cont with GREAT CARE on LHS for 110 yds to BL off rd at Green Farm House.</p> <p>FR at of f-post onto drive (Furnace House) & in 35 yds FR again at stone BW sign at ground level. At house BL downhill on encl track to jcn with f-post on L & TR still on encl BW.</p> <p>Cont on path BW for 1 mile, passing pond on L & farm on R. At end meet & TR on drive from Holton Farmhouse & cont to rd.</p> <p>TL on rd. As rd bends L, FR onto drive (BW f-post on LHS of rd). Pass Franchise Lodge on L & ahd down drive thru avenue of trees.</p> <p>In 250 yds at X path, f-post to R, TL to X st & ahd with fence on R. Up bank & cont downhill still with fence on R. Meet & X st among thistles on R.</p> <p>X farm tk & st opposite. Ahd on encl path, thru trees & exit via sheep gates. Fllw wire fence on R & X SMG to L of LMG. Ahd across fld (340°) to reach fb with rails to right of tall tree.</p> <p>X fb & ahd into fld. BL across fld (300°) to enter hop fld with hedge on L. SO approx. 500 yds and at end of hop fld thru LMG & BR down fld (350°) to go thru wide gap. BL on tk to go thru LMG</p>	<p>14.2 miles (22.8 km) GR653268</p>

11.	TR on BUSY ROAD. With Extreme CARE check traffic both ways and cont on RHS to X bridge & then uphill using grass verge where possible. In 150 yds reach f-post & drive on L (20 milers join here).	14.3 miles (23.0 km) GR655269
12.	Cont ahd uphill for 270 yds & immed after house on R, TR thru SMG next to LMG (awkward catch, tilt handle forward & lift) & ahd over grass to go thru LWG. Cont downhill LHS of fld, down into dip & ahd uphill to power pole. BR (100°) across fld to find & X railway bridge, via 2 SMG's, & ahd across grass to go thru another SMG. Ahd (060°) to pass barn on L. Cont ahd downhill to lone wooden post with pond on L, then BR uphill to go thru LMG & turn sharp L onto drive.	14.9 miles (23.9 km) GR662271
13.	Ahd on drive to go thru LMG (may be open) & in 10 yds BR thru LMG with wmk (may be open). Cont on tk & in 200 yds, immed before gate posts, BR to go thru SMG next to LMG into fld. BL (060°) across fld to end of tree line to go thru SMG to R of LMG. BL across fld (070°) to meet SMG with white sign. Thru into trees, steeply downhill to x stream & BR with path, now with stream on R. Path climbs & swings L & then R to descend very steeply (eroded) to X fb. Up bank & BL uphill on winding fp to exit into fld. TL now with wood on L. (You are now retracing your steps from this morning). Thru overgrown gap & cont for 210 yds to TL into wood & in 15 yds BR on path. Cont on fp to meet & X st & fb. Ahd across fld to go thru LMG. BL across grass to st. X st & BR to X fb. TR up fp to water treatment fence & TL. At cnr of fence TR on encl path. X st & cont with fence on R to X drive & then grass to SWG. Thru SWG & B/sl/R uphill (340°) to fence post & gap. Thru & ahd LHS of fld to X st to R of LMG. With CARE X rd & TR. Cont on LHS of rd, using verge where possible, to BL with hedge to X minor rd. Ahd thru car park to:	16.2 miles (26 km) TQ668285
	Stonegate Village Hall & FINISH by 19:30 <i>Congratulations – Well Done!</i>	