

**Bishop's Castle Challenge Walk 2018- Section 2 – Homeward Bound** Shelve Woods to Bishop's Castle – Approximately 11 miles with 1500 ft ascent / climbing. 1 Mile = 1.6 Kilometres / 1 yard = 0.91 metres. ORPA – Other route with Public Access.

*(Continuing from Section 1)*

10. SO 329 995 - Pass the metal barrier and stay on the wide forest track (bridleway). After 350 yards a field opens to the right, at end of field the track goes back into woods and soon, where the track start to descend, take the partly obscured track on the right through trees, that leads to a metal field gate. Once through the gate turn right (SE) and follow the right field boundary for 500 yards, ignore first stile and continue to end of the fence. Here the fence / field open, bear right and down through a wide gap in trees. There is a house hidden in trees to the right, immediately after this house / trees, cross the stile right of a gate (behind gate if open) into the next field.
11. SO 340 992 - Bear left along the fence line and after 100 yards leave the fence and continue in the same direction, across the length of the field and through gate at end. Bear left and up field to cross a double stile on left. Bear right (direction ENE) across a large open field to cross a stile. Continue on and bear right at the fence end and straight on to another stile in the fence ahead. Bear right towards trees, just after the caravan take the stile through a gap in the hedge on the right. Bear left down to end of track / drive. At the bottom (stile if gate shut) turn left onto another wide track (Byway) and follow this for 175 yards to the road.
12. SO 354 993 - **ROAD CROSSING** - Carefully cross the road and take the rising track immediately on the right (Byway). After 150 yards turn left straight after the cottage, No 5. Now the track climbs steeply. Stay on this track as it climbs to the top ignoring paths off, nearing the top beyond 'Little Acres' keep left and follow the track to a wooden field gate / stile, now entering the Stiperstones Nature Reserve.

WE DO NOT RECOMMEND USING THE PATH ACCROSS THE TOP OF THE STIPPERSTONES AS IT IS TRECHOUROUSLY ROCKY UNDERFOOT. THIS SECTION IS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE CHALLENGE WALK BUT COMPETANT MAP READERS MAY CHOOSE TO TAKE THE ROUTE AT THEIR OWN RISK & RE-JOIN AT POINT 14.

13. SO 361 992 - Turn right and follow the well defined track (Bridleway joining ORPA), the track turns to grass heading South (SSW) for around ½ mile. 75 yards after the third gate, now leaving the Nature Reserve, cross the stile on the left. Turn right to follow fence, there is a stile to the right of the next gate. Continue on following gorse hedge / fence line to exit at a stile onto road. **CAUTION ROAD.** Turn left for 100 yards turn right through a gate to join the Shropshire Way.
14. **SO 362 976 - Please note you will now be following the Shropshire Way all the way back to Bishop's Castle.** Heading south (SSW) continue across the field, passing a finger post signed for The Bog, and straight on to a stile into woods. Follow the path through the edge of the woods to exit at a pedestrian gate into Nipstone Nature Reserve. With Nipstone Rock to your right continue straight on the ridge heading south west on the well defined path, over stiles by gates, the path then turns narrow and rocky. Descending to the right of The Rock, bear left at a path junction, the track turns left beneath the outcrop and drops down the hillside through gorse to a gate. Then keep right steeply straight down into the trees to exit onto a road. Go right and immediately left over a stile into the field. Walk down the field over planks to the footbridge and cross the stile to enter a wood and the path rises right and steeply up to a stile and onto the lane.
15. SO 354 960 – Go right on the lane and you will soon pass the buildings of Ridge Farm, then take the second field gate on the left. Climb steeply up with the fence to your left to

cross a stile by woodland onto a track. Now leaving the track keep right alongside woodland and then follow the fence up through a pedestrian gate. Continue on the grass path then bear right to stay on footpaths heading south (SSW) through several fields and new pedestrian gates to finally descend into the tree lined avenue of Linley Beeches. Continue down through gates and the track descends through the edge of woodland and on to tarmac lane. **This is manned check point 3 & refreshments.**

16. SO 350 935 – Turn left heading south down the lane, at the bottom & t-junction turn right for 350 yards passing Linley Lodge and the private tree lined driveway of Linley Hall. Turn left heading south along the lane towards More (Shropshire Way Finger Post). After ½ mile take the pedestrian gate on right onto footpath. Bear left and cross the length of the field and then through two pedestrian gates and straight on to exit to a lane via a field gate. Cross and enter a field, bear slightly left to follow the straight line of the electricity cables. Where they cross over the fence follow the fence to a barred footbridge. Bear left to cross the field and beneath an oak tree. Go on through the gate and cross field diagonally to exit via a gate into Lydham Village Hall Car Park.

**WARNING – BUSY MAJOR ROAD - CROSS AND PROCEED ALONG WITH GREAT CARE!**

17. SO 336 910 - Carefully cross this busy road to pavement and turn left, keeping on the right hand verge for 200 yards. Then take the wide farm track on the right (Shropshire Way marker post). Follow this track (bridleway) for 500 yards to double metal gates and take the smaller bridle gate to the right. Bear left up field through a second bridle gate on the left. Then bear right through the trees (SW) and then leaving the trees straight on to a narrow path. Keep on with the field boundary to your right. Then take a right turn on a track that dips through the trees and then diagonally through crop on footpath (Upper Heblands) to cross field and exit on to road. **CAUTION THIS IS A BUSY ROAD - CROSS AND PROCEED ALONG WITH CARE!**

18. SO 325 901 – Turn right on road for 150 yards and then left up steps to re-join Shropshire Way. Head straight up the field with woods to right and at end straight on up across field to a stile into Foxholes Campsite. Keep to left hedge boundary and nearing the field end turn left on a gravelled track through a gate and immediately right along a grass track, passing Buddha Statue and through pedestrian gates. Cross the field on the well used path, to the left of an old tin barn to a gate and on to a surfaced track. Follow the enclosed track and where it opens bear left down to a gate and then out onto the road. **CAUTION ROAD.** Turn right and then straight over to the top of Castle Street. In a few yards, immediately on the left after **Cross Keys Cottage**, take the very narrow path between buildings (this still is the Shropshire Way!). It turns to track passing Bishop's Castle Bowling Green continue down track where it narrows and descend on a steep tarmac footpath into Bull Street. Turn right and down to Market Square and then further down the High Street to the Town Hall.

**AT THE END OF YOUR WALK YOU MUST RETURN YOUR ENTRY CARD BACK TO THE TOWN HALL.**

**WELL DONE! YOU HAVE JUST COMPLETED SECTION 2  
OF THE BISHOP'S CASTLE CHALLENGE 2018**