

Route Description

Start at the Civic Centre **1**. For this walk you follow the same route as **Walk 2** – the Stockton Walk – as far as the canal at Danson's Bridge **2**.

Here, instead of joining the towpath you walk across the fields ahead going diagonally to your right. On the far side of the large second field cross a track and then go over a stile.

Turn left and follow the hedge on the other side **3**. This bridleway formed part of the original line of the recently altered Shropshire Way.

Go down a slope and cross the bridge over Red Brook. The path takes you through the yard at Hadley Farm.

Walk down the drive towards the A525 and about half way along take the small gate on the right hand side which leads you round Hadley Pool. Cross the A525 with care going diagonally to your left to join the track opposite.

Go along the track taking the right hand fork towards Blackhoe Cottages. After the cottages, cross the canal via a modern metal bridge built following the near collapse of the original structure.

Cross the next field diagonally to your right towards the far top right hand corner. Follow the hedgeline,

cross a stile and go round the end of a narrow bit of woodland and then back again on the other side **4**.

From the far side of the next field you descend into a cutting that was once part of the Cambrian Railway. Take the path on the other side towards a lane. Turn left and in about 150 metres turn right at the junction **5** followed by left at the next. After about 800 metres this lane joins another at Alkington Hall which dates from Tudor times. Turn right at the junction and almost immediately go left to join the restricted byway running between The Beeches farmhouse and farmyard.

After a short length of green lane, turn right and follow the hedge round the field. In the next field you need to go slightly to your right towards a hedgeline halfway across. From a field gate **6** follow the hedgeline on your right. About halfway along, you cross to the other side of the hedgeline and go slightly diagonally right.

This takes you through the front garden of Dearnford Cottage and through a gate on to the road. At this point congratulate yourself on your navigational skills (or retrace your steps!).

Cross the road and walk to the right of Dearnford Hall through some parkland.

Directions continue overleaf

