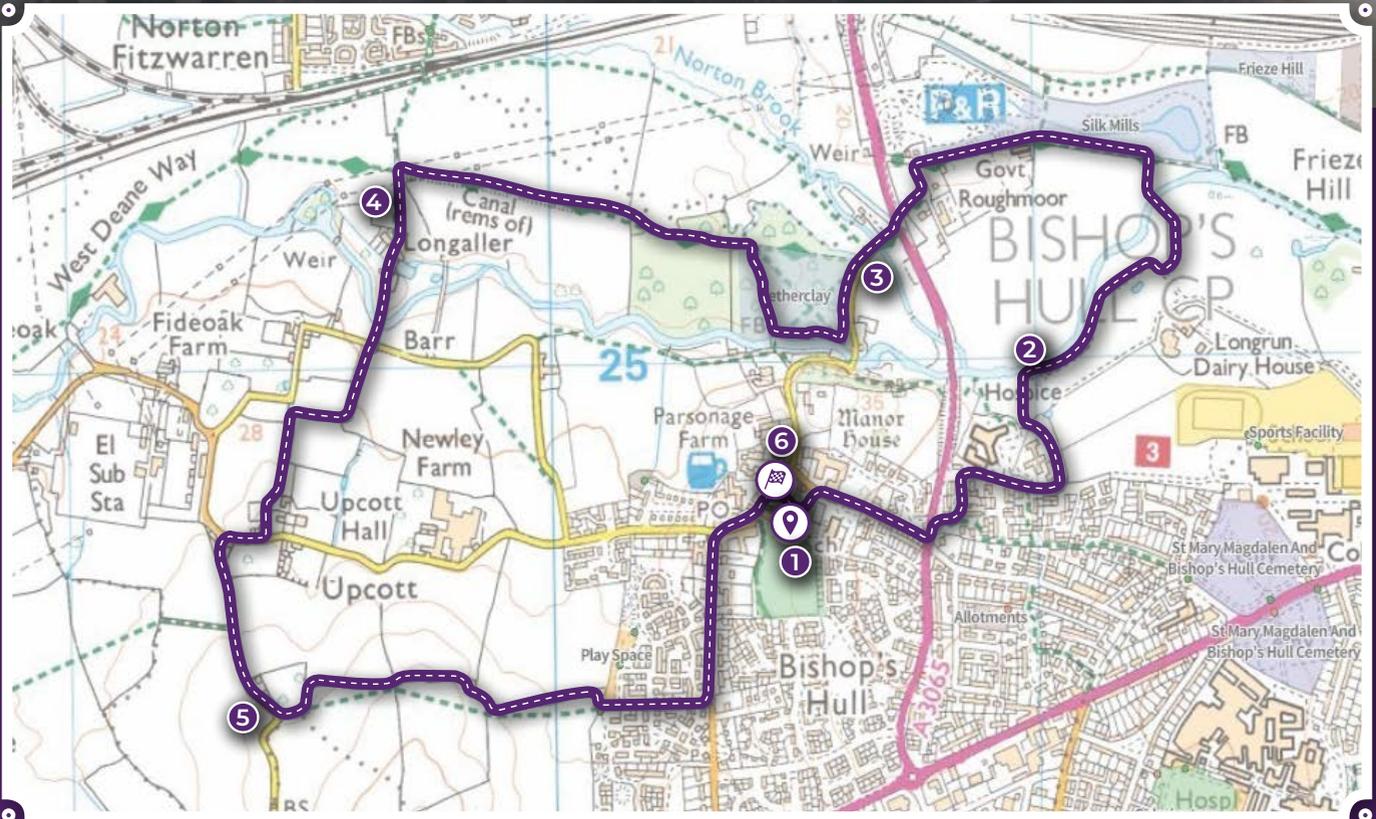




BISHOPS HULL JUBILEE WALK



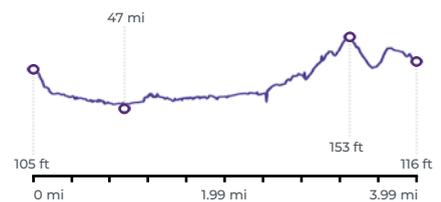
The village of Bishop's Hull has retained much of its attractive character, including many old buildings and the octagonal church tower. This circular walk, within the parish, takes in many differing aspects of the village, both old and new.

Starting at The Hub, it crosses Silk Mills Road, takes in Longrun Meadow, the Netherclay Community Woodland LNR before moving into the countryside near the river Tone and follows the approximate route of the former Grand Western Canal towpath. Passing Longaller Mill, the walk continues to Upcott before returning to the village through open countryside. The highest point of the walk (on the final section) is only 153 ft above sea level but still offers excellent views north towards the Quantock Hills and south to the Blackdown Hills.



This Trail involves crossing a stile and negotiating several kiss gates, it may not be suitable for all forms of transport.

Elevation



Distance
4.0 miles

Estimated Duration

1:45 – 2:00 hours

Grading
Easy

Total Ascent

287 feet

Starting Point



The Hub, The Playing Field, Bishops Hull Hill

The Hub was built in 2021 after several years of fundraising by a dedicated team of local residents.

Regular events are held throughout the week and a popular place for family celebrations



Directions

- 1 From The Hub take the path through the car park to Bishops Hull Hill and turn right.
Continue downhill to Silk Mills Road passing the Manor on your left and the school on your right.
On your left you will see Haydon House, a former farmhouse. Along with the Manor they are two of the oldest buildings in the parish.
Cross Silk Mills at the traffic lights, turn left and then follow the footpath through the Birdland Estate (passing the Robin Close Community House) to reach Heron Drive.
Turn right and continue along Heron Drive for 200 yards turning left onto the footpath at the side of Abbeyfield (opposite Wren Drive).
At the bridge over the ditch take the diagonal cross field path on your right towards the river and turn right into Longrun Meadow.

Did you know?

Longrun Meadow is a community open space opened to the public in 2010. It provides flood protection and a range of sporting and leisure activities. The management is by the Friends of Longrun Meadow



The Manor

- 2 Walk ahead on the gravel path with the river on your left and attenuation ponds on your right until you reach the sluice gate and notice board.
Just ahead you will see Longrun Dairy House care home.
Turn left back towards the river, crossing over the wooden footbridge.
Continue for 100 yards towards the Park&Ride open space and pond.
Turn left onto a well marked path on the far side of the hedge.
Continue ahead towards the white buildings keeping the hedge on your left (do not stay on the gravel that veers right).
Follow the path round to the left and then immediately right along the road past Roughmoor Farm.
Along this section you will see the West Deane Way waymarkers (an apple within a black directional arrow).
Turn left and then right to reach Silk Mills Road.
Cross Silk Mills Road.
Walk down Netherclay, over the Norton Brook bridge to reach the Community Woodland.



Longrun Meadow - Footbridge



Norton Brook - Bridge

- 3 - Enter Netherclay Community Woodland LNR through the kissing gate and turn sharp left by the notice board to follow the path alongside the road to reach the river.

Owned by Taunton DC. Since 2018 The Friends of Netherclay Community Woodland volunteers have managed the area with the help of SWT and assistance from the children of the village school, Taunton Green Parents and the arboricultural students from Cannington College.

- On your left you will see The Old Mill.

In the background is Tytherleigh House. Originally a saw mill with buildings extending across the river.

- Turn right on the path to follow the river on your left. On the other side of the river is Netherclay House,

- Continue with the river on your left until you reach the attractive brick and metal footbridge, with a small group of apple trees to your right. All the apple trees have a local or Somerset connection such as Taunton Cross & Beauty of Bath.

- At this point turn sharp right, to follow the path to the other side of the Community Woodland.

- When you reach the far side of the woodland turn left, through the kissing gate. You are now entering the SWT site. Continue along the main path (minor paths to the left and right) until you reach another kissing gate with a West Deane Way waymarker and exit the Community Woodland.

- This footpath running through the northern part of the SWT site follows the approximate route of the former Grand Western Canal towpath. This was part of a larger canal building project to link the Bristol and English Channels. Although work started on this section in 1831 it only enjoyed a few years of operation before the railway arrived in 1844 and captured most of its trade. It was finally closed in 1867 and gradually obliterated by adjoining agricultural management.

- Continue ahead (with the hedge on your left) to reach open countryside).

- Follow the main path now with the hedge now on your right for 500 yards until you reach a crossroad of paths.

Ahead is the wide West Deane Way path towards Bradford-on-Tone

- Take the well marked path to the left towards Longaller.

The path to the right leads to the footbridge over the railway line at Norton Fitzwarren.

- 4 - Pass through the kissing gate and then follow the road past Longaller Mill to the bridge over the river Tone – a beautiful setting and well worth stopping for a few minutes.

- At the road junction follow the path straight ahead through the hedge past the remains of the stile. To the left is Newley Farm.

Follow the path round to your right and on the other side of the hedge is Broadleigh Gardens. Open to the public Monday to Friday, it has fantastic displays of seasonal bulbs. Well worth a visit.

- Then turn left alongside the hedge



The Old Mill



Netherclay House



Netherclay Footbridge



Netherclay Community Woodland

(ignoring
West Deane Way waymarker and



Longaller Mill



- Turn right after 100 yards to follow the path to the end of the field, then turn left – on your right you will see the path exit onto the road.
- Continue along the edge of field path, past a stile and along an enclosed path until you reach the road at Upcott.
- Turn right, continue past the silos on your right and then turn left at the road junction by Forge Cottages. Just ahead, before turning, you will see the local sub-station.
- Continue along the road for a quarter of a mile until you reach the far side of the Little Shamba park homes.
- 5** → Go through the second metal gate on your left (Bristol Gate). We will now walk along the side of 3 fields for half a mile to reach Bishops Hull, as below:
 - From the gate follow the path to the left then right and then up the incline and over the stile into the second field.
 - From this point there are excellent views north towards Norton Fitzwarren and the Quantocks. Look south towards the Wellington Monument and Blackdown Hills.



Looking towards Wellington



Views of the Quantocks

- Follow the path onwards and through the kissing gate in the hedge a little to your right.
- Continue along the edge of the next field until you reach another kissing gate (in the hedge on the right) that leads into the Kinglake estate.
- Follow the wide gravel path uphill to reach Bishops Hull Road.
- Turn left and follow the main road past Bishops Hull House, heading towards:
 - The Old United Reformed Church, now a private residence.
 - The Village Stores & Post Office
 - The Old Inn
 - The Constitutional Club
- 6** → The Church with its unusual octagonal tower built in the 13th century in the form of a weavers barn. At this time weaving was the principal industry.



United Reformed Church



Constitutional Club



The Old Inn

You have completed the Bishops Hull - Jubilee Walk

Countryside Code

Please follow the Countryside Code by keeping dogs under control and keeping to the designated paths when walking through farmland. Be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside and leave gates and property as you find them. Please report any problems you may encounter to the Parish Council.



Church of St Peter and St Paul