

December 16th 2012 Winter Views

A little mud is unavoidable at this time of year, but this route has less than most, no ploughed fields and some pleasant aspects to banish winter blues. Distance-about 2miles; time-about 1hour 15minutes.

- ⌚ From the TK, cross the road, turn right and then left into Post Office Lane. Bear left to pass behind the cottage to a KG, and ahead across the narrow paddock (46) to enter the cricket field via the KG ahead.
- ⌚ Turn right past the pavilion(47) to the gate at the right hand corner, cross this stretch of ground, bisected by a KG, and slightly right to the KG to enter the path (54) behind the houses of the High Street. Where the path forks, take the right hand way to emerge by the White Swan.
- ⌚ Turn right along the High Street and cross at the refuge, continuing a short distance to turn left into Keinches Lane.
- ⌚ At the end of the lane, turn left through the KG (58) and proceed more or less parallel with the right hand hedge through 3 KGs until a waymark post is seen ahead.
- ⌚ Turn right down the steep bank, (1) taking care where the roots of a mighty fallen tree cross the path, and along a newly-planted hedge to the stile. Cross this, and the horse-paddock, via a further stile, heading slightly left and converging with the left-hand hedge to the double stile at the corner.
- ⌚ Cross the FB ahead, and aim at about 11 o'clock to the stile in the left hand fence just in front of the derelict remains of the Firs explosive stores.
- ⌚ In the lane, turn right, (2) and proceed until it bears left; cross the stile next to the gate ahead, and turn right along the right-hand margin of the field, (7), until a gap in the hedge reveals a FB and stile.
- ⌚ Cross this, and aim towards the barn at the far end of the field, gradually diverging from the right-hand hedge. Cross the stile to the left of the barn, and the short stretch of yard to the stile leading to Weir Lane.
- ⌚ Walk up this, ignoring the first right-hand FP sign, crossing at the second to walk up the field towards Castle Mound (18). Cross the double stile at the top corner, and head slightly left (21) to cross the stile/FB/stile across the stream.
- ⌚ Walk alongside the left-hand hedge and then via the KG up the tarmaced path to return to the TK.