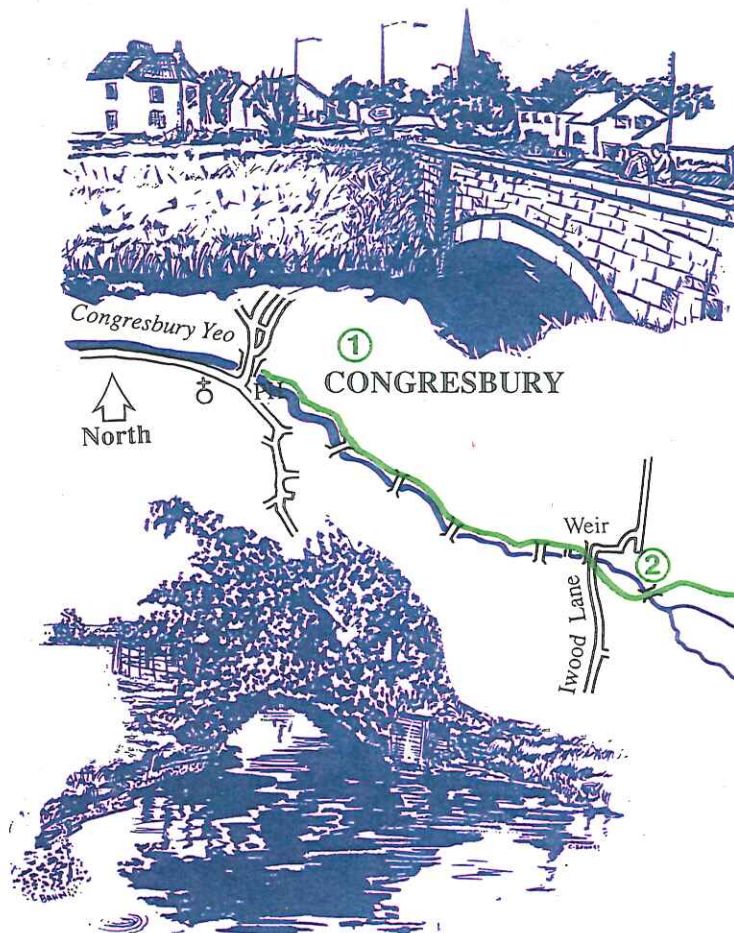


## A Countryside walk in Avon

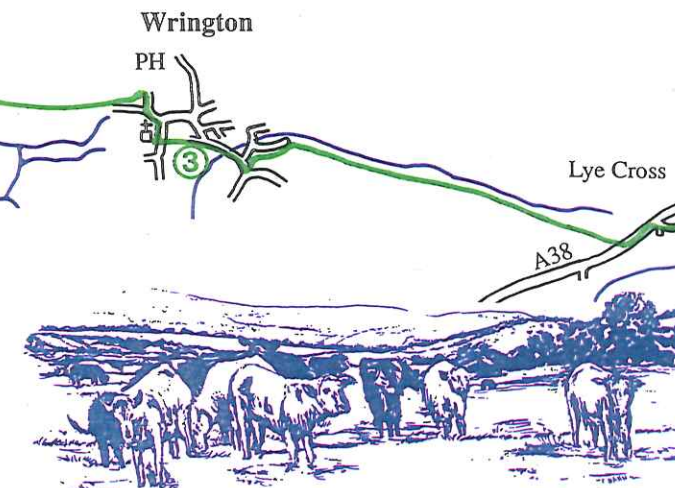


### Features of Interest

- 1 Legend has it that Congresbury takes its name from St Congar, who founded a monastery beside the river. Congresbury Church has a splendid spire and a fine wooden medieval roof.
- 2 The ruins of a watermill and wheel burnt down in the 1890's can be seen here.
- 3 The former market town of Wrington possesses one of the finest churches in the County, with an oak screen, wooden medieval roof and magnificent early 15th century tower. Wrington was once the home of philanthropist Hannah More and philosopher John Locke was born here.
- 4 There were several Roman villas in the vale of Wrington, including Lye Hole villa near Lye Hole farm.
- 5 Butcombe is an attractive hamlet set in a steep sided valley. To the south lies the Blagdon Lake Reservoir, built by the Bristol Waterworks Company between 1891 and 1899.
- 6 Nempnett Church, standing alone, is worth a visit, having a Norman south door and impressive Victorian Screen.
- 7 At Ridgehill, the evidence of red ochre extraction can still be seen.

### Congresbury to Wrington Church 2 miles

The Two Rivers Way commences at the picnic site and car park alongside Congresbury Library and follows the north bank of the Yeo River eastwards for a mile to Iwood Lane and crosses the road to the south side of the river. The path then follows the Yeo to a footbridge. Cross over the bridge then go diagonally across field to a stile in top corner and keep the hedge on the left go through fields towards gate and stile. Follow left hand fence and hedge and over stile at end of field by second iron gate in the corner. Turn right to walk between fence and pylon. Over stiles and to the rear of bungalow gardens to a kissing gate giving access into Ladywell, then keep right into and through church yard.



- 8 The old rectory at Chew Stoke is of the 16th Century but the armorial shield on the exterior are 19th Century. At Pagans Hill, an octagonal temple building of an unknown cult (possibly Mercury) has been excavated by archaeologist. The Chew Valley Lake Reservoir, opened in 1956, is a haven for wildlife. It is a popular venue for sailing, angling and birdwatching. There is an information centre with wildlife interpretation, café and nature trails.
- 9 The church at Chew Magna has a fine west tower built in the Perpendicular style, a Norman font and a late medieval screen. There is a good example of a church house. One of the grandest of the surviving medieval bridges that cross the River Chew is the late 15th Century Tun Bridge with its three pointed arches.
- 10 Stanton Drew stands across the river from the old turnpike road with its unusual thatched toll house.
- 11 The stone circles at Stanton Drew are the most visually impressive in Avon. The purpose of the complex, which includes the 'cove' and Hautville's Quoi is unknown.





## TWO RIVERS WAY

The Two Rivers Way is an attractive long distance walk generally following the course of the Rivers Yeo and Chew between Congresbury and Keynsham. The way-marked route can be walked as a whole, as part of shorter distance walks, or as a link to other long distance walks like the West Mendip Way and Limestone Link at Shipham and the Avon Walkway at Keynsham.

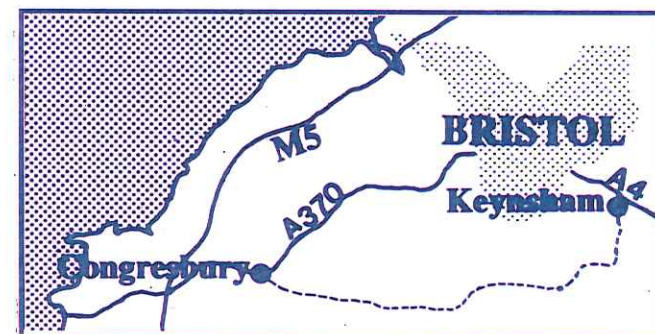
The Two Rivers Way was devised by Charles Swindon who was assisted by Philip Mundy on behalf of Yatton Ramblers, Avon County Council's Public Rights of Way Section and members of Avon County Community Environment Scheme.

This leaflet describes the route of the Two Rivers Way and some of the points of interest along the route. It was written by Philip Barclay and designed and published by Avon County Council with financial assistance from the Countryside Commission.

A comprehensive guide to the Two Rivers Way published by Yatton Ramblers, is available in local shops, price £1.50.

The walk uses Public Rights of Way.

### Location of Two Rivers Way

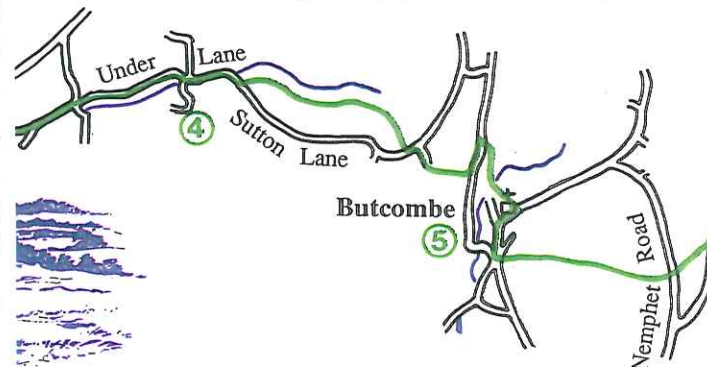


Supported by the  
COUNTRYSIDE  
COMMISSION

COUNTY OF  
Avon  
WORKING TOWARDS  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

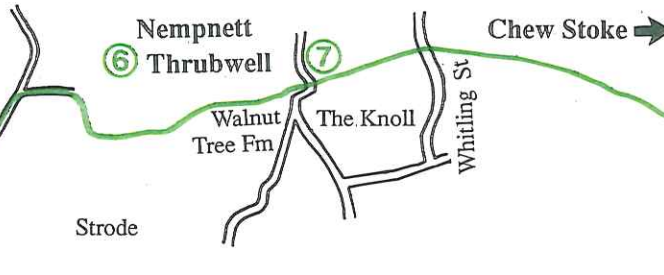
## Wrington Church to Butcombe Church 3.5 miles

Opposite Lych gate follow Church Walk and turn right onto road and just past Rickyard Road, take footpath on left and alongside gardens to stile and then right into cul-de-sac. Go over stile into field and keep alongside hedge and stream on the left. About three quarters way through next large field, leave stream and cut across corner of field to stile in far hedge. Cross next field, bearing right towards cattle trough and oak trees along hedge. Make for main A38 now visible, walking towards the cottage directly ahead. Turn left along A38 and cross into Under Lane by farm shop. Continue along lane and over cross roads past Lyehole Farm and proceed straight ahead along Sutton Lane. At right hand bend in lane cross stile at left and follow the stream on your left, and then strike up to the top right hand corner of field and out to Sutton Lane by field gate. Cross into lane opposite and take field gate on left. Cross the field and down steep bank to field gate into road near Cleeve's Well. Turn left up road a short distance to a stile on right. Go steeply down field and across brook by bridge and stile. Ascend next field towards church and by kissing gate, enter roadway.



## Butcombe Church to Chew Stoke Church 3 miles

From the kissing gate by the church yard wall turn right down the road and turn left at post box, and at top of slope go through kissing gate and up the hill to a stile leading into the top field with good views of Blagdon Lake. Walk up this field close to the right hand hedge until it turns away to right and then head for top hedge which you keep on your left all the way to a field gate into Nempnett Road. Cross road and through opposite field gate and cross diagonally towards holly tree and field gate into lane. Turn left and follow the road northwards to where 'green road' goes off to the right. Follow this road around a right angled bend and up the hill, then take footpath on left opposite field gate. Go straight ahead through field between narrowing hedges and then down next field to two field gates along farm track and into road opposite Walnut Tree Farm. Cross road and over stile into field, keeping farm house on your right. Keep straight ahead over stiles and field gate into Whitting Street. Cross over and through opposite gate and cross diagonally between two hedges, through field gate to stile in far corner. Cross field to large oak tree and then diagonally right to double stile and footbridge, and again diagonally right to field gate and blocked gully. Permission has been given to follow the gully in this field on its eastern side to reach lane to farm and Chew Stoke Church.



- The railway viaduct at Pensford, with its 16 arches, is a magnificent relic of Bristol and North Somerset Railway. The railway, built between 1863 and 1873 linked Bristol to the earlier Frome to Radstock line of the Great Western Railway.
- Publow Church has a 15th Century tower in the Perpendicular style.
- Woollard is a former late 18th Century industrial village.
- A corner-stone built into the north-east corner of Compton Dando Church is from the altar of the great Roman temple complex dedicated to Sulis Minerva at Bath.
- At Keynsham the River Chew enters the River Avon, and the Two Rivers Way meets the Avon walkway. The former minster Church at Keynsham is close to the Roman Villa site at the "Frys" factory complex. The Augustinian Canons established a large community at Keynsham in the mid 12th Century, although little remains of the buildings.

**There is a rich industrial archaeological heritage associated with the two rivers, Chew and Yeo.**



## Please follow the country Code

Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.

Guard against all risk of fire.

Fasten all gates.

Keep your dogs under close control.

Keep to public paths across farmland.

Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.

Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone.

Take your litter home.

Help to keep all water clean.

Protect wildlife, plants and trees.

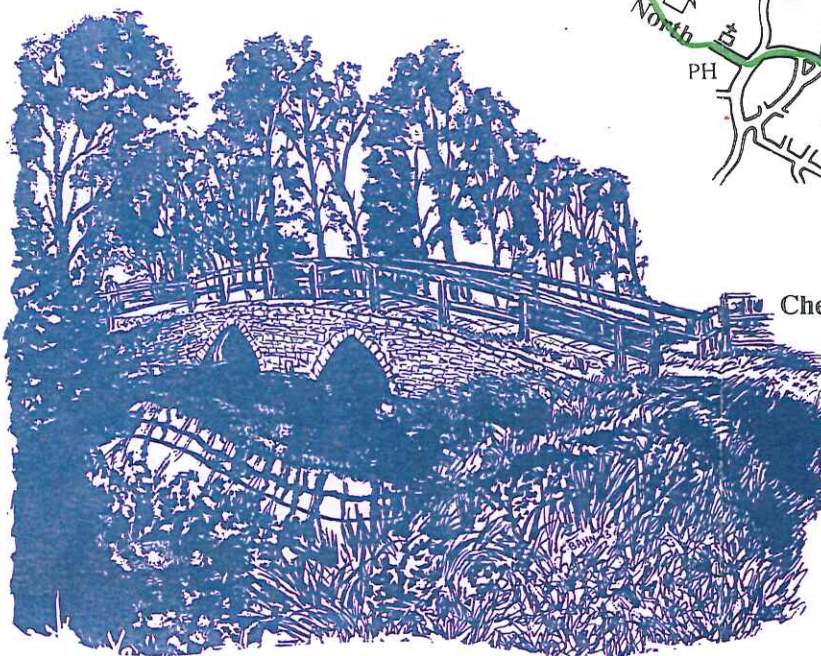
Take special care on country roads.

Make no unnecessary noise.



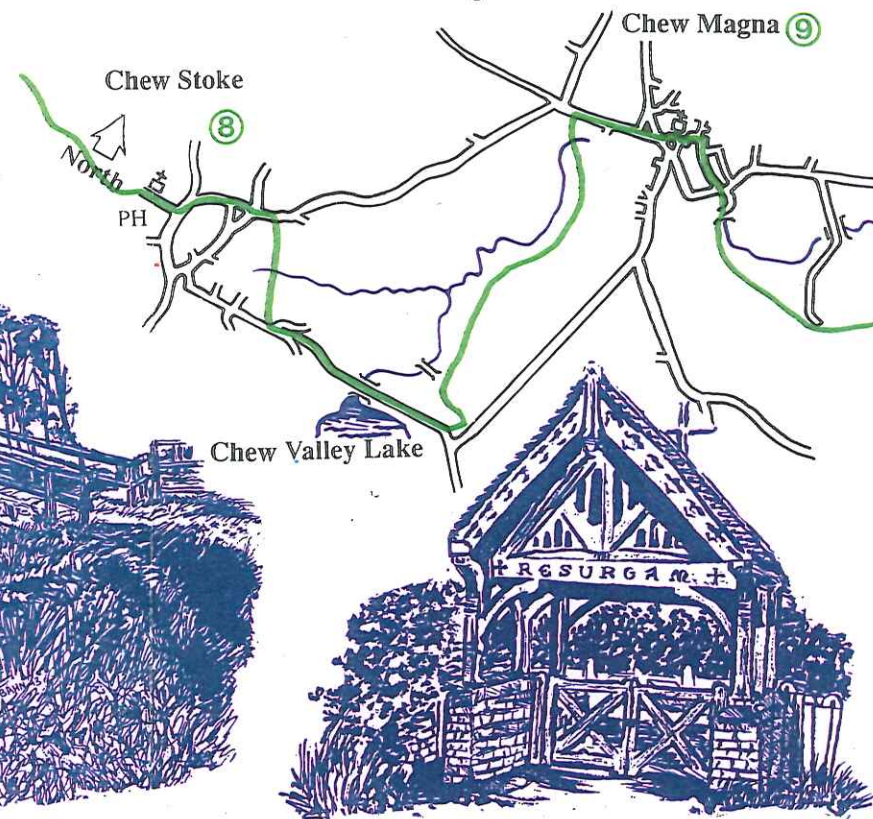
## Chew Stoke Church to Stanton Drew Church 3 miles

From church continue eastwards and turn left at Old Rectory and at next junction keep right along Pilgrim Way to the Chew Magna road (B3114). Immediately after the factory yard turn right and follow path over the stream bridge and up the slope to join the roadway by a stile. Turn left along road and over the dam, cross stile just before Denny Lane, opposite Chew Valley Picnic Site and follow waymarked permissive footpath around Bristol Waterworks' land. Follow track down hill and turn right into wood before bridge over River Chew. Go over footbridge and two stiles and keeping river on your left follow it over three stiles into Dumpers Lane. Turn left and across two bridges and right into footpath up to Chew Magna High Street. Turn right and opposite 'The Pelican' take entrance into church yard and keep right over low stone stile and follow around Chew Court into tree lined drive. Take stone stile at right of gates onto and across roadway (B3130) to lane entrance. Cross into field on right hand and keeping lane hedge on left proceed to the river and then rejoin lane. Cross bridge and turn to left and up hill to field. Cross to stile alongside cowshed. Go forward down field to cross stream by stile and bridge to Paradise Lane. Turn right and follow lane to Stanton Drew. Bear left and immediately right in village towards church.



## Stanton Drew Church to Woollard Bridge 3 miles

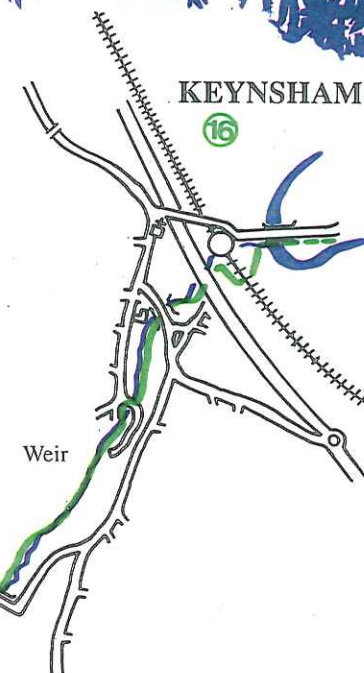
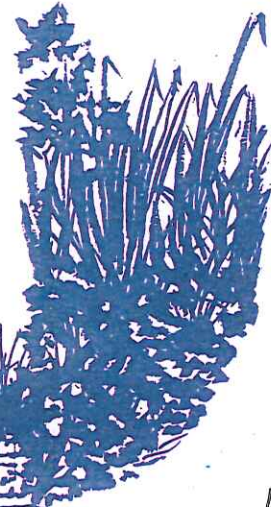
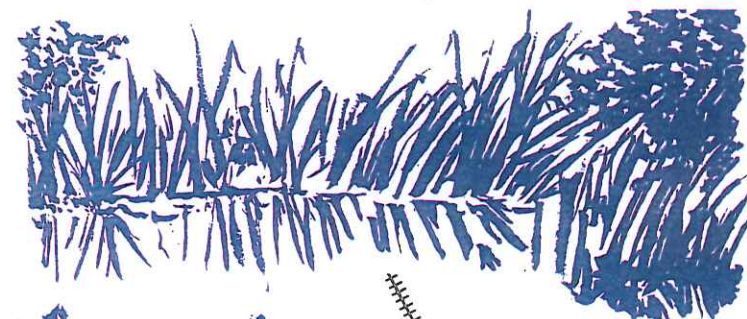
From entrance lane to church and farm take kissing gate adjacent to way to Stone Circles, pass through two more gates and leaving track on left go diagonally down field to stile in hedge. Over the next field to gap alongside young orchard and straight ahead to Pensford Lane. Cross over lane and through gap into field, turning left across field diagonally to rejoin Pensford Lane. Cross over the lane and take stile into field. Keeping River Chew on left cross four stiles and into the lane at Bye Mills. Go straight ahead through field alongside house. Go across field to far corner stile and then sharp left u bank to next stile. Go over next field to stile and forward to Viaduct ahead. Take arch nearest river and keep left over footbridge and by the mill pond into car park. Turn right into Pensford Street and straight across the main A37 Wells Road. Follow Publow Lane to the left of the lock-up and immediately after new houses on right, take stile and go diagonally across field to rejoin lane at Publow river bridge. Turn right immediately after the bridge and follow the raised carriageway along river bank side of church yard. Go over stile and straight ahead to cross river again to right of Church Farm. Proceed straight ahead along muddy track with river on your left and to stile by electricity pole. The path now goes diagonally across the field the corner by the ruined tannery and follows bank of small stream to Woollard Bridge.





## Woollard Bridge to Avon Bridge, Keynsham 3.5 miles

**C**ross Woollard Bridge and turn right up road and almost immediately right again behind farm and follow track (Smallbrook Lane) up hill for about a mile. At top of hill opposite house cross stile in bank opposite and cross down field to edge of wood. Go down through wood and across field and river to Compton Dando Churchyard and emerge on roadway opposite Compton Inn. Turn left and follow road over river bridge and immediately into field on right by stile keeping between hedge and river to stile into next field. Keeping slightly up field (ignoring bottom gate into wood), go through top gate into wood. Keep ahead over stiles and down bank to stile in hedge. Turn right along field edge and follow river bank to stile into lane. Cross over lane and opposite stile and left after field gate and up hill over 2 stiles, and right along Keynsham Road. At first bend go ahead over stile and diagonally over field to next stile. Follow footpath over four stiles and through Albert Mill passing cottages on right, turn right and immediately left by houses and before river bridge. Continue on tarmac path through park and under by-pass, right over footbridge and up into Avon Mill Lane by iron railings and gate post. Turn left and follow road to Avon Bridge, going over the bridge and lock, then turn sharp right down old road to join Avon Walkway



Chewton  
Keynsham

River Chew

Compton Dando 15

Weir

Pensford 12

Woollard 14

Publow 13

Stone Circles 11

Stanton Drew 10

Upper  
Stanton Drew

B3130

PH

PH

