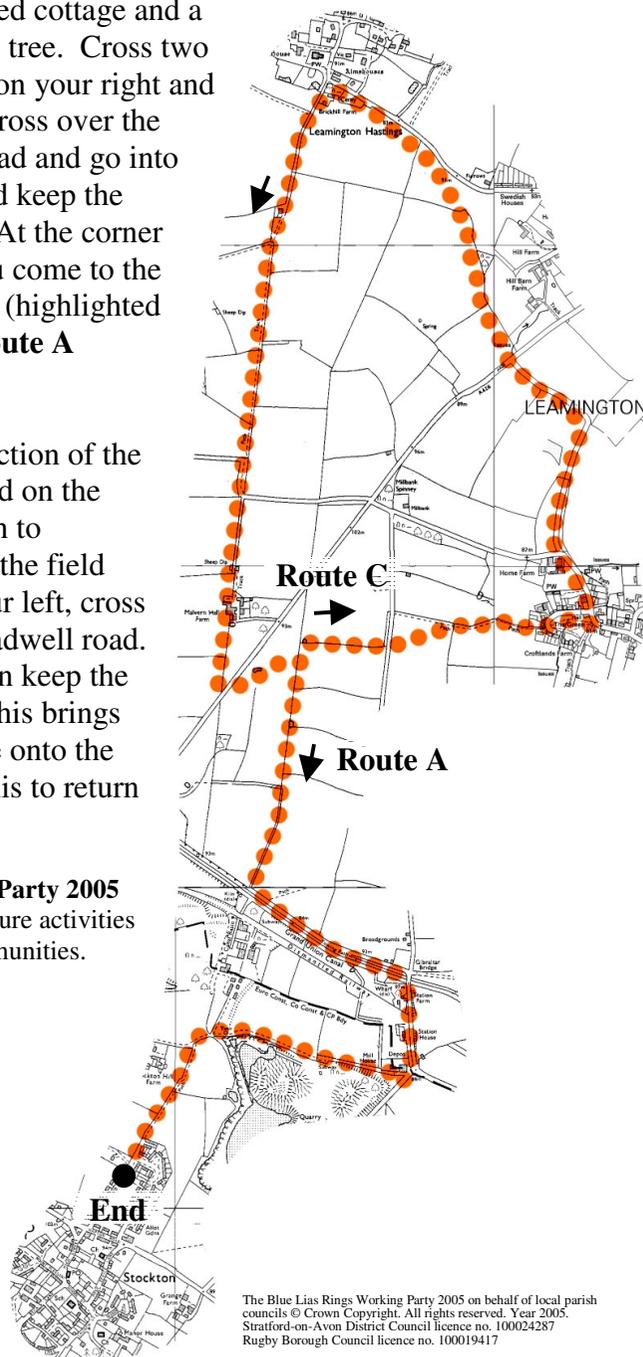


ROUTE B - For the shorter walk back to Stockton follow the lane and at the bend go ◀ onto the village green. Cross the green to the footpath that lies between the double-fronted cottage and a bungalow under the large tree. Cross two fields with the boundary on your right and then go diagonally ◀. Cross over the Stockton to Broadwell road and go into the field just to the ◀ and keep the boundary on your right. At the corner of the field turn ◀ as you come to the junction of two footpaths (highlighted above) and follow the **Route A** instructions from there.

ROUTE C – From the junction of the two footpaths (highlighted on the reverse side) and to return to Broadwell go straight up the field with the boundary on your left, cross over the Stockton to Broadwell road. Go diagonally ◀ and then keep the boundary on your left. This brings you out under a large tree onto the village green and cross this to return to your starting point.

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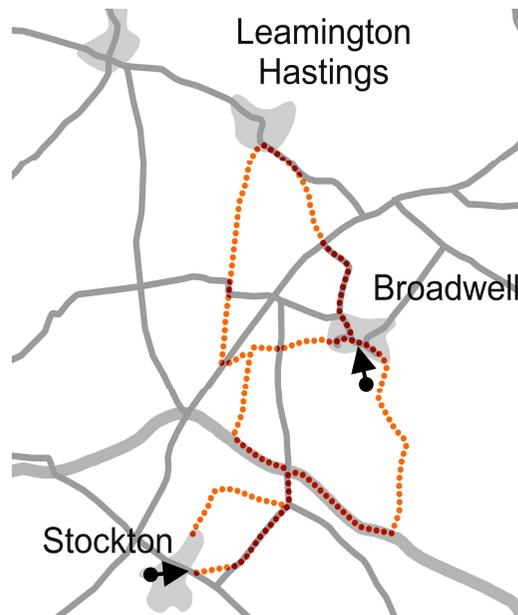


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Walk 1

Stockton, Broadwell and Leamington Hastings

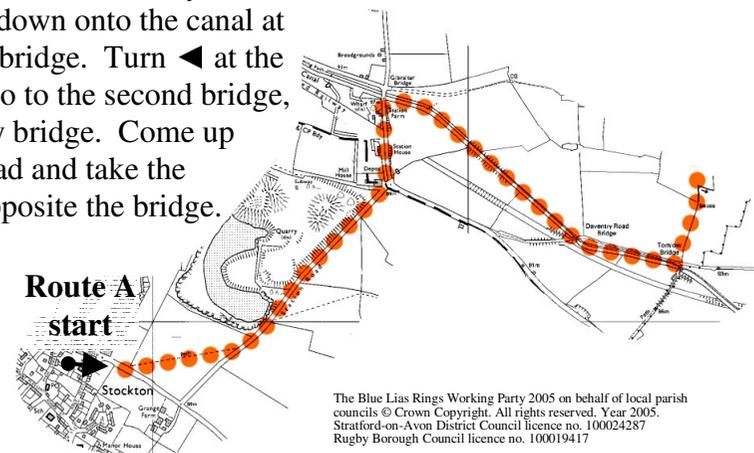
A longer walk of 9 km (5½ miles) - **Route A** (Stockton, Broadwell & Leamington Hastings) or two shorter walks of 6 km (3¾ miles) - **Route B** (Stockton & Broadwell) or **Route C** (Broadwell & Leamington Hastings).



Historical notes on points of interest are shown in italics.

Stiles referred to in the text may have been replaced with gates as part of an ongoing access improvement plan.

ROUTE A - Starting at the Nelson Club, Stockton. Leave Stockton by Napton Road, turn ◀ into the sports ground and keep the hedge on your right. Halfway along the hedge go diagonally ◀ to a hedge gap in the corner and then keep the hedge on your right. Cross the stile into Station Road and go ◀ to Countrywide Stores. Go ◀ and down onto the canal at the second bridge. Turn ◀ at the canal and go to the second bridge, a bridleway bridge. Come up onto the road and take the footpath opposite the bridge.

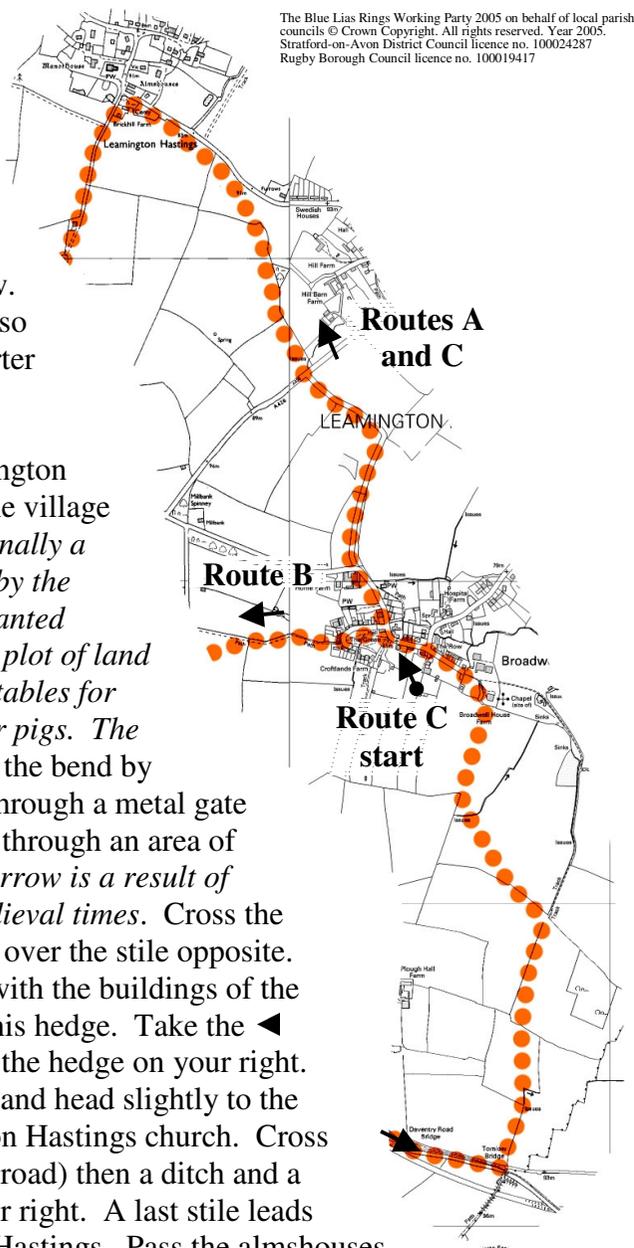


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Cross the field with the boundary on your right and through a gate. Where the field boundary breaks off to the right go straight ahead and through a gate. Go through two gates onto the lane. Turn ◀ into Broadwell and past another lane on the right – here you have a choice of routes.

Route A is the longer walk and for a shorter walk back to Stockton follow **Route B** below. Walkers from Broadwell can also join here on **Route C** for a shorter walk to Leamington Hastings.

To continue **Route A** to Leamington Hastings follow the lane past the village hall. *The village hall was originally a small threshing barn provided by the Lord of the Manor. He also granted suitably industrious villagers a plot of land on which they could grow vegetables for themselves and cereals for their pigs. The hall is about 100 years old.* At the bend by Home Farm go straight ahead through a metal gate onto an unfenced road, passing through an area of ridge and furrow. *Ridge and furrow is a result of ploughing methods used in medieval times.* Cross the Southam to Rugby road and go over the stile opposite. Keep the hedge on your right, with the buildings of the hamlet of Hill visible beyond this hedge. Take the ◀ hand of the two stiles and keep the hedge on your right. Go through a gate, cross a stile and head slightly to the right of the tower of Leamington Hastings church. Cross the stile (don't go out onto the road) then a ditch and a stile and keep the hedge on your right. A last stile leads onto the lane into Leamington Hastings. Pass the almshouses and at the bend go ◀ onto a bridleway. *The almshouses were built in 1633 and extended in 1696. They are built of lias stone which is usually*



considered unsuitable for building purposes. More information about them can be found in the church which is normally open in daylight hours. Take a small detour to the church by following the road to the left past the almshouses. The history of the church is available in booklets and on display boards inside. The church is famous for the concerts that have been held there regularly for many years. Follow this past a barn and take the ▶ fork through a metal gate and go straight on with the hedge on your left (don't follow the more obvious track as it goes ▶). Go straight ahead through several gates and out onto a country lane. At the next bend go straight ahead along a metalled bridleway. At the bend go straight ahead through a metal gate and bear ▶ behind the barns. Go through a wooden bridleway gate in the corner of the field and keep the hedge on your left until the Southam to Rugby road. Turn ◀ for about 100 metres and cross to a metal gate. Keep the small pond on your right and go diagonally to a gap in the hedge. Cross two stiles and come to the junction of two footpaths.

Walkers on the shorter **Route C** returning to Broadwell should go to **Route C** below. Walkers on **Route A** who are returning to Stockton turn ▶ at the junction of the footpaths with the boundary on your right and cross several fields and out onto a lane next to the canal.

The Warwick to Napton canal was opened about 1800 and was a boost to the local lime, cement and brick industries as it was used to bring coal in and transport the products out. Go ◀ on the towpath and under the bridge. Go up onto the road and ◀ to Countrywide Stores. The Countrywide Stores building, formerly Midland Shires Farmers, was originally a mill and next to it lie Station Cottages and the site of Napton and Stockton Station on the old LNWR Leamington to Daventry line. The line was opened in 1895, the last passenger train ran in 1958 and the line closed in 1963. At the stores take the path past the small industrial units. Follow the perimeter fence round the quarry on your left until it leaves the path. Turn ◀ through a gateway and follow the path back to Stockton.