

Ben takes owners Jenny and David Collin on a favourite walk near Bridstow Church



# Ben takes the lead

Black Labrador Ben assisted by his owners Jenny and David Collin of Ross Ramblers has compiled a booklet of eight dog-friendly walks with no stiles to support the Ross Walkers are Welcome project. Here is one of them

**T**he walk starts by the lovely River Wye and passes the ancient ruined Wilton Castle on its way to the attractive village church in Bridstow. The usual walk is a leisurely 'there and back' of around four miles but it is possible to extend the route to Broome Farm or to shorten it by catching a bus back to Ross. Most of the route follows the Herefordshire Trail, a circular walk of about 154 miles, all within the County of Herefordshire, devised by the Hereford Group of the Ramblers. Copies of the Trail book can be purchased locally in Tourist Information Centres, bookshops or ring 01432 264374.

This is a dog-friendly walk with two easily negotiable stiles and one less-friendly stile, two of which are planned to be replaced with gates during 2010. Always remember the Countryside Code when taking your dog on a walk.

#### In particular:

**🦴** By law, you must control your dog so that it does not disturb or scare farm animals or wildlife.

**🦴** As a general rule, keep your dog on a lead if you cannot rely on its obedience and always when in a field containing livestock.

**🦴** Everyone knows how unpleasant dog mess is and how it can cause infections, so always clean up after your dog and get rid of the mess responsibly.

One of the paths followed by this walk is a permissive path so please respect the farmer's fields when following the marked route.

**1** Leave the Wilton Road car park, cross the road and walk towards the riverbank. At the river turn left and continue downstream along the bank to Wilton Bridge. Climb a short flight of steps and cross the bridge. The six-arched red sandstone bridge ►