



On Vowchurch Common

“When it was realised the low-flying activities would be terminated should there be a tall spire in the area fund-raising for a new spire really “took-off”!



In Turnastone



The old village store in Turnastone

take the minor road to Turnastone. Turnastone is an unusual name, as is Vowchurch; they both lie on opposite banks of the River Dore. A popular explanation is the twin churches were built by two rival sisters, one of whom said to the other: “I vow I will build my church before you can turnastone of yours”.

6 Just before the houses of the village turn left onto a track with a footpath sign, this was the old village centre. On the right is the old store and just past this turn right into Turnastone churchyard. Turn left out of the churchyard and follow the road passing another old store with old petrol pumps behind the garden wall till reaching Yew Tree House a large white building where the road turns sharp left. The route now goes straight ahead and follows the well marked Herefordshire Trail back to Peterchurch. The Herefordshire Trail is a circular walk of about 154 miles, all within the County of Herefordshire, visiting all of the market towns and some delightful villages. The route was devised by a small group of members of the Hereford Group of the Ramblers, using public rights of way and, where possible, public transport links. The Trail starts from the Market House in Ledbury and visits Ross-on-Wye, Kilpeck, Pontrilas, Peterchurch, Whitney-on-Wye, Eardisley, Kington,



Lingen, Brampton Bryan, Leintwardine, Richard's Castle, Leominster, Bromyard, Bishop's Frome and Bosbury and all the scenic countryside in between. The trail logo designed by a pupil of Wigmore High School, whose clever design of the apple tree in the shape of the county showing the market towns as apples, won a competition. This design way-marks the Trail throughout the county. Copies of the Trail book can be purchased locally in Tourist Information Centres, bookshops or ring 01432 264374.

7 The bridleway keeps the hedge and stream on the right through six fields till reaching a ford and footbridge. Cross the stream and the stile on the right and pass to the left of the fir trees ahead to find a stile on the same line. The church and its fibreglass spire can be seen for some distance approaching Peterchurch. A story is told of the vicar who became annoyed by the

noise of low-flying jets screaming up and down the Golden Valley. When it was realised the low-flying activities would be terminated should there be a tall spire in the area, fund-raising for a new spire really took-off! Ironically, the new spire was lifted into position by helicopter in 1972. Cross the stile and follow the path out onto a lane turn right over a bridge and turn left onto a footpath till reaching the B4348. Turn left after about 250 metres take a footpath to the left by the police station. This leads through the churchyard to the cars. ■

**The Ramblers**



The Ramblers is Britain's biggest charity working to promote walking and to improve conditions for all walkers. The Ramblers is celebrating its 75th anniversary and has won many victories, the most recent being the new coastal access legislation. In Herefordshire there are four local groups, Hereford, Mortimer, Ross on Wye and Leadon Vale.

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