



## Walk #2: Community Centre to Washpool Lane

7km (4.3 miles), about 2 hours, a circular route that includes multiple stiles

This walk takes you through lovely countryside to the River Boyd and over to where there is a ford where the Boyd crosses Washpool Lane. You shouldn't have to get your feet wet, however; there are stepping stones along the side of the lane that allow walkers to cross safely.



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From the Pucklechurch Community Centre (A), cross the Recreation Ground diagonally, aiming for the gap through to Hill View Road on the right. Walk through and proceed left to the end of Hill View. Turn right onto Castle Road and walk down to Feltham Road. Turn left, cross the road, and head through the gate for Marsh Farm (B).

Follow drive for about 300m to the bend next to a small copse. Here, climb over the stile on the right. Keeping the hedge on your right, proceed to the next stile and cross into the next field. From here, walk uphill to the top left corner of the field,

where there is another stile. From this stile, bear left and head diagonally across the field downhill toward the farm buildings.

Climb the stile adjacent to the farm's driveway (C), cross the drive and go over the stile on the opposite side. Follow the fence around the paddock on your left, turning left at the corner, and continue to the stile next to the barn. Just as a point of interest, the fenced paddock is exactly one acre, so you can store that as your mental picture of how big an acre is.

## Countryside Access Walks

### Walk #2: Community Centre to Washpool Lane (continued)



From the stile next to the barn, head diagonally right for the central telegraph pole, following the path to the pole and then downhill to the corner of the field. Cross the metal bridge over Feltham Brook at Locks Bottom (D). Turn left here onto Redford Lane. Continue up Redford Lane about 500m until you come to Rookery Lane.

Cross straight over Rookery Lane, and go through the gate opposite. Walk straight ahead across this field until you come to two metal gates. Go through both and then straight on and downhill across a large field. At the bottom of this field, you join the Monarch's Way near the River Boyd (E).

Turn left and head to the next gate, keeping the river on your right. Walk through and straight ahead to another gate, and lastly through a small field with a gate onto Feltham Road. Cross over the road and go through the gate into a field. Keeping the river on your right, walk straight across this field and into another one, where you will pass a derelict windmill-driven water pump. Farther on, you pass through a bridleway gate, then head straight ahead for Washpool Lane. There is a ford where the River Boyd crosses the lane (F).

Turn left on the lane and go approximately 1 km, until there is a large gateway on the left from which you can see Pucklechurch. Go through this gate and follow the footpath straight across the field. If there is a crop planted over the footpath, walk along the edge of the field to avoid damaging the crop. Cross the ditch using the bridge, and walk straight ahead, following the path through the crops (or around the edge), aiming for Barleyclose Farm (H).

At the end of this field, cross into the next field, keeping the hedge on your left. When you get to the corner, cross the stile into the next field, walk straight across this field towards the corner of the hedge ahead in the distance. When you

reach the hedge, bear left and head for Feltham Brook. Turn left and follow the stream for about 50m until you reach the wooden bridge (I). Cross the bridge and head diagonally across this grassy field towards the row of tall poplar trees on the opposite side. As you get close to the poplar trees, turn left and walk to the stile leading into a horse field (J).

Cross the stile and turn right, going diagonally across field, aiming for leftmost of four houses at the top of the field. Here there is a gap leading into a passageway onto Castle Road. Cross the road, and turn left. (Or pop into the Star Inn!) The recreation ground is on your right. Go through gate and across Rec back to Community Centre (A).

#### The Monarch's Way



The Monarch's Way is a 615-mile way-marked footpath that roughly follows the route taken by Charles II in 1651 as he fled from Oliver Cromwell's forces after his defeat in the Battle of Worcester. He passed through Chipping Sodbury and Bristol on his way!

[wikipedia.org/wiki/Monarch's\\_Way](http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Monarch's_Way)