## Broome Railway Station to Hopton Heath Railway Station 8km

- 1. If you have been walking from Craven Arms, you can link to Broome station from Aston on Clun by continuing along the B4368 past the community shop and the Kangaroo Inn, then first right (B4369) to the station, which is a further 0.5km down this lane. The entrance to the railway station is on the right before the bridge. If you are starting your walk on the trail from Broome then walk ahead to the road junction with the bridge to your right. Go left and follow the road to Aston-on-Clun and at the junction with the B4369 go left to reach Redwood Drive.
- 2. Walk down Redwood Drive, ignoring the junction on the right, to reach a track, slightly right, just beyond the houses. The path cuts right before a gate. Follow the path as it bends left and through two gates and temporary sheep pens to enter a field. You'll see a stile ahead and one over in a fence on the right. Take the stile on the right into the large field, then keep ahead parallel to a line of trees to a kissing gate in the hedge which leads onto a lane. Turn left along it, cross the bridge over the River Clun in the hamlet of Beambridge and go right. Follow this lane for about half a mile. The road bends slightly left under a canopy of trees and at this point you cut right down to a footbridge over the River Clun which is visible from the road above.
- 3. Walk slightly left over a stile by a field gate. Follow a line of trees just to your right and over another stile by a gate. Continue ahead to pass near a dwelling on the right; aim just to the right of a barn where you cross a stile by a field gate. Walk alongside a line of hazels to pass through another gate. Now head very slightly right towards an old oak tree and onward to a field gate. Once through, follow the hedge to your right and at the end of the field go through another field gate onto a road.
- 4. Turn left, over the bridge, to walk along a road which winds through the pretty village of Clunbury nestled around the church. The road rises up to a junction; bear right here to go along a lane signposted to Twitchen. In about half a mile you reach a junction with the B4385. Cross with care, then turn left to a walk 50 metres to a kissing gate.

- 5. Dip down to walk over a dirt bridge into the next field. Aim for the barn ahead and at the waymark post cut left and then right to skirt the barn (often muddy here) then aim leftwards to cross over a ditch and reach a small gate in the hedge. Climb this and head very slightly right to the top of the field where you cross a double stile. Rise up alongside the wood on the right then head across the pasture to a stile leading into woodland. Walk for a few metres to the right, then the path heads slightly left and climbs gradually up a bank to a waymark post at a forestry track. Go left and proceed for about 250 metres. Look out just before the descent for a path on the right. Follow this through the wood up to a kissing gate at a country lane.
- 6. Go over the lane, cross a stile and follow the right hand edge of the field where there are good views across ahead towards Wales. Cross a stile into the next field and you will see Hopton Castle below. Head slightly right; you are aiming for a point just to the left of a derelict building. Go over the stile and a track dips down to a drive and then a lane. Keep ahead to a junction at Hopton Castle. If continuing to Bucknell turn right.
- 7. At this point it is possible to follow a link path for a 1.5 km walk to Hopton Heath station passing by Hopton Castle. Go left along the road and turn first right signposted to Bedstone. The castle is on the right (free entry). Pass a dwelling and look for a stile on the left. Cross this and head over the field to a field gate and bridge over a stream. Walk slightly right, go through another field gate onto a lane, and turn right to walk along the lane into Hopton Heath. At the junction keep right across the railway bridge then walk down steps to the platform.

Walkers are welcome to download or photocopy these instructions, but please note that this text is copyright of Les Lumsdon as the author of the official guide to the trail.