

24 CRADLEY AND WEST MALVERN

From the church in **Cradley**, this walk takes us through fields and woodland to **West Malvern**. It then ascends to the ridge of **The Malverns** before running around the contour half way up **North Hill** on **Lady Howard de Walden Drive**, providing us with spectacular views down the chimney pots of **Great Malvern** and across the **Severn Plain**. Lunch is best taken at the café attached to **Elim Theological College** as both pubs in **West Malvern** are quite likely to be closed at lunchtime.



Access by car:

From junction 7 of the M5 head towards **Worcester**. At the first roundabout turn left and follow signs around the bypass (A4440) until turning left onto the A4103 signposted 'Hereford'. After passing through **Bransford** and **Leigh Sinton**, turn left to **Cradley** opposite a garage and in the village, turn left at the war memorial and park by a wall adjoining the church. OS ref : SO 73533 47110 Nearest postcode : WR13 5LH.

Access by bus:

Only the 417 bus goes to **Cradley**. If you're in **Great Malvern** you can walk up **Happy Valley** from the town centre to Wp.15 and start from there.

From the church (Wp.1 0M) it's back to the war memorial and left along the road for a few metres (S) but where it goes right we carry straight on along a stony track signposted 'Mathon'. This takes us past cottages and a waymark post offering us options of left, right or forwards; ours is forwards, first passing apple trees on our left then going gently down into open fields. As our track swings slowly left we are looking for a metal gate on our right (Wp.2 6M). Through the gate we turn left to follow a hedge, going right after a few metres to reach another metal gate. Through this gate we follow a footpath across a paddock between

two fences. At the top of a gentle climb we go through a kissing gate (Wp.3 13M). After the gate we go right (S) following a waymark sign up by a hedge and slightly to the left to reach a gate opposite outbuildings of **Netherley Hall** (Wp.4 20M).

