



# WALKS IN LONGDON PARISH



## 4. HILL TOP

Exit left onto wide stone track past farm buildings. There are views of Armitage, Handsacre and Rugeley Power Station as well as the distant Peak District hills. At the end of the track turn left onto 'Green Lane' bounded by trees and hedges. This can be muddy after rain.

Pass through a gateway by an old tree continuing along the lane. The path loses height as Longdon village returns into view. Go through the gate and into the field. Proceed directly ahead towards the marker post just before the brook. (The trees ahead line the Shropshire Brook).

## 5. SHROPSHIRE BROOK

Turn left keeping the brook on the right hand side and continue to the kissing gate in the far corner of the field.

Once through the kissing gate follow the brook on your right (track can be muddy in winter) until you reach the footbridge and Ford Lane again leading back to the start of the walk.

## LONGDON LOCATION

Longdon is midway between Lichfield and Rugeley on the A51 road with Longdon Green on one side (signposted) and Longdon (Brook End) on the other.

## HISTORY

The name Longdon is derived from the Saxon "Langandune", meaning long hill, located in the old Offlow Hundred.

The Bishops of Lichfield held the manor of Longdon up to 1546 when it was surrendered to Henry VIII. In the same year the king granted ownership to Sir William (later Lord) Paget, an ancestor of the Marquis of Anglesey. He was one of the principal Secretaries of State.

In 1563 Longdon was recorded with 102 households which grew to 178 by 1665. Today the population is around 2000, occupying approximately 1850 hectares.



## REMEMBER THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow signs
- Consider other people
- Leave gates and property as before
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control

**Leaflet 10 pence - when purchased**

FUNDED BY:  
 **Staffordshire**  
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and Longdon Parish Council

WALKS DOWNLOADABLE FROM:  
[www.longdon-staffs.info](http://www.longdon-staffs.info)

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**NUMBER 2**  
**BROOK**  
**WALK**

## BROOK WALK

Swan with Two Necks • Village Hall • Shropshire Brook • Triangulation Point • Hill Top

**WALK DISTANCE:**  
**1.5 miles (2.5km) • Time ¾ to 1 hour**

A circular family walk, through Longdon Village and fields to the east, with views of St. James' Church and countryside.  
Gentle elevation.

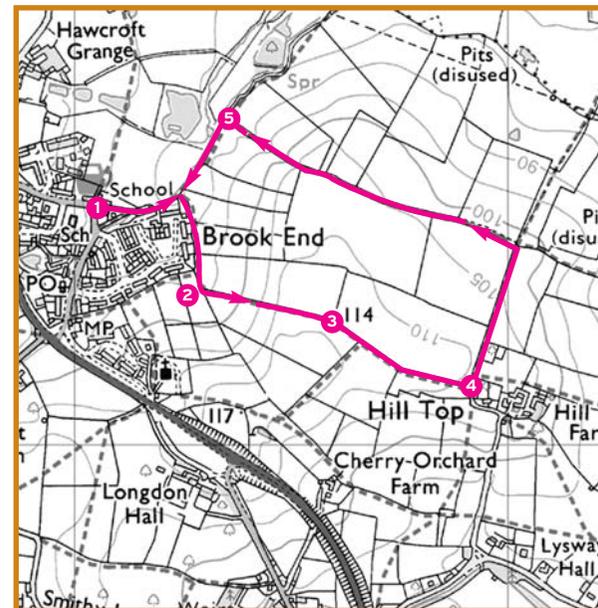
### 1. START LONGDON VILLAGE

Starting at The Swan with Two Necks public house (the name derived from marking ownership with nicks), parking may be available with the landlords permission. Turn left in front of pub and proceed down Ford Lane between the Village Hall (originally the Village School) and black and white WI Hall (until 1938 this was the Village forge). At the Shropshire Brook bear left and cross the foot bridge, which forms the finishing line for the annual Village duck race.



**The Shropshire Brook - rises in Cannock Chase and flows into the river Trent at Kings Bromley. It is reputed that in 1728 Lord Wolsley's Carriage overturned when the Brook was in flood and he was drowned.**

Continue for a short distance and at the end of the houses turn right through the kissing gate (way-marker). Follow the path keeping the houses and rear gardens on the right, straight on through another two kissing gates and proceed upwards away from the Village keeping the hedge on the left.



### 2. ST. JAMES' CHURCH

The 15th century tower of St. James' Church appears on your right; this is worth a visit, being normally open in daylight hours.



### 3. TRIANGULATION PILLAR

Continue up a steady incline to the triangulation pillar (375 feet - 114 m above sea-level) with a view of Hill Top Farm ahead. To the west is Cannock Chase with Burton Plains and Derbyshire Dales to the north east. To the south can be seen the three spires of Lichfield Cathedral known as the "Ladies of the Vale".

Continue straight on through the gate and over further stiles, keeping hedge on the left (please keep dogs under control, sheep and lambs in season).

