

# WALKS AROUND WYRE



WALK 3

## Pound Green, Bell Pits Circular Walk

3 miles



'Grow With Wyre' is a landscape partnership, designed to encourage people to visit, understand and protect the unique landscape of Wyre Forest.

For more information please visit [www.growwithwyre.org](http://www.growwithwyre.org)

Together we have developed nine new walks; Three are fully waymarked, six are available as downloadable maps with route description and three have the added option of an audio guide. For full details on walking opportunities in Worcestershire please visit: [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/countryside](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/countryside)

### Pound Green, Bell Pits Circular Walk

Looking at the settlement of Pound Green it is, perhaps, more accurate to refer to the whole area as a settled landscape rather than a settlement. Houses and cottages are scattered around the edge of both the Common and the edge of Wyre Forest, with other smallholdings and traditional orchards nestled within small enclosed areas of the Common and woodland clearings.

The Common is a natural heathland environment and classed as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). As such, it is a protected habitat for the Noble Chaffer Beetle. In order to maintain and restore the SSSI value of the common, managed grazing takes place.

During the 17th century surface coal was mined in the area, a small brook in Seckley Wood known locally as 'Stinking Ditch' achieved this notorious label due to the odour of sulphur coming from the water rising through coal measures.



Start/Finish: **Pound Green Village Hall.**  
 GR: **SO 756792**  
 Length: **3 miles**  
 Parking: **Parking available at village hall. (Please park conscientiously)**  
 Gates & Stiles: **1 kissing gate, 3 pedestrian gates and 2 stiles.**  
 Terrain: **Some road walking, forest tracks and farmland.**

Farmland, Forestry and Heathland invite the visitor to explore the historical and landscape character that make Pound Green a special place to experience Worcestershire's rural charm.

*Acknowledgements: Adam Mindykowski (WCC Archaeology Unit) and David Poyner author 'The Wyre Forest Coalfield' from which some of this text was extracted for supplying historical interpretation*



## Pound Green, Bell Pits Circular Walk

- 1 Start outside Pound Green Village Hall, follow the road for 500m towards Pound Green.
- 2 Take the path passing Cherry Orchard farm using the stile and head down the enclosed track and field edge.
- 3 At the metal kissing gate enter Seckley Wood. In 100m you will cross over a small brook known locally as the Stinking Ditch. Continue for another 80m until you arrive at a footpath crossroad.
- 4 Turn right and walk along a forest road for approximately 250m.
- 5 Look out for a small forest path on your left, (if you make it to a large building and wide open area you have gone too far). Take the small track and in approximately 350m you will arrive at a viewpoint.
- 6 Continue along the forest road for 350m.
- 7 At the crossroads turn right and follow the public footpath down the slope until you reach Arley Lane.
- 8 Turn right and take care along this narrow lane, after 150m enter a field on the left.
- 9 Use the permissive field edge path until you come to the metal pedestrian gate.
- 10 Don't use the gate, instead follow the direction of the fingerpost pointing you across the field.
- 11 Head through the hedge and follow the footpath across the field, through another hedge line and onto the stile in the next hedge.
- 12 Cross the stile and turn left, go through the metal pedestrian gate and arrive onto Nib Green Road. Follow Nib Green Road back to the start point.

