Presteigne and Norton Walk 8

A short circular walk with stunning views around Norton, on field paths and quiet lanes. Easy walking and mainly flat; 3.1 km; approx. 45 min. Start from Norton Church.

- 1. From the Church Lych Gate, cross the road and walk downhill on the pavement. After a short distance turn left back across the road and onto School Lane, marked as a No Through Road. Follow the road round the right hand bend to the end and pass through the bridleway gate into the field. Cross the field keeping the hedge to your right and then pass through two field gates either side of a private driveway. Follow the waymarks across the next field and through a walkers' gate along a narrow footpath; then two more walkers' gates by entrance to the water treatment area.
- 2. Keep on the same line past a group of conifers on your left and continue straight through the next field gate and field with Norton Brook on your left. and Cross a stile in the bottom left hand corner of the field and turn right up the narrow lane, ignoring the direction of the waymark arrow. When you reach the junction cross the road with care and take the quiet lane opposite the white cottage. Follow this lane for about 1 km. In the spring you will see bluebells, stitchwort, purple vetch and red campion in the hedgerow.
- 3. Once past the farm buildings on your left you will see a fingerpost pointing right; follow this through a field gate and cross the field diagonally following the line of three oak trees. You are now aiming for a walkers' gate in the hedge ahead and walking in between the oak trees. Pass through the gate and continue in the same diagonal direction; there is usually a visible path through any crops. Cross the road leading to Norton Manor and continue across the next field in the same direction. You will shortly see a set of house chimneys directly ahead; aim for the oak tree. Again there may be crops in the field but the path is usually well defined by local walkers.
- 4. Shortly beyond the oak tree pass through another walkers' gate and continue in the same line heading towards another oak and ultimately to a field gate in the far right. Pass through a further walkers' gate just beyond the oak tree and follow the directional waymark up the gentle rise and through the field gate in the corner of the field. Pass through this gate onto Mynd Road; turn right and walk down the hill back to the church.

