## **Church2Church Walks in Warwickshire – Page 12**

## No 29. St. Peter's Church – Stretton on Fosse to St. Mary's Church - Ilmington

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Distance: 5.5 miles

Map: Landranger 151; Start SP 223 384

Exit the churchyard of St Peter's Church and walk to the L through the village as far as the bus shelter and post-box. Now walk to the R and follow the old gated road to Darlingscott and to pass <u>Crossing Cottage</u> and along to the <u>B4035</u>. Cross straight over the B4035 with care – it is a very fast road – and continue on the old gated road to pass <u>Far Longdon</u> and on to reach <u>Longdon Manor</u>.

Walk up the driveway to Longdon Manor and at the top turn to the L to pass through a FG. Follow the track around to the R and cross over to another FG. Now follow the track first with the FTR and then the HTR and on to cross through the hedge and follow along with HTL to the FG at the lane.

Cross over the lane to take the FG opposite into a field. Walk over the field slightly to the R to climb a high stile into a spinney of trees. Follow the path on the ground as it weaves through the trees across to a ST exit into a field on the opposite side. Continue to walk forward into the field and when the trees up above on the left runs out gently head up and around to the L and to climb a very steep incline to a PG out on to the lane in front of <u>Redlands Barn</u>.

Walk to the R on the lane with panoramic views over south Warwickshire, as far as the gates at the entrance to <u>Foxcote</u> <u>House</u>. Pass through the gates (use the control button if the gates are closed) and follow the BW along the driveway as far as the first FP on the R. Follow the track up <u>Knowlands Hill</u> to cross a wide BW at the top, called <u>Pig Lane</u>. Cross straight over and follow the FP downhill as far as the metal PG. Here the FP heads over to the R to a PG/railway sleeper bridge/PG into the field beyond. Head diagonally over to the R to exit out the field through a PG on to a track. Follow the track which leads into <u>Grump Lane</u>, <u>Ilmington</u>. Just passed the <u>War Memorial</u>, but before St. Philip's Catholic Church on the R, take a grass path on the L down to cross the road into a surfaced footpath between properties, which leads to the churchyard of St. Mary's Church. Your favourite spot in the churchyard;

## No 30. St. Mary's Church - Ilmington to St. Mary and Holy Cross Church - Alderminster

www.shipstondeanery.co.uk Distance: 5.1 miles Map: Landrang

Map: Landranger 151; Start SP 210 435

St. Mary's is a fine Norman church and the highlights include 11 carved mice (by Robert Thomson of Kilburn) and the Apple Day Map, celebrating the variety of apple trees grown in the village.

Exit the porch and churchyard of St. Mary's Church and walk out to the pathway. Now walk to the L and then go to the L again and at the end of this pathway, ignore the FP ahead. Instead continue on the pathway to the R and along to meet <u>Middle Street</u>. Walk to the L and follow Middle Street along to pass <u>The Howard Arms Inn</u> and up to the meeting with <u>Front Street</u>. Now walk to the L along Front Street, and just after <u>Armscote Road</u> on the R, cross into the driveway to <u>Cross Leys Farm</u>.

Follow the BW to pass the farm and on with the hedges both sides. Where the hedges come to an end, go to the L and follow the HTL, then through the field corner and on again with the HTR. Continue on as far as <u>Berryfield Lane</u>.

Walk to the L on the lane (a UCR) to pass the entrance to <u>Berryfields Farm</u> and then continue on the BW to cross <u>Crimscote</u> <u>Down</u> and down to the lane.

Walk to the R on the lane to pass <u>Crimscote Fields Farm</u> and further on into <u>Crimscote</u> village. Take the lane sign-posted for <u>Whitchurch</u> and soon after <u>Blacksmith's Barn</u> on the R, look for the PG on the same side, to enter a field (part of <u>Shakespeare's Way</u>)

Cross the field diagonally to the L with the FTL and the <u>River Stour</u> on the R and to pass through a FG and then keep this line to cross over the river at the FB. Follow the FP out to the <u>A3400</u>. Walk to the L along the A3400 and then the old road through the village for approx. 700 yards and to enter the churchyard of St. Mary and Holy Cross Church. Your favourite spot in this churchyard: