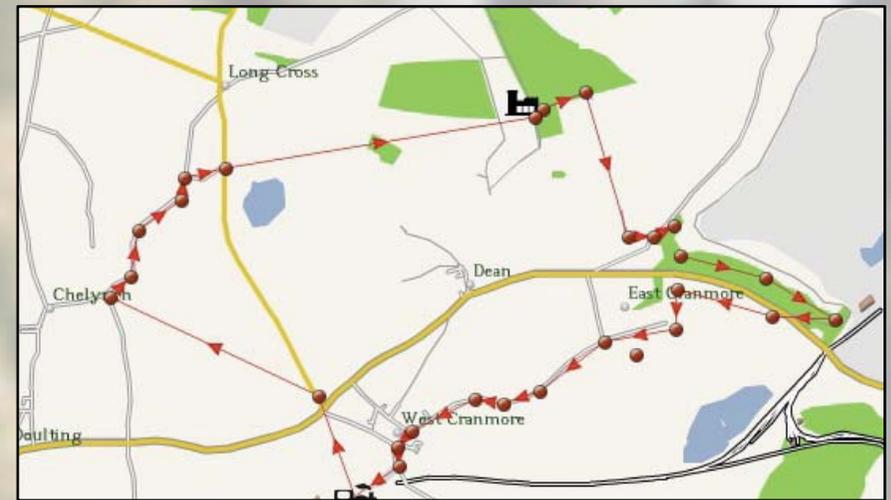


# CRANMORE TOWER



*The walk starts from the car park at Cranmore Tower, a tall Victorian folly from the 19th century. The tower, built for John Moore Paget of Cranmore Hall has a viewing area around the top and is designated as a Grade II listed building by English Heritage. The tower served the Home Guard and the Royal Corps of Signals as a lookout tower during World War II. An interesting note is that during some repairs in the 1980's, a Roman fort with a hoard of coins was discovered next to the tower.*



*Leave the tower and head along the bridle path with your back to the Tower heading east, with woods on your left and fields on your right. Cranmore Wood is mainly a beech wood and in early May is spectacular when the new light green leaves appear and bluebells in early spring. There are wild animals to keep an eye out for including deer and if you are lucky, badgers.*

Map 2  
Circular walk from Cranmore Tower to  
East Somerset Railway.  
6.7 miles

After 300 metres you will arrive at a crossroads where the bridle paths cross, keep to the path on the right. Follow straight down the path for about 1 km until the T junction end, at Slait Hill. Turn left on to the tarmacked road, (keeping to the right-hand side of the road walking past the house on your left and continuing for 180 meters until you see an ivy covered wooden signpost and metal gate and footpath on your right. Take the footpath into the field where it will turn into a wider track, and continue straight along this path past Merehead Quarry on your left.

Look out for the lake between the trees. At the highest point along this path there is a Picnic Area with interesting directional information boards. Continue for 1.6 kms until the path sweeps to the left and then to right taking you round a long U turn, before crossing under the A361.

Once on the other side of the A361 turn right. You will find yourself on the edge of a large open field. Follow the foot path along the edge of the field, initially walking parallel to the A361, keeping the field boundary to your right, on past the copse and farm building to the gate at the end of the field with a lane running off to the right. Take the lane, right, out of the field and follow it past the entrance to Wellington Farm (right) and on past All Hallows School (left).

Carry on past the school entrance on your left and straight on into East Cranmore Lane, after about 1 km to you will reach the edge of Cranmore village. Continue straight through the village for approximately 350 meters, past the pond on your left, the Strode Arms pub on your right, through to the T junction. Turn left, after 100 meters you will see the East Somerset Railway, (right).

*The East Somerset Railway was bought by the artist David Shepherd and opened in 1973.*



Once you have finished exploring the lots of things to see and do at the East Somerset Railway, walking from the exit of the Whistlestop Restaurant/new Station building, go straight across towards the parked railway coaches, through the meshed metal gate, turning left onto the lane. The lane passes the Museum (left), bear right up the incline as though going to the house, but at the two option wooden signpost, keep right. Cross the style (Mendip District

Council Public footpath), with the renovated building behind you, look diagonally left across the large field to the small red painted wooden building. The exit style from the field is to the left of that small red building.

After crossing the style walk left the short distance to the A361, x4 way cross road. Taking care, cross the main road into Tansey Road, signposted Waterlip (and Cranmore Tower). Go over the style to the left of the bus shelter which is immediately on your left. Walk past the Tennis courts (left) but before the old Clubhouse, cross the way-marked style on your left. Keeping walking with the field boundary perimeter on

your right, cross the style to the left of the x5 barred gate. The next style is directly at 90 degrees diagonally across this next field. Cross the style and again keep the field perimeter on your right, walk past the x5 barred gate to the small old stone style in the corner of the field, (easy to miss).

There are now more small meadows to negotiate, some with wooden styles and others very old stone styles with unusual designs. Keep the hedge on your right to the next stone style in the opposite corner of the smaller meadow. Once over this stone style, cross the meadow to the wooden style, then cross the next meadow to the opposite style (stone). Next keep the field boundary to your right and walk around to the style close to the cottage in the corner. Walk behind the cottage to the lane. Turn right. onto the main road. Walk for 1 km until on the right at the apex of an acute left hand bend you will see the entrance road to a farm. There are two Public footpath signs in black and white, one on the left and one on the right hand-side of the farm entrance road. Take the left one. Aim for the x5 barred gate and go through in this and the next field. In the third field there is a wooden style. Cross the style, walking straight ahead to the opposite style. You will now see the cross roads part of which constitutes the entrance to the Trading Area. Opposite are two properties, a bungalow and house (set back from the road) between which is a signposted path. Take this path which leads into a large field. (this is one of those occasions where the shorter option is to walk straight across the middle of the field) but there are crops planted so please walk around keeping the boundary to your left. At the top of the field is the exit gate.

Look out for Cranmore Tower towards the left from this point onwards. Cross the lane and walk straight across and along the crest with left field boundaries, past the farm entrance turn on the left, and the recently planted copse, downwards to the signposted new metal x5 barred gate. Take the straight ahead option of the two small metal disc plates. Walk down the hill to the lane going (right) into Dean Village. After approximately 300 metres of the walk into Dean, you will see two signposts on the left saying Footpath and Bridleway. Take this path. Walk up this fairly steep path. Approximately two-thirds up the incline you will come to a left kink in the path with a gate type style, way marked, ahead of you which will take you right up to the woods behind the Tower and car park.

After approximately 300 metres of the walk into Dean, you will see two signposts on the left saying Footpath and Bridleway. Take this path. Walk up this fairly steep path. Approximately two-thirds up the incline you will come to a left kink in the path with a gate type style, way marked, ahead of you which will take you right up to the woods behind the Tower and car park.