This is a circular walk exploring the delightful village of Chew Magna and the valley of the River Chew. This is bound by the Mendips to the south and Dundry Hill to the north. Chew Magna has many fine and grand houses, reflecting its past as a prosperous cloth-making village.

# **Chew Valley Circular**

Landranger 172 Bristol & Bath 1:50 000 scale Grid Ref: ST 576 632

Bristol and Bath 1:25 000 scale

Maps:

**Explorer** 155

**Distance:** 

Walking Time: 1 hour GRADE : Easy/Moderate 3

30

### ΡΟΒLIC ΤΑΡΝΟΡΟRT ΙΝΕΟRΜΑΤΙΟΝ

2 miles

Take the 672/674 Chew Valley Explorer service trom Bristol Bus Station to Cheddar via The Chew Valley. Please refer to the Chew Valley Explorer leaflet for the timetable or phone Traveline on 0870 6082608. At Chew Magna, get off the bus at the Bear and Swan Pub in the

#### PUBLIC HOUSES/CAFES EN ROUTE

There are a variety of pubs and cates in Chew Magna.

# **CREDITS AND FURTHER INFORMATION**

The Dundry Hill Group has provided information for this walk. This is a community group dedicated to caring for Dundry Hill and its slopes. For information on its activities and details of further walks Tel. 0117 935 9710.



# PLACES AND FEATURES OF INTEREST



Church House in grounds of Chew Magna Church

# Chew Magna

Key

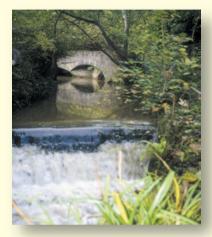
waterway

urban area

Chew Magna was once a prosperous town with manufacturing and even its own gas works. Its importance began in medieval times when the Bishop of Bath and Wells established a retreat here. A small part of this summer palace still survives at Chew Court. The church, with its fine 15th century tower has much of interest and Church House, a 16th century building inside the churchyard, has served many purposes; these include church ales, a school room, poor house and a pest house. It is now imaginatively refurbished as a community centre.

#### Monument to John de Hautville

Look out for the strange monument to John de Hautville in Chew Magna Church. He was a bold and valiant warrior, standing seven feet tall, who served Edward III during the Hundred Years War. He was rewarded for his service by being given the Royal Manor of Norton. Finding it such a poor place he renamed it Norton-Mal-Reward. His 16th century tomb is wrongly ascribed to the right of Henry III.



View of river near Battle Lane



15th Century bridge over River Chew

# **Tun Bridge**

This is an excellent example of a 15th century bridge, note the three pointed arches. Look out for the stone trough on the left-hand side. When the village was infected with smallpox villages left money in this trough to pay farmers who brought food to the bridge. The trough was filled with vinegar in an attempt to prevent the spread of the disease.

At Battle Lane turn right and Turn left past the water pump on the church After the bridge take the stile on the follow the road. Take the lower wall, go along Silver Street to Harford Square. left, bearing right to the next stile and road crossing ford by footbridge, Turn right along the road over Spratts bridge cross Chew/Pensford Road. Walk up Go up the hill and under a and take path on left following Winford Brook the drive to the main house gates, footbridge to the main road. to road. bear right and follow the path to the churchyard. Take the path on the right to smaller gate and walk down the road. Chew Magna Turn left into the High Street and continue until you meet Opposite Fisher Lodge, go over several stone toadstools. the stile and follow footpath Highf Hous over 4 wooden stiles. At the bottom of the field turn left to Turn right just before the the bridge, and go over the stone toadstools and left over the stile. The bridge was built by the two bridges continuing on to lord of Chew Court to avoid Dumper's Lane. At junction paying a toll at Chew Magna. turn left along Tunbridge Road and return to the village centre for buses back to Bristol. **Chew Stoke** After getting off the bus walk along the High Street to the T-junction by the chapel. Cross Tunbridge Road to the raised public house footpath and turn right past circular walk the fire station. other paths field boundary Chew Valley Lake road

500m

0m

lkm

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