

## Frith Wood Walk

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A new guided walk around Frith Wood, Ledbury will be launched on Saturday 7th June. The trail, following existing footpaths, encourages people to explore the geology and natural history of the area. It will also interpret the traces of human activity to be found in the woodland.

The project has been a collaborative effort between many local groups, generously supported by a grant from the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Sustainable Development Fund. Volunteers from the England's Past for Everyone local history project in Ledbury worked with professionals from Herefordshire Archaeology to survey some historic sites in the woodland.

Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust and members of Ledbury Naturalists have contributed information on geology and the environment. Local resident Steve Clegg has shared his knowledge of the paths and tracks through the wood, to which the Forestry Commission has given generous access. The resulting information is published in a small booklet, which will be made freely available to residents and visitors alike. The Forestry Commission has erected information panels, showing a map of the walk and key points of information, at the north and south entrances to the wood.

The mayor of Ledbury, Mr Keith Francis, will launch the walk and the booklet on 7th June. He will join a walk along the trail, led by members of the team who produced the booklet. Booklets will be available for those coming on the day. Others may be obtained after the event from the Ledbury TIC and Library, the Heritage Centre and Butcher Row Museum. PDF versions of the booklet will also appear on the websites of the participating organisations. Those wishing to walk should be at the Ledbury Market House by 2 p.m. on Saturday 7th June.

The walk is approximately 4 miles long and involves some rough ground and some steepish hills. With pauses to examine items of interest along the way, it will take about 2 ½ - 3 hours to complete.