

- 5 Go around the pool passing the old pump house. Follow the stream to reach a gravestone bridge.

Every time you walk over the gravestone bridge someone shivers. Splash it with water to see if you can read his name.

- 6 Go over the bridge and climb the ridiculously steep path bearing right to a gate and bench.

There's nothing much to say here except it's a nice view. We just thought we'd give you something to read whilst you're getting your breath back.

- 7 Go down the hill to return to the start.



Kangaroo Facts

Church Stretton was once known as Little Switzerland. Not 'cos it looks pretty, but 'cos of the rich chocolate quarries on the Long Mynd. Sadly the quarries are closed – all the chocs have been scoffed.

- Church Stretton's name is Anglo-Saxon; the church, in the town on the street. The 'street' is a Roman road known as Watling Street.
- Kangaroos aren't into landscape architecture. They prefer wild, natural landscapes, so it's doubtful you'll see any here.

Discover
Shropshire

FAMILY FRIENDLY WALKS

The wonders of Rectory Wood & Field



WHAT SORT OF WALK IS IT?

Type of ground – Fields and woodland paths

How long? – Less than 2 miles / 3.2km but a major expedition. Allow 2 hours

How easy? – Hugely hilly, some steep climbing and descents

Suitable for pushchairs?
– Not without ropes and sherpas

This fairly tough little walk is even better if you like to splash about in streams.

Where does Church Stretton get its name?

Finding the start

Turn right off the back road between Church Stretton and Little Stretton following signs for the Longmynd Hotel. The car park is on the right just past the hotel entrance (Grid reference SO449937)

Start

- 1 Go through the gate and turn right down the field.

You'd think this place was completely natural. It's not. It was designed in the style of the famous 18th century landscape architect Capability Brown. But you're too young to find this interesting. The fact that it's all made from papier-mâché and string is just too dull for words.

- 2 Go through the gate on your left into the woods following the carved posts.



- 3 Pass the pair of sweet chestnut trees on your left. Follow the long wall on the right.

Sweet chestnuts were brought to Britain by the Romans. They planted them to make breakfast porridge out of the nuts. They gave up though because whilst they waited for the trees to grow, their tea got cold.

- 4 Climb the path next to the stream to reach a pool.

