MSP to Norgrove, Bentley Water Splash and Webheath, 5.5 miles

This is an easy walk with the majority being on quiet country lanes and footpaths although you will be in the Countryside for most of the walk. There is a stretch over fields where there are 4 stiles and 7 gates which make in unsuitable for wheelchair users. Make sure you wear suitable footwear, comfortable trainers are fine.

1. From Morton Stanley Park car park walk away from Windmill Drive slightly downhill with the Volleyball net on your right. Follow the tarmac path through the park, you will pass a pond on the right and just a bit further there are some railings, and the path turns slightly left of a hedge. Eventually you will walk past sports pitches on your right and changing rooms and a car park in front of you.
2. Keep walking to the road (Green Lane), turn right and, for safety, keep to the grass verge. Walk along the grass verge for a few yards until you see a track on the opposite side of the road. Cross the road and walk up this track. On the left there are two accesses to houses, keep walking, heading towards two farm gates. Look left and you will see a footpath gate, there is a waymark for the Monarch's Way. Go through the footpath gate into the field.
3. The initial fields usually have horses in them, but they don't mind walkers. Follow the path through two further gates. Keep following the path, you will go over one stile, then bear left and walk along the side of the field until you reach a gate in front of you. You know you are in the right place if you can see power cables running alongside the hedgerow. Go through the gate into the field.
4. The path you are following is the Monarch's Way. You need to head right diagonally across the field. As well the major power cables running along the hedgerow there is a minor power line running across the field. In the distance see where this finishes, look slightly left and you will see a big oak tree. Head between the oak tree on your left and the minor power cables on your right. You use the field gate to get to Norgrove Lane. It is an unusual gate lock, lift the slider on the left of the lock up which allows the latch to move to unlock. Go through the gate and turn left.
5. The Monarch's Way continues on the other side of the road. You need to walk about 50 steps when you will see a ditch crossing which you need to cross and then go over two stiles. Follow the well walked path in front of you down the hill towards the drive to Norgrove Court.
6. Near the drive there is a stile and ditch crossing. Cross these and turn right and walk down the drive towards Norgrove Court. It is a lovely building. As you approach the Norgrove Court gates you will see a footpath to the left, follow this path through an old wooden gate and metal farm gate.
7. You will now leave the Monarch's Way which is on your right, continue walking ahead and then follow the track which is on your left crossing a shallow ford on the way. The track leads you up to Bentley Lane.
8. When you reach the Bentley Lane turn right. Bentley Lane becomes Manor Road, you will see the two road signs side by side in front of an oak tree. Keep walking until the next road on the right which is Pumphouse Lane. Go along Pumphouse Lane and after a short stretch of road you will reach a Village green which has a bench. Turn right which continues along Pumphouse Lane. After 400 yards you will reach a ford which is locally referred to as Bentley Watersplash.
9. There is a footbridge at the ford but often the water is shallow enough to walk through and give the boots a clean.
10. Continue up Pumphouse Lane for almost a mile until you reach Church Road. Turn right when reaching Church Road and use the footpath on the left of the road. Walk down the hill, then on the way up the hill the path is initially screened from the road by hedges then bears left. Follow

the path to the left until you reach a lamp post, then take the path on the right. This will take you into Packwood Close, turn right and follow this road as it bends left until it reaches Springvale Road. Turn right onto Springvale Road and then turn right when you get to Downsell Road.

11. When Downsell Road reaches Heathfield Road turn left and then right down Middle Piece Drive. It is best to cross Heathfield Road shortly after Middle Piece Drive and use the pavement on the left of Middle Piece Drive until you reach a subway. Go through the subway and follow the footpath. After a while you will see Redditch Golf Club on your right, keep on this path until you arrive back at Morton Stanley Park.