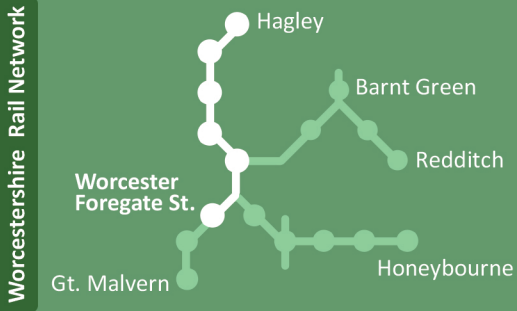




Hartlebury to Kidderminster

0-500 ft
Easy



KIDDERMINSTER

Map Sheet 218

GPX for Apps

Scan or click me here.

Train Times

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Worcestershire Community Rail Partnership

Feedback to us..

enquiries@wcrp.org.uk

Hartlebury

Points of interest

Sir Rowland Hill
Kidderminster-born Sir Rowland Hill KCB, FRS (1795-1879) was an English teacher, inventor and social reformer.

Hill was the developer of 'the penny post', a uniform system of pre payment using stamps and oversaw the introduction of this system and it's first stamp: the Penny Black in 1840.

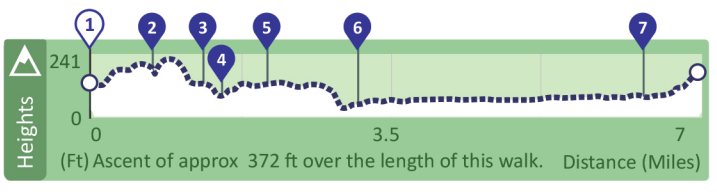
In 1819 Hill moved his father's school from central Birmingham to Edgbaston - creating an early model for public school education.

Sir Rowland Hill the inventor of postage stamps was born on Blackwell Street in Kidderminster.



Map Key

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Road/track | Route keypoints | Click for live link |
| Bridleway | Public house | Information |
| Footpath | Ascent/Descent | Landscape feature |
| Picnic site | Cafe | Parking |
| Viewpoint | Church | |
| Take care! | | |





Hartlebury to Kidderminster

0-500 ft
Easy

Directions

- 1 L from station using pavement on S side. Pass under A449 bridge to T-junction. L then cross R to Post Office and follow pavement on L side of Inn Lane. After 200m take FP L. At top of slope R on tree lined FP that continues as a lane to road.
- 2 Cross road taking pavement L up hill to pass school on L. At top of slope take FP R initially between fence panels. Continue to drop down through fields to road.
- 3 Cross road and SO through gates into large field. Right of way is SO, but path on ground zig zags slightly R then L to obvious field corner. From here cross diagonally R to gate and steps down through wood to lane junction with B419.
- 4 Just before the junction take FP on L. Continue L under arch then R & L through private garden with waterwheel to emerge on track. Turn R up track between houses leading up to B419. Cross road then L to cross Charlton Lane and through farm gate into hedge lined FP. This soon opens up into FP through fields with views back on R

to Hartlebury Castle.

- 5 Continue on FP to bridge over disused Hartlebury to Stourport railway line. Drop down L into cutting then R to follow the disused line into an impressive deep cutting, under a high bridge then on a series on embankments and bridges with views L & R over the River Stour and its valley. After approx. 1.5kms (1 mile) take the surfaced cycleway down R to the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal.
- 6 R on canal towpath for approx. 5kms (3 miles) passing two locks and under the Severn Valley Railway's Falling Sands Viaduct.
- 7 After Caldwell Hall Bridge 15 leave the towpath to pass in front of the Tesco superstore. Before footbridge take FP L with River Stour on R. At bus station cross road then R over bridge and continue on one way street to statue of Rowland Hill in front of Town Hall. From statue R then bear L signed to Ring Road. At mini-roundabout continue SO then drop down underpass just after clock tower. In sunken island cross straight over to second underpass then L up steps to Comberton Hill. Continue up to Station Approach. The Severn Valley Railway station is on R. The mainline station is straight ahead.

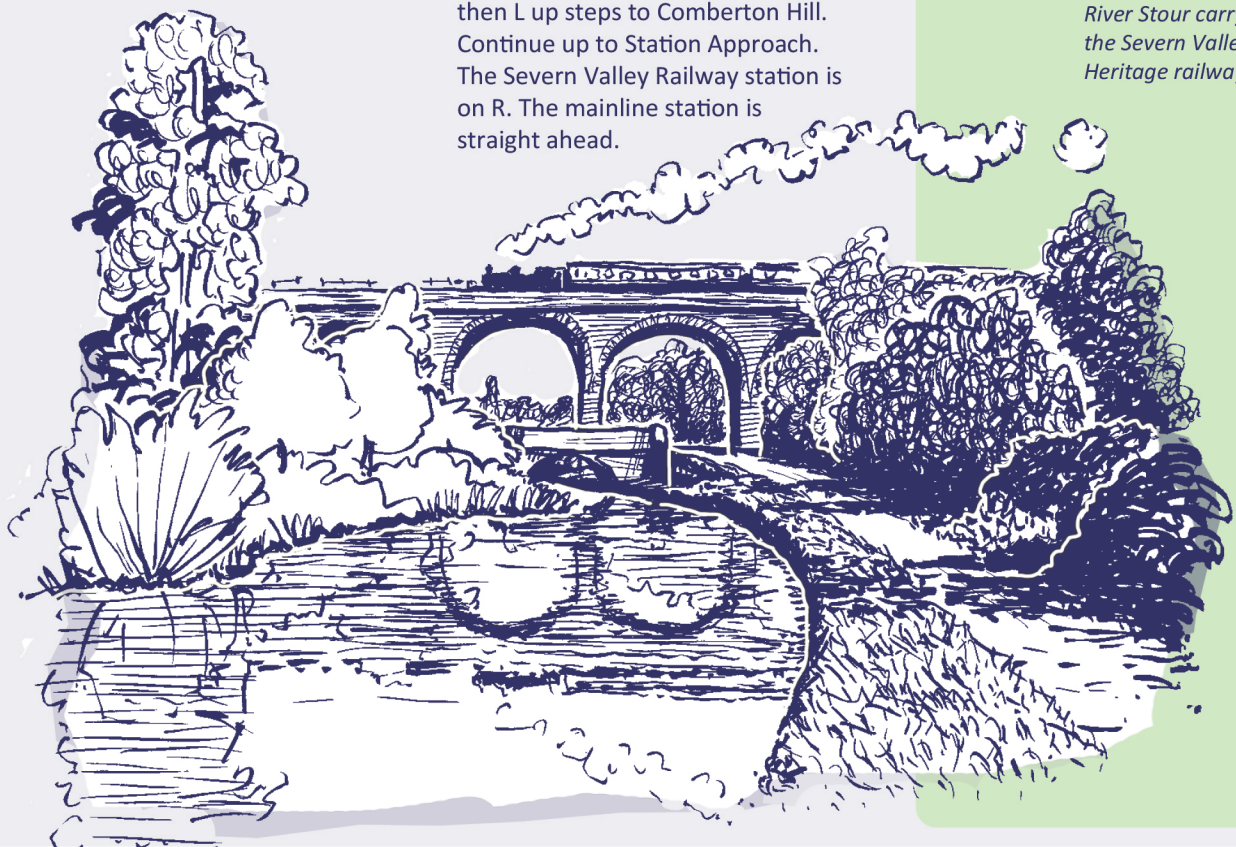
The Falling Sands Viaduct

The viaduct carries the Severn Valley Railway, one of the best preserved heritage railways still operating in the UK.

Located on the outskirts of Kidderminster, this Victorian viaduct was built between 1875-1878 and it forms a 'loop line' that takes traffic from the mainline station at Kidderminster over the River Stour and then the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal to Bewdley and on north to Bridgnorth

The viaduct saw substantial repairs in 2016 when surveys showed that water had seeped into the masonry on the arches. These repairs are being carried out at the time of writing (2023) and are assisted by grant funding and the kind assistance of local support.

The Falling Sands Viaduct crossing the River Stour carrying the Severn Valley Heritage railway line.



Directions supplied by Lyndon Bracewell, Worcester Ramblers