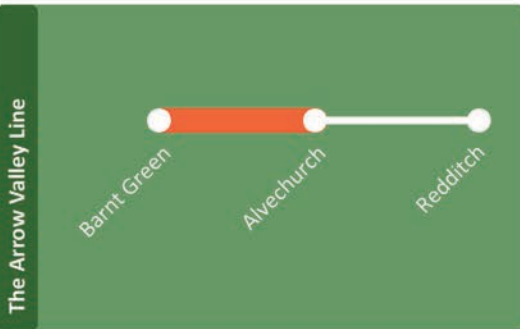
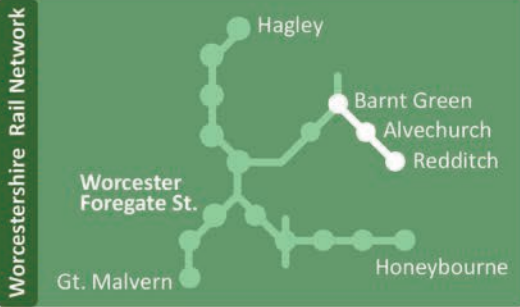




# Barnt Green to Alvechurch



Points of interest

### Actress Susan Jameson

Susan Jameson, the accomplished English actress, has left an indelible mark on the world of entertainment. Born in Barnt Green, Jameson's career has spanned over five decades, showcasing her versatility across stage, screen, and television. She gained widespread recognition for her roles in popular TV series like "New Tricks", "When the Boat Comes In" and portraying

Susan Jameson, born in Barnt Green



Great Aunt Loretta in the CBeebies show "Grandpa in My Pocket".

Susan Jameson has been involved in various charitable endeavours, reflecting a commitment to her community. Having written her book Pony Tails, Susan supported the children's charity Ride High with reading and writing workshops, and has also left various legacies.

**Barnt Green**  
This village on the edge of Birmingham has been home to many celebrities. These have included vocalist and former member of UB40, Astro (Terence Wilson).

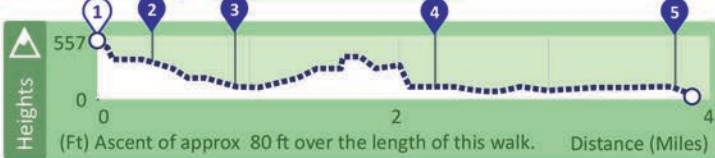
GPX for Apps  
Scan or click me here.

Feedback to us..  
enquiries@wcrp.org.uk

Train Times  
Scan or click me here.



Project partners



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!		



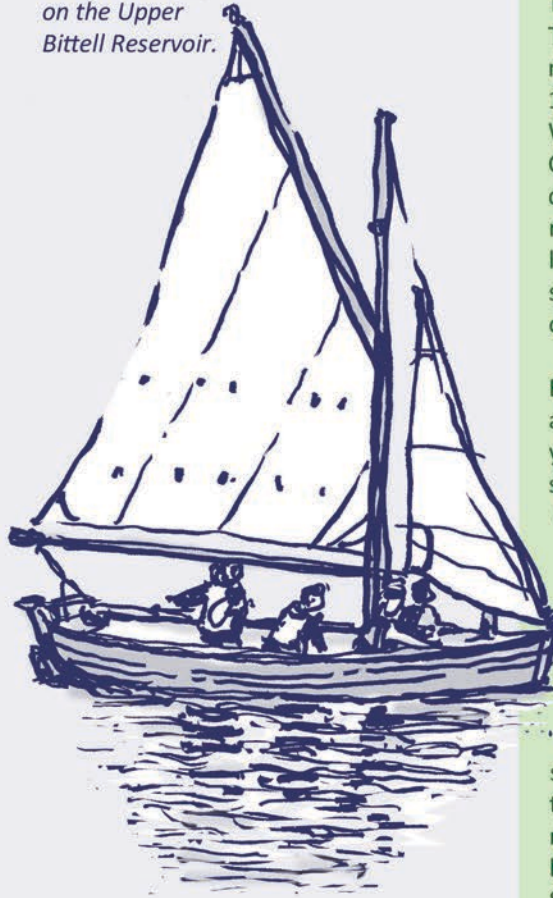
# Barnt Green to Alvechurch

0-500 ft  
Easy

Directions

- 1 From Platform 4 follow road out of car park to junction then L. From here the route follows the signed Waterways Walk to Alvechurch.
- 2 At T-junction cross to opposite pavement then R on Bittell Road. L on Margesson Drive to Barnt Green Sports Club. R across Sport's Club Car Park to pass around the back of the Club to emerge at Sports Fields. Follow surfaced path with hedge on L and sports fields on R. Where surfaced path turns R continue through wood then field. Where footpath joins from L continue into next field then diagonally R to Road.
- 3 At road L to follow bridleway on wide track. After pond on L slight R through gate to reservoir. Continue R on top of dam wall, up steps and then on track to Road.
- 4 Cross road to take footpath opposite then R and L between farm buildings. At bridge over canal drop L down steps to towpath then L to follow towpath all the way to Alvechurch.
- 5 Immediately after passing under Bridge 60 L up to road continuing R over railway bridge then R down steps and onto access road to station.

*A sailing dinghy on the Upper Bittell Reservoir.*



**The Bittell Reservoirs**

The Upper and Lower Bittell reservoirs were built from the 1790s onwards to feed the Worcester and Birmingham Canal, and were completed during the 1830s. The 'Upper' reservoir is to ensure that the level of the canal is kept sufficiently high, even in times of drought.

Both reservoirs are used actively. The walk also takes you up past the remains of a steam pumping house and along the dam wall of the Upper Bittell Reservoir, home to Barnt Green Sailing Club, the local Sea Scout Troop (who occupy a large boathouse on the south east shore) and it is also used for open water swimming in the summer months by the local triathlon club. One bank of the reservoir is inaccessible because it is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

During the 2017 maintenance draining of Upper Bittell, 500 critically endangered European eels were found.

They were rehomed in the canal that the reservoir feeds.

These picturesque waters are often frequented by majestic herons. During the early 20th century, the bird life of the reservoirs was regularly recorded by the West Midland Bird Club, long before such site-monitoring became commonplace.

They were also visited regularly by a young Bill Oddie. Bill Oddie is the ornithologist, BBC Springwatch TV presenter, comedian, musician and conservationist. Bill has been a passionate champion for nature and wildlife.



*A Grey Heron, common on the Lower Bittell Reservoir.*