

Live from Saturday 21 December to Sunday 4 January

Start : Priors Holt GR 413893. Signed from B4370 to Hamperley.

Small car park. If needed additional roadside parking before Hamperley.

ChocO is an unsupported anytime navigational challenge around a set of control points. At each control there is a white post about 30cm. in height. Attached to each post is a tag with the grid reference and description of the next point on your course. Write these down and mark the control on your map. You are given the location of the first control below. Note this is a different location for the Strollers course. Don't start at the wrong one or you will have a much longer or shorter run than you were expecting.

At the last control is a sack containing a tin of chocolates. Enjoy, reseal tin, leave a comment in the book and cover up the sack. It's then about 2km downhill back to Priors Holt.

Courses: Approximate Straight line lengths from Priors Holt to last control are-

Short: 8km. Splits from medium and long at second control.

Medium: 11 km. Splits from long at fourth control.

Long: 14km.

These may seem short distances but you may find for some legs a more circuitous route with less climb and better going will be the optimum route.

Control 1 adjacent to fence 25 metres NE. Of track/ fence Junction. GR408896.

Strollers: This is designed to be walked following paths tracks and a quiet country road. With a steady climb to the top of the Mynd. Around 6 km. in length. It is not suitable for buggies and will need to be walked. All the comments below apply equally to this course.

Control 1 Stream Junction GR 418909.

The Long Mynd is sometimes very steep and with poor visibility and indistinct features making relocation difficult. Even if the weather is good in Church Stretton assume that there will be thick cloud and high wind when not in the shelter of the valleys. And can change quickly.

Terrain: Steep side valleys and monster bracken in places. Heather of varying depths crossed by numerous tracks and paths. Not all paths are marked on the OS maps.

All courses will encounter steep ascents, descents, contouring, stream crossings, wet ground and heather. The small boggy flashes should be avoided as they are not only environmentally sensitive but deep in places.

Navigation kit: OS Map Long Mynd 217 Explorer. Plastic bag for Map, Compass, Pen, Paper. GPS is allowed but has not been used in planning.

Kit: FRA standard is advised with hat, gloves, warm clothes and a good set of waterproofs including trousers.

Survival: Take some food drink whistle and a phone together with any other kit you feel necessary. The nature of the event is that only you and anyone you inform know you are taking part. Please tell somebody you are out(and who will raise an emergency if necessary) when you expect to finish and when you are back. You take part in this unsupported activity

entirely at your own risk. Only take part if you are a competent navigator and have experience of the hills in winter
All controls are south of the Burway and East of the Portway in the event of an emergency.

Entry: Is free. You can go solo or in groups.

If the chocolate supply is running low or other problems:

John Broadhead text 0790 4447888.