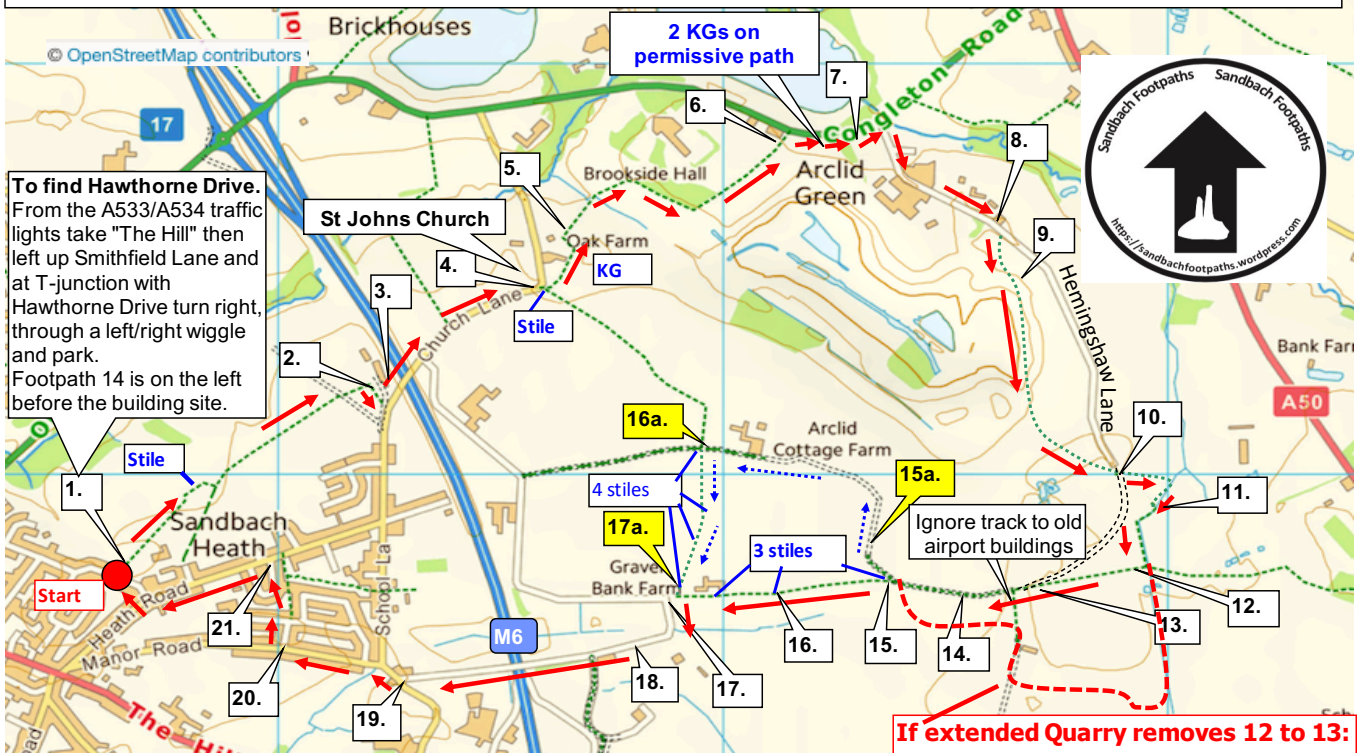


## Sandbach Footpath Group. St. John's and Arclid Quarry Walk 6.5 km, 4 miles, 5 stiles, allow 2 hours



**To find Hawthorne Drive.**  
From the A533/A534 traffic lights take "The Hill" then left up Smithfield Lane and at T-junction with Hawthorne Drive turn right, through a left/right wiggle and park.  
Footpath 14 is on the left before the building site.

**Alternative (avoiding cows):** .....

**15a.** Stay on the track as it bends right and left (also through a couple of large farm gates, if closed) for about 500m, then go straight through a wooden gate just to the right of a little-used stile (ignore the twin parallel tracks going right) and follow a lane, going in roughly the same direction, passing Arclid Cottage Farm to your right.

**16a.** About 100m after the farmhouse, go left over a stile to follow a field path with 4 stiles, at first with boundary to you right, then to your left.

**17a.** Over the final stile to emerge onto a track, go right and almost immediately left onto a lane. (now continue at **18.**)

**If extended Quarry removes 12 to 13:**

**12a.** Follow the boundary hedge on your left until you reach a stile in it. Ignore the stile and continue with the boundary to your left. Stay following this boundary as it bends right a couple of times for about 0.5mile (750m) via a KG, eventually to go through a wooden gate and turn right on a grassy track, to the old airport buildings.

**13a.** Just after the airport buildings, go left on a gravel track for about 0.25mile (400m) and go left over the stile in **14.**

KG = Kissing Gate

- 1.** Start at Footpath 14 off Hawthorne Drive. Follow the footpath through what is now a building site, over a stile (or under a bar to the side), and then a path wiggle.
- 2.** Approach the farm buildings and turn right onto a track and go towards the road.
- 3.** Turn sharp left onto the road (Church Lane) and over the M6.
- 4.** Near St. John's Church, go over a stile on the right and turn immediately left in the field to follow the hedge on your left.
- 5.** Go through a **KG** and turn left onto a track, following the track for about 500m to approach the busy A534.
- 6.** Near the busy road, ignore the **KG** leading to the A534, but turn right and continue on the track.
- 7.** At a permissive path sign go through a **KG** into woods then a field, through a **KG**, turning right onto Hemmingshaw Lane.
- 8.** Follow Hemmingshaw Lane for about 400m and look for a yellow/black waymark to the right and take the broad track to leave Hemmingshaw Lane.
- 9.** Follow the broad track, fenced off from the quarry workings for about 500m.
- 10.** The broad track bears to the left, onto the old Hemmingshaw Lane for a few metres. Then almost opposite, go left off the Lane to follow the arrow on the yellow/black waymark signs into a field.
- 11.** At the end of the field by an electricity pole, turn right keeping the hedge/boundary to your left. Through a gap to keep on in the same direction. Then left through another gap to follow more yellow/black waymark signs. *(If the quarry is extended, go to 12a, above)*
- 12.** Follow the boundary hedge on your left until you reach a stile in it, then do a 90 degree right turn, going across the field (pick out a tree to aim for and keep aiming for that tree). Go in this direction across the field for about 250m to a track merging in from the right. In the field, there may be electric fences to negotiate, hopefully with insulating pipes.
- 13.** Ignore the lane going left to the old airport buildings, but stay straight on the track, through a farm gate (if closed).
- 14.** Keep on the track, with the boundary on you right, for about 300m. The track bends right, but look for a stile with a yellow/black waymark sign to the left. *Sometimes there are cows and mud in the next field and if this bothers you, take the diversion (15a. etc).*
- 15.** Go over the stile, to leave the track, then diagonally across the field (head for the farm buildings) to the next stile, by a water tank.
- 16.** Over this stile and continue in the same direction on a farm track, through a farm gate then another farm gate with stile adjacent and through a double farm gate (or via a narrow gap to the right) to pass Gravel Bank Farm on your right.
- 17.** At the lane turn left.
- 18.** Follow the lane round to the right, passing Winter Cottage/Cottage Farm on your left and go over the M6.
- 19.** Bear right at a road, then left into Manor Road.
- 20.** Turn right into Manor Way and at the end enter a ginnel, through two wiggles, but keep in the same direction, ignoring paths to the sides.
- 21.** At Heath Road, turn left and at Hawthorne Drive, turn right to return to the start.