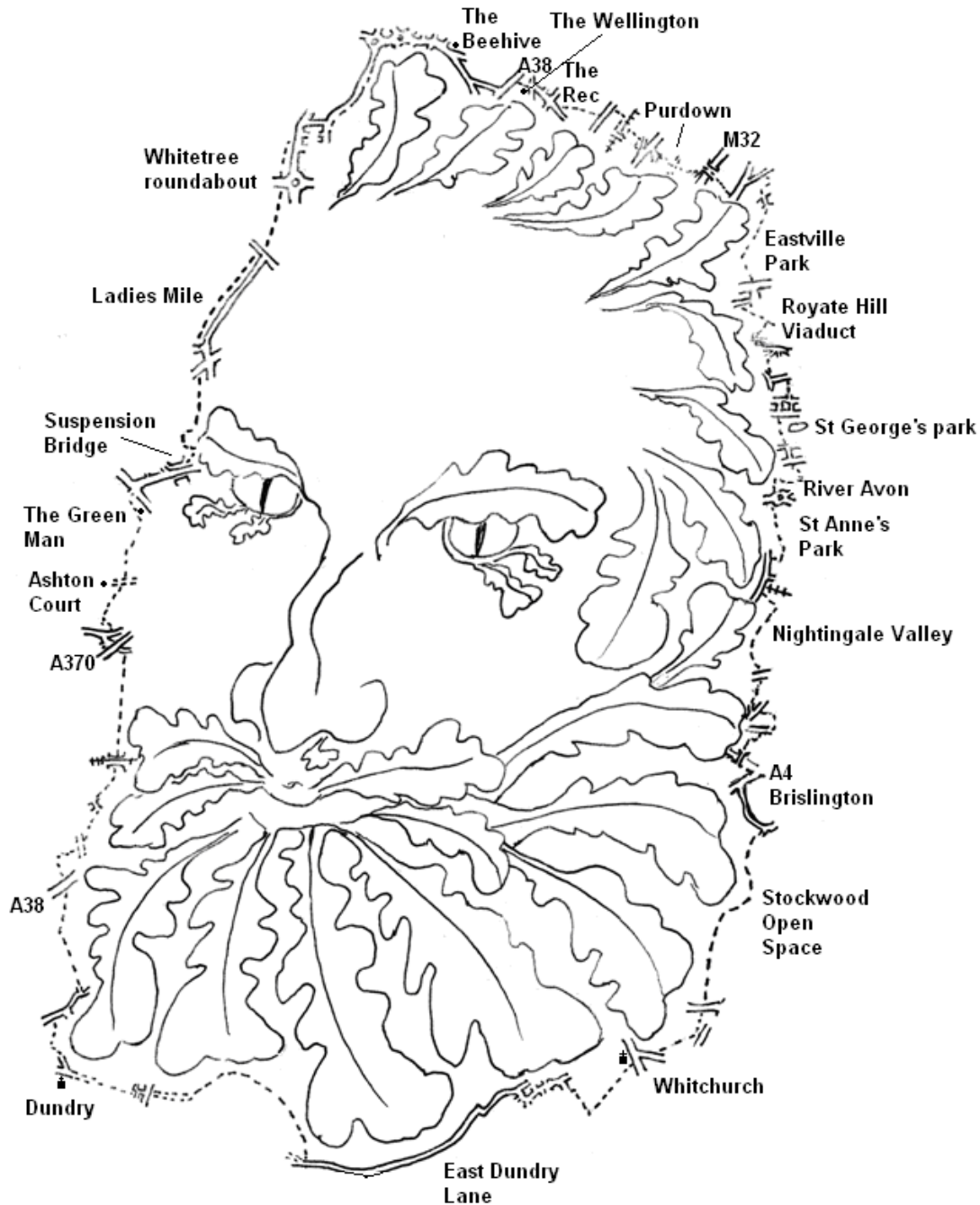


5A: THE HARPY THRONE OF THE BHAGAVAN BUDDHA AMOGHA SIDDI OR THE ALL PERFORMING WISDOM

approx 21.5 MILES



The Bhagavan Buddha, Amogha Siddi, is bright green in colour, his name means Almighty Conqueror, and he rules over the Green Northern Land of the Successful Performance of the Best Actions. He bears in his hand a pair of crossed Dorjes. That is a diamond cutter, a thunderbolt, a destroyer of ignorance. He sits on a Harpy Throne, but Tibetan harpies (shang shang), unlike classical Greek ones, can be male as well as female. The Green Buddha's alter-ego is the Divine Mother, the faithful Dolma, (the Saviouress), and he is accompanied by Chag-na-Dorje (the Dorje carrier), Dibpanamsel (the Clearer of Obscurations) and the female Bodhisattvas, She-Spraying-Perfume and She-Carrying-Sweetmeats.

It is not clear whether the route map represents the head of the harpy throne or the head of the Bhagavan Buddha himself.

This route is adapted from one designed by the Bristol Ramblers' Association, with help from the council, called "The South Bristol Circular." The Ramblers' Route began and ended at Temple Meads Station and finished with a convoluted journey through the attractions of Clifton. The adapted route now begins and ends in the north of Bristol, mainly because I live near the Beehive. I have also modified the ascent through Stockwood and the approach to Dundry and the descent from it.

I have, however, maintained something of the style of the original so that it written to aid the Successful Performance of the action of walking or running around it. I have added a key that I would have found helpful.

KEY					
R	Right	TR	Turn Right	(RH)S	(Right hand) side
L	Left	TL	Turn Left	LHS	Left hand side
CO	Cross over	COX	Cross over pedestrian crossing	SA	Straight ahead
FB	Foot bridge	FP	Foot path	KG	Kissing gate
opp	Opposite	FoA	Forest of Avon	SWSW	Samaritans' Way South West

There is no commentary in the text, except to explain deviations from the Ramblers' Route. But the name Mighty Conqueror is reflected in the names of several places on the route: the Wellington Hotel, was named after the victor of Waterloo, who opened the barracks of the Glorious Gloucesters nearby; there is a Victory Park in Brislington; St George, of St George's Park was also famously victorious over the dragon; the name of St Nicholas, to whom the eponymous church at Whitchurch is dedicated, means "Victory-to-the-people" and St Michael, the dedicatee of Dundry Church, is the archangel who defeated Satan. Dolma, the Divine Mother also resonates with St Anne of St Anne's Park, who was the mother of the Virgin Mary and hence the Matriarch of the Holy Kinship. Like Dolma, Anne is usually represented with a green cloak. You may also notice "She-Spraying-Perfume" in the Henleaze Road, and "She-Carrying-Sweetmeats" is celebrated at the Beehive.

FROM THE BEEHIVE TO ST ANNE'S FOOTBRIDGE

TR and CO Bishopthorpe Rd.

Continue up Wellington Hill West and TL up Abbot's Way to Kellaway Ave.

CO and TL on pavement.

TR on tarmac path to Western Rd.

Continue to Gloucester Rd near Victorian Toilet and the Wellie.

COX to Muller Road

Continue and COX over Filton Ave.

TL into Muller Road Recreation Ground

At pavilion, bear right across playing fields towards gasometers.

Go down steps and short path to Downend Rd.

TL and then TR past convenience store.

Go down path, over stream and right alongside railway to FB

CO and follow FP left, right, right and left around electricity substation to Brangwyn Grove.

TR to Romney Ave.

CO TL and then R into Orpen Gdns.

Keep left on pavement and TL into old garage area.

Go through KG into playing fields and bear slightly L uphill to gate into field on op side of Sir John's Lane.

Descend path, which bears left to a redundant KG and continue down through bushes to KG onto Heath House Lane.

Follow Road over M32 and take fp through tunnel to Bell Hill.

CO and TL past Colston School.

Keep R of church and descend Colston Hill (Cycle and FP).

TR through hole in wall and descend to FB over Frome upstream of weir.

TR past weir and continue until boating lake in view.

TL up steps. At top, bear left and continue across grass to emerge to R of tennis courts.

TL and then bear R down to COX Fishponds Rd by Queen's Head.

SO down Royate Hill

TR Edward Street and look for gate into Royate Hill Nature Reserve on L.
Continue across viaduct and TR down steps towards flats.
Bear R across grass to car park.
TR and then L down Wainbrook Drive to Clay Bottom.
CO and make your way onto Bristol and Bath Cycle Path.
TL and then R onto Rose Green Road.
TL and then R into Stanley Close.
Keep going on path past Sports ground on left.
TL down Gordon Ave then TR up steps to FP.
Continue SA until Whitehall Rd.
CO and TR and then L down Congleton Road to St George's Park.
Descend to R of lake and up other side to emerge to R of modern library building.
Descend tarmac path to CO Church Rd and go down Beaconsfield Rd.
TL on Beaufort Rd then TR down Strawberry Lane to Crews Hole Rd.
TL then CO to fp to River Avon.
TR and then CO **River Avon FB**.

FROM ST ANNE'S FOOTBRIDGE TO WHITCHURCH

Now cross St Anne's Rd and SA use FP through Nightingale Valley keeping right along mesh fence and stream to pass St Anne's Well.
Continue over FB, turn immediately right and climb to exit woodland into Wick Rd and TL.
Follow pavement along Wick Rd, cross the railway line, and TL into St Anne's Terrace.
Now pass Oak Cottage on RHS side and Brislington Boat Screen on LHS side.
TL over stone FB and TR by pylon and after ¼ mile cross another FB.
On leaving Nightingale Valley, CO Allison Rd, SA onto path behind house No. 58a and TL.
TR down FP over bridge to Clayfield Rd.

An alternative idea would be to carry on up 'The Rock' to CO School Road to the footpath opposite, which leads through the fields to Bonville Road.
TR ad then TL down Emery Road to Bath Road.
CO into Stockwood Road.
TR into Hungerford Rd after Park and Ride.
TL into Hungerford Gardens to rejoin Ramblers' Route.
Advantage – a simpler route. Disadvantage – misses pubs on Brislington Hill.

TR and continue to the end.
CO School Rd (with care) and TL
Take first right entrance into **Victory Park**.
TR uphill keeping cemetery to the right.
TR into Church Hill and second left to St Luke's Church Yard.
Exit church's main gate and CO to a path leading through to the (A4) Bath Road shops, opp White Hart Inn.
After crossing FB over A4 TR into Runnymede Ave and take lane on left (West Town Court).
CO to continue along West Town Lane.
TL into Hungerford Rd.
After ¼ mile TR Opp Hungerford Social club into Hungerford Gardens. Follow path into open space with Knowle Golf Club on RHS.

The second time I did this route, I spurned the tarmac track and turned right up a field alongside the golf course fence.
I turned right onto a path through a wooded patch alongside the golf course.
Eventually, I came out into an open space, where I turned left, heading towards a path through a gap in a fence under some trees.
I followed the path downhill to pick up a track with some allotments on the right.
When I came to a tarmac apron, I bore left on a path up the hill.
I ended up in the open space leading to Craydon Road.
This seems to me to be a better route, unless you want to visit the Harvester.

Climb up steps at far end to **Stockwood Open Space viewpoint**.
TR to follow FP with rear of houses on Left. (31-17) and continue along(49-41)(21-13)(10-24).TL.

Turn into Sideland Close.
TR into The Coots.
TR into Harrington Rd.
TR after Harvester Pub and follow FP towards Scout Hut, continue past metal barrier, and walk across open space to CO Craydon Rd.
Continue with rear of red brick houses on RHS to emerge to TR onto Stockwood Lane and immediately TR over stile into meadow and follow FP to LH corner.
TR onto Staunton Lane, continue to CO Bristol Rd A37 (take care).
TL to CO Church Rd (note **St Nicholas Church**)

WHITCHURCH TO DUNDRY

TR into Blackacre.
Continue past cottages on LHS and through kissing gate
After 10 metres TL through kissing gate and cross four fields to junction of four footpaths
TR through kissing gate
Continue ahead across field towards the rear of houses.
Through gate and across FB into Emmett Wood (road).
TL to walk along Stoneberry Rd.
TR into Holbeach Way.
TR into Longacre Rd and TL into East Dundry Rd.
Proceed uphill with Hill Farm sign to RHS.
Proceed for a further 1.25 miles/2.3kms along East Dundry Lane. At the first lane on RHS with steel barrier TR and R again through gate.
TL over stile into Mannings Wood and follow the path to the left along the top edge of the reserve.
After a ford, there is a stile up to the right into a lane.
TR and then TL over another stile.
Follow RH hedge through one gap and over a stile into a field overlooking Hartcliffe, with a gate on R.
TL to follow path alongside hedge and then straight across field to a stile then SA to another.
Go straight ahead past trig point concealed in hedge.
Continue over two stiles to walk along muddy lane.
Pass Roslyn bungalow on LHS to bring you at the end of Middleway Lane to CO Broadoak Hill.
Walk SA towards Dundry church tower..
As Oxleaze Lane bears right go through second metal farm gate to your left and follow the RH hedgerow to TR through first gap in hedge, then TL. Follow marker stones along old packhorse track to metal gate next to a stile.
Climb over it to follow FoA FP.
Pass Hill Farm to LHS to CO a series of metal stiles.
Continue along Hill Rd to **viewpoint below St Michael's Church.**

DUNDRY TO GREEN MAN

By the churchyard wall in Hill Rd TR immediately down Ham Lane and walk between pretty cottages to a metal gate at the far end.
At Lower Grove Farm, CO metal stile.
TL to follow a path across a field boundary into the next hilly field.
Ignoring stile uphill, TR downhill and through dense undergrowth towards the LH field boundary.
CO metal gate marked Samaritan's Way FP (SWSW).
Follow LHS of this field downhill to a metal stile and gate into a short lane leading to Highridge Rd.
TR past 'Windy Ridge' bungalow along lane passing Oxleaze Lane and cross the road with care to TL on SWSW FP with the Peart on RHS.
CO gate and walk SA to next stile.

I disliked the next part of the Ramblers route the first time I did it, so I switched to the Community Forest Path at this point.

Go SA to gap in hedge ahead, then SA to a stile.
Bear left down hill to emerge to the right of Town and Country Motel on A38.
CO and TR and the TL over stile at bus stop.
Go SA to stile and look for stile in hedge on R.
Go SA over stiles on either side of farm track.
Descend to another pair of stiles crossing access road to landfill site.
Bear L to stile and keep going on same line to a stile in a hedge.
TL and descend carefully through the brambles to another stile.

TR (you have no option) to find another stile into a field.
Follow brambles round to the left to find FB over Colliters Brook.
Pass under railway arch, bear right with industrial units to RHS.
At next junction do not turn left but continue SA, CO stile and in so doing leave FoA FP to head towards A370 with Long Ashton 'Park n Ride' to LHS.
CO metal gate across Ashton Brook. TL CO at traffic lights skirting 'Park 'n Ride' on LHS.
Bear right over FB and go under road bridge (A370).
CO and TR into branch of Ashton Road leading towards Bristol.
TL into new car park.
TR through KG into park and head for trees to right of Ashton Court House.
Follow fence round to KG.
(Visitor Centre, café and toilets on right.)
Bear right through car parking area to deer park fence.
TL alongside fence to KG into deer park.
Continue up track to bench and TR down path.
Follow white path markers up to the Green Man, a sculptured head and viewpoint in the far top corner of the park..

FROM THE GREEN MAN TO THE BEEHIVE

Continue up past Green Man to KG out of the deer park.
Leave estate by Lodge Gate.
COX to Bridge Road.
COX and TR to Clifton Suspension Bridge.
Over Bridge, TL up path past Sliding Rock and TL again to Observatory.
Follow path along cliff edge until it turns right towards The Promenade.
TL between the Beech trees and continue to Bridge Valley Road.
CO to Fountain Hill and climb up to CO Circular Road to FP alongside Ladies Mile.
Continue on FP to Stoke Rd.
CO and head for pine trees (the remains of the Seven Sisters).
Continue CO link road and CO Parry's Lane near Whitetree Roundabout.
Keep going across grass until you can CO Westbury Road past Henleaze Rd opposite.
TL CO Henleaze Gdns and TR down Henleaze Ave.
TL down Henleaze Rd.
CO second Zebra and TL.
Continue down hill to roundabout.
Continue round to second roundabout.
TR up Wellington Hill West, COX and TR again up hill to Beehive.