NAVIGATIONAL CHATTER	**ROUTE EXPLANATION** **LEG 6** **TC39 to TC40**

TC39 to TC40 **AR** **Points and Arrows (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6)** **Points – Second Shortest Route** **Arrows – Shortest Route**	**SOLUTION BOARDS:** **B** **C** **E** **D** **E** **G** **G** **J**

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	TC36 to Arrow 1 It's always disconcerting when the first thing you see is an arrow pointing straight back at you! It is an arrow, so it is the shortest route you are looking for. There are 2 options to loop round to the tail of the arrow. The one to the south-east looks shorter until you spot that the first road is blocked by a building. There is another road soon after, but it makes the loop longer than the route to the north-west via board B, which is therefore the correct route.
	Arrow 1 to Point 2 We are now going to a Point, so it's second shortest route. As always, find the shortest route first. The shortest route is via B (again) and then cutting the corner just before the point, avoiding board C. So the temptation is that the second shortest route will be to take the long way round the triangle, picking up the C board. But that would be to miss that the route straight up the red road (avoiding B) and turning right to Point 2 (via board C only) is shorter than the route via B and C (but longer than the route via B only). So via C only is the second shortest route.
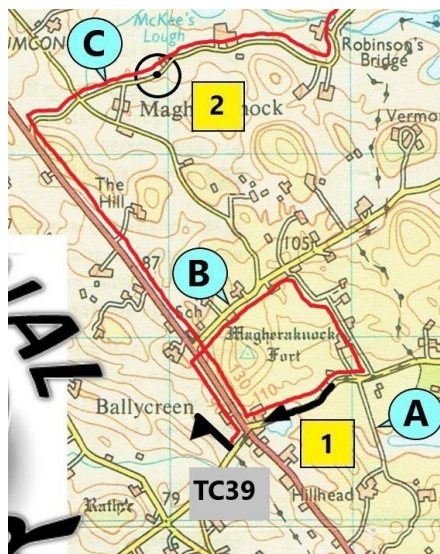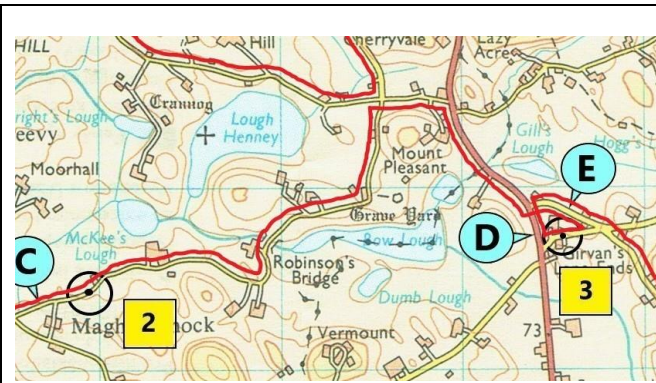
Point 2 to Point 3

Going to a Point, so it is second shortest route again. It is plain sailing until you get to the triangle which Point 3 is on. The shortest route would be via board D, so the second shortest is via E, approaching the Point from the east.
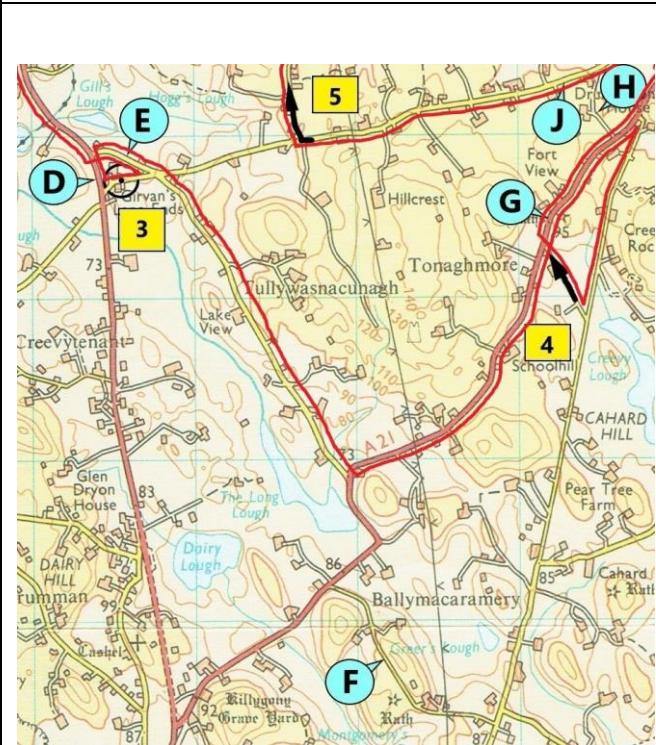

Point 3 to Arrow 4

You are looking for the shortest route to Arrow 4. The obvious options are (1) to head south on the red road, then north east (via the white triangle link) and board F to the tail of the arrow, and (2) to loop around the triangle at Point 3 (picking up D and E) before heading south to F via the yellow and redroads.

But we don't need to spend much time measuring which of those is shorter (quite close, I think) because the shortest route is the loop around D and E, south on the yellow, than TL at the red and proceed straight past the arrowhead and pick up the G, before turning right to loop around to the tail of the arrow.

The route via J/H would be even shorter but is not available because the tail of Arrow 5 blocks the road.
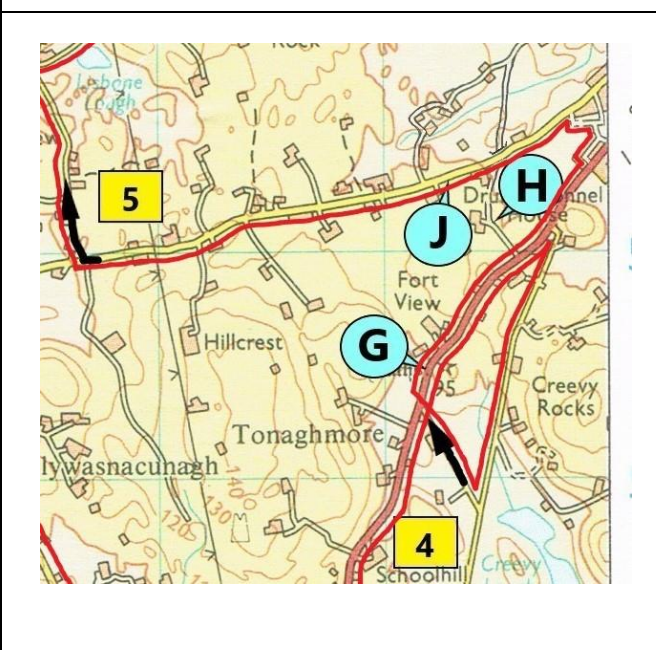
Arrow 4 to Arrow 5

Another shortest route requirement. TR after Arrow 4 to pick up G again. Then it looks like H, and also J except that the white road crosses the yellow under a bridge, and the loop around avoids the J.

But (and there is always a but) the shortest route is to continue on the red towards the edge of the map, where there is a (partly unfenced) white link to the yellow. From there it is west over the earlier bridge, via J (only) to the tail of Arrow 5.
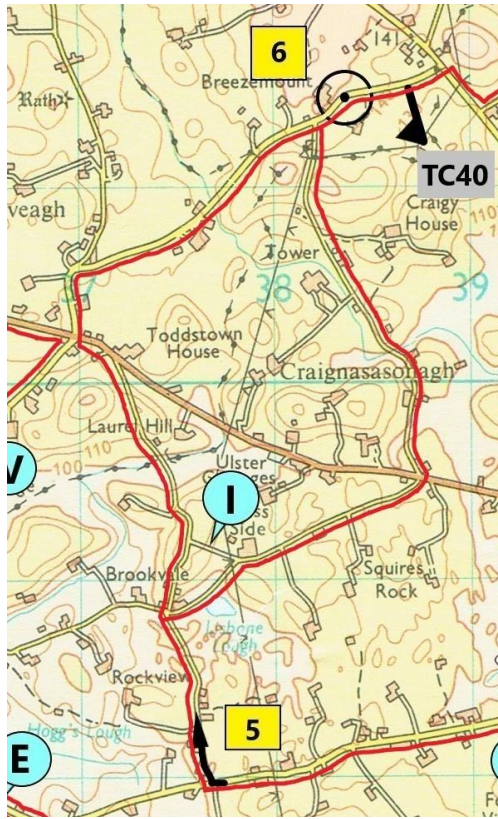
Arrow 5 to Point 6 to TC40

Second shortest route this time. There are two basic routes between 5 and 6, one to the west via Toddstown House, and the other to the east via Craignasasonagh. They cannot be separated on distance with pencil and tracing paper. But neither has any boards, and one of them must be the second shortest route, so you do not need to spend any time on the measure – either route will do.

The only mistake you could make is to fail to spot one or other of the basic alternative routes, go the long way round the triangle to get a second shortest route, and collect the erroneous I.

And on to TC40 to complete the first section.