

Tadley Tracks Tadley Facts

A Walker's guide to Tadley & District



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Tadley Tracks,

Tadley Facts

Eight country rambles, a little history and
somewhat more conjecture,
based on Tadley and its surroundings

Written and Published by

Roger Searing

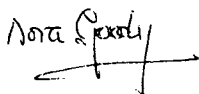
Pat Minter

FOREWORD

The growth of Tadley during the past thirty years has changed it from a quiet village to a community larger than many small towns, with a population of around 12,000.

Perhaps because it has become, to some extent, a dormitory for surrounding towns, it seems that some newcomers to Tadley find it difficult to identify with the area or to appreciate its uniqueness and its character.

I welcome this venture as part of the process of bridging the gap between the old and the newer Tadley communities, and I believe it will make us all more aware of the beauty which surrounds us, and of our own local history.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Nora Goody', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nora Goody
Chairman, Tadley Parish Council
March 1982

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INTRODUCTION

Friends of yours and mine passing through Tadley from 'The Fighting Cocks' to 'The Falcon', gain the impression of a minor ribbon development without charm, interest or heritage. This book is intended to help the reader to enjoy Tadley and to help him answer any criticisms of 'Tadley God Help Us'. With the aid of walks beginning in Tadley and passing through the neighbouring parishes, the beauty, the variety and restfulness of the countryside will be revealed.

In order to convince critical friends of all the glories that the area possesses, the reader may have to do better than wave an arm and say 'Isn't it wonderful?'. Once their interest is aroused by the woods and copses, the fields, the excited little streams on their way to London, the scorched but triumphant common and all the little corners which are neither one nor the other, they will want to know more.

Their questions need to be answered with authority for your task to succeed, so you will need to know something of the flora and fauna, to have an acquaintance with the small cottages and old buildings, to have a framework of the past and to have a feeling for the traditions, the legends, the myths and the stirring tales of the 'Tads'. The walks shown in this book are annotated with this need in mind.

The abundance of trees and wild flowers, the common and rarer birds to be seen and the shy creatures both large and small (whose presence in large numbers is only appreciated in snow time) cannot be fully covered, but enough is provided to impress the reader's companions. Landmarks both natural and man-made are described, but when it comes to Tadley's place in the history of England it is a matter of using the imagination.

The area has no claim to fame or notoriety in English history, no great event took place here, but perhaps better still, people, many people both great and humble, have been passing to and fro throughout the centuries, following the maze of ancient paths.

It requires only a little imagination to experience the company of the local inhabitants of the past. So walk where the Stone Age people, having acquired their flints near Basingstoke, came to get their clay and food; encircle the Tumuli as they did 1,000 years B.C., march with the Romans along Portway to 'The Fighting Cocks' and wander around Silchester with the citizens of nearly twenty centuries ago. Stroll where the straggling Saxons and Danes retired from battle, go with the monks from Pamber Priory to their farmlands and their carp-filled ponds; survey the land with the lord of Tadley Place and take pride in all you survey with Reuben Hicks, 'King of Tadley' in the last century.

Some of the walks suggested are quite short, but walking a long distance does not bring necessarily greater enjoyment. Explore a little of Tadley and its environs and you will soon be extolling the joy and interest of the countryside which surrounds us, and wanting to know more of the quiet corners, full of secrets, changing splendours and peacefulness just around the corner from the A340.

ORDNANCE SURVEY MAPS OF TADLEY COMPARED

The first Ordnance Survey map of North Hampshire was published in 1817, based on a survey carried out between 1808 and 1817. Only minor changes were made to this map during the rest of the century, other than the addition of railways—evidence of the slow rate of change in rural areas during the nineteenth century.

On pages 6 and 7 we reproduce similar sections of the maps of the Tadley area, which resulted from the 1817 and 1980 surveys. It is interesting to compare the two.

The 1817 map gives a general impression of a more open, sparsely populated countryside. The village of Tadley was confined to what is now commonly known as 'Old Tadley'. Main Road and Winstone Avenue with the connecting lanes are readily identifiable. Presumably the 'Bowling Green' is now The Green, but whatever happened to 'Frame Green'? Pamber Forest has apparently swallowed that.

Tadley Common was clearly much more extensive in all directions and some of the tracks which are shown to cross it can be related to modern roads (Mount Pleasant, Gutteridge Lane). Others have disappeared completely.

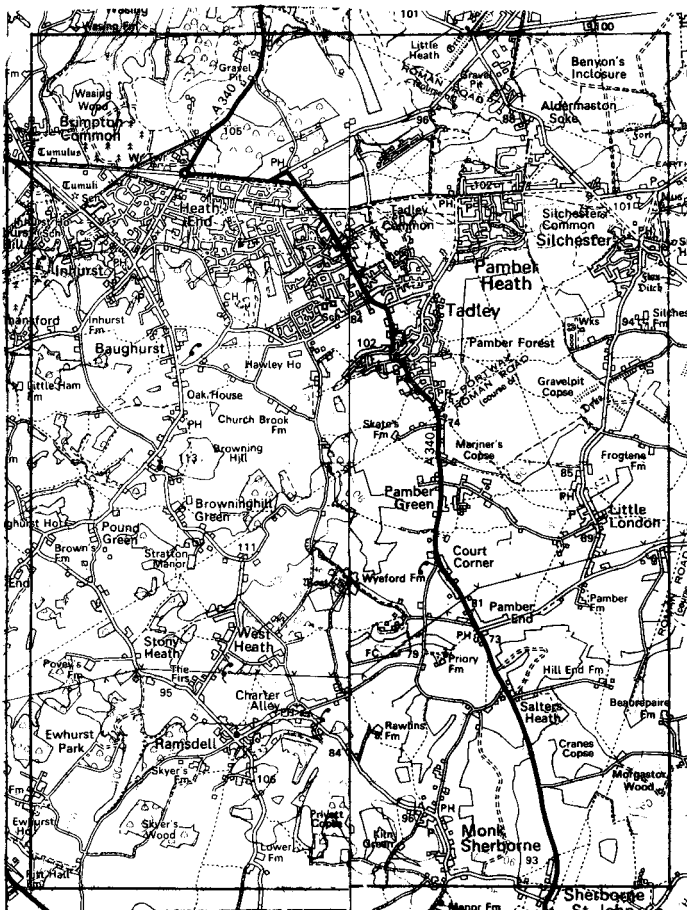
The route-lines of the principal roads in the 1817 map can still be identified, although that part of the A340 which now leads westwards from the 'Falcon' is not shown, even as a path.

It is interesting too, to see that some former roads are now paths; for example the road which led westward from the Basingstoke road along what is now Skates Lane and followed the line of the present path 22 to Church Road, north of St. Peter's Church.

In the Baughurst area similar comparisons can be made. The present road pattern may easily be recognised on the older map, but again some farm roads, near Browning Hill and close to the Wellington Arms, have become footpaths. The old cottage just north of the Wellington, known as the Old Post Office (which presumably it was), is shown on the old map as a Turnpike. The New Inn at Baughurst is named on the 1817 map where it still stands, although not as 'new' as it was and, sadly, recently renamed 'Badgers Wood'. In contrast, the Red Lion at Stoney Heath is now a private dwelling.

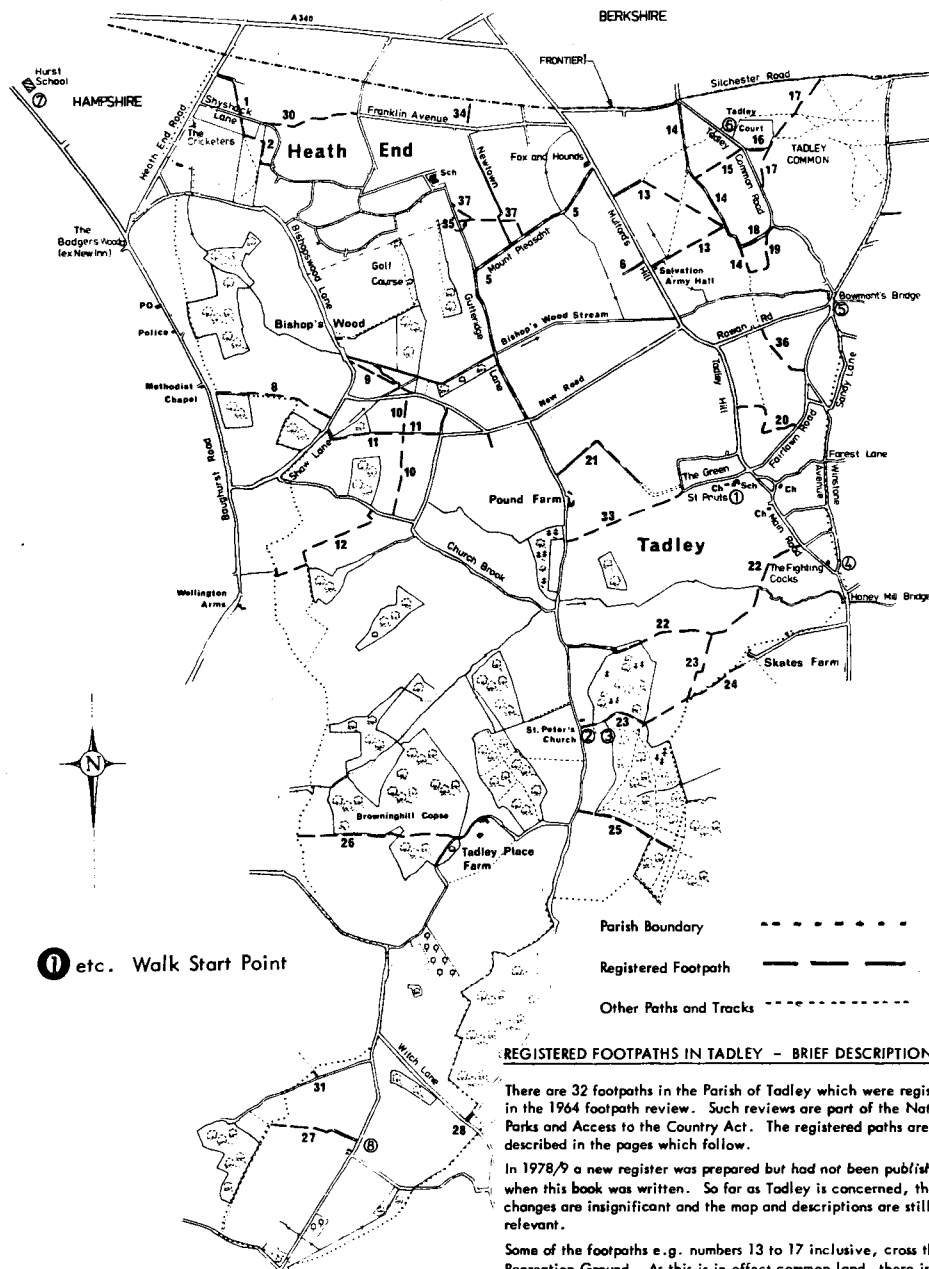


TADLEY 1817 - from the first edition of the
'one inch' Ordnance Survey Map



TADLEY, 1980 - extracted from the
1:50,000 Ordnance Survey Map

Tadley Roads and Footpaths



Path 1 (Ordnance Survey Map Reference: SU 583624 - 584623)

This path leads off Heath End Road 100 yards south of the county boundary. Walk eastwards along a gravel road (Pinks Lane) for 100 yards then turn right along a path enclosed by hedges and fences, to reach Shyshock Lane.

Path 2 (SU 584623 - 585621)

From Shyshack Lane, opposite the end of path 1, walk along a narrow gravel path between hedges to Heath End wood. The true line of the right of way then turns left, and after 50 yards, right, along the boundary of the wood, but an easier route is found by walking directly ahead from the enclosed section along an unregistered path through conifer woodland for about 150 yards, until a group of garages is reached. Turn left and walk through the garages to Wigmore Road.

Path 5 (SU 598621 - 596611)

This right of way, which includes the whole length of Mount Pleasant and Gutteridge Lane, is clearly no longer a footpath as we would define one in this book, and will probably be removed from the footpath register in the next review.

Path 6 (SU 600617)

This is a very short path linking Swains Close to the A340 on Mulfords Hill, next to the petrol filling station.

Path 8 (SU 587611 - 583612)

This path starts on Shaw Lane about 50 yards north east of the end of footpath 11, at a field gate. However, there is also a stile opposite the end of footpath 11 which will give access to this path but does not lie on the true line of the right of way. The path leads across the field, over a stile, along the boundary of the next field with the fence on the left, through a gap or gate and along the right hand edge of a copse and through a field gate to the Baughurst Road.

Path 9 (SU 588613 - 591612)

The path begins in Bishopswood Lane about 100 yards south of the golf course clubhouse. Cross the stile and walk SE across the golf course to another stile in the fence bordering New Road and beside a raised golf tee green (which will then be on your left). We would advise caution in walking this path; dogs must be kept under close control, walkers must keep to the line of the right of way, and of course it is only good manners and sensible self preservation not to impede the golfers!

Path 10 (SU 591612 - 590608)

The starting point is on the south side of New Road 300 yards east of the junction with Bishopswood Lane (see path 9). Cross the stile and set out directly across the field. At the far boundary of the field cross a ditch and a stile into the next field. Walk ahead across the field and after about 150 yards there is a hedge on the right. Follow the hedge line. At the far side is a stile. Cross this into a metalled lane.

Path 11 (SU 587611 - 592612)

This path begins at a field gate on the south side of Shaw Lane about 100 yards southwest of one end of footpath 8. It is marked by a footpath fingerpost. Cross the stile alongside the gate and walk southwards along a grass track for 100 yards, into a field. Turn left and walk along the left hand field boundary. Pass through the gate at the further end of the field and turn left onto an earth path which runs northwards between hedges. After 100 yards the path ends at New road, near the golf course.

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Path 12 (SU 589608 – 585605)

The path starts at Rimes Barn. Just past the barn on the same side, walking towards Baughurst, there is a stile a few feet from the road and rather hidden by bushes. Cross the stile and turning left, follow the left hand boundary of the field. At the far end there is a stile by a field gate. Cross this and when in the next field, turn left and walk for 50 yards with a hedge close on the left, then turn right and cross to the far side of the field. On reaching the further hedge turn right again and walk a further 50 yards, at which point the path ends at a stile in the left hand hedge. In fact you can continue by crossing this hedge and walking ahead on Baughurst footpath No.16 to reach Baughurst Road about 150 yards north of the Wellington Arms.

Path 13 (SU 599620 – 601617)

The western end (A340) of Blake's Lane marks one end of this path. Walk eastwards along Blake's Lane and where it emerges onto Tadley Recreation Ground (the Common) bear right and take a diagonal course away from the lane. After 400 yards the path meets a gravel track (footpath 14). Turn right onto the track and after a few yards turn right again on the far side of a large hedge. Walk along the line of the hedge which is now on your right. Continue past the hedge alongside a ditch bordering a housing estate, and after 400 yards reach the A340 main road once more at the Salvation Army Chapel.

Path 14 (SU 602624 – 605617)

This path starts at the junction of Silchester Road and Tadley Common Road. Walk southwards along Broadhalfpenny Lane with the Common (Recreation Ground) on your left, initially. After 400 yards the lane leaves the common and continues between fences and hedges for a further 150 yards, until it turns sharply to the left. At this point walk straight ahead through a gate into and through Giles Green Allotments. At the far side turn left, and after a few yards mount a short flight of steps to reach Hylton Court, which is in a cul-de-sac off Bowmonts Road.

Path 15 (SU 602621 – 605621)

This path starts from the eastern side of path 14 (Broadhalfpenny Lane) a few yards south of the junction of Broadhalfpenny Lane with the old concrete road which is an extension of Blakes Lane. As you walk southwards from that junction the path is on the left and runs between the gardens of two adjacent properties. The line of the footpath leads straight across the Common (Recreation Ground) to meet Tadley Common Road opposite the southern boundary of Tadley Court. If the footpath is obstructed by the growth of gorse it is of course open to you to take any convenient route as you are on common land.

Path 16 (SU605622)

This is a short path which starts on Tadley Common Road opposite the end of path 15. It runs eastwards along the southern boundary of Tadley Court for about 100 yards, to meet path 17.

Path 17 (SU 607624 – 605620)

The path starts from the southern side of Silchester Road 250 yards west of the junction with Pamber Heath Road. It leads southwestwards across Tadley Common towards Tadley Court, passing between the boundary of this property (on your right) and a detached house. Walk ahead through a gully over a crossway of tracks and after 200 yards, the path ends on Tadley Common Road.

Path 18 (SU 605619 – 604618)

This is a short track which starts on the western side of the sharp bend in West Street. It leads southwestwards for 150 yards to meet path 14.

Path 19 (SU 605618 - 605617)

Another short path which starts just off West Street on the track of path 18. Walk southwards along a metalled track between hedges, then past houses. Immediately past the houses the path turns right and in a few yards reaches Hylton Court, opposite one end of path 14.

Path 20 (SU 604612 - 606611)

This path starts on the A340 on the eastern side of Tadley Hill 300 yards up the hill from the junction with Rowan Road. Follow the gravel track away from the main road, past the Swedish Houses. The path soon turns sharply to the right between hedges and then left to reach Fairlown Road.

Path 21 (SU 597609 - 600609)

At the time of writing, this path was impassible because of building activities (part of the plan for the complete suburbanisation of Tadley). The path begins on the eastern side of Church Road 250 yards south of its junction with New Road. It runs between hedge and fences for 250 yards at which point there was formerly a stile. If you turned right to cross the stile there was a clear grossy slope leading uphill towards Gravelly Close, with commanding views over north Tadley. At the top of the field a second stile led onto a narrow path between gardens which soon reached Gravelly Close.

Path 22 (SU 597602 - 606606)

This path starts from Church Road about 150 yards south of the junction with Church Brook. The path leads eastward between hedges for 200 yards (warning: this section is muddy in places except in the driest weather), then enters Moor Copse. In the copse follow the path round to the left and soon reach the edge of the wooded area. Ahead, the path leads between hedges and bushes. After about 50 yards turn right to cross a stile into a field. Follow the left hand field boundary to the far corner of the field, where there is a field gate, at the junction of this path with one end of path 23. The line of path 22 turns left at this point. Cross one fence and after a few yards another. (These fences and the associated field boundaries mark the track of the old road which linked Church Road with Skates Lane and the Tadley to Basingstoke road. The line of path 22 follows the track of this road from Church Road to this point). Having crossed the second fence, turn right and then left, keeping to the right hand boundary of the field until you reach its far corner, where there is a stile. Cross the stile onto a narrow path between fence and hedge. After about 100 yards the path diverts from its line to cross a stream. On the far side of the stream cross a fence and walk straight ahead, uphill across a field. At the far side of the field, near a white house, turn right along the fence and after 50 yards reach a stile next to a field gate. Cross the stile and turn right onto a gravelled lane. After 100 yards the path ends at its junction with Main Road.

Path 23 (SU 597599 - 603603)

The western end of the path is on Church Road next to the southern boundary of St. Peter's Church churchyard. Turn left off the road and pass through a gap into a field. Walk away from the road, with the field boundary on you left. After about 200 yards the path enters a copse. Walk through the copse and then across a field in which the line of the path is usually well defined. At the field gate on the opposite side of the field turn left and follow the right hand hedge to the far boundary of the field where there is a fence. Cross the fence, turn right and again keep to the right hand edge of the field until you reach the further corner, where the path ends at its junction with Na.22.

Path 24 (SU 604602 - 602600)

One end of this path is at Skates Farm at the western end of Skates Lane. At the end of

the lane pass through the field gate on the left, then walk through the field into which it leads with the hedge on your left. After 250 yards reach another field gate where the path ends at its junction with path 23.

Path 25 (SU 597596 - 603594)

This path starts on Church Road about 300 yards south of St. Peter's Church, on the eastern side of the road. Walk down the track which, after 300 yards enters a copse (Walkner's Firs). The path ends 200 yards into this wood at the parish boundary, where it continues as Pamber path 6.

Path 26 (SU 593595 - 586595)

The path begins on the western side of the road about 100 yards south west of Tadley Place. To one side of a field gate is a gap through which walkers may pass. The first section of the path leads you through attractive mixed woodlands. At the further side of this wood cross a gate, a ditch and then a fence into a field. Cross directly over the field to the fence opposite and turn left. Walk along the field boundary with the hedge and fence on your right. On reaching the furthestmost corner of this field the path ends at the parish boundary, at a stile, continuing as Baughurst path 23 (Walk 3).

Path 27 (SU 588583 - 585583)

The eastern end of this path is the junction of Old Vyne Lane in West Heath with the main road through West Heath. Walk westwards along Old Vyne Lane until you reach the far end. Cross a stile and walk ahead across the field. (You may have to cross growing crops - the landowner has a statutory right to plough the land without re-instatement of the path). The line of the path lies between E and ESE. It ends at the parish boundary which is about 100 yards short of the far side of the field. If you continue to the far side you are on Baughurst path No.26 which meets Baughurst 51 beyond the field boundary.

Path 28 (SU 593584)

This path is about 100 yards long. It runs from Witch Lane, northeast to the southern end of Pamber footpath No.3. The first part has a metalled surface and passes through a pair of gates, the latter part is an earth track ending at a field gate, with a stile on the right hand side of it.

Path 30 (SU 585623 - 588623)

The western end of this path is at the Tadley end of Shyshack Lane. It has a metalled surface and leads eastwards across open heathland (open at the time of writing, but the area is scheduled for housing development). After 200 yards bear left onto a metalled track and in a further 100 yards, meet Hangar Road.

Path 31 (SU 587586)

This, like No.28, is a very short path. It extends from the western end of Hollybush Lane in West Heath northwards to a field gate at the parish boundary. Its total length is about 30 yards.

Path 33 (SU 602608 - 597607)

The path begins near the southwestern corner of Tadley Green. Walk westward from this point along the metalled road and where the road turns right, walk ahead along a gravel track which soon becomes an earth path between fences. To the left is a fine view across open countryside to Basingstoke, and beyond and to the right across North Tadley. After 400 yards the path passes over the crest of a ridge and descends into a pleasant valley, soon reaching Church Road.

Path 34 (SU 593623 - 593624)

Another short path, perhaps 150 yards long. It begins in Franklin Avenue, almost opposite the northern end of Newtown, and runs almost due north until it reaches the county boundary with Berkshire at a junction with a path which runs along the boundary.

Path 35 (SU 593619 - 594619)

A short path which runs along the southern edge of the playing field in Southdown Road, from Southdown Road to the junction, at the south eastern corner of the field, with footpath 37.






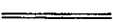

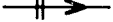

Path 36 (SU 605615 - 606613)

The northern end of this path is on Rowan Road at the north eastern corner of the Spiers Green Allotments. Cross the stile and walk ahead with the boundary hedge on your left, then uphill across the open field, along a track and finally reach Fairlawn Road at a field gate and stile.

Path 37 (SU 593620 - 595619)

The path leads south eastwards diagonally across Southdown Road playing field, from a point on Southdown Road near some play equipment. At the south eastern corner of the playing field turn left (this is the junction with path No.35). The path is now enclosed between fences and soon Newtown is reached. On the opposite side of Newtown the second part of the path leads from a pedestrian barrier across a field through a gap in a hedge, then turns right to run southeast between hedges to reach Mount Pleasant, near the junction with Pleasant Hill.

KEY to the Walk Maps

	WALK ROUTE (over metalled road)		ALTERNATIVE
	" " (on footpath or track)		ROUTES
	OTHER FOOTPATHS OR TRACKS		
	OTHER ROADS		
	WOOD OR COPSE		
	STILE, FENCE OR GATE		
	WALK SECTION, AS WALK DESCRIPTION		
M!	USUALLY MUDDY		

PREFACE TO THE WALKS (A 'PRE-AMBLE'?)

There are eight walk descriptions and maps. Three of the walks are offered in long and short versions, and of course all of them can be sub-divided in various ways.

The walks vary in length from two to seven miles and all but one of them start in Tadley Parish. We did intend that they should all start in Tadley, but we could not design a sensible route which did so and also included the Wasing Estate. Consequently walk number seven starts in Baughurst.

As you will see the routes reach into surrounding parishes all around Tadley, and include all the varieties of countryside that the area offers.

The descriptions are as accurate as we could make them at the time of publication but nothing is permanent. We would like to know of any significant changes you find, or any errors we have not detected.

Walking is pleasant at any time of the year - this is one of the first things the walker discovers about his pastime. The pleasures of Autumn and Winter and even wet walks can ease considerably the burden of the cold and dark seasons. Walking in all weathers demands a wise choice of clothing and footwear. You must also be prepared to meet muddy conditions. Where the paths are likely to be wet or muddy in all but the driest weather we have awarded the appropriate points in the descriptions and maps the symbol 'M'.

However, don't be too much deterred by mud. Stout boots and a stout heart will soon overcome such difficulties.

Some of the routes pass through private estates and woods, for example Wasing Park, Benyon's Enclosure and Pamber Forest, where wildlife, fox, pheasant and deer may be seen. If you take a dog with you it is essential that it is kept under close control to prevent disturbance and damage to wildlife.

Also, when passing through fields where cattle or other livestock are grazing, a dog must be kept on a leash. Young cattle and some cows seem to take a great interest in dogs and will follow you closely. However, they are easily "shooed" and are not malicious.

One tactic which we have not tested is to carry the dog - the cattle are then said to lose interest in it. Pat Minter's long-haired dog is usually too wet and muddy for this to be anything less than a desperate measure.

Incidentally, it is now legal for a bull to be kept in a field which is crossed by a right of way if the bull is accompanied by cows (the cows apparently have a moderating effect on the bull's behaviour - interesting isn't it?)

For further admonitions see the Country Code on page 19.

Good luck in your endeavours - we hope you find the walks enjoyable and navigable!

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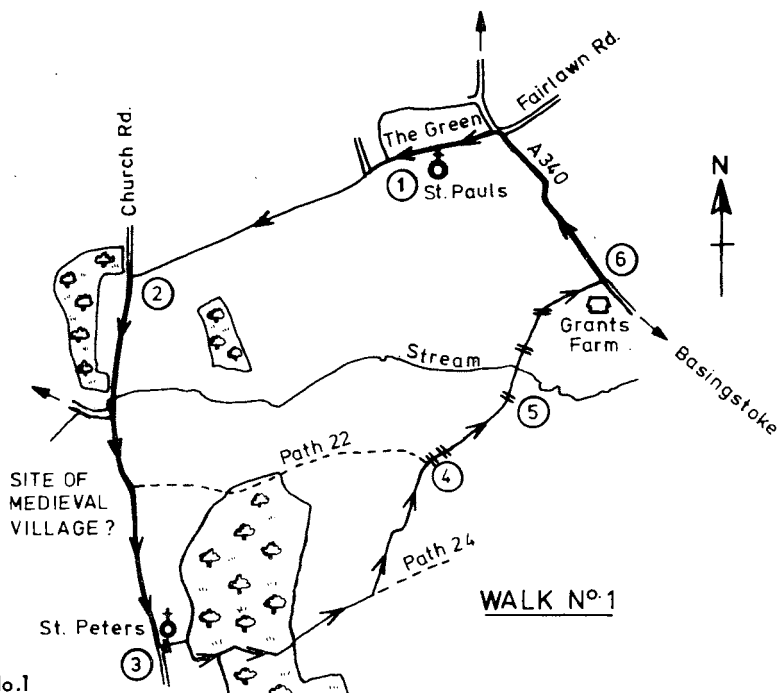
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WALK No.1

A short, pleasant walk starting at the heart of Old Tadley, the Green, and including the old and new Tadley churches.

DISTANCE: 2 miles (3¼ km)
 TIME: About 45 minutes
 STARTING POINT: St. Paul's Church (SU603609)

Plants and Wildlife:

Depending upon the season and on hedging activities, these may be seen:- The Wild Cherry, May trees ("Ne'er cast a clout till May is out"), the Guelder Rose, the Alder and the Elder. Primroses are fewer than twenty years ago, but Solomon's Seal and the Wood Anemone are still flourishing. In the copse reached soon after St. Peter's church are examples of the sweet chestnut. They are cut down frequently while still young to provide the material for cleft fencing, fence stakes and bean poles. The present growth suggests that the demand has decreased. There are a few fully grown sweet chestnuts. Notice the slender pale yellow flowers which do not appear until July or even August, giving little time for the chestnuts to develop. The Romans must have been disappointed in their introduction into the area. If you hear a splash in the stream in the latter part of the walk it will be a vole. Sticklebacks appear in the stream from time to time. (Note: The chestnuts were cut back a few weeks later).

1. From the church walk westwards with the Green on your right. After 100 yards the road turns to the right. Walk straight ahead onto a gravel road (Tadley footpath 33), which soon becomes an earth path between hedge and fence. The path leads along the crest of a ridge with good views to the north and to the south over Basingstoke and beyond. Follow the path over a hill crest and down to Church Road, in a peaceful half-wooded valley.

St. Paul's Church: (St. Saviour's)

the present church was built in 1966, replacing the pine and corrugated iron building (St. Saviour's) of 1888. The rectory is behind the church and replaced

the rombling old building which once stood in what is now Rectory Close. Later, you will be passing near the even older rectory - Born Close. Tadley School, nearby, has recently celebrated its centenary.

The Green:

Here, May Day was celebrated for many years in the traditional way, and also on 22nd July annually the Tadley Revel was held until 1822 when "only three booths were erected and the only visiting entertainment was a troupe of tumblers". Owing to lack of interest, Tadley Revel was held no more, until it was revived in 1965. William Mothe died in 1739 and in his will provided "three tenements under one roof for the poor, rent free". This building was situated opposite and on the other side of the Green to the school. Mothe's Charity and the Tadley Green Housing Association have now provided six purpose built flats for the elderly, on the same site.

Tadley lads would gather here to form a fighting party for an evening's sport against neighbouring parish worthies - meeting at the spot which provides the site for 'The Fighting Cocks'.

2. Turn left onto Church Road and walk down the hill, past the junction with Church Brook and uphill to reach St. Peter's Church at the top of the rise.

St. Peter's Church:

The present church was preceded by a stone chapel and before that by a wooden structure on the same site. Remains of the foundations of the 12th century stone chapel may be seen in the west wall. The present church was built in the 17th century, the bells cast in the 16th and 17th centuries, the earliest of which has a mysterious inscription on it which has never been deciphered. The church was restored in 1879. Note the gallery, the Jacobean oak pulpit and the 15th century oak door with a curious lock.

N.B. The door cannot be opened from the inside!

Site of Medieval Village:

Near the site of the church it can be assumed that there was a village which flourished at least until the 16th century. At that time, 12 cottages were pulled down heartlessly, by the lord of the Manor, and the villagers scattered. They resettled on the fringe of Pamber Forest and became mainly independent. Records confirm this; Tadley was unique in the early part of this century in having no tied cottages. Typical of this independence was John Mulford, an eccentric bachelor who lived as a hermit. He became respectable and wealthy, wore peculiar and splendid dress and had two chapels built. The Reading Mercury reported in 1814 that he died at the age of 94, leaving £20,000 and his name on Mulford's Hill.

3. Just beyond the church turn left onto Tadley footpath 23 passing through a gap into a field. Keep to the left hand boundary of the field until the path enters a copse in the field corner. Follow the path through the copse and across a field (in which the line of the path is usually well defined). At a field gate on the opposite side turn left (do not pass through the gate) and follow the right hand boundary, which is a hedge, to a fence at the far side of the field. Cross the fence, and again follow the right hand boundary right and then left to the far side of this field.
4. Immediately ahead is a fence and on your right a field gate. This is the junction of Tadley paths 22 and 23. Cross the fence, after a few yards cross another. The space between marks the route of an old road which connected Church Road with Skates Lane. Once over the second fence turn right and then left, again keeping to the right hand boundary of the field until you reach the far corner, where there is a stile.

5. Cross the stile onto a narrow path between fence and hedge. After about 100 yards the path diverts from its line to cross a stream. On the far side cross a fence and walk straight ahead, uphill across a field. At the far side, near a white house, turn right along the fence and after 50 yards reach a stile next to a field gate. Cross the stile and turn right onto a gravelled lane. After 100 yards turn left at the junction of the track with Main Road.

Grant's Farm:

Look right from the track as it reaches Main Road and you will see what is considered to be the oldest cottage in Tadley - "probably 600 years old". The present owner, Miss Nellie Grant, says that it has gained its present name through connection with her family but correctly it should be called 'Burrells Farm'. The interior is all whitewash and black beams: The beams in ceiling and wall were clearly not produced for building, but the old bolt holes etc. suggest they were formerly ships' timbers. (This is not uncommon in Tadley and suggests the ship-builders coming to Tadley for new timber frequently brought old timber as part of the deal). The downstairs rooms are low ceilinged, particularly so, because ceilings have been added in parts to prevent dust falling through from above. Some doorways are only five feet high. Victorian owners covered up the attractive walls with wallpaper - seven layers had to be removed to restore the original appearance.

The present entrance hall was once the dairy and had an adjacent windmill. The cottage contains an interesting picture by an artist friend of the family of a broody hen which insisted on sitting on and mothering a litter of pups whose mother, also in the picture, gratefully accepted this unexpected help.

The cottage is thatched with Norfolk reeds.

6. Walk up Main Road and over the crest of the hill. At the cross-road turn left onto the road leading to the Green. After 150 yards reach St. Paul's church again.

THE COUNTRY CODE

The Country Code is intended to encourage responsible behaviour by all who use the countryside for recreational purposes, to protect crops and livestock, to preserve the beauties of the country and, not least, to promote good relations between walkers and farmers and Londoners.

The Country Code advises:

1. Guard against fire.
2. Fasten all gates.
3. Keep dogs under proper control.
4. Keep to the paths across farm land.
5. Avoid damaging fences, hedges and walls.
6. Leave no litter.
7. Safeguard water supplies.
8. Protect wild life, wild plants and trees.
9. Go carefully on country roads.
10. Respect the life of the countryside.

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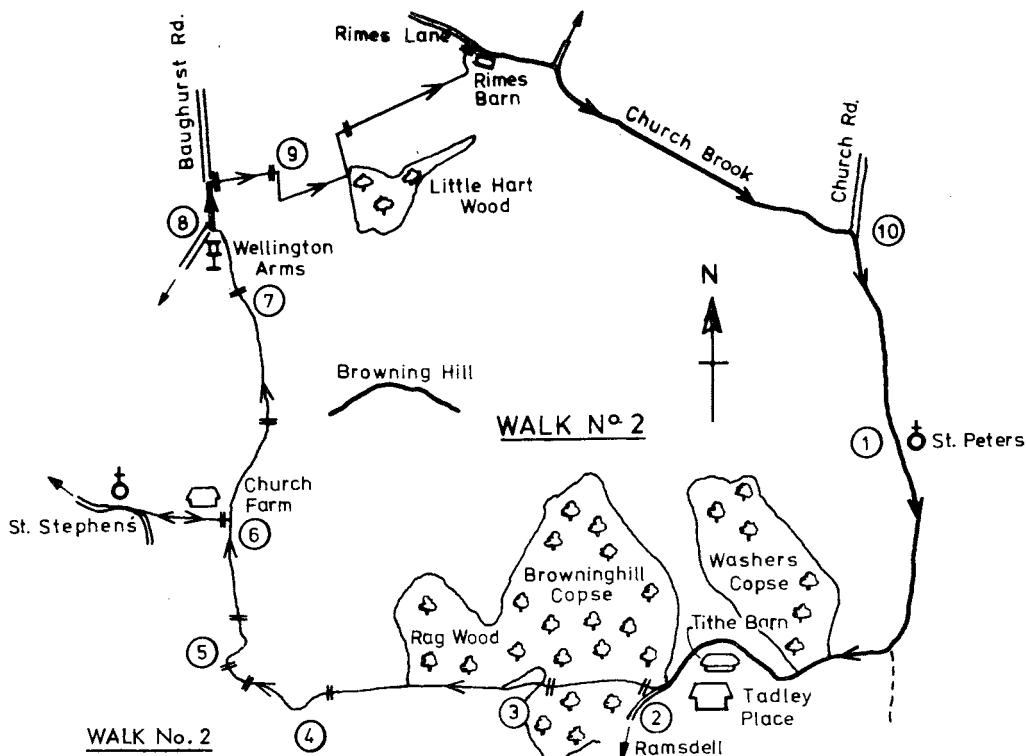
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WALK No. 2

A walk of medium length on footpaths and quiet roads, with enjoyable views across open countryside and with some interesting buildings en route.

DISTANCE: Approximately $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles ($4\frac{1}{2}$ km)
TIME: $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours, allowing time to look for moles.
STARTING POINT: St. Peter's Church (SU59 7599)

Plants and Wildlife:

Both items of the Hampshire emblem can be seen hereabouts, the wild briar rose and elder. Look for squirrels, jays and magpies. Moles are so numerous on Browning Hill that it is worth watching for a mole hill to appear.

1. From St. Peter's Church walk southwards along the metalled road, leaving the church on the left hand side. After 400 yards, the road turns sharply to the right and in another 400 yards, reaches Tadley Place Farm at the Tithe Barn. Just beyond the farm buildings is Tadley Place itself.

St. Peter's Church:

The present church was preceded by a stone chapel and before that by a wooden structure on the same site. Remains of the foundations of the 12th century stone chapel may be seen in the west wall. The present church was built in the 17th century, during the Civil War and the Commonwealth. The square brick tower contains the bells cast in the 16th and 17th centuries, the earliest of which has a mysterious inscription on it which has never been deciphered. The church was restored in 1879. Note the gallery, the Jacobean oak pulpit and the 15th century oak door with a curious lock.

N.B. The door cannot be opened from the inside!

Tithe Barn:

This spacious barn suggests that the tithes to be paid were heavy. The entrance would have enabled a large waggon to enter. The whole barn has a wooden floor and there must be justification for thinking it is one of the largest thatched barns in the county, if not the country.

Tadley Place:

Tadley Place Farm is situated on the Portway, the ancient road from Old Sarum to Silchester. The farm was rebuilt in the early part of the 17th century when Henry Ludlow of Wyeford ordered the demolition of twelve cottages for this purpose. This led to the removal of the population from the area of St. Peter's Church and their settling further away on the edge of the forest. Local opinion believes that Henry's father, Sir Edmund Ludlow, was also responsible for the ill treatment of his tenants. Sir Edmund was knighted by Queen Elizabeth I when she visited The Wyne in 1601. His grandson, Colonel Edmund Ludlow, a confidante of Cromwell and a signatory to the death warrant of Charles I was also, later, the owner of Tadley Place. There was once a windmill near Tadley Place.

2. 100 yards past Tadley Place, the road curves to the right and then to the left. At the second bend on the right hand side are two field gates. To one side of the further gate is a gap through which walkers may pass to join Tadley footpath No.26. The first part of the path is through attractive mixed woodlands. At the further end of the woodland, go through a gate, over a ditch and over a fence into a field.
3. From the fence you have just crossed, walk to the fence opposite and turn left. Walk along the field boundary with the hedge and fence on your right. Once you have passed the copse on the right (Rag Wood) there is a good view across country to Browning Hill (371 feet) and the spire of Baughurst Church is visible on the near horizon. The path continues along the right hand field boundary to the far corner of the field. Cross a stile and enter a narrow track between hedge and fence (Baughurst path No.23).
4. The path soon emerges into a small field, where it follows the left hand boundary to the first corner. At this point, walk up a small bank and turn right at the top. Follow the path for about 100 yards along the top of this bank. Look to your right for a path down the bank. At the bottom, cross a ditch by a plank bridge and turn left. Follow the left hand boundary to a fence and stile. Cross the stile into a paddock and walk directly across the paddock to a second stile. Cross this on to a gravel track with a field gate immediately to your left. Turn right onto the track (Baughurst path No.21).
5. Follow the track. After about 40 yards, turn left to pass in front of a cottage and cross a small stream. Walk straight ahead from the stream to a stile. Cross it and walk uphill along the left hand field boundary. Below the top of the rise the buildings of Church Farm and St. Stephen's Church, Baughurst, can be seen. Just past a barn which lies parallel and close to the left hand field boundary is a stile. (If you wish to visit the church, cross the stile and walk ahead through Church Farm to the public road next to the church.)

Church Farm:

The farmhouse was built a little way east of the church, over 400 years ago. It is a timber-framed structure now infilled with brick. The original construction probably used wattle and daub instead of brick, with a thatched roof. Perhaps sixteen generations of farming families have succeeded each other here.

St. Stephen's Church:

The present church was built in 1845 on the site of a Saxon church, which had

previously collapsed. It is of Gothic style with an unusual octagonal tower. The church contains a 15th century choir screen, which is now at the western end of the church. The old church contained a Jacobean oak pulpit which was removed from the ruins and is now in Baughurst Methodist Church.

6. Continue to the hill crest, keeping to the left hand field boundary. At the top is a fine view to the north across Baughurst and Tadley. Cross one stile and descend a steep bank to a second. Cross this and walk down the left hand boundary of the next field. Notice that this boundary is, in fact, a double hedge with a space between. It is an old road, shown on the 1817 Ordnance Survey map. (Page 6).
7. About 100 yards before the far corner of the field, the path bears left onto an enclosed track. After a few yards, cross a stile. The path continues between hedges towards the Wellington Arms, which is soon seen on the left hand side. On reaching the end of the enclosed part of the path (M!) turn left and follow the path which joins the Baughurst Road at the Wellington Arm's forecourt.
8. Immediately, or later, leave the Wellington Arms and turning right, walk downhill, keeping to the right hand side of the road. Just beyond the Wellington is the cottage known as the 'Old Post Office'. It is shown on the 1817 O.S. map of the area as a turn-pike, where road tolls were collected. After about 150 yards, turn right at a field gate leading to a paddock. At the side of the gate is a stile. Cross it and walk straight ahead with the hedge on your right. At the far side of the field, cross another stile.
9. Once over the stile, turn right and after 50 yards turn left to cross the field. At the further side, turn left again and after 50 yards turn right to pass through a field gate or over the stile to one side of it. Walk down the next field with the fence and hedge on your right. Follow the field boundary until you come to a stile near a small barn (Rimes Barn). Cross the stile to reach a metalled road.
10. Turn right along the road and walk downhill to a road junction. Turn right into Church Brook and after half a mile reach the junction with Church Road. Finally, turn right into Church Road and walk up the hill to St. Peter's Church.

NOTES ON THE PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Dix Hill, Approach to Tadley, about 1930

A summer scene on a quiet country road. The road, now the busy A340, was metalled in 1926 from the county boundary to Park Prewett. The Fighting Cocks is visible near the left edge of the picture, and the thatched cottage is still prominent in the modern scene.

2. Hospital Sunday, 1922

This gathering was at the Fox & Haunds. The Band is assembling for the event, and nearly everyone is dressed in their best. The group of little boys on the right is almost certainly up to no good! The proceeds of Hospital Sunday events went to local hospitals.

3. Besom Makers, Early 1920s

The photograph was taken in Sandy Lane. The besoms, made by the Bowman family who are pictured here, fetched 1/3d. per dozen. Compare this leafy scene with Sandy Lane today.

4. Tadley Gospel Temperance Band, in 1907

A fine collection of instruments, and moustaches! The building in the background, next to the Methodist Church on Tadley Hill, is still used as a band rehearsal room by Tadley Concert Brass. Nowadays, however, it is in a much poorer state of preservation.

5. On Tadley Hill, About 1925

The scene is familiar, although now much changed. The lane on the left leads to The Green. The main road was surfaced with granite chippings at this time. The corner cottage has a shop front and a letter box next to the door. It was owned by Mr. Rogers, a gracer. The small building on the right of the road was a haberdashers (Jock Laidlaws) and before that, a fish and chip shop.

6. On Tadley Hill, 1982.

The only features which have endured from the earlier photograph are the line of the road and part of the hedge next to the nearest corner. The tree stump on the corner is presumably all that remains of the tree in the alder picture.

7. St. Peter's Church (about 1905)

The age of the photograph was judged by comparing the present gravestones with those in the picture. The headstone to the left of the church looks almost new - it is dated 1900. We were interested to discover that many of the other headstones have been moved from the positions shown in the picture. The church has changed little in appearance, apart from losing the ivy and gaining a weathercock. The tower roof is now tiled.

8. The Old Place (1930s?)

The date of the photograph is uncertain, but the road seems to be metalled and the cottage, which is still there in Fairlawn Road, appears to have an electricity supply, to judge from the supply poles which are just visible. The camera man was looking west towards Main Road. A thatched cottage roof can just be discerned on the left hand side. Today the entrance to Cedar Close is on the left, near the camera. The Old Place is not visible!



1. Tadley Hill Approach, about 1930



2. Hospital Sunday, 1922



3. Besom Makers



4. Tadley Gospel Temperance Band, in 1907



5. On Tadley Hill, About 1925



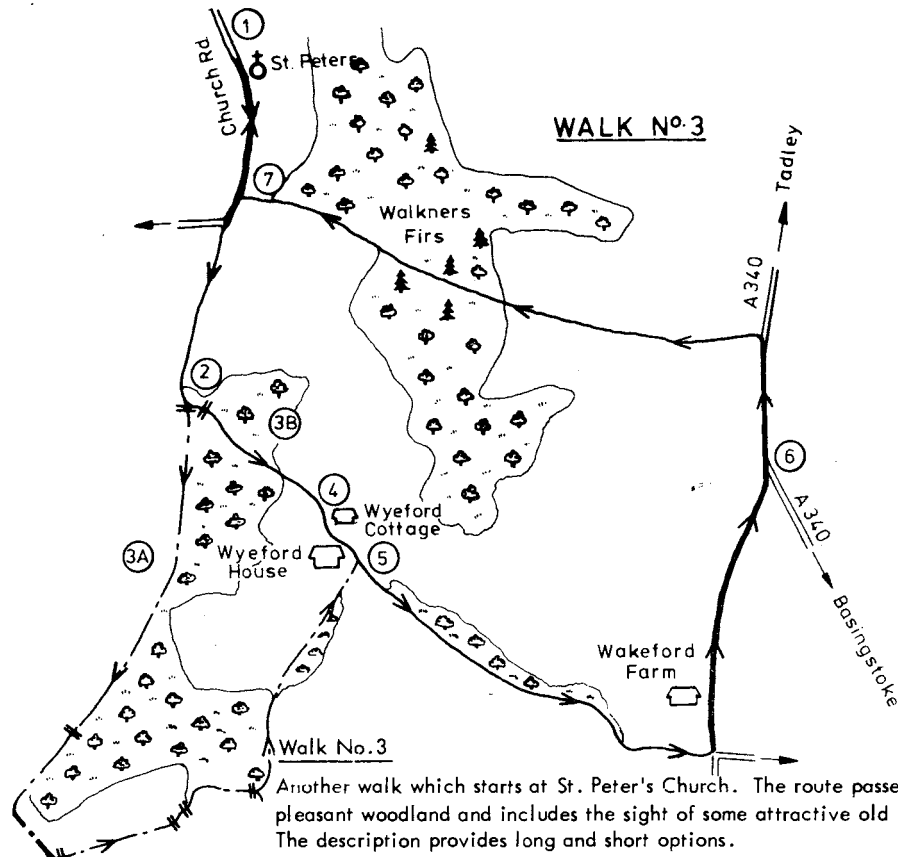
6. On Tadley Hill, 1982



7. St. Peter's Church About 1905



8. The Old Place (1930s?)



Witch Lane DISTANCE:

2½ miles (4½ km) (shorter walk)

3½ miles (6km) (longer walk)

TIME:

1 - 1½ hours

STARTING POINT:

St. Peter's Church (SU597599)

Plants and Wildlife:

Throughout the walk a good variety of trees may be seen, including some splendid oaks in which, unusually, mistletoe is growing. However, the splendid elms which used to line the track in Section 1, died from Dutch Elm disease and have now been felled. It is not unusual to see deer hereabouts.

1. Leaving the church on your left hand side, walk southwards along the road. After 350 yards the metalled road turns sharply to the right. Walk straight ahead down a grassy track between banks and hedges.

St. Peter's Church:

The present church was preceded by a stone chapel and before that by a wooden structure on the same site. Remains of the foundations of the 12th century stone chapel may be seen in the west wall. The present church was built in the 17th century, during the Civil War and the Commonwealth. The square brick tower contains the bells cast in the 16th and 17th centuries, the earliest of which has a mysterious inscription on it, which has never been deciphered. The church was restored in 1879. Note the gallery, the Jacobean oak pulpit and the 15th century oak door with a curious lock.

N.B. The door cannot be opened from the inside.

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2. After 350 yards the path curves to the left to a white barred gate through which the tracks proceeds. To your right is a stile leading into an adjacent field. At this point you must decide between the short and long versions of the walk.

3A. If you choose the longer route, cross the stile into the field and walk southwards, with the fence bordering the wood on your left. After about 300 yards pass over a ditch by a plank bridge and in another 400 yards pass a stile on your left a few yards ahead of a field gate. Continue along a track between barbed wire fences, passing a scrap-yard on your right, and to meet Witch Lane, a metalled road. Turn left onto Witch Lane and after 150 yards cross over a stile in the left hand hedge (just past a gravelled farm road on the same side). Walk ahead (Sherborne No.45) keeping the field boundary on your left. At the end of the field, cross a footbridge on the left and follow the path (Pamber No.1) left and then right over another footbridge and stile. Cross another field, keeping close to the left hand boundary until you come to a white gate. Passing through the gate, turn left onto a grassy track (Pamber No.2). After 600 yards, the track comes to a junction, with Wyeford House on your left and Wyeford Farm ahead of you. Turn right at the junction. (Now read on from Section 4 following).

3B. If you choose the shorter route, pass through the white field gate onto the footpath (Pamber No.2). After 400 yards, Wyeford Farm and Wyeford House come into sight.

Wyeford House and Cottage:

The manor is first mentioned in 1166. The present house is 17th century and the nearby cottage is 16th century. At about this period the owners of the estate (Ludlows) were associated with oppression of their tenants and a refusal to pay both wages and taxes. There is also the story of a ghostly coach which drives up to the main entrance at great speed and then disappears.

Wyeford House was described by a historian in 1901 as 'badly neglected' but now this beautifully maintained gabled and red brick manor (or farm) house is a wonderful surprise to the walker coming upon it for the first time. A local woman who worked at the house at the age of 11 remembers taking out meat for storage in the ice house in the woods. Another Tadley resident remembers the large block of wood inside the entrance which once lifted by leverage the bridge over the moat.

Please keep strictly to the paths and keep dogs on the leash in the vicinity of the house and farm.

4. Walk ahead past the farm and through a gateway (the stone lions on the gatepost hold shields bearing an Irish coat of arms; no local significance) onto a fine driveway (Pamber No.4) lined with trees.

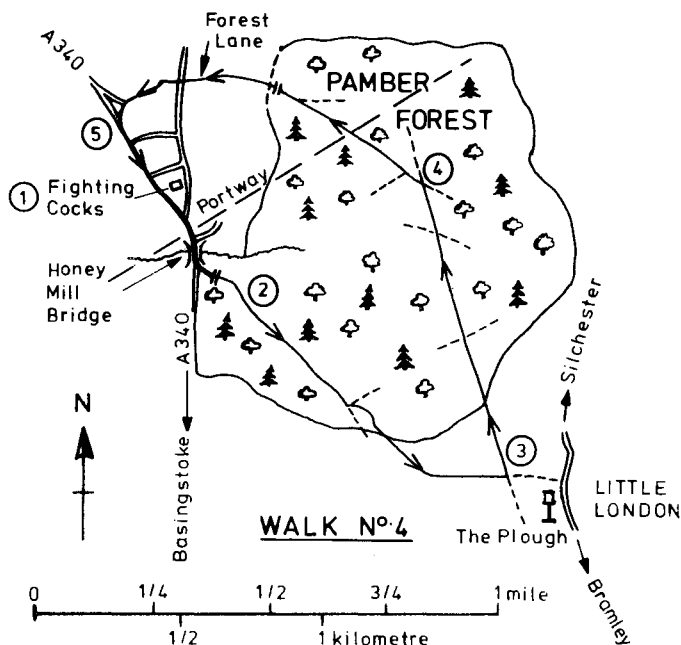
5. Follow the drive to its junction, at a crossroads, with a metalled road. Turn left onto the road and after 100 yards, pass Pamber Place. After a further 400 yards, the road joins the A340 Basingstoke to Tadley road.

Pamber Place:

Formerly Wakeford Farm. Its date is 1665 and it is thought to have been built by a London merchant to escape the Plague. More recent owners include Sir Wyndham Knight, related to Jane Austen, and Mrs. Nagle, well known for her struggles to secure the admission of female members to the Jockey Club and the Kennel Club.

6. Walk along the left hand footpath of the A340 and after 250 yards turn left onto a farm track (with a footpath marker) immediately before the 'Pamber Green' signpost. Follow the track uphill (Pamber No.6). After 500 yards, it enters a small wood and in another 300 yards emerges from it, and leads straight ahead across an open field to Church Road.

7. Turn right onto Church Road and after 300 yards reach St. Peter's Church.



WALK No.4

This is one of the shorter walks, through Pamber Forest and old Tadley, with several opportunities for refreshment.

DISTANCE: $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles (4km)

TIME: $1\frac{1}{4}$ hours

STARTING POINT: Fighting Cocks Public House, Main Road, Tadley (SU607605)

Plants and Wildlife:

This walk will give the walker an opportunity to note the variations of trees and flora in Pamber Forest, described elsewhere in this book. Pamber Forest, strictly speaking, is the wooded area entirely in the Parish of Pamber, so excludes the adjacent wooded area on the N.E. fringe which is part of Silchester Common. In accordance with the National Parks & Access to the Countryside Act 1949, the Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council has adopted Pamber Forest as a Nature Reserve. It is managed by a committee of representatives from neighbouring Parish Councils and interested parties such as the curator of Reading Museum. There are twelve voluntary wardens. The Bye-Laws are, at present, particularly beneficial to the walker. Indeed, no hovercraft are allowed in the Forest and aircraft are only permitted to land in case of emergency! Whereas in recent years only certain paths were public rights of way, every path is now available to the walker.

1. From the Fighting Cocks walk downhill and over Honey Mill Bridge. (As you pass it, note the unmetalled track on your left - this is the line of Portway, the Roman road from

Silchester to Salisbury. (Don't follow this track). About 100 yards beyond the bridge, turn left at a footpath marker and pass through a field gate into Pamber Forest and onto a footpath.

Portway:

Portway, the Roman road from Silchester (Calleva) to Salisbury, passes through Pamber Forest. It does not coincide with any major path in the forest and it is not easily located. It crosses the long path through the middle of the forest, roughly half way along, and crosses the A340 just north of Honey Mill Bridge.

2. After 150 yards bear right at a fork in the path and keep straight on. When, later, the path bears left, ignore the right turn. Later still it bears left again when it meets a path from the right. After 50 yards, turn right along a path which soon emerges from the forest, and its route is seen clearly across the open field. At the crest of the rise there is a good view towards Basingstoke.
3. At the crest there is a 'cross-roads' of paths. Turn left. (In fact at this point the authors press on to 'The Plough Inn' at Little London, which you can reach in a few minutes by not turning left but by walking straight on!) The path re-enters the forest. Go straight on and across a 'cross-roads' after 150 yards. Ignore minor paths which intersect the main path. After about 700 yards the path is crossed by another major path. Turn left.
4. Carry straight on to the forest edge, which is reached after 600 yards. Pass through posts to a path across fields, which leads to Forest Lane (caravans on the right). Cross Winstone Avenue to Malthouse Lane. Walk up Malthouse Lane and bear left at the top. On reaching Main Road, turn left to 'The Fighting Cocks'.

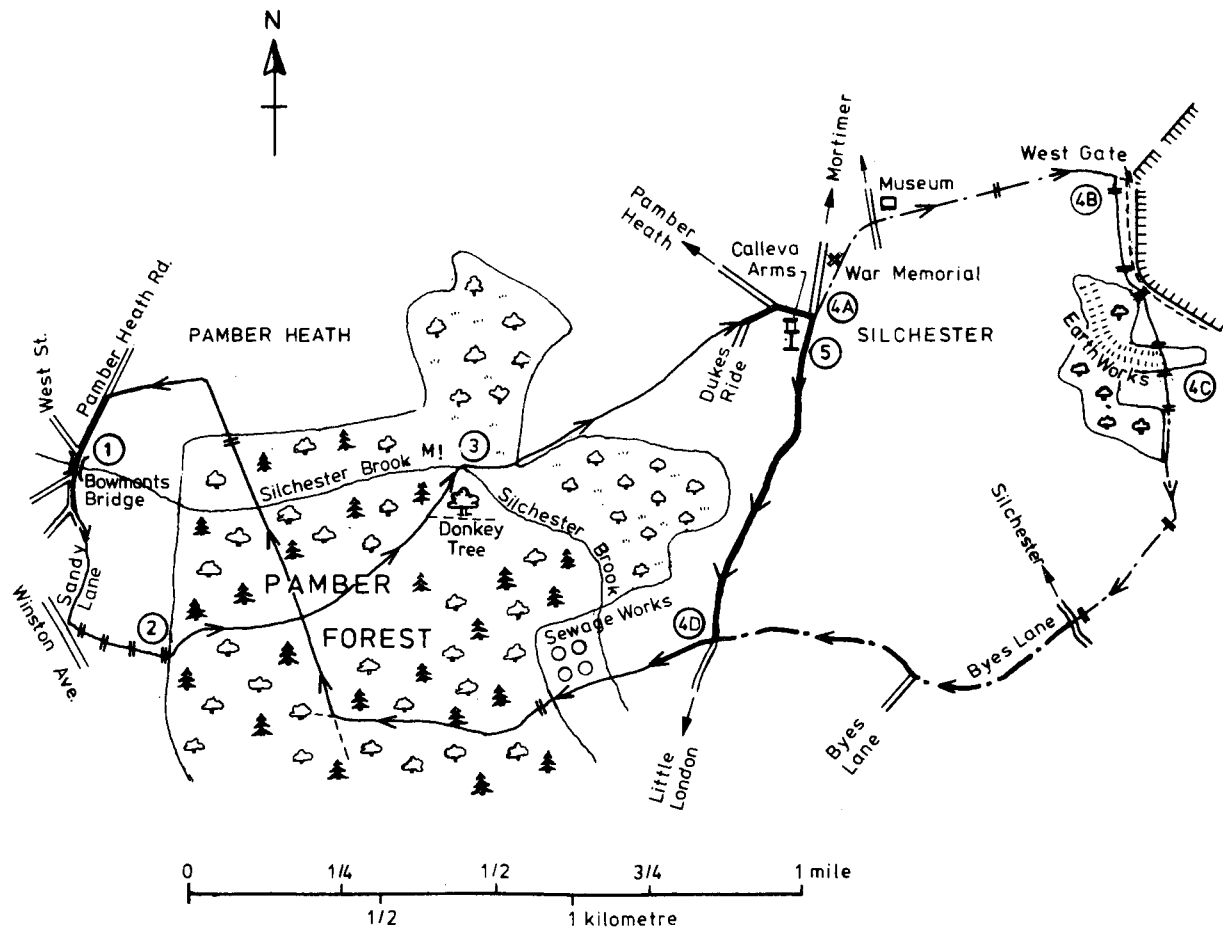
Malthouse Lane:

This is part of the conservation area of Tadley, but there is at least one example of good modern house building in the Lane. The protected buildings are Con's Cottage, built in 1601 (deeds dated 1628) and the Crooked Cottage, built in the 17th century and once a general store 'having a wonderful smell of grain and meal in stock for the local small-holders'. A local describes the lane as the one time business centre of Tadley: It was here and nearby that the Tadley craftsmen operated. At the junction in the Lane is the Meeting House, built in 1718. During the Commonwealth period Puritans worshipped in the churches. In 1662, after the Restoration, many Puritans were ejected from their churches and began to have prayer meetings in their own homes. It was in response to this situation that this and other meeting houses were built.

Opposite the Meeting House is a house which was, in living memory, an inn - the Malthouse, which brewed its own ale.

In Main Road look for Pear Tree Cottage on the corner of Manse Lane: This again is a 17th century structure and was built as two cottages. Yew Tree Cottage on the corner of Knapp Lane is also 17th century and opposite is Grant's Farm, said to be 600 years old. The Fighting Cocks had a splendid two-seater for ladies in 1955 but that has disappeared, as has the pub 'The Star', nearly opposite in Dix Hill.

WALK No.5



WALK No.5

This walk starts at Bowmont's Bridge and passes through Pamber Forest to Silchester. The longer version skirts the walls of Roman Silchester and returns circuitously to Pamber Forest. The shorter route does not go beyond Silchester village but also returns through the forest.

DISTANCE: 4 miles ($6\frac{1}{2}$ km) shorter walk

$5\frac{1}{2}$ miles ($8\frac{3}{4}$ km) longer walk

TIME: $1\frac{1}{2}$ or $2\frac{1}{4}$ hours.

STARTING POINT: Bowmont's Bridge at the junction of Rowan Road, West Street, Fairlawn Road and Pamber Heath Road (SU607616)

Plants and Wildlife:

The walk through Pamber Forest shows the sudden change from deciduous trees to conifers. There are many birches to be seen. This tree provided material for the Tadley besom. Indeed, in times past, Pamber Forest and other local woodlands were a valuable resource for the traditional crafts which flourished in the Tadley area.

Besides broom makers Tadley was noted for basket makers, scythe makers, hurlers, paten (wooden shoe) makers and bowl turners. A very readable source of information on this topic is given in the reference on page 52. The Romans introduced many trees in this country, including the cherry, the walnut and the chestnut; you will see the latter, which may well be the result of the original Roman planting. At the right time of the year you may check the reliability of the old Hampshire rhyme -

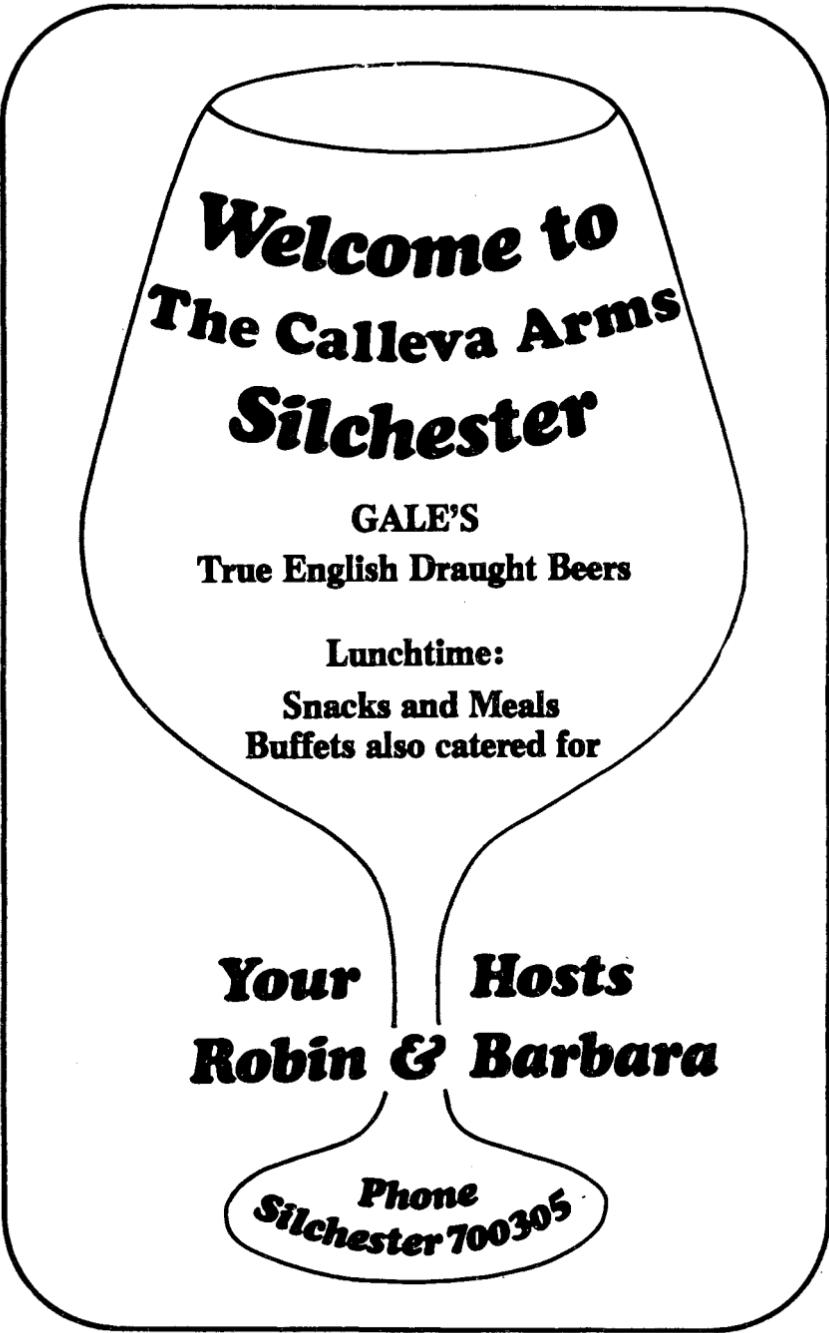
When the oak comes before the ash,
Then be ready for a splash;
When the ash before the oak,
Then be ready for a soak.

Wolves, wild boars and wild cats once lived in the forest. With snow on the ground footprints prove the presence to-day of deer, foxes, rabbits, hares, voles, etc. As in all districts around Tadley, you will probably disturb a loudly objecting pheasant - again, a consequence of the Roman occupation. Adders enjoy a warm dry place for sun-bathing. They may be recognised by the zig-zag pattern on the back and somewhat flattened head. They will hear you before you see them usually, and disappear.

Adders' skins were used by caravan dwellers in the past to keep away the 'evil eye'.

1. From the bridge, beneath which flows Silchester Brook, walk southwards into Fairlawn Road. After about 50 yards bear left into Sandy Lane which, as its name implies, is unmetalled. Walk uphill and just as the lane curves right to meet Winstone Avenue, turn to the left to pass through a gate onto Pamber footpath Na.29. The path starts as a grassy track with a bungalow on your left and a fence on the right. After a few yards cross a fence into a field and walk straight ahead to the further boundary where there is a stile. Cross the stile and the next field, keeping to the right hand boundary and at the far end, pass through a field gate into Pamber Forest. This is the area once known as 'Frame Green' (see map on page 6).

2. Once in the forest, turn to the left along a well defined track which then bears to the right. After 400 yards through attractive mixed woodland, reach a crossing with another major track. (This is one of the highest points in the forest and there is a magnificent stand of conifers on the left). Continue straight ahead. (Deciduous trees again). The path curves gently to the left and after about 400 yards turns more sharply left and downhill, passing another path on the right. About 100 yards past this junction you encounter Silchester Brook once more.



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The Donkey Tree:

At the path junction 100 yards before Silchester Brook look for a magnificent oak tree on your right. This is known locally as the Donkey Tree, so called because of the story of the Tadley man who owned an aged donkey which had long since served any useful purpose to its master. He, fearing it would never die, took it into the forest, taking with him a long rope, and hanged the poor beast on this oak.

3. Cross at the footbridge and walk up the slope opposite and through a gap in the fence some yards from the stream. Bear right onto the upper footpath. At this point there are arrow markings on two trees, indicating the right of way. (Silchester path No.1). Soon the path crosses another stream by a bridge, continues alongside it for a little and leads uphill through small trees and scrub. At the top of the hill it runs behind some house gardens and ends at a metalled road (Duke's Ride). Walk ahead along the road and at the road junction, turn right. A few steps bring you to Silchester Common and the Calleva Arms. A few yards past the Calleva Arms is a road junction. At this point you must decide between the shorter and longer versions of the walk. If you wish to walk the shorter route, go to paragraph 4B.

Silchester Common:

Not far from Calleva Atrebatum, so it can be imagined that the Belgic tribe, the Atrebatas, knew this spot well and must have shared it later, rather ruefully, with the Romans. One can imagine it, too, throughout the ages as a centre of village life, but the great occasion must have been in 1601 when Queen Elizabeth was met by a magnificent cavalcade of noblemen here on her way to stay at the Wyne at Sherborne St. John.

4A. If you decide to take the longer route, cross the road, turn left and walk towards the War Memorial, about 100 yards away. Pass behind the Memorial and take the path which leads ahead and slightly to the right. The path ends at a metalled road. Cross the road and turn right down a gravelled road. Immediately on the left hand side of the track is Calleva Museum.

Calleva Museum:

This small, charming museum is open at all times in daylight and is well worth a brief stop. It gives sufficient background to appreciate what you are about to see at the end of the lane. (Further information and exhibits are to be found in Reading Museum).

Follow the track (Silchester No.9) for half a mile. At first it is enclosed between hedges, but later passes through a gateway, then between fences past open fields and finally approaches and reaches the walls of the Roman city of Calleva, at its West gate. The gateway is a good point at which to survey the extent of the walls and to imagine the size of the old city.

Roman Silchester:

Calleva Atrebatum, founded possibly a few years BC by the Atrebatas (People of the Wood), a Belgic tribe escaping from the continent and Roman conquest, only to be engulfed by them again. It was a commercial centre in Roman times and not a military town, and owed its importance to the junction of roads with the London to Bath road, the Devil's Highway (a walk for another day). Inside the walls was the forum, a basilica, baths, temples and an early Christian church and outside an amphitheatre. The town does not seem to have survived for long after the departure of the Romans. In mediaeval times a giant named Onion lived there, and is said to have hurled a stone a distance of two miles to the Impstone (at Pamber Heath), or was it a Roman milestone? In early times coins were found

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and thought to be part of Onion's treasure, and were known as 'Onion's pennies'. Excavation took place in 1864-78 and although important finds were removed, much of the remains have been covered again in order to preserve them.

5. Turn around to face the way you have come. There are two kissing-gates in the fence on you left. Pass through the further one and walk along the field edge, with the city wall a few yards away on the left hand side. After 350 yards the wall turns away eastwards. At the far left corner of the field, pass through another gate and turn left onto a short lane which connects two fields. After about 100 yards, yet another gate alongside a field gate. From the gateway the line of the path leads diagonally to the right across the field. (You may prefer to walk around the edge). At the far side you will find a gate connecting with a well defined path through a copse. On the right is an earth bank which formed part of the outer defences of the Roman city.

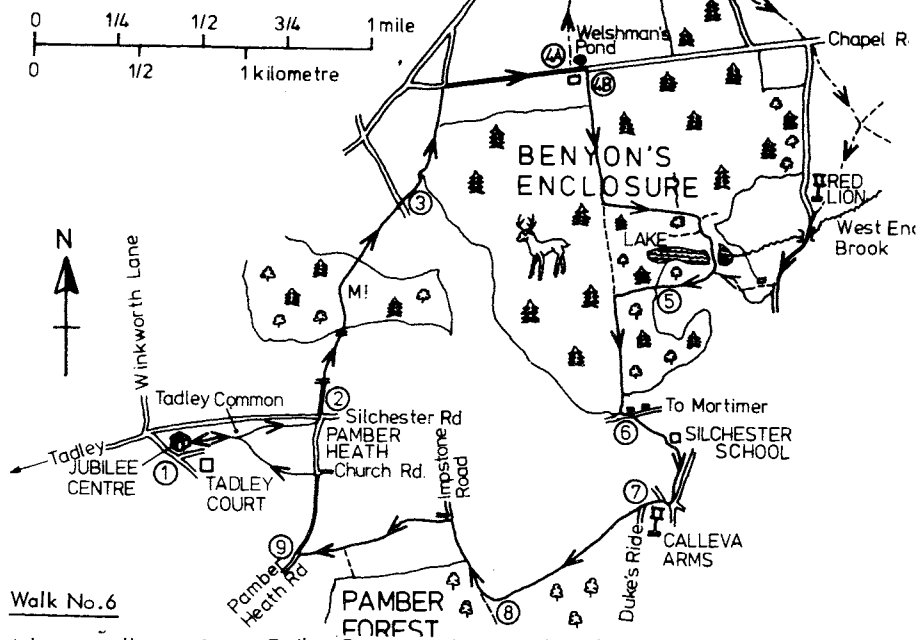
6. At the end of the copse, cross a stile and walk ahead across the field to a field gate. If you look back at this point you will have a very impressive view of the walls, particularly the restored section. Pass through the gate and walk downhill to the far side of the field, where there is a gate and stile, next to a stream. Cross the stile and walk on, keeping the field boundary on your left. After a quarter of a mile the path ends at a stile. Cross the stile and the metalled road into Byes Lane, opposite. Walk down Byes Lane and after 700 yards bear right, where the lane turns left, onto a metalled road. The road leads uphill past Silchester Farm, reaching a crossroads after another 700 yards. Cross to the lane opposite.

7. Walk downhill, past a footpath fingerpost (Silchester No.3). The lane soon becomes a track which passes a sewage works, and into Pamber Forest again. Walk ahead for about 200 yards, then continue downhill (Pamber path No.27) through deciduous trees and after 600 yards reach a crossroad of tracks. Turn right (Pamber path No.24) along an arrow-straight path through the heart of the forest. Follow this path uphill and down, crossing your outward path at the next intersection of tracks. After half a mile, the track emerges from the forest and in 200 yards ends at the junction with Pamber path No.30, which runs east-west on the southern boundary of Pamber Heath village. Turn left and walk downhill to meet Pamber Heath Road. Turn left onto the road and after 300 yards, regain Bowmont's Bridge.

4B. Turn right at the road junction (This is the shorter walk) and walk southward through Silchester village and after five eighths of a mile come to a minor crossroads. Turn right into a metalled lane, leading downhill. Now follow the instructions in paragraph 7 - the finish is common to the long and short walk.

If you are interested in walking in an area rather wider than that covered by this book, why not join the Basingstoke Ramblers' Club? For further details contact the authors or Mrs. Daly (Basingstoke 68128)

WALK No. 6



Walk No. 6

A longer walk, starting on Tadley Common and passing through parts of the parishes of Aldermaston, Silchester and Pamber, across commons and through a variety of woods and copses. Short and long versions of the walk are described.

DISTANCE:

6 miles (10km) (shorter walk)

7½ miles (11¾km) (longer walk)

TIME:

2½ or 3 hours

STARTING POINT:

The Jubilee Centre on Tadley Common (Recreation Ground) near the northwest corner of Tadley Court (SU603623).

Plants and Wildlife:

There is an early opportunity to make sure you know the difference between broom and gorse. At the same time, note how many of the trees planted in recent years along the Silchester Road are left.

The first woods have interesting wild flowers. Look for wood sorrel. The flowers, white with veins of pink or lilac, with five petals, appear in early Spring. The leaves are very thin and a clear bright green; cut into three heart shaped leaflets. It is believed to be the original of the Irish Shamrock, though that emblem is now transferred to a clover, *Trifolium Repens*.

In Benyon's Enclosure there is a variety of trees. The red female flowers of the larch will be seen in early summer. Here, as in other local woods, the shrublet Bilberry (Blueberry or Whortleberry) will be found in large numbers.

1. Leaving the Jubilee Centre, make your way across the Recreation Ground towards Pamber Heath and the junction of Silchester Road and Pamber Heath Road. At the junction cross Silchester Road, walk a few yards past the junction towards Silchester, then turn left onto a grovel track (footpath marker).

Tadley Recreation Ground:

No, not the Green. This is the new area for recreation in Tadley, rescued by

the Parish Council from becoming one more gravel pit in the area. Successful for the local cricketers and at the time of writing, the football pitch was again in use, previously having been condemned by the local Football Association because of the quantities of stones which had worked through the surface. In addition, the Jubilee Centre and the adjacent tennis courts and children's play area give hope for the future that this will be truly the Tadley Recreation Ground.

2. Follow the track for 200 yards and then cross a stile to the left of the track onto a footpath between fences. The path leads across open country to a wood. Cross a stile and follow the path through the wood (M!). Halfway through the wood, at the top of a rise, a track leads away to the right. Keep to the narrower path which leads ahead. After emerging from the wood the path crosses a stream, then climbs and turns to the right, and after 300 yards meets Soke Road.

3. Cross Soke Road and take the path opposite which lies between the boundaries of two industrial sites. At the far end turn left, and after a few yards turn right to cross a ditch. Once across the ditch turn left again and walk ahead for 400 yards to reach Welshman's Road at a road junction. Turn right onto the road and after 750 yards, reach Welshman's Pool (who was this Celt?) on the left, almost concealed by trees and bushes. At this point, choose between the shorter and longer versions of the walk.

Welshman's Mile and Welshman's Pool:

The names of these two spots come from the far off days, before the time of the railway, when drovers from Wales coaxed their sheep from the Welsh hills to the rewarding London markets. Such a journey would be hard on the sheep and long recuperative stops were necessary. This was an important resting place for drovers and sheep - an area of grass in the midst of a well wooded area, with a supply of good water.

4A. If you decide to take the longer route, you will find that on the left hand side of the road just before Welshman's Pool there are two stiles side by side and set back from the line of the hedge. Cross the left hand stile and walk ahead with the field fence on your right. In wet weather you will encounter waterlogged areas, but you should be able to skirt them fairly easily. At the far corner of the field turn to the left along the fence. After about 30 yards turn right to cross the fence at the wooden rails (M!). Once over the fence walk ahead across heathland (the path is ill defined here) towards the road which is perhaps 300 yards distant. Pass gradually from right to left under power lines as you walk. After about 200 yards you will reach an earth track. Turn right onto the track. After a few hundred yards the track turns left to meet the Burghfield road. You can walk straight ahead at this point in the track, along a narrow gorse-lined path. It leads across the front of a large house and about a hundred yards further on meets a gravel track which leads from the road to some cottages. At the time of writing this path was rather overgrown. You may prefer to walk along the Burghfield road to reach the gravel track. Turn right onto the track and after a few yards turn left and then right just before Pond Cottage. Walk down the track from Pond Cottage and after about 50 yards take the path to the left of a wired enclosure. The path passes between hedges into an open wood. Bear left and after 150 yards reach a metalled road at two white posts.

Turn right onto the road or follow the bridle path which runs parallel to the road. After approximately 250 yards cross the road to pass between more white posts onto a junction of woodland tracks.

Take the track which runs diagonally away to the right. This leads you through a conifer plantation to a road junction (the junction of Chapel Road and Church Road, Mortimer West End).

Cross the junction and walk a few yards down Church Road then bear left down a metalled track. The track soon changes to a gravel surface as it leads past a recreation ground on your

right. About 200 yards past the recreation ground turn right at a crossing of tracks. There is a view to your left across a wide valley. On the far crest is the site of the Roman city of Calleva. Walk downhill until you reach Church Road again, just below the Red Lion public house. Turn left onto the road and walk downhill to the bridge over West End Brook. Walk across the bridge and up the hill. Near the top of the hill turn right onto a track which leads past Little Heath House. Pass through the gateway just beyond the house and walk downhill until the path makes a junction with another track, near a lake. Turn left at this junction and walk uphill.

4B. If you choose the shorter route, proceed as follows: Just past the pond turn right (just beyond the transformer station) onto a track which leads into Benyon's Enclosure which at this point consists mainly of conifers.

Note: The walk route now follows the right of way through the Enclosure. The other tracks you meet are not rights of way. Please keep dogs under close control. After about 700 yards turn left at a crossing of tracks, and after another 400 yards emerge from the forest onto a more open wooded hillside. Follow the track round and downwards to the right and through further left and right hand bends, after which it passes between two lakes. The larger, higher level lake is on your right. Beyond the lakes the track turns right and climbs away out of the valley.

5. At the top of the rise the path passes through the earthworks of an old fortification and re-enters the forest. After 200 yards turn left at another crossing of tracks and after a further 600 yards reach a metalled road, with a pair of estate houses on your left.

6. Turn left onto the road and after about 50 yards turn right onto a path which leads away from the road and to the left, tortuously, soon reaching the boundary fence of Silchester Primary School. Turn right and follow around the school boundary. At the front of the school bear away to the right and make your way across Silchester Common towards the Calleva Arms.

Silchester Common:

Not far from Calleva Atrebatum, so it can be imagined that the Belgic tribe, the Atrebates, knew this spot well and must have shared it later, rather ruefully, with the Romans. One can imagine it, too, throughout the ages as a centre of village life, but the great occasion must have been in 1601 when Queen Elizabeth was met here by a magnificent cavalcade of noblemen on her way to stay at the Wyne at Sherborne St. John.

7. At the Calleva Arms turn right along the metalled road (towards Pamber Heath) and after 50 yards turn left onto Duke's Ride, and in about 150 yards, where the road bears left walk ahead off the road onto a path. This path passes behind a row of houses and then leads downhill through a lightly wooded area. Soon the path enters Pamber Forest, and after crossing a stream leads round to the right.

Pamber Forest:

Notes concerning Pamber Forest also appear in Walks 4 and 5. Perhaps for this walk the emphasis could be on butterflies and moths, both common and not so common may be found. A 'local' tells me that on early morning walks in Pamber Forest he meets 'scientific gentlemen' who have spent the night in the forest, shining a powerful light on a tree trunk which has been daubed with treacle. The catch, apparently, is extraordinary. During 1980, Reading Museum had an exhibition of the equipment used in 1880 by the museum curator, William Hollas, a well known collector of lepidoptera. He used an oil lamp and treated tree trunks from his 'sugaring tin'. Now and at least for the last 100 years there is no reason to show surprise at meeting someone charging through the undergrowth brandishing a large butterfly net. At another season you may discover Tadley's

treacle mines. Better still, wait until the ground is hard with a covering of snow. Then the walker will discover what a busy place the forest is. Certain evidence of the deer that are rarely seen can be found. The fox's brush can be followed clearly as it trails through the snow. At all seasons, there is much to be seen and heard.

8. Follow the path through the Forest until with semi-open, wet ground below on the left, the path divides to left and right. Take the right hand path, which leads uphill through the wood and soon gives way to more open countryside. Just before the path ends at the corner of Impstone Road, turn left onto Pamber footpath 30 which passes the back gardens of houses in Impstone Road. Walk downhill and then uphill, with allotments on the left hand side, to a point where the path widens into a track. Walk ahead along the track and after 400 yards, reach Pamber Heath Road.

9. Turn right along the road and walk uphill until you reach open heathland on your left. This is Tadley Recreation Ground. Continue until the junction with Church Road, Pamber Heath, is on your right, then turn left onto the Recreation Ground. Follow the track westwards across the heathland and after 700 yards regain the Jubilee Centre.

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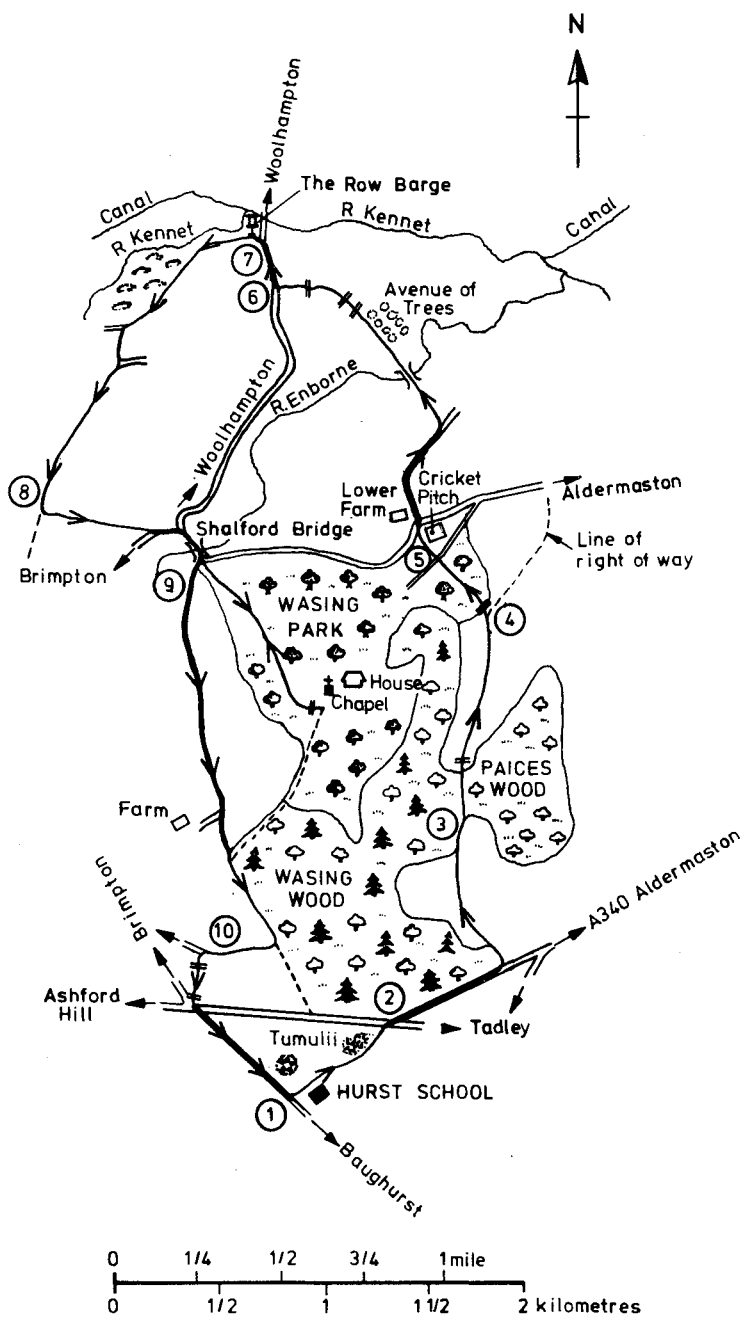
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WALK N^o 7

alk No.7

is is one of the longer walks. In fact we broke our rule that the walks should start in adley. This one starts in Baughurst which is at least in Hampshire (just). It is a varied and beautiful walk and we simply could not do without at least one visit to the Wasing Estate. If you have a dog with you, be particularly careful to keep it under control in the Estate grounds.

DISTANCE: 3½ miles (11km)
TIME: say 2½ hours, without the excursions suggested in the text.
STARTING POINT: Outside the Hurst School, Baughurst (SU575623)

Plants and Wildlife:

Take your wild flower and tree reference books on this walk. There is a clear distinction between the vegetation of Wasing Woods and the Kennet valley. In the woods, the familiar wood anemone (wind flower) primrose, bluebell, toadflax, wood violets, and foxgloves are found as well as a number of less common wild flowers. Near the water the plants are quite different - meadow sweet, giant members of the carrot family, many of the borage family (comfrey - sometimes creamy white and sometimes purplish, forget-me-nots etc.), very large specimens of greater plantain, yellow loosestrife, lady's smock, meadow cranesbill, rosebay willow herb, purple loosestrife and butterbur can be found easily.

Note the variety of woodland trees and the additional specimens found near the water - plenty of willows, etc. As you take the path along the stream, you will notice rows of black poplar to the left. Do they grow taller near the water or is it an optical illusion?

The sallow willow is a favourite home for many caterpillars including the puss moth. This is also a good hunting ground for the sedge warbler. The 'plops' will be caused by water voles. Try to follow them as they swim along the river bank; they are harmless leaf eaters. Hopefully, look for a dragon fly but expect to see damselflies.

1. Leaving the school gates on your right walk a few yards along the road towards Brimpton, then turn right onto Baughurst footpath No.4 which runs along the north western boundary of the school grounds. As a matter of interest the new school playing field on your left is in Berkshire, as the county boundary lies close to the path and parallel to it. After 400 yards the path bears right to meet a sidewalk (in Long Grove). Walk along the footpath a few yards and then turn off left onto the next section of the path. The hummocks on your left are old burial mounds (tumuli). The path runs behind houses in Long Grove. After 150 yards turn left onto a wide track and in a few yards meet the Tadley - Kingsclere road at a road junction.

Tumuli:

Ancient burial mounds. The south of England, especially the downland and high places, has scattered upon it thousands of these small hillocks, typically dating from 1,000 years BC, each the burial place of some ancient chieftain. It was only in the 18th century that the true nature of the mounds was generally realised and then almost all of them were inexpertly excavated by treasure hunters and many valuable relics were lost.

2. Walk ahead, down the road opposite, which leads towards Aldermaston. After 700 yards along this straight road through attractive wooded country turn left onto a footpath, marked by a footpath finger post (about 200 yards before a road junction). Follow the path through a copse and then between fences across the old gravel workings. The path gradually works around to the right and after about 650 yards makes a junction with another track. Walk straight ahead for about 30 yards (or turn right, left and then right again) to enter another track which leads due north with Wasing Wood on your left and open gravel-worked land on your right.

3. Soon the path is enclosed on both sides by Wasing Wood on the left and Paices Wood on the right. In the Spring this path is lined with bluebells and the occasional primrose. After a few hundred yards it passes over the crest of the ridge and gives a good view across the Kennet valley to the heights behind Woolhampton and Beenham. The path now leads downhill and, passing through a gateway with a stile to one side of it, leaves the woods behind and continues downwards with fields to left and to right. After about 500 yards there is a Dutch Barn close on your right and approximately 200 yards beyond that the path bears to the left towards Wasing Park.

Wasing Place and Wasing Park:

Sir William Mount, whose interests are listed in "Who's Who" as fishing and shooting, prefers to talk about the Park rather than the Place. However, he did tell us that "the Great Western Railway burnt down the house during the war". It must be assumed that an earlier house was replaced by the 19th century mansion and this was destroyed by fire during the Second World War and that the present Wasing Place was built soon afterwards.

Sir William spoke enthusiastically of the woods, the farms and the rivers (including the Enborne) around Wasing and of the fish in the ponds and rivers (private fishing leased to local clubs), of planting trees in the park by aeroplane and about his great interest in protecting the beauty and peace of the countryside.

Wasing is a very small parish, only 600 acres and having no village, it is no surprise that its population is only 70. However, it has not always been so lightly populated. In the parish there are five tumuli listed as ancient monuments and flint implements and other prehistoric relics have been found there.

4. At the point where the path turns left towards Wasing Park you leave the official right of way and are on a permitted path. Access to a permitted path is at the discretion of the landowner. At the time of writing the true right of way was thoroughly obstructed. The keen walker, armed with a large scale map, compass and thorn-proof trousers, may follow it. Its route is shown on the map on the opposite page. However, you will be well advised to follow the permitted path to the left. Shortly, it enters Wasing Park through a gateway. Walk ahead across the Park, cross a metalled driveway and continue towards the buildings of Lower Farm, with the cricket pitch on your right.

5. Leave the Park by the gateway near the cricket pitch, turn right onto the public road and in a few yards turn left onto the gravel track next to Lower Farm. After about 300 yards the track turns right and takes a north-easterly direction. Follow this track for 250 yards to a gap in the hedge on your right, turn left opposite the gap and cross the field, making for a bridge across the River Enborne, about 300 yards distant. Cross the bridge and continue ahead, making for the end of an avenue of trees. The path lies to the left of the two rows of trees and parallel to them. At the end of the avenue cross a stile and enter the wood. Walk ahead for about 100 yards through the wood, then bear left to cross a (dilapidated) stile on the edge of a ditch. Cross the ditch which, at the time of writing, was dry but unbridged, and walk ahead to the furthest corner of the field where there is a gateway. Pass through the gateway onto a gravel track which leads to a metalled road.

6. Turn right onto the road and walk towards Woolhampton. After 250 yards there is another gravel track to your left. This is the next section of the walk, but you may wish to visit the 'Row Barge' which is a few yards down the road, or to walk past it to see the Kennet, which lies just beyond, and perhaps to extend your walk by a stroll along the towpath.

The Kennet Navigation:

A few yards beyond the 'Row Barge' is the River Kennet, which is the parent water of the Kennet Navigation. Through almost all of the eighteenth century Newbury was linked with the Thames at Reading by the Navigation which consisted simply of a number of 'cuts' or channels which by-passed the meanderings of the river. Just

to the west of the road bridge at the 'Row Barge' is the entrance via a lock to the cut between Woolhampton and Thatcham. In the late eighteenth century the Navigation was extended westwards until in 1810 the Kennet and Avon was completed. It's a nice walk along the towpath to Bath, if you have a week to spare.

Walk westwards down the gravel track: The track soon turns south westwards passing a copse on the right hand side. After half a mile and just after the second bend in the track there is a plank bridge on your left, across a ditch. Walk across the bridge and walk ahead with a field ditch on your left. After 200 yards the path meets a gravel track near a short pillar bearing a plaque. Turn right and walk towards Brimpton Church which is prominent on the hill ahead. After half a mile turn left at the junction with another track which runs almost east/west.

Follow this track until it meets the Brimpton to Aldermaston road about 200 yards from Shalford Bridge. Walk along the road, turn right at the road junction and cross Shalford Bridge (the Enborne again). If you wish to visit Wasing Church, proceed as follows: turn left towards Aldermaston and after a few yards turn right through a gateway onto a metalled drive which leads uphill through Wasing Park. Near the top of the hill farm buildings come into view. Follow the driveway round to the left before reaching the farm and pass through a gateway (over a cattle grid). Once through the gateway you will see Wasing Church and Wasing House ahead of you and on the left.

Wasing Church:

St. Nicholas Church, Wasing, dates from the 15th century but was largely rebuilt in 1761, of roughcast stucco, with stone dressings. The weather boarded bell tower has a pyramidal roof. There are two bells. One is dated 1664, the other is believed to have been cast about 700 years ago. The windows of the nave have transparent panes surrounding pictorial panels. Some of the panels are dated, e.g. 1629 and 1649. In common with other churches in the area, it has a fine Jacobean pulpit. Inside the main entrance on the western wall are two panels. One is dated 1787 and lists the Parish Charities, the other gives a list of the incumbents since the church's foundation.

The path from the Brimpton road is a right of way "for access to the church only". (The right of way which leads southwards from the church has a similar restriction on it).

After your visit you should return by the way you came to reach Shalford Bridge again.

9. Walk southwards along the road up the hill from Shalford Bridge, passing Shalford Farm. After about three quarters of a mile the road turns sharply to the right. The buildings of a farm are conspicuous ahead and to the right. On the left is a gravelled track leading almost straight ahead. Walk along it and after about 100 yards, just before a cottage, turn left through a gateway and in a few yards turn right onto a path which runs along the edge of Wasing Wood, in a south easterly direction. After about a quarter of a mile you will pass a cottage with a large garden, on your right. Not far beyond it, turn right onto an earth path between hedges. The path soon ends at a gravel driveway outside a large house. Walk ahead past the house and continue along a gravel road with dwellings on your right.

10. After a few hundred yards, just before the boundary hedge of the first house you come to on the left hand side, turn left onto another path. After 100 yards cross a stile and continue between fence and hedge, with a field on your left. This leads you to a second stile which is at a cross roads. Cross the stile and the cross roads and take the road which leads south eastwards towards Baughurst. After about 600 yards you will pass on your left hand side another large tumulus. Just beyond this you will cross the county boundary from Berkshire into Hampshire, and regain your starting point.

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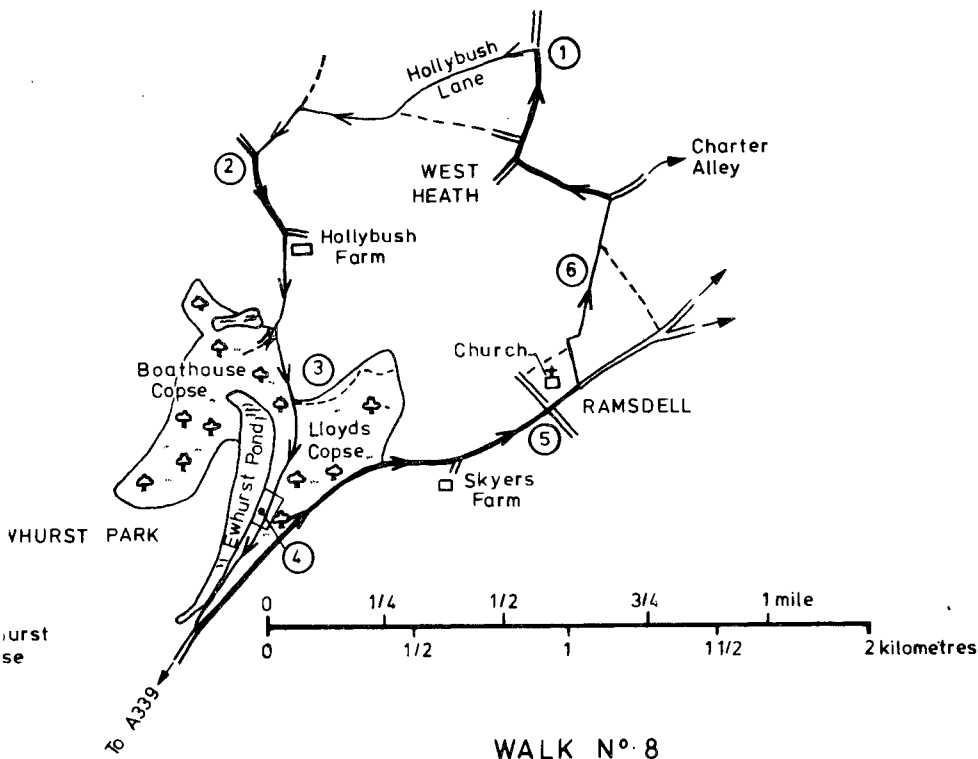
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WALK N^o. 8

WALK No. 8

A very pleasant walk at any time of year, but especially so when the trees are in leaf and the beauties of Ewhurst woods and lake can be appreciated.

DISTANCE: $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles (6km)

TIME: About 2 hours

STARTING POINT: Junction of Hollybush Lane and Main Road, West Heath
(SU589576)

Plants and Wildlife:

This is a walk on which to take a 'Wild Flower' book, especially in high summer when, apart from great patches of common flowers such as corn marigold and stinking mayweed, there are some to test skill at identification. As well as there being colour in spring time, there are, later in the year, magnificent specimens of foxglove and rasebay willow herb. It will be worth while taking a bag to collect blackberries and hazel nuts at the end of the summer. Deer may be seen from time to time, and stoats seem to enjoy scampering across the road at the far side of Ewhurst Park, but it is likely that these will be missed as the eye is attracted to noisy, over populated rookeries in the nearby oak trees.

The lake in Ewhurst Park provides much to observe. On warm summer evenings the martins collect in large numbers above the water to feed. The bird life varies according to the season, but there is always something - a pair of swans, Canada geese, coots, grebes, a heron, mallards, and moorhens amongst the fishermen by this private water.

1. From the road junction walk westwards along Hollybush Lane. At the end of the metalled surface of the lane, walk ahead along an earth track. The track (M:) leads by fields and copses, first on the left then the right hand side, finally bearing left and soon reaching the Baughurst to Ramsdell road.
2. Turn left onto the road and after about 200 yards, beyond pylons, bear right off the road onto a gravel driveway between recently built houses and the 19th century Hollybush Farm. Walk along the driveway - you are now on the Ewhurst Park Estate (keep an eye open for deer hereabouts). After a few hundred yards, turn left just before the hump-backed bridge and follow the footpath around the edge of Boathouse Copse (which is on your right).

Hollybush Farm:

This 19th century building is of interesting appearance and was formerly an inn - The Lion or Red Lion (see the extract from the 1817 O.S. map on page 6).

Presumably the few cottages in the area provided enough clients for the hostelry.

3. After about 200 yards the path enters a wood (Lloyd's Copse). Follow the path round to the right and soon you will see a lake (Ewhurst Pond) on your right. When the path emerges from the wood it crosses an open field and climbs away from the lake, which is still on your right. The path is well defined, and is not ploughed by the landowner. If only there were more like him! Beyond the lake the buildings of Ewhurst House and Ewhurst Farm can be seen.

Ewhurst House and Chapel:

This 18th century establishment is the centre of the Ewhurst Estate. It comprises a U-shaped group of red brick Georgian buildings, including the house, chapel and stables. Ewhurst is also the site of a village which existed in medieval times, deserted before the house was built.

4. Once across the field, enter a narrow copse which lies between the lake and the Ramsdell road. At the far end of the copse the path ends at the Ramsdell road. Turn left, and walk towards Ramsdell. This is a quiet road with pleasant views across country. After about three quarters of a mile the buildings of Skyers Farm (17th century) are close on your right hand, and in another quarter of a mile you reach Ramsdell cross-roads.
5. Walk over the cross-roads and down the road opposite which leads to Charter Alley. On your left is Ramsdell church. About 200 yards from the cross-roads and just before the Post Office, turn left down a narrow footpath between hedges, with a garden on the right hand side. After about 50 yards cross a fence into a small field. Walk ahead, with the hedge on your left. Turn right at the field corner and after about 50 yards reach a stile in the hedge. In fact this should be a double stile, but the right hand portion has no step at present. Cross the right hand portion and walk ahead for 200 yards, with the hedge on your left.

Christ Church, Ramsdale:-

- Although the name of the village is usually spelt 'Ramsdell', the official name of the church adopts an older spelling. The church was erected in 1867. It is constructed of brick and flint with dressings of Bath stone, and has a tiled roof. The style is Early English.

Inside, the interesting and ornate roof decorations are said to be the work of the daughters of the first Vicar of the church, and the stained glass windows are chiefly in memory of various members of the Fuller family.

6. Ahead is a power line across your path. Take a line across the open field which will take you just to the right of the nearest pylon. Continue on this line until you reach the further side, then cross a stile to reach a metalled road. Turn left to walk along the road, which leads to West Heath. After a quarter of a mile turn right at a road junction, and in another quarter mile regain the starting point at the end of Hollybush Lane.

AN APOCRYPHAL TALE

A walker stood at the junction
Of several Tadley roads
On his back was a sizeable rucksack
Bearing moderate loads.

His boots were large and muddied
He carried a stout ash stick
He was every inch a rambler
Except that he looked quite sick.

Yes, his face had a worried expression
For the map he had in hand
Was the 1911 survey,
And not the one he'd planned.

Not a sign of a footpath marker
And it wouldn't be long until dark
There wasn't a bus until Tuesday
And his dogs were beginning to bark.

Then a smile spread o'er his features
His hand no longer shook.
"O, I'll be all right!" he shouted,
"I've got Minter's and Searing's book!"

Council for the Protection of Rural England

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The influence of CPRE extends beyond county hall and district council offices to Whitehall and Westminster, and the EEC in Brussels.

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The History of Tadley, Forence A.G.Davidson. Tadley Parish Council, first published 1913

Hompshire Treasures, Volume 2: Basingstoke & Deane. Hampshire County Council 1979

The Ramblers' Association is the national organisation for those interested in preserving public paths. It has 30,000 individual members but needs more. Details from the R.A., 1/5 Wandsworth Road, London, SW8 2LJ

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