

# THE

# FOX

# WAY



**A 39 MILE  
CIRCUIT OF  
WALKS  
AROUND  
GUILDFORD**



**ORIGINATED BY RICHARD FOX**



## The co-sponsors of this book are :

The partners of The Learning Corporation LLP are experienced business advisors, facilitators and coaches



They are specialists in:

- Developing people in line with strategy
- Leadership at organisational, team and personal levels
- Building alliances, partnerships and networking capability and one-to-one coaching whilst walking!

For further information please refer to [www.tlc.eu.com](http://www.tlc.eu.com), tel. 01483 454039 or e-mail [rjfox@tlc.eu.com](mailto:rjfox@tlc.eu.com)

king design  
consultancy



Chartered Architect and Town Planner.  
Providing individually crafted spatial and visually coherent architectural and planning solutions for clients.



All maps in this publication are reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

© Crown copyright 2005. All rights reserved.  
Ordnance Survey Licence number 100044261

First published 2005.

Researched and written by Richard Fox of The Learning Corporation LLP, Guildford, with photographs, illustrations and design work by Win King of King Design Consultancy, Guildford.

Published by The Learning Corporation LLP.

© The Learning Corporation LLP and King Design Consultancy.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means – electronic, photocopying, recording or otherwise – unless the written permission of the publishers has been obtained beforehand.

ISBN 0-9550867-0-1



## **THE FOX WAY**

Welcome to this booklet that describes the route of a 39 mile circular walk through the beautiful and varied countryside around Guildford. The walk can be completed in 7 easy stages.

This walk came about through the combination of my love of the countryside, walking and exploration and a talent for developing something worthwhile from scratch.

In planning the start and end points of each stage of the route I have made full use of the local railway and bus networks, and also checked that there are sufficient car parking facilities.

At the beginning of this venture Win and Bob King enthusiastically agreed to help. Win kindly took the lead with the illustrations and production of this booklet.

Although we have walked in the area for over 30 years we were amazed at the new things we saw when walking the circuit for the first time.

The countryside and the views are so different at various times of the year so we would encourage you to do the walk in all seasons. Once you have completed the circuit in one direction, walk it again in the reverse direction and surprise yourself with the many new things you see.

Although the booklet includes sketch maps of each part of the route, several sections are difficult to navigate. We would encourage you to use Ordnance Survey map 'OS 145 – Guildford', together with a compass in order to get further enjoyment from each walk.

The abbreviations used in the text are:

FP, BW = Public footpath, Public Bridleway

N, SW = North, South West.

Other compass directions have been similarly abbreviated.

We are not going to give you pages of instructions on what you should wear etc. Just to say that some sections of paths are uneven and are likely to be muddy throughout the year.

**If you are relying solely on your own transport remember to leave a car at the end of your walk!**

It is useful, from time to time, to remind ourselves of the Country Code:

### **Respect – Protect - Enjoy**

Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs

Leave gates and property as you find them

Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home

Keep dogs under close control

Consider other people

For details of local train and bus services please refer to the following web sites:

<http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>

<http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/?a=200692>



We would like to acknowledge:

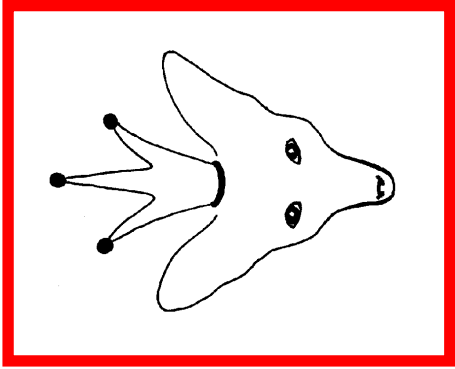
- Our spouses, Sandi and Bob, for their support in this and other ventures.
- Also friends in our walking group who have encouraged us and who checked my initial draft descriptions of the walk.
- Guildford Borough Council and Surrey University for their interest and encouragement.

We cannot accept responsibility for any omissions, errors or changes to the information given in this booklet or liability for any injuries or losses experienced during the course of the walk. If you have any suggestions about the walk please visit the web site at [www.thefoxway.com](http://www.thefoxway.com)

The route passes through a range of habitats that Surrey is justifiably famous for including ancient woodlands, chalk downland, heathland and meadows and waterways, both natural and man-made. As a result you should hopefully see a large variety of flora and fauna as you walk along the route. The Surrey Wildlife Trust is a registered charity which works to conserve Surrey's wildlife and countryside and would be delighted to hear from you if you come across an unusual animal, bird, butterfly, insect, moth, plant or tree. Please send a note of what you have seen, together with its location on the walk, to me and also to Surrey Wildlife Trust, School Lane, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey GU24 0JN, or by e-mail to [rjfox@tlc.eu.com](mailto:rjfox@tlc.eu.com). If possible, please add the words "The Fox Way" to the subject of your e-mail.

We hope that this walk will encourage you to do other walks in Surrey. For example, for descriptions of walks in the Surrey Hills (an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) telephone 01372 022 0653 or visit their web site at [www.surreyhills.org](http://www.surreyhills.org).

©Richard Fox and Win King  
July 2005



# THE FOX WAY

LINK 6  
WANBOROUGH  
STATION

GUILDFORD

LINK 5  
GODALMING STATION

LINK 4  
BRAMLEY

LINK 7  
WORPLESDON  
STATION

LINK 3  
SHERE

LINK 2  
CLANDON  
STATION

LINK 1  
RIPLEY  
GREEN

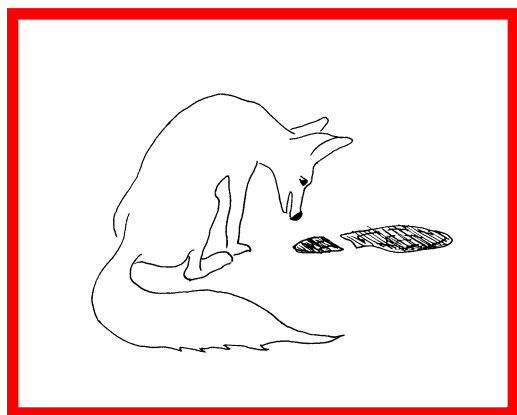


A 39 MILE  
CIRCUIT OF  
WALKS AROUND  
GUILDFORD

## LINK 1 Ripley Village Green to Clandon Station

Free public car park at Ripley Village Green. GR. 054569.

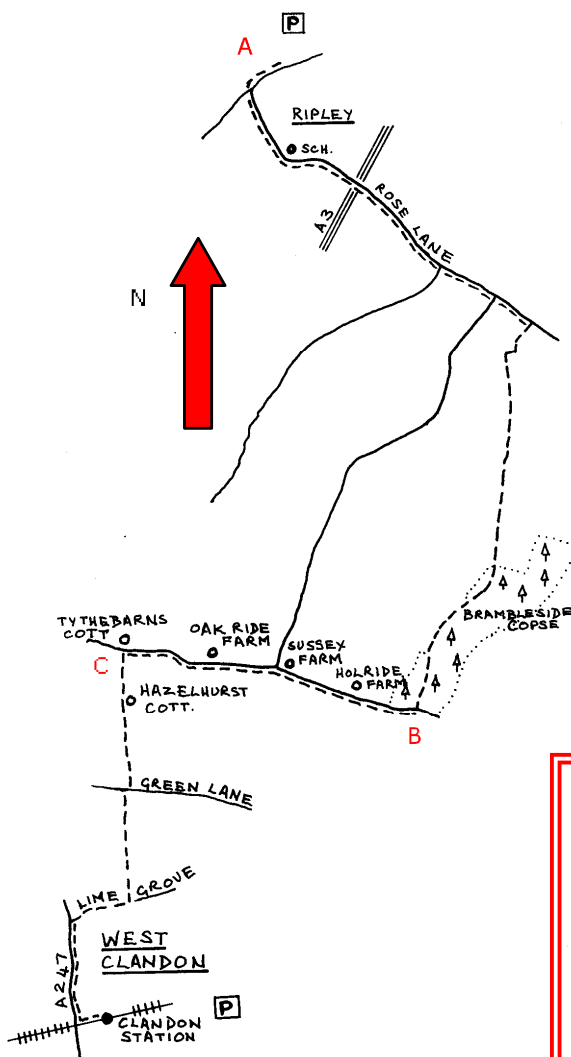
**A** From the Village Green car park walk SW along Ripley High Street for 150 metres. Cross the High Street to go SE down Rose Lane for 1,500 metres. Pass Ripley Court School on L and go over A3. Having passed Grove Heath Lane on R and Hungry Hill Lane on R look out 150 metres later to take FP on R. Stay on wide gravel track for 1,500 metres, initially S through fields with poplar trees on your L and then ahead SW through broad-leaved wood called Brambleride Copse.



**B** On reaching a minor road at August Hill at the end of the woods, TR along road and pass Holride Farm and Sussex Farm both on R. Keep going W along road, cross Hungry Hill Lane and go 600 metres along Tythebarns Lane, passing Oak Ride Farm, kennels and cattery.



**C** Take FP opposite Tithebarns Cottage and Farm and head S for 650 metres passing Hazelhurst Cottage on L. On reaching Green Lane, which is a tarmac/gravel road, TR and immediately TL along FP S to residential road (Lime Grove). TR to the A247 (The Street). TL and Clandon Railway Station is 400 metres on L just beyond railway bridge.



*Refreshments at The Onslow Arms pub 400 metres south of Clandon Station.*

*The 13<sup>th</sup> century church of St. Peter and St. Paul is a further 750 metres south along The Street. Public bus service through West Clandon.*

Distance is approximately 4.5 miles (7 kms.)

Walking time, excluding breaks, approximately 1.5 hours.



## LINK 2 Clandon Station to Shere Village

Pay and Display car park at Clandon Railway Station.  
GR. 046527.

**A** From the car park walk up Station Approach and TL on A247. Cross over road to use pavement SE for 800 metres. 500 metres after The Onslow Arms pub look out for a house on L called Summers and take FP alongside house E for 400 metres. At cross paths, just beyond Clandon Regis Club House, TR and walk SE alongside their driveway to the A246.



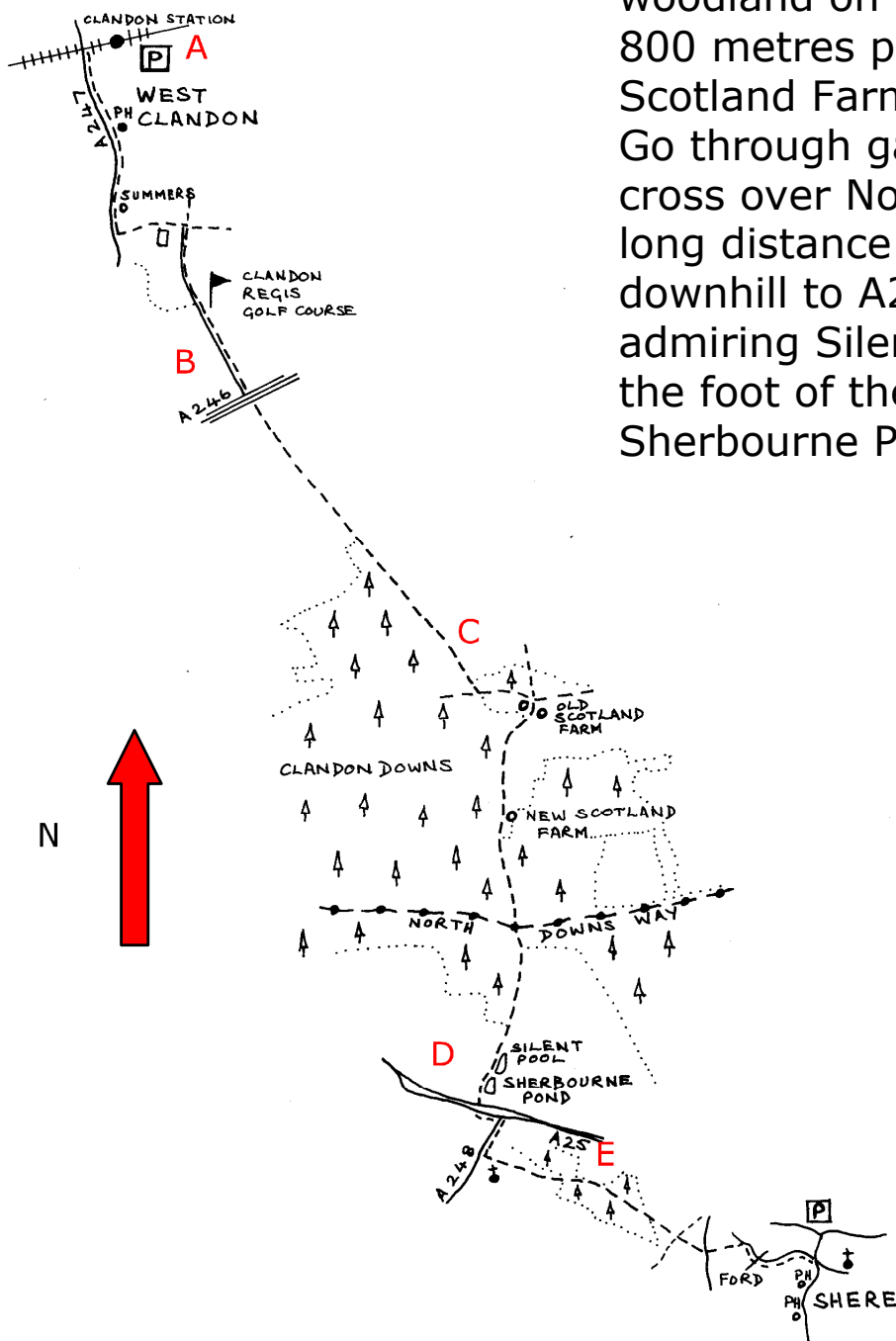
**B** Cross A246 (N.B. dual carriageway) through gap in hedge in central reservation and over stile onto FP. Continue SE. The first 800 metres follows the edge of a field and the second 800 metres is just inside a wood – keep near wire fence on your L.

*Near top of hill there is a break in the woods. This field is a suitable place for a drinks stop with views NE to Heathrow, Wembley Stadium and London.*

**C** Continue SE. Over brow of hill at T-junction with bridleway TL. Continue E on bridleway through woods to Old Scotland Farm.

Walk S through farmyard and SW up wide grass track with woodland on R. Continue S for 800 metres passing New Scotland Farm halfway.

Go through gate/stile and then cross over North Downs Way (a long distance footpath) and go S downhill to A25, admiring Silent Pool on L, near the foot of the hill and below it, Sherbourne Pond.



**D** Cross A25 (N.B. dual carriageway) and TL to A248.

The A248 is a busy road so use footpath along far side of road and walk SW for 250 metres.

Before reaching the Church TL onto FP.

*The Catholic Apostolic Church was designed in 1840 by William McIntosh Brooks for Henry Drummond, who had purchased the Albury Estate in 1819.*

After 100 metres go over stile.

Go E across field walking round the N side of a recently planted copse.



**E** Go over another stile and walk E through wood with fence on R and then ahead over fields, crossing a narrow gravelled driveway. Go SE through a short stretch of woodland, cross over narrow tarmac road to take FP E with high wall on R.

At the Old Rectory TR down tarmac road and cross over footbridge at Tillingbourne Stream

At road (Lower Street) TL and walk into centre of Shere noticing in Lower Street







Distance is approximately  
5 miles (8 kms.).

Walking time, excluding  
breaks, approximately 2¼  
hours.

➤If ending the walk at the public car park in Shere TL, go over stream and up Middle Street to T junction. TL and the car park is immediately on your R.

➤If walking on to Bramley turn R at The White Horse and pick up the description of the walk starting from the second paragraph of Link 3.

*There are two pubs in Shere – The Prince of Wales and The White Horse, plus a tea room. St. James church, opposite The White Horse, was built in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and is an excellent example of the Early English style. In 1329 Christine became an anchoress – note in the chancel wall the squint and quatrefoil opening. Sir Edward Lutyens designed the gate to the churchyard.*

*There is a public bus service. Gomshall Railway Station is 1 mile to the E along A25.*



## LINK 3 Shere Village to Bramley

The free public car park is situated at Shere's recreation ground and cricket pitch. GR 073479. It is up a gravel track leading N off Upper Street 20 metres W of its junction with Middle Street.



**A** From the car park walk S down Middle Street.

*Here there are shops, a Post Office, tea rooms and pubs.*



**B** Continue S past the Prince of Wales pub. Beyond Shere Museum, ignore the first FP on R. After a further 75 metres take the next BW on R which starts as Pathfields Road and continues SW as a BW. After 350 metres, as you approach woodland, another BW joins from the R.

Go ahead and, immediately fork R and shortly fork R again, keeping in a general SW direction. Soon the wide sandy track goes downhill. Ignore track on R and go ahead to 3-way road junction.

**D** At T junction with the Albury/Farley Green road, TL for 50 metres and take FP on R. Take R fork in 50 metres and again in another 75 metres.



*After the path crosses the gallops look out on R for a view to St Martha's Church on hill.*

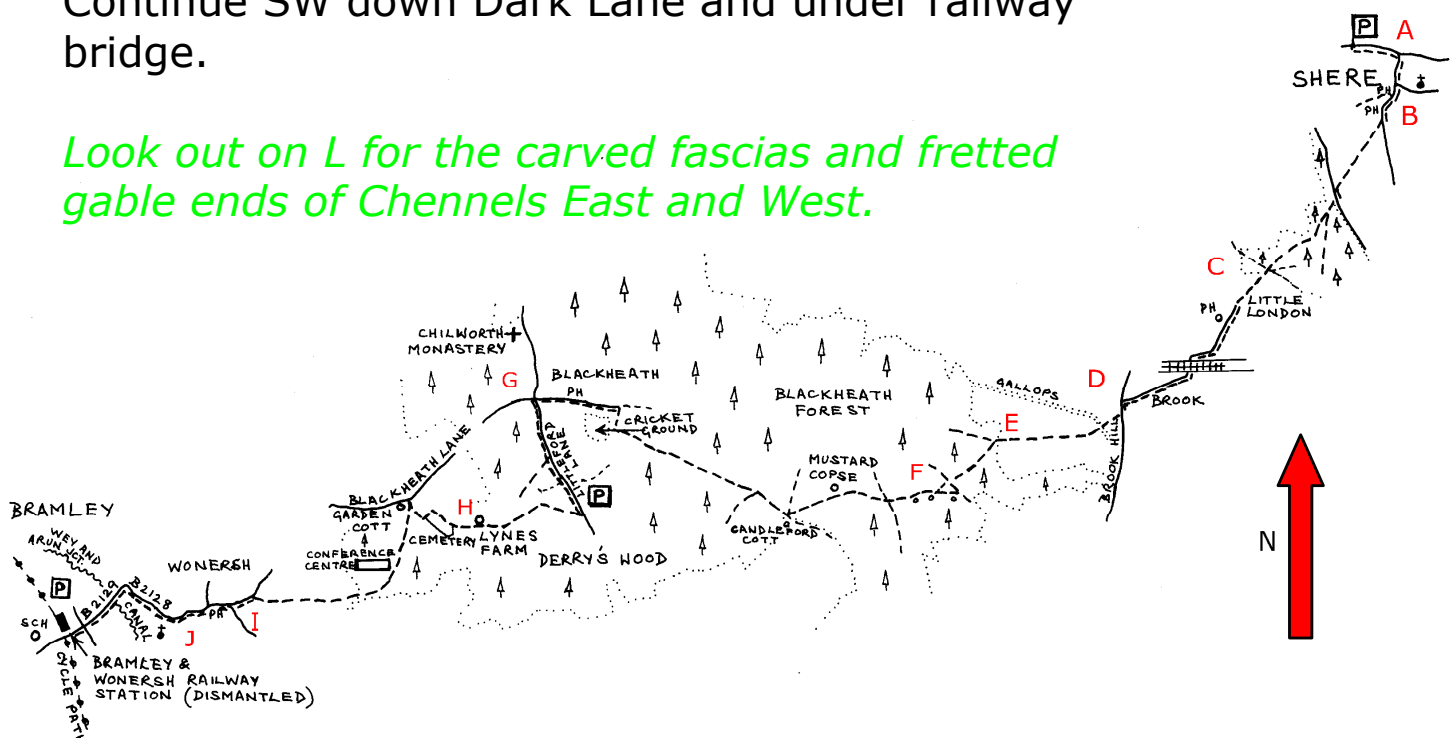
**C** Take road SW (Dark Lane) signposted Farley Green and Shamley Green.



*Refreshments in Little London at King William IV pub-oldest parts probably date back to the 16th century.*

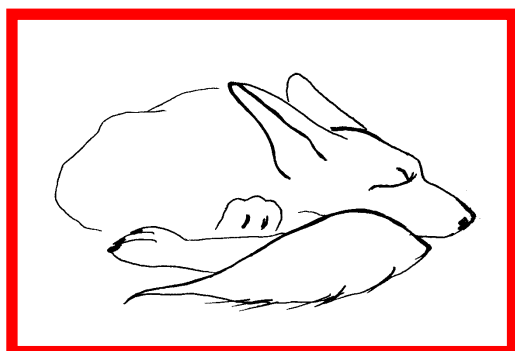
Continue SW down Dark Lane and under railway bridge.

*Look out on L for the carved fascias and fretted gable ends of Chennels East and West.*





**E** Go over stile into woodland and after 25 metres TL along unmarked path SW, through conifer plantation. Disregard path on right just past stile after 150 metres. Disregard further crossing paths before, in a further 150 metres, you arrive at Lipscombe Cottage.



**F** TR and walk W. Keep straight ahead past Remnants. Go straight over cross paths and soon isolated cottage (Mustard Copse) comes into view on R. Continue ahead for 200 metres and at Candleford Cottage TR. Having passed Woodsmoke on L keep up gentle slope on wide sandy track NW to Blackheath Cricket Ground and The Villagers pub in Blackheath Village, which is a Victorian hamlet.

**G** 400 metres down road from The Villagers pub TL into Littleford Lane. After 500 metres TR (opposite public car park) and take BW for 200 metres (ignoring faint cross path after 100 metres). On reaching wire fence follow fence to the right-angled corner and then round to your L. Go down steep gully, bear L halfway down.



*A short walk away is a Franciscan monastery built in 1895 in neo-Gothic style.*





**J** Follow the B2129 road towards Bramley. Shortly after leaving Wonersh, on L side of road, is a small park beyond a brick arch.

*On the arch is the inscription - "In 1935 this green was purchased by Mrs F H Cook for the quiet use of the adult residents of the village of Wonersh. In 1950 she placed it in perpetual trust for the same purpose."*

Go past St John the Baptist Church on L and go over the disused Wey and Arun Junction Canal

*Car parks and bus stops in Station Road (B2129), Bramley near the dismantled Bramley and Wonersh Railway Station, which is now part of the Downs Link cycle path. Tea room in Bramley and also The Jolly Farmer and The Wheatsheaf pubs*

**H** Lynes Farm is at bottom of hill. Go straight ahead W up deep gully. Reaching the top (with cemetery on left) TL for 75 metres then TR. A few metres before Blackheath Lane and opposite entrance to Garden Cottage, take FP on L. This skirts the grounds of Barnett Hill Conference Centre.

*When the path reaches fields on R look out NW for Chinthurst Hill Tower and the Guildford Gap and Guildford Cathedral.*

**I** At residential road (Barnett Lane) TL and walk into the centre of Wonersh village.

*Shops and refreshments at The Grantley Arms-a 16th century half timbered inn.*

Distance is 6.0 miles  
(9.5 kms).

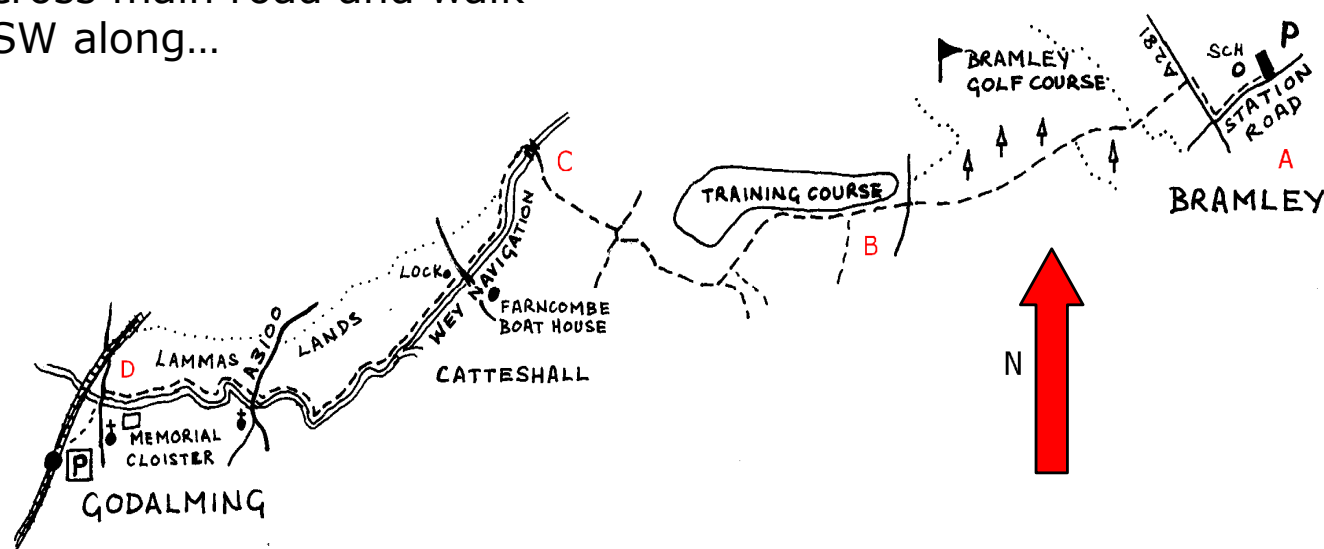
Walking time, excluding  
breaks, approximately 3  
hours.



## LINK 4 Bramley to Godalming Station

Road side parking in Station Road (B2129), Bramley.  
GR. 010451. Also a daily bus service in Station Road.

**A** From Station Road walk towards the A281 passing St Catherine's School (founded 1885). TR along A281 and after 200 metres cross main road and walk SW along...



...Clockhouse Lane (BW). After Squirrels Wood on R continue forward on BW walking along the S side of Bramley Golf Club. On leaving Golf Club cross road and continue W on BW.

*To the N you can see the Guildford Gap and ahead on your R the water tower beyond Compton.*

**B** Walk along S side of horse training course and ignore side FPs into the woods on L. 500 metres from road the BW turns SW for 350 metres before T junction with another BW. TR and follow BW downhill for 500 metres. Near bottom of hill at cross tracks fork slightly right down fenced tarmac FP across water meadows.

**C** Cross bridge over Wey Navigation and immediately TL. Keep on this towpath for 2kms, passing the Farncombe Boat House on L, then over Catteshall Lane passing Catteshall Lock and reaching the A3100 in Godalming.

Cross road, TL, go over river bridge and take path on right through parks to St Peter's Church, Godalming.

*Note, just before the Church, the Phillips Memorial Cloister. This is a fine example of the Arts and Crafts style and is in memory of J G 'Jack' Phillips age 21, the Chief Radio Officer on SS Titanic.*

*Of St. Peter's Church, Godalming, Eric Parker said in Highways and Byways in Surrey 1908: "The church within and without is a noble building, and the leaden spire which soars up from the tower is the finest in the county"*



**D** Cross road near church and go down Vicarage Lane (FP). Turn L at road to the Station.

*Car parking is available at the station and also at a nearby public car park. Tea rooms, pubs and shops in Godalming.*

Total distance 3.5 miles  
(5.5 kms.)

Walking time, excluding  
breaks, approximately 1.5  
hours.

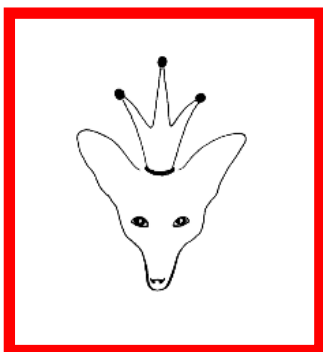
**LINK 5**

## Godalming Station to Wanborough Station

Car parking is available at the station GR. 966439, and also at a nearby public car park.

*Tea rooms, pubs and shops in Godalming.*

**A** From station exit turn left, follow road under railway bridge and TL onto BW 'New Way' which runs alongside west side of railway line. At West Acre fork R up rough BW. Ignore FP on L after 350 metres. Instead stay ahead on tree lined BW to top of hill. After Ockford Wood Farm BW bends to R. At T junction at Far Cottage TL along BW (Halfway Lane). Distant views to the SW.



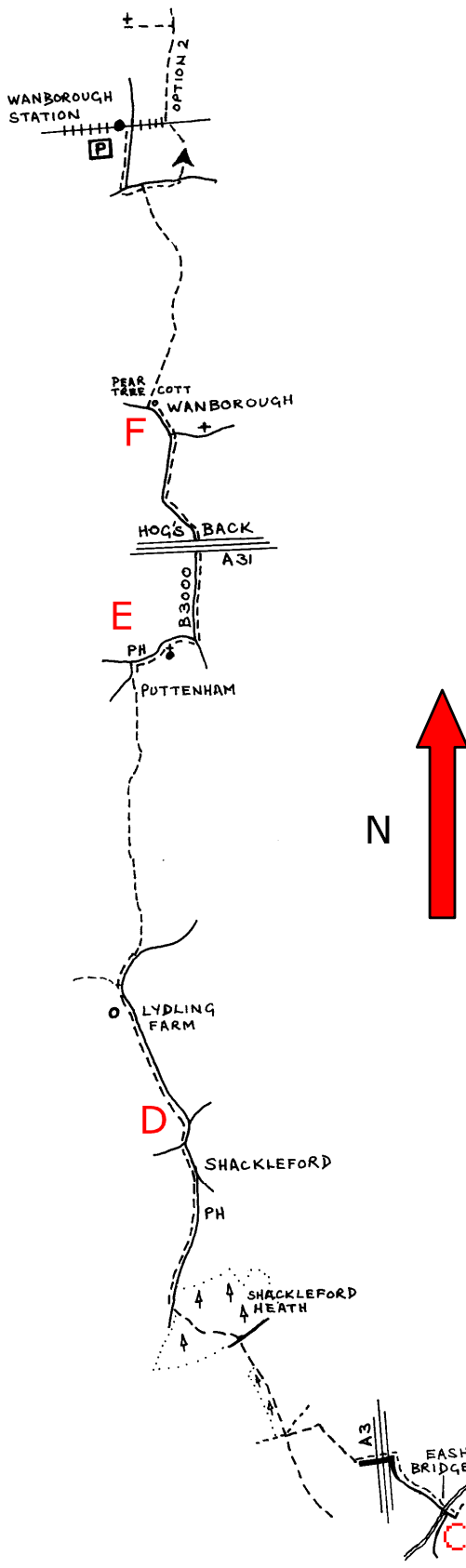
**B** At T junction with Upper Eashing Lane TR.

*Views on R of Charterhouse School, which moved from London to Godalming in 1872.*

At Eashing Farm in Upper Eashing the road bends left. After about 250 metres and just before White Cottage take FP on R. Follow line of overhead cables to stile and down to river where TL to Eashing Bridges.

*Refreshments in Lower Eashing at the Stag Pub, before crossing Eashing Bridges.*





**C** Walk over Eashing Bridges and use footbridge to go over A3.

At metal gate veer right following BW (view of Peper Harow on L).

On reaching belt of trees TR on BW to road. Cross road and take BW NW through the light woodland of Shackleford Heath to Peper Harow Lane. TR and walk along road through Shackleford.

*Refreshments at The Cyder House Inn. There is also a public bus service in Shackleford. St. Mary's church in Shackleford Lane was designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott in 1865.*





**D** Walk NW out of Shackleford on Puttenham Lane. 150 metres beyond Lydling Farm ignore first FP on L.

After a further 150 metres take FP on L. Keep to hedge on L skirting round ponds to stile at top of hill. Go ahead N and walk towards another stile to left of oak trees. Keeping fence on L, continue N over 3 stiles into Puttenham village.

*Refreshments in Puttenham at the Good Intent pub. There is also a public bus service.*

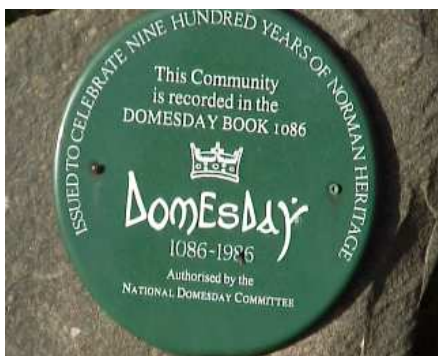


**E** TR along road past St John the Baptist Church (dating from 1100) to main B3000 road. TL, walk under A31 and use pathway alongside road into Wanborough village.



*St Bartholomew Church on R is of Saxon origin and was rebuilt in the 12th century. Nearby is The Great Barn built in c1388. It is the most important aisled barn in Surrey. See notice board for dates when Wanborough Great Barn is open. The manor house was used during the Second World War to train secret agents.*

**F** After a further 150 metres on B3000 and just beyond Pear Tree Cottage, take FP on R. Having crossed two fields, veer left at stream towards large barn. Go over stile and stream and forward along fenced FP to road. Follow either **Option one** or **Option two**.



**Option one:** If ending the walk at Wanborough Station TL along road and take first R down Glaziers Lane road. The railway station is 200 metres on L.

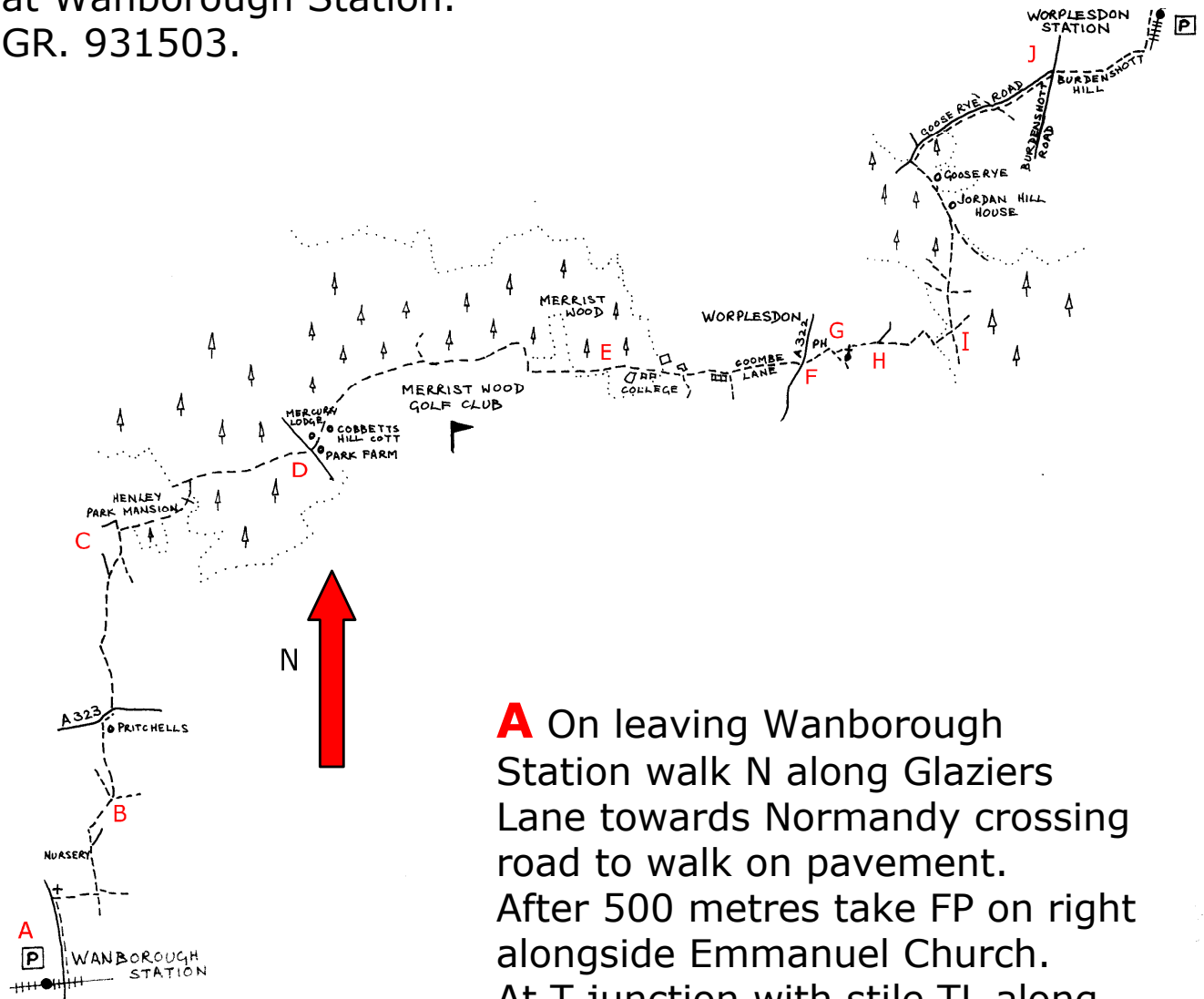
**Option two:** If walking further, TR down road for 150 metres and take FP to the N along Flexford Road. After 200 metres TL into driveway of The Old Stud Farm and immediately over stream TR onto FP. On passing the pond at Flax Pond bungalow veer L (NW). Take care crossing railway line. Continue N on FP which soon widens into a track. Then follow the instructions for the Wanborough to Worplesdon link reading from '.....alongside Emmanuel Church. At T junction with stile TL'.

Total distance is 7 miles  
(14.5 kms.)

Walking time approx. 3½  
hours

## LINK 6 Wanborough to Worplesdon Station

Limited amount of free car parking  
at Wanborough Station.  
GR. 931503.



**A** On leaving Wanborough Station walk N along Glaziers Lane towards Normandy crossing road to walk on pavement. After 500 metres take FP on right alongside Emmanuel Church. At T junction with stile TL along track. Cross over driveway to nurseries and immediately continue N on FP. After 300 metres at wire fence ignore path forking to the right, go over stile. Walk NE to left of barn, go over stile and brook.



**B** TL, take FP N towards A323 going over stile and stream and pass Pritchells. Cross over A323 and TR for 100 metres. Go N along FP, which immediately broadens to a track. Go ahead for 900 metres through water meadows and over stiles.



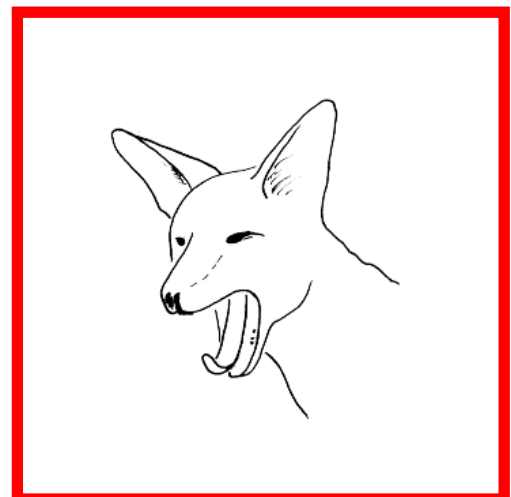
**C** Immediately before the residential buildings in the grounds of the original Henley Park Mansion, TR. (views S to the Hog's Back).

*The last of the buildings is the Mansion, recovered from dereliction and now converted into flats.*

Continue NE for 300 metres through light woodland, initially on a fenced track. TL at FP sign and after 100 metres cross over tarmac driveway and straight ahead on BW. After 75 metres TR along FP. After 400 metres go straight across same driveway and follow FP to road.

**D** Go straight over road and take FP track NE alongside Mercury Lodge towards Cobbetts Hill Cottage. By the entrance gate the FP bears R alongside a hedge. For the next 1,250 metres the path skirts the edge of the Merrist Wood Golf course.

*Look out SE for the tower of Guildford Cathedral.*





**E** On entering the grounds of Merrist Wood College go straight ahead to the FP sign at the left hand side of the car park of the main College building.

To begin with, follow the driveway E, signed 'Way Out', passing on your L the Courtyard Restaurant and the Harris Centre.

At road junction keep going E along the estate road passing the Sports Pavilion on your L and a row of red brick houses on your R.

Continue ahead along FP leaving the College grounds at Vinehouse.

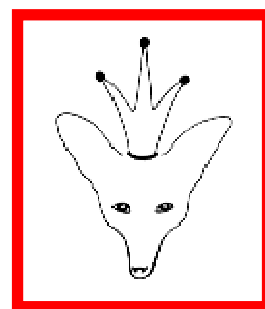
Go up Coombe Lane to the A322 at Worplesdon.

*There is also a public bus service in Worplesdon.*



**F** Cross main road and with The White Lyon pub on your L walk up to St. Mary the Virgin church.

*This 13th century church has a fine tower. The 17th century altar rails, pulpit and font were previously used at Eton College.*



**G** Enter churchyard and take unmarked grass FP to the L of the church through graveyard and then down a FP avenue with conifers on R.

**H** On entering field (*suitable refreshment stop with views of the North Downs*) follow FP E for 250 metres to stile in gap in hedge.

Then along a narrow fenced path to the driveway of a house. TR and continue 100 metres down house driveway and at cross tracks of Permissive Horse Ride TL.



**J** On reaching Burdenshott Road go straight over E down private road Burdenshott Hill (also FP).  
At Hunters Acre continue ahead down FP for 70 metres. Just before railway bridge TL and Worplesdon Station soon comes into view.

**I** Walk N for 500 metres passing Jordan Hill house on R and ignore cross and side paths.  
At tarmac drive (BW) near Gooserye Cottage keep ahead and remain on drive, passing Gosling Cottage, Little Paddocks and Gooserye.  
On reaching Goose Rye Road TR. After 200 metres use the pathway on the other side of the road for the next 300 metres.

Total distance is  
approximately 6.5 miles  
(10.5 kms).

Walking time approx. 3  
hours

## LINK 7

# Worplesdon Station to Ripley Village Green

Pay and Display parking at Worplesdon Station. GR. 989553.

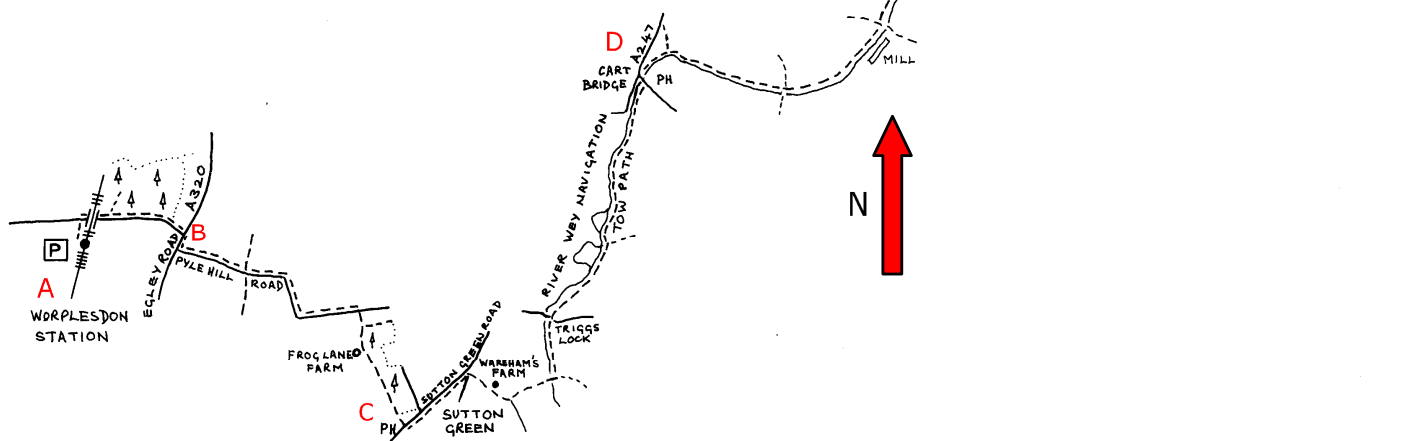
**A** On leaving the station building TR down the Station Approach and almost immediately TR into Prey Heath Road. Go under railway bridge and walk E to the A320 (Egley Road).

**B** Cross over A320 and veer right into Pyle Hill road. The public footpath runs parallel with the right side of the road. Ignore cross path at Monterey. *Interesting mottled blue-tiled roof on house on L.* Keep to the road which soon bends R then L.

After 300 metres and having passed houses called Newlands and Apple Acre take FP on R. Keep ahead, ignore path on L and go past Frog Lane Farm on R (noting former grain store on saddle stones).

Path leads into farm drive which goes to Sutton Green Road.

Refreshments at The Olive Tree pub. There is also a public bus service.





**C** TL. Ignore road junction on L (New Lane) and keep ahead on Sutton Green Road.

After about 250 metres at sign on R for Wareham's Farm take this FP passing farm on L. The FP soon bends L to take you to the River Way Navigation. Cross over canal on footbridge and TL. Keep to tow path for 2 kms. passing Triggs Lock to Cart Bridge on A247 at Send.



**D** Cross over Cart Bridge and continue down the tow path for 2 kms. to Paper Court where you cross the canal again to continue down the tow path. Cross Newark Road Bridge.

*300 metres diversion to your R to The Seven Stars Pub.*

Continue down the tow path for Newark Lock, noting ruins of Newark Augustinian Priory on L. After a further 1,000 metres at a weir and before Walsham Lock take FP on R.



**E** After 450 metres TR onto lane and shortly onto road and follow this across Ripley Green to the public car park on Ripley Village Green.

*Refreshments in Ripley at tea rooms and at The Anchor, Half Moon, The Ship and Talbot pubs. There is a public bus service.*

*St. Mary's church in the High Street has a 12th century chancel.*



Distance 6.5 miles (10.5 kms.)

Walking time, excluding breaks, 2.5 - 3 hours.



**DESIGN AND ARTWORK BY  
WIN KING**

ISBN 0-9550867-0-1

