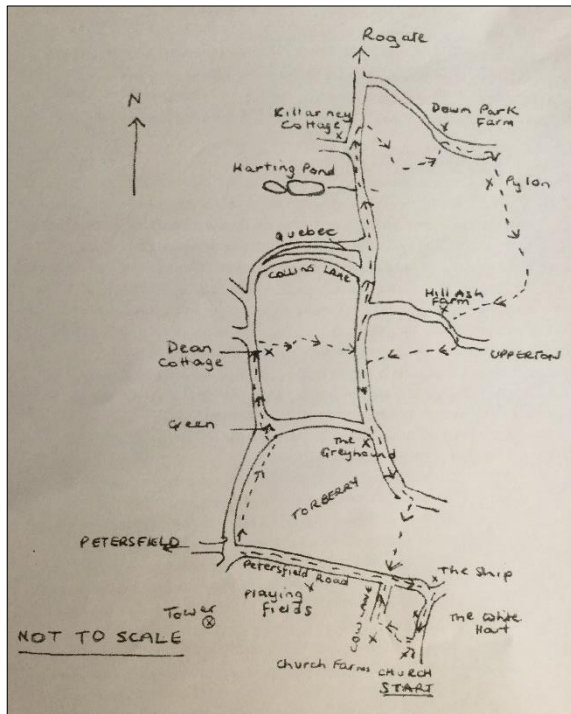


wide well defined path, looking ahead to Butser Hill in the distance and with the oast houses of Hill Ash over the field on your right. On the left, just past a stand of dark fir trees see the copper spire of South Harting's church peeping over the hills under the Downs. Join the metalled road and turn left following the road, passing on your right The Greyhound (medieval and Tudor timber framed house - West Harding's Old Inn). Continue on along the road to South Harting past banks of orange Hawkshead, herb Robert and speedwell in summer, looking out for badger and deer tracks. At the finger post on the right turn into a broad grassy track between fields looking ahead at the lovely views of Torberry on your right and also Hemner Hill, West Harting Down, Harting Down and Beacon Hill with the church and village nestling beneath them. Listen to the skylarks and reaching the road turn left past the Congregational Church. Cross the road carefully, pass The Ship and continue up The Street to once again arrive at the lovely church of St Mary and St Gabriel.



Compiled by Harting Society
Printed by Parish Council

Walk No. 10
HARTING SOCIETY: WALKS ROUND HARTING

Circular walk – South Harting to West Harting, Down Park, Upperton
and return to South Harting

Distance: 7 miles approx.

Time: 3.5 hours approx.

An easy walk with a couple of steep slopes, wild flowers, birds, animals, open fields and views.

START – from the Parish Church and turning left notice the Old Stocks continue on following the finger post pointing along the lane between churchyard wall on the left and houses and the Legion Hall on the right. Reaching a grassy path on the right turn into it and follow round between 2 fields turning right at the end onto a wide path leading from Church Farm gates to the Petersfield road. Look out for yellow hammers in the hedges.



Cross over the Petersfield road and turn left along the narrow footpath which soon peters out to become a wide grassy verge. Walk along noting in spring the purple banks of violets, ground ivy and bugle; in summer dog roses, hawthorn and brambles. Over the road on your left lie the Memorial playing Fields and in the distance Tower Hill Uppark's ruined tower, originally called "my tower at Noonbush" by sir Matthew Featherstonhaugh, later the Daedalian Tower and latterly the Vandalian Tower. It was reduced to ruins by a deliberate incendiary attack by a gang

of poachers from a neighbouring parish in 1842. Deer can sometimes be seen in the field by the playing fields.

At the finger post "Sussex Border Path 1989" turn right up through the wood with Little Torberry and Torberry Hills rising on your right and glimpses of Butser and Petersfield over the Hampshire border to the left. Look around at wild garlic, bluebells and wild orchids in season and also for deer tracks along the path. Coming to the end of the path descend to the road and at the little triangular green take the road to the left, signposted Quebec listening to the skylarks fluttering on high and see the swallows swooping across the fields in summer. Look out for cowslips and field scabious in season.

Arriving at Dene Cottage on the right just past it you will come to a finger posted path leading into a field beside the cottage's hedge. Turn right into the path and follow it across open fields bearing left and then right to join a road by Bowers Cottage. Turn left and walk along past banks of wild flowers in spring. Continue on passing the turning to Hill Ash and Upperton on the right and shortly after, down the hill, passing on the left Collins Lane and further on, a turning to Quebec (named in memory of Canadian soldiers stationed here at D-Day). Note the banks of soft comfrey outside the last house on the right.

Walk on along the road following the sign to Rogate watching out for marsh tits, goldcrests and red polls in the trees. On your left across the fields opposite the white rails where a stream, the Crundall, rushes from under the road, lie Harting Ponds, the site of Park Mill, mentioned in Domesday but no longer in existence. Continue past the left turn to Petersfield/Ryefield and Killarney cottage, turn right on to a path leading beside a short post and rail fence beside a field gate. Go down this path to join a wide grassy track winding between plantations of silver birch and firs. Notice the yellow four petalled flowers of Tormentil underfoot and on all sides, foxgloves, gorse, heather, ferns, honeysuckle, forget-me-nots and ragged Robin.

Follow round with the fenced fir plantation on the right. Shortly arriving at a stile cross it and immediately on the left (sometimes completely hidden by branches and ferns) is another stile. Cross this into the field, keep right and cut across the right hand corner to the kissing gate in the fence to the left of a water trough. Turn right onto a fenced road (Down Park Farm House is to the left) and walk along between fields and then past some dilapidated farm buildings and a rusted silo on your right. Keeping on, follow the fingerpost pointing to the right outside an attractive house and garden. Walk along the grassy track, looking ahead through the trees to the South Downs, passing honeysuckle in the hedge and scenting the air all around. Pass a great pylon on the right and continue through a kissing gate to the right of an old metal field gate. Walk straight ahead across the open field to an opening between trees, the path crossing a brook. On the left is a finger post and taking the right hand fork pass through a wide opening into the next field. Crossing to the right hand corner of the field about 3/4 down, hidden in the hedge is a way marked stile. Cross it and take care not to trip on the higher wooden planks. Turn left onto a grassy track and follow the waymark with the field on your right.

Cross over the brook and stile and continue uphill, looking out for an old stile further up on the left in a gap between 2 oak trees halfway along the hedge. Cross over this and take the concrete plank over a ditch to the next stile. Turn right to follow the hedge around the field towards a fingerpost pointing in three directions about ½ way up the field. Follow the right hand path over a rickety stile by a metal field gate. Through this turn back to look at the views over Downpark Common. Climb over another stile by a metal gate at the top of the field. Look ahead at Beacon and Harting Hills. Turn right onto the wide track marked with a big green arrow and Hill Ash Farm ahead of you. In the fenced enclosure on the right look out for fritillaries in spring. Turn left at the road and then take the first track on the right just before the fingerpost high up on the bank. Walk along the