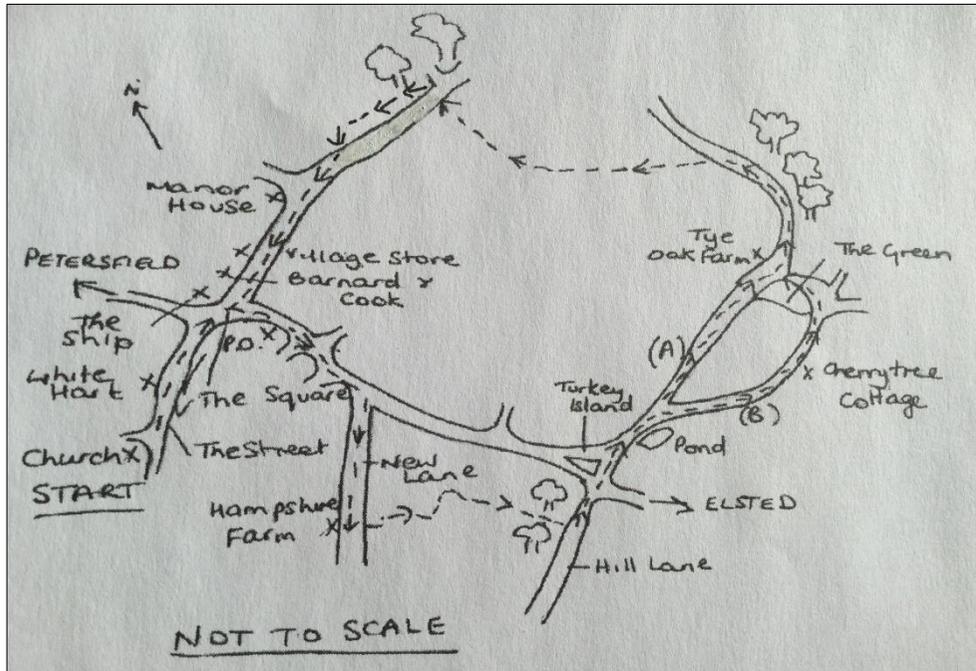


Getting to and from South Harting by Public Transport

Chichester	Bus No. 54	2 hourly, no Sunday service
Petersfield*	Bus No. 54	2 hourly, no Sunday service
	Bus No. 91	infrequent Sat & weekdays
		2 hourly Sundays & Public Holidays
Midhurst	Bus No. 91	As above
Worthing	Bus No. 1	South Harting to Worthing 2 hourly
		Sundays & Public Holidays
	Bus No. 1	Worthing to South Harting as above

*Leaves Petersfield Railway Station



Compiled by Harting Society
Printed by Harting Parish Council

Walk No. 6

HARTING SOCIETY: WALKS ROUND HARTING

Circular walk – South Harting to Hampshire Farm, East Harting and return to South Harting

Distance: 4 miles approx.

Time: 2 hours approx.

An easy walk, though sometimes very rutted and muddy in places, but with care there should be no problem. Through pretty lanes and fields, spring flowers, birdsong, animal tracks and a stream.



START – from the Parish Church and turn left passing the Old Stocks before turning down the Street and passing Ffowlers Bucke (late Medieval timber framed house) and the White Hart. Bearing to the right arrive at The Square, turn right and cross the road. Continue along this road – the Elsted Road – past Jasmine Cottage with its mature olive trees (The Headmaster of the Old village school lived here in the 1940s) and the old Post Office on the right.

Take the fourth turning on the right into New Lane and continue on past several houses and the turning into South Acre, until reaching open fields bordering both sides of the lane. Walk on listening to the skylarks and see swallows swooping by. Perhaps see siskins or a spotted woodpecker, chaffinches and rabbits.

Coming to the post and rail fence of Hampshire Farm Cottage you will shortly arrive at a finger post on the left. Here turn left, sharp left, then right into the field. Keeping the hedge on your right continue to the corner of the field and come to a finger post on the right pointing across 2 wooden planks over a ditch into another field. Cross and follow round with the hedge on your left looking out for big clumps of white violets in spring and teasel later in the season. Nearing the end of the field pass down the narrow, wooded track noticing the yellow archangel. Reaching the metalled road turn left (Hill Lane) walking along with hedges and banks filled with violets, campion, stitchwort, buttercups, speedwell, bellflowers, honesty and mallow in season. Look out for yellow hammers (yellow bunting) or hear their song "Little-bit-of-bread-and-NO-cheese". Rats often dash out across the road here and the occasional fox runs off through the hedges. Reaching the Elsted Road again by the bus shelter, cross the road and continue down the road directly opposite. You are now in East Harting and on your left is the area known as Turkey Island. Walk past houses, the banks full of snowdrops and daffodils in spring and you will come to the duck pond. Look out for alkanet under the hedges. You will probably find duck families out for a walk too and moorhens and their chicks trying to hide among the grasses.

At the fork in the road take: EITHER – (A) to the left along a shaded lane with hellebore, hart's tongue firs, lords and ladies (cuckoo pint), yellow archangel, buttercups and mallow in season. Some of the banks are preserved for wildlife. Look out for the many badger tracks and footprints in the soft earth on either side of the road. Passing the village Green at the top of the road look out for goldfinches and long-tailed tits flitting in and out of the trees, and keeping straight on come to Tye Oak Farm on your left. OR – (B) the road on the right passing thatched roof cottages and bank of wild flowers. Cherry Tree Cottage on the right is a Medieval & Tudor timber framed house. On an interior wall a landscape painted on the plaster dates to about 1590. At the Green at the top of the road turn left walk around it and reaching the T junction turn right to come to Tye Oak Farm on your left. (A) and (B) meet and both pass Tye Oak Farm house on the left. Continue

along the road round a corner, then downhill noting the wonderful little caves and grottos formed by the great tree roots coiling amongst the fissured chalk. At the finger post on the left cross midfield to an arrow marked post at the bottom of the slope. It can be very muddy and rutted here so pick your way carefully. Follow the narrow track through and cross the corner of the field a short distance. In the small copse take time to admire the pool and stream before reaching the stile, its far side a pretty sight in spring massed with primroses and ladies' smock. Take the narrow path that forms a bridge and walk beside the stile with one more glimpse of the pool's banks. Walk straight on into the field ahead.

In the next field keep to a slight angle to the right, keeping the tree standing alone in the middle of the field well to the right. Continue slightly uphill on a wide track. Look to the left to views of Harting Hill and the Downs. Deer are sometimes seen around here. Arriving at the end, descend a short slope which leads through a patch of garlic and to a finger post. The green Grain Store can be seen on your right. Cross the road and following the finger post, take the track up and to your left following parallel with the tarmacked road. Continue until you reach an opening on your left leading onto North Lane. Turn right and walk along until you reach a road on your right. Cross this, joining the footpath outside the Manor House with a red letter box and bench outside its gates.

Continue down North Lane passing the Postlethwaite Pump (1865) to Harting Village Stores another centre of village life. Continue to the T-junction at the bottom turn left to cross the Street noting the lovely pink chestnut surrounding the road sign with its blossom in May/June just beside the Old School. This was built in 1865 and replaced the original school of 1837. It is now 3 private dwellings. Recessed in the wall is the pump erected in 1887 to mark Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. Harting did not get mains water until 1952. Turn right up the Street to arrive again at the Church of St Mary and St Gabriel. It is full of beauty and interest.

