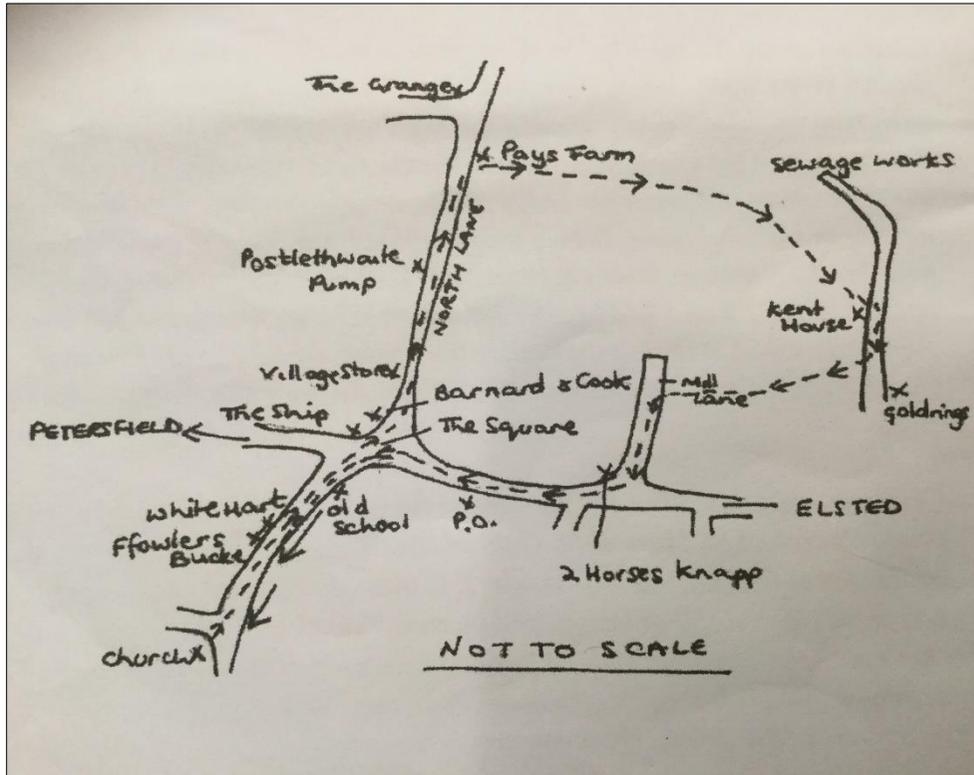


Getting to and from South Harting by Public Transport

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. 91	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. 7

HARTING SOCIETY: WALKS ROUND HARTING

Circular walk – South Harting to East Harting by Pays Farm and Kent House and return to South Harting

Distance: 2 miles approx.

Time: 1.25 hours approx.



START – from the Parish Church and turning left notice the Old Stocks before walking down The Street past Ffowlers Bucke (late medieval timber-framed house) and The White Hart to The Ship (formerly a pub). Bearing right pass around The Ship to The Square. Take the Elsted Road, crossing The Square to Harting Village Stores and on to Baker's Cottage where at one time drapery and patent medicines were sold. Walk up North Lane passing the Postlethwaite Pump dated 1865 (the village didn't have mains water until 1952) and just before reaching the red letter box outside the Manor House gates you will see across the road a finger post pointing up a slope with an iron hand rail. Cross the road to this and go up the slope and onto a narrow footpath.

Keeping the house wall on your left, follow along the hedge until you reach a gap on the left. Pause to admire the views all around to the right, Beacon hill

with its Iron Age site and Harting Down and to the left views towards Nyewood with Tye Oak Farm on the brow of the hill in front of you. Turn left and immediately right down a narrow footpath with hedges of hazel, blackthorn(sloe), and hawthorn on eitherside. There is also elderflower, agrimony and a profusion of blackberries. Can be slippery in winter.

The incline in front of you is fairly steep and at the bottom you will see the sewage works to the left. Cross midfield up a steep hill to the open metal gate at the top. Look to the right over the field to the lovely yew trees growing in the hedge. At the lane running between Kent House and a barn conversion, stop a while to look back at the lovely views of the church's green copper steeple nestling under the Downs, Hemner, Little Torberry and Torberry Hills with Pays Farm buildings in the distance on the right and the observatory tower of The Grange in North Lane just peeping over the rooftops.

Turn right along the lane and in Spring look out for white and purple violets in the hedgerows and long tailed tits flitting in and out. Yellow hammers (yellow buntings) are often to be seen along the way. Listen for their song "Little-bit-of-bread-and-NO-cheese". Reaching the gate on the right climb over and keep straight on through the middle of the field with the attractive front of Kent House (1792 & earlier) on the right. There are often sheep in the field so keep dogs under control. Behind you over the hedge can be seen Goldrings the smallest of medieval timber framed house in the Hartings. It was originally thatched.

Descend the short steep slope at the end of the field, through the gate and walk over an earth bridge across a ditch. Note the great tree roots and the natural bridge made by one of them to the left of the man made one. Walk up the wide well defined path by the hedge on your left, but when you come to a narrow track through the crops leave the hedge and continue straight

on across the open field. In spring the bright blue of the speedwell can be seen growing through the crops on all sides.

Approaching the gap in the hedge see the charming picture, of South Harting cottages snuggling around the pretty little steeple of the Congregational Church. Go down the few steps to the lane, Mill Lane. Turn left and follow it along to the Elsted Road. Here turn right at 2 Horses Knapp into the Elsted road (no footpath so be careful of traffic) looking out for the lovely colours of comfrey growing on the verges. In spring the air is scented by the hedge of 1 Horses Knapp. Pass the Old Post Office and continue along the road past the mature olive trees of Jasmine Cottage where the headmaster of Harting's Old School lived in the 1940s. Passing round by Rook's Cottage notice the lovely pink chestnut by the bus stop covered with glorious pink spires in May/June. Listen to the raucous cries of the rook colony nesting in trees behind it. It was built in 1865 to replace the former school opened in 1837 which had become inadequate for the increasing numbers of pupils. Recessed in the wall note the water pump erected in 1887 to mark Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. The village did not enjoy mains water until 1952.

Continue walking up The Street to reach the lovely church of St Mary & St Gabriel once again. Try to find time to look inside. It is over 800 years old and full of beauty and interest. Don't miss the beautiful and colourful kneelers designed and worked by parishioners depicting all aspects of life in the Hartings.