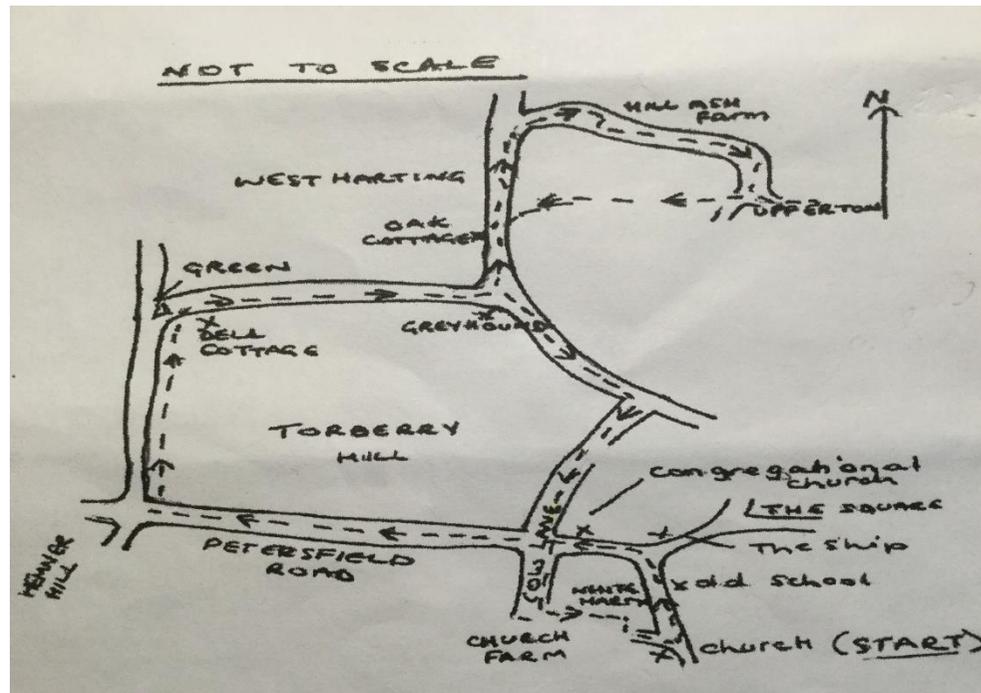


Getting to and from South Harting by Public Transport

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
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Walk No. 8

HARTING SOCIETY: WALKS ROUND HARTING

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

Distance: 3.75 miles approx.

Time: 2.25 hours approx.

This is a beautiful walk in the spring especially, with banks of wild flowers along the way. An easy walk.

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 bottom of the hill. Turn left into the Petersfield road (no footpath, so take care) passing the High House, once the work house, and the Congregational Church.



Joining the footpath continue up the Petersfield road noting the village playing fields across the road to your left and Torberry Hill, with its fairy ring and Iron Age site on top (not open to the public), on the right. On the way look out for crosswort and ox eye daisies, and further on ground ivy, violets, bugle and primroses under hawthorns and apple trees. Perhaps the

occasional rabbit or deer. The latter can sometimes be seen grazing or bounding over the crops in the field next to the Playing Fields.

At the finger post (Sussex Border Path 1989) turn up through the wood on your right with views toward Petersfield and West Harting on the left and Little Torberry and Torberry Hills rising on the right. Note the beautiful trees, ransom (wild garlic), bluebells and wild orchids (Common Twayblade and Early Purple) and glimpses of Butser, topped by a signal tower, and the Hampshire Hangers through the trees. Coming to the end of the path descend to the roadway and at the little signposted green turn right to West Harting. Primroses, cowslips and scabious grow on the nearby banks. Take time to listen to the skylarks' joyous song as they soar and flutter above the fields. In summer, flights of swallows swoop through the air.

Continue along the road to the Greyhound, West Harting's Old Inn. Now a private house, it is of Medieval and Tudor timber framed construction. Turn left walking along the road with banks of celandine, primroses, snowdrops, lady's mantle and daffodils in spring. See sheep and lambs, perhaps the occasional fox or hedgehog and in the colder months many pheasants. Pass Oak Cottage a Tudor timber framed house and the Old Bakery, with banks of primroses in spring, to the signpost to Hill Ash and Upperton on your right. Turn down this narrow lane a delightful sight in Spring, its banks massed with celandine, violets, primroses, lady's mantle, snowdrops, grape hyacinths and bluebells.

Walk on past Hill Ash Farm with its Oast Houses and on to Upperton, a medieval timber framed house with Tudor and post Tudor additions. A house has been on the site since the 12th Century and prior to the 16th Century there was a Lazar house, a refuge for lepers. Admire the view towards East Harting then retrace your steps back up the lane until the right turn, but keep straight up into the field and follow the footpath straight ahead. Half way across the footpath, lean on the white double wooden

gates and look across to the green. Note Hill Ash's Oast House across the field to the right and on the left lovely views of Beacon Hill (Iron Age Site) Harting Downs, Torberry Hill and ahead of you across West Harting to Goose Green and beyond to Butser and Hampshire.

Look across to the green copper spire of the Church of St Mary and St Gabriel peeping above the rolling slopes of hills under the Downs. At the end of the field descend the gentle slope to the metalled road. Turning to the left once again, pass Oak Cottage and continue on to the Greyhound. Follow the signpost to South Harting passing the Greyhound on your right. On this road look out for badger tracks and prints on the banks on either side. Further along by the little copse, just before the finger post pointing down a wide grassy track between two fields on your right, deer tracks can often be distinguished in the soft soil. Turn right into the lane and walk along with Torberry rising across the field to the right. Stop to listen to the skylarks and look out for any tiny field pansies and scarlet pimpernel. Look ahead of you at the wonderful view of the fields and hills. Hemner, Main Down, West Harting Downs, Tower Hill and Harting Hill with cottages of South Harting grouped around the Church.

Cross the Petersfield road and continue up Cow Lane to the grassy narrow path just before the gates of Church Farm and turning left, continue along this until it joins the metalled road running past a few houses, with the British Legion Hall on the left and the churchyard wall to the right. Reaching the church once more try to spare some time to look around it. Over 800 years old, it is full of beauty and interest. Take note of the many lively and colourful kneelers designed and worked by parishioners depicting all aspects of life in Harting.