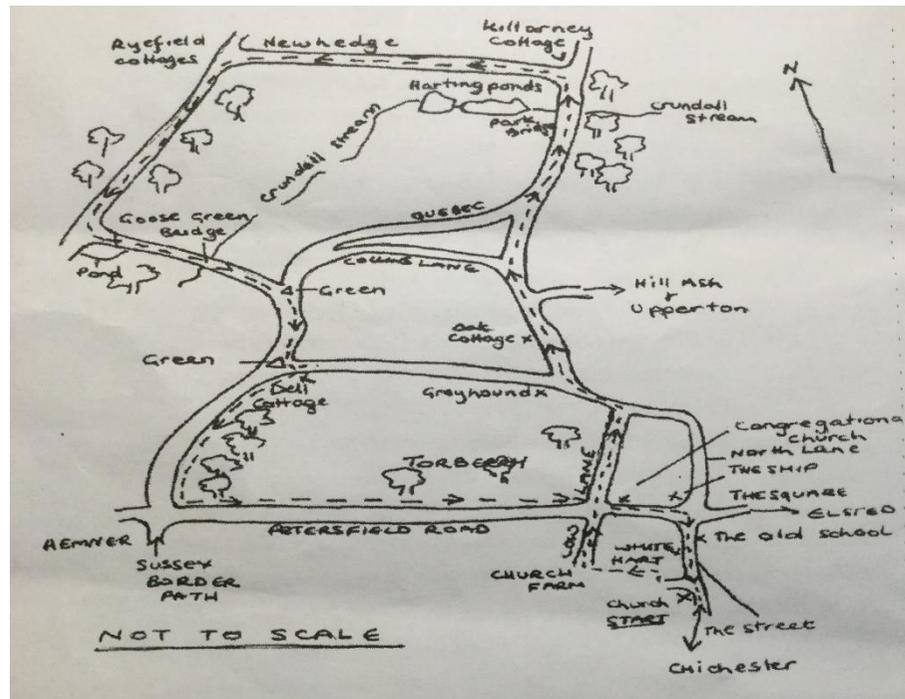


Getting to and from South Harting by Public Transport

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. 9

HARTING SOCIETY: WALKS ROUND HARTING

Circular walk – South Harting to West Harting, Goose Green and return to South Harting

Distance: 5.5 miles approx.

Time: 2 hours approx.

This walk could in the main part be done by car, but is far more rewarding by foot along quiet country lanes and wooded paths.

START – from the Parish Church and turning left notice the Old Stocks before continuing up the lane following the finger post pointing up between the Meeting House and the churchyard wall. At the end of the lane turn right onto a grassy track and follow this around by Church Farm on the left and a field on the right. Turn right into the wide lane (Cow Lane) leading down from the farm gates to the Petersfield Road. Cross the road and continue up the wide grassy path ahead of you.



Walk along the track between fields, with Torberry Hill with its Fairy Ring and Iron age site on its top, rising on the left. Stop to listen to the skylarks joyous song as they flutter high in the sky above the crops. At the end of the path turn to look back at the beautiful view of Torberry, Little Torberry and Hemner Hills, Main Down and West Harting Down, Tower Hill, Harting Down and Beacon Hill with the copper spire of the church rising above the roof tops. At the metalled road turn left and look for deer tracks in the soft earth of the banks leading down from a little copse.

Continue along the road noticing snowdrops, violets and primroses in spring, campion, buttercups, herb Robert and bellflowers in later months. Look out for badger tracks and perhaps a fox sunning itself. Reaching The Greyhound, West Harting's Old Inn (Medieval and Tudor timber framed house) keep on following the Rogate sign passing the banks of primroses, cowslips, celandines and bluebells in spring, when the air is filled with the bleating of lambs and in the colder seasons, see many pheasants. Walk on passing the signpost to Hill Ash and Upperton on the right and continue down the hill past the turnings to Collins Lane and Quebec (named in memory of Canadians stationed here prior to D-Day).

Look out for Harting Ponds on the left, which are often difficult to see but swans and geese usually can be spotted to mark the location. The Ponds are private property. Park Mill recorded in Domesday once stood here. Stop to watch the waters of the little Crundall stream rushing down as it comes from under the road on the right. Keep an eye out for marsh tits and goldcrests (Europe's smallest bird) or hear its call "Si-si-si". Arriving at the T-junction and Killarney Cottage with its lovely camelias, blossom trees and magnolia in spring, turn left with the cottage on your right. Many deer can be seen in the adjoining field on the right from the newly established Deer Farm. Walk along the straight road with wide verges either side. The hedge on the right, about half way along, has been replanted with 700 bushes including hawthorn, spindle and hazel.

At the end of the road turn left with farm buildings and Ryefield Cottages on the right, fields on the left. In spring see massed daffodils along the way and primroses, lady's smock, periwinkle, bluebells, garlic and honesty among the trees by the wayside. At the next T-junction turn left into the road to Goose Green. Swallows and martins swoop about the pond on the right, reduced to a swampy puddle in summer. Notice the catkins of the willow among the snowy blossom of the blackthorn in spring and the purplish hues of sloes later in the year. On the right in spring and early summer see marsh

marigolds growing thickly in the marsh ground by the clear waters of the Crundall stream. You just may see a hare speeding past across the fields or see its prints.

Continuing along the road with its banks full of spring flowers, yellow archangel, soft comfrey, campion and bellflowers, notice the lovely yew trees high up a bank to the right. Their exposed roots coiling among the chalk rock formations. At the top of the hill walk along to the little signposted green and turn right to pass the Old Manor House (a fine example of a Wealden house) on the road back to South Harting. Keep straight on past colourful comfrey in the hedgerows looking around at views of Torberry Copse and Torberry Hill ahead and Butser with its signal tower on the right.

At the next signposted green take the South Harting road and a few yards on and left, take a track up through the woods (Sussex Border Path – 1989). Follow this looking out for deer and badger tracks and taking care of tree roots underfoot. Note the many lovely trees and wild garlic thick on the ground. Look out for orchids (Twayblade and early purple) bluebells and bellflowers. Descending to the Petersfield road turn left and walk along the wide verge, the banks on the left purple with ground ivy, violets and bugle under hawthorn and apple blossom in spring. Deer can sometimes be seen in the fields across the road next to the Playing Fields. The verge becomes a footpath near the village signpost but ends at the Congregational Church, so take care. Passing the High House, once the old workhouse, continue on to The Ship (now private dwellings) and cross the road looking up to see the lovely pink horse chestnut covered in gorgeous pin spires in late spring. Beside the tree is the Old School (now 3 private dwellings). In 1865 it replaced the former school opened in 1837. In its wall see recessed the water pump erected in 1887 to mark the Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Mains water did not come to South Harting until 1952. Walk up the Street to arrive once more at the beautiful Church of St Mary & St Gabriel. Over 800 years old it is full of wonder and delight so try to make time to visit it.