

Hedgerley

A 2, 3.5 or 5.5 miles walk taking in a picturesque Buckinghamshire village, woodlands, an RSPB reserve and remnants of the once important local brick industry

Circular Walk

Directions

- Head south from Hedgerley Village, turn right along Kiln Lane and take the footpath on the left which leads through Kelmsly Wood and on to Parish Lane.
- Go straight on at the crossroads and approximately 300 metres beyond the junction take the footpath to the left through Ponds Wood. Carefully cross Collinswood Road (A355) and follow the path through the next block of woodland to Egypt Woods. As Egypt Woods are used for shooting from October to February, it is important that you keep to the paths, avoiding the timber extraction rides leading off, and keep your dog under close control and preferably on a lead.
- At the junction of the tracks, turn sharp right, back along the woodland boundary, and follow the path back into the woods.
- Cross the A355 again, taking the estate road past Pennlands Farm and onto Kiln Lane.
- Head through Hedgerley once more and take the path to the church. Follow the path uphill towards Hedgerley Green and then right along Wapseys Lane towards the M40. After 200m turn right onto the public bridleway.
- At the junction of the paths, turn right, heading west back towards Hedgerley. There may be sheep or cattle in these fields, so please keep your dog on a lead.

The walk may be joined from Hedgerley Hill, where there is a regular bus service; parking may be more easily available here. Simply take the path opposite the shops and pick up the route in Kelmsly Wood.

Features of Interest

1 Hedgerley is an attractive village with several fine buildings including the old school house (School Cottage). On a hill above the village, stands the church of St Mary the Virgin, built as recently as 1852, nonetheless contrives to look older.

The public bar of The White Horse can have changed little in over a century, and the pub still serves its ale direct from the cask - a rarity in Bucks. Hedgerley's best known resident was the notorious Judge Jeffreys (1645-89) famed for the 'bloody assizes' which followed the Monmouth Rebellion.

2 Egypt Woods take its name from an old gypsy encampment nearby and forms the northern part of the famous Burnham Beeches. The woodlands are a Site of Special Scientific Interest and provide habitat for a wide variety of creatures.



3 Scots pine, larch, woodsage and honeysuckle add to the rich variety of woodland smells especially in the summer months.

4 Until 1936, Pennlands Farm was the site of brickworks, producing 20,000 bricks per firing. Old clay pits are still visible to the north of the track. By the path is an 18th century granary mounted on



mushroom shaped settle stones. The stones were designed to exclude rats and mice and to keep the grain dry by allowing air underneath.

- 5 A constant hum tells us that we are close to the M40, but the countryside is as delightful as ever. Two Roman pottery kilns were discovered here while the motorway was being built, showing that the local clay was valued as long ago as the 2nd century AD.
- 6 Banks and ditches visible alongside the path were dug to define old woodland boundaries. A stand of hornbeam trees can be seen on either side.
- 7 Church Wood is typical mixed woodland and an RSPB reserve. Two trails have been laid out, giving the quiet walker the opportunity to spot many of our native woodland birds. In late spring, bluebells carpet the woodland floor.

Follow the Countryside Code:

- Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people

Further Information:

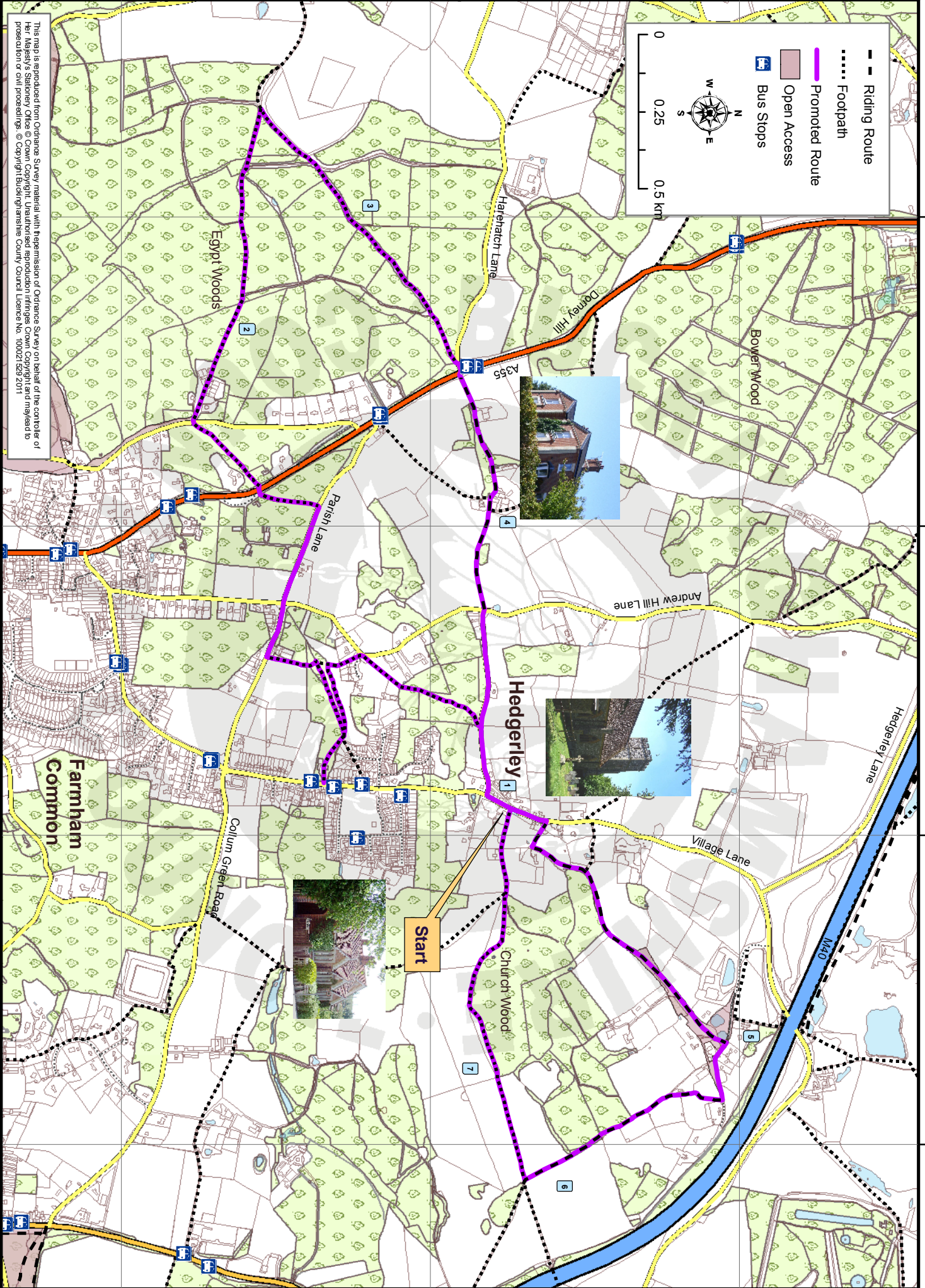
Rights of Way & Access, County Hall, Aylesbury, HP20 1UY
Telephone: 01296 382171

Email: row@buckscc.gov.uk

or visit our website at www.buckscc.gov.uk/rights_of_way



Hedgerley Circular Route



This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction in any form is prohibited. Ordnance Survey Licence No. 100021563 2011

495000

496000

497000

498000

495000

496000

497000

498000

186000

187000

188000