



Baughurst Parish Council

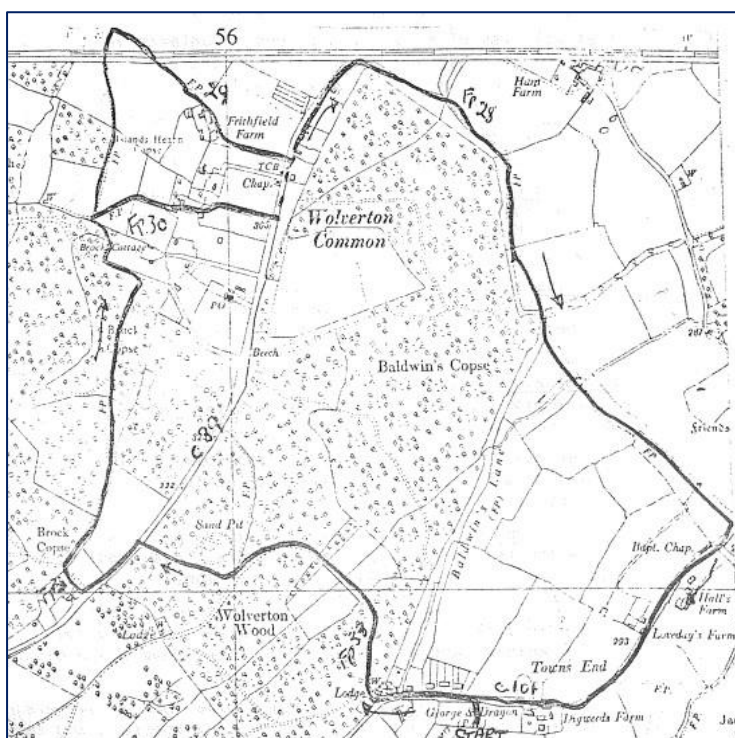
Walk 17: Baldwin's Copse

Approximate time: 1hr 30 mins

Start map reference:

From George & Dragon Public House, Wolverton, proceed due west as far as council houses (Townsend) past the forge where Messrs. Bert and Richard Wiggins, working farriers, may be seen.

Turn right off C. 101 immediately after passing the forge, along Footpath No. 33 (signpost) into Wolverton Road, along a farm access road. Branch left at fork and, shortly after, left again; then branch right-handed and go through to road C. 89. Then turn left. Leave C. 89, turning right into Sandford Wood, down Footpath No. 31 (signpost) between Hare & Hounds Inn and Baughurst Parish Council playing field.



Through wicket gate beside 5-bar gates and turn right at once. Bear left at next Forestry Commission noticeboard. At fork keep right, following fence line, and proceed over stile.

EITHER follow Footpath No. 30 — bear right across fields over stile and proceed down side of paddock, keeping to right of house (Island Heron) and so down drive to rejoin C. 89;

OR follow Footpath No. 29 — proceed along

hedge line on left and through metal 4-bar gate; diagonally across field facing due north to far corner of field where footpath proceeds over bridge 40 yds. east of corner into Kingsclere Parish. At this point turn sharply right, bear left over sleeper bridge and keep to right-hand hedge line through 5-bar gate, follow signs, and through metal gate and along drive (Century House) to C. 89.

THEN turn left onto C. 89. Turn right Off C. 89 down Footpath No. 28 (signpost) and follow left fork off farm road. Cross ditch over stile and keep to right-



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hand hedge and over another stile. Keep to headland across field, through 6-bar gate, then left through another metal gate and across field facing south-east through another metal gate. Keep to right-hand hedge mainly in same general direction, and then keep right of hedge along narrow field and go between caravan and hedge and onto C. 101. Turn right along road to return to George Dragon Public House.

A very pleasant and varied walk. Cattle make field gateways muddy and wellingtons are necessary in winter.

WHEN IN THE COUNTRY - FOLLOW THE COUNTRY CODE

The Country Code was written to help reduce or prevent the unintentional damage that occurs every year, particularly at public holidays. Too many visitors to the countryside are unfamiliar with its ways. They forget that a single careless act - a gate left open, a fence or hedge weakened, a dropped cigarette end - can mean a lot of extra work and expense for farmers, foresters and other country folk.

The Code is a series of ten reminders based on common sense - and Common failings. SO WHEN IN THE COUNTRY REMEMBER -

Guard against all risk of fire: Plantations, woodlands and heaths are high inflammable: every year acres burn because of casually dropped matches, cigarette ends or pipe ash.

Fasten all gates even if you found them open: Animals cannot be told to stay where they are put. A gate left open invites them to wander, a danger to themselves, to crops and to traffic.

Keep dogs under proper control: Farmers have good reason to regard visiting dogs as pests; in the country a civilised town dog can become a savage. Keep your dog on a lead wherever there is livestock about, also on country roads.

Keep to the paths across farmland: Crops can be ruined by people's feet. Remember that grass is a valuable crop too, sometimes the only one on the farm. Flattened corn or hay is very difficult to harvest.

Avoid damaging fences, hedges and walls: They are expensive items in the farm's economy; repairs are costly and use scarce labour. Keep to recognised routes, using gates and stiles.

Leave no litter: All litter is unsightly, and some is dangerous as well. Take litter home for disposal; in the country it costs a lot to collect it.



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Safeguard water: Your chosen walk may well cross a catchment area for the water supply of millions. Avoid polluting it in any way. Never interfere with cattle troughs.

Protect wildlife, wild plants and trees: Wildlife is best observed, not collected. To pick or uproot flowers, carve trees and rocks, or disturb wild animals and birds, destroys other people's pleasure as well.

Go carefully on country roads: Country roads have special dangers; blind corners, high banks and hedges, slow-moving tractors and farm machinery or animals. Motorists should reduce their speed and take extra care; walkers should keep to the right, facing oncoming traffic.

Respect the life of the countryside: Set a good example and try to fit in with the life and work of the countryside. This way good relations are preserved, and those who follow are not regarded as enemies.



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APPENDIX 1 AMENDMENT HISTORY

These are the amendments to the version one of Walk17: Baldwin's Copse last reviewed in March 2023.

Reference

Amendment

Initially Written: June 1977

Reviewed: March 2023

Review date: March 2024