

**Explore and Enjoy
the**



**Special wildlife
Inspiring views
Rich in history**

**A long-distance path from
Banstead Downs to Horley, created by**





Welcome to the Millennium Trail, a long-distance path (18 miles, or 28km) from Banstead Downs to Horley, created by Reigate and Banstead Borough Council to mark the new century.

The Trail is full of surprises - even for those who are familiar with the area. Its twists and turns will guide you through historic towns and villages and some beautiful scenery on the way. The plenty of places to pause and reflect on the relationship between Town and Country, Past and Present - whilst you enjoy some well-earned rest and refreshment.



St. John The Evangelist, Redhill - one of the many fine buildings you will discover on this walk...

Six circular walks link with The Millennium Trail and where they connect with the main Trail is shown on the map inside. Although shorter than the main Trail, they are just as interesting and scenic and are well worth exploring. They vary in length from three to seven miles and can be used as an alternative, or additional route to the main Millennium Trail. There is a free leaflet for each of these – see the back cover for more details.



The Millennium Trail is rich in history and will take you through some of Surrey's finest countryside. There is

so much to see that you will want to linger – so why not split the Trail into shorter sections to suit your taste and take your time to complete it? Or if you like to stride out at a more determined pace, you will find that the Trail is long enough to provide a challenge - so go for it!

This guide is best used with OS map:
1:25000 Explorer 146
(Dorking, Box Hill & Reigate)

Suitability

The Millennium Trail is suitable for walkers of all ages and abilities, but there are some steep slopes, patches of uneven ground and some stiles. Parts of the Trail are therefore unsuitable for wheelchairs and buggies.

Footwear

The Millennium Trail is thoroughly waymarked and can be walked in all weathers. Some areas may be slippery or muddy underfoot, so stout walking boots or trainers with good treads are recommended.

Transport Links










The Millennium Trail has public transport connections at the start and finish, and there are numerous transport links on the way. For more details, see the map inside.

For further up-to-date public transport information, contact Surrey Traveline on **0871 200 2233** or www.traveline.info

Rest and Refreshment

There are lots of pubs, picnic places and resting areas on the route.
More details inside...

Key to symbols used

-  Busy Road
-  Car Park
-  View
-  Toilet
-  Cafe/Tea Shop
-  Picnic Area
-  Public House/Bar
-  Cycleway
-  Bus Stop



1 Your journey starts at Commonside Close, right next to Belmont Railway station. **Grid Ref: TQ 256 620**

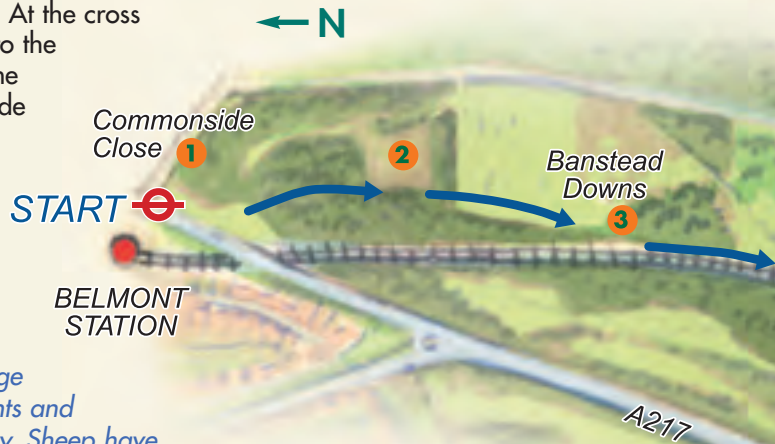
Transport Link: Buses from Mitcham, Sutton and Banstead also go to the start of the walk.

2 From Commonside Close, walk onto the common and follow the path to the right of the notice board. At the cross path, walk straight on into the woodland. Go through the trees and out the other side and carry straight on.

This common is known as Banstead Downs.

It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest; a nationally important area of chalk grassland that supports a wide range of wildlife, including plants and insects now rare in Surrey. Sheep have grazed here for centuries and were still grazed commercially up to the outbreak of the Second World War. Today, Banstead Downs is managed as common land, with a general right of public access, by the Banstead Commons Conservators.

3 Follow the path down then up the hill and go straight on at the cross path. Where the path forks, go right and then right again. Carry straight on, until you reach a railway fence. Go left and follow the path with the railway fence on your right. At the corner of the fence, beside a bridge, take the third path on the left.



Walk Link: You can also connect with the Town and Down Circular Walk and the London LOOP from here.

Transport Link: To get to the Millennium Trail from Banstead Station, follow the orange Town and Down Circular Walk disks. As you leave the station, cross the road and follow the bridleway to the right of the railway track. At the end of the bridleway, turn right and then cross the A217 at the lights. Go left and walk along the pavement beside the A217 until you pass over the railway then turn right and follow the bridleway onto the golf course (this is also part of the London LOOP). Follow the signs across the golf course, (Beware of flying golf balls!) until you reach a bridge over the railway. Take the second path on the right.



Sheep are now used to control the growth of scrub and rough vegetation on Banstead Downs.

4 At the first crossways, go straight on until you reach Winkworth Road. Cross with care and follow the path straight on. At the next main road (*Sutton Lane*) turn right and follow the road until you reach a roundabout. (*The old village well can be seen nearby, at the junction of Sutton Lane and Woodmansterne Lane. It is 300ft deep and was still in*

and a wigmakers workshop. The present building replaces the old inn, which was destroyed by a flying bomb in 1944.



The Woolpack Inn - a modern sign for an ancient trade.



use at the end of the 19th century. The 18th century wellhead covers the winding gear and is a listed building.) Bear right, then cross the road and enter the Woolpack Pub car park.

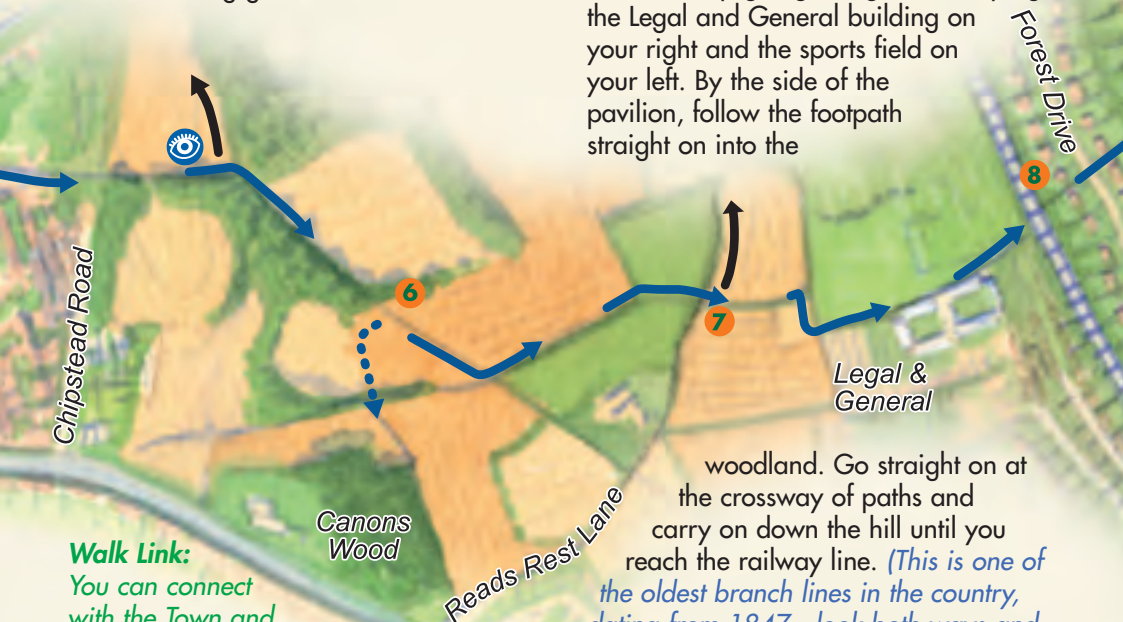
There has been an inn here for hundreds of years and its name (first recorded in 1716) bears witness to the importance of the wool trade that once flourished in Banstead. The inn was also used as a venue for parish business, a mail house

5 Walk between the white lines and follow the path out into Lady Neville Recreation Ground. Follow the path round to the right and walk through the recreation ground and then turn left into De Burgh Park. Take the first footpath on the right that eventually leads through allotments and carry on until you reach Holly Lane. Cross Holly Lane with care and follow the footpath on the other side. Where the path forks go left and continue down hill until you reach a track (*Chipstead Road*).

Go straight on into the field and follow the path as it descends and then rises. At the corner of the field, follow the path round to the right at the edge of the woodland. Bear left and follow the path straight on out along the field edge, through the kissing gate and then back through another small area of woodland (*Pages Acre – an ancient woodland covered with bluebells in Spring*) to another kissing gate.

Walk Link: You can connect with the *Banstead Countryside Walk*, which goes left from here.

7 Continue straight on over the stile and along the track between two fields. At the T-junction turn right and carry on along the track. Go round the gate and as you reach the first house on the right, take the footpath to the left, through the barrier. Keep going straight on, keeping the Legal and General building on your right and the sports field on your left. By the side of the pavilion, follow the footpath straight on into the



Walk Link: You can connect with the *Town and Down Circular Walk* and the *Banstead Countryside Walk* from here.

6 Take the path diagonally left across the field. At the other side of the field turn left and walk along the field edge with the hedge to your right. At the corner of the field, carry straight on over the stile until you reach Reads Rest Lane. (*The lane is named after the cottages where Captain James Read, who served as an officer for forty years under Charles I, Charles II and James II, died in 1691.*)

woodland. Go straight on at the crossway of paths and carry on down the hill until you reach the railway line. (*This is one of the oldest branch lines in the country, dating from 1847 - look both ways and cross the railway line with extreme caution.*)



Old walnut tree, near Canon's Farm, at the start of Reads Rest Lane.

8 On the other side, follow the path round to the left and then round to the right, until you meet a road (*Forest Drive*).

This walk will take you past the Well House Inn – so called because the garden contains a well, known as St Margeret’s Well or Mag’s Well, which has given its name to the nearby village



Transport Link:
You can leave the Millennium Trail at Forest Drive. Turn right and then right again into Waterhouse Lane, and right after the railway bridge to find Kingswood Station.

9 Go straight on and follow the path, crossing two roads. At the third road, (*The Chase*) cross and go straight on, then follow Lilley Drive straight on. Bear right and follow the path between the houses down to the main road (*Waterhouse Lane*).

Walk Link: *The Shabden and Upper Gatton Parks Circular Walk goes left from here.*

Cross with care and carry straight along the path through the woodland and then out onto the golf course. Follow the waymarked posts straight on across the golf course (*beware of flying golf balls!*) until you reach another woodland (*Smugglers Pit Plantation*). Go straight on, cross the stile then follow the path through the field down the hill to another stile. Cross over the stile and then cross the road with care.

of Mugswell. The well is mentioned in the Domesday Book; it is 100ft deep and is used by the Sutton and East Surrey Water Company to monitor levels in the underground aquifer, which provides 85% of its supplies.



Well House Inn.

10 Follow the footpath to the right of the pub, going uphill and then through a kissing gate. Carry straight on along the path beside the hedgerow and through two more kissing gates. Cross Monkswell Lane and go straight on.

Cross Green Lane and go straight on and cross two stiles.

Follow the path straight on beside the hedgerow and at the end of the field, cross over the stile and go straight on.

Walk Link: *Shabden and Upper Gatton Parks Circular Walk goes left from here.*

11 Follow the track as it forks left and then sharp left and continue following the track straight on as it leads uphill beside Gatwick Wood. Bear left beside Home Field Farm and follow the track alongside the woodland and past fields. Continue following the track as it bends round to the

right. At the end of the track turn left, then right along High Road (*watch out for traffic here*) until you reach the cross roads. Turn left along Crossways Lane and follow the track. Where the track bends round to the left, continue straight on and carry on downhill and through a tunnel, which goes under the M25. Follow the path as it bears round to the left and then to the right, and continue downhill to the road (*Gatton Bottom*). Take care crossing the road and carry straight on between the houses. Turn sharp right in front of the National Trust sign and follow the path steeply uphill.

Walk Link: *The North Downs Ridge Circular Walk goes straight on from here.*

Gatton and Upper Gatton Parks are two former Country Estates that used to lie within the borough of Gatton, one of the oldest parishes in Surrey.

12 Where the path forks, follow the right hand path and continue uphill until you reach the top. Carry straight on towards the car park and cross a minor road and then Wray Lane.

Enter the car park and follow the path to the left of the refreshment kiosk and carry on over the bridge across the A217. Carry straight on until the path meets Fort Lane. Carry straight on, following the road, and onto a track, passing Reigate Fort on your left.

Reigate Fort was one of 13 mobilisation centres built between 1890 and 1903 in a defensive line that stretched along the North Downs for 72 miles.

13 Keep going straight on through the woodland until you reach a gate onto an open area. Go through the gate and straight on, past the Inglis Memorial on your left. Carry straight on along the top of the hill.

Walk Link: *The North Downs Ridge Circular Walk goes straight on from here.*

14 Take the first bridleway on your left leading downhill, almost doubling back on yourself. Follow the path downhill, go through the gate and continue steeply downhill, past the memorial stone.

(Dedicated to Captain George Simpson, of the 5th Battalion, Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment, who died in 1909.)

Take care, as this path can be slippery. Continue downhill until you reach Underhill Park Road.

Walk Link: *The North Downs Ridge Circular Walk crosses the trail here.*



A view of Colley Hill from the Inglis Memorial.

bridge and past the Admiral Inn. Carry straight on past Phillips Church and cross over Beaufort Road. Pass the Nutley Hall public house and carry straight on along Slipshoe Street until you reach London Road (A217).

Transport Link: *For trains; follow London Road until you reach a zebra crossing. Cross it, turn left and cross another one, then carry on to the left and follow the road until you reach Reigate Station. Buses from the centre of Reigate go to Redhill,*



15 Turn right and walk along the metalled track, then turn left through the barriers into Pilgrims Way. Walk down Pilgrims Way, cross Manor Road and carry straight on along Nutley Lane. Go under the railway

Earlswood, Merstham, East Surrey Hospital, Tadworth, Banstead and Sutton (every day), and Dorking and Guildford (not Sunday).

16 Continue walking on the Millennium Trail, bear right on London Road until you reach a pedestrian crossing.

Walk Link: You can connect with the Tatton Winter Circular Walk from here.

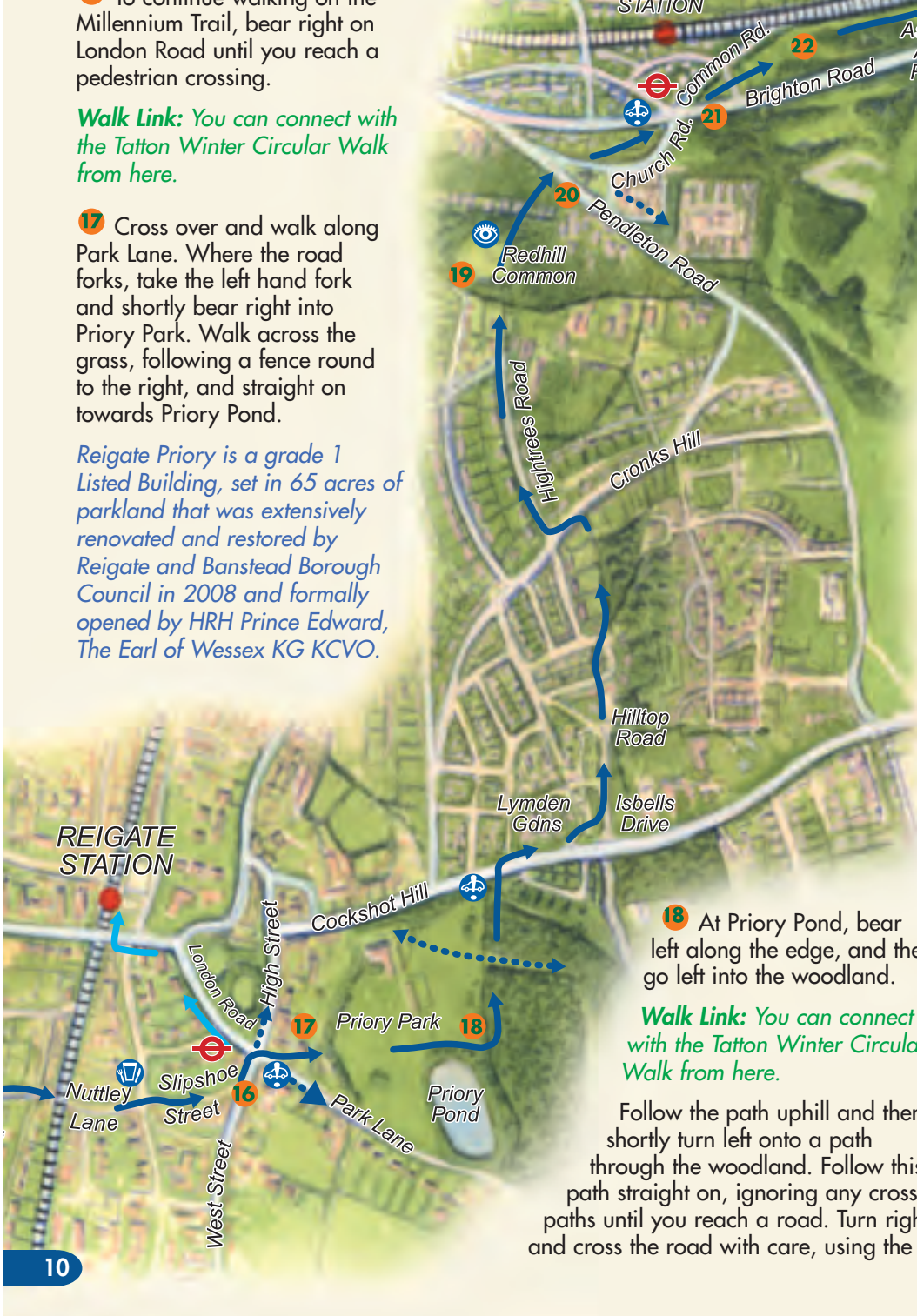
17 Cross over and walk along Park Lane. Where the road forks, take the left hand fork and shortly bear right into Priory Park. Walk across the grass, following a fence round to the right, and straight on towards Priory Pond.

Reigate Priory is a grade 1 Listed Building, set in 65 acres of parkland that was extensively renovated and restored by Reigate and Banstead Borough Council in 2008 and formally opened by HRH Prince Edward, The Earl of Wessex KG KCVO.

18 At Priory Pond, bear left along the edge, and the go left into the woodland.

Walk Link: You can connect with the Tatton Winter Circular Walk from here.

Follow the path uphill and then shortly turn left onto a path through the woodland. Follow this path straight on, ignoring any cross paths until you reach a road. Turn right and cross the road with care, using the





Reigate Priory

20 Take the first small path to the right, going steeply downhill to a road. Cross the road and follow the path straight on, with the boundary wall of St John The Evangelist's Church on your right. *(This fine church was rebuilt by the great Victorian architect Pearson between 1889 and 1895)*

Walk Link: You can connect with the Earlswood Commons Circular Walk, which goes right from here.

21 Cross another road and carry straight on across the common until you reach a road (*Brighton Road*). Cross this busy road with care at the traffic island.

Transport Link: Bus stops in this area have services to Reigate, Merstham, Horley and Gatwick (every day), and Lingfield, Caterham and East Surrey Hospital (weekdays only).

22 Turn right and then bear left into Common Road. At the cross roads, go right and then turn left and follow the footpath across Earlswood Common and golf course. Follow the waymarks beside the trees on the left until you reach a track.

23 Turn left and go under the railway, then turn right along a metalled track, and shortly bear right onto the cycleway.

traffic island, then turn right and carry on along the road, ignoring any side roads. Just past Lynden Gardens, bear left up Isbells Drive. At the end of the drive by the Lodge, bear left onto a path. At the end, turn left and walk along the road (*Smoke Lane*). When you reach Hilltop Road, bear right onto a path between two fences. At the end of the houses, take the left fork and follow the path through the woodland and then straight on between two fences. At the road, turn left and then right into High Trees Road. Ignore Ringley Avenue on the left and carry straight on along High Trees Road until the end, where you will reach Redhill Common.

19 Go through the gate and take the centre path. Follow it out onto Earlswood Common (*spectacular views of the Weald and the South Downs National Park can be seen from here*), and then downhill into woodland.

The memorial on Redhill common commemorates the Silver Jubilee of King George V's reign (1910 – 1935). It was originally a sighting pillar, used to plot the route of the railway line when it first came through Redhill.

King George V memorial, Redhill Common.



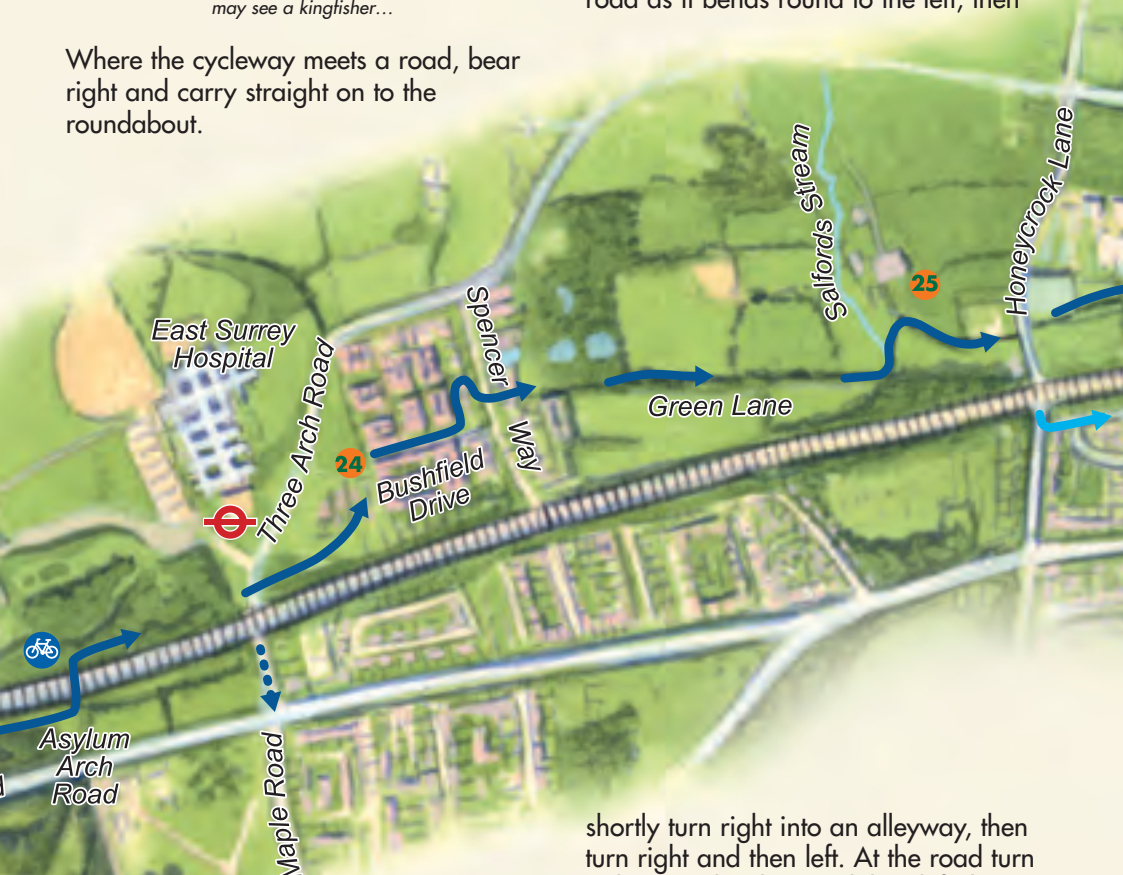


Pause a while on the bridge at Salfords Stream and you may see a kingfisher...

Transport Link: Bus stops in this area have services to Reigate, Merstham, Horley and Gatwick (every day), and Lingfield, Caterham and Dormansland (weekdays only).

24 Bear right and cross the road at the pedestrian crossing. Turn left and follow the road for a short distance, then take the path to the left of the cycleway. Cross Whitebushes Common, and then carry straight on along the road. Ignore minor roads to the left and right, and follow the road as it bends round to the left, then

Where the cycleway meets a road, bear right and carry straight on to the roundabout.



Walk Link:
You can connect with the Earlswood Commons Circular Walk, which goes right from here.

shortly turn right into an alleyway, then turn right and then left. At the road turn right, past the shop and then left down Green Lane. Carry straight on where the road turns into a path and go into woodland. The path eventually bends to the left and crosses Salfords Stream.

25 At the T-junction turn right and follow the track to a road.

Transport Link: You can leave the Millennium Trail here; turn right and walk under the railway bridge, then turn left into Southern Avenue and continue straight on until you reach Salfords Station, which has services towards London and Gatwick/Horsham.

Lake Lane was one of the north-south drove roads in the Horley area, used in Anglo-Saxon times to bring animals from the downland in the north of Surrey to the woodland in the south. Anglo-Saxon Swineherds used it to drive their pigs to woods in Horley, where their beasts could forage for roots, shoots and acorns.



26 Cross the road and go straight on, ignore a footpath on the right and carry straight on through metal gates and along a wooded path. Follow this path for about 1 mile. At the road (*Cross Oak Lane*), turn left and follow the cycleway and then the road. Take care and walk facing the oncoming traffic as there is no pavement here. Just past Lake Cottage, go right and follow the wide track.

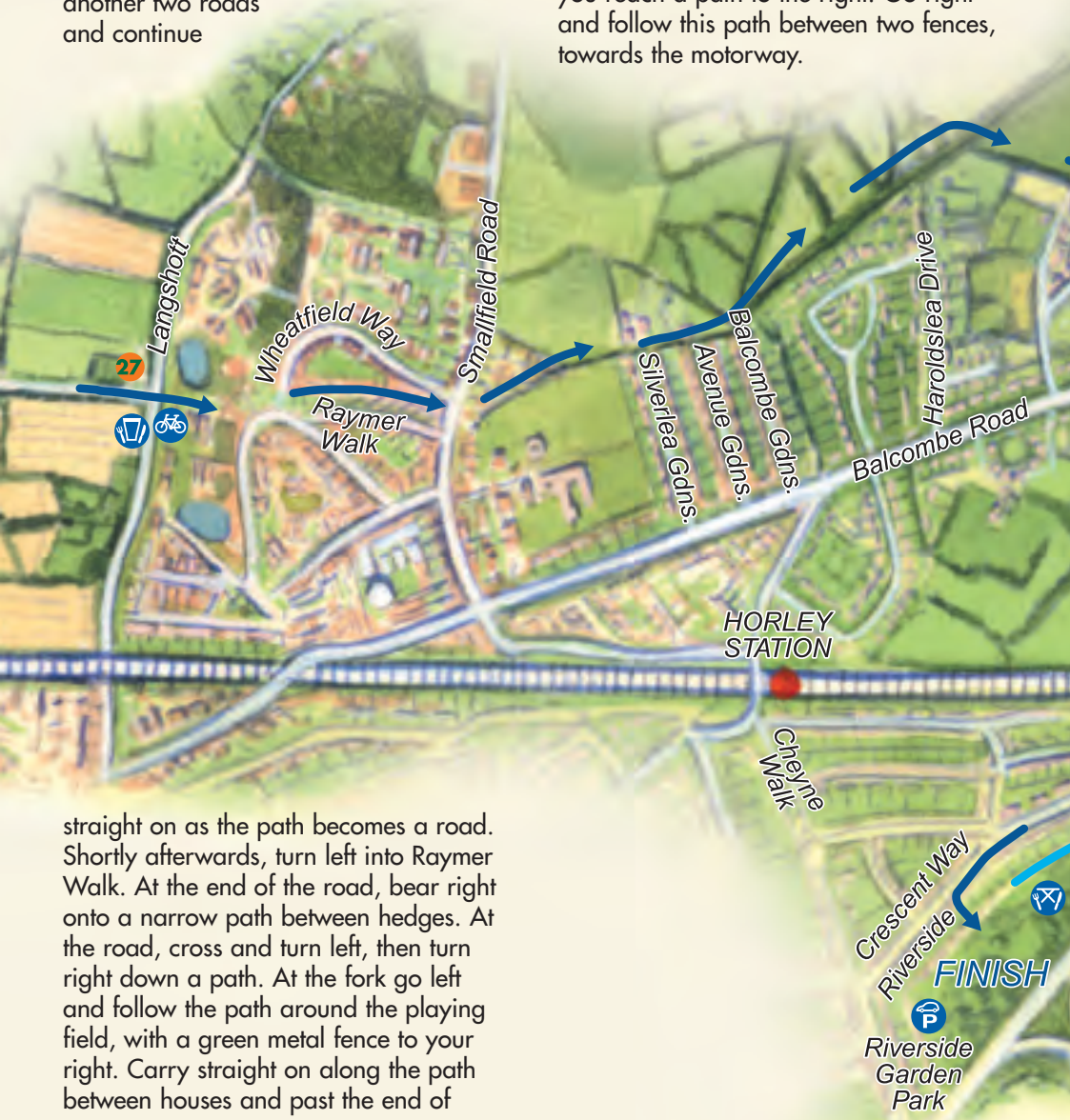
Lake Lane was a drove road, used by Anglo-Saxon swineherds



Walk Link: You can join the East Horley Circular Walk from here.

27 Carry straight on past fields and a few houses, until you meet a road. *(Those in need of rest and refreshment can find the Farmhouse pub near here; turn right and walk a short way down Ladbroke Road.)* At the road, cross over and continue straight on, following the path/cycleway. Cross another two roads and continue

three roads. Follow the path as it bends round to the left. Go over a footbridge and through a kissing gate and follow the path with houses on the right and woodland on the left. Go through another kissing gate, then cross a road and go straight on through another kissing gate. Follow the narrow path until you reach a path to the right. Go right and follow this path between two fences, towards the motorway.



straight on as the path becomes a road. Shortly afterwards, turn left into Raymer Walk. At the end of the road, bear right onto a narrow path between hedges. At the road, cross and turn left, then turn right down a path. At the fork go left and follow the path around the playing field, with a green metal fence to your right. Carry straight on along the path between houses and past the end of

Walk Link: You can connect with the East Horley Circular Walk, which goes left from here.



28 Cross the footbridge and turn right, go through a kissing gate and follow the path with the M23 Gatwick Spur to your left. When you reach a road, cross with care and turn right. Go past the Coppingham Arms pub and then turn left along a footpath. Follow the path through the woodland and over a stile. Cross a field and go over another stile, then follow the path round to the right. Cross another two stiles and continue following the path round the field. Walk across the bridge over the railway and go straight on until you reach a road. Turn left and follow the road. At the end of the road, turn right and follow Crescent Way until you reach a road on the left called Riverside. Go left and follow this road, then go straight on into Riverside Garden Park and over the bridge crossing the Gatwick Stream. (Grid Ref: TQ281 420.)

Congratulations, you have reached the end of the Millennium Trail!

Transport Link: From the car park, follow the cycle track to the left, with Gatwick Stream on the left and you will eventually pass a pond on your right. Follow the cycleway as it bends round to the left, and then under two underpasses and into Gatwick Airport, where you can find bus services to Horley, Crawley and Redhill and the railway station.

The Millennium Trail is a long-distance path (18 miles, or 28km) from Banstead Downs to Horley, created by Reigate and Banstead Borough Council to mark the new century.

Six circular walks have also been created to link with The Millennium Trail:

<i>Circular Walk Name</i>	<i>Distance (nearest half mile/km)</i>
1. Town and Down	5 miles (8 km)
2. Shabden & Upper Gatton Parks	7 miles (11 km)
3. North Downs Ridge	7 miles (11 km)
4. Tatton Winter	3 miles (5 km)
5. Earlswood Commons	4.5 miles (7.5km)
6. East Horley	6 miles (9.4 km)



Free leaflets for these walks, and the other walks mentioned in this booklet, are available from Reigate and Banstead Borough Council on **01737 276000**, or from The Downlands Project on **01737 737700**.



Restoring our beautiful chalk grassland

This leaflet was produced for Reigate and Banstead Borough Council by the Old Surrey Downs Project.

We restore our beautiful chalk grassland through practical management.

We raise awareness of the importance of chalk grassland as part of our natural heritage.

We encourage others to take part in discovering its past and securing its future.

For information telephone: **01737 733933**

email: **Info.oldsurreydowns@surreycc.gov.uk** or visit **www.oldsurreydowns.org.uk**



Downlands Project

*Waymarks for these walks have been installed by Downlands Project staff and volunteers. If you would like more information, or would like to help restore our countryside, contact us at: The Downlands Project, The Omnibus Building, Lesbourne Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 7JA. Tel: **01737 737700** or visit **www.downlandsproject.org.uk***



Supported by
The National Lottery[®]
through the Heritage Lottery Fund

