

U3A WEEKLY WALKS FROM BASE AT SILVERLEYS

EXTENDED WALK No 6

Silverleys -Dane O'Coy's Rd- Rye St-Michaels Rd-Gypsy Lane- Pesterford Bridge -Birchanger Lane-Birchanger Woods- Rye St-Silverleys

DISTANCE APPROX 6.9 MILES TIME APPROX 176 MINS

This walk to be undertaken in spring or period with no stinging nettle growth.

Leaving Silverleys walk through the small field on the town side and out into Dane O'Coys Road.

Turn left and continue down Dane O'Coy's Road left past Whitehall Road and into Whitehall Lane.

Turn left here and continue to Foxdells Lane, turn right and continue down to Rye Street.

Cross over, turning left along Rye Street past Cannons Mill Lane until footpath sign to right.

Climb over stile and turn left. Continue to far right hand corner of field leading onto Michaels Road.

Cross over Michaels Road and follow footpath to the right taking you under the bypass bridge.

Continue, keeping trees to your right. When you reach the stile, cross, keeping fence to your left.

Still keeping the fence to your left, cross the next two stiles then cross over the river bridge.

Continue along the difficult winding footpath to Gypsy Lane. Take extreme care along this path as it is tricky in places owing to subsidence.

At Gypsy Lane turn right and continue, turning right at footpath sign just before Stansted Road.

Cross a waste patch following a fenced path then climb steps to main road at Pesterford Bridge.

Cross Stansted Road with care and continue up Forest Hall Road opposite. At next turn, turn right and continue along Tot Lane until you reach Birchanger Lane.

Cross over Birchanger Lane and follow the signposted footpath up the steps opposite.

Continue along path keeping houses and hedge to your left. Reaching hedge ahead turn right.

After a short distance turn left through opening in hedge then immediately left again.

Continue up the hill around the side of the field keeping the hedge to your left.

Looking diagonally to your right you will see a barn in the distance. We are heading for this.

At the top of the field turn right (NOT left into the lane} again keeping the hedge to your left.

Continue until you arrive at the barn. This is an ideal stop for a welcome break.

Keeping the barn on your left, do not pass it, but take the path to your right into the woods.

Keeping daylight to your left continue down the slope and in a straight line to the bypass ahead.

Veer left about here and follow a route through the woods keeping the bypass in view on the right.

Eventually you will see and reach the bypass crossing. Cross carefully to the other side.

Carry on straight ahead through Birchanger Woods turning right just before the water tower.

Continue along a well-worn track through the woods keeping the houses and fence to your left.

Keep going for approximately 3/4 of a mile keeping houses and, later, back garden fences to your left.

Eventually you will reach the back of Wickes DIY store. Follow path down the left-hand side of store. This will take you into the car park.

Continue ahead across the car park and out into Stansted Road.

Cross Stansted Road, turn left and continue until you reach Cannons Mill Lane. Turn right here.

Continue down the lane past the houses over the railway line and up into Rye Street.

Turn left you are now walking the reverse of the route you took on the outward journey.

After approximately 200 yards turn right into Foxdells Lane. Carry on turning left into Whitehall Lane.

Continue along Whitehall Lane turning right onto a track through the trees into Dane O'Coys Road.

Continue past Whitehall College round several bends almost to Cricketfield Lane.

Walk past houses on right turning immediately right across pasture field back to car park