

Walk 12

Lacey Green, Parslow's Hillock and Lily Bottom

A gently undulating route linking two attractive villages with historic pubs. This walk takes you from Lacey Green (with its landmark windmill) along the ancient track known as Grim's Ditch to Lily Bottom Lane. There is an optional detour to Parslow's Hillock and the Pink and Lily pub which has associations with the poet Rupert Brooke.

Distance: 2 ½ miles (allow 1½ hours). Extra 1 mile for pub detour.

Start: Kiln Lane, Lacey Green (opposite the Black Horse pub). Road-side parking near the Black Horse pub. Limited bus service from High Wycombe.

Access Information: Short descent from Kiln Lane to the valley bottom, then a climb back up to Lily Bottom Lane. Another descent towards the end of the walk from ④ to ⑤ on the map. The rest of the walk is fairly level.

Refreshments: Pubs in Lacey Green and pub at Parslow's Hillock.

Route:

Walk along Kiln Lane until you leave the surfaced road and meet a crossing path. ① Either turn right along the bridleway and then immediately left to follow it down to rejoin Kiln Lane in the valley below or, for a more gradual descent, continue walking down Kiln Lane keeping with it as it curves right to meet the crossing bridleway. ② Follow the bridleway uphill alongside Grim's Ditch and you will notice you are walking in a slight hollow with trees on raised banks on either side. This is an ancient earthwork believed to date from before the Saxon period.

Continue along this path, which can be muddy in places in winter or after rain, for about a mile until it descends slightly by

Lily Bank Farm to reach a minor road called Lily Bottom Lane. ③ Turn right here to continue the walk.

If you wish to visit the pub at Parslow's Hillock, turn left for about half a mile to reach a road; the Pink and Lily pub is on your left. It was made famous by the war poet Rupert Brooke who frequented it before the first World War.

To continue the walk from ③ follow the lane for another half a mile, taking the second path on your right, opposite a bridleway. ④ Descend through woods to the valley and there turn right along Kiln Lane ⑤ to follow it all the way back to your starting point in Lacey Green.

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