

# Chiltern Way Updates

## Latest News

3/8/24	<i>Minor change to HS2 Diversion at Bowood Lane</i>
15/9/23	<i>Bridleway at Grove Farm diverted</i>
1/7/23	<i>A couple of Berkshire Loop changes</i>
18/5/23	<i>Houghton Regis – Chalk Hill to Grove Farm</i>
11/5/23	<i>New route at Tom's Hill, Ashridge</i>
14/3/23	<i>New route into Barton-le-Clay</i>

## Introduction

The Chiltern Society wants you to enjoy walking the Chiltern Way, so we regularly check the paths and waymarking on the route. However, from time to time the route needs to be temporarily or permanently diverted. This note describes where the Chiltern Way currently follows a different route to that described in the 2016 version of the guide to the route - **The Chiltern Way & Chiltern Way Extensions**. A new version of the guide has been published: **The Chiltern Way Including the Berkshire Loop** which you can buy from the [Chiltern Society](#).

In most cases, the sections and page numbers referred to below are from the 2016 book (most of the changes have been incorporated into the 2023 route description). Where the change affects the 2023 guide, it is **highlighted**.

The location information and description below assume you are walking the route clockwise. The grid reference gives the point where the description starts.

The maps below are from OpenStreetMap (all are copyright OpenStreetMap Contributors):

- The route to use is shown by the blue line.
- The previous or blocked route is shown by the red line.

## Changes to the Chiltern Way with the 2023 Guide

The Chiltern Way is now over 20 years old and Nick Moon, the route creator, and the support team at the Chiltern Society have been looking at places where the route can be improved. The changes have all been waymarked and are described below. Key changes are:

- Tom's Hill, Ashridge.
- Chalk Hill to Grove Farm
- New route into Barton-le-Clay.
- Hyde to Flamstead.
- Berkshire Loop – approach to Remenham

**Check the [Chiltern Way](#) page regularly for the latest updates.**

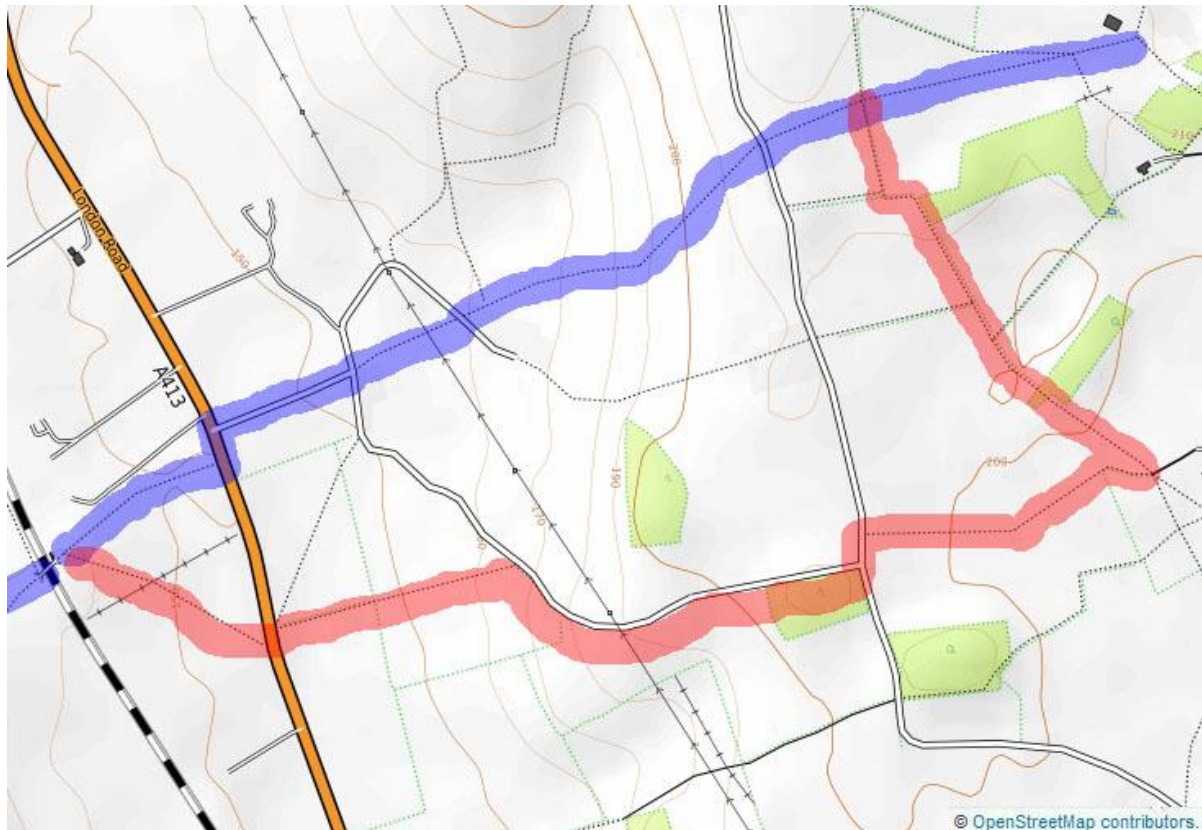
# Chiltern Way Updates

## Little Hampden to Lee Gate (p153-154) – HS2 Diversion

### P154 Sections D-G

*Location: Mayortorne Manor. Gridref: SP 8766 0429*

The footpath past Durham Farm is expected to be closed until 2026 due to HS2 works. Because of the length of the diversion the Chiltern Way has been re-routed onto the footpath near Bowood Lane. This new route is now permanently signed.



Original route in blue, new route in red.

Shortly after crossing the Chiltern Line railway bridge, turn half-right on a footpath. Cross two fields diagonally to reach the A413 via a stile in the corner of the second field. Take the footpath 20m to the left on the far side of the road.

The path meets Bowood Lane at a fingerpost. Drop down into the lane and turn right up the lane. Where the lane is blocked turn left on a fenced path (*update 3/8/24 – this fenced section is now longer and more convoluted – but easy to follow*). When you reach a manned crossing over the works road, cross it and the remains of Bowood Lane. Turn left through the hedge and follow the footpath, between the hedge and security fencing.

On reaching Kings Lane, turn left for 20m, then right onto TLE/4/2.

Just before reaching the Lee, turn sharp-left to follow the Chiltern Link northwards for around 750m. Take the second footpath to the right to re-join the Chiltern Way.

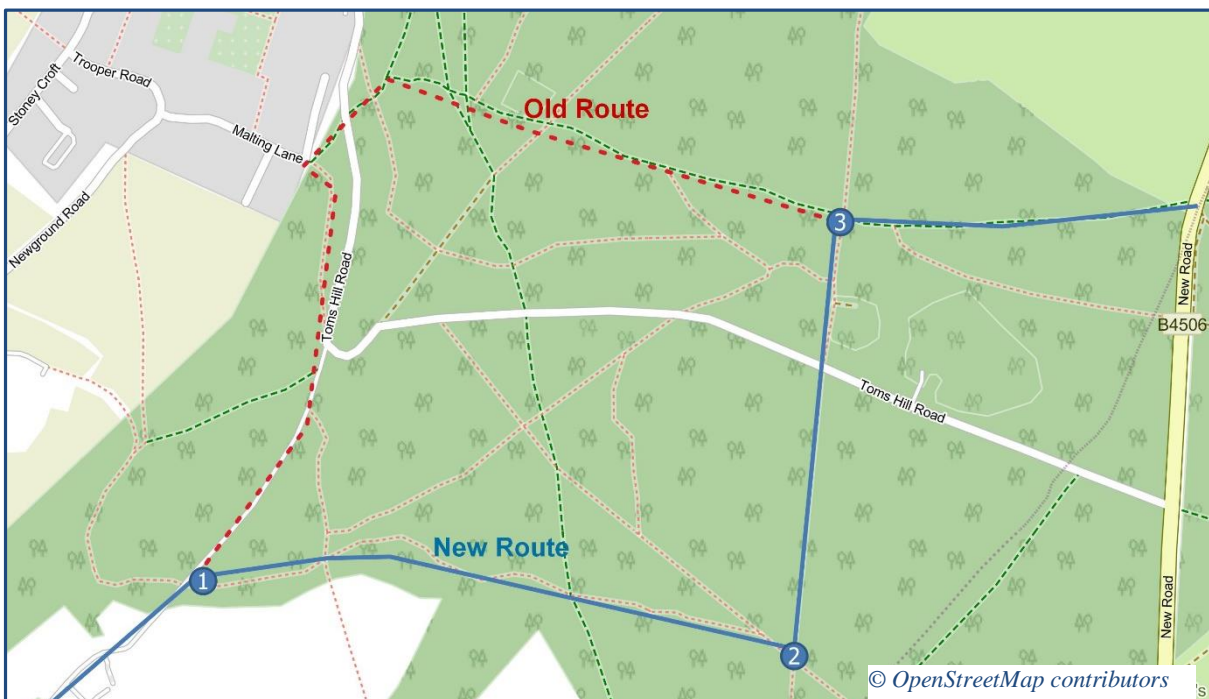
# Chiltern Way Updates

## Tom's Hill, Ashridge (pp162-164)

### p162 Sections I to K

Instead of dropping down to the outskirts of Aldbury and back up again, the route now heads East and then North through the woods. NB: If you wish to visit Aldbury, the old route is still waymarked.

- (1) After joining the road at Tom's Hill, turn right after Tom's Hill house, and take the footpath straight on into the woods. For the next 750m you will be walking East. There are lots of other paths, so keep an eye out for Chiltern Way disks on waymark posts.
- (2) When you meet a crossing path, turn left on a footpath which initially runs past the remains of a conifer plantation on the left. Cross straight over a road and continue in the same direction past a cottage.
- (3) 100m further on you come to a junction of paths and turn right onto a broad bridleway heading to the B4506 "New Road".



# Chiltern Way Updates

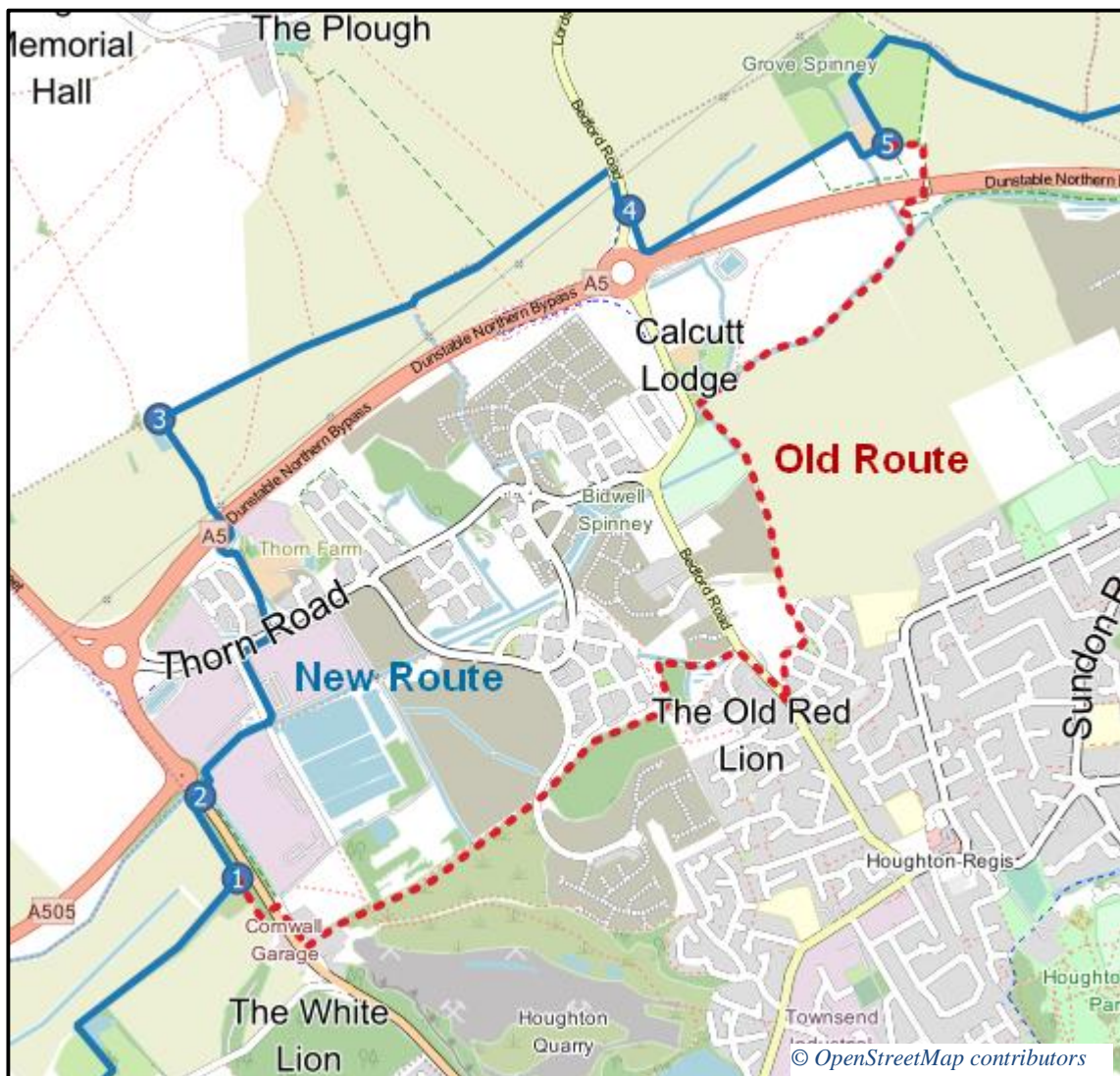
## Chalk Hill to Grove Farm (p176,G to 180, C)

**1:** When you reach the base of the road embankment, turn left and walk along the base of the embankment to the corner of the field. Turn right up steps to meet the road at the bottom of Chalk Hill.

**2:** Descend the steps East of the A505. Turn left on the bridleway at the bottom, cross a bridge and turn right past a warehouse. When you reach a road, cross it and turn left to continue on the bridleway between the road and new warehouses. This brings you to Thorn Road. Turn right for 100m and use the Pegasus crossing to cross. Turn left for a short distance then right on a bridleway across the green space in front of new houses. This brings you to a track leading up to the bridge over the A5. Cross the bridge and continue straight on down the other side, ignoring footpaths on either side.

**3:** You meet a crossing footpath in front of a ditch. Turn right and follow the footpath to the right of the ditch/hedge. This becomes a bridleway after a wiggle over a footbridge and after a mile you meet a road. Turn right to a Pegasus crossing and cross.

**4:** Turn right on the other side and you soon join a farm track that curves left and runs between fields. **Just before Grove Farm turn right on the bridleway then left to re-join the original route of the Chiltern Way (5), turning left past the farm.**



# Chiltern Way Updates

## Sharpenhoe Clappers to Barton-le-Clay (p198-201)

From p198 section D to p200 section G

*Location: Before Barton Old Mill. Gridref: TL 0762 3119*

The original Chiltern Way passed through the car park of the Old Watermill and reached Barton-le-Clay by walking across the A6 dual-carriageway. The new route heads south and uses the Sharpenhoe Road bridge.

### Summary Route Description

Instead of entering the car park of the Old Watermill, turn right and walk between trees and the fence of the Watermill. Shortly after the fence on the left ends you reach a footbridge. Cross the stream then turn right and continue along the stream. When you reach the point where the stream comes out of a concrete conduit, recross the stream and climb a set of steps up the embankment to the Sharpenhoe Road. Turn left and follow the road over the A6 dual-carriageway into Barton-le-Clay. You reach the Royal Oak Pub at a mini-roundabout. Cross right to the pub.

Cross the Luton Road and turn right along Bedford Road to continue on the Chiltern Way.



Blue – new route, red – old route

# Chiltern Way Updates

## Hyde to Flamstead (p224-228)

From p224 section D to p228 section J

*Location: Thrales End Lane/Upper Lea Valley Cycleway. Gridref: TL 1281 1712*

When the Chiltern Way was launched in 2000 the route ran from Hyde to Flamstead via M1 junction 9. Since then the Upper Lea valley cycleway and Nickey line have opened. The Chiltern Society have taken advantage of these to re-route the Chiltern Way via Redbourn. NB: the new section is 2.5 miles longer than the original.

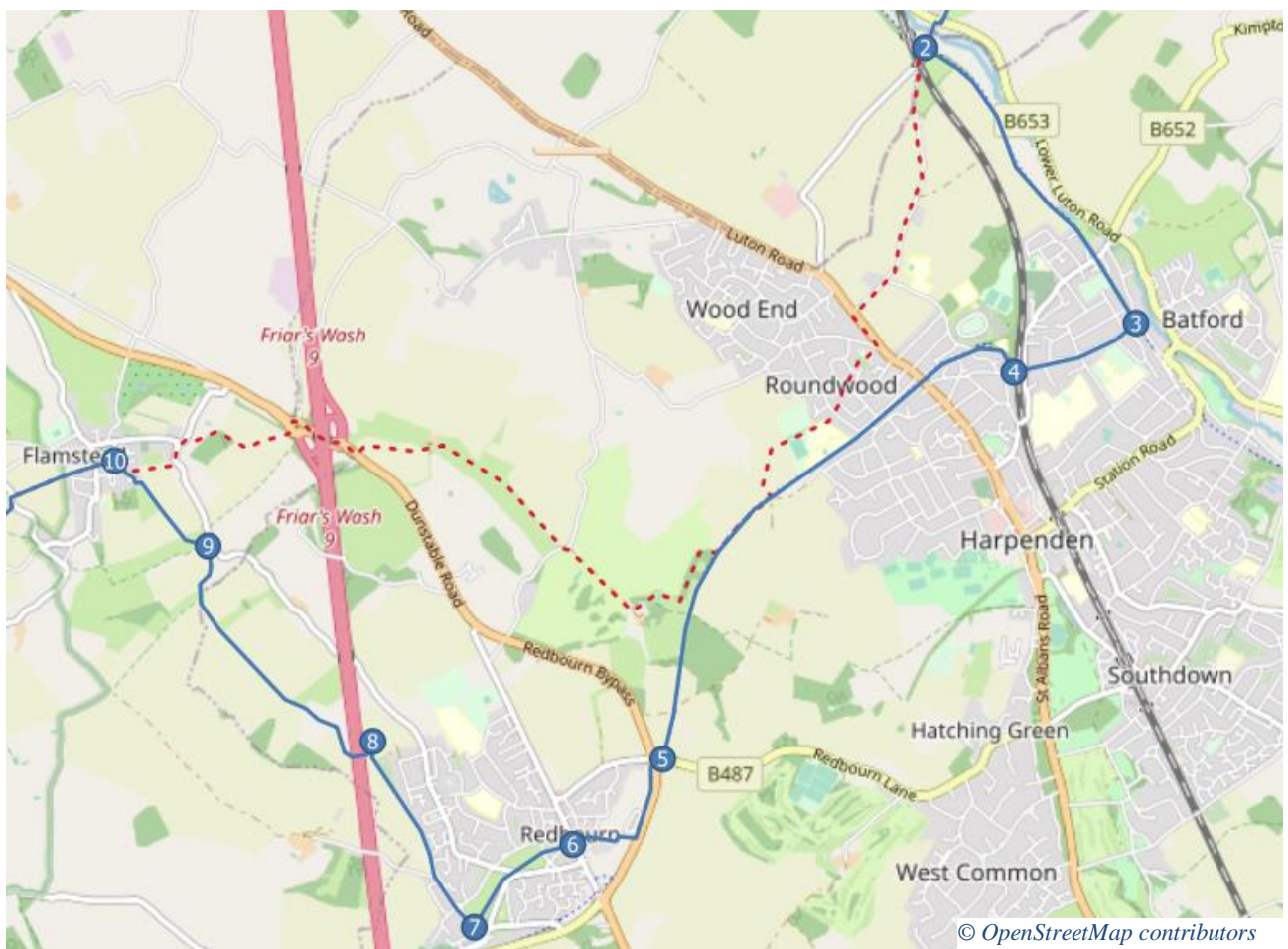
### Summary Route Description

From East Hyde (2), the Chiltern Way follows the Upper Lea Valley cycleway into Harpenden as far as Ox Lane (3). It then goes up Ox Lane and over the mainline railway to join the Nickey Line (4). The Nickey Line is followed to the edge of Redbourn (5) where the route turns right, taking Waterend Lane to the High Street (6).

The route crosses Redbourn Common as far as West Common (7), turning right and following Flamsteadbury Lane to the edge of town.

It then follows footpaths, crossing the M1 (8) at Nicholls Farm. It continues on footpaths/bridleways to Flamstead which is entered at Pie Garden (10) where it rejoins the original route.

For a detailed description download: [ChilternWayHydeToFlamstead.pdf](#)



# Chiltern Way Updates

## Berkshire Loop

### Stubbings to Burchett's Green (p80)

#### Section J

*Location: A404 Underpass. Gridref: SU 8494 8131*

After the underpass, follow the footpath around the Beech Lodge school perimeter.



# Chiltern Way Updates

## Warren Row to Remenham Hill (p84-p86)

### Section J

*Location: Upper Culham Farm. Gridref: SU 7897 8218*

Where Culham Lane bends left after the farm, fork right and almost immediately left on a permissive path parallel to the lane. Rejoin the lane just before the Henley Road. You meet the A4130 at the start of the next section.

