



River Chess Smarter Water Catchment

About the River Chess Smarter Water Catchments project

The partnerships 10-year catchment plan sets out to create a place where people are working together to protect and improve the water environment for everyone, and this is exactly what we have been doing in the Chess. Thames Water are working in partnership with the Chilterns Conservation Board, River Chess Association, Buckinghamshire Council, Chilterns Society, Environment Agency, Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust, Affinity Water & many other interested community groups to deliver this project.

The River Chess Strategy has 6 key themes



If you would like to get involved or know more please contact us at community@chilternsociety.org.uk or phone the Chiltern Society on 01494 771 250

Walks in the River Chess catchment

The River Chess rises in springs to the north and west of Chesham, located is a series of dry valleys which converge on the town, separated by ridges - Chartridge, Asheridge and Hawridge.

The walks described in these leaflets connect several country pubs in the villages surrounding the town. A (rather limited) bus service connects these villages with Chesham, which lies at the far end of the Metropolitan railway. Chesham is a 'walkers are welcome' town, with many cafés and restaurants, and also a branch of Millets (should you forget your boots). The area can also be reached from Great Missenden and Wendover (on the Chiltern Railways line to Aylesbury), and by car (A413 and A416).

Footpaths in the Chilterns are monitored and maintained by volunteers from the Chiltern Society. Should you encounter any problems, please contact us.

This leaflet has been produced by Chesham Society Volunteers on behalf of the River Chess Smarter Water Catchment Partners including:



Photos: Jim Conboy (www.chartridgephotographic.co.uk)



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River Chess Smarter Water Catchment Walk: 1

The Bell to The Cock & Rabbit



River Chess Smarter Water Catchment Walk: 1

The Bell at Chartridge to The Cock & Rabbit, The Lee

THE BELL: In 1862 The Bell Public House was licenced as an ale house for the first time. The brewery supplying the ale at the time was Wellers, an historic American brand. They were famous for their Strong ale "Wellers' Extra" a porter so strong that it was said that a man could not drink three pints and remain standing. Today The Bell serves both ales and spirits alongside a fine selection of wines and good home cooked food.

DISTANCE: 2.5 miles / 4km

DURATION: 1 hour 15 minutes

DIFFICULTY: EASY

TERRAIN: Total ascent of 360m, descent 315m

The route

- 1 The route starts on the footpath to the right of the car park, opposite the pub
- 2 Leave the field by the 'Kissing' gate to the right (not the field gate directly ahead)
- 3 The path descends to Pednor road on steep steps
- 4 Take the footpath straight ahead, as the road turns to the left
- 5 Continue straight ahead along Ballinger Bottom, leaving Bellows Wood by the kissing gate
- 6 Turn right to follow the Chiltern Link
- 7 Turn left then right to continue on the Chiltern Link
- 8 If doing this walk in reverse starting at the Cock & Rabbit, take the footpath on the left through the wood
- 9 The Cock and Rabbit is across the road, on the corner of the village



Scan this QR code for more information about the River Chess Smarter Water Catchment project and link to this walk



THE BELL



NEAR PEDNOR



THE LEE



THE COCK & RABBIT



STEPS DESCENDING TO PEDNOR ROAD