

Edenbridge to Crookham check	Crookham Hill to Westerham checked	Shorter ending last checked	Edenbridge Town start last checked	Hurst Green start last checked
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Edenbridge to Westerham

Length:	- Main walk	17.8km (11 miles)
	- With shorter ending	11.6km (7.2 miles)
	- Short cut to Emmetts Garden	saves 2.8km (1.7 miles)
	- Starting from Edenbridge Town	adds 1.8km (1.1 miles)
	- Starting from Hurst Green	adds 1km (0.6 miles)

Toughness:	- Main walk: 8 out of 10: quite a few hills, some rather steep
	- Shorter ending: 4 out of 10: gentle gradients apart from a couple of short steep sections.

Maps: OS Landranger 187 & 188; Explorer 147.

Features

When you see a view from a ridge, you do not usually know much about the countryside you are looking at. But on this walk, you start in the Eden valley and climb slowly and gently across fields up towards the Greensand Ridge, with increasingly pretty views. By the time you climb up onto the escarpment, in a series of delightful stages, the view has become a familiar friend.

In the Second World War, Winston Churchill is supposed to have looked at this very view and said: "This is what we are fighting for." Certainly, **Chartwell**, his house, which is passed on this walk and which is now owned by the National Trust, was his refuge and great love, though he had little enough opportunity to visit it during his time as wartime Prime Minister. The **shorter ending to from Chartwell to Westerham** (see **Walk Options**), is ideal if you want to visit this property.

The walk also takes in **Emmetts Garden**, another National Trust attraction, and offers a short cut to this in the afternoon if you want to spend more time there. Emmetts has a wonderful display of **bluebells** in late April and early May, but even better wild ones – some of the loveliest ones in southern England - are to be seen throughout the walk, particularly in the afternoon around **Ide Hill**, at the start of the optional **Hurst Green start**, and just beyond Mariner's Hill on the **Shorter Ending from Chartwell to Westerham**.

If that is not enough, in the pretty town of Westerham at the end of the walk you can also visit **Quebec House** (National Trust), a historic house associated with Wolfe, the youthful general who conquered the Canadian city for the British Empire.

Walk options

There are two short diversions from the main walk route, which can be done separately or combined in the same walk (ie lunch in the Fox & Hounds, then the Emmetts short cut):

- **Diversion to Fox & Hounds pub in Toys Hill:** Starting in paragraph 107 of the walk directions on page 8, this **750 metre** diversion up through the woods takes you to and from a lunch stop at the Fox & Hounds Pub in Toys Hill.
- **Short cut to Emmetts Garden:** Starting in paragraph 122 on page 9, this short cut through the woods **saves 2.8km (1.7 miles)** and some big hill climbs on the main walk, though it misses some of the best scenery. It might be useful if you want to get to tea earlier - the gardens are otherwise 3.7km (2.3 miles) away from that point in the walk, rather than 900 metres via this short cut - or if you want to spend more time in the garden.

You might also like to try one of these alternative starts or endings:

- **Starting from Edenbridge Town station:** Edenbridge has two stations on two different railway lines. This option starts from the other one and soon joins the main walk. It **adds 1.8km (1.1 miles)** to the walk length, so the distances to all lunch and tea options need to be increased by that amount. *For directions for this option see paragraph 12 on page 4.*
- **Starting from Hurst Green:** This attractive route starts at Hurst Green station and has some fine bluebell woods in its early stages. It later skirts along the bottom of the Greensand escarpment, then climbs up it, with panoramic views, to join the main walk route at Crockham Hill. It is **1km (0.6 miles)** longer than the main Edenbridge start, so the distances to all lunch and tea options given below need to be lengthened by that amount. *To do this option start with the directions in paragraph 173 on page 12.*
- **Shorter Ending from Chartwell to Westerham:** This option starts in paragraph 65 of the walk directions on page 6, and takes you directly in 4.8km (3 miles) to Westerham, making a total walk of **11.6km (7.2 miles)** from Edenbridge station, **13.4km (8.3 miles)** from Edenbridge Town station, and **12.6km (7.8 miles)** from Hurst Green - particularly useful if you want more time to visit Chartwell or Quebec House in Westerham. *If doing this option and starting from either Edenbridge station you only need pages 1-8 of these directions.*

Transport

The main walk starts from **Edenbridge** station on the Redhill to Tonbridge line, which is reached by trains out of **London Bridge** via East Croydon. For the alternative starts from **Edenbridge Town** or **Hurst Green** stations, trains run out of **London Bridge** or **Victoria**.

For all the starts, catch the first train from London after **10am** to get to lunch at Crockham Hill or Chartwell in time, or the first train after **9am** if aiming for lunch at the Fox & Hounds or the Cock Inn. Buy a **day return to "Edenbridge Stations"**, or **Hurst Green** if starting from there

Returning from **Westerham** you can get the **246 bus** to **Bromley South station** (about 40 minutes), from where there are fast trains (taking about 20 minutes) to Victoria. This is a London Transport service, which runs at least hourly till near midnight and you can pay with an Oyster card or use LT travelcards. The 246 also calls at **Hayes** station about 15 minutes before Bromley South: from here there are up to four trains an hour to London Bridge (journey time 30 minutes) with some going on to Charing Cross and some to Cannon Street.

Another alternative from Westerham is to take a **236/594/595 bus** to **Oxted** (not Sundays: currently operated by Southdown PSV): a return rail ticket to "Edenbridge Stations" or Hurst Green will be valid from there. Arriva Kent and Sussex also operate a **401 bus** to **Sevenoaks**, which has fast train service to London, but you will need a separate rail ticket to return from there. On Sundays when the house is open, the 246 also serves **Chartwell** hourly until around 5pm.

Lunch and tea places

The Royal Oak in Crockham Hill (01732 866 335), 4.7km (2.9 miles) into the walk, is a small pub that does food from 12-2.30pm and 6-9pm Monday to Friday, 12-9pm Saturdays (but with a "reduced menu" 2.30-6.30pm) and 12-7pm Sundays. The pub has a limited number of tables, so booking a table is a good idea. The pub also advertises that it does takeaway meals.

Chartwell, 6.8km (4.2 miles) into the walk, has a National Trust-run self-service tea room and restaurant, which can be reached without going into the house. It does two or three hot food options every lunchtime from 12 to 2.30pm. It is open for tea until 5pm. It is open year around, apart from Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

The **Fox & Hounds** in Toy's Hill is a possible later lunch stop reached by a short diversion 10.3km (6.4 miles) into the walk. It serves food 12-2pm, to 2.30 pm on Saturday and 3pm on Sunday, and has a garden. Recent reports from walkers say this pub serves good food but has rather grumpy service.

The Cock Inn in Ide Hill (01732 750 310), 11.9km (7.4 miles) into the walk, serves food till 12-9pm Monday to Saturday and 12-7pm on Sunday. It has some outside tables, looking onto the village green.

Emmetts Garden, 13.7km (8.5 miles) into the walk, or 10.9km (6.8 miles) via the short cut in paragraph 122 of the walk directions, has a National Trust tea room. It is open till 5pm daily from mid March to the end of October and till 4pm in November and December.

As well as several fine **pubs**, Westerham has a number of tea rooms. The most obvious at the end of the walk are the **Tudor Tea Rooms** on the north side of the green (closing time unknown, but shuts early at 2.30pm on Wednesdays). Nearby, at the far eastern end of the green, **Food for Thought** does cream teas and cakes till 5pm daily. To the left on the far side of the green there is also now a **Costa Coffee**.

A possible **picnic** place is indicated in paragraph 57 of the walk directions on page 6, though there are various other very scenic spots just after Crookham Hill and around Ide Hill.

WALK DIRECTIONS

To start from **Edenbridge Town** station, go to paragraph 12 on page 4.

To start from **Hurst Green** station, go to paragraph 173 on page 12.

Edenbridge to Batchelor's Farm **(1.8km/1.1 miles)**

- 1** From the arrival platform at Edenbridge station (if coming via Redhill from East Croydon) go down the station approach to the main road.
- 2** Turn left on the main road and in 50 metres or so, turn left along a signposted but easily missed footpath between high wooden fences.
- 3** In 250 metres this brings you into a field. Go right uphill along the edge of the field.
- 4** In 120 metres cross a stile and turn left on a road. (Some cars come down this road rather fast, so take care.) Initially there are houses to the left, but in 200 metres you leave them behind.
- 5** In another 250 metres ignore a signposted footpath to the left opposite a rubbery-leaved garden hedge. But in 100 metres more, at the end of the garden of a house to the right (Hilders Cottage), turn right up a gravel driveway, passing through a gate to the left of double wooden fieldgates, following a footpath sign.
- 6** In 70 metres, at the end of the driveway, go on through a gate to emerge in 10 metres more in a field. Go downhill on the left-hand side of this.
- 7** In 80 metres ignore a stile to the left, and keep straight on along the field edge.
- 8** In another 70 metres cross a decaying stile. Keep on along the left-hand edge of the next field, over a slight hill.
- 9** In 150 metres go through the left-hand of two fieldgates and on down a broad wooded strip between fences.
- 10** In 200 metres pass through a gate into a field and keep on along its left-hand edge.
- 11** In 120 metres pass through another fieldgate. Ignore a path to the left and go straight on into a field through a fieldgate. *Continue with paragraph 33 on page 5.*

**Edenbridge Town to
Batchelor's Farm**
(3.6km/2.2 miles)

- 12** Coming off the London platform at Edenbridge Town, go through the subway to leave the station on the other side. Head west along Station Approach for 250 metres, up to its junction with Station Road.
- 13** Turn right and go up to the traffic lights. Cross over the B2026 here and enter **Stangrove Park**.
- 14** Bear left across the grass, passing to the left of a clump of trees (concealing Stangrove Pond). Beyond the pond, pass a playground on your left and carry on along a tarmac path.
- 15** In 200 metres you come out onto a residential street (Pine Grove). Bear left to reach a T-junction with a busier road in 100 metres.
- 16** Turn right and follow this road (Crouch House Road) north-west for 450 metres, with some rather neglected farmland off to the left. At the end of a row of cottages turn left onto an unsurfaced lane, signposted as a public footpath.
- 17** In 120 metres take the second of two paths off to the right, with a yellow VGW waymarker indicating that you have joined the **Vanguard Way** (which was rerouted in 2019/20, so not as shown on older OS maps).
- 18** Follow the path gently downhill through scrubland for 130 metres. At the bottom bear left at a VGW marker and go over a stile into a belt of trees.
- 19** After passing some concrete barriers fork right to emerge onto an abandoned golf course. For the next 800 metres the route across this old course is indicated by new wooden posts every 50-150 metres, bearing VGW markers.
- 20** In more detail: Turn half-left to go diagonally across the first fairway, aiming for a marker post 100 metres away in front of a belt of trees.
- 21** At the post bear right onto a short path through these trees to a post in front of the next fairway.
- 22** Turn three-quarters left to go diagonally across this fairway towards a marker post (and an old golfers' signpost) in a small patch of rough grass 150 metres away.
- 23** The next marker post is on the far side of a pond off to the right, so skirt around its right-hand side to reach it.
- 24** Follow a chain of marker posts through a wide gap in a belt of trees, then diagonally across another fairway (crossing a ditch on a plank bridge in the middle).
- 25** Go through the tree boundary on a narrow path. Carry on in the same direction across grassland towards a marker post 120 metres away in front of a copse. Follow a potentially muddy path through the trees.
- 26** Inside the copse go straight on at a footpath post, ignoring a (virtually non-existent) footpath off to the left. On leaving the copse go straight ahead across one last fairway.
- 27** Go over a stile to leave the golf course. Follow a path across some rough grassland and into a small wood. At the corner of a fence make your way round an old stile to continue with the fence on your right.
- 28** In 100 metres go over another stile and bear right across a patch of grass to join a driveway leading out to a minor road. Turn left onto this road (Little Browns Lane).
- 29** In 150 metres turn right at a road junction into Hilders Lane, which crosses a bridge over the Redhill-Tonbridge railway line (*if you look down to the right, you will see where the Oxted-Uckfield line briefly emerges from the middle of a short tunnel to go under the other line, an unusual piece of engineering*).
- 30** In another 60 metres, just after Hilders Lane has curved sharply to the right, turn left into a cul-de-sac. Follow this lane for 300 metres, past Yew Tree Farm and then another large house on the left.
- 31** As the lane bends to the left, turn right onto a track signposted as a bridleway. Go over a stile to the right of a metal fieldgate and follow this track through a belt of trees, climbing gently.
- 32** After 500 metres the way ahead is blocked and there are metal fieldgates on both sides. Go through the left-hand gate into a large field. *Continue with the directions in the next section.*

Batchelor's Farm to Crockham Hill (2.9km/1.8 mi)

- 33** Turn right initially along the field edge. In the field corner in 40 metres, turn left just before the fieldgate and go up the field edge, with a hedge to your right.
- 34** In 200 metres cross a stile into the next field.
- 35** In 150 metres go through a kissing gate and 50 metres more cross another stile to emerge onto a road.
- 36** Turn left on the road, and in 40 metres turn right over a stile into a large open field. Converge with the left-hand edge of this, aiming for the corner of the wood ahead. When you get to the wood, keep to the right of it, along the left-hand edge of the field.
- 37** In 500 metres, at the far end of this field, cross a stile and go on up the left-hand side of the next field.
- 38** In 170 metres turn left through a car wide gap in the field boundary.
- 39** In 40 metres, just before you emerge into another field, turn right over the remains of a stile into a wood.
- 40** In 60 metres emerge into a field corner and keep straight ahead, with a line of low trees to your left, ignoring a gap into a field to your left.
- 41** In 200 metres, at the top of the rise and 60 metres before the end of the field, turn left through the hedge over a stile and go straight on along the left-hand edge of the field beyond.
- 42** In 100 metres cross a stile into a wooden strip and carry straight on across it to cross another stile into a field in 25 metres.
- 43** Turn right down the edge of the field. In 50 metres pass through a kissing gate in a field corner and carry on slightly downhill on the right-hand edge of a narrow field.
- 44** In 200 metres go through a metal gate and turn right on a gravel drive. Go over a stile to the right of a gate and then right on a road.
- 45** In 200 metres you pass a house to the left called Blackthorne Cottage. In another 80 metres, where the lane turns sharp right, go straight on through a wooden gate to the left of a

metal fieldgate, and on up a gravel track.

- 46** Follow this track uphill, ignoring ways off. It becomes a grass path alongside a field and then a path through a wood. In 500 metres you come out into a residential cul-de-sac. Here veer left on a tarmac path to merge with a road in 40 metres.
- 47** In 200 metres you come out onto the main road in the centre of the village of **Crockham Hill**. Turn right on the main road for a possible pub stop, the **Royal Oak** in 80 metres. Otherwise, cross the main road with care and turn **left** uphill on it.

Crockham Hill to Froghole (0.9 km/0.6 miles)

- 48** In 100 metres, turn right down a road to "Village Hall, School, Church".
- 49** In 150 metres, where the lane curves left up to the church, keep straight on through a kissing gate to the right of a metal fieldgate. Curve slightly left across the field following faint grassy path.
- 50** In 100 metres pass through a gate and veer slightly to the left across the next field, climbing up over a hump. You are aiming for a kissing gate in 200 metres or so on the far side of the field but it is hidden by the hump and some trees: it is in fact about 50 metres to the right of a metal fieldgate visible when you are two thirds of the way across the field (or 100 metres uphill from an old rusted one lower down).
- 51** Beyond the kissing gate cross a footbridge over a stream and keep straight on uphill on the left-hand edge of a field.
- 52** In 130 metres at the top of the field, cross a stile and keep on up a fenced path, which in 30 metres leads to some steps.
- 53** In 100 metres, at the top of the steps, go right on a tarmac road.
- 54** In 150 metres, opposite the drive to The Coach House right, there is a track to the left, with an open field beyond a fence to the right.

Continue with the instructions overleaf.

Froghole to Chartwell **(1.2km/0.7 miles)**

From this point there are **two possible routes** to Chartwell, both around the same length.

- **The recommended main walk route** is to climb up Mariner's Hill for a fine view (and a nice picnic spot). For this option go to **paragraph 55**.
 - For a **less strenuous**, though perfectly pleasant route - also for the **shorter ending from Chartwell to Westerham**, which later goes over Mariner's Hill anyway - refer to **paragraph 60**.
- 55** Turn left off the road up the track, crossing a stile to the left of a gate in 10 metres.
- 56** In 300 metres the track veers right and levels off a bit, still between fences.
- 57** In 100 metres, at a footpath junction by three large trees, turn right following a National Trust marker down some steps and turn left along a path with a field and fence to the right and a hedge to the left, with fine views to the right. This is **Mariner's Hill**. A bench here and another in 130 metres make a nice **picnic** spot.
- 58** 70 metres after the second bench follow the path into the wood. In 30 metres more, at a T-junction, turn right down a car-wide bridleway.
- 59** In 300 metres you come to a road. Here you have a choice:
- **To miss out lunch at Chartwell**, turn right on the road and continue with paragraph 97 on page 8.
 - **For lunch at Chartwell** turn left on the road. In 80 metres you can see Chartwell house behind its high brick wall to the right, but carry on past this and instead turn right up a driveway in 180 metres, 80 metres **after** the brick wall ends. *Though this is marked No Entry and a sign says Chartwell car park is 250 metres up the road, these signs are for drivers: this way in is OK for pedestrians.* Following the driveway round to the left, you find the self-service restaurant (not to be confused with the tea kiosk) to your left in about 100 metres. **After lunch** continue with paragraph 95

on page 8, or to do the **shorter ending from Chartwell to Westerham** see paragraph 65 opposite.

- 60** Keep straight on along the road at the junction in paragraph 54.
- 61** In 400 metres you pass through a gate and in another 180 metres you come to a T-junction with a road, where you go left, uphill.
- 62** In 100 metres there is a driveway to Chartwell Farm to the right, a signposted footpath.
- If you are on the **main walk** and **do NOT want to stop at Chartwell**, turn right up this driveway and go to paragraph 98 on page 8.
- 63** Otherwise stay on the road. In 180 metres there is a signposted bridleway to your left.
- If you want the **shorter ending from Chartwell to Westerham** and **do NOT want to stop at Chartwell**, turn left up this bridleway. In 100 metres keep straight on uphill at a crosspaths marked by two footpath posts and refer to paragraph 71 overleaf.
- 64** **For lunch at Chartwell**, stay on the road. In 80 metres you can see Chartwell house behind its high brick wall to the right, but carry on past this, and instead turn right up a driveway in 180 metres, 80 metres after the brick wall ends. *Though this is marked No Entry and a sign says Chartwell car park is 250 metres up the road, these signs are for drivers: this way in is OK for pedestrians.* Following the driveway round to the left, you find the self-service restaurant to your left in about 100 metres.
- After lunch**, to resume the **main walk** go to paragraph 95 on page 8.
- To do the shorter ending from Chartwell to Westerham, refer to the directions in the next section.*
- ## **Shorter ending from Chartwell to Westerham** **(4.8km/3 miles)**
- 65** Facing the valley from the front of the self-service restaurant at Chartwell, turn left (the opposite way from the way you arrived) along the top edge of the car park.

- 66** In 150 metres, at the end of the car park, follow a gravel path up a grass bank to come to the car entrance to Chartwell. Exit this and cross a road.
- 67** On the far side carry on through wooden barriers up a path into the wood (the Greensand Way), initially on steps.
- 68** In 80 metres, at a footpath post, turn left of the Greensand Way following green and white National Trust arrows ("Limpsfield Walk", "Mariner's Hill Loop") onto a car-wide path that follows a shelf through a wood.
- 69** In 300 metres there is a bench on the left and magnificent **aerial view** of **Chartwell**.
- 70** In 200 metres more the path descends a short way to a crosspaths marked by two footpath posts. Turn right here, uphill (the other two options are downhill).
- 71** In 200 metres turn left at a Limpsfield Walk marker post, a green National Trust arrow. In 30 metres, this path takes you out onto **Mariner's Hill** with wonderful views to the south.
- 72** Follow the path along the top edge of the field, with a wire fence on your left. Along the way you pass two wooden benches. In 200 metres, just after the second bench, turn right for 10 metres up a flight of steps, then turn left to a path junction, where you go right along a path with a fenced-off field to the left.
- 73** You soon pass another bench, then in 80 metres more a memorial stone recording the donation of the land to the NT in 1904.
- 74** Just beyond the memorial pass through a gate and continue ahead across a field for 60 metres to leave it via another gate.
- 75** Go downhill for 20 metres and follow the path round to the right, past yet another bench at a viewpoint, looking west. *(There are **bluebells** here in late April and early May).*
- 76** In 100 metres turn left down a flight of steps to come to a private road at the point where it joins a main road at a bend. *(In late April and early May keep straight on rather than turning left down the steps for more bluebells).*
- 77** Cross the main road carefully and carry on up a footpath on its far side.
- 78** In 150 metres, after a short climb, you come to a junction with two paths off to the right. Turn right and immediately fork left onto the narrower of the two paths, going uphill through the trees of **Crockhamhill Common**.
- 79** In 80 metres fork left to head north-west.
- 80** In 170 metres turn left at a T-junction with a major path, marked with a footpath post, into the parking area in front of an isolated house, The Warren.
- 81** Veer right across the parking area onto the **rightmost** of two paths into the wood (less obvious than the other path due to overgrown vegetation, though it does have a hidden footpath post), directly away from the house.
- 82** In 100 metres continue ahead at a crosspaths. In 60 metres turn right at a T-junction, then 40 metres further on, turn left at a path junction to resume your northerly direction.
- 83** Follow this path gently downhill through the wood for 500 metres (at one point the wood has been felled and new trees planted). Eventually the path goes more steeply downhill to a kissing gate at the edge of the wood, with the **Darent Valley** stretching ahead of you.
- 84** Pass through the kissing gate and turn left onto a grassy path along the bottom of a valley, keeping towards its wooded left-hand edge.
- 85** In 200 metres go up a short slope to continue alongside the wood.
- 86** In 400 metres go over a stile to the left of a metal fieldgate and continue ahead. In 50 metres more turn right onto a car-wide track between a fence and a hedge, towards **Tower Wood** on the other side of the valley.
- 87** In 120 metres pass a fieldgate on the left. In another 25 metres turn left over a stile to continue on a grassy track down the valley, keeping close to the infant River Darent (and some old fish ponds) on your right.
- 88** In 750 metres pass through a kissing gate, then almost immediately turn right at a path junction. In 40 metres go over a stile to the left of a metal fieldgate and cross the river
- 89** Carry on up a track for 60 metres and veer right to find yourself in a valley with a steep grassy slope to your left.

- 90** In 40 metres more, veer left diagonally up the slope on a grassy path.
- 91** At the top of the slope turn left onto grassy path across the plateau. Keep straight ahead (north) across this and in 200 metres or so **Westerham** comes into view ahead of you.
- 92** Almost any route here will take you into the town, but the recommended route is to descend for 200 metres to a kissing gate in the middle of a fence ahead. Pass through this and go downhill towards the town.
- 93** In 200 metres, at the bottom of the slope, go through a kissing gate onto an alleyway (Water Lane). This goes across the river and gently uphill.
- 94** In 200 metres you emerge in the centre of Westerham.

The stop for the **246 bus to Bromley** is immediately to your left on the main road. The stop for the **401 bus to Sevenoaks** is the one just to the right on the opposite side of the road.

For the **236/594/595 bus to Oxted** (not Sundays), the stop is by the Kings Arms, 100 metres up road to the left. **Quebec House** is 300 metres down the hill on the right, at the junction of the A25 and B2026.

Tea options are numerous. On the far side of the green is the **Tudor Tea Rooms**, with a **Costa Coffee** a little way to its left; on the right-hand side of the green is **Food for Thought**. Pubs include the **Grasshopper on the Green** directly opposite, and the **George & Dragon** and **Kings Arms** are a little way up the hill to the left.

Chartwell to Scords Farm **(3km/1.9 miles)**

- 95** From the self-service restaurant at Chartwell, retrace your steps up the driveway and turn left down the road.
- 96** In 250 metres ignore a bridleway to the right (the one you came down if you did the Mariner's Hill route).
- 97** In 180 metres turn left up a driveway to Chartwell Farm, a signposted footpath.
- 98** In 200 metres ignore a private tarmac drive to the left and keep on downhill, passing a house to the right.
- 99** In 70 metres more veer left on the gravel drive passing converted oast

houses in another 50 metres and 100 metres.

- 100** Beyond the last oast house, go through a wooden gate and continue along what is now a concrete drive.
- 101** In 80 metres, 10 metres after the concrete ends, go through a fieldgate (a broken stile to its right). Carry on down the earth track beyond, initially under trees, but later between fields (noting the fine **bluebell** wood to the right in late April and early May)
- 102** In 450 metres pass through a metal fieldgate and keep straight on, still on between fields and slightly downhill.
- 103** In 150 metres go through a kissing gate to the right of a metal gate and turn left onto a road.
- 104** Keep straight on along the road for 650 metres, as it climbs up to Toy's Hill.
- 105** At the top of the hill, a tarmac drive merges from the left, and there is an old well with a pitched roof over it on your right, and a fine view of the Weald.
- 106** In 100 metres more keep left of a green triangle to come to a crossroads in 30 metres.
- 107** Go straight across the crossroads down Scords Lane. Keep on this road for 500 metres as it descends into a dip and rises again to a junction with a gravel driveway to Scords Farm right.
- For the **Diversion to the Fox and Hounds pub**, follow the directions in the next section
 - **To continue with the main walk** without going to the Fox and Hounds, continue with paragraph 121 overleaf.

Diversion to the Fox and Hounds (adds 750 metres)

- 108** Turn left at this junction up a signposted footpath, up wooden steps.
- 109** In 220 metres, at the top of the hill, you come to a path T-junction and go left
- 110** In 15 metres, at a major five-way path junction, carry straight on uphill.
- 111** In 150 metres, at the top of the hill, you come to a road, where you go right. The **Fox & Hounds** is 100 metres along on the right.

- 112** After lunch come out of the pub and turn left on the road.
- 113** In 100 metres, turn left onto a path, passing a National Trust sign for Octavia Hill Woods.
- 114** Keep straight on, initially on the level, but then downhill on a clearer path, ignoring ways off
- 115** In 130 metres, at a five way junction, keep straight on, ignoring tracks left and right, and a path slanting downhill to the right
- 116** In 15 metres ignore a path to the right (the one you came up) and keep straight on.
- 117** In another 100 metres, pass a horse blocking barrier, and keep on downhill. In 80 metres more you come to a crosspaths.
- To rejoin the **main walk** route *keep straight on*, following a red and yellow arrow on a post: continue with paragraph 118.
 - To switch to the **Short cut to Emmetts Garden**, *turn right* at this crosspaths and pick up the special instructions in paragraph 122 at the point marked [*].
- 118** In another 80 metres, follow the path as it curves left, with houses visible through the trees to the right. In another 60 metres, the path curves right downhill again
- 119** In 140 metres more, ignore the path signposted with a red arrow to the left and keep on downhill on the Greensand Way (yellow arrow).
- 120** In 70 metres, emerge through a squeezegate into an open field, with a fine panoramic view ahead, and the church of Ide Hill visible on the hill to the left. Continue with the directions in paragraph 125 opposite.

Scords Farm to Ide Hill **(2.1km/1.3 miles)**

- 121** Keep straight on up the lane. In 40 metres you pass a house called Little Chart on the right, and in 20 metres more, another called Little Scords.
- 122** In another 60 metres, where the driveway/track curves right to the wooden gate of a house, fork left uphill into Scords Wood (a National Trust sign). In 5 metres a path forks right and you have a choice of routes:
- For a **short cut through the woods to Emmetts Garden**, saving 2.8km (1.7 miles) but missing some wonderful scenery, *ignore the fork to the right and carry on up the main bridleway*. The path climbs steeply for 100 metres to a crosspaths: [*] beyond this it climbs more gently for 200 metres, then descends for 300 metres into a large dip and curves right to climb up the far side of it. In another 150 metres or so, at very top of the dip, 50 metres after the path finally levels out, *turn right* at a major crosspaths marked by a footpath post, following a yellow arrow. In 70 metres cross a stile, and in another 50 metres you come to the tearoom at Emmetts. After your visit turn around and go back up the path you came in on (ie the one that goes up into the woods from the end of the tea room). Continue with paragraph 149 on page 11
 - **To continue with the main walk route**, take the fork to the right, leaving the main bridleway, and refer to the next paragraph.
- 123** Follow this path for 100 metres to a T-junction with a car-wide path (the Greensand Way). Here turn right, downhill.
- 124** In 180 metres, at a footpath post, ignore the National Trust Red Walk arrow to the left, and follow the Greensand Way straight ahead down into an area of young trees. In 70 metres, you emerge through a squeeze gate into an open field, with the church of Ide Hill visible on the hill opposite.
- 125** Beyond the squeezegate turn left along the field edge.
- 126** In 80 metres, at the corner of the wood, by couple of redundant gateposts, fork right downhill, following a footpath arrow, heading for a gap between a couple of small woods at the bottom of the hill.
- 127** In 100 metres go through a gate to the right of a metal fieldgate in the gap, and keep straight on (with **wild garlic** woods to the right in late April or early May, and a **bluebell** wood to the left), heading for the far right-hand corner of the field.
- 128** In 200 metres cross a footbridge over a stream (with a gate at either end) into the next field. Keep straight on

uphill, at first on the left-hand edge of the field, but later merging with a track up the right-hand edge, with a hedgerow to the right

- 129** In 250 metres (ie, after following the track along the hedgerow for 100 metres) pass through a kissing gate next to a fieldgate (currently missing) and keep on up the right-hand edge of the next field.
- 130** In 100 metres follow the track as it veers slightly right out of the top corner of the field, but in 5 metres more **turn right through a black kissing gate** onto a footpath that goes gently downhill, with a wire fence and field to the right
- 131** In 150 metres the path enters a wood. In 40 metres, it crosses a stream and veers right, and then in 20 metres goes left across a minor ditch and steeply uphill. There are wonderful bluebells on the whole next section in late April and early May.
- 132** In 120 metres ignore a major fork left uphill, but keep on the more level right fork, which nevertheless soon starts to climb again
- 133** In 170 metres you come to four-way junction with a footpath post, where you have a choice:
- **For more bluebells** in late April or early May, also keep straight on. But you need to return to this point to continue the walk
 - **Otherwise, to continue the main walk**, turn **sharply left** uphill at the junction towards an open area, ignoring the left turn uphill through the wood. Continue with the directions in the next paragraph.
- 134** In 20 metres you emerge into an open space. Keep on uphill across this, curving right with the right-hand wood edge.
- 135** In 50 metres, at the end of the open space, carry on down a path under trees.
- 136** In 80 metres more you emerge from the trees and follow a path fenced off from a field to the left.
- 137** In 100 metres, at the end of the field, veer right to a tarmac lane, with the churchyard beyond. Here go left.
- 138** In 100 metres more you emerge onto the green of the village of **Ide Hill**. Turn diagonally across it towards the

pub, **The Cock Inn**, a possible late lunch or early tea stop.

Ide Hill to Emmetts Garden **(1.8km/1.1 miles)**

- 139** When you get close to the pub you can see that it is situated on a minor road that veers left off the road on the far side of the green (signposted just after the pub as Camberwell Lane). Your onward route is to follow this road, passing houses on your left
- 140** In 100 metres the road curves left. In another 130 metres, where the road ends in a cul du sac, pass to the right of the green island in the middle and look for a not very clearly marked footpath, straight ahead between two sets of double houses (numbers 16 and 17), and to the right of a telegraph pole. A concrete marker on the ground confirms you are on the right route.
- 141** In 30 metres pass through a kissing gate into a field. Go straight ahead, heading for a house which can soon be seen through a gap in the trees (much less visible in summer).
- 142** In 250 metres pass through a kissing gate and turn left down a concrete track, and then left again in 3 metres onto a tarmac lane.
- 143** Keep on along this lane for 400 metres to a T-junction with a much busier road, where you go right. **Care is needed here**, as the road is narrow and there is some fast traffic along it.
- 144** In 100 metres, just beyond a bungalow, turn left off the road up a gravel tarmac drive, a signposted footpath.
- 145** In 400 metres pass through a wooden gate to the left of a fieldgate and keep on up the drive.
- 146** 120 metres after this point veer left with the drive. You are now in **Emmetts Garden**, a National Trust property, but on a public right of way. *If you are not an NT member and want to divert off the path to visit the garden, you should pay the entry fee at the cafe. The gardens are open till 5pm from mid March to the end of October.*
- 147** Otherwise, keep on up the driveway, and in 150 metres at the top of the hill you come to picnic tables on the left, and just beyond on the right the **National Trust tea room**.

Emmetts Garden to Westerham (4.1km/2.5 miles)

- 148** Go straight on, ignoring a left fork, passing to the left of the tea room on a gravel path and on up a footpath that climbs uphill into the woods (there is a concrete footpath marker in the ground here).
- 149** In 40 metres pass through a gate and keep straight on, ignoring a path forking left.
- 150** In 70 metres more go straight on at a major crosspaths.
- 151** In 300 metres you come to a road, with the entrance to Ide Hill House ahead. Turn left along the road, **taking care** as some cars come fast along here.
- 152** In 80 metres, where the wooden fence to your right ends, turn right up a footpath marked with an NT arrow on a post. **Immediately take the right fork** (not so obvious in summer) which more or less follows the fence to your right.
- 153** In 200 metres this comes to a gravel track (initially not very obvious), with a fieldgate marked Private Property 50 metres to your right. Go left on this track.
- 154** In 300 metres you come to a tarmac lane, with houses beyond. Turn left on this.
- 155** In 80 metres you come to road by a sign for the village of **Brasted Chart**, where you go right. Again **take care** as this road has some fast traffic.
- 156** In 70 metres, 30 metres past the end of the houses, go left up a footpath—**not the car wide track**, but a fainter path forking off right from it along an old tree boundary and wire fence (signposted, but the sign is hidden).
- 157** In 100 metres ignore a path to the left marked by a not very visible footpath post, and turn right with the path, still with the wire fence to your right.
- 158** In 300 metres you come to a field. Pass through a wooden gate, ignoring a path to the right along the field edge, and head diagonally down across the field, with a view of the North Downs in the distance to your right.
- 159** In 120 metres, just before a large tree on a field corner, turn left through a gate, and carry on down a wooded path, with a wire fence left.
- 160** In 100 metres cross a track leading to a house left and go through a gate into a field. Go straight on diagonally down across this, aiming for some houses on the hill.
- 161** In 250 metres pass through a gate, cross a footbridge, and carry on up a fenced path. In 70 metres go through a kissing gate and on up steps.
- 162** In 200 metres go right uphill on a lane. In 40 metres you pass a "Private Burial Ground" on your right, and then some houses.
- 163** 30 metres beyond the houses, ignore a signposted footpath to the right, but in 120 metres more turn left up an easily missed footpath.
- **If you miss this footpath**, staying on the road for 600 metres will bring you to the major road T-junction in paragraph 168 below.
- 164** Keep straight on, ignoring minor side paths, until in 300 metres you come to a path T-junction **with a sharp gully beyond**. Here go right.
- 165** **In 25 metres turn left** down a staircase of tree roots, and then in 5 metres turn right down wooden steps (with a handrail) into the gully.
- 166** In 60 metres on the right you pass a cave on the right (an old quarry) where **bats** live. Keep on past it along the path, going gently downhill.
- 167** In 150 metres, after passing another bat cave, you come to a road and go left.
- 168** In another 180 metres, at a T-junction with a major road, turn right (the right-hand side has a verge and later a pavement).
- 169** In 120 metres, 60 metres after the pavement starts, turn left off the road up a signposted footpath, between fences. In 100 metres there is an open field on the left, and in 200 metres you pass through a squeeze stile onto an open hillside.
- 170** Go forward 50 metres to a footpath post and then turn right at it on a faint grassy path (the leftmost of two diverging paths), aiming somewhat to the left of the church spire of **Westerham** that you can see ahead.
- 171** Keep straight on down the hill to pass through a kissing gate in 200 metres, and beyond it keep on downhill on a faint grassy path.

172 In 200 metres, at the bottom of the hill, look for a wooden kissing gate with a yellow footpath arrow on it. Exit through this gate and on up an enclosed pathway to emerge in 200 metres in the centre of Westerham.

The stop for the **246 bus to Bromley** is immediately to your left on the main road. The stop for the **401 bus to Sevenoaks** is the one just to the right on the opposite side of the road.

For the **236/594/595 bus to Oxted** (not Sundays), the stop is by the Kings Arms, 100 metres up road to the left. **Quebec House** is 300 metres down the hill on the right, at the junction of the A25 and B2026.

Tea options are numerous. On the far side of the green is the **Tudor Tea Rooms**, with a **Costa Coffee** a little way to its left; on the right-hand side of the green is **Food for Thought**. Pubs include the **Grasshopper on the Green** directly opposite, and the **George & Dragon** and **Kings Arms** are a little way up the hill to the left.

Hurst Green to Crockham Hill (5.7km/3.5 miles)

- 173** Exit platform two at Hurst Green station and turn right. In 25 metres go up steps to the road and turn left to cross Greenhurst Lane.
- 174** Continue along Hurstlands. Ignore the road to the right in 70 metres and in another 120 metres ignore Wolfs Wood to the right.
- 175** In 130 metres cross Home Park and continue up Wolfs Hill. In 30 metres more **turn right along an unmarked tarmac footpath** between wooden fences.
- 176** In 80 metres cross a brick road and continue on along a tarmac footpath.
- 177** After 100 metres this becomes an earth footpath and curves to the right around a playing field.
- 178** In 180 metres, at the end of the playing field, carry on uphill on the footpath between wooden fences.
- 179** In 180 metres cross over a road.
- 180** In 100 metres the path starts to climb, with fine **bluebell** woods to the right in late April and early May.
- 181** In 200 metres go through a gap and on up a tarmac lane, passing a house on your right.
- 182** In 300 metres, at the end of the lane, go over a crossroads to continue up Pastens Road.
- 183** In 500 metres, where the road ends in front of Arden Lodge, go straight ahead up what looks like a private driveway to Headland, actually a signposted footpath.
- 184** In 40 metres, just before a gate across the drive, turn left through a tall wooden gate, and then right downhill on a path with a wooded bank to your left (with more **bluebell** woods in late April and early May).
- 185** In 300 metres cross a stile to emerge into the open, with a fine view ahead. Continue down a fenced strip, with a field to your left.
- 186** In 300 metres, at the bottom of the field, go through a metal gate and continue with a ditch to your right and a hedge left.
- 187** In 170 metres you come to a house (Tenchley's Manor). Here turn right to cross a footbridge, and then follow the path ahead for 35 metres and around to the left for 40 metres to cross another footbridge and come to a track. Here turn right.
- 188** Follow the track for 200 metres to a road, where you turn left.
- 189** In 130 metres ignore signposted paths left and right. In another 200 metres curve right with the road past a stone house - Moat Farm Cottages.
- 190** In 100 metres, as the road again bends right around a pond, **leave the road to pass through a well-concealed gap in the hedge** in the corner, just beyond a bungalow on the left.
- 191** Veer left with the path along the field edge.
- 192** In 180 metres, in the top corner of the field, go left through a kissing gate and turn right along the field edge.
- 193** In 80 metres pass through a kissing gate and turn left and then right again to follow the left-hand edge of the next field.
- 194** In 170 metres pass through a gap to cross a tarmac lane and keep straight on through a kissing gate into the next field.

- 195** Go straight on, passing to the left of an oak tree in 100 metres and on up the left-hand edge of the field.
- 196** In 400 metres cross a stile and keep on along the left-hand edge of the next field.
- 197** In 250 metres cross a stile about 30 metres to the right of the field corner, and then cross a stream into a wood. Go up the steps beyond and curve left with the path (more **bluebells** here).
- 198** In 100 metres you emerge from the wood and cross a stile. Keep uphill along the left-hand edge of the field.
- 199** In 120 metres cross a stile to the left of a wooden fieldgate and a chalet-style house, and turn right on a gravel and tarmac driveway.
- 200** Follow this driveway, with houses to the right and later the left, for 200 metres to a road. Turn right here and in 100 metres you come to the B2026, ignoring Deanery Lane to the right just before you get to it.
- 201** The **Royal Oak**, a possible lunch pub, is 80 metres downhill to the right. But to continue the walk **turn left uphill** on the main road.

Continue with paragraph 48 on page 5.