



Walk 10 - COLDHARBOUR FARM (Col Arbree?)

This is a shorter walk of about four miles, so allow an hour and a half.

Take the footpath up the right hand side of Whitchurch Hill, over to the War Memorial and then follow the path uphill to the kissing gate above. Enter the field and follow the left hand edge to another kissing gate (there may be cattle or sheep in this field so take care with dogs and children). You pass down a narrower footpath to another kissing gate to reach Beech Farm, cross over the farm road to and through the gate by the side of the stables then straight ahead to and through a kissing gate to enter Beech Wood. Follow the footpath immediately ahead, you will suddenly reach a kissing gate on your right and a fenced footpath. Turn right here and go through this gate and follow the footpath until you emerge by the side of Boundary Farm.

You walk straight ahead down this avenue, it was once a lovely avenue of chestnut trees (edible on the left and horse on the right). When you reach the road turn right and then left after the pair of cottages and opposite a white house. There is a footpath sign on the edge of the field, you turn left and cross the field following the obvious path to a kissing gate. Go through into this next field but keep your eyes open for cattle and keep any dogs under control. Head towards to the right hand side of the central clump of trees (a dewpond as a water supply for the cattle); when you reach it you will see Coldharbour Farm, head directly towards it. A kissing gate immediately opposite allows you to cross onto the road. The two paths you have just used are fairly obvious but in summer and autumn you may have to force your way through standing crops. At the Coldharbour kissing gate another path joins from your left and, if you wish, could serve as your return journey; it leads to a kissing gate at the bottom left hand corner of the field as you face the farm. However, go through the kissing gate onto the road and turn left, follow this pleasant road until another lane joins on your left. Turn left here (the road continues to Stapnall's Farm - Walk 5) and follow the lane to a crossroads, go straight across towards Coombe End Farm.

As you approach the farm take the left hand fork past the cottage and you will see a kissing gate slightly above you on your left just before a field gate. Go through and bear right following the edge of the outbuildings to the hedge on your right. After a few yards you will find another kissing gate in the hedgerow, go through and turn left; the next kissing gate is slightly over to your right by the water trough. Go through and head directly towards the woodland ahead on an obvious path. Go down the lovely dell and up to a kissing gate in the corner of Beech Wood. Go through into the woods, go straight down the obvious track immediately ahead to rejoin your original route. The path leads to the edge of Beech Farm and to what are now familiar paths to Beech Farm and home.