



Walk 6 - THE SUN

This is a walk of about four miles. I won't give a time limit since you may decide to linger.

Go up the High Street, through the defile with care and cross over to the high level footpath that starts at the entrance to Firhill Cottage, Upland Cottage and Lynches Lodge. When you reach the gateway to Foxglove Manor cross over with care to the War Memorial and up to the kissing gate directly above. This is the end of your climb. Go through the gate into the field (there may be cattle or sheep out of sight so take care with dogs) and follow the path as it skirts the edge of what became devastated woodland (now replanted).

The path follows through a kissing gate, down a farm lane to another gate, through and round the farm's outbuildings and across the grass and the road to a gate immediately opposite. On entering this field follow the line of the left hand fence to another kissing gate at the entrance to the woods. Enter the woods and follow the path through this very pleasant glade, the path swings left and very soon you will see a gate and a very heavily fenced footpath on your right, go through and follow this restriction down the winding narrow path to emerge onto a farm road (Boundary Farm is on your right).

Head directly up the avenue ahead, this was once lined with mature chestnut trees, at the end go through the pedestrian gate (please ensure that you close it) and turn right onto a road in front of a pair of cottages. This road leads to the main road from Whitchurch Hill to Cray's Pond, cross straight over with care and walk down the road towards Hill Bottom. Although this is a main road it is pleasant and not too busy, there is a footpath on the left hand side. Enjoy the houses and this part of the village. Carry on down to 'The Sun' at the halfway point of this walk!

If you are lucky and the pub is open then follow the route later. Go past The Sun to its junction with the Goring Heath road. Turn left, as the road drops and turns cross over to a lane on your right, this is Town Lane - possibly Tun Lane (which would be a lane leading to a settlement). This is a lovely lane and will reward your walk, enter the lane and follow it as it climbs, flattens, turns and falls down to Path Hill. Enjoy the views and the thought that this lane has served others, as it does us, for centuries.

When the lane reaches Path Hill take care, turn right and cross over to the left hand side, keep an eye and an ear open for traffic, swing gently down towards Hardwick Road. You reach a new kissing gate on your right, go through and follow the left hand hedge to another new kissing gate. The field you are in is called Bec Tythe (the tithe paid to support Bec Abbey in Normandy). As you cross, stop and look at the shape of the slope above you, to its left is the entrance to the Iron Age encampment (Bozedown or Binditch) (Walk 2 - 'The Square'). Go through the gate to meet the fenced path leading you south. Follow the hedgerow to the edge of Hardwick Road (take care). Turn right onto Hardwick Road and follow it back to the village using the footpath on the south side and perhaps crossing at Bozedown Farm to the higher level footpath above the traffic.