Bedser - Sandpit - Peace Garden Circuit.

This walk links many interesting and historical sites on Horsell Common passing areas of heather, the Wheatsheaf ponds, the Sandpit, Peace Garden and Bronze Age burial sites. There are several information boards and benches. The basic circuit can easily be reduced or extended. You pass The Gosling for refreshments or with a slight detour can easily reach The Wheatsheaf opposite the Wheatsheaf recreation grounds. **Care is needed when crossing busy roads.**

Red Marker discs and the Horsell Common Preservation Society logo with the Dartford warbler, make this walk easy to navigate.

Key facts

Allow up to one and half hours for approx. 2.75 mile walk. Flat with some surfaced paths but rougher in places. Usually dry underfoot even after rain. Benches enroute

Car park: Woodham Common car park, Monument Road, GU21 5LU (200m south of 6 crossroads

roundabout)

What3word: supply.poker.fend

TQ1472 60130

Always wear suitable footwear and keep dogs under control

NB patience and care required to cross 6 roads

- 1. Leave the car park, passing the information board "Exploring Woodham Common" and turn right next to the second information board, (Bedser twins). Continue straight through woodland for about 200m. At a T-junction, with a dog waste bin ahead, turn left then almost immediately right. You pass a bench and soon emerge alongside an area of heather, cleared of scrub pine and silver birch by HCPS volunteers. Continue straight on towards the A320 Chertsey Road (do not follow the Bedser trail going round to the left) Cross at the traffic island onto the Wheatsheaf Common
- 2. Turn right and cross the long board walk "bridge" and keep right (If you want to explore this area it is easy to wander all around and then get back to point 2.) Continue through woodland to Woodham Rise. Cross and keep straight ahead then cross Pinewood Close. Stay on the A320 Chertsey Road, then then take first left into Carlton Road.
- 3. Opposite Fennies Nursery, turn right onto a narrow path next to a wooden barrier (*This grand Victorian house used to be the famous Tante Marie Cookery school*) Always bear left, emerging onto Woodham Road. Cross and go straight on to Shores Road. Cross into HCPS car park and go straight ahead, onto the easy access path, called "The H.G Wells path".
- 4. After about 300m, where there is a bench and a steep dip ahead, turn sharp right. Follow the surfaced H.G. Wells path, soon turning left and arriving at the sandpit
- 5. Continue to the main broad track called "Sandy Track" (often muddy not sandy!) and turn right up this wide track until almost reaching the metal barrier. Turn right onto a narrow path, and gently bearing left, make for the A320. Cross this busy road with care to "The Gosling" (re-opened in 2023 after refurbishment. Once known as" The Sands" and "The Bleak House").
- 6. Go into the car park and take a path on the right at the end of a low brick wall, next to a tall oak tree into woodland. You might have to squeeze between parked cars. Follow this path with overgrown holly either side. Through the bushes on your left, you can see a Golf Course and soon you see All Saints Church, Woodham. Go straight across Woodham Road (crossing with patience and care) and continue along the woodland path, keeping left until you meet a wider cross path and go right, soon spotting the Chatri of the Peace Garden on your left, through the trees.
- 7. A) (the shorter way, crossing busy Monument Road) Follow the arrows take the straight path that leads directly from the gates of the Peace Garden to the road. Cross busy Monument Road with care. Follow the path gently bearing right then turn right when you see a dog bin. Continue to the car park or
- 8. B) (a safer way to cross but no waymarker arrows, because it is not HCPS land) Turn left onto the bridge where there are refuges. Cross onto refuge and once safely across turn right, until opposite the Peace garden. Follow the path gently bearing right and turn right by a dog waste bin, pass a bench and continue to car park.

| (To find the Bronze Age burial mound, follow the Bedser trail from 7A and go left reaching a board walk; the burial mound is on the right, covered in heather and gorse) | |
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