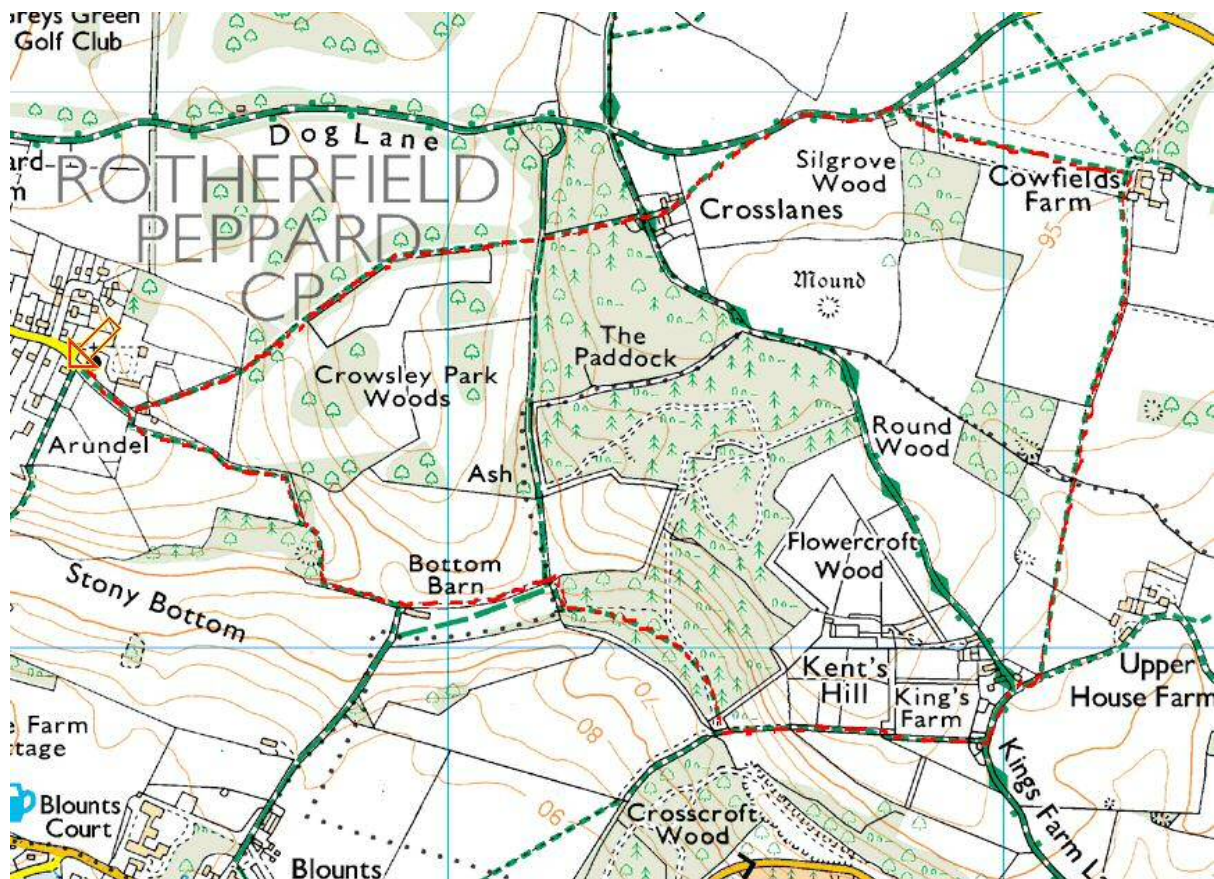


My Favourite Walk

I have been walking for many years and, indeed, have a firm diary date with some pals to walk every Wednesday. I have chosen this walk because of the variety of the walk, the views out over the surrounding countryside and, not least, the easy access from my house.

2.5 mile circular walk. Approximately 1 hour Medium difficulty



Map is a copyright of Ordnance Survey

The walk starts from All Saints' Church in Church Lane where there is space to park cars.

Take the track to the right of the church where you will quickly reach open fields sloping down towards woodland. You come to a dog leg leading along the edge of the wood – go left and then right almost straight away. This is all well signed and there is no need to deviate from the track. Continue downhill and at the bottom continue straight onto a path ignoring the track which turns sharply to the right (and leads up to the Butcher's Arms).

Walk on past Bottom Barn and turn right to go through two lots of metal kissing gates into the wood. This is particularly lovely at the beginning of May when the bluebells are in full bloom but you will see lots of deer paths and possibly the deer themselves. Stay on the main path taking care not to turn left right by a large beech

tree and at the T-junction, turn left. A right turn would take you up to Blounts Court Road.

You now continue up a short sharp hill (Kent's Hill) to a wooden kissing gate. This is where you will find plenty of horses and kites swooping. Just after the gate you can look back and spot the spire of All Saints' Church. Go through a second wooden kissing gate and continue straight on.

You will shortly come to a lane where you turn left. With Flowercroft cottages in front you, turn right and climb over a stile. (Turning left before this stile is a shortcut, taking you directly to Dog Lane.) After just a few metres, leave the track, take the footpath on the left and climb over a wooden stile.

The path leads to high open countryside again where you continue over two stiles by the Shetland ponies. This is probably the best place for stopping to admire the views out over the Thames Valley.

At Cowfields Farm take a sharp left and it is here that you can see the spire of Rotherfield Greys Church.

After going through two more wooden gates you will reach the lane by Silgrove House where you turn left. About half way along a straight bit of the lane you turn left where there is a stile placed in a gap in the hedge, go over this stile and head towards the buildings. Go through the gate and past Crosslanes farmhouse and finally cross another lane to take the footpath to the right of White Cottage. Go through a metal gate and continue straight on, this takes you through the golf course. One more metal gate brings you right back to the track where you turn right to reach All Saints' Church.

David Overbury