

This was recently discovered in a drawer by a local resident

On a fine day you should also be able to see, a little to the east, the **Isle of Wight**.

Turning left, with **Gambledown Farm** behind you, walk up past **Owls Lodge** on your left and continue down the track with the copse on the right. The path now goes over the stile into the field on the left. As you walk along by the hedge notice that, over to the north, you can see down into the village of **Lockerley**. Along this part of the walk green hellebore, soft shield fern, wild mignonette and nettle leaved bell flower are to be found. As you get some way along the path you will suddenly see **Telegraph House**. This was built in 1829/31 as one of the semaphore signalling stations set up to pass messages for the Admiralty in London to Plymouth. It connected locally to Farley, seven miles away to the east, and westwards to Woodfalls, six miles away. The system was used until 1847.



The path that skirts Telegraph House is immediately on the left of the entrance to the house. In the woods you can come across wood spurge, buckler fern, enchanter's night shade and a good example of spurge laurel. Over the stile out of the wood the path now goes down hill and slightly south east to go right through the centre of **Bryce's Farm**. To the west of this path is what remains of **Broxmore Park**, at one time a deer park. From here we go due south to meet up with the A27.



On the last part of the walk you may be able to find red goose foot, betony, spindle and polypody fern.



The A27 now follows the line of the old turnpike road from Southampton to Salisbury that was built in 1755. Follow the road back to the lay-by or **The Hatchet**, which was probably built to serve the turnpike road, where you may like to stop for some good food and drink.

The Country code

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work.
- Guard against all risk of fire.
- Fasten all gates.
- Keep your dogs under control.
- Keep to public paths across farmland.
- Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls.
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone.
- Take your litter home.
- Help to keep all water clean.
- Protect wildlife, plant and trees.
- Take special care on country roads.
- Make no unnecessary noise.

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Sherfield English

Hampsh

A countryside walk



Produced by
Sherfield English Environmental Protection Society,
and
Sherfield English Parish Council

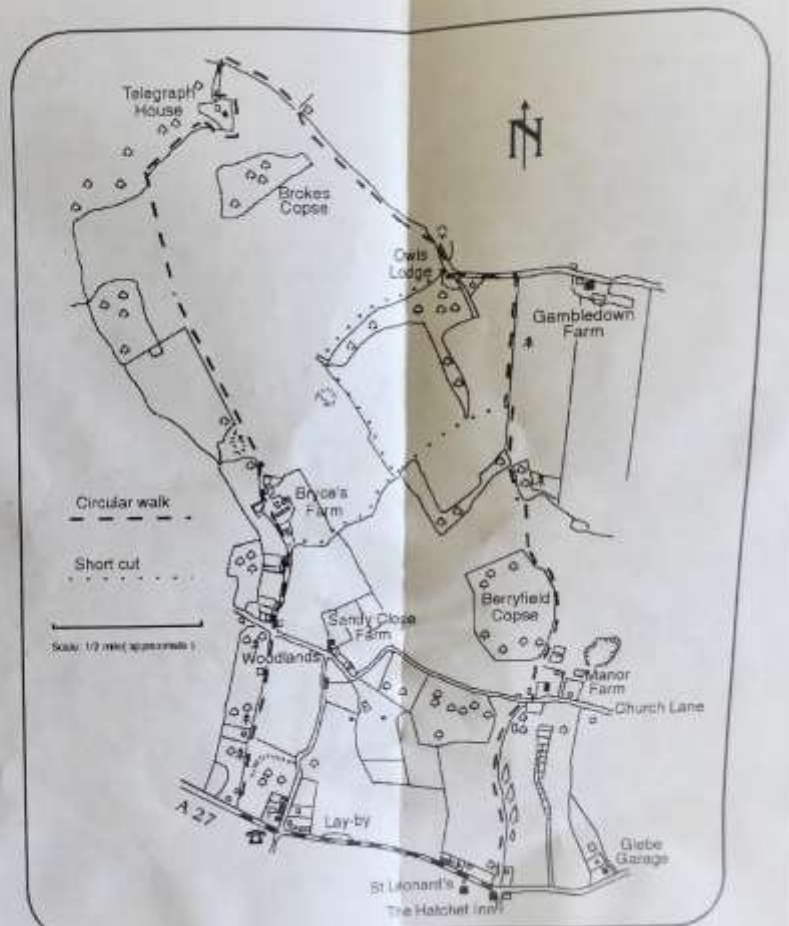
Introduction

The Sherfield English walk is about 4.5 miles long with the opportunity to take short cuts. The route is clearly marked with Public Footpath signs. The walk can start at any point and, of course, be walked in any direction, but it is advisable to wear good stout shoes. The Ordnance Survey sheets for this area are the Land ranger series 184 & 185. When you are using this walk please follow the **country code**.

The Walk

From the car park of **The Hatchet** (or the lay-by on the A27) take the footpath going north that links the A27 and **Church Lane**. Notice the watercress beds off to your right. These watercress beds were already in existence when the First Edition of the Ordnance Survey map was published in 1810. At that date much of the Sherfield area was still common land. You will see that Church Lane is at some distance from the modern church of St Leonard's, built in 1902/3. The old church has gone but its church yard is just off to the right. Cross the lane and follow the path with **Manor Farm** on the right and proceed up the hill going round **Berryfield Copse** on your left.

Among the less usual plants you may see on this part of the walk are corn marigold, cornfield knot weed, woodruff, lesser hemp nettle and musk thistle. When you get to the top of the ridge turn round and look south and you will see a ridge that marks the northern edge of the New Forest.



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