

## Bridge

**Start:** Bridge Recreation Ground, Patricbourne Rd., CT4 5BL

**Distance:** 5.2 miles (8.3 km)

**Map Reference:** OS Explorer 150 TR185543

**What 3 Words:** postings.places.frocks

**Start location link:** [Grid Reference Finder](#) | [OpenStreetMap](#)

**Refreshment:** Various Public Houses in Bridge

**Public Transport:** Bus No. 17 Folkestone / Canterbury

**1** With your back to the Recreation Ground turn **R** and walk up to the main rd. Turn **R** again and cross the main rd. to follow the rd. next to the Plough & Harrow Public house.

Just after the rd. bends sharply **R** go through an old kissing gate on your **L**.

**2** Soon you will cross two wooden bridges over the Nailbourne (usually dry except during heavy rains) and bear **L** to follow the path, with first a wall and then a hedge on your **L**-hand side. After passing through a wooden gate go diagonally **R** across the field to go over a stile and emerge on a lane where you turn **R**.

**3** Proceed for a short distance and where the lane bends to the **L** (by a house) go straight on and follow the **FP** gently uphill. Just before it emerges onto a broader track go through the trees on your **L** and cross an old bridge over a disused railway line. Ignore the stile on your **R** and instead turn **L** and then **R** to follow the path uphill with a fence on your **R**-hand side.

Go over the stile at the top of the hill, and now proceed diagonally **L** downhill to go over another stile. The path continues on the same line, to intersect with another **FP** and then through two tree-breaks before reaching a line of trees/hedges adjacent to Pett Bottom Rd. Turn **L** and walk along until you find the exit onto the rd. (opposite a telegraph pole).

**4** Turn **L** onto the rd. and after approx. 100yds. turn **R** onto a concrete path. Follow uphill and where the path bears to the **R** you turn **L** on a Byway (**SP**). Proceed for approx. 150 yds. until you encounter a way-marker post at the entrance to Whitehill woods. Turn **R**. You now follow this path through the woods for approx. 1 mile. There are two intersections with other paths. At the first carry straight on.

At the second, to be on the safe side, take the path to the **R** of a sign saying 'Keep to the Path and Dogs on Leads'. You will also cross open ground with electricity pylons and after an area of deforestation you will see a wicker fence on your **R**. Just beyond the path swings to the **L**. Here go straight on following a more minor path. You will emerge from the forest onto a minor rd. (opposite a large house). Turn **L**.

**5** After approx. 500 yds. and just before the rd. bends to the **R**, go through a metal gate on your **L** (into a deforested area) and go straight ahead. After approx. 400 yds. and soon after you pass a way-marker post, you take a path on your **R** (it's easily missed but there is a way-marker on a tree). The path follows the edge of the wood and drops steeply downhill until you reach an old metal gate on your **L**. Bear **R** at the gate and continue down the path passing Little Eaton Farm on your left and onto the road at the end and turn **L**.

**6** Go along the rd. and after approx. 350 yds. turn **R** (indicated by a fingerpost).

The path goes uphill, with a hedge on your **L**, over a stile and with a slight diagonal to the **R**, crosses pasture to find another stile. Once over follow the hedgerow to a way-marker where you turn sharp **L**. Drop down past a pretty cottage on your **R** and just as the rd. bends to the **L**, cross over a stile on your **R** into a horse paddock.

**7** Turn **L** and in a short distance go over a further stile.

For approx. ½ mile you now go straight ahead with first poly-tunnels and then orchards to your **R** (do not go down the concrete rd. leading to the farm). **See notes below.**

***NB.** Since this description was originally written (in 2013) the orchard appears to have been replanted across the original line of the footpath. On checking (in February 2021) there was a suitable alternative that runs along the farm track parallel to the original path. Nor were the poly tunnels in place.*

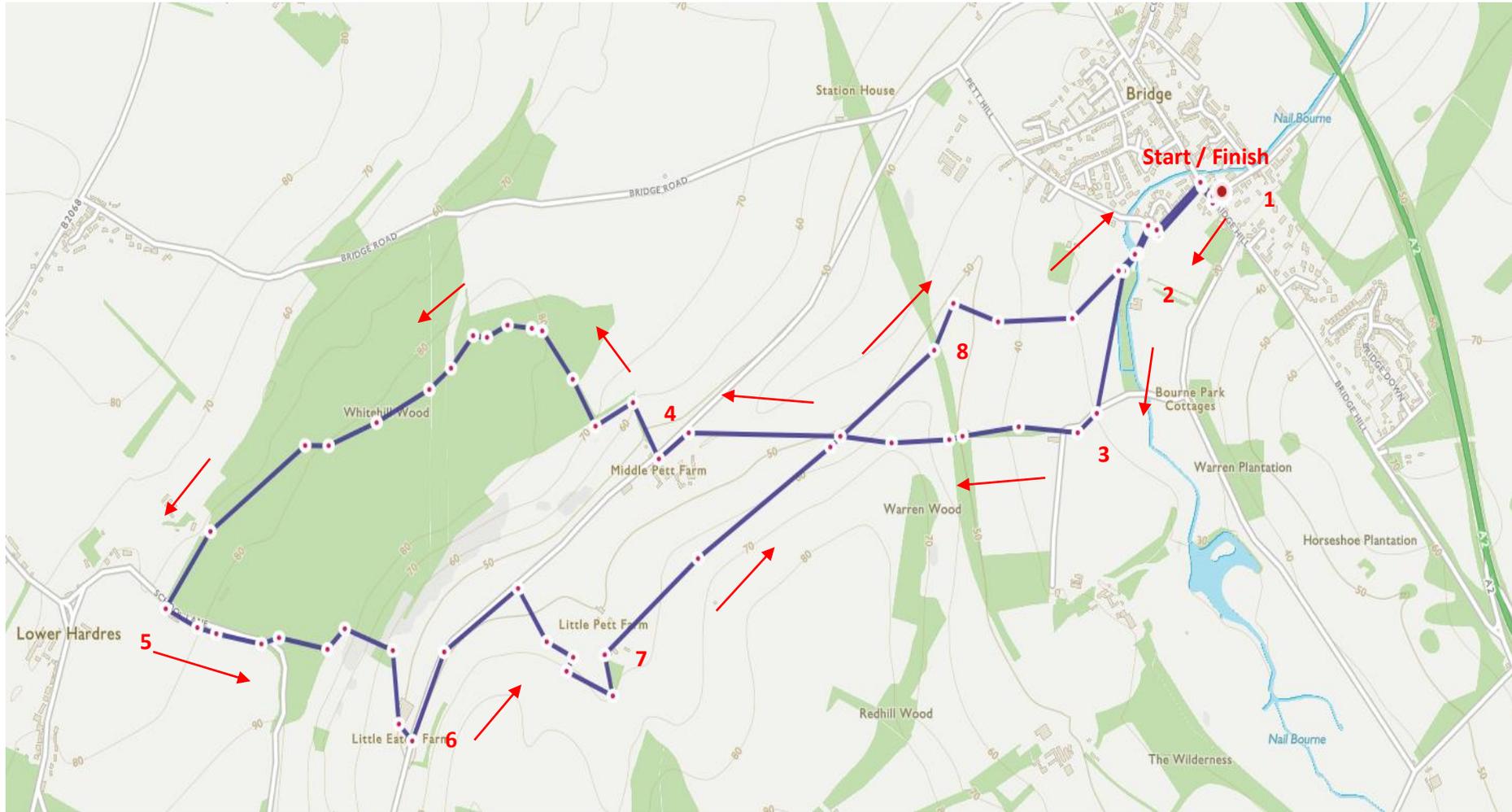
When you encounter the tree-line a dog-leg is necessary i.e. turn **R** and in a few yds. turn **L** through the trees. On emerging take a long cross field path (diagonally **R**) which firstly crosses the path you followed earlier, and then goes over a stile before going uphill to a metal gate. Go through the gate, over another old railway bridge and turn **L**.

**8** After approx. 150 yds. turn **R** (not indicated) and follow a path downhill, firstly across a crop field, then pasture land with a fence on your **L**. Go over a stile on your **L** then diagonally **R** to encounter, after a short distance, the two wooden bridges you crossed earlier. Now retrace your steps back to Bridge and the recreation ground.

This walk was originally conceived by Ted Roche for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of White Cliffs Ramblers in 2014.

The description was checked and updated by John Pye in February 2021. The gpx file that accompanies this walk was generated by Tony Bristow from the original walk description. Whilst every effort has been made to check the accuracy of this description, this cannot be guaranteed, especially over time. For example in this case an orchard appears to have been replanted and poly-tunnels that had been noted in the original version were no longer visible. You should therefore always carry an up to date map with you.

**All sporting and leisure activities have inherent hazards associated with them and rambling is no exception. Although safety is a paramount concern, accidents will occasionally occur. It is important, therefore, that when entering into the activity, each individual appreciates that they have a responsibility to identify the hazards associated with it and take all reasonable steps to eliminate or minimise the potential for an accident to happen.**



This map is based on a gpx file and utilising Ordnance Survey Open Data mapping.



Photographs: John Pye, February 2021.