



Whitewater Churches Creationtide 2020

Circular Walk from Mattingley Church

Enjoy a gentle walk through the countryside allowing God to direct your thoughts as you take in the changing scenes. There are two suggested walks:

 Route 1 approx. 2.5 miles easy walking; allow 1 - 2 hours

 Route 2 approx. 3.5 miles easy walking with 3 stiles; allow 1.5 - 3 hours

You might find it helpful to take a copy of the HCC Mattingley Parish map of footpaths found [here](#) to help with directions.

Things to ponder and notice along the way:

the many varieties of fruits and berries

the beauty of birdsong

the different feel underfoot as the ground changes along the route

how the sunlight/dullness of the day makes you feel

as you walk beside or cross over the river and ponds consider the importance of water in our lives

what are the natural things that give your senses most pleasure and which are less enjoyable

looking at the man-made additions which ones most enhance and which detract from the environment



As you begin pause and allow your mind to be still as you offer your walk to God; give thanks for the beauty and stillness that is to be found in the churchyard



Be still, and know that I am God

Psalm 46: 10



Leaving the churchyard through the gate to the east of the church take the footpath as it turns sharp right and then sharp left round a gate until reaching a farm gate.



Through the gate the path tracks diagonally right across the field and follows the hedge line beside the river Whitewater. The path continues through a gate and into private gardens with good way markers. At the junction turn right for the road.



A river watering the garden flowed from Eden Genesis 2: 10



As you go through the gate turn left to join the road at Diple. You can choose to take the shorter walk by crossing over the road and taking the right turn.



For the longer walk continue up the road to the bend and take the footpath off left. Instructions continue overleaf.



Follow the road with the well-manicured gardens until it turns into a track and continue past houses until it narrows to a path leading to a ploughed field.

He covers the sky with clouds;

he supplies the earth with rain

and makes grass grow on the hills. Psalm 147: 8



Take the footpath leading right along the edge of the field until it emerges through a small copse onto a bend in the road.



Continue walking in the same direction along the quiet country lane for approximately 1/4 mile until you reach Damales Bungalow. Turn right onto the track and re-join the longer walk to return to Mattingley.



Turning left onto the footpath from the road follow the track which quickly becomes a footpath - watch out for your footing as there are hidden trip hazards. Follow the path until it joins a driveway; continue in the same direction until it joins the road by way of a stile.



Cross straight over and go over the fields until you reach the house. Turning right beside the house look up as you pass the garage and see which way the wind is blowing.

*Human beings ate the bread of angels;
he sent them all the food they could eat.
He let loose the east wind from the heavens
and by his power made the south wind blow.*

Psalm 78: 25-26



Continue along the driveway until it reaches the junction of roads at West Green. Crossing straight over follow the footpath through the trees in the direction of Phoenix Green - notice the number of dead or dying trees and think about the life cycle that has continued over the centuries. The path eventually meets a junction of pathways in the woods. There is a bench to rest on here.



With the bench behind you walk up the main pathway until it joins the road at West Green House.



Go straight/right across the road and into the field through the gates or over the stiles. As you cross the driveway don't forget to look left towards the house.

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.
For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations*

Psalm 100: 4-5



Follow the track until it turns left then head straight up across the field to walk beside a line of trees keeping them to your left. Go through the wrought iron gate and cross the road to take the track at Damales Bungalow.



Continue down the track, turning left at the hut and then following the footpath diagonally across the open field. As you walk you might wish to think about the parable of the sower and the seed falling on the path, on rocky soil, among the weeds and on the good soil.



Follow the path across the fields and over the Whitewater River. At the junction of the pathways take the right hand path through the gate and continue along the edge of the fields eventually coming to Bartletts Farm. Continue along the drive to join the road and turn right towards the Leather Bottle - take care as you walk along the grass verge.



Passing the Leather Bottle continue along the verge until it opens out at Priors Farm. Cross the Dipley Road and take the footpath back through the woods passing through Pumpkin Patch Nursery as you return to Mattingley Church.

