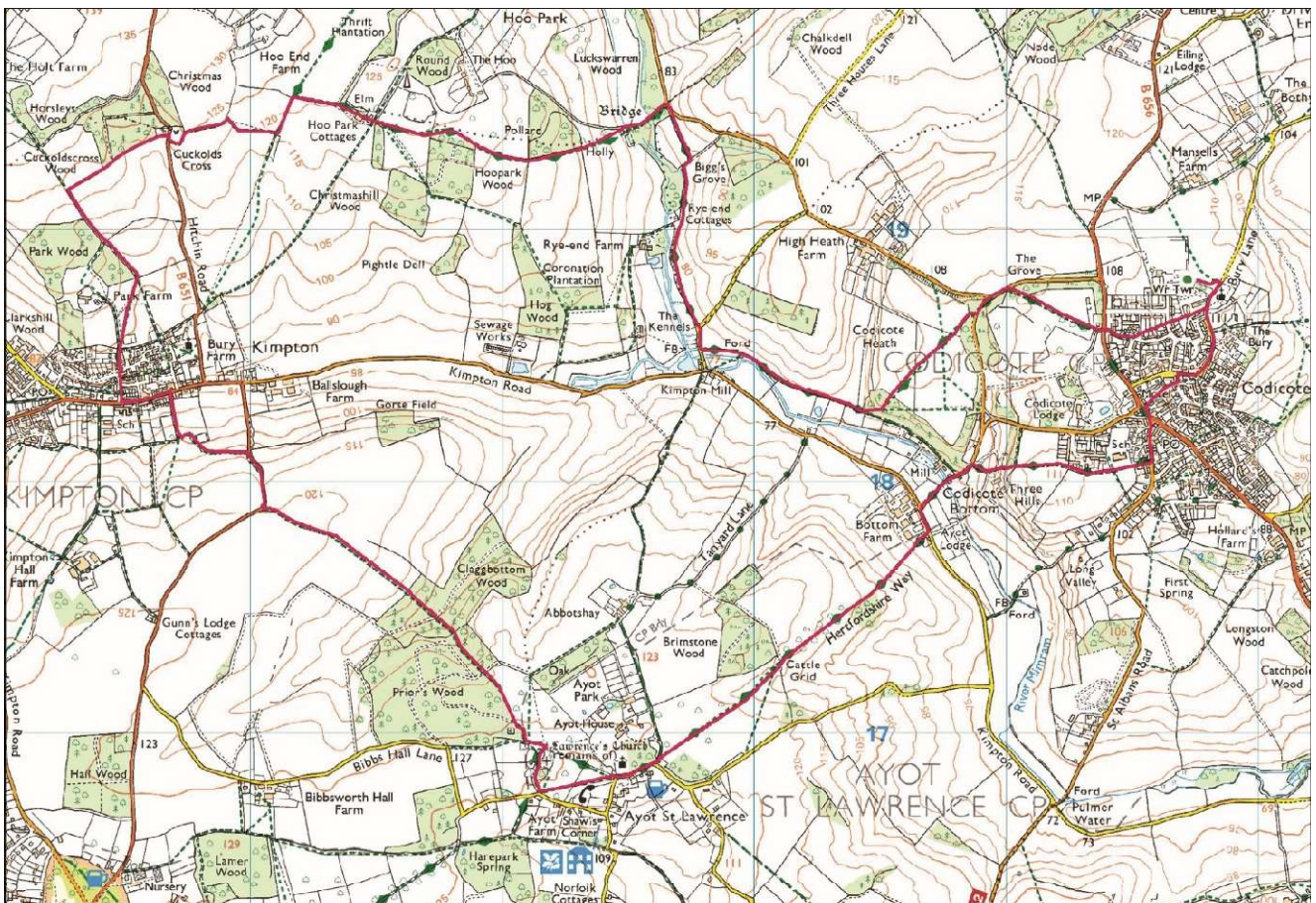


Codicote

A 9 mile circular walk contributed by Roger Bangs

This walk starts on the edge of Codicote at the John Clements Sports Centre where there is a free car park. Grid ref: TL217188. Postcode: SG4 8XY. The sports centre is named after a local teacher, John Clements. He died rescuing school children in a dreadful hotel fire in northern Italy in 1976 and was subsequently awarded the George Cross.

The first part of the walk follows the River Mimram in attractive countryside, full of bluebells in the spring. It is assumed you will follow the map, being aided by the following information.



Reproduced under OS licence number 100033886

Leave the car park walking back to Bury Lane, turn right then after a short distance turn right again along a footpath that takes you westward through the housing estate. You come to the B656 which is the main road going through Codicote. Cross the road carrying on across a field in a north west direction. When you reach the next lane, go left and left again at a forked junction. You will then see on the right a footpath that takes you south west across Codicote Heath to the River Mimram. Now travelling in a north west direction, walk to Kimpton Mill where, turning right, you head northward parallel to the river toward the Hoo Park which had royal connections. When you reach the lane, you then turn left through a new gate which takes you along the estate road to the listed Grade II Bridge.



The bridge is made of Portland stone, red brick core. It is a single-span round arched bridge carrying the East Drive over what was the River Mimram.

After the bridge take the footpath on the left heading westward towards the road at Cuckolds Cross. Cross the road carrying on with the wood on your right. When you meet the next path

turn left heading south to Kimpton. Just before reaching Kimpton you come across open playing fields with many seats; an ideal place for a picnic lunch.



On reaching the main road though Kimpton head left, then take the second footpath on the right heading south. When you reach the road continue south, take the path to Prior's Wood, then on to Ayot St Lawrence. George Bernard Shaw lived here, and you can visit the Bocket Arms.

Now take the north westerly footpath for a mile heading to Codicote Bottom. On reaching the road go left, then right

over the River Mimram. Climb the hill a little, then take the footpath on the right. This takes you east past a new housing development to a road where you go left, heading into the centre of Codicote.

At the High Street B656, cross the road and turn left, past the Bell Motel to reach Bury Lane, which will lead you back to the car park.