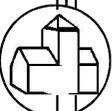
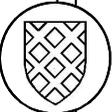


Starting and finishing at The Etchingam Shop opposite the Church.



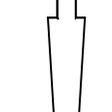
Walk through the village towards Burwash following the pavement on the south side of the High Street (A265)



Cross Oxenbridge Lane (signposted to Robertsbridge) by the ornamental village sign (*erected for the Jubilee in 1977*) and continue past the Village Hall and Old Rectory to a fork where the village ends and the pavement stops.



Take the old road, Borders Lane, to the left, dropping down slightly to follow the side of the Dudwell valley.



After the drive to Broomwood Farm on the right the lane dips and shortly reaches a belt of trees on the left. At this point the original Borders, *one of the oldest buildings in the parish is seen*, the modern farm is on the right. A concrete sign indicates a footpath following the belt of trees. Follow this towards the old house but just short of the house turn through the tree belt over a stile and plank bridge across a ditch.



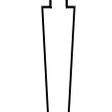
Follow the hedgerow to the right then over a stile and plank bridge by a gate. Turn left and follow hedgerow. Pass under power lines and through a gate and bear right to a gated bridge over the River Dudwell.



Once over the river, follow the hedgerow uphill to a 5-bar gate in hedge on the left (not in front). Pass through the gate and aim half right for a gap in trees and a gate where a farmer's bridge crosses a ditch.

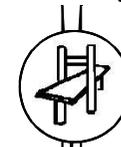


Turn right and go uphill through two fields, keeping woodland on your right. *To the left is a fine view back down the valley to Old Rectory and Etchingam village.*



Go through the muddy gateway to the right of a water trough and the buildings of Hutchings Farm are visible. Keep going uphill through the farmyard and follow the farm drive past Little Fontridge House and onto Fontridge Lane by a post-box. *On a sunny day the tower of Salehurst Church may be seen in the valley to your left.*

Turn right for about 75 yards until road bends sharply to right. At the point of the bend, a path leads into a clump of



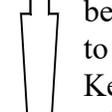
trees and emerges over a stile into a field. Drop down to the far bottom corner and a stiled bridge over a stream.

Cross and bear left parallel with a stream and under power lines until a faint farm track leads you over shoulder of hill and along the side of the buildings of Willard's Hill.

Keep left of these and emerge into the lane at the brow of the hill. Watch out for traffic. A footpath sign immediately opposite leads over a stile and into a field. Follow wall alongside of field for 100 yards.



On the right a gate leads into a field with a wildfowl lake. Take the adjacent stile then follow side of this field down to a footbridge with stiles.



Over the bridge, turn left uphill diagonally across the field which may be sown and slightly left of power lines to a waymarked stile. Keep going diagonally across hillside to a footpath "crossroads" in the trees just below Hackwoods farm buildings and house. Turn left down a sunken lane (may be overgrown and boggy – if so go down the side of the field) to a sequence of bridges.

Etchingam Circular

Walk No 3

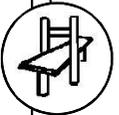
Uphill to Squibs Farm, clearly visible ahead. Pass through farmyard and in front of cottages on far side. Bear left once past end cottage and along top of field. The railway is clearly seen running through the Rother Valley below.



50 yards down from the top of field turn left following the path into a wood (fine bluebells in spring).



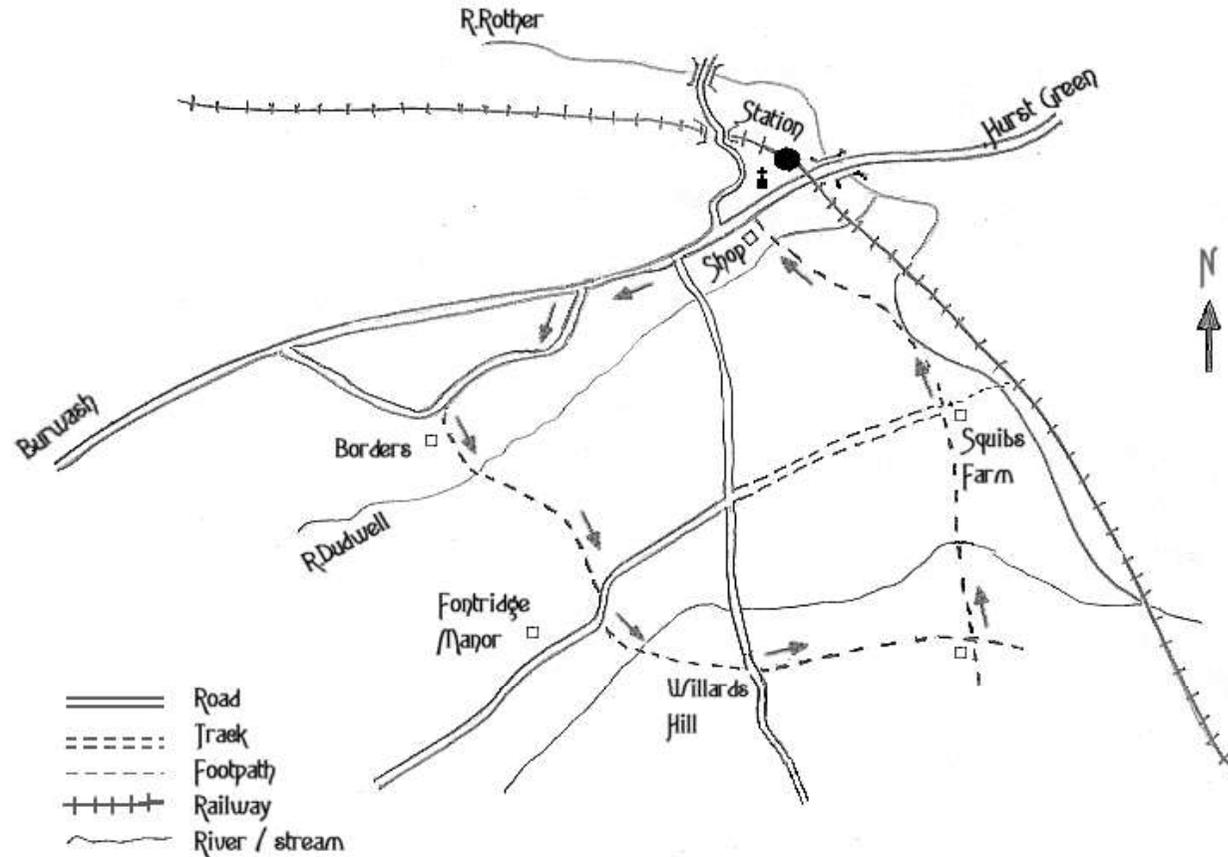
Take this track down through the wood and out over a stile into a field planted with young deciduous trees beside the River Rother.



Keep the river on right across 2 more fields until reaching bridge. Do not cross the river but go over the stile.

Go uphill (roughly parallel to railway) to where two oak trees overlook a pond.

By now, Etchingam Church is in view to give direction so take the stiles to cross Lundsford Farm Drive and down through a 6-bar gate to re-cross the River Dudwell at the rear of the Village Shop.



2 – 2½ hours

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November 2015