

Rambles around the IW

in association with the IW Ramblers



Description: A walk around open countryside in the Wellow area

Distance: 3.6 miles

Start: At bus stop (No. 7, hourly) near post office at the eastern end of Wellow. Limited parking along lane. Possible to park in Wellow Top Lane in a lay by near the farm buildings at point 12.

Access Information: Open countryside with gentle slopes.

Refreshments: Nearest café or pub at Freshwater or Ningwood

Toilets: None

Route: From the bus stop (1) walk to the Post Office sign and go through two 5 bar black gates (2) onto footpath S20 to enter a gravel area. Pass the Post Office which is in a barn building. Take the two steps onto a grass area and then follow the yellow waymark signs through a gate and over two stiles into a vineyard. Go slightly left, following the signs, across the vineyard. Go through a hedge gap and over a stile. Go half left across a field towards a solar farm. Go over a stile and

after a few yards turn left at a path junction (3).

Just beyond a line of trees (4), turn right onto a green unmarked path – this is a permissive path which follows the old railway. Head towards the solar farm and follow the path over a wooden bridge. Go left onto a track which continues between the two solar farm installations and go ahead on the tree lined track. Ignore the signed path S7 (to the right) and continue on a further 60 yards and then take the left path (5). Go through a metal bridlegate and across a short field to another bridlegate. Follow the path with a hedge on the left to another bridlegate. Continue on this path which swings to the right following the edge of the field. Pass near a telegraph pole and then go left onto a path with a hedge on the right. Go through a bridlegate to reach a road (6).

Go left along the lane and pass Wellow Baptist Church. Turn right onto footpath S18 (7). Follow the path over a field, through a hedge gap and over a footbridge. The path continues across open countryside, gradually rising, and the downs come into view. At wooden and metal posts, marking a

crossing track (8) - here there are panoramic views looking north to the Solent and south to Afton Down and west to Tennyson Down.

Turn left and follow the path to a line of trees. Find a gap in the hedge line which leads to a stile and footbridge. Follow the path with a hedge on the left. Then continue across a large open field to reach a stile with a crossing path (9). Take the green path left to marker pole with large white circle (10). Follow the path as it goes left across a field. At another marker pole (11) take the path right which continues to farm buildings and a lane (12).

Turn right onto the lane and then go left onto a public footpath which follows the outside edge of gardens. Go across a field which leads to the road opposite the post office. Turn right to reach the bus stop.

GPS Users: Waypoints for this walk can be found at our web site: <http://www.iowramblers.com/page5.htm>. All walks in this series can be downloaded from this website.

Around Wellow

