

This walk can be enjoyed either by starting from the Full Moon, section 1 or the White Lion, section 9. Shorter walks from either pub are also indicated.

1 Starting from the Full Moon turn left and go along the road to cross Rays Hill. Continue on the left along Cholesbury Common where you will notice a number of interesting buildings (see overleaf). Further along is Cholesbury Village Hall, with access on its left to Cholesbury Hillfort (see Walk No. 1). The house next to the hall, hidden behind a tall hedge, is The Old Manor House (see overleaf).

2 Follow Cholesbury Lane past Sandpit Hill Cottages, built in the 1960s. Walk down the road, being aware of traffic, and at the left-hand bend, turn off right over the stile. Follow the footpath up the right side of the field and through the gateway. Veer left to take the path leading to a kissing gate. Beyond this, go diagonally to the top left corner of the field to another kissing gate. To the right, the 18th century house The Potteries recalls the industry of that time. Now bear slightly right and into scrubby woodland. The uneven path winds past a row of silver birch to emerge opposite Chiltern Motors. Cross the road and go down by the side of the garage to the corner of a large field, once two fields known as Stoney Close and Strive Acre, suggesting they presented something of a challenge.

For the shorter walk back to the Full Moon, turn left here, continue at 11.

3 Climb up the field, heading slightly away from the conifer plantation to reach a road, Oak Lane. Turn right and on the right-hand bend cross the road, entering Widow Croft Wood via a stile. After a short distance along a broad track take the footpath which veers off to the right. Follow the arrows on trees, ignoring paths to left and right. On reaching the far corner of the wood, stay inside the wood and turn sharp left along the path which enters from the right at this point. Keep straight ahead and close to the wood edge on the right before emerging to face a wire fence.



4 Turn left, noticing evidence of digging for the local brick-making industry. Cross a track and follow the path through the broad ride with hardwood saplings and shrubs on either side. In season listen for the cuckoo and look for cowslips and butterflies. At a hawthorn hedge, cross the stile to a field and go straight ahead towards Newsets Wood, full of bluebells in spring and later, wild raspberries. Follow the path, which meanders through trees and exit onto a bridleway.

5 Bear right along the bridleway, the parish boundary with Chartridge. Very soon go through a gap in the hedge and continue with the hedge to the left. Ignore the track off to the right and another to the left and continue straight ahead and steeply downhill. At the bottom pass through a gap and continue uphill with the hedge on the right. There are views over to Chesham in the distance before the track again descends steeply to a dark narrow tarmac lane where the three parishes of Chartridge, The Lee and Cholesbury-cum-St Leonards meet.

6 This is Arrewig Lane (see overleaf). Turn right, along the lane following the parish boundary and, after a climb eventually reach Arrewig Farm, originally known as Browne's Farm. Just beyond the house go over the stile on the right and follow the hedge-line down the field towards Cindry Bottom Wood. From early summer listen for skylarks above, crickets and grasshoppers below.

7 On entering the wood turn left and ignoring crossing paths keep going straight ahead for some distance. The path begins to gently ascend and the wood narrows, with fields visible on either side through the trees. At an old chalk-pit on the right the path splits. Follow arrows on trees, first slightly right uphill and then, part way up, left along the path over a fallen log. This is Stonehill Wood. After some distance there is a 4-way cross-path post.

8 Turn sharp right. This narrow path winds uphill through a plantation of young trees - beware of old stumps underfoot. On reaching the mature woodland, arrows on trees direct you diagonally across an old grassy track and bearing left down to a wide track and bridleway, known as Broad Street Lane (see overleaf). Turn right and follow the lane, noting evidence of old hedge-laying. After some distance the lane bends left

and uphill, becoming The Green, and eventually meets a concrete drive joining from the right. Straight ahead are gates with a gap to the left. Beyond this on the right is the drawbridge to Dundridge Manor (see overleaf). Continue along the avenue of 100-year-old beech trees and take the right fork onto Oak Lane.

For the Full Moon continue at 10. To return to the White Lion take the left fork and retrace your steps.

9 Starting from the White Lion turn left and go down the road to the junction. Turn right into Oak Lane and walk along the verge to pass both sets of brick entrance pillars to Dundridge Manor.

10 Cross the road and almost immediately go over the stile on the left. Cross the field diagonally right. At the next double fence there are two stiles to cross into a paddock. Bearing left the path cuts a corner to a further stile and beyond this descends diagonally to a stile at the corner of the field. Continue between hedge and fence to a gap through the hedge with a plantation of conifers stretching up to the right.

For the shorter walk back to the White Lion, turn right here and continue at 3.

11 To continue on to the Full Moon, go straight ahead with the hedge on the left. A gap gives access to another field. Just before the stile notice the pit, in the trees known as Dell Wood, dug for the extraction of sand for brick-making. The next field was known in the 1800s as Switzers. Look for the windmill on the skyline ahead, and follow the post and wire fences on the left to cross three further stiles. The last meadow, called Kiln Field, hints at the local industry. All the fields in this area were formerly part of the Braziers End estate (see overleaf).

Make for a further stile by the large barn and one more stile leads to the bottom of Rays Hill.

12 Cross the road, and take the metalled track almost opposite. This wooded area, Rays Common, is part of the larger Hawridge and Cholesbury Commons. Go past the cottage, gardens and old chicken sheds. The tall hedge on the right is the boundary with Chartridge parish and is at least 300 years old. Follow the path along the edge of the field and, ignoring the path into the wood, skirt the outside of the trees continuing almost to the corner.

13 Just before reaching the pair of stiles, turn sharp left along a path coming from the woods on the right. After a few yards pass a power line pole and go over a stile to climb the right side of the field, noting another view of the windmill to the left. At the top of this field, Hither Baldwins, turn left to proceed to a stile leading to the next field, Further Baldwins. Keep straight ahead and about half way along the hedge, find a stile on the right which gives access to a grass strip. Go straight on between hedge and wire fence to the end and turn left into a paddock. Leave by a gate in the hedge opposite to arrive in the garden of the Full Moon.

To return to the White Lion, continue at 1.

Note: Numbered Sections refer to numbers on the map. Parts of this walk can be muddy at certain times of the year. Apart from a few short steep ascents and descents this walk is across undulating fields and through woods. There are a number of stiles to be negotiated. Please keep dogs under control.