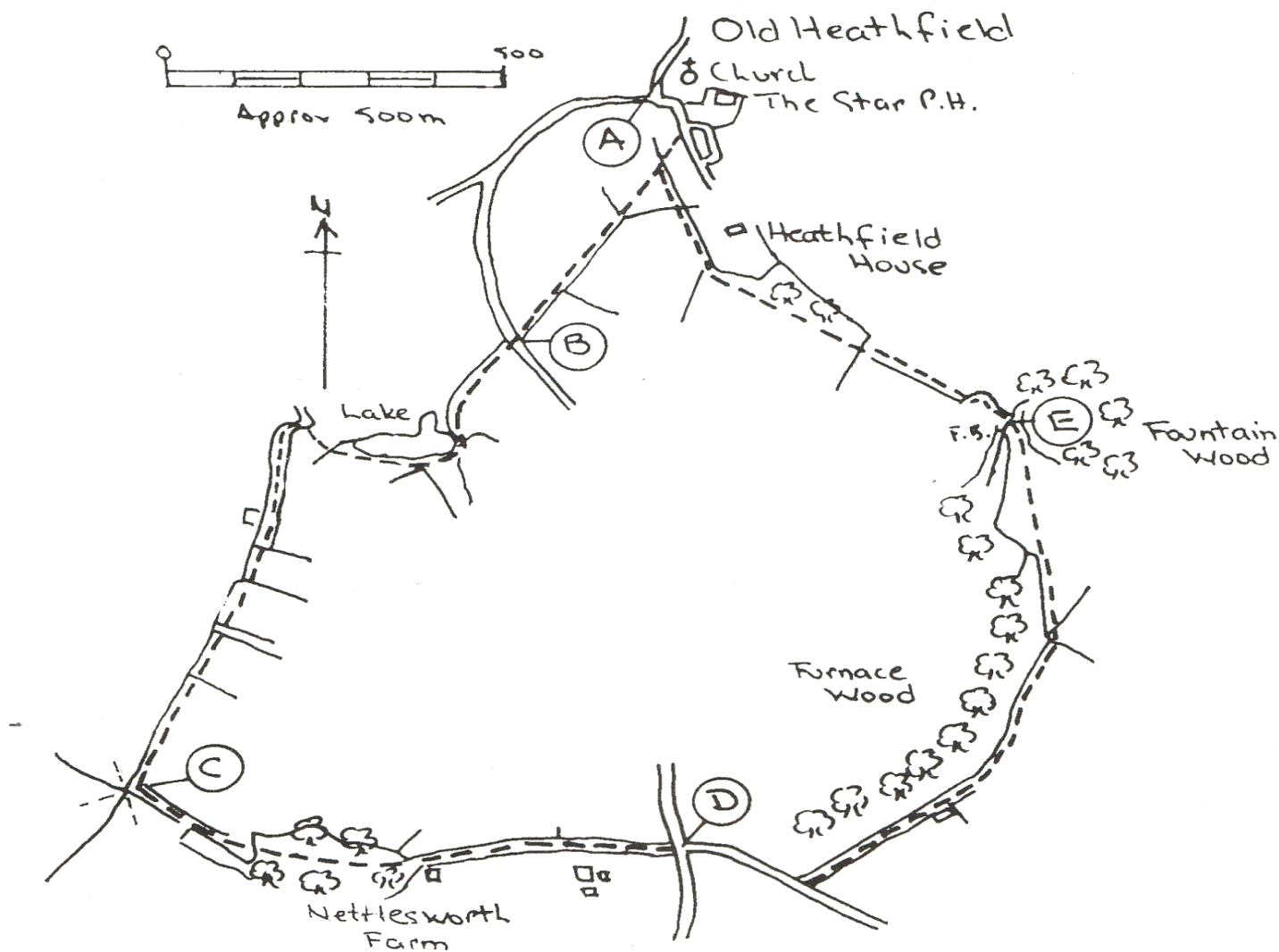


Walk No. 8

OLD HEATHFIELD, TWISSELLS MILL, NETTLESWORTH (5Km)

Starting at Old Heathfield Church, parking is possible in School Hill. This walk can be a little difficult in the wet season as part is along a bridlepath.



Walk no 8

Old Heathfield, Twissells Mill (5km)

A. Once through the lych Gate follow the gravel path to the left around the church to the porch. Follow path down the lane at the side of the "Star Inn". Keep forward 60 metres to Highland Cottage on the left. Opposite the cottage, on the right, is a footpath

marker. Follow this path across a small area of grass and road (which leads to Heathfield House) then through the iron kissing gate. The footpath sign shows two paths. Ignore the left-hand path; this is where you return at the end of the walk. Follow the right-hand path downhill across the field to a stile. Continue along the edge of the next field with the hedge on your left to reach the road. Cross over.

B. Look for stone footpath marker. Follow the tree lined path. This will lead to a gate which crosses a track (access to private house with two five bar gates). Follow footpath waymarker on gate post. Keep to the short track running parallel with the house and follow footpath as it weaves to the left then right, skirting the property. This joins with the main track which then leads onto the causeway. Keep the lake to your right until you reach the head of the lake. (To the left are some remains of an old mill which burnt down in the 1930's. "Twissell" is thought to derive from the twin streams which met here, first being mentioned in documents from the 14th Century.) After the causeway keep to the track with the lake on your right (ignoring the path on the left with a farm machinery barn). Depending on season/conditions, the head of the lake can alter in size/be very muddy. Follow path around the head of the lake and ignore the bridge and footpath on the left. Keep forward crossing two water overflow pipes at which point you will see the concrete drive with a footpath sign. Once you have reached the concrete drive turn left uphill passing a house on the right and garage on the left, to a gate and stile. View of Old Heathfield Church. Follow this track through a couple of fields with stiles and a bridge. Keep forward ignoring stiles to the right and a four-way footpath sign, until you reach the five-way wooden footpath sign: go left

C. Keep forward on this path with a stile through fields and then into woodland. The path meanders through Spring Wood (bluebells when in season) and into a field with stile. Follow clear track across fields to Nettlesworth Place. Go around five bar gate and join short track which passes Nettlesworth Cottage on right. The track then joins the main drive to Nettlesworth Place on the right. Cross the Vines Cross Road into Furnace Lane.

D. After 300m (having crossed a bridge) turn left onto a farm access track (opposite large entrance gates for a residential house). Follow track up gentle incline past farmhouse on the right until you reach a gate with stile. Cross stile into field keeping Furnace Wood on your left. Continue to next stile keeping Furnace Wood to the left. Keeping to the left of the field you will reach the brow. There is a large open area in the hedge with a footpath sign. Cross this field, going diagonally left and downhill. This track joins a track on the right, leading to the bridge.

E. Follow track uphill. At the way marked path, turn right and pass an electricity pole on your left. Old Heathfield church is now in view. Follow path uphill with hedge on left. At the top of the field look to the left across the farm drive. Once through the gate, follow enclosed path with hedges on the right along two fields with gates. At the next gate you reach an open field. Follow path to the right in the direction of the iron kissing gate (at the start of the walk). Follow way marker and cross the drive and grass diagonally to a stile and emerge on to the road opposite Highland Cottage. Walk along the road toward the "Star Inn" which you pass on the right and forward to Old Heathfield Church.