

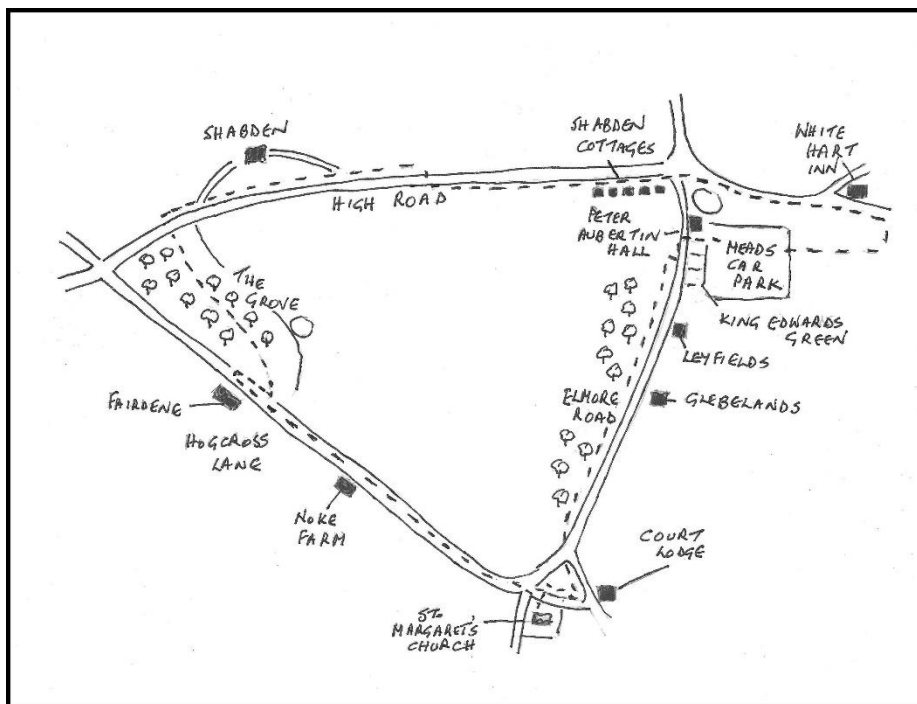


# Historical Chipstead walks

## 3. Inner Circuit to St. Margaret's Church

### Overview

The walk is about one and a half miles long. It follows a triangular route from the Meads Car Park to St. Margaret's Church, then along Hogcross Lane and back along the High Road.



Directions	History
Start at the Meads Car Park and take the path between King Edward's Green and the Peter Aubertin (PA) Hall.	The Hall opened in 1906 as a Sunday school and centre for parish activities; paid for by the sister of the Rev. Peter Aubertin the Younger in the memory of her father and brother. King Edward's Green was bought by the village in 1911 to commemorate Edward VII.
Cross Elmore Road and turn left. After about 20 yards enter the wooded area known as Embers Shaw through a gate. Follow the Millennium Path parallel to Elmore Road about 700 yards until you reach Church Green.	The path was opened in 2003 to provide a safe walk to the church. Walking along it allows you to catch glimpses of Leyfields, an old farmhouse that dates from about 1600 and Gleblelands, built in 1902 as a replacement for the Old Rectory (which prior to then was two miles away in Mugswell).

<p>Cross Church Green alongside Elmore Road until you reach the point opposite Court Lodge and look at the stone at the foot of the oak tree commemorating bomb damage in 1944. Double back to the War Memorial designed by W Scott-Willey and enter the churchyard to find the tombs of Edward Banks, and prominent Chipstead families including the Walpoles, Littles and Tattersalls.</p>	<p>Church Green was the original site of a Saxon livestock market that gave its name to Chipstead (or Tepestede) which meant 'market on the hill'. Court Lodge dates from the Tudor period and may be even older - it is possible that this was the site of the medieval manor court. Some of the walls of St. Margaret's Church are Norman and the oldest bit is probably the north doorway. It was enlarged around 1200 when the tower was added. It fell into disrepair and much restoration work was undertaken in Victorian times by Peter Aubertin the Elder.</p>
<p>Cross the road and walk about 700 yards along Hogcross Lane until you reach Fairdene. Double back 100 yards and enter the wooded area, known as The Grove, through a metal gate on the left.</p>	<p>About half-way along Hogcross you pass Noke Farm which may be on the site of the second medieval manor owned by Chertsey Abbey. The building that was called Pirbright Manor was renamed as Fairdene when it was used as a girls' boarding school between 1941 and 1984. Fairdene's central red brick section dates from the 1600s – the rest is Victorian.</p>
<p>Follow the path through The Grove for about 600 yards until you reach another metal gate on the High Road.</p>	<p>This ancient woodland is owned by the CVPS. The path is known as the Coffin Path as it was used by residents of Mugswell to transport the dead to St. Margaret's Church.</p>
<p>Turn right and follow the High Road passing Shabden, the entrance to Shabden Farm and Shabden Cottages.</p>	<p>There had been a settlement at Shabden since at least 1253. A splendid Georgian House was transformed to its current French Renaissance style in 1873. Later it was owned by Lord Marshall who entertained royalty at shooting parties there. On Lord Marshall's death in 1936 it was acquired by Surrey CC and it was used as a geriatric hospital for 40 years. In the early 1980s Shabden was sold to a developer and divided into a number of substantial individual dwellings. Number One, Shabden Cottages is the oldest. It housed the village school until the Primary School opened in 1874 and afterwards had a wooden structure in front of it which acted as the village post office. The other Shabden Cottages were constructed between 1871 and 1890 - opposite them is the old village pump house.</p>
<p><b><i>There is an alternative route here. Take the drive to the Cricket Club which narrows to a path with chain fencing that turns to the left behind the Football Club and enters Colin's Field (also owned by the CVPS). Follow the path through the field admiring the variety of different trees and return back to where you originally entered Ember's Shaw.</i></b></p>	<p>There was an inn on The White Hart site from at least 1775 - the current building is late Victorian. The Meads comprises two fields given to the Council in 1964 for use as public open space and playing fields</p>