

2019/09

FRINGFORD SHELSWELL PARK 5.5 miles – 5 stiles

An easy pleasant walk through Hethe and Cottisford, on mainly countryside paths.

Start Butchers Arms, Fringford. Walk ahead across green. Look for dead end road sign, walk to end. There is a metal gate on L which goes across a field. Look for stile into next field and then a gate which leads to the road. Turn R and go a few yards down the road until a footpath sign on L.

Turn R immediately in field and follow hedge to brow where there is a gate on the R. Keep to fence on L and walk to bottom of field and the road.

Footpath comes out on the bridge in Hethe. Cross over to footpath signed Cottisford. Well defined path. Keep straight ahead (do not turn R at hedge but look for gap) which leads straight ahead alongside cultivated field.

At the end of this field go straight ahead across the middle of another cultivated field to bridge with waymark. This path leads into Cottisford via two kissing gates and an iron gate onto road.

Turn R. Follow road to junction on R hand and take it. At next junction (with give way sign) Turn R. Walk down road until next footpath on L and take it.

Go straight ahead with lake on your L and make towards the wood in front of you. Walk thro the wood on a well defined path until you meet the road. A few steps before the road there is a bridleway on the R. Walk to the end along the edge of wood (R). At the road the Lodge Gatehouse is in front of you. Turn L for a few yards along the road. Go through the large iron gates into Shelswell Park passing the big house on the L. (this is a hard track).

At the fence cross over the stile (the gate does open) into next field. Go diagonally R across field, heading to farm buildings ahead. Not sure of the path at this point, needs to be verified with a recce of this bit. Map shows path to the R of the farm buildings ahead.

Walk on to the cattle grid. Turn immediately L and walk along the hedge down the field towards a small copse ahead. Go thro the copse (2 stiles) into the field walking straight ahead through a gate and onto the road. Turn L and take the same stile and field on the left back to Fringford.

