

⑦ Walk through the churchyard and turn right and follow the track through the village of Crowell and into the field.



⑧ At the end of the field with the woods on the left take the footpath through what is locally known as the 'green tunnel'.



⑨ Follow the 'tunnel'.

When you leave the trees turn left onto the footpath and shortly turn right passing through Oakhill housing estate which will take you to the main

Chinnor Road crossing to the pavement opposite.

Follow the pavement towards Chinnor. At the Wheatsheaf pub turn left and take the road down Oakley Lane, at the roundabout continue down Oakley Lane.

At the bottom of the lane, turn right and you're back on the Driftway near where the walk started.

Refreshments can be found at the Inn at Emmington and the Wheatsheaf. Please check for opening times.

Due the ongoing improvements being carried out by the Chiltern Society, Oxfordshire County Council and Chinnor Parish Council, you may find some of the stiles have been replaced by gates.

Chinnor is a large village and civil parish in South Oxfordshire about 4 miles southeast of Thame. The village is a spring line settlement on the Icknield Way below the Chiltern escarpment. The civil parish of Chinnor includes Henton, Emmington, Wainhill and Chinnor Hill. The 2011 Census recorded the parish's population as 5,924.



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**For information** on events, places to eat, accommodation and attractions, visit Chinnor Parish Office (Mon – Thu 9am-1pm) at Chinnor Community Pavilion, Station Road, OX39 4PU. Tel: 01844 353267 or go to [www.chinnorparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.chinnorparishcouncil.co.uk).

This leaflet has been produced by Greening Chinnor with the generous support of Chinnor Parish Council and South Oxfordshire District Council.



# Chinnor

## OXFORDSHIRE

### PARISH WALK **4** 4a, 4b



## Chinnor, Sydenham & Crowell

A delightful flat circular walk against the background of the Chiltern escarpment.

Approximately 4.5 miles.

**Start of walk:** This walk starts at the roundabout where Mill Lane meets Estover Way. Walk down Mill Lane towards the Driftway track. Directly after the Driftway housing estate on the right, take the footpath that runs alongside the estate

❶ After passing the houses you will come into a field hedged on the left with walnut trees, dog roses and elderflower.



❷ Follow the footpath to your left which crosses over a bridge and through a kissing gate into a field. Then take the footpath in the

field towards the pylon to the stile in the hedgerow opposite.

At the corner of the field, cross the 2 stiles and follow the path along the hedge.

Follow the line of the path towards the field with the hedge and ash trees on the right. Cross the stile and head to your left across the field.

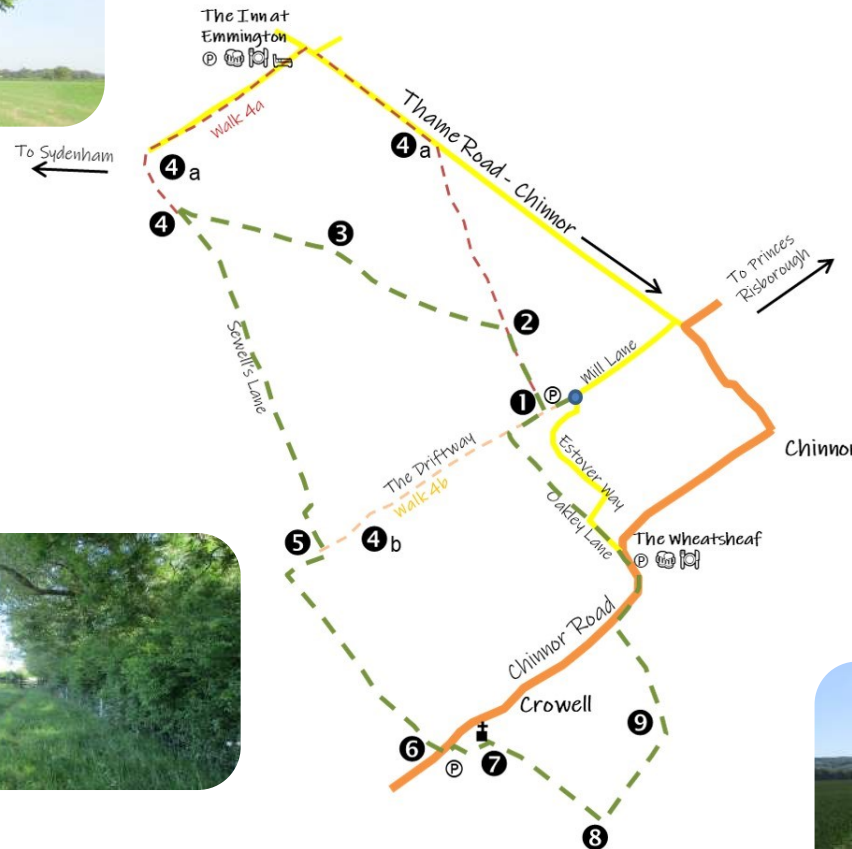


Keep dogs on leads at all times as these fields often contain livestock.

❸ It looks like the footpath heads right alongside the field by the hedge but in fact goes diagonally across the field towards the corner of the hedge in front of you towards Sydenham in the distance.

At the hedge on the corner of the footpath, carry on across the track and you'll see another diagonal footpath across the field towards the trees ahead.

❹ Emerging from the field you'll find yourself on Sewell's Lane. This junction is about 1.3 miles into the walk.



There are two options for your walk here.

**Walk 4a:** turn right and walk into Sydenham. Turn right again toward the main Thame Road passing the Inn at Emmington and walk back towards Chinnor. Shortly take the footpath on the right which will bring you back to the start of the walk at Mill Lane.

Or **Walk 4** which is the main route, turn left and walk up Sewell's Lane which is an ancient bridleway between Sydenham, Chinnor and Crowell.

The bridleway is deeply rutted and uneven and can be extremely muddy in winter.



Follow the bridleway through the tree canopy and take a moment to enjoy the birdsong and watch the Red Kites. The route is lined by elm, beech, ash, oak, elder and blackthorn trees. Take care as the path narrows and can be overgrown.

You will come to a bridge crossing a small stream. In the past, this stream was used for growing watercress but there is little evidence of it now.

❺ Coming out of Sewell's Lane you will meet the Driftway where you have the opportunity of two different walks.

**Walk 4b:** You can turn left along the Driftway and carry on for about half a mile which will take you back to the bottom of Mill Lane, and the beginning of the walk.

For the main route turn right onto the Driftway and shortly take the next footpath left towards the houses.

Enjoy the lovely views of the Chilterns with the view of Stokenchurch communication tower on your right.



❻ Walk towards the B4009, the main Chinnor Road turn left and slightly ahead of you across the road you will see a footpath that takes you around the back of Crowell Church and churchyard.

Take time to explore as some of the gravestones are very old.