

The Countryside Code

Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs

Even when going out locally, it's best to get the latest information about where and when you can go. For example, your rights to go onto some areas of open land may be restricted while work is carried out for safety reasons, or during breeding seasons. Follow advice and local signs, and be prepared for the unexpected.

Consider other people

Showing consideration and respect for other people makes the countryside a pleasant environment for everyone – at home, at work and at leisure.

Leave gates and property as you find them

Please respect the working life of the countryside, as our actions can affect people's livelihoods, our heritage, and the safety and welfare of animals and ourselves.

Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home

We have a responsibility to protect our countryside now and for future generations, so make sure you don't harm animals, birds, plants or trees.

Keep dogs under close control

The countryside is a great place to exercise dogs, but it's every owner's duty to make sure their dog is not a danger or nuisance to farm animals, wildlife or other people.

More at: www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk

Footpath Society

Abbots Bromley & District Footpath Society lead walks each month which are open to anyone to join. Most of these are circular walks starting and ending at the Butter Cross.

Further information and contact details can be found on the Abbots Bromley village web pages at:

www.abbotsbromley.com/walks

Additional copies of this leaflet and the associated GPS data can also be downloaded from these pages.

This is one of a group of circular walks starting and ending in Abbots Bromley and which vary in length from three to six and a half miles (five to ten and a half kilometres).

Acknowledgements

This leaflet has been published by Abbots Bromley Parish Council and the Abbots Bromley & District Footpath Society with grants from the Staffordshire County Council Community Paths Initiative. It is based on the 1993 walk revised and updated.

While every effort has been made to ensure that the details provided in this publication are correct, the publishers regret that they cannot be held responsible for errors or omissions.

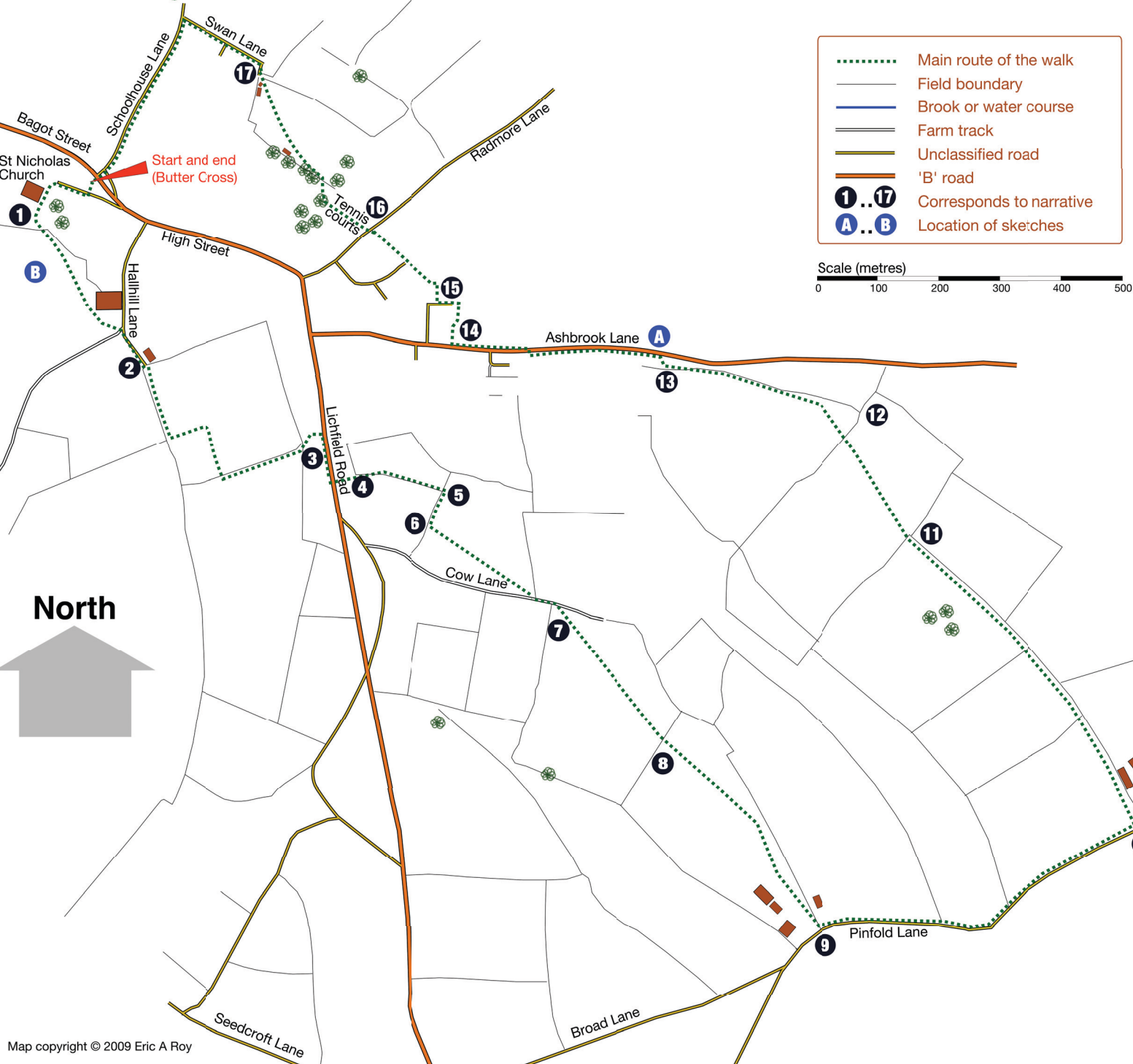
Thanks to WT Richards for allowing use of the aerial image of Abbots Bromley village and surroundings taken in 2005, and to Roger Jarman for permission to reproduce the sketches by Helen Jarman showing Ash Brook and St Nicholas Church.

Abbots Bromley Circular Walk 4: Pinfold Lane and Schoolhouse Lane

Walk information

Distance:	Approximately 3 miles (4.8 km)
Ascent:	50 metres
Terrain:	Mixture of roads, paths and potentially muddy fields with some stiles
Start/end:	Butter Cross, Market Place, Abbots Bromley (SK 0804 2458, WS15 3BP)
Parking:	There is limited free parking on and off road in the Market Place
OS Maps:	Explorer sheet 244: Cannock Chase and Chasewater Landranger sheet 128: Derby and Burton upon Trent
Revised:	July 2009

Abbots Bromley Circular Walk 4: Pinfold Lane and Schoolhouse Lane



A

Ash Brook



B

St Nicholas Church



Walk 4 start...

From the Butter Cross walk down the slope in front of The Goat, turn right and go ahead through the lych-gate into the churchyard.



Go immediately left following the path that runs parallel to the wall and hedge, to reach a stile tucked away in the churchyard behind the vicarage (1).



Stile tucked away in the churchyard behind the vicarage

Go over the stile and left up the hill, keeping just to the right of the farm buildings. Just past the buildings, cross a stile in the hedge and straight on up the short track to



Straight on up a short track to a pair of houses



View across the Trent valley to Cannock Chase

another stile in front of the second of a pair of semi-detached houses (2).

To the right is a view across the Trent valley with Cannock Chase behind. Four towers and the chimney of the Rugeley power station are visible in the middle distance. The first power station on the site was commissioned in 1963 and took coal direct from the Lea Hall colliery. After closure of the mine, the eight cooling towers of Rugeley "A" were demolished in the late 1990s. The current coal-fired Rugeley "B" receives fuel by rail and generates 1Mw. In 2008 a flue gas desulphurisation plant was added to reduce pollution.

Walk 150m along the hedge on the right to a marker post and turn left for approximately 65m then right for a similar distance to a wicket gate. Passing through the gate, turn left and follow the boundary round to a kiss-



Follow the boundary round to a kissing gate

ing gate in the corner. The gate leads onto a path between the houses (3) to reach Lichfield Road where you go right.

Continue a short distance along Lichfield Road until you are within a few metres of the signs marking the end of the 30mph speed restriction. You will be passing in front of a farm now converted into dwellings. Opposite this look for a stile on the right hand side of a garden.

Cross the stile and walk towards a field reached by a second stile (4). Continue straight on, along the hedge, over a further stile (5) and immediately right to follow the hedge for about 100m (6). Now turn half left to walk roughly south-east to the far right hand corner of the



Towards the far right corner of the field

field. Turn left along the wide, usually muddy, track to the end of the right hand hedge where there is a stile in the corner of the field (7).

Go over the stile and immediately turn half left and make for the opposite hedge to a stile (8) in the middle of the hedge and in line with the house with a chimney at each end of its roof.



Stile in opposite hedge in line with house

Walk 4 continued...

Go over this double stile and head for stiles near the left hedge which cross the fences dividing this large field into smaller plots. A final short green track will lead onto Pinfold Lane **(9)**.

The site of The Pinfold is a short distance to the right and is now marked by a rough triangle where Broad Lane joins Pinfold Lane.



Left along Pinfold Lane

Turn left along Pinfold Lane and, after a third of a mile, turn left through a gateway **(10)** immediately before Ashlands Farm and follow the right hand hedge.



Follow the right hand hedge across three fields

Go over the stile in the corner of the third field **(11)** and walk diagonally across to the corner of the next field,



Diagonally across towards barn

aiming towards the barn, 30m in to the left of the corner is a sleeper bridge and stile **(12)**.

Go over this and follow the right hand hedge along to the stile just before a large tree which is very close to the Burton Road and near two garden sheds **(13)**.



Stile just before a large tree

Here there are two gardens which once formed part of the road. Between 1776-1831 the road became a toll road and was made narrower with a stone surface. The resulting surplus land was used as small crofts which survive as gardens today.

Walk left along the Burton Road, (Ashbrook Lane) towards the village, taking great care on the section with no pavement, and, 50m before the large road sign, take the path to the right along the left edge of the bungalow next to Ashbrook House **(14)**.



Path off Ashbrook Lane along left edge of bungalow

Go up the steps, along the pavement, take the footpath on the right between the second bungalow and a house, **(15)** and then follow the left hand hedge beside the houses to Radmore Lane.



Footpath leading to Radmore Lane

Turn left and in 25m turn right, cross the road to the kissing gate **(16)** and walk between the tennis courts. When you reach the trees bear slightly right up the hill to the school playing field. Go diagonally across to another kissing gate in the far corner near the large cricket pavilion **(17)**. Walk left to the end of Swan Lane where you turn left for the Butter Cross.