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From the Chairman

Dear Friends

With the Christmas and New Year festivities behind us, winter is fully established. As I write it is very cold and frosty but bright clear sunshine; the snowdrops are in flower under the willow tree – I should be up on the Ridgeway rather than sitting at my desk.

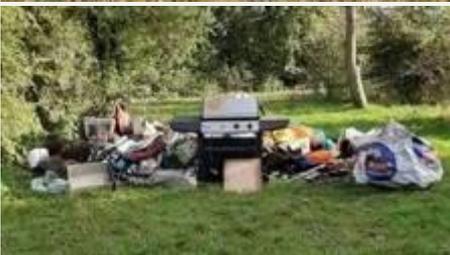
As everyone does at this time of year, the Trustees have also been thinking about our New Year's resolutions and goals for the Friends of the Ridgeway and, of course, the trail itself. Musing on change with regard to our beloved Ridgeway leads to not entirely happy thoughts amongst the exciting possibilities.

In the last Newsletter, I reported on a variety of issues affecting the trail; it is disappointing to report that many of the same issues remain to be resolved with the addition of other reported matters.

Our attention was drawn in 2019 to a seemingly permanent traveller on The Ridgeway National Trail just south of Idstone. He has a large converted lorry, a pick-up van and a small car which he parks on the opposite side of the track. He was previously camped on The Ridgeway above Bishopstone until, we believe, Swindon Borough Council moved him on with the assistance of the Bishopstone Parish Council. The matter was reported to The Ashbury Parish Council, Oxfordshire County Council and the Vale of the White Horse Council; the Parish Council seemed to be ambivalent on the issue; the Oxfordshire County Council Gypsy and Traveller Services investigated and reported that the gentleman who lives in the van on the side of the Ridgeway does not identify himself as a Traveller and he is certainly not a Gypsy. Just an individual, who wishes to live an alternative lifestyle, so would



not fall within their remit. The Vale of the White Horse Council raised our concerns with their Enforcement Team who have begun an investigation into this breach of planning; so far there has been no response to the alleged breach. Police regretted that they could not be of much help. Hence so far the matter is not resolved but will be pursued. His encampment is an eyesore on the Ridgeway and intimidating to walk past.



A not dissimilar issue concerned the Overton Hill Car Park at the beginning of the Ridgeway National Trail. However, it was reported to us by the Fyfield and West Overton Parish Council, whose parish lies at the Overton Hill end of the Ridgeway. A number of people have noted the increasing occupation of the car park by lorries, caravans and cars creating limited parking space for walkers and others who wish to enjoy the landscape; there is concern that these vehicles might become a more permanent feature, although they seem canny around planning law and move on for a few days so as not to contravene any regulations. Having sought advice, we understand that this has been a problem for years. The land is owned by the National Trust who monitor it, as does the tenant farmer of the adjoining fields. The World Heritage Site Officer (of Wiltshire Council) also is involved. The vans belong to the travellers and aged hippies who come to the Avebury area for each of the eight pagan festival days across the year. The travellers usually go away after a week or so. However if there is nothing else exciting for them to move on to they linger longer. The matter has been reported to Wiltshire County Council and is being monitored by the Parish Council and ourselves.

Neither of these issues is resolved at the time of writing but we will continue to pursue them. These activities are simply not permitted uses of the trail and need to be discouraged.

Recently an example of fly tipping was reported by a member. This was at the junction of the Ridgeway with Compton and Lowbury Hill paths. They also reported issues relating to quad bikers in the area but, once again, without evidence there is little we can do.

Damage to the trail was reported, via our web site, at Gramps Hill, Letcombe Bassett and the Wantage/Hungerford road. Apparently the local landowner has had hundreds of tons of treated sewage delivered to three sites using the ridgeway as the access road for large lorries. The delivery damaged the surface of the ridgeway and left it a deep muddy track. Via the Ridgeway Officer, the matter has been raised with the Oxfordshire County Council Rights of Way officer. Whilst it is probable that little can be done to repair the damage until spring, the hope must be that the landowner will reinstate the trail.

These issues are typical of the matters brought to our attention – sometimes directly but increasingly often via our web site contact page at <https://www.ridgewayfriends.org.uk/contact-us/> or via our Facebook page. If you note any issues along the trail please do bring them to our attention, preferably with a full description of the issue and photographs.

Within these issues, there is good news for our much-loved Ridgeway.

One of our Trustees, on a walk along the trail up by the Green Street/Herepath crossing north from Overton Hill, went to see how the restored square dew pond was fairing. He was surprised (and delighted) to see it is being used for a duck pond - whether to increase biodiversity or for duck à l'orange he is not sure. It's hidden away across two fields but worth a detour.



Trial repairs have been carried out on a section of the Ridgway National Trail in the World Heritage Site. A report is given below. Improvements to the path surface are being carried to mitigate against the damage caused by off-roaders. The works Wiltshire County Council are doing look promising and we await information on the outcome of the trials and when works will be done to improve the whole length up to Hackpen Hill.

Also the Ridgeway Partnership is working to establish a riding and cycling route along The Ridgeway National Trail although for some sections this will have to be a parallel route. A news article requesting ideas for cycling and horse riding along The Ridgeway is reproduced below.

Updating of the underlying administration of the Friends of the Ridgeway continues but, for various reasons, more slowly than we would like. You may have noticed some changes to the web site, more are planned but it takes time. Certainly there are many more comments being left on the web site – if you have an opinion on a current Ridgeway issue, please feel free to contact us via the web site. And activity of the Facebook page is slowly increasing – why not take a look? Other updating projects in hand are a new Membership Leaflet and updated logo for the friends of the Ridgeway, along with logos for the Great Chalk Way and Cranbourne link.

For many of us, the Ridgeway is a lot more than a walking trail – it is a historic monument, an archaeological treasure and, certainly for me, an artistic inspiration. This perception led to us establishing the Swire Ridgeway Art Prize. It is now recognised as an annual competition and exhibition and will again be held in 2020. Details are elsewhere in this Newsletter.

However our ability to continue is dependent on recruiting some volunteers to help run and administer the organisation. Volunteers to join the Committee would be most welcome, in particular we would welcome volunteers for the post of Secretary and Treasurer. In addition, we would welcome volunteers to contribute to particular activities, most especially the Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize exhibition. If you value the Ridgeway, please volunteer to make a small contribution of time to help so that we can fulfil our objectives. Please don't hesitate, just email, telephone or write to me and I'll be delighted to hear from you.

With all best wishes
Anthony Burdall



The Secretary's Minute Book

The trustees continue to meet quarterly. Most of the issues from our last meeting are covered elsewhere but below are some other items of interest.



Draft logos by Anna Dillon

We are carrying on the process of updating some of the information to our members. The website continues to be modernised. We are also making progress on a new leaflet and we are working on a new logo; some suggestions are shown opposite – do you have a preference? We are grateful to the generosity of Anna Dillon who has produced the drafts.

For some years there has been an email address for the Friends of the Ridgeway ridgewayfriends@googlemail.com. This address has been closed and hence any messages sent to it will not be received. If members wish to contact the Friends of the Ridgeway they can email the Chairman directly at anthony.burdall@burdall.net or on the comments page on our web site or on our Facebook page.

The Vice Presidents of the Friends of the Ridgeway are the Members of Parliament through whose constituency The Ridgeway National Trail runs. At the recent election, several of these Vice Presidents either retired or lost their seat. We shall be writing to the new MPs inviting them to become Vice Presidents.

The AGM will be on Sunday 19 April 2020 at the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington. The formal notice and agenda will be issued nearer the time. However, several Committee Members will be standing down and we would welcome volunteers to join the committee to allow us to continue our work. Please contact me or Anthony using the contact methods above.

Alan Chater
Secretary

Treasurer's Update

We are now into a new membership year and the sum of £1,068 has been received by way of renewals/donations. Funds at our disposal have now increased to £62,416. This figure includes £10,000 invested with CAF Bank on a one year Bond, earning 1.4% tax free and maturing in September 2020.

Income of £18,439 during 2019 comprised mainly of the Swire arts donation, subscriptions of £2,056 and Gift Aid reclaimed (in respect of 2018) in the sum of £367. A further Gift Aid claim, in the sum of £486, has been made. Expenditure of £7,614 comprised principally of the net cost of the Swire Arts Exhibition and prizegiving £1,867, the annual Report £690, insurance and IT/website support of £614. Net inflow of funds was £10,783.

The above figures will be reflected in the 2019 Annual Report. The total funds now available are made up of the following elements:

Restricted – Great Stones Way	£4,194
Restricted – Ridgeway National Trail	£23,516
Restricted – Swire Arts	£14,977
Unrestricted – General Fund	£19,729

The number of paid up and life/complimentary members ended the year at 479. Of the 140 paid up members from 2019, 97 have renewed so far, via their bank standing orders.

John Edgerton
Treasurer

Friends of the Ridgeway Vale of the White Horse Local Group

Throughout the year, the Friends of the Ridgeway Vale of the White Horse Local Group hold a series of meetings and activities. These include evening talks, guided walks and the like.

The Local Group Chairman, Roger Griffin, has drafted the following letter to all members:

Dear Member

The reason for contacting you is to seek your assistance with the running of the Local Group of Friends of the Ridgeway. I have had the privilege of chairing this group since 2004 and predominately the same team has worked as your Committee since that date.

At our last Committee meeting, there was considerable discussion relating to the future of Vale of the White Horse Local Group. All present had independently come to the conclusion that with the current size of the Committee, it was difficult to continue as a small group, due to the need for resilience and new members are required. Current frequency of Committee meetings is approximately every two months (only when necessary), in addition to supporting an annual programme of 6 guest speaker events, ideally 2 local walking activities and always looking for Speakers on Ridgeway related topics.

The letter is a request to yourselves to consider joining the Local Group Committee. The Group has a good following of regular attendees, we could always use more and with the current charging regime financially sound, with sufficient funds to cover a 2020 speaker programme and the Faringdon Old Town Hall hire.

The Local Group Committee have decided that the meeting held on 24th October would be the last for 2019. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 20th February 2020 followed by the AGM on Thursday 19th March. Sarah Wright the Ridgeway National Trail Project Officer has very kindly agreed to talk to us at that meeting. As indicated, the purpose of this letter is to encourage any Friends of the Ridgeway members to join the Local Group Committee, as both Officers and Members to assist with the continuation of the group.

In the current year we have delivered the following programme of 5 presentations in the Old Town Hall in Faringdon with events held on:

- *21 February. Owen Green, Chair of Oxford Geology Trust. "Legacy and Life of William 'Strata' Smith.*
- *21 March. Sarah Wright, Ridgeway National Trail Project Officer "Latest news from the Ridgeway's Trail Officer".*
- *23 May. Bob Brewer, "The Archaeology of the Lambourn Downs".*
- *19 September. Nicola Cornick, "The Story of Ashbury: A Ridgeway village through 100 years of history."*
- *24 October. Andrew Foley, National Trust Area Ranger "The Work of the National Trust in West Oxfordshire".*

As stated the Local Group Committee would welcome volunteers wishing to join the Committee and help continue work in support of the Ridgeway.

In the event of an insufficiency of additional Committee members, it is a matter of the deepest regret that the Vale of the White Horse Local Group will be closed at the 2020 AGM and any surplus funds passed to the FoR Trustees. We look forward to hearing from you.

Roger Griffin
Chairman, Vale of White Horse Local Group



The Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize 2020

As previously announced, the Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize will again be held in April 2020.

The aim of the competition is to bring The Ridgeway to life not only as a long distance trail but as an artistic inspiration, and to show The Ridgeway, its history and environs, in all their aspects throughout all seasons. The theme of the competition is 'Spirit of the Ridgeway'.

There will be an exhibition of works submitted for the competition as part of the Ridgeway Friends Day. It will be open to the public on Saturday 18 April and Sunday 19 April 2020 in the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington (Broad Street, Uffington, Oxfordshire, SN7 7RA), located in the centre of the beautiful and historic rural village of Uffington in the Vale of the White Horse. In addition, on Saturday 25 April and Sunday 26 April 2020 there will be a second exhibition in the Chilterns in the Church Hall at St Dunstan's Church, Monks Risborough.

The Ridgeway Friends Day will be on Sunday 19 April 2020 which will include our AGM as well as the arts prize giving. and other activities. Definitely a date for the diary – Sunday 19 April 2020. Please do come along.

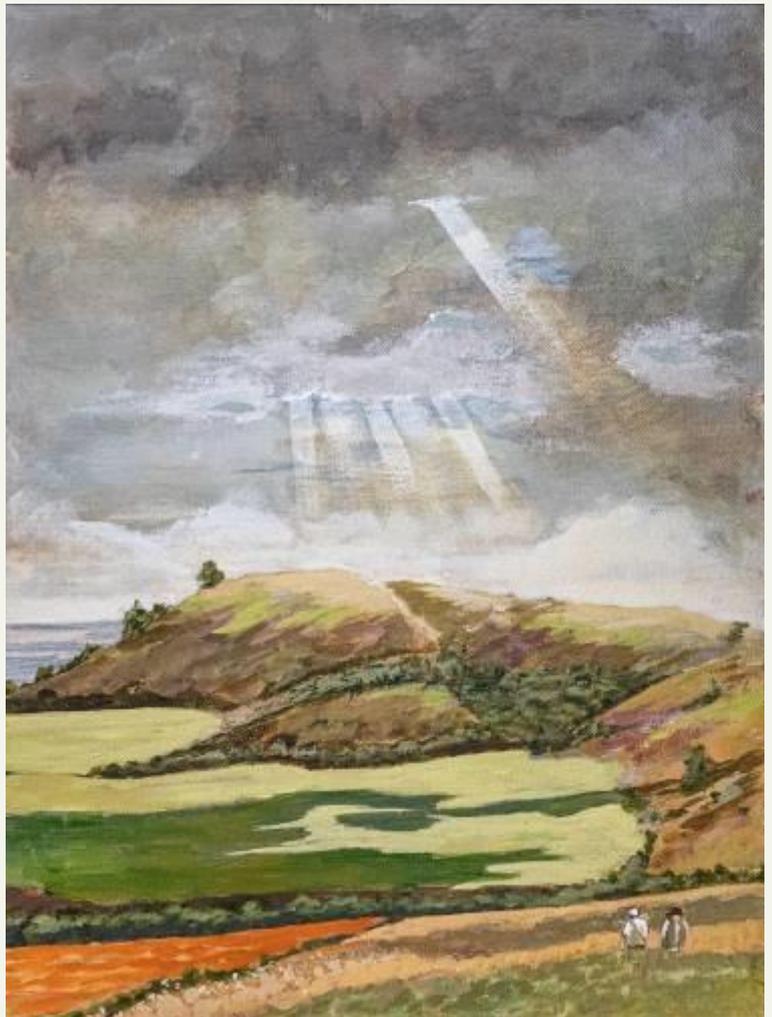
2019 Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize entries

Winning entries for the 2019 Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize were included in a recent Newsletter. But there were many other excellent entries some of which are published below along with images of other entries.

My Path To Joy is made of Chalk

My path to joy is made of chalk:
along its bone-white top I walk
and as its beard-edged spine I tread
I spy the Magic Trees ahead:
adored, adorned, they gather calm,
and shelter pilgrims sad or harmed.
Ribbon-wrapped and scarred by love,
the trees hold fast as crows above
make feather-fingered silhouettes
in joyful, wind-thrown pirouettes.
I'm grounded, granted, heavy boots
gripping to these crocheted roots,
but feel I can, myself, take flight:
I'm almost airborne but not quite.
The chalky graves of shells marine
turn upside-down this landscape scene.
I'm stepping high on old seafloor,
huge monoliths beneath me roar
and frown and grin and float like cloud;
I hear their message dreamed aloud
of joy untapped, of smiles which wait
for me - for me! - beyond the gate.
My path to joy is made of chalk:
I'm soaring now, a happy hawk.

Martine Hazell



Ridgeway Partnership News

On the National Trails web site, the Trail Officer, Sarah Wright, publishes news of the Ridgeway. These stories can be seen at <https://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway/news> Two recent stories are included below.

Careful surface repairs to conserve archaeology

9th September 2019

History permeates The Ridgeway and this history is what a lot of people value most about the Trail. In some areas, The Ridgeway is an 'archaeo-reserve' because archaeology in adjacent fields has been damaged or lost through ploughing or development. The highlight of the Trail's history is the World Heritage Site at the end of The Ridgeway near Avebury in Wiltshire - this landscape is internationally important for its archaeology.

As an historic route way, work to repair or improve the surface of the Trail needs to take into account the archaeological interest. Some surfacing techniques which involve digging and levelling, for example, would damage or obscure archaeological features and artefacts at the surface and below the surface.

In the World Heritage Site, the Trail needs to be repaired because people are complaining that ruts caused by modern vehicles driving along the byway are making it difficult to walk, cycle or horse ride along The Ridgeway. A video has been made to show the damage along the Trail.

Along The Ridgeway byway passing through the World Heritage Site, archaeologists have carried out surveys to confirm the locations of features such as Bronze Age field boundaries within the Trail corridor itself. A number of features cross the track and are not confined to the grass verge. This means repair work to address the ruts caused by modern vehicles driving along the Trail in the World Heritage Site must be done carefully, to ensure archaeology is conserved.



During September 2019, Wiltshire Council is managing a contractor to trial surface repair techniques in 4 trial areas along The Ridgeway in the World Heritage Site. With agreement from landowners, machinery will be taken along the edge of the fields adjacent to the Trail and a 'long arm' will reach over the Trail to deposit chalk precisely into the ruts created by modern vehicles. In-filling the ruts will create a surface that is easier for the public to pass along but retain the 'lumps and bumps' of historic field boundaries, pits, enclosures and ridge and furrow. The trial areas will be cordoned off, with notices on display to ask the public to pass around the trial areas to allow the material to settle into the ruts and grass to establish. There should also be no vehicles to damage the repair work since there is a Traffic Regulation Order in force which makes it illegal for the public to drive 4 wheel vehicles or motorbikes along The Ridgeway in this area.

These trials will inform future work to repair ruts created by modern vehicles in a way which does not have a detrimental impact on archaeology. This future work includes repairs to the full extent of severe ruts in the World Heritage Site. The Friends of the Ridgeway welcome donations of any amount towards this important project.

Your ideas for cycling and horse riding along The Ridgeway

18th November 2019

To help us develop our Ridgeway Riding Route project, the Ridgeway Officer has opened an online survey inviting people to share their ideas.

The survey is at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfccz4ExP4ferbnBeO2d60HC6TURVgds-PrQfpTlbo66NudvA/viewform>

There are 14 questions to gather information about what sorts of improvements could encourage people to enjoy more cycling and horse riding in the Ridgeway area and about people's current use of the Trail. Views from landowners are also important since some may be able to offer to create connecting routes or upgrade footpaths to bridleways. Businesses may be interested in proposing new services for cyclists and horse riders, such as accommodation, cycle repair, refreshments etc.



Particularly welcome are ideas as to how we can cater for riders where the Trail follows footpaths through the Chilterns, and this is addressed by the last question in the survey. Do you know any great riding routes in the following areas?

- 1 Stretch of Ridgeway along Grimm's Ditch and through Ewelme Park and Swyncombe Park (near Wallingford, Oxfordshire).
- 2 Lodge Hill stretch near Bledlow and Saunderton (near Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire).
- 3 Whiteleaf to Wendover stretch (near Princes Risborough and Wendover, Buckinghamshire).
- 4 Short footpath stretch past Chivery (near St Leonards, Buckinghamshire).
- 5 Stretch from Tring Park to Ivinghoe Beacon / Ashridge estate (near Tring, Hertfordshire).

The more people who take part in the survey, the more information we will have to help us shape a project that has lots of benefits for lots of people. Please spread the word about the survey! Thank you.

To find out more about the Ridgeway Riding Route Project and about current riding opportunities along the Trail, please see these news articles:

www.nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway/news/improving-cycling-and-horse-riding-along-ridgeway
www.nationaltrail.co.uk/ridgeway/cycling

Great Chalk Way

As reported previously, we are working with other Associations and well-wishers to create a coast-to-coast recreational walking/riding route, including disabled access, along the line of the ancient Ridgeway braided tracks between Norfolk and Dorset. This is The Great Chalk Way.

Initially we concentrated our efforts on finding a suitable route from Salisbury to Tollard Royal to link the Wessex Ridgeway to the Great Stones Way and Ridgeway and hence onto the Icknield Way and Pedders Way to form the Great Chalk Way. This route makes use of two ancient paths which pass through the Cranborne Chase AONB, the Old Shaftesbury Drove and the Ox Drove to arrive at the scenic viewpoint of Win Green, before dropping down to Tollard Royal on the Wessex Ridgeway, which then continues to Lyme Regis. We have christened this section of the GCW "the Cranborne Link", and its route has been approved by both the Rights of Way and Countryside Department of Wiltshire Council, and by the Cranborne Chase AONB.

Unfortunately it proved impossible to finalise this route and obtain all the necessary approvals as quickly as we had wanted, and further delays to the finalisation of the GCW route as a whole have been caused by our decision to amend its route from Barbury Castle on the Ridgeway National Trail to Salisbury, to ensure that it follows well established long distance paths wherever possible. We remain hopeful of achieving this by the summer of this year.

Tim Lewis
Trustee

Circular pub walks on the Ridgeway

Some years ago, a Friends of the Ridgeway member sent to the then Secretary some walks for publication in the Newsletter. At that time, two of the ten walks were published but the others were left unpublished. Recently they have been sent in again and the third of the unpublished walks is shown below.



Nuffield / Hailey / Checkendon / Stoke Row walk

Chiltern Hills West OS Explorer # 171

Chiltern Society sheet#15 Crowmarsh and Nuffield

CS = Chiltern Society paths

Directions:

- 1 Park in small grassy area beside Holy Trinity Church, Nuffield (SU 667 873) burial place of Lord Nuffield. There is a fresh water supply and coffee/tea inside the church.
- 2 With the church behind you, turn left for 80 yards, now on the Ridgeway and turn left again just past the gates of the " White House" through a kissing gate into a field. Now go straight on with a tree belt on your left and extensive views to the right down to the Oxfordshire Plain .



From Wallingford via A4130 . Pass the " The Crown " pub on your right , then turn sharp right after 1/4 mile into Timbers Lane past Huntercombe golf course . Next right into Nuffield Hill and park beside the church on your left about 300 yards down . There is a new car park on the left just before the church through a gate into a small field .



- 3 At the field end go through a wooden gate to the left of a metal gate and straight on with a waymark for the Ridgeway on the right , gently downhill with trees on both sides . (Chiltern Society paths NU10 then CM19) After 200 yards at a sign marked “ Ridgeway “ turn right to start the descent of Grimms Ditch (CM 34)
- 4 Follow the well marked path along Grimms Ditch for 1¾ miles; there are two kissing gates and two bends which are easy to follow. At the second bend which goes left then right, avoid the 3rd kissing gate, and cross the wood and metal stile to the left of it to find a better path. Continue straight on to a branching track; at the waymark arrow on a tree keep left of this, rather than bearing right .
- 5 After 1/3 mile enter Oaken Copse which has wonderful bluebells in season. A ¼ mile after leaving Oaken Copse at a crossing metalled track, turn left through a metal kissing gate and leave the Ridgeway. After ¼ mile, turn left again towards Woodhouse Farm (two signs). After barns on the right, turn right (CS CM18 then IP 24) up a grassy bank climbing through woodland; continue straight on through plantation and across fields for one mile to reach the village of Hailey .
- 6 At Hailey turn left (CS IP 48) passing the King William IV Public House (new sign with a welcome to walkers and asking them to use the overflow car park). Now climbing up hill to enter Bixmoor Wood after 2/3 mile. Follow the clear path through the wood and, at a branching track, keep left on the path beside a left hand gate marked “private –please keep out”. The path leaves woodland and turns right, straightens then turns left; just before the first house on the right, at a footpath sign, turn right via a wood and metal kissing gate.
- 7 Cross the field downhill half right on a faint grassy track towards the top right hand corner of the field to a wooden stile and metal and wood kissing gate. (CS IP 38) Continue through woodland on a clearly marked path; trees and hedgerow on the left and a barbed wire fence on the right. Cross a stile after 250 yards, now bending left towards another stile, to meet the site of “ Handsmooth House “ (the original house has been bought and demolished by the actor Rowan Atkinson, prior to the building of a an ultra-modern house).
- 8 The path now winds gently downhill to meet a crossing path at a T junction. Now turn left, climbing uphill (CS IP 46) for 1/3 mile to enter woodland at Ipsden Heath. After 300 yards there is a right hand wooden fence; turn right through a gap in the middle marked “ Woodland Trust –Welcome”. Continue through woodland for ¼ mile to meet the Nuffield –Stoke Row Road. Walk along the right hand grass verge and where this road bends to the left, keep straight on a minor road marked to “ Wellplace via quiet lane”.
- 9 Continue on the minor road for 1/3 mile straight across the first junction, then left at the second junction. After ¼ mile , the “ Black Horse “ Public House is on the right. After lunch (rolls etc. –no hot food) turn right out of the pub along to a gate on the left, just as the road goes right. Take the 2nd left path over a stile and across a field (CS SR 14) to a road. Turn left then right on the road into a field on CS SR 19 and follow this path to a belt of woodland and continue on a track, ignoring a path to the left (SR 17) to reach a crossing track. Turn left here reaching School Lane, Stoke Row, with the church on the left. Turn right on the main road to visit the Maharajah’s Well (a gift from the Maharajah of Benares opened in 1864. The well is as deep as twice the height of Nelson’s column. It is topped by a bright gilded Moghul dome).
- 10 Just past the Well and Well Cottage, turn left along a footpath between hedges to meet a lane (Coxes Lane) Turn left for 1/3 mile, past the entrance to Stoke Row Farm, then continue along a green lane for another 1/3 mile. Here turn right over a stile, climbing a field with the paddocks of Oakingham House to the left. At the field’s end, cross a stile and turn left past the house, (with an armorial crest “Tueri et Servire” - protect and serve) for 2/3 mile to reach the Nuffield –Stoke Row road. (CS SR 30)
- 11 Cross the road and continue straight on for ½ mile, past the entrance to Ridgeway Farm and just before the sign for Upper House Farm where the right hand hedge ends, turn right on a crossing path (CS CM 19) towards Ridgeway Farm. At the plastic hedge turn right for 100 yards then cross a stile straight on past metal gates. After 20 yards, as the metal fence ends, turn left, following the clearly marked path towards a field; enter with the hedgerow to your right and continue towards woodland.
- 12 After ¼ mile, you reach the earlier turn to Grimm’s Ditch and Ridgeway. Here continue straight on to Nuffield and the start.



Facebook conversation



The number of people reached via our Facebook page is increasing, albeit slowly from a low base.

A post in the last day or so reached 1,166 people – the most reached by a single post. It was concerning damage to the Ridgeway by lorries delivering treated sewage sludge.

This post clearly struck a chord with followers on Facebook, more than the more usual benign photos and comments.

Comments keep being received (and are very much welcomed) on our web site at <https://www.ridgewayfriends.org.uk/contact-us/>

Join the conversation. Please do let us have your comments. In particular, please report any issues relating to the trail where there is damage.



The Friends of The Ridgeway
Published by Anthony Burdall [?] · Yesterday at 12:33 · 🌐

Damage to the trail has been reported, via our web site, between Gramps Hill, Letcombe Bassett and the Wantage/Hungerford road. Apparently the local landowner has had hundreds of tons of treated sewage delivered to three sites using The Ridgeway as the access road for large lorries. The delivery damaged the surface of the ridgeway and left it a deep muddy track. Hopefully in the spring, the landowner will reinstate the trail.

1,166 People reached **586** Engagements [Boost Post](#)

👍👎👏 11 10 comments 5 shares