

## 6. Over to Wickham Bishops (rev 5) 3 miles

Note that if you walk here in mid to late April, you'll see Moor Gardens woodland floor carpeted with bluebells.

The walk starts beside the sports field at Doe's Corner on the B1019, at the parish boundary with Ulting.

**Caution:** the walk includes some sections of busy roads.

Start from the layby opposite Does and walk towards the wood, skirting the field, along to the hedge on LHS. Go by the plank bridge through the hedge down to Spring Lane, keeping the hedge on your right. Turn left. Good views here across Blackwater Valley to Wickham Bishops. At the bottom of the dip on the left is a tearoom, Peartree Pantry, which is open from 9am to 3.30pm Monday to Saturday throughout the year for breakfasts, lunches, teas and refreshments. Shortly after this, at the start of the drive to Smallands Farm, take the path diagonally across the next field. Cross sleeper bridge and continue diagonally across the next field to the electricity pole.

Cross ditch by plank bridge and go through gap in hedge to river. Cross plank bridge and follow bank all the way to the bridge near Wickham Barn. Turn left. At next junction turn left along Hatfield Road which becomes Spring Lane. On reaching Smallands Farm again, turn right and walk with hedge on your left (*known in earlier times as Gipsy Lane*). At a crossing ditch turn left to Moor Gardens Wood, with the ditch and hedge on your right, crossing stream by plank bridge. Follow the way-marked route through the wood and on emerging into a field walk straight across to Maldon Road. Turn left back to the start.

