

Farm labourers Walk

Take a Walk
5



'Land girls' on Whitehouse Farm



6 If you are taking the first footpath sign, head straight across the field (usually well trodden) from the corner of the cement standing to the left-hand corner of the hedge that borders Woodfield House grounds.

Passing Woodfield House and Farmhouse building on the right follow the Yellow arrows indicating the path crossing their gravel drive. (There is a mass of fern like Mare's Tail, not a common plant, growing along the bank).

7 Cross over the drain at the corner of the Farmhouse hedge and follow it on the left to a footbridge, cross over it and continue beside the brook/drain now on the right, to another footbridge, again cross it.

8 If you have taken the alternative route this is where the two converge. Now footpaths run each side of the brook.

9 You can bare to the left of brook and return to the Gidding Road over a metalled stile and diagonally over the Ridge and Furrow to a stile/bridge to Gidding Road.

9 Alternatively, continue on the right of the brook to a plankbridge on the right (arrowed) and all the while slowly dropping into the village. Cross the track to Wood End Farm buildings on the hilltop (arrowed).

At the village choose from the 3 possible bridges/routes to return to the Green either via Windsor Road, Alwin Close or into the recreational field at St Judith's Lane Car Park.

- ❖ Please remember to take your litter home.
- ❖ Broken plastic and glass can injure or kill living creatures.
- ❖ Please do not let your dogs run freely.
- ❖ Do not throw things into the water courses.
- ❖ Always stay on marked footpaths.
- ❖ On average a person walks 3 miles per hour.
- ❖ Never pick wild flowers.

SAFETY

- ❖ Some parts of the path may be muddy and slippery when wet.
- ❖ Please read the route directions for guidance regarding the suitability of this walk for pushchairs and wheelchairs.
- ❖ When walking along the road, take care. Always walk on the right hand side, towards the oncoming traffic.

Supported by:



Sawtry Parish Council
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A walk through Historic farmland
Approx 7.2km (4½ miles)



In partnership with

Countryside Services
Huntingdonshire
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Welcome to Sawtry - Farm labourers Walk

1 Starting from The Green, head west from the village along Gidding Road passing the Old Mill on the left. This pleasant rural road slowly climbs, and has interesting wide verges and there are usually a variety of birds to watch. Keep to the right of the road facing oncoming traffic.

2 After about 1.5 km, as the road bears left over the railed drain/ditch, a Finger-Board indicates the footpath going nearly straight ahead. Follow this path along the edge of the field with the drain on the left until you reach a footbridge, turn left and cross it... length of one field... drain to left... through the hedge where there is a narrow area of wild life planting on the left, the path continues gently rising until it reaches the drive way to Lodge Farm which is a few metres away on the right.

3 Turn towards it and after about 30 metres cross the drive to go through a very definite gap in the hedge (yellow arrow, Way marked). This well kept path skirts the farm buildings on the right and the open field on the left. Now, extensive views are revealed.

4 At the end of the field is the historic Bullock Road track, turn left into it and follow it (roughly South) continuing on the tarmac, until reaching the foot path sign on the left.

5 Follow the footpath (heading east) and you are now facing the downward return to the village.

5 Alternatively, continue to the second footpath sign, opposite Cold Harbour Farm, turning left towards the village which can be seen from time to time and rejoining the walk at **(8)**.

Retrace the steps of the farm labourers of 'yesteryear' - along this ancient route, where livestock would have been 'driven to market' in the neighbouring towns.

