

## Walk 4: Gt Chesterford

Type: Circular.  
Distance:  $10\frac{1}{4}$  miles.  
Extra Care: Crossing B184; walking by B184 from 509436 to 511433.  
Start: By the entrance to Abington Campsite on Church Lane (531492).

Follow the footpath signposted “Gt Abington  $\frac{1}{2}$ ” which runs beside the campsite to the river. Cross the footbridge into the recreation ground.

Continue walking ahead with the hedgerow close to your right until you reach Gt Abington church.

Go through the gate and follow the track which leads to your left to Abington High Street.

Turn right into Abington High Street. Follow the road until you reach the T-junction with Pampisford Road.

Cross Pampisford Road and follow the footpath signposted “Gt Chesterford  $\frac{1}{4}$ ”. This footpath follows Chalky Road and will take you through what used to be the Land Settlement Association smallholdings. You will pass North Road and South Road to your right. When you leave Chalky Road behind you, keep walking uphill to the footpath which crosses your path at a T (527461).

At this point, turn to look at the view behind you over the gently rolling landscape of south Cambridgeshire. On a bearing of  $68^\circ$  is Linton water tower, the most prominent area landmark. From where you are standing, a short distance to the west is Abington Park Farm.

Turn right and walk towards Abington Park Farm. Approximately 100 yards after passing a terrace of houses on your right, follow the footpath to the left, keeping a hedgerow on your right. After  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile follow the waymarked path to the right and after another 300 yards turn left and follow the footpath to where it meets a private road (523454). Turn right, joining the private road leading past and then away from Park Farm. You will have a line of tall poplar trees on your right.

The private road from Park Farm will become a public road. The road is little used by vehicles; nevertheless, care must be taken. There are grass verges on either side of the road. Follow the road past Dell’s Farm to the B184 (509436).

At the B184 turn left and walk towards Gt Chesterford. The B184 is a busy road. There is no pavement for the first  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile until you meet the junction with Jackson’s Lane on your right. There is, however, a grass verge which must be used.

Cross Jackson’s Lane and walk until you reach the next road junction (513430) which points into Gt Chesterford. Our walk does not go through Gt Chesterford, so now is the time to make a diversion into the village if you want to explore or seek refreshment.

Continue with the walk by turning left from the B184, following the Icknield Way Riders Route also signposted Cow Lane Only and ECC Highways Chipping Bay. You will now be walking on another quiet road. Once again there are grass verges on either side which must be used to avoid traffic.

Follow the road for about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles. You will pass Lt Paddocks Kennels and Cattery on your right. Just past the kennels there is a road junction. Walk straight ahead.

the public road will turn into a private road at the entrance to Crave Hall Farm. Follow the private road and public bridleway past Crave Hall Farm to the gate where the made-up road ends.

Go through the gate and follow the bridleway, walking with hedgerows on either side until you reach a wood (537445). Here, there is a waymark indicating either left or straight ahead. Follow the waymarked Icknield Way straight ahead; this will lead you through a wood. As you emerge from the wood you will have a tall hedgerow immediately on your left and you will be walking parallel to a line of electricity pylons about  $\frac{1}{3}$  mile to your right.

Walk on now between open fields towards a copse ahead of you. Follow the path into the copse. The path will twist left, right, and left past ruined farm buildings. As you leave the ruins turn right and follow the broad path, walking downhill between hedgerows. When you leave the hedgerows, ahead to your right you will see Linton water tower.

After about 200 yards, you will notice a waymark indicating a path to your left. Ignore this and keep walking downhill for a further 300 yards. You will arrive at a junction of paths (543454).

The alternatives are left, straight ahead, and diagonally across the field to your right towards Linton and the water tower. Take the first alternative, to the left, uphill and turning your back on the line of electricity pylons.

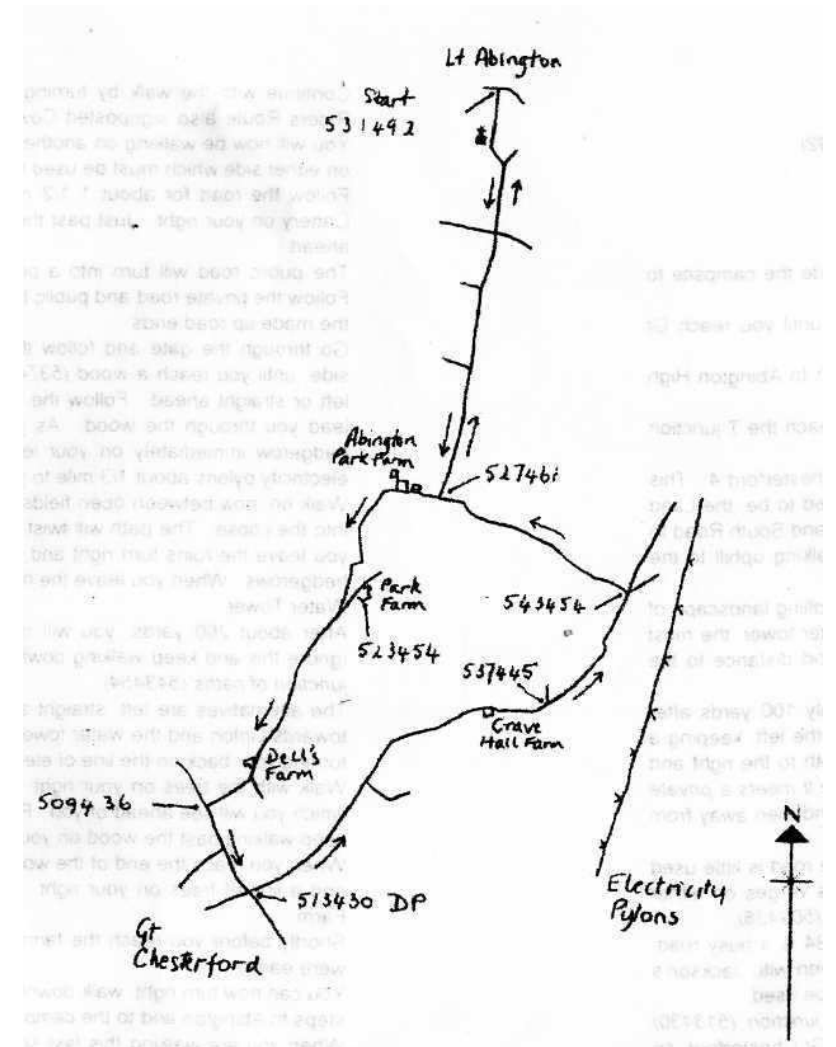
Walk with the trees on your right. Walk until you reach the right-hand end of the wood which you will see ahead of you. Follow the path left for 50 yards, turn right, and keep walking past the wood on your left.

When you reach the end of the wood., follow the path straight ahead, keeping a ditch and a line of trees on your right. You will now be walking towards Abington Park Farm.

Shortly before you reach the farm you will arrive at the point (527461) where you were earlier.

You can now turn right. Walk downhill and, enjoying the view before you, retrace your steps to Abington and to the campsite (531492).

When you are walking this last section of the footpath, you will have the campsite on your right. Please do not be tempted to climb through or over the perimeter fence as you may cause unnecessary damage.



(Not to scale.)