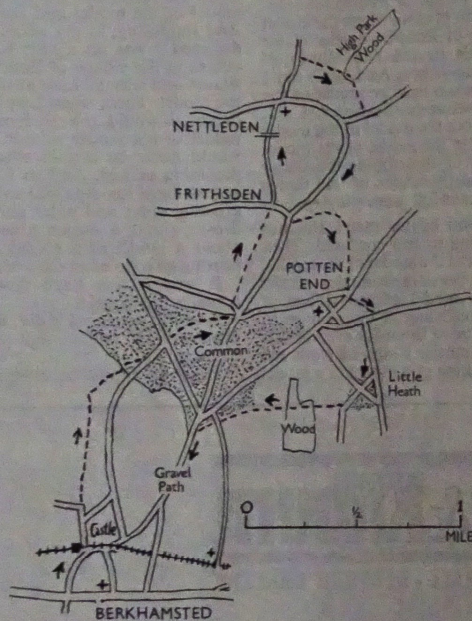


# UP HILL, DOWN DALE TO NETTLEDEN

by Townsman



This is a great year for our smallest village, Nettleden. The parish church of St. Lawrence is celebrating its 500th anniversary with special services, recitals, and other events.

The road to Nettleden is pleasant, but what does one see from a car? Follow this month's route and you will wonder, as I do, why so few people use their legs.

From start to finish this is a splendid walk, with ever-changing scenery: parkland, common, heath, woods, deep-cut lanes and springy fieldpaths. No, not non-stop variety; you will surely halt to admire the views after some short but rather stiffish climbs. Take your camera; there are some nice old houses to photograph at Frithsden, the hamlet with the pub and no church, and at Nettleden, the village with the church and no pub.

Reckon on eight to nine miles if you go all the way. A mile or two may be eliminated by using the road instead of going through High Park Wood. Whatever you do or do not do, be sure to visit Nettleden church and wander round the beautifully kept churchyard.

### THE ROUTE

Go under the bridge by the railway station and along the forward road (Brownlow Road). Keep straight on along the signposted and much-stiled path through the Park. When you come to two adjoining stiles, go over the one on the right and continue up the track, right, farm buildings on your left. Just beyond the farmhouse, leave the track and veer left, going over a stile to enter the Common. In a short distance the path runs into a road; go ahead to the war memorial and again keep straight on, along the signposted bridle path. Where the path divides, about 150 yards beyond the memorial at a cluster of gorse bushes, go right as directed by the 'Bridle Path' sign and keep ahead to a road, in which turn left for a very short distance and then go left again along the 'Private Road'. In about 150 yards, where the road swings left, go right along a track which runs level for some distance and then descends to Frithsden.

Cross the road and keep on in the same direction over the next hill, using a

little lane which rises steeply. At the top there is a fine view over the Golden Valley; you will see Ashridge House above the trees. The descent is between high walls and under a bridge to Nettleden. Turn right in the road, and opposite the church take the road signposted 'Great Gaddesden.' Note the Victorian post-box at the corner.

Ten yards beyond the '1 in 12' sign, go right, hedge on your left, to High Park Wood; go ahead, following a barbed wire fence to a stile and take the downhill path to a road.

You can go ahead along the signposted path directly opposite to Potten End, but as this figured in an earlier route a very pleasant alternative is suggested. First, however, there is half a mile of road walking. Go along the road, right, then left at the fork, and 80 yards beyond the Frithsden turn go through a wooden swing-gate, left up a clear path. As you climb the hill be sure to look back for a fine view of Frithsden. Ahead is a grand view over the Gade Valley. Go through a field-gate and a smaller gate and keep straight on to Potten End.

The quickest way home is by road. I prefer to use the little path which starts on the left side of the large garage; this path soon enters a road, in which turn right and then left along the road signposted 'Bourne End'. At the next fork turn right (signposted 'Berkhamsted') and continue along the road to the end of Little Heath. Opposite a house (Roseheathwood) turn right along a path, hedge on your right. At the end of

the field keep straight on through a wood, descending and then rising steeply to the edge of Berkhamsted Common. Keep on in the same direction, passing houses and a farm on your left, and soon you enter Gravel Path. Turn left for Berkhamsted.

### BERKHAMSTED TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

At the May meeting, Mrs. Pond, Townswomen's Guild introduced Mr. Bennett, a local banker who spoke on 'Decimalisation'. At the conclusion of his talk he said he hoped he had been able to help us, but he had probably left us 'more confused than amused', but judging from the questions asked this was certainly not the case.

Members were thanked for the help given at the Guild's Jumble Sale which had been a great success.

As the Guild will be twenty-one years old next July, members were asked how they would like to celebrate the occasion.

'Something I treasure and why' was the subject of a most interesting competition. Many treasures were produced, some lovely, some exotic, and some almost valueless objects were obviously priceless to their owners. This brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

The next meeting will be on 19th June. Mr. Maurice Godden, a butcher, will speak on 'Know Your Meat'. There will also be a Produce Stall at this meeting.

In the Matter of Charities called the Ecclesiastical Charities of Richard Balshaw and Others in the Ancient Parish of Berkhamsted St. Peter in the County of Hertford.

The Trustees of these Charities give notice that they intend to appoint one additional pensioner of the Charities. Poor persons (either sex) of good character who are members of the Church of England and who are residing in the area of the Ancient Parish of Berkhamsted St. Peter are eligible for appointment. Preference will be given to the applicant who has resided longest in the said area.

Application for appointment must be made in writing to A. B. WESTCOTT at 1 CASTLE HILL AVENUE, BERKHAMSTED on or before 30th June 1970. Every applicant must state his/her name, address, age, and occupation, and must be prepared to produce sufficient testimonials and other evidence of his/her qualifications for appointment, and unless physically disabled, to attend in person.

Clerk to the Trustees.



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