



Walk 5: Scarning and Podmore - 7¼ miles, allow 3 hours

The walk can be shortened to 3¾ or 4¼ miles (1½ or 1¾ hours)



Before starting this walk, please read the general leaflet

1 Leave the market place by passing the cinema on the right, to walk towards High Street and the Dereham sign. Turn right down Church Street: opposite *The Romany Rye*, turn left into a narrow passage signed Queen Mother's Garden. Go through the garden, turning right as you leave, then left along Saint Withburga Lane. Pass the Old Vicarage and Vicarage Meadows on your right, then turn right along Rolling Pin Lane (**Footpath 14**).



Just before Sardis Way on your left, ignore the tarmac path across the meadow, then turn right down the path alongside the school fence. Follow the school fence to its end, then keep ahead to cross the former *Lynn and Dereham Railway* line and join and walk up Johnson Close. *Note the metal fingerpost here - one of the last three in Dereham.*

2 Turn right into Waples Way and walk to the end and across the grass, bearing left to follow the path by the stream and then through the trees to the A47. Cross the road, slightly to the right, **!!! taking care: traffic moves fast here** and join **Footpath 14a** on the far side. Follow the path, with *Potters Fen* on your left, keeping ahead where it crosses the stream with *Scarning Fen* on your right. At the end, turn right along Stone Road (crossing the parish boundary into Scarning as you do). **!** There is no footway here, though there is a verge to walk on in places. Follow the road round a right then a left hand bend; **!!! take particular care 200 yards further on as the road narrows as it follows a gentle left hand bend.**



Continue ahead past the left and right turns, to reach a T-junction opposite Manor Farm Riding School. *For a shorter walk, turn right here, cross the A47 (with care!) and continue on the other side to reach the old A47 and rejoin the main route just after point 5.* Turn left and follow the road for about ½ mile, then, as the road goes right, take the track to your left - Green Lane: this is **Scarning Byway Open to All Traffic 8**.

3 At the far end of the byway, turn right onto Shipdham Lane and follow this into Scarning, where it joins the old A47 route opposite St Peter and St

Paul church (<http://www.scarning.info/church.html>: this website also has much more information about Scarning). Cross the road and go down Chapel Lane to reach the current A47 again. **!!! Cross with care** to the lane opposite. About ¼ mile down, turn right on a path going across a 2-plank footbridge, immediately past a wooden pole. The path (**Scarning Footpath 1**) winds through the wood: keep following the same general direction, for much of the time passing trees alternately on the left and right. The path emerges across a culvert and past a gate.



4 Keep ahead as the path becomes a track, and follow it to the end, turning right along the road. Walk for about ¼ mile, and on the left, opposite Arch Farm, there is a double gate with a footpath route to its left.



Go into the field and follow the path (**Scarning Footpath 3**) a little to the left of the clump of trees visible about 300 yards away. At the bottom of the field, cross the bridge then turn left then right to climb the path up the other side; this

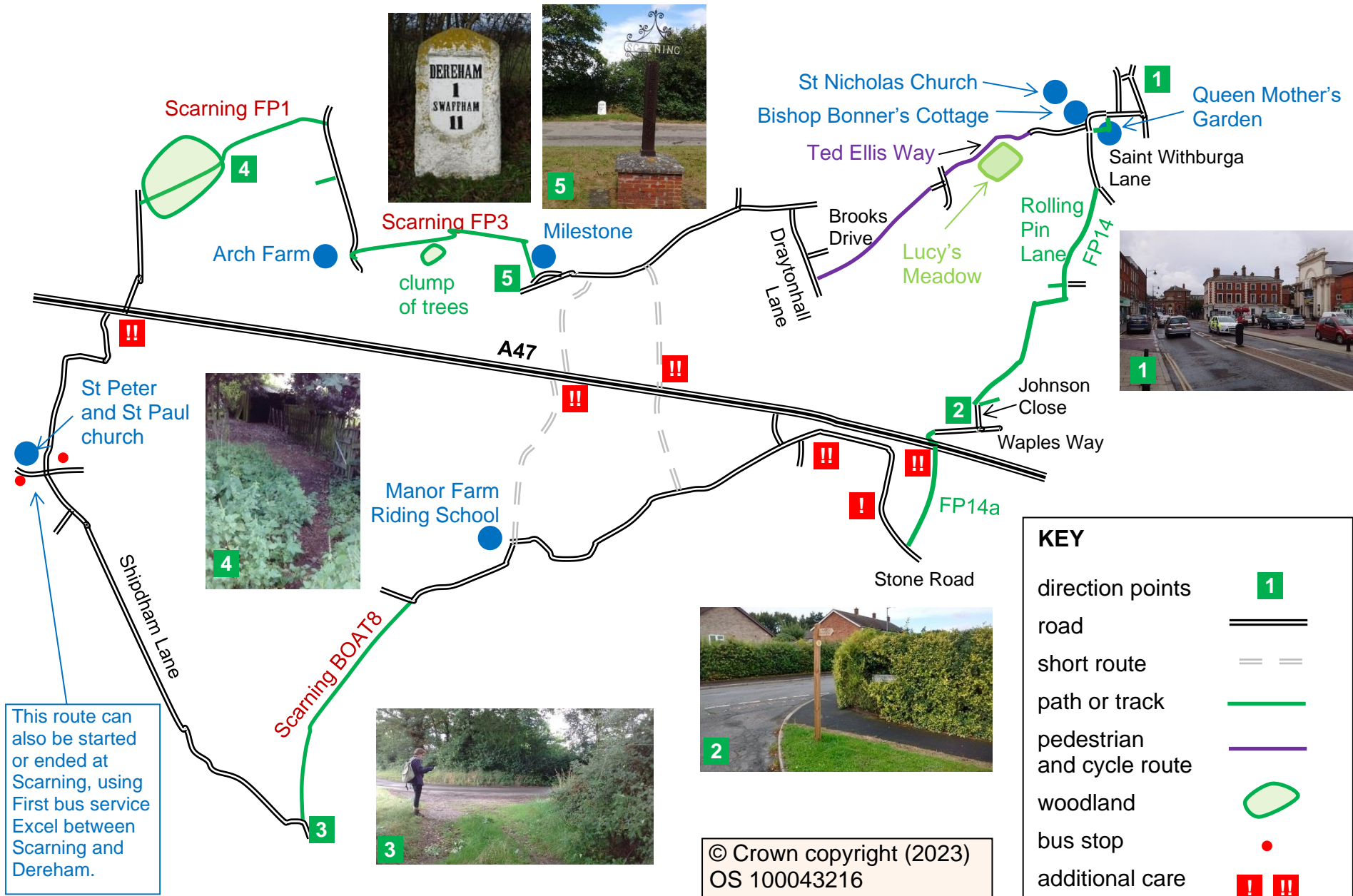


path turns right at the top of the rise, then emerges into a layby on the old A47. Turn left through the layby, which features both a milestone and the village sign.

5 Follow the footway alongside the road for about ½ mile, then turn right down Draytonhall Lane. Pass Brooks Drive then soon go left down a shared footpath and cycle route between the houses, which eventually leads into Kemp Drive. Turn left at the end of Kemp Drive, then right down Ted Ellis Way, another shared footpath and cycle route. *Ted Ellis was a famous Norfolk naturalist, who devoted much of his life to natural history - see www.wheatfen.org/tethtml/tet.html for more details.* This passes



Lucy's Meadow on the right, named after Lucy Evers, a great conservation supporter. At the bottom, the path crosses the stream and enters Dereham again as it joins Washbridge. Walk up Washbridge and turn left behind *Bishop Bonners Cottage* and past *St Nicholas' Church*, then go up Church Street and back into the market place.



This route can also be started or ended at Scarning, using First bus service Excel between Scarning and Dereham.

| KEY | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| direction points | 1 |
| road | == |
| short route | = = |
| path or track | — |
| pedestrian and cycle route | — |
| woodland | ◊ |
| bus stop | • |
| additional care needed | !! |

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