



Greening Galleywood Eastern Key Site Walk

**6.5 km – 1.5 hours, moderate. Not suitable for wheelchairs.
If it has been raining recently you may need Wellingtons or
waterproof boots.**

Mapping: Galleywood Parish Footpaths Map.

OS Explorer 182, OS Landranger 167 and Google Earth.

This walk starts from **St Michael's Junior School, Barnard Road**. This is one of the key sites in the Greening Galleywood project. A number of projects have been started at the school involving the children. This includes tree & wildflower planting and the creation of a pond. From the school, walk south along **Barnard Road** and turn left onto **Archers Way** shortly after passing the Co- op. After about 200 m, **Archers Way** bends to the right and runs parallel with **Lower Green** which is screened by a high hedge. Continue along **Archers Way** as it makes way for **Houblon Drive, Parklands Way** and finally **St Michael's Walk**. At No 28 **St Michael's Walk**, the path turns sharply to the right. Leave **St Michael's Walk** here and walk through an opening in the hedge and onto **Lower Green**. Turn right and then almost immediately left walking along the side of The Retreat. Pass through a kissing gate to **FP56**, the **Millennium Footpath**. This path runs down for 500m to **Galleywood Brook**, turn left onto **FP54** and continue east for 400m to the first small copse, called **Spring Wood**.

**Walk
19a**

"Greening Galleywood is the only project of its kind in the East of England. Funding from the project comes from a grant of almost £25,000 from the Local Heritage Initiative. The grant will enable local people to identify key aspects of their natural heritage that are unique and valuable to the community. They will also be encouraged to take responsibility for protecting them. Wildlife and education experts from the Essex Wildlife Trust and the Essex Biodiversity Project will be on hand to help at every stage of the project. 12 key sites have been identified in this project including streams, parks, churchyards, ponds and woodland. This walk in the eastern part of the Parish will take in 5 of the key sites from Jubilee Park in the north to Grove Wood in the south".

This leafy path contains another key site, a pond on the right hand side about 300 m to the north of **Brook Lane**. The pond and the ditches have been cleared as part of the Greening Galleywood project. From here, continue another 300 m along **Bridleway 29** until you are almost level with the Radar Mast and then turn left across the field on **FP28** heading towards **Watchouse Road**. This footpath is not clearly marked and the crossing can be a bit muddy. As an alternative to this part of the walk, head back along **Bridleway 29**, take right on **Brook Lane** and rejoin the walk at the junction with **Watchouse Road**. On joining **Watchouse Road**, turn left and proceed to **Jubilee Park** on the northern side of the road. This is another of the key sites. By the pelican crossing, follow the short walkway to **Sharpington Close** and turn right onto another walkway lined by some magnificent old Oak trees. This walkway takes you back onto **Barnard Road**. Turn left and return to **St Michael's Junior School** to complete the walk.

Acknowledgements: Photographs by permission of Alan Pamphilon. Bird drawing from RSPB's website: www.rspb.org.uk. Walk devised by Åsa and Alan Pamphilon. Layout by Åsa Pamphilon and John Turkentine.

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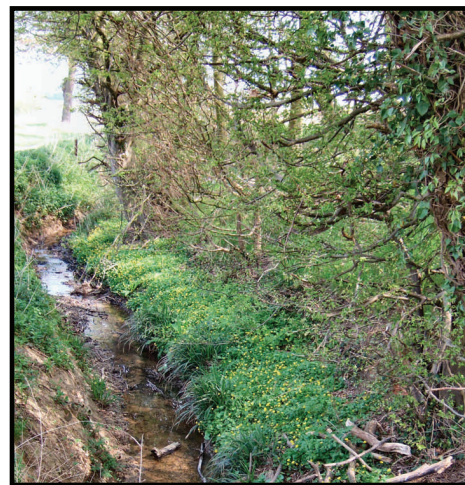
FP54 heading east towards Grove Wood - November 2007

In the winter, watch out for visiting thrushes from Scandinavia in the form of Redwings and Fieldfares on the pastures. On sunny spring days, Skylarks may be heard singing from above the field. They are however notoriously difficult to

see. At **Spring Wood** the path takes you down some steps and over a couple of bridges through the narrow copse. Carry on along **FP4** towards **Grove Wood**. This is one of the larger woods in the Parish and another key site. As part of the Greening Galleywood project, coppicing work has been carried out to encourage more wildflowers. In the spring the forest floor is covered in Bluebells. Also watch out for Lesser Celandine, a yellow flower growing along **Galleywood Brook** on the northern edge of the wood. Join **FP82** that runs along the northern edge of the wood.



Redwing



Lesser Celandine growing by Galleywood Brook next to Grove Wood - April 2007

You will now have the Radar Mast directly ahead. After about 400 m, **FP82** will cross **FP35** leading back into Galleywood. Take a left onto **FP35** and after about 100m turn right over a bridge and onto a **Permissive Footpath**. Walk up a gentle hill until you reach another small copse, **The Spinney**, another key site. Follow the path around to the right and through the copse passing a platform by a pond, a bench and crossing a bridge. On leaving **The Spinney** you will return to **FP82**. Turn left and walk the 250 m up to **Brook Lane** on a tarmac road. Turn left at the junction and turn right onto **Bridleway 29** just before the 30 mph signs.

