

'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 western part of the Parish takes in 7 of the key sites from Chelmer Park in the north to Galleywood Brook in the south.

Carry on for about 20m and then leave the woodland for the racecourse **FP79**. Turn left and cross the approach road to Wood Farm. Walk along the side of the car park **FP81** and cross the large open space ahead aiming for **FP50** by **Stock Road**. Cross Stock Road and continue on **FP50** passing Glebe Farm and pond. Pass a kissing gate and enter the field. Listen out for warblers such as Blackcap and Chiff-Chaff in the spring. Stick with **FP50** as it turns sharply right down to **Galleywood Brook**. Join **FP54** and walk along the Brook to the Millennium Footpath. Galleywood Brook is the sixth key site visited on this walk. A group of volunteers has re-established a hedge here. At **FP56**, the Millennium Footpath, turn left and continue to Lower Green. Turn left and the road will soon become **Ponds Road**. Carry on up the hill and cross by **The Street**. Continue up The Street passing **Twitten Green** on your left, the seventh and last key site on this walk. This is a meadow where wildflowers have been planted. Carry on and turn right at **Chaplin Close**. At the end, join **FP62** leading to **Well Lane**. Turn left and continue to **Watchouse Road** and return to your starting point.

Acknowledgements: Photographs by permission of Åsa & Alan Pamphilon. Walk devised by Åsa and Alan Pamphilon. Layout by Åsa Pamphilon and John Turkentine. © Galleywood Parish Council, May 2008.



Greening Galleywood Western Key Site Walk

6 km – 1.5-2 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, Google Earth.

This walk starts from the car park by the shops at Galleywood Village Centre. With the Centre behind you, bear left and walk to **Beehive Lane**. At **Beehive Lane**, cross over and walk through a gap in the hedge to **Chelmer Park**, the largest of all the key sites in the parish. Turn right and walk to the car park. Walk through the car park, and onto a tarmac cycle/footpath on your left. Leave this path after approximately 50m as it bends right. You will now have a football pitch ahead on your right and a pond surrounded by trees ahead on your left. This pond has been cleared and the undergrowth cropped as part of the project. Walk past the pond. Continue in the same direction and aim for the gap between the mound and the group of trees ahead of you. Carry on walking and you will soon come to the remains of an old orchard! A plant survey has been carried out here and the aim is to re-establish the orchard and plant wildflowers. Walk through



the orchard and continue along the edge of the park to the footpath that leads to **Russell Gardens**.

The Orchard, Chelmer Park, May 2008.

**Walk
19b**

St Michael's Parish Church seen from the churchyard , May 2008



Turn right here, then left and right again and you will soon be on **Galleywood Road**. Cross over and turn left.

Carry on for about 400 m until you reach **Goat Hall Lane**. Walk along this tree lined lane until the junction with **Horse & Groom Lane**. Good views to the north-west towards **Hylands Park**. Walk along **Horse & Groom Lane** for about 300m until you reach the **Horse and Groom** public house. Pass the pub on your left and enter shortly onto the disused racecourse, encompassing **St Michael's Church**, another key site. Turn left and walk along the racecourse for about 300 m. You will soon see be able to see the church through the trees. Clearing the church boundary from cherry laurel to allow the ground flora and native shrubs to establish themselves, has been a major achievement of this project. Pass through an opening in the white fence **FP49**, through a gate in the hedge and enter the churchyard. **FP49** runs around the back of the church and out on the other side. Bear left behind the **Galleywood Common** information board on the other side of the road. After about 100m, the path forks. Take a quick detour ahead to see **Galleywood Common Pond 1 (Mill Pond)**, the third key site on this walk. Double-back, leave the path at the fork and walk along the edge of the field to a small group of trees by **Margaretting Road**. Cross the road on the other side of this group of trees and re-join the racecourse behind the white fence. The race course passes what is to become the **Heritage Centre** with the fourth key site on this walk to the south.

Galleywood Common Pond 2 (Marvens Pond, May 2008)

Continue south passing through a car park and into another woodland. When the path forks, turn right and you will soon come to **Galleywood Common Pond 2 (Marvens Pond)** on your left, the fifth key site on this walk.

