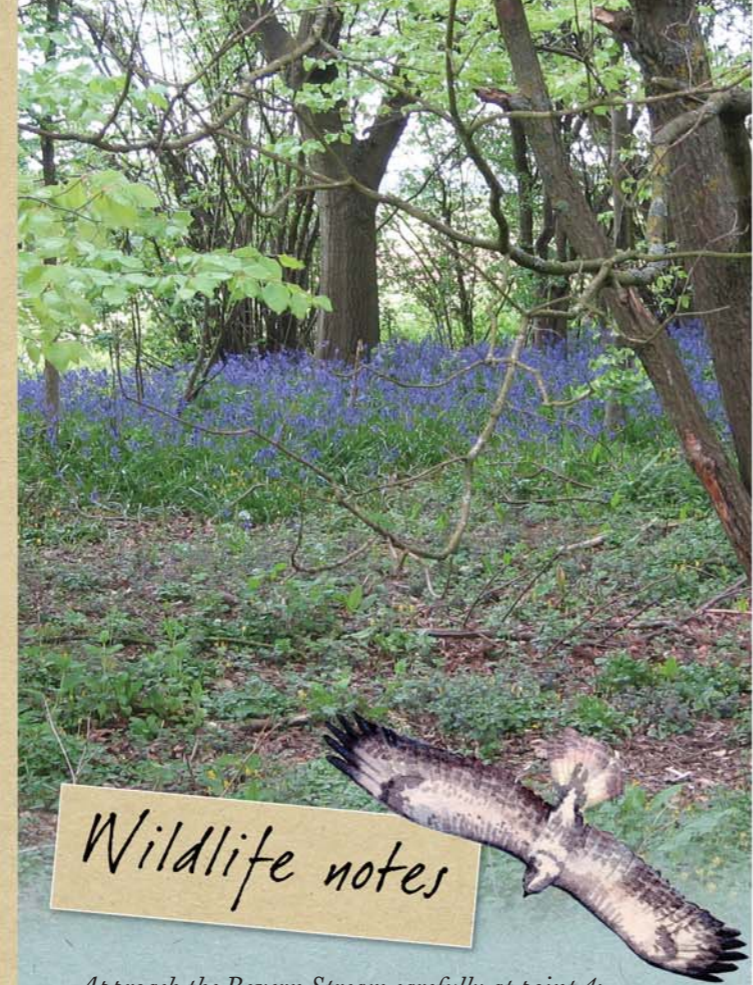
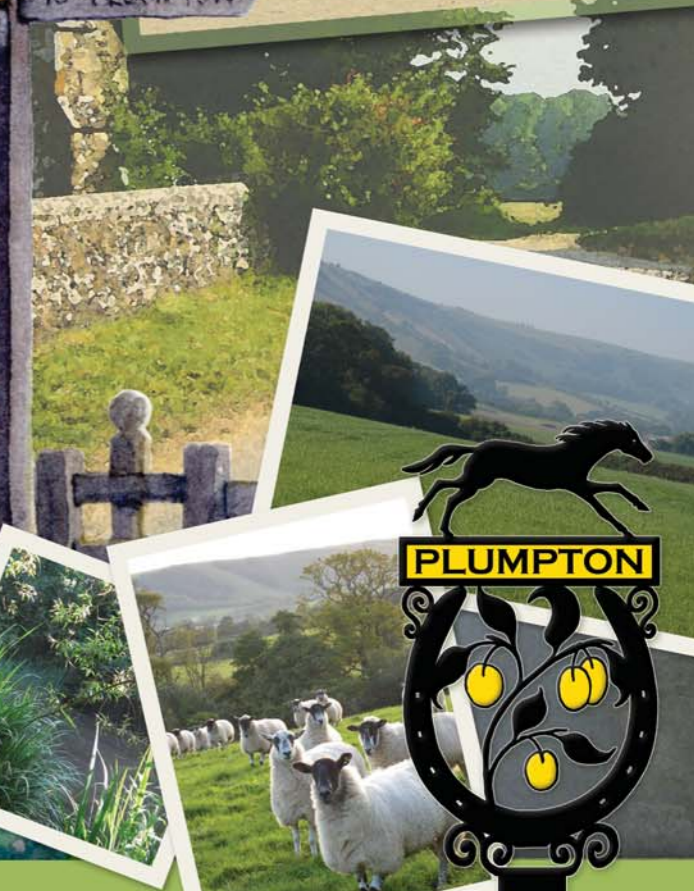


# Plumpton College, Long Wood and East Chiltington

A circular walk to the south of Plumpton Green, starting and finishing at the village hall. Initially exploring the hidden footpaths of the village, it heads towards the Downs, to Plumpton College, before returning via East Chiltington. It follows public footpaths and is a generally flat walk with some gentle undulations.



## Wildlife notes

*Approach the Bevern Stream carefully at point 4; you may see grey wagtail, kingfisher, or one of our recent acquisitions, the startlingly white little egret.*

*To either side of where a track goes off to the west at point 9 is an unploughed area. This is the site of a Roman villa and a little oasis for skylark and meadow pipit.*

*The grounds of Plumpton Place (point 13) and the little glade alongside the stream here have a very peaceful aura and offer a wide range of bird life.*

*At point 17 you pass alongside Long Wood, a so-called wet woodland, which is a locally scarce habitat. It is an excellent area for spring flowers and a wide range of woodland birds.*

20

Cross the road with care (it's a blind bend) and walk straight on along the Plumpton Racecourse access road opposite, turning right at the racecourse entrance.

21

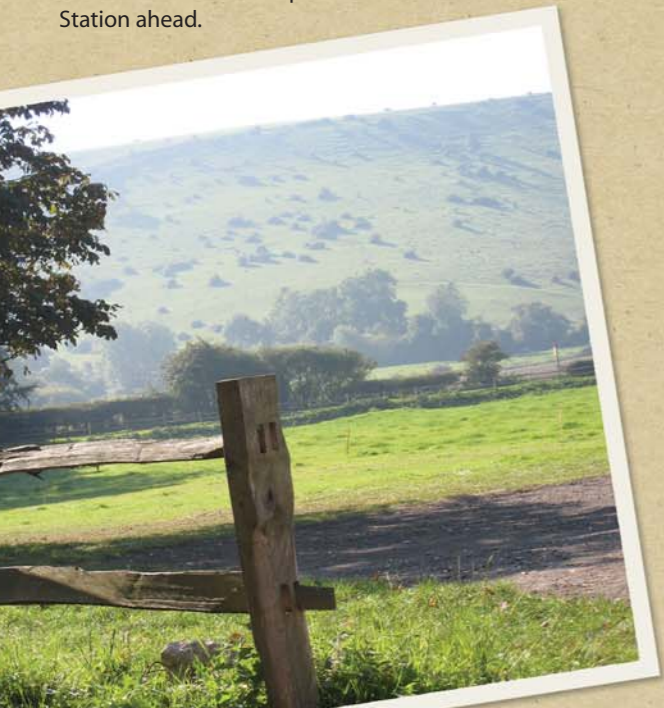
Continue along the road to the racecourse gates, ignoring a left fork and following the signs to the public car park. At the gates to the racecourse, the route swings left, still following the public car park signs, and passes around the back of the grandstand and buildings until it comes out on the car park. Follow the metalled footpath up between the car park and the racecourse to Plumpton Station ahead.

22

Cross the footbridge and continue straight ahead back into East View Fields. This time, turn right and walk to the T junction with Station Road.

23

Turn left and follow the pavement along Station Road, passing the village shop on your left, to return to the village hall.



This leaflet is one of 16 produced by the Plumpton Village Action Plan Footpaths Team. Copies can be downloaded free from [www.plumptonvap.co.uk](http://www.plumptonvap.co.uk)

Plumpton parish includes the villages of Plumpton and Plumpton Green. The parish lies at the foot of the South Downs, near Brighton and Lewes, in East Sussex. The southern part of the parish is within the South Downs National Park.

### Public transport

Plumpton is served by two bus services (166 and 824, Monday to Saturday) and a frequent train service (London Victoria to Eastbourne, Hastings and Ore, daily including Sundays). There is also a daily train service from Brighton via Lewes.

For information about bus times telephone 0844 477 1623 or visit [www.countryliner-coaches.co.uk](http://www.countryliner-coaches.co.uk) For train times telephone 0845 127 2920 or visit [www.southernrailway.com](http://www.southernrailway.com)

### Pubs and shop

Plumpton has four pubs: the Half Moon at the south end of the village, beneath the Downs; the Winning Post and Fountain Inn, both in the centre of the village, and the Plough, at the north end of the village. There is also a pub, the Jolly Sportsman, in East Chiltington. The Plumpton village shop is open daily and has a delicatessen.

### Please follow the Countryside Code

- Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under close control
- Consider other people



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With thanks to all those who contributed to these leaflets. In particular, thanks to the Plumpton Footpaths Society, who showed us the way; the Plumpton Wildlife & Habitat Group for their commentaries; Kate Gold, for walks and photos; Bob Doran, for photos, and Lyndsey Smith for her lovely wildlife illustrations. This walk was correct at June 2010. Any comments and subsequent corrections should be emailed to [footpaths@plumptonvap.co.uk](mailto:footpaths@plumptonvap.co.uk). Walkers should take due care when following this walk and do so at their own risk. No liability is accepted by the authors, the Village Action Plan Footpath Team or any other party.

Designed by Phipps Design  
[www.phippsdesign.co.uk](http://www.phippsdesign.co.uk)

Printed by Quentin Press Ltd on FSC certified paper using alcohol-free printing presses and vegetable-based inks.  
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## The route



**1** Leave the entrance porch to the village hall and turn left, crossing the car park and exiting in the far left hand corner to the right of the green electrical services box.

**2** Follow the path with the pond on your left until it meets Station Road. Turn right, and at the village shop turn right again into Riddens Lane.

**3** Walk along the lane, continuing as it becomes an unmade track until you reach a footpath sign on the left, beside a field gate, just after the last house on the left.

**4** Climb the stile and follow the path due south until you reach a stile on the right. Cross the stile and continue straight ahead across the field to a stile immediately followed by a wooden bridge.

**5** Continue on this path to its end, when it reaches a T junction with an unmade road. Turn left into East View Fields and follow the right hand pavement until you come to a footpath on your right, between houses number 16 and 14.

**6** Take the footpath between two fences and cross the railway via the bridge. You will see Plumpton Racecourse grandstand ahead, and beyond that the Downs.

**7** Follow the metalled footpath with the racecourse on your left and gravelled car park on your right, around the back of the grandstand and racecourse buildings, heading towards the Downs, until you come to a T junction, at the main entrance to the racecourse.

**8** Turn right and shortly after left at a footpath sign. Continue on a grassy track down past a pond on your right as you cross a stream. Continue straight ahead on the path, heading towards the Downs, as the track enters a field.

**9** Cross the field and climb over a stile into a small wood. Cross two bridges in quick succession. At the end of the second bridge, bear left and follow the path around the edge of the field, known locally as Sixty Acres. Continue with the hedge on your left at first, but when it turns away left, keep straight ahead, with the hedge now on your right.

**10** Glorious views of the Downs emerge as you reach the top of the slight rise, with Blackcap to the left, and the V of trees planted to commemorate Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1887, and Ditchling Beacon to the right.

**11** Where the path joins a farm track from the right, continue straight on towards a field gate ahead with the hedge now on your left. You will see Plumpton College in the distance ahead. Keep walking straight on, passing at intervals through three farm gates until you emerge into the college grounds.

**12** With the tennis court on your left, followed by a wooden fence, walk along the edge of the car park until you reach a fingerpost pointing left through a fence gate signed as not part of the college estate.

**13** Go through the gate and follow the path as it turns left through trees, keeping the post and rail fence on your right. At the end of the fence do not cross the bridge immediately ahead but turn left and walk with the stream on your right to a short plank bridge and stile.

**14** Cross these and continue straight on through a tree-lined narrow field, passing through the gap in the trees. In the next field follow the hedge on your right until you come to a plank bridge crossing the stream on your right.

**15** Cross the stream and a stile immediately after and cross the next field, climbing out of the dip to a further stile in the hedge ahead.

**16** Follow the narrow path between garden hedges and fences to Plumpton Lane. Take care as the footpath emerges directly onto the road, which carries fast traffic.

**17** Cross the road and continue along the drive opposite marked Novington Manor. Turn left when you reach a house directly in front of you and cross the stile to the left of the field gate.

**18** Follow the tree lined track for some distance, until you come to a large pond on your right, and a T junction shortly after. Turn left and, passing Stanton's Farm on your right and Stanton's Barn, a former Cromwellian barn, on your left, continue up the hill to East Chiltington Church.

**19** Follow the flint church wall on the left as it bears left leading you onto an unmade road known as the Ferrings. Continue to its end, passing through large black metal gates before again reaching Plumpton Lane.

