

Oxfam Walk for Water 2019: 3 mile MiniHike and 5 mile Instructions

← ↖ ↑ ↗ → indicate approx positions of Oxfam Herts Hike routemark arrows

OS Grid References are shown as: {2 Grid letters 3 figures (easting) 3 figures (northing)} e.g. {TL 189 149}

Part 1. Both 3 and 5 mile routes up to Marshal Point 1 (follow blue “MiniHike outward” signs and yellow Herts Hike signs – the route is the same)

- Turn left ← onto the Scout Hut drive, then left ← onto main bridleway, then almost immediately right ↗ through kissing gate into Heartwood forest.
- Go ahead gently uphill on the diagonal gravel path ↑ .
- Where the gravel path divides left and right at a signpost, take neither! Go straight ahead on the grass ↑ towards a second signpost on the skyline.
- Here turn left ← onto a track, soon passing on your left a seat dedicated to Matt Risby.
- Continue straight ahead ↑ towards a wood, passing Mouse carving and Woodland Arch on your left as you go.
- At the corner of the wood, cross straight over another track ↑, continue ahead with the wood on your left until a kissing gate (“Brian’s gate”).
- Turn right through gate → and cross the field on a broad path to another kissing gate. Go through, turn left ← on track for a few yards to the edge of a wood.
- Now turn right → and continue on the grass, with the wood lying on your left.
- Continue ↑ on the path which curves left and goes gently downhill until you reach **Marshal Point M1** {TL 162 122} **CAUTION – ROUTES DIVIDE HERE!**

The signboard shows which direction you go – don’t just follow the people in front!

3 milers only– show your walker number to the Marshal please

The 3 milers go straight ahead ↑ downhill through a gap between the wood and the hedge, whilst the 5 milers and all others turn right → (see Parts 3 & 4 - PTO)

Part 2. The rest of the 3 mile route (follow pink “MiniHike Return” signs)

- Continue downhill to the boundary hedge and turn left ← onto the track; follow it for ½ mile.
- Cross the main bridleway going through a pair of kissing gates ↑ ↑ (NB. If you need to shorten your walk, turn left uphill on bridleway which will lead directly back to the Scout Hut)
- Head across the next field diagonally on bridleway ↖ aiming for the railway pylons until you meet a wire fence. Continue on with the fence on your left, getting closer to the railway.
- Continue uphill by the fence ↑ towards a gap in the hedge ↑, your track runs parallel to the railway. Continue to a pair of kissing gates ahead, take one on the right.
- Go through this gate, then turn left ← and along the track which is bounded by hedges. Continue for about half a mile.
- At the next kissing gate and Heartwood sign, turn left ← into the Heartwood field.
- Keep right following along the hedge and take the first track on the right → uphill into the wood (Langley Wood). (This is the area for building wooden dens and camps)
- Go straight ahead on the path near the edge of Langley Wood ↑ keeping the fields visible on your right through the trees and joining onto a path with rope edging.
- At the end of the wood go down steps and turn right → onto the track. Continue downhill and soon turn right → off the track and into the scout hut.

Congratulations on finishing the 3 mile walk!

Go inside to register back and enjoy your drinks and cakes!

Part 3. The 5 mile route – from Marshal Point M1 to Hammonds Farm

Where the 3 milers go straight ahead downhill, all other routes turn right → Continue along the boundary of Heartwood until you reach another Woodland Trust kissing gate {TL163 123} ↑. Go through the gate, down the path for a few yards then branch right ↗ walking towards the green grass of Nomansland Common.

Walk along the Common for about half a mile ↑. Carry on past the public car park on your left (do NOT cross the road here) aiming for the road signs and red bin in the distance ahead near the main road.

Arrive at **Checkpoint C1** {TL 173 124} ***Please show your Walker Reference number.***

Here the 5 mile route separates from the longer ones. This sheet describes the 5 mile route. Ask for the 8 mile instructions if you need them. Cross the road **WITH GREAT CARE**.

Routes then split; whilst other walkers go straight ahead, the 5 mile walkers now turn right → and walk alongside Ferrars Lane to arrive at the main road by a pair of wooden posts and

Marshal Point M2 {TL 175 124}

Cross the main road **WITH EXTRA CARE as traffic can be moving fast**, and take the footpath leading straight on ↑. Go slightly uphill through woodland to fields. Keep on the path across the field ↑ soon getting to a hedge on your right and then passing Nomansland Farm garden and buildings. Continue straight on at the end of their fence ↑ and come to Colemans Green Lane.

TAKE GREAT CARE both looking and listening for traffic, then cross straight over ↑ and continue on your footpath. The buildings of Hammonds Farm will soon be seen. The path curves left then right through a brick gateway to pass between farm buildings and reach Hammonds Lane where you turn right →. Walkers from the longer routes will join from the left.

Part 4. Hammonds Farm to Scout Hut.

Continue some way past the farm, then where the lane curves to the right and there is a large log, look for the Hertfordshire Way branching off left ↖ onto a footpath. Follow the edge of the field, close to the hedge on your right towards a small wood.

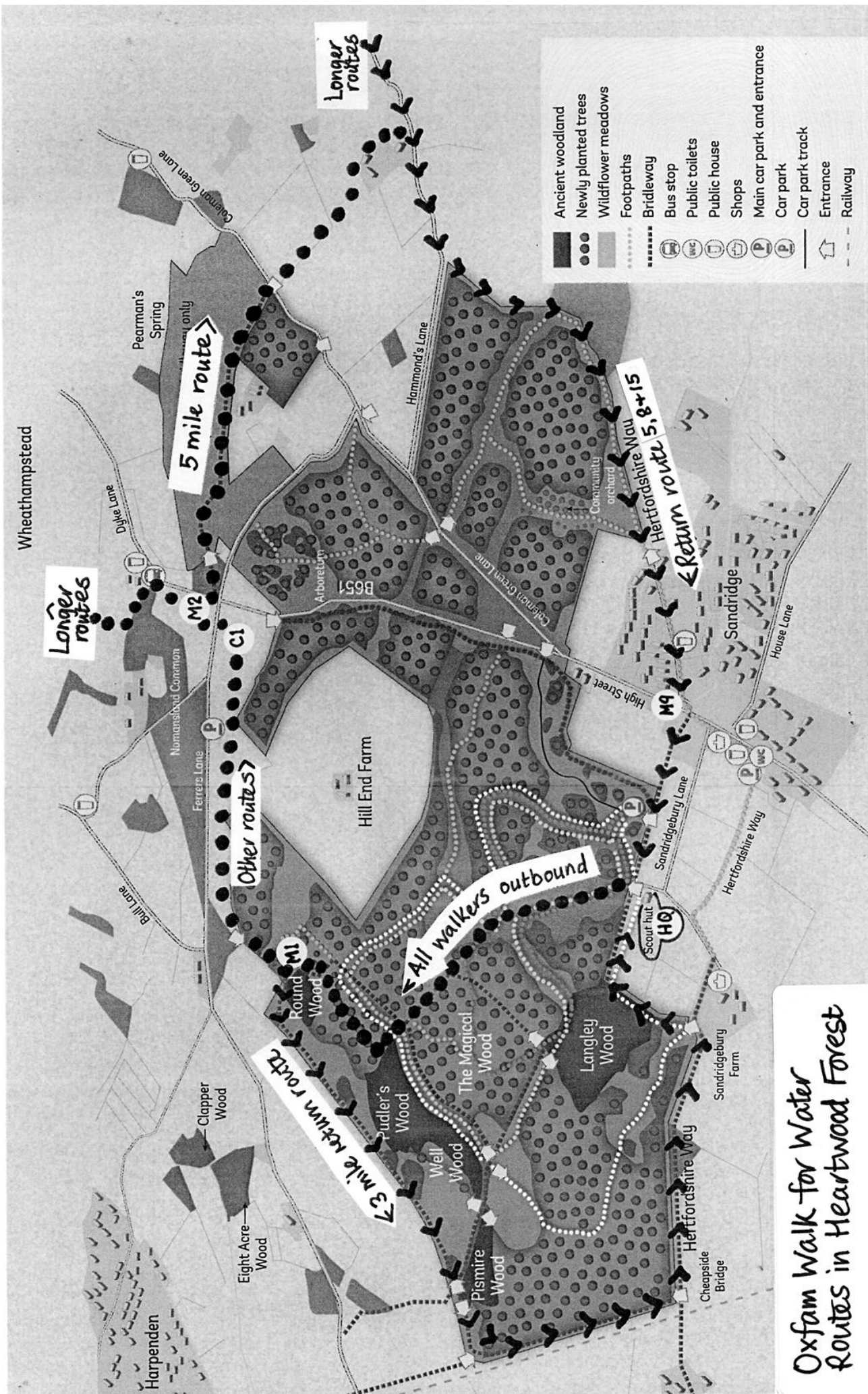
Continue straight on ↑ as the path enters the margin of the wood. After a little way the Hertfordshire Way emerges from the wood and turns left ← along a field margin. *The fenced area of field to your right is Heartwood Forest land, and young trees have been planted there.*

You will now see the houses of Sandridge coming into view. Carry straight on ↑ to Langley Grove. Cross the road with care and carry straight over ↑ onto the footpath. After a few minutes, at a waymark post, take a small path which forks off to the left ↖ to cross a tarmac drive by a small zebra crossing (take care) and emerge into the grassy churchyard of St Leonards. The path forks; keep to the right ↗ aiming for the lych gate arch at the front of the church. From the lych gate go straight on ↑ past the Queen's Head pub to the bus shelter at the main road and **Marshal Point M9** {TL 171 106}

Cross the main road, **WITH GREAT CARE**, and walk a few yards to the right → to the drive of Pound Farm. Take the bridleway through Pound Farm ←, leaving the large barn to the left ↑. Follow the bridleway on gently uphill, past the Heartwood Forest welcome sign ↑ until the Scout Hut comes into sight again.

Congratulations on finishing your walk!

Go inside to register back and enjoy your tea and cakes!



- Ancient woodland
- Newly planted trees
- Wildflower meadows
- Footpaths
- Bridleway
- Bus stop
- Public toilets
- Public house
- Shops
- Main car park and entrance
- Car park
- Car park track
- Entrance
- Railway

Oxfam Walk for Water
Routes in Heartwood Forest