## **Route Directions**

This is a linear walk which involves a 4 minute train journey from Lenham to Harrietsham from where the walk begins. It then returns to Lenham, primarily along the Pilgrims/North Downs Way. At this time trains run at 8 minutes past every hour. There is on street parking at Lenham Station as well as the station car park (currently £2.70 a day)

- This walk starts at Harrietsham station. Cross the footbridge to the opposite platform and take the steps onto a footpath running parallel to the tracks back toward Lenham. Stay on this path, following a belt of trees to meet a bridleway and 2 conical lumps of concrete. Turn RIGHT here, passing a number of houses.
- 2. Where the path joins the lane by the entrance gates to Court Lodge continue straight on toward the church. Just before the church, where the lane turns to the LEFT (Stede Hill) take the marked footpath alongside the yew hedge boundary of the churchyard.
- 3. Follow the path as it skirts around the back the church, passing the garden of remembrance, to a kissing gate leading into Teers Meadow. Take the indistinct path bearing slightly RIGHT, following the fence line to another kissing gate.
- 4. Cross over the path to a stile into a field, following the path towards the farm buildings. Climb a number of stiles across the fields which eventually rises slightly to another stile beside a gate. Continue ahead aiming slightly LEFT of the farm building to cross a stile onto a junction of lanes.
- 5. Take the lane marked as the Pilgrims Way and continue on this for approximately 3/4 mile (1.1 km) until the lane turns sharp RIGHT. Continue straight ahead onto a bridleway marked '17 National Cycle Network' & the North Downs Way.

- 6. Follow the North Downs Way to meet a lane (Faversham Road). Continue on the road, taking care as there is no footpath, passing Lime Tree cottages to take the path ahead where the road bears to the right. The path (still the North Downs way) goes slightly uphill passing a number of houses, to emerge into open countryside overlooking Lenham and the busy A20.
- 7. The Lenham Cross war memorial appears on the left after approximately 550yds (0.5km) where there is a bridleway on the RIGHT leading down towards the A20.Take this bridleway and where another path cuts diagonally across it turn RIGHT going downhill to meet the A20.
- 8. Cross this busy road with extreme caution to a gate on the opposite side leading into the Lenham Community Centre car park. Continue on the path, past the front of the community centre, straight across to meet the road. Cross to the opposite pavement and turn RIGHT. At the church turn into the churchyard and follow the path round to the LEFT of the church to a gate into a field.
- 9. There are 3 paths at this point, take the RIGHTHAND path across the field. This is the beginning of the Stour Valley walk. Cross a small wooden bridge into another field and bear RIGHT following the hedge row. Continue on toward the railway line, going slightly uphill to the crossing point. Again take extreme care in crossing the railway lines.
- 10. Turn RIGHT immediately after crossing the railway and follow the railway up to the road. Turn RIGHT across the bridge and then LEFT down toward the station and car park.

## The Pilgrims Way

A leisurely 41/2 mile (7.25km) walk along the Downs between Harrietsham & Lenham





