

- **PARKING & ARRIVA BUS ROUTES**  
(Opp. Roebuck) No.20 via Debden/Walthamstow  
or No.397 (Not Sunday) via Debden/South  
Chingford or No.549 (Not Sunday) via  
Ongar/South Woodford (map ref:1)



- **PARKING & DOCKLANDS MINI BUS ROUTE**  
(Loughton Way shops) No.167 via Debden/Ilford  
or **MEMORIES FOR TOMORROW BUS No.200**  
via Harlow/Buckhurst Hill or No.201 via  
Ongar/Buckhurst Hill **LONDON UNDERGROUND**  
(BUCKHURST HILL STATION) (map ref:7 -  
alternatively starting point)



- **PICNICS** (map ref:8)



- **REFRESHMENTS** (map ref:10)



For further travel information contact  
Travel Line - 0870 6082608  
[www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk)



*Entrance to Linder's Field*

**Further details please contact:**

Buckhurst Hill Parish Council  
Information Centre  
62-64 Queens Road  
Buckhurst Hill, IG9 5BY  
Monday to Friday 10.00am - 4.00pm  
Tel: 020 8498 9933

This leaflet is available in large print, Braille,  
audiotape & disc.  
Contact: Lisa Cross Tel: 01245 437619

This publication is  
supported by the  
Parish Paths  
Partnership,  
which is an  
initiative funded  
by **Essex County  
Council**

**BUCKHURST HILL PARISH COUNCIL**



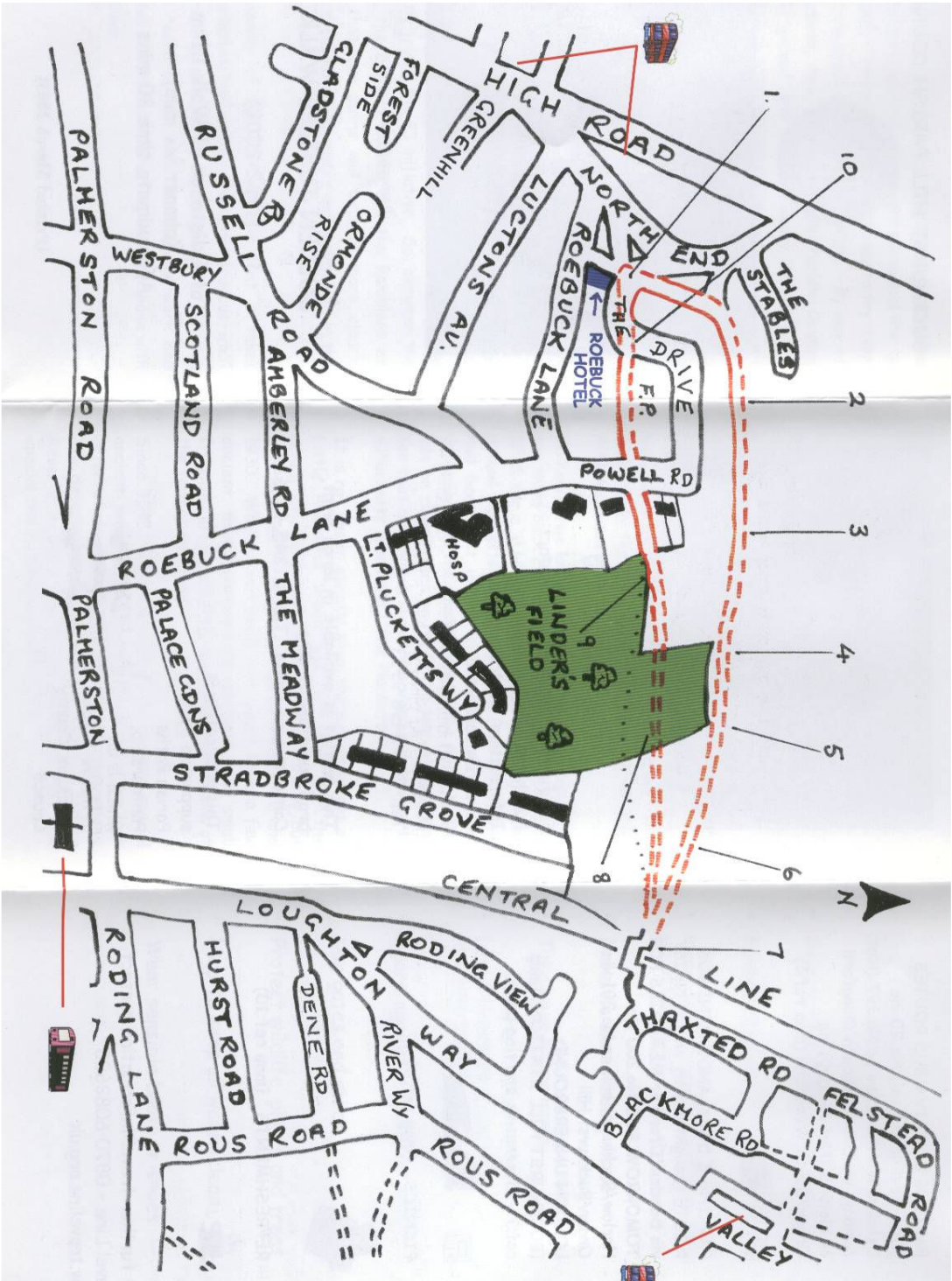
*Roebuck (Hotel)*

**GOLDEN JUBILEE WALK**

**(1952-2002)**

**Total distance of Walk 1.1km  
(almost  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile)  
Approximate time 30 mins**

**(Print date March 2003)**



## THE WALK.....

1. We start our walk at a local landmark; the Roebuck (Hotel), located off the High Road in Buckhurst Hill (the hotel is sign-posted from the green opposite the Hawsted flats complex on the High Road and there is plenty of parking in the surrounding area) To the left of the Roebuck (Hotel) (as you face it) a waymarker sign near the post box in The Drive leads you down a path past a White Stucco building called Guy's Retreat. Passing the charming cottages to your left you will come to a farm-like gate, continue on along the right-hand side of a garage to a house called Norwood.
2. Follow the gravelled path to the end of the fence on your left. At the end of the fence you will see a footpath sign. To your left is Corporation of London open land. Follow the footpath sign straight on.
3. The track meanders downwards with back gardens to your right and Corporation of London fields to your left giving a great view over Loughton. On a windy day, pause and listen to the wind rustling in the tall trees overhanging the path.
4. At the bottom of the hill carry straight on, past the gates to either side of you. We are meandering (isn't that a lovely word?) again but gently uphill passing a gate to the right into Linder's Field.
5. You will see a waymarker here urging you to carry straight on.
6. Soon you will reach a kissing gate and another waymarker. Follow the hedgerow to the left of the green field. Pause again to listen to the birds in the hedgerow; you might even spot a rare sparrow. On the brow of the hill we urge you to pause again, you could be deep in the countryside with only a few farmhouses in sight.
7. Back to earth with a bump - at the bottom of the hill you reach the Central Line with a metal stile to a footpath that takes you over the rail tracks. But we will leave this for another time. *(However the walk could be started at this point - access via the footbridge from Thaxted Road, which is off Blackmore Road/Loughton Way).* Turn to face up the hill and take the track veering slightly to the left through the middle of the field. Following the waymarker continue along the track, keeping to the left uphill to the kissing gate.
8. You are now entering Linder's Field Nature Reserve, which is managed by EFDC Countrycare. Follow the track uphill to where it divides (ignoring the cross paths). *You might want to veer off the path at this point and explore the delights of Linder's Field, which includes a pond with platform and a bluebell wood. This would be an ideal picnic spot.* Otherwise continue on the marked path through the wood. There are some lovely old trees in this area to admire.
9. When you reach the top of this path turn to your right, around the fence and then take the track to your left. Continue gently uphill again take another look to your right across Loughton. At the top of this wide path carefully cross Powell Road, to another wide path between large houses.
10. This path returns you to The Drive, where you will see the Roebuck (Hotel) again on your left. You have made it! You might want to stop in at the Roebuck for some well-deserved refreshments.

## ***BACKGROUND.....***

Have you ever seen walkers, efficiently clothed and magnificently booted and thought you would like to be a walker? Well, here is your chance to try it out on our inaugural Golden Jubilee Walk. By way of background, the Buckhurst Hill Parish Council (BHPC) joined the Essex County Council's P3 Initiative in 2002 (Parish Paths Partnership). This partnership is to enable Essex County Council (ECC) to assist the Parish Councils in the development and maintenance of public footpaths, byways and bridleways. BHPC wish to promote the beauty and interest of Buckhurst Hill to its residents and visitors by way of walks around the Parish. The 'Golden Jubilee Walk' is the first of several walks to be published.

The District Council, including Countrycare, has historically maintained footpaths in Buckhurst Hill. The Ramblers also have an interest and have recently joined the P3 initiative. So, between the BHPC, the District Council and the Ramblers we hope that our paths will become more clearly marked, promoted, upgraded and maintained in the future.

The beauty of our first walk is that it takes approximately half an hour and is not arduous, what more, it is suitable for all age groups. It will give you a taste of the local footpath network and provides a short but interesting walk for those with busy lives.

## ***THE ROEBUCK (HOTEL) & LINDER'S FIELD.....***

Buckhurst Hill has many connections of historical interest - in fact the Parish Council has been instrumental in starting a Buckhurst Hill Historical Society.

The two historical highlights of the Golden Jubilee Walk are the Roebuck (Hotel) which is on the site of an old coaching inn and dates back to 1770 and Linder's Field.

The woodland which runs along the eastern side of Linder's Field is very special. We believe from our study of old maps and from the wildlife found here that it can be described as ancient woodland. This means that the trees have been here for at least 400 years and probably much longer.

So how do we know? Using old maps, we can trace the wood back 225 years. The manorial records of 1775 for a M.H. Beach Esq., show one large wood named Plucketts Wood. By 1850 Plucketts Wood had been split in two with a large section lost probably from the construction of the railway. This can be clearly seen on the Tithe Map of Loughton for that date which shows the wood into two parts - Plucketts Wood and Little Plucketts.

It is not known exactly when the last fragment of Little Plucketts Wood was destroyed for the construction of housing on Little Plucketts Way, but it is believed to have occurred between 1920 and 1930. What is certain is that, apart from a few ancient trees surviving in gardens, the small fragment in Linder's Field is all that now remains of the former woodland.

Since 1945, Essex has lost 50% of this special ancient woodland. It is therefore vital we look after what we have left for future generations. The designation of Linder's Field as a Local Nature Reserve in 2000 was in recognition of just how special the fields and woodland are.

## ***WHEN USING FOOTPATHS.....***

- Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work
- Keep to the waymarked paths
- Fasten all gates
- Keep dogs under control and clean up after them
- Make no unnecessary noise
- Take your litter home
- Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone
- Guard against all risks of fire
- Use gates and stiles
- Protect wildlife, plants and trees
- Help to keep all water clean
- Wear sensible boots or shoes