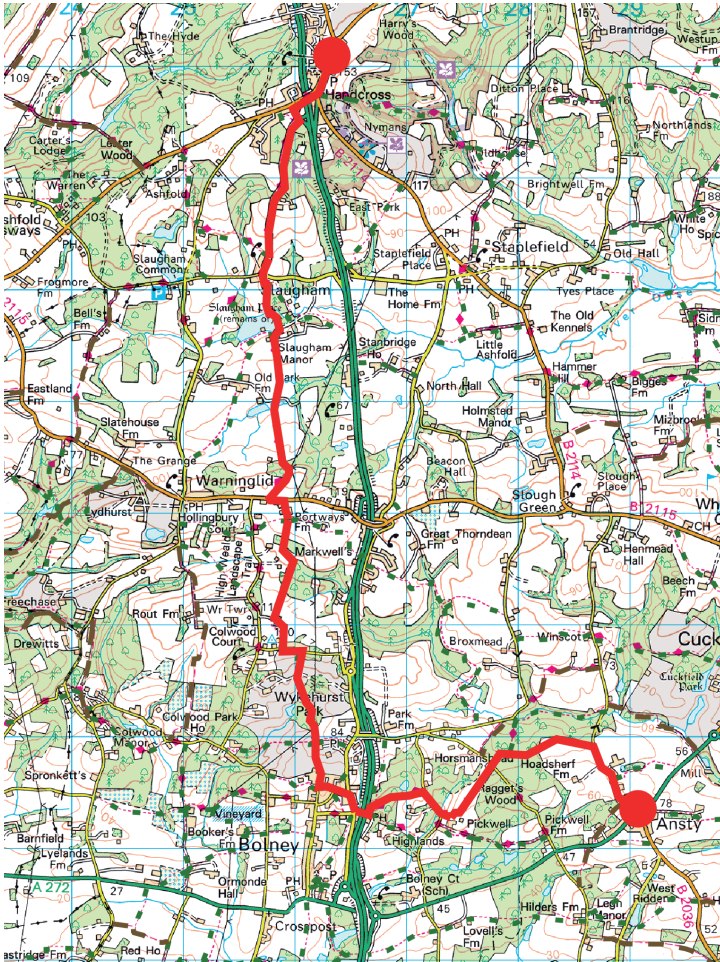
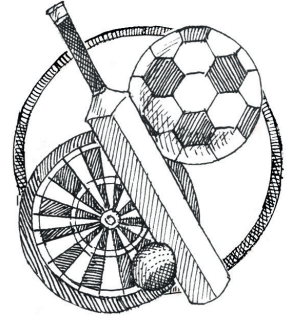


Walk 2

Ansty to Handcross
(7 miles / 11km)

Grading = Moderate

OS Explorer map 134
(Crawley & North Horsham)



Start point:

Ansty Recreation Ground (car park),
Deaks Lane RH17 5AS

End point:

Handcross Recreation Road (car park),
High Street RH17 6DU

1. Start at Ansty Sports & Social Club (WAYMARKER 2), come out of the car park and turn right down Deaks Lane, walk past the vineyard and then turn left through a gate and up a couple of steps onto a signposted footpath with the woods to your right.
2. Walk on with the vineyard to your left, then through a gate onto a wide muddy path and keep to the main path through the woods until you reach Pickwell Lane. Cross over the road and go through the 5-bar gate marked Raggets, past the white house on your right and continue straight on a wide grass path with fences either side.
3. Cross stile ahead and follow the path until it turns to the right, go down the hill through trees to Buncton Lane, turn right and walk a short way uphill past Woodland Farm to a large house on the right, then turn left onto a footpath that is signposted Diamond Jubilee Walk.
4. Follow a windy path through the woods over a couple of little streams until you can see traffic on A23 ahead. Go over a stile and turn left alongside the A23, go down some steps and turn right to go under the pedestrian underpass.
5. At the junction, turn right and head north on the pavement toward the Equestrian & Country Store, then cross the road to turn left into Top Street.
(Resting Place (3 miles / 5 km): Do not turn left, continue straight up London Road for about 10 minutes until you reach the Bolney Stage (RH17 5RL) on the right - a dog friendly traditional pub and restaurant. Other refreshment options in Bolney include the community café at Rawson Hall, Batchelor's Field, the Eighteen Acre Café at Bolney Wine Estate, Foxhole Lane or the Cycle Café in Top Street – opening times vary).

6. There is no path so be mindful of cars and walk on until you reach a bend in the road and a public footpath sign directing you to turn right and follow The Street out of the village past The Thatched House which is to the left.
7. Walk on to a five-bar metal gate and follow the path past the farm buildings and a horse field on your left. Go under a brick bridge and continue uphill to a footpath crossroads where you keep going straight on and downhill into a little wood. Keep the metal pylon on your right.
8. The path can be quite boggy and there are bluebells here in the Spring. Go over a wooden plank bridge and carry on the windy path through the woods, over another bridge and follow the public footpath sign into a field where some saplings have been planted.
9. Cross over a track, then over a stile and head across the field, for the path becomes quite steep for a short way until you reach a stile at the top.
10. At Jeremy's Lane, turn left past Firdene and follow the road as it snakes round past some houses, then turn right onto a drive marked North Cottage and then follow the narrow footpath to the left. It is quite shady with overhanging branches and you may need to duck down in places.
11. Go through a gate and head to the left across a field, toward the water tower in the distance, then cross the next field, over a stile toward a gap in the hedge opposite and over another stile, keep the fence to your right and head for the gate.
12. Cross over a little track that runs down to the farm on your right-hand side, through the gap in the hedge and follow the public footpath sign, look out for the electric fence on your right!
13. Go through a metal kissing gate, continue on through two gates and over a wooden plank bridge into a field, walk straight on, on a path with woods to either side with cables overhead.
14. The path turns to the left, alongside and then through the woods and across some horse fields, over a stile and straight on at a footpath crossroads, past the paddock and stables on your left.

15. Go over a stile and turn left over a cattle grid and down the drive to reach Cuckfield Road where you need to turn left, there is a grass verge but no pavement so beware of traffic, cross the road and follow the footpath on the right.
16. Bear diagonally right towards a pylon at the edge of a wood ahead, the path continues on and then turns to the left downhill through the woods and out into a field. Head down toward the right of the house ahead and follow the path between two ponds.
17. The path turns slightly right and continues on until it joins a track leading to a large mill pond. Keep the pond to your left, cross the tarmac drive and follow a footpath that turns off to the left along a fence by the mill pond edge. The path bears right after the footbridge.
18. Follow the bridleway north until you reach the churchyard at St Mary's Church, Slaugham. Pass to the left of the church and Go out through the lychgate and cross Staplefield Road to walk into the village ahead. Walk past the houses and a white telephone box on your left, continuing until you reach a white gate ahead marked 'Slaugham Park, Private Property', go through the pedestrian gate on the left and continue along the road.
19. Keep following the wide path passing between a pair of metal gates, until you reach the main road where you need to turn left. Cross over at the islands to turn right along the pavement, the road bridge crosses the A23, and turn left at the road junction. Walk 3 continues into Nyman Woods opposite but turn left at the Red Lion pub for Handcross Recreation Ground and car park (WAYMARKER 3).