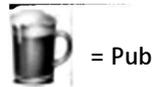


## Standon Nr. Ware Walk 4:



= Pub

⌘ = Bench suitable for a picnic!

### Ride/Walk 4: A seven Mile Ride/ Walk on Bridleways from Standon

*A really attractive country ride over open country, through woods and a ford. This ride was designed by horse riders but is equally suitable for cyclists or walkers – but please be aware of the fact that a bike is silent and could scare a horse if you come across it suddenly.*

*Distance and time needed: 6.75 miles, riding approximately 1 hour, walking about 3.5 hours.*

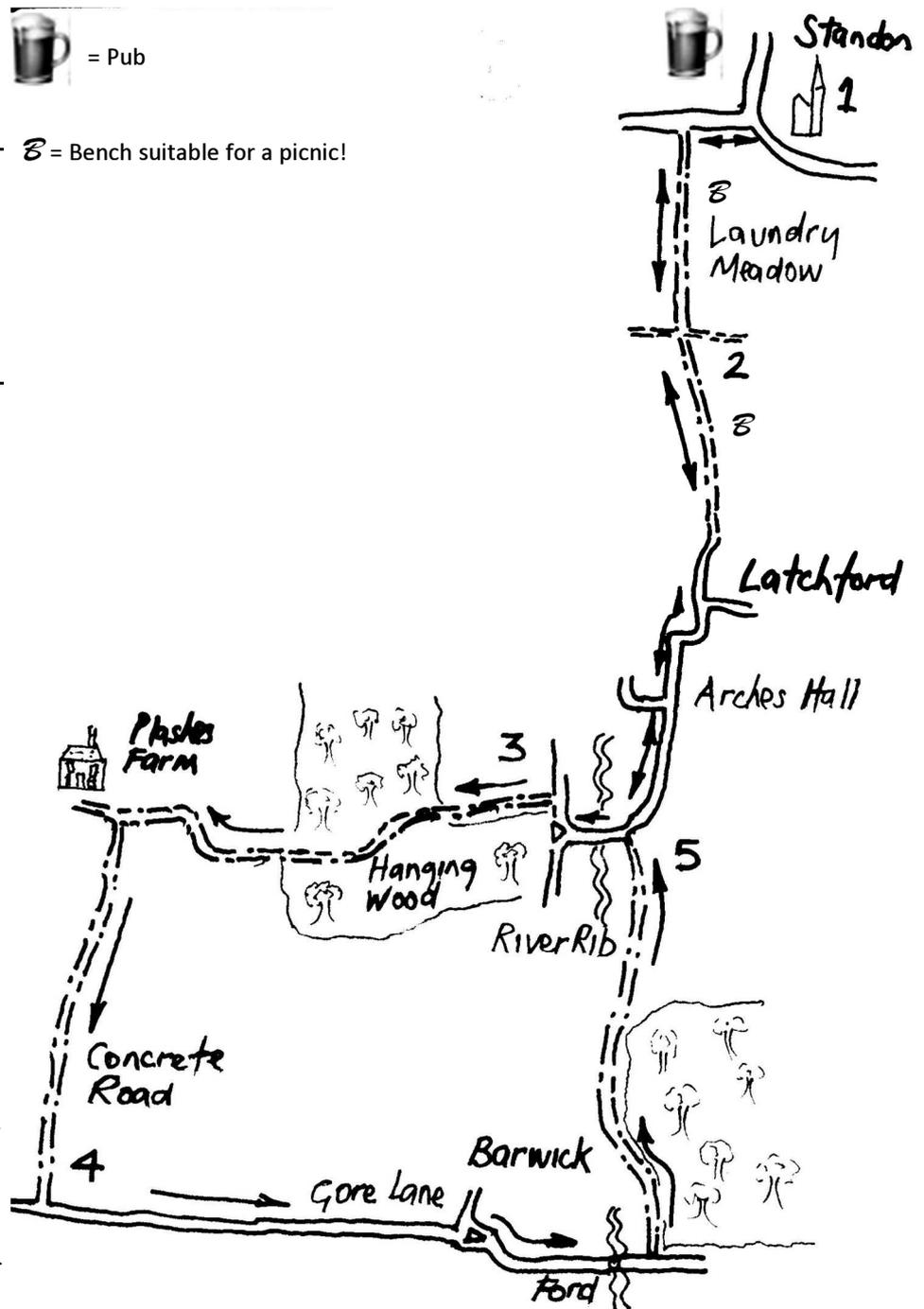
*Refreshments: The Bell (Pizzas & Pub food) 01920 739838  
The Heron/China Garden (Chinese Food) 01920 821236  
The Star (Pub food) 01920 823725*

**1** Starting at St. Mary's Church in Standon High Street, ride/walk towards Knights court. Turn right down Paper Mill Lane until just past Paper Mill House (on your right), and take the bridleway just before the ford left into Laundry Meadows.

*Paper Mill House is one of five local watermills recorded in the Domesday Book. The original mill belonged to the Knights Hospitaller and would have been used for grinding flour. In the 19th century the mill was producing the thin paper on which Bibles were printed and the paper was laid out to dry in 'Laundry Meadows' opposite. The present house probably dates from the 16th century. More details in Walk 12.*

Keeping to the field boundary on your left, ride/walk across the two grass fields separated by a gate.

**2** Passing through the gate at the end of the second field, ride straight on up and down the hill into Latchford – two further gates on your way down the hill are quite often open. Turn immediately right after the last gate and through the river ford or over the footbridge, following the track to the lane. Turn left onto the lane and ride over the river on the road bridge – the gates to Arches Hall will then be straight in front of you – turn right and ride beside the river until you reach houses on your left.



**3** Ride on to the end of the lane, through the ford or over the bridge and take the right fork where the lane divides. Here you meet the Standon to Barwick lane by three cottages on a narrow bend. Turn left onto the lane, and then almost immediately right onto the bridleway between two cottages which takes you up to Plashes Wood. Approximately 100 metres into the wood a narrow track leads off up hill on your left – take this track and halfway up you will find the official bridleway markers. A right hand bend takes you out of the wood; ride straight across the field through the hedge and into the next field – by now you will see a farmhouse straight in front of you.

*These fields mark the site of a deserted medieval village. Up to 1984 you could see earthworks up to a metre high which were the remains of the buildings. 11th and 12th century pottery was found here in a special excavation in April 2000, as well as signs of medieval open strip fields and ponds. Neolithic, Bronze Age and Roman finds were also made, indicating continuous settlement for at least 4,500 years.*

*The view from here is very good, with Hertford to the south-west and Harlow and London to the south. This is one of the highest pieces of land until well into Europe, if you were travelling east or south-east!*

**4** When reaching the concrete road, turn left and ride on down the hill. At the bottom of the concrete road you reach Gore Lane. Turn left and ride through Barwick village and bear right to Barwick Ford. Please take care, the lane is narrow without a footpath.

*Barwick Ford was the site of an explosives works founded in 1880, with at least 44 buildings. One of the drying houses exploded on 26th May 1893 and a government report was commissioned.*

One hundred yards after the ford, where the wood begins, take the bridleway on your left following the track, and then the path, through more woodland. Look out for cowslips and violets in the Spring as the woodland thins. Ride on the grass track, with the field edge on your right, until you reach an iron gate, and once onto the lane you are back on the road that goes past Arches Hall.

**5** You now have a choice – you can either retrace your steps and return via Latchford and Laundry Meadows to Standon or pick up Ride 7 at point 3 which will add another three miles to the ride and will also take you back to Standon.

Paths in Standon Parish are clearly waymarked. If you come across any problem with missing waymarks, please contact the Parish Paths Partnership: [john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk).

This leaflet has been produced by Standon Parish Council working as part of the Parish Paths Partnership, a programme funded by Hertfordshire County Council's Countryside Management Service (CMS). CMS helps communities across Hertfordshire to care for and enjoy the environment. [www.hertslink.org/cms](http://www.hertslink.org/cms)

For more great walks in Hertfordshire go to [www.walkinginherts.co.uk](http://www.walkinginherts.co.uk)