8. Turn right on to Fritham Road, follow this round the bend to the left and then take the small flight of steps on your right. Ascend these steps, and follow the footpath as it bends round to the left, running parallel to West End Road) back to Beauworth Avenue. Turn left on to Beauworth then almost immediately right on to Melchet Road and you are back at the shops where you began.



Troop camp remains in Harefield Woods. Photos © Jo Proctor

Inside photos: main path through Telegraph Woods, red bark of the pine tree, view of Telegraph Woods, Oak tree in Harefield Woods© Jo Proctor 2016

If the local history of Harefield interests you, then pop into our Harefield Hub (open Tuesday mornings, 10am-12pm term-time) to view the research completed by former Harefield resident and SO18 Big Local volunteer Stephen Read - he has collated research including that of Harefield House and the use of the area as a D-Day marshalling camp in World War II.

Walk HF01

Harefield Hub to Telegraph Woods

A circular walk from the Harefield Hub to Telegraph Woods and back through Beacon Hill Woodland Park (Harefield Woods)



Start/finish: Harefield Hub, 47 Melchet
Road, Harefield SO18 5GW
Walk distance: 4km (2.49miles)



Route includes "kissing" gates and steps so not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs



Refreshments: drinks/snacks available from shops on Melchet Road



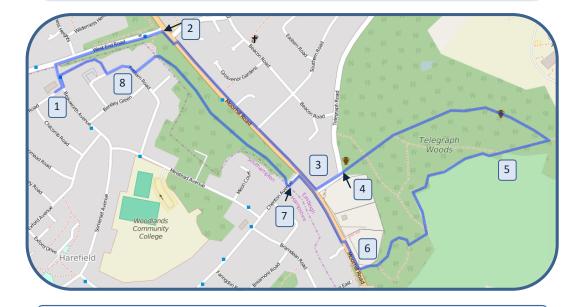
No public toilets on route



Nearest bus route is the Xelabus X10 which links West End Road (Beauworth Avenue jct) to Moorgreen Hospital



There are many paths in Telegraph Woods, boards in the woods display alternative routes



Refreshments available from the shop on Melchet Road (1)



This walk leaflet is produced by SO18 Big Local.

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For more information, find us on Facebook or
visit www.so18biglocal.org.uk



1. From Harefield Hub, walk to the end of Melchet Road (drinks and snacks available at the shop here) and cross Beauworth Avenue. Turn left up Beauworth and then right onto West End Road.

Alternatively, you can turn right before the main road, and follow the footpath to the end, turning left onto Fritham Road and then left again into Leckford Close. Behind the flats in Leckford you climb the bank/steps and walk through Harefield Woods before turning left on to Cheriton Avenue and right onto Moorhill Road, i.e. the reverse of Steps 6 & 7 of this walk. If you take this option, skip step 2 and re-join this route at Step 3.

- 2. Follow West End Road until you reach the junction with Moorhill Road. Turn right onto Moorhill Road and where safe to do so, cross to the far side. Continue along Moorhill until you reach Telegraph Road on your left.
- 3. Turn left onto Telegraph Road and follow this for a short distance (≈50m) until you see a gate straight ahead of you just as the road bends to the left. Take this gate in to Telegraph Woods.



The site of Telegraph Woods is leased from Queen's College, Oxford, but maintained by Eastleigh Borough Council. Within its 19 hectares can be seen remains of an Iron Age hill-fort, as well as remains of an Armada beacon.

- 4. There are many routes through the woods, depicted on the information boards within the woods but to follow the route we took, take the main path straight ahead through the woods until you almost reach the far side of the woods, then take the turning on the right.
- 5. Follow this path, and at the next "junction" turn left and follow this along the edge of the woods with the fence and views of the golf course on your left. When the path splits, take the left fork and then turn right at the next junction, heading towards an impressive pine tree with distinctive red bark. When you reach the metal fencing, turn left and follow the path back towards the main road. Exit the





woods via the kissing gate and you will emerge on to Moorhill Road once more.

- 6. Turn right along Moorhill Road and where safe to do so, cross to the far side and continue along Moorhill Road.
- 7. Turn left into Cheriton Avenue and then turn right just after the red post box. Take the footpath through the kissing gate into Beacon Hill Woodland Park, known locally as Harefield Woods. Again there are several routes through these woods, but we headed straight ahead, then took the left hand fork where the path split, and then left again at the next fork. You will pass the telephone exchange building on your left. Continue straight ahead and you will eventually see Leckford Close on your left. There are steps down the bank, head down the bank and into Leckford Close.



Beacon Hill Woodland Park (or Harefield Woods to locals) was part of the site of a troop camp during marshalling operations in preparation for the D-Day landings in 1944. Remains of latrines and concrete installations can be seen in the woods to this day (be careful, some of the holes that remain are deep).

[Contd. over]