

After passing the entrance and exit of Randalls Farm there is a footpath sign pointing to a path which runs to the right of an iron entrance gate to a bungalow. This is the newly opened Daffield Lane, also known as Daffodil Lane. (To take the longer route continue along Edneys Hill and follow the map). For the main walk turn into Daffield Lane, an attractive wooded path, which can be very wet and muddy in places, until Doles Lane is reached.

With its tall oak trees and hazel hedges, Daffield Lane is a haven for wildlife, especially in springtime.

Turn right along Doles Lane and continue past Highfield Farm and some houses and bungalows on your right until you reach a kissing gate. Go through this into Redlands Farm Park. To the left are some seats from which a most attractive view across wooded countryside can be seen.

In the fields to the left of Doles Lane fieldfares and redwings can sometimes be seen in winter. Redlands Farm Park is owned and managed by Wokingham Town Council. Natural species of trees have been preserved and planted. Note the beautiful oak tree to the right of the benches. The park is open to the public and sometimes used for sports events.

(The walk can be finished by returning to the car park directly across the field). To complete the main walk continue along Doles Lane and take a right turn at the main T junction just past Hutts Farm into Blagrove Lane. At the next T junction cross the pavement opposite and turn left just outside Gladys's Corner Shop. After 20m turn right into a signed narrow footpath. Continue along this footpath until you reach a waymarked footpath to the right. This leads back across the golf course, initially between wood and wire fences and then between an attractive double hedgerow.

This footpath is new, replacing an earlier one which ran across an open field. It is lovely in spring and autumn.

At the end of this path turn right along the footpath beside The Lodge and cross Evendons Lane carefully back to the car park.

EVENDONS AND SAND MARTINS GOLF COURSE CIRCULAR ROUTE

This walk is about 2 1/4 miles long and will take about an hour to do. It can be extended to 3 1/4 miles. If walked a second time, it is worth doing in reverse order to enjoy different views.

This route goes through an area which was once part of the extensive manor of Evendons. It includes new footpaths in countryside which forms an important green gap between Wokingham and Finchampstead North. It was a condition of granting planning permission for the Sand Martins Golf Course that these paths were opened for public enjoyment.

Most of the footpaths are marked with signposts or Countryside waymarks. Where narrow roads are used please take care as cars can drive very fast along them. While most of the paths are made up, there are sections which can be very muddy in damp weather. Stout shoes or gumboots are recommended. Please follow the Walker's Code.

The starting point is the public car park next to the Scout Hut in Evendons Lane, on the right just past the junction with Blagrove Lane. From Wokingham Town Centre this can be reached by bus along the Finchampstead Road. Get off at the White House Preparatory School and walk along Evendons Lane. The walk can also be joined at other points along the route.

FOLLOW THE COUNTRY CODE

Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work	Leave livestock, and machinery alone
Guard against all risk of fire	Take your litter home
Keep dogs under close control	Help keep water clean
Keep to public paths across farmland	Protect wildlife, plants and trees
Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls	Take special care on country roads
	Make no unnecessary noise

This leaflet was produced with the assistance of

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Always wear appropriate footwear and take care when walking in the town or countryside. No responsibility is accepted by the authors of this leaflet for the state or condition from time to time of the paths comprised in these walks.

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WALKS From WOKINGHAM TOWN

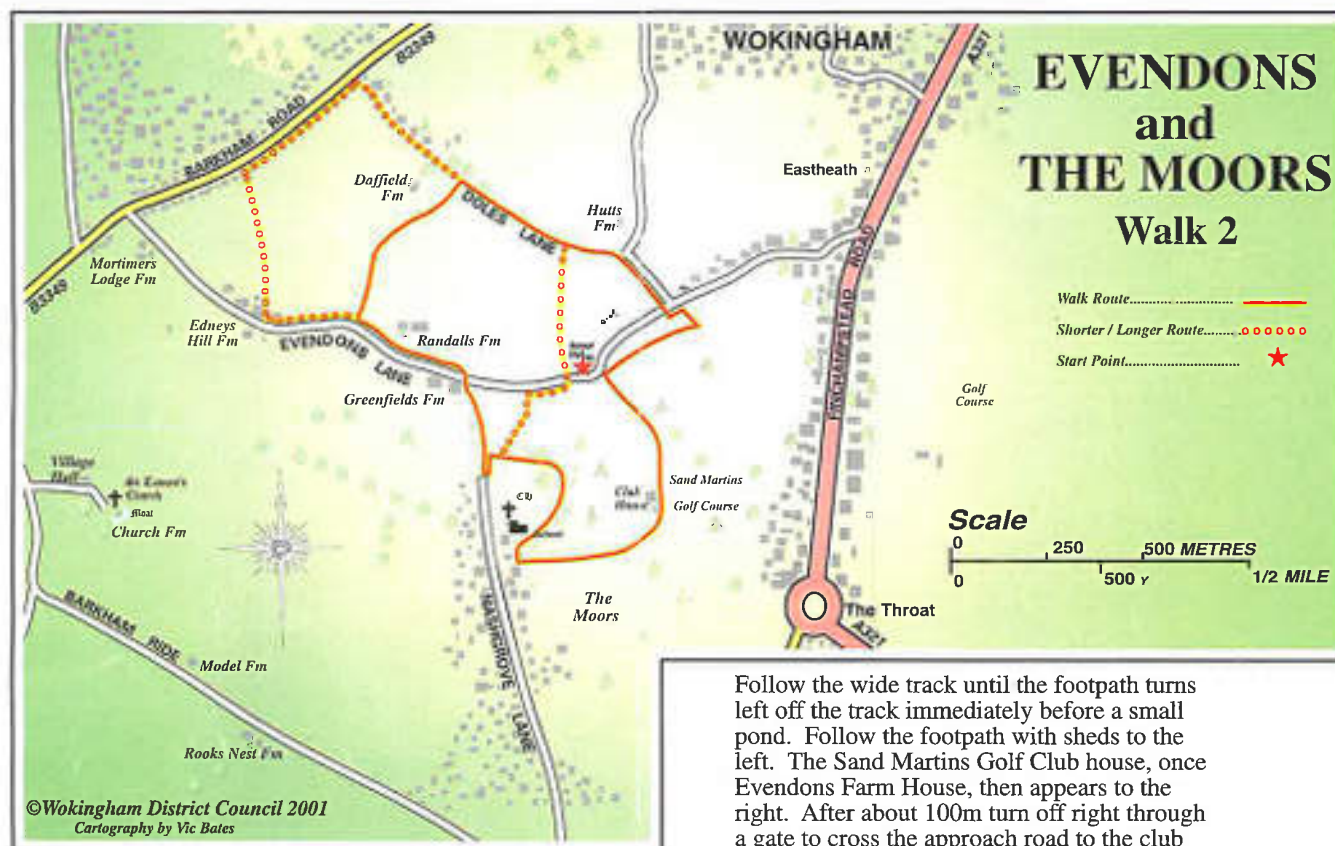


Evendons & The Moors Walk 2



A circular 2 1/4 mile walk

Wokingham District Council



START HERE:-

From the car park beside the Scout Hut cross carefully over Evendons Lane in a south easterly direction through a narrow footpath adjoining The Lodge. This opens up into a wider dirt track with hedges on either side. At this point there are crossing footpaths to left and right which feature later in the guide.

This track was the approach to Evendons Farm, once one of the largest farms in the area. The numbers of woody shrubs that make up the hedges suggest that the hedges have been there for hundreds of years. Note the new lakes to your right. These were dug as part of the construction of the golf course in 1992 and have already attracted water birds including swan, coot and mallard.

Follow the wide track until the footpath turns left off the track immediately before a small pond. Follow the footpath with sheds to the left. The Sand Martins Golf Club house, once Evendons Farm House, then appears to the right. After about 100m turn off right through a gate to cross the approach road to the club house over a pedestrian crossing.

To the left is a small restored barn. Note the staddle stones keeping the floor off the ground, originally for keeping rats out. To the left ahead, on the golf course, you can see sand-stone cliffs in which sand martins nest during the summer. The cliffs were especially retained from the sand quarry which was excavated on the farm land in the 1980s. The golf course takes its name, Sand Martins, from these annual visitors.

Having crossed the road, the path turns sharp right and then bears round to the left along the front of the club house. As you approach the driving range, turn left into a waymarked footpath. To the right are the Moors, first a wet woodland and then a grassland area. Finally you reach a footpath leading to Waverley Way.

The Moors is a remnant of good quality wet woodland which, together with the adjoining wet grassland, is managed by the Countryside Service of Wokingham District Council. It was protected by planning agreement during the development of the golf course. The woodland contains nine tree species and many flowers. The grassland area of the reserve supports at least eight species of grasses, sedges and rushes as well as flowers. Little owls and greater spotted and green woodpeckers can sometimes be seen. As the site is small and often waterlogged, it is very fragile. Please keep to the perimeter footpaths.

Turn right along Waverley Way and, after about 200m, half right on to a sandy stone footpath across a grassed area, skirting the ditch running along the boundary of the Moors on the right. To the left is a sunken area which is a balancing pond for the nearby estate in times of heavy weather. A brick and concrete overflow weir has to be negotiated, although you can walk around the other side of the balancing pond. Beyond the wide opening in the hedge, the stone footpath finishes, and a made-up path goes left to Nash Grove Lane. A more pleasant way to the same point is to continue forward on the grass, keeping close to the ditch on the right and a wooded mound to the left. The golf course appears on your right and you walk past a bridge to a footpath over the ditch. (This can be crossed to take a short cut back to the car park).

The playing fields to the left belong to Wokingham District Council. During spring and summer there is a good variety of wetland wild flowers to be seen along the ditch.

Turn sharp right into Nash Grove Lane when you have walked around the edge of the field. Continue along this unmade up road until Evendons Lane (Edneys Hill on the name board) is reached. Turn left at the T junction and take care about traffic.

On the left of Nash Grove Lane you will pass some fishing ponds. The original one was dug in 1964 for private use by the then owner of the adjacent Greenfields Farm.