



Knocking Knoll and Pegsdon

The Icknield Way joins the B655 – turn right onto this road for a bit on the grassy verge.

Shortly, you'll see the Icknield Way heading to the left. Follow this path up the hill towards Tingley Wood, eventually you'll come to a T-junction.

At the junction, have a look for Knocking Knoll Long Barrow on the right. The Stone Age burial mound was partially excavated in 1856 by William Ransom from Hitchin.

Turn left. Before you get to Tingley Field Plantation, take the path downhill on your right. Follow this with the field to your left, turning left at the waymark post follow the wide track which will lead you to the opposite corner from where you started.

On this path, you'll pass a small wooded area on your right and then the path leads to a farm road.

Turn left onto this road and in no time you join Pegsdon Way. If you turn right onto this road it will take you back to the pub.



This is one of a series of five guides produced for an exhibition: Dreamers, Radicals & Satirists: Hertfordshire's inspired writers (February to June 2020).

Other walks in this series feature the landscapes of Forster, Bulwer-Lytton, Shaw and Orwell.

Maps are also available on the ViewRanger app, which also has bonus images and audio (search for BritishSchoolsMuseum).



British Schools Museum

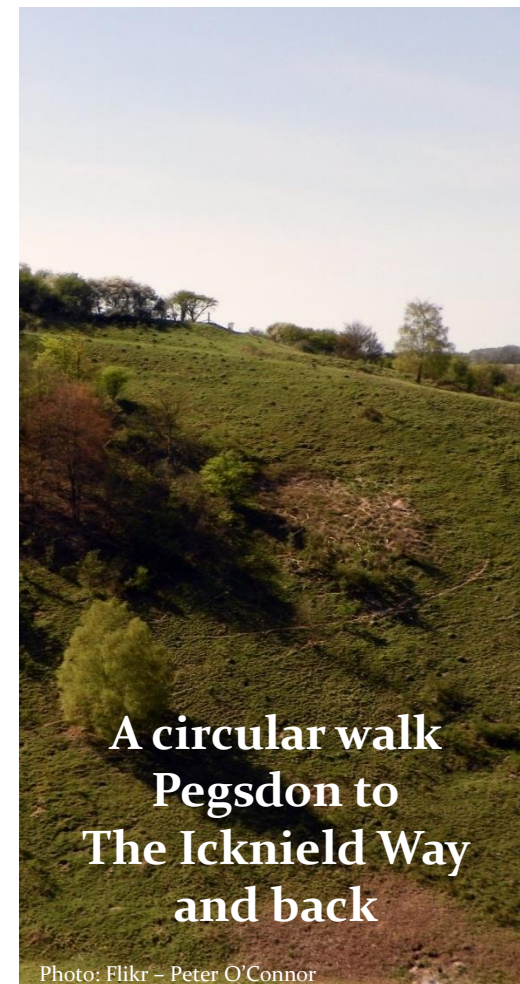
41 Queen Street
Hitchin SG4 9TS

See website for events, activities and opening times



www.britishschoolsmuseum.org.uk

Edward Thomas' country



A circular walk Pegsdon to The Icknield Way and back

Photo: Flickr – Peter O'Connor

DREAMERS,
RADICALS
& SATIRISTS

Edward 'Thomas' country

Follow in Edward Thomas' footsteps along the famous Icknield Way. The walk is in the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire border country, taking in the archaeological and natural landscape. Do ensure you have a map.

Distance: 4 miles / 7.25 km

Terrain: Fairly easy, some inclines

Duration: 2 hours

Map: OS Explorer Map 193 Luton & Stevenage or free ViewRanger app

Parking: Pegsdon Way, Hexton SG5 3JX

Edward Thomas (1878-1917)

Thomas was a poet who wrote extensively on travel.

An obsessive walker from childhood, he loved the solitude and natural beauty of the pathways of southern England, including the Icknield Way.

He believed that a receptive mind could connect to the voices of the past by walking England's well-trodden paths.



Pegsdon

The walk starts in Pegsdon. From the The Live and Let Live pub, turn right and follow the road, turning right onto the B655 (Hitchin Road).

Ignore the first sign for the Pegsdon Hills on your left and take the second one into the Nature Reserve with its wildflower meadows and chalk hills.

Take the path straight ahead, following it along the contours of the hill. It will lead you towards Hoo Bit, Telegraph Hill and the Icknield Way.



Icknield Way

Turn left on to the Icknield Way. This is an easy route all the way back to the B655, now called Pirton Road.

The Icknield Way is said to be one of the oldest routes still in use in the country. One of four highways mentioned in the 12thC (the four being Ermine Street, Fosse Way, Watling Street and Icknield Way).

The route ran from Wiltshire to Norfolk. Today, the Icknield Way Path offers walkers a chance to walk much of this route.

The route goes through Ickleford, near Hitchin and other sections can be walked on the Orwell walk in this series.