



### Approaching Knebworth House

Follow the road 150m until, at the next cottage, Rustling End Cottage, turn right where you see the signpost.

Continuing on this path, skirt the top of Graffidge Wood. You'll come to a fork – bear right to continue skirting the woods. The path leads right up to the B656 again.

After crossing, take the path as it skirts round the south side of Burleighcroft Wood. Take the first path on your right to Burleigh Farm.

Taking care at this working farm, the path you want runs in almost a straight line to Wintergreen Wood (a Site of Special Scientific Interest).

Follow the path until it joins a track southwards towards the Church of St Mary and St Thomas. Opposite this is the family Mausoleum, and Knebworth House to the south.

These footpaths are for right of passage only. Please note to picnic or linger, an entry ticket to the park is required – and indeed highly recommended.

The exit leads onto Old Knebworth Lane, turn right into the village and bear right at the cross roads to rejoin Park Lane to the Lytton Arms.



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 Thomas.

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](http://www.britishschoolsmuseum.org.uk)

# Edward Bulwer-Lytton's country

## A circular walk Old Knebworth to Graffidge Wood and back

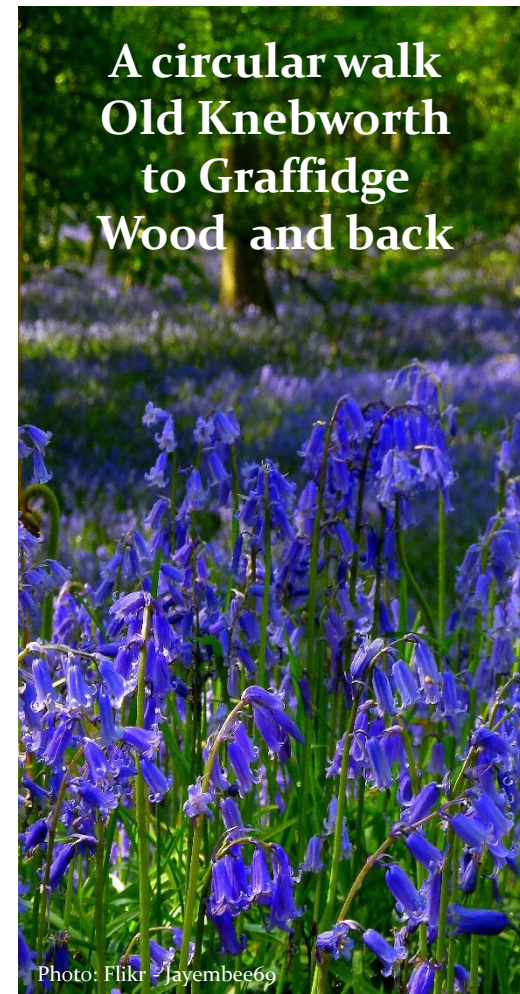


Photo: Flickr - Jayembe69

DREAMERS,  
RADICALS  
& SATIRISTS

## Edward Bulwer-Lytton's country

This walk will go from Old Knebworth to Graffidge Wood and the Keeper's Cottage, round to Knebworth House and then back to the old town. Don't forget your map!

**Distance:** 4.5 miles / 7.25 km

**Terrain:** Fairly easy, some across open country

**Duration:** 2 hours

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

**Parking:** On Park Lane SG3 6QB

**Edward Bulwer-Lytton** (1803-1873) was one of the most popular Victorian writers credited with popularising science fiction, crime novels and producing historical novels.

He wrote much in the High Gothic style, which fell out of favour but may be seen as linking 18<sup>th</sup>C and 20<sup>th</sup>C traditions.

He lived at the Gothic-styled Knebworth House, entertaining friends such as Charles Dickens.



## Old Knebworth

Old Knebworth is worth a good stroll. Homewood House, at the end of Dowager footpath (which starts opposite the driveway for the Knebworth Lodge on Park Lane). The suffragette Constance Lytton lived here until her death in 1923.

The old village expanded around Knebworth House; the newer village of Knebworth is late Victorian.

The route begins at The Lytton Arms, Park Lane, Old Knebworth (SG3 6QB).



## Graffidge Wood

Follow the road, past the Lytton Arms and Alms Houses.

Just after Slip Lane, turn right onto the track – look out for the public pathway logo by the wooden gate.

Follow the path past the cenotaph until you come to the B656. Cross the road carefully, into Graffidge Wood, look out for the spring Bluebells.

After 250m, pass a small Roman burial mound on your right. Just before the crossroads, bear right along a path which eventually joins a track towards the Keeper's Lodge.

