

1. This walk starts at the **War Memorial**. Walk down **Church Road** towards the **Globe** Public House. The land to the right was once a saw mill, to the left is **Cannington Priory**, now restored by EDF in connection with Hinkley Point C Power Station. Turn left at the Globe into Church



Street to face the clock tower of the church, the building on your left was once an industrial school which closed in 1917. Walk through the gates into the churchyard and follow the path to the right into **Brook Lane**.

2. Walk down the Brook Lane with the **Old Vicarage** and the **Friendly Spirit** to your right. The Friendly Spirit was extensively rebuilt after a fire in 1947 and was called the Blue Anchor until 1986. Cross **Cannington Brook** by the footbridge directly ahead. Follow the road to Main Road, cross Main Road using the road island and follow the fingerpost along the path to the **Otters Brook Estate**. The estate road takes you between the brook and the houses. As you approach the bungalows of **Southbrook Close** take the footpath that leads through a gap in the fence off to the left.

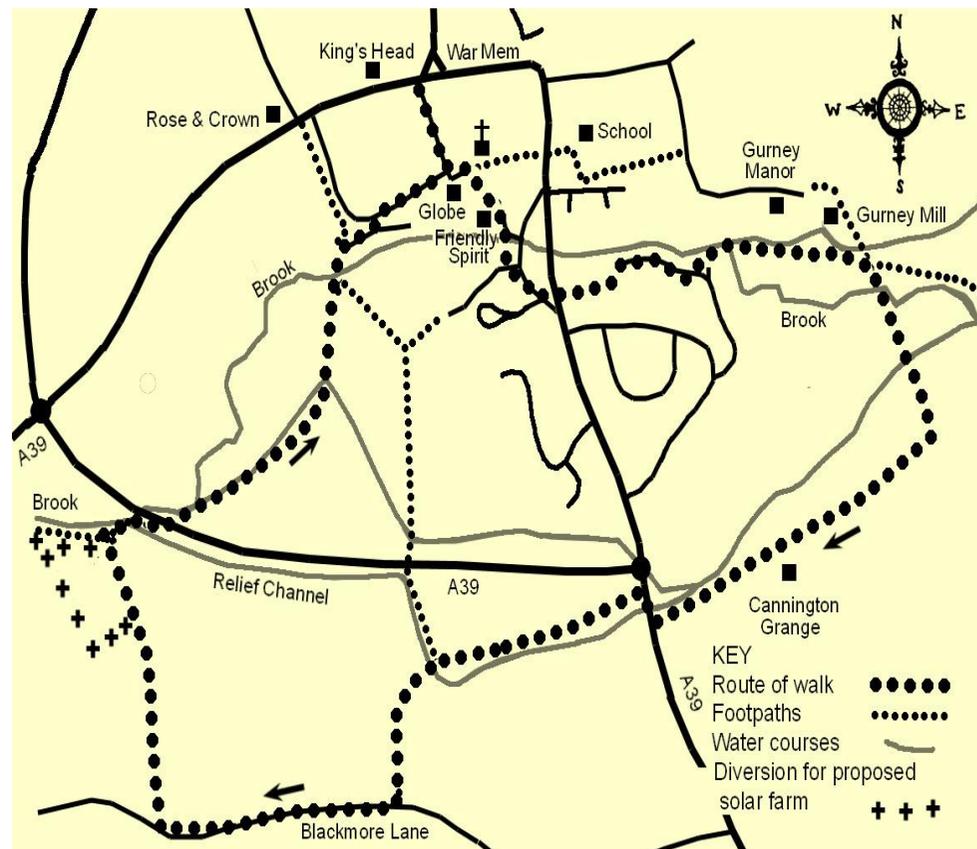
3. This path runs parallel to the brook and crosses the brook by a narrow footbridge adjacent to a weir. This weir can be impressive in wet weather. Walk across the meadow, to the left is the late medieval **Gurney Manor**



owned by the Landmark Trust. The pond is the mill pond of Gurney Mill. Walk past the mill, through a gate and turn right onto a track.

4. Walk along this track (*the track looking towards Wembdon Hill not the track curving off to the left*). The first bridge is across the brook as it winds its way to the River Parrett. The next and larger bridge is over the flood relief channel constructed in 2018. Cross this gated bridge, walk through the next gate and immediately turn right onto a path that follows the hedge on the right. This path heads towards a small area of woodland. There are two metal gates ahead, take the right hand gate into a path through the trees. This leads into a tree-lined lane ending at a gate. Through this gate and passing **Cannington Grange** on the left, the path leads onto the access road associated with the relief channel and then onto the busy A39.

5. Turn right at the A39, cross the relief channel bridge then cross the A39 at the road island. A finger post points to the public footpath, climb the stile into the wooded and overgrown **Hawker's Lane**. This is the



home to a collection of mysterious buildings. Push through the long grass and the weeds and on to the bank of the relief channel. Walk along the bank to a wooden gate.

6. Walk straight on across the attractive bridge over the relief channel and follow the path as it curves to gently the left towards a bungalow on **Blackmore Lane**. Turn right along Blackmore Lane and walk for about a third of a mile, past **Rice's Farm** and past cottages on the right. Immediately past the last cottage is a fingerpost pointing to the right, follow this footpath.

7. The path runs along the left of a field. Climb the stile in the corner of the field. Once across the stile, turn very slightly left and cross the field towards a gate and bridge that crosses the relief channel. This gate has a distinctive round **20t** sign, clearly visible from across the field. If there are crops in the field or if the proposed solar farm has been constructed, turn left and follow the perimeter of the field. This diversion is marked with crosses on the map.



8. Go through the gate at the bridge, cross the bridge, turn right and walk between two wooden fences. This leads onto the bank of the relief channel. Walk along the bank until you reach a gate on your left

9. Going through this gate takes you to the **A39 Cannington Bypass**. Cross the road with great care, traffic moves very briskly here. The footpath is directly ahead passing through a hedge and turning right to run alongside the watercourse. Cross two stiles, into a field that gets gradually wider. Follow the left side of the field past the Park and Ride car park, Cannington



Church tower is straight ahead. Pass through a gate in the corner of the field and immediately over a bridge across the original relief channel. Pass through a second gate, bear slightly right and pass through a third gate. Cross the field heading to the left of the houses in **Mill Close**

10. Cross the bridge over Cannington Brook, walk along the path and then up the path to the right leading into Mill Close. Walk along Mill Close, past Cannington Mill and turn right into Mill Lane. Walk towards the **Priory**; turn left into Church Street and so back to the **War Memorial**.

This walk is just over three miles long.

DISCOVER SOME OF THE BEAUTIFUL SCENERY AROUND THE VILLAGE OF CANNINGTON AND YOU'RE NEVER VERY FAR FROM LIQUID REFRESHMENTS

WALKS BASED IN CANNINGTON

1. WALK AROUND CANNINGTON HILL (3.25ml)
2. WALK TO BLACKMORE LANE (2.8 miles)
3. WALK AROUND CANNINGTON(1.5 miles)
4. WALK TO THE CONSERVATION TRAIL 2 miles)
5. WALK TO CANNINGTON MILL/GRANGE AND THE FLOOD RELIEF CHANNEL (3.2 miles)



MORE WALKS CAN BE FOUND ON canningtonparishcouncil@cannington.org.uk

- ❖ *People doing these walks do so at their own risk as some areas can be muddy or steep*
- ❖ *Please leave gates as you find them*
- ❖ *Dog walkers please keep dogs on a lead at all times as they may encounter farm animals.*
- ❖ *Please clear up after your dog*

*Researching the walk – Peter Nurse
Designing the leaflet – Shaun Ryall*

POPULAR WALKS AROUND CANNINGTON



WALK NUMBER 5 Walk to Gurney Manor & Mill, Cannington Grange & the Flood Relief Channel

*This walk originally appeared in the Cannington Target 40, Summer 1997, while Dave Hatherley was editing the magazine. It also featured in Cannington Reflections, the book produced to celebrate the new Millennium. Since then the route has seen significant changes with the building of the Otters Brook Estate on what was known locally as Popham's Field and the construction of the new flood relief channel
(Peter Nurse)*