

## POINTS OF INTEREST

**1 Potterne Park** was originally arable and pasture land. Sports and recreational facilities were introduced there in the 1980s.



**2 Rushmore Heath** is an important example of European Lowland Heath. It is now a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and provides a home to a wide variety of reptiles, insects, butterflies and birds.



**3 Lower Common** is another area where rare wildlife flourishes. A decoy runway was constructed on the Common in World War 2 to help protect the nearby airfields at Hurn and Ibsley from enemy bombers.



**4 Cuckoo Flower** grows alongside the paddocks at Lower Common in late April. The flowers are said to bloom before the first cuckoo is heard.



**5** There are two **Solar Farms** generating electricity in the area. They have established a Community Fund which makes donations to local organisations.



**6** Farming records exist for **Manor Farm** back into the 1600s when it was known as Cray's Manor. The River Crane runs alongside the farm.



Photo credits: David Caals, Verwood Ramblers

## VERWOOD WALKABOUTS

### WALKABOUT 3 Lower Common

A circular walk starting at Potterne Park, Verwood (approx. 4.9 miles).

This is one of a series of circular walks from Verwood through the surrounding countryside. They are mainly on Public Rights of Way, with some on paths with access permitted by the landowners.

These walks are intended to encourage exploration and appreciation of the variety and beauty of the countryside in this locality, on foot. Cyclists are not permitted to ride on public footpaths and by law must give way to walkers and horseriders on bridleways.

When walking, please remember the Countryside Code, particularly:

- respect the local community, farmland and others enjoying the countryside
- leave gates and property as you find them
- leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- keep dogs under effective control
- keep to the marked paths and cause no damage to crops, livestock or wildlife

Appropriate footwear is recommended, since wet or muddy conditions can be encountered at any time.

The Verwood Walkabouts have been developed by the Verwood and District Ramblers to mark their 50th Anniversary and have been produced in association with Dorset Council. They are available from Verwood Town Council Offices, Verwood Library and the Heathland Heritage Centre. They can also be downloaded from [www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/walkabouts](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/walkabouts)

Further information can be obtained from Verwood Town Council on 01202 820880.



## VERWOOD WALKABOUTS

### Lower Common



# LOWER COMMON

A circular walk starting at Potterne Park, Verwood.

## STARTING POINT

Potterne Park,  
Verwood, BH21 6RS

## DISTANCE

approximately  
4.9 miles



**KEY**

- Walkabout route
- Other rights of way
- 1 Points of interest

200 m  
500 ft