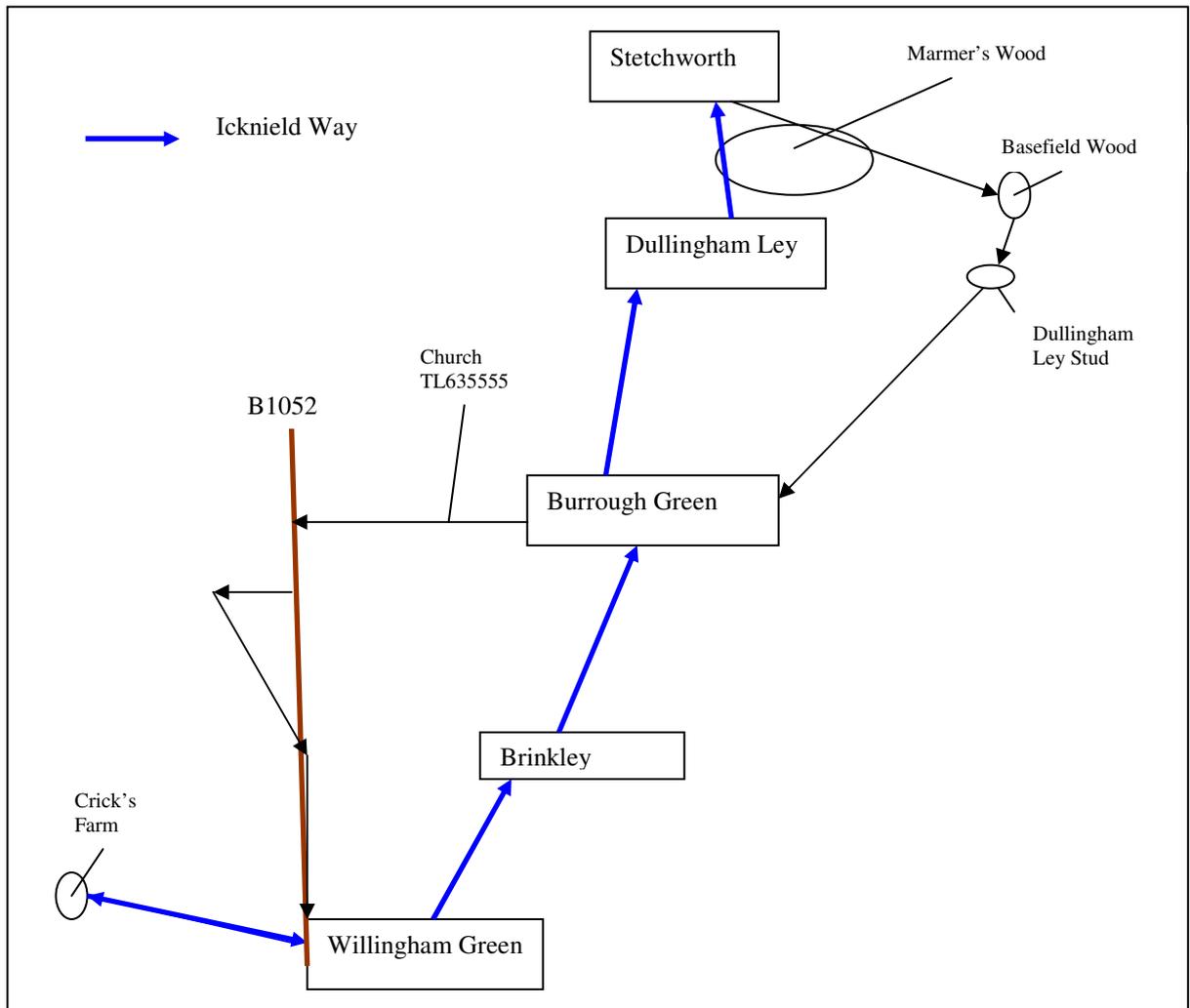


The Icknield Way. Part 18 from Crick's Farm to Stetchworth, 1 August 2010

Map OS Explorer 210. This is a figure of 8 route, starting from Burrough Green (TL638556) and circling W and S back to Crick's Farm which was the finishing point on leg 17. From Crick's Farm the route returns to Burrough Green (and a delightful drop of Abbot) to continue the Way to Stetchworth (TL642582) and return to Burrough Green via Dullingham Ley stud. 13 km.



From the green at Burrough Green, the southern loop passes the 11th Century church and heads W to reach the B1052.



The church sports some fine mediaeval heads that guard the front door.

Take the loop to the W of the B1052 (at TL628554) in order to leave the bustle of the road and enjoy the diversity of plant life in the happily un-slashed ditches. The road is finally abandoned at TL626540 where the Icknield Way is regained, it leads in a generally WNW direction to reach Crick's Farm (where the combine is cranking up for the rape harvest).



Bladder campion



Common mallow



Brimstone ♀

Late summer flowers are in abundance on the verges which have been left in (some) peace. We now retrace our route along the Way to regain the B1052, cross it, and head N to Brinkley through horse paddocks. The Way emerges in front of Brinkley church where it turns right for a couple of hundred metres before turning left (NE) and heading back to Burrough Green when it passes by the side of The Bull and eventually to a delightfully shaded green lane which traverses horses' paddocks and arrives at Dullingham Ley.



The green lane leading out of Burrough Green and Great Willowherb in its verges

More equine territory now as the Way passes manicured paths that lead to Marmer's Wood and on to the outskirts of Stetchworth at TL642582. The return loop is started by following the lane to the right and taking the path due S to return to Marmer's Wood, pass through it and continue S by taking the path just before Basefield Wood (at TL647568).



A fine filly or two?



Fairy ring Champignon (*Marasmius* spp.)



Cardinal beetles

The severe hedgerows in these paddocks are home to a fine array of legumes including Birdsfoot Trefoil, Dragon's Teeth and Meadow Vetchling. The path

eventually returns to the more mundane world after passing Dullingham Ley Stud and then arrives at Burrough Green to complete the second loop of the day.