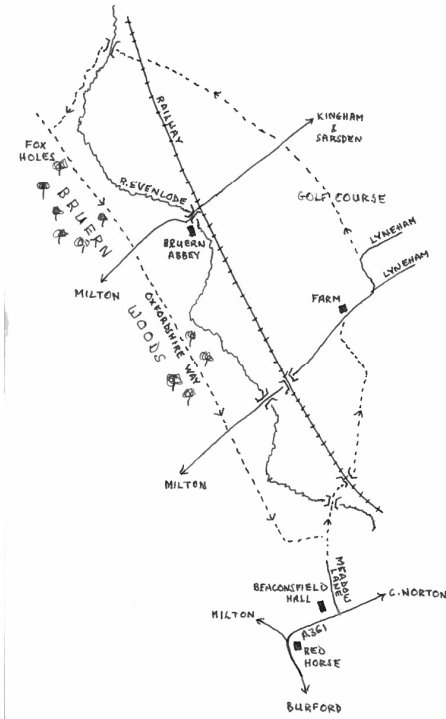


## Continuing Our Wychwood Walks Bruern and Evenlode Loop



This attractive, quiet and completely flat loop has the added advantage of being adjustable - while the whole route is around five and a half miles, it can be shortened by turning off at Lyneham or after the golf course, ideal if the weather changes without warning!

### Towards Lyneham

Starting at Meadow Lane, beside the Beaconsfield Hall, walk past the surgery onto the track and, where the Oxfordshire Way forks off to the left, keep straight ahead until you reach a wooden bridge across the Evenlode. Follow the path on the other side of the bridge, under the railway bridge and turn left, following the hedge. After about two hundred metres, beside a large oak tree, cross a stile on

your left and head half-right up the field, aiming just to the right of a telegraph pole. When you reach a hedge, follow it to your left, through a gate, down a shallow dip and bear half-right, towards a farm; this meets the Lyneham-Milton road and provides an easy way back (about two and a half miles all told).

Turn right towards Lyneham, past the holiday accommodation and then left down a narrow lane leading into the main part of the village, but as the road bends sharply right into Lyneham, go straight ahead down a clear track. Soon this crosses the golf course and reaches the road between Milton and Sarsden, just above the level crossing; another shortcut! Cross this road and follow the path across the field towards a gap in the trees and then slightly downhill towards the railway line. The path crosses the railway - take care - and then goes half right across either of two low bridges towards the far corner of the field where you will see a modern wooden bridge that re-crosses the river. The path beyond the bridge is indistinct but follows the river downstream before meeting the Oxfordshire Way.

### A Good Day Out

From here the route follows the Oxfordshire Way, through a muddy neck of Bruern Woods. It crosses the Bruern road and passes by the impressive facade of Bruern Abbey. Then it's through more woodland, across the Lyneham road and back to Shipton, with just one clearly marked rightangled turn down the slope back to Meadow Lane.

And so ends a satisfying half-day's hike.

**Bob Forster**