

### **BED & BREAKFAST**

#### **Royal Tunbridge Wells**

*Glyn and John Douche*  
Ephraim Lodge, The Common,  
Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 8BX.  
Tel: 01892 523053 Fax: 01892 523053

*Andrew Salter*  
Mount Ephraim, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 8XJ  
Tel: 01892 520331 Fax: 01892 510575

*Lynne Cook*  
Studley Cottage, Bishops Down Park Road,  
Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 8XX  
Tel: 01892 539854 Fax: 01892 549778

*Gillian Day*  
Blundeston, Eden Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells  
Kent TN1 1TS  
Tel: 01892 513030 Fax: 01892 540255

## **WALK 11**

**Duration:**  
2 to 2.5 hours, 8 km approx.

**Highlights:**  
Attractive landscape. Lovely old houses. Typical Wealden scenes of farm and oast house. Good views of upper-Medway Valley.

**Terrain:**  
Generally easy going, with a few moderate but short climbs. Some stiles in a poor condition.

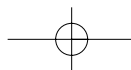
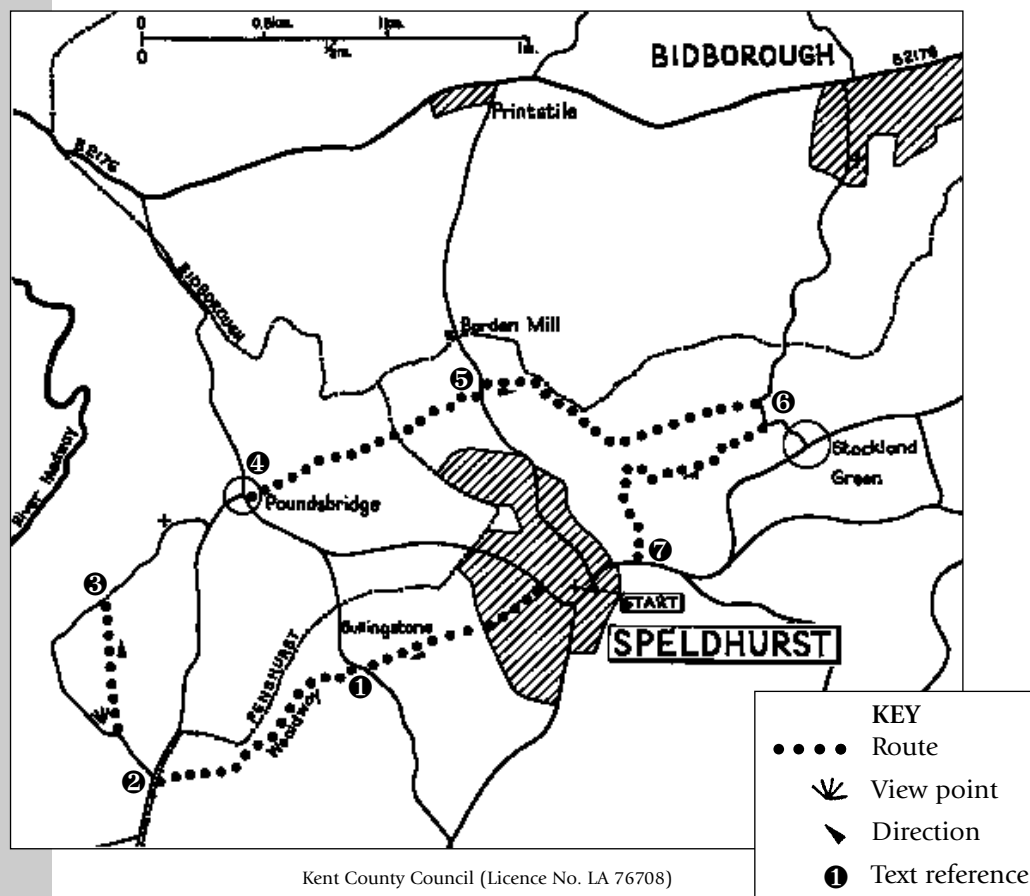
**Refreshment facilities:**  
George & Dragon pub/restaurant.


**Starting point:**  
Speldhurst Church  
O.S. Ref. 553414.

**Transport facilities:**  
There are no public car parks in Speldhurst village.  
Bus Routes: 285 AK(NS)  
NS: Not Sundays  
AK: Arriva Kent & Sussex  
Telephone: 01634 281100

**WALK BOUNDS**  
*and eat the view*

# *Speldhurst*



 **Route:** With back to church gates and facing Langton Road, walk along road to the right for 200 metres. Turn left to leave road through kissing gate and path sign-posted to Bullingstone Lane. This path runs between fences and crosses stiles to joining lane, where you should turn right

*In passing, see the lovely old farmhouse and its thatched roof garage which is on your right.*

Take footpath on left to pass between the charming Holly Cottage and the equally attractive, Old Bullingstone.

*A plaque states that Holly Cottage 'is one of Kent's listed historic buildings'.*

Cross stile and continue between fences/hedges. After 20 metres, at junction of paths, turn right to follow the Wealdway (WW) waymark. Descend into woodland, cross stream and over the gnarled roots of large beech trees. Continue through the woodland, gradually climbing out of the valley floor. Eventually the path turns right then left to become enclosed between fences. Cross stile to leave wood and cross diagonally right to another stile, then diagonally left across the next field as indicated by the waymark. At far side of field cross stile then turn right to pass a pond which is on the left side. Shortly after passing the pond emerge at a road junction

Cross road and walk down Coopers Lane for approximately 250 metres. Leave the road as it bears left and pass through (or over) gate to cross field. As a guide to your direction, take a line at right angles to the gateway, and aim for a post on the far side of the field. Pass through gap in hedge, continuing in the same line heading for a stile in the right hand boundary hedge/fence of field. Cross stile and continue heading slightly to the left of houses ahead. Cross stile and join road

Turn right along lane to pass cottages, converted oast and farm. A few hundred metres further on you will pass a chapel and graveyard. At a T junction (with Poundsbridge House directly ahead), turn left. Walk on Proceed for approximately 200 metres to another T junction

*Before proceeding, do pause and on your right admire the lovely old house dated 1593.*

Turn right at the junction and after 20 metres cross stile on the left side of road and continue on right hand boundary of field. Pass round to the left of pond to stile on far side. Once again

remain on the right hand boundary of the next field. At a second pond, walk along its edge to stile halfway along the pond (on left). Cross stile and continue on right hand boundary of field, to stile 10 metres beyond corner. Cross stile and bridge and again keep to the right hand boundary of the next field and on to a stile at the corner. After crossing stile proceed on path between fences to emerge at a road

On joining road turn left and after 20 metres turn right down track to Barden Mill Cottage and as indicated by footpath waymark. After passing cottages, cross stile at side of gate and continue along track which eventually turns left, crosses a stream and climbs out of the valley to farm buildings on the left side. Cross concrete block stile at side of gate. Bear right and after 10 metres bear left as indicated by the footpath sign and cross stile onto footpath no. 65 and proceed along right boundary to another stile to another field. Continue by again keeping to the right hand boundary, to stile under the canopy of a large tree. Cross stile and join road

Turn right and walk uphill. After passing entrance to Scriventon and at left hand bend in road, turn right to climb steps, cross stile to footpath round pond and between fences. This section of the walk back to Speldhurst follows part of route as for the Rusthall walk. After 20 metres cross stile and straight ahead, i.e. down the right hand boundary of field on path no 67. At corner of field bear right to cross stile and on to path between fences. After descending steps turn left along track for 20 metres, turning right onto footpath (no. 67) opposite Nutshell Cottage. Path drops down through woodland, to cross stile, bridge over stream and another stile. Bear right after stile to follow right hand boundary of field, crossing stile to road and adjacent to sewage works gate. Turn left along concrete road to climb away from the sewage works. After approximately 200 metres, where road bends right, climb stile on left to continue on path No 67. Bear round to the right following the field boundary to cross stile on the right hand side of a gate to path between fences.

Emerge at public road, immediately opposite 30 speed limit sign

Turn right up hill, continuing past the George and Dragon pub (unless of course you wish to stop for refreshment and victuals) to Speldhurst Church.