## THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF THE COLNE VALLEY





## Points of interest/history

(A) Cheena Meadow is named after nearby Cheena House, now part of Robertswood School. It was once owned by the Freemantle family whose summer residence in India was called Cheena Hill.

(B) Shire Lane runs along the ancient boundary between Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire and is therefore at least 11th century in origin. This pub, just within Hertfordshire, was originally "The Dumb Bells" and may be a pun on the two meanings of the phrase – the fitness apparatus and the habit of ringing church bells in silence without clappers for practice sessions.

(C) Brawlings Farm and Roberts Farm are just two of the medieval farm sites mentioned in Court Rolls for Chalfont St Peter.

(D) St Paul's Church was built in 1865 as a Victorian Chapel of Ease and seats just 40 people. Buried in the graveyard, next to her son, is Maria Korda a silent movie star of the 1920s and wife of Alexander Korda, a film director who worked at nearby Denham Studios. Also nearby is a lovely and unusual gravestone of a young child.







A delightful rural walk with views at every turn



Access: Several stiles, some small hills, muddy paths in winter.



Refreshments: The Dumb Bell pub (A)



**Public Transport:** 335 bus from Slough to Chalfont Common (stops in Denham Lane) operates once every 2 hours Mon-Fri.



By Road: The Dumb Bell pub can be reached from the A413 at Chalfont St Peter by heading up Joiners Lane from the roundabout by The Greyhound Inn then turning left at the T-junction and turning right into Rickmansworth Lane, continuing across the crossroads by the Church of St Paul in Horn Hill. Parking: Cheena Meadow car park, Chalfont St Peter.



Postcode: SL9 0QJ

**OS Grid Ref:** TQ 009 912

**Latitude:** +51.6109, **Longitude:** -0.5447

What3Words: boats.birds.gifts

Explore the

**Colne Valley Park** 

Countryside on your doorstep



For points of interest/history, turn over when you see this



- 1) From Cheena Meadow car park, cross Denham Lane and turn right.

  (A) After Robertswood School, turn right at a public footpath sign on the right and initially along the drive of number 65. Go over two stiles, crossing the fields diagonally right, until you reach a stile at the edge of Roberts Wood.
- **2)** Go over this stile and follow the path straight ahead, bearing right uphill. At the footpath junction, turn right, walk out of the woods and across the fields to a gate at Roberts Lane. Cross this road to the public footpath, go over the stile and walk along a footpath, through a gated garden area, through a kissing gate then across a field to reach Shire Lane. Turn left onto Shire Lane and, with great care, walk the short distance along this lane to reach the Dumb Bell pub. (B)
- **3)** From the pub, continue straight ahead, ignoring the road bending to the left. After 100 yards, go through a kissing gate on your left with two footpath signs.

Shortcut: Take the left hand footpath. Follow the path across the field, through Kiln Wood, then right onto Rickmansworth Lane, re-joining the main route at St Paul's church.

Take the right hand footpath diagonally across the large field until you reach Brawlings Lane. (C)

- 4) Diagonally opposite, go through the kissing gate into a meadow and follow the hedge line on your left. After the next kissing gate head diagonally across the field, then follow the hedge on your right down the hill through a gate and kissing gate. Immediately turn left at the 4-way footpath junction and go through another gate. Follow the footpath along the left edge of the field. Walk straight across the next field and then continue along the footpath, keeping the hedge line to your left. Turn left immediately before reaching the 5-way track junction and follow the path with a hedge on left. After going though a kissing gate, continue across the middle of two fields to a kissing gate at Brawlings Lane. Turn right along the road to a crossroads near St Paul's Church. (D) Taking care, go straight across into Roberts Lane and immediately turn right along the edge of the field for 300 yards.
- **5)** At the corner of the field, turn left for another 300 yards with woods on your right. Turn right through a kissing gate into Roberts Wood. Immediately turn left where the path forks and follow to the footpath

junction in the centre of the woods. Turn right and follow the path down the hill and past the houses on your right. When Denham Lane is reached turn left and carefully cross this busy road to the pavement opposite. Then walk south until you reach Cheena Meadow car park on the left hand side.

