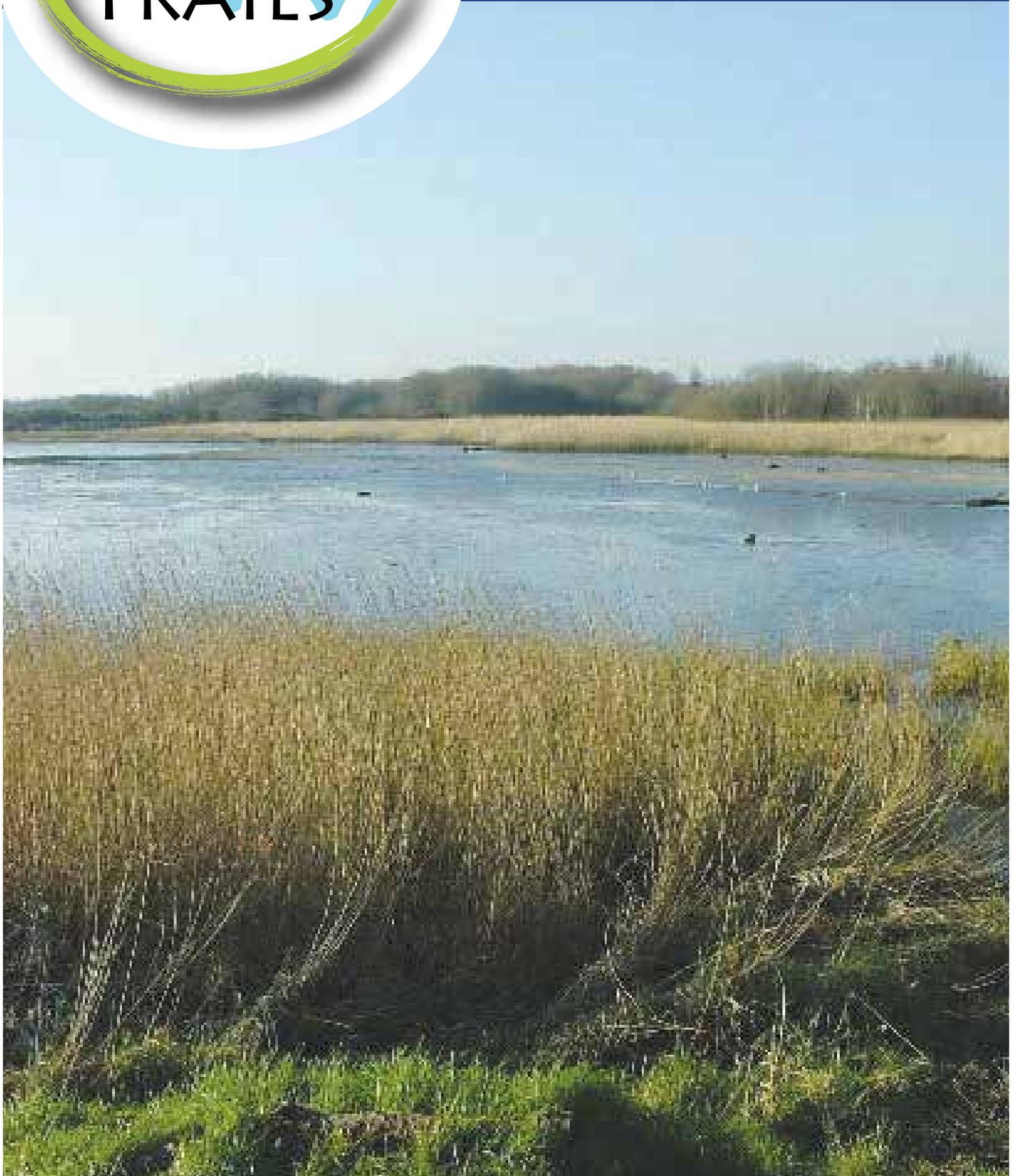




WALK 5b

SANDFORD
TO TURLIN MOOR



WALK 5b

Our wish is to design a walking route all the way around Poole Harbour and five out of six walks have already been published. However, at the time of publishing this leaflet (2017), it was difficult to walk the Sandford to Turlin Moor stretch close to the harbour. The final Walk 5 will appear in leaflet form once a suitable path through Holton Heath has been made a public right of way and a bridge has been constructed across the entrance to Lytchett Bay, as shown in purple on our route map. Walk 5b is a way of provisionally connecting up a round-harbour walking route. You can find further information about our aspirations for this route on our website www.pooleharbourtrails.org.uk

LOCAL HISTORY

ENVIRONMENT

Great Ovens Heath is a heathland nature reserve owned by Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (ARC).

The area of Beach Road is mostly reclaimed land from Lytchett Bay. Sandy Lane was waterlogged at the Poole end so people wore Wellington boots to get to Blandford Road, left them in the hedge and put nice shoes on to go into Poole, changing again to go home.

Lytchett Bay is famous for migrating birds. Little egret have settled there. Redshank, curlew, godwit and swan regularly visit, as do teal, lapwing, grey heron and shag.

The deepest channel in Poole Harbour is the one going into Lytchett Bay and the RNLI regularly train there.

INDUSTRY

Filleul Road is 100m from the clay and sand pits that supplied the Sandford Pottery from 1860 until the 1960s. Bricks were made and used in building Sandford House, Sandford Terrace and other local buildings. Some pottery, drainpipes, chimney pots and tiles were also made.

Upton had clay and sand quarries located in Upton Heath Nature Reserve and on Beacon Hill. To get the materials

to the brick factory in Upton, an aerial ropeway was devised between the pits and the brickworks.

The Royal Naval Cordite Factory on Holton Heath was instigated by Winston Churchill (as First Lord of the Admiralty at the time) and built in 1915, resulting in electricity coming for the first time to Sandford. There are still some remains of the underground part of the factory by the A351.

TRANSPORT

The routes of roads through Lytchett Minster, Organford, Holton Heath, Keyworth and Sandford changed over historical times depending on their usage, eg. drovers' trail, turnpike for carriages, route to employment.

The A35 was a turnpike road, a Georgian coaching road. Like other such roads of the time, it tended to avoid villages.

In the 18th Century, when canals were being built all over Britain, the Dorset and Somerset canal was proposed as a link between Poole and the Kennet and Avon Canal, with a branch passing through this area to Wareham. Sadly it was never built.

In 1847, the railway was built through to Wareham and Weymouth and in 1885 a branch was built to Swanage.

WALK 5b: SANDFORD TO TURLIN MOOR

Ordnance survey map: OL15

Grid reference: Start - SY 931 898
Finish - SY 980 915

Transport: (check current timetables)

Bus: Purbeck Breezer 40 Poole/Swanage and More Bus 8 and 9 Poole/Turlin Moor.

South West Trains: Poole, Bournemouth, Wareham, Hamworthy and Holton Heath railway stations.

Car Parking: Side roads in Sandford and Turlin Moor.

Approximate distance: 13.5 km (8.5 miles) allow 5 hrs.

Facilities en route: Pubs at A35/A351 roundabout and in Lytchett Minster.

Nature of route: Heathland, roads, woodland, urban open space.

Connecting harbour walks: Walk 5a - Sandford via Organford, Walk 6b - Upton Country Park, Ham Common and Lytchett Bay. See our website www.pooleharbourtrails.org.uk for details.

Note: a compass would be useful.

The route given uses Open Access land, roads, footpaths and bridleways that are public rights of way. Please note that while walkers can use any of these, cyclists and horse-riders are permitted to use only the roads and bridleways.



COUNTRYSIDE CODE

► **Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs.**

Check weather conditions and take adequate maps and equipment.

► **Leave gates and property as you find them.**

A gate may be open to give animals access to water, so leave gates as you find them and use access points provided.

► **Protect plants and animals and take your litter home.**

Don't touch animals and be careful not to leave a lighted match or a smouldering cigarette behind.

► **Keep dogs under close control.**

Your dog must not scare or disturb wild or farm animals. Pick up after your dog and dispose of the results responsibly.

► **Consider other people.**

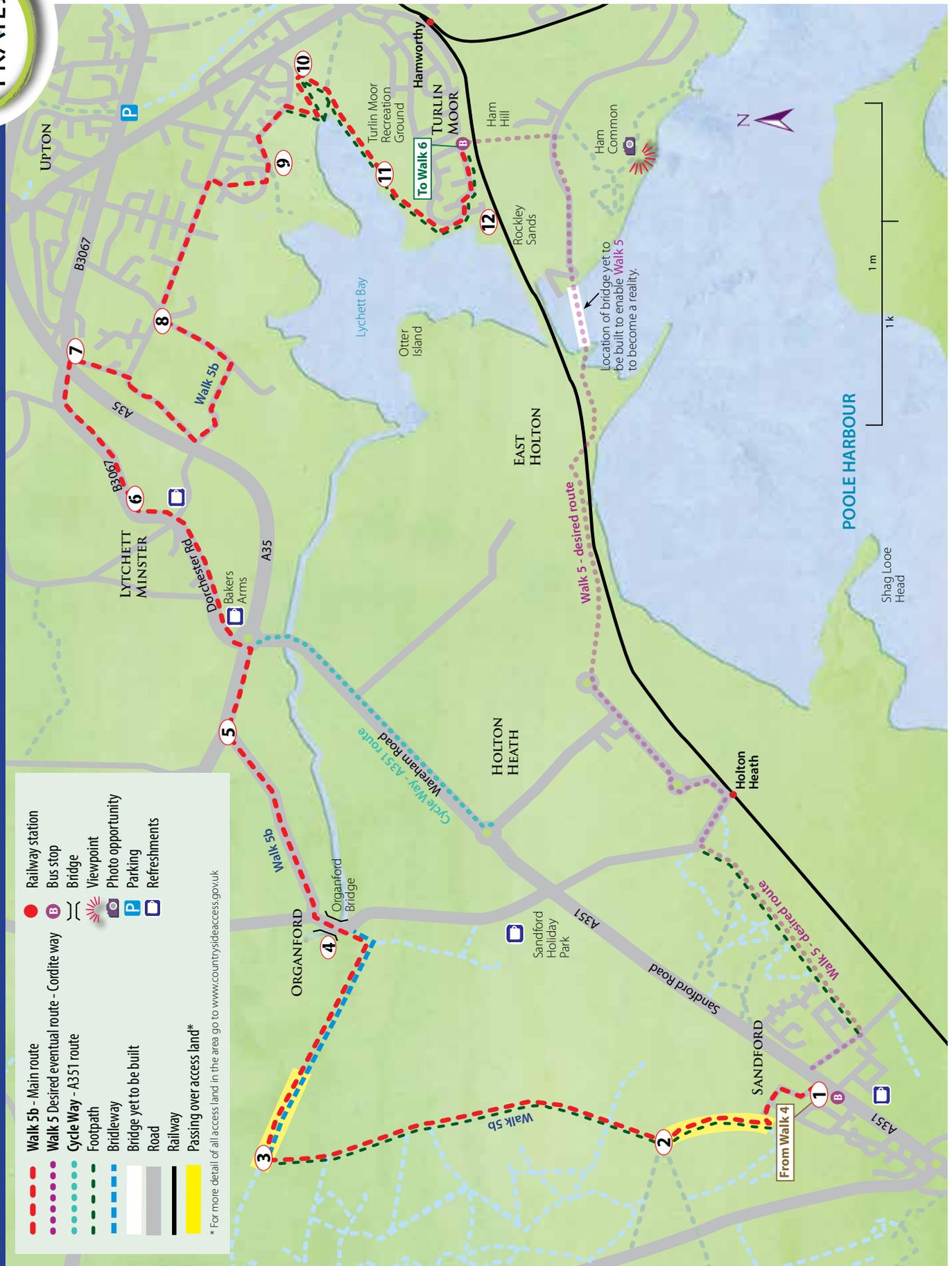
Share transport or use public transport where possible and don't block access.

OPEN ACCESS LAND

Open Access is a right of access on foot. Riding bikes or horses (except on bridleways designated public rights of way), driving vehicles (except mobility vehicles), camping or feeding animals are not allowed. Dogs must be on a short fixed lead up to 2 metres long near livestock and from 1 March until 31 July to protect nesting birds. Open Access is shown on our maps by pale yellow. Sometimes restrictions on access may be in place, please check details online or observe notices en route.



WALK 5b ROUTE ~ SANDFORD TO TURLIN MOOR



Walk 5b - Main route	Railway station
Walk 5 - Desired route	Bus stop
Cycle Way - A351 route	Bridge
Footpath	Viewpoint
Bridleway	Photo opportunity
Bridge yet to be built	Parking
Road	Refreshments
Railway	
Passing over access land*	

* For more detail of all access land in the area go to www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk

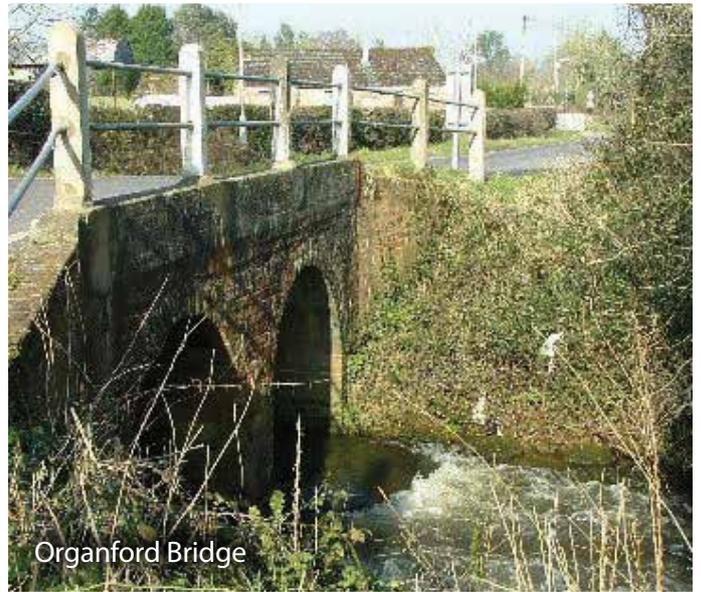
WALK 5 ~ DESIRED ROUTE Taking the footpath that runs along the back of Sandford from the end of Keyworth Drive, the route will go through the Trading Estate and along a new path past the Holton Heath Nature Reserve. Via a new bridge, the path will arrive at Rockley Point. After crossing the Rockley Sands Holiday Park, the route will end at a bus stop for More Bus buses 8 and 9 in Turlin Moor, the start of Walk 6. There was once a ferry crossing from Holton to Rockley, in the same place as the current railway crossing, used to access Poole.

WALK 5b ROUTE ~ SANDFORD TO TURLIN MOOR

1 Join the route on the A351 opposite the end of **Keysworth Drive**. Take a small footpath that starts opposite a bus stop and goes through the shrubs in a north-westerly direction leading on to **Filleul Road**. Follow this road up to the right, and on a left hand bend, where it becomes **Miles Avenue**, go straight on to the end of **Filleul Road** (a cul-de-sac). Pass through the gate on your right onto the **Great Ovens Heath** nature reserve and take the right hand footpath. Follow the path across the heath and boardwalks.



Great Ovens Heath



Organford Bridge



Organford

The heathlands so characteristic of Dorset and rare elsewhere were formed after Bronze Age farmers had removed trees to farm the land but then had to abandon these farms because of the poor soil. Since then, heathlands provided turf for fuel and grazing for animals.

- 2** When you reach a footpath crossing left to right next to a nature reserve notice board, turn right onto the footpath and follow this for 2.5 km until you approach the end of the wooded section.
- 3** As the main path continues around to the left, turn sharp right along the bridleway. Turn left into a lane at the T-junction and go straight out onto a public road.
- 4** Go straight over the bridge and through **Organford** and then fork right along the road which leads out onto the main Dorchester road, the **A35**.

Organford is an ancient village and has always been tiny, but on the track to the Forestry Commission plantation to the west of the village, there were a few cottages on land reclaimed from the heath in the 19th century, called **Gore Fields**, whose residents scratched a living farming poor land. The remains of one of the cottages can still be seen but the rest have disappeared as if they were never there.

- 5** Follow the road to the right using the wide grass verge until you reach the roundabout at the **Bakers Arms**. Turn left at the roundabout and head towards the village of **Lytchett Minster**.

The Bakers Arms still has its old bread oven. Laundry cottages, the old button shop and the old chapel were all buildings for the Lees estate employees.

- 6** Continue through the village along the **Dorchester Road** and across the bridge over the dual carriageway. Immediately after the bridge is **Policeman's Lane** on your right..
- 7** Go down **Policeman's Lane**. Turn right when the road bears left, going into **Watery Lane**, which turns left into Slough Lane. At the next junction, **Slough Lane** continues to the left (NE). (Turn right here to get access to an excellent harbour view, taking the path to the left of the sewage works.)

Policeman's Lane ~ The cottages for policemen were there in Victorian times, now privately owned. There was an old milk farm there, milk being taken round to the cottages by horse and cart in churns. Housewives brought their jugs out for filling.

- 8** At the end of Slough Lane turn right (sharp right down **Beach Road** gives access to the harbour) and continue along **Sandy Lane**, passing a nature reserve on your right (which also gives access to the harbour). Turn right into **Lytchett Way**, cross the next road and keep straight on along the path between the houses, and, after crossing another road, continue along a tarmac path between houses.



Oystercatcher



Curlew

Lytchett Hard was a boat yard. People were tying boats up at Sandy Lane until approximately 50 years ago. The bay has since shrunk and housing was built.

- 9** At a T-junction, turn left onto a footpath. (At this point you can use the footpath on your right to get to the harbour.) Pass through a metal barrier and take the right fork onto **Border Road**. When you come to an information board, turn right onto a footpath towards the **Lytchett Bay View**. When retracing your steps from the viewpoint, take the grassy path on your right along the hedge line and head into the woods. Before reaching the road, turn right to cross over a bridge leading to a gravel path. From the view point there is now a bridge you can use as a short cut to the gravel path, where you turn right.



Lytchett Bay

- 10** Follow through to the right along the gravel path, keeping the woodland on your right. (You are now on the Poole/Dorset boundary.) Follow this until you come out into a field, turn right along the edge of the field and join the water's edge of the harbour, bearing left with the path.
- 11** Follow the track around the edge of **Lytchett Bay**, passing a bird hide on your right. Head for the point where the houses are close to the harbour. Take the path to the right behind the houses, and then pass through a cycle barrier onto a path that runs alongside the water with the houses on your left.
- 12** When you reach the slipway turn left up the steps and take the paved pathway straight ahead between the flats and houses until it joins **Egmont Road** and continue to the junction with **Foreland Road** and the start of **Walk 6**. You can catch a More Bus number 8 or 9 bus to **Poole Hamworthy** railway station is nearby.

Visit website for route updates
www.pooleharbourtrails.org.uk

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POOLE HARBOUR

Purbeck and the Isle of Wight were once joined, Old Harry and the Needles having much in common. The rivers Frome and Piddle join at Wareham, and drain much of Dorset. Originally, these joined the Stour and the Avon at Christchurch with all these joining the Hamble to break out into the Channel through Spithead, east of the Isle of Wight. Since the end of the last Ice Age, about 12,000 years ago, the sea level has risen dramatically. The sea eventually broke through the chalk ridge, flooding the river valleys and dividing off the Isle of Wight.



Find out more about us on our website
www.pooleharbourtrails.org.uk

POOLE HARBOUR TRAILS LEAFLET SERIES

WALK 1 - Poole to Greenlands - 12 km (7.5 miles).

WALK 2 - Greenlands to Norden Park-and-Ride - 11 km (7 miles).

WALK 3 - Norden Park-and-Ride to Wareham - 12 km (7.5 miles).

WALK 4 - Wareham Quay to Sandford - 12 km (7.5 miles).

WALK 5b - Sandford to Turlin Moor - 13.5 km (8.5 miles).

WALK 6 - Turlin Moor to Poole Quay - 11 km (7 miles).

Other connecting routes can be found on our website.

Check your nearest Tourist Information Centre for information on other local walks.

With acknowledgements to Peter Strudwick and Bernard Corby
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Supported by



The Ramblers
East Dorset Group

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