

Institute of Physics

LONDON AND SOUTH EASTERN BRANCH REMS SECTION London Loop 7a: Kingston to Hounslow Cemetery 27th June 2009

This walk has been organised by David Pick

The London Loop, pioneered by the London Walking Forum, is London's first official orbital footpath, a fascinating journey around the edge of greater London. The definitive guide, "The London Loop" was written by David Sharp, list price £12.99. This guide contains maps, directions, detailed descriptions of the local scenery and facilities on the route. The whole route is about 150 miles long and Sharp's book divides it into 15 sections, starting and stopping at convenient transit points. This section takes us from Kingston on Thames Station to Hounslow Cemetery. The two pictures below are copied from Sharp's book.

The starting point is Kingston Station. Aim to be at the station by 11.00. This section is about 6-7 miles.



*Roots of swamp cypress by the River Longford in Bushy Park.
gunpowder industry that once thrived here.*



This section is easy walking, which includes some extensive green stretches. At Kingston Bridge we cross the Thames into Bushy Park (the second largest of the Royal Parks at 450 hectares, past Leg of Mutton Pond (no sheep) and Heron Pond (with heron, coots, ducks, geese and seagulls!) and walk beside the Longford River, and then on through the Woodland Gardens. In the woodland gardens of particular note are the dramatic aerial roots of swamp cypress. The Park is also home to Roe and Fallow deer. On leaving the park, about 200m off-route to the left, is the Roebuck at 72, Hampton Rd, Hampton Hill, Middlesex, TW12 1JN, a suitable lunch stop close to route. Back on track after a stretch along residential roads and beside a golf course we join the River Crane Walk through Crane Park, passing an imposing historic shot tower, remains of gunpowder mills that once endangered this area. By the tower is the entrance to Crane Island a small nature reserve. On leaving Crane Park we join Hanworth Road and go right towards Hounslow Heath. Just before the Heath is the Hounslow Cemetery, which dates back to 1869 and is the oldest cemetery in the borough. There is a small chapel set amongst mature trees and shrubs in the oldest section of the grounds. The cemetery is the final resting-place 'Dunroamin' for many operators of Fair Ground attractions and rides and boasts some fine memorial work. Our, hopefully temporary, resting place is across the road at The Duke of York. There are buses from here to Kingston (~40 min) and Twickenham (~15 min).

Latecomers can contact me on my mobile number 07733555113 to find out where we are. Details of the route and a picturesque map can be found at <http://www.walklondon.org.uk/section.asp?section=9>