

**London Loop 9 Uxbridge Lock to Moor Park
on Saturday 26 September 2009**

This visit has been organised by David and Gillian Pick

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. This section takes us from Uxbridge Lock to Moor Park and is approximately 9+ miles.



These diagrams have been copied from Google images and show Denham Lock, a steam barge and the narrow boat marina at Harefield.

There are 5 stiles on the section from Harefield West, a steep hill through Park Wood and a rough track through dense overgrown woodland near Batchworth Heath. The loop way-marks are missing at some key points and a map and or the guidebook is necessary if you are doing this section independently. In particular the entry into Park Wood / Bishop's Wood Country Park is unmarked, but obvious, and is some 100m back from the field boundary.

From Uxbridge station it is down hill to join the canal at the Swan and Bottle (we pass 5 pubs on this section!). The houses along the canal as we leave Uxbridge and where we arrive at South Harefield are very attractively laid out. On route we pass Fran's tea garden by Denham lock, which is a converted old mill. There is then a short diversion around a narrow-boat marina. In May the marina was full with a wide range of different styles of narrow boats. In particular was a well preserved example of a steam driven barge complete with what looked like a small decorated beer barrel by the funnel. We also passed a paddle driven barge!

After the lunch stop we leave the canal to enter Park Wood and then pass through open pasture land with good views of the surrounding country side to enter Bishop's Wood Country Park. The scenery is then mixed wood land complete with a small stream, which we follow along a "modest path". This leads to a indistinct twisty path through Lockwell Wood to reach the "Ye Olde Greene Manne" and on to Moor Park Station

Aim to be at Uxbridge station by 11.00. This is a terminus for the Metropolitan Line with about 6 trains per hour. There are escape bus links at Mount Pleasant, Harefield (half hourly U9 from Park Lane), Rose & Crown (R21 at 16.13 & 17.58 to Rickmansworth), Ye Olde Greene Manne (331 every 20 mins to Northwood station).

There are several pubs along this route the most convenient one close to halfway is the Coy Carp Coppermill Lane, Harefield, Uxbridge, UB9 6HZ. (01895 821471), which we will probably reach around 13.00 to 13.30.

Latecomers can contact me (David Pick) on my mobile number 07733555113 to find out where we are.