

# Spring Walk



## 11 Hedgerow

On your left the field boundary had new plantings along the fence where you first came out of the wood.

Follow this fence to the gateway and stile. Stop here. Look at the boundary fence on your left again. At this point the trees and bushes are changing. The plantings are much older now, the remains of an ancient hedgerow. Notice the gaps in the

hedge. There are signs that the hedge was previously managed, but may not be so well looked-after now. The trees are bushy with lots of thin trunks, showing they would have been cut regularly in the past. But the gaps show that the hedge has not been re-laid for some time.

*(See Hedgerow section for further information)*



## 12 Woodland edge

Turn right and continue to follow the woodland edge. Which plants can you identify along the woodland edge? Things to look for are: dog's mercury, hazel, grasses, bramble, blackthorn, ash. You may also notice hedgerow trees which are

not managed but are growing as if planted along a path or boundary.

The walk ends at this woodland. At the blue marker, make your way up the hill and back to the Centre.

## Woodland activity

### FUNGI IDENTIFICATION (Autumn activity)

#### Reason for activity:

To help understand and identify fungi. In order to identify mushrooms it is necessary to become familiar with all the parts that make up a fruitbody.

(See also the fungi reference section and spore-print activity)

Age group: 6-12

Ideal number: 2 to 4

Equipment required:

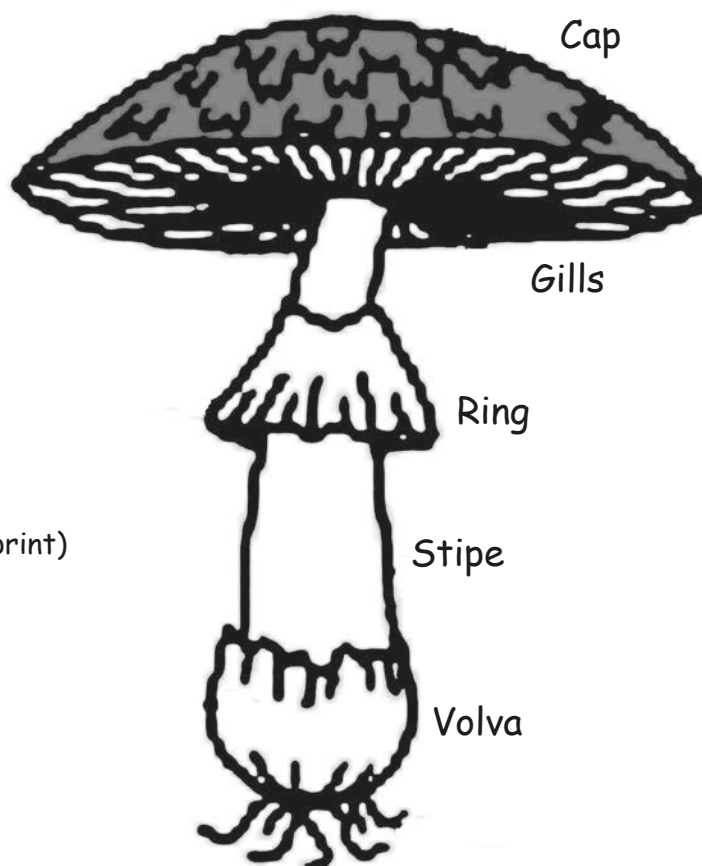
Pencil, notebook, ruler

Rubber gloves

Fungi reference book

#### Specimen check list:

- Cap:** size  
shape  
colour  
texture
- Stipe:** height  
width  
colour  
has it got a ring?  
has it got a volva?
- Gills:** colour
- Spores:** colour (make a spore print)
- Smell:**
- Habitat:** on wood?  
in soil?  
in leaf litter?  
in woodland?  
on grassland?  
near or under what type of tree?



# Summer walk



**Time:** Approximately 2 - 3 hours allowing time to complete the Village Quiz and stop for lunch

**Distance:** Two miles (alternative route back is shown on map)

**Note:** Refer to the section 'Preparing For the Walk' at the beginning of this pack and complete the 'Walk Risk Assessment Record'.

**Caution:** Cudham Lane is a very busy road. Please read the Country Code section of this pack.

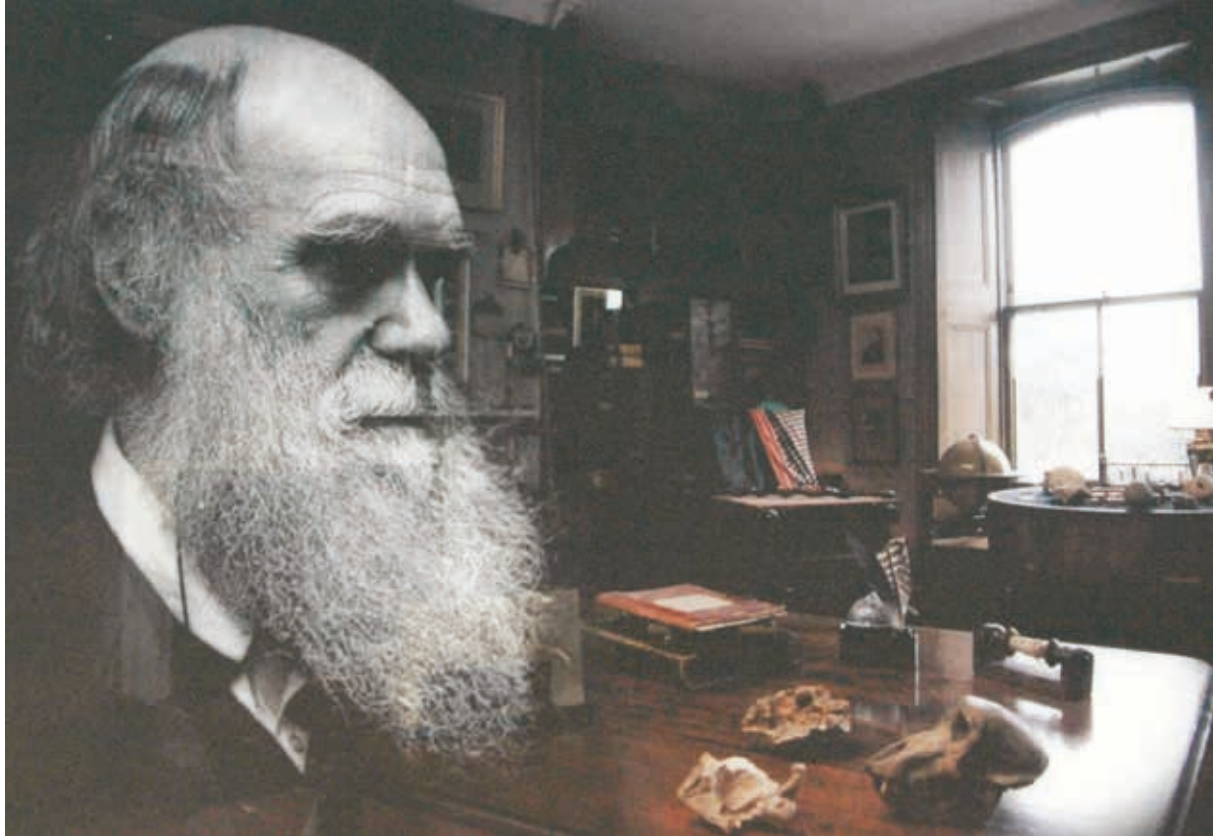
This summer walk can be used at other seasons of the year. The walk offers an opportunity to meander through woodland and hear birdsong, stroll along a field edge, watch for wildlife and learn about Cudham Village.

If starting from the Cudham Environmental Activities Centre ask the Centre Managers to explain how to get to the start of walk at the two fallen trees just inside the Woodland Trust area.

If you have a directional compass you will be heading north.

# Winter walk

## The Darwin Trail



**Time:** Allow up to 1½ hours to complete the walk from CEAC to Down House, including stops to look at buildings and surrounding area. If this walk includes a visit to Down House allow an extra two or three hours.

**Distance:** Approximately 4 miles round trip.

**Note:** Refer to the section 'Preparing for the walk' at the beginning of this pack and complete the 'walk risk assessment record'.

**Caution:** Part of this walk will include crossing country lanes. Please read the *Country Code* section of this pack.

If starting from Cudham Environmental Activities Centre ask the Centre Managers to explain how to get to the start of the walk at the two fallen trees just inside the Woodland Trust area.

Alternatively, you can start from footpath FP 275 in New Barn Lane. Proceed down the lane opposite the *Blacksmith's Arms* pub which is next to the recreation ground in Cudham village. Take footpath FP 275 on the right and descend steps to the field corner. Follow the footpath heading west and join the Darwin Trail at picture 2.

# Games and Activities

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