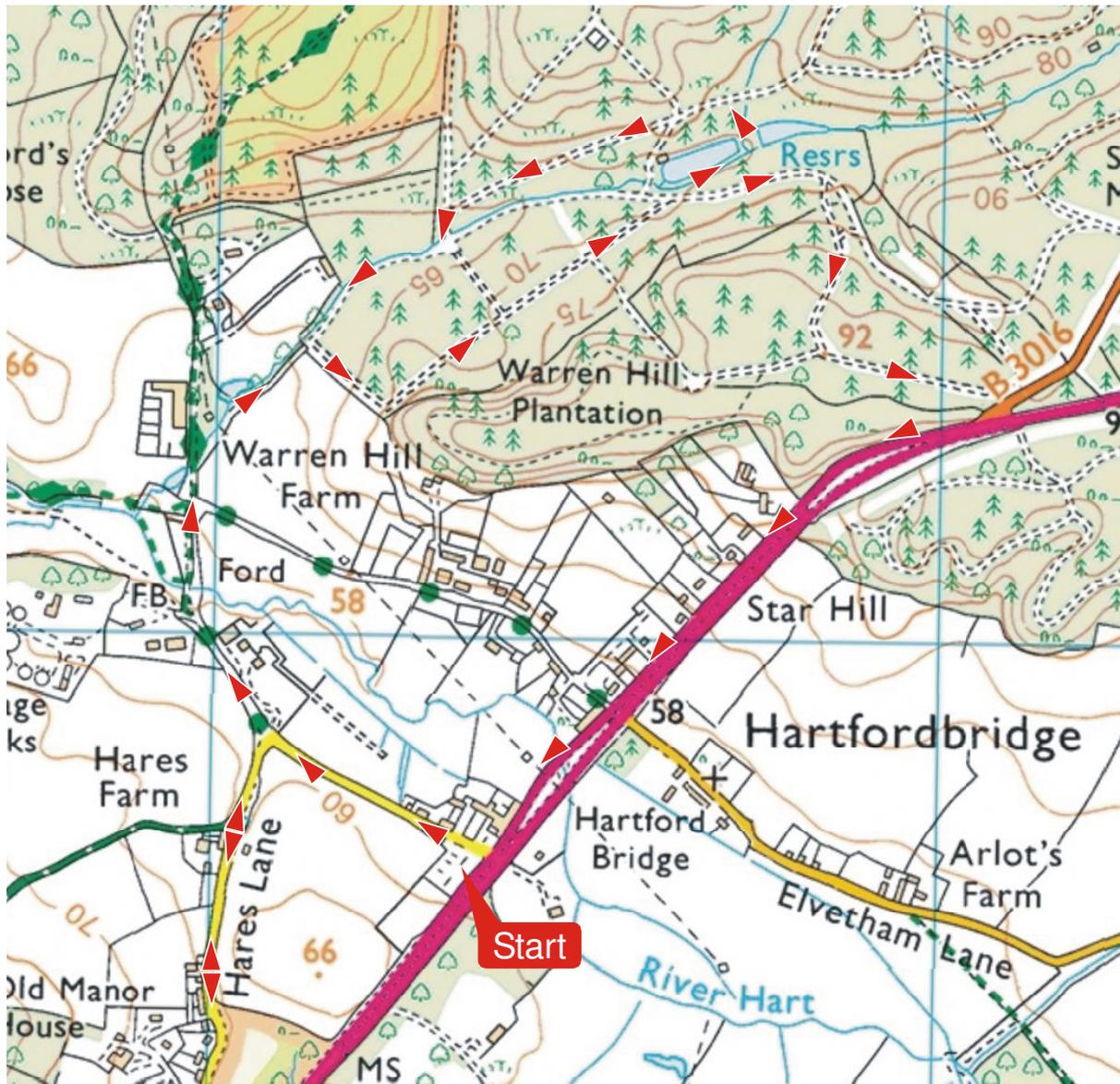


## THE WORKS – FROM GAS TO WATER

Featured in the Hartley Row Journal, 1985, Autumn Issue

This walk in the north-east of the village includes the old gas works, sewage works, household waste disposal amenity (the tip) and the old waterworks but passes through some of the most serene and peaceful scenery in the parish, including a corner of Bramshill Forest.



It may be possible to park in the Whyte Lyon car park, alternatively in Hunts Common. Walk along Hares Lane and turn left into Hunts Common past the Queen Anne Hares Farm and the entrance to Footpath 46 leading up to Hazeley Heath. The white buildings further along on the right were the gasworks from 1861 until after the 1914-18 war and the terrace of cottages were built for the employees.

*The terrace of cottages is evident and I believe the one styled "Cable House 1860" is the old gasworks (seems a strange name).*

Turn round, walk back along the road and turn left into Springwell Lane. On the left is the Council Transport depot next to the sewage works and beyond this the Civic Amenity waste disposal point. Turn right by the footpath sign cross the bridge over the river Hart and bear right up the track to the corner of Hulfords Lane. Turn left and almost immediately right onto a track with a stream on the left which takes you under a line of pylons and eventually to a gate into Warren Hill Plantation. Take the track to the right which goes uphill following the edge of a field and then bears left, opening first into a grassy track then a gravel drive.

After about half a mile as the track veers right, you can see the lakes of the old waterworks on the left. Surrounded by rhododendrons and covered with water lilies they are now used by the village Angling Club. The rest of the waterworks are now ruins in the woods above, but many old inhabitants of the village claimed this water was far better than that now piped in from Surrey and led to the longevity for which Hartley was famous.

To return there are three options.

The first is to continue along the track with the lakes on your left. Just after the track bears right take the track to the right and follow this to a T-junction. The track to the left comes out onto Star Hill and turning right leads to the A30 and thence to the Whyte Lyon.

A quieter choice is to take the path to the left which passes between the two lakes keeping roughly straight on (there are several paths, not very distinct) until you reach the gravel drive. Turn left and follow this to the T-junction where you turn left, then right at the next junction which will bring you back to the gate where you entered the plantation. Go back down the path to Hulfords Lane and turn left which takes you to the A30 by the Whyte Lyon.

The third option is to turn round and retrace your steps to Hulfords Lane and to the A30 as above.