

## Walk 15: Around South Lake (Wheelchair Accessible)

This circular route is suitable for wheelchair users. Starting at Kingfisher Drive (off Fairwater Drive, where High Wood meets South Lake Park), it takes you round the lake and back to Kingfisher Drive, via Fairwater Drive. There are picnic benches by the side of the lake and opportunities for refreshments at the Waterside Inn, originally called 'The Thatchers', on Fairwater Drive.

South Lake is an artificial lake created in the nineteenth century from an ancient fishpond on the Bulmershe Estate. There used to be a North Lake, in the area of Antrim Road; this was filled in and built on when Woodley was expanded in the mid twentieth century.

### Length

1.2 miles (1.9 km). Allow 1 hour plus stops.

### Starting Point

**Car** Park carefully on **Kingfisher Drive**, (off Fairwater Drive), opposite High Wood, Woodley, RG5 3LH. OS Grid Ref: SU 75637248. w3w: ///winter.retains.leans

**Bus 14** **Campbell Road** stop, Fairwater Drive, Woodley. Join the walk at point **(9)**.

**13** **Campbell Road** stop, Fairwater Drive, Woodley. Cross Fairwater Drive carefully to reach the 14 bus stop. *See map*

### Refreshments

**Waterside Inn** Fairwater Drive – near point **(8)**.

### Route Instructions (See map below for numbered points)

1



Follow the pavement on the opposite side of the road to the wood to the chicane crossing between Kingfisher Drive even numbers 230 to 280 and service road numbers 270 to 292. This is point **(2)** below.

2



Cross the road at the traffic island and enter the park straight ahead. After about 10m turn left on to the narrower path. This is point **(3)** below.

3



At the path junctions near the litter bin, turn left and follow the path through the grassy area, passing the play area on the left and the water garden on the right to reach the lake. This is point **(4)** below.

4



On reaching the lake turn right. There are picnic benches on your right. Follow the path that leads round the lake, with trees and the lake on your left and houses on the right. You will pass the ends of number of cul-de-sacs and the entrances to a block of flats and after about 500m reach a point where the path opens out and you can see the lake ahead. This is point **(5)** below.

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Continue along the path, with the lake on your left and a green mesh fence on your right, to the end of the lake. This is point **(6)** below.

6



At the end of the lake bear left with the path and continue, keeping the lake on your left, to the junction with paths coming from the right and the left. Turn right at the junction and then left, following the footpath with the conifer hedge on the right, into the car park area. This is point **(7)** below.

7



Proceed left then first right along the pavement to the end of Larch Drive and the junction with Fairwater Drive. This is point **(8)** below.

8



Turn left and continue on the pavement of Fairwater Drive, past the Waterside Inn on the left. The wide footpath/cycle way will take you past the entrance to Highgate Road on the right and the entrance to Wallace Close on the left to the No 14 (Campbell Rd) Bus Stop. This is point **(9)** below. (note – No 13 (Campbell Rd) bus stop is on the other side of Fairwater Drive)

9



This is the start of the walk for those travelling by bus. With Fairwater Drive on your right, continue past the No 14 bus stop towards the entrance to Kingfisher Drive on your left. This is point **(10)** below.

10



Continue along Kingfisher Drive on the left-hand pavement, passing St James Church on the right and Rickman Close on the left. Just after Rickman Close there is a drop pavement to cross Kingfisher Drive. This is point **(11)** below.

11



Cross Kingfisher Drive at the drop pavement. If you wish to visit the convenience store continue straight ahead for about 60m down the road to 336 – 362 Kingfisher Drive. If you wish to continue the walk turn left and continue along Kingfisher Drive until reaching the chicane crossing. This is point **(12)** below.

12



This is the start of the walk for those parked in Kingfisher Drive. If you came by bus and wish to continue the walk now turn to point **(1)** above.

