

5 Lettering, Edward Johnston

Eric Gill's nephew John Skelton (Trowbridge was Skelton's apprentice). Now continue along Lewes Road and on your left is the tile-hung house 'Downsview' (5), home in 1913 to the calligrapher Edward Johnston for a brief spell before moving up to 'Halletts' on Ditchling Common. He returned to the village with his family to live at the 'Cleves', (next door but one) where you can see the plaque by Jack Trowbridge, and where he remained until his death in 1944 (6).

6 Guild Workshop and Chapel, Edgar Holloway, 1971



After passing The Fieldway on your right you will see a red brick villa, 'Meadowcroft' which was a Red Cross hospital during the First World War. Sister Wells was living next door with her young son John Wells

who became one of the St Ives group of artists. Pass the Twitten and continue along Lewes Road to the crossroads. As you turn right into the High Street you'll reach a tall timber-framed house often a subject for artists. This was the home of the architect John Denman who worked with Louis Ginnett, his neighbour next door at Chichester House. Continue to Church Lane and make your way back to the museum through the churchyard and across the Green.

Leaflet supported by

Ditchling History Project

Many thanks to the Ditchling History Project for providing the text for these walks. DHP members are enthusiastic researchers and recorders of Ditchling's past; the group have published several books, organise exhibitions, offer walks and talks, collect oral histories and maintain a database relating to all aspects of the village's history.

ditchlinghistoryproject.org

Turner Dumbrell

The Turner-Dumbrell Foundation, established in 1983, is a grant making trust supporting charitable organisations in Ditchling and the surrounding area. The Foundation owns and manages the Turner-Dumbrell Workshops, let mainly to local artists and craft-workers, and land at Lodge Hill and Bowries fields which are let for grazing. The rental income contributes towards the charitable giving.

turner-dumbrell.org

Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft

In 1985, when they were 78 and 76 years old respectively, Joanna and Hilary Bourne bought the former school in the village of Ditchling and opened the first museum - Ditchling Museum.

When Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft was reopened in 2013 after a significant development, an exciting new phase began in its history. Today the museum holds an internationally important collection of work by the artists and craftspeople who were drawn to the village, including the sculptor, wood engraver, type-designer and letter-cutter Eric Gill, the calligrapher Edward Johnston, the painter David Jones, the printer Hilary Pepler and the weaver Ethel Mairet. The museum produces a changing and dynamic programme of traditional and contemporary exhibitions and workshops.

ditchlingmuseumartcraft.org.uk

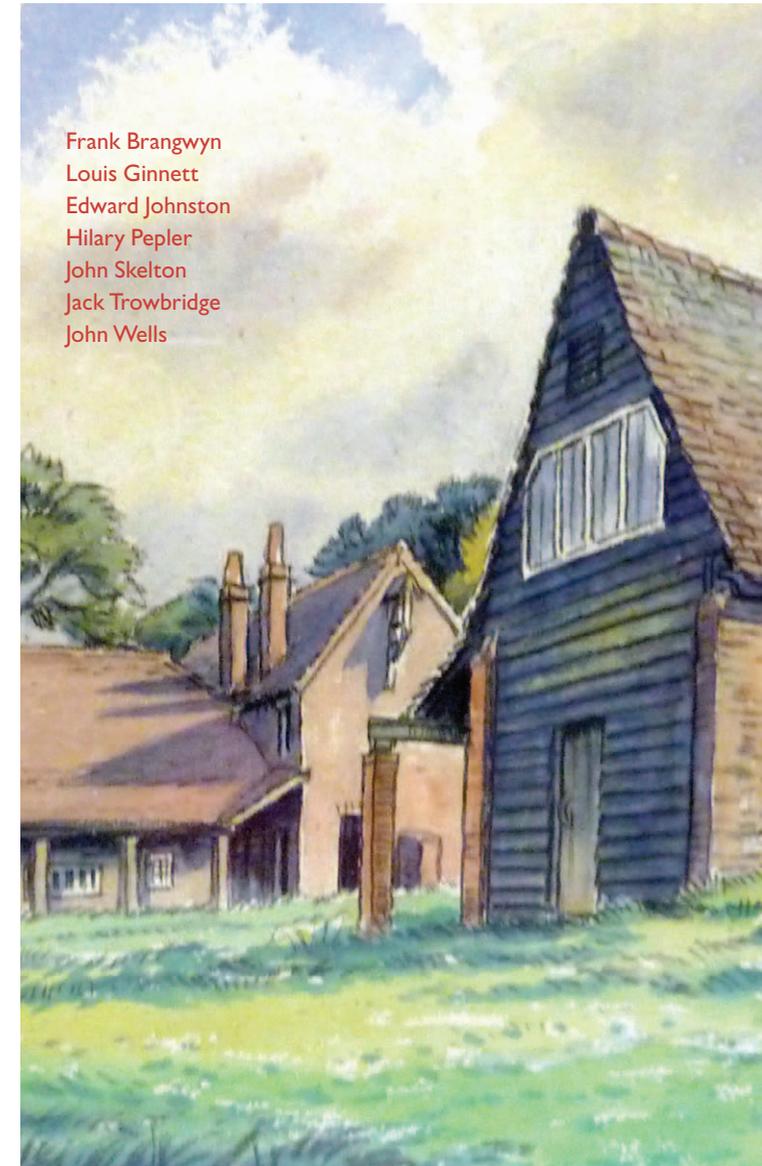
Opening times

Tuesday – Saturday: 10.30am - 5pm
Sunday + Bank Holidays: 11 - 5pm

The Village Centre

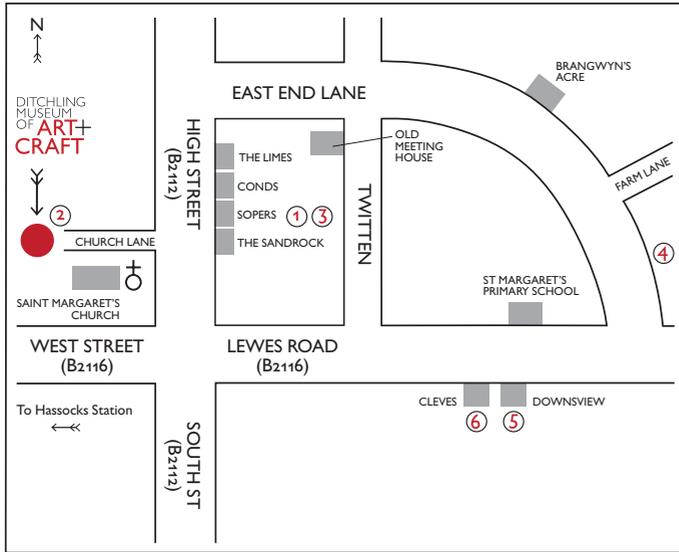
APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR | 3/4 MILE

Can be added to walk 1 to take in the church and churchyard



Frank Brangwyn
Louis Ginnett
Edward Johnston
Hilary Pepler
John Skelton
Jack Trowbridge
John Wells

The village was the home to many artists, writers and makers in the early 20th century, a residential creative tradition which continues to the present day.



1 Sopers



2 Stanhope Press, Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft

From the museum take the path across the village green and up the steps to the church yard, turning left to the tree-lined Church Lane and then right to the High Street. Cross the road to the brick fronted house 'Sopers' with a plaque showing that Eric Gill lived here from 1907-1913. The plaque is by Jack Trowbridge, who was apprenticed to John Skelton, himself a pupil of Gill and Joseph Cribb. After Gill moved up to Ditchling Common, his friend from Hammersmith, Hilary Pepler, lived at 'Sopers' (1) and in 1916 installed the Stanhope Press (2) in the outbuildings. His first commercial job was to print beer labels for the Sandrock Inn next door. The south facing

first floor window looks out to the Downs familiar to Gill as a child growing up in Brighton. He wrote: "If you have been a little child brought up in these hills and in those days you will understand their mortal loveliness (3)".

Pass the timber-framed 'Conds Cottage', at one time the home of the printer Gerard Meynell and his wife the Sussex writer Esther Meynell, and The Limes which was the childhood home of the Sinden family of actors, then turn right down East End Lane. This is the original east-west road out of Ditchling before the arrival of the turnpike. When you reach The Twitten on your right you can either take this shorter



3 Engraving of Ditchling, Eric Gill, 1918 (commissioned by Ditchling Women's Institute)

route past the 18th century Old Meeting House where G.K. Chesterton preached and at the end of the path turn right to the crossroads, OR for a longer walk carry on down East End Lane where you soon pass the development Brangwyn's Acre on your left. At the entrance is the group of Brangwyn's Cottages built for villagers by the Ditchling artist Frank Brangwyn with the monogram F & L B for himself and his wife Lucy.

Continue, passing Farm Lane on your left, and when you near Lewes Road, just before a turning to Barnfield Gardens is Wild Goose Cottage once the home of Rowland Emmett (4), the cartoonist and inventor of fantastic machines.

At the junction with Lewes Road turn right toward St Margaret's Primary School where, if you walk round to the entrance, you will see a sculpture of St Margaret by Jack Trowbridge with a plaque by

4 Roland Emmett

