Welcome to Wootton Bridge. This leaflet is one in a series of five walks designed to help you explore some of our village’s history and beautiful surroundings. Enjoy your walk.

Distance: Approximately 4 miles.
Timing: 3 hours
Nearby car park: Brannan Way.
Bus routes: Ryde - Newport No. 9, Ryde - East Cowes No. 4.
Recommended: Bring your binoculars and bird book!
Not recommended for disabled.
Start and finish: Outside The Sloop Inn, Mill Square. Taken at a gentle pace this walk is fairly easy going partly along footpaths and gravelled byways. Wear sturdy shoes.

1. Outside the Sloop Inn, begin initially by taking the Coastal Footpath also signposted N19 New Road. After a few steps bear around to the right and follow the gravelled road until you reach the metal gate. Pass through the gate into the green, with the dinghy park on the right. Cross the green with Southern Water pumping house on the left. Pause and enjoy the view down towards the Solent, which is part of a Site of Special Scientific Interest by reason of its special fauna, flora and geological features.

Walk past the pumping station (on your left) and continue on round into Pump Lane and emerge onto New Road. Turn right and follow the road, keeping the Creek to your right.

2. Some stunning views of the Creek are obtained on this section. Pass the houseboats, Creek Gardens, and further along, Little Canada Activity Centre. Continue on until you reach the crossroads at the end of New Road.

3. The path to the shore is signposted N156 but if you wish to take a short diversion to have another look at the Creek, turn right into Woodside Road, passing Woodside Hall, Nursing Home on the left. At the end of the road you will come to footpath N216 that at low tide gives you access to the shore.

4. The north shore on both sides of the Creek is of particular beauty and has Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty designation. You will see the Wightlink Fishbourne terminal on the opposite bank.

5. At the crossroads, footpath N156 takes you down to Woodside Bay and the beach. Depending on the tide it is possible to walk along the beach to the café and walk up the path to join the Lower Woodside Road.

6. Beside footpath N156 is the site of the former Warner’s Holiday Camp. This was once the site of Woodside House which later became a nudist colony that was eventually absorbed into Warner’s Holiday Camp. The old house was demolished. An amusing depicition of this is included in the Millennium Wall hanging in the Community Centre, Brannan Way, showing two boys standing on their bike saddles peering over the fence!

7. Keep going until you reach footpath N206 on the right hand side. Walk down the footpath past the café (limited opening hours) and onto the beach where you will obtain further views of the shoreline and Solent.

An alternative route to the beach is to take the second road to the left, Lower Woodside Road, which follows the southern boundary hedge of the former Warner’s Holiday Camp. The woodland to your right is all part of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and it is worth looking out for red squirrels along this part of the walk.

Woodside Bay
Woodside Bay needs a special mention, as it is a highly important area, which has ‘SPA’ and ‘RAMSAR’ designations. The SPA means a ‘Special Protection Area’ of wetland of international importance classified under the EU ‘Birds Directive’ to conserve the habitats of rare and migratory wild birds.

The ‘RAMSAR’ is a site identified by the signatory states to the International Convention at RAMSAR, Iran, in 1971 for the protection of internationally important wetlands and wildlife habitats.

So it may be worth having a look through your binoculars to look for the birdlife, particularly at low tide.

You will also be able to see the many ships and yachts, which pass up and down the Solent.