

> Whose tomb is towards the front of the church on the right? (The large marble tomb)

14

You can take a moment to rest a while inside the Church. When you leave the Church please close the door and look for a post with a black number 1 on it near the entrance to the churchyard. This path leads to the Arboretum. All of the numbers within the East Arboretum are black now.

Follow this pathway until you see a small wooden sign saying "Church Wall". Just past this sign you will find a path leading to the right. Here you will see lots of the "Howick Snowdrops". Be careful not to stand on them. Continue on and when you reach the main pathway again, turn left and follow the path alongside the river. Take care if the path is wet at it may be slippery. This path will return to the Church and you should turn right then go over the bridge. You will be walking North now and should continue until you reach the

> On the left at the front there are steps leading up to a little space. Do you know what this is called and what it is used for?

15

> Do you know what an Arboretum is?

16



> Look carefully at this gate. Can you count all of the rectangles? Write down your answer and remember to close the gate when you move on.

17



Turn left once you are through the gate after post 3.

> What do you think the gardeners have used to make this pathway?

18

> As you walk along this path you will see a tree which looks like it is covered in tiny yellow spiders. Do you know its name?

19

Finally, after returning to post 1 you have finished the Snowdrop Explorer Challenge.

Why not drop in to the visitor centre and see what else you may discover for your next visit.

You could also pop into the tea-house now and have some refreshments and a well deserved rest?

One your way back to the car, the staff in the kiosk will be able to give you the answers to this challenge.

Finish!

# Snowdrop Explorer Challenge



Start!

Leaving the kiosk, find the sign on the wall leading into the garden.

As you walk around the garden you will see numbered blue discs on signs and posts. You will see that these post numbers match the numbers on your map and will help you to find your way.



Go through the gate and walk towards the Hall until you reach the snowdrop sign. If you are facing the Hall you are facing to the South. To your right is West and to your left is East. If you look behind you, you will be facing North. You will find these directions marked on your map for use later.

Now turn right and walk past the Cedar tree, looking for the sign leading to the Bog Garden (post number 34)

> Opposite the sign you will see many Snowdrops growing amongst the grass. Do you know what the yellow flowers beside the Snowdrops are called?



Turn Right

1

Continue to walk West along the road past the pond and bog garden.

Look

> Can you see the animal guarding the pond? Do you know what it is?

2

Howick Hall Gardens & Arboretum



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> Continue walking straight up the road and look carefully for the number 32 on the next sign. Don't change your direction as you continue past it.

3

Can you circle which direction you are walking in?

North East South West

> On the roadway you can see lots of tracks! What do you think travelled down this road before you?

5

Continue straight on past post number 26 and 24 until you reach the bridge.



> If a grown-up is with you, you can play "Pooh-Sticks" here, but take care not to fall in! Find a leaf or small stick and throw it gently into the stream at the North side of the bridge (the direction the water is coming from), then go quickly to the other side to see who's stick or leaf is winning the race. Who won your race?

6

> Now continue past post 23 as far as post 18 and turn left into the Woodland Walk. Follow the pathway now past post 17. Circle which direction you are now walking in.

7

North East South West



Staying on the path look carefully at the Snowdrops. Most of these are called "Galanthus nivalis", the common Snowdrop. If you look closely you can see that they appear to have three outer petals which are actually "tepals" and three inner tepals which form a trumpet like shape and are mostly white with some green marks. The marks look like faces and some appear happy and some sad depending on which kind of Snowdrop you find.

Some Snowdrops have many layers of tepals and are called "Galanthus nivalis flore pleno".

If you are very lucky you will find a very special Snowdrop which is yellow instead of green.

This is the "Howick Snowdrop" called "Galanthus nivalis sandersii group"



> Take some time to look around. Can you see the plants growing amongst the leaves and grass?

Do you know what they are?

4



© Howick Trustees Ltd Jan 2023 Snowdrop Explorer Challenge

Now you can follow this path whilst you see how many kinds of Snowdrop you can detect. Continuing until you reach post number 16. If your legs are tired you can turn left here and return to the car park but you will miss the best part of the walk. So let's go on. Follow the path through the gate and remember to follow the Country Code and close the gate behind you.



Now continue past post 15 and you will arrive at St Michael and All Angels Church. This is our Parish Church and you are welcome to pop inside and visit..



Now walk into the Church. Please remember to wipe your feet. Can you find out...?

> How many candlesticks there are in the Church?

11

.....

> When was the Church originally built?

12

.....

> When was it rebuilt?

13

.....



Look

> As you walk along now you will see the big house. This is Howick Hall and it was rebuilt after a huge fire in 1926 with some small alterations designed by the architect Sir Herbert Baker. As you look at the front of the house, how many windows can you count on the top floor of the main building?

8

> How many chimneys can you count?

9

.....

As you enter the Churchyard turn immediately right and you will find a grave stone lying flat with a Gaelic Cross lying inside. You can read the story of the people buried here as it is printed around the edge of the grave.

> Can you tell us who is buried here and what happened to these people?

10

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