

# WALKING FOR PLEASURE

## FORTNIGHTLY GROUP

OCT 2011 TO MAR 2012

### **11 OCT 11**

WALK 48

.GREAT EVERSDEN

Distance: 5.9 miles

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 209

Start: The Wheatsheaf / La Pergola

Grid Ref: 365535.

Tel: 260005

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A603 through Barton. In a further 2 miles The Wheatsheaf/ La Pergola rest. is on the left hand side. Turn down towards Harlton for the car park.

Walk: Cross A603 to Little Eversden and turn right down a dead end road which in due course turns into a footpath. Cross the old railway line turning right round the headland of a field, a short piece of fence denotes the end of the footpath and where it joins the road ( 382546) and turn left along the road until you come to Comberton church. Passing with the church on the right take a footpath on the left to Toft. Take care when the path turns left down a track as the path turns right in a short distance and the sign is somewhat hidden. Cross the road by Toft church crossing a field to a road (360559) and turn left. At a T junction turn left and in 50 yds turn right over a stile. Take the left hand of 2 footpaths going ½ left across a field crossing a stile into the golf course. Having crossed the stile turn left and 150yds turn right to a road (360542). Turn left following the road round to the right and in about 150 yds turn left through a hedge following this path down the back of Little Eversden to rejoin the road used at the start of the walk turn right and turn left at the T junction to the pub.

Notes: Start time 10am. Lunch and drinks may be ordered before the start of the walk

### **25 OCT 11**

WALK 67.

FORDHAM.

Distance: 6.5mils

Map: OS Landranger 154

Start: The George and Dragon at Snailwell

Grid Ref: 642677

Tel: 01638 577241

Directions from Cambridge. Take the A14 towards Newmarket and turn off onto the A142 towards Fordham. At the first roundabout turn right for Snailwell. The pub is on the right at the start of the village.

Walk. Walk back down the road towards Burwell. The second hedgerow going left is a bridle track, take this. The path crosses the Fordham bypass and then the railway continuing south to the corner of a wood 623688. Go into the wood until reaching a farm track junction, go across and continue on a farm track passing a pond on the left. In about 100m the track turns left, with a track going off right to Landwade Farm which you ignore, and in a further 70m the track turns right. Here, 621681, go left into trees and follow the path round to the right. In a short distance you see a church, head for 50m to the right of it. You come out on a lawn in front of a Hall. Continue to the left of the Hall and follow the drive to the road, 628676. Turn left onto the road, you now have 1.5 miles on the road to 642679. Turn left onto the path for about a mile to the first cross path at 653691 and turn left into Chippenham Fen. Go through the fen to a cross path, 646698, and turn left. Follow this path back to Fordham joining the road on a bend, 634704. Turn left onto the road, at the first T junction turn right and after 200m turn left down a metalled path to the pub.

Notes. Start time 10 o'clock. Lunch may be ordered before the start of the walk

### **08 NOV 11**

WALK 24.

BRINKLEY.

Distance: 5.6 miles

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 210

Start: The Bull at Burrough Green

Grid Ref: 638557.

Tel: 01638 507480

Directions from Cambridge: Take the A1303 past Marshalls and Bottisham to the roundabout with the horse statue. Go straight across onto the minor road to the B1061 and turn right. Keep with the B1061 into Burrough Green taking care at its junction with the B1052.

Walk. Go right from the pub and at the road junction walk about 150yards up the B1052 towards Newmarket. Here take the footpath on the left (signed to Westley Waterless) diagonally across the field bearing left as necessary at the field end to reach the south east corner of the wood (Hay Wood). Carry straight on with the wood on your right hand side and at the end continue alongside the hedgerow to the field end. Here turn right and head to the left hand corner of the wood ahead (Ladies Grove). Again pass with the wood on your right and at the end carry straight on to reach the minor road opposite Westley Waterless village hall. Head right diagonally across the field (in summer may need to go back down and left along the field edge by the ditch) to a wooden plank bridge over the ditch. Cross and follow the ditch / field edge to the point where the ditch splits (about 500yards) and there is a path to the left going up besides a garden to the Brinkley Newmarket road which you join at GR 629554. Turn left and after 50yards on the road take the track signed to the right, cross the field and pick up the way-marked path to the left of the hedge. Follow this through an equestrian area to Burrough Green Church and cross the churchyard to the lane leading left to the green. Cross the green to the main road. ('The Bull' can be seen to the left). Turn right along the main road and at the end of the village opposite Wyck Farm is a footpath signed to Carlton. Take this path across the field and left at the hedgerow to reach Park Wood. Again keep the wood on your right hand side as you walk east to the north east corner where you turn right down the slope alongside the wood. At the bottom bear left for some 150 yards to a bridge in the hedge. Go over this and straight forward to the minor road, cross straight over and down to the bottom of the field. Here turn left alongside the stream (in fact the upper reaches of the River Stour). After 100yards cross on the bridge and proceed directly ahead up the slope to the stile just right of the largest oak tree. Go over this and across two fields with stiles to the path between houses leading out onto the road at GR 646535. Turn right and at the road junction follow the road to the right dropping down until you see a footpath signed off on the left just before the end of the village. This path goes in front of a private garage and through a private garden to lead you straight ahead across two fields to a T junction as you exit the second field through the hedge. Turn right along the bridleway and continue to the metal bridge over the stream on your right. Cross the bridge and proceed uphill to the end of the hedge / start of the paddocks where again you turn right and head to the road at Willingham House. Turn left along the road to the junction with the B1052. At this corner take the path on the right signed to Brinkley and head across and between the paddocks and then straight on past the allotments to the green in Brinkley. Carry on to the road in front of the church where you turn left and then straight ahead to the village cross roads and just beyond on your left is the Red Lion.

Notes: Start time 10 o'clock. Lunch may be ordered before the start. At the time the walk was checked March 07 The Red Lion was without a chef and not offering meals. Check the status prior to the walk. An alternative starting point is The Bull at Burrough Green phone 01638 507480

## **22 NOV 11**

WALK 58.MELBOURNE.

Distance: 5.2 miles.

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 209

Start: The Old Elm Tree

Grid Ref: 385449.

Tel: 01763 269933

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A10 south towards Royston. Take the fourth right after the Foxton level crossing to Melbourn, the pub is on the left in the village.

Walk: With one's back to the pub, cross the road and turn left, in 100yds turn right into Vicarage Close. As the close bends round to the left take the path on the right past a bungalow. Go straight ahead through a gate and turn left to the river and turn right along the right bank. In the second field the path eases away from the river to go through some scrubland and rejoins the river to pass under the A10. Keep with this river path to Meldreth. At the road turn right following the road out of Meldreth. Just after the derestricted sign the pavement on the right hand side of the road runs out. There are trees on the right, keep ahead on the right hand side of the road and in a short distance take the footpath on the right into Shepreth – L – Moor. The path runs along parallel to the road passing 2 further entrances coming in from the left and then turns right passing under the railway. Continue straight ahead and in 250yds at a cross path side step right continuing ahead to a road keeping on to the A10. Cross the A10 and go down a road to the left with a short row of houses. At the road junction turn left and turn right through a gate opposite the pub. In 250yds the track turns right and in a further 75yds turn left along the river bank to a road. At the road turn right and in 400yds when the road goes sharp right take the footpath straight ahead passing to the right of a bungalow. Keep ahead with the hedgerow on the right with a golf putting course on the left to a track cross the track and by a double telegraph post take the path going diagonally across the field to a road. At the road turn left to Melbourn.

Notes: start time 10am. Lunch may be ordered at the pub before the start of the walk

**06 DEC 11**

WALK 66:

COTTERED

Distance: 6.8 miles

Map: OS Landranger 166

Start: The Bull

Grid Ref: 320294

Tel: 01763 281243

Directions to start from Cambridge. Leave Cambridge on the A10 through Royston to Buntingford. At the roundabout turn right on the A507 to Cottered. The pub is set back on the right.

WALK: Take the lane down the right hand side of the pub which turns right then left along the headland of a field, cross into the next field and turn 1/2 right to grid ref(323301). Go through the hedgerow and go left round the headland follow this round to the right. At the corner of the field cross the bridge turning right taking a path with the hedge on your left and the fence on the right. At a metalled track go straight across keeping to the right hand side of a copse with a pond to where the wood meets the hedgerow (grid ref 328312). Continue straight ahead across the field heading for the right hand side of a piece of woodland. Go down the right hand side of the wood and at the corner of the wood turn 1/2 right and go straight across the field to a corner of a hedgerow which has a bridge crossing a stream . Stand with your back to the bridge and there should be a footpath going straight ahead across the field; if the path is not evident and there is a crop in the field go round the headland.Both routes at a bend in a road (grid ref 336320). Turn left up the hill to Mill End taking the footpath on the left (grid ref 331327) The path follows a headland round to the left to a stile by a wood go down the side of the wood keeping straight ahead across the field to a stile in a hedge (grid ref 320331), cross into a garden and turn right. The path follows the edge of a field and on meeting the hedgerow turn right into a green lane, in 75yds turn left over a bridge following this path to a tree with a lookout seat. At this point the path should go 1/2 left across the field but in fact follows the headland round and turns left at a belt of trees. Having turned left at the corner of the field as the belt of trees bends to the right look for a pathway through on the right. Go straight across 2 fields heading for the left hand end of a copse at the far side of the second field (grid ref 318319). Take the lane down into Rushden go through the village green following the road round to the right and in 400yds where the road bends to the left take a footpath on the left to a metalled road and turn left (grid ref 306314). The path crosses fields then turns left along a hedgerow and then right into a piece of woodland. On leaving the woodland take the right hand path which in 50yds turns sharp right along the field boundary to the corner of a copse the path goes down the left hand side of the copse. At the bottom edge of the copse turn right through a hedge and follow the footpath signs back to Cottered. At the road turn left to the pub.

Notes: Start 10 o'clock. Lunch may be ordered before the start of the walk.

**10 JAN 12**

WALK 51

.WARESLEY.

Distance: 5miles

Map: OS Landranger 153/Explor 208

Start:The Duncombe Arms.

Grid Ref:250546.

Tel: 01767 650265

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A603 through Barton. At the roundabout junction with the A1198 turn right to Longstowe. At Longstowe turn left onto the B1046 to Great Gransden. As you leave Great Gransden turn left to Waresley. The pub is on the right at the first road junction.

Walk. With your back to the pub go left across the road into the 'No Through Road'. Pass through a gate into a concrete farm yard with stables on the left, at the end of the stables turn left and in 150yds turn right with paddocks on your right. Continue to the corner of a wood and turn left keeping the wood to your right. You pass a sewage works, ref: 260550, and then come out to an open field, here ease right along the inside edge of the wood. The path come out again into the same field and continues along the wood. As the wood bends round to the right go through a gap in the hedge into a small meadow, turn left keeping to the left side of the field to a stile. Keep ahead to a road and turn left, ref:268556, then right, signed 'Industrial Estate'. At the roundabout at the top of the hill go straight across and turn right into the church yard. Go round the left side of the church and at a Y junction keep right over a hill. As you descend turn left just before a bridge through a kissing gate into a small meadow to a road and turn right. The road goes immediately right, go straight across into Church Street. The street becomes a wide track, when this bends right go straight on with a hedge on your left heading for a wind sock. At the warning sign for aircraft runway, the track bends left, go half right crossing the runway towards two

buildings. Go on the left of the left building using a concrete path. At a strongly ribbed zinc building go sharp right across the front of the building opposite and then left down the left side of a building with the sign 'Antique aircraft engine refurbishment' (or similar). Cross a stile into a meadow\* and continue ahead to a metal hurdle in the hedge and the road, ref: 267531.\*\* Turn right and at the next right bend turn right off the road onto a path between hedges. Continue ahead re-crossing the air strip and through a hedge, turn right and follow the headland round to the left. At a track turn left to Waresley.

Notes.

Start time 10 o'clock. Lunch may be ordered before the start of the walk.

### **24 JAN 12**

WALK 68.

ASPENDEN

Distance: 6.2 miles

Map: OS Landranger 166

Start: The Fox

Grid Ref. 359283.

Tel: 01763 271886

Directions from Cambridge. Leave Cambridge on A10 through Royston to Buntingford. At the roundabout turn left onto the B1038 into Buntingford. Carry on down the main street past the church taking the right turn to Aspenden, in the village continue along the past the "no through road" sign, the pub is set back on the left. You need to swing wide to the right before turning left because the entrance is a little narrow.

Walk. Turn left along the road you came in on, in about 300m turn left ignore a path going off to the right in a short distance and follow this path/road for 2 miles to 355256. Turn right onto the Roman road through Peasfield to the second path on the right, 329270, turn right along a stream. At the first path on the right turn right. The path is difficult to determine for a short distance but aim to walk down the right hand side of the hedge in front of you. The path passes down the left side of Tannis Court and joins a rough road, here turn left to track T junction, 349284, and turn right. The track swings round left to the church, continue along the road to the pub.

Notes: Start time 10am. Lunch may be ordered before start the walk. The church is worth a visit, certainly the outside, when booking the pub see if it is possible for the church warden to open it at the end of the walk, ought to be about 12.30.

### **07 FEB 12**

WALK 70.

HADDENHAM

Distance: 6.3 Miles

Map: OS Landranger 143 & 154

Start: The Three Kings

Grid Ref: 464755

Tel: 01353 749080

Directions from Cambridge. Leave Cambridge on the B1049 through Cottenham to Wilburton. At the T junction turn left on the A1123 to Haddenham. The pub is on the right just before the cross roads.

Walk. Go back along the road and in 150m turn right into and through a recreation/sports ground, keep straight ahead over a minor estate road to a 'B' road, side step right and go down the street and just as it bends right take a path to the right which brings you out to a road, 464748, turn left and in 200m turn right into a lane, as the lane bends right continue ahead to a X track by the corner of an orchard and turn left. At the end of the field go left over a bridge and turn right on the other side. There is a track off to the left in about 70m, ignore this and take the second track, 461737, in 200m to the left, this is Dairy House Drove. It continues for just over a mile to a T junction, here go left to the river. Climb the river bank and turn right. Turn right onto Church Fen Drove, 444722, carry on along the road and as it turns left go right onto a bridleway. Follow this to the bridge you crossed earlier and turn left over it. Continue to the orchard and go ahead with it on your left to a road and here turn right. In about 150m turn left on a path to the back of the houses and turn right to the main road, turn right again to the pub.

Notes. Start time 10am. Lunch may be ordered before the start of the walk if they open on time. On the recce there were young beef cattle in fields along the river, it is expedient to give them as wide a berth as possible. The bank you are on is high, if they are on one side you might be best walking on the opposite side of the bank. It is most unlikely that they will harm anyone but they charge about and many find this quite frightening.

### **21 FEB 12**

WALK: 69

WESTON

Distance: 6.5 miles

Map: OS Landranger 166  
Start: The Red Lion

Grid Ref. 258301.

Tel: 01462 790328

Directions from Cambridge. Leave Cambridge on the A10 towards Royston, at the roundabout junction with A505 turn right to Baldock. Through Baldock on the A6141, signed A1M. After the Tesco's roundabout in about 3/4 mile turn left to Weston. At a T junction turn right through the village, the pub is on the right.

Walk. Continue south from the pub and in about 200m turn right into a cul-de-sac and at the end take the footpath. Following this footpath for about 1k to a cross track (248294). Here the path turns left and goes down the lefthand side of How Wood continue with this path coming out just to the left of Graveley church. Turn left with the track to a minor road and turn left on the road, in 150m just before the road bends to the left turn right onto a footpath (236278). In 200m turn left following this path to a cross path and turn left again passing down the lefthand side of a wooded area. The path joins a road at a right angle in the road go right onto the road, follow the road round a right hand bend and in 250m as the road bends again to the right turn left up a lane. In 70m by the remains of a church turn right onto a path. At the next road (254278) turn left. Follow the road and just before it bends sharply to the left turn right down the right hand side of Tile Kiln Farm and in about 70m turn left down the other side of the farm, ignore cross paths going left and right continuing to a road (266285). You come out a sharp bend in the road, turn left onto the road and in 50m when the road turns sharp left carry on straight ahead onto a footpath ignoring one going off to the right. In about 100m (268286) at a cross path turn left (the path you are on is below the level of the fields, the cross path is not evident and when last used there were no directional arrows). The path crosses a field and goes up the right hand side of a wood before crossing fields to the corner of a second wood, here the path eases 1/2 right and then swings left to go up the right hand side of a third piece of woodland. Keep with this path to a cross path (265299) turn left and return to the pub.

Start time 10am. Lunch may be ordered before the walk.

#### **06 MAR 12**

WALK 29. CASTLE CAMPS

Distance 6.4 miles

Map: OS Landranger 154

Start: The Cock.

Grid Ref: 633435

Tel: 01799 584207

Directions from Cambridge. Leave Cambridge on the A1307 to Haverhill then take the by-pass A1017. Turn right at the first roundabout on the by-pass. The pub is on the right half way through the village.

Walk. From the pub car park go right along the High Street to the war memorial 'T' junction and turn left. At the end of the village take the path on the right across the field to a farm track and go right. This leads straight onto a path which after 300yards goes over a stile and then continues, swinging left, to meet the road leading to All Saints Church, Castle Camps. Turn left, through the churchyard exiting opposite the main porch onto the track taking one to the right hand side of Castle Farm. This becomes a path entering a field which one crosses diagonally to reach a track junction. Here go straight ahead bearing south east. When the radio mast, seen on the right hand side, is bearing at right angles to this track turn towards it across the fields (path shown on the maps not marked or clear on the ground) aiming for the left hand side of the copse in front of the mast where there is a path taking one to the minor road. Turn right past the radio mast GR 625415 and immediately after take the path on the left. Proceed straight ahead, ignore path off right, and further on swing right to Charwood Farm, where there is a minor road straight ahead, continue on this for approximately 300 yards from the farm to a signed bridleway on left. Turn onto this and follow it to a farmyard/tip and small pond at GR611409. Go right immediately after the pond and over the ditch some 30yards beyond it at footbridge. Take the left hand fork up hill and across fields to Winsey Farm. (At the time of the recce this was recently demolished by a developer preparatory for a new property) Turn right in front of the site onto the track heading north east, straight over a cross path to a sharp right hand bend in the track where the path goes straight on through the hedge. Take this path which bends right as it approaches the road at Castle End. Go left on the road about 250 yards to sharp right angle bend and here take the track directly ahead to pass Byhurst Cottage. On entering the field at the end of the track immediately turn right and follow this path dropping downhill, through farmyard buildings to the Camps Hall road junction. GR613431. Turn right along the road (signed to Camps End) and take the first path on the left through a wooden field gate, uphill and pass a small pond at the hill top. Continue on the way marked path ahead veering right across a meadow to a small copse and at the end of this the path turns 90 degrees left. Forward straight ahead over cross path to reach the Castle Camps to Bartlow road. Here turn right to the next road junction and there go left (road signed to Shudy Camps and Haverhill). After 30yards, go right onto the marked by-way, GR 622440. Proceed uphill, ignore path off left but some 100 yards from this, two paths go off on the right. Take the left hand one of these two (heading south east) and keep going straight ahead to reach T junction at hedge. Go right and follow the hedge line, leading one

past the back gardens of the houses in Castle Camps village until reaching the garden gate for 'The Cock'

Notes: Start time 10 o'clock. Lunch may be ordered before the start of the walk

(if wanted)

**20 MAR 12**

WALK 14.HARDWICK

Distance 5.5 miles

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 209

Start: Blue Lion.

Grid Ref: 372585.

Tel: 01954 210328

Directions from Cambridge. Take the A428 out of Cambridge. At the end of the dual carriage way at a roundabout turn left to Hardwick and then in a short distance turn right, signed Village Centre & Toft. The pub is on the right in the village.

Walk. The walk is a figure of eight. From the car park turn right along the pavement and at the last house turn right along a grassy footpath. At a cross path turn left and pass to the right of Hardwick Wood. At the end of the wood go left along a hedge to Wood Barn Farm. Follow the way mark to the left around a barn and continue along a wide path to Wood Farm. Turn right and follow the track to the road. At the road turn left and walk along the verge to the village. At the edge of the village take a path to the right passing between hedges, at a T junction turn left and at a cross path turn left over a wooden bridge. Follow the path across fields and a passage way to the pub.

Notes: Start time 10 o'clock. Lunch may be ordered before the start of the walk