

**U3AC
WALKING FOR PLEASURE
PROGRAMME 2**

Weekly Group Summer 2010

The walks in bold are for those in the group who only wish to walk fortnightly. Leaders have volunteered through to 1 June 2010. Volunteers will be needed 6 & 13 July and 14 & 21 September when I am away. This group is working well I shall keep it together, possibly add to it, as long as members wish to keep walking.

6 APRIL

***Walk 47.**

Leader.

Great Eversden 1.

Distance:5.6 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 carpark.

Walk: Cross the A603 and walk up the road through Little Eversden to Great Eversden. Just before the church turn left and take a footpath that goes round the back of the church at a track turn left and in 100yds turn right along the top of horse paddocks (This path has been moved and used to go on the other side of the paddocks). Cross straight over the road following the path round to a field, in the field go ½ right to a stile, which is hidden in a hedgerow. Having crossed the stile turn left and left again to cross another stile follow the path round to the left of the farm. The path goes over a hill to a stream here turn left (355537). Follow the path into the wood and after about 400yds at a track junction turn right. On leaving the wood at a cross path (341534) turn left down to a bend in a road go left down the road for 150yds and turn left into a woodland. At the end of the wood turn left and at a track junction with the water tower (352525) turn right. Take the 2nd track on the left following this down to Little Eversden. At the road turn right to the pub.

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

13 APRIL

Walk 23.

Burrough Green

Distance: 5.2 miles

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 210

Start: The Bull.

Grid Ref: 637557.

Tel: 01638 507480

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A1303 past the airport, cross the A14 and take the first right signed for the Wilbrahams. Keep on this road through Six Mile Bottom and straight on to Brinkley to a T junction with the B1052. Turn left and in 1 mile turn right onto the B1061 to Burrough Green, the pub is on the left.

Walk. With your back to the pub go left along the road and turn left into "Walnut Tree Cottages " cross "Back Road " and take the footpath straight ahead. After first field cross footbridge and turn right, follow field edge to the second corner and take the right hand fork path towards the farm yard, cross straight over the yard to pick up the farm track running almost due east across large open field . The track bends right and later turns right dropping to a cross path at the base of a bank. Turn left on this path along the edge of a small wood (Bushy Grove) to field corner , turn right and after 50yards path goes left up & through the trees of " Outwood Wood " As you emerge from the wood go left and walk alongside it over stile and to a second stile . GR661546 . Here head straight on up & across the meadow to the right hand corner of the next wood (Plunder Wood) where at the hedge there is a stile and bridge to cross . Follow the perimeter of the wood turning left after some 400yards and continue to a hedgeline in a further 200 yards . Here swing right down the slope to join the "Stour Valley Way " at "Kirtling Green Weir 17 " . GR 672546 . Go immediately left upstream to "Kirtling Green Weir 12" .GR 672552 . Cross back over the river on the " Stour Valley Way" with " Great Widgham Wood " on your left giving way to a hedge. At the field corner take the bridge to the left and turn right to go along the path having "Ten Wood " on your right hand side and a field with a training gallop in it on the left. With the second field on your left the path drops down to a small stream at GR 661559 just before "Ten Wood " finishes . Turn left here to go along by the stream (no markers visible) When you reach

the far hedge there is a way marker and bridge to be crossed onto a path in a double hedge/shelter belt going right and uphill before swinging left to reach a minor road. GR 655557 . Turn right on the road for 150 yards and where it turns right there is a path to left (past stables rubbish tip) . Follow this path round with the paddock on the left until a metal bridge is reached in the right hand hedge , cross this bridge. According to the maps there should be a path straight across the field to the hedge on the far side where there is a way mark pointing left . (At the time of the recce the field was freshly ploughed and sown so from the metal bridge we followed the field headland round to the right until we picked up the way mark) Continue on the way marked path towards the farm buildings , taking the right hand path shortly before them , across the field to the hedge . Turn right and follow path to the bridge on the left hand side , cross it and take the first path to the right , running some 75yards behind the houses , to reach the back entrance to the garden and car park of "The Bull " .

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

20 APRIL

***Walk 55.**

Leader.

Distance 6 miles.

Earith.

Map: OS Landranger 142/Explorer

Start: Riverview Inn Hotel, Earith

Grid Ref: 384748.

Tel: 01487 841405

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A14 west bound and take the Bar Hill turn off and pick up the B1050 through Longstanton and Willingham. At the junction with the A1123 turn left into Earith, the pub is on the right of the 'A' road.

WALK: With one's back to the pub turn right and turn along the B1050 for 200yds taking a path to the left follow this into Bluntisham. Take the road signposted Colne (grid ref 369749) and in 600yds take a footpath off to the left (grid ref 371755) which goes left for 100yds and then turns right behind farm buildings. The track crosses fields and joins a tarmac track which is just slightly to the right of the track, turn left on the tarmac road and as the road bends left carry straight on along a path going to the right of some buildings. The path crosses a stream and in 150 yds turns sharp right (grid ref 366766). In 50yds the path turns left, ignore this and go straight ahead down a track to a road (this track is not an official footpath and if you were prevented using it then you would have to return to Colne making your way to the grid ref in the next sentence). At the road turn right and in 500yds turn left (grid ref 373764) alongside an orchard. The path joins a farm track here turn right and in 150yds turn right down a farm track/byeway. In about 800yds turn left (grid ref 381765) the path swings left and then right and passes old sandpits on the righthand side, the path swings right joining a good wide track used by vehicles. Continue ahead joining a road with industrial units on the left when the road turns right go left down a road to join the river (grid ref 394756). Turn right and at the road turn right back to the pub.

Notes: Start time 10am. Lunch may be ordered before the walk. The car park is on the opposite of the road from the pub. The pub is open for coffee if you get there early!

27 APRIL

***Walk 43.**

Leader.

Distance 6.1 miles

Clayhithe

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 226

Start: The Bridge Hotel

Grid Ref. 501645

Tel: 01223 860622

Directions from Cambridge.

Directions from Cambridge: Leave Cambridge on A1303 and turn left onto B1047 for Fen Ditton and Horningsea. Continue and the road turns sharp left over the river, The Bridge Hotel is on the right hand side over the river

Walk. Cross back over the River Cam and turn left along the river. At Bottisham Lode (the first Lode) 510658, turn right along the left side of the Lode. The path joins a road, continue for a further mile 524640 and turn right over the Lode. At the 2nd track off to the right turn left across fields to a farm track and turn right. The track turns left to a track T junction 526629 here turn right. The track ends and you go round a headland turning right to a kissing gate. Go ½ left across a field, over a stile and turn right to the left side of a long pool. At the end of the pool side step right and cross a stile 503628. The path then turns ½ left and

swings right towards a road. Just before the road take the path on the right. Go through some horse paddocks and fields then turn left through a farm back to the pub.

Notes. Start time 10 o'clock. It is not always possible to book lunch before the walk but as long as the pub knows you are coming lunch can be ordered at the end of the walk. Service is not too bad ordering at the end.

4 MAY

Walk 44.

Leader.

Distance: 6.2 miles

Orwell.

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 209

Grid Ref: 362503.

Tel: 01223 207840

Start: The Chequers

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A603 through Barton. Turn right at the bottom of the hill into Orwell. Take the first right and the pub is on the right in 100yds.

Walk. Walk back up the hill to the church, side step right and take the steps going up past the church. Keep straight ahead to the clunch pit and turn left to the road. Here turn right and in a short distance left along a wide unmade road. In 250yds turn left past a garage, keep the hedge to your right to the top of the rise. At the crest go right and take the first path on the left. Follow this as it turns right then left to Little Eversden. At the road turn right, cross the A603 towards Harlton and in about 200yds turn right opposite two thatched cottages. Keep with this track over the hill to a road and continue in the same direction, towards Barrington. At a house on the right take the path just past it to the right. The go straight on keeping with a farm track until you come to a stile and a bridge over a stream, here go ½ right and follow a line of trees towards some farm buildings. At the buildings turn left into Orwell.

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

11 MAY

***Walk 53.**

Leader.

Distance: 5.8 miles.

Everton.

Map: OS Landranger 153/Explorer 208

Grid Ref: 202512.

Tel: 01767 681149

Start: The Thornton Arms

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A603 through Barton. At the roundabout junction with the A1198 go straight across on to the B1042 through Wrestlingworth to Potton. At the road junction in Potton turn right, through the market place and when the road turns right go left to Everton. The pub is on the right at a cross road.

Walk. Walk back down the road towards Potton ignoring the 1st footpath on the right opposite a road junction and take the 2nd on the right just past a farm (211505). Follow this path into woodland turning right at a road passing the Sandy TV mast on the left. Take the 1st footpath on the left and at a cross path go right to a road (189494). Here turn left following the road down hill as the road turns sharp left continue ahead into a lane and in a short distance turn right into a field. Follow this path (which is a roman road) for about 1 ¼ miles. Pass Waterloo farm on the left and take the next path on the right going uphill to Everton. At the road turn left to the pub.

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

18 MAY

Walk 57.

Leader.

Distance 5.2 or 5.8 miles.

Wicken – Upware- Wicken.

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 226

Grid Ref: 573706.

Tel: 01353 720727

Start: The Maid's Head.

Directions from Cambridge. There are three routes. First, leave on the A1303 past the airport. Cross the A14 and take the B1102 through Stow cum Quy and Burwell to the A142 and turn left. In about a mile turn left onto the A1123 to Wicken, the pub is on the right. Second, turn left in Swaffham Prior through Upware to the A1123 and turn right to Wicken. Last, leave on the A10 north and at Stretham roundabout turn right to Wicken.

Walk. Leave the pub and cross the main village road bearing left and pick up the sign 'Wick Fen walks' passing between houses. Continue ahead on a made up path to cross a bridge over a lode, ref: 571702. Follow the lode as it bears right and just before a fence turn left down a track to Burwell Lode, ref: 565691, then turn right for about 2 miles to Upware (1^). At the road, ref: 537699, turn right and shortly left to pick up the River Cam briefly on the left. The path turns right onto a tarmac road and then left almost immediately. In about 1000yds turn right to a road, ref: 545709, side step right and take the path across the north edge of Wicken Fen, the path turns left and in a further 200yds take a path to the right, ref: 559712 to a minor road (2^) with a car park opposite. The Wicken Fen NT visitors centre is 150yds down on the right if you wish to visit. Otherwise turn left and in 150yds turn right down a track behind houses, continue passing the Wicken Mill on your left to the path you started on, here turn left back to the pub.

Notes:

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

There is a working mill at Wicken, Should the group wish to visit contact Dave Pearce, Tel: 01664 822751 to arrange a time. The National Trust control part of Wicken Fen and charge £4.50 entrance, free to members. The walk does not include the NT fen.

1^ Enroute to Upware it is possible to shorten the walk by turning right at ref: 543697, just before you cross a steep bridge with wooden grips for horses, this takes you to point 2^.

25 MAY

*Walk 60.

Leader

Arrington - Croydon - Wendy - Wimpole - Arrington

Distance: 5.8 miles.

Map: OS Landranger 153/Explorer 208

Start: Hardwick Arms Hotel

Grid Ref: 329502.

Tel:208802

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A603 through Barton. At the roundabout junction with the A1198 turn right to Arrington, the pub is on the right.

Walk: Cross the road from the hotel and take the left turn to Croydon, at the church turn right and go up to the end of the road and turn left through a gate into a field. Bear slightly left and head towards the right hand end of a small copse on the hill above you. Go through the end of the copse through a kissing gate (324505) and turn right keeping to the right hand side of some woodland. At a tarmac drive with a house on the right keep straight ahead and in a short distance you cross a good bridge over a stream, at the other side the path side steps right to continue ahead. A farm comes into view straight ahead and the path turns left before it. At the road turn right walking through the village to the pub, just beyond the drive to the pub cross the road taking the path to the left (313493) . Go straight ahead heading for the corner of a hedge and continue with the hedge on the right. The path leaves the hedge and continues straight on across the fields to a willow tree at a road go under the willow tree to reach the road. At the road turn right and in 50yds turn left continuing straight ahead (if the grass is tall take care because there is a deep ditch to the left of the path which might be hidden). At some trees turn right and in 100yds turn left through a farm to the road (323476). Here turn left walking through the village of Wendy, the next path goes off to the right 150yds after the left bend in the road. The path goes diagonally across a field to the end of a hedgerow. At the hedgerow turn ½ right following the ditch keeping it on the left hand side. At the end of the ditch turn left and in about 150yds turn right through a gate way and then left for another 50yds following the path round to the right. As the path reaches a concreted yard take the path through the hedge on the left to the road (336475). Cross the road turning left along the verge (the verge is well maintained and should be used if the road is busy). In 500yds turn right on a bridle path signed for Whaddon. Go through the farm yard (if there is a barrier gate closed across the track the left hand arm of the gate can be pushed in to make a way through) and cross the Wimpole Hall avenue turning left up the right hand side of the avenue. As the path approaches the ornamental pond there are 2 stiles to cross, at the time of the recce the first stile needed care in crossing this has been reported to Wimpole Hall. Cross over a third stile and then cross the bridge over the river following the path up the right hand side of the avenue to a road. Cross the road and sidestep right to continue up the avenue. When the path crosses a stream continue 50yds turning left across the avenue , cross a stile into fields following this path to Arrington. At the road turn right to the hotel.

Notes: Start time 10am. Lunch may be ordered before the start of the walk.
I have repeated this as a fill in for walks 1to 20! Have to find a replacement

1 JUNE

Walk 41.

Ashwell.

Map: OS Landranger 153/Explorer

Start: Bushel & Strike.

Leader

Grid Ref: 266398.

Distance: 5.9

Tel: 01462 742394

Directions from Cambridge. Take the A10 for Royston and turn right onto the A505 towards Baldock. Cross the two roundabouts on the Royston bypass and just after a petrol station turn right for Ashwell. In ¼ mile turn left and after entering the village turn left at the War Memorial to the centre. In the centre you need to turn right, just past a Green King pub on the left. Then keep straight on the pub car park is on your right opposite the church.

Walk. Leave the pub car park and turn right down the road and in a short distance go left, with a narrow lane going off to the right. At the next junction keep left, the lane takes a sharp right and at the next junction, ref: 261402, go left over a ditch on to a path. At the road turn right and as the road bends right take a path to the left. At the next road side- step left and follow the path to the left of a house, in about 150yds turn right over a ditch. Cross a field then pass a farm joining a track heading towards the white gable of a house. The track rises and at a gate, ref: 238407, go left on a grass track to a road. Side step right and take New Inn Road, in 75yds turn left and pass the church on your left to a track and turn right. Keep ahead and at a hedge row go ½ left to a group of buildings. As you approach the buildings turn left along the garden of the large house (but*) and keep with this path as it climbs a slope to a road, ref: 251383. Side-step left and follow a path past a pig farm swinging left past a conifer copse, in due course pass through a hedge and turn left on a track. In a short distance turn right, there is a boarded up house on the left, on to the Ickneild Way. Take the road which bends to your left downhill back to the pub.

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

but*: take a moment to look at the front of the house it is interesting, also there are sculptures everywhere.

8 JUNE

WALK 62:

SOHAM

Map: OS Landranger 154.

Start: The Cherry Tree.

Distance 6.2 miles.

Grid Ref: 603721.

Tel: 01353 720405

Directions to start from Cambridge. Leave Cambridge on the A1303, after crossing the A14 go left on the B1102 through Stow cum Quy and Burwell to the A142 and turn left to Soham. At the roundabout with the A1123 take the minor road into Soham, the pub is along this road.

WALK: With your back to the pub the path goes down the left hand side of the car park. In about 400yds turn right and take a path between hedgerows. The path passes an allotment area on the right hand side and continues into Soham Village College. Continue to a T junction with a small river on the far side and turn left. In about 100yds turn left onto a footpath (grid ref 593727) the path swings right and then left and in about another 50yds turn right to cross the railway. At a road turn left and in 300yds, having passed an allotment area on the right hand side and continues into Soham Village College. Continue to a T junction with a small river on the far side and turn left. In about 100yds turn left onto a footpath (grid ref 593727) the path swings right and then left and in about another 50yds turn right to cross the railway. At a road turn left and in 300yds, having passed an industrial unit, turn right onto a bridle path and follow this path to Wicken coming out on the A1123 at(grid ref 572706). At the road go slightly left crossing the road and take a path between houses following this down to the river. At the river turn left continuing to a line of pylons here turn left on a track back to the A1123. Cross the road and in 400yds the path divides here take the right hand path which initially swings right and then loops left down a wide track between hedgerows coming out at a large meadow. Go along the left hand side of the meadow turning right along its top edge and again cross the railway. Continue straight ahead to a road, the pub is on your right.

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

15 JUNE

Walk 25.

Leader.

Distance: 5.2 miles

Horseheath.

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 210

Start: The Old Red Lion

Grid Ref: 614494.

Tel: 01223 892909

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A1307 past Addenbrooke's and Linton. Horseheath is just beyond the dual carriageway, turn left and the pub is on the right.

Walk Turn right out of the pub down the village road, turn left at the junction and in 150yds turn left between a boarded fence and a hedge going between houses. The path has a stream on the right, at a cross path sidestep right and continue to a road here turn left. In about 250yds turn right opposite a farm continuing to a road. Turn right going through the church gate into the churchyard passing to the right of the church. On leaving the church yard go ½ right to a stile cross it and turn right. In about 100yds the path goes left down the middle of the field passing the telegraph pole in the middle 613494 (the path may not be obvious and if the field is under plough it may be easier to walk to the next hedgerow and turn left following the headland round to a bridge over a ditch). Cross this bridge and the next field to a second bridge but turn right before crossing it continuing to a farm track here turn right. Follow this track bearing right across the front of a farmhouse and pond, after the pond turn left. Continue uphill and at a track junction continue to the left of a hedge/ditch until the hedgerow bends left here turn right and cross the field towards houses here you pass through gardens to a road (this is quite well signed). Sidestep left and cross the road going ½ left across an open piece of ground. Keep left behind houses along a broad green track and in about 100yds go through the hedge onto a field headland. After 200yds the path goes ½ right across the field to a green lane(626496) here turn right. Continue straight ahead to a wood following the path round to the right keeping the wood on the left to a farm. Pass through the farm and turn sharp left past the farm buildings the path then goes ½ right across a field continue straight ahead passing a plantation on the left and a large wood on the right. At the end of the wood 624476 turn right and follow the farm track. In ½ mile turn left along a fence and follow this path as it bends right into the village and continue until reaching a road turning left back to the pub.

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

22 JUNE

Walk 34.

Leader.

Distance: 5.8 miles

Shepreth – Foxton – Fowlmere- Shepreth.

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer

Start: The Green Man

Grid Ref: 398466.

Tel: 01763 261921

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A10 towards Royston. After the level crossing at Foxton take the second right into Shepreth, the pub is on the right after about a mile.

Walk. With your back to the pub turn left pass through a fence to the A10 and cross it, continue ahead and take the path to the left, along the left bank of a stream. As you approach a stile go right to a gateway onto the road and turn right along the road. At the Plough pub turn right through the hedge over a stile and head towards a white boarded house. At the road turn right over the river bridge and go left, signed for Barrington and Foxton. Pass Kenzie's coaches on the right and turn right on a gravel track. Keep to the right of a conifer hedge through a gate and then turn left through a kissing gate, just past 4 houses on your left, onto a fenced path. Cross a bridge over a stream and turn right to the A10, ref 402479. Follow the road opposite into Foxton. At the Green, with covered seating, turn right down Caxton lane and keep ahead onto a farm track for about a mile. At a hedge, that goes off to your right, turn half right across the field to a wooden bridge. After the path turns sharp right turn left over a bridge. The path goes ¼ right across the field, it may not be evident, into trees, turn right to a road. Turn left along the road and take to the right hand side pavement. Walk up through the village and take the 'B' road for Barley, 80yds beyond the end of the pavement turn right, ref 421457, to Fowlmere Aerodrome. At the top of the slope turn right, signed American War Memorial, to a gate into the RSPB Reserve. Through the gate turn left and take the boarded walk through the mere, at a junction turn right and left just before the car park. Go down the track to a road and turn left. The road dips round to the left by a white wall, cross a stream and take the path on the right through a gate on the left bank of the stream*. Follow the way-marks to the Green Man pub, ref 398466.

Notes. Start time 10 o'clock. Lunch may be ordered before the start of the walk.* The stream is created from the springs that feed the mere.

29 JUNE

Walk 36.

Great Chishill

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 194

Start: The Pheasant.

Leader.

Distance: 5.4 miles

Grid Ref: 424388.

Tel: 01763 838535

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A10 towards Harston. Turn left at the traffic lights at the north end of Harston onto the B1368. Go through Fowlmere to its junction with the A505. Turn right and immediately left with the B1368. In about ½ miles turn left onto a minor road. This comes out nearly opposite the pub.

WALK: With one's back to the pub turn left and in 50yds turn left again to go through an open green area with a Millenium capsule headstone. At a gateway turn right down the left hand side of a hedge to a road. Cross the road, ref: 424387, the path turns sharp left and in 50yds go right between garden fences following this twisting path to a small field. Go along the headland turning right down a covered path with gardens on the right to a road. Turn left and in 300yds turn left onto a bridle path, ref: 421384, keeping with this to a minor road, here turn left. Keep to the road for 1 ¼ miles, it has a good grass verge which can be used for walking along. When the road turns sharp right by a pair of cottages, ref: 433359, (1^), carry straight on ahead into the field. The path follows a hedgerow for a short distance and then carries straight on to open fields with a grass path. At the first hedgerow on the left turn left up the right hand side of the hedge. Go straight ahead with first a wood on the left through a short stretch of woodland and then with woodland on the right. At the end of the woodland just past an oak tree look for a sleeper bridge over a stream on the right, ref: 443366, cross this turning left down the right hand side of the stream. In about ½ mile the path becomes a farm track which bends round to the left, here look for a bridge over the stream and cross it. Go through 3 gates, the path then becomes a metalled road, ref: 437375,(2^), keep with the road as it bends round to the right and then turns sharp right, in 100yds take a path to the left heading for the left side of a wood. Keep with the path beyond the wood and at a farm track, ref:429383, turn right to a road. Here turn left into Great Chishill, turn right by the church back to the pub. Notes: Start time 10 o'clock, lunch may be ordered before starting the walk.(1^) (2^) At '1^' it is possible to turn right along a lane to '2^', this shortens the walk.

6 JULY

*Walk 50.

Gamlingay.

Map: OS Landranger 153/Explorer

Start: The Cock Inn

Leader.

Distance: 6.8 miles.

Grid Ref: 238524.

Tel: 01767 650255

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A603 through Barton. Continue over the roundabout junction with A1198 onto the B1042 towards Wrestlingworth and Potton. In about 1.5miles turn right signed Croydon and Gamlingay. At a T junction in Gamlingay turn right and at the next left, the pub is on the right.

Walk. Leave the pub carpark and turn right cross the B1040 following the road down and round to the left for about ¾ mile and as the road goes uphill take a path to the left (227517). Follow this path for ¾ mile and turn right passing a large sand and gravel pit on the left. At the road turn right and on reaching some houses go left through the cattery (there are no signs and it is evident that the cattery does not wish the path to be used). Follow this path through horse paddocks to a road and turn left. At a road junction turn right and in Everton turn right past the church. Follow this path for about 1 ¾ miles to a road (226532) and turn right. Go straight over the crossroads and in 100 yds take a footpath on the right to a road. Turn left back to the pub.

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

13 JULY

*Walk 33.

.Babraham.

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer

Start: The George

Leader

Distance: 5.3 miles

Grid Ref: 514504.

Tel: 01223 833800

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A1307 past Addenbrooke's towards Haverhill. Go over the Gogs and Babraham is first right about 1 ½ miles further on, the pub is on the left.

Walk: with your back to the pub turn right cross the A1307 and continue to a road junction. Turn left and join the Roman road to wards Wandlebury. In about 1 ¾ miles turn left onto a broad track. At the A1307 turn right

and 150yds turn left crossing the road. Follow the footpath round the headland to a bridge over the river Granta. Once over the bridge keep left with a copse on the left keeping with the track that keeps closest to the river until reaching a gate leading to a concrete road. Here turn right and in about 100yds turn left across the back of Babraham Hall. Continue to a road turning left to return to the pub.

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

20 JULY

WALK 65 : OUSDEN

Distance 6.4miles

Map: OS Landranger 155

Start: The Fox

Grid Ref: 749592.

Tel: 01638 500353

Directions to start from Cambridge. Drive to Newmarket. At the clock tower take the B1063 through Ashley. At the X road where the B1085 comes in from the left go straight on on the minor road to Ousden. The pub is on the left.

WALK: With your back to the pub turn left and follow the road round the Z bend. In a further 500yds turn left to Stud Farm (grid ref 749601) and turn right. Follow this path down the right hand side of a woodland at the end of the wood keep ahead and look out for a bridge (2 poles covered in wire) over the ditch, cross it. Turn left and continue to the corner of the field here turn left into a green lane which becomes an open ride to the road (grid ref 756614). Turn left following this for about 1 mile passing a road going off to the left in about 1/2 this distance continue to the first path on the left (grid ref 739612) turning left. Keep to the right hand side of the hedge (even though there may be no evident footpath) until you come to a waymark follow this and a second waymark over an open area of field to a cross path and turn right down a green lane. In about 200yds the footpath turns left out of the green lane into a field. There is a waymark pointing straight ahead along the division of 2 fields. Now look to your right and you will see a white house across the field, that is where you need to end up. The footpath to get there is difficult to determine. The best route is to turn right down the field headland and follow the headland round as it swings round to the left. There are waymark signs but they don't exactly agree with the markings on the map. Having followed the field boundary you come up a rise onto a level and in 100yds there is a house on the right (grid ref 742597) go down the right hand side of it to a metalled track and turn right to the road turn left back to the pub - 1/2 mile.

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

27 JULY

WALK 64: WESTON.

Distance 6.5miles

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. Keep to the Baldock by-pass. At the roundabout at its end turn right back towards Baldock. In about 1 mile take the first turn right signed Weston. At a T junction turn right through the village, the pub is on the right.

WALK: Cross the road from the pub and take a road down to the left, in 400yds a road goes off to the left turn along it for about 15yds and take the footpath on the right. When the path reaches the back fence of the houses (grid ref 262303), the path forks take the right hand fork. Keep ahead over 2 cross paths until you reach a green lane (grid ref 272311) and turn right. Follow this path for 1.5 miles (grid ref 287291), and turn right (you will have just passed under an overhead power line). In about 75yds the path divides take the left hand path, again passing under the power line keeping straight ahead coming out in the car park of the Rising Sun pub. Turn left along the lane and as the lane swings left take the footpath straight ahead (grid ref 279280). Having crossed a stile coming out of a farm garden turn sharp right along the edge of the field follow this into a green lane coming out at a bend in a road, here turn right. Follow the lane until it turns sharp right here turn sharp left into another green lane following this to a bend in a road (grid ref 266285) and turn right along the road. In about 200yds the road turns sharp left take the footpath straight ahead. Follow the line of stile and kissing gates to a metalled track (grid ref 260292). Cross the track taking the left hand of 2 paths which goes along the left hand side of a field. At the next metalled track turn left and right at the road to the pub, which is 400yds along the road.

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

3 AUGUST

*Walk 56.

Leader.

Distance: 6 miles.

Burwell.

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 226

Start: The Anchor

Grid Ref: 588669.

Tel: 01638 741101

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A1303 past the airport. Cross the A14 and take the B1102 through Stow cum Quy to Burwell. Pass the church and the junction with the B1103 and at a 'Y' junction take the minor road to the left, down hill, the pub is on the left in 200yds or so.

WALK: Continue down the track past the car park cross the lode and turn right following the lode round to the left. In 1 1/2 miles at a bridge cross over (grid ref 564690). Follow the track past the farm on the left and in approx. 3/4 mile at a river turn right. Follow the righthand river bank for about 1 3/4 miles to (grid ref 589700) and turn right. At a minor road turn right following this back to the pub.

Notes: Start time 10am. Lunch may be ordered before starting

10 AUGUST

*Walk 22.

Leader

Distance: 5.8 miles

Cheverley

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 210

Start: The Red Lion

Grid Ref: 684602.

Tel: 01638 730233

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A1303 past the airport to the roundabout junction with A1304. Go straight across onto the minor road. At the B1061 turn right and immediately left. At the next cross road turn left and keep ahead to Cheverley, 2 1/2 miles. At a T junction turn right, the pub is on the right at the end of the village

Walk. From the pub car park go left 100yards and take the public bridleway on the left signed Ickneild Way. Go straight ahead to cross over a road and field to go through a tree belt on the far side. Cross the stream and bear left on track up hill. Cross over farm road and go on (gallops on right hand side). The Ickneild Way path leads onto a track and bear right when it joins a minor road up to the road T junction (St Mary's Church, Wood Ditton is on left). Cross the road to continue straight on along the Ickneild Way; dropping down to a small wood belt and T junction of paths GR652589. Turn left, through gate and bear left to pass Camois Hall (stables) and join the track up to the water tower at Wood Ditton. Take the main road ahead and round to the left (Ditton Green) to pass the Three Blackbirds public house. Go straight over at the cross roads towards Little Ditton and after Limes Farm join the footpath on the right. Shortly this turns left, soon to go over a stile onto 50yards of farm road and then on right over another stile and footbridge. Go straight over the field, then past 3 paddocks on left, cross straight over farm road and pass 2 paddocks on right to reach an open green. Keep to left side of the green to corner to exit onto public road at Saxon Street. Turn right and first left into Cheveley Road and walk through village. At end road turns sharply left and right and on right a footpath is signed. (This is immediately before a house that appears to be a converted water tower) Take this path on the right and follow it past a small youngish wood turning left and up to a T path junction. Turn left onto the path bearing roughly NNW passing besides 2 paddocks on the left, to reach main road at Oak Tree Corner. Walk up Oak Lane opposite into Cheveley and to 'The Red Lion'.

N.B. Pre-booking at The Red Lion is essential. They only open week day lunchtimes by arrangement for groups, but seem happy to do this.

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

17 AUGUST

*Walk 28.

Leader.

Distance: 6.1 miles

Castle Camps 1.

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 210

Start: The Cock.

Grid Ref: 633434.

Tel: 01799 584207

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A1307 past Addenbrooke's towards Haverhill. By Horseheath turn right through Cardinal's Green and Mill Green to Nosterfield End, here turn right to Castle Camps.

Walk: From the pub go right and in about 100yds turn left into a dead end road taking the path at the end of it. In about 300yds at a hedgerow go left following this path as it turns right and then left along a headland past Goodwoods Farm to a road. Turn right and in about 50yds turn right along a track keeping with this track for about 1mile to (GR658435). Take care at this point, straight ahead is the pink gable end of a farm, the track ahead begins to bend left, you have to go right here across a field to a tree at the end of a hedgerow. Go 20yds beyond the tree turning sharp right (at the time of recce there was no sign or evidence of a footpath) and cross the field keeping parallel to and 20yds away from the hedgerow to your right, at the hedgerow and stream ahead look for a bridge over the stream and cross it. Continue straight ahead for 200yds turning 1/2 right at a finger post crossing to a single gateway at the corner of a hedgerow. Go through into a garden with a tennis court crossing to a 5barred gate at the far corner of the garden onto a road. Turn right and in 300yds immediately passed some cottages turn right. (GR 657423) Cross the field to the hedgerow turning left in 200yds turn left again and in 30yds turn right following this path to a road. Cross the road taking the footpath for 1/2 mile to a cross track turning left, there is a short uphill and at the top in about 75yds turn right across the middle of a field to the corner of a hedgerow. Continue straight ahead with the hedgerow on the left, at a farm track go straight across and at the next track in 100yds go left. (GR 636421) In 300yds at a farm track go right, the track starts to descend gently towards a church straight ahead, look to the left to the radio aerial and when it is at 90 degrees to you look to your right across the field for the end of a hedgerow and cross to it. Continue with the hedgerow on the left pass through a kissing gate and at the next cross track go left and in a few yards right. At the road turn left and immediately right back to the pub.

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

24 AUGUST

*Walk 37.

Leader.

Distance: 5.5 miles

Barley.

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer

Start: Fox and Hounds

Grid Ref:400384.

Tel:01763 848459/849080

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A10 towards Royston. At the traffic lights at the north end of Harston turn left onto the B1368 through Fowlmere to Barley, the pub is on the left at a sharp right bend going up the hill through the village.

Walk: Cross the road from the pub in a SE direction and take the road through houses to a cross track turning right to a road and turn left. In 200yds turn right passing down the field side of some barns and at the bottom corner of the barn turn right and cross the field. Turn left along the road, and as you reach the top of a rise turn right through the hedge go between horse paddocks to the corner of the wood follow the path through the wood to a road, at the road go straight ahead taking the first path on the left. This path goes into a wood swings down to the left and comes out at a gate onto a farm track. Turn right and just past a cottage on the left turn left along a bridle track. Cross a cross path continuing to a road in Barkway (GR385359). At the road turn right and when a road goes off to the right turn left and cross the road taking a footpath across a playing field down the left hand side of a wood and then down the right hand side of a copse continue ahead passing through a copse. At the end of the copse cross a stream and turn left (GR 404353). Follow the headland and a farm track recross the stream and go 1/2 left across a field to a wood. Follow the path through the wood continuing to Smith's End. In Smith's End look for a path off to the right between houses take this it turns left through a gate cross a cricket field easing to the right and continue to a cross track turn left and right back to the pub.

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

31 AUGUST

*Walk 40.

Leader

Distance: 5.5 miles

Therfield Heath (Royston)

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer

Start: Heath Sports Centre

Grid Ref: 353402.

Tel: 01763 243613

Directions from Cambridge. Take the A10 to Royston. After crossing the A505 roundabout cross the next two roundabouts, at the third go right along the main street. Go through the traffic lights over a roundabout and continue for 3/4 mile and turn left in to Royston sports complex, go through the car park and try and park in the top right of the car park.

Walk. Facing due west turn ½ left up to a knoll with a seat on it. Continue ahead on a path to two tumuli and here go ½ right and join a chalk track as you descend a hill. Keep with this track crossing a road to the last green on the golf course. Carry straight on along a tree belt to Thrift Farm 319392 and turn left through the farm (dogs MUST be on a lead as there is usually live stock). At the end of the farm buildings turn left and in 100m go right and aim for the left side of a copse 324388. Here ignore the path to the left and carry straight on heading for the middle of a fence surrounding a plantation and go through the plantation. Just beyond the plantation you come to the corner of a field and the end of a hedgerow 331386. Strictly the path goes up the right side of the hedge, but it is more convenient to go up the left side. At the road turn left up the headland and at the next path turn left. The path swings right down hill coming to woodland on the right, just beyond the end of the woodland go left through a lever post stile and up a short sharp hill onto a chalk down. (this is quite famous for its crop of passion flowers in mid April, they don't always flower). Pass through a gate and turn left through the beech wood, the path swings right to continue through a tree belt to a road 337398. Cross the road and keep ahead passing the golf course on your right and into more trees. Keep with this path as it descends and climbs and swings right to come out onto open heath 349399. Cross to a hedge swinging left. At the crest of the hill turn left down to the sports centre.

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

7 SEPTEMBER

*Walk 43

Leader.

Guilden Morden.

Distance: 5.7 miles.

Map: OS Landranger 153/Explorer

Start: The Three Tuns.

Grid Ref: 278438.

Tel: 01736 852768

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A603 through Barton to the roundabout junction with A1198 and turn left. Take the first right through Shingay cum Wendy to Guilden Morden. At a T junction in the village go left then right just past the church, at the next T junction go left and the pub is on the right.

Walk. Go down the tarmac lane to the left of the pub and continue along a wide grass track. The track comes to an open area and at the hedgerow 200yds on turn right along the right side of the hedge to a road. Here turn left and in 75yds go right down the left side of a hedge along the back of some houses. In about 1 mile turn left at a road (Frandon Farm), pass over a stream and turn left along the stream then keep with the hedge as it swing right and aim for a telegraph post at the corner of a hedge, keep on to a road. Here side-step right down Church Farm Lane, at the end go right and then left over a stile. At the Y junction in the field (L*) go left and wind through the bottom of a garden to a lane. Turn left and when the tarmac track turns left go straight ahead to a road and turn right. As the road bends right, just past the sign to Brook End, take a path on the left. As this path rises to meet a farm track there is a panoramic view, particularly to the east. At the farm track turn right and in 100yds at the top of a rise turn left across two fields to a small copse and turn left. In another 75yds turn left again. Follow this path round a wood and at the other side with another small wood 100yds away turn right heading for a church steeple. Then aim for the end of a line of trees half way across the next field, keep to their left and straight on to a road. Here turn right and in 200yds left, the goes right and left to pass a moat, keep ahead over the road and on to the pub.

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

L*. If it is spring linger here awhile as this is the best wild meadow that I have seen for years.

14 SEPTEMBER

*Walk 20.

Leader.

Saxon Street – Woodditton – Saxon Street

Distance: 6miles

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 210

Start: The Reindeer pub.

Grid Ref: 679595.

Tel: 01638 730989

Directions from Cambridge. Take the A1303 past the airport towards Newmarket. At the Stetchworth roundabout turn left onto the A1304 to Newmarket. On entering Newmarket turn right onto the B1061. After a short distance, when the B1061 bears right, continue straight on to Woodditton. At the cross road turn left through Little Ditton to a T junction, 1 ¼ miles, and turn right into Saxon Street. The pub is on the right.

Walk. From the pub turn right and after a short distance turn right again onto a track. Passing Parsonage Farm you reach a minor road. Cross this and continue on the tract to Woodditton and Ditton Green. Turn left onto a minor road and walk through the village. The road turns right and then left. Here continue straight ahead passing a water tower on the right. In about ¾ mile the Ickneild Way crosses the path, turn right onto

it. At a minor road side step right and pass a church on the right. Continue on the Ickneild Way to another minor road and turn right to the pub.

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

21 SEPTEMBER

Walk 26.

Leader.

Distance: 5.5 miles.

Withersfield.

Map: OS Landranger 154/Explorer 210

Start: The White Horse Inn

Grid Ref: 646477.

Tel: 01440 706081

Directions from Cambridge. Leave on the A1307 past Addenbrooke's towards Haverhill. At the bottom of the hill just before Haverhill turn left for Withersfield. The pub is on the right at the start of the village.

Walk. Continue down into the village to the church and turn left along the right side of the church. The path continues north for just over 1 mile, after about 500yds take a metal footbridge to your right over the stream, the path joins a farm track coming in from the right, when the track turns left over a culvert turn right up the left side of the hedge. In a short distance there are 3 war time ammunition sheds on your right. At the wood just ahead go left onto a concrete road, ref: 643495, and follow this to a road. Turn right and in 100yds left with first a hedge on you right and then a ditch. At a field junction turn right and then left following the headland to a cross path at a hedge row, ref: 627494. Here turn right along a path enclosed by hedges. In 250yds there is a cross path with boarded bridges over ditches on each side of the path, turn left through the hedge then ½ right across the corner of a field. At the headland turn left joining a wide grass track after passing through a hedge, at a 6 bar gate, ref: 621497, go left, NOTE THE WARNING ABOUT THE HORSES, down to a wooden bridge into a field. The path goes straight ahead uphill to the farm, however, it might be easier to use the headland round to the left if the ground is wet. At the farm go between two large out buildings and then turn ½ right and head for the end of a hedgerow diagonally across the corner of the field. The path then rises to the wood ahead, keep to the left of the hedge and go through the edge of the strip of woodland. On exiting the wood go straight ahead to the left hand corner of the wood over the field, ref: 624482, to a cross path and turn left. THIS PIECE NEEDS CARE. Keep to the left of the hedge and in about 150yds the path goes ¼ left to the corner of the wood on the other side of the field (on my recce I couldn't find a waymark and the path was ploughed out). The path then goes along the edge of a short length of woodland to a corner in the field. The headland goes right, go on into the wood and cross a wooden bridge. Continue ahead, the path swings gently left, in about 60yds turn right through the trees coming out into a field, ref:631481. Take the headland round to the right and keep with the headland, in about 300yds cross a wooden bridge and turn right round the headland to a road. Here turn left to Withersfield, about a 12min walk. The leader should keep some 50yds ahead as there is one difficult bend before the village.

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

Having this week **OFF**

WALK 63: BUNTINGFORD

Distance 6.1 miles

Map: OS Landranger 166 & 167

Start: The Crown

Grid Ref: 363293.

Tel: 01763 271422

Directions to start from Cambridge. Leave Cambridge on the A10 through Royston to Buntingford. At the roundabout at Buntingford turn left into the town. As you drop down into the town look for a parking to the left, it is necessary to use this town carpark as it is the only long term facility in the town. The cost is £2 for the day. It has toilets which are free! The Crown pub is about 200yds from the carpark. Go past the toilets to the High Street and turn right, the pub is set back on the right.

WALK: With your back to the pub follow the road round to the left signposted Hare Street, having turned the corner in 150yds take the signed footpath on the right. Follow this path to a road and turn left. Continue along the road to Owls Farm turning left before the gate to the farm along a well made track passing Owles Hall on the right. In just under 1mile (grid ref 377294) turn right (the path sign is in purple and set off to the right and not easy to see). You go through a gate into a garden keep to the right and the footpath goes between trees at the top end of the garden, you then come to an open area of grass and go across to the far right corner to go down the right hand side of a piece of woodland. Follow this path to the road in Hare Street. Here turn left and in about 50yds turn right down the side of a house. After crossing an open field

cross the river where the path divides, take the right hand fork. Keep ahead to a road (grid ref 401297) here turn left. Follow the road round into Great Hornead to a T junction with a pub The Three Tuns to the right of the junction. Sidestep left and take a wide track between houses which then becomes a path at the side of a house. In 200yds at a farm track, Bury Farm is on the right turn left and then right keeping to the headland of the field to the next hedgerow and turn left down the right hand side of the hedge. Follow this path down into the valley and over a bridge over the river. Turn sharp right keeping with the river until you come to a track that swings left up to the road (grid ref 393309). Here turn right and in 100yds turn left following this track for about 1 3/4 miles when it turns sharp left. In 50yds turn sharp right and at a track junction in 150yds go left. In about 1/2 mile turn right aiming for the church tower (the church is a ruin) follow this path round the church to a metalled track (grid ref 369301). Turn left down the track following this down into Buntingford High Street sidestep right and return to the car park.

Notes: Start 10 o'clock. Lunch may be ordered before the start of the walk. We will collect in the car park and order lunch as we set out on the walk. The Crown is a real old downtown pub but the food is good!