

Special Events in 2011

Sun 10.4 Coach Trip to the Surrey Hills

Walk the North Downs Way, some of the country's most idyllic scenery, including Ranmore Common, and with the opportunity to spend the afternoon in the historic county town of Guildford. Distance 12 miles

Cost per head £16

Biggleswade Market Square 7.30am

Bedford Bus Station 8.00am

Deadline for booking is 10th March 2011.

Organiser: David Tel 01234 350644

Or e-mail chairman@ivelvalleywalkers.co.uk

Sun 15.5 - 5 night break in Northumberland

Thu 19.5 Four days walking in the Cheviots and Northumberland National Park.

Walks will be strenuous and between 8 and 12 miles.

The holiday will be based at Wooler. An accommodation list of B&B in and around Wooler is available.

Administration charge £10.

Deadline for bookings is 17th April 2011.

Organiser: Jim Tel 07966 735318

Or email J_middlemiss@hotmail.co.uk

Thu 15.9 – Long weekend in Wales, based in Montgomery

Sun 18.9 There will be a linear walk from Welshpool back into Montgomery around Y Golfa and Powis Castle, also a walk from Clun and around Bishop's Castle. We will walk sections of Offa's Dyke and also part of the Glyndwr Way.

There is plenty of accommodation in and around the town, but if you plan to stay at the Dragon Hotel Catherine recommends booking early.

Further details in the next programme.

Organiser: Catherine Tel 01462 857895

Sun 16.10 Oxford Coach Trip

Enjoy the delights of the Thames Valley near Oxford. Starting at Woodstock we skirt the Blenheim Palace estate and visit the Winston Churchill grave at Bladon.

Lunch will be taken in the village of Yarnton, with option of taking the coach for an afternoon in Oxford.

The afternoon route takes us into Oxford via Wolvercote Common and allows time for tea before departing.

Distance 10 miles.

For information contact: Tony; Tel: 01234 831388 or e-mail: tony.sheward@btinternet.com

Officers and Committee

Chairman:

David Stark, Tel: 01234 350644

Email: chairman@ivelvalleywalkers.co.uk

Secretary:

Mary Carrington, Tel: 01234 781220

Email: secretary@ivelvalleywalkers.co.uk

Treasurer:

Jim Middlemiss, Tel: 01234 301948

Email: treasurer@ivelvalleywalkers.co.uk

Programme Secretary:

Sheila Cakebread, Tel: 01480 392223

Email: programme@ivelvalleywalkers.co.uk

Publicity Officer:

Roger McLeod Tel: 01234 216639

Email: publicity@ivelvalleywalkers.co.uk

Footpath Officer:

Roger Chick, Tel: 01767 312 259

Email: footpaths@ivelvalleywalkers.co.uk

Committee:

Eric Cartwright, Mary Morse, Nick Markham, Mike Tenwick.

Please make sure that you are fit enough to undertake the walk you intend to join. If you're unsure of your fitness level, try a short and easy walk first.

Most Ramblers' walks are off-road in rural areas. Please have suitable footwear and clothing for the walk you intend to join. Leaders may refuse to accept participants who in their opinion are inadequately equipped or unfit.

For your own and others' safety please read and abide by any advice and guidelines issued by the organisers, and the instructions of the walk leader. Though walking is inherently one of the safest outdoor activities, no activity is completely without risk and it is your responsibility to behave sensibly and to minimise the potential for accidents to occur.

If you wish to bring a dog on any walk, please contact the leader beforehand to check suitability.

Most daytime walks have a break for refreshments. Please also bring a packed lunch if out all day.

Please be aware that our walks always depart at the time stated.

Sunday walks are either: two half days, usually with a morning walk of 6-7 miles and an afternoon walk of about 5 miles; or one full day of 10 to 12 miles (ending about 4.00pm).

Wednesday morning walks are generally 6-7 miles, finishing by 1.00pm.

Weekday long walks are generally 9-12 miles, finishing mid afternoon.

Weekday ambles are short walks (5 miles or less) conducted at a leisurely pace and may be of particular interest to those new or returning to walking.

Summer Evening walks are usually about 4 miles (1.5 hours).

Leaders state in the programme if a walk is likely to differ appreciably from these guidelines.

If you have any questions about a particular walk, please contact the leader. For other enquiries about our club, please contact any committee member.

The Ramblers' Association is a registered charity (England & Wales no 1093577, Scotland no SC039799) and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales (no 4458492). Registered office: 2nd Floor, Camelford House, 87-90 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TW.



ramblers
at the heart of walking

Ivel Valley Walkers

Bedfordshire Area

2011 Spring Programme

Happy New Year

Welcome to 2011. As always, we have walks every Sunday (either full days or 2 half days), every Wednesday morning, and alternate Tuesdays and Thursdays.

We start the year with a walk around the East End of London, and end the programme with more of the John Bunyan Trail, devised by our former member Gordon Edwards.

We almost finish walking the London loop, and walk the North Downs Way in Surrey, to explore more of the country outside of Bedfordshire.

Looking ahead, we have breaks planned in Northumberland, Wales, and a coach trip to Oxford.

Do come and join us on any of our walks – we are a very friendly group and love meeting new people.

On a more serious note, while we have lots of people on our walks, and do not have problems getting people to lead those walks, we do have a problem getting volunteers to take on that little bit of extra responsibility and join the committee.

After this year's AGM, we do not have anybody to coordinate Sunday Walks, and only have a treasurer because he has generously agreed to do an additional (and final) year. I do invite all of you who enjoy our programme to consider if you could put aside a small amount of time to help continue the club to be the successful, friendly organisation it has been for over 25 years.

Please talk to me if you would like to help.

David Stark, Chairman

P.S. for the latest update on any of our walks or events, please refer to www.ivelvalleywalkers.co.uk

If you would like to lead a walk on the next programme, or suggest a walk the Group could do, please contact programme@ivelvalleywalkers.co.uk

Please consider helping Ivel Valley Walkers to reduce costs by receiving your programme by e-mail, or getting it from our website. Please e-mail secretary@ivelvalleywalkers.co.uk if you could help us in this way.

For further information on 'the Ramblers'
visit the web-site at 'www.ramblers.org.uk/'
or Telephone: 020 7339 8500.

Remember to nominate Ivel Valley Walkers as your local group when you decide to take out membership.

Ivel Valley Walks Programme: Spring 2011

- Sat 1.1 10:00am **New Year's Day.** Cardington, Green near Kings Arms PH TL087478 7 miles. Barry 01234 353704
- Sun 2.1 8:30am **Sewers & Sport (think Olympics)!**
Bedford Railway Station TL041497 6 miles. For 8.52 train (Flitwick 9.02), to St. Pancras, to take the underground to Mile End. Group Save Tickets currently £12.25 per person for groups of 4. David 01234 350644
- Wed 5.1 10:00am Ampthill Park car park TL024382 7 miles. Jim 01234 301948
- Thu 6.1 10:00am **Weekday Amble.** Wootton. Near Chequers Inn PH at Hall End Road TL001457 5 miles. Brian 01234 823603
- Sun 9.1 10:00am & 1:45pm Cranfield. High Street, near Church and War Memorial SP954420 7 & 5 miles. Barry 01234 353704
- Tue 11.1 10:00am Ickleford, Chambers Lane near village green TL183317 12 miles. Based on the Hitchin Outer Orbital Path (HOOP). Brian 01234 823603
- Wed 12.1 10:00am Breachwood Green Village Hall car park, SG4 8NX TL151219 6 miles. Julia 01462 672321
- Sun 16.1 10:00am Tempsford, Church End past Wheatsheaf PH TL162531 12 miles. Please do not park too close to the church. Nichola 01525 840278
- Wed 19.1 10:00am Stagsden, near former Royal George PH SP982489 6.5 miles. Tony 01234 831388
- Thu 20.1 10:00am **Weekday Amble.** Ashwell Near Church TL266397 5 miles. Mary M 01462 700387
- Sun 23.1 10:00am & 1:45 PM Sandy, town centre car park TL174492 7 & 5 miles. Tony 01234 831388
- Mon 24.1 7:45pm **Committee Meeting.**
Host: Roger McLeod Tel. 01234 216639
- Tue 25.1 10:00am Pirton, The Green TL146316 12 miles. Jim 01234 301948
- Wed 26.1 10:00am Weston Nr Baldock. Holy Trinity Church car park TL266299 7 miles. Antony 01767 601969
- Sun 30.1 10:00am Turvey, in layby on A428 north of river. SP937523 11 miles. Jim 07966 735318
- Wed 2.2 10:00am Wilstead. Car park in Whitworth Way TL066435 7 miles. Laurie 01525 403950
- Thu 3.2 10:00am **Weekday Amble.** Pulloxhill, near Cross Keys PH MK45 5HB TL063340 5 miles. Carol 01582 882628
- Sun 6.2 10:00am & 1:45pm Shefford, town car park, Old Station Way TL142391 7 & 5 miles. Nick M 07803 125876
- Tue 8.2 10:00am Biggleswade, Dan Albone car park (near Sainsburys) TL187453 12 miles. Bernard 01462 700387
- Wed 9.2 10:00am Keysoe Row Village Hall TL083612 6.5 miles. Nick W 01234 210437
- Sun 13.2 10:00am Stagsden. Park carefully on road at SW end of village, away from houses. SP981488 13.5 miles. Roy 01234 301182

Ivel Valley Walks Programme: Spring 2011

- Wed 16.2 10:00am Barton-le-Clay. Park by church. TL085304 6.5 miles. Carol 01582 882628
- Thu 17.2 10:00am **Weekday Amble.** Meppershall, by the Church TL134359 5 miles. Carol 01582 882628
- Sun 20.2 10:00am & 1:45pm Ashwell High Street nr Cam Springs/Three Tuns pub TL270398 7 & 5 miles. Please park considerately in the village. No dogs please. Pauline 01480 477188
- Tue 22.2 10:00am Great Staughton, Sundial in village TL131646 11 miles. Sue & Bob 01234 823974 Mobile: 07849827049
- Wed 23.2 10:00am Radwell Meadows Country Park car park (off Nortonbury Lane nr Letchworth) TL234349 7 miles. Antony 01767 601969
- Sun 27.2 10:00am Woburn, Car park opposite Church SP950332 11.5 miles. Laurie 01525 403950
- Wed 2.3 10:00am Hexton, park in main street TL106307 7.5 miles. Laurie 01525 403950
- Thu 3.3 10:00am **Weekday Amble.** Ridgmont. Near Rose & Crown PH SP978363 4.5 miles. Walkers having lunch in pub may use the car park. Cheryle 01234 751841
- Sun 6.3 10:00am & 1:45pm Weston, Herts. (near A1M Jn 9). Maiden Street near duck pond. TL259301 7 & 5 miles. Mike 01462 491032
- Tue 8.3 10:00am Cople Church TL103484 11 miles. Park carefully in village. Laurie 01525 403950
- Wed 9.3 10:00am Letty Green Picnic Site, S.E. of Welwyn Garden City TL285111 6.5 miles. Tony 01234 831388
- Sun 13.3 8:20am **London Loop (penultimate section) Whyteleaf - Belmont.**
Bedford Railway Station TL041497 10 miles. For 8.38 train (Flitwick 8:48). Cost for Group Save is £9.75 each for groups of 4 (2010 price). Tony 01234 831388
- Wed 16.3 10:00am Silsoe, Park Avenue, near Church TL083356 6.5 miles. Geoff 01525 712207
- Thu 17.3 10:00am **Weekday Amble.** Lilley Village Hall car park TL119263 4.5 miles. Julia 01462 672321
- Sun 20.3 10:00am & 1:45pm Souldrop, near Bedford Arms PH SP986617 7.5 & 6 miles. Roy 01234 301182
- Tue 22.3 10:00am St Pauls Walden, car park near Church TL192222 9 miles. Antony 01767 601969
- Wed 23.3 10:00am Broom. High St. Near Cock PH TL172430 6.5 miles. Marcus 01462 812005
- Sun 27.3 9:45am Kimbolton, High St near Church. TL099678 12 miles. Shared transport to start at Tilbrook TL081693 as parking there is very limited. Val C 01480 218872
- Wed 30.3 10:00am Harrold Odell Country Park car park SP956566 6.5 miles. Mary C 01234 781220
- Thu 31.3 10:00am **Weekday Amble.** Sharnbrook, Fordham Arms PH TL001595 5 miles. Mary C 01234 781220

Ivel Valley Walks Programme: Spring 2011

- Sun 3.4 10:00am & 2:00pm Three Locks Picnic site (north of Linslade, off A4146) SP892282 7 & 5 miles. Lynda K 01234 740788
- Tue 5.4 10:00am Turvey Church SP941525 11 miles. Sue & Bob 01234 823974 Mobile: 07849827049
- Wed 6.4 10:00am Therfield (near Royston). Park considerately around village green by The Fox & Duck PH TL336372 7 miles. Antony 01767 601969
- Sun 10.4 7:30am **Surrey Hills coach trip.** 12 miles. See overleaf for details. David 01234 350644
- Wed 13.4 10:00am Charlton, near Hitchin, Herts. Park near Windmill PH TL178282 6.5 miles. Marcus 01462 812005
- Thu 14.4 10:00am **Weekday Amble.** Waresley Woods car park. Off Waresley to Great Gransden road. TL256550 5 miles. Sheila 07885 615595
- Sun 17.4 10:00am & 2:00pm Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre, near Bridgewater Monument SP971129 7 & 5 miles. Marcus 01462 812005
- Tue 19.4 10:00am Buckingham. Meet by Old Gaol, Market Hill, MK18 1JX SP696340 14 miles. Town Centre CP £2.50 long stay. Walk through Stowe Park & outskirts of Silverstone. Marcus 01462 812005
- Wed 20.4 10:00am Wootton. Near Chequers Inn PH at Hall End Road TL001457 7 miles. Use pub car park if eating or drinking. Martin 01234 767876
- Easter walks**
- Fri 22.4 9:00am **Good Friday. Bunyan Trail day 5 - Elstow to Hexton.** Hexton, near Raven PH TL106307 15 miles. Shared transport to start at Elstow. Nick M 07803 125876
- Sun 24.4 10:00am & 2:00pm **Easter Sunday.** Harrold Odell Country Park car park SP956566 7 & 5 miles. Val C 01480 218872
- Mon 25.4 10:00am **Easter Monday. Bunyan Trail final day - Hexton to Sundon Hills.** Sundon Hills Country Park TL047286 13 miles. Shared transport to start at Hexton. Mike 01462 491032
- Wed 27.4 10:00am **Bluebell Walk.** Great Offley, near Red Lion PH TL146266 6 miles. Margaret 01582 564929
- Thu 28.4 10:00am **Weekday Amble.** Silsoe, Park Avenue, near Church TL083356 5 miles. Antony 01767 601969
- Sun 1.5 10:00am & 2:00pm Dunstable Downs - Chiltern Gateway Centre TL008198 7 & 5 miles. Car park charge (free to National Trust members). Marcus 01462 812005
- Mon 2.5 9:00am **Land, Track and Air.** St Neots. Riverside car park TL179600 12 miles. Shared transport to Barrowden. Taking you back to an age when British engineering was the finest in the world and real ale was king. St Neots car park charge - £1.50 (over 4 hours). Do not park in short stay red marked bays. Barry 01234 353704