

Special Events in 2011 & 2012

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. Cost per head £16

Biggleswade Market Square 8.00am

Bedford Bus Station 8.30am

Deadline for booking is 19th September 2011.

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

Wed 02.11 Ten Pin Bowling Evening

Starts 7pm at St. Neots Eat'N'Bowl, Huntingdon Road, St. Neots, PE19 1AA TL187608

Two games of 10 pin bowling, followed by optional meal at The Weeping Ash (Wetherspoons), 15 New Street, St Neots, PE19 1AD TL183603

Cost £8.50 for 2 games, including shoe hire. Meals to be ordered & paid for individually.

Deadline for booking 1st October 2011

Organiser: Roger Tel 01234 216639

2012

Fri 23.3 – Weekend based in Ludlow Shropshire.

Sun 25.3 John Betjeman described Ludlow as "The most perfect town in England".

The town and castle are perched on a cliff above the River Teme in one of the most unspoilt parts of rural England and the countryside is perfect for walking. Ludlow offers a wide range of accommodation and is approximately 2.5 hours driving time from Bedford.

List of accommodation available and also online.

Email: ludlow.tourism@shropshire.gov.uk or see www.shropshiretourism.co.uk/ludlow.

Administration charge £10

Organiser: Barry Tel 01234 353704

Sun 29.4 Coach trip to Aldeburgh

A days walking along the Suffolk Coast, including a visit to Minsmere nature reserve and historic Aldeburgh.

Full details and booking slip in next programme.

Organiser: Nick Tel 07803 125876

Sun 17.6 – Fri 22.6 5 Night Break Based at Alston in the North Pennines

Savour the delights of Cross Fell, Hadrian's Wall, High Force and the South Tyne Trail based in Alston, the highest market town in England.

Easier alternative walks will be available.

Book your own B&B. Further details and a booking slip will be included in the next programme.

Organiser: Tony 01234 831388 or e-mail tony.sheward@btinternet.com

Officers and Committee

Chairman:

David Slark, 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

7 miles and an afternoon walk of about 5 miles; or one full day of 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 Autumn Programme

Welcome to the Ivel Valley autumn programme.

We have several notable items on this programme, starting with the Bedfordshire Walking Festival in the first week in September. On the 25th September, there are two walks commemorating Gordon Edwards, the architect of the Bunyan Trail, and several other walks, who sadly died two years ago.

With your contributions, we have been able to install a bench dedicated to Gordon on Sharpnose Clappers, a favourite area of his, and both walks will stop at this bench. You will be able to appreciate the magnificent views that Bedfordshire's 'flat' countryside can offer.

We have an away day to Oxford on the 16th October, and a bowling evening social on 2nd November. See overleaf for further details. We have two special social walks before Christmas, on the 11th & 14th December, both involving a lunch, and all this is followed by a Festival of Winter Walks over the Christmas period.

Do come and join us on any of our walks, there is no need to book, and they are free. If it is your first time out with us, do introduce yourself to the leader, who will introduce you to the rest of the group.

Finally, we have our AGM on 8th November. Do come along and have your say about what the group should or should not be doing.

David Slark, Chairman

P.S. for the latest update on any of our walks or events, please refer to www.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: Autumn 2011

Thu 1.9 10:00am **Weekday Amble** Henlow Church. Park at end of Gardeners Lane (off High Street, north of Church). TL177387 4.5 miles. Mary M 01462 700387

Bedfordshire Walking Festival

For details of all the walks see the Festival Programme & www.bedswalkfest.co.uk. Ivel Valley's walks are listed below.

Sat 3.9 10:30am & 2:45pm Silsoe, Park Avenue, near Church TL083356 8 & 4 miles. Nick M 07803 125876

Sun 4.9 10:00am & 2:00pm Haynes Village Hall car park, Northwood End Road TL101420 7 & 5 miles. Lynda K 01234 740788

Continued overleaf.....

Ivel Valley Walks Programme: Autumn 2011

Bedfordshire walking Festival continued

- Mon 5.9 9:50am **Linear Railway walk from Arlesey to Sandy.** Sandy Railway Station TL178488 9 miles. To catch 10:14 train from Sandy to Arlesey. Parking charge at Station, free parking in town centre car park (or St. Swithun's Way if full). Rail ticket £3.30 (£2.20 with a Railcard). Tony 01234 831388
- Tue 6.9 10:00am Old Warden Village Hall car park TL138440 10 miles. Marcus 01462 812005
- Wed 7.9 10:00am Everton, near Thornton Arms TL202512 6.5 miles. Carol 01582 882628
- Also
- Wed 7.9 1:45pm Bedford Railway Station TL041497 to catch 1:55pm train to Lidlington (or catch 2:01pm train from Bletchley). Or meet 2:15pm Lidlington Station, SP989391 A 5 mile energetic walk, with some of the best views in Mid Bedfordshire. Return on the train soon after 4:00pm. Barry 01234 353704
- Thu 8.9 10:00am **Weekday Amble** Northill, near Church TL149465 4.5 miles. Brian 01234 823603
- Fri 9.9 10:15am Milton Ernest Garden Centre TL014561 6.5 miles. Park in the car park near the entrance gate away from the buildings. Stagecoach M50 service from Bedford Bus Station to Kettering departs 9:30am. Alight Queens Head and follow Radwell Road for approx 500 yards to Garden Centre. Return Bedford 13:08 or 14:08. Brian 01234 823603
- Sat 10.9 11:15am Keysoe Row Village Hall TL083612 8 miles. 10:30am Cedar coaches bus 153 from Bedford Harper Street stop X (or meet 10:15am Bedford Bus Station), arrives Keysoe 11:15am. Return bus 15:15. Nick W 01234 210437
- Sun 11.9 10:00am & 2:00pm Ampt Hill, meet at gates to The Alameda, Woburn Street. TL034381 8 & 3.5 miles. Park in small car park at the Alameda Gates, or use lay-bys along Woburn Street. Afternoon history tour. Nichola & John 01525 840278
- Wed 14.9 10:00am Keysoe Row Village Hall TL083612 7 miles. A walk towards Little Staughton. Nick W 01234 210437
- Thu 15.9 10:00am **Weekday Amble** Radwell Meadows Country Park car park (off Nortonbury Lane nr Letchworth) TL234349 5 miles. Antony 01767 601969
- Sun 18.9 10:00am Godmanchester Millyard car park, Post Street TL243707 12 miles. Val C 01480 218872
- Tue 20.9 10:00am Silsoe, Park Avenue, near Church TL083356 12 miles. Jim 01234 301948
- Wed 21.9 10:00am Eversholt Village Hall car park— go through gate on right SP981327 6 miles. Martin 01234 767876
- Sun 25.9 10:00am & 2:00pm **Gordon Edwards Memorial Walks.** Sharpenhoe Clappers car park TL065296 7.5 & 4 miles. The morning and afternoon walks will both visit the seat which has been installed in Gordon's memory and include tributes to Gordon at appropriate places. The morning walk will also pay a visit to Gordon's grave in Barton Cemetery. The afternoon walk will be around Sundon & Sharpenhoe Clappers. Barry 01234 353704
- Wed 28.9 10:00am Biggleswade, Dan Albone car park (near Sainsburys) TL187453 6.5 miles. Marcus 01462 812005
- Thu 29.9 10:00am **Weekday Amble** Flitwick Leisure Centre, Steppingley Road TL026355 4.5 miles. Permission given to use Leisure Centre car park. Bruce 01525 402885

Ivel Valley Walks Programme: Autumn 2011

- Sun 2.10 9:30am **Stanwick Lakes.** Bedford, Greyfriars near Cycle King TL045499 for car share to start at 10:00am Stanwick Lakes (SP967715) 12 miles. Parking charge. David 01234 350644
- Tue 4.10 10:00am Sherington, Bucks. The Knoll SP887464 12 miles. Opposite where Water Lane meets the High Street. Sue 01234 823974
- Wed 5.10 10:00am Ampt Hill Park West car park TL024382 7 miles. Geoff 01525 712207
- Sun 9.10 10:00am & 2:00pm Woburn. Car park opposite Church SP950332 7 & 5 miles. Lynda K 01234 740788
- Wed 12.10 10:00am Radwell (N Beds) near former Swan pub TL004575 6.5 miles. Mary C 01234 781220
- Thu 13.10 10:00am **Weekday Amble** Cockayne Hatley, near Church TL256496 4.5 miles. Julia 01462 672321
- Sun 16.10 8:00am **Coach trip to Oxford** Biggleswade Market Square TL190446. 8:30am Bedford Bus Station TL047498 10 miles. See overleaf for details. Tony 01234 831388
- Tue 18.10 10:00am Bozeat Church SP906592 10 miles. Brian 01234 823603
- Wed 19.10 10:00am Harlington Village Hall car park TL037304 7 miles. Marilyn 01525 874191 or 07870 950124
- Sun 23.10 10:00am & 2:00pm Harrold Odell Country Park car park SP956566 7 & 5 miles. Val C 01480 218872
- Wed 26.10 10:00am Preston nr Hitchin, Village Green TL180247 6 miles. Park courteously in village, meet in front of Red Lion PH. Margaret 01582 564929
- Thu 27.10 10:00am **Weekday Amble** William (nr Letchworth, Herts.). Manor Wood Car Park TL223302 5 miles. Past Manor Farm, down Roxley Court Road, a few hundred yards on the right. Antony 01767 601969
- Sun 30.10 10:00am Ampt Hill Park, West car park TL024382 11 miles. John 01525 840278
- Tue 1.11 10:00am Shefford, town car park, Old Station Way TL142391 10.5 miles. Bernard 01462 700387
- Wed 2.11 10:00am Steeple Morden Village Hall car park (beyond village hall) TL285427 6 miles. Antony 01767 601969
- Also
- Wed 2.11 7:00pm **Bowling Evening** St. Neots Eat 'N' Bowl, See overleaf for details. Roger McC 01234 216639
- Sun 6.11 10:00am & 1:45pm Great Offley, near Church TL145268 7 & 4.5 miles. Mike 01462 491032
- Thu 8.11 7:30pm **Ivel Valley Walkers AGM.** Old Warden Village Hall See AGM Notification slip for details.
- Wed 9.11 10:00am Pirton, The Green TL146316 6 miles. Julia 01462 672321
- Thu 10.11 10:00am **Weekday Amble** Harrold Odell Country Park car park SP956566 4.5 miles. Sheila 01480 392223
- Sun 13.11 10:00am Sandy, town centre car park TL174492 12 miles. No dogs please. Joint walk with Huntingdonshire group. Pauline 01480 477188 or 07904 751554 (on day only)
- Tue 15.11 10:00am Colmworth, Village Hall car park TL105584 12 miles. Eric 01234 315181
- Wed 16.11 10:00am Northill, near Church TL149465 7 miles. Laurie 01525 403950

Ivel Valley Walks Programme: Autumn 2011

- Sun 20.11 10:00am & 1:45pm Cardington Green near Kings Arms pub TL087478 7 & 5 miles. Tony 01234 831388
- Wed 23.11 10:00am Ampt Hill Park, West car park TL024382 7 miles. Jim 01234 301948
- Thu 24.11 10:00am **Weekday Amble** Hexton, near Raven PH TL106307 4 miles. Margaret 01582 564929
- Sun 27.11 10:00am **Hitchin Outer Orbital Path.** Hitchin. Car Park near St Marys church TL186291 12 miles. Mike 01462 491032
- Tue 29.11 10:00am Diddington TL197659 10.5 miles. Car parking is at the end of the village where the tarmac ends. Antony 01767 601969
- Wed 30.11 10:00am Little Staughton Church TL107630 6.5 miles. Tony 01234 831388
- Sat 3.12 10:00am **Bedfordshire Area AGM.** Oakley Village Hall, Church Lane TL007533 10:00am Tea/Coffee and Welcome, followed by a 4 mile walk; 12:30pm Light lunch; 1:30pm Barrie Mason will give a talk and slide show about the Birds and Wildlife of East Anglia; 2:15pm Area AGM. Further details from Paul Boatfield: paul@powertools.co.uk
- Sun 4.12 9:30am **North Bedfordshire Heritage Trail - Day 1.** Turvey Church SP941525 11.5 miles. Day 1 of a 70 mile circular route devised by Gordon Edwards. Car share to take us to the beginning at St Pauls Square, Bedford. Roy 01234 301182
- Wed 7.12 10:00am Barton-le-Clay. Old Road Recreation Ground TL083304 6.5 miles. Laurie 01525 403950
- Thu 8.12 10:00am **Weekday Amble** Flitwick. Flitwick Moor, park in or near Moor Lane TL041349 5 miles. Carol 01582 882628
- Sun 11.12 10:00am **Mulled Wine Ramble.** Old Warden Village Hall TL138440 7 miles. Mulled Wine and bring and share snacks. Offers of food to Mary on 01234 781220. Cost £2 on the door. Barry 01234 353704
- Tue 13.12 10:00am Riseley High Street near the former Five Bells pub TL040627 12 miles. Eric 01234 315181
- Wed 14.12 10:00am **Christmas Walk and Buffet Lunch.** Maulden, Dog & Badger PH. TL072376 6.5 miles. Buffet £10 per head, book & pay by 30th November. Sheila & Clive 01480 392223
- Sun 18.12 10:00am & 1:45pm Silsoe. Wrest Park car park. TL093356 8 & 3 miles. Nichola 01525 840278
- Wed 21.12 10:00am Steeple Morden Recreation Ground C.P TL285427 6.5 miles. Tony 01234 831338
- Thu 22.12 10:00am **Weekday Amble** Ickleford, Chambers Lane near village green TL183317 5 miles. Julia 01462 672321

Festival of Winter Walks

- Tue 27.12 10:00am Milton Keynes, Caldecotte South Lake car park. SP892355 9 miles. Nick M 07803 125876
- Wed 28.12 10:00am Pegsdon, near Live & Let Live PH TL121303 6 miles. Carol 01582 882628
- Thu 29.12 9:30am **North Bedfordshire Heritage Trail - Day 2.** Riseley. On road near Fox & Hounds PH TL040627 12 miles Car share to take us to the start at Turvey church. Roy 01234 301182
- Sat 31.12 1:00pm Ampt Hill Park, West car park TL024382 7 miles. 2.5 hour energetic walk taking in sections of the Greensand Ridge and Timberland Trail. Barry 01234 353704
- Sun 1.1 10:00am Totternhoe Knowls car park SP986217 8 miles. Sandra 01525 222676