



DINTON WALKING GROUP

NEWSLETTER AND WALKS PROGRAMME

MARCH - APRIL 2016

ALSO NOTE:

1. Monthly meetings and trips are highlighted in “boxes”.
2. Events: The Annual potato bake on 8th January was a great success and raised £215.26 for LINK, our charity of the year, plus £86 raised by the raffle, so an excellent start to the year, thanks to all who attended and a very big thank you to our catering committee and helpers.

TUESDAY 1st March: - MILKMAIDS BRIDGE, HOLYBROOK & KENNET GR 686715

Meeting Point and Directions: Car park off Brunel road Southcote. From Wokingham, Woodley, Earley, Etc, pass through Reading along London Road, Berkeley Avenue. At the end of Berkeley Avenue turn left onto the A4. Go over railway bridge then at roundabout turn left into Southcote Lane. At first roundabout turn left into Circuit lane, then first right into Hatfield road, then left into Brunel road. Look for sign Southcote linear park. Turn left here and car park is on the left.

Walk Information: A flat walk with no stiles along the river Kennet and the Holy brook.

Time: 10.30am **Distance:** 5.5 miles

TUESDAY 1st March: - STROLLER: THE VYNE, N.T., HANTS: G.R. 639576

Meeting Point and directions: Car Park at The Vyne (free). From Reading take A33 south. Turn right at roundabout signed Sherfield on Loddon, go ahead at staggered crossroads to Brambley, continue ahead and follow brown NT signs (not Sat Nav) for The Vyne, into car park. Entry to grounds free, buy ticket if you wish to go in house later. Toilets, shop, tea room (without going into house).

Walk Information: Lakeside, ancient woodlands, bird hide overlooking lake, gardens - may be late snowdrops, aconites.

Time: 10.30 am **Distance:** 3 miles

TUESDAY 8th March: - CHAPEL GREEN & LUCKLEY PATH RG40 5TU SU975697

Meeting Point and Directions: Car Park at Cantley Park sports ground either beside the Wokingham Theatre or drive through to the sports car park another 300 metres on the right immediately after the buildings.

Walk Information: Flat walking mainly on firm footpaths, some road and good paths and some woodland/heath paths. Pre-walked on 21 Feb 2016 and mud level not bad!

Time: 10.30 am **Distance:** 5 miles approx

TUESDAY 8TH MARCH – MONTHLY MEETING BARKHAM VILLAGE HALL – 7.45 pm
Talk on The Stroke Association and how to help someone who is having a stroke. The speaker will also be taking blood pressures for those who wish to take part.

TUESDAY 15th March: - WINDSOR GREAT PARK GR 947727

Meeting point and directions: Car park on A322 opposite Cranbourne Gate. This car park is usually closed during the week but Crown Estates have agreed to open it for our walk. The car park is on the left hand side of the Ascot (Heatherwood) to Windsor Road about 1.5 miles after the junction with the B383.

Walk information: An easy walk with some short gentle slopes to reach good view points. No stiles. Lunch for those interested at the Squirells Bar, Winkfield SL4 4TF (maps available on the day).

Time: 10.30 **Distance:** 4.38 miles

TUESDAY 22nd March: - WITHERIDGE HILL PC RG9 5PF GR 841698 OS 175

Meeting Point and Directions: The Rising Sun pub. Take B481 Reading to Nettlebed at Highmoor turn left @ signpost Stoke Row & Witheridge Hill, within ½ mile turn right at signpost Witheridge Hill (Pub also signed). Pub on left behind houses but there is a pub sign. **Car share if possible.**

Walk information: Udulating walk through woods and across farmland. 5 or so stiles. Food at pub if required.

Time: 10.30 **Distance:** 5 miles

TUESDAY 29th March : - HOT X BUN WALK, SOUTH STOKE & THAMES GR 603836

Meeting point and directions: The Pike and Perch South Stoke. Go over Goring bridge into Goring. Continue forward to T junction, turn left on to B4009 signed posted Wallingford. After about 1.5 miles enter South Stoke. Turn left at the brown sign Pike and Perch. At the end of this road turn right and the pub is a short distance on the right.

Walk information: A flat walk with no stiles or hills along the Thames to North Stoke. Returning along paths and fields and the bogey hole. Hot cross buns will be provided at the break. Lunch may be taken at the pub after the walk.

Time: 10-30. **Distance:** 4.5 miles

TUESDAY 29th March: – STROLLER: - THAMES AND JUBILEE RIVERS SU: 9379

Meeting Point and directions: Meet in Dorney Walled Garden Centre car park. Leave M4 at Junction 7 (Slough West) turn left onto A4, turn left at Sainsbury roundabout into Lake End Road towards Dorney. After passing over motorway on bend turn left into Court Lane and then immediately left again into Garden Centre, car park at top.

Walk Information: A pleasant and scenic flat walk on good surface along the Thames path and returning along the Jubilee River – 1 stile. Lunches/snacks sold in garden centre.

Time: 10.30 am **Distance:** 3.5 miles

TUESDAY 5TH April: - STROLLER: - CLIVEDEN, N.T., TAPLOW G.R. 915851

Meeting Point and directions: Main car park for house and gardens. Take A4 towards London out of Maidenhead, over river bridge, turn left (N) at traffic lights and follow signs for Cliveden gardens and house (pass beyond woodlands)

Walk information: Terrace, gardens, lakes, parterre. Introductory film, toilets, cafe. (No entry to house)

Time: 10.30 **Distance:** 3 miles

TUESDAY 12th April: - HENLEY, MARSH LOCK, THAMES PATH & HARPESDEN

Meeting Point and Directions: Free car park off A4155 Reading Road Henley. Leave Henley towards Reading, shortly after Esso filling station and just prior to Tesco entrance on roundabout, turn left into Mill Lane. Car park in on the left near to Thames.

Walk Information: This is a pleasant short walk with 5 stiles and one short steepish hill. Almost all of the paths/tracks are of good solid surfaces, but short sections may be very muddy after rain.

Time: 10.30 a.m. **Distance:** 4.5 miles. approx

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| <p>TUESDAY 12th April– MONTHLY MEETING BARKHAM VILLAGE HALL – 7.45 pm London Docklands Talk</p> |
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TUESDAY 19th April: - STROLLER - FRITILLARIA WALK GR 722632 EXP 159

Meeting Point & Directions: The Bull at Riseley, from M4 J11 go south on A33 towards Basingstoke, after 1st roundabout take first turning on the left onto the B3349 signposted Three Mile Cross. Stay on B3349 for 3 miles, right at junction to The Bull.

Walk information: To see the fritillaria at Stanford End, a long slow hill on the way back, likely to be muddy so boots necessary.

Time: 10-30am **Distance:** 3.5 miles

TUESDAY 26th April: - HURLEY & HILLS BEHIND

SU825840 SL6 5LX

Meeting Point and Directions: Car Park end of Hurley High Street. A4 Reading to Maidenhead at Knowl Hill mini round-about left turn signed Burchetts Green only, after approx 1 mile turn left at round-about onto A4130 to Henley, continue for approx 1 mile and turn RIGHT into Hurley High Street and Village. Car Park at end of road on LEFT. Alternative route via Wargrave and join A4130 at Henley to Burchetts Green .

Walk Information: A flat walk along the river side, then a gentle steady climb through hedge-lined bridleway. A flat walk along the side of Nature Reserve, a short walk through open fields, then another hedge-lined bridleway. A short walk along country road, then cross open fields and woods for the steep descent back to Hurley Village. The walk can be shortened here, follow the road back to Car Park, or approx a 1mile walk through open ground to return back along river and through Hurley Lock to the Car Park. Could be muddy in places , pole will help on the first climb.

Time: 10.30 a.m. **Distance:** 5.1/2 - 6 miles

THURSDAY 28th April: – VALLEY GARDENS

TW20 0XD GR 976705

Meeting Point and Directions: The Savill Garden Car Park. Charge, up to 1 hour £2.00, Up to 2 hours £4.00, Up to 3 hours £5.00, Up to 4 hours £7.00. Probably 3 hours required so car sharing advised.

Walk Information: Should be beautiful walk as shrubs will be at their peak . Some fairly short steep climbs.

Time: 10.30 a.m. **Distance:** 4.5 miles approx

THURSDAY 28th April: - STROLLER - VALLEY GARDENS

TW20 0XD GR 976705

Meeting Point and Directions: The Savill Garden Car Park. Charge, up to 1 hour £2.00, up to 2 hours £4.00, Up to 3 hours £5.00, Up to 4 hours £7.00. Probably 3 hours required so car sharing advised.

Walk Information: A beautiful walk around Valley Gardens, through the heather garden and to the Punch Bowl, hopefully the azaleas will be at their best. Easy walk mostly on paths, but early part can be muddy after heavy rain.

Time: 10.30 a.m. **Distance:** 3 miles approx