

To participate

Everyone is invited to take part in this celebratory walk.

Join us at any one of the named points along the route 15 min before time and walk with us for as little or long as you like. You may decide to return along the canal path or design your own circular route to return to your starting point.

Many of the named points are accessible by public transport and most have nearby pubs, cafés, shops or restaurants where refreshments can be obtained.

At the Hand-Over (HO) points and at various other of the named points there will be mini celebratory events and brief talks about the history of the canal and its surrounds.

Further information may be obtained from
www.ramblers75.org.uk/events/page1/,

by contacting:

Joan Crosbee, tel: 01672 861359

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or for this and other waterside activities celebrating the Kennet & Avon Canal's bicentenary, go to British Waterway's dedicated leisure site:

www.waterscape.com/k&a200

**So do come and join us. Just turn up.
Enjoy the occasion.**

Every walker should appreciate that any walk involves risk, and it is their responsibility to take all reasonable steps to maintain their own safety.

The Anniversary celebration

2010 is the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Ramblers following an organised mass trespass on the slopes of Kinder Scout to encourage the opening up of the countryside to the general public for recreation and enjoyment. 2010 is also the 200th anniversary for the opening of the Kennet & Avon Canal.

The canal traces an historic 87 mile route from the River Kennet in Reading through the picturesque Berkshire, Wiltshire and N.E. Somerset countryside via Devizes and Bradford on Avon to Bath, where it meets the River Avon, linking it to Bristol and the coast. Originally built to transport goods between the South West and the capital, the canal as we know it today was saved from dereliction by the work of the Kennet & Avon Canal Trust. Local volunteers, supported by British Waterways and the Heritage Lottery Fund have shaped this waterspace into a vibrant hub for the local communities through which it passes. The canal is now a diverse wildlife habitat, home to an impressive array of historic industrial architecture, a boating route, a long distance path, a holiday destination and much more to many thousands of people who visit each year. British Waterways manages and maintains this 200-year-old navigation working in partnership with the Kennet & Avon Canal Trust, local authorities and numerous volunteer groups.

To celebrate its 75 years of existence, this relay canal walk, organised by the Ramblers in conjunction with the K&A 200 steering group, including British Waterways, Kennet & Avon Canal Trust, Visit Wiltshire and Wadworth & Co. Ltd, is one of a series of activities and events celebrating the Kennet and Avon Canal's 200 years of history.

The walk will be led by Rambler members of the various groups through which the canal passes. The baton will contain photocopies of various documents relating to the founding of the Ramblers and the opening of the canal.

Ramblers

Ramblers is a registered charity with four simple aims: provision and protection of public footpaths, preservation of the beauty of the countryside and access to it, the promotion of walking and mountaineering for improving people's lives, and educating people in the benefits of outdoor pursuits.

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



The Ramblers 75th

and

Kennet & Avon

Canal 200th

Anniversaries

Come and join

our celebrations

and take part in a

Relay Canal Walk

from

Reading to Bristol

8th to 15th May 2010