



ramblers
of the heart of wiltshire

SOUTH WILTS RAMBLERS' GROUP GENERAL INFORMATION AND WALKS' PROGRAMME 1 FEBRUARY - 31 MAY 2010

http://www.ramblers-wilts.org.uk/south_wilts/

Change of address: Please let the Membership Secretary, Roger Walker, know directly by telephone (01747 871105) or email (juderoguk@btinternet.com), if you change your address. **Email address:** Please inform the Membership Secretary (details above), if you have an email address that may be used for communications. Again, please remember to notify us if you change your email address.

Meeting arrangements: The meeting point for **Sunday** walks is **Salt Lane Car Park**, unless otherwise stated in the walk details. In the case of **Weekday** and **Saturday** walks, in an attempt to reduce the number of cars travelling to the starting point of a walk, a system is being tried whereby walk details (in some cases) will give the most suitable Park & Ride for walkers to meet and to share cars or give lifts to those without cars. **Please contact the walk leader before 6.00 pm the day before if you are proposing to use the Park & Ride.** The Park & Ride bus service, from the town centre, permits people without a car to use the bus by paying the fare or using a Bus Pass. **Starting point of walk:** On very rare occasions, alterations to the starting point of a walk shown in the programme prove necessary. If you are driving direct to the start you can telephone the leader beforehand to establish whether any such alterations have been made. Please take as few cars as possible to the start and arrange to take passengers whenever this is feasible.

Lifts: Drivers may accept donations based on: £2 for journeys taking up to ½ hour to the start; £3 for journeys taking between ½ and 1 hour to the start; £4 for journeys taking over 1 hour to the start.

Food: For short walks (under 7 miles) a pub is usually available at the end, although you can take a mid-morning snack if desired. For longer walks you should bring food unless otherwise stated.

Leaders: New leaders are always welcome. If you are interested in leading walks, please contact Donald Mackay on 01722 416167 for weekend walks or Peter Mee 01722 742828 for walks on other days. **Final details are due by 7 April.** Please send the details to Donald or Peter, as above.

Visitors, tourists and friends of members are welcome to join walks, but people who walk regularly should join The Ramblers. Please send SAE to the Membership Secretary, Roger Walker, 89 Monmouth Road, Tisbury, SP3 6NR.

Dogs brought on walks must be kept under proper control at all times.

Safety: On metalled roads walk on the right in small groups in single file. **Disclaimer:** All sporting and leisure activities have inherent hazards associated with them and rambling is no exception. In spite of the safety of members always being the paramount concern, accidents will occasionally occur. It is important therefore that, when entering into the activity, each member appreciates that they have a responsibility to identify the hazards associated with the activity and takes all reasonable steps to eliminate or minimise the potential for an accident to arise.

Rights of Way meetings and fieldwork:

Footpath Committee Meetings - bi-monthly - ring Norman M 01725 511989 for details.

Heavy Gang - third Monday in the month - ring Graham R 01722 710796 for more information.

Light Footpath Work – second Thursday in the month - ring Patricia 01722 710869 for information or to report blocked paths for light clearance.

FEBRUARY

- Tue 02 **COOMBE BISSETT - ODSTOCK - HOMINGTON** 5m Mainly flat S.10:00 EX 130/SU 109 265 (Fox and Goose CP. Those not taking lunch park in road) Pub Possible Dogs Not Allowed Ldr(s) Sue K at start 01725 511892 mob: 07887 525396
- Thu 04 **CHARLTON - DONHEADS** 6m Sleepy villages churches and snowdrops S.10:00 EX118/ST 901 224 (CHARLTON REMEMBRANCE HALL) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Nikki and Martin at start mob: 07704 876811
- Sun 07 **WHADDON - REDLYNCH - A WINTER WARMER** 8.5m Lunch by the fire at the Kings Head. Pl. book lunch with leader by Friday 5th **M.09:40** Salt Lane CP S.10:00 EX 130/SU 196 262 (Opposite Whaddon Post Office) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Neil at start 01722 711741
- Tue 09 **AROUND DINTON AND BAVERSTOCK** 4.5m Field paths, steep ascent/descent. 6 stiles. S.10:00 EX130/SU 010 316 (N.T.C.P.) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Pat S 01722 710587 mob: 07763 486771
- Thu 11 **BERWICK ST JOHN - GALLOWS HILL** 5.5m Steep in Places S.10:00 EX118/ST 947 223 (Park in Village) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Elaine and Alison 01722 320302 mob: 07786 396303
- Sun 14 **TISBURY - FONTHILL - HINDON** 10m Romantic roamings **M.08:40** Salisbury Station (for 08.51 train/return fare £3.00 w/card:-group fare £2.25 possible) **S.09:10** EX118/ST 946 291 (Tisbury Station) Ldr(s) Ken 01722 742706
- Tue 16 **NEWTON TONY - ROMAN ROAD** 5m Undulating tracks, good views over a quiet village, S.10:00 EX131/SU 216 402 (RSPB Nature reserve CP (limited parking)) Pub Possible Ldr(s) David and Anne 01722 421737 mob: 07974 108945
- Thu 18 **BOWERCHALKE - MARLEYCOMBE HILL** 6m Hilly but great views of the Ebble Valley S.10:00 EX118/SU 013 225 (Roadside at Woodyates Road junction in Bowerchalke) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Roger & Judith 01747 871105 mob: 07891 442664

- Sun 21 **STOCKBRIDGE - HOUGHTON - KINGS SOMBORNE** 11m Fields, lanes, Test Way M.09:30 Salt Lane CP S.10:00 LR185/SU 355 351 (Main street opposite church) Ldr(s) Barbara & Harold 01722 334329 mob: 07779 815550
- Tue 23 **TINKLEY BOTTOM - RUSHMORE PARK** 5m Through valley to wooded walk on edge of golf course, S.10:00 EX118/ST 957 167 (Park on grass triangle at Minchington Cross) Pub Possible Ldr(s) David and Jilly 01722 412954 mob: 07787 801730
- Thu 25 **ENCIRCLING HINDON** 4.5m A leisurely walk along tracks and field paths S.10:00 EX143/ST 909 329 (High Street, Near Church) Pub Possible Ldr(s) David H 01722 341131
- Sat 27 **STEEPLE LANGFORD - GROVELY WOOD** 5m One hill. Dogs on leads. S.10:00 EX130/SU 041 373 (Old road by the Rainbow Inn) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Kay 01722 329063
- Sun 28 **MARTIN DOWN - PENTRIDGE HILL - BOWLDISH POND** 10m Open Countryside M.09:30 Salt Lane CP S.10:00 EX118/SU 037 201 (Martin Down CP) Ldr(s) Mike & Karen 01722 412452 mob: 07507 834752

MARCH

- Tue 02 **STONEHENGE AND THE CURSUS** 5m A walk through the pre-historic landscape S.10:00 EX 130/SU 152 434 (Woodhenge CP) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Phil & Ann 01747 870876 mob: 07546 501078
- Thu 04 **BERWICK ST JAMES - WINTERBOURNE STOKE** 5m Berwick St James - Winterbourne Stoke mostly on roads and tracks S.10:00 EX130/SU 072 395 (Boot Inn, Berwick St James) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Ron Moore 01722 505663 mob: 07789 227200
- Sun 07 **BROADCHALKE - KNIGHTON HILL - BOWERCHALKE** 9m Ox Drove and Ebble Valley M.09:30 Salt Lane CP S.10:00 EX 118/SU 037 252 (Track opposite PO) Ldr(s) Neil 01722 711741
- Tue 09 **HEYTESBURY - MIDDLE HILL - SCRATCHBURY HILL** 5m The second half is hilly, with splendid views. Optionally catch 24 bus to Red Lion Heytesbury. On current timetable this leaves Salisbury bus-station 0905 and Wilton (Fugglestone Roundabout) 0917. Check times. S.10:00 EX143/ST 924 426 (Red Lion (parking for those staying for lunch; others in road)) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Philip and Linde 01722 716695 mob: 07926 265538
- Thu 11 **ANSTY DOWN - ANSTY - SWALLOWCLIFFE** 6m Hilly but great views of the Nadder Valley S.10:00 EX118/ST 964 250 (On the Ox Drove off Ansty - Alvediston Road) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Roger & Judith 01747 871105 mob: 07891 442664
- Sun 14 **BURLEY - RHINEFIELD - BLACKWATER ARBORETUM** 9.5m New Forest tracks **M.09:15** Salt Lane CP S.10:00 OL22/SU 232 023 (Clay Hill CP) Ldr(s) Carol & Stephanie 01722 782216

- Tue 16 **BARFORD ST MARTIN - GROVELY WOODS CIRCULAR** 5m Gentle climb from Barford to Grovely Woods. Level path through differing woodland and beech lined avenue. Gentle descent with downland views. Some archaeological sites. S.10:00 EX 130/SU 057 314 (BARFORD ARMS CAR PARK) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Rob 01722 501113 mob: 07748 964812
- Thu 18 **CHILMARK AND AROUND** 6m A pleasant stroll through woods, fields and ancient villages. May be muddy in places. S.10:00 EX143/ST 969 329 (Black Dog pub car park) Pub Possible Ldr(s) John and Sue 01980 670889 mob: 07941 453641
- Sun 21 **DOWNTON CIRCULAR** 10m Fields and woods M.09:30 Salt Lane CP S.10:00 EX130/SU 182 213 (Downton, Moot CP) Dogs Not Allowed Ldr(s) Donald & Jane at start 01722 416167
- Tue 23 **GUSSAGE ALL SAINTS - HARLEY GAP** 5m Downland tracks and woods, Ackling Dyke, undulating. S.10:00 EX118/SU 003 106 (Drovers Inn CP) Pub Possible Ldr(s) David and Anne 01722 421737 mob: 07974 108945
- Thu 25 **PEPPERBOX HILL - EAST GRIMSTEAD** 6m Hilly S.10:00 EX 131/SU 211 248 (Pepperbox Hill CP) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Roger T 01722 341680
- Sat 27 **MARTIN DOWN - PENTRIDGE - PENBURY KNOLL** 5m One hill. Dogs on leads. S.10:00 EX130/SU 037 201 (Martin Down CP) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Kay at start 01722 329063
- Sun 28 **AVINGTON - ITCHEN VALLEY - EASTON** 11.5m Lanes, tracks & fields. Option 9m **M.09:15** Salt Lane CP S.10:00 LR185/SU 527 322 (Avington CP) Ldr(s) Harold & Barbara at start 01722 334329 mob: 07779 815550
- Tue 30 **WINTERBOURNES AND FIGSBURY RING** 5.5m Downs and ancient earthworks S.10:00 EX130/SU 169 337 (Black Horse Pub CP) Pub Possible Ldr(s) John and Sue 01980 670889 mob: 07941 453641

APRIL

- Thu 01 **MARTIN DOWN - PENTRIDGE** 5.5m Some hills, Views S.10:00 EX118/SU 058 192 (Sillen Lane CP) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Elaine and Alison 01722 320302 mob: 07786 396303
- Sun 04 **STOCKBRIDGE DOWN - KING'S SOMBORNE - ASHLEY** 11.5m Woods, Vales and Beacon Hill M.09:30 Salt Lane CP S.10:00 EX131/SU 387 344 (Stockbridge Down CP) Ldr(s) Mike & Karen 01722 412452 mob: 07507 834752
- Tue 06 **WOODFALLS - GODSHILL CIRCULAR** 6m some rough terrain, some wet areas S.10:00 OL22/SU 198 198 (Redlynch Social Club CP) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Norman 01725 511989 mob: 0776076363
- Thu 08 **WOODGREEN - FRANKENBURY** 5m Through forest and field to Iron Age fort S.10:00 OL22/SU 170 176 (Horse and Groom Pub CP) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Irene and Alan 01722 322289 mob: 07788 444851
- Sun 11 **MARLBOROUGH DOWNS CIRCULAR** 10.5m Hackpen Hill, Ridgeway, Barbury Castle, White Horse Trail. Open downland, a few hills. **M.09:15** Salt Lane CP **S.10:15** EX157/SU 129 747 (Hackpen Hill CP. Limited parking) Ldr(s) Val & Stuart 01980 595070 mob: 07775 764903

- Tue 13 **AROUND DINTON AND BAVERSTOCK** 4.5m Field paths, steep ascent/descent. 6 stiles. S.10:00 EX130/SU 010 316 (N.T.C.P.) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Pat S 01722 710587 mob: 07763 486771
- Thu 15 **CODFORD ST PETER - CODFORD DOWN** 6m Hilly and exposed but expansive views across Salisbury Plain and the Wylie Valley S.10:00 EX143/ST 969 397 (On Codford main street near the recreation field) Pub Possible Dogs Not Allowed Ldr(s) Roger & Judith 01747 871105 mob: 07891 442664
- Sun 18 **BROADCHALKE - KNAPP DOWN - EBBESBOURNE WAKE** 11m Access land and open hills M.09:30 Salt Lane CP S.10:00 EX118/SU 037 252 (Track opposite PO) Ldr(s) Neil 01722 711741
- Tue 20 **HOUGHTON CIRCULAR** 5.3m well established footpaths and tracks through open country S.10:00 EX131/SU 343 325 (Boot Inn CP (park at rear of CP)) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Peter & Anita 01722 742828 mob: 07881 734932
- Thu 22 **FONTHILL BISHOP - BERWICK ST LEONARD - RIDGE** 6m Lake, Parkland and Bluebell S.10:00 EX143/ST 934 317 (Lay-by (by lake) limited parking) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Nikki and Martin mob: 07704 876811
- Sun 25 **TISBURY - SUTTON MANDEVILLE - WARDOUR CASTLE** 10.5m Parkland, hidden castles and bluebells M.09:30 Salt Lane CP S.10:00 EX118/ST 946 294 (Nadder Close CP Tisbury) Ldr(s) Nikki & Martin at start mob: 07704 876811
- Tue 27 **STAPLEFORD - GREAT WISHFORD - GROVELY WOOD - WILTON** 5.5m Linear walk, at first along river. Catch 24 bus from Salisbury (on current timetable leaving 0905) or Wilton Fugglestone Roundabout (09.17) to Pelican Inn, Stapleford. Check bus times. S.10:00 EX130/SU 068 369 (Pelican Inn) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Philip and Linde 01722 716695 mob: 07926 265538
- Thu 29 **BUTTS GREEN, MOTTISFONT** 5m gentle walk through fields & woods Butts Green grass triangle, park on grass or roadside S.10:00 EX131/SU 302 262 (Butts Green) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Anne MD 01722 341786 mob: 07787 505585

MAY

- Sun 02 **HORSEBRIDGE - KING'S SOMBORNE - ASHLEY** 10m Open countryside M.09:30 Salt Lane CP S.10:00 EX131/SU 345 304 (Horsebridge CP) Ldr(s) John 01980 862458
- Tue 04 **MARTIN DOWN, PENTRIDGE HILL AND VILLAGE** 4.5m Up hill and down S.10:00 EX 118/SU 057 193 (Martin Down - Sillen Lane CP) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Phil & Ann Wilson 01747 870876 mob: 07546 501078
- Thu 06 **BENTLEY WOOD CIRCULAR** 5m Woodland walk, Spring flowers S.10:00 EX131/SU 237 287 (Ben Lane CP in Bentley Wood) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Roger T 01722 341680
- Sun 09 **PRIBDEAN WOOD - MINCHINGTON DOWN - OX DROVE** 11m Woods, flowers, garlic M.09:15 Salt Lane CP S.10:00 EX 118/SU 005 195 (RSPB CP) Ldr(s) Newt 01722 710393

- Tue 11 **HEYTESBURY - CORTON FIELD BARN** 6m Downland, valley and views S.10:00 EX143/ST 926 426 (Park roadside in Heytesbury village, and meet near parish Church) Pub Possible Ldr(s) David and Anne 01722 421737 mob: 07974 108945
- Thu 13 **SALISBURY - PITTON - WEST DEAN** 9m Linear walk Return by Bus, Pub Lunch at Silver Plough Pitton. Visit Clarendon Palace and Bentley Wood **S.10:15** EX130/SU 151 305 (11 Stroud Place Manor Road Salisbury. No Car Parking Space available at start) Pub Possible Dogs Not Allowed Ldr(s) Graham 01722 710796 mob: 0775953 8986
- Sun 16 **WORTH MATRAVERS - DANCING LEDGE - LANGTON MATRAVERS** 10m Purbeck Hills coastal walk with scenic sea views. Some very steep paths **M.09:00** Salt Lane CP **S.10:15** OL15/SY 975 777 (Worth Matravers CP) Ldr(s) Nikki & Martin at start mob: 07704 876811
- Tue 18 **LOWER COOMBE - WINCOMBE PARK** 6m Hidden Combes with some steeper inclines. Woods where the Nadder rises S.10:00 EX118/ST 901 224 (Charlton New Remembrance Hall) Pub Possible Ldr(s) David and Jilly 01722 412954 mob: 07787 801730
- Thu 20 **STAPLEFORD - UPPER WOODFORD - STAPLEFORD** 8.2m picnic walk across southern Salisbury Plain S.10:00 EX130/SU 071 374 (open area in front of church (limited parking) or on grass verge by wooden fence in Butts Lane) Pub Possible Ldr(s) Peter & Anita 01722 742828 mob: 07881 734932
- Sun 23 **BLANDFORD FORUM - TARRANT CRAWFORD - SPETISBURY** 10.5m Old railway line and Stour Valley Way M.09:30 Salt Lane CP **S.10:20** EX118/ST 884 061 (Riverside CP) Ldr(s) Jill at start 01725 517382
- Tue 25 **BERWICK ST. JAMES - WINTERBOURNE STOKE - DRUIDS FARM** 5m A leisurely walk along field paths, byways and bridleways S.10:00 EX130/SU 072 395 (Boot Inn CP. Park in High Street if not using pub) Pub Possible Ldr(s) David H 01722 341131
- Thu 27 **CODFORD - STOCKTON - SHERRINGTON** 6m Hilly but worth it for the great views of the Wylie Valley S.10:00 EX143/ST 975 396 (Codford St Mary, Malmpit Hill on roadside) Pub Possible Dogs Not Allowed Ldr(s) Roger & Judith 01747 871105 mob: 07891 442664
- Sun 30 **SHAFTESBURY DROVE - BERWICK ST. JOHN - NORRINGTON - WEST END** 8m Dogs on leads. M.09:30 Salt Lane CP S.10:00 EX118/ST 965 251 (Crossing of drove by road up from Ansty) Ldr(s) Kay at start 01722 329063

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Phil Wilson December 2009

After a successful, and short, AGM at St. Thomas's House your existing committee was elected en bloc with Monique Durham as an additional member. Jilly Wright takes over from Virginia as Social Secretary and all other members retain their existing functions as shown in this programme. Please contact the appropriate committee member if you have any problems or questions or other matters to raise.

I have outlined the current financial problems the RA is facing in my report in the Area Annual Report which you will find on our website or enclosed with this

programme. This problem continues to rumble on and I will keep you informed of any significant developments in further Reports.

Another dilemma has arisen recently with the issue of a new Walk Leaders Check List. Alarmist emails have been sent from various quarters indicating that walk leaders would be placed in a precarious position if the list was not followed implicitly. After seeking, through the Area committee, more qualified opinion from RA Head Office a statement have been issued by Tom Franklin, RA Chief Executive, to the effect that walk leaders are always covered by RA insurance on led walks and recces and the Check List is a guide to best practice but is not mandatory in any degree. Your committee will decide if any further clarification is required on this matter at our next meeting.

Wishing you happy walking in 2010.

NEWS

Wanted - Volunteers for Light Footpath Work

Have you ever thought about why you enjoy walking in the countryside? How pleasant it is to get away from traffic and walk along paths clear of obstructions such as brambles and overhanging branches? The responsibility for looking after our public rights of way lies with the Highway Authority, ie Wiltshire Council. Unfortunately, whilst they have a duty to maintain them, their ability to do this is severely limited by financial and workforce restrictions.

This is where we can help. Our footpath group liaises with the Right of Way Team at Wiltshire Council and assists them with clearing footpaths (Light Gang), and replacing stiles and bridges (Heavy Gang). The work benefits all walkers and contributes to the charitable aims of the Ramblers.

Over the year the Light Gang has cleared paths in the parishes of Woodford, Ansty, Tisbury, Bowerchalke, Berwick St John, Sedgehill and Semley, Grimstead, and Downton. I wonder if any of you have noticed?

The work is not too taxing. We use light-weight tools, - secateurs, loppers, shears, and the occasional saw, and we finish by lunchtime. Looking back on a well-finished job gives one a tremendous sense of achievement. But because it is the nature of plants to keep growing, rather like painting the Forth railway bridge, our work is never finished! That is why the Light Gang needs more volunteers. Why not come along and give it a try?

We meet on the second Thursday of every month, but this date is flexible and could be changed to suit the convenience of the group. We supply all tools and gloves, and, where possible, transport to the various locations.

Please contact Patricia Dashwood, 01722 710869, p.dashwood@hotmail.co.uk

Printing the programme: As part of our efforts to reduce printing and postage costs the committee has decided that, as from January 2010, the printed walks programme will be posted only to those members who request a copy.

An electronic version of the programme is available to download from the South Wilts Group part of the Wiltshire Ramblers website:

http://www.ramblers-wilts.org.uk/south_wilts/

The walks are also published on the national Ramblers' Walks Finder.

The Group's website is updated frequently with information on topics such as access land, public transport and social events. Please take the time to look at our website. It's the easy way to keep up to date with all the latest news.

COMMITTEE 2009 - 2010

Chairman	Philip Wilson	01747 870876
Vice Chairman	Sue Kenway	01725 511892
Secretary	Neil Russell	01722 711741
Treasurer	Elaine Gipson	01722 320302
Footpath Secretaries	Norman Martin	01725 511989
	Graham Read	01722 710796
Programme Planners	Donald Mackay	01722 416167
	Peter Mee	01722 742828
Membership Secretary	Roger Walker	01747 871105
Area Representatives	Ron Moore	01722 505663
	Philip Wilson	01747 870876
Committee Members	Mike Hayter	01722 412452
	Jilly Wright	01722 412954
	Dominique Durham	01722 743276
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Programme distributor	Carol Stefani	01722 320613

Walks publications and programmes in larger print can be obtained from the
Membership Secretary.

The Ramblers' Association is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. Company registration number: 4458492. Registered Charity in England and Wales number 1093577. Registered office: 2nd floor, Camelford House,
87-90 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TW