



FREE

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE COTSWOLDS AONB

# The Cotswold LION



Issue 20

Spring/Summer 2009

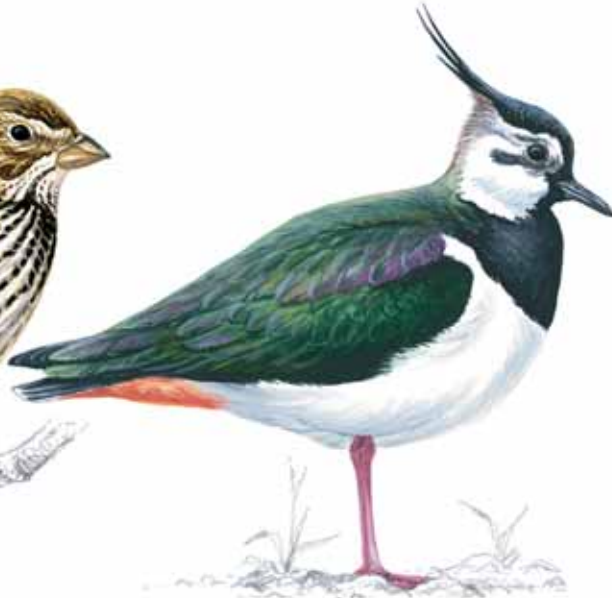
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Grey partridge, *Perdix perdix*



Corn bunting, *Miliaria calandra*



Lapwing, *Vanellus vanellus*



### Energy boost at historic manor house

Page 3

# Birds plan takes off

**A PIONEERING project to reverse the decline in farmland bird populations has taken wing in the Cotswolds.**

The South West Farmland Birds Initiative is focusing on six key species – lapwing, grey partridge, turtle dove, yellow wagtail, tree sparrow and corn bunting.

The aim is to increase the population size and range of the arable species by providing suitable nesting and year-round feeding habitats.

● Turn to page 2 for more information.



### Watchers cut emissions

Page 5



Bird illustrations copyright Mike Langham RSPB

Tree sparrow, *Passer montanus*

Yellow wagtail, *Motacilla flava*

Turtle dove, *Streptopelia turtur*



### Hundreds of healthy walks

Pages 10-14





## Walks created for summer 09

A SERIES of guided walks along two walking trails in the Cotswolds will take place this summer.

The walks have been created by the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens, the voluntary arm of the organisation that oversees the Cotswolds AONB.

The new walks were created in response to popular demand along two walking routes designed by the wardens back in the late 1980s, the Wardens' and Windrush Ways.

These two 14-mile trails connect the Cotswold Way in Winchcombe and the Oxfordshire Way at Bourton-on-the-Water and form a useful link in the network of long distance paths. The Wardens' Way is a wander through typical Cotswold villages including Guiting Power, Naunton, and Upper and Lower Slaughter.

Although it has the same start and finish points, the Windrush Way has a totally different character, initially following the river out of Bourton and then over the hills, keeping clear of centres of population and passing only the remains of 'lost' medieval villages en-route.

The guided walks will take place on the second Thursdays of May, June, July and August. They will consist of a series of circular walks that cover the entire length of both routes in 7 to 10 mile sections.

Please see the main walks listing section on pages 10 to 14 for more details.



## Revamped site now on the net

A BRAND new website has been created for the Cotswolds AONB at [www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk)

This new site has plenty of fresh features: you can find out what one of our Cotswold Voluntary Wardens is doing throughout the year in a brand new monthly diary feature, read up-to-date news stories about key issues in the area, find out more about green tourism in the AONB, and lots more.

There is plenty to discover, just log on.

## 60th anniversary

THE year 2009 marks the 60th anniversary of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, which paved the way for the designation of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, National Parks and National Trails.

## Partners join forces to encourage return of farmland species



Landowners and members of the public are being urged to do all they can to encourage farmland birds to return to the Cotswolds.

# New initiative aims to bring back birds

THE splash of the wagtail's yellow amid the farmland vegetation, the spectacular display flight of the lapwing above the ploughed furrows... such used to be among the regular delights of a Cotswold year in nature.

But farmland wild birds have declined drastically since the 1970s, and it is with excitement that nature lovers are welcoming a new initiative to encourage the return of six key arable species.

The South West Farmland Birds Initiative is focusing on lapwing, grey partridge, turtle dove, yellow wagtail, tree sparrow and corn bunting – iconic species that have all been discouraged by modern farming methods.

Natural England, the Cotswolds Conservation Board and the RSPB, working in partnership with a number of other organisations, are going out in the field to meet farmers and the wider community to spread the word on biodiversity.

The Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), together with its counterparts the North Wessex Downs AONB and Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB, has been chosen to host the first phase of the scheme.

Advice will be given to farmers and other land managers to amend the existing terms of their agri-environment scheme to incorporate arable options, or to switch in favour of the Environmental Stewardship scheme, which provides funding to protect wildlife and environmental resources.

Key objectives are to increase the population size and range of the specialist arable farmland birds in target areas of the Cotswolds AONB, and stimulate arable biodiversity.

Farmers will be encouraged to focus on the 'Big Three' requirements for bird population increase:

- Safe nesting sites – supplemented by raised mounds in fields called beetle

## Useful advice

THE seven most important steps for encouraging birds on farmland:

- Field corners – awkward field corners left as rough ground.
- Beetle banks – raised mounds cutting across fields on which rough grass grows providing a refuge for insects over winter and a good nesting place for grey partridge and corn bunting.
- Wildlife seed mixtures – wild bird seed and nectar mixes which are sown on the farm.
- Skylark and fallow nesting plots – providing suitable nest sites for lapwing and skylark and good foraging habitats for many bird species.

- Conservation headlands – strips of unfertilised crop, ideally left unharvested round the edge of fields.
- Uncropped/cultivated margins – weeds will germinate and provide a good food source.
- Low input spring crops – crops with low fertiliser content, and more weeds.



- banks, and by unmanaged field corners.
- Summer chick and adult food sources – most of the adult birds feed on seeds, but chicks need invertebrates which can be encouraged by increasing invertebrate biomass on farmland.
- Winter food sources – a crop such as kale which keeps its seeds longer than other crops will provide sustenance if mixed with cereal through the winter months. Neil Harris, Cotswold Farmland Bird Project Officer for Natural England, said: "The aim of the project is to raise awareness of arable bio-diversity among farmers and the wider public. The variety of natural life is key to our own survival, and we are all part of a complex ecosystem."

Local communities and farmers will be directly involved in conservation, and better understanding between the two sectors will be promoted.

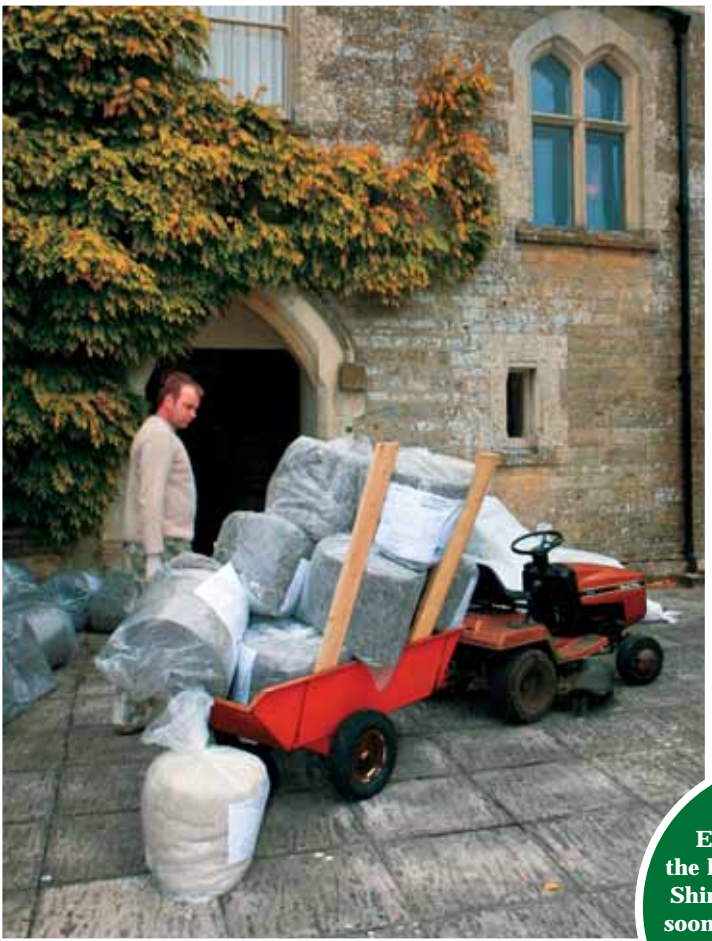
Ian Boyd, whose Whittington Lodge Farm near Cheltenham is one of the demonstration farms for the project, said: "I will be increasing my efforts to boost the bird population by leaving land fallow, growing barley to encourage the corn bunting, setting up conservation headlands round fields and providing bird cover."

The project will act as a pilot scheme showcasing 'best practice' for farmland bird delivery to other regions across England.

Kevin Rylands, Farmland Conservation Adviser for the RSPB, said: "The key is to go out and deliver the message to farmers that it is possible to farm productively and commercially while at the same time helping to protect farmland wildlife."

● For further details contact Neil Harris on 01905 363455/07836 559493 or by email on [neil.harris@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:neil.harris@naturalengland.org.uk)





Picturesque Elkstone Manor, the home of Christine Shine, inset, which is soon to become one of the country's most energy efficient homes.

A workman delivers bales of sheep's wool to be used as sustainable and effective insulation in the historic house's roof space, far right.

All photographs © Paul Felix

# Energy saving can be kind to the countryside

**CHRISTINE Shine was understandably cautious when first contemplating radical energy-saving improvements to her home.**

She lives in Elkstone Manor, a Victorian solid stone house set in the Cotswolds AONB, and there would no doubt be countless regulations and restrictions to surmount.

However, her worries have proved groundless since the renewable schemes she devised for her property, after

consulting with officers from the Cotswolds Conservation Board, are totally sympathetic to the historical rural setting.

Christine's innovative plans to 'invisibly' reduce her carbon footprint include lining her loft with 200 rolls of pure sheep's wool.

Meticulously laid, and pushed into every nook and cranny of the complicated roof spaces, the cladding has produced an immediate effect, with oil consumption reduced by 10 per cent.

To further reduce heat loss, see-through blinds have been installed at the windows.

Christine, a member of the Cotswolds Conservation Board, said: "The results have been wonderful, like putting on two extra jumpers."

"The radiators are now all running at the lowest settings, even in freezing weather, whereas before they were at a constant four."

Two other projects outside the house continue the theme of safeguarding the property's unique appearance in a sustainable way.

A vertical bore hole will provide ground-source heat for the swimming pool via a heat pump. And plans are underway to seek permission to set a photovoltaic array into a sunken area in the paddock, once archaeologists have made sure there are no medieval remains there.

The array – a series of solar panels the size of two tennis courts – will feed renewable electricity into the house.

Some similar arrays even feed surplus power into the National Grid.

"It is vital that it should not be visible from anywhere but the air," said Christine.

"This is an AONB and we want to keep it that way. I hope that all of my projects demonstrate that it is possible to reduce our carbon footprint without wrecking the surrounding landscape."



A huge photovoltaic array in gardens around the historic manor would produce environmentally-friendly electricity while preserving beautiful views.

## Cotswolds Conservation Board

[www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk)

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The Cotswolds Conservation Board looks after the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

The Board works:

- to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the AONB;
- to increase the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the AONB.

Photographs copyright Natural England, photographer Nick Turner, unless otherwise stated. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this publication is accurate. However, the publishers can accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions.



## Bikers protect habitats at hill

AN initiative is underway to help protect the natural treasures of Leckhampton Hill near Cheltenham.

The hill, with its unimproved limestone grassland, harbours orchids and rare butterflies and birds, but is also a favourite location for mountain bikers.

Balancing the need for conservation on the hill, which is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest, against the needs of mountain bikers and other leisure users is the responsibility of landowner Cheltenham Borough Council.

Wayne Sedgwick, the council's community parks officer, said: "For more than ten years, we've been working in partnership with Friends of Leckhampton Hill and Charlton Kings Common - known as FOLK - to manage this sensitive landscape.

"In recent years, we've been seeing an increasing number of mountain bikers on the hill and realise that we need to actively encourage their responsible approach.

"That's why, together with FOLK and Cheltenham and County Cycling Club, we've put together a leaflet giving clear guidelines for people taking mountain bikes onto Leckhampton Hill.

"For example, we're asking bikers to avoid sensitive open grassland and instead use less biologically-sensitive woodland.

"We're reminding cross country and downhill mountain bikers that they need to take extra care at intersections with paths commonly used by others.

"By following a number of simple guidelines like these, mountain bikers will be helping to sustain the natural landscape that makes Leckhampton such a great place to visit and enjoy."

Roger Smith, executive committee member of FOLK, who is also a mountain biking enthusiast, said: "Mountain biking has grown up on the hill over the last 15 years, and we have recognised that there's a potential conflict between environmental and recreational interests.

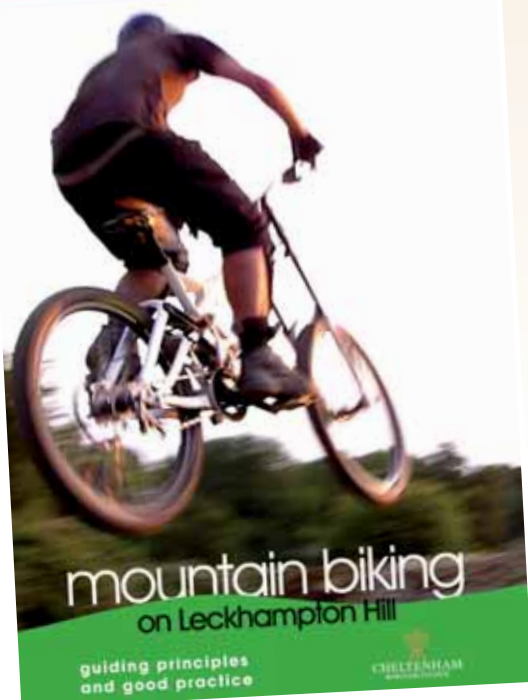
"There is a risk of bikes damaging the sensitive parts of the environment, and also of colliding with walkers, dogs or horses.

"The leaflet aims to encourage responsible mountain biking.

"Ideally we would also like to see bikers welcomed to as many other areas as possible, so that the pressure on individual locations like Leckhampton Hill is reduced."

*Mountain biking on Leckhampton Hill - guiding principles and good practice is available in local cycling outlets, tourist offices and libraries.*

For further information, telephone the council's parks team on 01242 774511.



Tim Nicholson, and Joanne Bowlt broadcast their Green Your World show on North Cotswold Community Radio.

© Steve Peach

# Husband and wife turn airwaves green

**A HUSBAND-and-wife show on local community radio has prompted listeners to re-examine their lifestyles in the context of global environmental issues.**

The 'Green Your World' series on North Cotswold Community Radio discussed topics such as waste recycling and low-carbon travel in the light of climate change.

Tim Nicholson, 41, and his wife Joanne Bowlt, 39, were invited to put together four programmes followed by a Christmas special.

The couple, who believe passionately in the need to reduce carbon emissions, have taken the decision to stop flying to holiday destinations and have also eco-renovated their two-bedroom flat in Oxford.

Using their contacts - Joanne is a freelance PR

consultant who has worked on the Government's Waste & Resources Action Programme - the duo attracted an impressive list of environmental experts to take part in the programmes.

"The aim of Green Your World was to raise awareness of some of the steps that people can take if they want to reduce their negative impact on the environment," said Tim.

"We are all in this together - we wanted to show that the carbon emissions we generate locally can have an impact on a global scale."

The programmes in the series covered topics such as waste and recycling, greener forms of travel, climate change and organic, locally sourced food.

Contributors included local enthusiasts such as Tom Constant, one of the founder members of the Lower

Slaughter Community Compost Club, who took part in a discussion about how other villages might run similar schemes.

Graham Stanley, founder of Transport 21, gave his views on school travel plans, Green Transport Week and car clubs.

Other guests included Roger Budgeon of the Greenshop, Stroud, and Diana Ray of the Living Green Centre, Bourton-on-the-Water.

"We found that community radio is an important means of sharing knowledge and ideas," said Joanne. "People working together at local level really can make a difference."

Tim and Joanne became increasingly aware of the impact of climate change on the environment during a trip from Oxford, England to Oxford, New Zealand to raise money for charity.

Robb Eden, Chairman of North Cotswold Community

Radio, said: "The Green Your World programmes were really top notch, with interviewees including local conservation and recycling people as well as various heads of council departments."

People can listen again to the shows by going onto the radio website link [www.northcotswoldonline.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=42&Itemid=75](http://www.northcotswoldonline.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=42&Itemid=75)

● The start-up of North Cotswold Community Radio was funded by the Cotswolds Conservation Board's Sustainable Development Fund and the Board helped them find premises in the old police station at Chipping Campden. The station has provided work experience to pupils at Chipping Campden Secondary School and showcases local musical talent.

## Free hot water cuts energy use

SHOCKED by the price of oil, LPG or electricity? Find out how to get hot water for free.

It would be odd if you weren't appalled by the price of energy. But there is something you can do about it.

We have got a high proportion of our hot water since April 2008 for free - using solar power with a 2-metre square solar panel.

Even in the darker months, this boosts the water temperature and leaves the immersion heater or boiler with less to do.

But why are we (we think) the only

By Adrian and Cassandra Phillips of Dumbleton

people in Dumbleton who are getting more than half of their hot water at no charge?

We want to encourage others to install this simple technology to help reduce carbon emissions.

- What it cost us: £3,600 (including a government grant of £400) in 2006.
- What it has saved us: It is hard to estimate exactly how much oil and electricity we have saved, but it's about 120 litres of oil a month (at last

year's prices that's about £400 a year) and say £200 electricity a year.

- Why it might be even better for you: Our roof is not ideal as it looks more west than south. Any roof that looks between south east and south west would work well. Prices for solar panels are coming down. £3,000 is standard now.

Adrian Phillips is a member of the Cotswolds Conservation Board. For those who want to find out more, Mr and Mrs Phillips can be contacted through the Cotswolds Conservation Board on 01451 862000.



# Artists investigate village mysteries

**THE forgotten history of a Cotswold parish is being brought back to light by a creative community project led by six artists working with local volunteers.**

Rodborough, built on a hill near Stroud and well-known for its adjoining common, is a rich canvas for would-be chroniclers of fascinating facts.

The Remembering Rodborough project, made possible by a £10,000 National Lottery Awards for All grant to the parish council, will investigate mysteries such as:

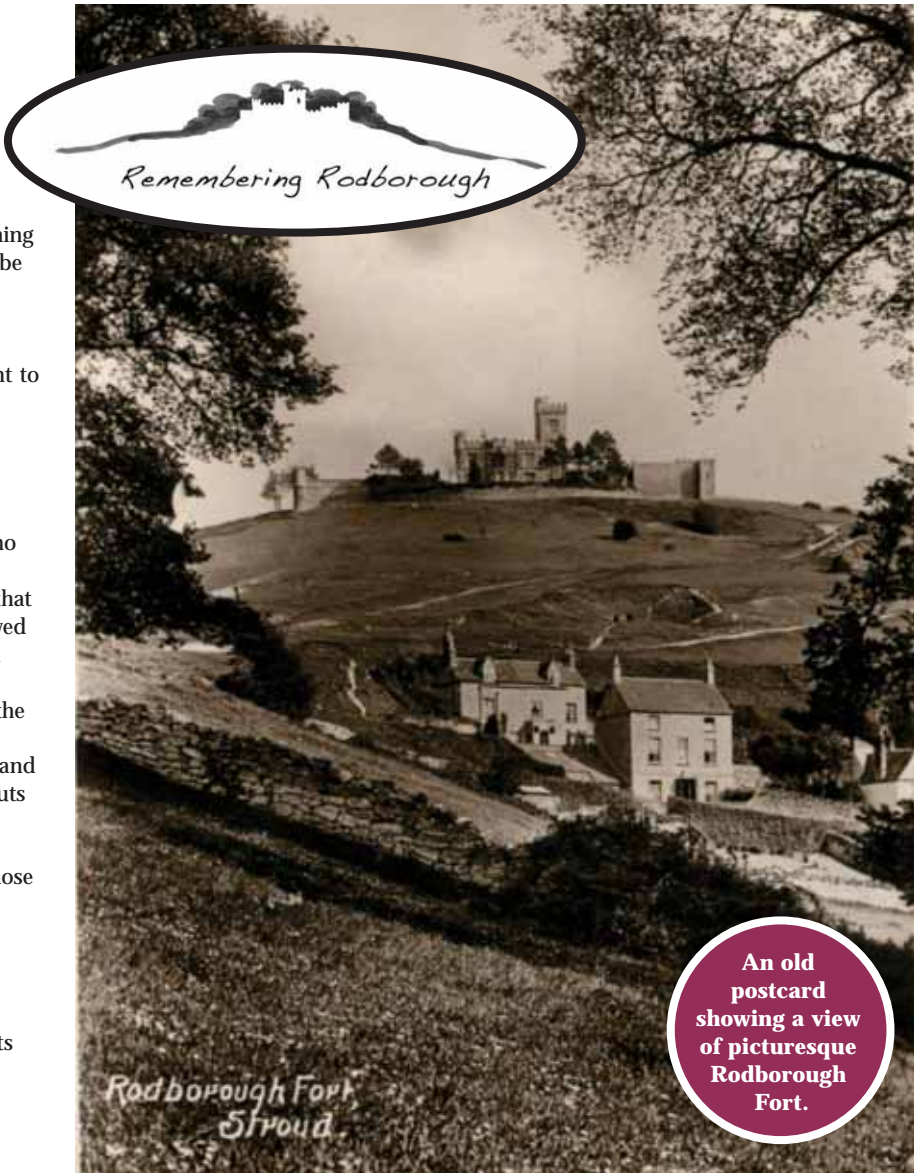
- What is the origin of the Dog Christmas Tree on Rodborough Common, decorated each year by people in memory of their pets who passed away?
- What are the strange dark circles that appear on the common when viewed from nearby Selsley Common at a certain time of the year?

In the parish itself, the history of the Rodborough Tabernacle United Reformed Church will be recorded, and the centenaries of both the local scouts and the guides will be marked with historical surveys.

The artists leading the project, whose specialities range from illustration through film making and writing to digital photography and sound, have been trained by the Oral History Society.

Working with volunteers, the artists are set to run a series of creative reminiscence workshops with ten community groups. Two walking workshops will also be held 'out and about' using the arts as a way to collect memories and images of the parish.

Volunteers will be encouraged to help document the walks using a digital camera, tell their own stories and interview members of the community about their past experiences.



"Remembering Rodborough aims to encapsulate the parish's distinctive mix of former mill works and farmland, leaving an archive record that will continue to be accessed. It is also very much an inter-generational exercise with

both youngsters such as the scouts and guides, and older people, involved," said Theresa Mansbridge, Clerk to the Parish Council. "We hope this is the beginning of a process that will be carried on by future generations."

## Cotswold Way diverted round hill

A STRETCH of the Cotswold Way running eastwards from one of the highest points in the Cotswolds, Cleeve Hill, has been diverted.

The 102 mile walking route runs from Chipping Campden in the north of the Cotswolds AONB to Bath in the south. We asked Don Field, assistant National Trail Officer for the Cotswold Way, why the diversion has been put in place. **The route of the Cotswold Way has gone over Cleeve Hill for years and this stretch of the path offered great views for walkers, so why the change?** Prior to the launch of the Cotswold Way as a National Trail there were extensive consultations about the route and any changes that would have to be made. Most of Cleeve Common is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest because the lie of the land and the geology are so interesting there and it is the largest area of unimproved limestone grassland in Gloucestershire. Limestone grassland is rich in flora and fauna and used to cover large swathes of the Cotswolds but now there are relatively few remaining sites. There was only a temporary and reversible agreement with the landowner for walkers to use the existing path across the eastern side of Cleeve Common and one of the

criteria for a National Trail is that it should follow legal rights of way. The decision was made that a new route was needed to limit potential damage to an area of sensitive grassland.

**Now that the diversion is in place does that mean that walkers cannot stray off the path or is Cleeve Hill still open access land?**

Approximately half of the original route of the Cotswold Way across Cleeve Common will still be in use, following the western escarpment overlooking Cheltenham and the racecourse, and crossing the summit of Cleeve Hill, which at 317 metres above sea level is the highest point on the Cotswold Way. There are public rights of way crossing the common and most of it is also access land so that anyone can still walk the original route of the Cotswold Way. **A lot of work must have gone into changing the route. What kind of things do you have to do to put something like this in place and how long did it take?**

Work on this section started when the Cotswold Way National Trail office opened in 1999 and I have been dealing with this for the last six years. Where possible we have used existing rights of way but approximately 860 metres of

new path has been created up a steep hillside and through woods at Breakheart Plantation and Hill Barn Farm.

This required negotiations with the landowners who kindly dedicated the land as a public footpath.

Apart from constructing this path, many other improvements have been carried out to bring existing paths and bridleways up to National Trail standard, including widening, levelling, regrading, drainage, surfacing, fencing, the replacement of stiles by gates and signage.

**Is there anything special about this section of the route?**

Heading eastwards from Cleeve Golf Club there are lovely views over Wincombe and Sudeley Castle. Then you cross another section of common as you ascend towards Postlip Hall, a fine Grade 1 listed Cotswold Manor House and chapel, parts of which date back to the 12th century. Further on there is a lovely old footpath through Breakheart Plantation, with views back towards Cleeve Common.

Then there is a steep climb up the new path which brings you out into an open field with extensive views of the north and also towards Belas Knap.



© Steve Peach

Carbon watcher Elisabeth Skinner loads her wood burner with a locally sourced, renewable fuel supply.

## Carbon watchers keep close eye on cutting emissions

**THEY'RE known as the Carbon Watchers and they're on the look-out to reduce carbon emissions.**

Volunteer households in the Cotswolds AONB are taking part in a pilot scheme to measure and then cut down their individual carbon footprints.

People taking part in the partnership scheme between Gloucestershire County Council and Severn Wye Energy Agency measure the footprint of their current energy and transport use, together with water and waste.

Then they take steps to reduce their carbon emissions in these areas over 12 months by, for example, using energy more efficiently, saving water, reducing waste and choosing low carbon transport.

At the end the Council will help the householders recalculate their carbon footprints to see what they have achieved.

So far 40 households in Gloucestershire have become Carbon Watchers, including four in the Cotswolds AONB.

The ultimate aim of the project is to develop a DIY Carbon Watchers kit so that all households in the county will have an effective method of reducing their carbon emissions.

The Watchers monitor their own progress over the year, sending in monthly meter readings. They also attend quarterly events organised by the project leaders.

They are all willing to share their experiences by giving interviews to local newspapers and radio.

Lucie Davis, project manager at the Severn Wye Energy Agency, said: "The obvious benefit to householders in taking part is a reduction in their heating, electricity and transport costs."

"The project gives people who might be uncertain of how to go about it, a way in to reducing their carbon footprint."

"Our approach is to enable them to help themselves by focusing on one issue at a time, giving them what they need to follow the process through."

Gloucestershire County Council has introduced the scheme because it recognises the need to reduce carbon emissions to help combat climate change.

Severn Wye Energy Agency is a not-for-profit company and registered charity based in Mitcheldean in the Forest of Dean.



## Try your hand at countryside skills

TWO-day drystone walling courses are held every summer at a range of locations across the Cotswolds AONB. Led by qualified walling instructors, the courses are designed for beginners wanting to get a taste of walling and improvers wishing to hone their skills.

The beginners' course covers the following: dismantling walls, stone sorting, laying foundations, the batter, laying courses, throughstones and laying of copestones, the importance of drystone walling in the Cotswolds, equipment, sources of stone, and health and safety from a drystone walling perspective.



### Walling courses take place on the following dates:

Date	Site
9 & 10 May	Tetbury
23 & 24 May	Tetbury
13 & 14 June	Lansdown
27 & 28 June	Broadway
11 & 12 July	Lansdown
25 & 26 July	Long Compton
8 & 9 August	Broadway
22 & 23 August	Huntsmans (Naunton)
5 & 6 September	Huntsmans (Naunton)
19 & 20 September	Long Compton

Two weekend courses in thatching will also take place in the Cotswolds this year. The course will cover thatching history and techniques, then give participants a chance to have a go. The courses, on 18 & 19 July and 15 & 16 August, have been designed as an introduction to thatching but will not enable participants to thatch once the course is finished! On 10 & 11 and 24 & 25 October the Board will hold two green woodworking (pole lathing)/coppice courses and two hurdle making courses. All courses cost £80 for the weekend. For more information about any course please call 01451 862000.

## Grants fund energy efficiency at halls

THREE village halls in the Cotswolds AONB are being fitted with state-of-the-art environmentally friendly devices.

The halls at Toddington, Gretton and Rendcomb are all benefiting from Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) grants totalling more than £25,500 from the Cotswolds Conservation Board.

Toddington Village Hall, a brand-new replacement for its cramped predecessor which lacked an emergency exit, will be open from March 2009. The hall features rainwater harvesting, ground-source heat pumps, photovoltaic panels and heat recovery from extraction fans. An SDF grant of £5,260 is funding daytime interior lighting to the entrance and internal corridor, which will be from light tubes bringing light from the roof. Previous SDF grants had funded a feasibility study and a renewable energy educational project involving local schoolchildren, and the installation of a ground-source heat pump.

Gretton Village Hall, a small 200-year-old Cotswold stone building, is being extended and refurbished to offer a much more flexible, accessible and environmentally efficient community building. An SDF grant of £13,770 is helping to create a rainwater recycling system for the hall, to improve water conservation.

The 200-year-old Village Hall at Rendcomb is also undergoing a major refurbishment. An SDF grant of £6,500 has funded energy-saving radiators which attach to a ground-source pump that provides central heating.

## Tory leader backs AONB conservation

CONSERVATIVE Party Leader David Cameron MP has shown a keen interest in work that is being undertaken to help conserve the Cotswolds AONB.

Last autumn Mr Cameron visited an AONB conservation training site in his constituency of Witney.

During his visit to Milton Downs Farm near Burford in West Oxfordshire, Mr Cameron was shown how the Cotswolds Conservation Board is working to encourage the development of rural skills in the area, in this case drystone walling.

He had the opportunity to meet young drystone walling students who were on a course run by the Board in partnership with Abingdon and Witney College.

The students that Mr Cameron met learnt to wall at Milton Downs Farm, courtesy of the landowner Mr Reynolds. They qualified with a nationally recognised LANTRA drystone walling certificate.

This spring students graduated from the fourth course that the Board has run in partnership with Abingdon and Witney College with a LANTRA level two drystone walling qualification.

The student placements on the course were sponsored by the Cotswolds Conservation Board through a Leader + grant fund awarded by West Oxfordshire District Council.

This is part of a range of rural skills work operated by the Board. Weekend training courses are held throughout the year for the general public. In October and November there are annual drystone walling and hedgelaying competitions, attracting competitors from across the country.



Conservative Leader David Cameron pictured at Milton Downs Farm, near Burford, with instructor John Hepworth who helps teach the Cotswold Drystone Walling Skills Course.

© Paul Felix

# Voluntary Wardens conserve the area

**A TEAM of around 340 volunteers, the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens, help to look after the AONB, and they all choose different roles according to their interests and abilities.**

Some wardens lead guided walks, others plant trees and some give talks to the public, all making valuable contributions to the AONB.

Another kind of warden who works tirelessly behind the scenes to assist in their community, and whose efforts also deserve a mention, is the parish warden.

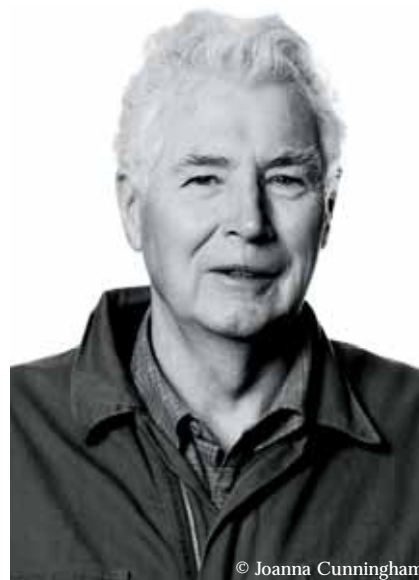
Parish wardens act as the link between communities in the Cotswolds, the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens and the organisation that exists to oversee the AONB, the Cotswolds Conservation Board.

They are keen to help with local issues, often aiding communication on contentious local issues regarding the countryside.

We asked one parish warden, David Jelfs, from Broadway to tell us more about his role.

**What kind of things do you find yourself doing as a parish warden?**

Meeting landowners and members of the public and discussing how the



Broadway Parish Warden, David Jelfs.

wardens can help them by making improvements to the rights of way over their land.

**What is the most exciting thing that you have ever done in this role?**

In 1989 I found the remains of a stone clapper bridge. It was underneath an

ugly wooden bridge on the Cotswold Way. I discovered an old picture postcard of the bridge as it was in about 1910. The Cotswold Voluntary Wardens then built a replacement bridge in exactly the same style, which now looks as though it has always been there.

**How does the local community respond to you? Do they know what you do, that you are there to help?**

They seem to know. I was in the bath one Sunday evening, after a day out with the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens work party. The phone rang, and it was a lady wanting to know what I could do about all of the mud on a footpath in Stanton. Not even in my parish!

**What do you like most about your parish?**

Broadway is in the most attractive area of the Cotswolds. I came to live here in 1946 and now know most of the landowners on my patch.

**What would you most like to change or resolve within your area?**

I would like to make the public footpaths in Broadway more accessible for walkers with mobility problems, such as arthritis or brittle bone disease. When a stile needs replacing I always ask the landowners if they would be willing to install kissing gates as a replacement.



Our *Lionhearts* page for young people takes a look inside a landmark stretching thousands of miles



- |                   |                      |                   |                       |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Bumble Bee      | 5 Polypody           | 9 Wren            | 13 Woodlouse          |
| 2 Field Mouse     | 6 Cotswold Pennywort | 10 Wall Pennywort | 14 Spider             |
| 3 Wall Screw Moss | 7 Common Lizard      | 11 Herb Robert    | 15 Stoat              |
| 4 Yellowhammer    | 8 Common Beard Moss  | 12 Toad           | 16 Hart's Tongue Fern |

Illustration by James Field (Beehive Illustration)

Drystone walls support a vast array of wildlife. Many species of lichens, mosses and algae make their home here and other plants also thrive such as pennywort, stonecrop, cranesbill and ivy. Snails, spiders, woodlice, bees and wasps can be found living in the nooks and crannies of walls and it's a good place for birds such as coal tits and wrens to make their nests. Walls also provide a home for toads, voles, field mice and shrews.

# What's in a wall?

**IF you live in the Cotswolds or are just visiting you may have noticed something about the landscape that looks different to many other parts of the countryside.**

You know that you are in the Cotswolds when you look out of the car or bus window and see drystone walls running around the edges of fields.

Many other places have hedges and fences but there are only a handful of places in the country where drystone walls are such a prominent feature and the Cotswolds is one of them.

**So what are they there for?**

Like hedges and fences the main reason why drystone walls are there is to keep animals in.

Even though a lot of the land that we see in the Cotswolds now has crops on it, like wheat or barley in the summer, it is safe to say that the walls you can see now would once have stopped

flocks of the traditional Cotswold Lion sheep from roaming off their owner's land or onto someone else's crop.

Walls are also there to show where one farmer's land ends and another's begins.

**How did they get there?**

Many of the walls that you can see in the Cotswolds have been there for hundreds of years. In fact the stone that they are made from is millions of years old.

The soft oolitic limestone comes from a layer of rock that runs right under the Cotswolds and was laid down during the Jurassic period between 210 and 140 million years ago.

Many of the walls that we see now were built in the 18th and 19th centuries with the introduction of enclosure, which changed the face of the countryside by bringing an end to feudal farming.

Under the old system, the whole community farmed in much larger fields. Enclosure brought

a change in ownership and meant that the fields had to be divided up into smaller farmsteads. Drystone walls were used to make clear divisions.

**Why are they important now?**

One of the main reasons why drystone walls are seen to be so important now is because they are part of a rich recipe of things that have gone to make the Cotswolds what it is over a long period of time.

The Cotswolds is a special place and people travel from all over the world to see it. One of the things that makes it look different and beautiful are the drystone walls. There are at least 4,000 miles of drystone walls in the Cotswolds AONB (as long as the Great Wall of China). Many people also think that an area is more special and enjoyable if it has lots of visual reminders about the way that people lived and worked in it throughout history and drystone walls do that.

## History of drystone walling

- 210-140 million years ago – thin strata of oolitic limestone that is used to make walls laid down during the Jurassic period. It looks like tightly packed fish eggs – oolite meaning 'egg stone'.
- 10,000 BC – earliest known example of drystone walling in Cotswolds is a Neolithic long barrow that can be found at Belas Knap near Winchcombe (see overleaf).
- From the middle ages onwards – the Cotswolds becomes famous for its thriving wool trade which required expansive 'sheep walks', with drystone walls forming barriers to keep the sheep away from arable land.
- 17th century – report of Parliamentarians in English Civil War being forced to retreat and hide behind a drystone wall at the battle of Lansdown on 5 July 1643.
- 18th & 19th centuries – between 1760 and 1820 enclosure was at its height. Common land was transferred to private ownership and large fields that were once farmed by the whole community were transformed into smaller fields, divided by drystone walls.
- 1966 – the Cotswolds was designated as a protected landscape (an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) and work began to ensure that drystone walls are looked after.

## Win a great family day out

**ANSWER this question and you could win a free family ticket to the Cotswold Farm Park near Guiting Power.**

Name three animals that can be found living in a Cotswolds drystone wall. There are some clues in the picture above.

Send your response to: The Cotswolds Conservation Board, Fosse Way, Northleach, Gloucestershire GL54 3JH or e-mail: [info@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk](mailto:info@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk)

The winners of the competition in the last edition of the Cotswold Lion are Phyllida, Charmian and Audley Monroe aged 11, 9 and 7 from Bourton-on-the-Hill. They won a trip for the whole family to the Cotswold Ice Cream company where they tried their hand at making ice cream. [www.cotswoldicecream.com](http://www.cotswoldicecream.com)

The correct answer was: Italian.

## Story dates back to Civil War

THERE is evidence of drystone walls in the Cotswolds in the mid-17th century although many of the walls that we see today were built during the enclosure period in the 18th and 19th centuries.

An eye witness reported that Parliamentarian troops were outnumbered by the Royalists at the battle of Lansdown on 5 July 1643 and that they had to hide behind a drystone wall: "The enemy observing our front to enlarge itself upon the hill, and our cannon appearing there as well, began to suspect himself and drew his whole strength behind a wall, which he lined well with musketeers, and in several places broke down the breaches very broad that his horse might charge if there were occasion, with breaches guarded by his cannon and bodies of pikes."

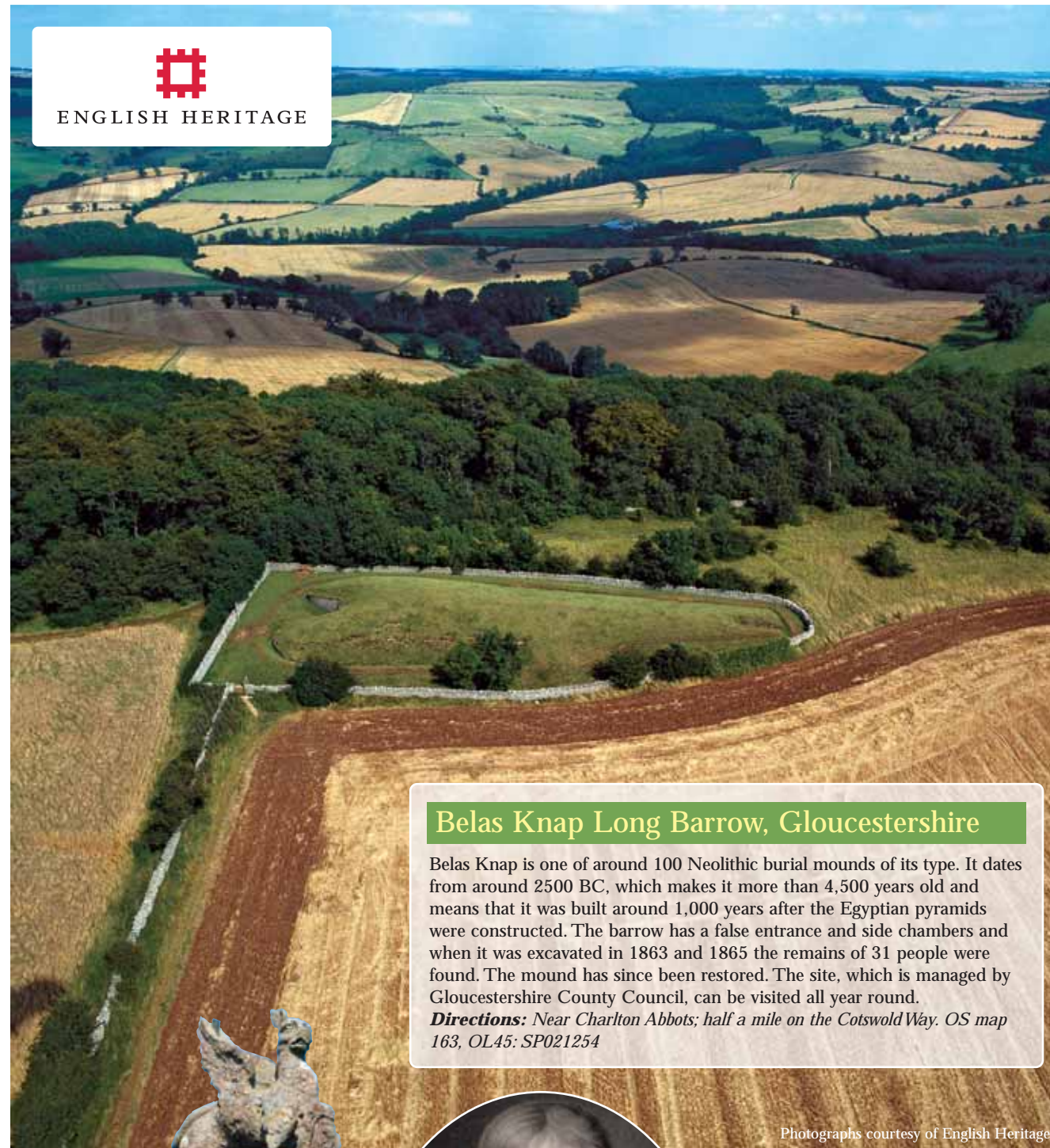


Re-enactment of a Civil War battle. Photograph: Nigel Lloyd Parry.



Historic places steeped in Cotswolds heritage, culture and tradition guarantee a great day out

# Visits that bring history to life



### Belas Knap Long Barrow, Gloucestershire

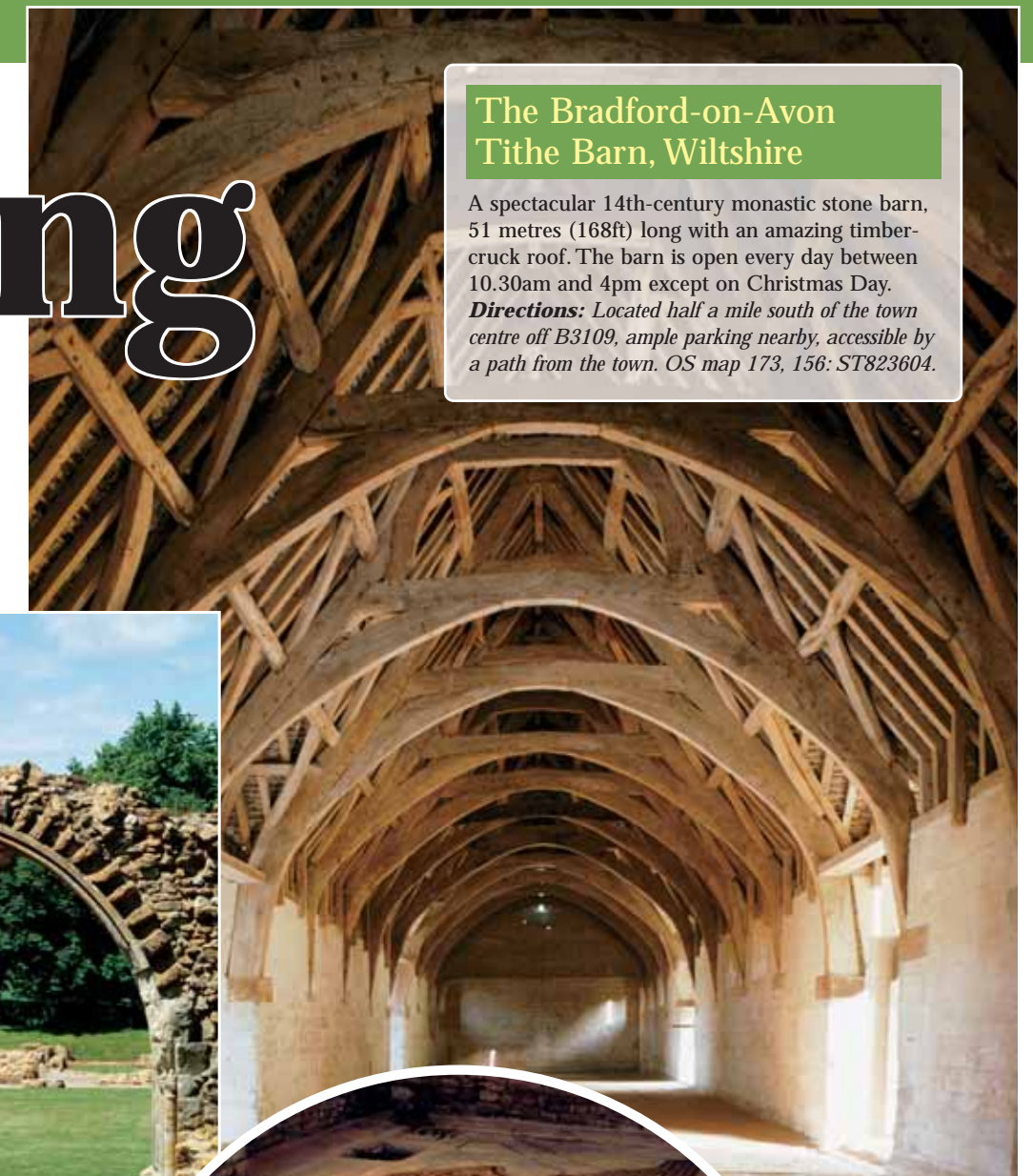
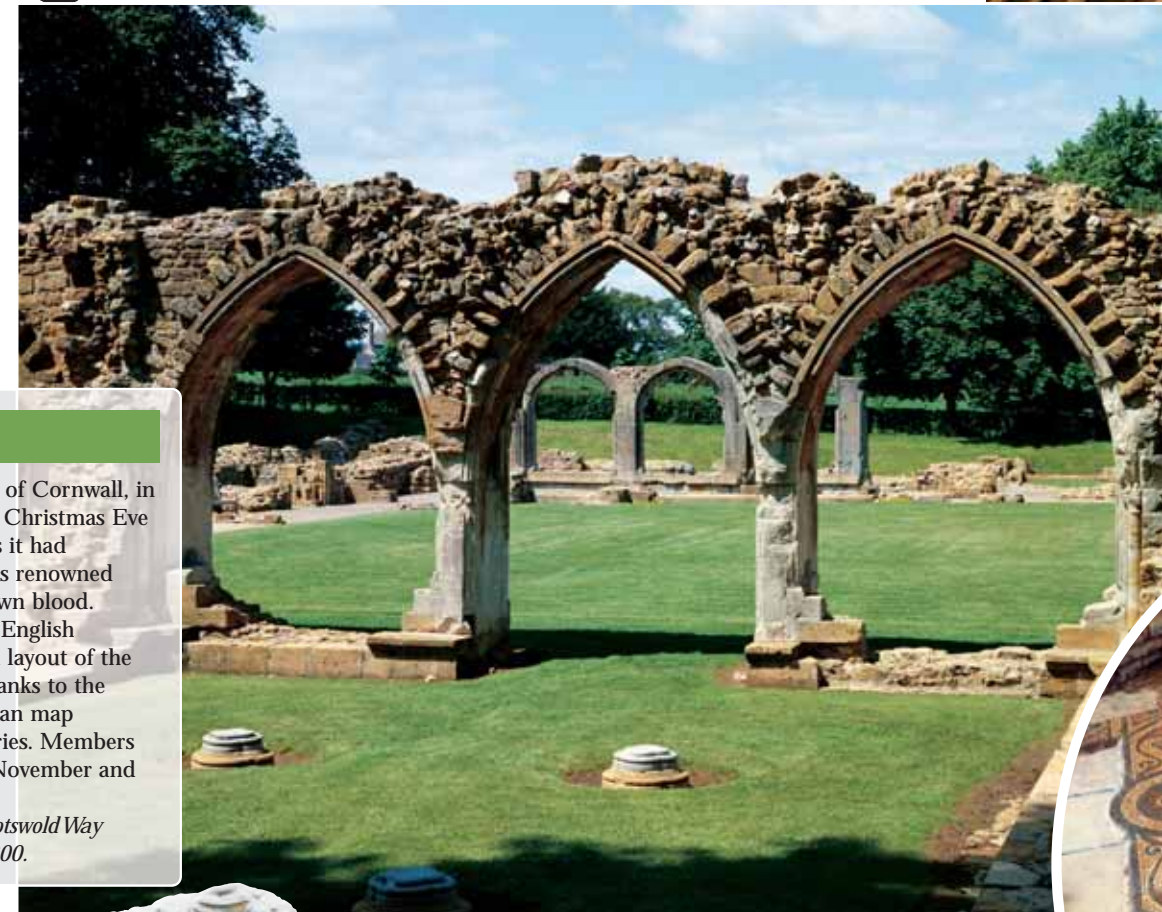
Belas Knap is one of around 100 Neolithic burial mounds of its type. It dates from around 2500 BC, which makes it more than 4,500 years old and means that it was built around 1,000 years after the Egyptian pyramids were constructed. The barrow has a false entrance and side chambers and when it was excavated in 1863 and 1865 the remains of 31 people were found. The mound has since been restored. The site, which is managed by Gloucestershire County Council, can be visited all year round.  
**Directions:** Near Charlton Abbots; half a mile on the Cotswold Way. OS map 163, OL45: SP021254

**IF you are interested in the past and like visiting and exploring historic places, the Cotswolds AONB is the place for you.**

It is a 790 square mile protected landscape, rich in cultural heritage and a fascinating place to explore. Some of the best places to visit in the area are looked after by English Heritage, the organisation that exists to protect and promote England's spectacular historic environment and ensure that its past is researched and understood. Here are just a few of their sites within the AONB. Why not visit one this spring or summer? To find out more about any of these places visit [www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk)

### Hailes Abbey, Gloucestershire

The Cistercian abbey of Hailes was founded in 1246 by Richard of Cornwall, in thanksgiving for deliverance from shipwreck. It was dissolved on Christmas Eve 1539. Although it never actually housed large numbers of monks it had extensive and elaborate buildings, financed by pilgrims visiting its renowned relic 'the holy blood of Hailes' - supposedly a phial of Christ's own blood. The abbey is owned by the National Trust and maintained by English Heritage. English Heritage knows a lot more about the historical layout of the grounds than it would usually know for an abbey of this type, thanks to the recent discovery at the National Archives at Kew of an Elizabethan map produced less than 50 years after the dissolution of the monasteries. Members of the public are charged a fee to visit the site. Closed between November and March.  
**Directions:** 2 miles north east of Winchcombe off B4632. On the Cotswold Way National Trail. Tel: 01242 602398 OS map 150/163, OL45: SP050300.



### The Bradford-on-Avon Tithe Barn, Wiltshire

A spectacular 14th-century monastic stone barn, 51 metres (168ft) long with an amazing timber-cruck roof. The barn is open every day between 10.30am and 4pm except on Christmas Day.  
**Directions:** Located half a mile south of the town centre off B3109, ample parking nearby, accessible by a path from the town. OS map 173, 156: ST823604.

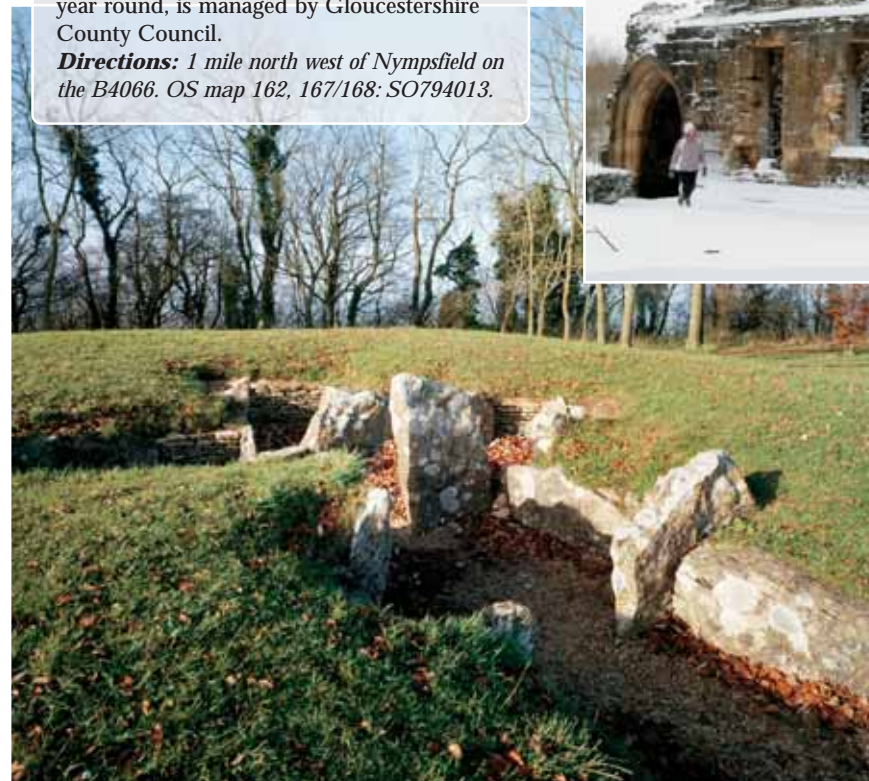


### North Leigh Roman Villa, Oxfordshire

The remains of a large well-built Roman courtyard villa. The most important feature is a near-complete mosaic tile floor, patterned in reds and browns. The site can be visited all year round.  
**Directions:** 2 miles north of North Leigh, 10 miles west of Oxford, off A4095. OS map 164, 180: SP397154.

### Nympsfield Long Barrow, Gloucestershire

A large Neolithic burial mound with spectacular vistas over the Severn Valley. Its internal burial chambers are uncovered for viewing. The site, which can be visited all year round, is managed by Gloucestershire County Council.  
**Directions:** 1 mile north west of Nympsfield on the B4066. OS map 162, 167/168: SO794013.



### Minster Lovell Hall and Dovecote, Oxfordshire

The extensive and picturesque ruins of a 15th century riverside manor house, including a fine hall, south west tower and complete dovecote. The home of Richard III's henchman Lord Lovell. The grounds can be visited all year round but the dovecote can only be viewed from the outside.  
**Directions:** Adjacent to Minster Lovell church, 3 miles west of Witney off A40. OS map 164, 180: SP325113.

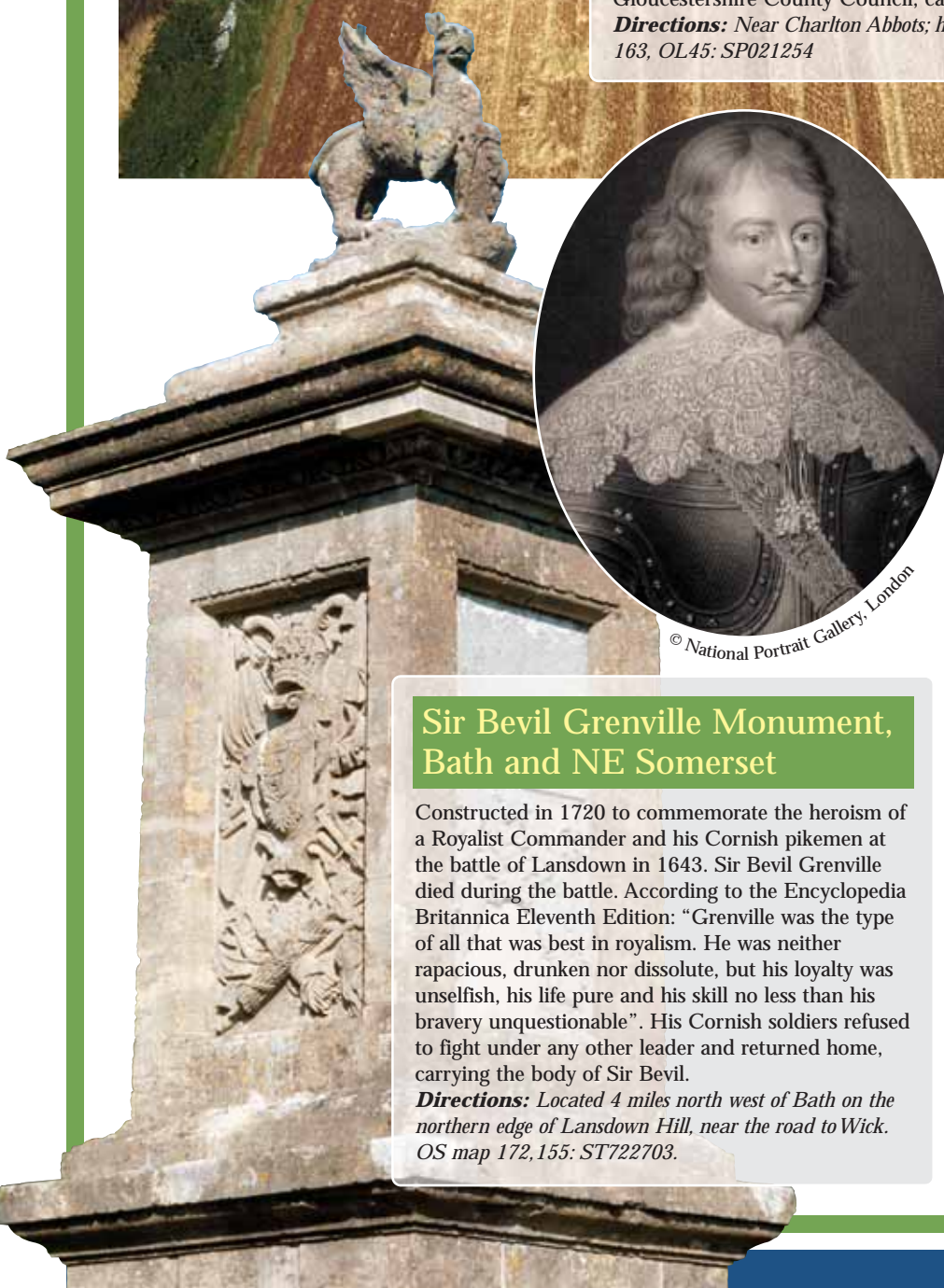
### Rollright Stones, Oxfordshire

The traditional story goes that the Rollright Stones are a monarch and his courtiers turned to stone by a witch. The stones consist of three groups: the King's Men stone circle; the Whispering Knights burial chamber; and the single King Stone. They span nearly 2,000 years of Neolithic and Bronze Age development and are managed by the Rollright Trust. All stones are accessible all year round during daylight hours. Entry to the King's Men is courtesy of the landowner who may charge for entrance.  
**Directions:** Off unclassified road between A44 and A3400; 3 miles north west of Chipping Norton, near villages of Little Rollright and Long Compton. OS map 151, OL45/191: SP297309. [www.rollrightstones.co.uk](http://www.rollrightstones.co.uk)



### Windmill Tump Long Barrow, Rodmarton, Gloucestershire

A Neolithic chambered tomb, with an enigmatic false entrance. This means that the barrow entrance is designed to look like an entrance but is closed off. The exact reason for this is not known. The tump, which is managed by Gloucestershire County Council, can be visited all year round.  
**Directions:** 1 mile south west of Rodmarton. OS map 163, 168: ST933973.



### Sir Bevil Grenville Monument, Bath and NE Somerset

Constructed in 1720 to commemorate the heroism of a Royalist Commander and his Cornish pikemen at the battle of Lansdown in 1643. Sir Bevil Grenville died during the battle. According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica Eleventh Edition: "Grenville was the type of all that was best in royalism. He was neither rapacious, drunken nor dissolute, but his loyalty was unselfish, his life pure and his skill no less than his bravery unquestionable". His Cornish soldiers refused to fight under any other leader and returned home, carrying the body of Sir Bevil.  
**Directions:** Located 4 miles north west of Bath on the northern edge of Lansdown Hill, near the road to Wick. OS map 172, 155: ST722703.



© National Portrait Gallery, London

### Getting there...

MANY of these sites are accessible by public transport. The Cotswolds Conservation Board produces a helpful set of public transport leaflets, 'Explore the Cotswolds by public transport', to help you travel around the AONB. You can access them online at [www.cotswoldsaoonb.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldsaoonb.org.uk) or call and request copies. Tel: 01451 862000.



# The AONB WALKS & EVENTS Guide

PLEASE: always remember to wear appropriate footwear because some walks may be steep and muddy in places. Dogs are not allowed on walks, except guide dogs for the blind and hearing dogs for the deaf.

**Guided tours of Chipping Campden and "the most beautiful village street now left in the island".**  
Meet at the Market Hall Chipping Campden for a 2.30 pm start for tours led by Cotswold Voluntary Wardens. This is an easy walk that is very suitable for families and will take one and a half hours. We suggest donations of say £2.00 per person towards the Wardens' Countryside Fund please. Map ref OS Leisure 45/152 392. These walks will take place each Wednesday commencing 1 July 2009 until 30 September 2009 inclusive.

**Chipping Campden Town Walks**  
The Cotswold Voluntary Wardens offer a town walk, an audio visual show followed by either a tea or a supper as appropriate, in Chipping Campden for organised parties. Contact Ann Colcomb on 01386 832131.

**Walk the Cotswold Way**  
Join a group led by the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens walking 10 miles of the Cotswold Way on the first Wednesday of each month. Walks commence in May of each year. Travel by coach from Winchcombe to the start point. Lunches will be at pleasant inns en route. For further information and to reserve places please contact Bob Cox on 01242 820192. An early booking is advised.

## April 2009

### THURSDAY APRIL 2 • 14.00

**Wool, Paper and Silk**  
Follow the River Isbourne with its historic mill sites through Winchcombe and Postlip. Up onto the scarp through Breakheart Plantation and return via the Cotswold Way; there are some lovely views over Winchcombe.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Winchcombe Back Lane car park (pay & display).  
**Leaders:** Jean Booth & Simon Mallatratt.  
**3.5 hours • 6.5 miles**  
OS Leisure 45/023284 **D3**

### SATURDAY APRIL 4 • 10.00

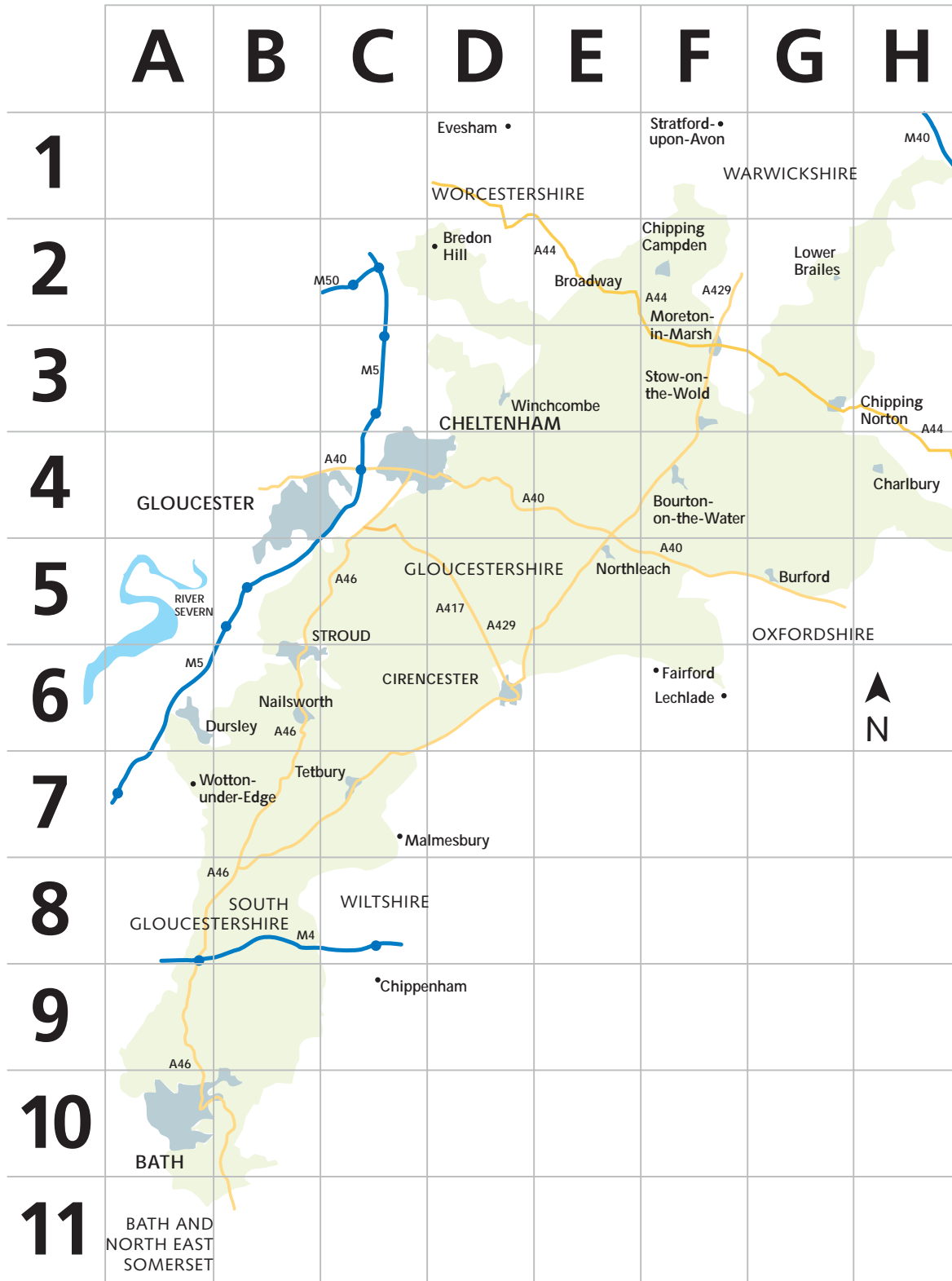
**The Avon to Brokenborough**  
A walk across the old Estcourt lands to the Wiltshire village of Brokenborough and return by Shipton Mill and Long Newton. Pub at Brokenborough.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Tetbury Old Station Free Car Park.  
**Leaders:** Ted Thornton & Alan Bulley.  
**5.5 hours • 9 miles**  
OS: 173/893933 **C7**

### SUNDAY APRIL 5 • 10.00

**From a Down to a Combe - Across to a Stoke**  
A walk from Combe Down to Monkton Combe and Limpley Stoke. Please bring a packed lunch.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Cross Keys public house, Southstoke Road, Combe Down.  
**Leaders:** Wilf Dando & Dave Jennings.  
**5 hours • 8.5 miles**  
Explorer 155/748619 **A10**

### TUESDAY APRIL 7 • 10.00

**The Tuesday Tramp**  
A morning walk around the Colerne area. Bring a 'mid morning munchie'. For further information please telephone Russell Harding on 01225 742182. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Fox & Hounds car park in Colerne.  
**Leader:** Russell Harding.  
**3 hours • 4.5 miles**  
Explorer 156/818711 **B9**



GUIDED WALKS LED BY COTSWOLD VOLUNTARY WARDENS UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

### WEDNESDAY APRIL 8 • 10.00

**Across the Cotswolds 1 - Bibury to Quenington**  
From gentle slopes with meandering streams to a steep escarpment, three walks to explore how geology has shaped the landscape. The first walk takes in the lowland edge of the Cotswolds. Proceeding from Bibury Church we follow the Coln river to Quenington returning via Conegar Woods and crossing Akeman Street, an ancient Roman road. Public transport is available from Cirencester - Cotswold Green bus number 860.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Bibury Church - parking available alongside the river Coln.  
**Leaders:** Tony Wilson, Rosemary Woodham & Pippa Burgon.  
**3 hours • 5 miles**  
Leisure 45/118065 **E5**

### TUESDAY APRIL 14 • 10.00

**Chadlington Downs and Down to Dean**  
A morning walk on footpaths over farmland with far reaching views across the Evenlode Valley. We pass the mysterious Hawk Stone of

uncertain origin. Picnic lunch or pub in Chadlington at the end of the walk.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Park along Church Road (opposite the church) beyond the school where the road widens.  
**Leader:** Rosemary Wilson.  
**2 hours • 4.5 miles**  
OS: 164/333221 **H4**

### THURSDAY APRIL 16 • 10.00

**Bottoms Up**  
A circular walk from Newark Park via the beautiful hidden valleys and bottoms of Ozleworth and Lasborough. En route we reflect on the history of Newark Park and its near neighbours at Ozleworth Park, Lasborough Manor and Boxwell Court. Pub lunch available.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Newark Park, National Trust property adjacent to the house. By kind permission of Mr M Claydon.  
**Leaders:** John Hammill & Peter Russell.  
**5.5 hours • 8.5 miles**  
OS: 162/783932 **B7**

### TUESDAY APRIL 21 • 10.00

**More Manors and Houses - No 1 - Adlestrop and Daylesford**  
A lovely walk to two prominent Cotswold houses and estates with fascinating histories: Adlestrop with links to Jane Austen and Daylesford, once the home of Warren Hastings. Pub lunch available after the walk.  
**Easy**  
**Starting point:** Adlestrop village hall (Trust the Motorist).  
**Leaders:** Keith Sisson & Paul Adams.  
**3 hours • 5.5 miles**  
OS Leisure 45/243271 **F3**

### WEDNESDAY APRIL 22 • 10.00

**Catswood & Lypiatt Park**  
A walk from Bisley towards the Slad Valley through Catswood and returning via Lypiatt Park. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Car park of Bisley Sports Ground.  
**Leaders:** Royden Hales, Brian Chilvers & Mike Williams.  
**3 hours • 6 miles**  
OS: 179/904061 **C5**

### Walk the Diamond Way

Join a group led by the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens walking some 10 miles of the North Cotswold Diamond Way on the fourth Tuesday of each month. The walks commence in April each year, starting and ending at Moreton-in-Marsh and continue for six consecutive months. A bus will meet walkers at the appropriate venue to transport them to the start point for a walk back to the cars. For further information and to reserve places please contact John Medlyn on 01386 438060. An early booking is advised.

### Tailor Made

As well as the guided walks listed in this newspaper, Cotswold Voluntary Wardens can provide tailor-made outings for groups of all abilities. Contact the Cotswolds Conservation Board Volunteer Co-ordinator on 01451 862008.

### Map and Compass Course

Learn the skills needed to find your way across the Cotswolds. Friday 13 March & Sunday 5 April. To book a place please telephone Becky Jones on 01451 862008.

### WEDNESDAY APRIL 22 • 10.00

**Two Rivers and Two Valleys**  
This is a walk along the superb valley of the River Windrush to Naunton for a pub lunch; after which we return through the more wooded valley of the River Eye. Pub lunch available.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Lower Slaughter, St Mary's Church. Park with care in the village.  
**Leaders:** Ann Harris & Peggy Lutter.  
**6 hours • 9 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/165225 **F4**

### THURSDAY APRIL 23 • 10.00

**A ramble around South East border of Bath**  
A walk around the South Stoke, Freshford and Limpley Stoke area. Please bring a packed lunch.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Road adjacent to entrance to Odd Down Park and Ride.  
**Leaders:** Bob Platt & Nigel Locke.  
**5 hours • 9 miles**  
Explorer 155/7 33615 **A10**

### SATURDAY APRIL 25 • 10.00

**Around the Edge and Down the Valley**  
Beechwoods, commons and hillside villages. Ruscombe, Randwick, Standish Woods and the Painswick Valley. Bring a packed lunch. Public transport to Stroud available by bus or rail.  
**Strenuous**  
**Starting point:** Stratford Leisure Centre car park (top).  
**Leaders:** John Heathcott, John Woodland & David Burwell.  
**6.5 hours • 11 miles**  
OS: 179/844056 **B6**

### SATURDAY APRIL 25 • 10.00

**Below the Scarp**  
Come and enjoy the views from the scarp and explore the villages of Willersey and Weston Sub Edge. Bring a picnic for lunch on Dover's Hill after the walk. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Dover's Hill car park.  
**Leaders:** Pat & Roger Cook.  
**4 hours • 7 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/137396 **F2**

### SUNDAY APRIL 26 • 10.00

**Ruined Abbeys and Battlefields**  
A walk through Kingswood and Nibley Green to North Nibley (pub lunch available) returning via the Tyndale Monument. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Wotton-under-Edge Chipping Car Park.  
**Leaders:** Eric Brown & Staszek Jarmuz.  
**5.5 hours • 9 miles**  
OS: 162/756932 **A7**

**EASY:** length may vary but terrain is mainly flat (level) **MODERATE:** includes some hills and some rough ground **STRENUOUS:** may be rough underfoot and ascents and descents may be steep

● Denotes shorter walks, suitable for families

● Denotes events of interest other than walks





**SUNDAY APRIL 26 • 10.00**

**Linking Outliers**  
This walk links Dumbleton and Bredon Hills with views (weather permitting) across the Vales of Evesham and Gloucester. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Dumbleton Village Hall, Dairy Lane (please park with care in the village).  
**Leaders:** Vivienne McGhee & Sue Greenwood.  
**6 hours • 11 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/018359 **D2**

**SUNDAY APRIL 26 • 14.00**

**Gloucestershire County Council: A SAC "full of Wildlife!"**  
An afternoon walk around Cooper's Hill Local Nature Reserve. The Site Warden from Gloucestershire County Council will guide the walk, which will explore some of the best bluebell woods in the country, at this European designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC). Contact Julian Bendle, Sites Warden, Environment Dept, Gloucestershire County Council. Tel: 01452 863170 or email: julian.bendle@gloucestershire.gov.uk **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Four miles south east of Gloucester at the Fiddlers Elbow car park (blue and yellow height barriers) on the A46 Brockworth to Stroud road.  
**Leader:** Gloucestershire County Council Countryside Sites Warden.  
**1.5 hours**  
OS: 162 886142

**TUESDAY APRIL 28 • 10.00**

**Brock, Buck, Stan and Shen**  
The Game of the Name. First in a series of themed walks where we find out why villages, farms, fields and woods are so strangely named. This is a classic Cotswold circuit on and off the scarp. Bad news: there is a 200m climb in the afternoon. Serves us right for starting at the hilltop. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Above Snowhill village. With the Snowhill Arms on your right and the church on your left go straight on briefly up a short rise, then turn right on a narrow lane signed to Shenberrow Farm. Keep climbing for a mile, with Littleworth Wood on your right, to a small car park at the far end.  
**Leaders:** Stephen Wright & Nick Walker.  
**5.5 hours • 8.5 miles**  
OS Explorer: 45/083341 **E2**

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 29 • 06.30**

**National Trust: Spring Watch**  
Ebworth Woods: a morning stroll around the Ebworth estate to see some of the wildlife which is active during this season. 6.30am - 8.30am. Booking advisable 01452 810051/814213. £3. Accompanied children welcome but must be quiet to avoid disturbing wildlife. Event may be cancelled if very wet weather. **Moderate**  
**Leaders:** National Trust Wardens.  
**2 hours**

**THURSDAY APRIL 30 • 10.00**

**Wilcote and Lady Well**  
Farmland and woodland and hopefully bluebells too. Optional pub lunch in the 17th century coaching inn afterwards. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Meet at the Royal Oak, Ramsden. Park sensitively in the village.  
**Leader:** Ann Julian.  
**2 hours • 4 miles**  
OS: 164/357153 **H5**

**May**

**SATURDAY MAY 2 • 10.00**

**Lunch at Leigh Delamere! (not M4 services)**  
From Castle Combe car park, through the village and along the By Brook valley to Long Dean, then through the West Yatton Down Nature Reserve to Yatton Keynell. Cross to Easton Piercy before heading north to the bridge over the M4. If possible look at the unusual church (in the keep of the Churches Conservation Trust). Then back via Sevington and Upper Castle Combe. (An alternative but longer route is via Grittleton, The Gib and Nettleton Mill!) Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Castle Combe public car park.  
**Leader:** John Walker.  
**5.5 hours • 9 miles**  
Explorer: 156/845778 **B9**

**SATURDAY MAY 2 • 10.15**

**Conservation in the Cotswolds**  
Visit the Evenlode valley in May to see examples of access, landscape and natural habitat conservation, ancient and modern. Public transport: starts after arrival of 0948 train from Oxford. Finishes in time for suitable return trains (check train times). Packed lunch required. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Charlbury station (charge made for parking).  
**Leader:** Dave Scott.  
**5 hours • 6 miles**  
OS: 164/352195 **H4**

**SUNDAY MAY 3 • 10.00**

**In and Around Wychwood**  
A circular walk concentrating on the central area of the former royal hunting forest of Wychwood. We will pass through Ascott-under-Wychwood, Chilson, Cornbury Park, Finstock, Ramsden and Leafield. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** The Green, Ascott-u-Wychwood.  
**Leader:** Ian Gourlay  
**6.5 hours • 13 miles**  
OS: 301187 **G4**

**MONDAY MAY 4 • 10.00**

**The Most Beautiful Village in England?**  
A figure of 8 walk exploring the countryside around Bibury. Come on either or both loops. Pub lunch available or bring packed lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** On corner opposite Swan Hotel, Bibury. Parking available alongside river.  
**Leaders:** Colin Boulton & Philip Coates.  
A: start time 10.00 **2.5 hours • 5 miles.**  
B: start time 14.00 **2.5 hours • 5 miles.**  
OL: 45/115069 **E5**

**TUESDAY MAY 5 • 10.00**

**The Tuesday Tramp**  
A morning walk around the Colerne area. Bring a 'mid morning munchie'. For further information please telephone Russell Harding on 01225 742182. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Fox & Hounds car park in Colerne.  
**Leader:** Russell Harding.  
**3 hours • 4.5 miles**  
Explorer: 156/818711 **B9**

**WEDNESDAY MAY 6 • 10.00**

**Pathways to Heaven**  
A picturesque walk from Eastcombe through Toadsmoor and Middle Lypiatt, with views over the Stroud and Toadsmoor valleys. The route includes some short steep climbs and descents. Optional pub lunch on return. Public transport is available from Stroud - Stagecoach bus number 26. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Eastcombe village green - park considerably near village green and church, or in the Lamb Inn car park for those taking lunch.  
**Leaders:** Pippa Burgon, Tony Wilson & Rosemary Woodham.  
**2.75 hours • 5 miles**  
Explorer: 179/890044 **C5**

**WEDNESDAY MAY 6 • 10.00**

**Follow the River Evenlode from Shipton to 'No Man's Land' and back**  
Starting from Shipton-under-Wychwood this walk passes through the village of Lyneham and the golf course to reach a place on the map marked as No Man's Land. We visit the Nature Reserve at Foxholes and return to Shipton via woodland and field paths. Please bring a packed lunch. Contact 07762019373 for further information. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Village hall Shipton-under-Wychwood.  
**Leader:** Gerald Simper.  
**4 hours • 7 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/278181 **G4**

**THURSDAY MAY 7 • 10.00**

**Farmland Birds & Conservation in the Countryside: Conygree Farm, Aldsworth, GL54 3PW**  
Passing through a wide variety of habitats including arable land, pasture and woodland. From the car park outside the farmhouse, the walk passes through arable fields with grass margins and seed crops for birds, into flower rich meadows and woodlands. How to get there: From A40 at Northleach, continue east towards Burford for approximately 3 miles then take the right turn signposted Lodge Park. Continue down this road and after one and a quarter miles you will go past Lodge Park on the right. A further quarter of a mile on, take the track on the left (by a bend on the road) to Conygree Farm. Go past the first cottage on the left and continue down to the end of the track where there is a car park outside the farmhouse. Bring binoculars if you have them. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** The car park just outside Conygree Farm.  
**Leaders:** Jonathan Brunyee & Neil Harris.  
OS: SP 148116

**FRIDAY MAY 8 • 10.00**

**Deserted Settlements in the South Cotswolds No 3**  
A long but flattish walk in the countryside west of Tetbury. On the way we shall search for evidence of earlier settlements and other archaeological features. Pub lunch at Leighterton. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Chavenage Green.  
**Leaders:** Alan Bulley & Peter Russell.  
**7 hours • 12 miles**  
OS: 162/867957 **C7**

**SATURDAY MAY 9 • 10.00**

**South of Sudeley**  
A gentle walk to Charlton Abbots via the Windrush Way and return along the Cotswold Way. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Winchcombe Back Lane car park (pay & display).  
**Leaders:** Pat & Roger Cook.  
**4 hours • 7 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/025284 **D3**

**SATURDAY MAY 9 • 10.00**

**Beside the Ermin Way**  
Bull Banks, Thick Wood, Edgeworth, Daglingworth, the Duntisbournes, Winstone. Some steep ascents and descents. Bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Winstone - south of Park Cottage on roadside verge by lodge entrance to Misarden Park.  
**Leaders:** Sue Clark, Jill Stuart & Ted Currier.  
**6 hours • 10 miles**  
OS: 179/956094 **C5**

**SUNDAY MAY 10 • 10.00**

**To the Burton Hills**  
A strenuous walk through the north of the Cotswolds AONB and into a country park. Passing through the villages of Warmington, Farnborough, Fenny Compton and Avon Dassett. Please bring a packed lunch. **Strenuous**  
**Starting point:** Ratley village - park considerably near junction at entrance to village and meet outside the church (at the bottom of the hill).  
**Leaders:** Lucy & Martin Squires.  
**6 hours • 12 miles**  
OS: 151/383476 **H1**

**SUNDAY MAY 10 • 10.00**

**Crossing County Borders**  
From Monkton Combe to Midford, Sherpstone Iford, Upper Westwood, Freshford, Limpley Stoke and along the Kennet and Avon Canal. Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Car park at Dundas Marina (small charge for parking).  
**Leaders:** Dave Jennings & Wilf Dando.  
**5.5 hours • 10 miles**  
Explorer: 155/784621 **B10**

**TUESDAY MAY 12 • 14.30**

**Bluebells and Tomatoes**  
A circular walk which passes through bluebell woods before looking at a busy tomato production farm at Laverton. An interesting combination. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Broadway - the war memorial on the Green.  
**Leaders:** Gerry Burgess & David Jelfs.  
**3 hours • 4.5 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/094375 **E2**

**THURSDAY MAY 14 • 10.00**

**The Wardens' Way and Windrush Ways - Walk 1**  
By popular request! First of a series of four circular walks designed to cover the whole of these Ways in sequence. We follow the Windrush Way from Winchcombe to Roel Gate, returning via the Wardens' Way. Please bring a picnic lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Winchcombe Back Lane car park (pay & display).  
**Leaders:** Jean Booth & Simon Mallatratt.  
**4.5 hours • 8 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/023284 **D3**

**SATURDAY MAY 16 • 10.00**

**Shaken not stirred**  
We start by walking through the Barton Abbey estate, then following an old drovers' road 'the Dornford Track' to Wootton for lunch. Returning across country via 'Purgatory' to Steeple Barton. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Steeple Barton church, Church Lane.  
**Leader:** Ian Gourlay.  
**5.5 hours • 9 miles**  
Grid ref: 448249 **H3**

**SATURDAY MAY 16 • 10.00**

**Amble Around Amberley**  
A leisurely walk around two wildflower rich commons. How many can you identify? Pub lunch after walk if required. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Amberley Inn, Amberley - not in pub car park please.  
**Leaders:** David Harrowin & Vicky Blitze.  
**2 hours • 4 miles**  
OS: 162/850013 **B6**

**TUESDAY MAY 19 • 10.30**

**Blockley - a talk and walk around this historic village**  
Wool and silk in Blockley. Pub lunch available. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Blockley village green.  
**Leader:** Richard Keyte.  
**2.5 hours • 2.5 miles**  
OS Explorer: 45/164352 **F2**

**WEDNESDAY MAY 20 • 10.00**

**Puesdown and Salperton**  
A pleasant walk with little ascent along parts of the Diamond Way and Gloucestershire Way via Milkwell Covert, Salperton Park and Hazleton. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Puesdown Inn on A40.  
**Leaders:** Brian Chilvers & Mike Williams.  
**2.75 hours • 5.5 miles**  
Leisure: 45/076171 **D4**

**THURSDAY MAY 21 • 10.00**

**The Fox, the Lark and the Scorpion**  
The Game of the Name. Second in the series. Some places clearly have wildlife links; but what about Scorpion? This is a short walk with panoramic views over and round the northern lip of the Cotswolds AONB. There are some stiff climbs but we won't rush them. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Park at roadside near Redlands Barn on narrow land between Ilmington (take Foxcote Hill by the village hall) & the hamlet of Charingworth.  
**Leaders:** Stephen Wright & Mike Matthews.  
**4.5 hours • 7 miles**  
OS: 205/205417 **F1**

**THURSDAY MAY 21 • 16.00**

**Farmland Birds & Conservation in the Countryside: Calmsden Farms, Calmsden Manor, Calmsden, Cirencester GL7 5ET**  
The walk passes through arable land where farming has been sensitively carried out to incorporate features that benefit farmland birds. From Calmsden Manor, the route heads northwards towards Chedworth passing through arable fields with grass margins, seed crops for birds, nectar mixes and hedgerows. Bring binoculars if you have them. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Calmsden Manor - off A429 Hare & Hounds pub - follow the sign advertising the walk from the entrance of Calmsden at the junction of the roads to Chedworth, Foss Cross and North Cerney.  
**Leaders:** Mark Tufnell & Neil Harris.  
**1.5 hours • 1.5 miles**

**SATURDAY MAY 23 • 10.00**

**Blow away the cobwebs on the high wolds**  
A scenic walk with wide views above and in the Windrush Valley. Please bring picnic or optional pub lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Northfield Bart NT car park on minor lane between Sherborne and Clapton-on-the-Hill.  
**Leader:** Ann Julian.  
**4 hours • 6 miles**  
Leisure: 45/176154 **F4**

**MONDAY MAY 25 • 10.00**

**Orchids, Lilies and Limes**  
A walk around ancient Lineover Wood. Suitable for families. Easy, but includes a climb. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Lineover Wood. Parking available up track south of the A40, 1 mile east of Charlton Kings, 100 yards east of the Reservoir Inn.  
**Leaders:** John Heathcott, John Woodland & David Burwell.  
**2.5 hours • 3 miles**  
OS: 179/986196 **D4**

**TUESDAY MAY 26 • 10.00**

**Deer Park and Secret Forest**  
A walk taking us off the Rights of Way through part of the ancient Forest of Wychwood. Returning through Cornbury Park, with its herds of Fallow and Sika deer. By kind permission of Lord Rotherwick. Please bring packed lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Charlbury, the 'Spendlove' car park.  
**Leader:** Tony Graeme.  
**5 hours • 8 miles**  
OS Explorer: 180/358196 **H4**

**THURSDAY MAY 28 • 10.00**

**More Manors & Houses No 2 - Glympton, Kiddington & Ditchley**  
Another in the series looking at Country Houses; these are on the edge of the AONB and are surrounded by some beautiful countryside. Pub lunch available. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Glympton village hall.  
**Leaders:** Keith Sisson & Paul Adams.  
**3 hours • 6.5 miles**  
OS Explorer: 191/427215 **G3**

**THURSDAY MAY 28 • 10.00**

**A ramble between Biddestone and Long Dean**  
A walk around the Biddestone and Slaughterford area. Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Biddestone - by the church.  
**Leaders:** Bob Platt & Nigel Locke.  
**5 hours • 9 miles**  
Explorer: 156/862735 **B10**



## SATURDAY MAY 30 • 10.00

## A visit to St Barbara

A walk which travels from west to east of Breton Hill: passing through Ashton-under-Hill for lunch and return via the southern villages. Outstanding views. Some steep climbs.

**Strenuous**

**Starting point:** Breton. Outside village hall (parking available in car park near village hall).  
**Leaders:** Vivienne McGhee & Sue Greenwood.  
**7 hours • 13 miles**  
OS Explorer: 190/929369

D2

## SATURDAY MAY 30 • 10.30

## Marshfield - Town and Country

A morning walk along the High Street of this small medieval market town to the Almshouses, then taking bridleways south to Ashwicke and returning through the fields on footpaths (only kissing gates). Lunch choice of 3 pubs or a tearoom - or stay and visit our Open Gardens for lunch and/or a cream tea. Suitable for families. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Market Place, Marshfield.  
**Leader:** David Colbourne.  
**2.5 hours • 4.25 miles**  
OS: 155/781737

B9

## SUNDAY MAY 31 • 10.00

## West of Nailsworth

Leisurely springtime walk via Shortwood and the lower part of the Horsley valley - where they still breed the fish. Glorious valley scenery (weather permitting). Back in time for lunch! Suitable for families, but not buggies. **Easy**

**Starting point:** Long stay car park (opposite bus station in Old Market, Nailsworth).  
**Leaders:** Graham Bateman, Vicky Blitz.  
**2 hours • 3 miles**  
OS Explorer: 162/849996

B6

## June

## TUESDAY JUNE 2 • 10.00

## The Tuesday Tramp

A morning walk around the Colerne area. Bring a 'mid morning munchie'. For further information please telephone Russell Harding on 01225 742182. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Fox & Hounds car park in Colerne.  
**Leader:** Russell Harding.  
**3 hours • 4.5 miles**  
Explorer: 156/818711

B9

## THURSDAY JUNE 4 • 10.00

## Down to the Evenlode from Chippy

From the highest town in Oxfordshire the walk descends into the Evenlode valley passing the ancient woodland of Dean Grove. The walk passes through the villages of Dean, Spelsbury & Chadlington. Optional pub lunch at the Tite Inn. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Chipping Norton Leisure Centre - off Burford Road.  
**Leader:** Kevin Myhill.  
**5.5 hours • 9.5 miles**  
SP: 315264

G4

## THURSDAY JUNE 4 • 10.00

## Broadway, a village of beauty with a history

Come with us for a pleasant stroll around this beautiful village. Discover the site of the old village with its 12th century church, fishponds and mills before we look at the fine buildings of the present village. Lunch available in the village after the walk. **Easy**

**Starting point:** Broadway, St Eadburgha's church car park, Snowhill Road. Park with care.  
**Leaders:** Gordon Franks & Stuart Bates.  
**3 hours • 3 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/097363

E2

## SATURDAY JUNE 6 • 10.00

## More than 9 miles - only 5 stiles

Skirting the commons from Minchinhampton. Box, Amberley, Kingscourt, Burleigh. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Car park, Bell Lane, Minchinhampton (on the edge of common behind the church).  
**Leaders:** Mike Brinkworth & Alan Hooper.  
**5.5 hours • 9.5 miles**  
OS: 162/872009

C6

## SATURDAY JUNE 6 • 10.00

## On the Mitford trail past Mount Zion

From picturesque Burford along the tranquil Windrush valley, passing through Widford, Swinbrook and Asthall before turning south to Shilton for lunch. Return across country north back to Burford. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Burford - main car park behind church.  
**Leader:** Ian Gourlay.  
**5.5 hours • 8 miles**  
OS: 255123

G5

## SUNDAY JUNE 7 • 10.00

## On the Edge

A walk on part of the Fosse Way (Roman Road) and Combe Hay. Please bring a packed lunch.

**Moderate**

**Starting point:** Cross Keys public house, Southstoke Road, Combe Down.  
**Leaders:** Wilf Dando, Dave Jennings.  
**4 hours • 7.5 miles**  
Explorer: 155/748619

A10

## TUESDAY JUNE 9 • 10.00

## Climb the Scarp for a commanding view

A morning walk to explore the village of Dyrham and the site of the 'Battle of Doerham' 577AD. Return via the River Boyd. Spraints of otter have been found along the banks. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Doynton village. Please park considerably in the village, leaving free access to the church.  
**Leaders:** Gill Sheppard & David Hayes.  
**3.5 hours • 6 miles**  
OS: 155/720741

A9

## WEDNESDAY JUNE 10 • 10.00

## Across the Cotswolds 2 - Cider with Rosie

The second walk exploring how geology has shaped the landscape of the Cotswolds. A walk around the Slad valley with views of Laurie Lee's home village, Stroud and the Severn valley. This walk takes in the Swifts Hill Nature Reserve. The walk includes two fairly steep climbs. Refreshments can be obtained at the Woolpack Inn with its memorabilia of Laurie Lee. **Strenuous**

**Starting point:** Bulls Cross on B4070 road from Stroud to Birdlip.  
**Leaders:** Tony Wilson, Rosemary Woodham & Pippa Burgon.  
**3 hours • 5 miles**  
Explorer: 179/878088

C5

## THURSDAY JUNE 11 • 10.00

## The Wardens' and Windrush Ways - Walk 2

By popular request. Second of a series of four circular walks designed to cover the whole of these Ways in sequence. We follow the Wardens' Way round Guiting Wood to Deadmanbury Gate then cross to the Windrush Way from Roel Gate through Hawling and return to Guiting Power. Please bring a picnic lunch. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Guiting Power village hall car park (Trust the Motorist).  
**Leaders:** Jean Booth & Simon Mallatratt.  
**4.5 hours • 8 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/095247

E4

## SATURDAY JUNE 13 • 10.00

## Under and Over the M4!

Climb from Doddington with views over the Sodbury vale and Celestine workings, before going under the M4 to Hinton. Up the Cotswold escarpment to Hinton Hill Fort and then on to the Cotswold Way to Tormarton crossing the M4 on Marshfield Road. Downhill mostly then past the source of the River Frome through Doddington Park. Park on grass verge beside the park wall. Bring a picnic lunch. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Beside Coombe's End - Doddington Road.  
**Leader:** John Walker.  
**5 hours • 9 miles**  
Explorer: 155/751802

A8

## SUNDAY JUNE 14 • 10.00

## Early summer along the By Brook and the Broadmead Brook

A leisurely walk to see what grows on these areas of unimproved grassland in early summer. Please bring a picnic lunch. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Castle Combe public car park.  
**Leaders:** Gill Sheppard & Chris Harvey.  
**5 hours • 8 miles**  
Explorer: 156/846777

B9

## WEDNESDAY JUNE 17 • 10.00

## Broadway's St Eadburgha's Church is restored; followed by a walk

Join us for a visit to St Eadburgha's, a 12th century church which has now been restored following flood damage and indeed, see the largest floating floor in the country. Afterwards a walk to Stanton for a pub lunch and return. A delightful part of the North Cotswolds. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Broadway, St Eadburgha's church car park, Snowhill Road. Park with care.  
**Leaders:** Gordon Franks & Stuart Bates.  
**6 hours • 9 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/097363

E2

## THURSDAY JUNE 18 • 10.00

## Rock and Wold

Starting at Salford we walk to Oxfordshire's highest town - Chipping Norton, then progress through Sarsden Glebe to Churchill for lunch. Returning across an old railway and Swailsford Bridge back to Salford. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Salford village hall.  
**Leader:** Ian Gourlay.  
**5.5 hours • 8 miles**  
OS: 290282

G3

## THURSDAY JUNE 18 • 10.00

## By Brook, Bridge, Manor and Mill

A circular walk from Ford through Slaughterford, Thickwood, North Wraxall, West Kingston, Nettleton and Castle Combe. Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** White Hart Inn, Ford.  
**Leaders:** Nigel Locke & Bob Platt.  
**5.5 hours • 9 miles**  
OS Explorer: 156/841748

B9

## SATURDAY JUNE 20 • 10.00

## Commons Flora in Late Spring

A walk across Selsley and Rodborough Commons to look for wild flowers and churches. Pub lunch available at Amberley. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Selsley Common.  
**Leaders:** David Harrowing & Alan Hooper.  
**6 hours • 10 miles**  
OS: 162/828027

B6

## SATURDAY JUNE 20 • 10.00

## Mind your Manors in Border Country

An up and down walk passing the Manors of Little Compton, Chastleton and Cornwell on the scenic borders of Oxfordshire and Warwickshire. Optional lunch afterwards at the highest pub in Oxfordshire, newly refurbished and re-named Moreton's in honour of being on the road to Moreton-in-Marsh from Chipping Norton. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Cross Hands public house, 3 miles NW of Chipping Norton at junction of A436 and A44: NB pub now called Moreton's.  
**Leader:** Ann Julian.  
**4 hours • 6.5 miles**  
OS: 163/269289

G3

## SATURDAY JUNE 20 • 18.00

## Earth Clubs and Thunderbolts

An evening walk to Tucking Mill, Monkton Combe and Midford. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Cross Keys public house, Southstoke Road, Combe Down.  
**Leaders:** Wilf Dando & Dave Jennings.  
**2.5 hours • 5 miles**  
Explorer: 155/748619

A10

## SUNDAY JUNE 21 • 10.00

## From Happy Valley to Breakheart Plantation

Landscape, flora and history in a circuit around the sides of Cleeve Hill. Bring a packed lunch. **Strenuous**

**Starting point:** Cleeve Hill quarry car park (beyond golf course). Turn south at highest point of B4632 Prestbury to Winchcombe road.  
**Leaders:** John Heathcott, John Woodland & David Burwell.  
**6 hours • 11 miles**  
OS: 179/989271

D3

## SUNDAY JUNE 21 • 18.00

## Sundial and Sunset

A circular walk from Elmley Castle to 'The Tower' at the top of Breton Hill. There is an initial steep climb. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Elmley Castle. Opposite the Queen Elizabeth Inn.  
**Leaders:** Gerry Burgess & David Jeffs.  
**3 hours • 6 miles**  
OS Explorer: 190/982141

C2

## TUESDAY JUNE 23 • 10.00

## Lower Woods in June

Starting from the Cotswold Way at Hawkesbury Upton, a walk down and across the commons to the spectacular SSSI of Lower Woods where there should be some late spring flowers on view. Bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Pond at Hawkesbury Upton.  
**Leaders:** Ted Thornton & Les Jones.  
**6 hours • 10 miles**  
OS: 172/775873

A7

## TUESDAY JUNE 23 • 10.00

## Chipping dem Stones

Across country northwards from Salford to visit the famous and mystic Rollright Stones before turning south to Oxfordshire's highest market town Chipping Norton. Short afternoon walk back to Salford. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Salford village hall.  
**Leader:** Ian Gourlay.  
**5.5 hours • 8 miles**  
OS: 290282

G3

## WEDNESDAY JUNE 24 • 10.00

## A Wander Across the Top

A shorter gentle walk on the Scarp Edge to Coldwell Bottom. Suitable for those wanting something less energetic. **Easy**

**Starting point:** Barrow Wake viewpoint. 1 mile north of Birdlip off B407.  
**Leaders:** Mike Williams & Brian Chilvers.  
**2 hours • 4 miles**  
OS: A179/931153

C5

## WEDNESDAY JUNE 24 • 11.00

## National Trust: National Gardens Scheme Day

Snowhill Manor: Visit Snowhill's intimate hillside garden today and your admission fee goes to charity. Normal admission charges apply. Booking not needed. Visit NGS.org.uk for more information. **Mobility information** - Contact in advance on: 01386 852410.

Parking - Designated parking in main car park. House and garden along undulating path. 2 wheelchairs. Transfer available. Building - Audio visual/video. Steps to entrance. Ground floor has steps, very limited turning space. Stairs to other floors. Floors uneven. Audio visual/video. Visitor centre accessible; WCs - by visitor reception area; Grounds - Limited access, undulating paths, some steep slopes, uneven surfaces, access to terraces via steps; Shop - Level entrance; Refreshments - Level entrance.

## SATURDAY JUNE 27 • 10.00

## Cotswold Mansions

A walk along the beautiful Ozleworth and Lasborough Valleys visiting some of their hidden gems. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**

**Starting point:** Newark Park.  
**Leaders:** Eric Brown & Ian Cooke.  
**6 hours • 9 miles**  
OS: 162/783932

B7





**SUNDAY JUNE 28 • 14.00**

**Gloucestershire County Council: Bee Orchids and Barbarians**  
An afternoon walk around Crickley Hill Country Park to find out more about this well known beauty spot. The sites warden from Gloucestershire County Council will guide the walk, which will explore the wild flower rich grasslands and archaeology of the Country Park. The walk will also look at the success of conservation grazing. No dogs allowed (except guide dogs/hearing dogs). Contact Julian Bendle, Sites Warden, Environment Dept, Gloucestershire County Council on 01452 863170 or email: julian.bendle@gloucestershire.gov.uk  
**Easy**  
**Starting point:** Crickley Hill Country Park, meet outside visitor centre. Sign posted off the B4070 four miles south of Cheltenham. Ample free car parking.  
**Leader:** Gloucestershire County Council Countryside Sites Warden.  
**2 hours • 1.5 miles**  
OS: 163 930163

**July**

**SATURDAY JULY 4 • 10.00**

**Bulls Cross to Bisley No. 5**  
Bulls Cross, Slad, Swifts Hill, Catswood, Piedmont, Bisley, Southmead and the Dillay Valley. Some steep ascents and descents. Pub or picnic lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Bulls Cross layby on B4070 north of Slad.  
**Leaders:** Sue Clark, Jill Stuart & Ted Currier.  
**6 hours • 10 miles**  
OS: 179/878088 **C5**

**SATURDAY JULY 4 • 10.00**

**Sourcing the Glyme**  
A route passing by Oxfordshire's highest market town - Chipping Norton and exploring the upper reaches of the River Glyme before returning to our starting point at Spelsbury. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Church Lane, Spelsbury.  
**Leader:** Ian Gourlay.  
**6 hours • 11 miles**  
OS: 349215 **H4**

**SUNDAY JULY 5 • 10.00**

**Westward Ho!**  
A circular walk from Alstone round Oxenton Hill to Dixton, Prescott, Nottingham Hill and Woolstone Hill. **Strenuous**  
**Starting point:** Alstone Church (please park with care in the village).  
**Leaders:** Vivienne McGhee & Sue Greenwood.  
**6 hours • 11 miles**  
OS Explorer: 190/983325 **D3**

**SUNDAY JULY 5 • 10.00**

**St Catherine's Valley to Sands Hill**  
Marshfield - Green Lane - Down to the mill on St Catherine's Brook - up to Cold Ashton - Pennsylvania - Dyrham Wood - around Sounds Hill Farm and return via Brook House Lane. Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Lay by at West End of Marshfield.  
**Leader:** John Walker.  
**5 hours • 9 miles**  
Explorer: 155/772738 **B9**

**TUESDAY JULY 7 • 10.00**

**Up along, down along**  
Starting from car park climb up between Peaked Down and Cam Long Down to join Cotswold Way. Follow Cotswold Way to just before Coaley Peak. Picnic stop on the escarpment. Turn off Cotswold Way to Nympsfield. From Nympsfield through Dingle Wood, passing Owlpen on the left following stream until we come to road between Uley and Dursley. Cross the road passing through Coldharbour Farm and cross a minor road and then follow field path up hill and down.  
**Strenuous**  
**Starting point:** Car park, Cam Peak.  
**Leaders:** Ken Leach & David Harrowin.  
**6 hours • 8 miles**  
OS: 162/767994 **B6**

**TUESDAY JULY 7 • 10.00**

**The Tuesday Tramp**  
A morning walk around the Colerne area. Bring a 'mid morning munchie'. For further information please telephone Russell Harding on 01225 742182.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Fox & Hounds car park in Colerne.  
**Leader:** Russell Harding.  
**3 hours • 4.5 miles**  
Explorer: 156/818711 **B9**

**THURSDAY JULY 9 • 10.00**

**The Wardens' and Windrush Ways - Walk 3**  
By popular request. Third of a series of four circular walks designed to cover the whole of these Ways in sequence. From Guiting Power walk to the Windrush Way and follow through Aylworth to Naunton where we join the Wardens' Way back to Guiting Power. Please bring a picnic lunch.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Guiting Power village hall car park (Trust the Motorist).  
**Leaders:** Jean Booth & Simon Mallatratt.  
**3.5 hours • 7 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/095247 **E4**

**SATURDAY JULY 11 • 10.00**

**Highs and Lows around Broadway**  
A climb from Broadway up to Snowhill for a pub lunch and a return via Shenberrow Hill and Buckland. Pub lunch available.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Broadway, the War Memorial on the Green.  
**Leaders:** Gerry Burgess & David Jelfs.  
**4 hours • 7 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/094375 **E2**

**SUNDAY JULY 12 • 10.00**

**Along the River Glyme**  
A strenuous walk passing through the villages of Kiddington and Clevely and into Ditchley Park. Please bring a packed lunch.  
**Strenuous**  
**Starting point:** Enstone Cricket Club. Entrance on B4022 - close to junction with A44.  
**Leaders:** Lucy & Martin Squires.  
**6 hours • 11 miles**  
OS: 164/379239 **H4**

**SUNDAY JULY 12 • 10.00**

**Common and Canal**  
Varied journey mainly along parts of the Cotswold Way near Stroud. Route includes Selsley Common, King's Stanley and Stroudwater Canal. Memorable views of the Severn valley and Forest of Dean (weather permitting).  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Selsley Common. Parking area near upper cattle grid on B4066 road.  
**Leaders:** Graham Bateman, Vicky Blitzte.  
**2.75 hours • 4.5 miles**  
OS: 162/827026 **B6**

**SUNDAY JULY 12 • 10.00**

**Battle to the Races**  
From Lansdown to Charlcombe, Woolley with views overlooking the Tadwick valley. Returning via battlefields at Lansdown and Bath race course. Please bring a packed lunch.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Granville Road, Lansdown, Bath.  
**Leaders:** Dave Jennings & Wilf Dando.  
**5 hours • 8.5 miles**  
Explorer: 155/743678 **A10**

**TUESDAY JULY 14 • 10.00**

**A Remote and Beautiful Valley**  
A circular walk passing through some of the North Cotswolds' most remote and beautiful countryside. The walk runs first through woods above the Hinchwick Valley, descends briefly into an adjoining valley and then returns along the bottom of the Hinchwick Valley itself.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Hinchwick hamlet. Park tidily on the grass verge.  
**Leaders:** Peter Mansion & Robin Cochrane.  
**2.5 hours • 5 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/145301 **F3**

**WEDNESDAY JULY 15 • 10.00**

**Scenic Ridge and Valley**  
A climb to Norbury Hill Fort with fine views from the top, returning via Upper Coberley and Cockleford. Optional pub lunch on return. Public transport available from Cirencester and Cheltenham - Stagecoach bus number 151.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** The Colesbourne Inn car park (by prior arrangement) on A435 Cheltenham/Cirencester road.  
**Leaders:** Pippa Burgon, Tony Wilson & Rosemary Woodham.  
**3.25 hours • 5.75 miles**  
OS: 179/999133 **D5**

**WEDNESDAY JULY 15 • 10.30**

**Blockley - a talk and walk around this historic village**  
Wool and silk in Blockley. Pub lunch available.  
**Easy**  
**Starting point:** Blockley village green.  
**Leader:** Richard Keyte.  
**2.5 hours • 2.5 miles**  
OS Explorer: 45/164352 **F2**

**THURSDAY JULY 16 • 10.30**

**Escarpment views and springline villages: Idbury and Fifield**  
A short walk with long views followed by optional lunch at The Westcote Inn.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Westcote Inn, Nether Westcote.  
**Leader:** Ann Julian.  
**2 hours • 3.5 miles**  
OS: 163/227204 **F4**

**SATURDAY JULY 18 • 10.00**

**To Badminton via Horton**  
Along the coffin path then climb the scarp for 180 degrees of sky. Returning via the Grickstone. Please bring a picnic.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Old Sodbury. Please park on the hill approaching the church.  
**Leaders:** Gill Sheppard, Phil Lawrence  
**5 hours • 9 miles**  
OS: 165/756817 **B8**

**SATURDAY JULY 18 • 10.00**

**Glorious Gloucestershire**  
A figure of 8 walk exploring the Coln Valley around Chedworth. Come to either or both loops. Pub lunch available or bring packed lunch.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Chedworth Parish Church. Please park sensibly in the village.  
**Leaders:** Colin Boulton & Philip Coates.  
A: start time 10.00 **3 hours • 6 miles.**  
B: start time 14.00 **2.75 hours • 5.5 miles.**  
OL: 45/052121 **E5**

**SUNDAY JULY 19 • 10.00**

**Two Parks; Two Valleys**  
An undulating walk to Newark Park, down to Ozleworth, returning along Tiley Bottom back to Wotton-under-Edge. Please bring a packed lunch.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Chipping car park, Wotton-under-Edge.  
**Leaders:** David Harrowin & Alan Bulley.  
**5 hours • 9 miles**  
OS: 162/756932 **A7**

**TUESDAY JULY 21 • 10.00**

**Salt & Slates**  
On ancient tracks to the main source of local roofing slates, returning along parts of the Saltway, skirting Ditchley estate. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Near the Blacks Head pub, Stonesfield.  
**Leader:** Ian Gourlay.  
**5.5 hours • 9 miles**  
OS: 394171 **H4**

**WEDNESDAY JULY 22 • 10.00**

**National Trust: Chedworth Roman Villa**  
Wild Wednesday: Drop in wildlife sessions for children. Join one of our wardens every Wednesday for a wildlife themed fun session. Please telephone for session timing and dates: 01242 890256.  
**Mobility information:** Parking - Separate parking, 10yds. Drop-off point; Building - Ramped entrance with handrail. Alternative accessible entrance, upon request. 1 wheelchair. Audio visual/video; WCs - in reception; Grounds - Partly accessible, slopes, some steps, grass and uneven paths, undulating terrain. Poor access to main features of site, steps to all mosaics and museum; Shop - Ramped entrance.

**THURSDAY JULY 23 • 10.00**

**Limestone Link and Packhorse Route**  
Circular walk from Dundas Marina through Monkton Combe, Midford, Southstoke and Combe Hay. Please bring a packed lunch.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Dundas Marina car park (small charge).  
**Leaders:** Nigel Locke & Bob Platt.  
**5 hours • 8 miles**  
OS: 172/783621 **B10**

**SATURDAY JULY 25 • 09.30**

**Nuts or No Nuts**  
The Game of the Name. Third in the series of themed walks, this to speculate on the origin of various Cotswold place names. Some are not what you think they should be. A lovely walk across the wolds with some gentle up and downs. Note the early start. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Salperton, signed off the A436 between Andoversford & Bourton-on-the-Water. The walled car park is at the bottom of the hill in the centre of the village.  
**Leaders:** Stephen Wright & Nick Walker.  
**6 hours • 9.5 miles**  
OS: Leisure 45/076203 **E4**

**SATURDAY JULY 25 • 11.00**

**National Trust: Snowhill Manor**  
Archaeology Weekend: Uncover the secrets of the Snowhill landscape. Explore the site with our self-guided tour using old photos and maps. See rare Egyptian and Roman items usually in store on display in the Manor and watch archaeologists clean items found in the garden. Children can dig for hidden treasure in our mini-dig, and join in our 'design a labyrinth' competition. There's also the chance to search for water and old structures with our dowsing expert. Normal admission charges apply. Booking not needed.  
**Mobility information:** - Contact in advance on 01386 852410. Parking - Designated parking in main car park. House and garden along undulating path. 2 wheelchairs. Transfer available; Building - Audio visual/video. Steps to entrance. Ground floor has steps, very limited turning space. Stairs to other floors. Floors uneven. Audio visual/video. Visitor centre accessible; WCs by visitor reception area; Grounds - Limited access, undulating paths, some steep slopes, uneven surfaces, access to terraces via steps; Shop - Level entrance; Refreshments - Level entrance.

**TUESDAY JULY 28 • 18.00**

**Evening beside the Evenlode**  
An evening walk through Ascott-under-Wychwood and along the banks of the river Evenlode. Returning to the Swan Inn, Ascott (evening meals available). Limited parking. If full please park sensibly on the road.  
**Easy**  
**Starting point:** The Swan Inn, Ascott-under-Wychwood (limited parking).  
**Leader:** Tony Graeme.  
**2.5 hours • 4.5 miles**  
OS Explorer: 180/300187 **G4**

**WEDNESDAY JULY 29 • 10.00**

**On Cloud Nine**  
A walk along a section of the Cotswold Way around Cleeve Common. On the return route taking a short detour to the highest point in the Cotswolds with views across the Severn Valley. Refreshments available at the Golf Club.  
**Easy**  
**Starting point:** Cleeve Hill quarry car park (beyond golf course). Turn south at highest point of B4632 Prestbury to Winchcombe Road  
**Leaders:** Royden Hales, Brian Chilvers & Mike Williams.  
**2.75 hours • 5.5 miles**  
OS: 179/989271 **D3**

**WEDNESDAY JULY 29 • 10.00**

**Deserted Settlements in the South Cotswolds No.4**  
A walk up and down the valleys around Lasborough and Ozleworth. On the way we shall search for evidence of earlier settlement and other archaeological features. Bring snack and/or take late pub lunch at the end of the walk.  
**Strenuous**  
**Starting point:** Road opposite Hunters Hall, Kingscote.  
**Leaders:** Alan Bulley & Eric Brown.  
**4 hours • 7 miles**  
OS: 162/815961 **B7**

**August**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 1 • 10.00**

**Painswick Walkabout**  
A stroll in and around this historic village 'The Queen of the Cotswolds'. Includes a climb. Suitable for families. Public transport available from Stroud and Cheltenham - Stagecoach bus number 46.  
**Easy**  
**Starting point:** Bus stop opposite Falcon Inn, Painswick.  
**Leaders:** John Heathcott, John Woodland & David Burwell.  
**3 hours • 4 miles**  
OS: 179/865096 **C5**

**TUESDAY AUGUST 4 • 10.00**

**The Tuesday Tramp**  
A mid morning walk around the Colerne area. Bring a 'mid morning munchie'. For further information please telephone Russell Harding on 01225 742182.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Fox & Hounds car park in Colerne.  
**Leader:** Russell Harding.  
**3 hours • 4.5 miles**  
Explorer: 156/818711 **B9**

**THURSDAY AUGUST 6 • 10.00**

**Ditchley Park and the Glyme Valley**  
Through the historic and attractive Ditchley estate past a burial chamber and on to Church Enstone for lunch. Returning along the Glyme valley through Clevely, Radford and Kiddington estate. Pub lunch available.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Kiddington cross roads on the A44. Please park sensibly - dangerous road!  
**Leader:** Ian Gourlay.  
**5.5 hours • 8.5 miles**  
OS: 409221 **H4**

**THURSDAY AUGUST 6 • 10.00**

**Castlett Wood, Kineton and Barton**  
A circular walk from Guiting Power which follows the Castlett Brook through Castlett Wood before passing through the hamlet of Kineton.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Guiting Power village hall car park (Trust the Motorist).  
**Leaders:** Peter Mansion & Robin Cochrane.  
**2.5 hours • 5.5 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/095246 **E3**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 8 • 10.00**

**Highs and Lows**  
An energetic half day walk taking in four high spots in the vicinity of Dursley and Uley - Cam Long Down, Uley Bury, Downham Hill and Cam Peak. Superb views in all directions, weather permitting.  
**Strenuous**  
**Starting point:** Cam Peak public car park.  
**Leaders:** John Hammill and Ian Cooke.  
**3 hours • 4.5 miles**  
OS: 162/767994 **A6**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 8 • 10.00**

**The North Edge**  
A circular walk around Meon Hill to the Quintons and Ilmington for lunch. Pub lunch available.  
**Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Mickleton Church (Trust the Motorist, parking at the church or with care in the village).  
**Leaders:** Vivienne McGhee & Sue Greenwood.  
**6 hours • 10 miles**  
OS Explorer: 205/162435 **F2**

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 12 • 10.00**

**A Gentle Stroll by a River**  
An easy walk beside the river Leach, from Eastleach to Sheepbridge returning via Eastleach Folly. Suitable for families. Optional pub lunch on return. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Near Victoria Pub in Eastleach, park considerably in the village.  
**Leaders:** Pippa Burgon, Tony Wilson, Rosemary Woodham.  
**2.5 hours • 4 miles**  
OL: 45/198052 **F6**

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 12 • 14.00**

**Gloucestershire County Council: Crickley Hill Wildlife Thrill**  
Why not come and join Gloucestershire County Council's Countryside Wardens in an environmental fun afternoon at Crickley Hill Country Park. Activities will include a bug hunt and environmental games. **BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL.** Suitable for children aged 5-11 who must be supervised by parents. No dogs allowed (except guide dogs/hearing dogs). Contact: Julian Bendle, Sites Warden, Environment Dept, Gloucestershire County Council on 01452 863170 or email: julian.bendle@gloucestershire.gov.uk  
**Easy**  
**Starting point:** Crickley Hill Country Park, meet outside visitor centre. Sign posted off the B4070 four miles south of Cheltenham. Ample free car parking.  
**Leader:** Gloucestershire County Council countryside sites warden.  
**2 hours • 0.5 miles**  
OS: 163 930163

**THURSDAY AUGUST 13 • 10.00**

**Pick and Mix around Little Compton**  
A figure of eight walk giving the choice of a morning, afternoon or full day walk centred on Little Compton. In the morning the walk heads south to include Chastleton Hill Fort, Adlestrop Hill and Chastleton House returning to Little Compton for an optional pub lunch. The afternoon walk heads north onto the hills above Long Compton. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Little Compton Church - off the A44 Moreton to Chipping Norton road.  
**Leader:** Kevin Myhill.  
Morning walk: **2.5 hours • 4.5 miles.**  
Afternoon walk: **3 hours • 5 miles.**  
OS: 261302 **G3**



**THURSDAY AUGUST 13 • 10.00**

**The Wardens' and Windrush Ways - Walk 4**  
By popular request. Fourth of a series of four circular walks designed to cover the whole of these Ways in sequence. From Bourton-on-the-Water use the Wardens' Way through Lower & Upper Slaughter to Naunton. Back to the Windrush Way and follow the river to Bourton. Please bring a picnic lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Bourton-on-the-Water. War Memorial next to the river in the town centre. Pay & display car park in Rissington Road.  
**Leaders:** Jean Booth & Simon Mallatratt.  
**5.5 hours • 9.5 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/167207 **F4**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 15 • 10.30**

**Marshfield - Town & Country**  
A morning walk along the High Street of this small medieval market town to the Almshouses, then taking bridleways south to Ashwicke and returning through the fields on footpaths (only kissing gates). Lunch choice of 3 pubs or a teashop - and stay to enjoy Marshfield Village procession and show. Suitable for families. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Market Place, Marshfield.  
**Leader:** David Colbourne.  
**2.5 hours • 4.25 miles**  
OS: 712/781737 **B9**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 16 • 10.00**

**Nibbling Around the Edge**  
From Wotton via Coombe Hill and the Ridings to Waterley Bottom, for lunch. Back via North Nibley and Westridge Wood. Bring a picnic, pub stop for drinks. May be muddy. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Chipping car park, Wotton-under-Edge.  
**Leaders:** Hilary Paveley, David Harrowin.  
**4.5 hours • 7 miles**  
OS: 162/756932 **A7**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 16 • 10.00**

**Around Wellow - Figure of Eight**  
Morning - north to Combe Hay - back to Wellow: 2.5 hours, 5 miles. Afternoon - south to Hinton Charterhouse - back to Wellow: 3 hours, 6 miles. Packed lunch. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Free car park in Wellow.  
**Leaders:** Wilf Dando & Dave Jennings.  
Morning: **2.5 hours • 5 miles.**  
Afternoon: **3 hours • 6 miles.**  
Explorer: 155/735581 **A10**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 16 • 14.30**

**Long Day, Short Day, More Day and Muffity**  
A village walk around Stonesfield, famous for production of the characteristic Cotswold slates. Suitable for families. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Stonesfield, by the Post Office.  
**Leader:** Tony Graeme.  
**1.5 hours • 2 miles**  
OS Explorer: 180/394171 **H5**

**TUESDAY AUGUST 18 • 10.00**

**More Manors and Houses No.3 - Stanway House**  
Another in the series looking at Country Houses; this is an undulating walk that passes Stanway House and includes an impressive section of the Cotswold Way. You should be able to visit the house and its famous fountain from 2.00 pm (admission £6) but confirm by phone on 01386 584469. Lunch available at Hailes Fruit Farm. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Church opposite Hailes Abbey.  
**Leaders:** Keith Sisson and Paul Adams.  
**3 hours • 5.5 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/051301 **D3**

**THURSDAY AUGUST 20 • 10.00**

**A walk north of Luckington**  
A walk in the area of Sopworth and Sherston. Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Luckington, the village green.  
**Leaders:** Bob Platt & Nigel Locke.  
**5 hours • 9 miles**  
Explorer: 168/832839 **B8**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 23 • 10.00**

**Three Valleys Walk**  
Figure of eight walk through glorious countryside in the south Cotswolds. Memorable views of the Forest of Dean and beyond (weather permitting). Walk either or both of the two stages. 10am: Nailsworth/Avening valleys and Minchinhampton Common (5 miles/2.5 hours) 2.00pm: Frome Valley/Rodborough Common (5 miles/2.5 hours). Bring a packed lunch or obtain refreshments at local inns. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Reservoir car park, Minchinhampton Common.  
**Leaders:** Graham Bateman & Peter Russell.  
A: start time 10.00 **2.5 hours • 5 miles.**  
B: start time 14.00 **2.5 hours • 5 miles.**  
OS: 162/855013 **B6**

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 26 • 10.00**

**Exploring the Ampneys**  
An easy summer walk through Ampney Crucis, Ampney St Mary and Ampney St Peter. Optional pub lunch or refreshments at start/finish. Suitable for families. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Crown of Crucis Hotel car park on A417, by prior arrangement.  
**Leaders:** Mike Williams, Brian Chilvers & Royden Hales.  
**2.5 hours • 4 miles**  
OL: 45/067018 **E6**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 29 • 10.00**

**Uley Bury and Downham Hill**  
A morning walk taking in the viewpoints of Uley Bury and nearby Downham Hill. Pub lunch available afterwards. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Uley Village Green.  
**Leaders:** Eric Brown & Tony Boxall.  
**3 hours • 5 miles**  
OS: 162/792986 **B6**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 29 • 10.00**

**Both Ends of the Canal Tunnel**  
Open countryside, woodlands and tow paths. Tarlton, Frampton Mansell and Sapperton. Pub lunch available or bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Coates village (west of Cirencester). Meet by the village hall at south end of the village.  
**Leaders:** John Heathcott, John Woodland & David Burwell.  
**7 hours • 11 miles**  
OS: 168/977007 **D6**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 30 • 10.00**

**Aldrestrop, Chastleton with a visit to Richard Phillips Racing Stables**  
On this walk we will see how all ages have left their mark on the countryside. We will pass the sites of prehistoric barrows and visit the striking Iron Age fort above Chastleton. We'll look at the estate Robert Catesby sold to fund the gunpowder plot and the church and vicarage where Jane Austen stayed. We'll also see what remains of the quiet station where, in June 1914, the Paddington to Worcester train stopped unexpectedly prompting the poet Edward Thomas to write his famous poem, and how a modern day enterprise is leaving its mark. At the end of the walk there will be the opportunity to visit Richard Phillips Racing Stables in Aldrestrop (booking essential - for further info telephone 07718660070). Pub lunch available. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Aldrestrop village hall car park.  
**Leader:** Anne Martis.  
**5 hours • 6 miles**  
SP: 241272 **G3**

**September**

**TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 1 • 10.00**

**The Tuesday Tramp**  
A morning walk around the Colerne area. Bring a 'mid morning munchie'. For further information please telephone Russell Harding on 01225 742182. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Fox & Hounds car park in Colerne.  
**Leader:** Russell Harding.  
**3 hours • 4.5 miles**  
Explorer: 156/818711 **B9**

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 5 • 10.00**

**Miserden Circles**  
Figure of 8 walk. 10am: Henley, Fishcombe Bank, Caudle Green, Syde (2.5 hours, 5 miles). 2pm: Miserden Park, Winstone, Duntisbourne Abbots (2.5 hours, 5 miles). Some steep ascents and descents. Pub lunch available or bring a packed lunch if walking all day. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Miserden C of E School car park by prior arrangement.  
**Leaders:** Sue Clark, Jill Stuart & Ted Currier.  
Morning walk: **2.5 hours • 5 miles.**  
Afternoon walk: **2.5 hours • 5 miles.**  
OS: 179/933089 **C5**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6 • 10.00**

**Walk the Bugatti Hill Climb**  
A walk across the contrasting terrain of Cleeve Common and Nottingham Hill and which includes part of the famous Bugatti Hill Climb. Lunch available at the Golf Club after the walk. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Cleeve Common car park next to the Cleeve Hill Golf Club.  
**Leaders:** Gerry Burgess, David Jeffs.  
**3 hours • 5 miles**  
OS: 179/988272 **D3**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6 • 10.00**

**The Battle of Edgehill**  
On 22 August 1642, Charles I of England raised his standard at Nottingham and the English Civil War began. The Battle of Edgehill on 23 October, 1642 was the first major encounter and an estimated 1500 men were killed with many more wounded. Both sides claimed victory, the Parliamentarians claimed they had won a tactical advantage on the field but following the battle the Royalists were free to continue their march to London. We will walk over part of the battlefield starting from the Royalist position on Edgehill. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Ratley village hall car park.  
**Leader:** Anne Martis.  
**4 hours • 7 miles**  
SP: 381474 **H1**

**TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8 • 10.00**

**Old Man River**  
The Game of the Name. Fourth in the series of themed walks. Prehistoric man would give a name to his river before the place had been settled. Many Cotswold river names come from ancient languages, often monosyllabic and share common roots with rivers all over Europe. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Cotswold Farm Park (by special permission). Please park near the road. This walk starts on paths of special conservation interest.  
**Leaders:** Stephen Wright & Nick Walker.  
**6 hours • 10 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/114266 **E3**

**TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8 • 10.00**

**A Little bit of Ozleworth**  
A morning stroll from Kingscote into the Lasborough Valley. Pub lunch available at the end of the walk. Suitable for families but not buggies. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Side road opposite Hunter's Hall, Kingscote.  
**Leaders:** Ted Thornton & Ken Leach.  
**2.5 hours • 4.5 miles**  
OS: 162/815961 **B7**

**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 9 • 10.00**

**Across the Cotswolds 3 - the Dramatic Escarpment**  
The final walk to explore how geology has shaped the landscape. This walk features a close look at the geology of Crickley Hill. Starting from the Crickley Hill Visitor Centre the walk will explore the face of the escarpment to Greenway Lane and Shurdington Hill. Includes some steep slopes. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Crickley Hill Country Park, meet outside visitor centre. Sign posted off the B4070 four miles south of Cheltenham. Ample free car parking.  
**Leaders:** Tony Wilson, Rosemary Woodham & Pippa Burgon.  
**2.5 hours • 3.75 miles**  
OS: 179/929164 **B5**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13 • 10.00**

**Wander along the Windrush**  
A walk passing the villages of Swinbrook, Ashall and Shilton. Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Burford - public car park.  
**Leaders:** Lucy & Martin Squires.  
**5 hours • 9 miles**  
OS: 163/254123 **G5**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13 • 11.30**

**National Trust: Lodge Park & Sherborne Estate**  
Lodge Park hosts its 6th annual Deerhound Racing Day. With the help of the Deerhound Club, hounds from all over the UK (plus some from overseas) will be put through their paces. The day's excitement begins with a parade by the racing dogs, followed by the races, another parade and a chance to meet the dogs. The Lodge will be open and visitors can meet 17th century household re-enactors or go on the roof terrace (weather permitting) just as Dutton did, to follow the action! Normal admission charges apply. **Mobility information:** Parking - Separate parking, 50yds. Drop-off point: Building - 2 steps to entrance, ramp available. Audio visual/video; WCs at Lodge Park; Refreshments - Accessible picnic tables. Telephone: 01451 844130.

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17 • 10.00**

**Broadway, a village of beauty with a history**  
Come with us for a pleasant stroll around this beautiful village. Discover the site of the old village with its 12th century church, fish ponds and mills before we look at the fine buildings of the present village. Lunch available in the village after the walk. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Broadway, St Eadburgha's church car park, Snowhill Road.  
**Leaders:** Gordon Franks & Stuart Bates.  
**3 hours • 3 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/097363 **E2**

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 18 • 10.00**

**More Manors and Houses No. 4 - Sherborne**  
Another in the series looking at Country Houses; this walk loops around the Sherborne Estate with its water meadows and wonderful views of the River Windrush. You should be able to visit Lodge Park and its famous Grandstand from 2.00pm; National Trust property (admission free to members) but confirm by phone on 01451 844130. Pub lunch available. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** National Trust car park, Ewepen buildings, Sherborne Estate.  
**Leaders:** Keith Sisson & Paul Adams.  
**3 hours • 6 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/159144 **F4**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20 • 10.00**

**Pond-2-Pond**  
A circular walk through Alderton and Luckington. A rare opportunity to visit two recently restored medieval fish ponds. Pub snack if required. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Sherston High Street.  
**Leaders:** David Harrowin & Richard Glanville.  
**5 hours • 9 miles**  
OS: 173/853858 **B8**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20 • 10.00**

**Remember Dr Doolittle?**  
Circular walk along the By Brook, Castle Combe - Long Dean - Ford - Nettleton Mill - Castle Combe. A few stiles and gentle climbs. Pubs nearby at end of walk. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Castle Combe car park.  
**Leader:** John Walker.  
**3 hours • 5 miles**  
Explorer: 156/845773 **B9**

**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 23 • 10.00**

**The Painswick Valley**  
A moderate walk around the Painswick Valley with some steep ascents. Refreshments at the start/finish or in Stroud and Painswick. Public transport available to Stroud by bus or rail. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Stroud Leisure Centre car park, off roundabout on A46 just north of Stroud.  
**Leaders:** Brian Chilvers & Mike Williams.  
**3 hours • 6 miles**  
OS: 179/844056 **B5**

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24 • 10.00**

**A Stroll by a High Speed Track**  
A circular walk by way of Middle Hill, Shockernick, Kingsdown, Hazelbury and Box Hill. Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Box, Selwyn Hall car park.  
**Leaders:** Nigel Locke & Bob Platt.  
**4 hours • 8 miles**  
OS Explorer: 156/824685 **B9**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27 • 10.00**

**Four Fords - or is it Five?**  
From Bradford-on-Avon to Hungerford Castle, Iford, Freshford and back to Bradford. Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Railway station car park at Bradford-on-Avon (small charge).  
**Leaders:** Dave Jennings & Wilf Dando.  
**6 hours • 10 miles**  
Explorer: 156/824607 **B10**

**TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 29 • 10.00**

**An Olympick Stroll**  
Down the scarp from Dover's Hill and walk around the Sub Edge parishes before a return up through the Dingle. **Moderate**  
**Starting point:** Dover's Hill car park.  
**Leaders:** Jean Booth & Simon Mallatratt.  
**3 hours • 6 miles**  
OS Leisure: 45/137396 **F2**

**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30 • 10.00**

**Minchinhampton Meandering....**  
Paths in and around the parish. **Easy**  
**Starting point:** Car park, Bell Lane, Minchinhampton (on edge of common behind the church).  
**Leaders:** Mike Brinkworth & John Graham.  
**2 hours • 3.5 miles**  
OS: 162/872009 **C6**





# Cotswold Grants



INFORMATION ABOUT COUNTRYSIDE AND ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS AVAILABLE WITHIN THE COTSWOLDS AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

A number of grants are available to help farmers, landowners, organisations and local communities make environmental improvements. These are administered by various organisations, all working to enhance the landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity of the Cotswolds. Listed on this page are just some of the grants available. For further information please contact the relevant organisation.

## Sustainable Development Fund

A grant scheme administered by the Cotswolds Conservation Board supporting projects that bring environmental, social and economic benefits to the Cotswolds AONB.

Open to individuals, community, voluntary and partnership groups, the private sector, public bodies and local authorities and charities.

Applications can be made for grants ranging from several hundred pounds up to £25,000. The fund can provide up to 75% of the total project costs. In exceptional circumstances 100% may be provided for voluntary bodies.

If you think you have a suitable project, the Conservation Board would like to hear from you; call 01451 862035 for details.

More information is available on our website at: [www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk](http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk)

## Useful fundraising websites

### General fundraising

- [www.grantsnet.co.uk](http://www.grantsnet.co.uk)  
Easy access to information on grants available to businesses and charities, with the ability to search grant schemes by area, project type or keywords
- [www.access-funds.co.uk](http://www.access-funds.co.uk)  
Regularly updated news about sources of funding
- [www.fundraising.co.uk](http://www.fundraising.co.uk)  
UK charity and non profit making fundraisers
- [www.ruralnet.org.uk](http://www.ruralnet.org.uk)  
Details of rural funding sources

### Charitable trusts

- [www.acf.org.uk](http://www.acf.org.uk)  
Trusts and foundations
- [www.funderfinder.org.uk](http://www.funderfinder.org.uk)  
Information about the Fundfinder software and links to websites of trusts
- [www.dsc.org.uk](http://www.dsc.org.uk)  
Information on the Directory of Social Change, a guide to trust funding

### Company giving

- [www.cafonline.org](http://www.cafonline.org)  
Charities Aid Foundation supports corporate community involvement

### Government funding

- [www.governmentfunding.org.uk](http://www.governmentfunding.org.uk)  
Provides information on grants awarded by government departments

### European funding

- [www.dti.gov.uk/regional/european-structural-funds/index.html](http://www.dti.gov.uk/regional/european-structural-funds/index.html)  
Information from the Department of Trade and Industry on European funding
- [www.esf.gov.uk](http://www.esf.gov.uk)  
European Social Fund site

### Other useful websites

- [www.charity-commission.gov.uk](http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk)  
Charity Commission publications and charity register
- [www.grantfinder.co.uk](http://www.grantfinder.co.uk)  
Subscribing to Grantfinder, a leading commercial sourcing organisation, enables you to search its database
- [www.j4bgrants.co.uk](http://www.j4bgrants.co.uk)  
Registering on the website enables you to search for relevant grants and make use of other services

## Gloucestershire Environmental Trust

The Gloucestershire Environmental Trust provides grants from funds generated by the Landfill Communities Fund for the benefit of Gloucestershire, its people and its environment.

Applications have to fit the Landfill Communities Fund objectives and must be approved and registered with ENTRUST [www.entrust.org.uk](http://www.entrust.org.uk)

..... 01452 739006  
[www.glos-environment-trust.co.uk](http://www.glos-environment-trust.co.uk)

### Grant finder services

#### Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)

Conservation land management grants

- Avon FWAG ..... 0117 959 8522
- Gloucestershire FWAG ..... 01452 627487
- Oxfordshire FWAG ..... 01993 886565
- Warwickshire FWAG ..... 01926 318280
- Wiltshire FWAG ..... 0117 959 8522
- Worcestershire FWAG ..... 01905 362955

#### Business Link

Business orientated advice and diversification opportunities for South West

- Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire and Bath ..... 0845 600 9966  
Email: [enquiry@businesslinksw.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@businesslinksw.co.uk)  
Website: [www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest)
- Wiltshire ..... 0845 600 9966  
Email: [enquiry@businesslinksw.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@businesslinksw.co.uk)  
Website: [www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest)
- Warwickshire ..... 0845 113 1234  
Email: [info@businesslinkwm.co.uk](mailto:info@businesslinkwm.co.uk)  
Website: [www.businesslinkwm.co.uk](http://www.businesslinkwm.co.uk)
- Hereford and Worcestershire ..... 0845 113 1234  
Email: [info@businesslinkwm.co.uk](mailto:info@businesslinkwm.co.uk)  
Website: [www.businesslinkwm.co.uk](http://www.businesslinkwm.co.uk)
- Milton Keynes, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire ..... 0845 600 9006  
Email: [info@businesslinkwsolutions.co.uk](mailto:info@businesslinkwsolutions.co.uk)  
Website: [www.businesslinkwsolutions.co.uk](http://www.businesslinkwsolutions.co.uk)

#### Rural Community Councils (RCCs)

RCCs provide help in putting together Rural

Community Council grant applications, especially to the Community Fund. They also administer many grants on behalf of other organisations:

- County council grant fund for village halls
- Village shop/hall improvement grants
- Rural Initiative Fund grants on behalf of Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society
- Allocating funds from Landfill Tax Credits for improvements to village halls
- Gloucestershire Rural Community Council ..... 01452 528491  
Website: [www.grcc.org.uk](http://www.grcc.org.uk)
- Community Action – Avon area/ South Gloucestershire ..... 01275 393837  
Website: [www.community-action.org.uk](http://www.community-action.org.uk)
- Community First Wilts and Bath ..... 01380 722475  
Website: [www.communityfirst.org.uk](http://www.communityfirst.org.uk)
- Oxfordshire Rural Community Council ..... 01865 883488  
Website: [www.oxonrcc.org.uk](http://www.oxonrcc.org.uk)
- Warwickshire Rural Community Council ..... 02476 303232  
Website: [www.ruralwarwickshire.org.uk](http://www.ruralwarwickshire.org.uk)
- Community First Hereford and Worcester ..... 01684 312730/01432 267820  
Website: [www.comfirst.org.uk](http://www.comfirst.org.uk)
- Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) ..... 01285 653477  
Website: [www.acre.org.uk](http://www.acre.org.uk)

## The England Woodland Grant Scheme

The Cotswolds AONB is one of four Ancient Woodland Priority Areas established in the South West by the Forestry Commission to benefit from the England Woodland Grant Scheme which provides landowners with help in meeting the costs of managing existing woodlands and creating new ones. Cotswold farmers and landowners can therefore benefit from enhanced grants.

The Forestry Commission is eager to talk to landowners who may be interested in using the grant scheme to bring their woodlands into management or to create new ones.

To find out more visit the Forestry Commission's website [www.forestry.gov.uk/england-swe](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/england-swe) or phone James Fry, the woodland officer for Gloucestershire, on 01594 810983.

## Forestry Commission England Woodland Grants Scheme (EWGS)

The England Woodland Grants Scheme (EWGS) is the Forestry Commission's suite of grants designed to develop the co-ordinated delivery of public benefits from England's woodlands. The scheme is now open to applications for payment year 2009-2010. Closing dates for all regional grants can be found on the Regional Prospectuses page. See [www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs)

The aims of EWGS are to:

- sustain and increase the public benefits given by existing woodlands, and
- help create new woodlands to deliver additional public benefit.

For more information contact the Forestry Commission in your area:

- Oxfordshire ..... 01296 696543
- Wiltshire ..... 01672 511767
- Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire, Bath and North East Somerset ..... 01594 810983
- Warwickshire and Worcestershire ..... 01905 532200  
Website: [www.forestry.gov.uk](http://www.forestry.gov.uk)

## England Rural Development Programme (ERDP)

This is a seven year programme (2007-2013) which is worth £3.9 billion overall and is jointly funded by the EU and national government. Part of the Common Agricultural Policy, it aims to support and promote the sustainable farming, forestry and food sectors, and also bring wider benefits for the economy, the environment and rural communities.

The new EU Regulations divide the aims of the programme into three main areas, called Axes:

**ERDP Axis 1 – improving the competitiveness of the farming and forestry sector.**

For further information on Axis 1 contact your local RDA:

- South East of England Development Agency (SEEDA) ..... 01483 484200
- South West of England Regional Development Agency (SWRDA) ..... 0845 6009966
- West Midlands Regional Development Agency ..... 0121 3803500

**ERDP Axis 2 – improving the environment and countryside (80% of the total budget – mostly to be invested in national schemes such as Environmental Stewardship and The England Woodland Grants Scheme).**

For Axis 2 contact:

- Natural England Entry Level Stewardship ..... 0845 602 4098
- Organic Entry Level Stewardship ..... 0845 602 4093
- Higher Level Stewardship ..... 0845 602 4098

(Farmland Birds Project as part of HLS – contact Neil Harris on 01905 363455)

**ERDP Axis 3 – improving the quality of life in rural areas and promoting diversification of the rural economy – including Local Action for Rural Communities.**

For Axis 3 contact your local RDA (see above) or see website:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/rdpe/pdf/guidh.pdf>

## Rural Enterprise Gateway (REG)

The REG in the South West offers a package of support to farming and other rural businesses, as well as providing information and advice.

Contact Graham Thompson on 01285 889873  
[Graham.Thompson@rac.ac.uk](mailto:Graham.Thompson@rac.ac.uk)








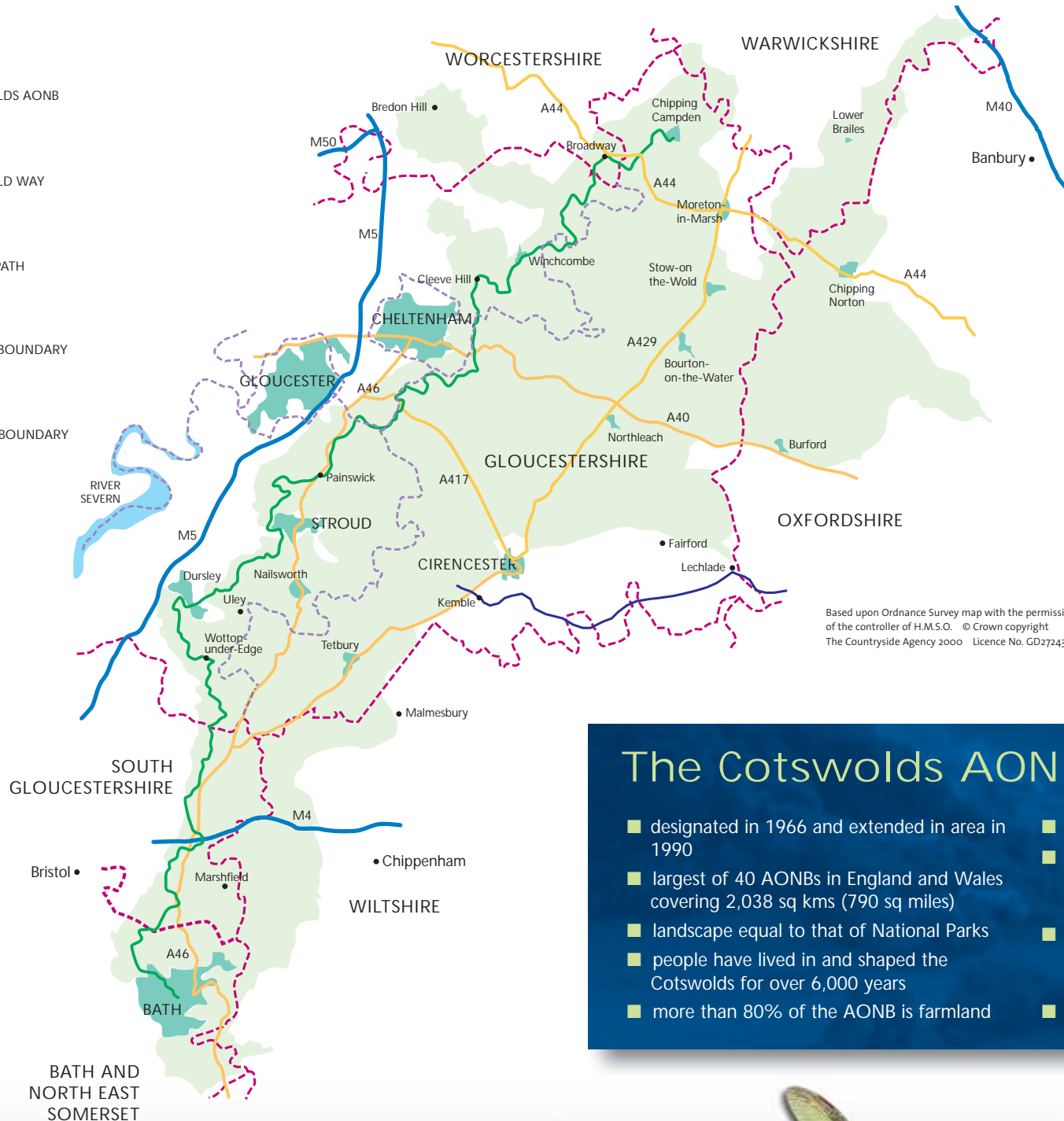
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# The Cotswolds AONB

www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

-  COTSWOLDS AONB
-  COTSWOLD WAY
-  THAMES PATH
-  COUNTY BOUNDARY
-  DISTRICT BOUNDARY



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**The Cotswolds Conservation Board looks after the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.**

**The Board works:**

- to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the AONB;
- to increase the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the AONB.

**Cotswold LION**

This newspaper is named after the traditional breed of Cotswold sheep, known as the Cotswold Lion thanks to its long lion-like mane.

## The Cotswolds AONB FACTFILE

- designated in 1966 and extended in area in 1990
- largest of 40 AONBs in England and Wales covering 2,038 sq kms (790 sq miles)
- landscape equal to that of National Parks
- people have lived in and shaped the Cotswolds for over 6,000 years
- more than 80% of the AONB is farmland
- almost 9% of the AONB is woodland
- over half of the UK's total Jurassic, unimproved, limestone grassland is found in the Cotswolds
- there is a network of over 6,000 kms (approximately 4,000 miles) of drystone walls
- tourism is the number one industry.

## What do you think?

The Cotswolds Conservation Board would like to find out what readers would like to see in future editions of *The Cotswold Lion*. Let us know what you would like to be kept informed about. It could be anything within the Cotswolds AONB, from wildlife news and updates on green farming to information about things to do and places to go. Whatever it is, this is your chance to let the editor know what you would like to see in the paper. You can email [info@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk](mailto:info@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk) or fill in the form below and post it to The Cotswolds Conservation Board, Fosse Way, Northleach, Gloucestershire, GL54 3JH.

Comments .....

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Name .....

Address .....

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Telephone .....

email .....

The Cotswolds Conservation Board would like to contact you about some of its work to undertake research. Please tick here if you DO want us to stay in touch by email  by post  or by phone

