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COTSWOLD LION

THE MAGAZINE OF
THE COTSWOLDS AREA OF
OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY



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Area of Outstanding
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JULY - DECEMBER 2017
ISSUE 37

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The Cotswold Lion is published by:
Cotswolds Conservation Board.

Established in 2004, the Board is the only organisation to look after the Cotswolds AONB. The two key purposes of the Board are to:

- conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the Cotswolds AONB
- increase understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the AONB, ensuring that these complement the conservation and enhancement of the area

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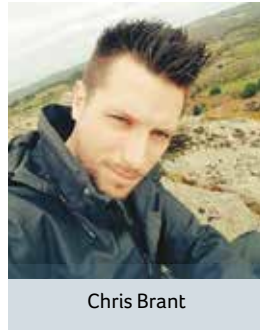


and help support the Cotswolds Conservation Board in Caring for the Cotswolds

WELCOME TO THE COTSWOLD LION



Discovering England's walking & exploring capital



Chris Brant

Welcome to the July – December 2017 edition of the Cotswold Lion, your 'go to' walking and exploring magazine for the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

Regular readers will notice that we have slightly altered the publication dates of

the magazine. This issue covers summer through to Christmas and the next issue will take you through from the New Year to late spring.

In this issue, outdoor journalist Damian Hall marks the 10-year anniversary of the Cotswold Way having National Trail status. You can enjoy the trail for yourself in a self-guided stroll in what he describes as an open-air museum of history and heritage (page 4). Siân Ellis explores the "map that changed the world" – the single-handed work of a humble son of a Cotswold blacksmith (page 10).

New to the Cotswold Lion Karen Dickenson takes a tour of 'outstandingly nice beverages' from the picturesque villages of Midford, near Bath to Stourton in Warwickshire.

Our events and walking section will keep you up to speed with what's on and our guide to camping sites will give you the chance to set up camp to explore somewhere new!

I hope you enjoy reading the magazine and find something new to discover and explore – and if you do, get in touch with us via social media and tell us about your experience – just search for 'Cotswolds AONB'.

Chris

Chris Brant, Editor

Win an Annual Pass to Blenheim Palace for you and a friend!

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Deadline 31 December 2017.**



Contents

An Anniversary Walk of the Cotswold Way

Page 4

Caring for the Cotswolds

Page 6

It's in Tents

Page 8

Down on Scrubditch Care Farm

Page 9

Solid as a Rock

Page 10

Area of Outstandingly Nice Beverages

Page 12

Well Ticked off

Page 14

Forest School Fun

Page 15

The Cotswolds Walking & Exploring Events Guide

Page 16

Bulletin: Top Stories from the Cotswolds Conservation Board

Page 18

Cotswolds Guided Walks

Page 19

Photo Competition

Page 30



An Anniversary Walk of the Cotswold Way

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the Cotswold Way having National Trail status. To celebrate, enjoy this self-guided stroll in the open-air museum of history and heritage. Enjoy huge views and some intriguing archaeology from Haresfield Beacon, near Stroud.

A magnificent Cotswold Way circular stroll, including possibly the best viewpoint of the entire National Trail, from Haresfield Beacon. Elsewhere there are rewarding views of Painswick and its plump surrounding hills. Half the walk follows the Cotswold Way, making navigation easier, though there are some small hills to contend with. This is a route that ancient-woodland wanderers should love.



Bluebells in Standish Wood

From the Shortwood car park, fight the urge to go straight out onto Haresfield Beacon – you haven't earned that glorious view quite yet – and instead, go southeast through a gate to the left as

you drove in, by a Cotswold Way way marker.

In ancient Standish Wood, recorded in a 1297 document, choose the middle of three paths and go downhill along a clear track. Ignore side paths for around 1km, until the path switches back left and uphill.

Follow the steep gully uphill and cross several paths, teaming up briefly with the Cotswold Way (it's confusing here but if you do go wrong aim to exit the woods near Haresfield and Stoneridge Farms) before leaving it to the right, emerging from the trees and turning right to meet a lane.

Turn left onto the lane briefly and continue that way as it joins a road. Ignore the first signpost and cross the road with care to enter a field just after farm buildings.

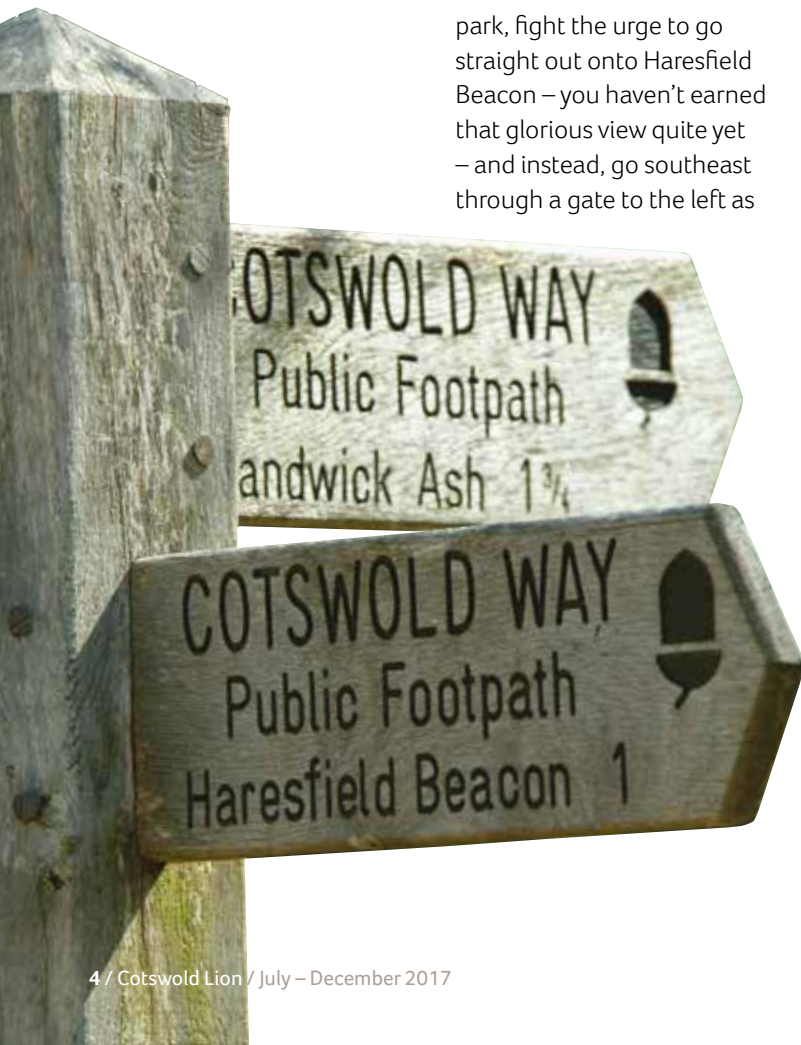
Go across the field, angling left slightly and aiming for a white post and stile. Cross the road and go into the woods and turn right on a path.

Go through a stile on the right and cross the same road (look out for the sharp bend). Go through a gate and after trees loosely follow the wall on the right side, down Scottsuar Hill. Some classic Cotswold views open up here, of Painswick and plump hills, while silver birch and their magenta branches nearer by complete a pretty picture.

The path curves left as it goes downhill. Then turn left onto a broad track. After a signpost on the right go left and uphill to join the Cotswold Way (CW) – which you're following for the rest



You won't be able to beat these views





Download free circular self-guided walks for trails and paths across the Cotswolds at www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk

A winters walk along the Cotswold Way and the many connecting trails across the AONB

of the walk.

Cross a broad track and continue uphill to cross a road and go down into the woods. Ignore a path to the left and go straight downhill. At the bottom of the hill turn left onto a track. At a road turn right and follow it.

Look for an old, green CW signpost on the left near buildings and go uphill past a stone well (dating from 1870, with a witty poem inside). Pass Cromwell's Stone, a memorial commemorating the Siege of Gloucester in 1643, by yew trees.

Turn left onto a road, then a quick right to go through a gate by a barn and a stile. The path climbs steeply onto Haresfield Beacon with expansive views to the right, then chucks you out at the best spot of the walk; on Ring Hill, by a trig post, amid wind-battered hawthorns.

Humps and mounds tell of Iron Age activity (a 10-acre hillfort, excavations found a pot of nearly 3,000 Roman coins) and the floor drops away to reveal big views across the Vale of Severn to the River Severn, the Forest of Dean, the Black Mountains and more. Keep a look out for kestrels and buzzards here too.

When you've finally run in all of the view you can, follow the ridge back left and through a gate then by a signpost take a right, down wooden steps. Turn left at the bottom and continue along the escarpment, through trees and a gate. Then turn right in open land to reach a topograph and more sensational views across the vales.

When you're done with the vista, the Shortwood car park is just behind you.

Cotswold Way

NATIONAL TRAIL



Start/Finish: Shortwood car park (SO 833 086)

Distance: 10km/6 miles

Time: approx three hours

Map: OS Landranger 162 or Explorer 179

Refreshments: The Vine Tree Inn, Randwick; The Edgemoor Inn, Edge (both just off route)

Public transport: buses from Stroud

Parking: at Start/Finish



Nick Turner

CARING FOR THE COTSWOLDS

Being the perfect host creates the perfect visitor. The innovative fundraising scheme that helps to keep the Cotswolds beautiful enters a new phase to attract more tourism businesses to sign up.

The innovative visitor giving scheme 'Caring for the Cotswolds' is looking to entice new members that welcome visitors in and around the Cotswolds AONB.

Since the launch of the visitor giving scheme in 2013, over £16,600 has been raised by 19 local tourism businesses, providing grants towards a wide range of environmental and landscape projects: including woodland coppicing and site interpretation at Kites Hill Nature Reserve; the reconstruction of an historic railway halt near Hailes Abbey on the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway line; a downloadable walking guide and online resources to bring to life the 'Cotswold Story: the Bagendon Landscape'.

The Cotswolds attracts millions of visitors a year and such large numbers inevitably impact on the environment. Caring for the Cotswolds – managed by the Cotswolds Conservation Board, with funded projects delivered by the many organisations that look after the features that make the Cotswolds special – is brilliantly simple: visitors are asked to voluntarily donate a very small amount of money via their bill or fees, and that money helps to conserve the landscape they have come to enjoy.

"Our tourism industry relies on the high-quality environment of the Cotswolds and the members that care in the scheme really understand that," says Liz Eyre, Chairman of the Cotswolds Conservation Board.

Visitors can also feel more part of the landscape, knowing that by booking accommodation, or enjoying meals and



Members of Caring for the Cotswolds, Claire & Jim Alexander at the Ebrington Arms

activities provided by tourism businesses in Caring for the Cotswolds they are contributing towards maintaining the AONB."

Manor Cottages, which provides an online booking service for holiday cottages across the Cotswolds, is a founding member of the scheme and largest single contributor to date. The



Chris Grimes, Manor Cottages

company gives visitors the opportunity to donate £1 when booking their holiday cottage.

Owner Chris Grimes, who is also Chairman of Cotswolds Tourism, says: "We view Caring for the Cotswolds as a vital tool in helping to protect the Cotswolds landscape ... and it is very, very simple [to participate]. Any business that benefits from the brand 'Cotswolds' really ought to be doing their bit to help protect the beauty and appeal of the region. We're passionate about the Cotswolds and therefore feel it our duty to be involved in protecting the region."

The Ebrington Arms near Chipping Campden also gives visitors the opportunity to donate £1 when booking rooms and Go Cotswolds gives visitors on-board its tours the chance to donate.

Find out more

Caring for the Cotswolds

businesses interested in joining the scheme can find out more by visiting www.cotswoldsaoanb.org.uk/caring



Walkers on a Go Cotswolds tour take in the sights of Snowhill

Caring for the Cotswolds Projects



Through its **Cotswolds Rivers Barn Owl Recovery Project**,

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust (GWT) has been working with landowners and farmers along the River Windrush to reverse the decline in numbers of this iconic species. A Caring for the Cotswolds grant of £1,250 “has been invaluable, as it has enabled us to purchase the materials for barn owl boxes and is helping us run training events to train barn owl box monitoring volunteers,” says Richard Spyvee, GWT Living Landscapes Manager.

Barn owl populations declined significantly in the 20th century due to intensification of agriculture, habitat loss and pesticides. There are fewer than 50 confirmed breeding sites in Gloucestershire, but the River Windrush area is a barn owl hotspot thanks to rough grassland habitat where field voles thrive, old barns for nesting and favourable farming practices.

Two of three barn owl boxes inspected in 2015 revealed eggs and young, and results from boxes put up in 2016 are eagerly anticipated this summer. Thanks to landowners’ positive response, the original target of putting up 60 boxes will be well exceeded, Richard says.

A Caring for the Cotswolds grant of £770 towards the restoration of the **Coronation Gate** and replacement of the Walking Map in Ilmington has been “fantastic” says Jan Sherwood, Chairman of Ilmington Parish Council. “It is all about preserving things that people find really special.”

The north Cotswolds village, with its many footpaths, local hills and views, is a magnet for walkers, runners and cyclists, and the Coronation Gate – beautifully hand-carved in oak to mark the Queen’s Coronation in 1953 – gives access to a path leading to the Centenary Way. Well-loved, the special kissing gate nevertheless needed urgent tlc after 60-plus years of frequent use.



IT'S INTENTS

Excellent campsites dot the Cotswolds AONB and here are six of the best, for families who like to explore.



Thistledown, Nympsfield, nr Nailsworth

Bordering Woodchester Park, the new but already very popular, organically managed, hilltop Thistledown offers 28ha of luscious green fields (two are car-free), tumbling woodland and a labyrinthine elderflower orchard. Open fires (wood supplied), a frankly amazing cafe-restaurant-farm shop, a stationary tractor, pig, goat and sheep feeding, and lots of safe green space to run about in mean campsites simply don't get any better than this.

www.thistledown.org.uk



Kate Barry

Campden Yurts, Chipping Campden

Campden Yurts' family-friendly yurts include double or king size beds and futons, a wood-burner, plus coffee and hot-choc-making facilities. Outside, a campfire, bbq and hammocks, designated bathrooms with loos, sinks and showers, plus a fridge and a cob pizza oven cater for most needs. All set in an intimate, green, tranquil and family-friendly setting, near historic and handsome Chipping Campden.

www.campdenyurts.co.uk

Notgrove Holidays, Notgrove, nr Cheltenham

Surrounded by textbook Cotswold countryside and overlooking the village of Notgrove, Notgrove Holidays' glamping 'mega pods' sleep four. Facilities include en-suite shower and toilet, kitchenette, outdoor heating, table and chairs, and wifi. A games room, mini football pitch and feeding donkeys, alpacas and goats should keep children occupied. While the 600ha private estate is crisscrossed with walks for all the family.

www.notgroveholidays.com



Feather Down Glamping, Moor Farm, nr Gloucester

Moor Farm lies at the end of a mile-long, tree-lined drive. A century-old orchard, rare Gloucester cattle and passionate, friendly, farmer hosts help take you back to simpler times. Children can play in the trees by the canvas lodges, fish or boat on the canal, and cycle on trails. A hand in rounding up the Hampshire Down sheep is welcomed. As is a jump into the indoor pool, and deer spotting at dusk.

www.featherdown.co.uk/location/moor-farm/



Far Peak, nr Northleach

Ten hectares of woody parkland hosts shepherds' huts and bell tents, simple grass pitches and electrical hook-ups at Far Peak. There's a cafe, too, and a low ropes course, an outdoor climbing wall, archery, bush craft, plus bike rentals. A pub is within walking distance across fields and Northleach is just a one-mile stroll away. Inviting longer walks and cycle routes abound too.

www.farpeakcamping.co.uk



Wild Camping Night (Friday 18 August), Cotswolds Discovery Centre, Northleach

This family orientated one-off event starts with a courtyard meal, before a bat walk – using bat detectors to identify species. Saturday morning includes breakfast, but only after inspecting the (harmless) moth trap for its fascinating contents. £45 per pitch, includes evening meal and breakfast.

www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk



Down on Scrubditch Care Farm

We all know that exercise in the fresh air boosts physical and mental wellbeing. Scrubditch Care Farm at North Cerney goes a step further, providing therapeutic farm-based training and activities for vulnerable people.

Seldom will you see students come to work with such enthusiasm as Charlotte, David, Flavia, Johnny and Jonathan set about feeding the hens, sheep and pigs. Even mucking out the horse stable is tackled with verve.

“You see students coming to Scrubditch gain confidence and that really important feeling of self-worth; it has transformed a lot of students’ lives,” says Emma Costley-White.

Emma founded the care farm, a registered charity, on a two-acre plot of the family farm at North Cerney in 2010, after she was unable to find a local college for her school-leaver daughter Ella, who has special needs. Students – adults and young people with learning difficulties, challenging behaviour or mental health problems – practise hands-on farming in a structured,

safe environment: improving numeracy and literacy – collecting and counting eggs, writing plant labels – and learning about animal welfare.

“The tasks they undertake are real jobs that need to be done in order to run a

“You see students coming to Scrubditch gain confidence and that really important feeling of self-worth; it has transformed a lot of students’ lives”

smallholding; the results of those tasks are satisfying and are enjoyed by everyone involved,” says care farm manager Gerry Fouracres, who previously worked on a rare breeds farm and also has a brother with learning disabilities. “Teamwork and building friendships are as important as acquiring new skills.”

There is certainly plenty to do looking after the flock of Wiltshire Horn sheep, Oxford Sandy and Black pigs, hens, bantams, ducks and an ex-racehorse called Manny. Supported by care farm employees and volunteers, students grow mixed salads

in a polytunnel (which doubles as a woodworking workshop), vegetables and fruit trees. Produce is sold locally including via a local farm shop and vegetable box scheme in summer.

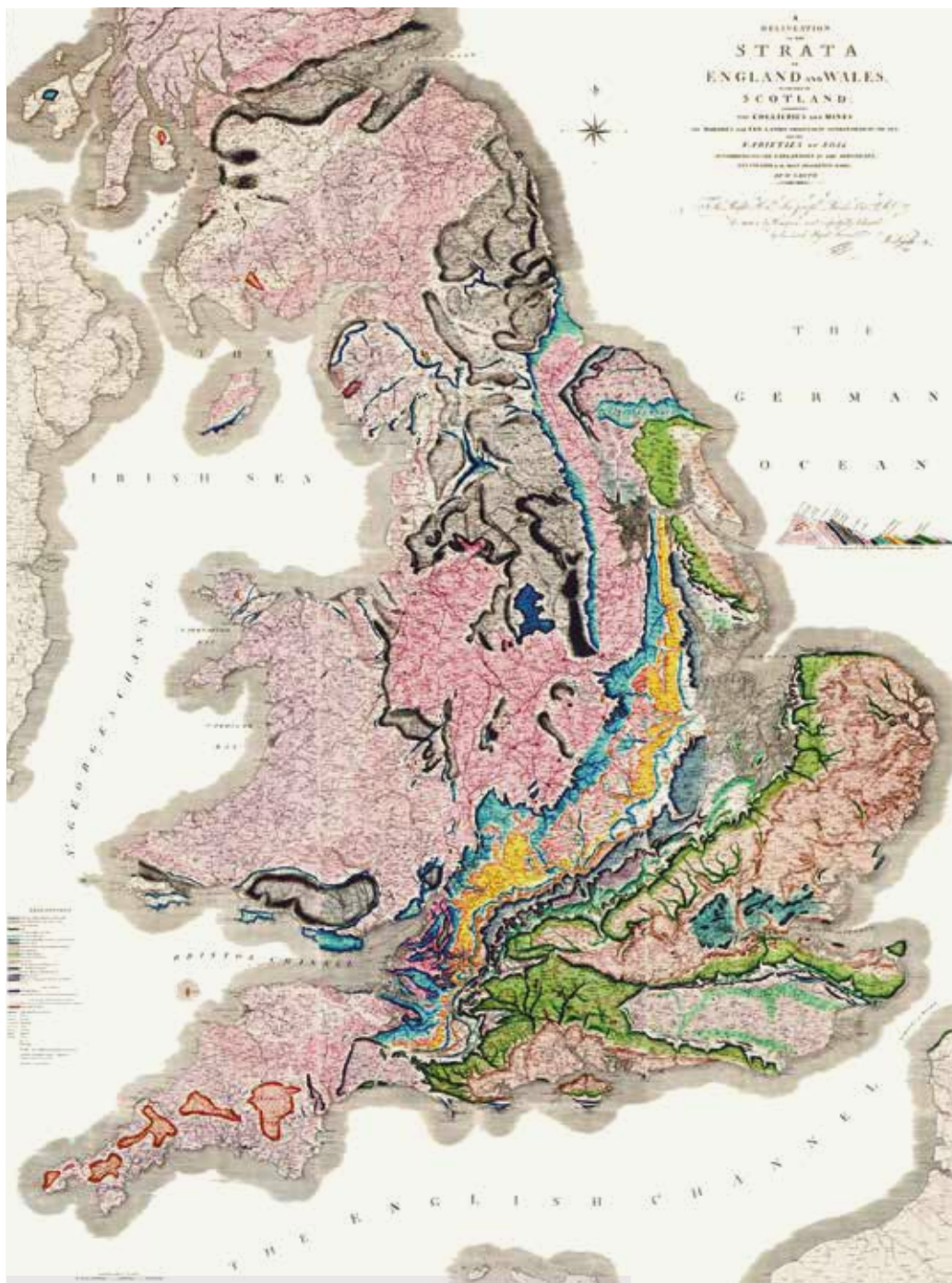
There are 200-plus care farms around the country and ‘green prescriptions’ for fresh-air alternatives to conventional treatments for

health and social problems are on the rise. Nevertheless, funding Scrubditch Care Farm and the students who attend remains a big challenge, Emma says. The farm currently opens three days a week, catering for five to seven students a day (it also runs school holiday activities for children of all abilities). Emma has just launched a £100,000 appeal to extend facilities, including a cookery room and bespoke woodwork room, in order to cater for more students.

After a morning’s work, students tuck into lunch and chat, against a background of farmyard clucks and birdsong. Working at Scrubditch is a highlight of their week.

Further information, www.scrubditchcarefarm.org.uk

Find other care farms in and around the Cotswolds at www.carefarminguk.org



Look and you will see the shape of the Cotswolds AONB

SOLID AS A ROCK

It has been called the “map that changed the world” – a feat made all the more extraordinary because it was the single-handed work of a humble son of a Cotswold blacksmith.

William Smith (1769–1839) travelled thousands of miles over many years to create his *Delineation of the Strata of England and Wales with part of Scotland*, published in 1815. Don't be put off by the prosaic title; his geological

map was truly exciting, a work of art and groundbreaking scientific innovation.

The first large-scale geological map of any country, painstakingly hand-coloured using 20 tints to represent different

rock strata, with shading to represent depth, Smith's masterpiece covered five miles to the inch.

It transformed the way we understand the world beneath our feet and laid a foundation for geological

mapping around the globe.

No one could have predicted that Smith, born in 1769 in Churchill in the Oxfordshire Cotswolds, would grow up to be the Father of English Geology. The eldest son of the village blacksmith, he left school at 11 years of age with just a basic education. Yet he was inquisitive and observant.

“William spent his youth walking the Cotswolds and studying the very stone of which the village is built,” says Janie Hextall of Churchill and Sarsden Heritage Centre. “We are justifiably proud that such a great man and original thinker spent his childhood in Churchill.” Drop into the centre and you will find fascinating insights into Smith's story and there is a village trail taking in places associated with his youth.

Smith's childhood interest in geology was sparked by collecting fossilized ‘pound stones’ (sea urchins) that local milkmaids used to weigh butter and by playing marbles with fossil ‘pundibs’ (brachiopods). At 18, he became an assistant to a



Smith's monument, Churchill



Above and below: Churchill and Sarsden Heritage Centre

surveyor based in Stow-on-the-Wold (there's a commemorative plaque on his former residence on the square), and then embarked on a career as a land surveyor, canal and sea-defence engineer, and mineral prospector.

While working around Bath in the 1790s, including on the construction of the Somerset Coal Canal, Smith spotted how different layers of rock – he coined the term 'strata' – recurred in a predictable order, and that

particular fossils were found in specific layers, giving a key to determining the relative age of strata: his Principle of Faunal Succession. He produced a pioneering table of the strata near Bath (1799) and a colour-coded geological map of the area. After testing his theories countrywide, he produced his magnificent national geological map in 1815.

Sadly, 'Strata Smith' (as he would be nicknamed) suffered plagiarism and fell into debt. But rightful recognition of his achievements eventually came in 1831 when the Geological Society of London awarded him the first-ever Wollaston Medal and hailed him the Father of English Geology – an amazing accolade for the humble son of a Cotswold blacksmith.



Did you know?

William Smith:

- applied many names to rock strata that are still used to this day, including Cornbrash (eg. occurring around Churchill);
- named some 27 fossil species;
- was elected in 1838 to the small committee chosen to select stone for the new Houses of Parliament;
- has a crater on Mars named after him.



William Smith Portrait, Churchill and Sarsden Heritage Centre, reproduced by kind permission of the Geological Society



Rocking around

William Smith

Discover more on the life story and achievements of William Smith at Churchill and Sarsden Heritage Centre, Churchill, www.churchillheritage.org.uk

Rock and Fossil Workshop

Learn all about rocks, fossils and dinosaurs of the Cotswolds with hands-on activities for all the family at this free drop-in workshop, October Half Term. Cotswolds Discovery Centre at the Old Prison, Northleach, www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk

Riches of the Earth

Enjoy the beauty of minerals in this free 'Riches of the Earth' exhibition (until 30 September) at Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution. The Institution also holds fossils and documents relating to William Smith, www.brslsi.org

Cotswold Hills Geopark

The Cotswolds, famous for its Jurassic limestone laid down 140–210 million years ago, boasts such special geology that a circa 60-mile-long swathe of land (between Stroud, Cirencester and Stow-on-the-Wold) has been designated the Cotswold Hills Geopark. Discover sites of interest at www.cotswoldhillsgeopark.net

Ramble millions of years

Explore local geology and landscapes with Gloucestershire Uncovered trail guides, including notable sites of Middle Jurassic Inferior Oolite rocks around Cleeve Hill and Leckhampton Hill, and impressive Pea Grit along the cliffs of Crickley Hill, www.glosgeotrust.org.uk. Also look out for walks with stone-based themes led by Cotswold Voluntary Wardens, www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk

Dig deeper

Quarrying has revealed otherwise hidden rock strata, for example at Daglingworth Quarry, worked by Hanson Aggregates. An interpretation board (bridleway along the northern side of the quarry) highlights formations and fossils. Leaflets are also available from www.glosgeotrust.org.uk

Foundations of the landscape

Travel through geological time in displays at Museum in the Park, Stroud, and view fascinating local finds including fossilized Jurassic sea animals, www.museuminthepark.org.uk



TAKE A TOUR OF THE COTSWOLDS AONB (AREA OF OUTSTANDINGLY NICE BEVERAGES)

The Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is home to Slad, a charming little village perched on the edge of rolling hills that was the birthplace of Laurie Lee, author of the world famous and much loved book *Cider With Rosie*. Cider might have been the memorable offer during the long, hot summers when Lee was a boy, but today the Cotswolds boast an impressive diversity of delicious liquid refreshment, from American-style lagers to locally distilled single malt whisky. Take a tour of some of the most beautiful Cotswold towns and villages and discover an incredible selection of thirst-quenching beverages.

Honey's Cider

Midford

Cider is still being produced in the Cotswolds and some of it by traditional methods very similar to the ones used in the days when Laurie Lee was stealing kisses after the harvest. Honey's Cider is made on a family farm in the picturesque village of Midford, near Bath, and each vintage is subtly different depending on the weather conditions that their beloved cider apples have experienced. Honey's Cider can be found in many pubs and restaurants in Bath and the surrounding areas.

www.honeyanddaughter.co.uk



Look out for this logo

only products that keep the Cotswolds AONB beautiful can use it.



Cotswolds Distillery

Stourton

The Cotswolds Distillery was established in 2014 and it has gone from strength to strength in just three years, making the most of the plentiful barley that is grown throughout the Cotswolds. Whether you fancy the mellow botanical tones of gin, an award-winning single malt or even an herbaceous and zesty absinthe, you'll find something to tempt you in the on-site shop, which is open seven days a week. Or you can take a tour of the distillery and enjoy a tasting of their finest spirits.

www.cotswoldsdistillery.com





Benson's Apple Juice

Sherborne

Located in the middle of the stunning Cotswold countryside near Northleach, Benson's is a family business that produces a wide range of hand-pressed juices from their farm using only natural ingredients. If you fancy something a little colder, they also produce Chilly Billy ice lollies made with deliciously juicy seasonal fruits.

www.bensonsthejuicers.com



Cotswold Brew Co

Bourton-on-the-Water

When it comes to brewing, the UK is usually associated with ales and bitters, but the Cotswold Brew Co is more interested in producing beers and lagers of the type you'd normally find in Germany, Belgium or America. Whether you prefer a cold and crisp Premium Lager, a light and fruity Wheat Beer or a strong 'grown up' Dark Lager, this small and friendly brewery has something to wet every whistle. The Cotswold Brew Co run regular brewery tours, when you can learn more about, and, more importantly, sample, their large range of beers.

www.cotswoldbrewco.uk



Jess's Ladies Organic Milk

Hardwicke

If you like to shop local and know exactly where your food has come from, you will love Jess and her Ladies (or cows, as some people call them). Nestled at the base of the Severn Valley, Hardwicke Farm is home to some very happy Ladies, who graze on lush organic pasture and produce the creamiest and most luxurious milk you could ever hope to taste. There are stockists all over the Cotswolds, but you might catch Jess herself on her stall at Stroud Farmers' Market on a Saturday morning.

www.theladiesorganicmilk.co.uk



Stroud Brewery

Stroud

Stroud has a reputation for having a bit of an alternative vibe and Stroud Brewery has tapped right into that with its extensive range of organic and vegan beers, all made with barley grown on the Cotswold Hills that surround the town. These ales are local right down to the idiosyncratic names that celebrate the town's history and folklore; look out for the perennially popular Budding, named after a local engineer who invented the lawnmower, and The Last Duel, named for the legend that Stroud was supposedly the venue for the last pistol duel in the UK. Stroud Brewery ales are served all over the Cotswolds, but the best place to sample them is in the cosy bar attached to the brewery in Stroud, where you'll find live music and freshly made sourdough pizzas.

www.stroudbrewery.co.uk

WELL TICKED OFF



How Cotswold Voluntary Wardens are leading the fight against Lyme disease.

Even before a national campaign to raise awareness for ticks and Lyme disease launched in May, the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens (CVW) were working with Public Health England (PHE) to identify possible Lyme disease sites in the Cotswolds AONB.

Caudwell LymeCo and Lyme Disease UK claim as many as 2,000-3,000 people contract Lyme disease each year – 5-8 per day – from infected ticks. PHE is conducting surveys in protected landscapes, including in the Cotswolds, where they're being helped by the CVW.

"Ticks are being collected from across the Cotswolds, from Oxfordshire to Bath," said Cotswolds Conservation Board Land Management Officer Mark Connelly. "Areas where deer and/or sheep are present are being targeted, as these have a higher incidence of ticks. On warm and dry days, we drag a large white cloth across long grass to collect them. Any ticks we find are then sent to PHE for analysis."

The aim is to map protected areas for Lyme disease, so places where the public need to be extra vigilant can be



Wardens identify possible sites

flagged up. There are no incidences of Lyme disease officially recorded in the Cotswolds AONB yet. But cases have been reported at Bath's Royal United Hospital.

Aside from the survey work, Cheltenham MP Alex Chalk has been elected vice chair of a new All Party Parliamentary Group focused on the disease. "Lyme disease is one of the

fastest growing diseases in the western world," said Mr Chalk. "[It's] a complex infection, and there are real challenges in diagnosis and treatment."

Early symptoms include tiredness, muscle aches and other flu-like signs, while a circular or target-shaped rash can appear (though not always). If left untreated, the disease can cause serious, permanent health issues.

Ticks are common in woodland and heath areas, but also gardens and parks, and can be found in deep or overgrown vegetation where animals are nearby. It's advised to avoid long grass, wear trousers and use insect repellent.



Rash is often described as looking like a bull's-eye on a dart board



Ticks can be found in any areas with deep or overgrown vegetation

We are advised to inspect ourselves, children and pets after time outdoors and remove ticks at the earliest opportunity. Gently grip a tick as close to the skin as possible, ideally with tweezers or a tick removal tool (available from pet shops or vets) and pull steadily away without twisting or crushing it. Wash hands and skin with soap immediately afterwards. See a GP if you have any concerns.

The NHS gives good information about how to deal with ticks and lists Lyme disease symptoms: www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Lyme-disease

Forest School Fun



It's pouring with rain! And 15 exuberant children aged 4 to 7 from Rodmarton Primary School are having fun, exploring, digging, hunting and chattering in the nearby wood.

Hector is building a den from branches – “It has four compartments,” he proudly declares. Lizzie is making supper – “Do you want cheese on your pasta?” she asks, trowel poised to add more mud to her dish. Elsewhere, beaming faces peep from secret spaces in the Troll House, a magical maze of gnarled trunks and boughs created by fallen trees. Eyes scan the woodland floor for bugs to scoop up and inspect.

One afternoon a week, Reception/Year 1 pupils at Rodmarton Primary swap their indoor classroom for outdoor learning in Forest School. The Forest School concept originated in Scandinavia and arrived in Britain in 1995, headteacher Caroline Musty explains. “Children lead their own learning, through exploration and experimentation. In the wood there is enough space for them to lose themselves a bit but still be in sight and sound of adults, who are there to support them.”

Harnessing all the senses, Forest School, included in Rodmarton's

curriculum since 2010, gives pupils rich opportunities to develop their speech, language and social skills as well as problem-solving and teamwork. Hands-on activities enhance classroom learning, for instance comparing different-sized trees to help develop maths skills.

Using tools, constructing shelters, mud painting, collecting wood and investigating wildlife in the fresh air are great for physical and mental wellbeing too, and build respect for the natural environment. “Confidence develops as children learn to measure risk and take

risks, for example climbing trees,” Mrs Musty adds.

Covered head to toe in all-weather suits and wellies (only high winds or snow cancel Forest School), the children are fully absorbed in their fun. Hector is directing operations to place pieces of wood in the den wall. Harry is making chocolate pudding (using multi-purpose mud) to follow Lizzie's pasta. Willough and Ruth enthuse about looking for animals – rabbits, “a pheasant flying low” – and are soon joined in a rendition of favourite animal noises, from dogs to horses.

Rain, flowers, making things, helping each other: these and much more are what the children love at Forest School.

“One, two, three, base camp!” the chant goes up to gather everyone together for hot chocolate and to review what they have done today, before winding back across the field to go home. They will all sleep well tonight.

Find out more about Forest School at Rodmarton Primary School by visiting www.rodmartonschool.co.uk



WALKING & EXPLORING EVENT GUIDE

Your events guide to enjoying the great outdoors across the Cotswolds.

JULY

National Meadows Day 1

Saturday 1 July, 11am – 3pm
Museum in the Park, Stratford Park, Stroud, Gloucestershire GL5 4AF
 Celebrate National Meadows Day at the launch of Deborah Roberts' grasslands photography exhibition with activities run by the Cotswolds Conservation Board's Magnificent Meadows team, including bug hunts and quizzes to test your observational skills. Suitable for both adults and children.

Contact Eleanor Reast on 01451 862036

Stow Cotswold Festival 2

Saturday 15 July, 11am – 11pm
Stow Square, Stow-on-the-Wold, GL54 1AB
 A wonderful display and celebration of Cotswold life, crafts and heritage showcasing local crafts, produce and skills will occupy the whole of Stow Town Square. Craft market stalls and demonstrations. Live music and entertainment, street performers, town crier and more throughout the day and 'til late. A great family fun day out. Free entry.
www.stowcotswoldfestival.com



AUGUST

BBC Countryfile Live 3

Thursday 3 – Sunday 6 August
Blenheim Palace, Oxfordshire
 Returning for a second year, set in 100 acres of Blenheim Palace's beautiful parkland, Countryfile Live brings together the best of the British countryside for you to enjoy over four glorious days. Readers of the Cotswold Lion magazine can receive a discount on tickets, see our special offer below for details.
www.countryfilelive.com



Nick Turner

The Really Wild 4 Cotswolds Camp Out!

Friday 18 August, from 4:30pm
Cotswolds Discovery Centre at the Old Prison, Fosse Way, Northleach, Gloucestershire GL54 3JL
 Join the team at the Cotswolds Discovery Centre for a really wild camp out! An entertaining evening of wildlife adventures and trails, food and fun!
Booking essential. £45 for a pitch.
www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk/discoverycentre

Alice in Wonderland – 5 Outdoor Theatre

Friday 25 August, 2:30pm
Cotswolds Discovery Centre at the Old Prison, Fosse Way, Northleach, Gloucestershire GL54 3JL
 Alice makes a trip to the Cotswolds this summer to visit the historic prison courtyard of the Cotswolds Discovery Centre in this new family outdoor theatre production!
 Tickets booked in advance through the Everyman Theatre website.
www.everymantheatre.org.uk



Three Men in a Boat – 6 Outdoor Theatre

Friday 25 August, 6:30pm
Cotswolds Discovery Centre at the Old Prison, Fosse Way, Northleach, Gloucestershire GL54 3JL
 New for this year, an evening performance of *Three Men in a Boat*. Tickets booked in advance through the Everyman Theatre website
www.everymantheatre.org.uk

Drawing the Cotswolds 8 Landscape

Friday 15 September, 10am – 4pm
Cotswolds Discovery Centre at the Old Prison, Fosse Way, Northleach, Gloucestershire GL54 3JL
 Carole Bury will present a one day drawing course suitable for beginners and more confident students who would like to explore charcoals and pencils, with a Cotswold Landscape theme. Booking essential. £45 per person including refreshments.
www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk/discoverycentre

SEPTEMBER

Bradford on Avon 7 Walking Festival

Friday 1 – Sunday 3 September
Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire
 Set in the beautiful Bristol Avon Valley and on the edge of the Cotswolds AONB, the historic town of Bradford on Avon is the perfect place to explore during the festival weekend with between 10 and 12 designated walks for all to enjoy!
www.walkbradfordonavon.org



Bathscape Walking 9 Festival

Saturday 16 – Sunday 24 September
 The Bathscape area is a unique, inspiring landscape encompassing the City of Bath World Heritage Site and its setting. The walking festival links to the Somer Valley Walking Festival (16/17 Sept) and will end with Julian House's 'Circuit of Bath Walk' on 24 September. It is intended that this pilot walking festival will become an annual event enabling all to discover, enjoy and celebrate the area's heritage.
www.bathscape.co.uk



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OCTOBER

Dursley Walking Festival 10

Thursday 5 – Sunday 8 October

Dursley, Gloucestershire

Varied programme of 20-plus short and longer walks including special interest walks e.g. photography and local history. Social events where non-walkers are welcome e.g. a quiz, a local historical talk and a tea and cakes afternoon.

Full programme available at www.dursleywelcomeswalkers.org.uk



Rock & Fossil Roadshow 12

Tuesday 24 October, 10am – 3pm

Cotswolds Discovery Centre at the Old Prison, Fosse Way, Northleach, Gloucestershire GL54 3JL

A free special half-term family session of rock and fossil handling, making fossils, quizzes and other craft activities led by the Gloucestershire Geology Trust. Bring along your own rocks and fossils for our experts to identify! Free entry.

www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk/discoverycentre

Banbury Folk Festival 11

Friday 6 – Sunday 8 October

Banbury, Oxfordshire

Banbury Folk Festival started in 2000 as a one day event but has grown into a full weekend attracting major artists and folk enthusiasts from all over the country. Banbury, nestled on the eastern edge of the beautiful Cotswolds, is a great place to visit during the festival with its charming medieval shopping streets and alleyways.

For tickets and information visit www.banburyfolkfestival.co.uk



NOVEMBER

War Horse in the Cotswolds 13

War Horse is coming to the New Theatre Oxford and the horse will be paying a visit to the Cotswolds Discovery Centre in Northleach in November. Check website for dates, times and details.

www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk/discoverycentre



Steve Green Photography

Spectacle of Light 14

Friday 24 November – Saturday 30 December, 5pm onwards

Sudeley Castle, Winchcombe, Gloucestershire

The Spectacle of Light is returning to Sudeley Castle this winter for another exciting experience. Explore the new illuminated trail around the castle's beautiful grounds, marvelling at the majestic trees and romantic ruins all lit under the stars. Enjoy the wonderful music as you discover each new secret of this enchanting environment.

www.spectacleoflight.co.uk

DECEMBER

The Great Brook Run 15

Wednesday 27 December

Chadlington, Oxfordshire

The Great Brook Run is an annual charity cross-country race which takes place half on land, half in water, from the picturesque Cotswold village of Chadlington. The course wends its way through muddy fields and then back to Chadlington through the icy waters of The Great Brook.

www.greatbrookrun.co.uk



© The Great Brook Run

COTSWOLD HARE TRAIL

March 25 to September 10

Follow the Trail across over 20 towns & villages to find the 80 giant decorated hares and upload your photos on our social media pages!

Fun, Free and Family friendly!
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www.cirencestermarchharefestival.org.uk



Explore the Cotswolds by Public Transport

Pick up or view online your 2017 guide to exploring the Cotswolds car free! Explore the Cotswolds by Public Transport Guide is an invaluable information resource to travelling in and around the Cotswolds by bus, bike and train.



Available from Visitor Information Centres across the Cotswolds and online at www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk



Review of the Cotswolds AONB Management Plan

Work has started on reviewing the current Cotswolds AONB Management Plan. AONBs have a statutory duty to produce a plan under the CRoW Act 2000. The review of the Cotswolds AONB Management Plan covers the period 2018-2023. Management Plans are used to be the single articulation of the public agenda for the protected landscape, integrating national and local policies.

Keep up to date with the review by visiting www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Cotswold Way now on Google Street View

Thanks to the team at the Cotswolds Conservation Board, you can now view all 102 miles of the Cotswold Way National Trail on Google maps in 'Street View' mode.



A magnificent achievement for our Wildflower Meadows

Over the last three years Save our Magnificent Meadows in the Cotswolds has been increasing the area of species-rich grassland through advice and guidance as well as using various practical techniques such as brush harvesting and green hay. Although early days, botanical surveys have shown that seeding of meadows using brush-harvested seed has proved successful with a number of species appearing in the first two years.

Eight workshops for landowners on grassland restoration and management have been incredibly popular. Landowner Champions have hosted some of these workshops in their meadows which has enabled them to share their experiences and best practice. As a result of one of the workshops local landowners immediately formed a meadow support group for three adjoining parishes. Community Champions have been celebrating wildflower meadows in their

area through guided walks, talks and photography exhibitions. Twenty-five training courses have taken place for volunteers, ranging from wildflower ID and survey methodology to scything and bee identification.

A core group of these trained volunteers will be surveying reseeded sites this summer and beyond the life of the project.



Saving our wildflowers

Our dedicated team of volunteers

We continue to be overwhelmed by the number of enthusiastic, dedicated and passionate people who volunteer with us at the Cotswolds Conservation Board. Throughout this year our Voluntary Wardens gave more than 48,338 hours of their time. This was spent helping with practical tasks, guided walks, events and education, all with a focus on achieving our AONB Management Plan outcomes.

Over 280 wardens regularly carry out a wide range of activities, which in 2016/17 was estimated to be worth £322,000.

This allows us to achieve so much more, with benefits not only for the AONB but for the wardens' physical, mental health and wellbeing.

This year the wardens have set up a new Facebook group to promote and share photos of guided walks and practical tasks carried out.

www.facebook.com/groups/cotswoldwardens

For more news from the Cotswolds Conservation Board visit www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Cotswolds Guided Walks

July – December 2017

Discover the beautiful Cotswolds AONB with our free walks guide. Just turn up, no need to book!

Walking in the fresh air is a great way for you, your family and friends to explore the outstanding scenery of the Cotswolds – England’s walking and exploring capital.

Walks in this guide are led by the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens and various Ramblers groups in and around the Cotswolds AONB (Ramblers walks are indicated with the logo right).

We recommend you always wear appropriate footwear as some walks may be muddy in places. Sorry, but only assistance dogs are allowed on the walks.

Walk leaders will take all reasonable care and precautions but each walker is ultimately responsible for their own safety, and for determining their capability to complete the chosen walk. Unless otherwise stated, all walks are free of charge however donations to the Countryside Fund are very welcome on Cotswold Voluntary Warden walks.

Discover more on Facebook! 

Share your photos when out on a guided walk and find other walks by following www.facebook.com/groups/cotswoldwardens

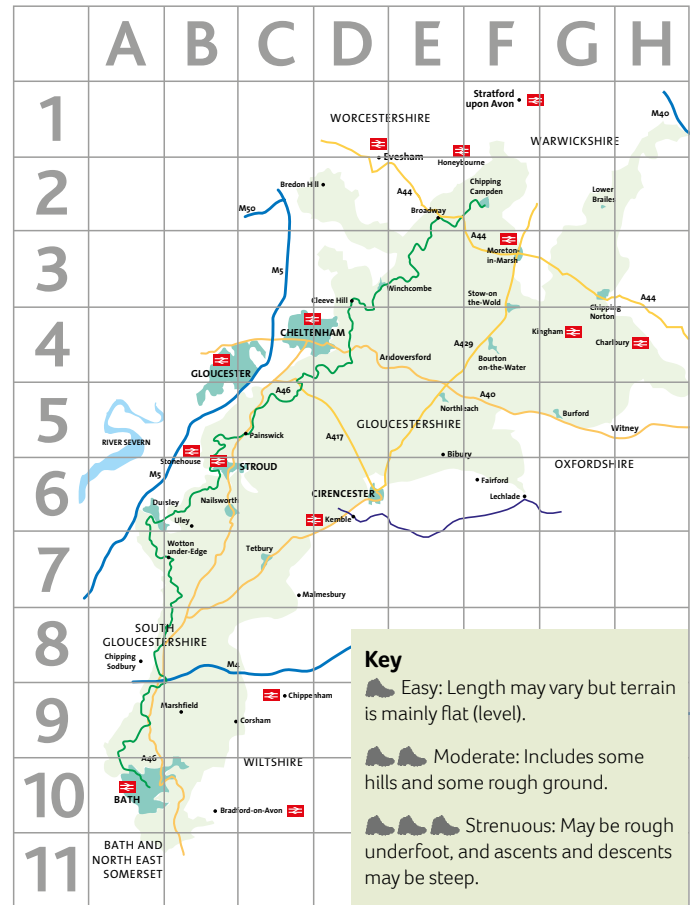
Want to find out more about the walks?

Cotswold Voluntary Wardens

www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk

Ramblers

www.ramblers.co.uk



Walk the Cotswold Way

Join a group led by the Voluntary Wardens walking 10 miles each month commencing May every year. To travel by coach from Winchcombe and walk from S to N, contact Linda on 01242 604155 or lblackwell58@icloud.com. Alternatively to travel by coach from near Bath and walk from N to S, contact John on 0117 9374561 or woodlandsbarn@btinternet.com

Tailor-Made Walks in the Cotswolds

As well as the guided walks programme, the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens will consider requests from groups for tailor-made walks within the Cotswolds AONB, subject to the availability of walk leaders. For further walks information, or to make an enquiry visit www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk/walking



Visiting the Countryside

Chalara dieback of ash trees has now been confirmed in the Cotswolds. It is one of a growing number of potentially damaging diseases affecting our landscape. So, when visiting the countryside, please help to reduce the spread of these diseases by ensuring that no plant material is removed and that all footwear and outdoor equipment are cleaned.

Walk the Cross Cotswolds Pathway

2018 is the year the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens celebrates its 50th Anniversary. One of the ways of marking this is to offer a new long distance walk – the Cross Cotswold Pathway. This 86 mile trail from Banbury to Bath passes through little known villages tucked away in quiet countryside and is less strenuous than the Cotswold Way but is not without its challenges.

The walk will be broken into nine roughly 10 mile sections, scheduled on the second Thursday of the month start in March 2018. Travel by coach from Bourton on the Water to each start point contact Rosemary Wilson on 01993 831810 or ros.wilson@hotmail.co.uk


Walk The Diamond Way

Join a group led by the Voluntary Wardens walking 8/10 miles of the North Cotswolds Diamond Way on the fourth Wednesday of every month from April to September. For further information and to reserve places contact Linda on 01242 604155 lblackwell58@icloud.com

July

Saturday 1 July 10am

National Meadows Day – a Hidden Gem


 3 hours • 4 miles

The very special environment of Clump Farm, on Broadway Hill SSSI, is owned by the National Trust and not normally open to the public. We have special permission from the Trust to take you through its magnificent floral meadows for National Meadows Day. Start: Fish Hill car park, Broadway. SP 120 369. Map square: E2.

Leaders: Jean Booth & Simon Mallatratt

Saturday 1 July 10am

National Meadows Day – Ladies Bedstraw and Rock Rose

 3 hours • 4 miles


A bridleway path down to the Broadmead Brook, which is followed to a clapper bridge. Then a circular route back via Nettleton Shrub, Home woods and West Kington Church and bridge. There should be plenty of wild flowers. A number of pubs nearby for lunch afterwards.

Start: Mount Zion Baptist Chapel, West Kington. ST 808 772. Map square: B9.

Leaders: Pauline & Richard Wilson

Saturday 1 July 10am

Nothing to Equal This

 3.5 hours • 6.5 miles


A pleasant stroll on public Rights of Way through the grounds of Blenheim Park with fine views of the house and lake. The landscaping around the house was carried out by Capability Brown in 1764. Lunch available at the Duke of Marlborough Hotel at the end of the walk.

Start: Duke of Marlborough Hotel, OX20 1HT. SP 429 190. Map square: H5.

Leaders: Tony Merry & Harriet Baldwin

Sunday 2 July 10am

Tale of Three Ponds

 5.5 hours • 9 miles


A circular walk through Alderton and Luckington. A rare opportunity to visit two recently restored medieval fish ponds. Pub stop for drink only. Please bring a packed lunch.

Start: Sherston high street. ST 853 858. Map square: B8.

Leaders: David Harrowin & Mick Thorpe

Monday 3 July 10am

A Windrush Wander

 4 hours • 7.5 miles


This circular walk takes in the beautiful Cotswold villages of Great Rissington and Windrush, mostly on footpaths around the Windrush valley.

Start: Northfield Barn NT car park (1km north of Sherborne on Clapton Road). SP 175 154. Map square: F5.

Leaders: David Russell & Alan Thomas

Tuesday 4 July 10am

A Remote and Beautiful Valley

 2.5 hours • 5 miles


A circular walk passing through some of the North Cotswolds' most remote and beautiful countryside. The walk first runs through woods above Hinchwick Valley, descends briefly into an adjoining valley and then returns along the bottom of the dry Hinchwick valley itself.

Start: Hinchwick Hamlet, please park tidily on the grass. SP 145 301. Map square: F3.

Leaders: Peter Mansion & Paul Adams

Tuesday 4 July 10am

Tuesday Tramp

 3 hours • 5 miles

A walk around the various footpaths of Colerne Parish. Lunch available at the Fox and Hounds. Bring a mid morning munchie. Parking at the pub or adjacent Constitutional Club. Not suitable for Pushchairs.

Start: Fox & Hounds, Colerne. ST 818 711. Map square: B9.

Leaders: Russell Harding, Sid Gould & Robert Herbert

Wednesday 5 July 6pm

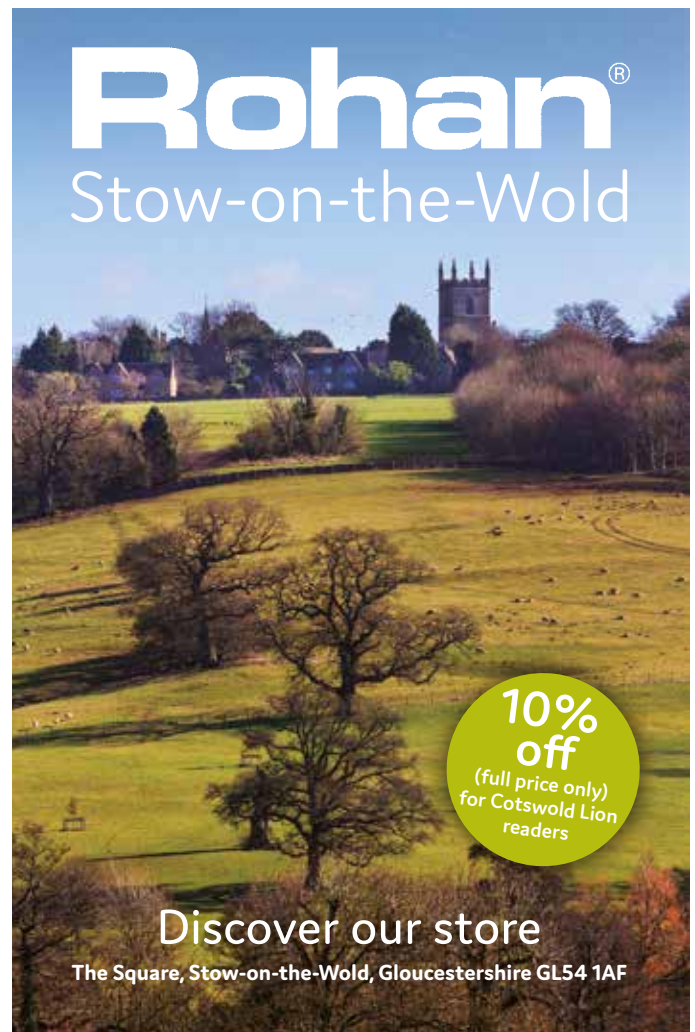
Chipping Norton Town Walk

 2 hours • 2.5 miles

An evening walk, mostly on pavements, exploring this popular Cotswold town, known locally as "Chippy". Walking will be taken at a very leisurely pace to allow time to find out about the interesting buildings and in some cases their inhabitants. Choice of meal opportunities abound in the town afterwards.

Start: New Street car park Chipping Norton OX7 5LJ. SP 312 271. Map square: G3.

Leader: Rosemary Wilson




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Wednesday 5 July 10am

What's the future for the water vole?

 3 hours • 4.5 miles


Explore Coln valley, meeting up with John Field from Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust en route. Look at conservation work carried out along river to improve habitat for wildlife. Pub lunch possible after walk in Quenington or Coln St Aldwyns.

Start: Quenington village green. SP 144 043. Map square: F6.

Leaders: Pippa Burgon, Steve Pascoe, Graham Saunders & John Shaw

Friday 7 July 10am

Around Brimpsfield Parish

 2.5 hours • 5.8 miles


A walk around Brimpsfield Park and the old castle and back via Climperwell Farm. Lunch options in Birdlip and Nettleton Bottom.

Start: Birdlip School. Park along the road by the school. (The old main road now a dead end). SO 932 141. Map square: C5.

Leaders: B Chilvers, T Hester & P Cluley

Friday 7 July 10am

The Introduction of Catholicism to the Woodchester Valley

 3 hours • 6 miles

Starting from Nailsworth this walk is mostly in the Nailsworth Valley passing several landmark buildings constructed under the influence, both religious and financial, of William Leigh in the mid-nineteenth century and includes a higher section above Woodchester Park. Lunch is available in Nailsworth after the walk if required.

Start: Newmarket Road car park in Nailsworth (behind the Britannia Inn in Cossack Square). If no spaces please park considerately on roads nearby. ST 848 996. Map square: C6.

Leaders: Chris Gill & David Harrowin

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Saturday 8 July 10am
From Hill to Hill

6 hours • 11 miles

This circular walk starts at Nottingham Hill and takes in Prescott, Oxenton, Dixon and Stanley Hills. It includes open countryside with good views (weather permitting) and deciduous woods as well as interesting social history. Bring a packed lunch.

Start: Small car park on Nottingham Hill, near Longwood Farm. Do not confuse with car park on Cleeve Hill. SO 983 279. Map square: D3.

Leaders: Vivienne McGhee & Sue Greenwood

Monday 10 July 10:30am
Broadway Tower circular via Dovers Hill and Broadway

10 miles

This is the first walk in the 'Week of Cotswold Walks'. Each walk will be of leisurely pace, of about ten miles distance. The walks will have a good pub stop where we will have a relaxed lunch, although walkers should bring a picnic if preferred. This walk features the optional lunch at The Swan in Broadway.

Start: Broadway Tower car park. SP 114 363.

Ramblers Banbury & North Oxfordshire Group

Tuesday 11 July 10:30am
Wyck Rissington circular via Little and Great Rissington

10 miles

This is the second of the 'Week of Cotswold Walks'. Each walk will be of leisurely pace, of about ten miles distance. The walks will have a good pub stop where we will have a relaxed lunch, although walkers should bring a picnic if preferred. This walk is through Cotswold country to Little and Great Rissington. Pub stop.

Start: Wyck Rissington. SP 188 218.

Ramblers Banbury & North Oxfordshire Group

Wednesday 12 July 10am
The Hills Around Hillesley

3 hours • 5 miles

The walk follows the Cotswold Way and the Monarch's Way, taking in the Somerset Monument, Splatt's Wood, the attractive Kilcott Valley and the village of Alderley. Splendid views, weather permitting. Lunch and refreshments available at the Inn after the walk, if required.

Start: Car park at the Fleece Inn, Hillesley, by arrangement. Or in the car park adjacent to the village sports field. ST 772 897. Map square: B7.

Leaders: Derrick Hildersley & Les Jones

Wednesday 12 July 10:30am
Snowhill to Stumps Cross and Ford

10 miles

This is the third of the 'Week of Cotswold Walks'. Each walk will be of leisurely pace, of about ten miles distance. The walks will have a good pub stop where we will have a relaxed lunch, although walkers should bring a picnic if preferred. This circular walk is via Stumps Cross and Ford, where the stop for lunch is at The Plough.

Start: Snowhill, public car park. SP 096 340.

Ramblers Banbury & North Oxfordshire Group

Thursday 13 July 10:30am
Lower Slaughter along the Windrush to Naunton

10 miles

This is the fourth of the 'Week of Cotswold Walks'. Each walk will be of leisurely pace, of about ten miles distance. The walks will have a good pub stop where we will have a relaxed lunch, although walkers should bring a picnic if preferred. This circular walk follows the Windrush valley to Naunton, where the stop for lunch will be at the Black Horse, and returns via Upper Slaughter.

Start: Lower Slaughter. SP 166 225.

Ramblers Banbury & North Oxfordshire Group

Friday 14 July 10am
Flower Foray on and around Cleeve Common

5 hours • 5 miles

A Fabulous Flower Foray! With Conservation Officer Ellie Phillips, we hope to showcase the wonderful range of wildflowers that grow on both the Common and the nearby butterfly reserves. Bring a packed lunch and sturdy footwear for scrambling over rougher areas.

Start: Cleeve Common Quarry car park, off the B4632 at the summit signposted Golf Club, down narrow track over cattle grid, left and right into car park. SO 989 272. Map square: D4.

Leaders: Jean Booth & Simon Mallatratt



Friday 14 July 10am
Friday Foray – Miserden & Rough Bank

3 hours • 5 miles

A circular walk across the Holy Brook to Rough Bank, a secluded side valley to the Dillay valley, with wild flower rich limestone grassland belonging to Butterfly Conservation. Lunch available at the Carpenters Arms at the end of the walk.

Start: Miserden Church of England School car park (with permission). SO 933 089. Map square: C5.

Leaders: Steven Pascoe, Helen Watkinson, Sue Proctor & Brian Chapman

Friday 14 July 10:30am
Snowhill via Lavender Fields, Broadway and Laverton

10 miles

This is the fifth and final of the 'Week of Cotswold Walks'. Each walk will be of leisurely pace, of about ten miles distance. The walks will have a good pub stop where we will have a relaxed lunch, although walkers should bring a picnic if preferred. Circular walk through the lavender fields via Broadway and Laverton to Stanton for lunch at The Mount Inn.

Start: Snowhill, public car park. SP 096 340.

Ramblers Banbury & North Oxfordshire Group

Saturday, 15 July 9:30am
South of Leafield

15.5 miles

Leafield to Minster Lovell and back. Pub stop.

Start: Leafield, village hall. SP 322 154.

Ramblers West Oxfordshire Group

Saturday 15 July 10am
Sherborne Estate, Sherborne village and Beyond

2.5 to 3 hours • 5 miles

This walk is through woods where we will see a number of sculptures and chances to spot deer and other wildlife. We also pass through the beautiful village of Sherborne before crossing farmland on our return. Bring a packed lunch or sample the goodies at Sherborne community shop.

Start: Ewe Pen Barn car park, GL54 3PP. SP 159 143. Map square: F5.

Leader: Amanda Warwick

Saturday 15 July 10am
The Broadmead Brook – Castle Combe to Dyrhams

6 hours • 10 miles

We will make a prompt 10am start and car share to Castle Combe for the start of the walk. After descending to the village, we cross the golf course to Nettleton Mill and follow the Broadmead Brook back to Dyrhams West Kingston. Please bring a picnic lunch.

Start: Visitor Reception, Dyrhams Park. ST 748 757. Map square: A9.

Leaders: John Walker & John Bartram

Saturday 15 July 10am
Charlbury, Cotswolds Walk

8 miles

To Ditchley Park, return via Newbarn Farm. Picnic lunch. Registered Assistance Dogs only.

Start: Charlbury, Spendlove Centre. SP 357 196.

Ramblers Bicester & Kidlington Group

Sunday 16 July 10am
From Burford East along the Windrush

11 miles

Burford riverside meander. Through woodlands north. Round by Astall (pub stop available) and return via Swinbrook. Pub stop.

Start: Burford, car park. SP 254 121.

Ramblers West Oxfordshire Group

Tuesday 18 July 10am
Coffee Morning Walk No. 4, 'Heavens Above!'

3.5 hours • 5.5 miles

Meet for coffee at 10am. The walk starts at 10:30 and descends from the Common to the Thames & Severn Canal and eastward across the canal to Thrupp, The Heavens and Nether Lypiatt. We return via Brimscombe for a well deserved ice cream.

Start: Winstone's Ice-cream Parlour, Rodborough Common. The Common lies to the east of the A46 between Stroud and Nailsworth. Bear Hill is the nearest access point from the A46. Suggest use of Winstone's web-page to locate the start point more easily. SO 855 029. Map square: B6.

Leaders: Eric Brown & Helen Furrledge

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Wednesday 19 July 10am
Going Back in Time

3 hours • 6 miles

Climbing from Winchcombe past Sudeley Castle and along the valley of Beesmoor Brook, then up into woods and combes, with views unfolding across the Wolds to Belas Knap. A gentle downhill return to Winchcombe.

Start: Winchcombe Back Lane car park (pay and display). SP 023 283.

Map square: D3.

Leaders: Mike Williams, Royden Hales & Tony Duffin

Thursday 20 July 11am
I remember Adlestrop

3.5 hours • 6 miles

The walk links with the Frome Festival to mark the 100th anniversary of the death of poet Edward Thomas. The walk starts in Adlestrop with a reading of the famous poem, then along picturesque paths around the area before returning to the village, with tea available afterwards. Bring packed lunch.

Start: Adlestrop Village Hall, donation requested. SP 241 272. Map square: G3.

Leaders: Margaret Reid & Sheila Wasley

Friday 21 July 6:30pm
A Summer Evening Stroll

2 hours • 4 miles

A gentle stroll to the West and South of Northleach with only short climbs but some uneven tracks. Plenty of pubs in Northleach to rehydrate on a summer evening.

Start: The Old Prison Northleach. SP 109 149. Map square: E5.

Leaders: B Chilvers & A N Other

Saturday 22 July 10am
Exploring Little Known Valleys to Misarden Park

6 hours • 10 miles

Exploring this little known valley towards Caudle Green, dropping down into the Misarden Park towards the arboretum and lake. Returning via New Seal Wood and Climperwell. Pub snacks available or bring a packed lunch.

Start: Village of Birdlip. Near to the school along the disused road. East of the village. SO 931 142. Map square: C5.

Leaders: Ted Currier, Tim Sugrue & John Shaw

Sunday 23 July 9:30am
Northleach, via Long Hanborough and North Leigh Common

10.5 miles

Scenic walk in high Cotswolds through several small villages. Registered Assistance Dogs only.

Start: Hangman's Stone layby, west of Northleach. SP 088 151.

Ramblers West Oxfordshire Group

Sunday 23 July 10am
On the Edge

4.5 hours • 8 miles

A circular walk along part of the Fosse Way (Roman Road) visiting Dunkerton, Combe Hay and Southstoke. Please bring a packed lunch. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Start: Odd Down Park & Ride. ST 733 617. Map square: A10.

Leaders: Pauline Vincent & Wilf Dando

Wednesday 26 July 9:30am
Hills and Houses of the Warwickshire Cotswolds

7 hours • 12 miles

A walk of varied and interesting countryside passing two substantial country houses, Foxcote, and Hidcote with its renowned gardens. Views as far as Coventry from the highest point in Warwickshire. The walk starts with a long uphill section but otherwise reasonably level. Bring sandwiches or lunch at the Ebrington Arms.

Start: Ilmington playing fields car park. SP 209 440. Map square: F2.

Leaders: Bryan Clifford & Maureen Shears

Wednesday 26 July 10am
Mysteries, Moggies and Humbugs

3 hours • 5.5 miles

A pleasant walk starting in the interesting village of Finstock in the Oxfordshire Cotswolds. The walk is along field paths, through woodland and along quiet country lanes. Possibility of mud after prolonged wet weather. Pub lunch available afterwards at the Plough Inn.

Start: The Plough Inn, Finstock OX7 3BY. SP 362 162. Map square: H4.

Leader: Rosemary Wilson

Wednesday 26 July 11am
Batsford Circular via Blockley

5 miles

A lazy day out in the Cotswolds. Start with coffee at the Arboretum/Garden centre cafe but be ready to leave the car park at 11am. Beautiful walk on the Monarchs Way to Blockley (once home to a thriving silk industry) for lunch, then return for a cup of tea at the Arboretum with the chance to visit if you so wish. Pub stop.

Start: Batsford Arboretum, car park near entrance to Garden Centre and cafe. SP 182 334.

Ramblers Oxford Group

Friday 28 July 10am
The South Painswick Valley

3 hours • 6 miles

A moderate walk around the Painswick Valley with some steep ascents. Refreshments available at the Leisure Centre or in Stroud and Painswick.

Start: Stroud Leisure Centre car park. Park at the top of the car park. SO 847 057. Map square: B6.

Leaders: B Chilvers, P Cluley & T Hester

Saturday 29 July 10am
Naunton and the Slaughters

10 miles

A circular walk includes the Slaughters, the Windrush River, passing Bourton-on-the-Water. Please bring picnic lunch. Registered Assistance Dogs only.

Start: Naunton, the church. SP 112 233.

Ramblers Bicester & Kidlington Group

August

Tuesday, 1 August 10am
Tuesday Tramp

3 hours • 5 miles

A walk around the various footpaths of Colerne Parish. Lunch available at the Fox and Hounds. Bring a mid morning munchie. Parking at the pub or adjacent Constitutional Club. Not suitable for Pushchairs.

Start: Fox & Hounds, Colerne. ST 818 711. Map square: B9.

Leaders: Russell Harding & Sid Gould

Tuesday 1 August 6:30pm
A Summer Evening Stroll

2 hours • 3 miles

Date for this walk will be fixed nearer the time, and posted on the Escape website. Please check back later. A gentle walk around the park with time to find out about its history (ancient and modern), the flora and fauna. Some great views with the setting sun over the valley.

Start: Outside the Café in Crickley Hill Country Park car park charge of £1 applies (as at Jan 2017). SO 929 163. Map square: C4.

Leaders: B Chilvers & A N Other

Wednesday 2 August 10am
Holy Brook Valleys

3 hours • 5.8 miles

A walk through the valleys of Holy Brook and its tributaries passing through Monsell Wood with a fairly steep ascent into Fox Wood to Sudgrove then back via Througham. Walk starts in Van der Breen St which is opposite the Stirrup Cup pub. Park considerably in the village.

Start: Bisley – Van der Breen St (turn opp Stirrup Cup pub). Park at King George V field or in the village. SO 905 060.

Map square: C5.

Leaders: Steven Pascoe, Pippa Burgon, Graham Saunders & John Shaw



Friday 4 August 10:30am
Wardens' Walk for BBC's 'Children in Need' Appeal

3 hours • 4 miles

Join us with your children for an easy walk at a slow pace in Newark park, by kind permission of the National Trust, with the option of an additional "buggy" friendly walk through quiet lanes. Picnic in the parkland in front of the house afterwards to make a day out!

Start: Newark Park National Trust car park, by arrangement. ST 781 931. Map square: B7.

Leaders: Eric Brown, Helen Furrmidge, David Harrowin & Derrick Hildersley



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Tuesday 8 August 10am Hidden Shipton under Wychwood Exposed

3.5 hours • 4 miles

During this short walk around Shipton under Wychwood we shall discover there is more to this charming village than at first appears. Its amazing history will be revealed with a unique opportunity to visit many of its buildings and businesses on the way. Lunch options at end of walk. Start: New Beaconsfield Hall, Shipton under Wychwood. SP 278 181. Map square: G4.

Leader: Gerald Simper

Thursday 10 August 10am Three Hills and a Devil!

5 hours • 9 miles

We first climb up to Cam Peak and Cam Long Down for magnificent views of the Severn Vale and beyond. Visit the outstanding iron age hill fort at Uley Bury before a well earned lunch and a gentle walk back through beech woodland. Packed lunch, pub stop for drink only.

Start: Dursley Town Hall. ST 757 981. Map square: B6.

Leaders: Helen Furmidge & Nigel Meredith

Friday 11 August 9:45am Friday Foray – Northleach Circular, via Hampnett and Yanworth

3 hours • 6 miles

Northleach, Hampnett, Yanworth, and return. A few stiles, some short steep banks in places. Otherwise generally good, wide tracks, and quiet roads Post code GL54 3JH. Car sharing helpful. Please use uphill side of car park. Opportunities for lunch in Northleach. Discount to walkers at the Old Prison Cafe.

Start: Old Prison (Cotswold Conservation Board offices), Northleach. Car sharing helpful. SP 109 149. Map square: E5.

Leaders: Brian Chapman, Steve Pascoe, Sue Proctor & Helen Watkinson

Friday 11 August 10am Romans and Cavaliers

2.5 hours • 4.5 miles

From the Avon valley on the SW edge of the AONB this walk climbs via North Stoke to tour the 1643 Civil War Battle of Lansdown site. Not suitable for Pushchairs. Bring a packed lunch; later pub stop in Upton Cheyney if you wish.

Start: Swineford Picnic Area car park. ST 691 693. Map square: A10.

Leaders: David Le Lohe & Rob Morley

Sunday 13 August 2:30pm In Search of Old Mont

2.5 hours • 4 miles

A circular walk through Fulwell and Clevely visiting places associated with Old "Mont Abbott Enstone carter and shepherd made famous by Sheila Stewart's book "Lifting the Latch."

Start: Enstone, Please park tidily near the cemetery on the minor road to Little Tew. SP 381 251. Map square: H4.

Leader: Tony Graeme

Sunday 13 August 10:30am Dyrham: Park and Countryside

2.5 hours • 5 miles

A walk from Dyrham Park (National Trust) through nearby farm land and along part of the Cotswold Way, passing historic points of interest along the way. No park admission fees for those participating in the walk. Not suitable for pushchairs

Start: Visitor Reception, Dyrham Park. ST 748 757. Map square: A9.

Leaders: Fred Dugan & John Walker

Monday 14 August 10am Three Villages and Two Ways

5 hours • 8.5 miles

An undulating walk from Tresham to Ozleworth and on past Newark Park to a viewpoint for a lunch stop. The walk continues via the Cotswold Way to Hillesley and returns to the start using the Cotswold Way and the Monarch's Way. Please bring a packed lunch.

Start: Parking on the roadside in Tresham village; please park considerably. Tresham is approximately one mile from the A46, 7 miles south of Nailsworth and 7 miles north of M4 J18. ST 793 912. Map square: B7.

Leaders: Les Jones & Derrick Hildersley

Tuesday 15 August 10am Salt, Pepper, Apples and Pears

4 hours • 7 miles

This is a circular walk from Winchcombe, gradually ascending the Cotswold Scarp and following the Winchcombe Way onto the Saltway before ascending to Hailes and returning to Winchcombe via the Cotswold Way. This is classic Cotswold walking encompassing rolling pasture, national footpaths and impressive views. Bring a packed lunch.

Start: Winchcombe Back Lane car park £1.00 per day. SP 024 285. Map square: D3.

Leaders: Paul Clark, John Pearson & John Smith

Wednesday 16 August 10am Views of California (farm!)

3 hours • 6 miles

Climb to the top of the escarpment in the SE corner of Cheltenham, visit ancient Lineover Wood and enjoy extensive views of Cheltenham, the Malverns and Severn Vale. Includes one mile of residential road walking and two moderate climbs. Parking by kind permission of the school.

Start: Balcarras School, East End Road, Charlton Kings. SO 971 204.

Map square: D4.

Leaders: Tony Duffin, Royden Hales & Mike Williams

Thursday 17 August 10am A Cotswold Safari

6 hours • 10.5 miles

An exploration of the lovely countryside and villages of Stanton and Snowhill. Our route takes us up and down the scarp, climbing 500 metres, giving spectacular views of the Malverns and over to Oxfordshire.

Start: Stanton village car park (free). SP 067 344. Map square: E2.

Leaders: Sheila Wasley & Margaret Reid

Friday 18 August 10am From Eastleach down through Southrop

2.5 hours • 5.4 miles

A walk around Eastleach and the churches, down through Fyfield and Southrop and back via Hammersmith Bottom Lunch options in the Victoria PH Eastleach or in Fairford.

Start: Victoria PH Eastleach Park. Parking in pub carpark or nearby. SP 198 052. Map square: F6.

Leaders: T Hester, P Cluley & B Chilvers

Friday 18 August 10am Coffee Morning Walk No. 5, 'Good Hunting Country'

3.5 hours • 5.5 miles

Meet for coffee at 10:00. The walk starts at 10:30, taking us to Upper Kilcote via Chuch Wood and Small Combe. We return via Lower Kilcote and the Monarch's Way. Good lunches available at the pub after the walk, if required.

Start: Beaufort Arms pub, Hawkesbury Upton. The village lies to the west of the A46 close to its junction with the A433 Tetbury road. ST 777 869.

Map square: B8.

Leaders: Eric Brown & Mick Thorpe

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Saturday 19 August 10am
**Marshfield:
Town and Country**

2.8 hours • 4.5 miles

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 (No stiles). Lunch choice of 2 pubs or a tea shop. Stay to enjoy Marshfield Village Day procession (2pm) and Show.

Start: Market Place, Marshfield.
ST 781 737. Map square: B9.

Leaders: David Colbourne & Sid Gould

Sunday 20 August 9:30am
**Asthall, Windrush
valley and Shill Brook**

11 miles

Worsham, Shilton, Burford and Swinbrook. Possible pub stop, but please bring packed lunch.

Start: Asthall, on road verge beneath trees. SP 287 112.

Ramblers West Oxfordshire Group

Sunday 20 August 10:30am
**A Countryside view
of the City**

3 hours • 4.5 miles

A circular walk from Bath's Pulteney Bridge via Alexandra Park, Lyncombe Vale and Sydney Gardens. Coffee stop only. Start only 10 mins. from Bus/Railway station. Not suitable for pushchairs [Steps!].

Start: Pulteney Bridge, Bath (Opposite Victoria Art Gallery). ST 752 649.
Map square: A10.

Leaders: Pauline Vincent & Wilf Dando

Wednesday 23 August 10am
A Sibford Circuit

5 hours • 10 miles

From Sibford we go south down Ditchedge Lane to Traitor's Ford and then east to Swalcliffe Common and village where we take a look at the historic tithe barn. We will the return to Sibford via Blenheim Farm, Chilaway Farm and Burdrop. Possible pub stop but please bring a packed lunch.

Start: Holy Trinity Church, Sibford Gower OX15 5RN. SP 357 378. Map square: G2.

Leader: Janet Deller

Friday 25 August 10am
**A Stroll through
Pegglesworth**

3 hours • 5.7 miles

A stroll to Upper Coberley then along The Gloucestershire Way to Pegglesworth and returning along The Cotswold Way via Wistley Hill. Parking at Seven Springs Pub car park by kind permission of the Licensee, or Seven Springs lay by.

Start: The Seven Springs pub.
SO 968 169. Map square: D4.

Leaders: P.Cluley, T.Hester & B.Chilvers

Saturday 26 August 10am
**Chedworth and the
Coln Valley**

7 hours • 11 miles

Visiting Chedworth, Coln Rogers, Coln St Dennis, Stowell Park and Chedworth Woods. A valley walk with echoes of a country at war. Pub or picnic lunch.

Start: Disused Chedworth airfield, 1.5 miles NW of Chedworth on the Compton Abdale Road. SP 039 130.
Map square: E5.

Leaders: John Heathcott, John Woodland & Mike Dunning

Sunday 27 August 10am
Stroudwater Vineyards

6 hours • 10 miles

The walk descends into the Nailsworth Valley via Woodchester to see the vineyards and other places of interest then climbs up to Minchinhampton and Rodborough Commons. We descend again to the Stroudwater canal towards Stonehouse and the vineyards at Doverow and return. Picnic lunch stop and pub at Amberley.

Start: Kings Stanley free car park, adjacent to the King's Head pub.
SO 812 036. Map square: B6.

Leaders: David Owen & Trish Iliadou

Sunday 27 August 10am
**Brailes to Epwell,
Tysoe and Windmill Hill**

8 miles

To Epwell, Tysoe and Windmill Hill. Pub stop.

Start: Brailes, village hall car park.
SP 308 394.

Ramblers Banbury & North Oxfordshire Group

Monday 28 August 10am
**Whichford to Long
Compton and Little
Compton**

12 miles

Join the 'horseshoe' walk at Whichford for a circular walk via Long Compton and Little Compton. Pub stop.

Start: Whichford, village green.
SP 315 347.

Ramblers Banbury & North Oxfordshire Group

Monday 28 August 11:35am
**Long Compton
to Little Compton**

5 miles

Join the 'horseshoe' walk at Long Compton for a circular walk via Little Compton. Pub stop.

Start: Long Compton, recreation ground to rear of village store. SP 287 327.

Ramblers Banbury & North Oxfordshire Group

Wednesday 30 August 10am
A Mystery Walk

3 hours • 6 miles

A mystery walk to mark the Bank Holiday. We will decide details nearer the time and publish on the Escape website.

Start: Please see Escape website for update.

Leaders: John Shaw, Royden Hales & AN Other

September

Friday 1 September 10am
**The Bybrook – Castle
Combe to Box**

7.5 hours • 7 miles

A linear walk so car share to the start from Castle Combe. An Easy walk unless it has been wet! Long Dean, Ford, and Slaughterford villages but there are some hills! Please bring a picnic lunch. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Start: Selwyn Hall car park, Box.
ST 824 686. Map square: B10.

Leaders: John Walker & Keith Rawlings

Sunday 3 September 10am
Jason's Objective

5 hours • 9 miles

The walk takes us through Wortley to Tresham and descends an attractive valley to lunch at Hillesley. Pub stop for drink only. We return through Nind nature reserve and Kingswood to Wotton in time for an optional Town Hall Tea.

Start: Chipping car park, Wotton Under Edge. ST 756 931. Map square: C6.

Leaders: David Harrowin & Chris Gill

Sunday 3 September 10am
**Adlestrop and
Evenlode**

11 miles

A circular walk via Evenlode and Little Compton.

Start: Adlestrop, village hall (donation please). SP 241 272.

Ramblers Bicester & Kidlington Group

Sunday 10 September 10am
**Charlbury,
Wychwood Forest**

9 miles

A circular walk through the ancient Wychwood Forest. Picnic stop.

Start: Charlbury, the Spendlove car park. SP 357 196.

Ramblers Vale of White Horse Group

Tuesday 5 September 10am
Tuesday Tramp

3 hours • 5 miles

A walk around the various footpaths of Colerne Parish. Lunch available at the Fox and Hounds. Bring a mid morning munchie. Parking at the pub or adjacent Constitutional Club. Not suitable for Pushchairs.

Start: Fox & Hounds, Colerne.
ST 818 711. Map square: B9.

Leaders: Russell Harding & Sid Gould

Friday 8 September 10am
**Time Travelling on
Cleeve Common**

3 hours • 5 miles

Cleeve Common has become the botanist's delight it is today because of centuries of human activity. This walk, with the expertise of Tim Copeland, landscape archaeologist, will show us the hidden traces of its history from the Bronze Age to World War II.

Start: 2, Cleeve Hill Quarry car park – turn off the B4632 at the summit. Signposted to the Golf Club. down narrow track over cattle grid. left and right into car park.
SO 989 272. Map square: D4.

Leaders: Simon Mallatratt & Jean Booth

Friday 8 September 10am
**Friday Foray –
Exploring Old
Neighbourhoods**

2.8 hours • 5.3 miles

A varied walk down through the village of Chalford into the Golden Valley, up through Oakridge Lynch and back via Bournes Green. Descent into valley is down steep steps but with handrail. There are 2 short ascents and 7 stiles. Mostly on footpaths and lanes. Lunch available at Old Neighbourhood.

Start: Old Neighbourhood Inn Chalford Hill Stroud – with permission from the landlord. SO 895 031. Map square: C6.
Leaders: Helen Watkinson, Sue Proctor, Brian Chapman & Steve Pascoe

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Martin Fry

Saturday 9 September 10am
Family Walk – North Leigh Common and Roman Villa

4 hours • 2 miles

The walk starts with a tree trail on North Leigh Common. After a walk of 2 miles we arrive at a Roman Villa and have a quiz trail to find out about the people who once lived here. Please bring a picnic. Some car sharing - please refer to website.

Start: North Leigh Common car park. SP 399 138. Map square: G5.

Leader: Mandy Warwick

Saturday 9 September 10:30am
Dyrham: Park and Countryside

2.5 hours • 5 miles

A walk from Dyrham Park (National Trust) through nearby farm land and along part of the Cotswold Way, passing historic points of interest along the way. No park admission fees for those participating in the walk. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Start: Visitor Reception, Dyrham Park. ST 748 757. Map square: A9.

Leaders: John Bartram & Philippe Apchin

Tuesday 12 September 6pm
Blenheim Estate: of Kings, Queens and Heroes

2 hours • 4 miles

This short walk on public rights of way around the Blenheim Estate looks for traces of its historic past. From Henry II and his mistress to Princess Elizabeth 1st, the Dukes of Marlborough and more Recently Sir Winston Churchill.

Start: Hensington Road free car park Woodstock OX20 1JF. SP 448 168. Map square: H4.

Leader: Anne Martis

Wednesday 13 September 10am
Woodland Circuit via Coopers Hill

3 hours • 5 miles

A stretching very scenic woodland ramble with some steeper ascents out to Coopers Hill and up to the Nature reserve. Then back along the Cotswold Way and return via Painswick stream.

Start: Cranham roadside by the school. SO 896 130. Map square: E5.

Leaders: John Shaw & Graham Saunders

Saturday 16 September 10am
Rivers, Old Canals and Cotswold Hills

6 hours • 10 miles

A walk covering a varied landscape. Passing through Stroud's historic mills and restored canal system. Skirting the western Cotswolds near to Stonehouse then climbing to the hilltop villages of Randwick and Whiteshill. Pub snacks available or bring a packed lunch.

Start: Stratford Park Leisure Centre Park, (Meet at the far end). Stroud. GL5 4AF off the A46. SO 844 057. Map square: B6.

Leaders: Ted Currier, Tim Sugrue & John Shaw

Saturday 16 September 10am
Walking the Centuries

6 hours • 11 miles

A walk through the villages, inhabited and deserted, exploring life in the area across the centuries from Neolithic times to present day. Lunch available at Hailes Fruit Farm.

Start: Temple Guiting Village Hall car park. SP 090 279. Map square: E3.

Leaders: Vivienne McGhee & Sue Greenwood

Friday 22 September 10am
Railway, River, Relics and Writers

3 hours • 5.5 miles

Starting in the pleasant village of Kingham this walk rarely loses sight of the River Evenlode which inspired a couple of writers in the early 20th Century. Also on the walk is the opportunity to visit a church which features in Simon Jenkins book Englands 1000 Best Churches.

Start: Car park in Kingham next to the school OX7 6YD. SP 261 241.

Map square: G4.

Leader: Rosemary Wilson

Saturday 23 September 9:30am
Rule Britannia

6 hours • 11 miles

The walk passes through a local estate near Temple Guiting. Our focus will be on its early 19th-century listed barn, horse-engine house and farmhouse. Bring a packed lunch.

Start: Temple Guiting village hall car park. SP 090 279. Map square: E3.

Leaders: Pat & Roger Cook

Saturday 23 September 10am
Sherston to Castle Combe along the Macmillan Way

5 hours • 8 miles

Car share to the start of the walk in Sherston. We follow one of the branches of the Bristol river Avon to Luckington and then Littleton Drew before entering the Burton Brook valley, which becomes the Bybrook at Castle Combe. Please bring a picnic lunch. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Start: Castle Combe car park. ST 846 777. Map square: C7.

Leaders: John Walker & David Whitnell

Sunday 24 September 9:30am
Cold Aston, Windrush valley

12.5 miles

The Slaughters, Eyford Park, Naunton, Aylworth and Notgrove. Possible pub stop, but recommend bring packed lunch.

Start: Cold Aston, Bangup Lane. SP 126 198.

Ramblers West Oxfordshire Group

Sunday 24 September 10am
Walking the Line!

4.5 hours • 8 miles

A circular walk from Wellow to Combe Hay, using the disused Camerton to Limpley stoke line and the Somerset and Dorset line. Please bring a packed lunch. Not suitable for pushchairs but fine for families.

Start: Wellow free Old Station car park. ST 735 581. Map square: A10.

Leaders: Wilf Dando & Pauline Vincent



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Sunday 24 September 10am
Hiking Through History – Life in the Roman Cotswolds 3

5 hours • 11.5 miles

Discover the story of the Romans in the Cotswolds. Please bring a packed lunch.

Start: Great Wolford Parish Church.
SP 250 345. Map square: F3.

Leaders: Lucy & Martin Squires

Wednesday 27 September 10am
The High Road and Low Road

2.5 hours • 5 miles

A steep ascent from the Painswick valley leads to the Frith and hence along the ridge to Wickridge Hill and Hawkwood with views of both the Slad and Painswick valleys. Returning to Painswick along the river.

Start: Stammages Lane car park (Pay & Display) Painswick. SO 866 095.
Map square: C5.

Leaders: Royden Hales, Tony Duffin & Mike Williams

Wednesday 27 September 9:30am
Exploring Nottingham Hill

3.5 hours • 7.5 miles

A varied walk from Cleeve Hill to discover its less visited but only slightly smaller neighbour, Nottingham Hill. This spur off the main Cotswold ridge offers fine views across the Severn Valley towards the Malverns and Wales.

Start: Cleeve Hill Quarry car park – turn off B4632 at the summit, signposted Golf Club, down narrow track over cattle grid, left and right into car park. SO 989 271.
Map square: D3.

Leaders: Martin & Linda Blackwell

Friday 29 September 10am
3 Cotswold Churches

3.3 hours • 6.6 miles

A walk around 3 Cotswold Churches in Northleach, Farmington, and Hampnett. A longer walk with moderate climbs but can be more strenuous if wet underfoot. Good lunch options in Northleach. Discount on food for walkers in the Lion Cafe.

Start: The Old Prison Northleach.
SP 109 149. Map square: E5.

Leaders: B Chilvers, T Hester & P Cluley

October

Tuesday 3 October 10am
Tuesday Tramp

3 hours • 5 miles

A walk around the various footpaths of Colerne Parish. Lunch available at the Fox and Hounds. Bring a mid morning munchie. Parking at the pub or adjacent. Constitutional Club. Not suitable for Pushchairs.

Start: Fox & Hounds, Colerne.
ST 818 711. Map square: B9.

Leaders: Russell Harding & Sid Gould

Saturday 7 October 10am
Lansdown Level Circular!

3 hours • 5.5 miles

Almost a figure of eight walk so choose either a half or full day. Please bring a picnic for the full day. No hills on this walk but there are views in all directions. Not suitable for pushchairs. Meet at the back of the Park & Ride.

Start: Lansdown Park & Ride. ST 732 682.
Map square: A10.

Leaders: John Walker & Paul Clarke

Saturday 7 October 1pm
Milling Around Cam and Coaley (Dursley Walking Festival)

3 hours • 5 miles

A flattish walk along footpaths in the parishes of Cam and Coaley following the river Cam, where otters have been spotted! The walk passes many mill sites. Some rough terrain and stiles, so unsuitable for pushchairs. Refreshments available at the café after the walk, if required.

Start: Lower Cam post office. Parking next to Berry Blue café in front of council offices. ST 756 981. Map square: A6.

Leaders: Helen Furnidge & Nigel Meredith

Sunday 8 October 10am
Town and Around (Dursley Walking Festival)

3 hours • 6 miles


A morning walk from the town centre through the Littlecombe estate to Lower Cam, returning through Sandpits and joining the Lantern Way around Westfield Wood back to town.

Start: Dursley Market House. Parking available opposite the Old Spot Inn, Dursley. ST 756 981. Map square: A6.

Leaders: David Harrowin & David Ashby

Wednesday 11 October 10am

A good climb and a fine view round Charlton Kings

 3 hours • 5.5 miles


Join us for a fine hilly walk with great views up and down the Cotswolds and over the Severn Valley. Total ascent of 330 metres, using the Cheltenham Circular Path.

Start: Charlton Kings Church. SO 964 204. Map square: D4.

Leaders: John Shaw, Steven Pascoe & Graham Saunders

Thursday 12 October 10am

Autumn in the Secret Forest of Wychwood

 5 hours • 8 miles


The late Mollie Harris [or Martha Woodford to longstanding Archers fans] called Wychwood The Secret Forest. This circular walk will include part of the forest not normally open to the public; returning through Cornbury Deer Park [by kind permission of Lord Rotherwick]. Please bring a packed lunch.

Start: Spendlove Centre Charlbury. SP 358 196. Map square: H4.

Leader: Tony Graeme

Saturday 14 October 10:30am

Dyrham: Park and Countryside

 2.5 hours • 5 miles


A walk from Dyrham Park (National Trust) through nearby farm land and along part of the Cotswold Way, passing historic points of interest along the way. No park admission fees for those participating in the walk. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Start: Visitor Reception, Dyrham Park. ST 748 757. Map square: A9.

Leaders: John Walker & Philippe Apchin

Saturday 14 October 10am

Hardly seen Haresfield

 4 hours • 8 miles

A circle of the Haresfield Hill, up through Standish Wood and down Cliffwell. Picnic snack.


Start: Upper Green Lane, Haresfield, just south of School. SO 814 102.

Map square: B5.

Leaders: Graham Saunders, John Shaw & Alistair McKenzie

Wednesday 18 October 10am

Coffee Morning Walk No. 1, 'Wotton and the Cotswold Way'

 3.5 hours • 5.5 miles


Meet for coffee at 10am. The walk starts at 10:30. We make our way to the village of Wortley via Kingswood, returning on the Cotswold Way, along the escarpment. The walk offers splendid views over the Severn Vale, weather permitting. Lunch available in Wotton after the walk if required.

Start: Swan Hotel, Wotton Under Edge. ST 756 932. Map square: B7.

Leaders: Eric Brown & Chris Wykes

Wednesday 18 October 10am

Around the Crown

 2 hours • 4.5 miles


We leave Enstone to pass Heythrop Park then on to the pretty hamlet of Lidstone. The route continues along the Oxfordshire Way offering good views before returning to Church Enstone and the Crown Inn where lunch is available.

Start: The Crown Inn Enstone OX7 4NN. SP 378 250. Map square: H3.

Leaders: Tony Merry & Harriet Baldwin

Saturday 21 October 10am

Witch Way to Whichford?

 5 hours • 10 miles

Using the MacMillan Way we go to Long Compton via Whichford Wood, hopefully enjoying some autumn colours. We then make our way up South Hill and on to Little Rollright and the Rollright Stones with its fascinating stories. Please bring a packed lunch. Pub available the end of the walk.


Start: Whichford village Green.

SP 315 347. Map square: G2.

Leaders: Janet Deller & Maureen Shears

Sunday 22 October 10am

Green Oases within the City

 2.5 hours • 4.5 miles

Circular walk from Royal Victoria Park, taking in three other parks within the City, with views of two others. Suitable for pushchairs if you can cope with steps.


Start: Royal Avenue Bath, in front of the Bandstand. ST 744 652.

Map square: A10.

Leaders: Pauline Vincent & Wilf Dando

Monday 23 October 10am

Both Hawkesburys in the Round

 3 hours • 4.5 miles

From the Beaufort Arms we walk through the village to the church and on to Horton Court. Our return is via sections of the Monarch's Way and the Cotswold Way, then across fields to our start point. Lunch available at the pub if required.


Start: Beaufort Arms pub car park, Hawkesbury Upton. ST 778 870.

Map square: B8.

Leaders: Derrick Hildersley & Les Jones

Tuesday 24 October 10:30am

Marshfield: Town and Country

 2.8 hours • 4.3 miles

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 (No stiles). Lunch choice of 2 pubs or a tea shop afterwards.


Start: Market Place, Marshfield.

ST 781 737. Map square: B9.

Leaders: David Colbourne & Barry Cox

Wednesday 25 October 10am

Crickley and Ullenwood

 2.5 hours • 5 miles


The walk starts at Crickley Hill and continues along the Cotswold Way with outstanding views of the Severn Vale. It passes Ullenwood, climbs South Hill and passes Birdlip Radio Station on the way to Barrow Wake and back to Crickley.

Start: Crickley Hill car park (pay & display). SO 928 164. Map square: C4.

Leaders: Mike Williams, Royden Hales & Tony Duffin

Friday 27 October 10am

Paradise and the Thames Path

 2.5 hours • 6.2 miles


A gentle walk with no hills along the Thames Path by Lechlade taking in Paradise Farm, Lechlade, Ha'penny Bridge, and St Johns Lock. Many choices for pubs for lunch or a drink.

Start: Lechlade High St. SP 215 001. Map square: F6.

Leaders: A Hester, P Cluley & B Chilvers

Saturday 28 October 10am

A Cat, a Fox and a Pig

 5.5 hours • 10 miles

A circular walk taking in Hidcote Bartrim and the Foxcote estate. A long, steady uphill stretch at the beginning and a short but steep climb about halfway. Please bring a packed lunch.


Start: Mickleton Church, park considerably. SP 162 435.

Map square: F2.

Leaders: Maureen Shears & Janet Deller

Sunday 29 October 9:30am

National Coppice Day

 3.5 hours • 5.5 miles


From Ford we walk to Weavern farm to enter Colerne Wood where Wardens have coppiced areas over many years. A small demonstration may be possible, weather permitting, and you will see deer fencing around the most recent work. Please bring drinks. Return via Thickwood. Pub lunch available afterwards.

Start: White Hart Inn, Ford on the A420. ST 840 748. Map square: B9.

Leaders: David Colbourne & John Walker

Sunday 29 October 10am

The Railway Children

 5.5 hours • 9.5 miles

A walk along the Cotswold escarpment to North Nibley and then down to Charfield for lunch. We return to Wotton via Kingswood and learn of the unsolved mystery at Churchdown. Bring a packed lunch, pub stop for drink only.


Start: Chipping car park, Wotton Under Edge. ST 756 931. Map square: C6.

Leaders: David Harrowin & Helen Furnidge

November

Thursday 2 November 10am

Circa Chippy

 3 hours • 6 miles

A 5-6 mile walk never far from Oxfordshire's highest town of Chipping Norton. The almost circular route is varied starting right in the town and gradually making headway into open countryside. Lots of choices for a nice lunch afterwards in the town.

Start: New Street car park Chipping Norton OX7 5LJ. SP 312 271.

Map square: G3.

Leader: Rosemary Wilson



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Thursday 2 November 10am
Wool, Stone and the Great Fire of London

3 hours • 5 miles

The walk starts from the ancient wool town of Northleach with its many 15th and 16th century buildings. We cross rolling farmland, lakes and streams to the tiny village of Farmington famed for its local stone. Lunch is available at the end of the walk at pubs and cafes.

Start: Northleach Market Square. SP 113 146. Map square: E5.

Leaders: David Russell & Alan Thomas

Saturday 4 November 10am
Another way up Charmy Down by Boat

4 hours • 7 miles

A hilly walk, traversing the southern aspect of Charmy down and steeply ascending its Eastern side. Crossing the WWII airfield South to North we drop to Monkwood reservoir, then pass Hartley Farm back to the start. Please bring a picnic lunch. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Start: Slip road for Swainswick East of A46, 3.3 Miles from Cold Ashton roundabout at the A46/A420 junction. ST 762 683. Map square: B9.

Leaders: Keith Rawlings & Bob Ford

Tuesday 7 November 10am
Tuesday Tramp

3 hours • 5 miles

A walk around the various footpaths of Colerne Parish. Lunch available at the Fox and Hounds. Bring a mid morning munchie. Parking at the pub or adjacent Constitutional Club. Not suitable for Pushchairs.

Start: Fox & Hounds, Colerne. ST 818 711. Map square: B9.

Leaders: Russell Harding, Sid Gould & Robert Herbert

Wednesday 8 November 10am
Daglingworth and Cirencester Park

3 hours • 6 miles

A walk into the countryside from the centre of Cirencester. Includes mediaeval town streets and a visit to see the Saxon carvings in Daglingworth church. Come by bus or park in long stay car parks (Beeches car park GL7 1BW, SP 028 019 or Waterloo car park GL7 2PY, SP 026 021).

Start: Outside Cirencester Parish Church, Market Place. SP 023 021. Map square: D6.

Leaders: Pippa Burgon, Steven Pascoe & Graham Saunders



Thursday 9 November 10am
Celebrating Cotswold Women: Katherine Adams, Arts and Crafts bookbinder

3 hours • 6 miles

This walk, which takes interesting and less used paths up and back from the Broadway Tower, starts off by passing The Bindery, the studio of Katherine Adams, half-way up the High Street. She was an arts and crafts bookbinder and very celebrated in her time. We will learn more on the walk.

Start: Broadway Green. SP 095 375. Map square: E2.

Leaders: Margaret Reid & Sheila Wasley

Friday 10 November 10am
The Kingscote Valley and Woods to Horsley

3 hours • 5 miles

An easy stroll along the valley from Kingscote through local woods to Horsley. We return via Lower Hazlecote with attractive woodland and valley views. Lunch available at the inn after the walk, if required.

Start: Hunters Hall Inn car park, Kingscote, by arrangement. ST 813 960. Map square: B7.

Leaders: Derrick Hildersley & Les Jones

Saturday 11 November 9:30am
Women on Bredon Hill

6.5 hours • 11 miles

An autumn walk on Bredon Hill considering the lives of women of international renown who were associated with the Hill. Pub lunch available at Ashton under Hill.

Start: Outside Roman Catholic church in Kemerton. To the north of the B road through Conderton and Overbury, first right turn on entry to Kemerton. Church is immediately on left. SO 949 373. Map square: C2.

Leaders: Vivienne McGhee & Sue Greenwood

Sunday 12 November 10am
The Boyd Valley and Cotswold Escarpment

4 hours • 5 miles

We follow the river Boyd towards the M4 and then pass through Hinton and ascend to Hinton Hill Fort before following the Cotswold Way through Dyrham village to Dyrham Wood. Good views of Doynton on the descent back to the start. Please bring a picnic lunch. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Start: By Doynton Church. ST 720 741. Map square: A9.

Leaders: John Bartram & Paul Clarke



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Tuesday 14 November 10am
Down to Midger

3 hours • 5 miles

A morning walk down two coombs to Curtis Mill and thence to the Midger nature reserve. Our return journey takes us through the Kilcott Valley and along the Cotswold Way. Lunch available locally after the walk, if required.

Start: Village Hall, Hawkesbury Upton. ST 777 869. Map square: B8.

Leaders: David Harrowin & Brian Mundy

Sunday 19 November 10am
Badminton Surrounds

2.5 hours • 5 miles

A level walk westwards via the Grickstone to the escarpment above Horton, passing a redundant Nuclear bunker. return via Badminton landing strip. Pubs not far away at the end but please bring some food in case mud delays us! Not suitable for push chairs.

Start: Badminton Village Hall car park. ST 806 825. Map square: B8.

Leaders: John Walker & Barry Cox

Thursday 16 November 10am
Where Romans [and others] Trod

3 hours • 6 miles

A walk along ancient tracks incorporating parts of the Roman Akeman Street and a wartime airfield. Pub lunch at end of walk.

Start: The Bird in Hand, Whiteoak Green OX29 9XP. SP 344 139. Map square: H4.


Leader: Tony Graeme

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Monday 20 November 10am
Coffee Morning Walk
No. 2, 'An Ocean View'

 3.5 hours • 5.5 miles

Meet for coffee at 10am. The walk starts at 10:30, taking us past sites of industrial archaeological interest along the Stroudwater canal to Ocean bridge. We return via Stanley Downton and Leonard Stanley, known for the visit of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. Lunch available locally after the walk if required.

Start: King's Head pub cafe, King's Stanley. 14 bus route from Stroud, railway stations in Stroud & Stonehouse. Free car parking opposite the King's Head by village hall or in council car park. SO 811 034. Map square: B6.

Leaders: Eric Brown & Les Jones

Wednesday 22 November 10am
Let's Fly a Kite


 2.5 hours • 5 miles

A fairly flat high level walk with views in all directions. The outward leg of the walk follows the western side of the common. It then crosses, via the Bulwarks, to the eastern side for the return.

Start: Off road car park near Rodborough Fort, opposite sign to Mount Vernon. SP 023 021. Map square: B6.

Leaders: Royden Hales, Mike Williams & Tony Duffin

Wednesday 22 November 10am
A Tite Circle


 2.5 hours • 5 miles

A circular walk from the Tite Inn going and past Dean and Spelsbury. Return through Dean Grove and along part of the Oxfordshire Way. Lunch will be available at the Tite Inn after the walk and an order will be placed when we start.

Start: The Tite Inn Chadlington OX7 3NY. SP 323 224. Map square: H5.

Leaders: Tony Merry & Harriet Baldwin

Friday 24 November 10am
A Tunnel, the Thames,
and the Railway


 2.5 hours • 4.8 miles

A walk around Coates, the (alleged) source of the Thames, and by the Thames and Severn Way with some moderate climbs. An excellent pub afterwards for both food and drink.

Start: Tunnel House Inn near Coates. The pub is at the end of an track off the Coates to Tarlton road. SO 965 006. Map square: D6.

Leaders: B Chilvers, A Hester & P Cluley

Sunday 26 November 10am
Water and Woods

 2.5 hours • 5 miles

A circular walk along the Kennet and Avon Canal and up to the village of Winsley. Walking on Autumn leaves maybe!

Start: Dundas Marina car park. ST 783 622. Map square: B10.

Leaders: Pauline Vincent & Wilf Dando

Tuesday 28 November 10am
Saltway, Quarries
and Woodland

 3 hours • 6 miles


As well as interesting countryside to enjoy, this walk also explores the picturesque town Charlbury. Lunches can be bought at the end of the walk at The Old Shed café at Banbury Hill Farm.

Start: Banbury Hill Farm. SP 365 210. Map square: H4.

Leader: Rosemary Wilson

December

Sunday 3 December 10am
Lasborough Links

 2.5 hours • 4 miles

A short walk in the beautiful Lasborough Valley, starting from Kingscote. In addition to experiencing the glorious landscape learn about the valley's links with a notable clergyman, a Victorian water supply system and the genesis of the Australian Air Force. All this in the space of 4 miles!

Start: Hunters Hall Inn car park, Kingscote, by arrangement. ST 813 960. Map square: B7.

Leaders: Nigel Meredith & Helen Furmidge

Tuesday 5 December 10am
Tuesday Tramp


 3 hours • 5 miles

A walk around the various footpaths of Colerne Parish. Lunch available at the Fox and Hounds. Bring a mid morning munchie. Parking at the pub or adjacent Constitutional Club. Not suitable for Pushchairs.

Start: Fox & Hounds, Colerne. ST 818 711. Map square: B9.

Leaders: Russell Harding, Sid Gould & Robert Herbert

Wednesday 6 December 10am
Syde, Caudle Green
and Miserden Park
Estate


 2.5 hours • 5 miles

Following the Frome valley the walk includes the hamlets of Syde and Caudle Green and part of the Miserden Park Estate before climbing towards Winstone and returning by an ancient ridgeway.

Start: Gloucester Beeches lay-by on A417. SO 957 121. Map square: D5.

Leaders: Steven Pascoe, Pippa Burgon, Graham Saunders & John Shaw

Saturday 9 December 10am
Lansdown Views and
Valleys

 5.5 hours • 10 miles

We start with spectacular views from Lansdown, descend to Weston Village and then back to the Lansdown ridge again before descending to the delightful Swainswick Valley. Please bring a picnic lunch. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Start: Lansdown Park & Ride. ST 732 681. Map square: A9.


Leaders: John Bartram & John Walker

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Wednesday 13 December 10am
Winter Stride Along
the Cotswold Edge to
Tyndale


 3 hours • 5 miles

A relatively short walk through the Westridge Woods, passing the iron age fort at Brackbury Ditches and on to the famed Tyndale Monument. We plan to take in the gully of the old Cotswold Way route towards North Nibley. Lunch available in Wotton after the walk, if required.

Start: Wotton Under Edge, at the top of the hill on the Old London Road, leading from Wotton to the B4058. Parking on the roadside at the top or further along by the scout camp. ST 754 943. Map square: B7.

Leaders: Derrick Hildersley & Les Jones

Wednesday 13 December 10am
All Hands to the
Plough


 3 hours • 6.5 miles

From Finstock to historic Wilcote Manor passing the Ladywell and down to the Evenlode. Then over Whitehill Wood to Stonesfield and back to Finstock on the Oxfordshire Way and Dark Lane in time for lunch at The Plough.

Start: The Plough Inn Finstock. SP 360 168. Map square: H5.

Leaders: Tony Merry & Harriet Baldwin

Friday 15 December 10am
Coffee Morning Walk
No.3 'Fort and Court'


 4 hours • 5.5 miles

Meet for coffee at 10am. The walk starts at 10:30, taking us south to Petty France then west to the strategically situated iron age fort at Horton Camp. We return to Hawkesbury passing Horton Court en route. Lunches available at pub after the walk if required.

Start: Beaufort Arms Pub, Hawkesbury Upton. ST 777 869. Map square: B8.

Leaders: Eric Brown & Chris Gill

Friday 29 December 10am
A Gentle Post-
Christmas Freshener

 2 hours • 3.8 miles

An easy walk with only moderate hills to blow away the cobwebs before overindulging again after Christmas. We will walk around Foxcote, Fulford, an old medieval village, and Owdeswell Manor before returning to the pub for a drink or food.

Start: The Royal Oak Andoversford. Please park around Andoversford. SP 024 195. Map square: D4.

Leaders: P Cluley, B Chilvers & A Hester



Steve Dore

PHOTOGRAPH

ENGLAND'S WALKING & EXPLORING CAPITAL

Cotswolds photography competition to inspire young and old alike to get outdoors and record how enriching and inspiring the AONB landscape is.



Dormy House

Could you become Cotswolds Landscape Photographer of the Year 2017?

Calling all amateur photographers! Get out your cameras and enter this year's 'Cotswolds Landscape Photographer of the Year' competition – you could win some great prizes.

We are looking for the most captivating local landscape images. This year's theme is 'The Cotswolds – England's Walking and Exploring Capital'.

All pictures must feature a landscape capturing our theme within the AONB, but apart from that there are no boundaries to your creativity.

Iconic landscapes viewed under blue or stormy skies; an unusual angle on a well-known footpath with walkers, cyclists enjoying a ride through the countryside, or a favourite vista known just to you – what will win 'Cotswolds Landscape Photographer of the Year 2017'?

The competition is open to amateurs of all ages and we've two superb prizes.

First prize:

overnight stay for two people at Dormy House to include dinner in the potting shed (a £25 allocation per person), use of Dormy House spa and full English breakfast.*

Second prize:

overnight bed & breakfast stay for two people in a Cosy Luxe room at The Fish Hotel.* (* Prize is for a midweek [Sunday–Thursday] stay only and is subject to availability. Prize is not valid on Bank Holidays or between 23–31 December, 14 February 2018, or Cheltenham Gold Cup week 2018.)

Three photographs were selected as joint winners of last year's competition following a public online vote and by voting at the Cotswolds Inspired Art Exhibition in Cirencester.

The three joint winners were:

1. Autumn Eye of the Cotswolds by Anthony Paul Inwood from Bourton-on-the-Water
2. Broadway Tower, by Andrew Caley from Bourton-on-the-Water
3. Naunton, by Andy Prior

from Witney

Nick Holliday, Vice Chair of the Cotswolds Conservation Board and one of the judges at last year's competition, said: "It was extremely tough selecting the final 10 photographs from the 170

that were entered. Many were of a very high standard. I'm very excited about this year's competition and very much looking forward to see what will be entered with our theme, walking and exploring capital."



Judges:

Andrew Grahame

(CEO – Farncombe Estate, Dormy House Hotel & Spa, Foxhill Manor, The Fish Hotel);

Liz Eyre (Chair, Cotswolds Conservation Board);

Sarah Howard

(landscape photographer); and

Nick Turner

(photographer/filmmaker)

How to enter

The 'Cotswolds Landscape Photographer of the Year 2017' competition is run by the Cotswolds Conservation Board and sponsored by The Dormy House Hotel.

It is open to amateur photographers of all ages.

Submit up to two digital images recently taken by you, including a sentence with each identifying when/where it was shot. Each image must feature a landscape within the Cotswolds AONB and be submitted via www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/photography

Closing date for entries is 5pm on 1 December 2017.

For more information about the competition, including prizes, and full terms and conditions please visit the website.

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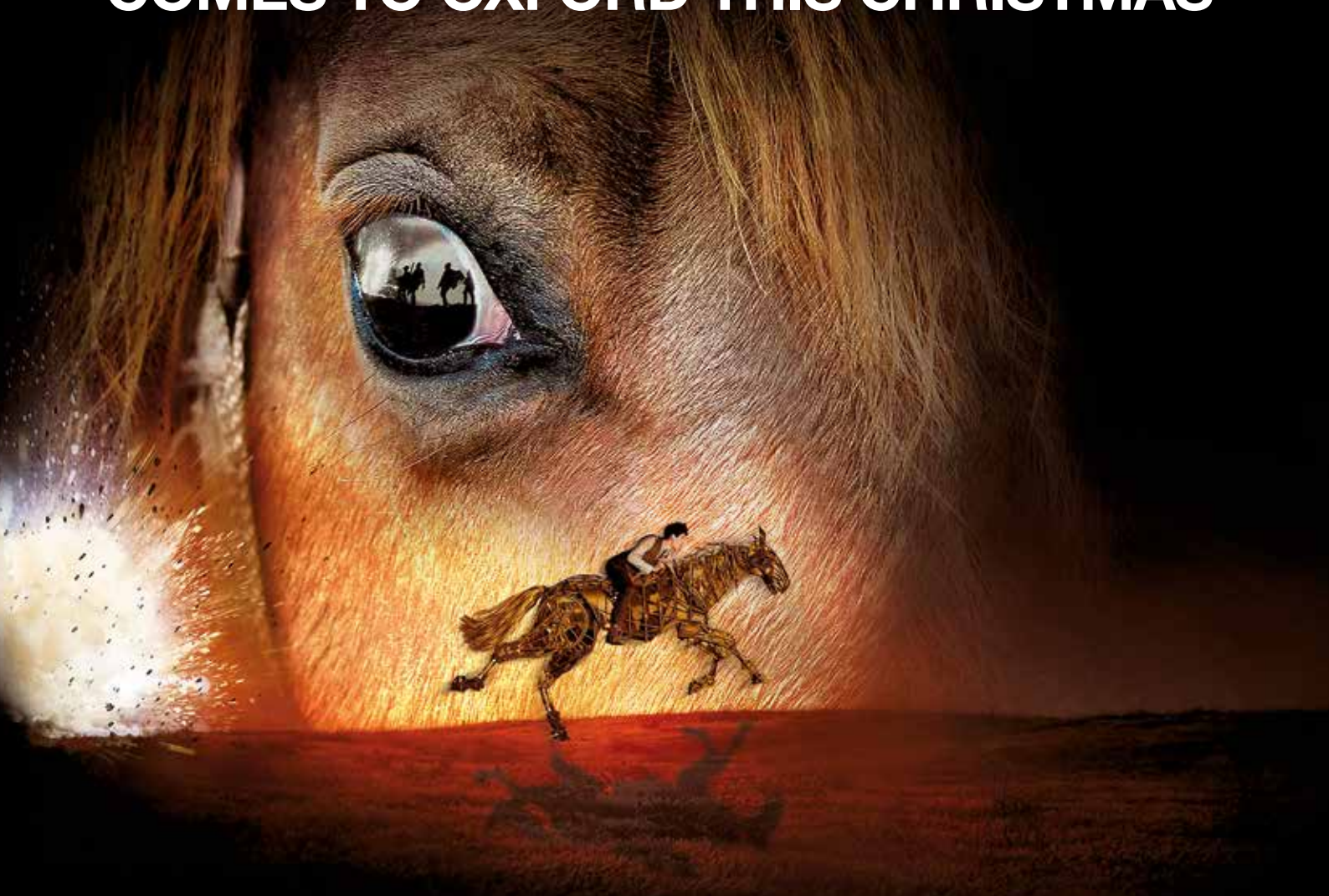
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