

WEDNESDAY WALKS PROGRAMME – WINTER 2012- 2013

All walks start from Wood Street car park at 9-30am, unless stated otherwise.

Date	Area of Walk	Miles	Leader	Tel No.
10 Oct 12	Compton Verney	5.0	Pam Bunker	01926 812016
24 Oct 12	Wroxton	5.0	Heather Gerrard	01926 814226
07 Nov 12	TBA		Pete Mason	
21 Nov 12	Birdingbury (Soups & Puds)	5.0	Isobel Whittaker	01926 814234
05 Dec 12	HS 2 Route Tour	5.4	Richard Lillystone	01926 817529
19 Dec 12	Sherry Walk		John Gymer	01926 813646
02 Jan 13	Priors Hardwick	5.2	John Bushnell	01926 814409
16 Jan 13	TBA		Bob McAuley	01788 817136
30 Jan 13	Braunston	5.0	Di Weaver	01788 890383
13 Feb 13	Wormleighton	5.0	Bill Pease	01926 813873
27 Feb 13	TBA		Nigel Chapman	01788 813765
13 Mar 13	TBA		John Maughan	01926 612901
27 Mar 13	TBA		Alan White	01327 311078

Organised by Richard Lillystone

Tel. No. 01926 817529

Please Note:

1. Leaders have full control and are responsible for all arrangements.
2. All members of the Ramblers' Association are welcome. Potential members are invited to attend two walks before membership application is necessary for continued Group activity.
3. Registered Assistance Dogs only are allowed on rambles.
4. Walks are subject to change if circumstances dictate.



Richard persuading Heather to "volunteer" to lead a walk for the next programme.



Editorial

As you will have noted, there was no June issue of the Newsletter. This was because there were no news or views to report. It gives rise to speculation about the future of our group. There are about five people who carry out the essential administration and have done for a number of years, two of whom are now unable to participate in the walks. We have no Social Secretary nor representative on the Area Council. The small group that organised the Sunday walks have ceased due to lack of support and joined more active groups. We do not get any new volunteers at our AGMs. Indeed, at our last AGM, only 12 people attended, out of a membership of some 100 people.

If volunteers are not forthcoming in the not too distant future, there is the possibility that our members could be transferred to another, more active group, such as Rugby, for the purposes of administration, capitation and so on. Because we have an enthusiastic core of Wednesday walkers, we could probably retain the organisation of our Wednesday walks and the Summer Strollers.

The decision may come independently from Area or could be requested by ourselves. It is something to think about.

Please take note:

Southam & District Group, Ramblers' Association

A.G.M.

Friday, 7th. December, 2012.

8.00 pm. At the "Nelson Club", Stockton.

Please make every effort to attend. Decisions may be taken which could affect your Group

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In spite of the generally poor summer, the Wednesday walks programme has been well supported, with numbers ranging between a high of over thirty for the Soups and Puds walk, to a dozen brave souls who turned out on a particularly wet morning for a walk starting at Welton. It was during this walk that I discovered that my old waterproof jacket wasn't and my new(ish) waterproof boots were.

In the newsletter, which has replaced the old "Walker", there is an article commenting on the fact that the Post Office is increasing the cost of a second class stamp from 38p to 50p, which is obviously going to affect the Ramblers' finances considerably. Central Office will not be increasing its funding to the Areas to cover this increase. A way of mitigating the problem is to send both the area and our local newsletters by e-mail to those who have e-mail addresses. We need some action to gather as many members' e-mail addresses as possible. If you wish to be sure of receiving future issues of the newsletters, could you please send me your address to "jjandag.bush@btinternet.com"?

John Bushnell

Summer Strollers.

This summer's wet weather led to three of the strolls being cancelled but I am pleased to say that, although numbers were slightly down on last year, those that did take place were all enjoyed by those who took part. As ever, rape fields were the biggest problem with Bob having particular difficulties on the Southam to Stockton section of his Blue Lias walk - the bit that has to be done twice! Rape fields caused me to alter the route of my walk which was due to be to New Zealand farm. Instead, Nigel & Kath kindly stepped in and took us across to Bascote on the walk they had planned but which had been rained off a few weeks earlier. Thanks to all those who volunteered to lead walks - even those whose walks were called off.

Bill Pease

"Soups and Puds" Walk Wednesday 21st November 2012.

After the Birdingbury walk, Jackie has again offered to provide soups and puds. The cost will be £6. The proceeds again will be going to charity. As there are only 35 limited places would you let me have your name together with the £6 (cash preferably) by the 7th of November 2012 to 16 Napton Rise, Southam. The first 35 will be successful.

Isobel Whittaker

P.S. Parking will be available behind the club and there will be a bar.

Joan Edwards.

We have received the following from Joan.

Dear Fellow Ramblers,
Over the last few weeks I have been exercising my poorly ankle in an effort to return to the walker's fold, but it seems to no avail.
Although I have seen some of you around Southam as my injury improved, I have to admit that rambling across the uneven countryside would be risky, to say

the least. My lower leg has not returned to normal and I am extremely cautious unless the pathway is flat.

So, regretfully, I have decided that I cannot rejoin you and risk another fall. I have thoroughly enjoyed my walks and your company over the years and I will always be thinking of you on alternate Wednesdays.
Keep up the good work of keeping the footpaths open.

Sincerely,

Joan (signed, with a couple of kisses)

It seems that Joan has made the right decision; I noticed a letter in the current issue of a local free news paper, in which Joan thanked an anonymous lady for taking her home in her car after she (Joan) had tripped up the kerb in Southam. I do hope it hasn't set her back and that she wasn't seriously hurt again. I am sure that all the members and particularly those who walked regularly with Joan will join me in saying that we too have enjoyed her company and her sense of humour. We wish her a speedy recovery and all the very best for the future.

John Bushnell

Notice from Warwick Ramblers' Web Page

Thursday, 10th September, a major serious incident was averted by a quick thinking local resident. In the Wood End/Earlswood area a herd of some 40 cattle, including calves and a bull, were discovered on the railway line just 10 minutes before a train was due. Fortunately the trains were stopped in time. Unfortunately, a few cows escaped into the surrounding area and the following morning found their way on to the M42 motorway, which had to be closed.

The cause - a metal gate (not a kissing gate) had been propped open where the right of way crosses the railway line. Ramblers were blamed. However, it now appears to have been malicious, as another gate has been propped open since that incident.

Action for Ramblers - Please ensure that all gates with access to railway and roads are firmly closed. Gates propped open between fields may have been left like that by a farmer to enable animals to get to water. Please think, and if there is an obvious exit to danger then close it!

Sheila Woolley Solihull Group Secretary



Taking five on Di Weaver's walk from Braunston on 12th. September 2012