

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR JUNE NEWS LETTER

I was going to devote the whole of my contribution to this newsletter to holidays but a couple of other items have now cropped up which I would also like to mention, walk leading and the Cotswold Way.

But first of all holidays. Most of you will be aware that Mike has stepped back from organising holidays after many years of putting on some excellent trips. At the same time I have decided that due to other commitments I will also need to pull back from their organisation. We did put out an appeal for volunteers to step in and take over and as a result Ann Adams has very kindly offered to arrange a holiday for next Spring. You will find details in this news letter and I would ask as many people as possible to come on the holiday to support our new volunteer.

But that leaves the Autumn holiday. We now need somebody to sort out a holiday for September 2017. Arranging a holiday can be a very interesting and fun experience and, like offering to lead a walk, you get to choose where we go. There are a number of different approaches to putting on a holiday. HF and Ramblers Holidays are probably the easiest route to follow as they organise the walks for you. There is also the option with HF of putting on a self lead holiday just using their accommodation and arranging your own walks. They will supply details of the walks which they use. You could also consider going abroad with either company. There are of course many other companies providing similar products.

Alternatively you might like to organise the whole thing yourself, booking the hotel and putting on the walks. This is something which could be done in conjunction with other members to ease the workload a bit. A contribution towards expenses of reconnoitring may be available and Mike and I would be only too happy to explain how the system works. Indeed if you feel inclined to organise a holiday we will provide any help and guidance which you need. It would be a great shame if our holiday programme ceased in any way as it has always been a popular feature of our Group's activities providing a chance to get together exploring different areas of the country and cementing our own friendships.

I wanted to say something about walk leading, something which is a salutary lesson to us all. On a recent walk a leader turned up but then found out he was unable to continue. Fortunately he had with him detailed notes on the route which he intended taking and the other walkers were able to use those notes to complete the walk. I realise that many of you use walks with which you are very familiar and do not need to have to have route details written down but it is worth considering carrying a brief outline just in case. As a major offender in this area I have made a note to myself to try and improve in future.

The Cotswold Way is an important walking route cutting through the middle of our area. You cannot have failed to be aware of the Government cutbacks and concern about the effects on our footpaths. Particular concern has been expressed locally about this our show-piece national trail, and as a result Mavis Rear and a small group of Cotswold Wardens have set up The Cotswold Way Society to help fund this important route. I mention this in our news letter because I am sure it is something in which we all have an interest but if anybody feels they would like to become more involved please contact Mavis.

Richard Davis - Chairman

Sidmouth Holiday details on the next page, and I'm sure lots of people will be keen to sign up for a South Cots holiday after reading Sue C's report on how much she enjoyed Dovedale - her first HF holiday after 20 years!

SOUTH COTSWOLD RAMBLERS HOLIDAY APRIL 2017

As you may know I have agreed to arrange a spring holiday for the group next year. I looked back at previous holidays and as we have covered most of HF's that aren't about 500 miles away decided to go with a Ramblers holiday. I have provisionally booked a five night holiday from Sunday April 23rd to Friday April 28th at Sidmouth. I went a bit berserk with the rooms I asked them to reserve so we have 12 single places with no single supplement and 12 twin rooms although this can be flexible. We will be staying half board at The Sidholme Hotel in Sidmouth



and the cost at present is £445, if more than 16 of us go we will all get 5% off making it £422.75 and Ramblers will donate £50 to group funds. This holiday is normally a D grade (see below) but they have agreed to provide an extra leader and do some harder walks as well. The hotel has a heated swimming pool



and I thought that it may be a good choice for those of you whose partners don't walk so that you can drag them along and they will be able to entertain themselves in Sidmouth and nearby places.

On the next page is a booking form from Ramblers so if you could fill in the relevant bits, it covers abroad as well, and send me a cheque for £75 made out to Ramblers Holidays with the completed booking form I will send both off to Ramblers and they will then contact everyone individually when the balance is due. I need to have your deposits by Friday August 19th. For anyone who does not have access to a printer for the booking form Ramblers have sent me some copies so give me a ring and I'll get one to you 01453 839089.

My details for return of the forms and cheque;

Ann Adams
2 Churchill Close
Nailsworth
Stroud
Glos
GL6 0DW

D Grade -

Terrain moderate Energetic hill walking, usually from 6–10 miles, including ascents between 800 and 2000ft (250 to 600m).

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HF Dovedale 2016

In July 2015 Mike Garner sent an email informing the Group of an HF Holiday in the Peak District at Dovedale. Mike extolled the great experience of staying at HF Houses and that ***“if you have never been, why not give it a go”***.

The last time I stayed at an HF House was some twenty years ago in the Lake District, and I did agree it was a great experience. I remember after a hearty breakfast of porridge (which got thicker as the week progressed) you collected your lunch choice of Sandwich, chocolate bar, bag of crisps and a piece of cake for tea. Then you were out on the fells for the whole day come rain or shine returning to the house in the late afternoon. Divesting wet gear and boots in the boiler room, then queuing for the showers. Dinner was served from a large dish by whoever was sat at the head of the table, also desert. The rice pudding also got thicker and by the third evening you could cut it out with a knife! No resting on your laurels, for the nights entertainment was country dancing! You eventually crawled into bed with a smile on your face, ready to repeat the days activities tomorrow. So, I thought, I'll have some more of that.

On Friday 1st April I joined Sally, Olivia and John G and travelled up to Thorpe via the M5, M42, M6Toll and A 38, frequently being alerted by the sound of a whistle from my phone that there was a ***“Traffic Jam Ahead”*** when we were already in it. Altogether, thirteen of the group arrived at the HF House called ***“Peveril of the Peak”*** with another twelve arriving on Monday 4th April.

I was very pleasantly surprised. The House is like an excellent Hotel. All rooms ensuite with TV, radio, hairdryer,

towels and tea and coffee making facilities. A licensed bar; a boot and drying room with a washing machine; WiFi and a Piano – which should have put a smile on Trevor's face until it was divulged that it had been in a flood and not been tuned for years.

After settling in we were invited to meet other guests (a walking group from North Wales) in the lounge where tea, coffee and luscious cakes were available. At five o'clock the house leaders took us on a stroll round the village of Thorpe and to the Church of St. Leonard. We were shown arrow sharpening grooves either side of the porch and an unusually tall sundial. The original church was founded in Norman times but may well be older.

Back at the house we had a briefing of the next day's walks with a visual display on a big screen showing the routes for easier, medium and harder walk. Each route was shown by a moving red trace. I elected to do the medium walks for the whole week.



HF houses are renowned for their fabulous food and the dinner was exceptional. We were offered three courses, the main being a carvery, there was a vegetarian option, and a choice of deserts such as cheese cake, trifle, fruit salad and ice cream. Afterwards tea

and coffee was served in the lounge. I was reminded that a choice for the evening meal tomorrow needed to be made before 9.30am the following day, also a packed lunch, which could be sandwiches of salad; Tuna; Salmon; Egg; Peanut Butter or Chocolate Spread; or salad boxes with Tuna; Salmon; Egg etc.

Saturday 2nd April.

Into the dining room for Breakfast. There was my old friend porridge – but also a variety of other choices. A selection of fruit juices; Yoghurt; fruit; cereals; muesli and/or sausages, eggs (scrambled, poached, boiled, fried, eggs benedict) bacon, tomatoes, mushrooms. The house special – smoked salmon and scrambled egg wrapped in an oat cake. Tea, coffee and toast.

After breakfast I went to collect my packed lunch. The table heaved with fruit; boiled eggs; small pork pies; crisps; dried fruit and nuts; cereal and chocolate bars; cheese; carrot sticks and cake. My eyes are often bigger than my stomach - I reminded myself I would have to carry my choice!

We were all on the coach by 9.15am. After forty five minutes the medium and harder walkers arrived at their start point high up on the moors while the easier walkers started their walk at Baslow. The morning was grey, misty and wet, we progressed along the gritstone edges of Froggatt and Baslow, peering through the gloom down into the valley to see Calver Mill which featured as “Colditz”, the notorious German POW camp, in a popular TV series. Further along we pass the Eagle stone, an isolated six metre high block of gritstone.



Just behind this there is a monument to the Duke of Wellington. We descend to Baslow for lunch, and find a little takeaway shop for tea and coffee. The sun starts to shine and we make our way to Chatsworth and walk through the parkland and on to Edensor.



This estate village was created when Joseph Paxton remodelled and landscaped the gardens taking down those houses visible from the House. His grave and that of Kathleen Kennedy, the sister of the late President of the USA and the wife of the present Dukes elder brother, are buried in St. Peter's Churchyard. There is a stone to commemorate the visit of John F. Kennedy to his sister's grave in 1963. We leave the parkland and up to Manners wood and down into Bakewell, known for the local confection Bakewell Pudding. Apparently made by accident in 1820 when the almond paste was spread on top of the jam instead of on the pastry base.

Sunday 3rd April

Today all three groups walked from the house. The sun shone as we walked down Lin Dale to the famous Stepping Stones



and turned to follow the river Dove upstream towards Milldale.



During the two ice ages the limestone rock was cut into craggy shapes by the melting ice. These rock formations were named – Dovedale Castle; Lover's Leap; Jacob's Ladder; Twelve Apostles; Tissington Spiers; Reynard's Cave; Lionshead Rock; Dove Holes and Ravens Tor.



The sun had brought the flowers out and we saw Butter Bur; Golden Saxifrage; Celandines and Violets. We reach Viator's Bridge (a pack horse bridge) and although our route is up hill in the opposite direction, we cross the bridge into Staffordshire to use the loos! We ascend to Shining Tor and join the Tissington Trail where we dodge bell-less bicycles coming from both directions. Tissington Village boasts a 17th C Jacobean Mansion House and nine wells. The wells are dressed with pressed flowers every year on Ascension Day. We continue on the trail for a little further then across field paths back to the house.

Monday 4th April

Today is a rest day when we could do our own thing. Some of us went to Chatsworth House, some to climb Mam Tor and some to the Blue John Caverns. After our outing some of us climbed to the top of Thorpe Cloud, a limestone hill behind the Hotel. From the summit 942ft. you could look down to the river Dove and the famous stepping stones. It was also the day twelve more ramblers arrived to join the party. Afternoon tea was served at 4pm. Later a buffet for our evening meal.

Tuesday 5th April

A fifty minute coach journey took us to the gritstone escarpment of The Roaches.



We walked up passed Rock Cottage, a little house built into the side of the rocks, which once belonged to the gamekeeper and is now a climbing hut. Through the wood and onto the top of the escapement we came across the Doxey Pool.



A bottomless pool inhabited by a Mermaid! We walk along the ridge passing rock formations worn into fantastic shapes by the wind and rain. Descending through the very muddy Forest Wood we arrived at Lud's Church an immense natural cleft in the rock 15mtrs high in places and over 100mtrs long. The Lollards (Followers of John Wycliffe, an early church reformer) used it as a place of worship in the early 15th century, giving the place its current name. We descend to Clouch Head and walk along tracks and minor road to Meerbrook, where we find a Monkey Puzzle Tree complete with Monkeys! From here it was a short step to Tittesworth Reservoir and a tea/coffee shop. Severn Trent Water built the visitor centre in 1998 although the reservoir was first constructed as early as 1858.

Wednesday 6th April

The forecast for today's weather is sunshine and wintery showers. We start our walk today from Crich, the home of the National Tramway Museum and the Memorial to the Sherwood Foresters, The regiment of the counties of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.



We walk on to Wakebridge and meet some Shetland Ponies. On to the village of Lea. Lea Hurst was the family home of Florence Nightingale, she provided books for Lea School as well as the services of a Doctor for the village poor. We stopped for lunch at Dethick in the churchyard of St. John The Baptist. In this tiny hamlet Anthony Babington, a staunch supporter of Mary Queen of Scots, lived in the Manor. He became obsessed with his plans to free Mary and establish her as Queen of England. He was hung, drawn and quartered at Lincoln's Field. After lunch we head for Riber and Riber Castle (now luxury apartments). We descend along an iron ore bridleway, our heads down against the sleet and snow, to Cromford Canal towpath and Sunshine. We arrive at Arkwright's Mill where there is a tea/coffee shop. Cromford Mill was Richard Arkwright's first cotton Mill. He pioneered the development of his water frame spinning machine and revolutionised the manufacture of cloth.

Thursday 7th April

Our last day of walking and the coach takes the medium and harder walkers 9 miles to Hartington. There, opposite the

duck pond is The Old Cheese Shop famous for its Peakland Blue and Peakland White Cheese, which some of us were tempted to buy.



After exploring the village we followed the river Dove through the beautiful dales of Beresford and Wolfscote. We glimpse Charles Cotton's Fishing House. He was born at Beresford Hall in 1630 and was a poet and writer. Cotton contributed a section "*Instructions how to angle for trout or grayling*" to Izzak Walton's book *The Complete Angler*. We leave the river to climb up Gypsy Bank and make our way through fields to Alstonefield where we are greeted by a Tyrannosaurus Rex (scaled down version of course).



We explore the village and find a Green Well, which was the original water supply until mains water arrived in 1957. We were impressed by the kneelers in the 12th C Church of St. Peter and I was excited to see a small group of Snake Head Fritillary growing in the graveyard. We find the village green opposite The George Pub and sit in the sunshine to have our picnic lunch. We make our way across pastures to Milldale (which we

visited on Sunday) crossing the pack horse bridge we set off following the river Dove upstream. We arrive at the stepping stones to find them completely submerged after the wintery heavy showers of the previous day.



Then up Lin Dale to the back of the House.

Our last evening's entertainment is a Skittles Tournament! I used to play for a ladies skittles team so this I thought would be a doddle – but the balls managed to find all the gaps between the skittles! Mike, who I believed was a novice, threw himself down the alley and got top score.

Other evening's entertainment included Pictionary; a talk with slides about the River Dove from source to joining the river Trent; a quiz



which the winning team were awarded HF mugs and I could not forget the Welsh Country Dancing – which I was purely a spectator!

Well I have rambled on a bit but I thoroughly enjoyed my holiday and thank you Mike for organising the trip. I hope there will be many more to come – I shall certainly be on the next one.

Sue Clark

Miles of Smiles

Everyone knows walking is good for you health-wise, good for your legs, arms , back etc, but it is also good for the muscles in your face. Look at how South Cotswold Ramblers are frequently caught on camera with a smile on their faces, even on a dull day!



Are you a Shakespeare fan?

A group of us realised that we share an interest in Shakespeare and would occasionally like to go to Stratford to see a production. In fact if 8 people go as a group you can get a discount of £5 per ticket. If anyone is interested in being contacted about any performances we are interested in going to see, email me at sally@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk.

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Ramblers 2016**

This year's **AGM** is on 12 November 2016 at 13:30 at the Rodborough Tabernacle. Could all members please submit any motions for discussion by no later than 31 August 2016 to the secretary, Andrew Hawkins, groupsecretary@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk.

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GROUP VOLUNTEERS 2016

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Bob Frewin

Footpath Committee Member:

Penny Fernando

Led Walks Programme Co-ordinator:

Mike Garner mike@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk

Led Walks Collectors for November 2016 -

February 2017 (dates needed by 31 August, details by 25th September)

John G 01452 728760 Weekend Walks

Anne E 01453 842551 Start the Week Walks

Jacqui P 01666 826139 Midweek Walks

We have welcomed 14 more **NEW MEMBERS** since the last newsletter, including Catherine, Celia, David, Franceska, Glyn, Jacqueline, Joanne, Mark, Mary, Penny, Wayne and Wendy from Berkeley, Cashes Green, Halmore, Minchinhampton, Nailsworth, Oldbury-on-Severn, Painswick, Rodborough Common and Wotton-under-Edge . Total membership 408. *Mike Garner*



ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS

The next concert will be on 26th November at 7.30pm at Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Rd., Stroud, Gloucestershire (next to the General Hospital)

Programme

Trim

Heart of the Five Valleys

Brahms

Piano concerto No 2 Soloist: Poom Prommachart

Tchaikovsky

Symphony No. 4

Listen to extracts at www.stroudsymphony.org.uk Please order your tickets from Stroud Tourist Information (01453 760960)

Mike 01453 873625

Going away with Ramblers' Holidays?

We have recently received a sum of money for Group Funds from Ramblers Holidays where members taking a holiday with them have nominated South Cotswold Group. If you ever forget to tell them when booking, there is still time if you contact them before you go. By your doing so, they will donate £10, £20 or even £30 per person to our funds to be used to benefit walkers.

If you wish to put any items in the next newsletter (which will go out in October), please send them to Sally Davis

(newsletter@southcotswoldramblers.org.uk) by **19th September**

PLEASE READ BEFORE WALKING

RING the leader if you are in any doubt, especially if you haven't walked recently. Perhaps try shorter walks first.

PACE Most of our walks are of **Moderate** pace, averaging 2 mph with stops. Monday walks are labelled **Leisurely** and are about 1.5 mph; a 10:30 start on a 4 mile walk means finishing between 12:45 and 1pm approximately.

NON MEMBERS - You are very welcome to walk with the Group a few times. Just turn up on the day. Ring the leader first if you have any questions. We hope you will then wish to join, either on-line at www.ramblers.org.uk or with a leaflet, quoting GR03 if you wish to be in our particular Group. Once a member you can walk with any Ramblers' group in Britain.

DOGS - Sorry, registered assistance dogs only.

PLEASE do not walk ahead of the leader unless asked.

HOW HILLY? **Terrain 0** Level. **Terrain 1** Not much climbing.

Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. **Terrain 3** Quite hilly.

Terrain 4 Very hilly. **Terrain 5** Mountainous.

WHAT TO BRING Bananas are popular as a snack, and bring plenty of water. On day walks you are advised to bring food, even if planning a pub lunch, in case the pub is closed. Wear strong footwear. Bring waterproofs and/or warmer clothing and a simple first aid kit. Remove muddy boots in pubs/churches.

ADVERSE CONDITIONS Leaders may decide to cancel or shorten the walk, taking into account everyone's health and safety. If in doubt, please contact them before travelling or even better see

www.southcotswoldramblers.org.uk/messages

IMPORTANT - KEEPING TOGETHER ON A WALK Most parties will have a back marker appointed for the walk. Please inform this person if you need to drop behind for a comfort stop, and tell them when you catch up again. All members of larger parties are asked to help by keeping a look out behind them. If the people behind you are in danger of losing touch, perhaps in a wood, please pause and tell the people in front of you to wait a minute as well. One way is to give a long blast on your whistle if someone has lost touch. Thank you.

MAPS ON RAMBLERS' WALKSFINDER

If you click **MAPS** on each walk of Our Walks pages online on your laptop or touch it on your smartphone or tablet, you will be taken to a page holding all the details of the walk and a single map.

But if you experiment you find that there are several maps in about 10 different scales. You can get an aerial view, an Open Street Map and an OS Map. To change scale just click or tap the plus and minus signs. To change maps, tap or click on the pages symbol on the top right.

If you want to look to the side or further N or S, with your mouse hold the left button down and drag the map around. Or on a phone just slide it! Give it a go - I looked at the aerial map of Birdlip and could see cars in the car park!

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS ON THE WAY


Some of you may have already heard that we are planning a new website for the group. The original one came to life in 2000 with a free last century program from a £2.95 computer magazine. Mike still uses this program to edit pages. Sally fills in the templates with many of the walks photos and captions, but has to send all the files to Mike for uploading.


We are now getting some professional help in setting up the modern website. We are hoping that links to the old photo and holiday pages will be operating as normal. Once the site is launched, more than one person will be able to log in and edit it, putting on urgent messages - very useful!

The other advantage is that pages will be very easy to read on mobile devices, as it will change the way it displays the information to be legible on the small screen.

When ready the site should be at the same web address as you all know and love www.southcotswoldramblers.org.uk and we will advise all members on email as soon as it is up and running.

Mike Garner






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Walking holiday partner



Sat 2 Jul morning 6m Guiting Power: A force to be reckoned with A gentle walk visiting two idyllic Cotswold villages. A mixture of woods, country lanes and open fields. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Several stiles on the route. Several pubs in the area. Farmers Arms in the village may let you use their car park if you are eating there. **Leaders - Tim S and Ann T** 01242 530734 or 07931 683162 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Guiting Power Village Hall CP. Small fee in honesty box. GL54 5TU L163/OL45 SP094247 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1qQKOGu>

Mon 4 Jul morning 3.5m Yet still the woods of Sapperton A gentle paced walk via Westley Farm, Canal, Sapperton Woods. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. Nothing booked but The Crown is close by for lunch. **Leaders - Richard and Diana** 01453 762373 on day 07973 860669 Meet 10.20 for **10:30 start** from Frampton Mansell. Turn off A419 near old White Horse, park on verge near village. (GL6 8JE) L163/E168 SO919022 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1Tgigsq>

Wed 6 Jul long morning 6.5m Owl patrol Sheephouse, Pincot, Wickridge Hill, The Vatch, Steanbridge. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. **Leader - Jill** 01242 255994 on day 07815 786467 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Painswick Starnages Lane CP pay & display. (GL6 6UU) L162/E179 SO865095 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1P5CNJx>

Thu 7 Jul evening 4m Heavens Above Along the canal to Bowbridge, up through the fields to The Heavens then back down quiet lane. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Food available at The Ship after walk. **Leader - Ann A** 01453 839089 on day 07931 114439 Meet 18:20 for **18:30 start** from Brimscombe, Ship Inn car park if eating in pub after walk, otherwise lane to the side. (GL5 2RD) L162/E168 SO867023 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1sh4k0q>

Sat 9 Jul day 9m Rodborough hilly walk with super views on a clear day Rodborough Common, Lypiatt Manor, Toadsmoor Valley, Brimscombe Port. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. Bring a picnic. **Leader - Catherine** 01452 615382 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Rodborough Common CP. From The Bear Inn first CP on left. (GL5 5BP) SO851035 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/24cGRcl>

Wed 13 Jul day 8.5m Beautiful villages around Stow A circle around Stow including Broadwell, Donnington, Upper and Lower Swell and Maugersbury. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Bring a picnic. **Leaders - Sally and Ros** 01453 872729 / 01285 239054 on day 07818 425088 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Stow-on-the-Wold free public CP at Tesco, on A429. (GL54 1BX) Usually room but perhaps car-share as other all-day CP on A436 (GL54 1AJ) is £7 and 10 mins walk away. OL45 SP191261 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1UBjev4>

Thu 14 Jul evening 3.5m Commons and Woods Via Amberley, St Chloe, Manor Woods and across Rodborough and Minchinhampton commons. Terrain T1 The odd hill. **Leader - Tim C** 01453 757104 Meet 18:20 for **18:30 start** from Minchinhampton Common reservoir CP L162/E168 SO855012 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1WRnjbs>

Sat 16 Jul morning 6m Something for everyone Woodland paths, fields, lanes and canalside paths. Route goes past

Daneway, through Oakridge and down to canal for return. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Lunch possible at The Bell. **Leader - Colin B (Amberley)** 01453 872349 on day 07717 317510 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Sapperton village, near Church. (GL7 6LG) L163/E179 SO947033 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1TOhYIY>

Mon 18 Jul morning 3.6m Bear with me From the Bear Hotel across and around the Fort, down to Butterrow Lane, along and gentle climb back up to common. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. About 1/3 of the walk is along a quiet lane. Good bar menu at the Bear after. **Leader - Ann A** 01453 839089 on day 07931 114439 Meet 10.20 for **10:30 start** from Rodborough Bear Inn CP by kind permission. (GL5 5EA) L162/E168 SO853025 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1sDyU45>

Wed 20 Jul morning 6m Waterley Bottom and Laycombe Top Steep climb up to Ridge Cross. Laycombe Woods over London Road to look out over Coombe. Return by quiet lane past Apple Tree Farm. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Maybe muddy if recent rain. Food in pub. **Leaders - Jane and Al** 01453 765447 on day 07774 485483 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Waterley Bottom, New Inn. CP at rear of Pub. Double up if you can. Narrow lanes, so easier approach through North Nibley. (GL11 6EF) L162/E167 ST758963 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1sDz9Mw>

Thu 21 Jul evening 3m Progress with two difficult stiles? Park Wood, Thrupp. Back along the canal. Terrain 2. Not much climbing apart from steep hill at start. Two stiles very difficult but Bernard is on the case! Food at Ship Inn - pre-order. **Leaders - Sally & Keith** 01453 872729 on day 07818 425088 Meet 18:20 for **18:30 start** from Brimscombe, Ship Inn. Park in their CP if using, or in lane next to the pub (signed GK Joinery). (GL5 2RD) L162/E168 SO867023 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1sDyYks>

Sat 23 Jul day 10m Views of the Severn Exploring the Berkeley Vale. Terrain 0 Level. Bring a picnic. **Leader - Ray C** 01453 811545 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Laburnum Cottage, Brookend, Berkeley. Car parking is in my garden at rear of house. (GL13 9SF) L162/E167 SO685020 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1WSE1ks>

Wed 27 Jul morning 6m The American Tree Walk Cranham Common, Wysis Way, Sheepscombe. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Pub lunch available. **Leader - Graham B** 01452 725405 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Cranham, Black Horse pub car park. L163/E179 SO896129 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1UBjCd5>

Thu 28 Jul evening 4.5m Rodborough Parish Walk Lagger Lane to Boundary Court. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. **Leaders - Richard and Diana** 01453 762373 on day 07973 860669 Meet 18:20 for **18:30 start** from Rodborough Pavilion CP. Go up hill from Golden Cross and straight across Rodborough Hill into Butterrow West. (GL5 3UA) L162/E168 SO847044 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1qQMujm>

Sat 30 Jul day 8.5m In search of the Bisley Boy Calfway Farm, Piedmont, Lypiatt. May be slippery if wet. Bring food. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. **Leaders - Richard and Diana** 01453 762373 on day 07973 860669 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Bisley, Windyridge layby on Cheltenham Road. (GL6 7BJ) L163/E179 SO903063 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1U2jD3s>

South Cotswold Ramblers

Our Walks - August 2016



Mon 1 Aug morning 4m Summer walk from Sherston Leisurely walk to picturesque Luckington. Back to Sherston on Macmillan Way. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Lunch at end in Sherston if required. **Leader - Jacqui** 01666 826139 Meet 10:20 for **10:30 start** at Sherston High Street. Please park considerately and meet at The Angel. (SN16 0LH) L173/E168 ST853858
Maps <http://bit.ly/25oaqdu>

Wed 3 Aug morning 5.5m Tewkesbury Tramp Along Severn Way to Deerhurst and back through fields, past golf club to Abbey. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Many eating places in Tewkesbury afterwards. **Leader - Enid** 01242 863283 on day 07570 789317 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Tewkesbury Long Stay CP (£1 a day). From M5 past Morrisons, go R into Chance Street then 2nd R into Station Road and follow to car park. (GL20 5DR) L150/E190 SO899329 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1OSYirl>

Thu 4 Aug evening 3.5m Around Randwick Bread Street, Pitchcombe, Bird in Hand. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Possible pub meal at end. **Leaders - Steve and Rosemary** 01453 860130 Meet 18:20 for **18:30 start** from Randwick, outside Vine Tree. Park in adjacent CP or use pub CP if visiting after. (GL6 6JB) L162/E179 SO829068 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/24cl6bA>

Sat 6 Aug day 8m Coombe Hill Nature Reserve Leigh village, Coombe Hill Nature Reserve to River Severn, Wainlodes, Priors Norton. Walking through low lying meadows. (subject to flooding after heavy rain). Terrain 0 Level. Packed lunch. **Leader - Andrew** 01452 857958 on day 07900 390351 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Lay-By on southbound side of A38 opposite turning to Leigh village. (GL19 4AD) L162/E179 SO874255 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1NTCYHn>

Wed 10 Aug morning 5m Way Down South Brokenborough, Escourt Park. Terrain rating. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix (undulating). **Leader - Olivia** 01453 751716 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Shipton Moyne Cat and Custard Pot CP if staying for lunch or in village. (GL8 8PN) L162/E168 ST890895 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1TJTegD>

Thu 11 Aug evening 4m What IS a bodkin? Marshfield path, Bodkin Hazel Wood and Cotswold Way. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Food available in pub at the end of walk. **Leader - Anne E** 01453 842551 on day 07773 292363 Meet 18:20 for **18:30 start** from Hawkesbury Upton Beaufort Arms, (park at rear of CP if using). Or park at village hall CP (donation). (GL9 1AU) L162/E167 ST778869 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1Z5WMIk>

Sat 13 Aug day 9.5m By the By Brook Monarchs Way to Slaughterford back through North Wraxall and Truckle Hill. May be wet underfoot in places. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Bring a lunch bag and plenty to drink. Numerous refreshments available in Castle Combe on completion. **Leader - Ray W** 01453 547213 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Castle Combe car park at top of village. (SN14 7HQ) L173/E156 ST845777 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1XX2KwL>

Mon 15 Aug morning 4m The Little Avon and fields gentle walk Head for Huntingford Mill, Swinhay and Burrough Hill Farm. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Food available at Railway Tavern if required. **Leader - Anne E** 01453 842551 on day 07773 292363 Meet 10.20 for **10:30 start** from Charfield Railway Tavern CP. Park there if eating or in Charfield Memorial Hall CP which is just over the railway bridge on left travelling away from Wotton. (GL12 8UF) L162/E167 ST724923 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1TJU10U>

Wed 17 Aug morning 3m This Time Going Green A casual saunter (about 2 hours) around and up Robinswood Hill. Fantastic views of Gloucester from top. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Drink/banana stop halfway. **Leaders - John and Cheryl** 01452 500143 on day 07789 608050 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Robinswood Country Park CP. Take A4173 (Stroud Road) to St Barnabas roundabout (junction with A38), 4th turning on L (Reservoir Road), L sweep, R sweep. Entrance to Country Park on R (GL4 6SX) L162/E179 SO836158 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1Tgly4p>

Thu 18 Aug evening 3.5m An evening with the Queen Painswick stream, bottom of Juniper Hill. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. Two steep climbs. Food possible at Falcon Inn PH. Please pre-order. **Leader - Olivia** 01453 751716 Meet 18:20 for **18:30 start** from Painswick Stamages Lane CP. Free parking after 5:00pm. (GL6 6UT) L162/E179 SO865095 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/27Wh50R>

Sat 20 Aug day 10m Chavenage to Kingscote Via Babdown, Lasborough, Kingscote (Pub Lunch if required), Hazelcote, Tiltups End, Ledgemore Bottom. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. **Leader - John G** 01452 728760 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** Chavenage Green. (GL8 8XS) L162/E168 ST865957 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1Z5XB3V>

Wed 24 Aug day 9m Gloucestershire not Ireland Kilkenny, Foxcote, Withington, Pinchley Wood, Rats Hill Bank (Gloucestershire Way). Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Picnic lunch, Drinks at Kilkenny at end perhaps! **Leader - Ray W** 01453 547213 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** Kilkenny Viewpoint CP off A436. (GL54 4LT) L163/OL45 SP004186 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1U2osK4>

Thu 25 Aug evening 4m Rodborough Parish Walk Canals and Railways, Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Mainly level but climb back to CP. **Leaders - Richard, Diana and Tim** 01453 762373 on day 07973 860669 Meet 18:20 for **18:30 start** from Rodborough Pavilion CP. Go up hill from Golden Cross and straight across Rodborough Hill into Butterow West. (GL5 3UA) L162/E168 SO847044 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1UjEfGO>

Sat 27 Aug long morning 7.5m Walk the Fun Run Winchcombe, Waterhatch, Roel Gate, Deadmanbury Gate, Sudley Lodge, Winchcombe. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. A very steady climb and descent with minimal stiles. Cafes and pubs in Winchcombe after walk. **Leaders - Jill and Sue** 01242 255994 on day 07815 786467 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Winchcombe Back Lane CP (off B4632 Gloucester Street). (GL54 5PZ) OL45/L150 SP023284 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/20NbPXX>

WHAT A LOT OF WALKS THIS MONTH!
TWO MORE ON THE NEXT PAGE >>

South Cotswold Ramblers

Our Walks - September 2016



Mon 29 Aug morning 3.8m Miserden Monday Skirting the park and out through Wishanger, back to Miserden through Througham. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Food available at the Carpenters Arms after walk. We usually order before the walk. **Leader - Ann A** 01453 839089 on day 07931 114439 Meet 10.20 for **10:30 start** from Miserden, Carpenters Arms. Only use pub car park if using pub after walk. Or park considerably in road. (GL6 7JA) L163/E179 SO937088 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1TL8LJS>

Wed 31 Aug morning 6m View the vale A fairly easy walk with views over the Severn Vale and skirting Dyrham Park. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. **Leader - Colin B (Amberley)** 01453 872349 on day 07717 317510 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from West Littleton – second turning E off A46 south of M4. Park on left verge in centre of village just before church. (SN14 8JE) L172/E155 ST761754 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1sDCTH5>

Sat 3 Sep morning 6m Rodmarton Squarecular Macmillan Way, Tarlton and Monarch's Way. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. **Leader - Tim C** 01453 757104 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Rodmarton, Cherington Road, park on verge. L162/E168 ST939979 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1sDD4Jh>

Mon 5 Sep morning 4m No common stroll Brimscombe, Minchinhampton and Box via lanes and common. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Undulating, but with a couple of short steep hills. Pub meal possible at end. **Leaders - Brian and Sheelagh** 01453 872220 Meet 10.20 for **10:30 start** from Minchinhampton Common Old Lodge Inn. From middle of common, turn towards Nailsworth. Pub is along track on the R. (GL6 9AQ) L162/E168 SO853008 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1UJEDVL>

Wed 7 Sep morning 5.8m Hidden valleys, rolling meadows, grand old trees Walking down to Lasborough and Ozeleworth Bottom, then back up via Bagpath. Might be muddy in places. Tremendous variety of landscape throughout. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Couple of steep climbs, but much of the walk is in valley bottom. Pub lunch possible, please pre-order. **Leaders - Mary and Steve** M-07733 266308 S-07905 596006 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Kingscote, Hunters Hall Inn CP. (GL8 8YA) L162/E168 ST814960 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/20Ncxo6>

Sat 10 Sep morning 5.5m Stanley St Leonard to Coaley Leonard Stanley, Gypsy Lane, Knapp Lane, Coaley Peak. Great views. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Long 600 foot climb near beginning. Bring snack as no pub at the end. **Leaders - Brian and Sheelagh** 01453 872220 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Leonard Stanley church. Park considerably in lanes nearby. (GL10 3NU) L162/E168 SO802033 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1Tgqort>

Wed 14 Sep long morning 6.5m An old Roman Town and a famous film set Fosse Way, Norton, Foxley, River Avon at the site of an old Roman town, Easton Grey and near Pinkney Park. Terrain 1 Not much climbing, so at a fairly fast pace, but many stiles, some of which are in a poor state of repair. Mainly tracks and footpaths, some muddy. Expensive food available at the Vine Tree at Norton. **Leader - Franceska** 07582 372711 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Fosse Way, 1.5 miles S of Easton Grey. (SN16 0PW) L173/E168 ST879855 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1TOII6P>

Sat 17 Sep day 12m Mystery route to the Jacobean house All day walk from Stow. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Packed lunch. **Leader - Graham W** 01453 885408 on day 07977 863592 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Stow on the Wold free public car park at Tesco, on A429. (GL54 1BX) OL45 SP191261 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1sDDnnp>

Mon 19 Sep morning 4m Around the Stanleys leisurely walk King's Stanley, Leonard Stanley, Five Acre Grove, Stanley Downton, Terrain 1 Not much climbing. Lunch available afterwards at Kings Head opposite CP, if required. **Leader - Margaret** 01453 828036 on day 07930 396204 Meet 10.20 for **10:30 start** from King's Stanley SDC CP opposite the pub. (GL10 3JD) L162/E168 SO811034 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1UJEQZ9>

Wed 21 Sep short day 7.5 m Witcombe Wood with Witcombes Undulating mainly woodland walk: Witcombe Wood, Cranham, Sheepscombe. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Bring packed lunch. Tea/beer available at end. **Leaders - Brian and Sheelagh** 01453 872220 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Fostons Ash Pub. Park/double park tightly at back of CP leave room for pub users. (GL6 7ES) L163/E179 SO914114 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1P5K5Ne>

Thu 22 Sep evening 3m Rodborough Parish Walk Stroll around Rodborough Common. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. **Leaders - Richard and Diana** 01453 762373 on day 07973 860669 Meet 17:20 for **17:30 start** from Rodborough Pavilion CP. Go up hill from Golden Cross and across into Butterow West. (GL5 3UA) L162/E168 SO847044 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/25Rltol>

Sat 24 Sep morning 4.5mA Warm-up for tomorrow's Five Valleys? Rodborough Common to the canal then up to Lower Littleworth. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Pubs available in Amberley afterwards. **Leaders - Sally and Keith** 01453 872729 on day 07818 425088 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Amberley War Memorial (NB this is up on the Common not by the Amberley Inn). Park considerably on Common without damaging grass. (GL5 5AA) L162/E168 SO851016 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1Wrli7G>

Wed 28 Sep morning 5m Trip to the Coombes Circular walk visiting the various Coombes, starting with Coombe Farm. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Possible pub lunch at end. **Leaders - Steve and Rosemary** 01453 860130 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from outside Beaufort Arms in Hawkesbury Upton. Use pub car park if visiting afterwards or Parish Hall Car Park opposite (honesty box). (GL9 1AU) L172/E167 ST777870 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1P5Kwag>

OUR WALKS ARE ALSO ONLINE HERE <http://tinyurl.com/SCRWalks>

ALL LEISURE ACTIVITIES have inherent hazards associated with them including rambling. In spite of participants' safety always being the paramount concern, accidents will occasionally occur. It is important that each person appreciates their responsibility to identify hazards and take all reasonable steps to eliminate or minimise the potential for accidents.

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South Cotswold Ramblers

Our Walks - October 2016



Sat 1 Oct morning 6m Skylark walk

Barrow Hill, Fretherne church, Severn Way. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. **Leader - Olivia** 01453 751716 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Arlingham, Red Lion CP (space for 7 cars). Otherwise park carefully nearby. (GL2 7JT) L162/OL14 SO708109 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1Tomwzb>

Mon 3 Oct morning 3.7m Exploring due east from Bisley A varied gentle walk heading out of Bisley, along Hayhedge Lane, down into a quiet valley and back through woods and field paths. Terrain 1 Not much climbing. A few stiles. Possible pub lunch at The Bear. **Leader Sheila L** 01453 757295 on day 07972 904325 Meet 10.20 for **10:30 start** from Bisley, The Bear CP or street parking nearby. (GL6 7BD) L163/E179 SO903060 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1qQSQiT>

Wed 5 Oct morning 5.5m Wolfhounds and Holy Well Cam Peak, Hermitage Wood, Stinchcombe Hill, Sheep Path Wood back via Upper Cam. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. **Leaders - Peter and Sue** 01453 860797 on day 07854 634090 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Cam Peak CP (Peaked Down). (GL11 5HH) L162/E167 ST767993 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/22rH5Nx>

TWO OF OUR WALKS ARE IN DURSLEY WALKING FESTIVAL. EITHER

Sat 8 Oct day walk 11m Vale and Trail

Across the Vale to Frocester and Leonard Stanley, Cotswold Way National Trail back. am Terrain 0 Level pm Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Bring your own lunch. **Leader - Allen** 01453 545588 on day 07749 564232 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1VmKxrN>

OR

Sat 8 Oct long morning 6.5m Cam Long Down and Far Green Over Long Down to Far Green back via Ashmead Green. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Take a Snack. **Leaders - Peter and Sue** 01453 860797 on day 07854 634090 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1Ubo0Jh>

PARKING FOR BOTH WALKS

Please meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Dursley Market House. (Parking may be at Sainsburys - to be confirmed - see our Message Page nearer the time) (GL11 4HZ) L162/E167 ST756981

Wed 12 Oct morning 5.7m Déjà Vue

A very muddy walk I did earlier in the year when we had to abandon the route and walk around the lanes, hopefully better at this time of year. Up the Severn Way towards the bridges and back along bridle ways. Terrain 0 Level. Food available at The Anchor Inn after walk. **Leader - Ann A** 01453 839089 on day 07931 114439 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Oldbury on Severn Anchor Inn large CP on opposite side of road to pub. (BS35 1QA) L162/E167 ST609924 **Maps** - <http://bit.ly/1NTNlLw>

Sat 15 Oct long morning 6.5m A river, a canal and railways Brookend to Purton. Then along the Severn Way between River Severn and Canal, passing the boat graveyard and the remains of the old Severn bridge, on the way to Sharpness. May catch sight of Patrick and Angela on the way. Terrain 0 Level. Food available at Lammastide Inn in Brookend. **Leaders - Ros and Ron** 01285 239054 / 07917 808234 / 07752 397855 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Brookend (near Berkeley) Lammastide Inn. Take the

A38 south turn on A4066 signposted Sharpness. Once on A4066 look for a right turn at a roundabout to Brookend. (GL13 9SG) L167/OL14 SO684020 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/20Ne2CB>

Mon 17 Oct morning 4m Stroll along Canal and River A local walk seeing the latest changes and a chance for a good chat. Terrain 0 Level. There is the possibility of a light lunch at the end of the walk. **Leader - Anne C** 01453 752654 Meet 10.20 for **10:30 start** from Ebley Victory Park CP - From Westward Road coming from Tricorn House turn R along Church Road (P sign pointing R on L of main road). Turn L before St Matthews Church (P sign) Park at far end in SDC CP near Victory Park. (GL5 4LH) L162/E168 SO830049 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1TNT3K>

Wed 19 Oct long morning 7.3m Forest Hills and River Bank Soudley Ponds, The Haie, Bullo, Ruddle, Blaize Bailey. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Forest and farmland. Bring packed lunch. Refreshments available at Lower Soudley Heritage Centre afterwards. **Leaders - Patrick and Angela** 01452 616886 on day 07778 662951 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Soudley Ponds Nature Reserve CP. Approach via Littledean. At mini roundabout follow main road Right (not the Newnham road) then take left turn lane by shops signposted Soudley. (GL14 3EQ) OL14/L162 SO662115 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1XX4mGT>

Sat 22 Oct morning 5.5m Not a wet walk! Owlpen, Nymphsfield, Coaley Peak and Uley Bury. Terrain 2 Hilly and level mix. Possible pub meal at end. **Leaders - Steve and Rosemary** 01453 860130 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Uley, Old Crown. Park on road by Church or use pub CP if visiting afterwards. (GL11 5SN) L162/E168 ST792985 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1sTVE0m>

Wed 26 Oct morning 6m Sleepy but speedy Oakridge, Waterlane, Siccridge Wood, canal. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. Pre-book at Butchers Arms if using it after walk as it gets very busy. **Leaders - Jill and Sue** 01242 255994 on day 07815 786467 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Oakridge Recreational Ground roadside parking. (GL6 7NX) L162/E179 SO918036 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1OT27gn>

Sat 29 Oct day 8m Shepherd's delight Crickley Hill, Ullenwood, Salterley Grange, Leckhampton, Hartley Hill, Coberley. Terrain 3 Quite hilly. Picnic. **Leaders - Jill and Sue** 01242 255994 on day 07815 786467 Meet 09:50 for **10:00 start** from Barrow Wake, Birdlip Viewing Point CP off A417. (GL3 4UH) L163/E179 SO931153 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1NT0dj1>

Mon 31 Oct morning 4m A Leisurely Walk in the Berkeley Severn Vale Terrain 0 Mainly level. Lunch available at the Lammastide Inn if required afterwards. **Leader - Ray C** 01453 811545 Meet 10.20 for **10:30 start** from Laburnum Cottage, Brookend, Berkeley. Car parking is in my garden at the rear of the house. (GL13 9SF) L162/E167 SO685020 **Maps** <http://bit.ly/1Ubouio>

ADVERSE CONDITIONS Leaders may decide to cancel or shorten the walk, taking into account everyone's health and safety. Please contact them if in any doubt before travelling or see www.southcotswoldramblers.org.uk/messages