

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY RAMBLING CLUB

Easter Term Diary 2010

Welcome back to Cambridge! As always, we have a whole variety of walks lined up, from 6 mile strolls, to 81 mile marches! If you'd like to come on a walk, there's no need to sign up, just turn up at the time and place given. We recommend you wear **strong boots**, and bring **waterproof clothing** with you. Don't forget to bring a **drink** with you, and a **packed lunch** if it's a day walk. Your only expense is the bus or train fare (given below), plus our £1 annual membership fee. Happy Rambling!

Meeting Points:

- **Bus/Coach:** At the corner of Drummer Street and Emmanuel Street
- **Train:** In the main hall of Cambridge Railway Station

Because it's exam term, there'll be lots of short walks running for those that can't spare a whole day - look out for this sign:



April

<p>24th "Fen Rivers Way"</p> <p>King's Lynn - Downham Market and Cambridge (19 km / 12 miles or 75km / 47 miles)</p> <p>Contact : Matthew</p> <p>A walk along the River Ouse from Kings Lynn to Downham Market, with an optional long extension. Heading out of King's Lynn, we will pick up the Fen Rivers Way. This takes us along the river and through the villages of Wiggenhall St Germans, Wiggenhall St Mary Magdalene and Stowbridge, before we reach Downham Market. Here the sensible Rambler can take the train back to Cambridge, while for the more crazy Rambler (and anyone wanting to try out a long walk ahead of the Varsity March) there will be the opportunity to continue along the Fen Rivers Way overnight, all the way back to Cambridge!</p> <p>Meet: 09:20 at the train station for the 09:35 train to King's Lynn Return: 16:09 train from Downham Market, arriving in Cambridge at 16:44. Those walking all the way back to Cambridge will (hopefully!) return early Sunday morning. Cost: £8.50, or £5.60 with a railcard [Return to King's Lynn]</p>	<p>25th "Famous Graves of Cambridge" </p> <p>Within Cambridge (11 km / 7 miles)</p> <p>Contact: Gillian</p> <p>A chance to meet some of Cambridge's most famous residents! Heading off from St John's, our first stop will be the Ascension Parish Burial Ground, near Huntingdon Road. Highlights include John Couch Adams, the discoverer of Neptune, Sir Arthur Eddington and Arthur Benson, who wrote "Land of Hope and Glory". We'll then walk along the backs, and follow the river to Grantchester, to take in the poet, Rupert Brooke's memorial, before heading back to Cambridge, via St Boltolph's graveyard.</p> <p>Meet: St John' College, 9:30am Return: St John's College, 1:30pm Cost: Free!</p>
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May

<p>1st "Oh No, not another nature reserve" </p> <p>Shepreth Circular (10 km / 6 miles + possible detour)</p> <p>Contact: Chris</p> <p>Leaving the delights of Shepreth railway station, we pass the old church of All Saints before trundling through the nature reserve of "L-Moor". Heading towards Meldreth, we plod our way along the course of the river Mel to emerge in Melbourn. Heading East, we then hit the lush and verdant RSPB nature reserve of Fowlmere, which we will explore depending on how much time we have left. It is then just a mile and a half back along the Southern approach to Shepreth to our eventual stop at the railway station.</p> <p>Meet: 12:40 at the train station for the 12:55 train to Shepreth Return: Provisionally 17:11 from Shepreth, arriving in Cambridge at 17:27 Cost: £4, or £2.65 with a railcard. [Return to Shepreth]</p>	<p>2nd "To the Land of Pork Pies and Stilton"</p> <p>Melton Mowbray Circular (14.5 km / 9 miles)</p> <p>Contact: Gillian</p> <p>We'll arrive in Melton Mowbray just in time for lunch; a perfect chance to sample the cuisine this town is famous for: pork pies and Stilton cheese. After eating, we'll head North, out of the town, through Melton Country Park, up to the picturesque village of Scalford. We'll then head West to Holwell before turning back South to Melton. We pass "Brown's Hill", "Old Hills" and "Great Farmlands" on the way back into Melton Mowbray.</p> <p>Meet: 10:40, for the 10:56 train to Melton Mowbray Return: 18:31, arriving in Cambridge at 20:07 Cost: £26.50 or £16.50 with a railcard.</p>
<p>8th "National Trust Ice Cream in the Stable Block"</p> <p>Shepreth Circular (21 km / 13.5 miles)</p> <p>Contact: Geoffrey</p> <p>From Shepreth we will head to Barrington with the longest village green and then onto Orwell. After Orwell we will head to the pretty Wimpole Hall National Trust Estate where they make very tasty Home Made National Trust Ice Cream. En route, we pass the Folly which is a fake ruin before eating some very tasty National Trust Ice Cream in the Stable Block. Afterwards we will head south to Whaddon and onto Shepreth Railway Station.</p> <p>Meet: 9:40 at the train station for the 9.55 train to Shepreth. Return: 17.11 train from Shepreth, arriving in Cambridge at 17:27 Cost: £4 or £2.65 with railcard. [Return to Shepreth]</p>	<p>9th "Sunday Stroll along the River Cam" </p> <p>Cambridge to Waterbeach (10 km / 6 miles)</p> <p>Contact: Paul</p> <p>A gentle stroll along the river Cam; a perfect short break from a hectic exam term. Starting at Magdalene Bridge we will follow the eastern bank of the Cam, with a brief detour around Fen Ditton. After crossing the river at Baits Bite lock we then finish the ramble along the west bank to Waterbeach. For anyone so inclined the walk can be extended, some 11 miles, to Ely.</p> <p>Meet: 10 am at Quayside next to Magdalene Bridge Return : 13:07 train from Waterbeach arriving in Cambridge at 13:16 Cost: £2.60 or £1.70 with railcard [Single from Waterbeach to Cambridge]</p>
<p>15th "Steven's Short Saturday Stroll" </p> <p>Hardwick to Coton (9 km / 6 miles)</p> <p>Contact: Steven</p> <p>This will be a gentle afternoon ramble through the countryside west of Cambridge, and should be an ideal opportunity to take a few hours break from exam revision! From Hardwick we follow Callow Brook to Dry Drayton, and then Beck Brook to Madingley where we should be able to get a glimpse of the 16th century Madingley Hall country house. From here we make our way through Madingley Wood to the American Military Cemetery on Madingley Hill, which we will be able to visit briefly before catching the bus back to Cambridge from Coton turn.</p> <p>Meet: 13:20 at the bus station for the 13:35 bus to Hardwick Return: 17:13 bus from Coton, arriving back in Cambridge at 17:35 Cost: £3.40 for the bus fare [Dayrider ticket]</p>	<p>16th "The Battle of Hastings & Romans too"</p> <p>Battle to Pevensey (27km / 17 miles)</p> <p>cas Contact: David (dak37@cam.ac.uk)</p> <p>We set off from the village of Battle and then head to the site of the Battle of Hastings, one of most important dates in English history. Battle is named after this battle. After spending time seeing the sites, we follow the 1066 Country Walk and try to follow William the Conqueror's path from the coast. Walking through forest areas and then countryside, we pass through places such as Catsfield, Steven's Crouch and Brownbread Street. After walking past Hertmonceaux castle we follow the river, which seems to change its name every km. We then arrive at Pevensey which has a well preserved Roman fort and is where William the Conqueror landed.</p> <p>Meet: 6:10 for 6:28 train to London King's Cross Return: on 19:39 from Pevensey & Westham arriving at Cambridge 23:00 Costs: £41 or £27.05 with railcard (Groupsave would lower prices also)</p>

<p>22nd "To the Land of the Concrete Cows" Bedford to Milton Keynes (30 km / 19 miles) Contact: Simon</p> <p>We head west out of Bedford, following the River Great Ouse. We then follow the John Bunyan Trail, named after the 17th century Baptist preacher, to Cranfield, home to the only university in Britain with its own airport. We continue westwards, passing through the original Milton Keynes Village and then through some parks on our way into the new town for the coach back.</p> <p>Meet: 07:55 at Parkside coach stop (bay 16) for the 08:10 coach to Bedford. This is the Stagecoach X5 coach towards Oxford. Note that this coach stop is located on the side of Parker's Piece, near the police station, and NOT in the main Drummer Street bus station. Return: 17:55 coach from Milton Keynes, arriving in Cambridge at 19:48 Cost: £7.90 for students (bring ID), otherwise £10.50 [Return to Milton Keynes]</p>	<p>23rd "Stow Cum Quy" HALF DAY Lode to Fulbourn (9 km / 6 miles) Contact: Susan</p> <p>We will begin with a stroll through the village of Lode, where we will skirt around National Trust site Anglesey Abbey for some grand views. A footpath will then lead us along Quy Water to the outskirts of Stow cum Quy. Bypassing the village pub, we will next head to cross the scenic A14. We will then make our way along Little Wilbraham River and through some fenland, to end up in the village of Fulbourn, from whence we will catch the bus back to Cambridge.</p> <p>Meet: Meet at Bus Station (Drummer St) at 12:45 for the 13:00 bus to Lode Return: Arriving at St. Andrew's St., Cambridge, at 17:15 Cost: £5.20 for a Day Rider Plus bus ticket</p>
<p>29th "Fen Drayton Nature Reserve" Swavesey circular (18 km / 11 miles) Contact: Paul</p> <p>Starting in Swavesey we walk past the former site of a priory to meet the river Ouse. Then heading south-west we pass through the Fen Drayton nature reserve to cross the river and reach the outskirts of St Ives. After visiting the well for which Holywell is named we again cross the river returning to the nature reserve before passing through Fen Drayton on the way back to Swavesey.</p> <p>Meet: Bus terminal at 9:15 for a 9:35 departure Return: 16:24 bus from Swavesey returning to Cambridge at 17:22 Cost: £5.20 (Day Rider plus)</p>	<p>30th "Cambridge to Newmarket" Cambridge to Newmarket (25.5 km / 16 miles) Contact: Matthew</p> <p>This week we begin our walk along the familiar banks of the Cam, passing the boathouses as we continue downstream to Fen Ditton. Leaving the river at Horningsea, we head east through the villages of Lode and Commercial End, eventually joining the Devil's Dyke path near Swaffham Prior. Finally we cross Newmarket Heath, home of the Rowley Mile racecourse, finishing at the heart of Suffolk's famous horse-racing town.</p> <p>Meet: Magdalene Bridge, 10:20am for 10:30am departure Return: 18:00 train from Newmarket, arriving in Cambridge at 18:24 Cost: £4.70, or £3.10 with a railcard (Single from Newmarket)</p>

June

<p>5th "In Which We Search for Wild Ponies" Soham to Stretham (20 km / 12.5 miles) Contact: Susan</p> <p>Today's ramble will take us through an area of fenland with a rich diversity of species, and yet another nature preserve, the Wicken Fen Nature Reserve. Beginning in Soham, we will follow some tracks across The Bracks and No Ditch Field to Wicken and the Nature Reserve. We will enter the park to walk the two-mile Nature and Adventurers' trails within, hopefully spotting herds of Konik Ponies and Highland Cattle, catching views from the Tower Hide (one of the oldest in the country), enjoying the Preserve's various other wildlife and plants, and staying on friendly terms with its 1800+ recorded species of flies. For those not keen on paying the entrance fee, a loop around the park is an alternative option. We will then continue across the fens and the River Cam to catch an afternoon bus home from Stretham.</p> <p>Meet: 09:00 at Bus Station (Drummer St.) for a 09:15 departure Return: Arriving at St. Andrews St., Cambridge, at 17:37 Cost: £10.40 (£5.20 bus ticket plus £5.20 admission to the reserve)</p>	<p>6th "Fens, Fighter Jets and Forest" Lakenheath to Brandon (19 km / 12 miles) Contact: Simon</p> <p>After taking one of the four trains a week that stops at Lakenheath station, we head south across fenland, and then walk around the perimeter of RAF Lakenheath. Hopefully we will be able to stop for lunch overlooking the airfield. After lunch, we head eastwards across heathland, then turn north into Thetford Forest, emerging at Brandon for the train home.</p> <p>Meet: 10:30 at the railway station for the 10:46 train to Lakenheath Return: 16:55 train from Brandon, arriving back in Cambridge at 17:32 Cost: £9.50, or £6.25 with a railcard [Return to Brandon]</p>
<p>Monday 7th "Elderflower Picking" Within Cambridge Contact: Gillian</p> <p>As exams are (probably) over, and the sun is (hopefully) shining, we're planning an extra ramble this week, or more accurately, a search for elderflowers in and around Cambridge, followed by elderflower cordial making later in the afternoon, ready for the Rambling Club punting trip on Thursday!</p> <p>Meet: 10:30 outside St John's College for setting off soon after Return: Early afternoon, or later if you'd like to stay to make the cordial. Cost: Free!</p>	<p>Thursday 10th "Overnight Punting" Contact: Gillian</p> <p>Starting in the early evening, we'll head down to Grantchester by punt, stopping in the meadows for a picnic along the way. After a quick drink at the pub in the village we'll then punt home by moonlight. A unique Cambridge experience! More details will follow nearer the time, but please contact Gillian if you would like to help with the catering or can provide a cheap punt!</p>
<p>Saturday 19th - Sunday 20th "The Varsity March" Oxford to Cambridge (130 km / 81 miles) Contact: Steven</p> <p>The annual Varsity March is a mammoth two-day walk between Oxford and Cambridge, completed in under 48 hours without any sleep! This year we will be aiming to raise money for Jimmy's Night Shelter in Cambridge and the Gatehouse homelessness charity in Oxford, and we also hope to be joined by Oxford University Walking Club. More details will be sent out by email nearer the time, but please talk to Steven if you would like more information.</p>	

Weekly Pub Meets: These are held at 8pm on Friday, in the Elm Tree (corner of Prospect Row and Eden Street, near the Grafton Centre). This is a great way to meet fellow walking enthusiasts, and everyone is welcome, even if you've never been on a ramble!

We are: Gillian James (President): gfgj2@cam.ac.uk Steven Smith (Webmaster): sgs30@cam.ac.uk
Susan Raich (Secretary): sar70@cam.ac.uk Matthew Ford (Archivist): rambling@mtford.org
Paul Saines (Treasurer): pjs80@cam.ac.uk Geoffrey March: gem18@hotmail.com
Simon Cottrell: simonjohncottrell@yahoo.co.uk Chris Richards: chr31@cam.ac.uk

For more information about Cambridge University Rambling Club, please see our website: <http://www.srcf.ucam.org/curac/>