

Name: _____

Dunstable & District Walking & Hostelling Group

‘The Bogtrotters’

**Programme
May – August
2010**



www.dunstablebogtrotters.co.uk

Ramblings from the Chair

This year marks the 45th anniversary of the Bogtrotters. Coincidentally it is also ten years since I joined. In that ten years I have travelled with the Bogtrotters the length and breadth of the British Isles, been to the Faroes, Iceland, Ireland, Brittany, the Ardennes in Belgium, Luxembourg, the Mosel valley and up Toubkal in Morocco.

I have also got to know and love our surrounding countryside in Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and Hertfordshire.

Nevertheless it is still possible for me to stand, as I did recently, on Old Winchester Hill Iron Age Fort and marvel at the beauty and diversity of our countryside and wonder why I had never been there before.

The last 10 years have also seen a major change in the status of the Bogtrotters. We were originally founded as a local area group of the YHA. Several years ago the YHA reorganised and all the local groups were reformed as independent organisations affiliated loosely to the YHA. Many of these have since withered away and have disbanded or now only consist of a small band of older members. Others such as the Croydon Group, now known as COPSE, have continued to flourish. The formula that we have adopted with our publicity and new members evenings has been largely based upon Copse's experience. As a result we now have a large group of enthusiastic new members, many of whom contribute actively and serve on the committee.

The YHA always saw itself as a campaigning organisation that sought to promote engagement with the natural world. I think that basically this is what the Bogtrotters are still about. And so by providing a safe, welcoming, sociable and inclusive group of friends you can join, and get away with for an inexpensive weekend, or even just a morning ramble, we will continue to provide a valuable and worthwhile service.

So here's to the next 45 years.....

Julian

COMMITTEE

POSITION	NAME	TEL. NO.	E-MAIL
Chairman	Julian Clark-Lowes 74 Leafields Houghton Regis Beds LU5 5LX	07979435856	
Secretary	Elaine Morgan 104 Houghton Road Dunstable LU5 5AE	01582 696718	
Treasurer	Colin Meacham Flat 36, The Maltings, Beale Street, Dunstable LU6 1JS	07835936793	

Membership Secretary	Sue Jenkins 74 Leafields Houghton Regis Beds LU5 5LX	01582 865966	suejenkins13@yahoo.co.uk
Social Organiser	John Buckley	01582 896215	
Publicity Officer	Roger Pepworth	01582 538414	roger.pepworth@hotmail.co.uk
	Mike Elliott	01582 668406	elliottm89aol.com
	Malcolm Gladman	07841596358	
	Eila Goss	01582 731026	
	Ruth Harris-Small	01582 758483	
	Paul Ridgeway	01582 601252	
	Jackie Taylor	01582 527618	
	Dave Tomkins	01582 526588	
	(Christine Brock	01494 729636	
	(Chris Clayton	01582 866305	
	(David Dumbleton	01582 607318	
Other	(John Gabbitass	01582 664036	
Contacts	(Wendy Hopkins	01582 602235	
	(Mervyn Kempster	01525 222257	
	(Joanne Robertson	07739791148	
	(Dennis Smith	07966493699	
	(Don Snoad	01582 601852	

NOTICES

- Some of our walks are planned to be accessible by public transport. However bus times and even bus services are subject to change and walk details will sometimes vary to those set out in this programme. It is advisable to ring or e-mail the walk leader to obtain up-to-date information if public transport is involved.
- Throughout this programme various meeting points are mentioned. Those members unfamiliar with these rendezvous should phone the walk leader or contact for guidance.
- All Bogtrotters are reminded that they are most welcome to attend any and all of our meetings - Committee, Planning and Annual. Should anyone wish to see the minutes then please contact our secretary who will furnish you with a copy.
- Children are welcome on our walks if accompanied by an adult member of their family. Any children who come will remain the responsibility of the accompanying adult.
- If members wish to bring dogs on our walks please contact the walk leader to check on suitability.
- Photos of our activities, together with names of those participating, frequently appear on our website. Please let us know if this is not acceptable.
- On day walks or weekend trips members may choose to share cars or take their own. Before leaving the meeting place please make it clear to the walk leader if you are prepared to take passengers, if you are willing to use your car to transfer drivers when this is necessary and if, for any and letting him know which passengers you will be taking, if any.
- Hostelling trips. Members who wish to arrange their own bed & breakfast accommodation whilst the group is staying in a nearby hostel are welcome to do so. They can then join us for the daytime activities and evening meal, if they wish. They would still be welcome to share travel arrangements.

May

Friday 30th April – Eila requires bookings for Clyffe Pypard bunkhouse trip (Sat 5th – Sun 6th June).

Friday 30th April – Monday 3rd May

Peak District Hostel Trip Leader Don Snoad
01582 601852

We are now stopping in the Youth Hostel at Youlgreave in the White Peak area of Derbyshire over this May Bank Holiday weekend. Converted from the village Co-Op Stores this building is featured in one of D. H. Lawrence's novels. It provides an excellent base to explore this fine area – great walking, pubs and cafes. Booking fee is £60 for the 3 nights. If interested, contact Don.

Sunday 2nd May

Studham/Dagnall Short Walk Leader Dave Tomkins
01582 526588

Now known as “the Bluebell Walk” - though this circular stroll may be too early for bluebells.

Meet time 9.30 am Return about 1.30 pm
Meet at The Yum Yum, Dunstable Distance 5.5 miles

Thursday 6th May

Little Brickhill/Leighton Buzzard Day Walk Leader Roger Pepworth
01582 538414

A very varied walk, beginning and ending along the Grand Union Canal but visiting Great Brickhill, Stoke Hammond and Soulbury en route.

Meet time 9.15 am Return 4.40 pm
Meet at Bus Stop L, High Street North, Dunstable Distance 10 miles

Saturday 8th May

John Bunyan Trail part 8 Day Walk Leader Dennis Smith
07966493699

The poor weather during the winter prevented us completing this long distance footpath but today we hope to walk from Warden Hills, through Lilley and Streatley, before finishing at Sundon Country Park and the end of the Bunyan Trail.

Meet time 9 am Return about 5 pm
Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable Distance approx 10 miles

Monday 10th May

The Globe Social Contact John Buckley
01582 896215

An opportunity to join friends and visit this excellent real ale pub that was recently awarded the CAMRA “Best Pub in South Bedfordshire” award. Sample its 13 real ales (but not all in one session!)

Meet time 8 pm
Meet at The Globe, 43 Winfield Street, Dunstable

Tuesday 11th May**Clements End**

Day Walk

Leader David Dumpleton
01582 607318

This walk takes us via Peppercorn Park and Green Lanes to the foot of Dunstable Downs and on to Whipsnade. We then pick up the Chiltern Way to Clements End, returning through Holywell, Kensworth and hence to the Downs. This route can be seen by visiting http://explore.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/os_routes/show/14071. Please keep an eye on the weather forecast and wear appropriate clothing for the day. Also bring a packed lunch – pub stops are not promised. And be prepared to lose the way sometimes – these circular routes are unlikely to have been walked beforehand.

Meet time 9.30 am
Meet at The Square, Dunstable

Return about 3.30 pm
Distance approx 14 miles

Saturday 15th May**Toddington Circular**

Half Day

Leader Wendy Hopkins
01582 602235

We park in Toddington and follow a route that takes us north to the village of Tingrith. From here we head towards Eversholt, down through Daintry Wood and finally use footpaths that cross part of Toddington Park before returning to our cars.

Meet time 2 pm
Meet at French's Avenue, Dunstable

Return 6 pm
Distance 6 miles

Monday 17th May**Wii Night**

Social

Contact John Buckley
01582 896215

Tea, coffee and biscuits provided. Individual and team events, with small prizes for outstanding performances! Please feel free to bring along your own favourite Wii discs, but don't practise too much beforehand. It would be helpful to let me know in advance if you intend to come so that I can build an extension if necessary!

Meet time 8 pm
Meet at 5 Periwinkle Terrace, Dunstable

Thursday 20th May**Leighton Buzzard**

Day Walk

Leader David Dumpleton
01582 607318

We will take a bus to Leighton Buzzard and walk back via the villages of Slapton, Eaton Bray and Totternhoe.

Meet time 9.10 for no. 70 bus leaving at 9.18 am
Meet at the bus stop, High Street North, Dunstable

Return about 4 pm
Distance approx 10 miles

Friday 21st May – Wendy needs to know if you are interested in the Rex (Tuesday 22nd June).

Saturday 22nd May**Wheathampstead Circular**

Day Walk

Leader Sue Jenkins
01582 865966

We will be parking in Wheathampstead, crossing the River Lea twice and visiting Ayot St. Lawrence, the former home of George Bernard Shaw. There is a pub or two on route and with luck we will be passing when they are open! Part of our route is on the Hertfordshire Way. Hopefully we will have good weather for this lovely walk.

Meet time 9.30 am
Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Return about 5.30 pm
Distance approx 10 miles

Sunday 23rd May**Blows Downs**

Short Walk

Leader Dave Tomkins
01582 526588

A walk over Blows Downs to Caddington Green for elevenses, then return.

Meet time 9.30 am
Meet at The Yum Yum, Dunstable

Return 12.30 – 1 pm
Distance 5 miles

Monday 24th May

Committee Meeting

All members are welcome to attend and contribute to the running of the club.

Meet time 8 pm
Meet at Dunstable Fire Station

Wednesday 26th May**Aston Clinton/Wellonhead Bridge**

Short Walk

Leader Mike Elliott
01582 668406

This short winter walk was cancelled before due to snow. We will now try again! The route follows the Wendover Arm of the canal back to Marsworth Lock, where we finish off in one of the 2 pubs whilst waiting for our return transport to Dunstable. If time permits we can stroll around the reservoir checking out the wild life. The only refreshment stop is at the end so please bring a flask and a snack.

This would be classed as an easy to moderate walk along canal footpaths.

Meet time 9.50 to catch 10.02 am bus to Aylesbury
Meet at Bus Stop F, West St., Dunstable

Return about 3 pm
Distance approx 5 miles

Saturday 29th May**West Wycombe/Stokenchurch**

Day Walk

Leader Mervyn Kempster
01525 222257

This circular walk follows the Chiltern Way for about 5 miles. Starting in the village of Studley Green we head to Bennett End, then Radnage, across to Piddington and back to Studley Green. Unfortunately the only refreshment stops are at the beginning and three quarters of the way round so please bring a packed lunch and plenty to drink. This is a moderate walk in undulating countryside. Ample compensation for any hills is provided by the quiet beauty of the area's outstanding views and, of course, the red kites.

Meet time 9.30 am
Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Return about 5.30 pm
Distance 11 miles

June

Tuesday 1st June

Chiltern Way Extension

Evening Walk

Leader Julian Clark-Lowes
07979435856

A circular walk starting and finishing at the “Live and Let Live”, Pegsdon. Most of this walk forms part of the Chiltern Way Extension. We will head out along the CWE towards Little Offley past fine views of Deacon Hill and panoramic views of Knocking Hoe before circling around and, after a short section on ordinary footpaths, rejoin the CWE and return to Hexton where refreshments seem probable. Those coming direct should be ready at Hexton by 7.40 pm. We will be there by then or very soon after.

Meet time 7 pm

Return about 10.30 pm

Meet at French’s Avenue, Dunstable

Distance 5 miles

Thursday 3rd June

Marsworth

Day Walk

Leader David Dumpleton
01582 607318

Taking the bus to Marsworth our return walk visits Aldbury, Ashridge, Studham and Whipsnade.

Meet time 9.50 for no. 61 bus leaving at 10 am

Return about 5 pm

Meet at the bus stop West Street, Dunstable

Distance approx 13 miles

Saturday 5th - Sunday 6th June

Clyffe Pypard

Bunkhouse Trip

Leader Eila Goss
01582 731026

This friendly bunkhouse offers comfortable accommodation in one of the oldest pubs in Wiltshire. Set in the village of Clyffe Pypard, in a conservation area close to the Ridgeway, it's ideally situated for walkers and cyclists wanting to explore the area while also offering easy access to the M4 just 5 miles away. Also close by is the Avebury site. YHA Clyffe Pypard is a member of CAMRA (and offers home cooked food, excellent self-catering facilities and small shop for all your essentials). Showers are metered (50p) and duvets can be hired for £1.50 – or bring your own.

Currently the whole of this bunkhouse is reserved for our group – 14 beds for a total of £177 for the Saturday night - £13 per person if we take full occupancy. There is also the possibility of extending your trip by arriving on Friday or leaving on Monday but you would have to confirm this directly with Clyffe Pypard and organise your own transport. If further details are required please contact Eila asap.

Booking by 30th April please

Sunday 6th June

Sharpenhoe Clappers

Short Walk

Leader Dave Tomkins
01582 526588

This gentle walk over Sharpenhoe Clappers touches on the Chiltern Way, taking in the beautiful views.

Meet time 9.30 am

Return 12.30 – 1 pm

Meet at The Yum Yum, Dunstable

Distance 4.5 – 5 miles

Monday 7th June

Programme Planning Meeting

Please come along with your suggestions for the September to December 2010 Programme. This is your chance to put your ideas forward. Even if you do not wish to lead a walk or hostel trip, or become involved in the club's social activities, your input is always welcome.

Meet time 8 pm

Meet at Dunstable Fire Station

Wednesday 9th June**Dunstable Downs to Studham**

Short Walk

Leader Mike Elliott
01582 668406

This route includes part of The Chiltern Way and the village of Whipsnade, plus the chance of a drink at one of the pubs in Studham. Refreshments are also available from the Gateway Centre, Dunstable Downs, at the start and finish of our exertions.

This walk would be classed easy to moderate with some hills

Meet time 10 am

Meet at Gateway Centre car park, Dunstable Downs

Return 12.30-1 pm

Distance 5 miles

Friday 11th June – Sue requires numbers for the Studham Common Work Party (Saturday 19th June).

Saturday 12th June**Chiltern Way/Teashop Walk**

Day Walk

Leader Dennis Smith
07966493699

Parking at Great Gaddesden we head out to Nettleden, circle round Potten End to the teashop at Little Heath Farm and walk on to Piccotts End and a pub stop. Our route then follows paths to Briden's Camp before returning to our cars at Great Gaddesden.

Meet time 9 am

Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Return about 6 pm

Distance approx 12 miles

Tuesday 15th June**Ivinghoe Beacon**

Day Walk

Leader David Dumpleton
01582 607318

This walk takes us to Dunstable Downs, Whipsnade, Dagnall, Ivinghoe Beacon, Ivinghoe Aston, Edlesborough, Eaton Bray and Totternhoe before returning to The Square, Dunstable. The route can be seen at http://explore.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/os_routes/show/14070. Please keep an eye on the weather forecast and wear appropriate clothing for the day. Also bring a packed lunch – pub stops are not promised. And be prepared to lose the way sometimes – these circular routes are unlikely to have been walked beforehand.

Meet time 9.30 am

Meet at The Square, Dunstable

Return about 4.30pm

Distance approx 17 miles

Thursday 17th June

Wetherspoon Curry Night

Social

Contact John Buckley
01582 896215

Enjoy a curry with all the trimmings for £4.99 and this includes an alcoholic or non-alcoholic drink from a wide selection. (Note that parking is free at the adjacent Asda car park after 5 pm.) More details can be found on the website: <http://www.jdwetherspoon.co.uk/food-and-drink/food/wetherspoon-clubs/curry-club.php>

Meet time 8 pm

Meet at "The Gary Cooper" Wetherspoons, Court Drive, Dunstable (adjacent to Grove Theatre)

Saturday 19th June**Conservation at Studham Common**

Work Party

Contact Sue Jenkins
01582 865966

If you came to "The Big Bash" at Studham in January then you will know what a great day we had. This time we will be working for just half a day and then we all finish our endeavours with an excellent lunch provided by the Friends of Studham Common. Our work will probably include scrub clearance, clearing footpaths and restoring hedgerows. All equipment is provided, you just need to bring yourself, gloves and "gardening clothes".

Please could you let me know whether you will be coming **by June 11th** as numbers will be needed for organising lunch and equipment.

Meet time 9 am

Return about 2 pm

Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Sunday 20th June**Navigator's Way**

Day Walk

Leader Eila Goss
01582 731026

This short day walk starts via the riverside paths from North and South Bridge Streets, going out of Shefford towards Clifton. It is an attractive, easy, flat route with no stiles and is based on the River Ivel Navigation Channel which was built between Biggleswade and Shefford in 1823. The waters of the Rivers Hit and Flit are very clean so birds, fish, insects, crayfish and flowers should be seen along the walk and even (if we are very lucky) kingfishers and otters. There is a nice pub called the Green Man where we can enjoy a drink in the garden.

Meet time 9.30 am

Return about 4 pm

Meet at The Yum Yum, Dunstable

Distance 7-8 miles

Tuesday 22nd June**The Rex Cinema, Berkhamsted**

Social

Contact Wendy Hopkins

"... possibly Britain's most beautiful cinema ..." (BBC). If you would like to decide for yourself please ring Wendy to register your interest and leave her a contact telephone number. When The Rex release June's programme (probably in the middle of May) she will have a matter of hours to confirm with you that you wish to see what they are offering. Films start at 7.30 pm. We will need to leave Dunstable at 6.30 pm to allow time for parking and to enjoy the elegant bar and interior. Tickets cost £8 or £6.50, age dependent!

Thursday 24th June

Toddington Day Walk Leader David Dumpleton
01582 607318

After taking the bus to Toddington our return walk takes us to Harlington, Upper Sundon, Chalton, Houghton Regis and Sewell.

Meet time 9.25 for no. X31 bus leaving at 9.34 am Return about 4.30 pm
Meet at the bus stop High Street North, Dunstable Distance approx 13 miles

Sunday 27th June

Totternhoe Knolls Short Walk Leader Dave Tomkins
01582 526588

Green Lanes and Totternhoe Knolls, walking back along the old railway track to The Globe for a lunchtime pint, or two!

Meet time 9.30 am Return 12.30 - 1 pm
Meet at The Yum Yum, Dunstable Distance 5 miles

Sunday 27th June

Ridgeway Charity Walk Day or Half Day Leader Paul Ridgeway
01582 601252

Princess Risborough -Wendover - Ivinghoe Beacon. Walk along one of the oldest "roads" in Europe through splendid countryside. At the same time you will be raising money for a worthy charity, the Disabled Ramblers, a group to which the Boggies have previously donated funds. It is hoped that the monies raised by getting your friends and family to sponsor you will be equally matched by Bucks CC and utilised in the Chilterns Hills by replacing difficult stiles with more user friendly gates that allow greater access to all.

Spectacular ridge walking with fine views combined with some woodland paths, including going past Chequers between the Princes Risborough and Wendover section. Join us for either the whole day or at lunch-time for the second (11 mile) section from Wendover to Ivinghoe Beacon, where we hope to finish by approx 6 pm.

In order to successfully offer the option of a half day or full day walk we will need a volunteer – or more – to meet the 11 milers in the afternoon at the Yum Yum, organise the transport and lead the convoy to our meet point in Wendover. This volunteer/s would then take their car to Ivinghoe Beacon and shuffle the half day walkers back to their cars at the end of the day. Please contact Paul if you are able to help.

Please join us for what has become a tradition and is supporting a good cause.

Sponsorship forms are attached to the back of this programme or can be downloaded.

Meet time full day 8 am/half day 12.30 pm Return about 6 pm
Meet at The Yum Yum, Dunstable Distance 20 or 11 miles

Monday 28th June

Barton Hill Farm Conservation Visit Contact Eila Goss
01582 731026

The Shaw family, who have owned this arable farm since 1982, invite people to a conducted tour of their property, showing them what it means to be a conservation farm and giving an insight into modern farming and the flora, fauna, birds and beautiful wild flowers including orchids. They have been accepted into two

significant environmental schemes: Natural England Entry and Higher Level Stewardship. They actively encourage and manage areas of chalk downland.

The farm has a couple of steep hills but the amazing views, especially as the sun sets, make the effort worthwhile. The family are more than willing to try to answer all questions and make the whole thing good, interesting, fun. No need to book, the more the merrier, bring friends, relations and anyone else who shows an interest. Whilst this event is free it is organised for the benefit of our local **Keech Hospice, where all donations will be sent.** There will be a short introductory chat followed by the walk after which refreshments are provided.

The farm is off the A6 Streatley roundabout. Travelling from Luton go round the roundabout, turn right towards Lilley and the farm is on the left down a drive about a mile along that road – LU2 8ND roughly. If anyone needs a lift please contact Eila or Sue and we will try and organise something.

Meet time 7 pm
Meet at Barton Hill Farm

Return about 10 pm
Distance 3-4 miles

Wednesday 30th June – John requires bookings for York trip (Friday 27th – Monday 30th August).

July

Thursday 1st July

Caldecott Lake, MK

Evening Walk & Meal

Leader Joanne Robertson
07739791148

This circular walk around Caldecott Lake, which is mostly on tarmac paths, should be easy and leisurely and walking boots will not be necessary. We will end with a meal at the Caldecott Arms pub, where 2 meals can be purchased for £10: <http://www.pub-explorer.com/bucks/pub/caldecottarms.htm>.

Caldecott Lake was built in 1982 as a balancing lake - designed to prevent the River Ouzel from flooding the southern part of Milton Keynes. It is an excellent habitat for wildlife. Its birdlife is particularly rich as boats are excluded from some areas and this creates sanctuaries for large flocks of water birds. These can be seen from two hides on the south lake, one at the end of the point near the business park and one further round on the south shore.

For those not wishing to walk but who would like to meet for the meal we should be dining at about 7.30 pm - unless I manage to get us lost!

If possible contact Joanne in advance as she may be able to reserve an area in the restaurant for our group. Lifts can be arranged from Dunstable.

Meet time 5 pm at French's Avenue, Dunstable
or 5.30 pm at Caldecott Arms car park

Return about 10 pm
Distance approx 2.5 miles

Saturday 3rd July

Chipperfield

Half Day

Leader John Gabbitass
01582 664036

For those of you who have never heard of Chipperfield it's south of Hemel Hempstead and a mile or so west of Kings Langley - a lovely part of rural Hertfordshire with a cricket ground, cosy pubs and on last looking, a tea shop. Starting from a point beside or close to the church we will cross the Common and join the Hertfordshire Way path taking an anticlockwise route to the outskirts of Kings Langley and Scatterdells

Wood. To close the circle we shall then head westwards taking in various farms before re-joining the Hertfordshire Way at a point close to Flaunden at the appropriately named Woodman's Wood.

After your walk and if the weather is favourable and your driver is willing, then why not extend your visit with lunch at the village pub or a picnic on the green.

Meet time 9 am
Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Return 2 pm
Distance 7 miles

Sunday 4th July

Tanners Marathon

Day Walk

Leader Chris Clayton
01582 866305

Starting from Leatherhead Football Club this 30 mile route should be completed within 10 hours to gain a personal certificate. The Bogtrotters have successfully competed for the shield many times but sadly 2010 will be the last Tanners Marathon. This is a hugely satisfying event which follows slightly different paths each year but is always a friendly affair with lots of support. Contact Chris as above or on 0781 666 9760 if you would like to join the elite and help us win the shield one last time. There is also a 20 mile challenge on the same day and some of us will be certain to take this on.

The cost of this event is £12-£20, which includes the entry fee, transport and refreshments but if you are planning on joining this marathon please contact Chris to express your interest and to obtain further details.

Meet time 7.15 am
Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Return about 9 pm
Distance 30 or 20 miles

Monday 5th July

Committee Meeting

All members are welcome to attend and contribute to the running of the club.

Meet time 8 pm
Meet at Dunstable Fire Station

Thursday 8th July

Caddington/Markyate

Day Walk

Leader Roger Pepworth
01582 538414

A very local walk - no buses today! We will follow the eastern edge of Blows Downs Plateau into Caddington, then on to the Discovery Centre at Stockwood Park for coffee. Our return will be through Pepperstock to Markyate and home via Kensworth and the quarry – though “early leavers” can catch the bus from Markyate.

Meet time 9.30 am
Meet at the Blows Downs end of Half Moon Lane (parking available)

Return about 5 pm
Distance 12 miles

Saturday 10th July

Teashop Walk

Day Walk

Leader Dennis Smith
07966493699

I thought we would stay fairly local today. We will park at the bottom of Ivinghoe Beacon, head off to the first tea stop in Ivinghoe. From here we cut across to the canal and the swing bridge for another tea shop at Tring reservoir. We then circle round to Ashridge and the teashop at the Monument. This is a lovely area to walk around - even better if the weather is nice.

Meet time 9 am
Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Return about 6 pm
Distance approx 12 miles

Tuesday 13th July

Wetherspoons Grill Night

Social

Contact John Buckley
01582 896215

Enjoy a steak or gammon etc with all the trimmings for £5.99 – and this includes an alcoholic or non-alcoholic drink from a wide selection. (Note that parking is free at the adjacent Asda car park after 5 pm.) More details can be found on the website: <http://www.jdwetherspoon.co.uk/food-and-drink/food/wetherspoon-clubs/curry-club.php>.

Meet time 8 pm
Meet at “The Gary Cooper” Wetherspoons, Court Drive, Dunstable (part of the Grove Theatre complex).

Wednesday 14th July

Ver Valley, Redbourn

Short Walk

Leader Mike Elliott
01582 668406

A circular walk starting from Redbourn Common to Redbournbury Mill and returning, taking in the views of the Ver River. This is classed as a moderate walk with some hills, stiles & steps. If there is time people may wish to visit the Local Museum on the common. Refreshments can be obtained at the beginning and end of the walk in Redbourn.

Meet time 9.15 for 9.20 am bus to St. Albans
Meet at Bus Stop D, The Square, Dunstable

Return about 2 pm
Distance approx 4 miles

Friday 16th July – Sue requires bookings for the Barbecue (Monday 19th July).

Saturday 17th July

Sherington & Olney

Day Walk

Leader John Gabbitass
01582 664036

A walk starting from the pretty(ish) Buckinghamshire village of Sherington - just off the A509 Newport Pagnell to Olney road.

The intention is to take a clockwise route out towards Filgrave and Emberton Country Park before stopping for lunch at Olney. The closing section of today’s walk passes through Emberton village then back out across the A509 in a short loop before re-crossing the main road to finish back at Sherington.

Meet time 9 am
Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Return about 6 pm
Distance 11 miles

Sunday 18th July

Little Gaddesden

Short Walk

Leader Dave Tomkins
01582 526588

This short stroll for a summer’s day takes us from Little Gaddesden to Ashridge for coffee.

Meet time 9.30 am
Meet at The Yum Yum, Dunstable

Return 12.30 – 1 pm
Distance 4 - 4.5 miles

Monday 19th July**Barbecue**

Social

Contact Sue Jenkins
01582 865966

This annual Bogtrotters' event will take place in Sue and Julian's garden at 74 Leafields, Houghton Regis, LU5 5LX (weather permitting). If wet in the kitchen!

- Approximate cost £3.00
- 7.30 pm 'til late
- tea/coffee/orange will be provided but please bring a bottle if that is your preference
- please bring a garden chair
- phone Sue to book a place by **July 16th**
- please bring good weather.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

Tuesday 20th July**Streatley**

Day Walk

Leader David Dumpleton
01582 607318

This walk follows the Icknield Way to Legrave Common and the border between Sundon Park and Marsh Farm. En route we will pass the water tower and Keech Hospice before heading for Streatley, Sundon Hills, Upper Sundon, Chalton, Bidwell, Chalk Hill and Sewell, finishing at The Square, Dunstable. The route can be viewed on http://explore.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/os_routes/show/13878. Please keep an eye on the weather forecast and wear appropriate clothing for the day. Also bring a packed lunch – pub stops are not promised. And be prepared to lose the way sometimes – these circular routes are unlikely to have been walked beforehand.

Meet time 9.30 am

Meet at The Square, Dunstable

Return about 4.30 pm

Distance approx 17 miles

Wednesday 21st July – Sunday 8th August**Scottish Highlands & Islands**

Hostel/Bunkhouse Trip

Leader Don Snoad
01582 601852

This exploration of the islands of Eigg and Rhum and the "Rough Bounds" of Knoydart, one of the last remaining wilderness areas of Britain, is not for the faint-hearted! Accommodation is of hostel/ bunkhouse type in Eigg, Rhum, Mallaig, Inverie and Barrisdale. Inverie boasts the remotest pub in mainland Britain. "The Old Forge" is a 15 mile walk-in from the nearest road! If you want more information about this exciting tour, contact Don.

Saturday 24th July**A View from Deacon Hill**

Half Day

Leader Mike Elliott
01582 668406

Starting at Pirton we will ascend the chalk downs to Deacon Hill and descend via High Down House back to Pirton, following part of the Icknield Way. Refreshments may be obtained at the start and end of our route but a drink should be carried for the walk.

This is classed as a moderate to medium walk with one stile, green lanes, tracks and field paths.

Meet time 9.30 am

Meet at French's Avenue, Dunstable

Return 2-2.30 pm

Distance 6.5 miles

Sunday 25th July**Codicote/Langley/Knebworth**

Day Walk

Leader Wendy Hopkins
01582 602235

This early start is to allow ourselves time to drive to the outskirts of Codicote for this undulating walk. Our lunch stop will be in Langley and it is advisable to bring sandwiches in case the pub is closed. Our afternoon route follows footpaths through the edge of Knebworth Country Park to Nup End Green and back to our vehicles.

Meet time 9 am
Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Return about 6.30 pm
Distance 11 miles

Thursday 29th July**Stoke Hammond**

Day Walk

Leader David Dumpleton
01582 607318

We take the bus to Stoke Hammond and walk back via Great Brickhill, Potsgrove, Battlesden, Hockliffe and Stanbridge.

Meet time 9.10 for no. 70 bus leaving at 9.18 am
Meet at the bus stop, High Street North, Dunstable

Return about 4 pm
Distance approx 13 miles

Friday 30th July – Eila requires bookings for Chinese meal (Monday 9th August).

Saturday 31st July**Pednor & Old Lees**

Day Walk

Leader Christine Brock
01494 729636

We will be walking through Pednor, Ballinger, onto The Lees and return. Starting at The Queens Head public house, Church Street, HP5 1JD in Old Chesham.

Meet time 9.30 am
Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Return about 5.30 pm
Distance approx 9 miles

August

Sunday 1st August**Turvey Circular**

Day Walk

Leader Elaine Morgan
01582 696718

We drive to Turvey for this short day walk. Cars can park in the lay-by west of the 13th century 11-arched bridge. Fine views are enjoyed on this gently undulating route in the valley of the Ouse on the Beds/ Bucks border, as our walk explores the country to the south of the attractive village of Turvey and crosses part of Abbey Park, created in the late 18th century. Although we hope the pubs may be open for light refreshments please bring a packed lunch and drink in case only full Sunday lunch is available.

Meet time 9.30 am
Meet at French's Avenue, Dunstable

Return about 4 pm
Distance 6-7 miles

Monday 2nd August**The Globe**

Social

Contact John Buckley
01582 896215

Another chance to sample the excellent atmosphere and beer offered by this real ale pub close to home.

Meet time 8 pm

Meet at The Globe, 43 Winfield Street, Dunstable

Tuesday 3rd August**Battlesden**

Day Walk

Leader David Dumpleton
01582 607318

From Green Lanes we walk to Totternhoe Lower End, Stanbridge, Hockliffe, Battlesden, Tebworth, Wingfield, Bidwell, Chalk Hill, Sewell and return to The Square, Dunstable. Our route can be seen by visiting http://explore.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/os_routes/show/14069. Please keep an eye on the weather forecast and wear appropriate clothing for the day. Also bring a packed lunch – pub stops are not promised. And be prepared to lose the way sometimes – these circular routes are unlikely to have been walked beforehand.

Meet time 9.30 am

Meet at The Square, Dunstable

Return about 4 pm
Distance approx 16 miles**Saturday 7th August****Flamstead**

Day Walk

Leader David Dumpleton
01582 607318

This circular walk follows the Chiltern Way towards Gaddesden Row, heads to Briden's Camp, flirts with the outskirts of Redbourn to pick up the Hertfordshire Way and returns, not necessarily directly, to Flamstead. The terrain is mainly open country with some woodland and roads plus a few gentle hills. The return time is approximate – depending on the lure of the pub!

Meet time 9.30 am

Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Return about 3 pm
Distance approx 10 miles**Sunday 8th August****Olney**

Half Day

Leader John Gabbitass
01582 664036

Hope you liked Olney the other week, because we're going there again. This time I shall take us along footpaths which for the most part your leader has not walked before, so they will be new to me and perhaps to you as well. Our circular course does however include a section of the Milton Keynes Boundary Walk which I vaguely remember from a few years ago. Dickens Spinney, Hungary Hall, Kilwick Wood, Olney Park Farm and Olney Hyde are all spots on the map which are definitely new to me.

Meet time 9 am

Meet at The Yum Yum, Dunstable

Return about 3 pm
Distance 7 miles

Monday 9th August**Chinese**

Social

Contact Eila Goss
01582 731026

This Chinese was recommended as being good quality and friendly. It is an “eat as much as you like” but not a buffet - they cook your order fresh from the menu. They are prepared to open especially for our group but Eila must let them have rough numbers, although they will probably squeeze in one or two more if you suddenly decide you wish join us. Please let Eila know asap if you wish to go and let her have your deposit of £4.

Meet time 7.30 pm

Meet at The Mouth Restaurant, 168 High St North, Dunstable

Cost £13.90 per head
Book by Friday 30th July**Wednesday 11th August****Grand Union Canal**

Half Day

Leader Mike Elliott
01582 668406

This route goes from Pitstone Wharf to Leighton Buzzard and includes Tiddenfoot Lake and Wild Life Park. We will start and end with refreshments but it will be dry in the middle – unless we detour to another pub - so bring a drink.

Classed as an easy to moderate walk –along canal foot paths

Meet time 9.50 to catch 10 am bus to Aylesbury

Meet at bus stop F, West St., Dunstable

Return about 3 pm
Distance 6 miles**Saturday 14th August****Langford to Ickleford**

Day Walk

Leader Wendy Hopkins
01582 602235

This linear walk starts in mid-Beds just south of Biggleswade on the River Ivel. We will walk south passing Poppy Hill Farm, through Henlow Park and the grounds of The Grange Health Farm, to eventually pick up the River Hiz. This we follow for a while before taking field paths to Ickleford and our finish at Wilbury Hill Picnic Site. There are several pubs en route but no guarantees that they will still be open and supplying food on the day, so please bring a packed lunch.

Meet time 9 am

Meet at The Yum Yum, Dunstable

Return 6.30 pm
Distance 11 miles**Sunday 15th August****Woburn Circular**

Short Walk

Leader Dave Tomkins
01582 526588

This is a good walk starting in Woburn and following parts of the Greensand Ridge Walk, the Milton Keynes Boundary Walk and also New Wavendon Heath.

Meet time 9.30 am

Meet at The Yum Yum, Dunstable

Return 1 – 1.30 pm
Distance 5.25 miles**Monday 16th August**

Committee Meeting

All members are welcome to attend and contribute to the running of the club.

Meet time 8 pm

Meet at Dunstable Fire Station

Tuesday 17th August – John needs to know if you are coming to the Picnic tomorrow evening.

Wednesday 18th August

Picnic on the Downs

Social

Contact John Buckley
01582 896215

Bring your Frisbee or your kite or simply participate in the picnic. Please let John know by Tuesday 17th August if you intend coming so that food provision can be co-ordinated.

Meet time 7.30 pm

Meet at the top of Dunstable Downs at the wooden picnic tables in front of the entrance to the Visitor Centre, from where we will be walking towards the site of the old café.

Saturday 21st August

Markyate/Pepperstock

Half Day

Leader Steve Goss
01582 731026

This relatively easy circular walk starts in Markyate and heads to Pepperstock where there is a nice pub serving lager, cider, coffee, etc. We return via Aley Green and Woodside through rolling Hertfordshire countryside and some woodland.

Meet time 9.30 am

Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Return about 1 pm
Distance approx 5.5 – 6 miles

Sunday 22nd August

Chiltern Way

Day Walk

Contact Julian Clark-Lowes
07979435856

This linear walk follows the Chiltern Way from Sharpenhoe Clappers to Mangrove Green. We will park at Mangrove Green and then take some cars to the start of the walk at Sharpenhoe Clappers. Members of the Chiltern Society will be joining us.

Meet time 8.45 am at French's Avenue, Dunstable
or 9.30 am at Mangrove Green

Return 6 pm
Distance 9.7 miles

Monday 23rd August

Farmer's Boy

Evening Pub Walk

Leader John Buckley
01582 896215

The summer provides us with the opportunity to undertake an evening walk to the Farmer's Boy at Kensworth, last visited by the group in June. The ale and pork scratchings were excellent and we hope for more of the same. Please bring a torch.

Meet time 7.15 pm

Meet outside the Co-Op, Lowther Road, Dunstable

Return 11.15 pm
Distance 5 miles in total
(if not collected from the pub!)

Thursday 26th August

Piccotts End

Day Walk

Leader David Dumpleton
01582 607318

We take the bus to Piccotts End and walk back via Flamstead, Markyate and Kensworth to the Downs.

Meet time 9.05 for no. X31 bus leaving at 9.15 am
Meet at The Square, Dunstable

Return 3 pm
Distance approx 11 miles

Friday 27th – Monday 30th August

York

Hostel Trip

Leader John Buckley
01582 896215

Twelve beds have been reserved (two dormitories, each sleeping four, plus two double rooms) at this riverside mansion, surrounded by lawns and gardens and within walking distance of the City centre, where Viking and Roman feet once trod. We will be travelling up by car on the Friday morning and returning after lunch on the Bank Holiday Monday. There will be the opportunity to complete the circular walk round the medieval City walls, visit the Minster, walk along the banks of the River Ouse, go shopping, tour the museums and perhaps even go on a ghost tour!

Approximate cost £75 for 3 nights, (including breakfast).

Bookings by 30th June

Saturday 28th August

Preston/Kings Walden Park

Short Walk

Leader Mike Elliott
01582 668406

A walk in the rolling hills between Preston and Kings Walden, with its splendid former deer park, starting and ending in Preston by the Red Lion Pub. This is classed as an easy to moderate walk: 5 stiles, a mix of green lanes, field paths and village lanes. Refreshments may be obtained at the beginning and end of this ramble – but it is advisable to bring a drink for the walk.

Meet time 9.30 am
Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Return 2-2.30 pm
Distance 5 miles

Tuesday 31st August

Flamstead

Day Walk

Leader David Dumpleton
01582 607318

This circular walk heads for Blows Downs and on to Caddington, Woodside, Pepperstock, Flamstead, Markyate, Kensworth, Dunstable Downs and back to The Square. The route can be viewed by visiting http://explore.ordnabncsurvey.co.uk/os_routes/show/14073. Please keep an eye on the weather forecasts and wear appropriate clothing for the day. Also bring a packed lunch – pub stops are not promised. And be prepared to lose the way sometimes – these circular routes are unlikely to have been walked beforehand.

Meet time 9.30 am
Meet at The Square, Dunstable

Return about 3.30 pm
Distance approx 15 miles

September

Sunday 5th September

Whipsnade to Studham

Short Walk

Leader Dave Tomkins
01582 526588

Just a short, late summer stroll to Studham Common for a coffee break (bring a flask or whatever). We will be returning by a different route.

Meet time 9.30 am
Meet at The Yum Yum, Dunstable

Return 1 – 1.30 pm
Distance 5 miles

Wednesday 8th September

Kensworth Quarry/Dunstable Downs Short Walk

Leader Mike Elliott
01582 668406

We will start at the Yum Yum, walk to Kensworth quarry and follow this around to the top of Dunstable Downs where we plan to stop at the Gateway Centre for refreshments before returning to the Yum Yum.

This is walk is classed as easy to moderate, with some hills.

Meet time 10 am
Meet at the Yum Yum, Dunstable

Return 1 - 1.30 pm
Distance 5 miles max

Saturday 11th September

Swan's Way Day Walk

Leader Dennis Smith
07966493699

Swan's Way is slightly different to the other routes that we have walked as it is a long-distance bridleway rather than a long-distance footpath. It runs for approximately 65 miles, from Salcey Forest (just north of Milton Keynes), south through Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, to Goring-on-Thames. The route is covered by the OS Explorer Maps 207, 192, 181 and 171. Swan's Way can be walked in either direction (it is way-marked both ways). We will walk it going south and may include a hostel trip when we get down to Goring. Full details will appear in our next programme.

Saturday 25th September

Ashridge Boundary Trail Day Walk

Leader Dennis Smith
07966493699

The Ashridge Estate Boundary Trail is a 16 mile circular walk that goes round the National Trust's Ashridge Estate, on the northern edge of the Chiltern Hills in Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire. It was created in 1995 as part of the National Trust's Centenary celebrations. It uses public rights of way and a few permissive paths to closely follow the edges of the estate. Much of the walk is through beautiful beech woods so typical of the Chilterns, with a few sections through fields for variety. The highlight of the walk is probably Ivinghoe Beacon, with its views over the Vale of Aylesbury and towards Dunstable Downs.

Meet time 9 am
Meet at Priory Middle School, Dunstable

Return about 6 pm
Distance 16 miles

Monday 27th September

Committee Meeting

All members are welcome to attend and contribute to the running of the club.

Meet time 8 pm
Meet at Dunstable Fire Station

October

Monday 4th October

Annual General Meeting

Meet time 8 pm

Meet at Dunstable Fire Station

