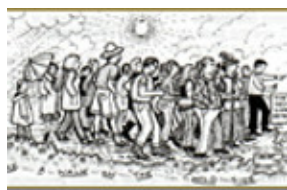


BAGINTON WALKERS



2024 Walks

December 2024 Walk

For December 10th's walk, meet at the Burnt Post pub, Kenpas Highway, CV3 6GA at 9.45am.

November 2024 Walk

Eleven adults and four dogs started our November walk at Crackley Woods, taking in Kenilworth common and Abbey Fields. A lovely Autumn walk! After the walk, we all had a very pleasant and well deserved meal at The Oak in Baginton. As it was Children in Need week, we decided to give a donation in support of the granddaughter of one of our group who is swimming four miles in four days. A brilliant effort!

October 2024 Walk

The weather was kind to us for our walk around Draycote water with the sun shining brightly on the reservoir. We arrived at the Dun Cow before the rain started and enjoyed a very good meal.

September 2024 Walk

The September walk started from the New Inn in Norton Lindsey. It proved quite interesting with some not so well trodden paths and a missing footbridge! But the weather held and we had a very pleasant, well earned meal at the Red Lion in Claverdon.

June 2024 Walk

The Falcon at Hatton was a very convenient location to meet for our June wanderings and later provided us with satisfying refreshments and meals to complete a really enjoyable morning for us all.

Memories - coming to a difficult stile but Alan having the sense to open an adjacent gate, a startled deer, some mud but only a little, an abundance of wild flowers, country lanes and narrow paths through fields of healthy looking corn and rape, a neat churchyard but another larger one with overgrown areas, hidden gates in hedges, being thankful that several dark clouds passed over, huge piles of logs and woodchip, expensive farm machinery, so much happy conversation.

Who needs flying away to distant destinations?

Another excellent walk led by David Grimsey who must have covered thousands of miles in his walking adventures. Thanks to everyone who has supported the group over the many years since Len Constable, who started the group, handed over to me. We have decided to pause and review over the summer period and wish everyone "Happy Walking".

May 2024 Walk

Following a very wet start to the year, which resulted in the postponement of several of our planned walks, this month was only the second time we had walked in 2024. Ten walkers and two small dogs set off in a light shower which thankfully soon passed over. We walked down through two paddocks and crossed the river and continued through the village of Long Itchington. The walk continued on the Millennium Way crossing more fields beside the River Itchen. This area was extremely muddy when we first researched this walk in late March, thankfully much drier now.

Walking past fields of curly horned sheep and their lambs, we then continued on through a wooded area to reach the Lias Line greenway which is part of the National Cycle Network Route 41. The greenway connects Rugby, Long Itchington and Leamington Spa. This completely traffic-free path with a tarmacked surface, follows the branch line of the old Lias Line railway was opened in 2022.

The route is designed to be a haven for rare species of plants, animals and insects, with one area planted with wildflowers especially to attract butterflies. We followed the greenway until the path met the Grand Union Canal where we walked along the towpath to return to our starting point where we enjoyed our lunch in the canal-side Two Boats Inn.

April 2024 Walk

So as usual prior to "Walkers Day" our walk plans for April were checked against the weather forecast and guess what? Another downpour was predicted so we postponed this walk to May.

March 2024 Walk

March, and our first organised walk of the year! January was cancelled due to path closures, February due to rain as was our original date in March, but we managed to find a rain free morning a couple of days later.

For our first walk, and being kind to everyone after the extended Christmas break, we opted for a shortish and level walk around the Southwest side of Kenilworth Castle.

From the main car park where English Heritage were working hard on improving the path and steps to the route around the castle, we headed off on the footpath parallel to Inchford Brook, but fortunately higher up on the ridge to miss most, but not all, of the wet muddy ground. Progress was good with great views of the castle behind us, except around the kissing gates, which seemed to have a pool of deep water around each one. Negotiating these without problem, our only incident of the morning occurred when one of the group slid down a muddy bank, thankfully without injury, but with a very muddy back.

Crossing a rickety bridge, we headed towards Rouncil Lane and the Inchford Brook Ford, which was fortunately clear, and back across more fields passing a large caravan storage area and paddocks with both Llama and

sheep, back to our starting point at Kenilworth Castle car park. Divesting ourselves of the by now very muddy footwear, we headed off to the Clarendon Arms for well-deserved refreshments.

February 2024 Walk

The day that the rains came down! So there we were, gathered near the Queen and Castle pub, anticipating an enjoyable local walk when the heavens opened with little promise of their closing. The consensus was to forgo the walk and a drenching, but to return later for a sociable lunch.

January 2024 Walk

Finding new local walks for December and January which would not involve trudging across rain sodden fields has become challenging, but we hoped that Draycote Reservoir would provide the solution. However we were thwarted by a serious delay in completion of major works affecting the paths so cancellation of the January walk was sadly necessary.