

ELMBRIDGE U3A COUNTRY RAMBLING GROUP

January to June 2024 Walks Programme For Elmbridge u3a Members

The Country Rambling Group walks shown here alternate with those of the Country Walks Group and so, if you wish to do so, you could enjoy two walks each month. Indeed, there are other Eu3a walking groups which you could join. For the walks shown here, if you want to come along, call the walk leader or call David on 07935 887499 or email davidbrion@aol.com.

We try to choose start points with free parking and less than an hour's drive from Molesey and we aim to finish walks by 4 p.m. or, in the winter, earlier. Since we shall be mostly off-road in rural areas please have suitable stout footwear and given the unpredictability of our weather, warm and waterproof clothing. The length of each walk is shown against its description but you may be able to do less because some have a shorter option built in. For lunch most people take a picnic but you may also have the option of a quick (in winter, half hour) pub snack, if pubs are open – your choice on the day however it is wise to bring some food and drink even when the walk does include a pub. There will be short breaks to allow you to refresh yourself in midmorning and mid-afternoon.

You are very welcome to contribute walk ideas and/or to lead walks but if you just want to come along just to enjoy the countryside, we will be happy to see you. However, currently, you will need to have notified us in advance that you wish to join us and confirmed your acceptance of our approach to the restrictions under which we must operate. You will also need to have received an email from us confirming that you may attend because we will need to ensure that we stay within our upper limit for the walk group's size.

For your own and others' safety, please abide by any advice and guidelines issued with regard to each walk. In particular, the document "Health & Safety When Walking" attached to the group's description on the web site and also to the then current Government Covid 19 guidance. Remember that you are walking entirely at your own risk. It is for you to decide whether or not you will be able to keep up with the group and complete the walks. If you are unsure, please discuss it with us in advance – we reserve the right to turn you away if necessary. Also, remember that it is your responsibility to behave sensibly to minimise the potential for accidents to occur. Although walking is inherently one of the safest outdoor activities no activity is completely without risk.

Car sharing enroute to the start is a matter for you. Please err on the cautious side when deciding how long it will take you to get to the start. Remember traffic will be traffic!

Elmbridge u3a Country Rambling Group

Unless otherwise stated walks start at 10:15 a.m. Please join us only if you have booked in with the Leader in advance.

Date: 11^h January 2024

Led by: Diane C 07908 800 588

Title: Putney, Hammersmith, Chiswick and Barnes

Starts at: 10:15 a.m. at 10.15 outside Putney Bridge Underground Station. The District Line from Wimbledon stops here as does the number 85 bus from Kingston. I will obviously be a bit flexible on starting time as public transport can be fickle.

Map ref: gallons.burn.votes

Description: A level walk of about 8 miles (mainly hard- standing underfoot with a short distance in woods and over a common) This route combines a long easy Thames walk, passing places of huge historical beauty and interest and a 'Green walk' through Barnes and Putney Lower Common. Lunch on Barnes Green, benches, shops and cafes nearby.

Date: 8th February 2024

Led by: Mark D 07787 871842

Title: Silent Pool and around

Starts at: 10:15 a.m. at the free Silent Pool car park below Newlands Corner on the A25 (GU5 9BW)

Map ref: Explorer 145 grid reference 059 485

Description: A hilly 6 mile walk taking in Newlands Corner and St Martha's. Bring sandwiches or go to Mandira's Indian kitchen café overlooking the Pool for tasty snacks, described as a hidden culinary gem in the Surrey Hills.

Date: 14th March 2024

Led by: Andrew 07941117737

Title: Half A Train Ride

Starts at: 10:15 a.m. at Hampton Court Station.

Map ref: Explorer 161 Post code KT8 9AE

Description: Meet at Hampton Court station at 10:15 to catch 10:24 to Wimbledon. Walk up Wimbledon Hill across common to Robin Hood roundabout, hence into and then through Richmond Park via the Broomfield Hill car park (coffee and snacks available) and the Isabella Planation to the Ham gate and thence to Teddington Lock (Lunch stop in vicinity) before returning to Hampton Court via Teddington and Bushy Park. Distance approx.: 8 miles, easy going, a couple of

gentle ascents and descents. Parking in East Molesey side roads, Hurst meadow car park or Bushy Park by the Diana fountain

Date: 11th April 2024

Led by: Peter A 07711 398 889

Title:

Starts at: 10:15 a.m. at

Map ref: Explorer grid reference

Description: lunch

Date: 9th May 2024

Led by: Margaret 07787 111508 & Gillian 07930 656060

Title: Farley Heath, Wonersh & Blackheath

Starts at: 10.15 Farley Heath GU5 9EW (Hurtwood no 8)

Map Ref: Explorer 145 map reference 052 449

Description: Eight miles of easy-moderate walking through Heath and woodland undulating with two hills and lovely views a picnic lunch in Wonersh with a village shop and pub.

Date: 13th June 2024

Led by: Lin and Andrew 07971 110020.

Title: Roughing It

Starts at: 10.15 a.m

Map ref: Explorer 146 grid reference 111 480

Description: An 8 to 9 mile walk. Meet at Abinger Roughts car park. (Through Abinger heading east and turn left up Whitedown Road, the road opposite Raikes Lane.) Walk eastwards to Wotton then south towards Crockers Farm, west towards Leith Hill. Picnic en route. Then to Leith Hill and north to Friday Street on to Wotton and separate route back to car park