

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY RAMBLING CLUB

Michaelmas Term 2015

To new ramblers and returning members alike, welcome to the Cambridge University Rambling Club! We invite you to leave the city for a few hours this term to enjoy the surrounding countryside with us. The pace of our walks is generally easy, as our main aim is to relax and appreciate the local scenery. We sometimes stop at a village pub *en route*, but you should **bring a packed lunch (except for half-day rambles) and a bottle of water** anyway. Strong boots, waterproofs, and warm clothing are also recommended. Your only expense will be the bus or train fare (given below) and our **annual £1 membership fee**. There is no need to sign up in advance to join any of this term's walks – just turn up at the time and place given.

For more information and for photos of past events, please explore our website at www.srcf.ucam.org/curac.

Saturday, 10th October

“A Stroll to Grantchester”

9 km / 5.5 miles Contact: Angela

This easy afternoon walk will take us to two tranquil villages just outside Cambridge. From Great St Mary's Church, we will head to the river, where we will pick up a path to take us behind the Botanic Gardens. We'll then head back to Trumpington Road, which leads to the village of Trumpington. We'll then follow the winding country lane past Byron's Pool to Grantchester, where notable intellectuals of the early 20th century gathered for discussion and countryside inspiration. After stopping for refreshment at the village tea rooms or a pub, we will follow the footpath along the river back to Cambridge, *via* Newnham.

Meet: 13:00 outside Great St Mary's Church
Return: Back to the city centre by 17:00
Cost: Free

Sunday, 18th October

“Rambling to Waterbeach”

11 km / 7 miles Contact: Angela

While many people enjoy walking to Grantchester, far fewer realize that the other direction is equally delightful. Starting from Waterbeach, we'll make our way south along the river toward Cambridge, stopping in Milton Country Park for a picnic lunch. This section of the river meanders through miles of agricultural land and is characterized by wildflowers, swans-a-plenty, houseboats, and an interesting lock.

Meet: 10:50 in front of the railway station for the 11:06 train to Waterbeach
Return: Back to the city centre by 15:30
Cost: £1.90

Saturday, 24th October

“No Hills in Cambridgeshire!”

21 km / 13 miles Contact: René

Cambridgeshire is notoriously flat – after seeing the villages surrounding Cambridge, you might think that you need to go quite far from home to find any elevation at all. This week we will lead you to the rare hills around Cambridge. We will start in Linton and take the Icknield Way trail to Balsham, climbing to 105 meters. From there we will follow the Harcamlow way to Fleam Dyke. We will then follow Fleam Dyke to Fulbourn, which brings us back to normal heights. From Fulbourn, we will continue back to Cambridge.

Meet: 8:45 at the Drummer St Bus station for the 8:55 bus to Linton
Return: Back to Cambridge by 16:00
Cost: £6.40 (Dayrider Plus)

Saturday, 31st October

“Halloween Night Hike”

9 km / 6 miles Contact: Stephanie

Leaving the safety of the guided bus at a lonely and isolated stop in the middle of Fen Drayton Lakes nature reserve, we make our way across the river Great Ouse to the Saxon ring village of Holywell. This village is the site of an ancient 'holy well' known for the healing properties of its water, and to the ghost of Juliet Tewsley who has haunted the village since her death in 1050 AD. Assuming we escape with our lives and sanity intact, we will then make our way to St Ives, once home to Oliver Cromwell and containing the haunted Golden Lion coaching inn. As this is a night hike, you may wish to bring a torch. Dressing up in Halloween costume is encouraged but not essential!

Meet: 19:35 at the Drummer Street bus station for the 19:53 bus to Fen Drayton Lakes
Return: 22:48 bus from St Ives, arriving back at 23:22
Cost: £6.40 (Dayrider Plus)

Saturday, 7th November

“A Lark
Through the Brecks”

23 km / 14 miles Contact: Christopher

Starting from Mildenhall, this walk follows the Lark Valley Path upstream through some of the Brecks in Suffolk, one of the driest habitats in the UK. Our route will include riverside and woodland in addition to Breckland's characteristic heathland. We finish in the historic market town of Bury St Edmunds where there'll be the option to look around for a bit before heading back to Cambridge.

Meet: 8:30 in front of the railway station for the 8:44 train to Bury St Edmunds
Return: Back to Cambridge by 17:40 (or later if we spend time in Bury St Edmunds)
Cost: £10.70 (or £7.13 with a Railcard/Groupsave) plus a few pounds for the bus

Sunday, 15th November

“Riverrun Brings us to
Clavering Castle and Environs”

22 km / 14 miles Contact: Pierre

From Newport station and along bridleways and winding country lanes, we head towards the earthworks, near the river Stort, of Clavering castle (which are all that remains of the former abode of one of Edward the Confessor's closest aides). We then continue to Ford End, circumventing Further Ford End, and thence past a succession of hamlets with improbable names, finally descending from the North Essex hills towards Wendens Ambo and Audley End station.

Meet: 8:30 in front of the railway station for the 8:51 train to Newport
Return: Back to Cambridge by 16:21
Cost: £6.90 (£4.55 with a Railcard/Groupsave)

Sunday, 22nd November

“Mostly Medieval Essex”

16 km / 10 miles Contact: Stephen

We'll take the train to Sawbridgeworth and join the River Stort towpath to the mill at Little Hallingbury. Through the village, we then join the Three Forests Way, taking us to Hatfield Forest -- a unique and ancient Royal Forest unchanged since Norman times. Finally we take the Flitch Way, a path along a former railway line, then skirt the village of Takeley to join a country road, suddenly depositing us at Stansted Airport for the train home.

Meet: 9:30 outside the railway station for the 9:51 train to Sawbridgeworth
Return: 16:30 train from Stansted Airport, arriving back at 17:21
Cost: £11.20 (£7.40 with a Railcard/Groupsave)

Saturday, 28th November

“Into Thetford Forest”

16 km / 10 miles Contact: Susan

From Brandon, we will head through Thetford Forest to the village of Weeting where we will examine the remains of a twelfth-century noble residence. We will then skirt along the edge of Grime's Graves Neolithic Flint Mine. After lunch, we'll pass ever deeper into the forest. At Santon Downham, we'll join the Little Ouse Path, which will take us along the river back to Brandon. Time will probably allow for a stop at the village pub before catching our return train.

Meet: 10:05 outside the railway station for the 10:27 train to Brandon
Return: 17:21 train from Brandon, arriving back at 18:35
Cost: £12.70 (£8.40 with a Railcard/Groupsave)

Angela: ag768@cam.ac.uk
Christopher: cthomaso@gmail.com
Stephen: srk31@cam.ac.uk
René: rene.j.dejong@gmail.com

Pierre: pah59@cam.ac.uk
Stephanie: sgs30@cantab.net
Susan: sar70@cam.ac.uk