

Cambridge University Rambling Club (CURaC)

Easter Term 2017 Term Card

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

You can also visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cambridgerambling

Saturday, 29th Apr (Shuang Ning)

The Devil's Dyke (8.8 km / 5.5 miles)

From Swaffham Prior, we make our way to the village of Reach. It marks one end of Devil's Dyke, described as "Britain's finest Anglo-Saxon earthwork". As we walk along the dyke, we should be able to enjoy a panoramic view of the surrounding countryside. Returning to Swaffham Prior, its twin windmills and twin churches will come into view. There should be time for a drink and lunch at the Red Lion pub before returning to Cambridge by bus.

Meet: 9.00 am at Drummer St bus station for the 9.15 am bus to Swaffham Prior

Return: back to Cambridge by 13.47

Cost: £ 6.40

Saturday, 6th May (Pierre)

Riverrun brings us to Weeting castle and environs (26 km / 16 miles)

Brandon Circular

From Brandon train station, we make our way along the banks of the Little Ouse to the rather improbably named Hockwold-cum-Wilton. Along tracks and footpaths and across fields and heaths, we continue to Weeting, where we admire the ruins of the castle and one of the 124 round-tower-churches in Norfolk. After a loop through Thetford forest taking us past Grime's Graves, we join the banks of the Little Ouse again at Sandon, and make our way back to Brandon.

Meet: 8.50 at the train station for the 9.12 to Brandon

Return: back to Cambridge by 17.59

Cost: £8.60 (with groupsave/railcard)

Sunday, 7th May (Herman)

Quy Water: A Short Ramble (8 km / 5 miles)

Disembarking in Cherry Hinton, we will follow a footpath with good views of the Cambridge Airport airstrip. Proceeding through Teversham, we then head out into farmland, walking briefly along Quy Water before returning for the bus home. We will likely have time for a pub stop before returning to Cambridge.

Meet: 13:40 at the Drummer Street Bus Station for the 13:55 Citi 1 bus (the 14:05 bus from the Railway Station)

Return: Back to Cambridge by 17:50

Cost: £4.10 (Dayrider Ticket)

Saturday, 13th May (Herman/Angela)

Hardwick to Orwell (16 km / 10 miles)

Disembarking at the village of Hardwick, just west of Cambridge, we join the Wimpole Way and amble along the edge of Hardwick wood. We then skirt past the village of Toft before heading towards Eversden Wood. After strolling through Wimpole Park, we then conclude our walk at Orwell.

Meet: 09:00 at the Drummer Street bus station for the 09:15 bus to Hardwick

Return: Back to Cambridge by 15:34

Cost: A few pounds for the buses

Saturday, 13th May

CURaC Termly Social / Dinner

18:00 @ Zizzi Bene't Street

Sign up before 12th May at: <https://beta.doodle.com/poll/vryc776icu8zkt69#table>

Saturday, 20th May (Christopher)

Chiltern Hills – Joint Walk with OUWC (19 km / 12 miles)
Wendover to Great Missenden

This week we venture a bit further afield for a joint walk with the Oxford University Walking Club in the Chilterns, slightly more hilly terrain than usual. From the market town of Wendover we head south west on the Ridgeway National Trail and ascend Coombe Hill where we'll hopefully be rewarded with good views. Skirting Chequers, the Prime Minister's country residence, we continue along the Ridgeway through undulating woodland. We then pass Grim's Ditch and Little Hampden before descending to Great Missenden along the South Buckinghamshire Way. N.B. Because we are travelling further away from Cambridge than usual, the cost will be more and the return time is approximate.

Meet: 08:00 at the train station for the 08:15 train to London King's Cross

Return: 18:02 train from Great Missenden, arriving back around 20:00, or later

Cost: £15.25 + £8.50 with a railcard/groupsave (£23.10 + £12.90 without)

Saturday, 27th May

CURaC Summer BBQ

16:00 @ Pete's Place, Fulborn, Cambridge

Sign up before 24th May by emailing Herman (hml49)

Expect to bring food / drinks to share

Sunday, 4th June (Stephen)

The Ugley One (22.5 km / 14 miles)

Sneaking out of Bishop's Stortford via parkland and the Stort Navigation, we'll take in the rolling Essex countryside, from the picturesque Hadhams, interestingly marshy Patmore Heath, Manuden's medieval strip lynchets and ending up reaching Elsenham the Ugley way.

Meet: at the railway station at 10.15am, for the 10.32 to Bishops Stortford

Return: to Cambridge at 6.19pm

Cost: £7.20 for the train with GroupSave or railcard

Saturday, 10th June (Stephanie)

Fen River's Way

(77 km / 47 miles for whole distance; 21 km / 13 miles from King's Lynn to Downham Market)

This ramble starts from the medieval seaport of King's Lynn (once considered England's most important port) and follows alongside the banks of the River Great Ouse through fields of sheep and past the villages of Wiggshall St Germans, St Peter and St Mary Magdalene to the town of Downham Market. From here sensible ramblers can take the train back to Cambridge, while for anyone wanting a challenge and/or practice for the Varsity March there will be an opportunity to continue along the river all the way back to Cambridge!

Meet: 08:20 in front of the train station for the 08:35 train to King's Lynn

Return: 16:08 train from Downham Market arriving back in Cambridge at 16:41 (or sometime Saturday night/Sunday morning if walking the entire distance!)

Cost: £7.60 (£5 with GroupSave / railcard)

Sunday, 11th June (Angela)

A Short Ramble: Fulbourn Circular (8 km / 5 miles)

From Fulbourn, we walk north along small rivers and farmland. After visiting the villages of Little and Great Wilbraham, we shall cut through farmland once more to return to Fulbourn. We will likely have time for a pub stop before returning to Cambridge.

Meet: 13:50 at the railway station for the 14:05 Citi 1 bus

Return: Back to Cambridge by 17:50

Cost: A few pounds for the bus

Saturday, 17th June (Angela)

Norfolk Coastal Walk (17 km / 11 miles)

Starting the seaside resort town of Cromer, we initially head inland to Beacon Hill, the highest summit of Norfolk. Mountaineering gear will not be required, however, since this is lower than the top of any other county in Britain, standing at a mere 102 metres. Continuing back to the coast along a forest track, we arrive at Sheringham, another small seaside town. For the second half of the walk, we continue west of Sheringham along the coast path: you are advised to bring warm and waterproof clothes, as conditions may be windy. We return to Sheringham by bus from the village of Salthouse, then continue our journey back to Cambridge by train. We will probably have an hour in which to buy food, e.g. fish and chips, in Sheringham after the walk, while waiting for our train connection.

Meet: 7:55 outside the railway station for the 8:12 train to Cromer

Return: Back to Cambridge by 19:59

Cost: £17.80 (£11.87 with a Railcard/Groupsave) plus a couple pounds for the bus

Sunday, 18th June (Herman)

A May Week Picnic (11 km / 7 miles)

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. **Bring food / drinks to share with the group!**

Meet: 10:45 outside the train station for the 11:06 train to Waterbeach

Return: Back to the city centre by 16:30

Cost: £1.90

Saturday / Sunday, 24th & 25th June (Stephanie)

The Varsity March

(130 km / 81 miles from Oxford to Cambridge; 37 km / 23 miles from Oxford to Aylesbury)

The annual Varsity March is a mammoth two-day walk between Oxford and Cambridge, completed within 48 hours without any sleep! There is a choice between walking the full distance or just the first section, returning to Cambridge by train from Aylesbury at the end of the first day. Once again this year we will be raising money for Jimmy's Cambridge and the Oxford Gatehouse; please consider sponsoring us at www.justgiving.co.uk/teams/varsitymarch2017. If you intend to walk no further than Aylesbury then you are welcome to just turn up on the day, but if you would like to walk further and/or would like to take part in the charity fundraising (even if you only plan to walk a short distance) please sign up in advance by emailing Stephanie.

Meet: 07:00 at Parkside coach station bay 16 for the 07:10 X5 bus to Oxford (note that this is on the side of Parker's Piece by the police station, NOT in the main Drummer Street bus station)

Return: 21.18 train from Aylesbury, arriving back in Cambridge at 00.12 if returning from Aylesbury, otherwise sometime on Sunday night or Monday morning...

Cost: £9.80 with university card/student card (£13 without) for the bus, plus £25.95 groupsave/railcard (£39.30 without) for the train if returning from Aylesbury.

Contacts / Walk Leaders:

Herman (President): hml49@cam.ac.uk
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