

**Cambridge University Rambling Club (CURaC)**

***Lent Term 2018 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. 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](http://www.srcf.ucam.org/curac)

You can also visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/cambridgerambling](http://www.facebook.com/cambridgerambling)

**Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> January (Ciarán - [ciaran\\_costello@yahoo.com](mailto:ciaran_costello@yahoo.com))**

**Ouse and Cam Rivers (20 km / 12 miles)**

From Cottenham we set off North on Lovers path along the New Cut towards the Ouse River, turning east until its confluence with the Cam, which we will follow south to Waterbeach where we can board the train to Cambridge. There is also the choice for the more energetic to simply walk all the way along the Cam to Cambridge.

Meet: 08:20 at Emmanuel Street Bus Stop E1 for the 08:30 No.8 bus to Cottenham

Return: Back by 18:00

Cost: Bus £4.00 one way, Train £2.00 (£1.30 groupsave)

**Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> January (Herman – [hml49@cam.ac.uk](mailto:hml49@cam.ac.uk))**

**A Morning Stroll on the Suffolk Border (13 km / 8 miles)**

From Kennett station on the eastern edge of Cambridgeshire, we first visit the secluded Kennett church and the tiny hamlet of Kennett Cottages before crossing into Suffolk and making our way across Kentford Heath to the little village of Herringswell. From here we follow the Icknield Way and Green Lane to Red Lodge, from where we cross back into Cambridgeshire to catch the train home from Kennett. Being a morning walk, there will be no lunch stop.

Meet: 08:25 at the train station for the 08:44 train to Kennett

Return: 12:07 train from Kennett, arriving back at 12:39

Cost: £6.10 (Groupsave)

**Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February (Pete – [pj17@waitrose.com](mailto:pj17@waitrose.com))**

**Wild Fenland, Wild Ponies (20 km / 13 miles)**

A return of our club's favourite! Disembarking near Anglesey Abbey, we shall walk on quiet back roads, tracks, and cycle ways to Wicken Fen (a National Nature Reserve). Wicken Fen is one of Britain's oldest nature reserves and was the first one to be cared for by the Trust (since 1899). The National Trust is working on restoring the fenland between Wicken and the edge of Cambridge and so we may even have the opportunity to see the semi-wild Konik ponies (who are diligently doing that!) that graze on the rough fenland! Home to over 9,000 species (many of them beautiful birds), you may want to bring along your pair of binoculars. From there, we will ramble to Burwell over the flat fenland landscape - with big skies and lots of waterways. We will thence end our day at a quiet pub in this Burwell area for a well-deserved drink.

Meet: 09:35 at the Drummer Street Bus Station for the 09:50 bus to Newmarket

Return: Back to Cambridge by 18:43

Cost: £6.40 (Day Rider Plus)

**Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> February (Herman – [hml49@cam.ac.uk](mailto:hml49@cam.ac.uk))**

**Sunday Morning in St Ives (10 km / 6 miles)**

One of the rambling club's favourite this academic year is the St Ives area in Cambridgeshire. This morning stroll takes us to Hemingford Grey with its lambs, the Houghton Mill with its alpaca farms, and St Ives with its majestic swans. No lunch stop due to morning walk, but if time permits, there will be a tea stop towards the end of the walk. Light snacks recommended but not essential.

Meet: 09:15 at Drummer Street Bus Station for the 09:34 B Bus for St Ives

Return: Back to Cambridge by 13:00

Cost: £6.70

**Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> February (Angela – [ag768@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ag768@cam.ac.uk))**

**The Wash: Where the Great Ouse Meets the Sea (23 km / 14 miles)**

After making our way to the Great Ouse from the King's Lynn railway station, we begin our walk by boarding a foot ferry to cross the river. We will then follow the Peter Scott Walk along the Ouse to the sea. From there, we will ramble along the edge of the Wash National Nature Reserve, an important winter feeding ground for wetland birds. We will pass by the picturesque Scott's Lighthouse before catching the bus back to King's Lynn.

Meet: 9:20 in front of the railway station for the 9:35 train to Kings Lynn

Return: back to Cambridge by 18:41

Cost: £7.80 (£5.20 with GroupSave) + a few pounds for the bus and foot ferry

**Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> February (Christopher – [cet34@cam.ac.uk](mailto:cet34@cam.ac.uk))**

Linton Circular (17 km / 11 miles)

On this ramble we explore the undulating countryside south east of Cambridge. From Linton we first make for Hadstock, home of the oldest church door still in use in Britain. We continue on footpaths across fields to Ashdon and then head to Bartlow, where we'll encounter some impressive Roman tumuli, before returning to Linton.

Meet: 08:40 at the Bus Station (bay 8) for the 08:55 bus to Linton

Return: 16:01 bus from Linton, arriving back at 16:38

Cost: £6.70

**Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> February (Pierre – [pah59@cam.ac.uk](mailto:pah59@cam.ac.uk))**

Shunning Stevenage (24 km / 15 miles)

From Watton-at-Stone, we ascend the hills of Hertfordshire to leave Stevenage and its dark satanic mills to our left. Following footpaths and winding country lanes, we make our way to Ardeley. Continuing towards Clothall, we catch a glimpse of a windmill, and we pass the site of a Roman settlement on our way into Baldock.

Meet: 9:10 outside the railway station for the 09:29 service to Stevenage

Return: 17:17 from Baldock, arriving back at 17:48

Cost: £10.50 (£6.95 with railcard/groupsave)

**Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> February (Herman – [hml49@cam.ac.uk](mailto:hml49@cam.ac.uk))**

Fen Drayton Lakes: Watery Wonderland (11 km / 7 miles)

This short walk takes us to the Guided Busway between Cambridge and St Ives. Getting off Swavesey we will initially explore the small village and its historic buildings, before heading into the Fen Drayton Lakes Reserves. The scene is tranquil and serene and there will be birds spying on us (or the other way round!) We will end our walk with a well-deserved lunch at St Ives.

Meet: 09:20 at the Drummer Street Bus Station for the 09:34 B bus to St Ives

Return: Back by 14:00

Cost: £6.70

**Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March (Stephen – [srk31@cam.ac.uk](mailto:srk31@cam.ac.uk))**

Norfolk: the Nar and the Acres (19 km / 12 miles)

We'll take train and bus to Narborough, Norfolk, then follow the river Nar through the Bradmoor Plantation towards West Acre and its ruined priory. Beyond this, we continue along the river towards Castle Acre, this time also with castle ruins, together with an ancient bailey gate that still stands. From there we turn south, though (not surprisingly) South Acre. Finally, with the help of a Roman road, we'll reach the market town of Swaffham, nowadays famous for its wind turbines. From there we take the bus back to King's Lynn for the train home.

Meet: 9.15am for the 9.35am train to King's Lynn (onward bus to Narborough)

Return: Back to Cambridge by 6.41pm.

Cost: £5.15 train fare with GroupSave (else £7.80), plus a few pounds each for the bus

**Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> March (Angela – [ag768@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ag768@cam.ac.uk))**

A Castle and the Queen's Estate (17 km / 10 miles)

On this walk, we will be retracing the route taken on my first walk with the Rambling Club - the ramble that got me hooked! From the village of Dersingham, we will venture out onto Dersingham Bog, the largest bog in East Anglia. From there, we will make our way into and around Sandringham Country Park, part of the Queen's Estate. After weaving through the towering pines trees characteristic of the Park, we will ramble onwards to Castle Rising Castle. This castle, located in the village of Castle Rising, features one of the largest and best preserved keeps in England. There will be time to explore before returning to Cambridge.

Meet: 9:20 in front of the railway station for 9:35 train to Kings Lynn

Return: Back to Cambridge by 18:41

Cost: £7.80 (£5.20 with GroupSave) + a few pounds

**Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> March (Herman – [hml49@cam.ac.uk](mailto:hml49@cam.ac.uk))**

A Stroll to Grantchester and the Annual General Meeting (9 km / 5 miles)

The usual short stroll to Grantchester via Trumpington on the way out and via Newnham on the way back. We shall finish with an Annual General Meeting electing the new committee at Pembroke College (venue to be confirmed) at 4 pm.

Meet: 12:15 outside Great St Mary's Church

Return: Back in Cambridge by 16:00 for AGM

Cost: Free

**Contacts / Walk Leaders:**

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