

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY RAMBLING CLUB

Easter Term 2011

To new ramblers and returning members alike, welcome to the 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 and villages. We sometimes stop at a village pub en route, but **you should bring a packed lunch and a bottle of water** anyway. Strong boots, waterproofs, and warm clothing are also recommended. Your only expense is the bus or train fare (given below), plus our £1 annual 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.**

Our meeting points (unless otherwise noted) are: **Bus/Coach:** At the corner of Drummer Street and Emmanuel Street. **Train:** In the main hall of Cambridge Railway Station.

PUB MEETS: All are welcome to The Elm Tree at 8 pm on Thursdays during term-time, when fellow ramblers will gather for tales from the trail!
The Elm Tree, 16a Orchard Street, Cambridge, CB1 1JT

For more information and photos, check out **our website** at www.srcf.ucam.org/curac

May

<p>Apr 30th "Cambridge Classic: Journey to Ely" Cambridge to Ely (26 km / 16 miles) Contact: Ernest</p> <p>This is one of the classic walks along the Fen Rivers Way. Heading north and following the River Cam downstream, we will enjoy an easy and picturesque ramble on a warm "summer" day. For the last 5 miles into Ely, we will see Ely cathedral rising above the Fens like a ship ahead of us. After arriving in Ely, we will have a chance to explore the gorgeous Ely Cathedral, which was built in the 11th Century, and the city centre before catching the train back to Cambridge. There is also a shorter alternative which finishes in Waterbeach (10 km / 6 miles) and you can catch a train back.</p> <p>Meet: 09:00 at Magdalene Bridge for a 09:10 departure Return: 18:00 train from Ely, arriving back in Cambridge at 18:16 (or earlier) Cost: £3.90 or £2.60 with a railcard [Single from Ely to Cambridge]</p>	<p>1st "Ely circular and Tea-room!" HALF DAY Ely Circular (10 km / 6 miles) Contact: Valérie</p> <p>For a nice afternoon stroll around Ely that could finish in a lovely tea-room. We'll leave Ely by a small path along Ely city golf course to pass by Little Thetford. From there, we will follow the Great Ouse river back into Ely, where we'll stop for a well-deserved tea at Peacocks (http://www.peacockstea-room.co.uk/).</p> <p>Meet: 12:45 at Cambridge Railway Station for the 13:00 train to Ely Return: 17:04 train from Ely, arriving in Cambridge at 17:22 Cost: £4.00, or £2.65 with a railcard [return to Ely]</p>
<p>7th "Inland Sand" St Neots to Sandy (16 km / 10 miles) Contact: Pete</p> <p>After arriving by coach in the historic market square of St Neots, we will follow Hen Brook stream out of the town and under the main East Coast railway line. The stream will reach the course of a Roman road, which will take us south into Bedfordshire. We will skirt woodland and errant golf shots to reach Crane Hill and continue along to the Greensand Ridge on the outskirts of Sandy. The town is home to the UK headquarters of the RSBP so we will take the chance to visit The Lodge nature reserve, and hopefully spot a few rare species, or at least some treats from the Food Fayre happening that weekend! We will visit the former Iron Age fort known as Caesar's Camp before catching the train back from Sandy.</p> <p>Meet: 09:55 at <u>Parkside coach stop (Bay 16)</u> for the 10:10 coach (X5) to St Neots. Note that this coach stop is located on the side of Parker's Piece, near the police station, and NOT in the main Drummer Street bus station. Return: 17:05 train from Sandy to St Neots, arriving back in Cambridge by X5 at 18:25 Cost: Coach fare £4.65 for students (bring ID), otherwise £6.20 [return to St Neots]. Rail fare £3.40, or £2.25 with a railcard [single from Sandy to St Neots]</p>	<p>8th "Great Ouse River and Houghton Mill" Houghton to St Ives via Godmanchester (12 km / 8 miles) Contact: Paul</p> <p>Starting in Houghton, we head west to the outskirts of Godmanchester along the Ouse Valley Way, passing by Cook's Stream. After passing through this former Roman town we follow the Pathfinder Long Distance Way to Hemingford Abbots. Crossing the Ouse we will briefly visit Houghton Mill before making our way along the Ouse Valley Way to reach St Ives. After seeing the Bridge Chapel, we will then take the bus back to Cambridge.</p> <p>Meet: 09:50 at the bus station for the 10:05 bus to Houghton Return: 15:25 bus from St Ives; arriving in Cambridge at 15:56 Cost: Approximately £5 (return to Houghton) and, if time and interest permit, £4 for Houghton Mill (free for National Trust Members)</p>
<p>14th "Rivers and racetracks" Ely to Newmarket (29 km / 18 miles) Contact: Matthew</p> <p>Leaving Ely on the east bank of the River Great Ouse, our first two miles will follow the Fen Rivers Way towards Cambridge. Then, turning to the east, we will walk the full length of Soham Lode, a tributary of the Great Ouse. In the latter part of the walk, we pass through Chippenham Fen National Nature Reserve, a preserved fenland landscape renowned as a haven for wild flowers in the springtime. Finally we arrive in Newmarket, Suffolk, where we walk alongside some of the many gallops used for racehorse training in the town.</p> <p>Meet: 09:00 at Cambridge Railway Station for the 09:12 train to Ely Return: 17:16 train from Newmarket, arriving back at 17:39 Cost: £9.00, or £5.95 with a railcard [Single from Cambridge to Ely and single from Newmarket to Cambridge]</p>	<p>15th "Traipsing to Trumpington and Beyond" HALF DAY Cambridge Circular (9 km / 5.5 miles) Contact: Susan</p> <p>This easy afternoon stroll will take us to two tranquil villages just outside the bustling City Centre of Cambridge. From Great St Mary's Church, we will head down King's Parade and then to the river, where we will pick up a path to take us behind the Botanic Gardens, along some public allotment gardens, and back to Trumpington Street, which leads to the village of that name. From Trumpington, we'll follow the winding country lane past Byron's Pool to the village of Grantchester, where notable intellectuals of the early twentieth century also gathered for discussion and countryside inspiration. After stopping for refreshment at The Orchard tea room or perhaps a pub, we will follow the footpath along the River Granta back to Cambridge, via Newnham.</p> <p>Meet: Outside Great St Mary's Church at 13:00 Return: Back to city centre by 17:00 Cost: Free!</p>
<p>21st "Oxford University comes to Cambridge!" HALF DAY Hardwick to Cambridge (10 km / 6 miles) Contact: Steven</p> <p>This will be a short morning stroll in the countryside to the west of Cambridge, which we hope to do jointly with Oxford University Walking Club, who are visiting Cambridge for the day. Starting from Hardwick we will walk back towards Cambridge, taking the Harcamlow Way from the amazing height of 66 m down into Coton. From here we follow the Coton Footpath across the M11 and so back into central Cambridge, where we may join our Oxford friends for lunch or sightseeing.</p> <p>Meet: 10:00 at the bus station for the 10:15 bus to Hardwick Return: Arriving back in Cambridge at about 1pm Cost: Approximately £3 for the bus fare [Single to Hardwick]</p>	<p>22nd "Wimpole Hall and Farm" Meldreth to Shepreth (18 km / 11 miles) Contact: Paul</p> <p>Starting at Meldreth we will walk to Whaddon to join the Harcamlow Way. After following this for a short distance, we will reach Wimpole Avenue and follow this on our way to the hall. After a couple of hours to explore Wimpole Hall and its extensive gardens, we will head east along Cobb's wood to reach Orwell. We then take the footpath towards Barrington before heading south to Shepreth for the train home. Distance only includes walking to and from Wimpole Hall.</p> <p>Meet: 09:05 at Cambridge Railway Station for the 09:20 rail replacement bus Return: 18:33 rail replacement bus from Shepreth arriving in Cambridge at 19:01. Cost: £4.00 or £2.65 with a rail card [return to Meldreth] and £9.80 for entrance to Wimpole Hall and Gardens (free for National Trust Members).</p>

<p>28th "Essex villages" Stansted Airport to Harlow (21 km / 13 miles) Contact: Geoffrey</p> <p>We depart Stansted Airport and immediately take a southerly direction through Takely and the delightful village of Hatfield Broad Oak, before moving on to a more westerly bearing through Hatfield Heath, where we stop for lunch. We then proceed across the M11, and follow a route through Sheering along the Stort Valley Way into Harlow.</p> <p>Meet: 09:55 at Cambridge Railway Station for the 10:10 train to Stansted Airport Return: 17:58 train from Harlow Town, arriving back at 18:40 Cost: £12.30, or £8.10 with a railcard [return to Harlow Town]</p>	<p>29th "A whale of a time" HALF DAY North Cambridge Circular (10 km / 6 miles) Contact: Pete</p> <p>After arriving at King's Hedges we will pass under the A14 embankment and follow a short section of the Mere Way north towards Landbeach. We will divert west along Butt Lane until we arrive in the scenic village of Impington, home to a few hidden surprises! Our route will take in some of the highlights of the Histon and Impington Millennium Walk, including an impressively restored windmill, as well as another landmark which did not feature on that map – the International Whaling Commission's global HQ! We will head back towards Cambridge, this time over the A14, before diverting off Histon Road onto a farmland path that offers great views, especially at sunset! After emerging on Huntingdon Road we will return to the city centre.</p> <p>Meet: 13:00 at St Andrews Street S1 for the 13:15 Citi 1 bus to Arbury Return: Arrive back in the city centre by 17:00 Cost: Maximum of £3.50 [Dayrider bus ticket]</p>
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June

<p>4th To be confirmed Details to follow through email and online.</p>	<p>5th "Horseheath Circular" Horseheath Circular (15 km / 9.5 miles) Contact: Valérie</p> <p>This walk explores the countryside east of Cambridge. Starting from Horseheath, we will walk northwest to the village of Balsham. We then head eastwards to West Wickham, before returning south to Horseheath through the fields and wooded countryside.</p> <p>Meet: 09:50 at the bus station for the 10:10 bus to Horseheath Return: 16:23 bus from Horseheath, arriving in Cambridge at 17:02. Cost: Approximately £5.40 for bus fare [Dayrider plus]</p>
<p>11th "The Fen Rivers Way" King's Lynn to Downham Market and Cambridge (19 km / 12 miles or 76 km / 47 miles) Contact: Matthew</p> <p>Continuing in the tradition of recent years, we again plan to walk the full length of the Fen Rivers Way in one day. This year we will take the last train from Cambridge to King's Lynn on Friday night, and walk overnight along the River Great Ouse to Downham Market. Sensible ramblers can return from Downham Market by the first train of the morning, while less sane members continue walking upstream all the way to Cambridge, arriving in the early evening. Please contact Matthew for more information if you wish to participate in this walk.</p> <p>Meet: 00:05 (Friday night) at Cambridge Railway Station for the 00:18 train to King's Lynn Return: 06:09 train from Downham Market, arriving back at 06:44, or walk to Cambridge arriving Saturday evening. Cost: £9.00, or £5.95 with a railcard [return to King's Lynn]</p>	<p>12th "Great Chesterford Loop" HALF DAY Great Chesterford Circular (9 km / 5.5 miles) Contact: Susan</p> <p>This afternoon ramble will allow us to explore a pocket of the countryside southeast of Cambridge. From Great Chesterford, we'll head southwest along the Icknield Way path to the village of Stretthall, where we may catch glimpses of Howe Wood and an antique moat. We'll then cross the M11 to the village of Littlebury, which offers another church to explore. From there, we'll wind our way back north along the River Cam to return to Great Chesterford via its cousin Little Chesterford. There should be time to stop in the pub before catching the train back to Cambridge.</p> <p>Meet: 12:35 at Cambridge Railway Station for the 12:51 train to Great Chesterford Return: 17:03 train from Great Chesterford, arriving in Cambridge at 17:19 Cost: £5.00, or £3.30 with a railcard [return to Great Chesterford]</p>
<p>18th "Fens, Farms and Gardens" HALF DAY Cherry Hinton to Fulbourn (11 km / 7 miles) Contact: Ernest</p> <p>This afternoon walk will allow us to explore the nearby villages of Cambridge. We will start in Cherry Hinton, heading out of the town. A footpath bypassing a small village, Teversham, will lead us all the way to Quy Water. We will then make our way along the scenic Little Wilbraham River. After taking a path through some fenland, we will be able to walk past some more greens and gardens before ending up in the village of Fulbourn, where we will get the bus back to Cambridge.</p> <p>Meet: 12:40 at the bus station (Stop E2) for the 12:55 bus to Cherry Hinton Return: 16:45 bus from Fulbourn, arriving at St. Andrew's St, Cambridge at 17:35 Cost: £3.50 [Dayrider bus ticket]</p>	<p>19th "Look out for falling sails!" Newport Circular (24 km / 15 miles) Contact: Simon</p> <p>We head east from Newport and pass through Debden Park and Rowney Woods on our way to the small historic town of Thaxted, formerly important for its cutlery industry. There we will hopefully be able to visit the 15th century guildhall, the parish church with the only stone spire in Essex, and the early 19th century windmill, which unfortunately lost a sail on Easter Monday 2010. In the afternoon we head back to Newport via a more southerly route.</p> <p>Out: 09:35 at Cambridge Railway Station for the 09:51 train to Newport Return: 17:55 train from Newport, arriving back at 18:19 Cost: £6.30, or £4.15 with a railcard [Return to Newport]</p>

<p>25th - 26th "The Varsity March!" Oxford to Cambridge (130 km / 81 miles) Contact: Steven</p> <p>The annual Varsity March is a mammoth two-day walk between Oxford and Cambridge, completed within 48 hours without any sleep! This year we hope to team up with RAG to raise money for Jimmy's Night Shelter in Cambridge and the Gatehouse homelessness charity in Oxford, and we also hope to be joined by Oxford University Walking Club. As last year it will be possible to join or leave the walk at intermediate points if you do not wish walk the full distance, or want to support your friends for short sections. More details will be sent out by email nearer the time, but please talk to Steven if you would like to know more information.</p>	
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The CURAC Committee:

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