

TEWKESBURY U3A WALKING GROUP

WALKS and STROLLS PROGRAMME No 221 July and August 2026

Please give your phone number when booking on a walk in case of any last minute changes. If necessary, before the walk, phone the leader on the mobile number given in the walk description.

NB 1. Walkers are requested to carry both their U3A membership cards and their ICE (*in case of emergency*) cards with them on all walks and strolls.

NB 2. *Numbers on walks are as always at the walk leader's discretion.* This may well be limited. This may depend upon a number of factors the nature of the walk, e.g. number of stiles and lunch arrangements.

Please book the week before no earlier than the Monday and no later than the Friday if there are lunch arrangements. . If there are no Lunch arrangements there might still be space on the walk if you book after the Friday

Advanced Notice The Walking Group Annual Meeting

Monday 7th September 2pm at Tewkesbury Baptist Church (same as last year).

(We will need a new Walks Coordinator at this meeting.)

This is your opportunity to meet other walking group members, find out about our walks and have tea and cake. Everyone welcome

Walk 1761 Thursday 9 July 5 miles Moderate Lunch at Fruit Farm

Meet Hayles Fruit Farm GL54 5PB SP 053 297

Please park in left hand car park.

Time 10am start

Contact Sonia

Directions A46 from Tewkesbury, take 3rd exit on next roundabout and follow B.4077 to Toddington roundabout. Take 3rd exit on to B.4632 toward Winchcombe. After a mile take 3rd turning left signposted Hailes Abbey and Hayles Fruit Farm to follow the lane past the Abbey into Hayles car park. Please share cars if possible.

Details Walking mostly on tracks and fields with some road walking through Didbrook and Wood Stanway. We pass an iron age fort and Stone Monument to Thomas Cromwell at the highest part of the walk.(270 m) The descent, after fields is down a stony track. Toilet is available at the start.

Lunch There is a reduced menu for groups over 10 now at the café, and the parking charge of £2.50 is only for anyone just walking. I would like your menu choice on booking, but no later than Friday please.

Menu Each choice comes with 2 salad options: potato / tomato and Feta / slaw / mixed leaves

Homemade sausage roll	£7.50
Little Vernon Scotch egg	£7.50
Homemade vegetable Frittata	£9

Stroll Tuesday 14 July 2026 The Honeybourne Line, Cheltenham
Meet outside Boots in Tewkesbury at 9.45am to catch the 10am bus to Cheltenham, leaving the bus one stop before the end (Grove St). Bring your BUS PASS if you have one. From bus stop we cross the road, turn right towards Alex Burns funeral directors and next to this is the opening to the Winston Churchill Memorial Gardens.
OR

Drive to Cheltenham, park up and make your own way to the Winston Churchill Memorial Gardens, Market Street, Cheltenham, GL50 3QP. The Lower High Street entrance is opposite Cheltenham Garden Machinery, close to the junction where the High Street joins Tewkesbury Road. The gardens have a very small car park next to the St Mary's Chapel building. The nearest public car park is on the corner of High Street and Poole Way (at the traffic lights): West End CP, 433-435 High Street, Cheltenham, GL50 3HU - £2.80 for 2 hours.

Contact Pam

General details of stroll From the Churchill Memorial Gardens off the Lower High Street we cross the road to get onto the Honeybourne Line Walk, heading over the millennium bridge, through the tunnel and right towards Cheltenham Spa Station. (around 0.8 miles). There are coffee shops at the end of the line or we can turn back and go to Waitrose or go into Cheltenham from there (by not going over the millennium bridge) and get coffee in town, catching the bus back from Boots.

The whole stroll is about 2 miles – there and back - and lasts 1 to 1.5 hours depending if people wanted to stop for coffee. It is definitely wheelchair friendly.

Lunch- Own arrangements.

<<CHANGED from first email >>

Walk 1762 Wednesday 15 July 3 miles easy

Meet Kempsey Common car park. Bestmans Lane. WR5 3QA

SO 865 482

Time 9.30am Note earlier time to beat the heat

Contact Mike and Jenny

Directions Take the A38 towards Kempsey. Go past Edwards Kia and Gandie's cafe. Turn right onto Bestmans Lane, which is just after Draycott Lane. Go straight ahead on narrow lane, ignoring all side turnings, cross over M5 and park at the end.

Details Very little ascent. No stiles. Common land and footpaths.

Good views of Bredon Hill, Malverns and May Hill, but not all at once.

Who will be the first to find the Trig Point?

Note We should finish the walk by 11.30am. Please bring water, sunhat, etc

Friday 17 July Garden Visits trip to Avebury

Coach 8.45 for 9am from the Roses Tewkesbury.

Leave Avebury 3.45 for 4pm Cost £10 pay Margaret on the day

Some space for walkers.

Walk 1763 Friday 17 July 5 miles Moderate / Energetic Picnic en route
Meet Outside cafe at Avebury
Time 11am.
Contact Margaret
Details We should arrive in time to have coffee before the walk starts. Lunch will be a picnic en route. There should be time after the walk to visit the cafe again, walk round the Avebury stones, or, NT members, look round the garden.
If you don't want to walk 5 miles, if space on the coach, just come and walk round the Avebury stones and the NT house and Gardens.

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<<CHANGED from first email >>

Change to Walk 1764

Walk 1764 Wednesday 22 July 3 1/2 miles Easy Pub Lunch
Meet Round of Gras, Bretforton Rd, Badsey WR11 7XQ SP 079 436
Time 9.45 am start walking
Directions A46 Evesham bypass at 4th rbt turn right to Badsey and Bretforton B4035.
Follow road through the village. The Pub is on the Left just after a bend and road junction.
Details Flat easy walk on roads, paths and tracks. One footbridge with step through stiles each end. No other stiles
Lunch 12.noon The Round of Gras has a carvery on Wednesdays. If only a few want to order from the main menu we can order after the walk. Please look at the menu on their website and say when you book if you are likely to choose the carvery. www.roundofgras.co.uk

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Walk 1765 Thursday 30 July 4.5 miles Moderate Pub Lunch
Meet The Plough Inn, Ford GL54 5RU SP 088 294
Parking Please park in the car park behind the pub and **not** in that on the main road opposite.
Time 9.30 to book your lunch or 9.45 for a 10.00am start.
Contact Guy or John

Directions From Tewkesbury head out on the A46 through Ashchurch, straight on at Teddington hands towards Toddington and straight on again at the roundabout in Toddington. Climb the hill and continue on until you drop down into Ford. The Plough is on the right as you come up from the valley. **Turn right just after the pub** and park in a compact area in their car park. Menus will be available by the car park for booking lunch choices.

Details From Ford there is a short section on the main road so single file please. We then walk south through Temple Guiting following the Diamond and Winchcombe Ways before branching off past the lost village of Pinnock. We then return to Ford on the Gloucestershire Way. The walk is mainly on field paths which could be muddy if wet with

two short sections on minor roads and a couple of very short sections on the main road. There are no steep slopes but quite a few ups and downs.

Walk 1766: Wednesday 5 August 4.5 miles moderated /energetic lunch own
Meet: In the lane by St Benets Church a few cars may use back of church car Park
(suggest sharing cars as parking is limited) . GL20 7JE. SO 949 373
Time 9.45 for 10am start
Contact : Sylvia or George
Directions: Take the b4080 to Bredon from Tewkesbury and then continue through Bredon to Kemerton on the road to Beckford. St Benets church is at the far end of Kemerton on the left.
Details: The walk starts at the church and goes straight up the lane past Merecombe house and Bell's Castle. It is a steady climb for 1.5 miles and continues to Sundial barn where there will be a coffee stop. We will continue on the path to Parsons Folly where there should be excellent views from where we will slowly descend and return by retracing our steps back to the church. Only one stile in good condition.
Lunch own arrangements – options include Crown Pub or coffee shop in Kemerton or picnic by the river in Bredon

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Stroll Tuesday 11 August, about 1.5 miles, Alney Island, Gloucester
Meet Castle Meads car park, Castle Meads Way, Gloucester GL1 2NH, share cars, Pay (card only) and display parking; up to 2 hours £2.50, up to 3 hours £4.00.
Time . 10.15 for a 10.30a.m. start. Two hours will be enough unless you want to explore Gloucester docks after the stroll.
Contact Hugh and Christine
Directions A38 south to Gloucester inner ring road, turn right past Tesco to Westgate (big) roundabout. Follow signs for Ross and turn left at the first traffic light onto the Gloucester western bypass. Car park 400m on left.
Details Alney Island is the largest river island in the UK. A level circular stroll on hard paths, with three kissing gates, through part of the nature reserve in the southern part of the island. It is somewhat suitable for mobility scooters. (Christine got round on hers but had to dismount at the kissing gates and move her scooter through by hand. A bigger scooter may have difficulties.)
See: <https://www.gloucester.gov.uk/environment-waste-recycling/nature-and-conservation/habitat-countryside/alney-island-local-nature-reserve/>
Many possibilities for lunch around the docks, a short walk from the car park, and for shopping at the Quays outlet centre.

Walk 1767 Wednesday 12 August. 5.25 miles moderate pub lunch
Meet Eldersfield School, Corse Lawn GL19 4LZ SO 833 309
Time 9.15 for 9.30 start. Please note. An earlier start as Hunters Inn booked 1pm.
Contact Margaret
Directions From Mythe A438, L B4211 park on left by school.
Details A mainly flat walk, a couple of small inclines over farmland with connecting quiet lanes about 7 stiles, passing the Lime St Blues and Drinkers End.
Lunch Hunters Inn is booked for 1pm Carvery day.

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Walk 1768 Wednesday 19 August 4 miles Easy/Moderate Pub lunch
Meet Farmers Arms top car park, Lower Apperley, GL19 4DR, Grid 866279
Time 9.45 for a 10am start.
Contact Hugh on
Directions A38 south, turn right at second set of traffic lights onto B4213; pub on the left after 2 miles.
Details We walk through Apperley and The Leigh villages, crossing the Coombe Hill canal twice. A mainly flat walk with one small hill at the start but a lot of stiles (6+); could be muddy if wet.
Lunch We will have to choose our lunch in advance. Please look at menu attached and place your order when you book on the walk. I have to let the pub know your choices by Monday 17 August.

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Walk 1768 Thursday 27 August 5.9 miles Moderate Picnic en route
Meet Colwall Railway Station on Lockyear Close Colwall WR13 6RN.
(Grid Ref SO757426). The car park may be full, there is however plenty of street parking only a short walk away.
Time 9:45 for 10:00 start
Contact Eleanor and Peter
Directions A438 to Hollybush, Eastnor, Right on to A449. Left B4218 Colwell Green, In Colwell Stone, Lockyear Close is on the right just before Colwell Park Hotel.
Details A circular walk. Steps on railway footbridge at start and end of walk. : paths and tracks. We walk past the Downs School (hopefully see their pedigree pigs Oxford Sandy and Black kept as part of their on-site smallholding). Steepish uphill climb (25 mins approx) to West of England Quarry car park (coffee stop) and then via Wyche back to Colwall, with a picnic lunch 10 mins before the end. Sit mats as likely sitting on field.

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September

Wed 2/Thur 3 **walk needed**

Mon 7 Walking Group Annual Meeting.

Thurs 10 Black Hill Malverns 7 miles Energetic

Wed 16 probably Elmley 4/5 miles Moderate

Wed 23/Thur 24 **walk needed**

Wed 30/Thur 1st October **walk needed**

Walks also needed for October November. All dates free.