

Cheshire Walkers Walks Programme: Nov 2008 – Mar 2009

Sun 22nd Nov 2008: Lancashire - Garstang

Description: A gentle walk along the River Wyre, across meadows and beside woodland. Rolling farmland, pastoral views and plenty of stiles.

Start point: High Street car park beside the Garstang Discovery Centre grid ref SD494455

Level: Easy

Distance: 8 miles

Leader: Kate

Sat 29th/Sun 30th Nov 2008: Snowdonia Weekend

Description: Saturday 9.30am: Glyderau from Cwm Idwal, Snowdonia: This is a Welsh Classic or Clasurol Cymraeg, if you will! We will start at Idwal Cottage at the western end of Llyn Ogwen and then climb past Llyn Idwal (where Charles Darwin devised part of his theory of evolution), up through Twll Du (The Devils Kitchen) to the rocky summit of Glyder Fawr at 999m. We will then traverse a landscape more akin to the moon, with one of the best examples of a post-glacial boulder field the world can provide, through the surreal natural sculpture of Castell y Gwynt (Castle of the Winds!) to the summit of Glyder Fach at 994m. We will then descend to Bwlch Tryfan, where we may make a short detour to the summit of Tryfan at 915m, should this be suitable for the group, returning to Idwal Cottage via Cwm Bochlwyd.

Sunday 10.00am: Betws-y-Coed Area This will be a circular walk, taking in the delights of the surrounding forested area, the Afon Llugwy and Swallow Falls. The route will be confirmed in more detail nearer the time.

Start point: Sat The National Park Car Park at Idwal Cottage, on the A5, grid ref: SH649604, Cost TBA

Level: Sat - Hard. Sun - Moderate

Distance: Sat - 12km, Sun - TBC

Leader: Sat - Andrew, Sun - Rebecca

Sun 6th Dec 2008: Peak District: Chapel en le Frith Circuit

Description: Starting and returning to Chapel en le Frith train station (just north west of Buxton), this walk will take us onto the gentle hillside of Comb Edge and then down to Fernilee reservoir on the Mid-Shires Way. This is a varied terrain walk taking in a peaceful moorland valley, farmland, and if you are all well behaved, one of the best country pubs I've visited in some time.

Start point: Chapel en le Frith Station (GR SK 055 795)

Level: Moderate

Distance: 10 miles

Leader: Craig

Sun 14th Dec 2008: Peak District - Lyme Park

Description: A shortish but hilly walk around Lyme Park, taking us up to Bowstone Gate, down to West Park Gate and back up over Hase Bank.

There is something a bit Christmassy going on at the hall which we could visit if there is time

Start point: Main Car Park in Lyme Park GR SJ9628 23962

Level: Moderate

Distance: 8 miles

Leader: Alison S

Sun 21st Dec 2008: Christmas Meal

Description: This is our Christmas walk and meal at Blaze Farm.

Start point: Blaze Farm

Level: Moderate

Distance: TBC

Leader: Sam

Sun 28th Dec 2008: Cheshire/Staffordshire: The Cloud (near Congleton)

Description: A moderate walk ideal for a crisp winter's day during the holiday period. Starting from the car park at Timbersbrook, initially taking the Macclesfield Canal passing Congleton & affording the opportunity to size up the Cloud before its ascent, with a height of around 800 ft. Then for the views from the top and the descent back to the car.

Start point: Car Park at Timbersbrook (GR SJ 8945 6275)

Level: Moderate

Distance: 7–8 miles

Leader: Jay

Sun 4th Jan 2009: Cheshire: Frodsham Sandstone Trail

Description: This year we'll be walking off the turkey along the Sandstone Trail from its origin in Frodsham. The route takes us on to the hills that stand over Frodsham and Helsby, then along the Sandstone Trail towards Manley before turning east to meet up with the Eddisbury Trail which will take us back to Frodsham.

Start point: Car park, Church Street (B5152), Frodsham

Level: Moderate

Distance: 11 miles

Leader: Ian

Sun 11th Jan 2009: Peak District Edale & Kinder Scout

Description: This walk begins in Edale from the official start of the Pennine Way. It starts with an easy walk along the valley before a steep climb up Jacob's Ladder onto Kinder Scout. From here, weather permitting, we should get fabulous views of Edale Valley, whilst walking along moorland paths before descending back to Edale for a drink at the Nags Head!

Start point: Public car park in Edale Village, Explorer OL1 - 124854

Level: Moderate

Distance: 9 miles

Leader: Anne

Sun 18th Jan 2009: Peak District - Rowsley and Stanton Moor

Description: A ramble around a very pleasant part of the White Peak. We'll explore some of the ancient sites around Rowsley, including one or two stone circles and part of the limestone way.

Start point: PLEASE NOTE A CHANGE IN START POINT! For easier access to toilets and to be closer to the cafe at the end of the walk, we will meet at Caudwell's Mill in Rowsley. Caudwell's Mill is signposted off the A6 as you enter Rowsley from Buxton. Parking is limited so please try to car share as much as possible.

Level: Moderate

Distance: 12 miles

Leader: Steve

Sat 24th/Sun 25th Jan 2009: Lake District Weekend

Description: This weekend is now fully booked. If you are still intersted and want your name on a waiting list please contact Fiona.

Start point: TBC

Level: Hard/Moderate

Distance: TBC

Leader: Andrew/Fiona

Sun 1st Feb 2009: North Wales: Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Castell Dinas Bran from Llangollen

Description: This walk will take us along the south side of the Vale of Llangollen to the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct which crosses the River Dee 126 feet below. We will then join up with the Offas Dyke path to skirt the bottom of the Trevor Rocks before visiting Castell Dinas Bran and finally descending back into Llangollen.

Start point: Car Park, Mill Street (A539), Llangollen

Level: Moderate

Distance: 11 miles

Leader: Ian

Sun 8th Feb 2009: Cheshire The Copper Mine & Maiden Castle

Description: This walk is in a picturesque part of South Cheshire and incorporates one of the best sections of the Sandstone Trail. A few steep climbs are rewarded with breathtaking views across the Cheshire Plains to North Wales and the Pennines.

Start point: Car park behind 'The Copper Mine' pub on the A534. 1/2 mile east of the A41/A534 junction at Broxton (GR 499 542). Post code for satnav users is CH3 9JH. Please park at the back of the car park away from the pub and near the trees.

Level: Easy

Distance: 10 miles

Leader: Nigel

Sun 15th Feb 2009: Wirral Peninsula

Description: A walk along the coastline of the Wirral Peninsula with views across Liverpool Bay to North Wales. Well visit Hilbre Island and watch the grey seals and sea birds out in the Bay. Due to the tide, the walk starts earlier than usual at 9.30am. Note: Hilbre

is a site of Special Scientific Interest and group numbers on the island are controlled. We have a permit for 25 people so there will be a limit to numbers on the walk.

Start point: Marine Lake, West Kirby

Level: Moderate

Distance: 13 miles

Leader: Kirsty

Sun 22nd Feb 2009: Yorkshire Dales - Caves & Waterfalls

Description: A limestone classic. This walk takes in the spectacular Catrigg Force and Scaleber Force (force is a local dialect word for waterfall), as well as Victoria and Jubilee caves in the limestone outcrop of Attermire Scar.

Start point: National Park car park in Stainforth, GR SD 821 672

Level: Easy/Moderate

Distance: 10 miles

Leader: Charles

Sun 1st Mar 2009: Peak District - Teggs Nose, Shutlingsloe & Wildboarclough

Description: Experience moorland atmosphere on the edge of the Peak District, tingle in the mysterious Macclesfield Forest and enjoy the delights of pretty Cheshire lanes. Let your eyes sparkle on views of the Welsh Mountains, Shining Tor and the Cheshire Plain.

Rough Guide: Wards Knob Teggs Nose Teggs Nose Country Park Macclesfield Forest Shutlingsloe Wildboarclough Lower Nabbs Farm Oakenclough Hanging Gate Pub Gritstone Trail Teggs Nose Reservoir.

The walk includes some: short steep ascents/descents, boggy/waterlogged moors and fields, wet slippery stone paths, stream crossings, stiles.

Bring along a daffodil too to celebrate St Davids Day!

Start point: Tegg's Nose Country Park Visitors Centre (off the Buxton Old Road from Macclesfield) GR SJ 951 734

Level: Moderate

Distance: 12 miles

Leader: Rebecca

Sun 8th Mar 2009: Peak District - Bakewell to Chatsworth

Description: We will start the walk in Bakewell, home of the famous puddings and the largest town in the National Park. We'll head off towards Edensor, (designed by the Duke of Devonshire in the early 1800s) and will have good views of Chatsworth House. We return through Calton Pastures, on which there are a number of Bronze Age burial mounds, to Bakewell where hopefully the pudding shop will still be open for business. Some steep climbs but these should not be too long.

Start point: Car Park behind the Old Market Hall, behind the visitor centre in Bakewell (GR SK 2205 6864)

Level: Moderate

Distance: 8 miles

Leader: Kate

Sun 15th Mar 2009: Cheshire - Malpas

Description: A pleasant circular walk taking in part of the Sandstone Trail and the Marches Way. On a clear day distant views of the south Pennines are visible.

Start point: Car park in the centre of Malpas off High Street close to the Post Office (GR SJ 4874 4723)

Level: Moderate

Distance: 11 miles

Leader: Alison W

Sun 22nd Mar 2009: Cumbria: Kendal - Cunswick and Underbarrow Scars

Description: This walk takes us into some of the classic limestone scenery that edges the Lake District. Just a short drive from the M6 is the underestimated County Town of Kendal. Cunswick and Underbarrow Scars are fine limestone escarpments that are close to Kendal and give views over the Lakeland Fells, Howgill Fells and the nearby Lyth Valley, famous for its damson trees (and damson beer).

Start point: SD489925 Scout Scar Car Park by the transmitter mast on Underbarrow Road

Level: Moderate

Distance: 7–9 miles

Leader: Fiona

Sun 29th Mar 2009: Peak District - Hollinsclough, Chrome Hill and Parkside Hill

Description: Although starting in the same place, the route of this walk is now different from originally planned and will take us to Hollinsclough and then up Chrome and Parkside Hills, before passing through Earl Sterndale on the way back to Longnor. Chrome and Parkside Hill's both have short steep sections.

Start point: Longnor village square (GR SK 089 649)

Level: Moderate

Distance: 9 miles

Leader: Simon