



Berkshire Walkers



Walks Programme

The Berkshire Walkers is a walking group for young people. We aim to offer an informal and relaxed approach to enjoying the countryside. Walks are of varying lengths and take place throughout the Berkshire area and the neighbouring counties. Please see our web site for information and details on joining. Our group reference number is 'Berkshire 08'. Please quote on your application.

- On all walks you should bring a picnic lunch (unless otherwise stated), refreshment, and suitable footwear and clothing.
- Please arrive *before* the Start Time with sufficient time to get your boots on, etc.

February 2009

Sunday 1st February - Walbury Hill, 10 miles, challenging

Start at **10:30am** from the car park on the east side of Walbury Hill ([SU379616](#)). Please bring a packed lunch and a drink.

Leader: Neil 07840 903547

Friday 6th February - Power Walk from Reading Station - 10,000 steps

Meet at **6:30pm** at Reading Station concourse outside W H Smiths ([SU715737](#)). This continues Amy's series of power walks based on a book called *Walking Fit* by Rose Leach. This is a great way to tone up, increase wellbeing and improve fitness without the waddle of an Olympic walker! The walk will take around 1¼ hours and will finish at BJs Bingo Club in Gillette Way where Amy has organised a [bingo night social event](#). There is a bus service back to Reading station for those not wishing to take part in the bingo evening.

Leader: Amy 07792 160251

Sunday 8th February - Woolhampton and Bucklebury Common, 10 miles, moderate

Meet at **10:15am** at Midgham station ([SU572667](#)), near Woolhampton. We'll start by crossing the A4 and heading up hill to Chapel Row, before walking along the wooded paths of Scotland and Bucklebury Common to Upper Bucklebury, where there is a potential pub stop. The walk then descends back to and across the A4 to Thatcham station and returns to Woolhampton along the Kennet and Avon canal, where we'll have a drink or two in the Row Barge, as people wait for their trains... There's a train from Reading at 09:44; trains from Thatcham at 10:00. Return trains to Reading at 16:05 and 18:05, and to Thatcham at 15:01 and 17:01. The Reading return price is £4.00 (at time of writing) and cheaper from Thatcham.

Leader: Lee 07780 683521

Sunday 15th February - Highclere Castle, 6½ miles, easy

Meet at the Beacon Hill car park, just off the A34 at [SU463575](#) (Explorer map 144) at **11:00am**.

A pleasant walk over tracks, fields and woodland paths, taking in Old Burghclere, Earlestone

Manor, a pub stop at the Carpenters Arms, Burghclere and returning via Budds and Ridgemoor farms and Highclere Castle and park.

Leaders: David and Charlotte 07717 865752 or 07879 882407

Saturday 21st February - Pangbourne, 5½ miles, easy New Members' Walk

This walk is aimed at prospective new members offering an experience of the group on a short and easy route with an optional pub visit at the end. The walk starts **11:00am** from Pangbourne Station ([SU632766](#)). This is a pay and display car park for which the all day charge is about £2.

This circular walk through the rolling hills and flat meadows between Pangbourne and Tilehurst provides some magnificent views of the Chiltern Hills across the Thames Valley. We have the option of visiting a pub in Pangbourne at the end of the walk. Please bring sandwiches and a drink.

Leader: Adam 07709 032516

Sunday 22nd February - Barkham and the Bottel (& Pub Lunch), 7 miles, easy. Ideal walk for new members

Start **10:00am** at the car park on the north side of Evendons Lane, Wokingham ([SU797668](#) or [RG41 4DX](#)). The car park is about ½ mile off the Finchampstead Road. The walk takes us to Barkham and north to the wooded 'Coombes' before returning to the car park. There is a pub stop, one mile from the end. No need to bring a packed lunch as the intention is to have lunch in the pub. For those wishing to skip lunch I can give simple instructions on how to return to the start. Please let me know if you are eating in the pub, as I'll need to give the pub approximate numbers – let me know by Wednesday 18th.

Leader: Jim 07734 569216

March 2009

Sunday 1st March - Caversham Heights, Tinker's Green and Hemdean Bottom, 6 miles, easy. Suitable for New Members

Start **11:00am**. Meet at the free car park at Albert Road Recreational Ground, Caversham Heights, Reading ([SU704758](#)).

This circular walk starts on the very outskirts of Reading and quickly leads us into the peaceful farmland and woodland typical of the southern Chilterns. Possible pub stop en-route. Please bring packed lunch and a drink.

Leader: Jane 07881 805 156

Friday 6th March - "Fast Walk Fridays" - 10,000 steps

Meet outside WH Smiths at Reading Station for a **6:30pm** start. This power walk will take about 1¼ hours and will be followed by a visit to the Hope Tap Pub in Reading – see the [social events programme](#) for further details.

This is a great way to tone up, increase well-being and improve fitness without the waddle of an Olympic walker! This may seem like a short walk but you will feel it and these are based on the intermediate level power walks found in a book called *Walking Fit* by Rose Leach. The route includes a mixture of urban and river paths. Pedometers may be available on loan. These walks are suitable for beginners and are a great way to kick-start a walking/fitness programme.

Leader: Amy 07792 160251

Sunday 8th March - Marlborough Downs and Barbury Castle, 9 miles, moderate

Meet at the car park on Barbury Hill ([SU155760](#)) for a **10:30am** start. Barbury Country Park lies between Swindon and Marlborough. From M4 Junction 15, follow the A346 towards Marlborough until you see signs for 'Chiseldon', B4005. Then follow the signs for 'Barbury Castle'.

The walk will follow Smeathe's Ridge to Ogbourne St George, then descend to Ogbourne St Andrew for a pub-stop, before heading back up Barbury Hill. At the end of the walk, we can take a wander around the ancient earthworks of the Castle. Please bring a packed lunch and a drink, as usual.

Leader: Rob 07786 116988

Friday 13th to Monday 16th March - Long Weekend in Exmoor

Please see the [Holidays programme](#) for details.

Sunday 15th March - Maidenhead Thicket, 10 miles, moderate

Meet at the car park on the edge of Maidenhead Thicket at [SU857809](#) for a **10:30am** start. Directions: if coming from the M4, leave the A404(M) at J9b, turn onto the A4 towards Maidenhead, then turn left at the first roundabout. The car park is on the left after about 100m.

This circular walk passes through Littlewick Green, then over Ashley Hill and Bowsey Hill. On the way back there will be a pub stop at the Dew Drop Inn, before returning to Maidenhead Thicket via Burchett's Green. Please bring a packed lunch and a drink.

Possible lift available for up to three people from Maidenhead station, given enough notice.

Leader: Chris 07984 255322

Sunday 22nd March - Goring circular walk, 11 miles, moderate

Meet at Goring and Streatley station ([SU602806](#)) for a **10:00am** start, just after the Reading train arrives at 9:57am.

The walk crosses the Thames and passes up through the Holies into the downs. It passes Aldworth and the Bell (pub stop). Following lunch we return to Goring past Streatley Warren and along the Ridgeway. Please bring sarnies with you. Possibility of a second pub at the end whilst waiting for a train home!

Leader: Nick H 07804 464586

Saturday 28th March - Dinton Pastures, the Loddon and Hurst, 5-6 miles, easy

Start time **11:00am** from the main car park near the Tea Pot Café ([SU784718](#)). There is a car park charge of £1. Winnersh station is close by, but please check the times of trains nearer the time.

This is a largely flat easy-paced walk through Dinton Pastures, the banks of the river Loddon and through farmland around Hurst. Ideal for new members or those who have not been for a while and have been meaning to return! Could be muddy in places. There will be an early lunch stop and a pub stop approximately half way round at the Green Man in Hurst.

Leader: Catherine 07760 147709

April 2009

Friday 3rd April - "Fast Walk Fridays" - 10,000 steps

Meet outside WH Smiths at Reading Station for a **6:30pm** start. This power walk will take about 1¼ hours and will be followed by a trip to Sweeney and Todd's Pie Shop – see the [social events programme](#) for further details.

This is a great way to tone up, increase well-being and improve fitness without the waddle of an Olympic walker! This may seem like a short walk but you will feel it and these are based on the intermediate level power walks found in a book called *Walking Fit* by Rose Leach. The route includes a mixture of urban and river paths. Pedometers may be available on loan. These walks are suitable for beginners and are a great way to kick-start a walking/fitness programme.

Leader: Amy 07792 160251

Saturday 4th April - Sonning Common to Reading, 10 miles, moderate

Meet at **10:20am** at bus stop SY at Reading station ([SU715737](#)). Heading towards the town centre from the station main doors, cross the pelican crossing and stop SY is the first stop (next to the roundabout). We'll be catching the 10:32am No.138 bus to Sonning Common, getting off at the Sedgewell Road stop. Bring coins as the bus does not give change. (The fare was £2.40 last year, but has probably gone up a bit since). We'll be walking back to Reading from here. Pub stop en-route. As usual, bring sandwiches and a drink.

Leader: Neil nfrankum@hotmail.com or 0118 975 1528 / 0793 225 8788

Sunday 5th April - Abingdon and Clifton Hampden, 8-10 miles, moderate

Start from Abingdon Bridge car park ([SU500967](#)) at **11:15am** prompt. Walk along the Thames Path to Clifton Hampden, then back to Abingdon across country. Plenty of pubs to finish at Abingdon, pub stop also possible on the way at or near Clifton Hampden.

Leader: Jean-Paul 07788 7710396 or jeanpaultanner@hotmail.com

Sunday 12th April - Chobham Common, 8 miles, easy

Meet at the car park just off the roundabout at the B383/B386 junction ([SU965649](#)), south east of Sunningdale, for a **10:30am** departure. The walk leader can collect three members from Sunningdale railway station at 10am (book your seat in advance).

This walk has a mixture of heath, common, woodland, fields and several stretches of road, with some gentle gradients and many stiles. From the car park, we will head towards the Queen Victoria monument, loop around Chobham Common, before crossing the M3. The walk takes us south across the Albury Bottom heath and towards Butts Hill. We then walk along a short stretch of country lane before entering a woodland path. We exit the woodland and cross a few horse paddocks towards Little Manor Farm and on to Burrowhill. We will stop for lunch and visit the Four Horseshoes Public House, at the six mile point. From the pub, we will head north for the final two miles, passing Clearmount and under the M3, then returning back to the car park.

Bring a packed lunch and drink.

Leader: Kevin 07734 387073

Sunday 19th April - Waltham St Lawrence, 9½ miles, easy

Meet outside the parish church in Waltham St Lawrence ([SU829769](#)) for a **10:30am** start. There should not be a church service today but there is plenty of parking within a couple of

minutes' walk.

We leave Waltham St Lawrence and head across fields in a more or less northerly direction towards, but not quite reaching, Knowl Hill, and then turn in an easterly towards Altmore. We then skirt round the edge of Maidenhead Business Park and White Waltham, where we will stop for a drink in the Bee Hive Pub before cutting through the picturesque Shottesbrooke Park on the way back to Waltham St Lawrence.

Option of additional pub at end of walk. Bring pack lunch and drink as per normal.

Leader: Ian M 07762 054207

Saturday 25th April - Tilehurst, Stanford Dingley and Theale, 17 miles, challenging

Meet in Little Heath Road, Tilehurst, near the recreation ground ([SU654728](#)). Please park considerately in road/side roads. The walk will start at **10:00am** prompt, an earlier start than usual due to the length of the walk.

We shall descend through woodland and countryside to Tidmarsh, where we pick up the path to Stanford Dingley via Bradfield. There will be a pub stop at Stanford Dingley. We shall then continue on to Beenham and then Aldermaston Wharf, where we shall meet the Kennet and Avon Canal which we shall follow along to Theale. We may have a further pub stop at Theale, depending on timings and general consensus. From Theale, we shall return uphill to Tilehurst. Please make sure you bring plenty of food and water.

Leader: Jude 07986 165406

Sunday 26th April 2009 - Bluebells around Henley-on-Thames, 6½ miles, easy

Start **11:00am** at Tilebarn Close ([SU752821](#) or [RG9 1US](#)), off Deanfield Road, Henley-on-Thames. The walk takes in the woods near Harpenden and Binfield Heath. The aim is to see some bluebells – difficult to time it right, so no guarantees! There will a drink stop along the way at a really nice pub. Bring a packed lunch and enough to drink.

Directions to start: Go past the town hall towards the village of Peppard. Turn left into Paradise Road opposite big gates of Friar Park, then quickly follow/turn left into Deanfield Avenue. Turn right into Deanfield Road. Tilebarn Close in on the right after about ½ mile. You may need to park on the residential road. Please park considerately.

Possible lift from Bracknell from leader, if given enough notice.

Leader: Jim 07734 569216

May 2009

Friday 1st May - “Fast Walk Fridays” - 10,000 steps

Meet outside WH Smiths at Reading Station for a **6:30pm** start. This power walk will take about 1¼ hours and will be followed by a meal at Wagamama's in Reading – see the [social events programme](#) for further details.

The route includes a mixture of urban and river paths. Pedometers may be available on loan. These walks are suitable for beginners and are a great way to kick-start a walking/fitness programme.

Leader: Amy 07792 160251

Saturday 2nd May - Bledlow Ridge and Radnage, 6½ miles, moderate

Start **10:45am** at [SU797979](#) on the corner of Ford's Close on the main Chinnor Road running through Bledlow Ridge north-west of the fuel station. Please park considerately in nearby

roads. The start may be found by turning right off the A40 at West Wycombe west of the A4010 into Chorley Road – hopefully signed to Bledlow Ridge.

The walk takes in some excellent views of the picturesque Chilterns and with any luck some of the best Bluebells you are likely to see in Crowell Wood. Lunch will be taken early in the walk and before a drink stop at The Three Horseshoes Inn & Restaurant in Bennett End before we return to the top of the Bledlow Ridge via a short but quite steep climb.

Leaders: Mike & Alison 01635 863831 or Alison 07929 149636 or Mike 07748 213647

Thursday Evening 7th May - Silchester, 3 miles, easy

The walk will start from the car park on the playing fields at Silchester ([SU626622](#)) at **6:45pm** with a pub stop at the end.

This walk may be cancelled at short notice due to work commitments so please check with the leader to confirm that it is still on.

Leader: Neil nfrankum@hotmail.com or 0118 975 1528 / 0793 225 8788

Sunday 10th May - Twyford to Henley, 12 miles, moderate

Meet at Twyford station car park ([SU790758](#)) for a **10:30am** start. Parking costs £2 all day at the time of writing.

The walk sets off through Twyford, passing the Horse and Waggon pub before heading out through the woods into the countryside. After passing through Charvil and Charvil Meadows, we follow the Thames Path along the river, through Shiplake and into Henley. There will be a half way stop at the Great House by the river. Trains from Henley back to Twyford run every hour.

Leader: Stephen 07515 735861

Saturday 16th May - Chieveley, 8-9 miles, moderate

We will meet up at Chieveley high street on the corner of Manor Lane ([SU475743](#)) for a **10:30am** start. This is 100 yards down from the convenience store on left hand side if approaching from the A34. Chieveley itself is well signposted from junction 13 of the M4. If travelling west on M4 you will need to be in the right hand lane on slip road and head for A34(N), but please be aware that the turning to Chieveley is on the left prior to actually reaching the A34. Follow signs into Chieveley. There should be plenty of room to park up on the main high street.

The walk takes in the very quiet villages of Peasemore and Leckhampstead, strolling across mainly fields and farmland with a few gentle slopes. There are possibilities for pub stops in both villages and also the option to grab some pub grub at the pub in Peasemore, as we should arrive at about midday. Please note that a picnic stop will be included at a later point in the walk if anyone prefers not to eat in the pub.

Leader: Dan 07761192509

Sunday 17th May - Windsor Great Park & Old Windsor Towpath, 12-13 miles, challenging

Start at **11:00am** from the Rangers Gate Car Park ([SU953734](#)). The walk passes through the Great Park, through the deer park up towards Bishops Gate, where there may be a pub stop at the Fox & Hounds if we're not too early. Otherwise the alternative pub stop will be at the Harvester by the river, and lunch by the river where there are seats. Afterwards we follow the towpath through Old Windsor and Datchet, then along through Windsor Home Park before reaching Windsor and heading back to the car park via the Long Walk.

Leader: Greg 07780 945591

Thursday Evening 21st May - Maidenhead, 3 miles, easy

The walk will start from the car park at Maidenhead Thicket ([SU859809](#)) at **7:00pm**. From the junction of the A4 and A404 head east towards Maidenhead. After 50m turn left at a roundabout. The car park is on the left in about 100m.

Afterward the walk we shall adjourn up the road to The Shire Horse for a post walk drink. This walk may be cancelled at short notice due to work commitments so please check with the leader to confirm that it is still on.

Leader: Neil nfrankum@hotmail.com or 0118 975 1528 / 0793 225 8788

Saturday 23rd to Monday 25th May - Long Weekend in the Peak District

Please see the [Holidays programme](#) for details.

Sunday 24th May - Watership Down and Ecchinswell, 9 miles, moderate Joint walk with the Pang Valley Group.

This is a repeat of last May's walk, but with any luck the pub in Ecchinswell will be open this time! Start at **10:30am** from the car park south of Kingsclere on the B3051 ([SU517564](#)). If approaching from Kingsclere, the entrance to the car park is on the left, opposite a lay-by. A circular walk, setting off towards Plantation Hill, then down past Kingsclere and into Ecchinswell. The walking is mostly easy, with the possible exception of a small hill on the way back up towards Watership Down.

Possible pub stop in Ecchinswell. Please bring a packed lunch and a drink.

Leader: Chris 07984 255322

Saturday 30th May - Gomshall to Shalford, 13-15 miles, challenging

The walk will start from Gomshall station ([TQ089478](#)) at **10:10am**, shortly after the arrival of the train from Reading. This is a linear walk from Gomshall, through the woods and heaths to the southwest, finishing at Shalford station ([TQ003471](#)). Possible pub stop near the end.

The First Great Western service to Gatwick from Reading at 9:04am, and Shalford at 9:53am, arrives at Gomshall at 10:04am. There is a car park at Shalford station. I would recommend that anyone who is driving parks here and catches the train to Gomshall, as trains to Gomshall are only every 2 hours. At the time of writing a return from Reading to Gomshall is £9.00. A single from Shalford to Gomshall is £2.90. Train times subject to weekend engineering work. Start time subject to change if the train times change between now and then (www.firstgreatwestern.co.uk or www.nationalrail.co.uk).

Leader: Neil nfrankum@hotmail.com or 0118 975 1528 / 0793 225 8788

Sunday 31st May - Clifton Hampden, Wittenham Clumps and Dorchester 8-10 miles, moderate

Start from Clifton Hampden Bridge car park ([SU548954](#)) at **11:00am prompt**.

The walk passes along the Thames Path to Wittenham Clumps. We'll make a steep ascent and then, weather permitting, have lunch at the top whilst looking out over the Oxfordshire countryside. Back to Clifton Hampden via the historic town of Dorchester, where there will be a pub stop.

Leader: Jean-Paul 07788 7710396 or jeanpaultanner@hotmail.com

Updates to Walk Details

While every effort is made to adhere to the details specified in the walk description, there may be the occasional last minute changes. These will be included in the weekly email bulletins and also posted on the website.

If you are not on the email distribution list, it is worth contacting the walk leader prior to any walks you attend, just in case there is a change of plan.

Grade Guide

All of the walks in our programme are graded to give you an idea of what you are letting yourself in for! The grades are described as follows:

Easy: Gentle pace on fairly level terrain. Anyone can enjoy these walks and they are an ideal way for newcomers to try out our group.

Moderate: More variable terrain that may involve gentle hills or a few steep slopes.

Challenging: Long distances at a good pace, often involving hills and rough ground. A reasonable level of fitness and stamina will enable you to get the most from these walks.

Some walks are also rated by **pace**, either because of timing issues such as hours of daylight, catching a particular train, or simply because the leader prefers it.

If you are in doubt about whether a particular walk is suitable for you, please contact the walk leader for advice.

Additional Information

Updates to Walk Details:

While every effort is made to adhere to the details specified in the walk description, there may be the occasional last minute changes. These will be included in the weekly email bulletins and also posted on the website if time permits.

If you are currently receiving the programme by post, you will not receive these updates. If this is the case, it is worth phoning the walk leader prior to any walks you attend, just in case there is a change of plan.

If you have email access and are currently not on our distribution list then please consider giving us your email address as this will provide you with weekly up-to-date information on walks and social events and save us the printing and postage costs. We will only use your email address for Berkshire Walkers related email.

You can join our email distribution list by emailing us at membership@berkshirewalkers.com.

Walk Leaders:

If you would like to volunteer to lead a walk in the next programme, please contact the Walks Co-ordinator by email at walks@berkshirewalkers.com or by phone on 07984 255322.

You can design the walk yourself or get it from a book. It is advisable to pre-walk a new walk shortly before you lead it to familiarise yourself and to check that no part of the route is unsuitable. You do not need to pre-walk it before submitting details for the programme unless you wish to, as you do not need to specify the exact route in the walk description. However, it

is important to check parking arrangements and public transport times (if applicable) before submitting the walk description. The main details required in a walk description are the start location and time, the approximate mileage and grade of the walk (see above Grade Guide), a summary of the area covered by the walk, and a contact phone number (preferably mobile).

New Leaders:

If you have never led a walk before, why not have a go? It isn't as difficult as you might think and most people that do lead one for the first time go on to lead many more. Talk to someone who has already led a few walks and they can give you advice and moral support. Without volunteer leaders, we don't have a walking club!

Holidays Programme

March 2009

Friday 13th to Monday 16th March - Long Weekend in Exmoor

Jude and Ian are planning a long weekend at Holnicote House, Selworthy, Somerset, with HF Holidays, a long established specialist walking holiday company.

This is a three night break commencing on Friday 13th March 2009. The holiday includes two days of walks around Exmoor, led by an experienced HF leader, with a choice of walks each day to cater for differing abilities. There will also be a walk on the Monday, organised by Jude and Adam. Please note that the Monday walk is open to all members of our group, but *the Saturday and Sunday walks are only open to those who are booked on the HF Holiday.*

The basic price is £199 per person based on two people sharing (ensuite accommodation) and includes all meals and packed lunches. There is a supplement of £5 per person per night for single/premium rooms.

For full details of this holiday refer to www.hfholidays.co.uk/classicwalking/exmoor or page 43 of the 2009 brochure if you have one. Alternatively, please feel free to have a chat with either of us, as we have been on several HF holidays in the past. For those who do not/prefer not to drive, HF do offer cut price rail tickets - please ask them for details when booking and they will arrange for you.

If you would like to come, please book direct with HF Holidays on 0845 4707558 or via the website www.hfholidays.co.uk and let us know that you have done so, so that we can include you on e-mails and let us know if you are staying on for our Monday walk.

This is not a very large hotel so early booking is recommended! - HF have kindly agreed to hold 5 single rooms and 4 twins for us for 7 days effective 5/11/2008 - if you are booking within this period, please call 0208 7321250 and ask to have one of the rooms under booking reference O1481.

Organisers: Jude Anderson Tel. 07986 165406 or e-mail: andersonj@willis.com and Ian Montague Tel. 0776 2054207 or e-mail: ianmontague@hotmail.com

May 2009

Saturday 23rd to Monday 25th May - Long Weekend in the Peak District

Adam is planning a long weekend in the Peak District on the second May bank holiday weekend. You will need to organise your own accommodation in or near Bakewell.

Bakewell's greatest claim to fame is probably the Bakewell pudding (not, please note a *tart*) which is said to have been invented by accident when a cook spread egg mix on top of a strawberry tart instead of stirring it into the pastry. The town is also known as the capital of the Peak, lying at the geographical and spiritual heart of the Peak District National Park and a great base for exploring this beautiful area.

Bakewell has a variety of independent stores and boutiques, several restaurants and seven pubs around the centre, so there's something for everyone. There are numerous B&Bs and a Youth Hostel in town and campsites in the vicinity: accommodation should be booked independently and directly with establishments by those attending the weekend. **As this is a Bank Holiday weekend at a popular tourist destination it is recommended that you book**

your accommodation as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. There are several commercial websites listing accommodation available in and around Bakewell.

Walks will take place on Saturday 23rd, Sunday 24th and Bank Holiday Monday 25th May. The walks have not been decided at the time of writing but it is proposed that the Saturday and Sunday walks will be up to 12 miles long with a shorter walk on Monday. Two walks will probably start from Bakewell and the other elsewhere. Due to the nature of the terrain there will be some undulations but no significant peaks to scale so they will be 'moderate' walks at a pace to suit the group.

Please could you let the organiser know as soon as possible if you intend to come on the weekend so he has an idea of numbers.

Walks leader: Adam 07709 032516 or email: postmaster@adamtwalker.plus.com

Social Events Programme

February 2009

Friday 6th February – Bingo Night, Reading

A night out at [BJ's Bingo Club](#), Gillette Way, Basingstoke Road, Reading, [RG2 0BS](#).

This will be the location of the end of the [Amy's Power Walk](#) that evening. For those not doing the walk, arrive **8pm**. Price £20 including all bets. You can get the following Buses from Reading station: 4, 6 and 11. No need to book – just turn up.

Organiser: Amy 07792 160251

Friday 13th February – Deadline for iMMO's Italian Restaurant.

[See Saturday 21st for details](#). Also please read the [note about deadlines](#) at the foot of the page.

Saturday 14th February – Imperial War Museum, London

For those of you with no other plans for Valentine's Day, why not join me for a visit to the [Imperial War Museum](#)? Currently there is an [Ian Fleming/James Bond](#) exhibition within the museum. Entrance to the museum is free but the Ian Fleming exhibition is £8. There is also restaurant within the museum.

The museum is in Lambeth Road, London [SE1 6HZ](#), a short walk from Waterloo railway station and Lambeth North tube station. Meet in the museum entrance hall **between 10 and 10:30am**.

Organiser: Rob 07786 116988

Saturday 21st February – iMMO Italian Restaurant, Wokingham

Meet at **7:30pm** at Immo's Italian Restaurant, 31 Broads Street, Wokingham, [RG40 1AU](#).

This new addition to Wokingham's restaurant scene provides pizza and pasta in style at a reasonable price. At the end of the evening we will divide up the bill based on what each person has ordered and add a 10% tip, so please keep track of all your drinks and extras. We will be paying by cash, so please make sure you have enough with you. (No excuses please!)

Please let Sue know **by Friday 13th February** if you wish to attend so that she can book.

Organiser: Sue 07931 291552

March 2009

Friday 6th March – Hope Tap Pub Trip, Reading

Following on from [Amy's Power Walk](#) is visit to the Hope Tap pub, 99-105 Friar Street, Reading, [RG1 1EP](#). If you are not going on the walk, turn up any time **from 7:30pm**.

The Hope Tap is a JD Wetherspoon pub, which serves a wide selection of drinks and ales at reasonable prices. Good pub grub is available there too. No need to book – just turn up.

Organiser: Amy 07792 160251

Saturday 21st March – Sixties Night at the Liberty Ballroom, Newbury

Come and twist the night away at Liberty Ballroom, 187 Main Street, New Greenham Park, Newbury, [RG19 6HW](#) (near Greenham Common - the ex-American airbase). Fantastic ballroom floor, reasonably priced bar, disco, crystal ball and kitsch 1960s music.

Entry is £6. Ballroom opens at **8pm** and closes 12:30am. Good free parking is just across the road from the venue. (Please don't bring your own drinks, including water)

Organisers: David and Charlotte 07717 865752 and 07879 882407

Friday 27th March – Deadline for Sweeney and Todd's Pie Shop

See below for details. Also please read the [note about deadlines](#) at the foot of the page.

April 2009

Friday 3rd April – Sweeney and Todd's Pie Shop, Reading

Meet up after doing [Amy's Power Walk](#) (or arrive **no later than 8pm** if not going on the walk) at Sweeney and Todd's Pie Shop and Restaurant, 10 Castle Street, Reading, [RG1 7RD](#). This restaurant is one of a kind, and serves delicious, fresh, home-made pies and some casseroles and roast dinners. It also has a licensed bar with a few real ales and is only ten minutes walk from Reading Railway Station.

Please let Amy know if you wish to attend **by Friday 27th March** so that she can book the appropriate sized table.

Organiser: Amy 07792 160251

Friday 3rd April – Deadline for the Day at Ascot Races in May

[See 9th May for details](#). Also please read the [note about deadlines](#) at the foot of the page.

Thursday 16th April – Pup Night at the Marlow Donkey

Meet at The Marlow Donkey, Station Road, Marlow, [SL7 1NW](#), **from 7:30pm** for a mid-week drink.

This large pub does real ales, bar food and is a short distance from Marlow railway station. Parking is available at and around the pub and there is also a public car park nearby.

Organiser: Dan 0776 119 2509

Thursday 30th April – Reading Beer Festival

Meet at **6:45pm** on the main concourse of Reading Railway Station if you want to do the pre-beer walk (If it is wet we will go straight to the beer tent.)

Otherwise meet at **7:30pm** inside the beer tent, Reading Beer Festival, King's Meadow, Napier Road, Reading, [RG1 8BN](#). Entry is about £5.00 (including £2.00 glass deposit which makes a good souvenir or present). Members of CAMRA and holders of Reading Passport to Leisure may get reduced rates. Although this is a "school night", it's the easiest night to get in. For non-beer drinkers there is a choice of ciders and wines. Hot food is also available. See www.readingbeerfestival.org.uk for more details.

Organiser: Ian M 07762 054 207

May 2009

Friday 1st May – Wagamama's Japanese Restaurant, Reading

Meet up after [Amy's Power Walk](#) (or **no later than 8pm** if not doing the walk) at the [Wagamama](#) restaurant at the riverside level of the Oracle, Reading, [RG1 2AG](#).

If you haven't dined in a Wagamama restaurant before you're in for a new experience. They are modelled on the Ramen bars popular in Japan and are not like the usual Chinese or Thai

restaurants we've been to before. Food is brought out as soon as it is ready, so we don't wait for each other to start. Tables can't be booked at Wagamama's – they will seat us wherever there is space, so we may not all get to sit together.

Organiser: Amy 07792 160251

Saturday 9th May – Day at the Races (with optional wine tasting)

For any of you who like fancy a flutter, enjoy a glass of wine, don't mind dressing up (in smart clothes, not fancy dress!!) or, even better, enjoy all of the above then why not join us for a day at the races at Ascot.

We will be booking Premium Admission tickets that we allow us access to the Level 4 of the Grandstand and the viewing areas by the Winning Post; this is exclusive to Premier badge holders. We will also have access to the Grandstand Admission area and to the steppings around the Parade Ring as well as four licensed bars and numerous food outlets serving anything from sandwiches, fish'n'chips or a full three course meal if so desired.

We are allowed to bring a picnic in with us and a limited amount of alcohol but please note that we can not bring this into the Grandstand so we will need to consume soon on arrival.

The day includes the option of wine sampling from a range of 60 wines of all varieties from around the world. A £5 voucher, bought on site, entitles us to 5 samples of approx 50 ml. There will also be a live Jazz band playing throughout the day.

We aim to meet at Ascot Train Station at **11:20am**. For those travelling by train via Reading, we will get together outside Reading Station at 10:30 to catch the 10:42 to Ascot. Please note train times are subject to change so please check the website for any amendments couple of weeks before the event.

Please note dress code is smart so basically turn up in what you would for a formal event like a wedding.

Please let Dan know **by 3rd April** if you wish to attend. Cheques need to be payable to Berkshire Walkers for £21.53. There may be additional charge of 50 pence per person if there are less than ten of us as prices are based on us getting the group discount. If so, I will collect this on the day.

Organiser: Dan 0776 119 2509 danieleharris@btinternet.com

Wednesday 13th May – Pub Trip to the Rowbarge, Woolhampton

A midweek trip to an old favourite, the Rowbarge in Woolhampton, [RG7 5SH](#), which serves real ale, provides good quality food and has a large garden by the Kennet with plenty of seating.

The pub is just off the A4 between Thatcham and Theale, and is a short walk from Midgham railway station. Meet there **from 7:30pm**.

Organiser: Rob 07786 116988

Friday 29th May – Ceroc Dancing, Twyford.

Meet at The Sugar Shack, Loddon Hall, Twyford, [RG10 9JA](#), at **7:45pm**.

Beginners class starts at 8pm, intermediate class at 9pm, and freestyle afterward. Ceroc is the fastest growing modern partner dance in the UK. It is a contemporary fusion of Jive and Salsa. No previous dancing experience is necessary. Price is £3, one off membership fee £7.

Organiser: Amy 07792 160251

Updates to Social Events

While every effort is made to adhere to the details specified in the description, there may be the occasional last minute changes. These will be included in the weekly email bulletins and also posted on the website. If you are not on the email distribution list, it is worth contacting the organiser prior to any social events you attend, just in case there is a change of plan.

A Note about Deadlines

Please remember that all these social events are organised by volunteers, so your co-operation is greatly appreciated. For some events the organisers need to know in advance who is going so they can make the necessary bookings etc. If you wish to attend a social event that specifies a deadline then please contact the organiser *before the deadline* otherwise you will be putting them to extra trouble and it may not be possible to change the booking anyway.

If there are still some spare places on an event after the specified deadline has passed, a bulletin will be sent out, otherwise you must assume you are too late. Please don't try to *sneak in* by contacting the venue and modifying the booking without the organisers consent!

Also, if you are booked on an event and then find you are unable to make it after all, please let the organiser know so that they don't wait around for you, and as they may be able to offer the place to someone else. Thank you very much for your co-operation.