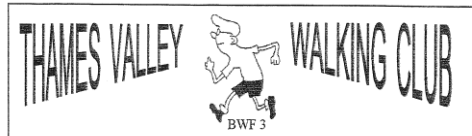


A WINDRUSH WANDER (PT253)



- CONTACT:** Geoff Bullock - 11a Budes Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 1PL
Telephone - 07974 974236 E-mail – gblock11a@gmail.com
- DISTANCE:** 11km
- ENTRY FEE:** £1.00 per walker (Cheques made payable to Thames Valley Walking Club)
- AWARD:** There is currently no award for this walk.
- START VENUE:** Free car park (Guildenford) off High Street, Burford, Oxfordshire, OX18 4SE
(OS Explorer Map OL45 GR: SP 253122)
- DIRECTIONS:** Burford is situated 20 miles west of Oxford at the crossing of the A40 with the A361. The Guildenford car park is signposted and can be reached off Church Lane which is the last turning on the right before the bridge if coming from the south and the first turning to the left if coming from the north.
- CAR PARKING:** At start venue (or there is some free roadside parking on the High Street some of which have a two hour time restriction).
- TRANSPORT:** Buses from Gloucester and Cheltenham (853 Swanbrook) run regularly. The nearest railway station is at Charlbury (8 miles) from Burford.
- FACILITIES:** Cafes, pubs and toilets available at start/finish at Burford during normal opening hours. There is also a pub at Swinbrook (The Swan), which can be expensive, requiring a small diversion from the route. There is also a general stores, post office, and pharmacy in Burford.
- TERRAIN:** Footpaths, tracks and a few minor roads. Can be muddy after wet weather along some sections. Includes some gentle hills. The walk is not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs as there are a number of stiles and kissing gates.

The organisers are not liable for accidents, thefts and/or damage to property. Every effort will be made by the organisers to make this a safe, enjoyable and memorable event.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

(Updated 29th December 2013)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TAKE GREAT CARE ON ALL ROAD SECTIONS OF THIS TRAIL

BL – Bear Left BR – Bear Right FP – Footpath KG – Kissing Gate LHS – Left Hand Side
RHS – Right Hand Side SO – Straight On TJ – T junction TL – Turn Left TR – Turn Right

Exit the car park over the bridge and BR onto Church Lane. Follow round to the right and BL at grass triangle and continue SO, passing the Grammar School (BGS) on RHS. At TJ, TR and continue over bridge to mini-roundabout. **WITH GREAT CARE** cross road and follow FP up stone steps to cross stone stile. SO on grassy path, uphill to cross stone & wooden stiles, then wooden stile and a stone stile both on RHS of barn, TR onto lane.

Question 1: What is the name of the converted barn on the right?

Continue to end of lane. At TJ, TL along grass verge, cross Ganes Lane then TL into Church Lane and continue through church gate (please keep dogs on lead throughout the church grounds) and BL on grass path to LHS of church. Continue on path bear half right through graveyard to cross stone stile in wall and BR across field on path. Cross a wooden stile and continue on FP, keeping lone tree on right, over stone stile to road (Upper End). TR on

road, BL at fork to main road. Cross road WITH CARE, TL along road and after approx 50m TR onto FP, down steps through wooden KG, cross plank bridge and up steps. BR following path for approx 250m to a yellow FP marker on a wooden post, BL across field following FP to reach far corner of field. Follow yellow FP sign through hedgerow to cross next smaller field, and through another hedge to cross third field, under cables towards woods.

Enter woodland and TR onto wide gravel track. Exit woodland and SO ignoring all turnings to pass row of cottages and then Paynes Farm buildings on right,

Question 2: Who are the makers of the barn to the right behind the stone barn, as displayed on the corrugated iron?

and then left. As road bends to left, TR on wide track SP WidfoRoad up slope to reach green metal gates. Go through smaller gate on LHS and BL, keeping wall/barbed wire fence, then hedgerow, on LHS to barbed wire fence at woods. TL following path keeping barbed wire fence on RHS, crossing wooden stile and follow yellow footpath arrow down slope (sometimes boggy) across plank bridge over small stream to reach stile and road. TR and follow road to Swinbrook passing Wychwood Lodge on LHS. Just after double bend road sign on left,

(A diversion may be taken at this point to the Swan Inn for toilets and drinks (sadly on the pricy side) by continuing on this road where it can be found on the RHS).

TR and go through wooden gate into churchyard and follow path passing the War Memorial on your RHS. At path junction, TR to follow path, with the church on RHS. Just beyond the church are the graves of four of the Mitford sisters.

Question 3: Behind Nancy Mitford's grave lies Sarah Balfour - When did her husband die?

SO and BL through white gate. TR at bend following enclosed path SO through gate. Follow faint path in same direction across field and over double stile by wooden gate and continue SO in next field. Continue in same direction through gap in the wall, following path with house on left to join gravel track over stone stile by cattle grid, passing St Oswald's church on your right and then a lake on your left and over cattle grid. TL on road, passing old Widford Mill on LHS. At TJ TR and after approx 200m BR, SP footpath on path and continue SO, keeping river on right, cross wooden stile and plank bridge. At fork in grassy paths, BL on wider path slightly away from river crossing two wooden stiles and a wooden plank bridge to reach stile and road. TR along road, past speed restriction signs. At the junction with Guildenford and Pytt's Lane TL into Pytt's Lane and continue uphill as road becomes Barns Lane. TR on enclosed path at railings opposite number 4 Barns Lane and continue to end.

Question 4: What are the numbers, above and below, the letters AV on the hydrant part of the way along this path on the right?

TR on High Street and continue downhill crossing White Horse Mews, Swan Lane, Witney Street and TR into Church Lane and retrace steps to car park & end of walk.

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To claim your IVV stamp, please use the 'Permanent Trail Completion & IVV Stamp Claim Form' which is downloadable from the BWF website and send with your record books to the walk contact.