

# March - May 2002 Ramble List and News

[www.stfrancisramblers.org.uk](http://www.stfrancisramblers.org.uk)




Dear Ramblers

Another new year and hopefully a better one after last year's trials and tribulations. The club's Christmas celebrations have gone well, and many thanks to all who came and participated in all three functions. Also many thanks to all those who donated prizes for the raffles.

Christmas Dinner at Brahms had 23 people who all enjoyed themselves, with the Social at The Royal Oak, Frank, John and the rest of the team looked after us even better than the previous year. Comments received from members who attended were full of praise for the high standard of the buffet. Hopefully, we'll do it again this December.

The Christmas Party was also a resounding success, mainly due to the disco provided by Ken Aguiar, the DJ. So much so, that we are thinking of having a Summer Party, as people who were there said how good the entertainment Ken provided was, and wanted to know when the next similar event was to be held. Thanks to all those who provided the plentiful supply of food that was enjoyed by everyone.

## Highlights of this issue:

-  Day of Recollection
-  Good Friday walk
-  Special Announcements

These social functions are a good way of giving a chance to people who can't make it to the walks anymore to meet up and keep in touch with their friends in the club.

**Day of Recollection - Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2002.** A reminder for those who have booked on this that it is held at St Mary Moorfields Church hall, 4-5 Eldon Street, London EC2M. Commencing at 11.00am with coffee, tea and biscuits served on arrival. If you haven't paid yet, please send your cheque for £6.00, made payable to the SFACRC to Gillian - address in the last column of this newsletter.

Fr. David Barnes will give a talk at 11.30am and the day will follow the format of previous years. There will be a Mass at 3.00pm and the day will end at 4.00pm approx. There are various lunch options in Liverpool St station, or you can bring a packed lunch if you prefer.

### Welcome to new member:

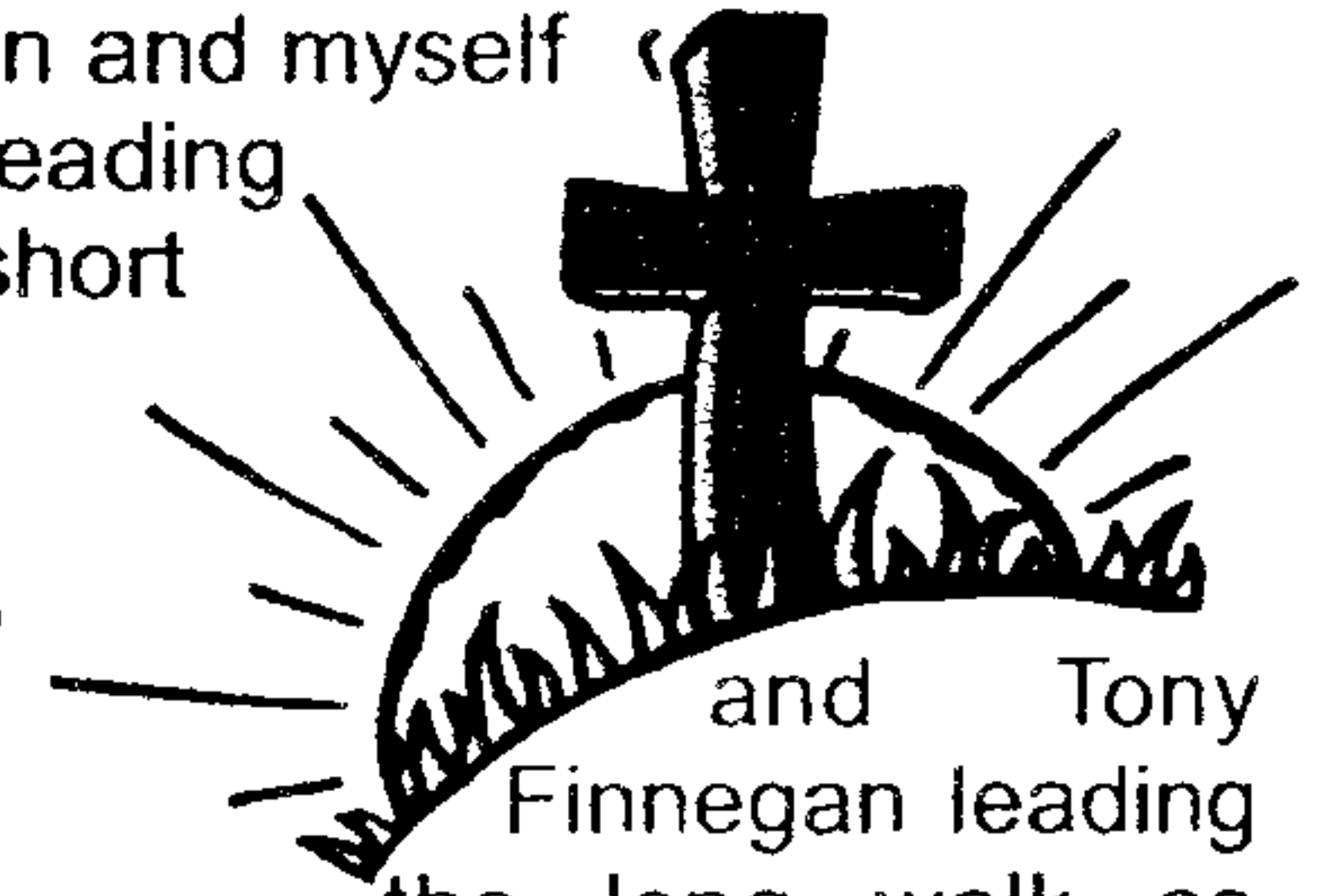
Patricia Cantwell, London W2.  
**Welcome back** to Jo Lewis-Evans, Swanlea.

### Advice to new members:

Please read your introductory leaflet carefully, especially about wearing suitable footwear with ankle support for your own safety, and maintaining good relations with pub owners by not eating your own food on their premises.

### Good Friday - 29<sup>th</sup> March 2002:

Helen and myself are leading the short walk this year,



and Tony Finnegan leading the long walk as usual. The walk from Three Bridges to Worth Abbey has become an annual event in the club calendar. The Good Friday service at Worth Abbey is very spiritual - ask anyone whose been!! We look forward to seeing you on the day if you can make it. Details of walks are on the programme.

*There is still time to consider going on this holiday...*

**Easter at Portland - Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March:** Maurice Hickman is organising an Easter Awaybreak in Portland near Weymouth. Please contact Maurice for full details: 75 Carlton Road, Redhill, Surrey RH1 2BZ. Tel: 01737 765231. Details of guest house and hotel information on request.

**One lonely glove missing it's right-hand partner:** This black glove was found at the Xmas Party - if it belongs to you, please let me know soon. We can then meet up or discuss how to get it to you best.



**Change of email address:** Please note Maria Darroch's new email address in the committee members' details.

**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Congratulations to Peter and Andrea Crosland on the birth of their daughter, Anna Beatrice, and to Nicholas and Harriet on the birth of their baby daughter, Abigail Mary back in September.



Wishing a speedy recovery to Daphne Fisk after her recent illness, and we pray for her continued recovery.



**Obituaries:** Our deepest sympathies to Margaret Hubbul (née Evans) and family on the death of her husband Bill last November. We have also received news of Clare Fruin, an active member between 1954-1974, passing away. Her funeral was held in Highgate on Friday, 8th February and was attended by her friends in the club. Both Bill and Clare will be remembered in our Annual Mass for Deceased Members in November.

**A visit to Fire Power in Woolwich on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - The new artillery experience:** Price £6.50 entrance to museum - senior citizens' £5.50. There is a discount for groups of 10 or more people. Meet Barbara Bridle (Tel. 01689 827 656) at 11.00am at Woolwich Arsenal station (trains from Charing Cross/London Bridge).

**Holiday in Poland May 2002:** Since the advertisement in the previous newsletter, a small group of members are going to Poland - some by plane with Anne Richardson (Tel. 020 8969 4353) and others with Hania (Tel. 020 8543 5494) on an arduous and adventurous journey by coach. They hope to arrive in Poland on 7th-8th May, and stay a week or two in Cracow and the mountains.

**Arundel and Brighton Ecumennial Walking Pilgrimage, Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>-Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2002. (St Chad's Pilgrimage):** Lichfield, Staffs to Hutton in the Hole, North Yorkshire via Bakewell, Sheffield, York and Lastingham (in honour of St Aidan). They walk, on average, 18 miles a day and stop at a pub for lunch and have Mass most days at churches en route. There is a rest day in Sheffield and York. For

booking information please write to Pat Donachie, 8 Ridgeway Road, Redhill RH1 6PH. Maurice Hickman is planning to go to Bakewell Youth Hostel at the beginning of June to walk the leg from Bakewell to Sheffield and explore other attractive parts of the Peak District. For more details contact Maurice (Tel. 01737 765231).

**Y.H.A. Group Membership Card:** The club is in possession of a group membership Y.H.A. card. Please contact Helen in advance, if you would like to borrow it for hostel weekends in case she is away at the time you need it.

**A map reading video** titled "The Right Way with Map and Compass" belonging to the club and thought lost was kindly returned to Tony Finnegan recently. It can be loaned out to anyone in the club from Tony (Tel. 020 8767 5293; Email: tony@gemineans.co.uk.) Those who wish to borrow this please return it within a reasonable time.

**The Charity ACROSS by Anne Walsh:** Those of you with a knowledge of ACROSS may be aware that the group ceased to exist in October 2001. This was a sad occasion for anyone who had associations with the charity. The Across Scotland Group was a separately registered charity and was able to survive. They managed to raise enough cash to purchase the two most modern jumbulances and intend to operate from all over Britain (a change of name will be made to reflect this).

A new charity is also in the process of being set up to purchase the property on the outskirts of Lourdes known as L'astazou, which was owned by Across. This will be known as The Friends of L'Astazou. Many of those who were members in the early 1980s may remember that we did a sponsored ramble for Across and raised enough money to become founder members of L'Astazou. It would be a terrible shame if it now fell into the hands of property developers.

I became involved in a local Across group a couple of years ago and made a trip to Lourdes as a helper in August 2000. It was an unforgettable experience. It is such a peaceful place, away from the bustle of Lourdes itself.

If anyone is interested in making a donation or becoming involved as a helper they should write to the interim appeal centre address: c/o Patrick Gormley, 20a Greycoat Place, off Greycoat Street, London SW1P 2QA.

Items for next programme should reach the secretary or ramble list compiler by 20<sup>th</sup> April 2002.

God Bless and happy rambling...

*Antoinette*

**Club Committee  
Members 2001/2002**

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West Norwood, London SE27 0NP  
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*COPY DATE FOR THE NEXT PROGRAMME : 20 APRIL 2002*



Apologies to Maurice Hickman for putting the same walk two programmes running, and also to Tony Norton for the errors on his walk in the last programme. It is very rare that major mistakes like these happen, and I hope it did not spoil anyone's enjoyment of the days too much.

On a positive note it is very heartening to welcome back two of our old stalwarts, Philip Evans and Philip Groves, as well as David Robbins. Grateful thanks also to Helen and Antoinette for leading the short walk on Good Friday.

However, we still need new leaders to come forward. If you go back over the last few programmes you will see the same names appearing every time, if there are to be walks every weekend we cannot just rely on these same few people. It is your club, and so what makes up the programme depends on what you are willing to contribute. Any of the current leaders will be only too happy to help those considering leading with their first rambles in whatever way is needed.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** (os map 187) Leader : Maurice Hickman

MEET : Victoria 1005 for 1032 train to Balcombe (arr 1122)  
 LUNCH : The Jolly Tanners, Staplefield  
 TEA : Not likely  
 DISTANCE : 10 Miles returning from Balcombe  
 FARE : £6.75 cdr Balcombe with Network card discount  
 Maurice will meet the ramblers at Balcombe

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March** (os map 188) Leader : Paul Brunning

MEET : Charing Cross 0940 for 1000 train to Tonbridge (arr 1037)  
 LUNCH : The Royal Oak, Lower Haysden  
 TEA : Tunbridge Wells  
 DISTANCE : 9 easy miles returning from Tunbridge Wells  
 FARE : £6.90 cdr Tunbridge Wells with Network card discount  
 Paul will meet the ramblers at Tonbridge

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March** (os maps 165 & 175) Leader : John Burbage

MEET : Marylebone 0920 for 0945 train to High Wycombe (arr 1019)  
 LUNCH : The Red Lion, Bradenham  
 TEA : Wait and see  
 DISTANCE : 12 miles returning from High Wycombe – Hilly in places  
 FARE : £6.40 cdr High Wycombe with Network card discount



HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March** (os map 186) Leader : David Robbins

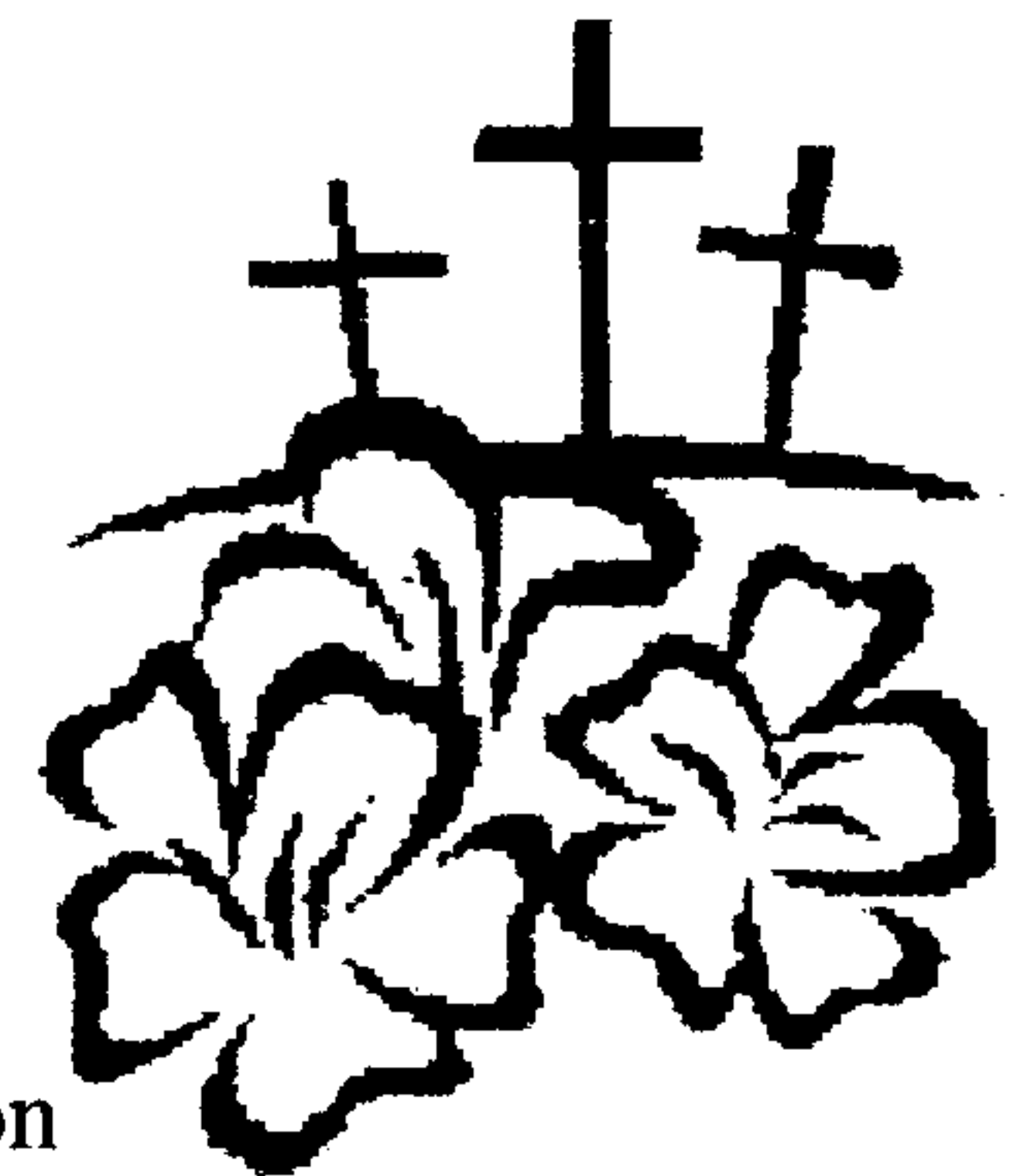
MEET : Waterloo 0915 for 0945 train to Liphook (arr 1048)  
 LUNCH : The Lion, Fernhurst  
 TEA : The Cow and Gate – In the middle of nowhere!!  
 DISTANCE : 12 miles returning from Haslemere (hilly and muddy in parts)  
 FARE : £8.60 cdr Liphook with Network card discount  
 David will meet the ramblers at Liphook

**Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March**

**Both walks join up for the Good Friday service at Worth Abbey – Starts 3pm**

**Short walk** (os map 187) Leaders: Helen Hunt and Antoinette Ratnam

MEET : Victoria 0935 for 1002 train to Three Bridges (arr 1052) or  
 London Bridge 0945 for 1010 Thameslink train to Three Bridges (arr 1054)  
 LUNCH : The Cowdray Arms - Good non-meat selection  
 TEA : ???  
 DISTANCE : 8 miles returning from Three Bridges  
 FARE : £6.15 cdr Three Bridges with network card discount  
 NB The footpaths have been made up considerably since last year so the short walk will be virtually mud free. The downside is that it is now completely open to bicycles so extra care and courtesy will be required.

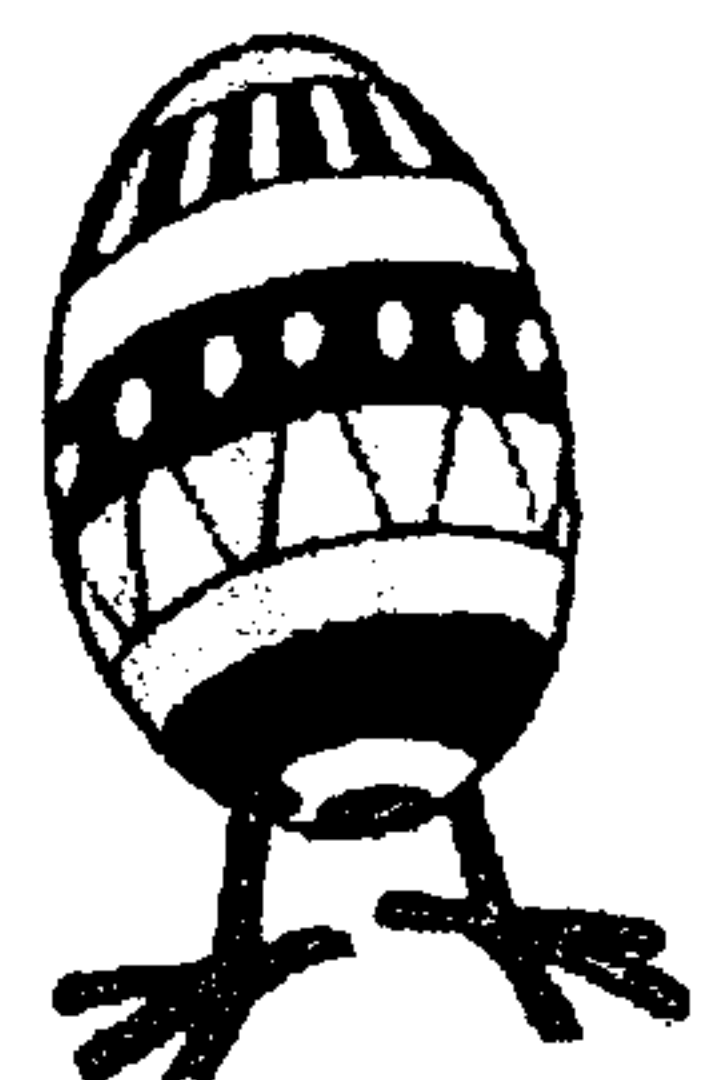


**Long walk** (os map 187) Leader : Tony Finnegan

MEET : Victoria 0810 for 0832 train to Balcombe (Arr 0922)  
 LUNCH : The White Hart, West Hoathley (GR 347333), good non-meat selection  
 TEA : No  
 DISTANCE : 13 Miles returning from Three Bridges (9 miles before the Good Friday Service at Worth Abbey where we will join those taking the short walk)  
 FARE : £6.75p CDR Balcombe with Network Southeast Card discount  
 NB The long walk from Balcombe will encounter some mud so it is advisable to carry house shoes or slippers to change into for the service at Worth Abbey Church.

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April** (os map 175) Leaders : Maureen Cahalane & Bridie Barry

MEET : Paddington 0935 for 1007 train to Henley on Thames (arr 1103),  
 change at Twyford  
 LUNCH : Stag and Huntsmen, Hambleden  
 TEA : Fawley Court or Henley on Thames  
 DISTANCE : 9 miles returning from Henley on Thames  
 FARE : £6.55 cdr Henley on Thames with Network card discount

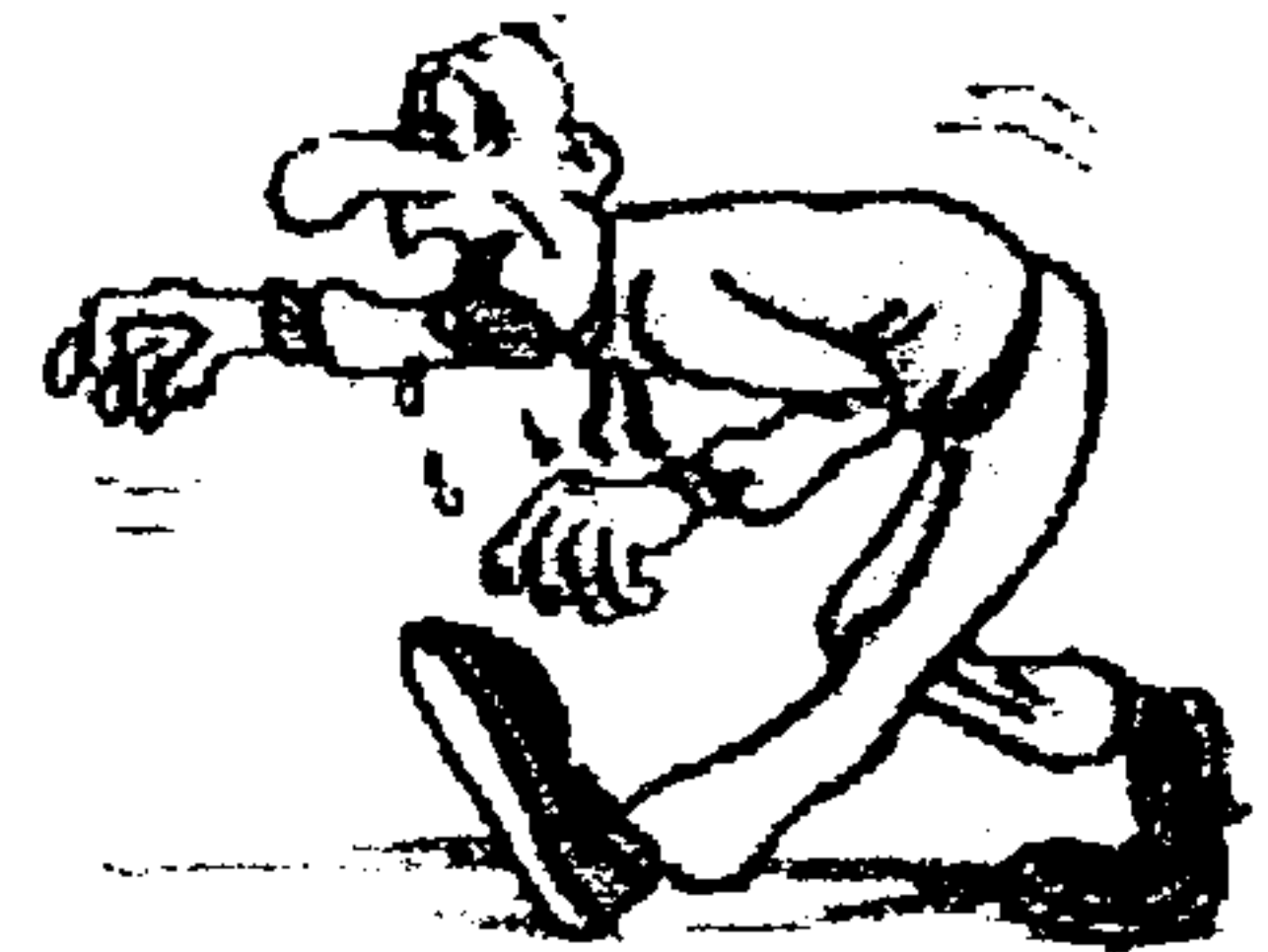


**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April** (os map 165) Leader : Tony Norton

- MEET : Baker Street 0845 for 0906 train to Chesham (arr 0956)  
 LUNCH : Cock and Rabbit Inn, The Lee, Great Missenden  
 TEA : Wendover  
 DISTANCE : 15 partly hilly miles returning from Wendover  
 FARE : All zones one day travelcard 'Plus D' £6.60,  
 plus single Wendover – Amersham £2.05 with Network card discount

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April** (os maps 198 & 199) Leader : Philip Groves

- MEET : Victoria 0820 for 0847 train to Lewes (arr 0956)  
 or take 0947 train to Glynde (arr 1104) and join group there  
 LUNCH : The George, Alfriston  
 TEA : Birling Gap  
 DISTANCE : 18 hilly miles (15 from Glynde) returning from Eastbourne  
 FARE : £11.80 cdr Eastbourne with Network card discount

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April** (os map 164) Leader : Tony Finnegan

- MEET : Paddington 0905 for 0930 train to Didcot (arr 1010)  
 LUNCH : Fleur de Lys, Dorchester (GR 579943)  
 TEA : None  
 DISTANCE : 13 easy miles (just one hill to get some good views of the Thames),  
 returning from Didcot  
 FARE : £9.10 cdr Didcot with Network card discount

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April** (os map 186) Leader : Ranald Watson

- MEET : Waterloo 0845 for 0909 train to Hook (arr 1030)  
 LUNCH : The Barley Mow, Hurst, Winchfield  
 TEA : Wait and see  
 DISTANCE : 16 miles returning from Hook.  
 The walk includes nature reserves alongside the Basingstoke Canal  
 FARE : £7.85 cdr Hook with Network card discount

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May** (os map 179) Leader : Paul Brunning

- MEET : Charing Cross 0910 for 0930 train to Chilham (arr 1110)  
 LUNCH : Chapter Arms, Chartham Hatch  
 TEA : Canterbury  
 DISTANCE : 9 easy miles returning from Canterbury  
 FARE : £10.90 cdr Canterbury with Network card discount  
 Paul will meet the ramblers at Chilham

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May** (os map 175) Leader : Philip Evans

MEET : Paddington 0945 for 1014 train to Twyford (arr 1058)  
 LUNCH : The Bell, Waltham St Lawrence  
 TEA : Maidenhead  
 DISTANCE : 9 miles returning from Maidenhead  
 FARE : £5.95 cdr Twyford with Network card discount

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May** (os map 179) Leader : Philip Groves

MEET : London Bridge 0910 for 0937 train to Wye (arr 1104)  
 This train starts from Charing Cross at 0930 and stops at Waterloo East at 0933  
 LUNCH : Tiger Inn, Stowting  
 TEA : Wye  
 DISTANCE : 18 miles including some hills  
 FARE : £10.35 cdr Wye with Network card discount  
 Philip will meet the ramblers at Wye

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May** (os map 168) Leader : Frank Bigg

MEET : Liverpool Street 0905 for 0932 train to Colchester (arr 1033)  
 LUNCH : Wivenhoe – a small pretty town on the River Colne – Selection of Pubs and cafes  
 TEA : Maybe  
 DISTANCE : 13 level miles returning from Great Bentley  
 FARE : £11.00 cdr Great Bentley with Network card discount  
 Frank will meet the ramblers at Colchester – Option of Joining/Leaving the walk at Wivenhoe

**Additional walks:**

Ring Hania Poniatowska (020 8543 5494) for occasional and/or short walks, and Dorothy Hickman (01737 765 231) for occasional midweek walks.

08457 48 49 50



*Don't forget Sunday train services can be affected by engineering works. Information on these can be obtained by calling 08457 484950 or see the relevant ceefax or teletext pages on tv.*