

Group walk Sunday 13th Sept & Tuesday 29th Sept 2020

Little Bedwyn, Burridge Heath. 4 miles from Great Bedwyn Village Hall

This was our first group walk since the Covid pandemic broke out in March 2020 and it was our first one permissible under the Covid pandemic restrictions. The walk had to be pre-booked and numbers of walkers limited to 10. Social distancing or 2 metres had to be observed and contact details taken from all walkers.

The route was the same as our last walk in March but to ring the changes, we went the other way around! We chose this route because it was wide enough for much of its length so that walkers could walk side by side to socialise while keeping a safe distance. It also had the advantage of good surfaces for most of its length and no stiles.

After a longer than usual health and safety briefing, 10 walkers set off in gorgeous autumn sunshine from Great Bedwyn village hall along the towpath towards Little Bedwyn, then up Kelston Rd to Burridge Heath. After a brief snack stop – sadly no snacks or jelly babies allowed to be shared now – we strode out on the metalled track to Foxwood Farm and then down to Jockey Green, pausing to enjoy the view across to the Brails and a view of the ruined 19th Century kiln. Then we took Galley Lane back to the start.

Because of the limited numbers we repeated this route on a Tuesday a few weeks later for another seven walkers, including 2 new members walking with us for the first time. Although it was not so sunny, at least we didn't get wet!

We didn't know it at the time but these two September walks would sadly be the last ones in 2020 because virus infection numbers would surge again in late autumn and on into the new year.

