

Group walks Thurs 19th & Sun 22nd August. Holloway, Roman Rd. Wilton Brail. 3.75 miles

From Great Bedwyn Wharf @ 10.00 am One stile, cross-field paths which may be ploughed.

The route for this group walk led from the towpath through a sunken Holloway. before it emerged into fields and reached a Roman road. Although on the Thursday walk we had to skirt around the field because the straw was still lying on the stubble. It was lying n piles across the route so we didn't go as far as the Roman Road. By Sunday the straw had been cleared and we were able to reach the Roman road across the stubble. After a short walk along the Roman Rd we re-crossed the fields and entered Wilton Brail along a track lined by many veteran trees. Leaving the Brail we returned via the water meadow to the towpath by the church. This route is Walk 1 on our website. When we published this route the group had only just cleared the Holloway sunken path after it had been blocked by fallen branches and vegetation for over 30 years. Since it was cleared in spring 2017 this ancient path has become popular with walkers, as well as badgers, and is regularly used now.

This group walk was the first time that we had been able to advertise a walk that did not need to be pre-booked since the Covid pandemic began although we were still observing some cautions and keeping a reasonable distance apart. 8 walkers came on the Thursday walk (2 first time walkers joined us) and 7 (including 1 new walker) on the Sunday walk. Both days were cloudy but dry and warm.

Bedwyn Health walks had still not resumed by August so we held two fairly short walks to keep total numbers on each walk low and to be able to offer a weekday walk in addition to our usual Sunday walk.

You can download a map and walk details on the self-guided walks pages of the website, Walk 1:

<http://bedwynfootpathsgroup.org.uk/index.php/sample-page/>