



THE NEWSPAPER OF THE COTSWOLDS CONSERVATION BOARD

The Cotswold LION



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Caring for our natural beauty

£2.8m project to conserve character nears completion

A MAJOR conservation scheme to ensure that the Cotswolds retains its enchanting beauty is nearly complete.

Lasting five years and supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the £2.8 million 'Caring for the Cotswolds' project has been tackling the key elements that make the area unique and help it attract millions of visitors every year.

It is one of the first pioneering 'landscape-scale' projects funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and has helped to ensure that the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is conserved and enhanced for future generations.

In delivering the project the Cotswolds Conservation Board paid special attention to:

- The drystone walls that are a distinctive feature of the AONB.
- The limestone grasslands that were nearly destroyed by intensive farming decades ago but are being restored by conservationists and farmers to provide a rich habitat for a diverse range of wild flowers and grasses and up to 25 species of butterfly.
- Conserving the local distinctiveness of the field patterns, hedgerows, trees, towns, villages and buildings that set the Cotswolds aside from any other area of the country.
- A major interpretation project aimed at helping the public understand and appreciate the Cotswolds AONB.

Niel Curwen, Chairman of the Cotswolds Conservation Board, commented: "When you walk or drive through the Cotswolds landscape and take time to reflect upon the characteristics that make the area unique, it is worth remembering that, although they appear to have been there for ever, the features that catch your eye may well have been carefully



Breathtaking Cotswolds scenery is being conserved.

cared for and tended recently. "Very often, we see a view that pleases and find ourselves appreciating it for its timeless beauty but the satisfying balance and composition of some of the most stunning vistas in the area has very often been given a helping hand in the recent past by farmers, land managers and conservationists."

The project has covered a wide spectrum of conservation work, from using conservation grazing to ensure that wildflower grassland sites in target areas flourish, to providing rural

skills courses to encourage more people to learn to help repair drystone walls.

Certain areas of the project have also been upheld as nationally acclaimed examples of good practice.

To celebrate the culmination and success of the Caring for the Cotswolds project we are publishing a centre page feature in this edition of the *Cotswold Lion*, outlining just a few of the project's most notable successes.

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Year of Food and Farming

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Eco-friendly energy boost

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Hundreds of guided walks

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Conserving historic hedgerows.

Survey puts 220 miles of hedge on map

MORE than 2,000 hedgerows have been put on the map as a result of a major conservation survey that spanned ten parishes in the southern part of the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

More than 60 volunteers took part in the hedgerow survey, run by the Bristol Regional Environmental Record Centre (BRERC) which used the data to produce digital maps of each parish showing the different species of hedgerows and the wildlife they sustain.

The parishes surveyed were: Doynton, Dyrham and Hinton, Little Sodbury, Sodbury, Charlcombe, Bathampton, Southstoke, Freshford, Claverton and Combe Hay. The project was part funded by a Sustainable Development Fund grant of just over £18,000 from the Cotswolds Conservation Board.

Mark Connelly, the Board's Land Management Officer, said: "As well as telling us what type of hedgerows are there and the plants and wildlife within them, the survey will help to ensure that hedgerows are managed appropriately so that they fit in with the surrounding landscape. This varies enormously across the AONB – even within a single parish."

In all, 2,070 hedgerows totalling 220 miles (the distance between Bristol and Leeds) were surveyed and volunteers logged over 18,000 species records. These are stored on a computerised database developed by BRERC to provide information about species and habitats locally, regionally and nationally.

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Review steering group on hedgerows are so impressed with the project they intend to use it as an example of good practice.

It was also praised by Natural England. Land Management Advice Major Project Manager Rob Wolton said: "The parish maps are a very impressive and easy to use resource for local people and others."

"The data is presented in a simple, clear and effective format which is a good model for others to follow."

The parish maps can be viewed on the BRERC website www.brerc.org.uk

- To help conserve and protect wildlife never cut hedges during the bird nesting season from the beginning of March to the end of July, and leave old, rotting or dying hedgerow trees, wherever safe, to provide shelter for bats, small mammals and insects.

Children learn about the origins of food

HOW does the food on our plate get there and where does it come from?

Young people in the Cotswolds are being encouraged to discover the answers to these questions and find out much more about what we eat through a national campaign that has just been launched and will run until next summer.

The Year of Food and Farming will involve everyone in the food chain – from farmers and food processors to chefs and restaurant owners – in order to capture children's imagination about food and the way it is produced.

It gives schools throughout the Cotswolds the chance to put food on the curriculum in an exciting way through hands-on learning experiences for pupils of all ages.

Thanks to the participation of the food and farming industry, the youngsters will find out how food is grown and produced through visits to farms and food processing plants, growing their own crops as school projects and learning from culinary experts.

The campaign is designed to spread the culture of eating healthily – and make students aware of career opportunities in agriculture, the food processing industry and catering sector.

Cotswolds-based celebrity chef Rob Rees, a former member of the Cotswolds Conservation Board, has helped to shape the Year of Food and Farming menu of events in the South West region.

Rob will also be visiting primary and secondary schools as well as colleges in the region – many of them in the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) – as part of the campaign.

He said: "I will be showing young people how to cook locally sourced, good quality food. However this is not domestic science. It is an effective way of adding value to the curriculum."

"My demonstrations of cooking and preparing food will be linked to other subjects such as maths."

Rob added: "I have been involved with schools for some years in order to educate young people about good eating, and I'm sure that the Year of Food and Farming campaign will be an effective way of promoting that culture."

"This academic year is the food and

"This academic year is the food and farming industry's real opportunity to engage a whole new generation with its work, products and people."



Celebrity chef Rob Rees gives children a practical demonstration.

farming industry's real opportunity to engage a whole new generation with its work, products and people."

An impressive array of farms, businesses and individuals in the Cotswolds AONB are supporting the Year of Food and Farming which will be launched on 12th September at the Highgrove estate of Prince Charles who is the scheme's Patron. Local schools will be involved in the launch event at the Duchy Home Farm.

Other farms and businesses within the Cotswolds AONB that will be organising events to give children a close insight into how local food is produced and cooked include:

Chef 4 Schools – organised by Gloucestershire Tourism Skills Network. A team of 14 chefs trained by Rob Rees will be offering schools in Gloucestershire cookery demos that add value to the curriculum.

Cheltenham Children's Services will hold cookery demonstrations on 12th October supported by Gloucestershire Food Vision.

Kraft Health 4 Schools programme will continue its award winning project with 100 schools in Gloucestershire involved in cooking, eating, growing and active play.

If you want to keep up with all the events, a Mega Map for each region in England will show all Year of Food and Farming activities by farms and businesses that have registered their support on the site.

By logging on to www.yearoffoodandfarming.org.uk teachers can quickly select the most suitable entries in their area.

John Lee, Chairman of the Year of Food and Farming in the South West, said: "The main point of the campaign is to involve children of all ages in understanding where food comes from and look at the whole food chain."

"The key aim is to provide an ongoing legacy that among other things will encourage healthier lifestyles and good nutrition, increase interest in careers in the food and farming industries and develop a greater appreciation of the importance of the countryside and environmental issues."

Schools see farming in action

YOUNG people from towns and cities will be given a taste of life on a Cotswold organic farm, thanks to the Soil Association's Living Landscapes project – supported by the Cotswolds Conservation Board as part of the Year of Food and Farming.

It will give ten schools and community youth groups the opportunity to spend a day at the Prince of Wales's Duchy Home Farm at Tetbury, Daylesford, near Kingham, or at Abbey Home Farm at Cirencester. The youngsters will be

shown every aspect of how the organic farms operate – from livestock and crops to hedgelaying and drystone walling.

The farms will host the parties over the autumn period and visitors will be accompanied by an environmental educator to help them interpret the landscape and appreciate how food arrives on our tables in an imaginative way.

Some of the farm visit groups will be from outside the Cotswolds AONB – such as parties from inner-city

schools in Gloucester and Cheltenham.

The project follows on from the school workshops held by the Soil Association last year to make pupils aware about issues surrounding food, its production and nutrition.

The Conservation Board has contributed a £2,500 Sustainable Development Fund grant towards the total £4,500 cost of the Living Landscapes project.

Rupert Aker, the Soil Association's Organic Farms Network Manager, said: "The aim of the farm

visits is to encourage the young people to support farming and appreciate how it shapes and enhances the landscape. It's also hoped the project will help promote healthy lifestyles and inspire youngsters to think about environmental issues like food miles.

"At the same time Living Landscapes will help farms develop connections with the community through the groups, and the Soil Association will also provide mentors to show farmers how to host exciting and safe school visits."



Chipping wood for fuel on the Batsford Estate.

Photo © Steve Peach

Burning success in eco-friendly energy

THE famous Batsford Arboretum, set within the grounds of the Batsford Estate, is a popular Cotswold attraction that draws thousands of visitors each year.

However, few of them realise that the stunning expanses of woodland on the 5,000 acre estate near Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire, are providing the type of 'clean' renewable energy being promoted by the Cotswolds Conservation Board to cut carbon emissions created by burning fossil fuels such as coal, gas and oil.

A large 300-kilowatt Austrian built Binder wood chip boiler produces all the heating and hot water at Batsford Park House, in which Lord Dulverton and his family reside.

This boiler replaced the original oil-fired boiler that was installed when the house was renovated two years ago and which was consuming five gallons of fuel an hour, making it expensive as well as environmentally harmful.

After the first year energy costs have been drastically reduced. The new wood system equates to two-thirds of the running costs of

gas and 50 per cent of the cost of oil. Although the smoke from this biomass form of energy releases CO₂ – one of the main causes of climate change – the Batsford Estate is still helping to combat global warming.

For every tree felled to feed the boiler, a hundred takes its place, and they re-absorb far more CO₂ from the atmosphere than is produced by burning the wood.

A carefully designed forestry programme supplies wood fuel from the Estate. When a tree is felled most of it is sold commercially for chipboard, while the waste 'lop and top' section provides the biomass renewable fuel. About ten per cent of each tree remains in the ground in order to preserve a natural habitat for insects and other wildlife.

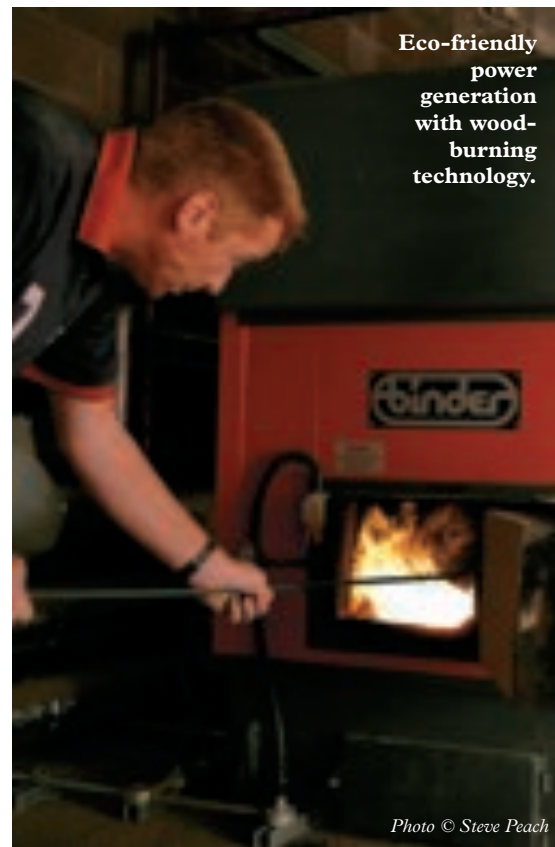
Estate Forestry Manager Mike Hartnell and his team are currently clearing non-native conifers from woodland areas and replacing them with native broad leaved species such as oak, ash, maple and beech.

Mike said: "We are restocking 10,000 to 15,000 trees a year, either by planting or by seeding more trees due to the light and space created by clearing the conifers.

"We will be renewing the conifers over the next 20 to 25 years. In the meantime we are planting woodland coppice sites of hazel and chestnut trees in rotation to ensure we never run out of wood as a renewable energy source once the supply of conifers has been exhausted."

Mike added: "At Batsford we are demonstrating that alternative forms of renewable energy can be both economical and environmentally friendly."

This kind of dry



Eco-friendly power generation with wood-burning technology.

Photo © Steve Peach

biomass is one of six forms of renewable energy recommended by an in-depth study commissioned by the Cotswolds Conservation Board.

The study, conducted by Severn Wye Energy, investigated small-scale micro generation technologies that would not compromise the natural beauty and landscape of the area.

The other five forms of energy considered most suitable are: small wind power (small-scale wind turbines), solar photovoltaic (solar panels), solar water heating (solar panels that provide 50 per cent of the hot water needed in an average household), micro hydropower (micro systems that use a weir or dam) and heat pumps (which extract heat from low temperature sources such as the air).

Fact sheets on all six types of renewable energy sources are available on the publications section of the Board's website www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk or you can obtain copies by phoning 01451 862000.

Hedgelaying courses and competitions

THE Cotswolds Conservation Board is running two-day hedgelaying courses aimed at beginners and trainees between November and February, costing £55 per person. Courses will be held at Great Rissington near Bourton-on-the-Water on November 24th and 25th, December 1st and 2nd, January 19th and 20th and February 2nd and 3rd.

The Board also holds annual hedgelaying and drystone walling competitions.

This year's drystone walling competition, held in association with the Dry Stone Walling Association will be held on Sunday October 7th at Cranham.

The North Cotswolds Hedgelaying Competition supported by The National Hedgelaying Society will be held on Saturday November 17th. (The location for this event was not confirmed when this publication went to print).

For more information please contact Mark Connelly on 01451 862006. mark.connelly@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

An information booklet *Supporting Rural Skills in the Cotswolds AONB: Drystone Walling / Hedgelaying Training and Competitions* is available from the Cotswolds Conservation Board.

You can download a copy from the publications section of our website www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk or call and ask for a copy. Tel: 01451 862000.

Environment awards

PROJECTS that have made an outstanding contribution to the environment and local community are being sought for a new awards scheme.

The CPRE Gloucestershire Awards were launched this year to recognise and celebrate examples of good practice from across the area. Nominations are welcome from the community, private and voluntary sectors.

To qualify projects need to be sustainable, involve improvements to the rural environment and be visible from public places.

Entries that meet the judging criteria will receive a plaque and certificate at a special ceremony in June. For further information and nomination forms visit the CPRE Gloucestershire Office or log on to www.cpreglos.org.uk

Cotswolds Conservation Board

www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

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The Cotswolds Conservation Board looks after the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

The Board works:

- to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the AONB
- to increase the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the AONB

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Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this publication is accurate. However, the publishers can accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions.

Lionhearts

Cotswolds News for young people



Really Wild show presenter Steve Backshall shows school children one of his finds on the Wildlife Watch walk.

Wildlife Watch brings pupils closer to nature

Back in the summer the Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) launched its brand new and exciting scheme to help schools bring children closer to wildlife – Schools Wildlife Watch.

The first schools to sign up to the scheme from each of the three counties were invited to a very special day out at BBOWT's Warburg Nature Reserve, hosted by Steve Backshall, *Really Wild Show* presenter, and BBOWT member.

Steve says: "We are incredibly lucky in this region to have so much natural beauty right on our doorstep, but it's no use unless we get out there, get mucky and enjoy it!"

The Schools Wildlife Watch scheme is a great initiative that will reach and inspire kids all over the three counties to do just that, whilst caring for local wildlife at the same time."

Schools Wildlife Watch helps schools run wildlife activities in the classroom or at after-school clubs encouraging budding Kate

Humbles, Bill Oddie and Steve Backshall to go wild! Athene Reiss, Wildlife Watch Officer for BBOWT says: "Building on the tremendous enthusiasm amongst young people for nature, and the popularity of programmes like Springwatch, this scheme gives schools a really simple way to set up a great wildlife or green club. It includes easy-to-use plans, training and materials so they can run exciting and educational sessions."

If you think your school should go wild and join the scheme, ask your teacher to get in touch with BBOWT on 01865 775476, or via our website, www.bbowl.org.uk.

Competition question:

Win a colourful Wildlife Watch T-shirt!

Answer this question for your chance to win. Please send your answer, along with your age and T-shirt size to Claire Cunningham, Cotswolds Conservation Board, Fosse Way, Northleach, Gloucestershire GL54 3JH.

What kind of animal is Ratty in *Wind in the Willows*?

Sheep, strolls and Shakespeare

GROUPS of Cotswold school children jumped at the chance to get out of the classroom last summer and take a stroll through the Cotswold landscape.

Pupils from eight schools were treated to guided walks led by the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens that covered everything from seeing traditional Cotswold sheep first hand and learning about the historical importance of the wool trade, to finding out about the significance of the Cotswold wool churches and watching a drystone waller at work.

The wardens, who are the voluntary arm of the Cotswolds Conservation Board, worked in association with Red Dog Productions to inspire children to learn more about the AONB by mixing the

pleasure of walking with educational workshops about Cotswold heritage.

Pupils also had the chance to enjoy the magic of theatre by participating in a workshop about Red Dog's touring production of the *Merry Wives of Windsor* and then taking part in an evening performance of the play at their school.

Mike Pudifoot, Headteacher at Sherborne C of E Primary School, said: "Wool, the Cotswolds & Shakespeare was a fascinating project enabling the children to learn directly about their surroundings. Children were able to engage with language, history and geography by participating in the drama of Shakespeare, visiting ancient mills and walking through the limestone scenery".

Dino-winners

THE winner of the dinosaur children's competition in the last edition of the *Cotswold Lion* was Kieran Jesson age 9 and a half from Down Ampney in Gloucestershire.

The runners up were: Alice Mitchell age 7 from Shipston-on-Stour in Warwickshire, James Dent age 5 from

Cirencester in Gloucestershire, Duncan Graham age 9 from Ashton Keynes in Wiltshire, Alex Cassie age 6 from Stow in Gloucestershire and Molly Foley age 11 from Cheltenham.

They all received prizes courtesy of the Hereford and Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust.



Competition winner Patricia Parkes, centre, and her two friends raise a glass of champagne to celebrate an enjoyable visit to the Painswick Rococo Garden.

Rococo fun on rainy day

PATRICIA Parkes chose one of the wettest days of the summer to visit Painswick Rococo Garden as her prize for winning a competition in the last edition of the *Cotswold Lion* to mark '2007-Year of the Cotswold Garden.'

But the relentless rain did not spoil her VIP tour of the enchanting six-acre 18th century garden, which is a unique example of the brief but flamboyant period of English Rococo design.

Readers were asked to name the Cotswold garden celebrating its centenary this year. The answer was Hidcote Manor and Patricia's entry was the first correct answer drawn.

As part of her prize she took three friends on the visit to the Painswick attraction that draws thousands of visitors each year.

The party was welcomed with a champagne reception and after being

taken on a tour of the grounds the party filled a wheelbarrow with produce from the organic vegetable garden.

While they were entertained to delicious tea and scones in the bothy, their freshly picked produce was packed into bags for them to take home as a tasty souvenir of a delightful afternoon out.

Mrs Parkes, a keen walker who lives in Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, used to live in Bath. She is a regular reader of the *Cotswold Lion* as she still uses the newspaper's listings to plan walks in the AONB.

She said: "In spite of the weather we really enjoyed the visit to the Painswick Rococo Garden and we were made very welcome. It was so impressive I would like to see the garden again – preferably when the sun is shining!"

Manager of the garden Paul Moir said: "We really enjoyed entertaining Patricia and her party and showing them around the garden."



A network of around 4,000 miles of drystone walls spans the AONB.

Celebrating landscapes

THE Cotswolds landscape is improving according to a team of experts who spent five years between 1998 and 2003 monitoring changes in the English countryside.

The *Tracking Change in the Character of the English Landscape* report, produced by Natural England, English Heritage and Defra, revealed that the quality of England's landscape is changing when measured against seven criteria: woods, hedges and drystone walls, rivers, farming, wild open spaces and housing developments.

The report which was produced as part of a project called Countryside Quality Counts focused on the Cotswolds Joint Character Area and concluded that overall the Cotswolds was being well maintained and is

improving as a landscape area.

Dr Helen Phillips, Chief Executive of Natural England said: "Some of our treasured landscapes are suffering decline and neglect.

"We want to celebrate the countryside's local accent such as honey coloured drystone walls in the Cotswolds and the hedgerows of the Midlands.

"The Countryside Quality Counts Indicators allow us to monitor change and to identify the pressures causing it that will help guide policies to help ensure that the wider countryside does not slip away quietly unnoticed and unmourned."

For more information about the nature of the Cotswolds landscape visit the website of the Cotswolds AONB at www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk.

Wardens celebrate national trail launch

COTSWOLD Voluntary Wardens completed a 102-mile walk to celebrate the inclusion of the Cotswold Way on a national trail network.

In May the Cotswold Way joined 14 other walking trails across England and Wales to receive the special grading.

To celebrate, a nine-day relay was set up by the wardens who give up their spare time to conserve and enhance the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

But instead of a baton, the team carried a shepherd's crook to Stanway House near Cheltenham – timing their arrival to coincide with the official opening of the trail by Natural England.

First they had to complete the route – which has existed as a promoted long distance walk for around 40 years – and runs between the market town of Chipping Campden in the north and the city of Bath in the south.

The picturesque walk runs close to several historic landmarks such as the Roman heritage site at Bath, the Neolithic burial chamber at Belas Knap and Sudeley Castle.

In receiving national trail status it joins about 2,500 miles of wild and beautiful parts of



Wardens pictured during their 102-mile relay.

Britain. The Wardens, who are the voluntary arm of the Cotswolds Conservation Board, helped ensure the route met stringent qualifying standards by helping the Cotswold Way National Trail Team.

Chairman of the Avon Valley District of the Wardens, Nigel Locke said: "The launch of the

Cotswold Way National Trail is a chance for people to enjoy an improved walking experience along the route and learn more about it.

"Thousands of visitors and local walkers enjoy the views out across the Severn Vale from the Cotswolds escarpment.

"The historical wealth of the

Cotswolds was founded on the wool trade, the grazing land for the Cotswold Lion sheep and the hillside streams to power the woollen mills.

"The shepherd's crook with a sheep's head carved into it signifies a connection between the present tourism industry and the old woollen industry."

Businesses thrown a lifeline in wake of flooding

BUSINESSES in the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) have been offered grant support to help them to get back on their feet after the devastating floods last summer.

In all, three regional development agencies have made £6m available to support businesses in the Cotswolds AONB and surrounding areas.

Since the floods back in July, The South West Regional Development Agency (SWRDA) along with the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) and Advantage West Midlands have been encouraging affected businesses to apply for grant support. Businesses in the Wychavon area of the AONB in south Worcestershire will benefit from support from Advantage West Midlands, the Evenlode Valley in West Oxfordshire from SEEDA support and SWRDA will provide grant aid to affected businesses in Gloucestershire.

Ian Thompson, South West RDA Director of Operations in the north of the region, said: "The flooding we have seen in parts of South West England, especially across Gloucestershire, is devastating for many towns, communities and businesses.

These schemes will enable business advisers to work with companies to establish what urgent requirements businesses may have to help them move forward again."

SWRDA and SEEDA offered £2M packages where businesses could apply for a maximum of £2,500 in grant aid, SWRDA working in partnership with Gloucestershire First.

Advantage West Midlands offered two similar schemes totalling £2M, with £1m pounds going towards villages and towns in the Wychavon area of the AONB and other worst hit parts of the West Midlands.

A further £1m package was made available to help support the region's tourism economy, which has suffered as a result of the flooding.

The schemes are all being administered for the RDA's by Business Link and the closing date is 31st December 2007 or when funds have been allocated, whichever happens first.

It is hoped that this support coupled with a £14m national flood recovery package announced by Prime Minister Gordon Brown back in July will rapidly enable affected businesses to recover from the floods.

There is no guarantee that grant funding will still be available into the autumn and winter months but businesses who still need support can enquire using the contact details below:

Wychavon: Business Link West Midlands on 0845 113 1234
Evenlode Valley and Gloucestershire: Business Link on 0845 600 9006
or go to
www.businesslink.gov.uk

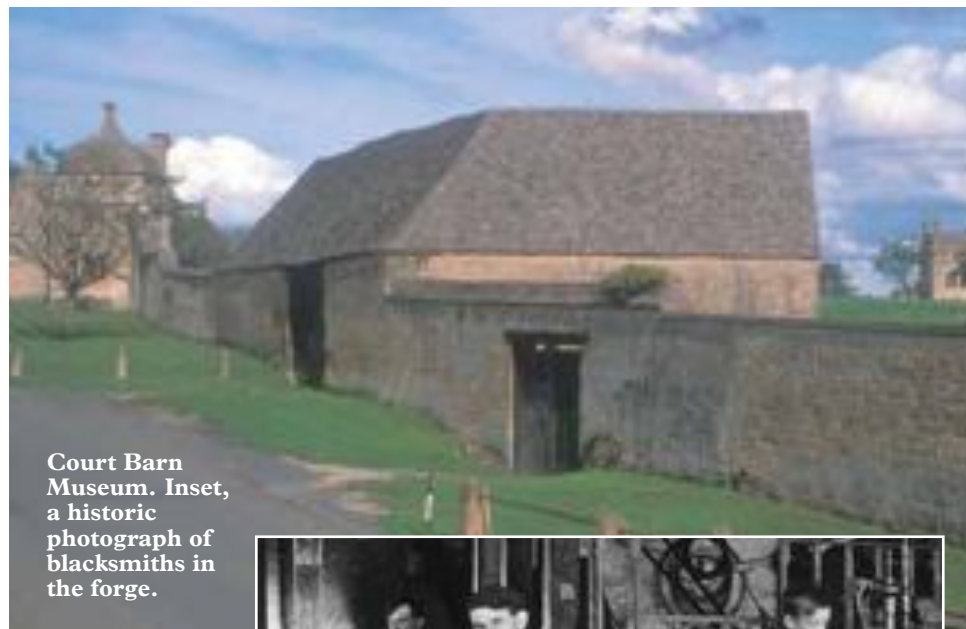
Museum tells story of historic small town

A new attraction has opened in Chipping Campden to celebrate creative talent that has flourished in the Cotswold town and the north Cotswolds since the beginning of the 20th century.

Court Barn Museum tells the story of how the small town played a major role in the arts and crafts movement by attracting designers and craftspeople.

Although housed in a historic barn, the museum uses the latest display methods to showcase the work of talented people associated with the area.

They include arts and crafts designer CR Ashbee, who moved his Guild of Handicraft workshops from the East End of London to Chipping Campden in 1902; Gordon Russell, who started making furniture in Broadway and became a design guru and Director of the Design Council; radical potter Michael Cardew whose Wincombe Pottery started in 1926 and is still going strong; Robert Welch, distinguished late 20th century silversmith and industrial designer who worked in Chipping Campden all his life. The Guild of Handicraft Trust, a group of local enthusiasts, worked with skilled professionals to create the £1.3 million museum. Two-thirds of the cost was met by the Heritage Lottery Fund, while the rest came from grants and donations from



Court Barn Museum. Inset, a historic photograph of blacksmiths in the forge.

individuals in the UK and the United States.

Exhibits include a 17th century barn restored by local conservation architect Reg Ellis; a permanent exhibition (designed by Gareth Hoskins Architects) of silver, jewellery, ceramics, sculpture, industrial design, bookbinding, printing and stained glass; exhibits loaned by the Victoria and Albert Museum and the National Portrait Gallery and the entire working archive of Robert Welch.

Court Barn Museum, in Church Street next to St James's Parish Church, also provides space for meetings, temporary



exhibitions and work with schools.

It is open Tuesday-Saturday 10.30-5.30, Sunday 11.30-5.30 in summer; Tuesday-Saturday 11.00-4.00, Sunday 11.30-4.00 in winter; closed Mondays except Bank Holidays, and from December 24 to January 1. Admission £3.75 (students/schoolchildren £3, children under 16, and if under 12 admission is free if accompanied by an adult).

Conserving the Cotswolds...

BACK in 2002 the *Cotswold Lion* heralded the start of a ground breaking new conservation project called Caring for the Cotswolds. Five years on, the project is drawing to a close and the benefits of all the good work that has been done are here for all to see. The £2.8 million project was supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and focused on four key areas: drystone walling, limestone grassland restoration, local distinctiveness and interpretation. Here are four success stories from each area of the project...

Drystone walls

WEAVING their way across the landscape, and adding to the overall beauty and distinctiveness of the Cotswolds, drystone walls are an essential element of the unique character of the AONB.

The Caring for the Cotswolds Project aimed to help conserve this essential feature in a number of ways:

- A grant scheme to encourage the restoration and management of 20 kilometres of drystone walls – up to 50% of project costs.
- The provision of skills in the form of two-day drystone walling training courses for over 1,000 people.
- Apprenticeship opportunities for trainee drystone wallers.
- A survey of drystone walls within all parishes in our target area.

SUCCESS STORY

An entire section of wall that runs along the A433 and borders the Duke of Beaufort's Badminton estate was in a bad state of repair and would probably have been too costly to repair had it not been for a grant from the Caring for the Cotswolds Project. The Duke said: "We have wanted to restore the wall for many years and are so pleased that grant support from the Caring for the Cotswolds Project has now made it possible. We are all delighted with the completed wall, which has been appreciated and commented on by so many people who drive past it."

The Cotswolds Conservation Board awarded four separate grants totalling £82,373 for the restoration of 2,442 metres of wall and restoration work took place over a three-year period, ending this year.



Drystone waller Chris Pocket helped to repair this wall on the edge of Badminton Estate.

Limestone grassland

INTENSIVE farming in the late 1970s and 80s led to the destruction of much of the Cotswolds' flower rich limestone grassland.

In the 1930s 40% of the Cotswolds was covered in such grassland sites but today there are fewer than 3,000 hectares – only 1.5% of the total area.

Over half of the country's Jurassic limestone grassland sites are now found in the Cotswolds. They are important because they provide a home for a range of plants and animals with some grassland sites containing more than 100 species of wildflowers and grasses and up to 25 species of butterfly.

The Caring for the Cotswolds Project aimed to conserve and enhance Jurassic limestone grassland sites by introducing a grazing project designed to ensure that as many sites as possible are sustainably grazed. This was achieved in a number of ways:

- working with local farmers, landowners and graziers to encourage the sensitive management of over 90 flower rich grassland sites within target areas;
- encouraging farmers to integrate the management of flower rich grasslands as part of a profitable farm management system;
- using cattle as a resource to graze flower rich grassland sites across target areas, as part of a sustainable management approach;
- promoting the use of rare breeds as profitable conservation graziers;
- marketing the beef and lamb at a premium enabling the consumer to support conservation grazing.

SUCCESS STORY – Rudge Hill (Edge Common)

When the Cotswolds Conservation Board first began to work in partnership with Natural England and the local community to try and ensure the Edge Hill Common National Nature Reserve was sustainably managed, the land was being grazed by Gloucester City Farm. Members of the local community objected to cattle being brought in from 20 miles away to graze the land.

Now, five years on, one of the commoners Paul Griffiths who has grazing rights on the common and owns land next to it, is a key participant in the delivery of long-term sustainable management of the site.

The project's success hinged on the recognition that people have a 'right' to be involved with the management of land that they 'love' and feel connected to, and that this commitment can be harnessed and built upon.



Paul Griffiths on the common.

Local distinctiveness

THE unique landscape character of the Cotswolds is evident in patterns of fields, trees, hedges, townscapes, villages and buildings.

The Caring for the Cotswolds Project aimed to prevent the loss of unique local characteristics by identifying locally distinctive Cotswold features and then working to conserve and enhance them. It achieved this in two ways:

- A local distinctiveness guide – available on request.
- A grant scheme designed to help conserve or create locally distinctive features.

SUCCESS STORY:

Compton Abdale Crocodile

When the villagers of Compton Abdale discovered that they could apply for a grant to cover up to 50 per cent of the cost of repairs to a beloved village feature, they filled the form in straight away. Now their carved stone water conduit, which channels spring water from the limestone hillside into the River Coln, has been restored to its former glory. As you can see from the picture taken before the repairs, the crocodile had become worn by time and had lost its sharp detail. The total cost of restoring the Crocodile was £6,400 but the parish just couldn't afford to pay the bill. Now thanks to a grant of £2,000 from the Cotswolds Conservation Board a local stonemason has brought Compton Abdale's most exotic pet back to life.



Interpretation

THIS part of the project aimed to help members of the public understand and enjoy the AONB.

SUCCESS STORY Interpretation kiosks

Seven to eleven year olds will be able to use new interactive video game available in the autumn in selected venues across the Cotswolds AONB. Players will meet Quantum, an energetic and lovable Cotswold sheep, who will take you on a journey through time and make sure that you learn all about the main elements that have gone into making today's Cotswold landscape.

Quantum will lead you through long barrows such as Hetty Peglers Tump, and get you skipping around the Rollright stone circles and dancing on magnificent mosaic Roman floors.

Visit this page on our website to find a list of venues housing the new video kiosks:

Web link:
www.cotswoldsanob.org.uk/quantum



Cartoon sheep will give young people a virtual tour of Cotswolds landmarks like the Rollright stone circle in an innovative new video game.

Quantum the sheep image © Cotswolds Conservation Board

The AONB

WALKS & EVENTS Guide

PLEASE: always remember to wear appropriate footwear because some walks may be steep and muddy in places. Dogs are not allowed on walks, except guide dogs for the blind and hearing dogs for the deaf.



Denotes a half term walk ideal for families

Chipping Campden Town Walks

The Cotswold Voluntary Wardens offer a town walk, an audio visual show followed by either tea or supper as appropriate, in Chipping Campden for organised parties. Contact Ann Colcomb on 01386 832131.

Walk the Cotswold Way

Join a group led by the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens walking 10 miles of the Cotswold Way on the first Wednesday of each month. Walks commence in May of each year. Travel by coach from Winchcombe to the start point. Lunches will be at pleasant inns en route. For further information and to reserve places please contact John Fisher on 01242 673722. An early booking is advised.

Walk the Diamond Way

Join a group led by the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens walking some 10 miles of the North Cotswolds Diamond Way on the fourth Tuesday of each month. The walks commence in April each year, starting and ending at Moreton-in-Marsh and continue for six consecutive months. A bus will meet walkers at the appropriate venue to transport them to the start point for a walk back to the cars. For further information and to reserve places please contact John Medlyn on 01386 438060. An early booking is advised.

October 2007

TUESDAY OCTOBER 2 • 10.00

The Tuesday Tramp

A morning walk around the Colerne area. Bring a 'mid morning munchie'. For further information please telephone Russell Harding on 01225 742182. **Moderate**

Starting point: Fox & Hounds car park in Colerne.

Leader: Russell Harding
3 hours • 4.5 miles

OS: Land Ranger 173/818711

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 3 • 11.00

National Trust: Snowhill Manor

Snowhill Secrets Explorer Tour: Snowhill's secret passages feature on this tour of the parts of the manor not open to the public. 11am - 12noon. Tel: 01386 852410.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 4 • 19.30

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust: Wild Flowers of Westonbirt Arboretum

An illustrated talk by Rosemary Westgate from the Friends of Westonbirt at Stonehouse Community Centre, Laburnum Walk, Stonehouse. 7.30 pm Admission £3 Venue: Stonehouse Community Centre. For further information please contact the Stroud Area Group on 01453 885415.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 6 • 9.30

Tons & Fords

Following the Glyme Valley through Glympton & Kiddington estates, before on through Radford, Gaginwell, Sandford St Martin, the Bartons and return. Pub lunch available.

Moderate

Starting point: Glympton by post office.

Please park considerably.

Leader: Ian Gourlay
6 hours • 10 miles

OS: 164/427217

H3

SUNDAY OCTOBER 7 • 10.00

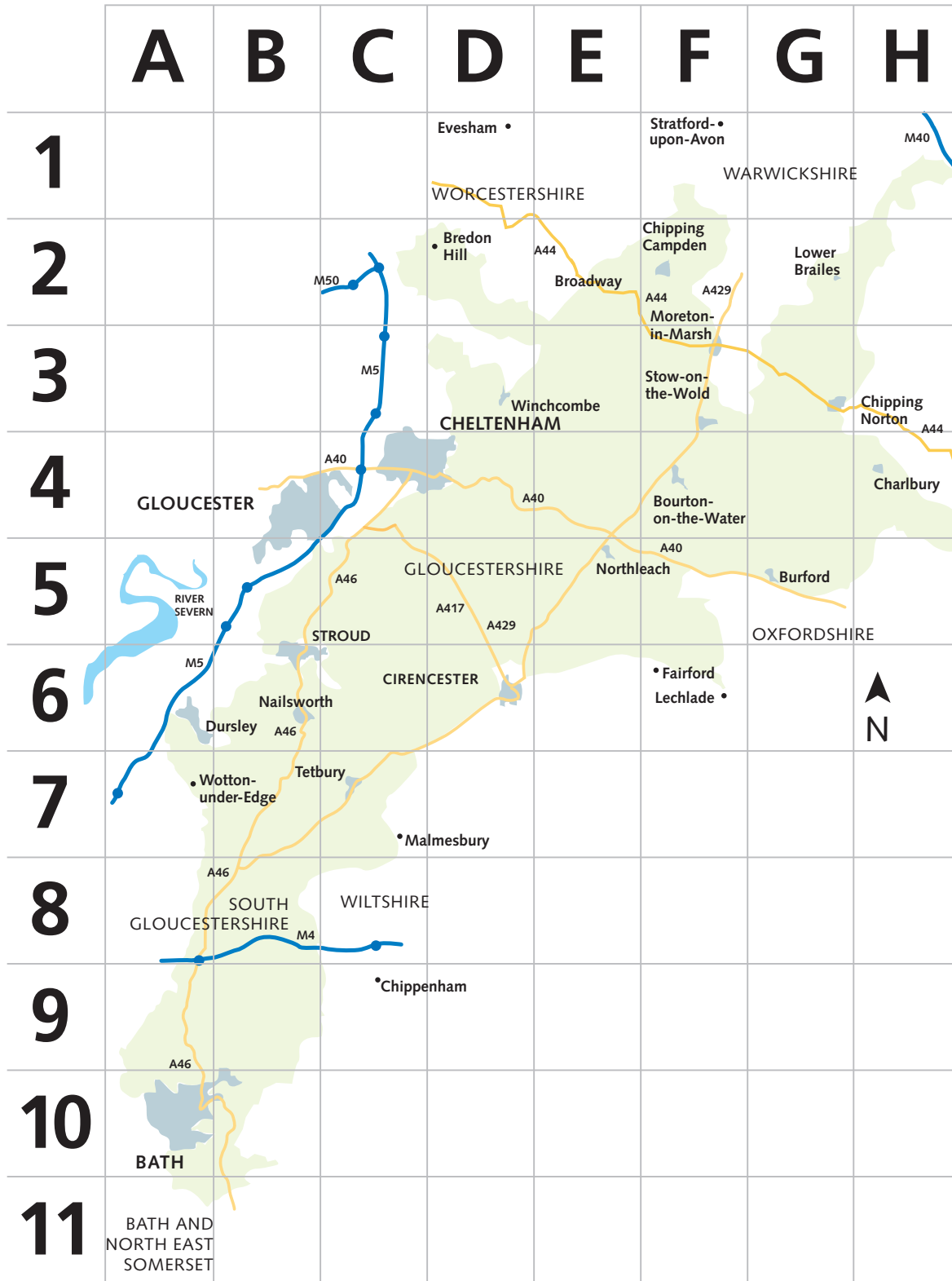
Quiet Ways Near Wotton-under-Edge Coombe, Tyley Bottom, Ozleworth, Newark Park. Quiet hills and valleys near Wotton. Can be muddy. **Moderate**

Starting point: Wotton-under-Edge car park - free on Sundays.

Leaders: Hilary Paveley, David Harrowin
6 hours • 11 miles

OS: 162/756 932

A7



GUIDED WALKS LED BY COTSWOLD VOLUNTARY WARDENS UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

SUNDAY OCTOBER 7 • 10.30-12.00

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust: Seed Gathering Sunday

A ramble around Siccaridge Wood Nature Reserve packed with children's activities. What seeds will you find? What animals eat the seeds? Where do they live? Make your very own seed collection, treasure wheel and a nature's palette. 10.30 - 12 noon. Must be pre-booked. Tel: 01452 383333.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 9 • 13.30

Happy Endings

Paths round and through Horsley parish.

Moderate

Starting point: Shortwood AFC car park: 1 mile south west of Nailsworth.

Leaders: Mike Brinkworth, Peter Russell
2.5 hours • 5 miles

OS: 162/838 994

B6

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 10 • 10.00

A Hike to Far End and Back

A walk over Saltridge Hill to Sheepscombe, returning via the Ebworth plantations, Overtown and Cranham woods. Several fairly steep climbs and descents en route.

Moderate

Starting point: Cranham school - please park considerably near school at west end of common.

Leaders: Tony Wilson, Rosemary Woodham, Pippa Burgon
3 hours • 5 miles

E: 179/894 126

C5

THURSDAY OCTOBER 11 • 9.30

Rollright Stones - Myths and Legends

An undulating walk through Long Compton and visiting the Rollright Stones and "one of the prettiest churches in Oxfordshire". Pub snack available.

Moderate

Starting point: Great Rollright, The Crossroads.

Leader: Geoff Mean
6.5 hours • 11 miles

OS: 191/322 315

G3

THURSDAY OCTOBER 11 • 10.00

Seek and Follow Two Rivers and their Valleys

Walk out from Lower Slaughter to Naunton along the banks of the lovely River Windrush. After lunch return along part of the Wardens Way and the River Eye. Pub lunch available.

Moderate

Starting point: Lower Slaughter. Please park tidily near to the church.

Leaders: Ann Harris, Peggy Lutter
5.5 hours • 9 miles

OS Leisure: 45/165 225

F4

SATURDAY OCTOBER 13 • 10.00

Wander into Wiltshire

A walk to Thickwood, Colerne and return via Ashwicke. Please bring a packed lunch.

Moderate

Starting point: Market Place, Marshfield.

Leader: David Whitnell
6 hours • 10 miles

OS: 172/781 737

B9

SATURDAY OCTOBER 13 • 10.00

An Autumn Work Out

Ridge and furrow, field barns and salt ways all resonate of times past when agriculture was the driving force of the economy.

Strenuous

Starting point: Next to recreation ground in Long Compton.

Leader: Margaret Burden
3 hours • 5.5 miles

Explorer: 191/289 325

G3

SATURDAY OCTOBER 13 • 10.30

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust: Slad Valley Wildlife Way

An autumnal guided walk taking in one of Gloucestershire's most beautiful valleys, loved by so many including Laurie Lee who made it famous in his book 'Cider with Rosie'. We have three fantastic nature reserves that you will pass through on your walk that is steep in places.

Starting point: Bulls Cross.

3-4 hours

Ref: SO 877 087

B4

SUNDAY OCTOBER 14 • 10.00

What's in a Name? Exploration of the commons around Stroud.

Easy

Starting point: Reservoir on

Minchinhampton Common.

Leader: Roger Higgs

3 hours • 5 miles

OS: 162/855012

B6

TUESDAY OCTOBER 16 • 10.00

Raven Rock High Above the River Boyd

Visit Wick Nature Reserve once a hive of industry - an ochre works. Now a haven for flora and fauna. Food available at Cross House.

Moderate

Starting point: Cross House pub, Doynton, South Glos (with permission).

Leaders: Gill Sheppard, Graham Britten

3 hours • 5 miles

OS: 172/718 740

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 17 • 10.00

A Wednesday Walk from Wellow

Fields, woods and hamlets around Wellow during an easy morning walk. Pub lunch after if required.

Easy

Starting point: Free car park in Wellow.

Leader: Judith Slee

2.5 hours • 5 miles

Explorer: 142/735 581

A10

SATURDAY OCTOBER 20 • 10.00

Chasing the Roundheads

Family walk half term week. Circular walk from Beverston to Chavenage House and back. Site of conflict during civil war with Royalists and Roundheads laying siege on the castle. Costumes may be worn!

Easy

Starting point: Beverston Church

Leaders: Virginia Rawlings, Graham Bateman.

2 hours • 4 miles

OS: 173/863 940

C7

SATURDAY OCTOBER 20 • 14.30

Ilmington Apple Day

An easy walk to celebrate Ilmington's apple heritage. It starts with a guided viewing of the famous Apple Map in St Mary's Church, then a search for some of the 38 varieties grown in the village. Suitable for families. **Easy**

Starting point: Ilmington, Warwickshire.

St Mary's Church doorway.

Leader: Stephen Wright

1.5 hours • 1 mile

OS Leisure: 45/210 435

F1

SATURDAY OCTOBER 20 • 9.30

Habitat Management in the Cotswolds

Visit the Evenlode valley in Autumn to see examples of how ancient and natural habitats are being managed. Lunch not required. Bus & train may be used. **Moderate**

Starting point: Charlbury, Spendlove car park.

Leader: Dave Scott

3.5 hours • 6 miles

Landranger: 164/357 196

H4

SATURDAY OCTOBER 20 • 10.00

A Woodland Wander Around the Frome Valley

Including Miserden, Sudgrove and Edgeworth. Bring a picnic. **Strenuous**

Starting point: Winstone - right angle bend on Sapperton road west of village.

Leaders: John Heathcott, John Woodland

7 hours • 11 miles

Explorer: 179/956 094

C4

EASY: length may vary but terrain is mainly flat (level) **MODERATE:** includes some hills and some rough ground **STRENUOUS:** may be rough underfoot and ascents and descents may be steep

● Denotes shorter walks, suitable for families

● Denotes events of interest other than walks

SATURDAY OCTOBER 20 • 10.00

National Trust: Chedworth Roman Villa
Halloween Quiz: Saturday 20 to Sunday 28 October. Those bats are back! They have challenged you to answer their scary questions about the villa. Dare you accept? 10am - 4pm. Adults £6, Children £3.50, Families/Groups £15.50. For further information.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 20 • 11.00

National Trust: Lodge Park, Aldsworth
Are you brave enough to meet the ghosts that haunt Lodge Park? Perhaps you'll even see the witch who was walled up in the cellar? Have a go at our spooky trail and win a prize! This walk runs everyday from Sat 20th - Sun 28th October and there's a special scare on the 28th! Tel: 01451 844130 for further information.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 20 • 11.00

National Trust: Snowhill Manor
Apple Days: Our popular annual celebration of all things apple related, including displays of hundreds of varieties, tastings, pressing, juicing, cooking and much more. 1am - 5pm. Tel: 01386 852410. This walk also runs on Sunday 21st October.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 21 • 11.00

National Trust: Upton House
To commemorate the nearby battle of Edge Hill, experience the sights and sounds of the English Civil War, with living history and dramatic displays by Sir Gilbert Hoghton's Companie of Foote of the Sealed Knot. Tel: 01295 670266.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 21 • 14.30

Ilmington Apple Day No 2
An easy walk to celebrate Ilmington's apple heritage. It starts with a guided viewing of the famous Apple Map in St Mary's Church, then a search for some of the 38 varieties grown in the village. One steep climb, but suitable for families. **Easy**
Starting point: Ilmington, Warwickshire. St Mary's Church doorway.
Leader: Stephen Wright
1.5 hours • 1 mile
OS Leisure: 45/210 435 **F1**

TUESDAY OCTOBER 23 • 10.00

Marshfield - Town & Country
A morning walk along the High Street of this small medieval market town to the Almshouses, then taking bridleways south to Ashwicke and returning through the fields on footpaths (only kissing gates). Lunch choice of 3 pubs or a teashop. Suitable for families. **Easy**
Starting point: Market Place, Marshfield.
Leader: David Colbourne
2.25 hours • 4 miles
OS: 172/781 737 **B9**

TUESDAY OCTOBER 23 • 10.00

What Do Farmers Do In The Winter?
Robin Dale describes the year-round tasks on his farm at Aston Magna and tells some fascinating stories about country life over the ages. Suitable for families. **Moderate**
Starting point: Lay-by on A429 Fosse Way at Dorn, 1 mile north of Moreton-in-Marsh.
Leader: Stephen Wright
3 hours • 3 miles
OS Leisure: 45/209 340 **F3**

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 24 • 10.00

Monarchs and Diamonds
A walk across typical Cotswold sheep grazing country following the Diamond Way from Northleach, one of the richest wool towns, to Farmington. Back along the Monarch's Way. Several short but moderately steep hills. Pubs and cafes for refreshments in Northleach at the end of the walk. **Moderate**
Starting point: Northleach car park by Old Prison at crossroads west of town. Please park to right of barrier.
Leaders: Brian Chilvers, Royden Hales, Mike Williams
2.5 hours • 5 miles
OL: 45/109 149 **E5**

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 24 • 11.00

National Trust: Snowhill Manor
Bat Fact Trail: Snowhill Manor is home to a number of species of bat. Find out all about this remarkable mammal as you search the garden for the hidden facts. Wednesday 24 October - Sunday 28 October 11am - 5pm. Tel 01386 852410.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 24 • 10.00

Gloucestershire County Council: Half Term Iron Age Family Fun Morning 10.00 - 12 noon - Relive the Iron Age and storm the ramparts at Crickley Hill Country Park. Experience at first hand how our ancestors lived over 2,500 years ago! The activities include a tour of the nationally important hill fort, with the opportunity to try your hand at pot making, wattle and daubing and corn grinding! Places are strictly limited, so **BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**. Tel: 01452 863170. Suitable for families.
Starting point: Crickley Hill Country Park. Meet at visitors' centre
Leader: Julian Bendle, Sites Warden

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 24 • 10.30

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust
Enjoy a fungus foray in the beautiful woodland of Dowdeswell Nature Reserve led by expert John Roberts of the Cotswold Fungus Group. 10.30 - 12.30. Must be pre-booked - Tel: 01452 383333. Free
Leader: John Roberts, Cotswold Fungus Group

THURSDAY OCTOBER 25 • 10.00

Vanished Villages: No 1
They say that there are 80 deserted villages in the Cotswolds. This is the first of a new series and explores the mysteries of Roel, Castlett and Hawling on the windy heights west of the Upper Windrush. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**
Starting point: Hawling village. Park alongside large barns at New House Farm on minor road from Guiting Power.
Leaders: Stephen Wright, Mike Matthews
6 hours • 10 miles
OS Leisure: 45/067 231 **E3**

THURSDAY OCTOBER 25 • 11.00

Views from a Height of Folly
A steady climb, woodlands, wildlife, landscape views and an easy walk down. Please bring a packed lunch. Suitable for families. **Easy**
Starting point: Bathford post office.
Leaders: Nigel Locke, Bob Platt
2.5 hours • 3 miles
OS: 172/791 669 **F2**

FRIDAY OCTOBER 26 • 14.15

A Look at Chipping Campden's Domestic Architecture
A look at Chipping Campden's High Street to see how 'incomers' and their money have shaped the houses over the centuries. Suitable for families. **Easy**
Starting point: Chipping Campden Market Hall.
Leaders: Ann & Mike Colcomb
1.5 hours • 1.5 miles
OS Leisure: 45/152 392 **F2**

SATURDAY OCTOBER 27 • 10.00

Whispering Trees and Autumn Leaves
Cornbury Park and Oxfordshire Way with optional lunch afterwards. Suitable for families. **Easy**
Starting point: Finstock: park considerably and meet at The Crown.
Leader: Ann Julian
2.5 hours • 4.5 miles
Explorer: 180/361 167 **H4**

SATURDAY OCTOBER 27 • 10.00

The Witches Way to Bisley
Daneway, Oakridge, Bisley, Battlescombe, Waterland, Tunley. Some steep ascents and descents. Pub lunch or picnic. **Moderate**
Starting point: Sapperton Cross Roads, south of village or park considerably in village.
Leader: Sue Clark
6 hours • 10 miles
Explorer: 168/949 028 **D6**

SATURDAY OCTOBER 27 • 10.00

Stinchcombe Revisited
A circular walk from the village of Stinchcombe via Stancombe to the limestone plateau of Stinchcombe Hill with magnificent views in all directions, weather permitting. En route we pass the former homes of a famous author and an eccentric vicar. **Moderate**
Starting point: Stinchcombe Village Hall.
Leaders: John Hammill, Alan Bulley
3 hours • 5 miles
OS: 162/735 991 **A6**

SATURDAY OCTOBER 27 • 11.00

National Trust: Hidcote Manor
Garden Pumpkin Trail:
A special spooky garden pumpkin trail and Halloween menu will run throughout the day. As an extra special treat children who come dressed in Halloween costume get in free! 11am - 3pm. Tel: 01386 438333.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 28 • 10.00

Heythrop Park and Upper Glyme Valley
Starting from the Hoar Stone, the remains of a Neolithic burial chamber at Enstone, walking up the upper Glyme valley past the deserted medieval villages of Upper and Nether Chalford. Returning to Church Enstone through Heythrop Park with its landscaped lakes and majestic mature trees. Packed lunch with afternoon tea at Heythrop Park hotel. **Easy**
Starting point: The Hoar Stone, Enstone.
Leader: Anne Martis
6 hours • 9 miles
Landranger: 164/378 237 **H4**

SUNDAY OCTOBER 28 • 14.00

Town Tour and Tea
Discover the historic town of Wotton-under-Edge on a short informative walk, ending with an optional Town Hall tea. **Easy**
Starting point: Chipping Car Park, Wotton-under-Edge.
Leaders: David Harrowin, Hilary Paveley
2 hours • 1.5 miles
OS: 162/756 932 **A7**

November

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 1 • 10.00

Jacobean Villages and an Iron Age Fort
A beautiful mid autumn walk starting and finishing at Stanton and passing through Stanway and Shenberrow Hill. Pub lunch available at the Mount Inn, Stanton after the walk. **Moderate**
Starting point: Stanton village car park.
Leaders: Gerry Burgess, David Jelfs
3 hours • 6 miles
OS Leisure: 45/068/344 **E2**

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3 • 10.00

Autumnal Tints in the Hidden Valleys and Woodland Ways
An autumnal walk through a varied countryside of open landscape and hidden wooded valleys. Taking in a source of the River Frome, Starveall, Hazel Hanger, Climperwell and Brimpsfield Park. Car parking near to Birdlip School along the disused Old Cirencester Road. **Moderate**
Starting point: Disused Old Cirencester Road east of village, near to Birdlip School.
Leaders: Ted Currier, Ron Walker, Roy Plowman
6 hours • 9 miles
Explorer: 179/931 142 **C5**

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3 • 9.30

In the Footsteps of Caesar and Churchill
A circular walk passing through the north of Blenheim Park, following the course of Akeman Street to the Roman Villa at North Leigh. Return via Combe and Blenheim Park. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**
Starting point: Outside the Country Museum, Park Street, Woodstock by stocks.
Leader: Ian Gourlay
6 hours • 11 miles
OS: 164/444 167 **H4**

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3 • 10.00

Set Off South
A walk to take in Long Dean, Ford and Biddestone. Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**
Starting point: Castle Combe Car park.
Leader: David Whittell
6 hours • 10 miles
OS: 173/846 777 **B9**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4 • 10.00

In the Steps of Hugh Latimer
To West Kington via Truckle Hill Barn, North Wraxall and Mountain Bower. Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**
Starting point: Castle Combe Car park.
Leaders: Gill Sheppard, Chris Harvey
5 hours • 9 miles
OS: 173/846 777 **B9**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4 • 11.00

The Westonbirt Arboretum All Walk Together
The Westonbirt Arboretum All Walk Together 2007 event is supporting Cancer Research. The event will start officially at 11.00am with a warm up and then participants can choose to either follow the 5 or 10km course. We hope to finish by 3pm. Wheelchair access is available on parts of the course and around the Arboretum.
Starting point: Westonbirt Arboretum

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4 • 10.00

National Trust: Upton House
Free Basement Tours: a rare opportunity to enjoy a free tour of the basements beneath Upton House, peering into the 'downstairs' life of the house and finding clues to the house's early history. Tel: 01295 670266.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4 • 13.30

National Trust: Sherborne Estate
Explore the Watermeadow: enjoy an afternoon walk in the Windrush valley with the warden, find out about how meadows were managed past and present. 1.30 - 3.30pm. Tel: 01242 890256.
Starting point: Meet at Watermeadows car park (north of Sherborne village). Please bring wellies & binoculars.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 6 • 10.00

The Tuesday Tramp
A morning walk around the Colerne area. Bring a 'mid morning munchie'. For further information please telephone Russell Harding on 01225 742182. **Moderate**
Starting point: Fox & Hounds car park in Colerne.
Leader: Russell Harding
3 hours • 4.5 miles
OS Land Ranger: 173/818 711 **B9**

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 7 • 10.00

A Trio of Cotswold Villages
A walk through the quiet villages of Syde, Caudle Green and Brimpsfield, returning via Brimpsfield Park. The walk includes two fairly steep climbs. **Moderate**
Starting point: Gloucester Beeches lay-by, western side of A417 Birdlip to Cirencester Road. Entrance from Cirencester end only. Park towards the exit.
Leaders: Tony Wilson, Rosemary Woodham, Pippa Burgon
3 hours • 5 miles
Explorer 179/958 122 **D5**

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10 • 10.00

Common and Canal
Across the common and along the canal. Amberley, Houndscroft, Brimscombe, St Mary's, Hyde. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**
Starting point: Public car park, Bell Lane, Minchinhampton: behind church on the edge of the common.
Leaders: Mike Brinkworth, Graham Bateman
5.5 hours • 8.5 miles
OS: 162/872 008 **C6**

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10 • 10.00

Farmland and Woodland in the Evenlode Valley
As the title suggests - an easy walk on level ground with optional pub lunch along the way. **Easy**
Starting point: Bruern, where Oxfordshire Way crosses the lane west of level crossing.
Leader: Ann Julian
3.5 hours • 6 miles
OS: 163/264 204 **G4**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11

National Trust: Upton House
A rare opportunity to enjoy a free tour of the basements beneath Upton House, peering into the 'downstairs' life of the house and finding clues to the house's early history. Tel: 01295 670266.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 13 • 9.30

How is Littleworth Wood Managed?
A super walk along the Snowhill valley and across to the Littleworth Wood. The walk then continues via part of the Cotswold Way to Stanton for lunch before a return to Broadway. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**
Starting point: Broadway, St Eadburgha's Church, Snowhill Road (please park tidily).
Leaders: Stuart Bates, Gordon Franks
6 hours • 10 miles
OS: Leisure 45/097 363 **E2**

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 13 • 10.00

Thor's Stone and Rochester's Tomb
From Charlbury through the villages of Taston, Spelsbury and Dean returning via Greenhill Copse and the Oxfordshire Way. Pub lunch available in Charlbury after walk. **Moderate**
Starting point: Charlbury, Spendlove car park.
Leader: Tony Graeme
3.5 hours • 6.5 miles
Explorer: 191/358 196 **H4**

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14 • 19.30

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust
An illustrated talk on Natural History & Conservation of British Owls by Chris Sperring MBE, Conservation Officer for the Hawk & Owl Trust. At the Club Room, Gloucester Street, Wotton-under-Edge (opposite the Civic Centre) 7.30 pm. £3. Tel: 01453 885415.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 15 • 10.00

Money Shapes the Cotswolds
A walk to show how wealth earned elsewhere has been used to augment life in the Cotswolds. The route is along paths through Daysford, Cornwell and Chastleton. **Moderate**
Starting point: Adlestrop village hall car park.
Leaders: Mike & Ann Colcomb
2.5 hours • 5.5 miles
OS Leisure: 45/241272 **F3**

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17 • 10.00

On the Mitford Trail past Mount Zion
From picturesque Burford along the tranquil Windrush valley, passing through Widford, Swinbrook and Asthall before arriving at Shilton for lunch. Return across country north to Burford. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**
Starting point: Burford: main car park.
Leader: Ian Gourlay
5 hours • 8 miles
Landranger: 255123 **G5**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18 • 10.00

.....because it's there!
A woodland walk to Uley, returning around Uley Bury and Over Downham Hill and Cam Peak. Pub snack available. **Strenuous**
Starting point: Long stay car park by swimming pool, Dursley.
Leaders: David Harrowin, Peter Russell
5.5 hours • 9 miles
OS: 162/755 983 **A6**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18 • 10.00

A Sarsden Circle
Starting at the Sarsden Cross, the walk cuts through the Sarsden Estate, along an ancient track and past the Merriscourt gallery. **Moderate**
Starting point: Sarsden Cross.
Leader: Margaret Burden
3 hours • 5 miles
OS: 191/291 233 **G4**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18 • 10.00

Three Woods Walk
A walk from Wellow to Hankley Wood, Twinhoe, Ford Wood, Hinton charterhouse and Cleaves Wood. **Moderate**
Starting point: Free car park in Wellow.
Leaders: Wilf Dando, Dave Jennings
3.5 hours • 6.5 miles
OS: 172/735 579 **A10**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18

National Trust: Upton House
A rare opportunity to enjoy a free tour of the basements beneath Upton House, peering into the 'downstairs' life of the house and finding clues to the house's early history. Tel: 01295 670266.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 21 • 10.00

A Walk Worth Its Salt
A circular walk based on the quintessential Cotswold village of Bibury taking in a section of the Salt Way. An easy walk suitable for all, but including 2 ascents of gentle gradients. Pubs and cafes in Bibury for refreshments after the walk. **Moderate**
Starting point: Bridge over River Coln, Bibury.
Leaders: Royden Hales, Brian Chilvers, Mike Williams
2.75 hours • 5.5 miles
OL: 45/115 069 **F5**

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 22 • 10.00

Another Circuit from Batsford
A circular walk using part of the Heart of England Way and the Monarch's Way visiting Bourton-on-the-Hill, Sezincote and Longborough. **Moderate**
Starting point: Batsford Arboretum car park.
Leaders: Bob Fisher, Malcolm Duncan
3 hours • 6 miles
OS Leisure: 45/183 332 **F3**

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 22 • 10.00

A Wander Around Box CP and Colerne CP
Please bring a packed lunch **Moderate**
Starting point: Selwyn Hall, Box car park.
Leaders: Bob Platt, Nigel Locke
5.5 hours • 9.5 miles
OS: 173/824686

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 25 • 9.30

Along the Rollright Ridge
Chastleton Hill, Cornwell, Salford, Rollright Stones. **Strenuous**
Starting point: Long Compton village hall. Please park considerably on roadside in village
Leaders: Lucy & Martin Squires
6 hours • 12 miles
OS: 151/288 325 **G3**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 25

National Trust: Upton House
A rare opportunity to enjoy a free tour of the basements beneath Upton House, peering into the 'downstairs' life of the house and finding clues to the house's early history. Tel: 01295 670266.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 27 • 10.00

Cotswold Skies
A walk initially over the relatively level top of the Cotswolds, then through 3 pretty valleys. Lunch stop at Kingscote (pub).
Moderate
Starting point: Chavenage Green.
Leaders: Ted Thornton, John Hammill
6 hours • 10 miles
OS: 162/866 957 **C7**

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 29 • 10.00

Explore Around Blockley
Follow a circular route around Blockley to explore the woods and hills. Pub lunch available after the walk. **Moderate**
Starting point: Blockley - village bus shelter.
Leaders: Ann Harris, Peggy Lutter
3 hours • 6 miles
OS Leisure: 45/165225 **F4**

December

SATURDAY DECEMBER 1 • 10.00

Winter Wander to Witcombe
Cooper's Hill, Great Witcombe, Birdlip, Witcombe Wood. Some steep ascents & descents. Pub lunch available or bring picnic.
Moderate
Starting point: Wildlife Trust car park on A46 Brockworth to Cranham Corner road (blue and yellow height barriers) Public transport - Stagecoach.
Leaders: Sue Clark and other wardens
5.5 hours • 8 miles
Explorer: 179/886 140 **C5**

SATURDAY DECEMBER 1 • 12.00

National Trust: Upton House
Stuck for Christmas shopping ideas? Avoid the horror of the High Street with a festive market in the old kitchens at Upton House. Also enjoy the ground floor rooms of the House, sumptuously decorated for a period Christmas, and visit Father Christmas in his grotto. 12.00-4.00pm. Normal admission charges apply. Tel: 01295 670266.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 1

Stow-on-the-Wold Christmas Fair
1st and 2nd December in and around the Town Square in Stow-on-the-Wold. Father Christmas will be present to switch on the lights and meet the children in his grotto. There will be carol singing, street entertainment and a barrel organ along with other activities.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 1 • 12.00

National Trust: Snowhill Manor
Crafty Christmas Afternoon: Don't buy Christmas cards or paper decorations this year - drop in and make your own with our team of crafty experts. Shop open for Christmas shopping; restaurant open for lunches and teas. 12 noon - 4pm. Tel: 01386 852410.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 2 • 11.00

Walking the Centuries
A walk through villages, both inhabited and deserted, exploring life in the area across the centuries from Neolithic times to the present day. Please bring a packed lunch.
Moderate
Starting point: Temple Guiting village hall car park.
Leaders: Vivienne McGhee, Sue Greenwood
3.5 hours • 6.5 miles
OS Leisure: 45/090279 **E3**

SUNDAY DECEMBER 2 • 10.00

Wandering around Woodchester
A scenic walk exploring South and North Woodchester, returning via Selsley Common
Moderate
Starting point: Lay-by on A46 near South Woodchester.
Leaders: Alan Bulley, David Harrowin
3 hours • 5.5 miles
OS: 162/841 017 **B6**

TUESDAY DECEMBER 4 • 10.00

The Tuesday Tramp
A morning walk around the Colerne area. Bring a 'mid morning munchie'. For further information please telephone Russell Harding on 01225 742182. **Moderate**
Starting point: Fox & Hounds car park in Colerne.
Leader: Russell Harding
3 hours • 4.5 miles
OS Land Ranger: 173/818 711

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 5 • 10.00

Edge towards Edge
A walk along the old route to Huddinknoll Hill to see the view across the Severn Vale, then on to Edge and Washbrook Farm, returning on a section of Cotswold Way. Walk includes moderate climbs. Public transport available.
Moderate
Starting point: Painswick Walkers CP, Golf Course Road off B4073, north of village.
Leaders: Tony Wilson, Rosemary Woodham, Pippa Burgon
2.5 hours • 5 miles
Explorer: 179/867 105 **C5**

FRIDAY DECEMBER 7

Bourton-on-the-Water Victorian Evening Join us for our annual Christmas late night shopping extravaganza! Shops will be open till 9pm and there will be plenty to entertain with the lighting of the Christmas Tree in the river at 6pm.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 7 • 18.00

Shipston-on-Stour Victorian Evening Step back in time for a taste of Christmas past when the town's Rotary Club stages its annual Victorian Evening in the Town Centre. www.shipstonrotary.co.uk

SATURDAY DECEMBER 8 • 10.00

Woodsmoke and Wind in the Willows: The Windrush in Winter
A delightful walk along the popular Windrush valley with optional lunch at The Maytime, Asthall Leigh
Moderate
Starting point: Burford: main car park.
Leader: Ann Julian
4 hours • 6.5 miles
OS: 163/255 123 **G5**

SATURDAY DECEMBER 8 • 10.00

This Will Break Your Heart!
Breakheart Quarry - New Inn - Old London Road - Wotton (lunch) - Bradley Green - Bassett Court - Nibley Green - Stinchcombe village. **Moderate**
Starting point: Car park Stinchcombe Golf Course.
Leaders: Eric Brown, Ian Cooke
6 hours • 9.5 miles
OS: 162/744983

SUNDAY DECEMBER 9 • 11.00

Dyrham, The Park, The Village and The Battlefield
A morning walk starting from the Park. Suitable for all ages, but not for pushchairs.
Moderate
Starting point: NT Dyrham Park car park off A46 (gates open 10.45am).
Leaders: Gill Sheppard, Chris Harvey
2.5 hours • 3 miles
OS: 172/749 758 **A9**

TUESDAY DECEMBER 11 • 10.00

Vanished Villages: No 2
More on the series. Whittington, Sennington and Charlton Abbots. Where did the people go, why and when? Pub lunch available.
Moderate
Starting point: Public car park on south east side of Cleve Common. From Brockhampton crossroad or from Whittington, take the narrow lane, signed Whitehall, for 2 miles to car park at its end.
Leaders: Stephen Wright, Mike Matthews
5 hours • 8 miles
OS Leisure: 45/010236 **D4**

SATURDAY DECEMBER 15 • 10.00

A Walk Through Willersey and its History
We start this circular walk from Broadway, with a gentle climb up the escarpment to the lower edge of the Willersey golf course and site of an Iron Age Hillfort. Then on to the Roman Road Buckle Street, taking in the magnificent views of Willersey village and the vale of Evesham. After descending into the vale, via Camden Lane, we will walk along the abandoned GWR railway line into the picturesque village of Willersey for lunch. After lunch we take the footpath back to Broadway.
Moderate
Starting point: Broadway, Milestone car park, Childswickham Road.
Leaders: Anne Martis, Margaret Burden
4 hours • 6.5 miles
OS Leisure: 45/090 377 **E2**

SUNDAY DECEMBER 16 • 10.00

In The Footsteps of?
Exploration around Uley.
Easy
Starting point: Park near the Crown Public House. Meet on the Green.
Leader: Roger Higgs
3 hours • 5 miles
Explorer: 162/793986 **B6**

SUNDAY DECEMBER 16 • 11.00

National Trust: Lodge Park, Aldsworth Christmas family trail with a prize from Father Christmas. Roaring log fire and Christmas cheer. 11am - 4pm. Tel: 01451 844130.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 19 • 10.00

Winchcombe and Hailes Abbey
A moderate walk along the Gloucestershire Way to Hailes Abbey and then back along Puck Pit Lane to England's tobacco capital. One moderately steep climb at the start of the walk. Pubs and cafes in Winchcombe for post-walk refreshments. **Moderate**
Starting point: Long stay car park behind Winchcombe library: follow signs to Free Long Stay parking.
Leaders: Brian Chilvers, Royden Hales, Mike Williams
2.5 hours • 5 miles
OL: 45/024 285 **D3**

THURSDAY DECEMBER 20 • 10.00

A ramble in the area between Tormarton and Horton
Please bring a packed lunch.
Moderate
Starting point: Tormarton.
Leaders: Bob Platt, Nigel Locke
5.5 hours • 9.5 miles
OS: 769/788 **A8**

FRIDAY DECEMBER 28 • 10.30

A Christmas Treat For All
A walk up the Coln valley to Sevenhampton returning via an ancient track. Suitable for families. **Easy**
Starting point: Andoversford village outside cattle market in Station Road.
Leader: Colin Boulton
2 hours • 4 miles
OL: 45/023 198 **D4**

SUNDAY DECEMBER 30 • 10.00

Around Minchinhampton Commons
Bracing morning walk on upland commons to prepare for the New Year. Fairly flat terrain and very few stiles. Exceptional views of local valleys and beyond (weather permitting). Refreshments available at local inns at the end of the walk. Suitable for families. **Easy**
Starting point: Opposite Amberley Inn, Amberley (please do not use inn car park).
Leaders: Graham Bateman, Peter Russell
3 hours • 5 miles
OS: 162/850 013 **B6**

SUNDAY DECEMBER 30 • 10.00

Climb Up To Cleeve
To the highest point of Cleeve Hill and round the northern edge of the hill. Returning via Southam. **Moderate**
Starting point: Prestbury, by war memorial in High Street.
Leader: John Heathcott
3.5 hours • 7 miles
Explorer: 179/972 239 **D4**

January 2008

TUESDAY JANUARY 1 • 10.00

The Tuesday Tramp
A morning walk around the Colerne area. Bring a 'mid morning munchie'. For further information please telephone Russell Harding on 01225 742182. **Moderate**
Starting point: Fox & Hounds car park in Colerne.
Leader: Russell Harding
3 hours • 4.5 miles
OS Land Ranger: 173/818 711 **B9**

TUESDAY JANUARY 1 • 10.00

Hills & Valleys
A New Year's Day walk through the valleys of Midford and Combe Hay.
Moderate
Starting point: Cross Keys Public House, Southstoke Road, Combe Down.
Leaders: Wilf Dando, Dave Jennings
3 hours • 6 miles
OS: 172/748 619 **A10**

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 9 • 10.00

Winter Views from on High
A walk from Seven Springs along the Cotswold Way escarpment of Leckhampton Hill, with a visit to the Devil's Chimney. Walk includes several short moderate climbs. Optional pub lunch on return. **Moderate**
Starting point: Hungry Horse Pub car park, near junction of A436 and A435 (by prior arrangement - please use rear part of car park).
Leaders: Tony Wilson, Rosemary Woodham, Pippa Burgon
2.5 hours • 4.5 miles
Explorer: 179/968 170 **D5**

SATURDAY JANUARY 12 • 10.00

Crossing the Ways
A circular walk to Wortley, Hawkesbury Upton and back through Kilcot to Tresham. Pub lunch available at Hawkesbury Upton.
Moderate
Starting point: Tresham church.
Leaders: Virginia Rawlings, Hilary Paveley
6.5 hours • 10 miles
OS: 162/794 912 **B7**

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 16 • 10.00

Tresham and Back
Alderley - Tresham - Alderley.
Moderate
Starting point: Alderley village centre.
Leaders: Eric Brown, Tony Boxall
3 hours • 4.5 miles
OS: 162/769910 **B7**

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23 • 9.30

North Cotswold Villages in Winter
Enjoy an invigorating and peaceful walk through four of the most beautiful villages in the land. Buckland, Laverton, Stanton & Stanway. Pub lunch available.
Moderate
Starting point: Broadway, Milestone car park, Childswickham Road.
Leaders: Gordon Franks, Stuart Bates
6 hours • 10 miles
OS Leisure: 45/090 377 **E2**

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23 • 10.00

Monarch and Minister
A moderate walk from North Cerney along the Monarch's Way and Macmillan Way through Rendcomb and Woodmancote. One moderate climb and some walking along quiet roads. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**
Starting point: Bathurst Arms, North Cerney.
Leaders: Brian Chilvers, Royden Hales, Mike Williams
2.5 hours • 5 miles
OL: 45/020 080 **D5**

THURSDAY JANUARY 24 • 10.00

Between Three Brooks
A circular walk from Ford by way of Bybrook, Broadmead Brook and Doncombe Brook. Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**
Starting point: Ford - White Hart Inn.
Leaders: Nigel Locke, Bob Platt
5 hours • 8 miles
OS: 173/841 748 **B9**

SATURDAY JANUARY 26 • 10.00

Winter Warmer on Minch
A bracing, flattish walk on Minchinhampton Common and beyond. **Easy**
Starting point: Lane by Minchinhampton Church leading to Common.
Leaders: Alan Bulley, Eric Brown
2.5 hours • 4.5 miles
OS: 162/873 008 **B6**

SUNDAY JANUARY 27 • 10.00

Saintbury and Weston Subedge via Dover's Hill of Evesham
Starting from Broadway we'll walk along the base of the escarpment to Saintbury taking in the ancient church and wayside cross. Then up the slope to Dover's Hill, site of the Cotswold Olympic Games for a packed lunch and the wonderful view over the Vale of Evesham. Down through Lynch Wood to look at Weston Subedge and the site of the moated manor house before returning to Broadway. **Strenuous**
Starting point: Broadway, Milestone car park, Childswickham Road.
Leaders: Anne Martis, Margaret Burden
4.5 hours • 8 miles
OL: 45/090 377 **E2**

SUNDAY JANUARY 27 • 10.00

Around Brailes Hill
A walk from Upper to Lower Brailes then on through Cherington to Sutton-under-Brailes and return. Packed lunch or pub lunch available. **Moderate**
Starting point: Upper Brailes - layby on B4035.
Leaders: Lucy & Martin Squires
5 hours • 8 miles
OS: 151/305 395 **G2**

February

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 2 • 10.00

Part of the Avon Valley
Take a look at Limpley Stoke, Iford and Farleigh Hungerford. Please bring a packed lunch.
Moderate
Starting point: Dundas Marina car park (fee to park).
Leader: David Whitnell
6 hours • 10 miles
OS: 172/782 622 **B10**

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 2 • 10.00

Start of the Avon
A morning walk from Tetbury without steep gradients with an opportunity to see the streams which make up the Tetbury Avon. Suitable for fit families, with the likelihood of some mud. Cafes and pubs in Tetbury.
Moderate
Starting point: Old Station free car park, Tetbury.
Leaders: Ted Thornton, Virginia Rawlings
3 hours • 5.5 miles
OS: 173/893 933 **C7**

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 2 • 13.00

Poet's Corner
A walk from Adlestrop through Daylesford to Lower Oddington and return.
Easy
Starting point: Adlestrop village hall car park.
Leaders: Vivienne McGhee, Sue Greenwood
3 hours • 5.5 miles
OS Leisure: 45/240 277 **F4**

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 5 • 10.00

The Tuesday Tramp
A morning walk around the Colerne area. Bring a 'mid morning munchie'. For further information please telephone Russell Harding on 01225 742182. **Moderate**
Starting point: Fox & Hounds car park in Colerne.
Leader: Russell Harding
4 hours • 4.5 miles
OS Land Ranger: 173/818 711 **B9**

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 6 • 10.00

Walk over to Lineover
A walk from Kilkenny to Pegglesworth, Ravensgate Hill and Lineover Wood with some good views over Cheltenham en route.
Moderate
Starting point: Kilkenny picnic site - off the A436.
Leaders: Tony Wilson, Rosemary Woodham, Pippa Burgon
2.5 hours • 4.5 miles
OL: 45/004 186 **D4**

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 10 • 10.00

"Remember that the most beautiful things in the world are the most useless"
Exploration around Nailsworth **Easy**
Starting point: Car park in centre of Nailsworth.
Leader: Roger Higgs
3 hours • 5 miles
OS: 162/849 996 **B6**

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 10 • 14.00

Through the Woods to Blockley
From Troopers Lodge a walk in and around Blockley; on good terrain even if the weather is inclement. There is a quiz for children (edible prizes). Suitable for families. **Easy**
Starting point: Troopers Lodge. A garage on the A44 some 3 miles south of Fish Hill, Broadway and some 2 miles west of Bourton-on-the-Hill.
Leader: Gerry Burgess, David Jelfs
2.5 hours • 4 miles
OS Leisure: 45/149322 **E2**

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 13 • 10.00

A Wednesday Walk from Wellow
Fields, woods and hamlets around Wellow, during an easy morning walk. Pub lunch after, if required. **Easy**
Starting point: Free car park in Wellow.
Leader: Judith Slee
2.5 hours • 5 miles
Explorer: 142/735 581 **A10**

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 16 • 13.30

Cars and Carving
Great views and interesting places. For example Nottingham Hill, The Drover Carving and the Prescott Hill Climb course. **Moderate**
Starting point: Nottingham Hill car park.
Leaders: Simon Mallatratt, Jean Booth
3 hours • 6.5 miles
OS Leisure: 45/983 279 **D3**

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 19 • 10.00

Marshfield - Town & Country
A morning walk along the High Street of this small medieval market town to the Almshouses, then taking bridleways south to Ashwicke and returning through the fields on footpaths (only kissing gates). **Easy**
Starting point: Market Place, Marshfield.
Leader: David Colbourne
2.25 hours • 4 miles
OS: 172/781 737 **B9**

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 19 • 10.00

When is a Barrow not a Barrow
From Adelstrop taking in Chastleton Barrow, Chastleton House and village and the village of Evenlode. **Moderate**
Starting point: Adelstrop village hall car park (donation requested).
Leader: Tony Graeme
3.5 hours • 6.5 miles
Explorer 45/242 272 **G3**

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 20 • 10.00

Painswick Beacon and Prinknash
A moderate walk from Prinknash Abbey through Popes Wood to Painswick Beacon and back along part of the Cotswold Way. A chance for excellent views and much local history. Some short climbs.
Moderate
Starting point: Prinknash Abbey car park (off A46).
Leaders: Brian Chilvers, Royden Hales, Mike Williams
2.5 hours • 4.5 miles
Explorer 179/879 138 **C5**

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 20 • 10.00

Gloucestershire Geology Trust: River, Rock & Railway
Landscape and geology trail along an old railway cutting and river valley. Looking at changing environments from tropical sea, to tundra and rolling hills.
Starting point: Denfurlong Farm, Chedworth.
Leaders: Gloucestershire Geology Trust
2 - 2.5 hours • 2.5 miles
SP 066,105

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 21 • 10.00

Southern Ridge Over North Stoke
A circular walk from Swineford, through North Stoke, Lansdown and Upton Cheyney. Suitable for families. Please bring a packed lunch. **Easy**
Starting point: Swineford car park picnic site.
Leaders: Nigel Locke, Bob Platt
3.5 hours • 4 miles
OS: 172/6905 6922 **A10**

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 24 • 10.00

Legions Passed This Way
A flat walk through Eastern Grey to Foxley and Norton returning over the Fosse Way. Pub snack available.
Moderate
Starting point: Sherston High Street.
Leaders: David Harrowin, Virginia Rawlings
5.5 hours • 9 miles
OS: 173/853858 **B8**

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 24 • 10.30

The Genius of Bath's Landscape
A circular walk from Bath University to small Combe Vale, Kennet & Avon Canal, Sydney Gardens. **Easy**
Starting point: Park & Ride University of Bath.
Leader: Paul Miner
3 hours • 5 miles
OS: 172/774 642 **A10**

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 28 • 10.00

A Real Gem
A circular walk from Icombe to Wyck Rissington on the Diamond Way returning by the Oxfordshire Way.
Moderate
Starting point: Icomb Church Gates. Please park considerately in Icomb village.
Leaders: Bob Fisher, Malcolm Duncan
2.5 hours • 5 miles
OS Leisure: 45/214 226 **F4**

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 28 • 10.00

Ups and Downs Around Brailes
Figure of 8 walk with fine views, taking in Cherington in the morning and Winderton in the afternoon. Pub snack available. Start time for am is 10.00 for pm 14.00. **Moderate**
Starting point: The Gate Inn car park, Upper Brailes.
Leader: Geoff Mean
6 hours • 9.5 miles
OS: 191/305 398 **G2**

March

SATURDAY MARCH 1 • 10.00

Rodmarton Round
Rodmarton, Tarlton, Coates, Tunnel House, Hazleton. Little known ways and villages, taking in Severn Thames Canal. Bring a picnic. Pub stop for drink. **Moderate**
Starting point: Rodmarton village, near church, please park considerately.
Leaders: Hilary Paveley, Virginia Rawlings
6 hours • 10 miles
Explorer 168/943 981 **C6**

SUNDAY MARCH 2 • 10.00

Drops of Snow
A climb out of Wotton onto the Cotswold Way to Neward Park where there may be snowdrops. Down Ozleworth Botton to Hillesley (pub stop) and return via Kingswood.
Moderate
Starting point: Chipping Car Park, Wotton-under-Edge.
Leaders: Ted Thornton, Alan Bulley
6 hours • 10 miles
OS: 162/756 932 **A7**

TUESDAY MARCH 4 • 10.00

The Tuesday Tramp
A morning walk around the Colerne area. Bring a 'mid morning munchie'. For further information please telephone 01225 742182.
Moderate
Starting point: Fox & Hounds car park in Colerne.
Leader: Russell Harding
3 hours • 4.5 miles
OS Land Ranger: 173/818 711 **B9**

WEDNESDAY MARCH 5 • 10.00

Cross Country to Woodmancote
A walk over open country and rolling hills to Burcombe and Woodmancote, returning via Halfpenny Hill. Includes one long steady climb. Optional pub lunch on return. **Moderate**
Starting point: The old A417 near the Texaco services. Park on the road near the Five Mile House pub (not in the pub car park).
Leaders: Tony Wilson, Rosemary Woodham, Pippa Burgon
2.5 hours • 5 miles
Explorer: 179/978 091 **D5**

SATURDAY MARCH 8 • 10.00

Enjoy the Evenlode
A gentle walk to discover the amazing history of buildings and landscape along the Evenlode valley towards Ascott-under-Wychwood. We shall start from Charlbury Station waiting for train from Oxford before setting off. **Easy**
Starting point: Charlbury Station.
Leader: Gerald Simper
6 hours • 9 miles
Landranger 154/832 195 **H4**

SATURDAY MARCH 8 • 10.00

Part of the Cotswold Way
Walk part of the Cotswold Way to Hawkesbury Upton, returning via Orange End and Hawkesbury. Please bring a packed lunch.
Moderate
Starting point: Old Sodbury Church.
Leader: Dave Whitnell
6 hours • 10 miles
OS: 172/757 817 **A8**

SUNDAY MARCH 9 • 11.00

Where Is That Hill With The Trees On Top?
A circular walk on the Cotswold Way from Bath Abbey to Kelston Round Hill and Lansdown racecourse, then back past Ensleigh south to Charlcombe Lane and Beacon Hill into the city centre. Sunday morning walk - would be aimed at university students on relive **Moderate**
Starting point: Bath Abbey.
Leader: Paul Miner
4 hours • 8 miles
OS: 172 **B8**

THURSDAY MARCH 13 • 10.00

Stow, the Swells and Mangersbury
A walk from Stow, through Upper Swell, into Lower Swell & passing Nether Swell before a return via Mangersbury. **Moderate**
Starting point: Stow-on-the-Wold, Tesco's free car park.
Leaders: Bob Fisher, Malcolm Duncan
2.5 hours • 5 miles
OS Leisure: 45/191 262 **F3**

THURSDAY MARCH 13 • 10.00

Southern Edge of the Cotswolds
Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**
Starting point: Wellow car park.
Leaders: Bob Platt, Nigel Locke
5 hours • 9 miles
OS: 142/738 581 **A10**

SATURDAY MARCH 15 • 10.00

Track and Field Exercise Before Lunch
A walk which is a firm favourite in the north Cotswolds encompassing the picturesque villages of Stanton and Snowhill together with a section of the Cotswold Way. Most of the walking is on firm tracks, ideal if the ground is muddy. Pub lunch available. **Moderate**
Starting point: Stanton village car park.
Leaders: Gerry Burgess, David Jelfs
3 hours • 6 miles
OS Leisure: 45/068 344 **E2**

SATURDAY MARCH 15 • 10.00

Will We See Ratty & Mole?
Spring in the Windrush Valley with optional pub lunch afterwards. Suitable for families. **Easy**
Starting point: Asthall, Maytime Inn.
Leader: Ann Julian
3 hours • 4.5 miles
OS: 163/288 114 **G5**

SUNDAY MARCH 16 • 10.00

Crossing County Borders
A walk through Monkton Combe, Midford, Pipehouse, Upper Westwood and Freshford. Please bring a packed lunch.
Moderate
Starting point: Dundas Marina car park (fee to park).
Leaders: Wilf Dando, Dave Jennings
5.5 hours • 10 miles
OS: 172/784 621 **B10**

SUNDAY MARCH 16 • 10.00

Journey Past a Royal Estate
Springtime walk via Avening Valley, Minchinhampton Commons, Amberley and Nailsworth Valley. Varied terrain, glorious valley scenery and long views (weather permitting). Pub lunch available if required. **Moderate**
Starting point: Long stay car park (opposite bus station in Old Market) Nailsworth.
Leaders: Graham Bateman, Virginia Rawlings
6 hours • 9.5 miles
OS: 162/849 996 **B6**

SUNDAY MARCH 16 • 10.00

Across the Evenlode
Oddington - Chastleton - Broadwell
Strenuous
Starting point: Stow-on-the-Wold, Tesco's free car park.
Leaders: Lucy & Martin Squires
6 hours • 11 miles
OL: 45/192263 **F3**

TUESDAY MARCH 18 • 10.00

The Southwolds
From Horton to Hawkesbury Upton returning via Cotswold Way Trail. Please bring a packed lunch. **Moderate**
Starting point: Horton village hall (with permission).
Leaders: Gill Sheppard, Graham Britten
3.5 hours • 6.5 miles
OS: 172/758 843 **A8**

WEDNESDAY MARCH 19 • 10.00

Macaroni and the Romans
A moderate walk from Eastleach across open country to Macaroni Downs and back via the Akeman Street ford and the riverside. A pub in Eastleach for refreshments. **Moderate**
Starting point: In front of Victoria Inn pub. Please park considerately in Eastleach village.
Leaders: Brian Chilvers, Royden Hales, Mike Williams
2.5 hours • 5.5 miles
OL: 45/199 054 **F5**

SATURDAY MARCH 22 • 10.00

Along The Churn Valley
Colesbourne, Pen Hill, Woodmancote, North Cerney and Rendcomb. Pub or picnic lunch. **Moderate**
Starting point: Disused Chedworth Airfield, 1.5m NW of Chedworth on Compton Abdale Road.
Leaders: John Heathcott, John Woodland
7.5 hours • 12 miles
OL: 45/040 128 **E5**

SUNDAY MARCH 23 • 10.00

Will There Be Bluebells?
Chavenage green - Longbarrow - Washpool - Ruskin Mill - Horsley. Lunch at Kingscote - back to start. **Moderate**
Starting point: Lay-by 1 mile n Calcot Crossroads A46.
Leaders: Eric Brown, Staszek Jarmuz
6 hours • 9.5 miles
OS: 162/843 968 **B7**

WEDNESDAY MARCH 26 • 10.00

A Tranquil Valley and a Beautiful Church
A superb amble around the Snowhill Valley, along the ancient Coneegree lane and through the new Millennium Wood, to discover the site of Broadway Manor and a look at St Eadburgha's Church. Pub lunch available at end of walk. **Moderate**
Starting point: Broadway, St Eadburgha's Church, Snowhill Road (please park tidily).
Leaders: Gordon Franks, Stuart Bates
3 hours • 4 miles
OS Leisure: 45/097 362 **E2**

THURSDAY MARCH 27 • 11.00

Through a park with a view
A circular walk from Pulteney Bridge to Beechen Cliff, Lycombe, Widcombe, Kennet & Avon Canal and Sydney Gardens. Please bring a packed lunch. The start is 10 minutes walk from Bath bus and rail stations.
Moderate
Starting point: Pulteney Bridge, Bath (opposite Victoria Art Gallery).
Leader: Nigel Locke
3 hours • 5 miles
OS: 172/752 649

FRIDAY MARCH 28 • 10.00

Vanished Villages: No 3
There was once a village by Aston Mill, but the millers moved house up the hill. There are traces of the deserted villages at Aylworth and Harford while Notgrove survived and thrived. Pub lunch available.
Moderate
Starting point: Crossroads on B4068, some four miles west of Stow-on-the-Wold, at Harford bridge signed Naunton. Please park on the wide triangular verge.
Leaders: Stephen Wright, Mike Matthews
5.5 hours • 8.5 miles
OS Leisure: 45/129 229 **F4**

SATURDAY MARCH 29 • 10.00

Wesley and Beckford
Lansdown, Cotswold Way, Weston village. Rural a.m. Urban p.m.
Moderate
Starting point: Telephone box, Lansdown Park & Ride.
Leader: Judith Slee
5 hours • 10 miles
Explorer: 155/732 682 **A10**

SUNDAY MARCH 30 • 9.30

Broadway to Winchcombe - A Walk Without Hills
This linear walk starts at Broadway, an important staging post in the 16th and 17th centuries, and passes through the secluded villages of Buckland, Stanton and Stanway below the escarpment to Hailes Abbey. Hailes, now ruined was founded by the Cistercians in 1246 is a place of pilgrimage, salvation, scandal and destruction. Then on to Winchcombe, the capital of the Saxon kingdom of Mercia. We will meet at 9.30am at the car park in Winchcombe, then leaving some of the cars in Winchcombe, we will share cars to the Milestone car park, Broadway for the start of the walk. At Winchcombe, at the end of the walk, we'll take owners of cars left in Broadway at the start of the walk, to pick up their vehicles. Pub lunch available.
Moderate
Starting point: Winchcombe, Back Lane, behind the library.
Leaders: Anne Martis, Margaret Burden
6.5 hours • 12 miles
OL: 45/025 284 **E2**

SUNDAY MARCH 30 • 11.00

A Hill With Trees
A circular walk on Cotswold Way to Kelston round hill and Bath race course. Returning via Ensleigh and Charlcombe.
Moderate
Starting point: Bath Abbey.
Leader: Paul Miner
4 hours • 8 miles
OS: 172/752 648 **A10**



Matthew Pearce, Healthy Lifestyles Development Officer, Stroud District Council.

Readers' questions answered on healthy living

MATTHEW works in partnership with organisations across the Cotswolds AONB, such as hospitals and schools to encourage people to adopt a healthy and active lifestyle.

Why should I walk?
It can help increase levels of physical activity and you'll be reaping numerous health benefits. Research shows that people should use it as a way of reaching the recommended five 30 minute sessions of physical activity a week. Walking is also free and can be a sociable activity. Add to that the opportunity to enjoy the outstanding views and landscapes in the Cotswolds and it is clear that walking is one of the best ways to stay healthy.

How can I find out about walks in my area?
Go to Stroud District Council's new walking website www.strollinginstrouddistrict.org Here the public can find out about all of the local led walks in their area including 44 downloadable circular routes. You can also search for guided walks in your immediate area and find walks held at the right time of day for you. The website includes guided walks carried out by the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens across the Cotswolds AONB and you can find the same range of walks listed in this paper (see pages 8-11). Walk leaders can input their own walk on the site to advertise for free.

How do I become a walk leader?
Stroud District Council currently offers free walk leader training as part of the Walking the Way to Health scheme, an initiative of the British Heart Foundation and Natural England. If you are interested call me on 01453 754501 or use the form on the Strolling in Stroud District website.

What is the GP referral scheme?
GPs can refer people to physical activity to improve a certain medical condition such as high blood pressure, obesity, depression and stress. People are usually directed to their local leisure centre but we are encouraging GPs to refer patients to local walks. If you fancy a stroll this may be one way of helping improve your health. For more information on the GP referral scheme 'Healthy Lifestyles' visit your local GP or Nurse.



Exploring the Cotswold Way National Trail – Six Walks in South Gloucestershire is a walks guide that enables people to explore and enjoy the Cotswold Way National Trail. The guide contains six circular walks that follow sections of the National Trail and also explore the surrounding hills and valleys. For a free copy of the booklet telephone South Gloucestershire Council on 01454 863592. Copies can also be downloaded from the Council's website at www.southglos.gov.uk by following the A-Z link to public rights of way and promoted routes.

For information on a series of special health walks in South Gloucestershire please contact Alex Hayes on 01454 868006 or foodandhealth@southglos.gov.uk.

Cotswold Grants

INFORMATION ABOUT COUNTRYSIDE AND ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS AVAILABLE WITHIN THE COTSWOLDS AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

A number of grants are available to help farmers, landowners, organisations and local communities make environmental improvements. These are administered by various organisations, all working to enhance the landscape, cultural heritage and biodiversity of the Cotswolds. Listed on these pages are just some of the grants available. For further information please contact the relevant organisation.

Over the past year changes have taken place in various countryside support measures delivered by Defra. Some of these schemes such as the **Rural Enterprise Scheme** and **Marketing and Processing Grant**, the **Vocational Training Scheme** and the **Energy Crops Scheme** are currently not open to new entrants. The expectation is that these schemes will open again in some shape or form and be administered by the new body **Natural England**. The web address is www.naturalengland.org.uk The new England Rural Development Programme (ERDP) is expected to be launched in 2007.

Sustainable Development Fund

A grant scheme administered by the Cotswolds Conservation Board supporting projects that bring environmental, social and economic benefits to the Cotswolds AONB. Open to individuals, community, voluntary and partnership groups, the private sector, public bodies and local authorities and charities.

Applications can be made for grants ranging from several hundred pounds up to £25,000. The fund can provide up to 75% of total project costs.

In exceptional circumstances 100% may be provided for voluntary bodies.

Currently funding is only available in the 2007/08 financial year.

If you think you have a suitable project, the Conservation Board would like to hear from you; call 01451 862000 for details.

More information is available on our website at: www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk.

Gloucestershire Environmental Trust

Recently the scope of the Landfill Communities Fund has been widened and the trust has become involved in a number of bio-diversity projects including schemes for nature conservation and better land management.

Applications have to fit the Landfill Communities Fund objectives and must be approved and registered with ENTRUST www.entrust.org.uk

.....01452 739006
www.glos-environment-trust.co.uk

Useful fundraising websites

General fundraising

- www.grantsnet.co.uk
Easy access to information on grants available to businesses and charities, with the ability to search grant schemes by area, project type or keywords
- www.access-funds.co.uk
Regularly updated news about sources of funding
- www.fundraising.co.uk
UK charity and non-profit making fundraisers
- www.fundersonline.org
Europe's online philanthropic community
- www.ruralnet.org.uk
Details of rural funding sources

Charitable trusts

- www.acf.org.uk
Trusts and foundations
- www.funderfinder.org.uk
Information about the Fundfinder software and links to websites of trusts
- www.dsc.org.uk
Information on the Directory of Social Change, a guide to trust funding

Company giving

- www.ccinet.org
Charities Aid Foundation corporate community involvement

Government funding

- www.governmentfunding.org.uk
Provides information on grants awarded by government departments

European funding

- www.dti.gov.uk/regional/european-structural-funds/index.html
Information from the Department of Trade and Industry on European funding
- www.esf.gov.uk
European Social Fund site

Other useful websites

- www.charity-commission.gov.uk
Charity Commission publications and charity register
- www.charitynet.org
Charities Aid Foundation

Grant finder services

Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)

Conservation land management grants

- Avon FWAG 0117 959 1000
- Gloucestershire FWAG 01452 627487
- Oxfordshire FWAG 01993 886565
- Warwickshire FWAG 01926 318280
- Wiltshire FWAG 0117 959 8522
- Worcestershire FWAG 01905 362955



The Cotswolds Inter-Regional Partnership has been given the go-ahead by SEEDA and SWRDA to apply for a significant amount of European funding from the new Rural Development Programme for England 2007 – 2013. We hope to build on the success of the current West Oxfordshire Network LEADER+ scheme by expanding the Local Action Group right across the region to include parts of rural Cherwell and Cotswold Districts, from Fringford in the East to Tetbury in the West. In order to produce a high quality and competitive application and allow as many people as possible to benefit, we are seeking steering group members, partners, advisers and project ideas from farmers, foresters, local businesses, charities, community groups and individuals across the Cotswolds. To find out more, please contact Becky Simms on 01993 861483 or email: becky.simms@westoxon.gov.uk.

Business Link

Business orientated advice and diversification opportunities

- Gloucestershire
Roger Smith 07979 518589
Sharon O'Brien 01242 864163
Email: roger.smith@businesslinksw.co.uk
Website: www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest
- South Gloucestershire and Bath
Enquiries (freephone) 0800 980 2789
Email: enquiry@businesslinksw.co.uk
Website: www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest
- Wiltshire 0845 600 9006
Email: enquiry@businesslinksw.co.uk
Website: www.businesslink.gov.uk/southwest
- Warwickshire 02476 654 322
Email: info@businesslinkwm.co.uk
Website: www.businesslinkwm.co.uk
- Hereford and Worcestershire 0845 641 1641
Email: info@businesslinkwm.co.uk
Website: www.businesslinkwm.co.uk

Rural Community Councils

Provide help in putting together grant applications, especially to the Community Fund. They also administer many grants on behalf of other organisations:

- County council grant fund for village halls
 - Village shop and village hall improvement grants on behalf of the Countryside Agency
 - Rural Initiative Fund grants on behalf of Cheltenham and Gloucester Building Society
 - Allocating funds from Landfill Tax Credits for improvements to village halls.
- Contacts:
- Gloucestershire Rural Community Council 01452 528491
Website: www.grcc.org.uk
 - Community Action - Avon area/
South Gloucestershire 01275 393837

- Community First
Wilts and Bath 01380 722475
- Oxfordshire Rural Community Council 01865 883488
Website: www.oxonrcc.org.uk
- Warwickshire Rural Community Council 02476 303232
Website: www.ruralwarwickshire.org.uk
- Community First
Hereford and Worcester 01684 573334
- Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) 01285 653477
Website: www.acre.org.uk

Agricultural grants

Environmental Stewardship

This agri-environmental scheme, launched in Spring 2005, requires an environmental features map for the entry level tiers, and a whole farm plan for higher tier options (see below for more details).

Land based schemes

Agri-environmental schemes were introduced in 2005.

Rural Land Register

It is imperative for all farmers to register their land with the Rural Land Register and to make an assessment of the environmental assets on their land, ideally preparing a farm features map, as a minimum.

Environmental Stewardship Schemes

For further information and an application pack contact Jonathan East at Natural England:

.....08456 024098

Or download the information from the website www.defra.gov.uk

English Nature's traditional breeds incentive scheme has closed and there is now provision under Environmental Stewardship.

For help with the assessment, application and management of the agri-environmental schemes contact your local Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) or visit the website www.fwag.org.uk.

- Avon FWAG - 0117 959 1000
Government Buildings, Block 3, Burghill Rd, Westbury on Trym, Bristol BS10 6NJ.
- Gloucestershire FWAG - 01452 627487
Saw Mills End, Corinium Avenue, Gloucester GL4 3DE.
- Oxfordshire FWAG - 01993 886565
Unit 11, Blenheim Office Park, Long Hanborough, Whitney, Oxford OX29 8LN.
- Warwickshire FWAG - 01926 318280
Warwickshire College, Moreton Morrell, Warwick CV35 9BL.
- Wiltshire FWAG - 01225 777839
Government Buildings, Block 3, Burghill Rd, Westbury on Trym, Bristol BS10 6NJ.
- Worcestershire FWAG - 01905 362955
Government Buildings, Whittington Road, Worcester WR5 2LQ.