

ROTARY CLUB OF THE WEALD OF KENT - NORTH DOWNS WALK 2018

All walkers are **STRONGLY** advised not to use i-pods or similar devices, when either crossing or on roads, as the music etc masks the noise of traffic **“ALL PERSONS WALK AT THEIR OWN RISK”**

If, at any stage of the walk, you feel unable to continue, transport is available to bring you back to the Village Hall where First Aid facilities, provided by the Rotary Club, are available. Some Sections may be muddy so we recommend that you wear stout footwear plus, depending upon the forecast or actual weather conditions, wear rain & wind protective clothing & a/or a hat plus high-factor sun-burn protection.

ROUTE INSTRUCTIONS

We are using the route with the help & co-operation of various landowners & the KCC Footpath Officer – please assist us to ensure of their continued support by observing the following points –

- Keep to the footpath at all times & follow the **ORANGE TAPE** AND ROUTE ARROWS.
- Dogs are most welcome but must ALWAYS be under control & on leads when crossing fields containing livestock – **see special note on 9 mile route.**
- Walk no more than two abreast when crossing cultivated fields. Take great care when crossing ALL roads or lanes.

ALL WALKERS – from the Village Hall, turn right into Church Road & then first left at Court Lodge. Continue past The Old Piggery at Old Lodge Farm &, after passing No Man’s Acre, carry straight on. On reaching Greenway Court House, turn sharp right up the track & continue to the first Checkpoint, called Greenway Court. Enjoy a brief rest, have a drink & a biscuit before resuming your walk.

THREE MILE WALKERS – (SHORT ROUTE) – from the Greenway Court Checkpoint turn right and start back along the Pilgrims Way towards Harrietsham. After approx. 1 mile fork right and then turn right into the avenue of Beech trees. At the bottom turn left onto the outbound route & head back to the Village Hall. Remember to check in - then enjoy your well-earned Ploughman’s, Strawberries & the Jazz Band.

SIX MILE WALKERS (MEDIUM ROUTE) – from the Greenway Court Checkpoint turn left then, after approx 800m, turn sharp right & after approx 100 metres turn right at the footpath marker. Go through the small copse before turning left into an open field with the path marked out. Follow this path and continue up through High Wood (admire the views to your left). At the top go across the field, past the dead tree to the second Checkpoint, called “Tile Barn” & take a second rest & drink – toilets available here. Turn sharp right & go diagonally across the field, past the reservoir & head towards Lower Dean Farm. At the road, turn right & go through the farm yard. Follow the signs into the field, over the stile and down the escarpment to the Pilgrims Way. Turn left onto the Pilgrims Way then, after approx. half a mile fork right and then turn right into the avenue of Beech trees. At the bottom turn left onto the outbound route & head back to the Village Hall. Remember to check in - then enjoy your well-earned Ploughman’s, Strawberries & the Jazz Band.

NINE MILE WALKERS (LONG ROUTE) – from the Tile Barn Checkpoint cross the road and take the footpath diagonally across the field. At the stile **DOG OWNERS MUST PUT THEIR DOGS ON LEASH**. This land is **PRIVATE** and you are NOT on a PUBLIC FOOTPATH but are walking **with the express permission today of the farmer.** At the stile, turn sharp left & then keep to the edge of the field following the tape. **There are two deep holes just beyond the fence to your left, so dogs MUST be on their leads & children kept close to you until you reach the next gate.** Under the pylons turn left through the gate and walk diagonally right down into the valley. After approx 200m you will see a modern lift-up gate/stile on your right. Go through this and then follow the tape across two fields. Cross the road to the 3rd Checkpoint, called Yewtree Farm. Go through the farmyard and then follow the signs to the 4th checkpoint at Ringlestone. Follow the track, cross the road by the pub, then over the stile. Keep the pub garden on your right. At next field, follow the hedge on right, skirt the field until you reach the gate at the bottom left-hand corner, cross the road & follow the Route Signs until you rejoin the SIX MILE route back to the Village Hall. Remember to check in then enjoy your well-earned Ploughman’s, Strawberries & the Jazz Band.

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