

Cotswold Lion

Issue 29 • Autumn/Winter 2013-14

The newspaper of the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

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Wonderful Woodlands

Enjoy the magic that autumn and winter bring to the Cotswolds' precious woodlands

Who can resist scuffling through autumn leaves, the heart-leap sight of a newly golden beech canopy or the frosted tracery of boughs slowly revealed as winter approaches? The swirl of seasonal change, of colours and surprises, has a drama and scale in woodlands that creates a matchless magic.

With some 60,657ha (10.1%) of the Cotswolds AONB covered by woodland, there's plenty of opportunity to enjoy the natural theatre. Noted for its internationally important beech and yew woodland along the western scarp and in the incised valleys, the AONB tends more to mixed oak, ash and maple on its dip slope heading east. Lowland wood pasture and parkland associated with historic estates, outstanding arboreta and some conifer plantation add to the diversity of habitat that sees a wide variety of flora and fauna flourish, including rare species.

Around 9,292ha of Cotswold tree cover is to be found on ancient woodland sites, perhaps further accounting for the deep sense of connection that comes with exploring. Ancient beeches within the Cotswold Beechwoods Special Area

of Conservation are an especially distinctive feature.

For a superb escape from the bustle of everyday life, 343ha **Cotswold Commons and Beechwoods National Nature Reserve (NNR)**, at the head of Painswick Valley near Cranham, is hard to beat. Part of the Special Area of Conservation, the NNR comprises some of the best beechwoods in Europe, providing habitat for, among many things, rare spiders and snails restricted to ancient woodland sites.

Star attractions in autumn include 700-plus species of fungi that grow in **Buckholt Wood** – perhaps join an organised fungi foray. Then look out for flocks of overwintering bramblings that fly in, drawn here when the beechmast in Buckholt Wood is abundant.

Cotswold Commons and Beechwoods NNR comprises seven sites managed by Natural England, with a further five jointly managed with the National Trust. Management agreements, for example with the private owner of Buckholt Wood, show how commercial timber harvesting can happily co-exist with nature conservation, says

Robert Wolstenholme, Natural England's Senior Reserves Manager, Gloucestershire.

Buckholt Wood has been managed at least since Domesday and in recent times selective felling (for firewood)

aims to maintain continuous cover, retaining specific trees that will grow to be veterans and allowing natural regeneration to fill gaps.

"It's a much more considered method of harvesting rather than

allowing everything to grow up to the same height and then chopping it down: it has a much less drastic impact on wildlife," Robert says. "John

Continued on page 2



Ancient beech trees at Crickley Hill Country Park.



Around the Cotswolds

Batsford gold tourism award

Batsford Arboretum, near Moreton-in-Marsh, won Large Visitor Attraction of the Year in the Cotswolds Tourism Awards 2013. Citing investment in a new garden shop, plant centre and café, designed with real style to reflect the collection's trees and shrubs from Asia, judges noted: "This great value attraction is a year-round Cotswold classic." The wood-built visitor centre, opened 2011, has many environmentally friendly features, including ground source heat pump and insulation using wool from rare breed sheep. www.batsarb.co.uk

The Ashmolean at Broadway

The new Ashmolean at Broadway opens from September in the transformed Tudor House on the High Street. Displays over three floors take visitors on a journey through different periods in the building's life, linking to the wider context of local and national history. Furniture, paintings and other objects from the 17th to 21st centuries include key treasures from the world-famous Ashmolean collections, Oxford. Gallery space for changing exhibitions gives local artists the opportunity to show work, and education and outreach programmes are planned.

Jane Austen Festival

2013 is the bicentenary of the first publication of one of the world's best-loved novels, Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, and the annual Jane Austen Festival (13th–21st Sept) is celebrating the author's life and work in style. Jane lived in Bath 1801–1806 and the city featured in *Northanger Abbey* and *Persuasion* – join walking tours to the places she knew and wrote about. The famous Grand Regency Costumed Promenade, readings from *Pride and Prejudice*, Regency dancing and etiquette lessons are further highlights. The Jane Austen Centre, Gay Street, is open all year round. www.janeausten.co.uk

Wildlife-friendly cheese success

Greystones Single Gloucester Cheese, launched in September 2012, is proving so popular in local shops that there are plans to increase production. The organic cheese, which has a Protected Designated Origin (PDO) and can only be made in Gloucestershire, has been developed by Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust in partnership with local farmer Simon Weaver. Milk comes from Gloucester cattle that graze the Trust's Greystones Farm nature reserve, Bourton-on-the-Water.

Tom Beasley-Suffolk, the reserve's manager, explains, "the continuity of traditional hay making and grazing with cattle play a vital role in the management of the wildflower meadows at the Farm, so creating a PDO cheese is a great way for people to understand the connection between wildlife and food." www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/cheese

Chipping Campden school history project

Chipping Campden School has won £30,500 from the Heritage Lottery Fund for an exciting two-year project to collect memories and memorabilia of former pupils and staff. The climax of activities, which involve current students working alongside old boys and girls to create an online archive, will coincide with the school's 575-year anniversary celebrations in 2015. For further information or to get involved, visit www.chippingcampden.gloucs.sch.uk/news-items-all/latest-news-index.html

Workman brought the method from Europe and adapted it to beechwoods. It's also used in places like **Workmans Wood** and **Saltridge Wood**.

"On the purely conservation management side, we also put in and maintain rides and glades that open space within the woodlands, which is tremendously important [for flora and fauna]. We have plots of coppice too."

In addition to exploring the NNR's woodland footpaths or bridleways this autumn and winter, you could enjoy some exercise by joining one of the public work parties organised to clear rides and glades.

There's further good rambling amid beeches in the western Cotswolds in Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust's nature reserves at **Frith Wood** and **Three Groves**. Roe and muntjac deer might be among the sights you spot in the Trust's ancient coppiced landscape at **Siccaridge Wood**, or fallow deer in the ancient woodland of **Midger Wood SSSI** where ash predominates.

Or head to the Woodland Trust's **Colerne Park and Monks Wood**, on the eastern facing slope of the By Brook Valley which is deeply incised into the southern tip of the Cotswolds oolitic limestone plateau. Ancient semi-natural woodland here features old stored ash, wych elm, field maple and hazel coppice with ash and pedunculate oak standards forming high forest of circa 60–80 years. It's a haven for diverse ancient woodland flora – affording SSSI status – and wide rides and glades are superb for stretching your legs.

Once part of the ancient Wychwood Forest, **Foxholes Nature Reserve** (Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust) four miles north of Burford is another woodland that comes alive with autumn colour. Over 200 different species of fungi have been recorded here: look out for autumn fungus forays and spot the likes of fly agaric – the red and white toadstool of fairytales – under the silver birch (late summer to autumn) and geranium-scented *Rusulla* beneath beeches.

The soft seasonal ground is also ideal for playing nature detectives, identifying animal tracks that reveal the busy life of the wood: deer, fox, badgers and rabbits are among those to leave clues.

Nearby, **Wychwood NNR** of ancient broadleaved woodland may be explored by public right of way too.

As far back as the 11th century, the royal hunting forest of Wychwood covered a large part of what is now West Oxfordshire, and comprised meadows, fields, heaths and downs as well as woodlands. Although much of the original woodland has been cleared for settlement and agriculture, the historic character of the Norman hunting forest is used by the **Wychwood Project** to inspire local people "to get actively involved



in conserving and restoring important landscapes and habitats," says Project Director Nick Mottram.

"Since 1997 the Wychwood Project has helped to create 12 new community woodlands, many of them within the Cotswolds AONB. You find people really do want and appreciate the chance to get close to nature and feel the changes in the seasons. Woodlands are such great places to do that."

The planned woodlands, avenues and vistas of great estates like **Badminton Park** and **Cirencester Park** have added distinctive character to the Cotswold lowlands. And no account of arboreal adventures can omit seasonal trails and activities at Westonbirt, The National Arboretum and Batsford Arboretum, which bring exotic hues from around the world.

The Victorian picturesque

landscape and internationally important tree and shrub collection of **Westonbirt** literally explodes with autumn colour, fiery maples often stealing the show, and winter flowering trees continue the excitement.

Many different habitats within the arboretum mean there's a rich biodiversity – over 1,200 species of fungi, and northern migrants like fieldfare, redwing, siskins and bramblings put in an appearance.

Batsford Arboretum near Moreton-in-Marsh, famed for its trees originating in Japan and China, becomes a delicious palette of autumn moods ranging from buttery yellow to crimson, complimented by the burnt sugar aroma of the Katsura tree. The intoxicating smell of witch hazels makes a frosty winter walk in February a pure delight.

Woodland wanders

Join one of our seasonal walks and enjoy the Cotswolds' woodlands (see pages 9 to 15) or download a walk from www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk

On the tree trail

Badminton Estate, www.badmintonestate.co.uk
Batsford Arboretum, www.batsarb.co.uk
Cirencester Park, www.cirencesterpark.co.uk
Colerne Park and Monks Wood, www.woodlandtrust.org.uk
Cotswold Commons and Beechwoods NNR, Wychwood NNR, www.naturalengland.org.uk
Foxholes Nature Reserve, www.bbwt.org.uk
Frith Wood, Midger Wood, Siccaridge Wood, Three Groves Wood, www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk
Westonbirt, The National Arboretum, www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt
Wychwood Project, www.wychwoodproject.org

Biosecurity

Our trees are under threat from many pests and diseases. Chalara dieback of ash, first reported in Britain in 2012, is of particular concern.

What is it: a disease caused by the *Chalara fraxinea* fungus, it results in leaf loss and crown dieback in affected trees, usually leading to tree death.

How does it spread: via wind-blown spores from fruit bodies on fallen leaves and shoots, produced the year following infection between June and October. *C. fraxinea* is also found in seeds.

In the Cotswolds: so far the disease has not been found here, but its impact on the AONB's 4,400ha of ash will be devastating.

What you can do: risk of visitors to woodlands spreading the disease is considered low. However, it is good practice, whether a wood is infected or not, to not remove plant material (sticks, leaves, cuttings). Also clean your footwear, clothing, dogs, horses and any equipment to keep them free from soil/organic debris.

For further information, see the Forestry Commission's website, www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara

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Merchants, manors and churches

The Golden Age of the Cotswold wool trade created a legacy of fine houses and churches in our market towns

The very name 'Cotswolds' – 'sheep shelters' (cots) 'in rolling hills' (wolds) – traditionally conjures a picture of sheep-dotted grasslands. Certainly in the late Middle Ages, the heyday of the wool trade, the area's thin-soiled slopes, unsuitable for arable farming, made ideal sheep country.

Known as the 'Golden Fleece', the clip of the local Cotswold sheep was much sought after; the wealth created from its trade saw market towns develop and prosper, and impressive manors and churches built. Today such features are among the defining characteristics of what makes the AONB so special, a rich setting for those who live here and a heritage magnet for visitors.

"It's said that the Romans introduced the Cotswold sheep to the area, although their origins aren't fully known," says Steve Parkes of the Cotswold Sheep Society. "Often called Cotswold Lions, they thrived on the limestone banks and grasses, producing excellent wool that was long and lustrous.

"After the Romans left, the monasteries and abbeys like Hailes, Tewkesbury and Llanthony took over vast tracts of land and ran large flocks of Cotswold sheep. They processed some of the wool into cloth for their own use but they also exported it.

"In time, large estates like Sherborne, Aldsworth and Barrington were created, and you got the rise of wool merchants and landowners who would build impressive manor houses like **Chastleton House** near Moreton-in-Marsh."

A lucrative medieval export trade grew particularly with the Low Countries where cloth making was big business. Before machinery of the Industrial Revolution enabled people to make worsted yarn from short fibres, the long staple of breeds like the Cotswold sheep was essential to the process.

"Buyers from the Low Countries would come and pay for wool from Cotswold estates in advance, so there was a well-established futures market," Steve says.

Today the Cotswold Sheep Society has just 1,500–2,000 breeding females on its register, and the now-rare breed is among those



Nick Turner

Chastleton House.

showcased at **Adam Henson's Cotswold Farm Park**, Guiting Power. Yet in the Golden Age of the medieval wool trade some 500,000 Cotswold Lions grazed the hillsides.

Nor was it simply landowners and merchants who grew rich. The Woolsack, introduced in the reign of Edward III (1327–77) and even now the official seat of the Lord Chancellor as Speaker of the House of Lords, became a symbol of the significance of England's staple trade to the coffers of the nation as a whole.

"Important markets where wool was sold around the Cotswolds in the Middle Ages included Cirencester, Northleach, Stow-on-the-Wold, Chipping Campden, Chipping Norton and Chipping Sodbury, encouraging the growth of these towns and villages," Steve says.

Cirencester Abbey was a major player in the wool trade from the 12th century, and by the 14th century many foreign merchants had settled in the town. One Italian merchant stated, "the best wool in England comes from the Cotswolds and the best wool of the Cotswolds

comes from Northleach and the great Abbey lands of Cirencester."

Wool was exported via ports like London, Bristol and even Kent, and sold via the Staple (regulated royal market) at Calais to merchants in Europe. Profits from the trade in Cirencester paid for rebuilding of the town's magnificent **Parish Church of St John Baptist**, the largest parish church in Gloucestershire.

Enriched merchants, in a healthy spirit of altruism and competition, financed schools, almshouses and even poor maidens on their weddings, but it's the proliferation of 'wool churches' that has endured and takes away the breath.

St Peter & St Paul, Northleach, rebuilt in the perpendicular style in the 15th century, is famed for the memorial brasses depicting its benefactors, sheep and woolpacks at their feet. They reveal not only the gowned fashions of the times, but also humble prayers to offset earthly ambition. One, translated from the Latin, counsels: "Reflect on the worth of the present – All is nought save the worship of God."

Further north, perhaps the most famous Cotswold merchant is commemorated in the beautiful early perpendicular **St James' Church, Chipping Campden**. A 15th-century brass recalls William Grevel, "flower of the wool merchants of all England": from modest beginnings, Grevel accumulated such wealth that in the 1390s he was lending 200 marks (£135) to Richard II.

Chipping Campden's broad, curving High Street features many beguiling limestone buildings of the golden era of wool, including the 14th-century **Woolstaplers' Hall** where Cotswold fleeces were sold. Opposite stands **Grevel House**, built by William and resplendent with carved windows, gargoyles and a sundial.

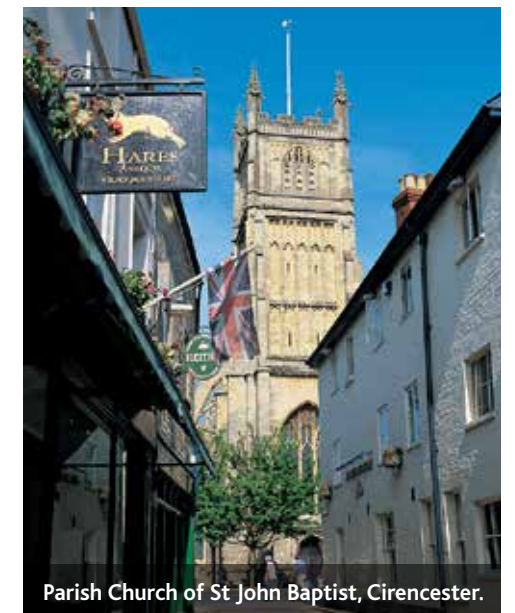
Between Northleach and Chipping Campden, **Stow-on-the-Wold** also retains plenty of clues to its past, not least the narrow alleyways or 'tures' leading from the large square, built to safely herd sheep to be sold at market. Many of

the town's houses were built in the 15th century.

To the east, **St Mary's Church, Chipping Norton**, with its airy interior and rare hexagonal vaulted porch is among the largest Cotswold wool churches, and in **Burford Church** there are further fascinating memorials to merchants.

Sweep south to Tetbury and each year in May **Tetbury Woolsack Races** commemorate the town's one-time fame as a wool and yarn market. Further south again, weavers' cottages at **Castle Combe** remind that the By Brook – now a relative trickle – powered fulling mills in the valley. The first are noted in the 14th century and in the 15th century lord of the manor Sir John Fastolf was clothing his troops fighting in the French Wars in red-and-white Castle Combe Cloth.

Heading back up, to the western Cotswolds, the influence of clattering looms, mills and cloth making becomes ever more pronounced as we arrive in the **Stroud Valleys**. But the story of the valleys' milling heyday, and the transition of the Cotswolds' economy from vast exporter of raw wool to major centre for cloth manufacture, belongs to another chapter in the rich heritage of the area, to be told in a future issue.



Parish Church of St John Baptist, Cirencester.



Cotswold Lion sheep.

Time travelling

Adam Henson's Cotswold Farm Park, www.cotswoldfarmpark.co.uk
Burford Church, www.burfordchurch.org
Castle Combe, www.castle-combe.com
Chastleton House, www.nationaltrust.org.uk/chastleton-house
Chipping Campden, www.chippingcampden.co.uk
Cirencester Parish Church of St John Baptist, www.cirenparish.co.uk
St Mary's, Chipping Norton, www.stmaryscnorton.com
St Peter & St Paul, Northleach, www.northleach.org
Stow-on-the-Wold, www.go-stow.co.uk
Tetbury Woolsack Races, www.tetburywoolsack.co.uk

For more information on the Cotswold Sheep Society, see www.cotswoldsheepsociety.co.uk

Meeting the challenges

How do you balance living and working in the AONB with caring for the countryside? Three people give their views on the way ahead for agri-environment schemes, sustainable tourism and saving our bees



Henry Robinson, farmer and Deputy President of the Country Land & Business Association

"The challenge now facing agriculture, the next green revolution, is to get the balance between how we look after the environment and producing food that will be needed for nine billion people worldwide.

My family has farmed in Gloucestershire since 1911, and we've 1,046 acres, including arable, woodland and pasture. Through funding from agri-environment schemes I've had the opportunity to pursue numerous wildlife-friendly measures on land taken out of cereal production, for example creating wild bird food cover and 6km of floristically enhanced wildflower margins.

Following this round of the reforms of the CAP, there is going to be less money available for agri-environment schemes from Government and the EU. That could mean fewer wildlife-friendly things happening in the Cotswolds, where around two thirds of land is under agri-environment schemes. So we need to fund these initiatives differently, using the private sector.

I think biodiversity offsetting, or payments for eco-systems services, are the way forward. That means, if you have cause to damage a piece of the environment, for example by building houses in a field on the edge of a town, you have to offset that damage by making good an environmental improvement to some land elsewhere. Farmers can then be funded to do that. It will be a complicated system to set up and decisions I might make, dedicating land to biodiversity offsetting, would tie up future generations of my family too. But we need a system that values the environment as well as the food production required to feed the world."



Jill Coombe, Director Three Ways House Hotel, Mickleton

"We feel very lucky living in the Cotswolds, it's a beautiful area, and we are very aware of the need to look after it. There is a well-worn saying that when someone visits a place, all they should leave behind is their footprint – we believe that very much and try to encourage sustainable tourism.

We have run Three Ways House Hotel – home of the famous Pudding Club – since 1995 and we recently reached gold status in the Green Tourism Business Scheme. We're always working to improve our 'greenness' and it touches everything.

It's not just about recycling glass, it's about encouraging visitors to get out into the countryside and experience all there is to do. We've started a library of books about the Cotswolds, to increase guests' knowledge and introduce them to more local landscapes, history and wonderful things like the legacy of the Arts & Crafts Movement.

We've run Cotswold walking weekends with the excellent Cotswold Wardens for 17 years and in 2014 we would like to do more countryside-related breaks – painting flowers and landscapes, photography – which don't have a high impact on the environment.

It's so vital that people work together. We've linked up with places like Hidcote Manor, Kiftsgate Court Gardens, Cotswold Woollen Weavers and Cotswold Country Cycles, and we use local suppliers wherever we can. We aim to continue strengthening ties with local tourism providers and suppliers.

There's always room for improvement, for us and everyone, to enhance visitor experiences in ways that are sustainable." www.threewayshousehotel.com



Paul Evans, Meadows and B-Lines Officer, Buglife

"The value of natural pollinators to UK agriculture is c. £510 million, however more than two thirds of UK pollinators are in decline. Of the 24 species of bumblebee in Britain, six are endangered and the short-haired bumblebee has recently become extinct, although it is being re-introduced.

Causes range from increased use of pesticides, to loss of wildflower-rich grasslands. Of the 97 food plants that bumblebees prefer, 76% have declined in the past 80 years.

There's plenty we can do to 'Get Britain Buzzing'. Buglife's B-Lines project, piloted in Yorkshire and extending elsewhere, aims to create a network of flower-rich grassland. It would be great if communities, wildlife organisations and councils could help us to identify where best to place B-Lines in the Cotswolds, and identify farmers and landowners to take it forward.

Good habitat for pollinators in the Cotswolds includes wildflower meadows, limestone quarries, and gorse-clad hillsides and south-facing slopes with bare earth that suit mining bees – and these sites need to be monitored. Estates also do good work, like the Upton Estate [near Edge Hill] where there are superb wildflower arable margins and the large garden bumblebee thrives.

We want to encourage local communities to develop insect pollinator-friendly environments, in schools or looking after wildflower-rich roadside verges. Gardeners can help by reducing use of pesticides and never using them when plants are in flower; also choosing species easy for pollinators – double or multi-petalled flowers may be tricky for bees to access. Spring and autumn are often difficult for bees, so aim for plantings that flower through the seasons." www.buglife.org.uk

Most haunted

As nights draw in the ghosts come out!

It's claimed a phantom coach and horses occasionally draw up at the entrance gates to the drive of **Woodchester Mansion** near Nympsfield. And few would dispute that a Victorian Gothic pile hidden in a valley, mysteriously abandoned mid-construction in 1873, provides the perfect setting for such a tale.

Further reports have noted music resonating eerily through the mansion, a white lady gliding along

the upper floors, and a Victorian gent floating around the chapel. It is considered one of the most haunted buildings in England and, if you dare, you can go ghost hunting here on 'paranormal nights'.

Historic Cotswold backdrops easily lend themselves to many more spooky stories and when better to tell a few than as the nights draw in?

Many revolve around residents of the area's great buildings, like Francis Lovell whose wails are said

to echo through the ruins of 15th-century **Minster Lovell Hall**. Lovell had supported the wrong side in the Wars of the Roses and legend says that, fearing punishment, he had himself locked into a secret chamber. Alas, his faithful servant either died or turned treacherous and stopped bringing him food, so Lovell starved.

Charles I, who stayed at **Painswick Court House** in 1643, famously haunts its environs with his cavaliers as they prepare for battle. After the king's execution, his headless ghost returned to the Cotswolds for the funeral of Colonel Nathaniel Stephens of **Chavenage House**, Tetbury, and carried off his body – retribution for Stephens' involvement in the regicide.

involved in the regicide.

Happier spectral activity at **Snowhill Manor**, Broadway, has been ascribed to the shade of former owner Charles Paget Wade, come to check on his eccentric collection of treasures. And no one can blame a spirit for lingering amid the elegant architecture of Georgian Bath – but who exactly is the beautiful singing lady in the Royal Crescent? Join **Ghost Walks of Bath** (Thurs, Fri, Sat nights) to find out more.

Or let a top-hatted Edward Charnel take you on a **Bloody Bourton Walking Tour** (Fri, Sat nights) to hear about the darker side of this picture-book village and perhaps the most unusual 'ghost'

of all – a vanished brick from earlier building work that trips unsuspecting visitors to a tearoom.

Bloody Bourton Walking Tour, www.thebloodybourtontour.jimdo.com

Ghost Walks of Bath, www.ghostwalksofbath.co.uk

Woodchester Mansion, www.woodchestermansion.org.uk



Chavenage House.

Cotswolds Discoverer – just the ticket!

From just £10 a day, you can enjoy unlimited travel throughout the Cotswolds by bus and train with the Cotswolds Discoverer ticket. Freelance journalist Alison Hughes and her friend Ruth Edy took a return day trip from Oxford to explore the Fosse Way

Having decided to visit three towns along the Fosse Way – Moreton-in-Marsh, Stow-on-the-Wold and Bourton-on-the-Water – we began our journey on the 8.58am train from Oxford, arriving in Moreton just in time for a quick coffee before visiting the Wellington Aviation Museum.

Gerry Tyack, a former RAF engineer and founder of the museum, was on hand to point out fascinating artefacts such as a canvas bath used for washing in the desert and a table made from bits of a Concorde jet engine. More poignant were the photos and paintings of wartime Moreton and surrounding area: German POWs digging out the snow at Little Rissington, Polish refugee children grouped together outside a school and a painting of American tanks lined up in the main square.

Gerry has created a museum with soul, bringing to life these dramatic times. Twenty years ago, he founded the RAF Moreton-in-Marsh Association and chose for its motif the Cotswold Lion. A Moreton

man through-and-through he has dedicated his life to preserving this little bit of social history.

Next we took the bus to Stow, a quintessential Cotswold town that has a few surprises too. Well known for its role in the English Civil War – there are reminders in the names of local hostleries, The King's Arms and The Royalist Hotel (reputedly the oldest inn in England...no really!) – Stow is also now home to the Cotswold Cricket Museum, which is proving to be a great attraction.

Even for cricket novices like me the museum is impressive – the array of blazers, signed bats and other memorabilia is quite extraordinary. A photo from 1859 shows a team setting off from Liverpool, on the very first overseas tour, in flat caps, spotted shirts and bow ties – a far cry from modern-day 'pyjamas'. There is a corner where you can watch TV-footage of great events and listen to radio interviews with cricketing icons such as Fred Trueman and Don Bradman; there is a quiz for children and a shop with cricket-related items

(Ruth purchased a rather nice bag), and a café.

There is no shortage of eateries in Stow, from hotels like the Grapevine to Huffkins tea-rooms. But as it was a beautifully hot summer day we opted for a flowery courtyard of a tea-room, Sheep Street, for lunch.

Stow is a place to potter around – take one of the little alleyways, formerly used to herd sheep into the main square, and you will discover one-off shops selling vintage clothes, jewellery and pottery. The church with its peal of eight bells offers a respite from the busy shops.

Our lunch break over, it was time to hop on another bus to our next destination – Bourton-on-the-Water. It is almost an obligation to dangle your feet in the gentle River Windrush on such a hot day – ice-cream is also required, good thing there is no shortage of that here!

Plenty of things to see, too. We selected the Model Village [see page 6], then intrigued by the name 'Dragonfly Maze' we crossed the road and made our way to the

entrance. Designed by Kit Williams of 'Masquerade' fame, this is no ordinary maze. Fourteen flagstones hold 14 clues that, when you find the centre, will help you to discover the dragonfly.

We had just enough energy and time for a cream tea before hopping on our bus back to Moreton in order to catch the 18.07 train to Oxford. To quote another pair of day-trippers, we had both had "a grand day out"!

Ticket to ride

Alison and Ruth travelled with a one-day Cotswolds Discoverer ticket (£10 for adults, £8.50 concessionary, £5 for a child) along the Fosse Way, using the Great Western Oxford to Moreton train and the 801 Pulhams Coaches (hourly service) between Moreton and Bourton. Their timetable was:

8.58	train departed Oxford	14.37	arrived in Bourton for 3hr visit
9.35	arrived in Moreton	17.35	bus to Moreton
10.00	Wellington Aviation Museum opened	18.00	arrived Moreton
11.10	bus to Stow	18.07	train to Oxford
11.25	arrived in Stow for 3hr visit	18.55	arrived in Oxford
14.25	bus to Bourton		

Alison says: "You do need to plan ahead to make the most of your day – check bus and attraction opening times, and estimate how long you want to spend in each place."

One-day and three-day Cotswolds Discoverer bus/rail tickets are available through all UK rail stations and participating bus companies. For further details and itinerary suggestions, go to www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk/discoverer



All images: Alison Hughes

Making the grade

Grade II listing of Bourton-on-the-Water Model Village celebrates local craftsmanship

Earlier this year Heritage Minister Ed Vaizey gave Grade II listed status to Bourton-on-the-Water Model Village on the recommendation of English Heritage – the first model village to be granted such status. The highly unusual accolade formally recognises the rarity, craftsmanship and historical value of the much-loved family attraction, preserving and protecting it for generations to come.

While most model villages around the country date from the 1950s and 1960s, the one at Bourton opened in 1937 to celebrate the Coronation of King George VI. Its creator, a former landlord of the Old New Inn behind which it stands, hoped to capture some of the newly booming market in motor tourism.

The model village is also rare because, unlike most miniature worlds, it is an exact replica of the village it calls home. Eight craftsmen took five years to build it on a 1/9th scale, using authentic materials



including locally quarried limestone and miniature Cotswold stone slates.

Deborah Williams, Head of Designation for the West, at English Heritage, says, "As one of the first model villages, and with such excellent craftsmanship, this charming creation fully deserves Grade II listing. Its value is greatly added to by the number of listed buildings the model village records and the fact it is set within the grounds of a Grade

II listed pub."

Current Old New Inn landlords Vicki and Julian Atherton employ a full-time stonemason and gardener to look after the model village. "Maintenance is constant, and although little changes structurally in the real village due to so many buildings being listed, shops can change ownership and we have to update signs in the model village," says Vicki.

There are 118 National Heritage List for England Designations in Bourton-on-the-Water, comprising 114 listed buildings and four scheduled monuments. Across the Cotswolds AONB as a whole there are more than 10,500 designations, of Grade I (exceptional interest), Grade II* (particular importance) and Grade II (special interest).

"Listing marks and celebrates special architectural and historic interest," says Deborah Williams. "It brings the building or monument under the consideration of the planning system so that some thought will be taken about its future."

The AONB boasts a rich range of listed buildings that reflect its distinctive character: from wonderful examples of vernacular limestone architecture/stone slate roofs in Broadway, to grand edifices like Grade I-listed Sudeley Castle; from impressive monuments to industry such as Grade I-listed Dundas Aqueduct carrying the Kennet

and Avon Canal, to Grade I-listed Sezincote House, Moreton-in-Marsh, with its array of Grade I/II-listed garden features – grottoes, fountains, orangery, temple – bespeaking more leisurely pursuits.

Unsurprisingly, given the Cotswolds' rural nature, there are well over 1,500 designations for farming-related buildings and features, including Bradford on Avon's Grade I-listed 14th-century tithe barn and, less well known, a Grade II-listed 18th/19th-century sheepwash at Arlebrook.

Dozens of listed estate cottages from Sherborne to Badminton, churches, inns, mills and manors paint a picture of traditional country life. Not even the smaller details are overlooked in listing, whether a Festival of Britain bus shelter at Farmington (II), a Victorian letterbox, Painswick (II), or an 18th-century privy, West Yatton (II).

Bourton-on-the-Water Model Village is open year-round, www.theoldnewinn.co.uk

Great Cotswoldians: Luke Howard (1772–1864)

In 1802 an unknown amateur meteorologist shot to fame when he invented what became the basis of the cloud classification system still used to this day. But Luke Howard's ideas all began with daydreaming in the Cotswolds



Howard, a modest 30-year-old Quaker pharmacist, presented his groundbreaking paper, 'On the modification of clouds', to a London science club. It took just an hour, but by the end, he had introduced his audience to new theories on the formation and lifespan of clouds, and a new, descriptive nomenclature that divided clouds into three main families: *cirrus* (Latin for a curl of hair), *cumulus* (meaning heap) and *stratus* (meaning something spread).

Additionally, Howard named four further cloud types, like *cirrocumulus* and *cirrostratus*, explaining how cloud forms might unite and pass from one family to another. As Richard Hamblyn, author of *The Invention of Clouds*, says: this language of the skies "would give weight to the weightless forms of the air, institute a transformation of outlook and expression, and alter for ever the relationship between the world and the restless, overarching sky."

Born in London in 1772 to a successful businessman, Robert Howard, and his wife Elizabeth, Luke was sent at the age of eight to Hillside Academy, Burford. Over his next seven, formative years at the strict Quaker establishment, he spent as much time as possible outdoors pursuing natural history: an escape from tedious hours of detested Latin grammar.

Another consolation he found was staring at the Oxfordshire skies through the windows of his lodgings, observing cloudscapes drifting and shape shifting. Such sky watching would become a life-long passion, and in 1783 in particular the young

schoolboy witnessed something that hooked him on the study of weather and climate.

For the whole summer of 1783 was filled with strange phenomena across the world: unhealthy hazes, sulphurous smells, violent thunderstorms and, excitingly, the night skies of Europe – and the Cotswolds – dazzled with the lights of the aurora borealis. Howard avidly described it in his journal. In fact, the 'universal Perturbation in Nature' had been caused by dramatic volcanic eruptions in Japan and Iceland casting millions of tons of ash and gases into the stratosphere.

Howard had been born at the right time, into the era of Enlightenment and scientific inquiry, when minds sought patterns in Nature, to explain, name, classify and list. Following the great stir of 1783 and his schooldays gazing skywards, he pursued a career in pharmacy that took him away from the Cotswolds. But his abiding interest lay in meteorology and he kept daily records of the weather.

And so Howard produced his 1802 paper identifying clouds: the visible manifestations of hidden atmospheric



activity. Others before him had attempted to classify clouds, but none with such clarity and lasting impact.

In the coming years Howard's ideas, which he continued to refine, reached around the world. He may have hated Latin grammar, but his choice of Latin rather than English names helped his classifications to travel without confusions of translation, and that meant everyone could record and share with precision.

Howard was among the first members of what is now the Royal Meteorological Society and his studies on clouds, weather, climate and

seasons encouraged the science of meteorology to take off. This provided inspiration to poets like Goethe and Shelley, as well as England's great landscape artist and painter of clouds, John Constable. Later pioneers would be moved by his achievements too, including Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort, of Beaufort Scale fame.

Today few people outside the world of meteorology remember Luke Howard's name, though *cumulus*, *stratus* and *cirrus* are familiar. Next time you watch clouds drifting across Cotswold skies, spare a thought for the Burford schoolboy.

Cotswold Champions: Eilidh Auckland

Eilidh Auckland is House and Collections Manager at the National Trust's Dyrham Park, the 17th-century mansion, garden and deer park near Bath. She looks after the contents of the house and manages a large team of volunteers – over 140 room guides, flower ladies, salvage team members, tour guides and conservation assistants – plus five members of staff.



Eilidh graduated from Bournemouth University with a BSc (Hons) in Heritage Conservation in 1996, then worked at National Trust properties around the country and completed a distance learning Masters degree in Museum Studies. She moved to Dyrham Park in 2005.

How did you first become interested in heritage?

My parents took me and my siblings to hundreds of castles, houses, abbeys and ruins when we were growing up in Norfolk. I loved the smells of dusty tapestries and wooden floors, and tales of secret doorways, trysts, murders and family sagas.

Why is it important to conserve Dyrham Park for the public to visit?

Dyrham is very special because it is of the period around the Glorious Revolution when its builder William Blathwayt rose to power under William of Orange. You can still see some of his decorative schemes and purchases, as well as learn about his ambitious career as a civil servant. The house and grounds are such a joy to visit, to learn about the 1690s, to relax or play.

What happens in winter when the house closes to visitors?

January–mid-February is when we deep clean the show rooms – a mobile scaffold tower is built to reach the moulded ceilings and chandeliers. I also check the location of all 4,500 items in the collection, against a database that is in the public domain and needs to be accurate. Our volunteers come in all winter to attend fascinating lectures, walks and tours that I organise.

What are the least/most enjoyable aspects of your job?

I don't like doing the monthly check of the pest traps – sticky pads that we leave along skirting boards

and in fireplaces. They catch the occasional two-spotted carpet beetle or silverfish, but mainly monstrous house spiders or woodlouse. We need to know what pests are attacking our collection. I most enjoy talking to visitors and we have great chats about the eating habits of the 1690s compared to the better-known Downton Abbey period.

What is the most important lesson you have learnt?

The volunteers are really important and making sure that they are well informed and positive about the National Trust means that visitors are happy and will support Dyrham Park.

What plans for the future?

There are exciting ideas around developing Old Lodge as a family destination in the park with natural play facilities. In the house we are developing a ten-year plan to re-present some rooms back to their original decorative scheme and to improve interpretation.

What do you most enjoy about living in the Cotswolds?

During our first summer here, my husband and I walked the Cotswold Way, stopping at Dyrham to dip our toes in the ponds. I am absolutely in love with the leafy green countryside, panoramic views, wooded lanes, picturesque villages and the incredible trees everywhere.

Dyrham Park's deer park is open all year; the house closes January–mid February. For full details see www.nationaltrust.org.uk/dyrham-park

Do you know a 'Cotswold champion' – a conservationist, volunteer, artist or someone else who adds richness to Cotswold life? Send your nominations to info@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk or via [twitter@cotswoldsaonb](https://twitter.com/cotswoldsaonb) and we will feature a selection in future issues.

Spotlight

South Warwickshire villages

It can be overlooked that the Cotswolds AONB stretches at its northern tips into Warwickshire. Yet the countryside here, shaped by centuries of farming (see remnants of medieval ridge and furrow systems at places like Radway Meadows), is beautiful to explore. Elevated views across open fields, narrow lanes, and scattered villages where you'll still find church, school, pub and shop, make for an enticing area to live or visit.

Around the villages Begin a tour at Ilmington (www.ilmington.org.uk), an outpost in the northwestern crook of the AONB's hills but unmistakably Cotswoldian with its attractive thatched/stone-tile roofed, limestone buildings. Norman St Mary the Virgin Church features an Apple Map celebrating Ilmington's orchard heritage and the village is home to The Traditional Ilmington Morris Men – records of Morris dancing here date from the 17th century.

A leap to Long Compton (www.longcompton-pc.gov.uk) on the Oxfordshire border starts a meander up the northeastern finger of the Cotswolds. The nearby Neolithic and Bronze Age Rollright Stones (www.rollrightstones.co.uk) have stirred up countless legends and Long Compton was once notorious for witchcraft. The pretty honey-colour stone village is nowadays noted for its church with iconic timber-framed lychgate – formerly part of a row of cottages.

At Whichford buy superb handmade flowerpots from family-run Whichford Pottery (www.whichfordpottery.com) and perhaps be inspired to join a workshop. Brailes (www.brailesvillage.co.uk) – Upper and Lower – is surrounded by hills and there was a motte and bailey castle on Castle Hill. Visit St George's Church, whose airy proportions and 120ft tower (containing one of the world's heaviest peals of six bells) reflect the medieval prosperity of the village.

Continuing north, experience the atmosphere of a 1930s weekend house party or take the Winter Walk at the National Trust's Upton House (www.nationaltrust.org.uk). Then enjoy the peace and vistas of Warwickshire Wildlife Trust's Radway Meadows (www.warwickshirewildlifetrust.org.uk) beneath the wooded scarp of Edge Hill.

Walking Download circular walks (2.5–4.5 miles) from www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk and enjoy wonderful village and countryside rambling: over gently undulating terrain at Cherington; around Brailes and learn of its Roman spa; from Whichford with its tales of knights and a castle. Or take an exhilarating stride from Ilmington to 'the roof of Warwickshire'. The annual Brailes Three Hills Walk (first Monday in May), raising money for Brailes School and Brailes Pavilion, is a great family occasion (details from Richard.cheney@btinternet.com).

Refreshment The 400-year-old Howard Arms (www.howardarms.com) on the village green at Ilmington creates delicious menus around local suppliers and seasonal produce, or relax in The Red Lion (www.redlion-longcompton.co.uk), a former coaching inn at Long Compton. The Norman Knight (www.thenormanknight.co.uk) at Whichford brews its own beer, and promotes local walking and cycling routes; and the 17th-century Cherington Arms (www.cheringtonarms.co.uk) welcomes walking groups with good value pub food. A 'Walking Boots Service' at The Gate at Brailes (www.thegateatbrailes.co.uk) includes sandwiches or pre-arranged menu to serve on your arrival, or go for pub classics, grill or spicy at The George at Brailes (www.thegeorgeatbrailes.co.uk). The Castle (www.castleinnedgehill.com), perched on the Cotswolds' northern fingertip, overlooks the scene of the 1642 Battle of Edgehill, the first major encounter of the English Civil War: quite a thought as you savour a hearty meal.

Visiting essentials For details of bus services, go to www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk/visitor-info/gettinghere



Stephen Wright



Growing demand for rural skills courses

Active interest in traditional country skills is on the rise around the Cotswolds, with 2012–13 a record breaking year for the Board's rural skills programme. Training for 230 people was provided on 28 courses, covering six different activities: dry stone walling, hedgelaying, green woodworking, lime mortar, woodland coppicing, and blacksmithing.

Traditional rural skills have played a significant role in shaping the Cotswolds' distinctive landscape, but many have become neglected due to changing land management practices. The Board's rural skills programme and website aims to promote courses that encourage participation and the latest trainee figures are the highest since the initiative began in 2005. Dry stone walling and hedgelaying were most popular.

Commenting on the results, Rural Skills Officer David Molloy said, "Feedback after courses has shown that 25% of people are looking at new skills for a second career or as a line for part-time work. But a lot

are thinking about being able to do simple repairs at home."

It is hoped to develop training further with the launch of a dry stone walling academy this autumn. Run by the Board, with expert input from the Cotswold branch of the Dry Stone Walling Association, accredited Level 1, 2 and 3 courses will last for eight to 16 weeks.

Look out too for the Board's annual competitions in dry stone walling (6th Oct) and hedgelaying (16th Nov).

David also reported a good uptake on rural skills-based Corporate Team Building activities which launched last year. Employees from the Coventry branch of IKEA recently enjoyed an afternoon dry stone walling at Broadway Tower. "We had a great afternoon and learnt lots to add to our cultural and heritage knowledge," said Jemma Hirschfield (Learning & Development Manager).

For more information on rural skills courses including corporate team building days and gift vouchers, see www.cotswoldsruralskills.org.uk



Hill forts cleared

Thanks to a grant from English Heritage, Cotswold Voluntary Wardens have been busy clearing three Iron Age hill forts at risk due to shrub and tree encroachment.

A Regional Capacity Building Grant of £2,500 went towards training six wardens in the use of brushcutters and three in the use of chainsaws,

plus the finer points of herbicide application. The group then set to work clearing Brackenbury Ditches, near Wotton under Edge, Old Sodbury Camp and Leckhampton, enabling the sites' historic value to be protected and made more visible to the public.

Nick Croxson, Heritage at Risk Projects Officer for English Heritage, said, "We are very pleased to have been able to support the work of the wardens who have been making excellent progress in improving the condition of these important historic sites, some of which are on the national Heritage at Risk register. This restoration work will help ensure that the significance of these sites is preserved for future generations to enjoy."

Cotswold Way – in Canada!

A section of Canada's oldest and longest marked footpath has twinned with the Cotswold Way.

The new Cotswold Way Friendship Trail may be walked in the Peninsula Club section of the Bruce Trail, Ontario, which provides the only continuous public access to the Niagara Escarpment, a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve. A corresponding Friendship Trail is planned for a section of the Cotswold Way around Haresfield Beacon, marking international cooperation between the two trails. The latest launch follows the successful establishment of the recent Cotswolds Korea Friendship Trail.

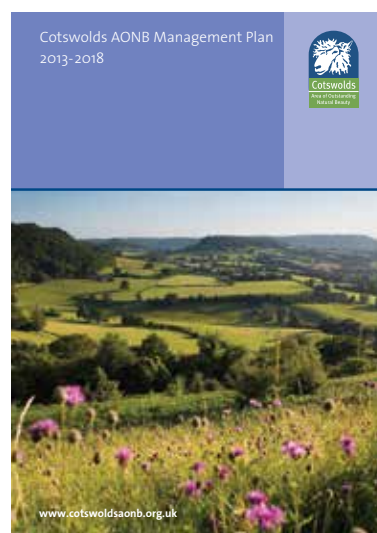


Management Plan provides vision for AONB

The Cotswolds AONB Management Plan 2013–18 has been published following a detailed consultation process. The new statutory plan sets out the objectives and policies of the Cotswolds Conservation Board for 2013–18, and provides a vision for the AONB for the next 20 years.

Designed as a guide to help everyone living and working in the AONB to play their part in looking after the special landscape, whether local authorities, businesses or individuals, the plan covers a wide range of issues: from development and transport, to rural land management, natural resources, biodiversity and the historic environment.

For further details, visit www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/managementplan



Visitor giving scheme launched

The special landscapes and cultural heritage of the Cotswolds AONB attract millions of visitors a year, bringing welcome revenue to local businesses – but also an impact on the very environment on which our tourism industry relies. Now a new 'visitor giving' scheme will help to fund projects to conserve the beauty of the AONB for future generations to enjoy, allowing local tourism to continue to flourish.



Clockwise from back left: Nick Holliday, CCB; Chris Grimes, Manor Cottages; Harry Acland, Notgrove Holidays; Susie Hunt, Batsford Arboretum.

"Visitor giving" works by asking visitors to voluntarily support conservation through donating a very small amount of money via their bill or fees. Money raised by tourism businesses in this way will be managed by the Cotswolds Conservation Board and distributed to a range of important landscape and environmental projects carried out by the many committed organisations working across the Cotswolds, to:

- conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape;
- manage and restore habitats for wildlife;
- manage and improve footpaths and bridleways;
- look after the area's distinctive historical heritage.

"One way in which businesses like accommodation providers can raise money through visitor giving is

to have an opt-out tick box on their online booking, which is very easy," said Simon Smith, the Board's Project Development Officer. "But there are no limits to ways of participating – we will work with businesses to find a way that fits their model.

"Businesses like Manor Cottages and Notgrove Holiday Cottages approached us even before the official launch of the scheme in July and there is a lot of interest," Simon added. "The scheme is attractive to visitors because they feel actively engaged in supporting the local environment and it's good for businesses because they will have plenty of good news stories about conservation to tell their customers."

Businesses interested in joining the scheme can find out more from Simon Smith, tel: 01451 862031; email simon.smith@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Walks & Events Guide

Welcome to the Cotswolds AONB Autumn/Winter Walks & Events Programme, which offers numerous opportunities to explore and enjoy one of the most treasured landscapes in England. The majority of the walks listed here are researched and led by our Cotswold Voluntary Wardens and are ideal for those wanting to enjoy a couple of hours or even a whole day walking in the countryside. We recommend you always wear appropriate footwear as some walks may be muddy in places. Sorry, but only assistance dogs are allowed on the walks. Unless otherwise stated, all guided walks are free of charge, however donations are collected at the end which go towards helping to conserve and enhance the Cotswolds countryside. Further details of these walks and other events taking place throughout the Cotswolds AONB can be found at www.escapetothecotswolds.org.uk. Please always check the website for any changes to walks during bad weather.

Walk the Cotswold Way

Join a group led by the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens walking the Cotswold Way in 10 mile stages each month starting in May. In 2014/15 we will be running two walks.

On the first Wednesday of each month the Way will be walked from south to north and a group will travel by coach from Winchcombe to each start point, stopping for lunches at pleasant inns en route. For further information on this walk and to reserve places contact Mary Hamilton on 01451 820160 or email: m.hamilton@tesco.net

Alternatively on the first Saturday of each month the Way will be walked from north to south and a group will travel by coach from the Bath area to each start point. For this option walkers should bring their own packed lunches for a picnic at an attractive spot en route. For further information and to reserve places please contact John Bartram on 0117 9374561 or email: woodlandsbarn@btinternet.com

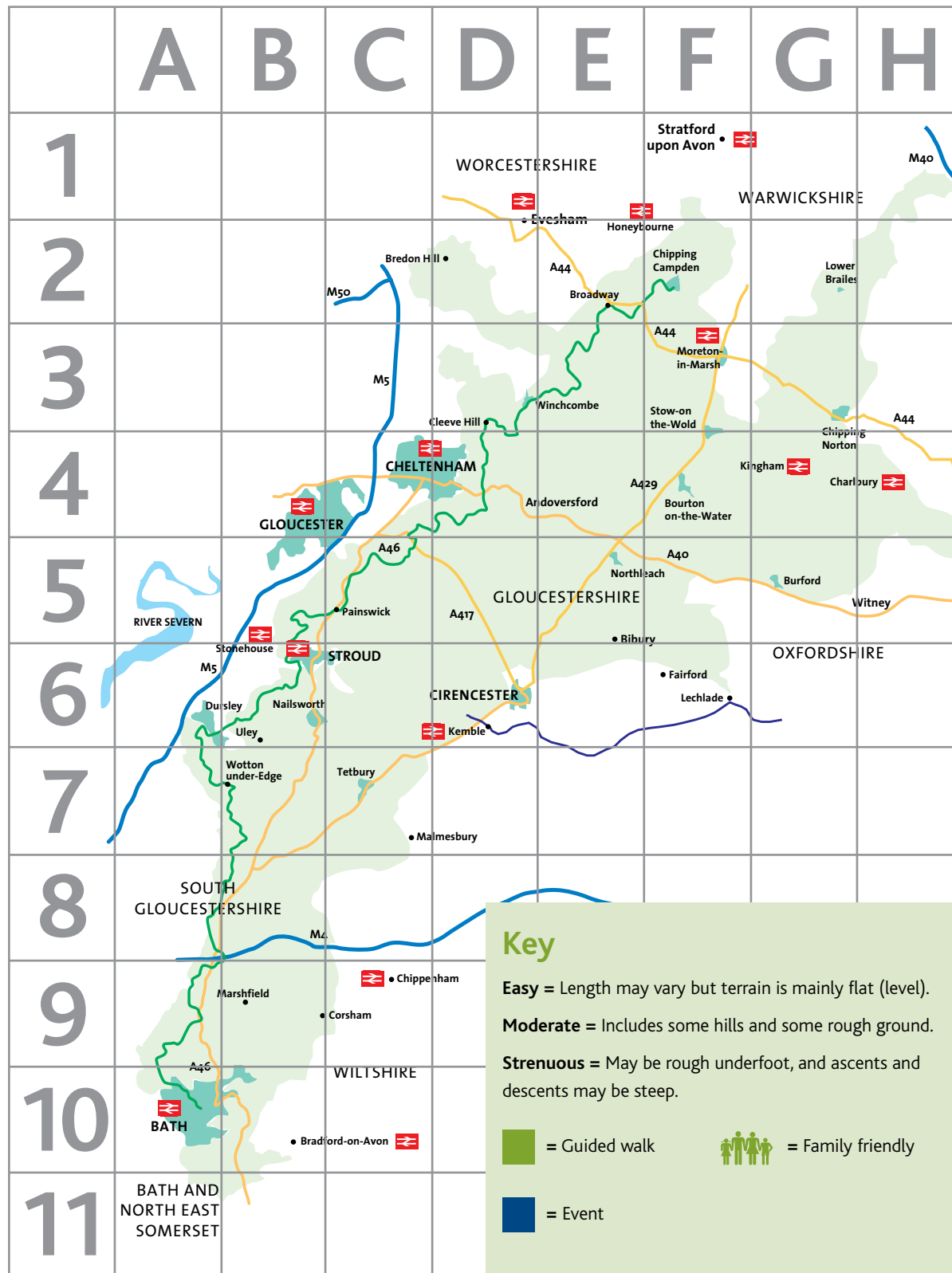
For both early booking is advised!

Guided tours of Chipping Campden

Tailor made: The Cotswold Voluntary Wardens offer a town walk with an audio visual show followed by tea or supper for organised parties in Chipping Campden. For further details contact Ann Colcomb on 01386 832131

Walk the Diamond Way

Join a group led by the Voluntary Wardens walking 8/10 miles of the North Cotswolds Diamond Way on the fourth Wednesday of every month from April to September. Contact Allan Allcock on 0787 638 7029.



Thursday • 3 October • 10:00

What's in the name? 1

Moderate • 4.5 hours • 8.5 miles
First in series focusing on unusual North Cotswold place names and what they tell us. Compton Scorpion and Lark Stoke feature along with Hidcote, Foxcote and Ilmington. Please bring a packed lunch.

Starting point: Hidcote National Trust car park (turn left at entrance) • SP177430 Map square F2

Leaders: Keith Sisson & Paul Adams

Saturday • 5 October • 10:30

Dyrham battlefield and Terraces (National Trust Walking Festival)

Easy • 2.5 hours • 3 miles

A walk via Old Lodge to the newly available Terraces [Access only on led walks], then onto the Cotswold Way where a climb is necessary to the Battlefield and ancient hill fort before returning via Cock Lane and Talbot farm.

Starting point: Visitor Reception, Dyrham Park ST748757 • Map square A9

Leaders: Fred Dugan & John Walker

Saturday • 5 October • 10:00

An Ancient Track and Quaker Teaching

Moderate • 5 hours • 9.5 miles

An undulating circuit of hilltop views and wooded valleys from Whichford to Sibford and back. Travelling Ditchedge Lane and crossing the county border to visit Oxfordshire to learn about the Quaker community and their school. Bring drink and packed lunch.

Starting point: Whichford Village Green, Warks. SP315346 • Map square G3

Leader: Janet Deller

Sunday • 6 October • 10:00

Town and Down (Dursley Walking Festival)

Moderate • 2 hours • 4 miles

A walk from Dursley including an ascent to Cam Long Down, one of the finest ridge walks in the Cotswolds, for a geographical perspective of the town and locality.

Starting point: Dursley Market Place. Parking available in long stay car park, Long Street, Dursley. ST757982 • Map square A6

Leaders: David Harrowin & John Hammill

Tuesday • 8 October • 10:00

The Two Hawkesburys

Moderate • 3 hours • 6 miles

A half day walk through Cotswold meadows and quiet lanes taking in the villages of Hawkesbury Upton and Hawkesbury. One climb near to the end of the walk. Pub lunch available if required at the end of the walk

Starting point: Village Hall, Hawkesbury Upton • ST777870 • Map square B7

Leaders: Les Jones & Ken Leach

Looking after the countryside

Ash dieback is one of a growing number of potentially damaging diseases affecting our landscape. When visiting the countryside, help to reduce the spread of these diseases by ensuring that no plant material is removed and that all footwear and outdoor equipment are cleaned.

OCTOBER

Tuesday • 1 October • 10:00

Tuesday Tramp

Moderate • 3 hours • 5 miles

A walk around the various footpaths of Colerne Parish. Lunch available at the Fox and Hounds. Bring a mid morning munchie. Parking at the pub or adjacent Constitutional Club. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Starting point: Fox & Hounds, Colerne ST818711 • Map square B9

Leaders: Russell Harding, Judith Slee, Sid Gould & Bobby Collins

Wednesday • 2 October • 10:00

Autumn Colours in Chatcombe Wood

Moderate • 2 hours • 4 miles

Extensive views from Upper Coberley and the Cotswold escarpment combined with a woodland walk at Chatcombe. Accessible by Stagecoach bus 151 from Cheltenham and Cirencester.

Starting point: Hungry Horse pub car park Seven Springs • SO968170 • Map square D4

Leaders: P Burgon, J Shaw & T Wilson

Thursday 3 to Sunday 6 • October

Tetbury Music Festival

A four-day classical music festival

Venue: Tetbury

www.tetburymusicfestival.org.uk

Friday 4 to Sunday 6 • October

Dursley Walking Festival

A wide range of free walks to suit all abilities all starting from the market place in Dursley. Booking required.

Venue: Dursley

www.dursleywelcomeswalkers.org.uk



Batsford

ARBORETUM & GARDEN CENTRE

www.batsarb.co.uk



Home to one of the largest private tree collections in the country, Batsford Arboretum offers visitors year round interest; lush, flowering bulbs in spring as well as magnolias, Japanese flowering cherries and our famous handkerchief tree; insect-rich wildflower areas in the height of summer and nature's fireworks display of reds, golds and yellows in autumn.

Wander along delicate watercourses as they trickle their way down the hillside and discover beautiful, orient-inspired statues and a Japanese Rest House in the grounds – the perfect place to relax and admire breath-taking views across the Evenlode Valley.

Gold award winner in the 2013 Cotswolds Tourism Large Visitor Attraction category, the visitor centre is home to the Garden Terrace Café serving local, freshly-baked food and cakes including a deck area overlooking the Plant Centre. There are also well-stocked garden and gift shops and a wonderful selection of quality plants for all seasons.

Don't miss the Applestore for unique, shabby chic interior ideas and the Cotswolds Falconry Centre for an up close and personal experience of more than sixty varieties of birds of prey.

Events at Batsford Arboretum

Coming soon don't miss the beautiful autumn colour at Batsford throughout October and early November!

There's Tai Chi for the over 60's on September 4th; our annual Fungus Foray's on October 13th and an intermediate garden photography course on October 25th. Visit our new website at www.batsarb.co.uk for more information about what's happening this autumn at beautiful Batsford.

We're open every day of the year except Christmas Day from 10am to 5pm.

Batsford Arboretum, Batsford, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire GL56 9AB

Tel 01386 701441

Email arboretum@batsfordfoundation.co.uk

www.batsarb.co.uk

Find us on Facebook.com/Batsford Arboretum

or follow us on Twitter.com/BatsfordA

Escape to the Cotswolds

At the Old Prison, Northleach GL54 3JL
AUTUMN EVENTS



Geology and Quarrying in the Cotswolds

Thursday 5 September • 2pm

An illustrated talk by David Glenn, Managing Director of Huntsmans Quarries Ltd.

Wildflowers of the Cotswolds

Thursday 11 September • 2pm

Illustrated talk by Cotswold Voluntary Warden, Craig Blackwell – former county ecologist for Oxfordshire County Council.

History Tour of the Old Prison, Northleach

Wednesday 18 September • 2pm

A fascinating insight into the story behind the Old Prison at Northleach.

Managing Woodlands for Wildlife

Wednesday 25 September • 2pm

Illustrated talk by naturalist, Simon Smith of the Cotswolds Conservation Quarries Ltd.

Furniture Restoration, Preservation and Painting

Thursday 26 & Friday 27 September
11am – 4pm

Course run by Interior Designer, Simone McClelland. All materials provided. Cost: £150 per person. For more information, please email: simone@theearlyworm.co.uk

Illustrated Talk by the Cotswold Chef, Rob Rees

Wednesday 2 October • 2pm

Celebrating British Food Fortnight, our own Cotswold Chef, Rob Rees provides an entertaining talk on all things food related.

Batsford Arboretum through the seasons

Friday 4 October • 2pm

Illustrated talk on the arboretum, highlighting its new visitor centre and events programme.

History of Northleach over the past 100 years

Thursday 24 October • 2pm

Illustrated talk by Enid Sly who will share her many anecdotes having lived and worked in this medieval town all of her life.

A History Tour of Northleach – one of England's finest Norman 'Planted' Towns

Wednesday 30 October • 2pm

Led by local historian Peter Dawson.

Costs of all events above, unless otherwise stated are: £3.50 per person, including event, access to prison, exhibitions and refreshments.

Wednesday • 9 October • 19:30

Britain's Big Cats

An illustrated talk by author Rick Minter. Returning to Cotswold Water Park by popular demand, Rick will give a fascinating update on the story so far about the big cats living wild in Britain. Tickets £6. Booking essential. Organised by Cotswold Water Park Trust. **Venue:** Gateway Centre, South Cerney www.waterpark.org

Saturday • 12 October • 10:00

Two Elizabethan Estates

Moderate • 6 hours • 12 miles
A varied walk through the Ditchley and Cornbury estates. A figure of eight walk with lunch back in Charlbury at the Rose and Crown. Drinks only at pub bring own packed lunch (which can be purchased in Charlbury). **Starting point:** Charlbury Spendlove Car Park (free). SP358196 • Map square H4 **Leaders:** Tony Merry & Harriet Baldwin

Sunday • 13 October • 14:30

Stories of the Land

Join our local experts to learn about the historic landscape of the Minchinhampton and Rodborough Commons. Booking essential. **Venue:** Minchinhampton Common www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Sunday • 13 October • 10:00

Mosses and Liverworts of Cleeve Common

Moderate • 3 hours • 4.5 miles
How do you tell a moss from a liverwort? Can we really bring a species back from the brink? Richard Lansdown, a county recorder for bryophytes, will be on hand to explain on this walk. **Starting point:** Quarry car park, Cleeve Common • SO989271 • Map square D3 **Leaders:** Jean Booth & Simon Mallatratt

Sunday • 13 October • 10:00

Around the Cotswold Way to Hanging Hill (National Trust Walking Festival)

Strenuous • 5.5 hours • 10 miles
A circular walk on restored paths around the Cotswold Way. Dyrham, Doynton, Wick, Hanging Hill, then the Cotswold Way apart from a diversion via Nimlet to Cold Ashton. Please bring a picnic lunch. Not suitable for pushchairs. **Starting point:** Visitor Reception, Dyrham Park ST748757 • Map square A9 **Leaders:** John Walker, Fred Dugan & David Le Lohé

Sunday • 13 October

Fungi Foray

Celebrate UK Fungus Day and get foraying with Dave Champion who'll take you on an adventure around the arboretum, seeking out our fabulous fungi. **Venue:** Batsford Arboretum www.batsarb.co.uk

Tuesday • 15 October • 10:00

Box and surrounding countryside – a morning walk

Moderate • 3 hours • 5.5 max
A series of monthly walks from Box into the surrounding countryside. Some hills, giving good views. May be muddy following wet weather. Please bring drinks and snack for mid-walk break. Lunch may be obtained in the village pubs and tea rooms afterwards. **Starting point:** Selwyn Hall free Car park, Box - Off the A4. ST824686 • Map square B10 **Leaders:** Judith Slee & Sid Gould

Tuesday • 15 October • 10:00

Above the Vale in Autumn

Moderate • 3 hours • 6 miles
An autumn tour of the woods with views from the scarp at one of the best times of the year. Some steep climbs and stiles. **Starting point:** Dovers Hill National Trust car park • SP137395 • Map square F2 **Leaders:** Jean Booth & Simon Mallatratt



Cotswolds Rural Skills Courses 2013-2014

Autumn/Winter Programme



Why not learn a new skill this autumn and winter with one of the Cotswolds Conservation Board's rural skills courses? Our courses are designed to offer a practical, hands on experience of these historic Cotswold crafts, so whether you have a project in mind or just a passing interest, our courses will show you how it's done. Courses are available at a variety of locations across the Cotswolds, no experience is necessary and all tools and equipment are provided.

Dry-stone walling (Beginners) - £99

Naunton, 14-15 September (course full)
 Blenheim, 28-29 September
 Long Compton, 12-13 October
 Lansdown, 26-27 October

Hedgelaying (Beginners) - £109

Todenham, 14-15 October
 Westonbirt, 9-10 November
 Huntsmans, 23-24 November
 Luckington, 11-12 January
 Westonbirt, 28-29 January
 Huntsmans, 8-9 February
 Luckington, 22-23 February
 Illmington, 8-9 March

Lime Mortar Building Repairs (Beginners) - £99

Ebworth Centre, 21-22 September

Woodland Coppicing - £59

Coberley, 3 November
 Coberley, 26 January
 Coberley, 25 February

Blacksmithing (Taster) - £99

Tetbury, 13th October
 Tetbury, 1 December
 Tetbury, 26 January
 Tetbury, 2 March

Cotswold Tile Roofing - £99

Naunton, 14-15 September
 Naunton, 23-24 November
 Naunton, 8-9 March

Are you planning your company's next Team Building Day?

Tired of the same old cryptic games and problem solving exercises? Want to do something that will bring your team together and provide them with something meaningful and lasting that they can be proud of? Our bespoke team building events will provide your team with a completely different type of challenge. A challenge that will not only bring you together as a team but will also leave you and your colleagues with a proud sense of satisfaction and achievement. Events to choose from include dry-stone walling, hedgelaying, woodland coppicing, historic building repair and more. For further information visit our website.

"We had a great afternoon and learnt lots to add to our cultural and heritage knowledge"

Jemma Hirschfield (IKEA Learning & Development Manager)

Gift Vouchers

Looking for that special birthday/Christmas present? Our popular rural skills gift vouchers are valid for 12 months and can be redeemed against a course of the holder's choice (equal to the value of the course fee and subject to availability). Vouchers can be purchased online via our rural skills website.

Competitions

Dry Stone Walling: National Trust Sherborne Estate, 6 October

Hedgelaying: Chipping Campden, 16 November

For further details and to book online visit: www.cotswoldsruralskills.org.uk • Tel: 01451 862000

Tuesday • 15 October • 10:00

Coffee Morning Walk No. 1

Moderate • 3.5 hours • 5.5 miles

Meet at 10am for coffee at the Weighbridge Inn. The walk starts at 10:30am through the woods to Box, descends to the Nailsworth valley, and returns via Shipton's Grave Lane and Hazel wood. Lunch available at the Inn if required.

Starting point: Weighbridge Inn, between Nailsworth and Avening.
 ST862993 • Map square B6

Leaders: Eric Brown & Norman Kay

Wednesday • 16 October • 10:00

Guiting Power, the Wardens' Way and Adam's Farm

Moderate • 6 hours • 10 miles

Exploring the area to the east and north of Guiting Power, visiting the dovecote at Naunton, Eyford Park, Cotswold Farm Park and the two fords at Kineton. Please bring a packed lunch.

Starting point: Sheepfold car park. 1 mile NW of Guiting Power, where Wardens' Way crosses Crtichford Lane. SP084259 • Map square E4

Leaders: Stewart Rainbow & Rodney Langman

Sunday • 20 October • 10:00

Park and Walk (National Trust Walking Festival)

Moderate • 3 hours • 5 miles

A walk from Newark Park featuring beech woodlands, a wide valley, the village of Wortley and the Cotswold Way. Pub lunch available locally on completion of the walk.

Starting point: Newark Park National Trust car park, by arrangement.
 ST782931 • Map square B7

Leader: David Harrowin & Hilary Paveley

Sunday • 20 October • 10:00

Tipped Over The Edge

Strenuous • 6 hours • 12 miles

This walk explores the limestone around the Edge Hill area on the Oxfordshire/Warwickshire border. The area is known for its pretty ironstone villages. A packed lunch is required. Please park considerately on roadside in village.

Starting point: Shennington Green, Oxon.
 SP372428 • Map square H2

Leaders: Lucy & Martin Squires



Wednesday • 23 October • 10:00

Autumn Colour from Stanton

Moderate • 6 hours • 10 miles

First in a series of seasonal walks exploring footpaths around Stanton. We will go up the escarpment towards Shenberrow and through woodland, with glorious views to enjoy and some Autumn colour. Please bring a packed lunch.

Starting point: Stanton Village Car Park
 SP067343 • Map square E3

Leaders: Sheila Wasley & Margaret Reid

Thursday • 24 October • 10:00

Mysteries, Moggies and Humbugs

Easy • 3 hours • 5.5 miles

A pleasant walk starting in the interesting village of Finstock. The walk is along field paths, in woodland and along quiet country lanes. After prolonged wet weather it could be muddy. Lunch available in the Plough at walk end.

Starting point: The Plough Inn, Finstock, Oxon.
 SP362162 • Map square H4

Leader: Rosemary Wilson

Friday • 25 October • 10:00



Coberley or Cubberley?

Moderate • 2.5 hours • 4.5 miles

A relatively flat walk from Cockleford to Coberley and back visiting an unusually situated church with lots of local history and an abandoned Domesday Book village. Lunch available at the pub. Please park at the back of the car park.

Starting point: Green Dragon car park
 Cockleford • SO969142 • Map square C/D4

Leaders: B Chilvers, G Ricketts & P Cluley

Friday • 25 October • 9:30

Back to Back to Bourton 1

Moderate • 6 hours • 12.5 miles

We make our way on the Diamond and Monarchs Way to Northleach for a pub stop (or bring a packed lunch). Return through Farmington and Clapton with plenty of views, rolling countryside and secluded valleys.

Starting point: Bourton-on-the-Water War Memorial, village green.
 SP167207 • Map square F4

Leaders: Andy Briars, Allan Allcock & Julie Downing

Wednesday • 16 October • 10:00

Wednesday Wander

Moderate • 2.75 hours • 5.5 miles

A high level walk with magnificent views along the Cotswold Way, traversing Cleeve Hill via Wontley Farm to Belas Knap long barrow. Return descending to the north of Postlip and back to Cleeve Hill. Optional lunch at the Golf Club.

Starting point: Cleeve Hill Golf Club car park
 SO991272 • Map square D3

Leaders: J Foulkes, M Williams & R Hales

Saturday • 19 October • 10:00



Little Solsbury Hill and Chilcombe Bottom Nature Reserve (National Trust Walking Festival)

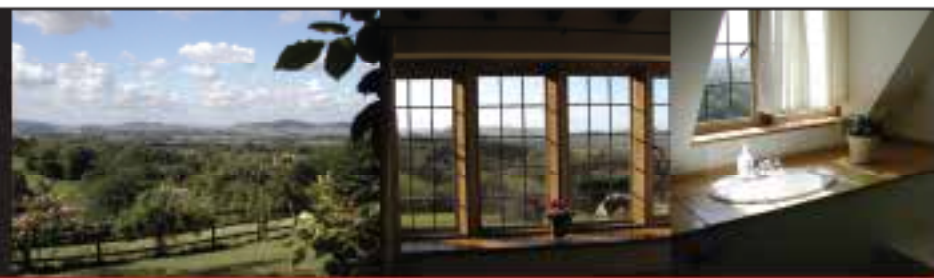
Moderate • 2.5 hours • 3.5 miles

From the slip road, up to the summit for views over Bath, then down through a "Wild Wood" to Northend, Chilcombe Bottom Nature Reserve [Wessex Water], and back to the start. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Starting point: Slip road for Swainswick, East of A46, 3.3 miles from Cold Ashton roundabout at A46/A420 junction.
 ST762683 • Map square A10

Leaders: John Walker & Peter Barlow

WELCOME TO THE STANTON GUILDHOUSE



www.stantonguildhouse.org.uk

Offering accommodation to visitors, walkers, cyclists, weddings, funerals, family celebrations and ideal for holiday and away-day meetings, in our beautiful Grade II listed manor house nestling between Broadway and Cheltenham in the Cotswolds.

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Stanton, Nr Broadway, Wores, WL12 7NR • Tel: 01386 984337

Email: info@stantonguildhouse.org.uk

Friday • 17 January • 10:00

Coffee Morning Walk No. 4

Moderate • 3.5 hours • 5.5 miles

Meet for coffee at the Beaufort Arms at 10am. The walk starts at 10:30am, following the Cotswold and Monarch's Ways to Lower Kilcote via the beautiful Kilcote valley. We return via woods. Lunch available in pub after walk, if required.

Starting point: Beaufort Arms Inn, Hawkesbury Upton • ST777869 • Map square B8

Leaders: Eric Brown & Ian Cooke

Tuesday • 21 January • 10:00



Box and surrounding countryside - a morning walk

Moderate • 3 hours • 5.5 max

A series of monthly walks from Box into the surrounding countryside. Some hills, giving good views. May be muddy following wet weather. Please bring drinks and snack for mid-walk break. Lunch may be obtained in the village pubs and tea rooms afterwards.

Starting point: Selwyn Hall free Car park, Box - Off the A4. ST824686 • Map square B10

Leaders: Judith Slee & Sid Gould

Wednesday • 22 January • 10:00

A Winter Blow

Moderate • 2 hours • 4 miles

Mainly on good paths and lanes to Shab Hill, Ullenwood, and on to join the Cotswold Way. Return via Crickley Hill with stunning views of the Severn Vale. A chance to blow off the Christmas and New Year cobwebs.

Starting point: Barrow Wake car park, off A417 on the road to Birdlip SO931153 • Map square C5

Leaders: M Williams, R Hales & J Foulkes

Friday • 24 January • 11:00

The Way to Tetbury Before the Turnpike

Moderate • 4.5 hours • 6 miles

We pass Cranmore Dairy en route to Barton End Stables. After passing Harley wood we stop for lunch in Nailsworth (Packed lunch or local refreshment). We return via the old route to Tetbury climbing and passing through Ledgemore Wood.

Starting point: Chavenage Green, 0.5 miles west of Chavenage House. ST865957 • Map square C7

Leaders: Brian Mundy & John Hammill

Sunday • 26 January • 10:00



Tadwick? Where is it?

Moderate • 5 hours • 8.5 miles

Down into St. Catherine's valley, Trull's wood, Monkswood reservoir and up to the A46. A steep descent with views of Lansdown to Tadwick, across to the Cotswold Way before returning via Nimlet. Please bring a picnic lunch. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Starting point: Layby on the A420 west of Marshfield • ST772738 • Map square B9

Leaders: John Walker, Fred Dugan & David Le Lohé

Wednesday • 29 January • 10:00

Winter Wander from Stanton

Moderate • 2-4 hours • 4-6 miles

Second in series of seasonal walks exploring footpaths around Stanton. We go up the escarpment for glorious views and to blow the cobwebs away! Exact route and distance will be weather dependent!

Starting point: Stanton Village Car Park SP067343 • Map square E3

Leaders: Sheila Wasley & Margaret Reid

FEBRUARY

Sunday • 2 February • 10:00

Three Ponds Walk

Moderate • 5.5 hours • 9 miles

A circular walk through Alderton and Luckington. A rare opportunity to visit two recently restored medieval fish ponds. Pub stop for drink only. Please bring a picnic lunch.

Starting point: Sherston High Street ST853858 • Map square B8

Leaders: David Harrowin & David Collings

Tuesday • 4 February • 10:00



Tuesday Tramp

Moderate • 3 hours • 5 miles

A walk around the various footpaths of Colerne Parish. Lunch available at the Fox and Hounds. Bring a mid morning munchie. Parking at the pub or adjacent Constitutional Club. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Starting point: Fox & Hounds, Colerne ST818711 • Map square B9

Leaders: Russell Harding, Judith Slee, Sid Gould & Bobby Collins

Wednesday • 5 February • 10:00

A Downland Circuit

Moderate • 3.5 hours • 6 miles

A lovely walk into remote downland north and west of Bibury. No major hills but a few stiles. Bring a snack for this longer walk.

Starting point: Bibury Church. Park on road alongside the river. SP118065 • Map square E5

Leaders: P Burgon, J Shaw & T Wilson

Saturday • 8 February • 10:00



Three Historic Houses!

Moderate • 5 hours • 9 miles

We climb to the A46, and proceed to Badminton via Lyegrove Farm. Crossing the deer park to Little Badminton, we recross the A46 at Bodkin Hazel wood and return via Horton. Please bring a picnic lunch. Not suitable for pushchairs.

Starting point: Old Sodbury Church ST756818 • Map square A8

Leaders: John Walker & Keith Rawlings

Sunday • 9 February • 10:00

Winter on the Ironstone Hills

Strenuous • 6 hours • 12 miles

This walk explores the lovely undulating hills of the Oxfordshire Cotswolds and its ironstone villages. Packed lunch required. Please park considerately on the roadside in the village.

Starting point: Sibford Gower Primary School SP354378 • Map square H3

Leaders: Lucy & Martin Squires

Tuesday • 11 February • 10:00



Thor's Stone and Rochester's Tomb

Moderate • 3 hours • 6.5 miles

A circular walk through varied countryside and woodland including a local nature reserve, and the villages of Taston and Spelsbury. Lunch options in Charlbury at the end of the walk.

Starting point: Charlbury Spendlove Car Park SP358196 • Map square H4

Leader: Tony Graeme



Wednesday • 12 February • 10:00

Coffee Morning Walk No. 5

Moderate • 3.5 hours • 6.5 miles

Meet at the cafe for coffee at 10am. The walk starts at 10:30am, following the Cotswold way to the head of Woodchester Park. We walk through the park and return via Bown Hill. Lunch available in café after walk.

Starting point: Guiseppe's Gourmet - in gliding club grounds on road between Uley and Selsey • SO807018 • Map square B6

Leaders: Eric Brown & Staszek Jarmuz

Saturday • 15 February • 10:00



A countryside view of the city

Moderate • 3 hours • 4.5 miles

A circular walk from Bath's Pulteney Bridge via Alexandra Park, Lyncombe Vale and Sydney Gardens. Coffee stop only. Start only 10 mins. from Bus/Railway station. Not suitable for pushchairs [Steps!]

Starting point: Pulteney Bridge, Bath (Opposite Victoria Art Gallery)

ST752649 • Map square A10

Leaders: Pauline Vincent & Wilf Dando

Tuesday • 18 February • 10:00



Box and surrounding countryside - a morning walk

Moderate • 3 hours • 5.5 max

A series of monthly walks from Box into the surrounding countryside. Some hills, giving good views. May be muddy following wet weather. Please bring drinks and snack for mid-walk break. Lunch may be obtained in the village pubs and tea rooms afterwards.

Starting point: Selwyn Hall free Car park, Box - Off the A4. ST824686 • Map square B10

Leaders: Judith Slee & Sid Gould

Friends given go ahead to develop the Old Prison – it's official



Conservation charity the Friends of the Cotswolds are now official owners of the Old Prison, Northleach, enabling plans to develop the site as a vibrant visitor centre to move ahead with new vigour.

"We are delighted that this magnificent Grade II*-listed building has been saved and will be given fresh life as a community, visitor and educational centre that will benefit people living in Northleach, the wider Cotswolds AONB and those who visit the area," Friends' Chairman Simon Randall says.

"There has been tremendous community support for the project and we are extremely grateful for all the help we have received so far. We now look forward to working with Northleach with Eastington Town Council, local residents and the Cotswolds Conservation Board – main tenants of the Old Prison – to realise exciting plans for the site.

"We have received many donations and our fundraising campaign is pushing ahead with even greater vigour to achieve the overall £750,000 we need to see efforts come to fruition," Simon adds. "We welcome people to engage in the many opportunities around this imaginative project, including getting involved as volunteers."

Local support

It is almost two years since Cotswold District Council decided to sell the Old Prison. Following enthusiastic local support, the Friends of the Cotswolds emerged as preferred bidders to take it over and keep the iconic building and the rural life collection it houses, at the heart of the AONB, open to the public.

The Old Prison was one of four houses of correction built in Gloucestershire in the 1790s, following the



progressive ideas on prisoner welfare of the High Sheriff, Sir George Onesiphorus Paul.

Today the site displays the unique Lloyd-Baker Collection of Rural Life, the largest publicly owned regional collection of agricultural by-gones in the country. It is also home to the Escape to the Cotswolds visitor centre run by the Cotswolds Conservation Board, which tells the story of the Cotswolds through a colourful exhibition and fascinating artefacts.

Dynamic events

A dynamic programme of events over the summer, from prison tours to family fun fossil-handling, has seen a healthy increase in visitor numbers to Escape to the Cotswolds, raising awareness of resources and plans. More activities, including for schools, are scheduled throughout autumn, winter and 2014.

Fundraising from events, donations and corporate sponsorship, including a £20,000 boost from Oxfordshire-based Grundon Waste Management Ltd, is to go towards a range of improvements at the Old Prison to create a year-round community and visitor facility. One of the first of these improvements will be the reinstatement of a café facility due to open this autumn 2013.

Unique opportunity

An application to the Heritage Lottery Fund is also being made, highlighting aims to conserve the historic fabric of the building and enhance galleries in an environmentally friendly way – demonstrating renewable energy in action.

The application emphasises the unique opportunity the project presents to retell the story of the former house of correction and its inhabitants, as well as improve interpretation of the AONB landscape and the Lloyd-Baker Collection of Rural Life, all in one, central location. A play area for children, historically costumed 'prisoners', rural skills demonstrations and lively events are all potential ideas for the creation of a modern, engaging hub of education and fun.

Get involved

The Friends of the Cotswolds are looking for help to realise this vision and further the work of raising funds to conserve and enhance the environment and community facilities in the Cotswolds. If you are interested in helping as either a volunteer and/or Trustee please do get in touch. People with skills in fundraising, marketing & PR, and accountancy would be particularly welcome.

For further news and to find out how to support and get involved with the Friends, visit www.friendsofthecotswolds.org

Making a donation

Gift Aid declaration

Name of charity: Friends of the Cotswolds
(Reg No. 1115119)

Details of donor

giftaid it

Title: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

I want the Friends of the Cotswolds to treat

- The enclosed donation of £ _____ as a Gift Aid donation as I am a UK tax payer and authorise the Friends to reclaim tax currently at 25p in the £.
- All donations that I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid donations.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please send this coupon along with your payment to: Friends of the Cotswolds, Fosse Way, Northleach, Gloucestershire GL54 3JH.

