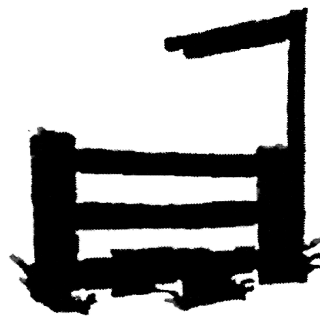


WAYMARK



Web. www.rffs.org.uk Email. info@rffs.org.uk

News from the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Footpath Society

President	Rowan Brockhurst	01425 653748
Chairman	Bill Morley	01425 480245
Vice Chairman	Vacant	
Treasurer	Clare Ings	07967 483761
Hon. Secretary - Acting	Jan Brian	01425 656726
Footpath Secretary	Kelvin Winch	01425 471348
Programme Secretary	Denise Chesterman	07816 962999
Publicity Secretary	Ruth Bassett	01425 839320
Web master	Michael Osborne	07512 252416
Membership Secretary	Tim Daykin	01425 654977
Editor	Gina Logan	email editor@rffs.org.uk

The Way Ahead

We have had the hottest and driest summer for many years, probably since 1976, when I was still at university! I hope you have all coped with it.

I am pleased to say that we have had another full walk programme well attended even through the heat waves. Particular highlights being the walk at Cranbourne finishing at the Sixpenny brewery for a drink and pizza, and also our second summer solstice walk, where the weather was kind to us yet again, and followed by breakfast at Woodfalls Inn.

We also had a walk up to our freshly repainted trig point (thanks Mike Pearce) which was well attended though sadly some could not make it. Thanks to Denise and all the leaders, but as ever we would like more to come forward to lead walks.

We again had a stand at the Ellingham show this year, and we looked a lot more professional with the new banner and flag, but still have some work to do on upgrading our presentation material. The weather was near perfect and we had a steady stream of visitors,

distributed many fliers/membership forms and hopefully some will follow-up and join. As ever we had a number of complaints and issues raised by the public, some of which we were already aware of but we will be following up on them with HCC. There is a lot of work setting up and manning the stall, so many thanks to all who helped.

Work continues on surveying the condition of footpaths in our parishes, we have been focusing on the Damerham/Sandleheath area, and have been in contact with a Damerham parish councillor who has a special remit for paths in their parish.

We continue to work on clearing overgrown paths, and have worked mainly on sections of AVP including the leg from Fordingbridge to Bickton and also clearing paths behind Braemore cricket club. In addition, we have had further discussions with HCC, and for those who expressed an interest in the footpath warden scheme and group working parties we are arranging an introduction/induction event in September.



For the next quarter we have organised two outside speakers on the following: - Monday 13th October a talk on "George Heywood Sumner" an artist, naturalist and archaeologist who lived near Fordingbridge by Jeremy Houghton Brown. Followed on Monday 10th November with a talk on "Winter in the New Forest" by Marcus Ward of Wild New Forest. These talks will be open

to non RFFS members to try and help boost revenues.

Finally, our next special event is the Bring and Share Summer Lunch on 31st August at Godshill village hall. This will be preceded by a short walk for those who wish to, and has gone down really well in the past so we hope you can attend.

Bill

Path News

Unfortunately, I have only been able to carry out very limited work in my role as Footpath Secretary and am very grateful to Mike Osborne for stepping in to cover most of the work.

Our Chairman Bill Morley has continued to organize cutting parties to keep overgrown paths clear and to work with Mike on surveys.

Paul Howland of Ramblers is continuing to submit claims for many historic paths in our parishes, that are not classified as Rights of Way. The considerable searching for evidence from many sources must almost be a full-time job.

We have disappointing news, in that there are now no viable crossings of Dockens Water from the Roadway at Moyles Court to Woodford Bottom, which is on Crown land and not a Right of Way. Even this eastern crossing is very difficult to use and it connects to the southern end of Footpaths 9,10 &14. HCC had agreed with Ramblers to maintain at least one of the crossings Footpath 717 in exchange for Ramblers suspending the court action against HCC, for failing to maintain Footpath 19.

We have other Rights of Way that are unusable because of fencing and hedges being planted along the line of the path, as well as other temporary closures, but none were as well used as Ellingham Footpath 717.

The AVP south of Ringwood has been closed for a long time, for what seems to be a relatively minor repair.

It is regrettable that over the last few years there has been a deterioration of many of the paths in our parishes. Let us hope that things improve somewhat and are not badly affected by the pending local government changes.

Please continue to report problems, preferably to info@rffs.org.uk in the first instance, as we may be able to resolve them, or to HCC Rights of Way via their report a problem website, but please if you report them directly to HCC also inform the Society giving the details and the HCC Problem reference, by Emailing info@rffs.org.uk or via the Contact Us pages on the RFFS Website – rffs.org.uk

Kelvin Winch

From the Membership Secretary

At the last AGM an increase in Membership subscription was agreed. It will come into force at the next AGM in March 2026. So, until then the current rates will apply.

The new rates are: Individual Members £5 and for couples £8. The current rates are £4 and £6. Please amend standing orders for future years. These days this is a straightforward procedure and can be done online.

If you have not yet done so, please make your contribution for the current year via bank transfer. This is greatly appreciated as chasing up subscriptions is a rather time-consuming job!

Our membership continues to be healthy which is very good news. Any enquires do please get in touch at membership@rffs.org.uk

Tim Daykin

Evening Meetings - Mondays at 7.30pm in Greyfriars Community Centre, Ringwood

13th October - "George Heywood Sumner " a talk by Jeremy Houghton Brown on this artist, naturalist and archaeologist who lived near Fordingbridge.

10th November - "Winter in the New Forest" a talk by Marcus Ward of Wild New Forest.



Bring & Share Christmas Supper

Greyfriars Monday 8th December 2025

Starts 7.00pm £2.00 per person



This year's Christmas get together involves guests bringing their own sharing platters - a mix of savoury and sweet dishes preferably with a Christmas/Winter theme.

- ◆ We also ask that you bring your own crockery, cutlery and glasses
- ◆ There will be a cash only bar serving beers, wines and soft drinks
- ◆ We will be holding a quiz, with a prize for the winning team
- ◆ As there will be a raffle guests are asked to donate a prize

Guests will be responsible for clearing their own sharing platters, crockery, cutlery and glasses

As food is not provided the cost this year will be just £2 per ticket.

Please book by 30th November 2025 and if you could indicate whether you will be bringing: savoury, sweet or mixed dishes it would be helpful.

Please book by calling or emailing Jan Morley on: - 01425 480245 / 07870487171... janmorley@gmail.com

Bank transfer details: - Sort Code 30 97 08 Acc. No. 01734444 Ref. Party



A selection of photos from this year's Summer Solstice, as we await the sunrise, admire it in all its glory and enjoy the subsequent walk.



AUTUMN 2025 WALKS & EVENTS PROGRAMME



WALKERS: Start times vary: please check for each walk.

You walk with us at your own risk and are responsible for your own health & safety issues.

If it is safe to do so, please arrange to share cars to minimise parking space used. Do not leave any items visible and nothing of value in parked cars. Bring your own picnic lunch and drinks especially for the longer walks.

PLEASE BOOK WITH THE WALK LEADER BEFORE ATTENDING A WALK or you may miss vital information e.g. a walk may be cancelled at short notice or a start point changed.

We still need more volunteers to lead walks. Help and support will be provided. Please contact walks secretary, Denise, on 01425479339/07816962999 or email denise.chesterman@gmail.com

Tues 2 nd Sept 6.00pm	<u>Godshill Inclosure</u> <i>W3W script.pacemaker.secretly</i> Meet in Godshill FC CP for our last evening walk of the year. Maybe The Fighting Cocks afterwards. Book.	Chris B Text 07855001274	OL22 SU176160 3 miles
Wed 10 th Sept 10.00am	<u>Deerleap</u> <i>W3W eager.shark.nasal</i> Walk along forest tracks and heathland to Longdown and around Ipley Inclosure. No hills, roads or stiles. Book	Sue 07857642855	OL22 SU353094 5miles
Sun 14 th Sept 10.30am	<u>White Mill</u> <i>W3W purse.waxing.madness</i> Park in NT CP if a member, very limited alt parking so please car share. A figure of 8 walk along tracks, field paths, water meadows and quiet lanes. Sorry no dogs. Bring lunch. Book	Denise 07816962999	Exp 118 ST958007 7miles
Fri 19 th Sept 2.00pm	<u>Downton Brewery</u> (SP5 3HU) Park on Batten Rd and meet outside Unit 11 for a walk through Downton, out along the old railway line to Trafalgar Pk, across Avon Weir, following the AVP back to the brewery. Join us for drinks at the Tap Bar, BBQ food from 5.00pm. Book	Di and Phil Text 07780797499	Exp 130 SU171218 5.5 miles
Thurs 25 th Sept 10.30am	<u>Vereley</u> <i>W3W passing.fewer.bright</i> Meet at Vereley CP for for a walk over heathland and tracks going west back towards Ringwood. Book	Deborah Text 07708876680	OL22 SU196051 5 ish miles
Sun 28 th Sept 10.30am	<u>The Purbecks</u> <i>W3W royal.hats.crinkled</i> Meet at Houns-Tout CP, Kingston. A walk across the Purbecks taking in part of the SW Coast path from Houns-Tout to Kimmeridge. Excellent views, hills and stiles. Bring lunch. Quench your thirst afterwards at local pub. Book	Andy and Liz 07949608633 01425472422	OL15 SY954795 9 miles approx
Wed 1 st Oct 10.30am	<u>Milford-on-Sea</u> <i>W3W reclaim.vines.registers</i> Meet by footbridge at coast end of New Lane, parking available along the lane. Book	Anne and Keith 07585703088	OL22 SZ300909 4 miles
Wed 8 th Oct 10.00am	<u>Rhinefield</u> <i>W3W nothing.primary.yummy</i> Meet in Puttles Bridge CP. Walk along paths and tracks through heath and woodland. Some muddy/boggy patches after heavy rain. Fairly flat and no stiles. Book.	Chris C Text 07773218173	OL22 SU271029 5 miles
Sun 12 th Oct 10.00am	<u>Pepperbox Hill to West Dean</u> <i>W3W backs.videos.steadier</i> Meet at Pepperbox Hill CP off A36, brow of the hill, for a chalk ridge, valley and woodland walk. 1 steep hill, good views. Some road walking. Bring lunch. Book	Peter 07985028536	Exp 131 SU211248 8 miles
Mon 13 th Oct 7.30pm	<u>Evening meeting @ Greyfriars</u> Talk on George Heywood Sumner. See Waymark for details.	Bill 01425480245 07709180329	
Thurs 16 th Oct 10.00am	<u>Sandy Balls</u> Park at Godshill Cricket Pitch for a walk around Sandy Balls Pk taking in the Good Friday Hill and the Giant's Grave. Out and around Frankenbury Iron Age Hill Fort and Godshill. Lovely views of the Avon. 1 steep downhill and uphill. Book	Di and Phil Text 07780797499	OL22 SU182151 5.5 miles

TIME	<u>TO SUBMIT WALKS FOR THE NEXT PROGRAMME</u> We need more volunteer walk leaders. You will receive all the support you need. See right for contact details.	Denise 01425479339/ 07816962999	denise. chesterman@ gmail.com
Thurs 23 rd Oct 10.00am	<u>Cranborne W3W crowbar.joked.relieves</u> Meet at CP in front of 1 st School for a walk across rolling countryside to Pentridge Hill. Some hills, stiles and good views. Book	Andy and Liz 01425472422 07949608633	Exp 118 SU056133 6-7 miles
Sun 26th Oct 10.30am	<u>Cerne Abbas W3W goose.terms.doctor</u> Park in Hendover Coppice Nature Reserve, Hilfield Hill CP for a varied walk through undulating Dorset countryside and historical Cerne Abbas. Giant Views! Some stiles. Possibly muddy. Bring lunch. Book.	Jo 07969633830	Exp 117 ST637040 7.5 miles
Thurs 30 th Oct 10.00am	<u>Martin Down W3W ogre.hacksaw.such</u> Meet at Martin Down Nature reserve CP (A354) for a walk out to Pentridge, up to Penbury Knoll and return along Bockerly Ditch. Some stiles. Mud possible. Book	Paul Text 07584070077	Exp 118 SU037201 5-5.5 miles
Wed 5 th Nov 10.00am	<u>Breamore W3W making.connected.pegged</u> Meet at Breamore Tea Rooms CP for a circular walk to the Mizmaze, on towards Whitsbury, then return to tea rooms for refreshments. Mixture of fields, track and road. 3 hills, one steep incline. 1 stile. Book	Jane and Sandi Text 07855516968	OL22 SU152187 4-5 miles
Sun 9th Nov 10.30am	<u>Upper Woodford Valley W3W sunroof.comply.drift</u> Park at Bonnymead Recreation Park, Amesbury, SP4 7BE Undulating walk on tracks, paths and minor roads which criss-crosses the River Avon. Distant views of Stonehenge. 2 stiles. Bring lunch. Book	Andy J Text 07880498021	Exp 130 SU150411 7 miles
Mon 10th Nov 7.30pm	<u>Evening Meeting at Greyfriars</u> Talk from Wild New Forest. See Waymark for details.		
Wed 12 th Nov 10.00am	<u>Martin Down and Ox Drove W3W ogre.hacksaw.such</u> Park at Martin Down Nature Reserve CP for a walk the other side of A354. Mainly footpaths and drove roads, no stiles, maybe mud. 1 climb. Good views. Book	Clare 07967483761	Exp 118 SU037201 Approx 5 miles
Thurs 20 th Nov 10.30am	<u>Ashley Walk CP</u> Walk from Ashley Walk CP out towards Pitts Wood area. Book.	Deborah Text 07708876680	OL22 SU186156 5 miles
Sun 23rd Nov 10.30am	<u>Stubby Copse</u> Meet at Rans Wood CP for a walk through Stubby Copse and Lady Cross. Mainly gravelled tracks and grassy rides but could be wet. Bring lunch. Book	Bill 01425480245 07709180329	OL22 SU366025 8 miles
Wed 26 th Nov 10.00am	<u>Wilverley</u> Meet in Wilverley Plain CP for a mainly flat walk through the enclosure and across the plain. No stiles, may be mud. Book	Jo 07969633830	OL22 SU254011 5 miles
Wed 3 rd Dec	<u>Balmer Lawn</u> Walk details to appear on next programme.	Bill 01425480245 07709180329	4.5 miles
Sun 7th Dec	<u>Salisbury Circular Walk</u> Meet at Hudson's Field. Walk details to appear on next programme.	Andy J Text 07880498021	7.5 miles
Mon 8th Dec 7.00pm	<u>Christmas Party at Greyfriars</u> Details in Waymark. Book.		
Thurs 11 th Dec	<u>Mince Pie Walk</u> Meet at Anderwood CP. More details on next programme.	Di and Phil	