

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2024



a familiar sight on our walks passing Flamstone Farm

MEMBERS' TRANSPORT



Ian & Christine Beaver

Chris and I attending Midget 50 at Burghley House, Lincolnshire in June 2011.

We have owned Midgie since May 2003 and she will be 50 years old at the end of February this year. Great fun to drive.



Jane Owen

'My beloved red Mazda MX-5, Launch edition, 1172 of only 3,500 made, an impulse buy in the first lockdown, have loved zooming around Wiltshire with soft top, hard top and no top! Have made the sad decision to sell, please contact me if interested'

(stop press – it's sold – ed)



Alan & Anne Maryon-Davies

Here's a pic of my Citroen taken at Downton Fair about 10 years ago (with Anne and daughter Jessie).

Nicknamed 'Hortense', this *grande dame* came into my life in 1975, when I found her in an orchard in the Lot region of south-west France. She's a 1953 Paris-built Citroen Traction Avant 11B Normale (the French equivalent of the Slough-built Big 15). 4-cylinder, 1911cc, front-wheel drive, 3-speed dash-mounted gear change, very large and, with no power-steering, very heavy to manoeuvre. But a delight nonetheless. I drove her back to the UK via Dieppe but forgot to declare her at Newhaven. So, when her French tax ran out, I had to hide her in a lock-up garage for over 30 years until I had the courage to own up to HMRC and get her properly imported – hence the (rather ugly) UK plates.

Hortense has been laid up for a while now, needing a bit of work on her fuel line. But I'm determined to get her back on the road this summer. One last encore!



Richard and Catherine Phillipson

In this picture, Teal, who is Richard and Catherine Phillipson's 1974 Mini, is in the French Alps on his way to Monte Carlo. Other trips have been to Marrakesh and the Orkneys as well as Welsh forest rallies.

You can follow their exploits at:

<https://sidanddoris.com/>.

Sid and Doris Bonkers and their Epic Journeys – "Everybody is normal until you get to know them".

Their next adventure is cycling to Rome.



Jenny & Mike Brown

I asked Mike for a photo of himself and Jenny with their Morgan, which is what he sent but not all in one photo.

OUR WALKS PROGRAMME

There have been and will continue to be changes in our walks. Some changes were forced on us by covid, which has had a lasting impact. And walk leaders have always retired and been replaced by the next generation.

There seems to be a strong demand now for longer walks. Up to 30 people regularly turn up for 10+ mile Sunday walks in all seasons and whatever the weather. Also, many weekday walks have lengthened, often exceeding Roger Walker's Wednesday 7 milers. The 100th of these popular walks was last year. However, for whatever reason there has been a noticeable decline in the popularity of pub lunches.

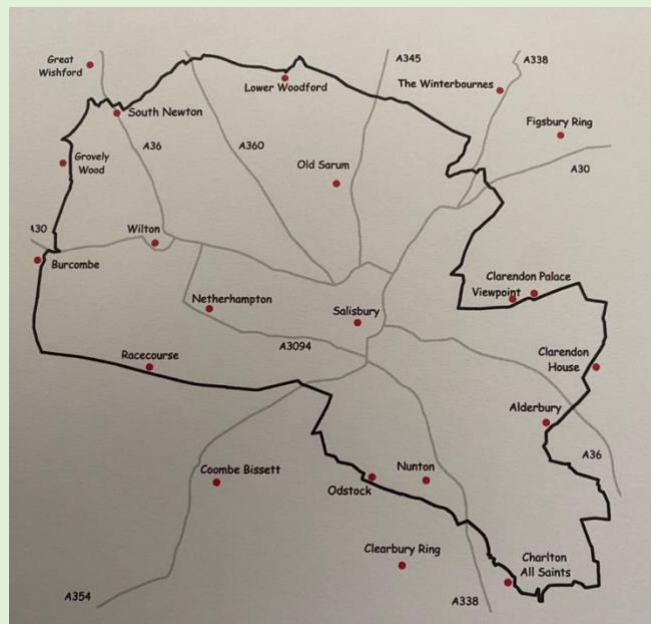
The upshot of all this is that if our members would like more frequent shorter walks, perhaps with a pub lunch, new leaders will need to come forward to offer to lead them.

NEW WEDNESDAY WALKS

Good news is that Grant Walker is now putting regular Wednesday walks on the programme. Originally this was an informal group of friends led by Richard Manchee. During Covid restrictions people necessarily joined the group by invitation only. In these happier times we're grateful to Grant for adding variety to our programme by leading walks of a modest length with a slightly different flavour.

SARUM WAY WEEKDAY WALKS

[See website for details](#)



Also new in our programme for 2024 is Suzanne Riches's series of walks circling Salisbury. Each walk is based on a section of this long distance footpath, adapted to make a circular morning walk. Look out for them in the programme.

REMINDER! Don't use the Ramblers App to view our walks programme. Once on the app the walks can't reliably be amended or cancelled so you may be unaware of any changes if you use it. Only use our website to check the programme.

SHORT SUNDAY CHILD AND DOG FRIENDLY WALKS

Also new in our 2024 programme. We're hoping to attract new walkers who can't do weekdays and prefer short walks.

These are monthly walks each with something to appeal to children.

Jan CATHEDRAL CLOSE I spy quiz

In the New Year there may still be illuminations and a Xmas tree from the festive season.

Feb LITTLE DURNFORD camels

Possibly some snow but definitely snowdrops on this walk.

Mar COCKEY DOWN kite flying

Hopefully some March winds so bring a kite.

Apr GROVELEY WOOD witches trees

Find them.

May CLARENDON PALACE llamas

You may find some ramsons (wild garlic) to make a pesto for your spaghetti lunch or supper.

Jun COOMBE BISSETT RESERVE wild flowers

Try to find the county flower of Wiltshire - the Burnt Tip Orchid. There should be butterflies too.

Jul BENTLEY WOOD pondlife

Dragonflies and pond dipping. Bring a jam jar & string.

Aug DEVENISH RESERVE pie ingredients

Blackberrying. Bring a tub.

Sep AVON VALLEY RESERVE shy animals

Wildlife spotting. According to the information board there are kingfishers and otters to be seen.

Oct BREAMORE fungus foray

A walk to the Mizmaze. Bring a field guide.

Nov AROUND BROKEN BRIDGES alphabet collecting

Collect an item for every letter of the alphabet. Bring a bag.

Dec LANGFORD LAKES & RIVER PATH birding

A good time to spot winter visitors. Bring your binoculars and field guide.

At the end of the year an E-booklet will be available for our members to download free. Like our other booklets it will have OS maps and route guidance together with notes and suggestions for activities.



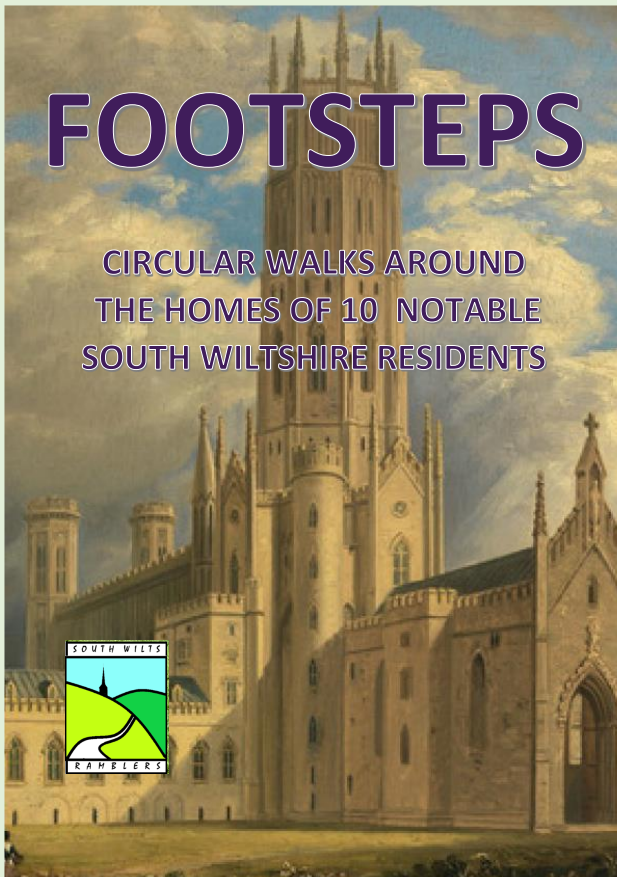
Salisbury TIC are publicising them but tell your friends, family and neighbours about these new Sunday walks. They're mostly linear to allow for return at any point by exhausted dogs, howling infants and frazzled adults.

FREE, FOR SALE

& WANTED

Post items here to declutter and reclutter your home

NEW BOOKLET



This is now on sale (£5) in the Salisbury Museum and Tourist Information Centre. We're still looking for volunteers to help with sales and distribution outside Salisbury. You only need to pop into a likely place, show copies of our booklets and ask the owner to email me if they're interested in selling them.

Please contact Alan if you can offer any help.

alperalan8@gmail.com

I visited the following village stores one Monday in February to try and sell our booklets. I can attest to the quality of their cakes with which I rewarded myself every time I made a sale:



OLD FORGE FARM SHOP & CAFÉ Berwick St James

Sam the wonderful owner sells copies of all our booklets and will serve coffees and lunch with of course home made cake to eat in or take away. My slice was a bit on the small size so she gave me another one.

Charles at COOMBE BISSETT STORES

He'll provide drinks and material for a picnic – and of course cake.

WEST TYTHERLEY VILLAGE STORE Our booklets and cake.

WYLYE VILLAGE STORE Tiffany sells our booklets .. and cake.

ALDERBURY VILLAGE STORE It was my last visit of the day. There may have been cake.

AMESBURY HISTORY CENTRE

I suppose Mark gets the prize having taken well over 100 poundsworth of our booklets. It's free entry and some of their exhibits tie in with material in our booklets.

There's a café. Which serves cake.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Suzanne Riches took this classic photo of a redwing in January.

EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE

Jennifer (Membership Secretary) would remind you to get in touch with her jennifer@farmadmin.co.uk if you think you are not receiving her emails. Under Ramblers data protection arrangements, all communications from Group or Area to members, are sent from her.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

27 Jul 2024

Ramblers barbecue
details to come

FINALLY

The Summer Newsletter will go out in the second week of June. *For sale, free or wanted* remains blank and unused. If members would like to submit a piece, preferably with a photo, please send it to: alperalan8@gmail.com

Send in your photos for the SUMMER NEWSLETTER SPECIAL FEATURE.

Our next feature is "Cutest pet"

Be aware I already have Ken P's submission for Millie and she'll be hard to beat. Watch out too for Phil H's mystery pet "Tommy". But yours could still be a winner.

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

Members in uniform.

Have a nostalgic search through your old albums to find photos of yourself in uniform. Any uniform. The game will be for us to pick you out in a group photo or match your name to your portrait.

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