

## **Community Annual Sponsored Walk organised by Newbury Rotary Club**

Start and finish: Greenham Control Tower, Burys Bank Road,  
Thatcham, Newbury RG19 8BZ.

Start time from 11 am until 12 noon Sunday 12 May 2019. Registration  
from 10:30 am onwards.

We hope that you have a very enjoyable day walking and profiting in:

- Beautiful countryside
- **LOTS OF CASH** raised for your particular good cause, charity, club,  
school, church or special project.

A donation of £1 for each walker to cover our costs is requested. If you are not  
sponsored please consider a donation to Rotary which will be used for our  
supported charities such as End Polio Now, Parkinson's and West Berkshire  
Mencap.

Please read these directions in conjunction with the map attached.

There are two optional routes:

Route A – 12.8 km (8 miles) – can be shortened to 5.8 miles if needed

Route B – 8 km. (5 miles)

### **ON ALL ROUTES PLEASE EXERCISE CARE – REMEMBER THE COUNTRY CODE:**

- **CLOSE GATES SECURELY**
- **TAKE YOUR LITTER WITH YOU**
- **DO NOT FRIGHTEN ANIMALS**
- **KEEP DOGS UNDER CONTROL.**

**MOST IMPORTANT – THERE IS SOME ROAD WALKING &  
CROSSINGS SO BEWARE OF TRAFFIC (INCLUDING CYCLISTS WHOM  
YOU WON'T HEAR COMING)**

Depending on the weather some sections of the walk may be muddy and  
slippery. There are also some stiles to cross. Good footwear and care is  
required.

While every care has been taken in organising a safe route, we would point out that all entrants are responsible for their own safety and for any accompanying children.

Instructions for the route follow. They can be used in conjunction with a separately supplied map. On the ground the routes are also marked with small yellow flags and small paper arrows fixed on posts or fences.

Please make sure you let the Rotary marshals know at each check point **CP1, CP2, CP3 and CP4** that you and your group have reached that point. The Walkers Record Form will help you do this. If there are any problems or you are likely to be delayed please call either of these numbers **07876 74303 (Eddie)** or **07775 934231 (Tim)**. On the map you will see the position of these checkpoints and marked with an **M** are other points where marshals will be present to assist.

**Photos** – If you take any photos on the walk that you would be happy for Rotary to put on their website or use for publicity we would be very grateful, especial if they capture the spirit of the walk.

### **Greenham and Cookham Common Wildlife Trust**

The Walk starts and finishes from near the Control Tower on the Common which is a nature reserve run by the Berk, Bucks, Oxford and Bucks Wildlife Trust. Please look out for and obey any notices you see from the Trust.

We are in the nesting period so please keep dogs under control and on leads to avoid them straying onto ground nesting areas.

Bag and bin dog waste in the bins provided

When near ponies or cattle please keep your dog on a lead and do not approach the animals.

Avoid causing a fire: never discard cigarettes, bring barbecues or light fires.

### **WALK DIRECTIONS – to be used with the annotated map**

**For the 5mile challenge**, which is just on the Common, proceed through gate onto the Common (South) side of Control Tower and at track junction (28 on map) turn left and follow route marked blue on map to point 19 and CP3. Follow instructions from 19 below.

### **Instructions for 8 mile challenge and shortened option 5.8m**

From the car park side of the control tower, with the tower behind you, go right to access the common through the gate. Follow the track going roughly East. Cross over a roughly North South track after which the less well-defined path turns to the North East and then cuts through the gorse to reach 1 below.

## ROTARY WALK: MAY 2019

### Key points and distances in km

- 1 0.44 road crossing Burys Bank Road. Beware of Traffic and look after children and dogs
  - 2 0.61 keep straight on – on left is driveway to Bowden House
  - 3 0.73 enter Bowden Woods through left gate
  - 4 0.80 keep straight on
  - 5 0.90 follow track on left over a small bank
  - 6 1.12 straight on – view of Bowden House on Left opposite path on right
  - 7 1.52 exit Bowden woods through gate
  - 8 1.54 turn right onto track going downhill
- 1 Mile achieved
- 9 2.50 track turns to the left
  - 10 2.67 go under bridge to Hambridge Lane – beware of traffic
  - 11 2.82 at CP1 turn right to cross canal
  - 12 2.86 turn right onto tow path and proceed East
  - 13 2.99 Bull's Lock is on your right
  - 14 3.11 pass under railway
- 2 Miles completed. Thatcham Reedbed Nature Reserve is coming up on your left (BBOWT)
- 15 4.04 Wildmead lock is on your right
- 3 Miles completed on this long straight section
- 16 5.38 at CP2 cross swing bridge and continue directly South
  - 17 6.00 after passing through farm yard you will cross the Kennet River
  - 17a 6.06 shortly after 17 ignore track on left and continue up the hill
- 4 Miles completed in this section
- 18 6.63 Take care at the road crossing back to the Common
  - 19 6.65 CP3. You have the option here of shortening the walk and turning right along blue route on the map to point 28. Final distance will be 5.8m. Please let the marshal know if you do this.
  - 20 7.18 you have continued on the main route. You will see Thornford Park on the left
  - 21 7.40 **the site of an old RAF fuel tank** is ahead but turn right at the junction rather than walking parallel to “Old Thornford Road”
  - 22 7.90 At track junction take LH fork South
- 5 miles completed in this section – it's only 2 miles to the other end of the “airfield”!
- 22a 8.05 Just after 5 mile point keep straight ahead on LH track
  - 23 8.11 turn right at T junction to go West
  - 24 8.65 continue ahead (West) as path joins on the right
  - 25 9.55 keep straight on ignoring track on right
- 6 miles completed – half way down the runway!
- 26 9.65 as for 25
  - 26a 10.81 keep on concrete track alongside Bunker fence. **These were silos for Cruise Missiles and have since been used for Star Wars filming. Now it's used for car storage!**
- 7 miles completed – well done you are at the end of the runway. Only 1 mile from the Control Tower
- 27 12.53 straight on East
  - 28 12.64 turn right and then go through gate to Control
- Well done you have completed the walk. Please let the marshals know and treat yourself at the café.