

A party of 16 gathered at the meeting place. It was a rather dull misty afternoon but it did not rain. The route was through the woods across Ayot Green, past Sorray's Farm on the Water End road. We turned right through the gate half a mile beyond the farm on to the usual footpath to Ayot St. Lawrence under the railway line & followed it as far as the Wheathampstead road. At that point we followed the road in the direction of Wheathampstead for a short distance & then took a path through the pine plantations to Lamer Park. Up to this point we had proceeded at a good pace without noticeable signs of distress but struck some mud in Lamer Park. We reached just as the wood near the Plough Inn & found a lot more mud before reaching the path that goes round the Delapate estate. Here the leader went slightly astray but without serious consequences. The party sat down to a very good tea at the Bell ^{Room} in Wheathampstead at the appointed time of 5 o'clock.

After tea five of the party walked back in the dark through Mayford, Water end & then by the Lea, Buckle Wood & Lamer Park. The rest of the party went home by train.

[Signature]

Mid-Herts. Football Society.
 Sunday, February 17. Meet 10.9
 a.m. corner of Valley Road and
 Bridge Road. Leader Mr. Foley.
 Course: Atmore Hall, ~~Atmore~~
 Green, Barnfield, Harter
 Green, Welwyn, Binge Busch.
 Home for tea. Approx. 10 miles.

To Bramfield via Pavechanger Airfield
 & back by Twin Woods & Lockleys.

Sunday, 17th Feb. 1957.

A party of twelve set out from the usual meeting-place into the woods as if going to Digswell, but turning off into the new part of Woodland Rice, a new road into no houses as yet. "Where are we? I'm completely lost!" the leader was asked by one of the old hands. We came into Mandeville Rice & then to Conydale, picked up two more members in Digswell Road, & went by Black Farm & another new road to Atmore Hall, taking the path through the farm towards the airfield.

A new path along the perimeter of the airfield is to be made, instead of Money Hole Lane which was lost when the airfield was made. We followed the course of this path-to-be, squeezing through & under barbed wire, as there are no gates or stiles, emerging on the Welwyn-Hatfield road about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile west of Wavergate Farm. We went through

the drive over the bridge at Terwin Mill,
 & along the back road to Marden Dairy Farm
 at Archer's Green. Here two members left us
 to make a round by Birchall Mount Farm.

We went through a small paddock
 & crossed the field up towards Marden Hill,
 & found a stout wooden stile replacing the
 barbed wire which had previously blocked
 the path (see walk: 18th August 1956). We
 walked along the front of the big house, where
 there is a ha-ha, then turning left we
 crossed the Terwin-Hartford road, & so by
 bridle road & footpaths previously described
 (see 27th Nov. 1955) to Bramfield & the Embury
 Arms where we had our picnic lunch. Though
 it was fine & sunny there was a cold wind
 & we were quite glad to be inside.

We came back by Bramfield Bury Lane &
 the edge of Bramfield Wood, along the track
 to Terwin Hill Farm, down the road & across
 the field to the Plume of Feathers, where
 three members waited for a bus, over the
 Upper Green & across a ploughed field (no
 sign of the public path!) to the track

leading through Tavin Woods (Dawley Wood on the map) past the Rifle Range & up to Harmer Green. From here we took the path by the Stables over Lockleys to Welwyn. Three members stopped in the wood by the beehives to have a picnic tea & then walk home. The rest caught the 4.2 303 bus from Welwyn Church. All had enjoyed an excellent walk with lots of sunshine, fresh air, mud, & barbed wire obstructions at Pavechanger airfield.

E.F.B.



One party on their way downhill -



Another party on their way up →

Looking towards Tavin rifle range.



MARSHIE
TASH - BARK

SIR FRANK
PEACE

ALICE
DICKINSON

TRUBY
MULLAN

FRANK
STURGE

CLARE
DICKINSON



MRS.
DUMBY
Near
Marden
Hill

DAVID
EVANS

At the stile Mr Barlow replaced.
(See 18th August 1956)

Marden
Dairy Farm,
Archer's
Green



CLARE
DICKINSON

Mid-Herts Footpath Society.

Ramble, 2nd March. Leader F. GARROD

The walk started in lovely spring-like weather, mustering 20 in all. Going was very good considering the mud that had been on the previous walks. We proceeded through the woods to Monks Walk, where to our surprise we found periwinkles, colandines, crocus and primroses in bloom.

We hurried through the outskirts of Digswell, Welwyn North, taking the path on left just above Welwyn station, over the top of the tunnels. Here the view was wonderful, the newly cultivated fields looked like huge brown carpets, here and there a beautifully built corn stack standing out as examples of rural craft.

After passing over the first tunnel there is an opening and both ends of the tunnels are visible, showing the very elaborate brickwork and the date of construction boldly carved in a block of stone, 1850, a fine testimonial to craftsmen of other days.

Here also are to be found the huge snails supposed to have been brought here by the Romans and cultivated as delicacies. A little further on we found the leaves of the bluebells fully developed. We dropped down to Robbery Bottom, crossed the North Road going on to Rabley Heath finding the gorse in full flower, and on to Danesbury Park. We diverged here for a short time to

inspect what at one time must have been a magnificent Ferner
 the large boulders still in position form caverns and crannies
 another reminder of the glories of the past, and on to a
 tea at the Rose Cafe, Welwyn.

J. J. [unclear]

2-3-57
 TRACY
 CLARE
 DAVID
 MRS. ROBERT FRANCIS
 MARGORIE
 ERIC
 NEMES
 FRANK
 JAMES THOMPSON
 LINDA
 CYRIL



at Twin Mill 17-2-57.

Sunday morning March 7th 1957

At 10 o'clock when we met at the usual rendezvous it was raining steadily and alas, only seven members turned out - well clad in rainproof. But the rain soon stopped and as we walked through the woods and across Ayst Green, the countryside looked very fresh and clean with signs of spring everywhere.

We took the left hand fork on Ayst Green, past Sway's Farm and down the hill to the gate where the footpath to Ayst St. Lawrence begins. We followed this path almost to the Wheathampstead road and then turned left so as to make our way back to Water End.

Considering the rain we struck very little mud - just one very bad patch where the path crosses the railway a few hundred yards from Water End. After inspecting the flow of water at the ford we took the path along the R. Lea to the Blue Bell wood through Brackel Park to the Waggoners where we enjoyed the usual refreshment. Then we crossed the Self Links to Brackwood Lane where we dispersed ~~at~~ at about 1.30. The distance covered was approximately 6 miles.

P. A. M. L.

SIB. FRANCIS PERCE

March 31st 1907. Leader Mrs Byles.

Seven of us met at Applecroft bus stop and walked to Lensford and through the Park to Cromer Hyde Farm where we found the stile to the first field removed.

We went by way of farmyard to Coleman's Green and down through Duit's Dyke to Mansford.

Along the sea river we found a delightful spot on the brow where we had a picnic tea.

Continuing our way to Water End we made for the blue bell wood & got home via Lensford again.

The walk had been roughly 6-7 miles.

C. M. Byles.

April 14th. Under Murgins, Thun, Leigh.

Welwyn, Teslin, Bramfield, Stapleford, Wotton, Dalhousie, Doyl, Welwyn, Green
City.

Owing to lack of information as to when the clocks went on we made this on
9 o'clock start - which in effect was 8 o'clock. However eleven of us turned
up in brilliant morning sunshine to catch the 9.6 train to Welwyn North. We
followed the concrete path to Teslin noting that a previous blocked stile
into Rose Wood had been beautifully cleared. We hope owing entirely to our
suggestion sent in letter from last year. At Teslin we crossed Lower Green
and after about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of pleasant lane we followed the footpath to the South
of Bramfield Park wood. In fact we walked along the edge of the fields as
the path itself with which is only a narrow track inside the hatched area was so
overgrown as to be impassable with stockings. At Bramfield we have left the
Stapleford road which runs through Rose Wood and then went by paths 5 and
6 to Stapleford, crossed the railway and turned left on the further bank of
the river Beane. We followed this road ^{through} the Cabel-Smith estate and have left
to Westford Lodge. Here we took the footpaths 25 and 9 (25 is still
impassable) to western Green and by way of Church walk reached The Bull
on the clock street one.

Having regarded ~~insistence with beer and music when we had our drinks~~
by car and two others ~~the same being done after a drink in the~~
church. The remaining eight followed Perogwood lane and then path 22
across country to Buck lane. Here we turned right and again made use
of the fields on Buck lane, not very much used by tractors, as a narrow

of mist even after a sunny spell such as we have been having.
 At Hawkins Hall we turned left to the 'Ains' sign at Datchworth
 Green and enjoyed a hot 'cupper' and a cold ice-cream. After this
 brief stop we entered the field and followed footpath 11 and the
 Roman road to Robbery Bottom lane. At the beginning of this we
 said goodbye to two more members. Two had to get back early and
 the remaining six went left intending to follow the turnpike. There
 was, however, a little hitch and we found ourselves going round by
 Bower wood instead. From Haines Green we did manage to find
 the railway and followed the line over to Welwyn North station.
 We took the footpath opposite the Cooper Arms and so through Mucker
 Walk and the woods and the Golf Course we reached home.
 Nearly 20 miles - but no one was over-tired as we had had
 over 9 hours in which to walk it. There is a very great deal
 to be said for an occasional early Start.

Margie Thom. Bugh.

P.S. Hot sunshine, blue sky, and wild flowers all the way. Oh! to be in
 England, now that April's here.

Sir.—Your readers may care to know that the dates of British Summer Time for any year can be calculated quite easily. The Acts of 1912 and 1925 provide for the period to be taken as beginning at two o'clock G.M.T. in the morning of the day next following the first Saturday in April, or, if that day is Easter Day, the day next following the second Saturday in April, and ending at two o'clock G.M.T. in the morning of the day next following the first Saturday in October.

April 22nd - Easter Monday. Extra route. Arranged by Major T. B. Sed. by rail and Sunday

Route Ifordley Hill - Datchworth Green - Bramfield - Stapleford - Waterford
Hertingfordbury - Bus home. About 11 miles.

After 3 glorious sunshine-filled days Easter Monday was a great disappointment. Fine rain all morning and dampness all afternoon. Nevertheless it was a pleasant walk and the beauty of a rain-washed landscape was very refreshing.

From Ifordley Hill we took the Roman Road to Datchworth Green where a stop was made for tea/coffee. Turning right into Bus home we followed then through to the Bramfield End. A very pleasant lane all the way except for the water which lies so persistently along it. Through Rowood to Stapleford was a repeat of last week's walk but this time we stopped to eat on lunch and drink a drink at the Woodhall Arms. After this we followed the River Bourne South to Waterford and after passing the passenger house it was all new country. Very attractive country too. The footpath (No 26) runs along the river bank for nearly a mile. The river is deep and fairly wide. About 3' ^{deep} at the edge. The area is called marshland but was in fact very dry. Eventually at a weir we came on to the Stewange/Hatfield Road and crossing over to the hedge gate opposite entered G. Sidings, the Dr. Bernard's Home. We enquired from the hedge keeper if it was permissible to walk through and was told that no permission is needed. It is well open to the public. In fact we did come up against several brambles

wire fences but by a series of little detours we came to the exit at Broad and End. Turning ~~right~~ left and almost immediately right we entered Thoresen walk (lane) which for the first part was built-up. Soon however we were out in open country again and the cross remained good right down to The White Horse at Hertingfordbury. A stop was made here to order tea for a future ramble (Monday 12th) and as there was a short while to wait the party walked back along the road as far as Bish Green before catching the 372 bus home. It was a short day and we were home before 9 o'clock. A little sorry to have met so much rain but glad to have been out.

CYRIL
BLANDHARDERIL
SAULJO
FRANKLIN

Florence Stan-Brygh.

JOHN
THORNTONMARION
THORNTONFANNY
WILSONCLARE
WILSONSIR FRANK
THORNTON

A Walk to Ayr St Lawrence 27.4.57

With a rather cool wind in attendance ten numbers set out from the meeting point through a set work of superior properties and what the planners have left of the woods to reach Walk. This avenue is still as delightful as ever to behold and does not yet appear to be scheduled for development.

Continuing past the Conference House, which building may be viewed with mixed feelings and which we were told will have sundry phases of artistic merit, we made our way across the fields to Walsby. The many gardens along which we passed appeared to receive degrees of treatment from the tenants ranging from loving care to open hostility.

Walking up past St Mary's School we admired the excellence of the gardens but were puzzled by the considerable quantities of liquid manure which is used, so we believe, to keep the scholars on the straight and narrow.

Heading through a small wood which delighted us with a generous display of bluebells and continuing across the lush pasture skirting Ayr St we walked along the lane as far as the disused church yard

to pick up the path leading straight across the fields to Agost St Lawrence.

Members were intrigued to see the boards advertising the silt from recently transposed to the village, together with the usual scale of admission charges and the prospect of a well-known brand of ice cream at popular prices.

Tea at the Brochet Arms was made ^{more} enjoyable by the finer touches to the service provided by the lady members of the party.

Rested and refreshed we then had a look round the ruined church walked down past Shonis corner and picked up the path for the return journey. Again we had the pleasure of carpets of bluebells, and the gentle rolling meadows to the south were made even more magnificent by the unexpected sunshine.

Walking under Hunters Bridge and coming out on the lane leading down to Water Pond we walked down towards the pool and continued east through Brochet Park.

As one of the senior members of the party deemed we could hardly be expected to have sufficient time to read all the notices and injunctions which seem to bespatter the right of way to the village of Unsworth.

But strong of heart and as a comparatively compact and well disciplined body we walked across the path not with eyes downcast because we wanted to enjoy the delights of the English countryside.

Not having read all the notices we couldn't tell whether or not a certain mileage per hour was recommended and whether talking, or worse still, smoking was permissible.

It would be true to report that we were undimmed by any evidence of the signwriter's art and generally admired the good husbandry of the estate before coming out on to the somewhat less restricted public highway by the mill, walking up the village to the foot above the bridge before making our several ways home.

The most important feature of this walk was the beauty of the Hertfordshire countryside in spring, the warm sunshiny tranquillity, the rather cool wind and the obvious pleasure of the party in this walk of approximately ten miles.

L. W. F. Pinner.

12 miles

Sunday May 12th

WALK
148

164

Only 8 members turned out for what was a really lovely walk. we started off at 20th Mile Bridge and inspected the new stadium which is nicely ground and after crossing the railway by the sand-pit bridge made our way across the rough ground on the other side to paths 67 & 66 and by road to Mill Green. Here we turned left to the Hatfield Home Lodge and right to the ford. Here we took path 8 which goes across to Emsenden. Here we stopped to eat our sandwiches and after doing so set off by path 4 to Broadwellpate farm and then by 17 to Little Bockingstead. We went through the village lane - round by St Andrews Church onto path 9. Through Bynford wood and then left up the road to Bynford. Here we have left by St Mary's Church and on to path 4 which led us up to Stokings Lane which we followed to footpath 2 and so into starting parking for tea. After tea a little discussion took place as to whether we could walk home or part of the way but eventually we all decided to bus.

The main joy of the day was that the leader had not managed to go over the water and at each arguable point all eight members took part in talking and saying and as nothing went wrong a great

sense of achievement was shared by all. It might be a good idea to do this blind walking sometimes as it does increase the interest of the party.

Margie Glen Leigh

P.S. One of the main additions of this route was the weather. Finally fine we were subjected to sudden short and very heavy showers. However without exception we found ourselves under a large oak tree for each downpour and did not get wet once! Excellent accidental planning! Also at one point when all were grasping for refreshment a most unlikely ice cream and drink bar came into sight and we were able to regale ourselves before continuing.

16 miles

Saturday May 25th

Eleven of us caught the 2.54 - 2.05 bus at Valley Road Corner after a most frustrating half hour when the earlier bus failed to arrive. It was doubly irritating as four of the group had elected to catch the bus at the Station and were on the point of going home when one of them suggested taking the 3.03 up to the corner to see what had happened to us. Once we were united as a group it seemed easier to wait for the later bus. There was apparently no known reason for the failure except that 'possibly the driver had not turned up'.

Once started the ramble was enjoyable. We went as far as Kington by bus and going up the path to the left of the Church and across the field to the wood we penetrated through the wood on to the Kington - Whitwell Road. This was because the point at which we should have crossed the field was ready sown with wheat and we preferred not to trample it. We left the Road at the drive in to Hood End and turned left past the house and so into Sharkleygate lane. At the barn we turned left onto footpath 2 and took one of the steep little paths down into

Whitwell It was an unfortunate choice of path as it was
 solid with nettles and even with the advance guard of the
 three males with walking sticks proved a very 'stringy'
 business. At Whitwell we turned in by the Youth
 Hostel and ignoring the scarlet painted warning 'Beware
 of the Bull' (which has absolutely no right appearing
 on a public footpath) we continued up the hill to
 St Pauls Warden Bury Home. We followed the drive road
 to the lodge, again trespassing but the footpath though
 the kissing gate and diagonally over to the lodge would
 have caused 'unnecessary suffering' to a good crop
 of clover. At the lodge we crossed the road and made
 our way up the hill opposite to Reynolds Wood. Just
 before entering this we sat down looking back across
 route in lovely Spring Sunshine to the home and trees
 and meadowland spread out before us. It was a beautiful
 spot and very much appreciated. After tea we continued
 through Reynolds wood and again risking our all we crossed
 the field that usually houses a bull to Easthall Farm
 cottage. Actually the Bull was away for the day and the
 farmer had previously told the heades (me) that it was a
 very pleasant character and quite harmless so it wasn't very
 brave. We went on up the lane directly ahead of car gap in
 the hedge for about half a mile and then struck off to the

left to Roundwood Bell, always a very great favourite, and on up the hill opposite and then down the lane to Longley. These of our number left us here and obviously struck by their going the leader (still me) started off on a completely wrong path. This was due to having had too many rambles in the same area. The error was soon righted and we got back on to the 'right ramble' a hundred yards down the road. We left the road on our left and turned down towards Rushing End, Round Groppe Wood across the road directly into the gate opposite and so on across the fields to Three Houses. Here we turned right and almost immediately left into the field which ^{fully} follows through in an almost straight line to Cochiata. At Cochiata we had another frustrating Half Low as once again the bus (probably the same one as a later journey) failed to materialise and we had no option but to wait for the next. By this time the evening had turned very very chilly and several of us were feeling the cold very badly by the time we reached home at about 8.30 p.m.

Margie Jean Beryl