

FRIENDS OF THE LEOMINSTER CANAL PROGRAMME OF WALKS FOR 2023

Saturday 22nd April 2023.

*Martin Hudson Memorial Walk.
~ Rea Aqueduct, near Mable.*

Due to bad weather this walk from last October had to be cancelled but hopefully this year the sun will shine and we can try again! Always popular with members the Rea Aqueduct, known as the bridge of a million bricks, is one of the most impressive structures on the canal and was certainly one of Martin's favourites. Excessive rain in early 2013 caused it to suffer a partial collapse of the northern side which has been a devastating blow to the integrity of the structure. With a single span of 41ft, it carried the canal high over the River Rea and was when built the largest single brick span aqueduct in the country. It's not only a remarkable feat of engineering but a very important one too.

For this trip we will approach the aqueduct from the western end via Newnham Bridge, something we haven't done for many years as usually we access it from the eastern end. There is still plenty to see and learn about including many bits of defined canal and the 'bat tunnel'! All will be revealed so please put the date in your diary and join us for the first of these annual memorial walks.

MEETING POINT: The Talbot Inn, Car Park - 10:30am

DIRECTIONS: The pub is at the junction of the A456 and the A443 Newnham Bridge. WR15 8JF

DISTANCE: Approximately 2 miles / Approximately 2 hours in total.

ROUTE: Easy going with field paths, bridleways, no styles and one short hill.

Saturday 1st July 2023.

*Corn Brook Embankment.
~ near Tenbury Wells.*

An area of the canal not visited in a very long time, this impressive embankment is where the canal crosses the Corn Brook. Another wonder of the canal builders this huge earthwork is well worth seeing.

MEETING POINT: TBA – 10:30am.

DIRECTIONS: TBA.

Saturday 30th September 2023:

Field trip to the Putnal Tunnel.

A field trip to the eastern portal of the Putnal Tunnel and southern edge of Wyson Common to survey feeder & pilot channels, culverts as well as having a poke around for clues to other structures.

MEETING POINT: TBA – 10:30am..

DIRECTIONS: TBA.

Thursday 28th December 2023:

Christmas Walk. To be announced.

Hopefully the sun will shine and we can walk off the indulgences of the Christmas holiday.
[please note this is usually a social walk and not a guided canal walk]

MEETING POINT: TBA – 10:30am start.

DIRECTIONS: TBA.

More details of the walks, times and meeting points to be advised near the dates.