

## LDWA London Summer Evening Walks 2010

### **Thu 2 Sept 2010 Summer Evening Walk - London's Parks 7ml.**

Start Holland Park Tube stn 6.00 pm for a walk through Holland Park, Kensington Gardens, Hyde Park, Green Park, St James Park to finish in Trafalgar Square. Pub Dry Shades, Whitehall. Ldr Rob Myers

#### *Summary:*

*This additional summer evening walk was hastily arranged at the last moment in response to requests to extend the season. The email circulated just before the walk seemed to encourage some members to try a summer evening walk for the first time. On a perfect late summer night 22 walkers gathered at Holland Park. We did a circuit through this attractive park before proceeding to Kensington Gardens. Here we looked at the annual floral tributes left on the main gate of Kensington Palace on the anniversary of Princess Diana's death. The route through Kensington Gardens went past the Diana Adventure Playground, the Flower Gardens and Speke's Monument before reaching the top of the Serpentine. Walking down the side of the Serpentine we crossed into Hyde Park and from there to Green Park and St James's Park. Leaving the parks we symbolically finished the last summer evening walk in Trafalgar Square. Due to the early sunset and early park closures it was decided to start the walk at 6 and finish at 8.15. This left plenty of time for socialising at the Old Shades pub which served excellent beer and probably the best sausage and mash that I have ever tasted. Rob*

### **Wed 25 Aug 2010 Summer Evening Walk - Regent's Park area 7ml.**

Start Warwick Avenue Tube stn at 6.30 pm for a short canal walk before exploring Primrose Hill and Regents Park. Pub Hobgoblin near Baker Street. Ldr Rob Myers

#### *Summary:*

*It had been raining heavily all day and was still raining when the walk was due to commence at 6.30. Some people had texted to say that due to the weather they would not be turning up but astonishingly 13 people did. We set out from Little Venice for a walk along the Regents Canal to Primrose Hill. Due to the conditions we did not linger too long to admire the view but carried straight on into Regents Park. We wandered through Avenue Gardens and traversed the boating lake. We passed a lot of disappointed spectators from the open air theatre who had seen their performance cancelled due to the rain. At this point less than a mile from the finish darkness descended and I made a navigation error that meant I had to abort the walk. At the same time the heavens really opened and we headed quickly to the most convenient pub. This was the Wetherspoons next to Baker Street tube. We were all drenched but the beer and food somewhat revived us. In retrospect I should have started the walk half an hour earlier and done it in reverse. Definitely a lesson for the future. Rob*

### **Tue 17 Aug 2010 Summer Evening Walk - Thames Stroll 8ml.**

Start Pimlico Tube stn at 6.30pm for a London sightseeing walk along the Thames to Canary Wharf. Pub Wetherspoons, West India Quay. Ldr Rob Myers

#### *Summary:*

*14 people gathered at Pimlico for a sightseeing walk along the Thames. We crossed Lambeth Bridge to pass Westminster Palace and mingled with crowds and performance artists on the South Bank. We passed the London Eye and Shakespeare's Globe before*

*re-crossing the Thames at London Bridge. Proceeding past Tower Bridge we visited St Katherine's Dock before finally doing a stretch of the Thames Path along Wapping High Street and Limehouse Basin to finish at Canary Wharf. Most people stayed on at Wetherspoons pub at West India Quay for food and drink. Rob*

**Wed 11 Aug 2010 Summer Evening Walk - East London 8ml.**

Start in front of Mile End stn (Central and District Lines) at 6.30pm. Parks and canals of East London, including a good view of the Olympic site. Ldr Lonica Vanclay

*Summary:*

*With heavy rain the night before and the night after we were lucky to have a pleasant evening for the walk - and with 22 of us in total (the highest so far I am informed!) clearly others thought so too! I am sure it was the sights enroute rather than the weather that were the attraction though. Far from an urban experience the East End parks and canals meant it was just a few minutes of streets and houses at the start. The East End stadium where athletes train; the start point for the London 100 in 2012; and the pretty well developed stadiums of the Olympic site itself were the highlights - the old Big Breakfast house a poor second now it is all boarded up. Funnily enough it didn't seem to be a well known sight to many! And the beer and old East End atmosphere of the Palm Tree pub provided a great end for the walk. Lonica*

**Thu 5 Aug 2010 Summer Evening Walk - Parliament to Parliament Hill 8ml.**

Start Westminster Tube stn 6.00pm (Meet at the ticket barriers). Finish in local hostelry near Archway. Ldr Susanne Waldschmidt

**Thu 29 Jul 2010 Summer Evening Walk - Eastern Delights (Walthamstow to Liverpool stn) 9ml.**

Meet Walthamstow stn 6.15pm. A stroll passing reservoirs, marshes and a stretch of the River Lea finishing at Liverpool stn where there is a good choice of pubs. Ldr Dave Williams

*Summary:*

*Noone was more surprised than me to see 20 gullible souls (a record for an evening walk!) turn up at Walthamstow Central. Perhaps they had been lured by the exotic title of the walk. Sadly however they were to be quickly disillusioned for there were to be no delights or indeed anything else of any interest apart from having to scramble under the world's lowest railway bridge! The walk proceeded without any mishaps across Walthamstow marshes & wended its way through the fleshpots of Clapton, Hackney & Shoreditch before ending up at Liverpool Street where the group were greeted by some exotic dancing (which I had gone to great lengths to arrange!). However noone could be persuaded to join in so we adjourned to a local hostelry, The Gun. Chris D.'s eyes immediately lit up when he informed us that this was the venue where in past times young ladies used to perform some dubious entertainment. He claimed however that he himself had never ventured here before but noone really believed him!! Dave*

**Wed 21 Jul 2010 Summer Evening Walk - A swift Dome to Dartford 10ml.**

Meet North Greenwich Tube stn 6.00pm. Drinks at the Malt Shovel Dartford and express

home. Route has excellent rail links for those who want something shorter. Ldr Adam Pode

*Summary:*

*A really nice walk along the river although we didn't make it to the Malt Shovel. We'd done around 10 miles by the time we got to Erith so we stopped there. The first pub we tried had no ale so we tried another only to find it was the same story. We settled for Guinness. Andy*

**Tue 13 Jul 2010 Summer Evening Walk - Epping Forest 8ml.**

Start in front of Loughton Tube stn (Central Line) at 6.30pm. Ldr Lonica Vanclay

*Summary:*

*The rain held off - just the occasional drizzle to cool us. 6 of us stepped out from Loughton and wound our way through the seemingly endless and very green trees of Epping Forest - with a few viewpoints, a pond and golf courses to give some variety. Very calming....with a dramatic sunset through the clouds. The boys adjourned to Wetherspoons; despite Dave's tales of banana beer, we girls opted to head straight home, hoping to keep the peaceful green in our minds as long as possible. Lonica*

**Thu 8 Jul 2010 Summer Evening Walk - London parks and Regent's canal 10ml.**

Meet 6.30pm inside Green Park station, near the gateline. Walk through Green Park, Hyde Park, Regent's Park, Primrose Hill and then follow the Regent's Canal to end near Old street, in Hoxton. Map London A-Z. Ldr Peter Buchwald

*Summary:*

*5 women; 7 men*

*They met in Green Park ticket hall  
For a sunny summer London stroll  
Were joined by one from far away  
Who from her hotel had escaped.*

*Set off through the park so green  
Walked under an old triumphal arch  
Stopped at a grid of pillars in memory  
Of the seventh day and that same month.*

*Across the corner where people speak  
The hotel escapee sought socks and they  
Continued through the city streets  
Crossed Regent's Park to Primrose Hill.*

*They found the canal gate closed  
And walked around to join it further on  
Saw some fishermen and made their way  
To lonely Camden Lock at evening time.*

*They passed Kings Cross and Islington  
Pretty girls out for an evening run*

*Some locks with tidy narrowboats  
To the Wenlock Arms, a quiz and beer.*

*Peter*

**Wed 30 Jun 2010 Summer Evening Walk - Grand Union Canal Greenford to Brentford 11ml.**

Meet 6.30pm Black Horse pub (garden backs on to canal), Black Horse bridge, 400 yds north of Greenford station, central line. Walk canal via Southall, Bulls Bridge Junction, Norwood and Osterley to Brentford. Trains back from Brentford, Kew Bridge or Gunnersbury (London Overground and District line). Ldr Julian Mason

**Wed 23 Jun 2010 Summer Evening Walk - Kent House to Deptford c.7ml.**

Start Kent House railway stn 6.30pm. The walk will end at the Dog and Bell in Deptford. Ldrs Nick Marshall & Judith Griffith

*Summary:*

*A mostly riverside walk, the Ravensbourne, finishing at an excellent pub. Andy*

**Wed 16 Jun 2010 Summer Evening Walk - Greenwich and Docklands 8ml.**

Start Greenwich stn 6.30pm. Frequent trains from Charing Cross and London Bridge. A chance to explore Greenwich Park and the Isle of Dogs. Finish Henry Addington pub Canary Wharf. Ldr Rob Myers

*Summary*

*At the start there were 13 of us, however 2 more arrived late and caught up, and a further 2 who were waiting at the wrong entrance were heroically rescued by Nick and Judith. The walk therefore proceeded chaotically at first into Greenwich Park visiting the Rose Garden and the Flower Garden with its embedded Deer Enclosure by which time the entire party of 17 were united. After visiting Roman remains unearthed by the Time Team and Queen Elizabeth's Oak we proceeded to the Royal Observatory for its stunning views of Christopher Wren's Naval Buildings. We descended to skirt round the Naval Buildings for a short walk along the Thames to look at the restoration work going on at the Cutty Sark (due to reopen in 2011). From there we used the Greenwich Foot Tunnel to go to the Isle of Dogs. In Docklands we first visited Mudchute Farm where my navigation came slightly unstuck and I left through a completely different exit than I had intended, fortunately we came out at the perfect place immediately opposite Millwall Docks thus bybassing the Asda car park. We did a full circuit of Millwall Docks before exploring West India Docks. As the time was approaching 9pm I decided to cut the walk short and headed for the pub in Canary Wharf. The group remarked that there was a nice contrast between the two halves of the walk which seemed to work well. Rob*

**Wed 9 Jun 2010 Summer Evening Walk - Part of the Beverley Brook walk, via Barnes Common, plus Richmond park and riverside, 8ml.**

Meet Putney Bridge stn on the District Line 6.30pm. End at pub in Richmond. Ldr Andy Davies

*Summary:*

*17 of us set off from Putney on a warm, humid but dry evening and crossed the Thames via the railway bridge footpath. Turning northwest along the riverbank we soon arrived at the point where the Beverley Brook enters the Thames and looked back to note an impressive cloud formation above Putney bridge. We followed the path beside the brook towards Barnes Common, slowed only by the unsuccessful attempt to spot beavers (the brook's name derives from 'beaver's ley' - home of the beavers), then after quiet residential streets we reached some very well maintained allotments and crossed Palewell Common into Richmond Park by Roehampton Gate. Continuing alongside the brook for a while we turned west up through the elegantly named Spankers Hill Wood, skirted Pen Ponds while trying not to disturb any nesting skylarks in the field and, thanks to Chris, found the tunnel-like path lined with flowering rhododendrons through Sidmouth Wood. After enjoying the views from King Henry's Mound we headed down to Petersham Gate, crossed the meadow with grazing cows and strolled along the riverside to the White Cross for some good beer and food. The group commented on how pleasant it was to enjoy such a quiet leafy walk in London. Andy*

**Tue 1 Jun 2010 Summer Evening Walk - In the steps of Mr Pooter. c7mi.**

Start Archway Tube stn 6.30pm. The walk will go from Archway Tube to Golders Green Tube via park, heath and woodland. From chapter 2 of The diary of a nobody. Optional stop at famous old bull and bush pub at the end. Bring an item of Victorian garb/walking cane. Ldr Peter Russell

*Summary:*

*From drizzle at Archway to drizzle at Golders Green a group of six and Holly had a lovely walk whilst others sun bathed in Scotland. We went through rhododendrons and azaleas in Waterlow Park and Kenwood. We then kept to the woods. We also found the Hampstead Heath hockey field with which has a bad slope, as pointed out by Chris Dent fresh from the 100. We saw the two 300- year -old oaks complete with their photographs of 120 years ago when Sandy Heath was a desolate sand mine which caused it's many little hillocks, of which the largest was bit like a scree run and avoided by most. We finished with high class food and drink at the Old Bull and Bush, renamed the Cow and Hedge in Mr Pooter, although the old pleasure garden with wooden arbours is now built over. Peter*