Wirral Walking Festival 2016

Choose from nearly 200 walks in May: there's something for everyone!

WIRRAL PENINSULA

Wirral Walking Festival 2016 ACCESS POLICY

Many of the walks in this brochure are accessible to people with limited mobility. However it is recommended that you check with the walk organiser for each event if you have specific requirements including wheelchair access or are unable to step over stiles. In many cases the walk route can be adapted to provide access for all. Also, if you are unable to attend the walk at the times shown, again please contact the walk leader who will be able to advise of alternative meeting points for you to join the walk at a different location later on. Finally, if you need to leave a walk early please let the walk leader know!

Disabled Holiday Information is an awareness-led charity founded by Frank and Sue Napper in 2001. As well as providing free information on fully accessible leisure time pursuits on their website and in guides and fact sheets, their volunteers engage in a variety of related activities to assess opportunities for people with disabilities including those who might not normally participate fully in community life. The resultant data is accessible in a visually stimulating format that will hopefully encourage other people with similar needs to expand and enhance their life experience thus improving their health and wellbeing.



Information about parks and open spaces facilities as well as information on where to stay and activities can be found at www.disabledholidayinfo.org.uk

Wirral Walking Festival 2016

The Wirral Walking Festival is only possible thanks to the volunteer walk leaders who each year enter a fantastic variety of walks for this month long festival showcasing our wonderful peninsula, its parks, coast and countryside. Now one of the largest walking festivals in the country the Wirral Walking Festival has nearly 200 walks taking place in May from health walks and buggy park fitness to longer treks along the footpath and Public Right of Way network and through our award winning green flag parks and internationally protected foreshore.

We all know that walking is great as part of a healthy lifestyle and some walks have been highlighted as 'Especially For Families' to encourage family groups to participate. Wirral Ramblers are also promoting their offer to lead walks for schools and, as always, the Walking For Health Walks feature prominently and this year includes walks organised through Age UK.

Whilst the Wirral Walking Festival has always included walks that take place throughout the peninsula, this year we are delighted that Councillor Louise Gittins, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Culture Leisure and Wellbeing, and our colleagues in Cheshire West and Chester have contributed directly to the walks programme making this a truly 'Wirral Wide' event.

It's essential that we get feedback from walk participants so please take the time to go on-line and complete the Walkers Feedback Form. It only takes a couple of minutes and will help us to continually improve this wonderful festival and the range of walks on offer.

Councillor Chris Meaden Cabinet Member for Leisure, Sport and Culture



'Especially For Families' walks have been chosen by the walk leaders as being particularly suitable for family groups to enjoy together. We hope you enjoy attending the 2016 Wirral Walking Festival and welcome your feedback. Walk Leaders Feedback and Walk Participants Feedback Forms can be completed at: **www.visitwirral.com/walkingfestival**

Wirral Walking Festival 2016 Calendar of Walks

Sunday 1st May	Location/Start	Page
• Health Walk	Birkenhead Park	16
Run in Wirral	West Kirby Concourse	22
Dawn Chorus	Ellesmere Port	7
 Wirral Wander 	Royden Park	7
 History Walk 	Eastham Country Park	7
• Evening Walk	Red Rocks	7
Monday 2nd May		
Health Walk	Birkenhead Park	16
 Health Walk 	West Kirby	16
Meols to West Kirby	Meols	8
Tuesday 3rd May		
Buggy Park Fitness	Arrowe Country Park	23
Run in Wirral	West Kirby Concourse	22
Run in Wirral	Birkenhead 6th Form College	22
• Health Walk	Arrowe Country Park	16
• Health Walk	Port Sunlight River Park	17
• Health Walk	Wallasey	17
• Health Walk	Warrens	16
Nordic Walking	West Kirby Concourse	23
Rivacre Valley Stroll	Ellesmere Port	16
Flaybrick Cemetery & Arboretum	Flaybrick	8
• Bidston	Bidston	8
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• Buaav Park Fitness	Ashton Park	23
Buggy Park Fitness		23 22
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Page	Friday 20th May	Location/Start	Page
22	 Buggy Park Fitness 	Eastham Country Park	23
22	 Ness Gardens Stroll 	Ness	18
13	 Summer Special Health Walk 	Arrowe Country Park	18
13	 Exploring Bidston Moss 	Bidston	20
	Storeton	Storeton	20
	Saturday 21st May		
18	Run in Wirral	Birkenhead Park	22
22	 Tex'Trail Running 	Various locations	22
15 13	 New Brighton and Wallasey Village Circular 	New Brighton	20
14	Minerals & Fossils The Geology of Thurstaston	Thurstaston	21
	 Neston - Raby - Neston 	Neston	21
23	Bidston Hill Walk	Bidston	21
16			
16	Sunday 22nd May		
22	Health Walk	Birkenhead Park	18
18	Run in Wirral	West Kirby Concourse	22
22	Thurstaston Circular	Thurstaston	14
16			
15	Monday 23rd May		
	 Buggy Park Fitness 	Ashton Park	23
	• Health Walk -	Birkenhead Park	16
23	 Health Walk 	West Kirby	16
22	Run in Wirral	West Kirby Concourse	22
22	Run in Wirral	Wirral Tennis and Leisure Centre	22
16	Masonic Hall Stroll	Ellesmere Port	16
17	 Around Raby 	Raby	21
17			
16	Tuesday 24th May		
23	 Buggy Park Fitness 	Arrowe Country Park	23
16	• Run in Wirral	West Kirby Concourse	22
15	 Run in Wirral 	Birkenhead 6th Form College	22
15	 Health Walk 	Arrowe Park	16
	 Health Walk 	Port Sunlight River Park	17
	 Health Walk 	Wallasey	17
23	 Health Walk 	Warrens	16
22	 Nordic Walking 	West Kirby Concourse	23
22	Rivacre Valley Stroll	Ellesmere Port	16
17	Meols	Meols	21
17	Wednesd ATU T		
17	Wednesday 25th May		
17	Buggy Park Fitness	Ashton Park	23
20	Run in Wirral	West Kirby Concourse	22
	Run in Wirral	Oval Leisure Centre	22
	Health Walk	Port Sunlight River Park	17
22	 Health Walk 	Port Sunlight Village	17
22	 Health Walk 	West Kirby	17
22	 Health Walk 	Eastham Country Park	17
17	 Links Healthy Living Centre Walk 	Ellesmere Port	17
23	 The Neston Colleries 	Neston	12

Thursday 26th May	Location/Start	Page
Run in Wirral	West Kirby Concourse	22
Run in Wirral	Birkenhead 6th Form College	22
Run in Wirral	Frankby Cemetery	22
 Health Walk 	Royden Park	17
Nordic Walking	West Kirby Concourse	23
Friday 27th May		
 Buggy Park Fitness 	Eastham Country Park	23
Ness Gardens Stroll	Ness	18
 Port Sunlight 	Port Sunlight	24
Port Sunlight River Park -	Port Sunlight	24
From Refuse to Recreation	Ū.	
Saturday 28th May		
Run in Wirral	Birkenhead Park	22
 Tex' Trail Running 	Various locations	22
Eastham & Willaston Circular	Eastham	24
Sunday 29th May		
• Health Walk	Birkenhead Park	18
Run in Wirral	West Kirby Concourse	22
• Hilbre Island	West Kirby	19
Monday 30th May		
• Health Walk	Birkenhead Park	16
Masonic Halll Stroll	Ellesmere Port	16
Pirate Seashore Walk	New Brighton	24
Tuesday 31st May		
Buggy Park Fitness	Arrowe Country Park	23
• Run in Wirral	West Kirby Concourse	22
Run in Wirral	Birkenhead 6th Form College	22
• Health Walk	Arrowe Park	16
Health Walk	Port Sunlight River Park	17
Health Walk	Wallasey	17
Health Walk	Warrens	16
Nordic Walking	West Kirby Concourse	23
Rivacre Valley Stroll	Ellesmere Port	16
Family Fun Nature Walk	Port Sunlight	25
Raby to Cherry Wood	Raby	25
	/	

"This walk was excellent. I would definitely recommend it"

Wirral Walking Festival Feedback 2015

"This was a very informative walk. I thoroughly enjoyed it" Wirral Walking Festival Feedback 2015



Wirral Walking Festival 2016 General Walks

Dawn Chorus Sunday 1st May, 4am - 8am Cost: FREE Walk length: 2 miles

This is a dawn chorus walk with a very early start in order to catch the wide variety of birds singing in the valley. From the Ranger's Hut we will walk a few hundred yards to listen to the music! A gentle stroll then takes us towards the golf links and Church Wood before returning. Please note that you may wish to bring a small folding chair or shooting stick as there won't be any seating and warm clothing and appropriate footwear is essential and please bring a torch!. There is one short incline on this walk. Sorry no dogs.

Event Postcode: CH66 1SS Contact: 0151 339 4601 Email: juliebarlow@talktalk.net Meet at: The Rangers Hut, Rivacre Valley Country Park, Ellesmere Port

Red Rocks Evening Walk Sunday 1st May, 8pm - 10pm Cost: £5 Walk length: 2 kilometres Booking Essential

An evening guided walk at Red Rocks with a chance to listen out for singing Natterjack Toads. Sorry no dogs.

Event Postcode: CH47 1HN Contact: 019488 20728 E-mail: info@cheshirewt.org.uk Meet at: Red Rocks, Hoylake Eastham Country Park History Walk Sunday 1st May, 10am - 12.30pm Cost: FREE Walk Length: 2 miles

Join the Wirral Rangers & Friends of Dibbinsdale for a walk around Eastham Country Park looking back in time at the history of this unusual and interesting site. Dogs must be kept under control at all times.

Event Postcode: CH62 0BH Contact: 0151 327 1007 E-mail: christopherwerney@wirral.gov.uk Meet at: The Rangers Office, Eastham Country Park

Wirral Wander Sunday 1st May 9am – 4pm Cost: FREE Walk Length: 14 miles Booking Essential

This is a circular route from Royden Park taking in just about the best the Wirral has to offer...through Newton we pass through Hoylake, West Kirby and trek across to the Hilbre Islands, returning via Thurstaston, The Dungeons and back to Royden. Please bring some lunch which will be on Hilbre sat watching the seals.

Event Grid Reference: SJ245 858 Contact: 01942 874719 Email: j.bullen1@ntlworld.com Meet at: Royden Park Car Park

Meols to West Kirby Monday 2nd May, 1.30pm - 5.30pm Cost: FREE

Walk length: 7 miles

From Meols this walk will cross over fields to Frankby then through

Rovden Park and over Thurstaston Common to the Visitor Centre at Wirral Country Park. Walking along the Wirral Way, including a visit to the Dungeons, we will walk to West Kirby and around the Marine Lake finishing at West Kirby Station.

Event Postcode: CH47 9RA Contact: 0151 345 3816 Email:

victoria.doran11@gmail.com Meet at: Meols Station

Flaybrick Cemetery and Arboretum Tuesday 3rd May, 11am - 1pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 1.5 miles

Come and find out about the fascinating history of Birkenhead

and stories of the personalities that helped to make it the way it is. This walk is over uneven ground and flat shoes are recommended. All children under 16 year old must be accompanied by an adult. Sorry no doas.

WIRRAL M HISTORY 6 HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

Event Postcode: CH43 7PD Contact: 0151 648 4371 E-mail: wcp@wirral.gov.uk Meet at: Tam O'Shanter Cottage, **Bidston**

Bidston Tuesday 3rd May, 7.30pm - 9pm Cost: FREE (but please bring some

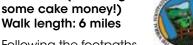
money if you want to join us in a local pub afterwards!) ramblers Walk length: 3 miles

This circular walk takes us from Bidston Station to Bidston Village and Bidston Hill as far as the windmill and with great views of Liverpool Bay. We follow the old deer park wall and head back to the village and railway station. Sorry no doas.

Event Grid Reference: \$J284 907 Contact: 0151 605 0591 Email: dbeacher@waitrose.com Meet at: Bidston Station Car Park



Little Neston, Ness and the Wednesday 4th May, 2pm - 5pm Cost: FREE (but bring some cake money!)



Following the footpaths through Little Neston and Ness we will stop at Net's Café at Denhall for home-made cakes and great views before continuing along the marsh and returning to the car park

Event Grid Reference: SJ307 776 Contact: 0151 327 4125 E-mail: ip.townsend@hotmail.com Meet at: Lees Lane Car Park

Brotherton Park & Dibbinsdale History Walk

Thursday 5th May, 10am - 12.30pm Cost: FREE

Walk Length: 2 miles

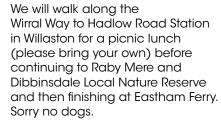
Join the Wirral Rangers & Friends of Dibbinsdale **WIRRAL** for a walk around Dibbinsdale Local Nature Reserve looking

at the ancient and recent history of this hidden gem. (There are some steep hills and steps along the route.) Doas must be kept under control at all times.

Dibbinsdale

Event Postcode: CH62 2BJ Contact: 0151 334 9851 Email: alansmail@wirral.gov.uk Meet at: The Rangers Office, **Dibbinsdale LNR**

Coast to Coast: Parkgate to Eastham Thursday 5th May, 11.15am - 4.30pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 10 miles



Event Grid Reference SJ280 779 Contact: 0151 604 1057 Email: janbel68@yahoo.co.uk Meet at: Mostyn House School, Parkgate

The Bats of Port Sunlight **River Park**

Thursday 5th May, 8.45pm - 10.30pm Cost: £3 per person Walk length: 1.5 miles **Booking essential**

This is an easy walk

autism 📐 together

stopping to see and listen to the variety of bats using bat detectors. There is a gentle slope, on good paths, from the car park to the lake. Children aged 8 and over are welcome but must be accompanied and please dress warmly. Sorry no dogs.

Event Postcode: CH62 4TQ Contact: 07587 550 060 anne.litherland@autismtogether.co.uk Meet at: Port Sunlight River Park, **Dock Road North**

Brimstaae

Friday 6th May, 7.30pm - 9.15pm Cost: FREE (but please bring some

money if you want to join us in a local pub afterwards!) Walk length: 4 Miles



A pleasant flat circular walk takes us via a bridleway and then paths across fields to Thornton Hough. A brief section on Thornton Common Road is then followed by a walk across more fields towards Clatterbridge before turning north back to Brimstage. Sorry no dogs.

Event Grid Reference: SJ304 827 Contact: 0151 605 0591 Email: dbeacher@waitrose.com Meet at: Brimstage Craft Centre Car Park



Little Sutton to Ellesmere Port Saturday 7th May, 10.45am - 3.30pm Cost: FREE (Please bring some money if you want to use the café at the museum) Walk length: 8 miles

We will walk through Rivacre Country Park and to the **Ellesmere Port Boat Museum** stopping at the café. (Please note there are no picnic facilities here). After our break we will continue along the canal to Stanney Wood and Whitby Park. This is not a circular walk and there are several places to 'opt out'. Sorry no dogs.

Event Postcode: CH66 1PA Email: stolen.ma@gmail.com Meet at: Little Sutton Railway Station

Bluebells Galore! Saturday 7th May, 2pm - 4pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 2 kilometres

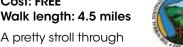
A walk along footpaths to enjoy the Bluebells, Celandines, Wood

Anemones, and other flowers of the ancient woodland within Dibbinsdale Local Nature Reserve and learn more about the local history. There will be some steep slopes as part of this walk and stout footwear is essential. Sorry no dogs.

Event Grid Reference: SJ342 820 Contact: 0151 327 5923 E-mail: info@wirralwildlife.org.uk Meet at: Bromborough Rake Station

The History of Shotwick Park Sunday 8th May,

10.30am - 12.30pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 4.5 miles



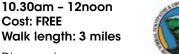
one of Wirral's most historic places that most Wirral residents know little or nothing about! As well as the local history there's plenty to see including the remains of Shotwick Castle.

Event Postcode: CH1 6EP Contact: 0151 677 4594 E-mail: happyrambler1@amail.com Meet at: All Saints Church. Saughall



Exploring Bidston Moss Monday 9th May,

Cost: FREE



Discover how an area of natural beauty which was contaminated by landfill tipping has been reclaimed and restored. This is an easy walk with a gradual elevation of only 100 feet.

Event Grid Reference: SJ289 913 Contact: 0151 677 6250 E-mail:

terrywood28@googlemail.com Meet at: Bidston B&Q Car Park (Flyover end)

Bidston Hill Tuesday 10th May, 11am - 1pm Cost: FREE Walk length: up to 4 miles

From Tam O'Shanter WIRRAL HISTORYs HERITAGE Urban Farm we will make our way via Kina George's Way to Thermopylae Pass and the original

site of Bidston Court (which was moved to Rovden Park). We then follow the ridge to Bidston Windmill, the Observatory and Lighthouse passing some of the carvings before returning to the farm. All children under 16 year old must be accompanied by an adult. Sorry no dogs.

Event Postcode: CH43 7PD Contact: 0151 648 4371 E-mail: wcp@wirral.gov.uk Meet at: Tam O'Shanter Cottage, **Bidston**

Rovden Park

Tuesday 10th May, 7.30pm - 9.15pm Cost: FREE (but please bring some money if you want to join us in a local pub afterwards!) Walk length: 4 Miles

This circular route is a ramblers

aentle walk with little ascent passing Roodee Mere and Frankby Mere before returning via Hillbark to the car park. Sorry no dogs.

Event Grid Reference: SJ245 860 Contact: 0151 605 0591 Email: dbeacher@waitrose.com Meet at: Rovden Park Car Park

Bats in Brotherton Park Tuesday 10th May, 8.45pm - 10.45pm Cost: FREE Walk length: no more than 2 miles **Booking Essential**



Join the Ranaers for a walk around Dibbinsdale Local Nature reserve looking and listening for the bats that live in and around the valley. There are some hills on site and sturdy footwear is recommended. The walk will cover no more than two miles. Children are welcome but must be well supervised.

Event Grid Reference: SJ345 826 Contact: 0151 334 9851 Email: alansmail@wirral.gov.uk

Willaston Fields and Paths Wednesday 11th May, 10.30am - 12.45pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 4.25 miles

This is a pretty and varied 'figure of eight' walk to the north and



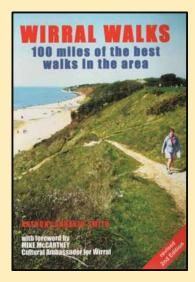
west of Willaston Village. Walkers can 'opt out' after the first 2 mile loop and please note that this walk can be muddy in places.

Event Postcode: CH64 3UQ Contact: 0151 677 4594 E-mail: happyrambler1@gmail.com Meet at: Hadlow Road Station Car Park, Willaston



Wirral Walks with Anthony Annakin-Smith

Join local author Anthony Annakin-Smith for a guided walk looking at historic Wirral. Anthony will be using maps and old photographs on his walks to help bring the past to life along with a fascinating narrative on how some of these historic features can still be seen in today's landscape. Please note that it is essential to book on these walks and places will be limited.



Around Raby Monday 23rd May, 6.30pm - 9pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 4.25 miles Booking Essential

A circular walk, much of it along little-used paths, to the ancient and pretty village of Raby. This is a gentle walk but can be very wet so waterproof footwear is essential.

Event Postcode: CH64 9NQ Contact: 0151 336 5741 Meet at: Neston Recreation Centre

Parkgate Port and Resort Wednesday 11th May, 6.30pm – 9pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 2.5 miles Booking Essential

A circular walk, around what was once one of Britain's major sea ports and a renowned seaside resort. We'll also see signs of past shipbuilding and fishing industries. This is a gentle walk except for one flight of steps.

Event Postcode: CH64 6QJ Contact: 0151 648 4371 E-mail: wcp@wirral.gov.uk Meet at: Parkgate Parade by the Old Quay Pub

The Neston Collieries Wednesday 25th May, 6.30pm – 9pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 2.5 miles Booking Essential

A circular walk telling the story of the former Neston coal mines and looking at remains of the industry in the landscape. This is an easy walk with one stile.

Event Postcode: CH64 0TB Contact: 0151 648 4371 E-mail:wcp@wirral.gov.uk Meet at: The Harp Inn, Little Neston

Spital

Friday 13th May, 7.30pm - 9.15pm Cost: FREE (but please bring some money if you want to join us in a

local pub afterwards!) Walk length: 4 Miles

A circular walk starting from the station, through

Brotherton Park and Spital Dam towards Bebington Village along the disused Lever Railway Line by the back of the Croft Retail Park before crossing the A41 and back through Brotherton Park. You may wish to bring a torch for the short tunnel section!. Sorry no dogs.

Event Grid Reference: SJ339 829 Contact: 0151 605 0591 Email: dbeacher@waitrose.com Meet at: Spital Station Car Park

ramblers

Thurstaston and the Wirral Way Saturday 14th May, 10am - 3.30pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 9.25 miles Booking essential

A circular walk exploring the varied scenery along the Wirral Peninsula. The mainland section makes use of the Wirral Way, then diverts to the shoreline of the Dee Estuary. There is a fine viewpoint on Thurstaston Common with more views from the heights of wooded Caldy Hill. Sorry no dogs.

Event Grid Reference: SJ238 835

Contact: 07821 393 879 Meet at: Wirral Country Park Visitor Centre, Thurstaston

Bromborough Pool – The First Garden Village Saturday 14th May, 2pm – 3.30pm Cost: FREE

Walk length: 2 Miles



From Prices Candle Works to the present day this guided walk will look at features of interest and will also delve into the further past with a visit to the old courthouse site. The work of Autism Together and the Land Trust will also feature on this walk which takes place mostly over paved surfaces. Walkers are encouraged to visit Bromborough Pool Garden Centre where there is parking and where walk participants will receive a discount on the day. Sorry no dogs.

Event Postcode: CH62 4TT Contact: 0151 643 1359 anne.litherland@autismtogether.co.uk Meet at: Bromborough Pool Garden Centre

Thornton Hough Circular Sunday 15th May, 11am - 3.30pm Cost: FREE (but bring some money if you want refreshments at Claremont Farm) Walk length: 7 miles

Crossing field paths to Clatterbridge the walk



continues alongside Claire House and on to Claremont Farm for a chance to stop for some refreshments (or bring a packed lunch if preferred) before crossing Brackenwood Golf Course and returning via byways to Brimstage and field paths back to Thornton Hough.

Event Grid Reference: SJ303 810 Contact: 0151 625 9509 Email: jandbkeggan@aol.com Meet at: Smithy Hill,Thornton Hough

The Hooton to Parkgate Railway - 150 Years

In 1866 the Hooton to Parkgate single branch line opened. It was twenty years later in 1886 that it was extended to West Kirby and only 70 years after that that the line was closed to passenger traffic. In 1962 the last freight train ran from West Kirby to Hooton and over the next few years the tracks were lifted and the stations and most of the railway infrastructure demolished and removed. In 1969 Cheshire Council with support from the Countryside Commission established the first designated Country Park in Britain. Join Wirral Country Park Ranger Frank Bennett on one of these walks marking the opening of the Hooton to Parkgate Railway 150 years ago and a legacy which today provides us with the Wirral Way - the backbone of Wirral Country Park.

Thurstaston to Parkgate Sunday 15th May, 11am - 4pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 10 miles Booking Essential

From Thurstaston we will walk along the Wirral Way to Parkgate stopping for lunch before heading back along the foreshore and the Dee Cliffs.

Event Postcode: CH61 0HN Contact: 0151 648 4371 E-mail: wcp@wirral.gov.uk Meet at: The Wirral Country Park Visitor Centre, Thurstaston Thurstaston Circular Sunday 22nd May, 5pm - 7pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 2.5 miles Booking Essential

An evening walk finishing before the sun sets over the Dee Estuary.

Event Postcode: CH61 0HN Contact: 0151 648 4371 E-mail: wcp@wirral.gov.uk Meet at: The Wirral Country Park Visitor Centre, Thurstaston

WIRRAL Parks and Countryside

Wirral Walkies Sunday May 15th, 1pm Start Cost: £3

(Participants receive a goody bag containing Dogs Unite branded gifts). Wirral Walkies is a Dogs Unite charity dog walk open to all members of the public, and their dogs, in order to raise money for The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. The walk is from Meols along the promenade and beach to Tanskey's in West Kirby

Contact: 07855 958215 Email: smburns2211@gmail.com Meet at: Bennetts Lane, Meols Parade



Hilbre Island

Monday 16th May, 1pm - 4pm Cost: FREE (but please bring some money to join us in 'Tanskey's' for refreshments after the walk)

Walk length: 4 miles Booking Essential

tial Wirral

Hilbre Island is in the Dee Estuary, a Site of Special Scientific Interest. It is one of three tidal islands alongside Little Eye and Middle Eye. Access involves crossing a large area of sand and a slight slope to get on to the island. Appropriate clothing and footwear are essential.

Event Postcode: CH48 4DZ Contact: 0151 482 3456 Meet at: West Kirby Railway Station

Discover Burton Mere Wetlands

Tuesday 17th May, 10am - 12noon

Cost: £4 per person Walk length: 2 miles Booking essential

rspb a home

Ideal for first-time visitors. Learn more about the RSPB's work on the Dee Estuary. Expect breath-taking landscapes and some surprising history alongside the wonderful wildlife. Part of the walk crosses grassed farmland so sturdy footwear is essential. Sorry no dogs.

Event Postcode: CH64 5SF Contact: 0151 353 8478 E-mail: deeestuary@rspb.org.uk Meet at: RSPB Burton Mere Wetlands

Heswall Dales Tuesday 17th May, 7.30pm - 9.15pm Cost: FREE (but please bring some money if you want to join us in a local pub afterwards!) Walk length: 3.5 Miles

We meet at the entrance to the Dales in Oldfield Road going past Dale Farm down through the Dales to Pipers Lane and onto the Wirral Way near to Sheldrakes Restaurant. We go up through the Dungeons and back to Oldfield Road. This walk is mostly flat except with the stepped climb at the Dungeons. Sorry no dogs.

Event Grid Reference: SJ259 824 Contact: 0151 605 0591 Email: dbeacher@waitrose.com Meet at: Oldfield Road, Heswall

Wirral Walking Festival 2016 Health Walks

Health walks are FREE short, friendly, weekly walks for all, especially those new to walking. Meet new people and enjoy the beauty of Wirral with our trained walk leaders. There's no need to book but please arrive 10 minutes early on your first walk to register. You need comfy shoes and water if it is hot. These walks continue throughout the year and additional locations may be available. For current walks, please go to: www.walkingforhealth.org.uk



Masonic Hall Stroll Mondays, 10.30am (Except Bank Holiday) Cost: FREE

A lovely walk in Stanney Woods on good, level surfaces. Meet at: Masonic Hall Car Park, The Orchard Suite, Whitby Road

Birkenhead Park Mondays, 11am Cost: FREE

Particularly suitable for beginners. **Meet at: the Visitor Centre.**

West Kirby Mondays, 12noon Cost: FREE

This walk is not suitable for beginners. Meet at: Wirral Sailing Centre, West Kirby Marine Lake

Arrowe Country Park Tuesdays, 10.30am Cost: FREE

A faster walk of up to 3 miles. Meet at: Red Rooms, Arrowe Country Park Rivacre Valley Stroll Tuesdays, 10.30am Cost: FREE

Sturdy shoes required and with a slight incline. Meet at: Rivacre Valley Ranger Cabin, Rivacre Road

Warrens Tuesdays, 11am Cost: FREE

An easy walk around Arrowe Park. Good footwear advisable. Meet at: The Warrens Medical Centre, Arrowe Park Road

Neston Library Walk Saturday 7th May, 10.30am- 1pm Cost: FREE



This is a challenging walk at a faster pace. Some paths may be muddy.

Event Postcode: CH64 4QE Meet at: Neston Library Car Park

"Well led. The walk was excellent and I will be attending other health walks in the future"

Wirral Walking Festival Feedback 2015

Port Sunlight River Park Tuesdays, 10.30 Cost: FREE

A choice of walks from 1-2 miles with views of Wirral and the Liverpool skyline. The longer route has some inclines.

Meet at: Port Sunlight River Park Car Park, off Dock Road North, Bromborough

Wallasey

Tuesday evenings, 7.15pm Cost: FREE

Particularly suitable for beginners. Meet at: Grove Road Station

Port Sunlight Wednesdays, 11am Cost: FREE

Particularly suitable for beginners. Meet at: Port Sunlight Station

West Kirby Wednesdays, 12noon Cost: FREE

Particularly suitable for beginners. Meet at Wirral Sailing Centre

"Ideal for people who have not done much walking or who are getting back into walking"

Wirral Walking Festival Feedback 2015

Eastham Country Park Wednesdays, 1.30pm Cost: FREE

Superb views across the River Mersey. Meet at: Eastham Country Park Visitor Centre

Links Healthy Living Centre Walk Wednesdays, 10.30 Cost: FREE



A gentle walk around Whitby Park. Easy route – ideal for beginners. Meet at: Healthy Living Centre (Civic Hall) Civic Way, Ellesmere Port

Port Sunlight River Park Wednesdays, 5.30pm Cost: FREE

A choice of walks from 1-2 miles with views of Wirral and the Liverpool skyline. The longer route has some inclines.

Meet at: Port Sunlight River Park Car Park, off Dock Road North, Bromborough

Royden Park Thursdays, 2.30pm Cost: FREE

A longer than usual walk – not suitable for beginners. **Meet at: Royden Park Car Park**

Ness Gardens Stroll Fridays, 10.30am Cost: FREE

There are some hills and paths which may be muddy. Sturdy walking shoes and waterproof jacket recommended.

Meet at: Ness Gardens Car Park, Ness



The Lower Park has a 'Planets Trail' and an area called 'The Glade' with several wooden sculptures which we will see before the opportunity for refreshments after the walk.

Event Postcode: CH48 4DH Contact: 0151 482 3456 Meet at: Ashton Park entrance at the corner of Church Road and Westbourne Road

Birkenhead Park Sundays, 11am Cost: FREE

Particularly suitable for beginners with a choice of longer and shorter routes.

Meet at: The Visitor Centre

COULD YOU BE A HEALTH WALK LEADER?

Health Walk Leader Training Monday 9th May Cost: FREE

9.30am - 4pm

Wirral

euk

The day will include a short Health Walk, route planning, risk assessments and information about the national Walking For Health initiative. Participants must have been on a health walk and be prepared to lead or assist in Future health walks. Drinks will be provided but please bring lunch.

To book your Health Walk Leader Training please call **07910 960 316** or email: **alitherland@virginmedia.com**



Age UK is the country's largest charity dedicated to helping everyone make the most of later life. For more information about Age UK please visit: **ageuk.org.uk**

Spring Special at Arrowe Country Park Friday 20th May, 11am - 1pm Cost: FREE Walk Length: 1.5 or 3 miles

In this lovely country park there is a choice of either an easy short walk for beginners or a longer faster walk over grass paths which can be muddy. Both routes have trained leaders and we will all have lunch together afterwards. The shorter route is accessible by wheelchairs. Sorry no dogs.

Event Postcode: CH49 5LW Contact: 0780 3460449 E-mail: mushypea47@gmail.com Meet at: The Redrooms, Arrowe Country Park



Last year Wirral Ramblers ran a pilot scheme involving 8 and 9 year olds from four separate Birkenhead schools. With the support of Paul Greenslade, Senior Ranger, Wirral Ramblers took schoolchildren and their teachers and parents on a day of discovery around Royden Park and Thurstaston Common. The walks were very successful and the feedback that received, especially from the children, has encouraged Wirral Ramblers to extend the programme in 2016. If your school has classes catering for 8 and 9 years olds then you can arrange for a Wirral Ramblers led walk between April and July by contacting Dave Beacher at: **dbeacher@waitrose.com**

Walking to School Week 2016

Living Streets Walk to School Week 2016 will take place 16-20 May. Join over a million pupils and their families to celebrate walking to school. Challenge your school to walk every day during Walk to School Week and make a real difference to your children's happiness and wellbeing -See more at: **livingstreets.org.uk**



FRIENDS OF HILBRE Sunday May 29th

Members of The Friends of Hilbre will be on the main Island between 10 am and 1.45 pm to welcome visitors and show to them around starting from the Telegraph Station (which will be open displaying information and photographs of the history and wildlife of the Island. Our band of Seal Watchers will also be there with the telescope and binoculars set up to enable visitors to get a closer look at the colony of grey seals hauled out on Hoyle Bank, which lies between Hilbre and the North Wales coast. Come along, visit Hilbre and meet 'The Friends'. PLEASE NOTE: This is not a walk led from West Kirby to the Hilbre Islands.

Safe crossing times for Hilbre on Sunday May 29th are: Leave West Kirby anytime after 7.30am to cross to the island Leave Hilbre no later than 2.15pm for your return to West Kirby.

Crossing should only be by using the safe recommended route from West Kirby.

Details of the safe crossing and other information about the Hilbre Islands can be found at: www.deeestuary.co.uk/hilbre

Little Neston

Wednesday 18th May, 7pm – 9pm Cost: FREE (but bring some beer money!)

Walk length: 4.5 miles

Join the Cestrian (Chester) ramblers Ramblers Group for a circular walk starting and finishing at the Harp Inn with only gradual inclines and no stiles. Sorry no dogs.

Event Grid Reference: SJ290 761 Contact: 01244 880 649 E-mail:

ramblerschester@hotmail.co.uk Meet at: The Harp Inn, Neston

Exploring Bidston Moss

Friday 20th May, 7pm – 8.30pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 3 miles

Discover how an area of natural beauty which was contaminated by

landfill tipping has been reclaimed and restored. This is an easy walk with a gradual elevation of only 100 feet.

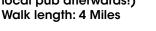
Event Grid Reference: SJ289 913 Contact: 0151 677 6250 E-mail:

terrywood28@googlemail.com Meet at: Bidston B&Q Car Park (Flyover end)



Storeton

Friday 20th May, 7.30pm - 9.15pm Cost: FREE (but please bring some money if you want to join us in a local pub afterwards!)



From Marsh Lane we walk south through Storeton Woods and Hancock Wood to Bracken Lane before descending through fields to Brimstage Lane. Here we turn right through fields and past the cattery to Storeton, returning via Lever's Causeway to the start. Sorry no dogs.

Event Grid Reference: SJ314 853 Contact: 0151 605 0591 Email: dbeacher@waitrose.com Meet at: Marsh Lane/Storeton Road, Bebington

New Brighton and Wallasey Village Circular Saturday 21st May, 10am - 12noon Cost: FREE Walk length: 4 Miles

Join the Rangers for a circular walk taking in the spectacular coastline and historic heart of New Brighton and Wallasey Village. Highlights of the walk include Perch Rock, New Brighton Marine Lake, Red and yellow Noses, Harrison Park and Tower Grounds. This walk takes in an area rich in wildlife and history and is mainly on well surfaced paths and pavements.

Event Postcode: CH45 2JU Email: paulsinclair@wirral.gov.uk Meet at: Fort Perch Rock, New Brighton

Neston – Raby - Neston

Saturday 21st May, 10.30am - 1.30pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 6 miles



Using footpaths and bridleways this walk will head north to Raby and then westwards to Parkgate returning via the Wirral Way.

Event Grid Reference: SJ292 776 Contact: 0151 342 4462 Email: margaret.lello1@gmail.com Meet at: Sainsbury's Forecourt, Neston



Bidston Hill Saturday 21st May, 11am – 12.30pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 3 miles



Starting at Tam O'Shanter Urban Farm we will walk to Taylor's Wood and over Bidston Court (Thermopylae Pass). Back to Bidston Hill we will pass Bidston Windmill, the Observatory and Lighthouse to Bidston Village and Bidston Hall returning back through the woods to the farm. Sorry no dogs.

Event Postcode: CH43 7PD E-mail: bidstonhillwalk@gmail.com Meet at: Outside the café at Tam O'Shanter Urban Farm

Minerals and Fossils: The Geology of Thurstaston Shore Saturday 21st May, 2pm - 4pm

Cost: FREE Walk length: 2.5 kilometres

A local geologist will explain the fascinating geology of the Dee Cliffs and the fossils in the rock armour. Access to the shore is by steps and much of the walk will be over sand. Stout footwear is essential. Sorry no dogs.



Cheshir

Event Grid Reference: SJ239 834 Contact: 0151 327 5923

E-mail: info@wirralwildlife.org.uk Meet at: Wirral Country Park Visitor Centre, Thurstaston

Meols

Tuesday 24th May, 7.30pm - 9.15pm Cost: FREE (but please bring some money if you want to join us in a local pub afterwards!) Walk length: 4 Miles

From the station car park **ramblers** this circular walk takes us via Dovepoint Road to the prom and heading south west to King's Gap and along the coast to Red Rocks. Return is via Stanley Road and the Green Lodge back to the station. Sorry no dogs.

Event Grid Reference: SJ233 897 Contact: 0151 605 0591 Email: dbeacher@waitrose.com Meet at: Meols Station Car Park



Wirral Walking Festival 2016 Run in Wirral

If you've enjoyed walking in Wirral perhaps you'd like to try running in Wirral.

Whether you're running to improve your fitness, relieve stress, lose weight or even just meet new friends, then we have a running group to suit you. There is no need to book – just turn up! Wear comfortable trainers/ running shoes and loose, comfortable clothing. We recommend you bring a bottle of water.

PLEASE NOTE:

WE don't run on Bank Holidays!

Cost:

Adults: £2.60,

Child/EP: £1.55

Family: £5.15

Invigor8 members: FREE

Invigor8 'Standard Membership' £2 for activities after 5pm



West Kirby Concourse

Mondays, 6.30pm - 7.15pm Tuesdays, 9.30am - 10.15am Wednesdays, 6.30pm - 7.15pm Thursdays, 9.30am - 10.15am Sundays, 8.30am - 9.30am

6th Form College, Birkenhead Tuesdays, 6pm - 6.45pm Thursdays, 6pm - 6.45pm

Visitors Centre, Birkenhead Park Saturdays, 9.45am - 10.30am

The Oval Leisure Centre Wednesdays, 6pm - 6.45pm

Tex's Trail Running

Saturdays, 9am - 9.45am Please ring 07969 820 893 to find out where the group is starting from as this changes on a regular basis.

Wirral Tennis & Leisure Centre Mondays, 12.15pm - 1pm

Absolute Beginners (Frankby) Thursdays, 5.30pm start. Please phone 0776 967 4718 for exact location.

Wirral Walking Festival 2016 Invigor: Buggy Park Fitness

Looking to get back in shape, make new friends and get fit at the same time? Have a go today! We cater for all levels of fitness and offer a choice of times and locations to suit - plus, no babysitter needed!

Contact: Fiona Hanik 07769 674 718 Cost: £3.10, Invigor8 members: FREE

Ashton Park Mondays & Wednesdays 10.30am - 11.30am

Meet at the tennis courts, Upper Park. (except Bank Holidays)



Arrowe Country Park Tuesdays 11.30am - 12.30pm Meet at the Redrooms Café Eastham Country Park Fridays 10.30am - 11.30am Meet in the car park.

Nordic Walking Invigor

Nordic Walking makes something we learn to do as babies twice as effective! It's a great way to get your whole body moving, improve the condition of your muscles, heart and lungs and give you an all-over workout. Wear suitable clothing, including comfortable training shoes with good support. We also recommend bringing a bottle of water for during and after your activity. Please note: If it's your first time then please arrive 10 minutes early to be shown how to use the poles. Contact: 0151 606 2010 E-mail: sportbooking.wirral.gov.uk

Tuesdays, 6.30pm - 7.45pm Thursdays, 11am - 12noon

Cost:

Adult: £4.40. Child/60+: £2.70

Wirral Passport Holder: £2.20

Invigor8 member: FREE

Invigor8 'standard membership' £2 (for activities after 5pm)

Port Sunlight River Park -From Refuse to Recreation

Friday 27th May, 10.30am - 12noon Cost: FREE Walk length: 2.5 Miles

This exciting new park opened in August 2014

having been reclaimed from a former landfill site. Find out how this happened, learn about the history and what the future holds for this 30ha green space with its woodlands and amazina views of Wirral, North Wales and the Liverpool skyline. This walk will be led by Biffa staff and the Ranger and is over gentle slopes. Sorry no dogs.

Event Postcode: CH62 4TQ Contact: 07587 550060 anne.litherland@autismtogether.co.uk Meet at: Port Sunlight River Park, Dock Road North, Bromborough

Port Sunlight

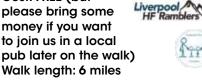
Friday 27th May, 7.30pm - 9.15pm Cost: FREE (but please bring some money if you want to join us in a local ramblers pub afterwards!) Walk length: 4 Miles

A circular walk to Port Sunlight River Park, crossing the A41 to Corona Road and over the football fields to Shorefields. In the park we pass the lake with excellent views of the Mersey, Liverpool and the Welsh hills so don't forget to bring your camera. Return to Port Sunlight is via Bolton Road. Sorry no dogs.

Event Postcode: CH62 4UW Contact: 0151 605 0591 Email: dbeacher@waitrose.com Meet at: The Bridge Inn, Port Sunlight

Saturday 28th May, 11am - 4pm Cost: FREE (but autism b please bring some

Biffa



Eastham and Willaston

A nice varied walk including field paths and a section of the Wirral Way, Enjoy a lunch stop at Hadlow Road disused railway station. Lunch isn't provided, but we will have a further short break at a pub in Willaston on the latter part of the walk. Walk ends at Hooton railway station. Sorry no dogs.

Event Postcode: CH62 9AL Contact: 01704 874 922 E-mail: gerrybarlow@talktalk.net Meet at: Eastham Rake **Railway Station**

A Pirate Seashore Walk Monday 30th May, 10am - 12noon Cost: FREE **WIRRAL** Walk length: 4 Miles

Join the Rangers on a walk from Fort Perch Rock along the beach to the Black

Pearl pirate ship. We will be looking for shells along the strandline and for sea life in the rock pools along the way and there will be plenty of time to play on the pirate ship before we return to Perch Rock. This event is suitable for children aged 5 to 10 years old who must be accompanied by an adult. Welly boots are advised and pirate fancy dress is optional!

Event Postcode: CH45 2JU Email: paulsinclair@wirral.gov.uk Meet at: Fort Perch Rock, **New Brighton**

A Family Fun Nature Walk Tuesday 31st May, 1.30pm – 3pm Cost: FREE Walk length: 1.5 Miles

Bees, birds, butterflies, autism 📐 bugs... what will we discover on this Nature together Trail? There is a aentle slope on good paths from the car park to the lake and which is fine for buggies. This event is suitable for children aged 3 and over. Sorry no dogs.

Event Postcode: CH62 4TQ Contact: 07587 550060 anne.litherland@autismtogether.co.uk Meet at: Port Sunlight River Park, Dock Road North, Bromborough

Raby to Cherry Wood

Tuesday 31st May, 7.30pm - 9.15pm Cost: FREE (but please bring some money if you want to join us in a local pub afterwards!) Walk length: 4 Miles ramblers



From the Wheatsheaf we head south along a track that takes us to Cherry Wood and then emerges onto Quarry Road. We then go by track and road; first to the Old Mill and then return passing Roselea Cottage before a pleasant walk up rural School Lane and then across fields to return to Raby. Sorry no dogs.

Event Grid Reference: SJ312 798 Contact: 0151 605 0591 Email: dbeacher@waitrose.com Meet at: The Wheatsheaf Car Park. Rabv

Volunteer Path Clearance Days

Any assistance to help cut back and maintain the Wirral Public **Right Of Way network is always** greatly appreciated. The following dates in May are all Thursday mornings from 10am - 1pm, meeting at the following locations regardless of the weather!



5th May Brimstage paths, Talbot Ave / Brimstage Road. 12th May Raby Paths, Crossway, Raby Village. 19th May Caldy Hill, meet in Thorsway near Kinas Drive. 26th May Footpaths 43 / 72 Thurstaston - Dungeon Wood, (meet opposite Thurstaston Church)

Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear. For further information please contact the Wirral Rights Of Way Officer on 0151 606 2480



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