

Perspective – March 2012

The Newsletter of the IBM Hursley Retirees' Club



EX CATHEDRA

It's now two years since Perspective first "hit the streets". In that time your committee has delivered a range of events which, by all accounts, meets the expectations of our many hundreds of members and Perspective has reported members' enjoyable outings.

This year, at our AGM this month, the Committee was re-elected and we have been joined by Ingrid Bond and Pauline Bell. They are especially welcome.

I believe we have a great committee and the unpaid service they perform for us all more than justifies the compliments you give. However, it is right that the make-up of your committee changes over the years as we mature and our priorities inevitably change. The new blood will come from those members who are reading this message now. So, please, if you believe you can make a contribution to the way your Club is run, do please get in touch with a committee member. Let's remember that as our number grows, so will the need and opportunity to organise and fund a greater range of events. And that means more willing helpers!

This year, reservations for the dinner which preceded our AGM exceeded those attending by some 40 places. One notice of cancellation was received! That means that the Club paid about £500.00 for dinners which were prepared and were then thrown away. Next year, if members apply to attend the dinner and then have to change their plans, do please let Harry know.

Meanwhile, let's have a great Spring and Summer together and enjoy the fabulous programme your colleagues have put together for your enjoyment.

Martin Hughes
Chairman

Officers

CHAIRMAN	SECRETARY	TREASURER	e BUSINESS	WEB Coord
Martin Hughes 01962 868 900	Harry Helyar 01962 889276	John Jones 02380 265 316	Merv Quick 01794 390 678	Ron Wilks 02380 766 213
Tony Compton 02380 265 432	John Faller 02380 462 822	Ingrid Bond 01962 883861	Harry Keeling 01962 712 914	Jim Woodland 02380 323 204
Richard Walker 01983 531967	Roger Clark 02380 253 600	Pauline Bell 02380 261659		

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AGM

Lab Review 2012

We were fortunate once again to be welcomed to the Hursley Laboratory by Hugh Proudman, Program Director, Information Management Development.

In his review of the Lab and its place within IBM's business, Hugh gave an overview including the following points:

Software remains a key profit driver for IBM with a target of achieving 50% of profit by 2015. There are now more than 25,000 software developers in more than 60 sites around the world, including over 130 software firms which have been acquired since 2000 in such strategic areas as analytics, cloud, security and Smarter Commerce.

Turning to Hursley's position, Hugh reported that there are now 2800 professionals on site, making Hursley the largest IBM software development laboratory in Europe, with satellites in seven other UK locations: Staines, York, South Bank, Milton Keynes, Cambridge, Edinburgh and Warwick.

Over 2600 customers visited the Lab in 2011.

The Lab's portfolio of products centres around Connectivity and Integration with Industry-leading products that connect applications, processes and information; and improve visibility and governance of services, processes, files, rules, and events

The familiar CICS Portfolio is well-established and recognised worldwide for its industrial strength and high performance transaction processing. Hursley's InfoSphere Master Data Management Software provides access to a single, unified, trusted view of important data.

In the field of Business Analytics, Hursley features software for data mining, statistical analysis, and predictive analytics and our Storage Software provides industry-leading storage virtualization to simplify storage infrastructure.

Overall, Hursley goes from strength to strength as the business develops from a foundation of professionalism and creativity which is the hallmark of our Lab.

Pension Trust

David Newman, representing the IBM Pension Fund, gave his usual interesting, relaxed and professional presentation to Members.

In summary, in its 100th Year, the Corporate announced record results for 2011, including a revenue increase of 7% to \$107 Billion and a profit after tax of \$15.9 Billion. Earnings per share were up 13% at \$13.06. Details are available on the IBM website. IBM UK was mentioned in the announcement of worldwide results. Reference was made in the announcement to "once again we had good growth in the UK... (and)...we've now had 9 consecutive quarters of constant currency revenue growth in the UK."

For the UK Pension Fund 2011 was a difficult year. However, the well diversified mix of assets preformed well and delivered an investment return of approximately 10%.

A number of changes to the Trustee Board will happen in just under two months. For details see www.smartpensionsuk.co.uk

David also told the meeting that, last November, his replacement as Pensions Trust Manager was announced as Adrian Spann.

There followed a review of the outstanding Court cases relating to what rights C Plan members have to retire before the age of 63, which will be heard in May 2012, and to the closure of the C/N/I Plans, announced in mid-2009, which will be heard in February 2013.

For his final point David outlined the various percentages of pension increase which will apply from April.

Photographer of the Year

There were 30 entries for the IBM Hursley Club Photographer of the Year competition. The entries were judged by Brynja Maughn, whom I am sure many will remember as Brynja was one of our IBM photographers based at the Lab.

Brynja commented on the quality of all the entries, and made the following selection:

Third Place – Colin Pearson



Brynja named this 'The Old Dragon', and made the following comment: I thought it was a super portrait (I meant the statue is the old dragon!)

Lovely graphic lines and positioning of subjects, and good use of contrasting colours - blue/yellow.

Although the lady is in the background, you know she is the focus of the portrait.

It is gentle yet fascinating.

Second Place – Raphael Pascual



London theatre

This is a really dreamy view of bustling London life around the river. It is technically very well done considering the mixture of uncontrollable light sources. It makes you want to be there.

The Winner – Roger Clark



Man with coal

I love that it is almost monochrome apart from the red of his T-shirt. It is uncluttered so the eye goes straight to the man's determined face and the grit of his work. There is also a very strong diagonal composition line.

FAQ's for trips

Notification

For those trips that you supply a stamped addressed envelope, you will receive notification of whether you have been successful in your application for that trip. For all others, just turn up to Hursley, follow the signs to Retiree Parking, park, join a coach, and enjoy the day

Cancellation

None of us is getting younger, and the gremlins come and attack us from time to time. If you have booked on a trip and find that you can't go, please phone Harry Helyar. If Harry does not answer the phone, just leave a clear message. What many do not realise is that Harry has a deputy plan in place for when he away from home, so messages do get listened to, and Harry is made aware.

By cancelling, you may help us to save money by reducing the number of coaches we have booked, or allow someone else who is on a waiting list to go in your place. Of course, if you cancel then your cheque is torn up, another benefit.

Even on the day you can help us by cancelling, just call the club's mobile telephone.

Emergency

Should an emergency arise while on a trip you should call the club's mobile telephone **07505-094887** which will be carried, unless you have been otherwise advised, by the trip organiser.

Leaving on time

Please do make sure you arrive at Hursley before the planned departure time, and also be back at the coach at the stated times. The coaches need to depart within minutes of the stated time. If you have a last minute problem, call the club's mobile. They will leave without you if you are not there.

2012 Trips

If you wish to go on any of the following trips, please complete the appropriate booking form which has been sent separately.

April

NEC Gadget show

8:00am, 12th April



Interested in the latest technology? Do you watch The Gadget Show on TV? By popular demand we have applied for and been granted 98 tickets for Gadget Show Live at the NEC on **Thursday 12th April 2012**.

The tickets include entrance and the show. This will be a limited numbers event, so get your booking in early.

For more information on Gadget Show Live check out www.gadgetshowlive.net

Chatham Dockyard

8:00am 24th April

It was 5 years ago that the club visited the famous Chatham Dockyard. The **Royal Dockyard** was established by [Elizabeth I](#) in 1567, and eventually closed in the 1980's. Today there are numerous exhibits to provide a very busy day out, and appeal to all tastes. The rope-walk is the longest working rope-walk in the world.



May

Boat Cruise

8:00am 24th May

Go cruising with the IBM Retirees Club. Our May trip takes us on a cruise to the Isle of Wight. After some free time, it is back on board for a cruise along the Hampshire coast to the Beaulieu River and then back for a tour of Portsmouth Dockyard. Those used to cruising with P&O or similar cruise lines will know the delights of the cuisine that is served on board. Travellers on this IBM Retiree Club cruise will not be outdone, and will be able to enjoy a fabulous basket lunch as we cruise along. Now where is my passport...



June

Brighton

8:00am, 12th June

Time to get out the buckets and spades, and join our traditional seaside visit. This year we will be heading off to Brighton. What you get up to while you're there is entirely your choice as this is a free-time visit with no activities/visits organised. Naturally, there are so many things that one can do in Brighton from just sitting on the beach watching the world go by to looking around the magnificent pavilion.



July

Hampton Court Flower Show

9:30am, 5th July



Our first trip in July is to the famous Hampton Court Flower Show. While we are leaving later at 9:30am, we will not be leaving Hampton Court until 6:00pm so that everyone will have plenty of time to see the magnificent floral displays. Take your slippers to wear on the coach home, I am sure our feet will take a good beating pounding along to see as many of the exhibits as possible. Leaving at 6:00pm, we will not be arriving back at Hursley until 7:30pm – 8:00pm.

Farnborough Air Show

8:00am, 14th July

Our second trip will definitely appeal to those with a love of aviation, a day at the Farnborough International Air Show.



Being the Queens Diamond Jubilee year, there will be, in addition to other displays, a patriotic display and themed events. So will you be joining us to take your place at the edge of the runway for a thrilling 4-hour display of aerobatics, vintage flying greats and some of the fastest aircraft in the sky?

August

Leeds Castle

8:00am, 8th August



In August we are off to Kent to Leeds Castle, often quoted as “The Loveliest Castle in the World”. Set in 500 acres of beautiful parkland, Leeds Castle is the perfect backdrop to our day out. The historic castle and glorious gardens await us.

Having enjoyed the sights, take a rest and enjoy a cream tea; a cream tea voucher will be supplied.

September

Highclere Castle

9:30am, 11th September



Leaving at 9:30am, the coaches will first travel to Newbury for some free-time and lunch break. We will then travel the short distance to Highclere Castle. The home of Earl and Countess of Carnarvon, the castle also features as Downton Abbey in the renowned TV series that was watched by 11 million viewers.

Goodwood Revival

8:00am, 15th September

Our second outing, by popular demand, is a visit to the Goodwood Revival festival. This trip provides a unique chance to revel in the glamour and allure of motor racing of the 40’s, 50’s, and 60’s; the period that Goodwood racetrack was in its glory.



October



London Walks

8:00am, 3rd or 9th October

The ever popular London Walk trip will be held on 2 days, 3rd October and 9th October, with 2 coaches going to London on each day. Having the trip held on 2 separate days allows us to get the Guides of our choice. This year the walk will be in the Kings Cross and St Pancras area. Make sure that you specify which date you wish to travel on your booking form, or if you have the flexibility indicate that you can travel on either day. The latter option allows us to more opportunity to accommodate those that have commitments and can only choose a specific date.

Cambridge

8:00am, 30th October



Cambridge, a city of spectacular buildings, beauty in its open spaces with the river Cam winding through its centre, and culture, is our location for our October trip. Enjoy free-time and do your own thing, there is so much of interest to appeal to everyone. Alternatively, you could join our optional guided walking tour which lasts about 2 hours, and have an expert ensure that you see the highlights. If you wish to take the guided tour be sure to include an additional £5pp to cover the costs with your booking form.

November

London Free Time

9:30am, 28th November

Must be time to do the Christmas shopping. If not shopping, then a visit to one of the many museums may be the order of the day. Maybe the photographers among us will be looking out for those special pictures of London that are only available when the Christmas lights are on and bringing joy and happiness. By leaving Hursley at 9:30am we hopefully will miss a lot of the traffic congestion. Similarly, we plan to leave London at 6:00pm, which should ease our travel out of London on the return journey.



Photographic Competition 2012

Are you going to enter this year's club photographic competition?

The rules are very simple, it is open to retiree club members, no more than three entries may be submitted, and the photographs must have been taken on a club trip during 2012.

The prize? In addition to being recognised as the IBM Hursley Retiree Club Photographer of the Year, you will also be able to travel on the summer seaside outing for free. How could you turn down the opportunity of winning such prizes! The winner will be announced at the AGM.

Please ensure that all entries are sent to news@hurrec.org.uk by 31 December 2012.

Dee Osman

It is with great sadness that we reported the death of Dee in February. Dee was the initial secretary/administrator of the Hursley Club/Clubhouse. Dee was well known to many of us as the Club's leader for many, many years. In her memory, many of us use the 'Osman Room' for our meetings at the clubhouse.

Bedfont Car Parking

The following message was sent to all employees. I am also aware that some Retirees have used Bedfont car-parks when travelling from Heathrow. Regrettably this facility is no longer available.

*In line with our reduced office occupancy at Bedfont Lakes, the parking space allocation we are provided by the landlord will be reduced to 174 spaces from March onwards and will be designated closer to Building 3. Signage will be updated in the car parks to reflect this change and this will be undertaken by the landlord. Parking protocols will need to be strictly adhered to which includes **no holiday parking or long-term stays**.*

Volunteering/Charities

COAST TO COAST CHARITY CYCLE RIDE, JULY 2012

2012 will be my 65th year and to celebrate, I am participating in an organised cycle ride from Workington to Whitby; 175 miles. This is organised and in aid of the Alzheimer's Society and is from the 6th to 9th July 2012. I have not cycled this distance over this terrain and certainly not for three days before, so it is a real challenge for me. However, I feel that it is something that I can do to help a very worthwhile cause.

I have chosen the Alzheimer's Society this year, as very good friend and one of our retirees, John Stanley once of Product Assurance, recently crossed the bar after being diagnosed in 2005 and one of my Aunts, who was a sufferer for many years. No doubt you know someone, too. It is a very debilitating disease for which, there is currently no known cure.

Please help me by sponsoring this ride. My target is to raise at least £1,000 and I would ask my IBM retiree colleagues to help me achieve this target and hopefully, exceed it. I have committed to pay over £500 towards the travel and accommodation costs to ensure that every £ raised goes to the Alzheimer's Society.



Graham on a Charity Ride in 2007

To sponsor me, please choose one of the following options:

- On line at www.justgiving.com/gmackcoast2coast
- by cheque to the “Alzheimer’s Society” to my home address, 54, Old Kennels Lane, Olivers Battery, Winchester. SO22 4JS. If you would like the Society to collect Gift Aid, please indicate that with a covering note.
- by cash, next time you see me. I will have the sponsorship form at the retirees AGM in March

Enclosed is a photograph back in 2007 when I completed the London to Brighton cycle ride for the British Heart Foundation and raised over £2,000 for that very worthy cause.

Many thanks, in anticipation. **Graham Mackenzie**

Woolston Internet Cafe

We need your help at our Internet Café for complete beginners!

Have you a little time to spare?

Would you like to share your computer know-how?

The Woolston Internet Café provides a safe place for complete beginners to log on and have a go at using computers.

The two hour sessions are a mixture of lessons and practise. Lessons are basic and have included topics such as introduction to the mouse and keyboard, introduction to the internet, sending an e-mail, copying and pasting text etc, but we have also provided one to one support on things like transferring books from laptop to kindle. Andy, an experienced volunteer, leads the session but we need plenty of volunteers to support our learners, as they often need one-to-one support.

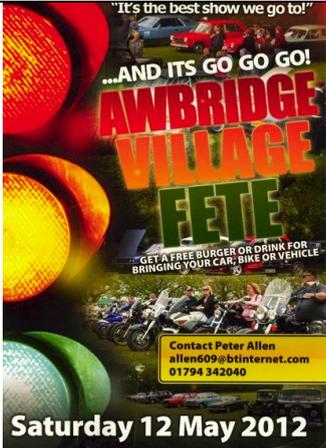
We meet at St Mark’s Institute, Victoria Road, Woolston every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month. Volunteers are needed for each session, but if you can only do it once a month (or even less) that’s fine. We simply ask that you let us know in advance when you are able to help. There is plenty of free local parking, coffee and biscuits are included and our volunteers say they really enjoy being able to help out. Your help will certainly be much appreciated!

I’d love to have a chat with you if you’re interested in finding out more.

Wendy Stratford

Wendy.stratford@carerstogether.org.uk 07921 700 501.

Events

Good Friday	All Saints' Church Botley Hampshire	<p>Music 2012 at All Saints Sacred Concert for Good Friday All Saints' Chamber Choir Conductor: David Burgess Chilcott – <i>Requiem</i> Free - Retiring Collection</p>
2:00pm Saturday 12 May	Awbridge	<p>Awbridge Village Fete Entrance free Contact: PETER ALLEN. Tel. 01794 342040. allen609@btinternet.com</p>  <p>The poster for the Awbridge Village Fete features a vibrant background of colorful balloons in shades of red, orange, and green. At the top, it says 'It's the best show we go to!' and '...AND ITS GO GO GO!'. The main title 'AWBRIDGE VILLAGE FETE' is written in large, bold, stylized letters. Below the title, there's a smaller text: 'GET A FREE BURGER OR DRINK FOR BRINGING YOUR CAR, BIKE OR VEHICLE'. At the bottom, it provides contact information: 'Contact Peter Allen allen609@btinternet.com 01794 342040' and the date 'Saturday 12 May 2012'.</p>
7:30pm Saturday 12 May	The Great Hall The Castle Winchester	<p>Concert by the Romsey Male Voice Choir supported by the Romsey Youth Choir Special Compere - Alexis Green from South Today Ticket Price - £12 Proceeds in aid of Hampshire and IOW Air Ambulance Further information will be available on the choir's website - www.romseymvc.co.uk or by telephone at - 01794 322913</p>
12:30pm Wednesday 16 May	All Saints' Church Botley Hampshire	<p>Music 2012 at All Saints <i>Speranza</i> Free instrumental lunchtime concert – flute, cello and piano</p>
7:30pm Saturday 19 May	Romsey Abbey	<p>Winchester and County Music Festival Dvorak – <i>Mass in D</i> Jenkins – <i>Stabat Mater</i> Tickets £20.00 £16.00 £12.00 unreserved Contact Romsey Tourist Information Office 01794 512897</p>
3:00pm Sunday 24 June	All Saints' Church Botley Hampshire	<p>Music 2012 at All Saints Harpist Fiona Thompson Free concert</p>

<p>10:00 – 16:00 Saturday 30 June</p>	<p>Popham Airfield (Field adjacent)</p>	<p>Summer Fair celebrating Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance's 5th Birthday</p> <p>Access: via A303 Entry: FREE!! Parking: FREE!! More info available here: http://www.hiow-airambulance.org.uk/</p> <p><i>They are also looking for stall-holders</i></p>
<p>11 – 21 July</p>	<p>Hamptworth Lodge, Landford, SP5 2DR</p>	<p>A Mid-Summers Night Dream <i>William Shakespeare's</i> play presented by the Maskers Theatre Company. An open air performance, in the magnificent grounds of Hamptworth Lodge. Tickets £10 - £15. Gather your friends, pack a picnic and come and enjoy a perfect summer evening in stunning surroundings. Group discounts available. Box Office - 023 8071 1818. Online at www.ticketsouth.co.uk See www.maskers.org.uk for full details .</p>
<p>6:30pm Saturday 14 July</p>	<p>All Saints' Church Botley Hampshire</p>	<p>Music 2012 at All Saints <i>Midsummer Concert</i> All Saints' Church Choir Music with a French flavour followed by canapés and wine at Portland House Tickets £5.00 Contact 07784 283723 www.botley.com/music2012</p>
<p>Saturday 11 August</p>		<p>Hursley International Folk Dancers will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary on Saturday August 11th at Otterbourne Village Hall.</p> <p>We would like to invite all our former members along to join the fun. We have an afternoon dance workshop with a guest dance teacher followed by a singing workshop with an excellent singing teacher and accompanying musician. The evening party will feature our guest musicians and will include favourite dances from each decade of the club's existence.</p> <p>Details are still being finalised and will appear in the July issue of Perspective, but please email me at aloha@f2s.com, or call 023 8076 6213 if you would like further information.</p> <p>Ron Wilks</p>

Hursley Museum Services – Spring 2012 update

Our three curators have been busy since the last newsletter, bringing a number of old machines to life, receiving some useful artefacts including an expanding collection of different ThinkPads and more CE tools and supplies. We are expanding into new rooms on the lower ground floor of the House, which will soon be opened for visitors in addition to the existing museum facilities. We have also made a start on the mammoth task of cataloguing the collection. Using web technology we are hoping eventually to make the catalogue available to museum visitors.



Reserve Collection Area



New Room with PCs and S/23

The additional rooms on the lower ground floor will house a history of word processing, from the typewriter to the DisplayWriter, and Personal Computing. We already have working models of the IBM-PC, PC-XT, PC Portable (aka Luggable!) and some PS/2s ready for display, and some old PC games to run on them. We also hope to receive in the near future an original data processing installation, consisting principally of an IBM 702, from the Army Pay Corps, Worthy Down.



A small part of the paper archives



Part of the reserve collection area

Artefacts

The appeal continues for any old IBM-related items, whether they be complete machines, spare parts, tools, test equipment, software packages, unused punch cards, diskettes, or souvenir items. We intend to keep a maximum of two of any item, and are already well stocked with the Portable PC for example. We do not as yet have a PC-AT, and

would also really like to get a hold of a Redwing hard disk and an 8775 terminal. A couple of unusual items that we need include a chip tray and stacker card weight for our 026 card punch!

Historical Research

With Len's retirement the role of site Historian has also passed to Dave Key who is continuing to research the history of the site and its people. Over the summer this has included hosting visits from the Director of the Getty Institute, ex-"Supermariners" and their relatives and the unearthing of new information on Hursley's role in both World Wars, all of which has substantially added to our knowledge of the pre-IBM House and its occupants. However, in parallel with the changes in the Museum and its collection of artefacts, we are hoping to begin to properly record the history of the last 50 years. To that end Dave would be very grateful if anyone has personal recollections of how the site changed (both physically and culturally), the projects they worked on and the people they worked with. In particular if you were involved in the early days of IBM Hursley, or worked on the Worthy Down/Army Pay Corps project, we'd like to hear from you. Dave's email address is dave_key@uk.ibm.com .



PC-RT, 3101, 3102, PS2s

DisplayWriter

Additional needs

We are looking for a reasonably rated, say 5 amp, Variac (a variable transformer), which will enable us to gently bring old kit back to life. We've had a few clouds of smoke and burning capacitors, easily repaired but best avoided.

If you can help in any way, then please contact Hursley Events and Community Programmes at their hurseve@uk.ibm.com task id.

New 'Folk Band' at Hursley

A small group of people who like playing traditional music have started meeting on the first and third Thursday of the month in the clubhouse, as part of the music club. If you play an instrument and enjoy playing traditional music then why not join us?

Everyone is welcome; all standards and all ages. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursday's of the month.

For more information contact Dave Sawdon davesawdon@gmail.com

Rambling

This article was written by Dr Harry Mycock

I have had a passion for walking all my life. I grew up close to the Peak District and I am of the generation that used



to roam the landscape untroubled and carefree and so long as I was back for tea at 5 o'clock all was fine with Mum and Dad. I am a lifetime member and recent National Vice-Chairman of The Ramblers and have been a campaigner for rights of way, open access and the National Parks. In recent years we've gained so many rights on this front and indeed we even gained two National Parks on our doorstep after a mere 50 years of campaigning effort!

We have the legislation now to create a coastal path around the whole of the country and indeed the complete coastal path for Wales opens soon. Mind you it could be years before the whole dream is completed for England. What will achieve this, and all protection and development of rights of way and access for all walkers, is dedicated work by people and organisations such as The Ramblers - Britain's Walking Charity.

Members of the Ramblers join the charity to support its aims and to help keep Britain walking and accessible for that purpose. Many are tireless local volunteers; others are supporters and some, the minority actually, are most interested in joining for the led walks programme. Local groups such as the Winchester Ramblers lay on lots of led walks, up to 8 each week, ranging from 3 to 12 miles to suit all speeds and abilities. Occasionally walks extend to 26 miles such as from Salisbury to Winchester on the Clarendon Way. The group also organises social events and holidays in Britain and overseas. The health and social benefits are immense and you are welcome to join us. Winchester is but a part of an organisation that puts on over 38,000 walks a year, many of these promoted nationally on The Ramblers website Walksfinder page. For details of the Ramblers visit <http://www.ramblers.org.uk/>. More locally, Winchester Ramblers walks can be found on the local website <http://www.wramblers.hampshire.org.uk/>.



If you aren't a member then you might want to join to help support walking everywhere and if you felt you might like to get fitter and meet some new people then join a walk. Details are on the website. We run a programme of taster walks with the specific purpose of welcoming new walkers to taste and try a couple of walks before joining.

Winchester Ramblers Taster Walks - Spring 2012

* **Sundays** Meet Leader at the Durngate Car Park (opp Willow Tree Pub and near Police Station), Winchester at 09.45am for a car share to local start point or a car free walk from the car park. Free parking on Sunday at this Car Park. Contact harrymycock@btinternet.com for any information on these walks and The Ramblers. No need to contact in advance - just turn up.

01 April	Compton Down 4 miles
15 April	Twyford 6 miles
06 May	Alresford 6 miles
20 May	Cheriton 5.5 miles
03 June	Winchester 4 miles
17 June	St Cross 4 miles

* **Wednesdays** Start at 10.30am for a 3 mile walk from different start points - contact winram3@virginmedia.com at latest 6.30 pm Tues night before. Contact in advance to be provided with the exact start point.

11 April	Alresford
25 April	Sparsholt
09 May	Braishfield
23 May	Micheldever Woods
13 June	Bassett
27 June	Avington