

Explore the Local Countryside with



WHITE CLIFFS COUNTRYSIDE PROJECT

The White Cliffs Countryside Project (WCCP) will soon be publishing their guided walks and volunteer programmes for this summer. The leaflets will be available from the end of March and you can pick them up from libraries, tourist information centres, shops and cafes or direct from the WCCP on 01304 241806.

To whet your appetite here are details of just a few of the events planned in the Dover area. There are over 250 events in the guided walks programme, taking place across the Dover, Thanet and Shepway areas. *We hope to see you on some!*

Paul Hadaway

Saturday 20th April 2.00pm

A PRIM AND ROSY WOODLAND WALK

A walk through the ancient chalk valley and woodland landscape of the Alkham Valley discovering something of the history and enjoying the wonderful displays of primroses and other woodland plants. Donations appreciated.
LEADER: Paul Hadaway, WCCP (01304 241806). **MEET:** Kearsney Abbey car park Kearsney, near Dover (TR 287 437).
DISTANCE: 5 miles (3 hours).

Sunday 5th May 2.00pm

FORGOTTEN FORTRESS

Anti-clockwise circular walk around Dover's great Citadel taking in some fantastic fortifications and dramatic ditches. Donation appreciated (to the Western Heights Preservation Society).
LEADER: Jeff Howe, author of www.western-heights.com (07775 797170). **MEET:** St Martin's Battery car park, South Military Road, Dover (TR 314 407).
DISTANCE: 3 miles (3 hours).

Sunday 9th June 11.00am-4.00pm

WESTERN HEIGHTS OPEN DAY

Carved into the heights above Dover are the powerful Napoleonic fortifications of

the Western Heights, surrounded by the green slopes of the Local Nature Reserve with its amazing carpets of wild flowers. The dramatic landscape of the Heights provides the awe inspiring gateway to the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Beauty and is important for its cultural, military and natural history. Watch the Heights 'come to life' and learn more about the site's rich history and wildlife. All events are based at the Grand Shaft Barracks site, bottom of Drop Redoubt Road, Western Heights, Dover (TR 317 408). Car parking is at St. Martins Battery car park, South Military Road, or you could walk up the Grand Shaft from Snargate Street (reduced admission charge). Further Information from Paul Hadaway, WCCP (01304 241806).

Sunday 23rd June 2.00pm

WESTERN HEIGHTS ORCHID SAFARI

Come for a saunter around this remarkable site just a few hundred yards from Dover town centre and enjoy the wonderful displays of wildflowers, including several species of orchid. Donation appreciated.
LEADER: Paul Hadaway, WCCP (01304 241806). **MEET:** Albany Place car park, off

Durham Hill, off York Street, Dover (this is a Pay and Display car park) (TR 318 413). *DISTANCE:* 3 miles (2 hours).

Sunday 14th July 2.00pm

FORGOTTEN ARCHCLIFFE

A discovery trail around the area of the Western Heights known as Archcliffe. See the derelict rifle galleries and the site of the old military hospital. Donation appreciated (to the Western Heights Preservation Society).

LEADER: Jeff Howe, author of www.western-heights.com (07775 797170). *MEET:* St Martin's Battery car park, South Military Road, Dover (TR 314 407). *DISTANCE:* 2 miles (2.5 hours).

Saturday 10th August

SAMPHIRE HOE OPEN WEEKEND

Over the weekend there will be displays about Samphire Hoe and its wild life. A chance to meet the Volunteer Rangers. There will be a children's colouring competition with first prize a free return trip with Eurotunnel. Local sea angling experts will be on site to provide free fishing tips. All events take place at Samphire Hoe which is signposted on the A20 when driving out of Dover (TR 294 392).

Thursday 22nd August 7.00pm

COASTAL GUARDIANS

Walk from East Cliff, Folkestone to Capel to watch HM Coastguard Rescue Team in action. Led by a member of the National Coastwatch Institute. Donation appreciated (to NCI).

LEADER: Bev Sheppard (01303 862557). *MEET:* East Cliff Pavilion, Wear Bay Road, Folkestone (TR 239354). *DISTANCE:* 3 miles (2 hours).

Monday 26th August 2.00pm

WANDER THROUGH WHITFIELD

A history walk with well known local historian.

CHARGE: Adults £1, children under 14, 50p. *LEADER:* David Collyer (01304

354326). *MEET:* The Archer Public House, Sandwich Road, Whitfield, near Dover. *DISTANCE:* 2 miles (2 hours).

Sunday 15th September 2.00pm

GRAND SHAFT AND ARCHCLIFFE

Discover some of the little known parts of the Western Heights, with a free visit to the unique triple staircase of the Grand Shaft. Donation appreciated (to the Western Heights Preservation Society). *LEADER:* Jeff Howe, author of www.western-heights.com (07775 797170). *MEET:* St Martin's Battery car park South Military Road, Dover (TR 314 407). *DISTANCE:* 1.5 miles (2.5 hours).

Sunday 29th September 2.00pm

'AN ANCIENT, MOST INTERESTING AND BEAUTIFUL PLACE...'

The words of William Cobbett on entering Dover are a reminder of the very mixed written views of the town over the past two thousand years. Come on a gentle stroll across the Western Heights Local Nature Reserve and hear some of the other comments, good and bad, from the many writers who have visited the area, whilst enjoying the panoramic views of the town. Donation appreciated. *LEADER:* Paul Hadaway, WCCP (01304 241806). *MEET:* Albany Place car park, off Durham Hill, off York Street, Dover (this is a Pay and Display car park) (TR 318412). *DISTANCE:* 3 miles (2 hours)

The WCCP also organise a programme of volunteer days across Shepway and Dover District, working on many of the sites we manage (including the Western Heights and Cowgate Cemetery). This is a great way to see the local countryside from a different perspective, go out and about and meet new people. For more information on volunteering or if you have any queries about the projects work, guided walks or anything else, please do not hesitate to contact Paul Hadaway or Sue Potter at the Dover Office on 01304 241806.