

THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

With school holidays approaching and more people spending time near home, I would like to remind you of the walk routes that are on the Society's website and free to download and print. Over the last year or so, we have been steadily increasing the number of recommended routes. We now offer more than 75 routes covering some 400 miles in total with little repetition. Soon, each of the hundred parishes will feature in at least one walk. Most routes have a mixture of countryside and town or village. There is a good range of distances, from 1 mile upwards. Station walks start and finish at railway stations and all others start and finish at a suitable place to park.

Our aim is to help residents and visitors to easily enjoy the area. The routes are planned so as to use good paths and quiet lanes, and to achieve an interesting mix of scenery. The descriptions seek to ensure that nobody will get lost and also to provide sufficient information along the way to make the outing interesting. The area's abundance of public rights of way, its gentle natural beauty and wealth of listed buildings make this possible. Many walks pass or finish near a pub or tea room, thankfully now open again.

While we can plan the route to pass through attractive countryside and villages, we can't predict what pleasures nature may have in store: perhaps majestic cloud formations, the sights and sounds of birds, the variety of butterflies and insects, the scale of badger diggings, deer prints, even a glimpse of a hare or fox or herd of deer. The seasons bring changes to trees, crops, wayside flowers and fruits. With such potential, each walk can be an adventure. We encourage you to carry a camera.

Ken McDonald, Secretary.