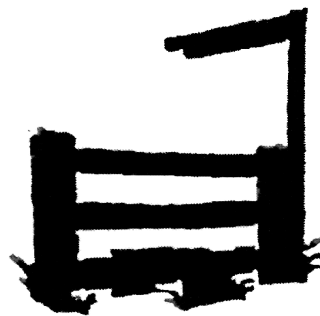


# WAYMARK



Web. [www.rffs.org.uk](http://www.rffs.org.uk) Email. [info@rffs.org.uk](mailto:info@rffs.org.uk)

## News from the Ringwood and Fordingbridge Footpath Society

|                      |                   |                                                                  |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President            | Rowan Brockhurst  | 01425 653748                                                     |
| Chairman             | Bill Morley       | 01425 480245                                                     |
| Vice Chairman        | Vacant            |                                                                  |
| Treasurer            | Clare Ings        | 07967 483761                                                     |
| Hon. Secretary       | Jan Brian         | 01425 656726                                                     |
| Footpath Secretary   | Alan Turcan       | 07901 686777                                                     |
| Programme Secretary  | Denise Chesterman | 07816 962999                                                     |
| Publicity Secretary  | Ruth Bassett      | 01425 839320                                                     |
| Web master           | Michael Osborne   | 07512 252416                                                     |
| Membership Secretary | Tim Daykin        | 01425 654977                                                     |
| Editor               | Gina Logan        | email <a href="mailto:editor@rffs.org.uk">editor@rffs.org.uk</a> |

### The Way Ahead

It gives me no pleasure that my prediction in last quarter's "The Way Ahead", of water shortages by the end of summer has come true. We have been going through the longest, hot and dry spell since 1976, fifty years ago. Despite this we have only had to cancel three walks.

We have had a full walk programme, with yet again some varied activities. Highlights included the Summer Solstice walk led by Ann and Keith and followed by breakfast in the Potting Shed, and for the third year running the weather was ideal. In July Phil and Di lead a walk at Downton finishing up at the brewery for a drink and pizza. Also in July we had the trig point walk lead by Liz and Andy, which was well attended with over thirty people, and in August we had a successful summer lunch at Hyde Church Hall, following a walk organised by Denise and Clare.

Also, in early August it was the Ellingham Show, and we had a stand in a new improved location. The stand was visited by many and we distributed a considerable number of membership flyers. As ever we picked up a number of issues raised by the public some of

which we can resolve whilst others will need HCC support. Many thanks to all who helped install the stand and man it.

Work has continued on footpath clearance activities mainly in Ringwood, Ellingham and Fordingbridge parishes. Mike Osborne and myself also helped HCC install a kissing gate to replace a stile on the AVP at the Bickerley. Footpath condition surveys have continued throughout the quarter mainly in Ringwood.

No report would be complete without some reference to the fire between Pickets Post and Stoney Cross. The area of heathland damaged was 100 hectares (140 football pitches), and Hampshire fire services had to call in support from many other forces to help fight the blaze. Water had to be pumped from Hightown lake in Ringwood, some 5 miles away. The A31 was closed for two weeks, to fight the fire and complete essential road repairs, the diversions for which created extensive congestion and delays on surrounding roads. However, more important is the damage to the heathland and how long it will take to recover.

Car parking charges in the forest are now fully embedded. My perception is that the car parks are not as full as usual, but this may be because of the hot weather more people are heading to the beaches.

We have a full and varied walk programme for the next quarter, including a trip to the Isle of Wight. Many thanks to Denise and all of those who have come forward to lead them.

And finally, Kelvin has decided to step down from his role as Footpath Secretary after over fifteen years of service in the role and significant contributions, and we will miss him. A relatively new member, Alan Turcan has agreed to take over. Alan has already led a number of walks and has a background in surveying so is well suited to the role and we are pleased to have him on board.

*Bill*

## Path News

There is nothing new to report, but we have a few items from the Ellingham Show to follow up on.

We are in the process of getting Alan access to the HCC systems and setting up a new RFFS Id for him. If in the meantime there are any new issues regarding footpaths please contact me as we complete the transition.

to [info@rffs.org.uk](mailto:info@rffs.org.uk) in the first instance, as we may be able to resolve them, or to HCC Rights of Way via their report a problem website, but please if you report them directly to HCC also inform the Society giving the details and the HCC Problem reference by Emailing [info@rffs.org.uk](mailto:info@rffs.org.uk) or via the Contact Us pages on the RFFS Website – [rffs.org.uk](http://rffs.org.uk)

*Bill*

Please continue to report problems, preferably

### **SAVE THE DATES - Evening Meetings 2026**

**Mondays at 7.30pm in Ann Rose Hall, Greyfriars Community Centre, Ringwood**

12th October 2026      and      9th November 2026

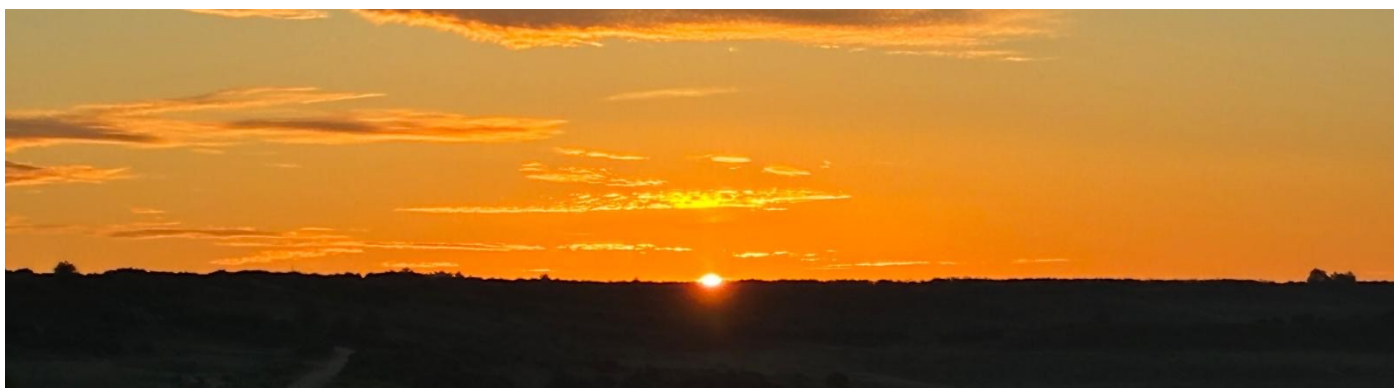
Details will be issued via our alert system

## Membership

Please remember that our subscription rates increased this year to £5 for an individual and £8 for a couple. If you contribute to the Society by Standing Order please can you amend the amount.

If you contribute manually please bear this in mind. Thank you.

*Tim Daykin, Membership Secretary, [membership@rffs.org.uk](mailto:membership@rffs.org.uk)*





# Bring & Share Christmas Supper

**Greyfriars Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2026**

**Starts 7.00pm     £2.00 per person**



This year's Christmas get together involves guests bringing their own sharing platters a mix of savoury and sweet dishes preferably with a Christmas/Winter theme.

- ♦ We also ask that you bring your own crockery, cutlery and glasses
- ♦ There will be a cash only bar serving beers, wines and soft drinks
- ♦ We will be holding a quiz, with a prize for the winning team
- ♦ As there will be a raffle guests are asked to donate a prize

*Guests will be responsible for clearing their own sharing platters, crockery, cutlery and glasses*

As food is not provided the cost this year will be just £2 per ticket.

Please book by **7th December 2026** and if you could indicate whether you will be bringing: savoury, sweet or mixed dishes it would be helpful.

Please book by calling or emailing Jan Morley on: - 01425 480245 / 07870487171... [janmorley@gmail.com](mailto:janmorley@gmail.com)

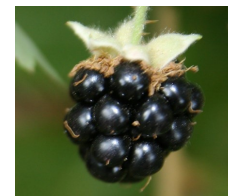
Bank transfer details: -     Sort Code 30 97 08     Acc. No. 01734444     Ref. Party



Members  
enjoying the  
Summer  
Solstice and  
Trig Point  
walks, with  
sunshine all  
the way!



## AUTUMN 2026 WALKS & EVENTS PROGRAMME



**WALKERS:** Start times vary: please check for each walk.

**You walk with us at your own risk and are responsible for your own health & safety issues.**

If it is safe to do so, please arrange to share cars to minimise parking space used. Do not leave any items visible and nothing of value in parked cars. Bring your own picnic lunch and drinks especially for the longer walks. **Please leave enough time to travel and get ready so that the walk can start on time.**

**PLEASE BOOK WITH THE WALK LEADER BEFORE ATTENDING A WALK** or you may miss vital information e.g. a walk may be cancelled at short notice or a start point changed.

We still need more volunteers to lead walks. Help and support will be provided. Please contact walks secretary, Denise on 07816962999 or email [denise.chesterman@gmail.com](mailto:denise.chesterman@gmail.com)

|                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                     |                                 |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Thurs<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept<br>5.00pm   | <b><u>Appleslade</u></b> <i>w3w flinches.years.glorified</i><br>Meet at Appleslade pay CP. A walk on Heathland and tracks by Dockens Water. <b>Book.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Alan<br>07901686777                 | OL22<br>SU185093<br>4.5 miles   |
| Sun<br>6 <sup>th</sup> Sept<br>10.00am    | <b><u>Upavon</u></b><br>Park in Upavon adjacent to the church (A342) for a walk combining part of the Avon Valley with the Salisbury Plain Ridgeway. Hills, good views, stiles and some quiet road walking. Bring lunch. <b>Book.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                         | Peter<br>Text<br>07985028536        | Exp130<br>SU136550<br>7-8 miles |
| Wed<br>9 <sup>th</sup> Sept<br>10.00am    | <b><u>Mudeford and Stanpit Marsh</u></b> <i>w3w merit.thank.truck</i><br>Meet at Mudeford Wood Community Centre CP. A mostly flat walk around Mudeford and Stanpit Marsh. No stiles, some urban walking. Bring binoculars if you'd like to. <b>Book.</b>                                                                                                                                                                      | Anne and Keith<br>07585703088       | OL22<br>SZ184931<br>5.5 miles   |
| Sun<br>13 <sup>th</sup> Sept<br>10.00am   | <b><u>Cranborne</u></b> <i>w3w lied.ruffle.villager</i><br>Meet in CP in front of Cranborne 1 <sup>st</sup> School for a gentle walk over countryside and down country lanes. A few gentle hills. No stiles and mainly dry. Bring lunch. <b>Book.</b>                                                                                                                                                                         | Bill<br>07709180329                 | Exp 118<br>SU057133<br>9 miles  |
| Wed<br>16 <sup>th</sup> Sept<br>10.00am   | <b><u>Godshill Cricket Pitch</u></b> <i>w3w piglets.spit.microfilm</i><br>Meet in pay CP for a walk down to Folds Farm, around Frankenbury and back via Sandy Balls. <b>Book.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Phil W<br>Text<br>07801621818       | OL22<br>SU182151<br>3.5 miles   |
| Thurs<br>24 <sup>th</sup> Sept<br>10.00am | <b><u>Whitsbury</u></b> <i>w3w mouse.graced.sneezing</i><br>Meet in village hall CP, <b>£1 donation pp.</b> A circular walk via Rockbourne and Brookheath. 4 stiles. 6 rough steep steps up. Vegetation + shade. Dogs on leads. Pub opposite. <b>Book.</b>                                                                                                                                                                    | Denise<br>Text<br>07816962999       | OL22<br>SU129188<br>5 miles     |
| Thurs<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Oct<br>10.30am   | <b><u>Lucy Hill CP, Burley</u></b> <i>w3w minus.dozen.marketing</i><br>Meet in pay CP. Mixed enclosure and open heath, gravel tracks and grass. No stiles, no hills. <b>Book.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Alan<br>07901686777                 | OL22<br>SU226045<br>4.5 miles   |
| Sat<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct<br>9.15am      | <b><u>Isle of Wight</u></b> <i>w3w brilliant.cheer.puddings</i><br>Meet at Lymington Ferry Terminal ( <b>SO41 5SB</b> ) ready to catch 10.00am ferry. Tickets £21 rtn over 60, £28.20 under 60. CP £11.50 for 16+hrs. So car share where possible. We will follow the coastal path down to The Needles, cross Tennyson Down over to Freshwater Bay then follow The Freshwater Way back to Yarmouth. Bring lunch. <b>Book.</b> | Di<br>Text<br>07780797499           | OL22<br>SZ333955<br>14 miles    |
| Wed<br>7 <sup>th</sup> Oct<br>10.00am     | <b><u>Bashley</u></b> <i>w3w sting.racetrack.thirsty</i><br>Meet at The Rising Sun pub, Bashley (BH25 5SL) for a flat walk through mature woods, open plains and some enclosures. Drinks at the end! <b>Book.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Deborah<br>Text only<br>07708876680 | OL22<br>SZ243984<br>5.5 miles   |
| Mon<br>12 <sup>th</sup> Oct<br>7.30pm     | <b><u>Evening Meeting</u></b><br>Ann Rose Hall, Greyfriars Community Centre, Ringwood                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Bill<br>07709180329                 |                                 |

|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                            |                                            |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Thurs<br>15 <sup>th</sup> Oct<br>10.00am | <b><u>Downton and Hale</u></b> <i>w3w sampled.porridge.spoons</i><br>Meet at The Moot CP, Moot Lane (free). Mainly on footpaths, AVP and one stretch of quiet road. No stiles, could be muddy. Hopefully good views. <b>Book.</b>                                                                          | Clare<br>Text<br>07967483761               | Exp 130<br>SU182214<br>Approx<br>5 miles   |
| <b>TIME</b>                              | <b><u>TO SUBMIT YOUR WALKS FOR THE NEXT PROGRAMME</u></b><br>We need more volunteer walk leaders. You will receive all the support you need. See right for contact details.                                                                                                                                | Denise<br>07816962999                      | denise.<br>chesterman@<br>gmail.com        |
| Sun<br>18 <sup>th</sup> Oct<br>10.00am   | <b><u>Martin Down/Woodvates</u></b> <i>w3w ogre.hacksaw.such</i><br>Meet at Martin Down Nature Reserve CP off A354 for a rural walk both sides of the main road. No significant hills, no stiles. Chalk, so poles help if wet. Bring lunch but opportunity to shorten walk before if need to. <b>Book.</b> | Denise<br>Text<br>07816962999              | Exp118<br>SU037201<br>8.5 miles            |
| Thurs<br>22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct<br>10.00am | <b><u>Brockenhurst</u></b> <i>w3w circus.waiters.firmer</i><br>Meet at Whitefield Moor pay CP for a heath and woodland mainly flat walk. No stiles. <b>Book.</b>                                                                                                                                           | Liz and Andy<br>01425472422<br>07949608633 | OL22<br>SU274026<br>5 miles approx         |
| Wed<br>28 <sup>th</sup> Oct<br>10.00am   | <b><u>Moonhills</u></b> <i>w3w release.quail.extreme</i><br>Start from Moonhills pay CP. A figure of 8 walk around Hilltop, through Kings Copse Inc and around Blackwell Common. Some mud. No steep hills or stiles. <b>Book.</b>                                                                          | Sue<br>07857642855                         | OL22<br>SU408025<br>Approx 5 miles         |
| Sun<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Nov<br>10.00am    | <b><u>Whitsbury</u></b> <i>w3w sharpens.stamp.mice</i><br>Park on Batten Rd, Downton. Going along Wick Lane to North Charford Drove up to Wick Down then across to Whitsbury and back via Miz Maze. Bring lunch. <b>Book.</b>                                                                              | Di and Phil<br>Text<br>07780797499         | Exp130<br>SU171218<br>SP5 3HU<br>8.5 miles |
| Thurs<br>5 <sup>th</sup> Nov<br>10.00am  | <b><u>Warsash</u></b> <i>w3w football.scar.elders</i><br>Meet in Passage Lane pay CP. Parking also available in nearby residential roads. Flat walk along the coast, woodland paths and quiet lanes. No stiles. Views across the Solent. Bring lunch. <b>Book.</b>                                         | Jo<br>07969633830                          | OL3<br>SU489063<br>8 miles                 |
| Mon<br>9 <sup>th</sup> Nov<br>7.30pm     | <b><u>Evening Meeting</u></b><br>Ann Rose Hall, Greyfriars Community Centre, Ringwood                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Bill<br>07709180329                        |                                            |
| Wed<br>11th Nov<br>10.00am               | <b><u>Janesmoor Pond</u></b> <i>w3w swung.fronted.raven</i><br>Meet at pay CP for a figure of 8 walk through woods and on cycle tracks. No stiles. <b>Book.</b>                                                                                                                                            | Phil W<br>Text<br>07801621818              | OL22<br>SU247135<br>4.5 miles              |
| Thurs<br>19 <sup>th</sup> Nov<br>10.00am | <b><u>Holmsley</u></b> <i>w3w annoys.branch.relatives</i><br>Meet at Holmsley Walk pay CP for a heath and woodland walk. No stiles. <b>Book.</b>                                                                                                                                                           | Liz and Andy<br>01425472422<br>07949608633 | OL22<br>SZ210993<br>5 miles                |
| Sat<br>21 <sup>st</sup> Nov<br>10.00am   | <b><u>Hopclover Way, Ringwood</u></b> <i>w3w tilts.knots.being</i><br>Park in road for a walk south of Crow. Heathland and fields, 3 stiles, no steep hills. Bring lunch. <b>Book.</b>                                                                                                                     | Alan<br>07901686777                        | OL22<br>SU161046<br>10 miles               |
| Thurs<br>26 <sup>th</sup> Nov<br>10.00am | <b><u>Hale</u></b> <i>w3w piled.pods.guises</i><br>Meet in Hale Purlieu NT CP (free) for a walk towards Millersford and Godshill Wood. Could be wet. <b>Book.</b>                                                                                                                                          | Deborah<br>Text only<br>07708876680        | OL22<br>SU189177<br>5 miles                |
| Tues<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Dec<br>10.00am   | <b><u>Sandleheath</u></b><br>Meet in lay-by between Sandleheath and Damerham. Walk details will appear on the next programme.                                                                                                                                                                              | Tim<br>07973657527                         | OL22<br>SU118154<br>5 miles                |
| Sun<br>6 <sup>th</sup> Dec<br>10.00am    | <b><u>Wherwell, Chilbolton and Longparish</u></b><br>Walk details to follow on next programme.                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Andy J<br>07880498021                      | Exp 131<br>9.5 miles                       |
| Mon<br>14 <sup>th</sup> Dec              | <b><u>Christmas Event</u></b><br>Ebenezer Hall, Greyfriars. Details in Waymark.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Bill<br>07709180329                        |                                            |