

## FIVE MILES AND A CUP OF TEA 2025

### January 2025: SHELFORD

The January walk came mid thaw so there was plenty mud and ice underfoot.

24 of us turned up in Shelford to walk off all our festive dinners. The group had a couple of discussions on the way and thank you to David Johnson who has volunteered to take over as convenor. Hopefully members of the group will take turns to lead walks during the year.

Thank you to Mary for leading this walk.



### February 2025: EREWASH CANAL

In February, nine of us chose to ignore the day's weather forecast, which was cold drizzle, and enjoyed a pleasant morning wandering through the nature trail along the Erewash Canal, as well as the paths, bridleways and roads in the area.

Many thanks to Geoff for leading this walk, highlights included Waterloo Lane, which was built to serve Trowell Service Station. The station's claim to fame is that it once featured in an episode of Auf Wiedersehen Pet!

Lunch was at the Festival Inn, Trowell.

### March 2025: GOTHAM

March's walk was led by Barbara up and down dale around Gotham with great views of the Trent Valley. The walk started with the Gotham Heritage Trail, then Leake New Woods and Soldiers Lane up to Gotham Hill Woods.



Lunch was a problem in Gotham as the two nearby pubs were not available for food. Instead, we drove to East Leake, where we had a lovely lunch at Bryers Bar and Kitchen.

#### **April 2025: EPPERSTONE**

What a lovely bright day we had in Epperstone, walking along the fields in glorious sunshine followed by delicious scones (both cheese and fruit) at the garden centre. Not a muddy puddle in sight!



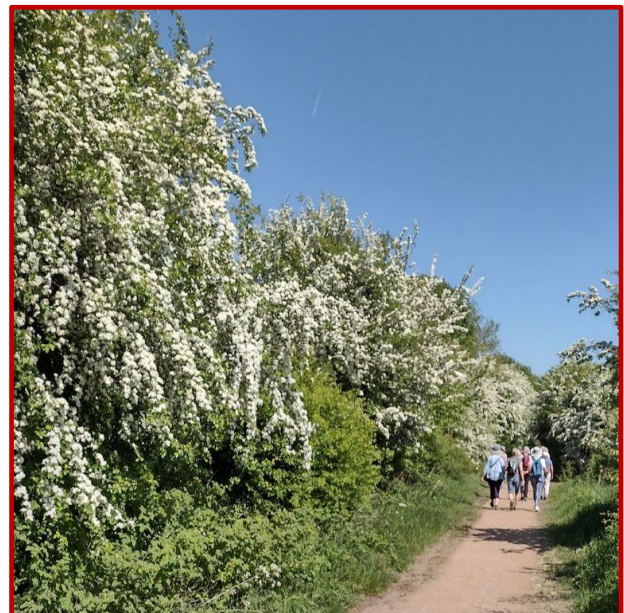
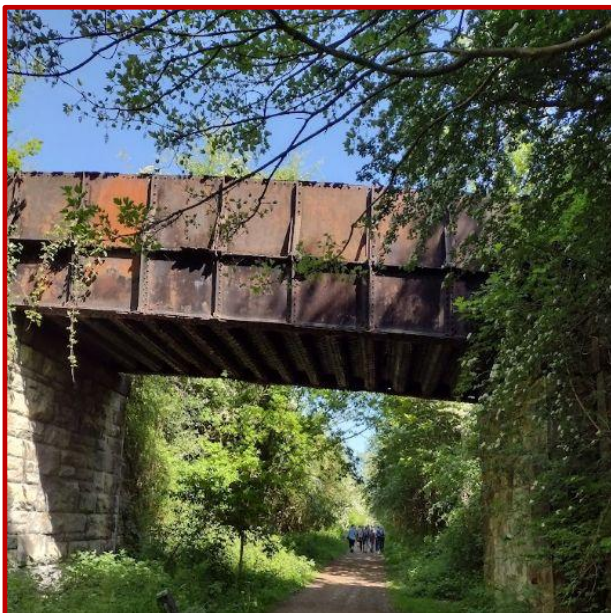


### **May 2025: TEVERSAL**

Eleven of us were led ably by Diane on the Teversal Trail near Sutton in Ashfield. The weather was fine again in May with blossom on the trees along the route. And, as in April, not a muddy puddle in sight!

The trails follow the track beds of the former colliery railways which, together with the local footpaths, provide a network of varied and enchanting walks through countryside that is abundant with wildlife.

Much of the network has now been designated a Local Nature Reserve due to its valuable and fascinating flora, fauna and geology. We arrived at the Visitors Centre café in time for bacon and sausage cobs.





### **June 2025: HOVERINGHAM TO HAZELFORD**

This month's walk was along the River Trent from Hoveringham to Hazelford in beautiful sunshine. Blossom filled bushes along the way promise a bumper crop of blackberries in the autumn!

Once again, no muddy puddles to be seen and even the cows stayed away. Hoveringham was well known nationally in the 1970s for its quarried gravels and sands and in 1982 was bought by Tarmac.

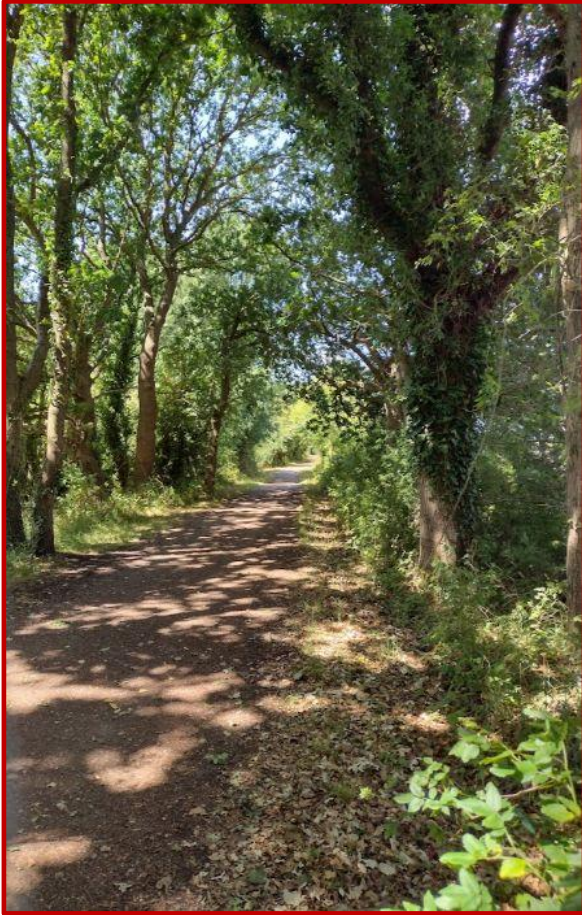
The tiny hamlet of Hazelford Ferry is now largely dominated by riverside lodges, but many years ago was a strategic crossing point for the river and is believed to date back to Roman times.





## July 2025: FARNSFIELD

On a glorious summer's day 17 of us set off from Farnsfield through Hexgreave Park. There, we saw loads of deer and three very sociable horses that wanted to join us over the stile. Later, over lunch, we were well entertained by the landlord who provided 'soup in a basket' to take home.



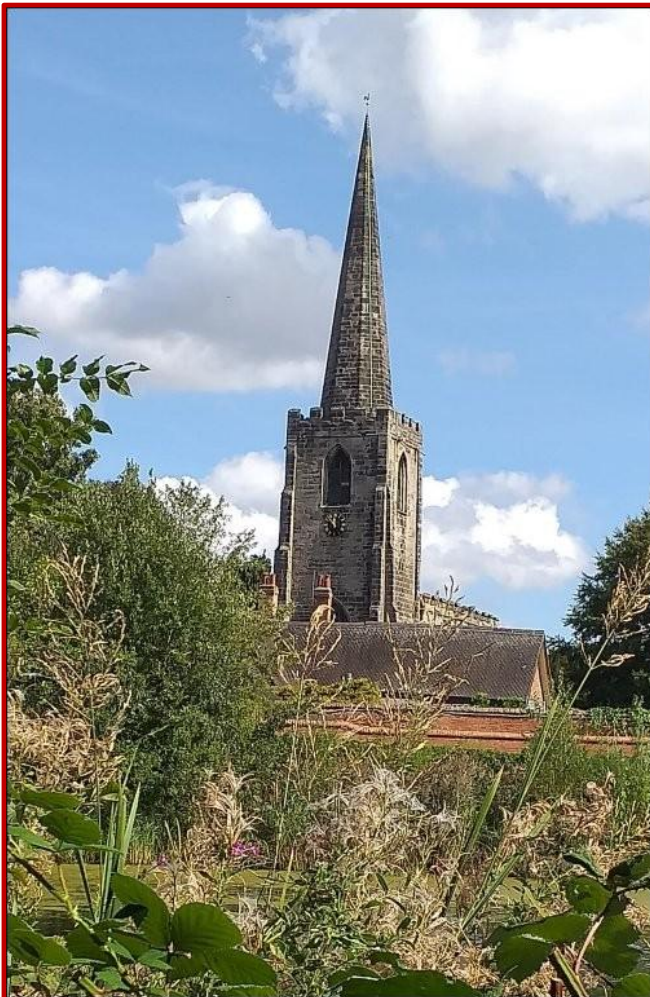
## August 2025: LAMBLEY

August's walk was around Lambley on the hottest day of the year. Luckily it remained cloudy for the morning, so that made the 11 walkers quite happy. The walk finished at the Dumbles with the wild flower meadows.

## September 2025: ATTENBOROUGH

It was a lovely day in September for a walk over Chilwell golf course, then into Attenborough gravels. It was a little disconcerting crossing the fairway but it is a designated path! No one was hit by a golf ball so that was a plus.

We managed to resist coffee and cake at Attenborough Church, but enjoyed refreshments at The Beekeeper Pub instead.



## October 2025: HOLME PIERREPONT

It was a rather dull autumnal October walk along the River Trent towards the slalom and rowing courses at Holme Pierrepont. Initially, there were 17 of us and then we got a call to say that we had forgotten someone! We eventually picked up the latecomer with the help of our mobile phones.

We walked from the Lady Bay Pub to The Hook Nature Reserve then along the River Trent to the Holme Pierrepont water sports courses returning via the local orchard to the Pub for lunch.

We encountered some interesting people along the way, including a father looking at his daughter who was battling with the very cold water in the slalom course. He wasn't too worried though, he said that it was just like being caught in a heavy shower without an umbrella!

A big thank you to Jane and Janice, who made sure we didn't get lost.





### **November 2025: THIEVES WOOD**

21 of us set off from Thieves Wood Car Park for a circular walk through pleasant woodland with good tracks and paths, although a tad muddy and wet. Fortunately, no one got lost or slipped in the mud, so I'll take this as a win!

As the name implies, Thieves Wood was a haunt for outlaws through the years. The King's highway ran through the wood and it was here that many a traveller met with an unfortunate fate. A short distance away is Fountain Dale, the legendary place where Robin Hood first met Friar Tuck.



Lunch was at The Larch Farm pub, where some of us were happy with coffee, while others were more adventurous with huge fish dishes!

A big Thank You to Diane, who made sure we didn't get lost.



### **December 2025: CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

The plan was to have a short 2 hour walk around Gedling Country Park before the Christmas Dinner at the Gedling Inn. However, wet blustery conditions were forecast for the morning and the walk was cancelled so that we could all dine in comfort.



