

SANDBACH WALKING FESTIVAL 2021

Saturday 26th June—Sunday 4th July

Nine days of great walking from relaxed family walks to longer-distance hikes
Morning, afternoon and evening walks, walks with food and drink

Hopefully a walk for everyone!

**No need to book unless
otherwise stated**

Saturday 26th June

1) Opening Walk 10.30am

The festival will be opened by the Sandbach Town Mayor Cllr. Geraint Price-Jones, who will then lead a short walk around the town, through the park, Dingle Wood and Filter Bed Wood. Unfortunately, Mr Dennis Robinsion The Town Crier is unable to join us.

2 miles, no stiles.

Meet at Market Square (Sandbach Crosses).



2) Brereton Country Park 10.30am

Sandbach to Brereton Country Park, via Brereton Hall, returning via Taxmere. A 10 mile walk with a lunch stop at the country park. Bring your own lunch.

Meet outside The Military Arms, Congleton Road.

3) Nordic Walking Taster 2.00pm—CANCELLED

~~Learn how to turn a walk into a workout – A 1.5-hour introduction to Nordic Walking. Poles provided. No Dogs. Booking essential. Cost £3.00~~

~~Meet at Elworth Park (Marsh Green Road entrance).~~

4) Brook Wood and Tall Chimneys 2.00pm

From Brook Wood to “Tall Chimneys” the former Vicarage of St. Mary’s, Sandbach.

4 miles and no stiles

Meet at The Crosses, Market Square.

5) Winterley “Figure of Eight” 7.00pm

To Moss Cottages and a crossing point, then to Bridgehouse Farm, back to the crossing point, then approaching Haslington Hall and return to Winterley.

4 miles and no Stiles.

Meet at Winterley Pool Layby (P2 - see back page).

Sunday 27th June

6) Early Morning Wildlife Wander 5.00am

A Dawn Chorus bird watching and wildlife walk including Elton and Watch Lane Flashes and The Moat. Meet at the canal car parking area, Hall Lane (P6).. Sorry, no dogs.

Booking Essential, limited to 10 places.

7) Betchton Heath 10.30am

Stannerhouse Lane to Tall Chimneys and Betchton Heath, over M6 to Hood Lane, Dean Hill, over A533 to Hassall Green and return on the canal.

5 miles and 6 stiles.

Meet at Malkins Bank GC (P5 - see back page).

8) Tree Trail 2.00pm

Discover the wealth of trees in and around Sandbach Park on the short walk of around 2 miles.

Meet at Sandbach Library.

9) St. John’s and Arclid Quarry 2.00pm

Through Sandbach Heath to St. John’s Church, passing both the old and new working of Bathgate’s Arclid Quarry, and return. 4.2 miles, no stiles.

Meet at Market Square (Sandbach Crosses).

10) Jacob’s Ladder 7.00pm

A beautiful walk with views for miles in all directions. To Wheelock Heath Farm, down to a footbridge and up to Jacobs Ladder (not a ladder, but 5 steps), up to the golf course and return to Wheelock.

3.5 miles, no stiles.

Meet at Green Bank, Wheelock (P1 - see back page).

Monday 28th June

11) Sketching in the Landscape 10.30am

An easy walk with stops to sketch the lovely buildings in Sandbach town and the park. Led by ArtRoom Sandbach. All materials provided.

Meet at ArtRoom Sandbach, Bold Street corner
Cost: £3.00 Booking Essential. with Bradwall Rd.

12) Daisy Bank 10.00am

Along the canal, past the “Pink Church”, crossing the Salt Line Way, with great views towards Mow Cop, return across the golf course.

3.8 miles and 5 or 6 stiles

Meet at Malkins Bank GC (P5 - see back page).



13) Wheelock Rail Trail and the Canal 2.00pm

From Sandbach United Football Club, walking the Rail Trail and the canal with the opportunity to enjoy a coffee and a cake at the football club’s café on the return.

3 miles and no stiles.

Meet at Sandbach United Football Club (P7 - see back page).

14) Winterley and Hall o’the Heath 7.30pm

Winterley Pool, to Stockton Farm and the myriad of old farm machinery to Hall o’the Heath Farm, a conservation site.

4 miles and 6 Stiles

Meet at Winterley Pool Lay-by (P2 - see back page).

Tuesday 29th June

15) Watch Lane and Crabmill Flashes 10.00am

An opportunity to see a variety of wildlife in the Sandbach Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Crabmill Flash is only accessible from the Public Footpath which follows the River Wheelock towards Warmingham. 4 miles and 14 stiles



Meet at Plant Lane, canal car park (P4 - see back page).

16) Bradwall Manor 10.30am

From Congleton Road to Fields Farm to Bradwall and back into Sandbach along Cooksmere Lane. Enjoy a soup and a Sandwich lunch at Gibson's Deli and Greengrocers (optional) on High St. for £7.00. *Booking Essential.*

3.8 miles and no stiles. *No Dogs. In Gibson's.*

Meet at The Crosses, Market Square.

17) Afternoon Tea 2.00pm—CANCELLED

~~Dingle Wood and Filter Bed Wood followed by Afternoon Tea at Jenny's Tea Shop, Sandbach.~~

~~No Dogs.~~

~~*Booking Essential, Limited to 15 places.*~~

~~Cost - £15.95~~

~~Meet at The Crosses, Market Square.~~

18) Lawton Woods 2.00pm

A lovely walk taking in Bratt's Wood and Lawton Woods. We're too late for the Bluebells, but once you've learnt this walk, you will want to return. 5 miles and 4 stiles.

Meet at the footpath on Old Knutsford Road (P8 - see back page)

19) Hollins Green via Albion Lock 7.30pm

Along the canal, crossing the Middlewich Branch to Hollins Green and returning via Elworth.

4.5 miles 5 or 6 stiles.

Meet at Plant Lane, canal car park (P4 - see back page).

Wednesday 30th June

20) Hassall Green and Tall Chimneys 10.00am

NB: The stop at The Cheshire Cheese has been cancelled

~~Hassall, Tall Chimneys, Houndings Lane, the canal to Wheelock with a lunch stop at The Cheshire Cheese, before returning to Malkins Bank along the canal.~~

~~5.6 miles and 5 stiles.~~

No need to book

~~*Booking Essential, Limited to 20 places.*~~

Meet at Malkins Bank Golf Club. (P5 - see back page).

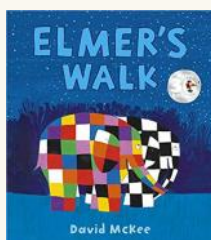
21) Elmer's Walk (Under 5's) 10.30am

Storytelling, a craft activity, a treasure hunt, songs and games in Sandbach Park for the under-fives hosted by Sandbach Library. A free book for every child.

Limited to 20 places, booking essential.

Meet at the Library.

Cost: £3.00



22) Mindfulness Walk 2.00pm

Cancelled

~~Clear your mind of clutter and restore your sense of focus with this relaxing walk led by Cheshire Arts for Health. 2-3 miles and stile free.~~

~~Meet at: To Be Confirmed~~

23) River Wheelock 2.00pm

From Wheelock Hall Farm, following the River Wheelock to Fields Farm, returning across fields. Refreshments at the farm an option.

3.5 miles and 5 or 6 Stiles.

Meet at Wheelock Hall Farm.

24) Warmingham and the Bear's Paw 7.00pm

Warmingham via The Moat Nature Reserve (a hidden gem) with a stop at the Bear's Paw for refreshments. We return via Watch Lane Flash.

3.8 Miles 6 stiles.

Meet at Plant Lane, canal car park (P4 - see back page).

Thursday 1st July

25) Rode Heath Ramble 10.30am

Along the Salt Line, joining the canal at Rode Heath, with a stop at the Broughton arms for a coffee or a pint. Alternatively you can bring your own drink / packed lunch and enjoy it on the picnic benches opposite. We return along the Trent and Mersey canal. 5.5 miles, no stiles.

Meet at the Salt Line car park (P3- see back page).



26) Warmingham via The Moat 2.00pm

Oakwood Lane and through The Moat Nature Reserve, to Green Lane and into Warmingham, we head for Crabmill Lane and take the Public Footpath across to Plant Lane, returning to the parking area.

5 miles and 4 stiles.

Meet at Plant Lane canal car park (P4 - see back page).

27) Houndings Lane and Brook Wood 7.30pm

To Houndings Lane and over the bypass, down to Mill Lane, under dancing bridge and along the canal, into Wheelock and looping back to Mill Lane, before walking through Brook Wood and back to the start point.

4.5 miles and no stiles

Meet at Brookhouse Road car park (P9 - see back page).

Friday 2nd July

28) Brereton and Taxmere 10.00am

Sandbach to Bradwall and Brereton Heath, returning via Taxmere. Bring a packed lunch.

7 miles and 10 stiles.

Meet at the Military Arms, Congleton Road.

29) "Solar System" and Borrow Pit Meadows 10.00am

A flat walk along the Salt Line and through the Borrow Pit Meadow Nature Reserve, returning along the Salt Line.

4.5 Miles and no stile.

Meet at the Salt Line car park, Hassall Green (P3 - see back page).

30) Nordic Walking Taster 2.00pm

Learn how to turn a walk into a workout – A 1.5-hour introduction to Nordic Walking. Poles provided. No Dogs.

Booking Essential.

Cost £3.00

Meet at Sandbach United Football Club (P7 - see back page).

31) Accessible Walk 2.00pm

A wheelchairs and dementia friendly, walk from Sandbach Library, around the park, looking at trees and plants. Meet at Sandbach Library. About 1.5 hours with tea and cakes. In association with Dementia friendly Sandbach, Grass Roots Disability and Sandbach Partnership.

32) Elworth and Wood Lane 1.30pm

From Elworth Park across the fields to Wood Lane, looping back and returning past Barlow's Wood.

2.5 mile and 1 stile.

Meet at Elworth Park (Marsh Green Road entrance).

33) St. John's and Arclid Quarry 7.00pm

Through Sandbach Heath to St. John's Church, passing both the old and new working of Bathgate's Arclid Quarry, across the former Arclid Airfield and return.

4.2 miles and 4 stiles

Meet at Brookhouse Road car park (P9 - see back page).

Saturday 3rd July

34) Wildlife Wander 10.30am

Flashes and the restored section of the former landfill site at Maw green, now a haven for wildlife.

Bring your lunch and a drink.

6.5 miles and no stiles.

Meet at Canal car parking area, Hall Lane (P6 - see back page).

35) Winterley and Hassall 2.00pm

To Moss Cottages and on to Bridgehouse Farm and Walnut Tree Farm, Hassall. Then approaching Hassall Moss, and returning via Wheelock Heath Farm and Sandy Lane.

4.3 miles and no stiles.

Meet at Winterley Pool Layby (P2 - see back page).

36) Daisy Bank and Jacob's Ladder 7.00pm

The canal to Hassall Green, Pink Church, across the Salt Line, Day Green, Daisy Bank, Jacobs Ladder, and back to Wheelock. 5 miles and 9 stiles



Meet at Wheelock Green Bank (P1 - see back page).

Sunday 4th July

37) Hassall Green Nature Reserve 10.30am

Not usually open to the public, we walk along the Salt Line to the former waste site now beautifully restored, where Andrew Hunt the ranger will lead a guided tour giving the history of the reserve and showing us the wide variety of flora and fauna. Approx. 3 miles walking and no stiles. Meet at the Salt Line car park (P3 - see back page). *Booking Essential*. Cost: £3.00.

Sorry, No dogs

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FINALE!!

We finish the festival with Three afternoon walks. All start at The Crosses on Market Square and ending in Sandbach Park.

Join us in the park and bring a picnic.

38) Walk 1

1.30pm – Jacob's Ladder and Tall Chimneys

Via Brook Wood, passing "Tall Chimneys" on the return.

6 miles and **no stile**

39) Walk 2

2.30pm – Bradwall Manor

Going via Congleton Road, to Fields Farm and then to Bradwall and Pillar Box Lane returning to Sandbach along Cooksmere Lane.

3.8 miles and no stiles.

40) Walk 3

3.00pm – St. Mary's Dell, Dingle Wood and Filter Bed Wood.

Running alongside the A534, but a world away. All created by volunteers including Sandbach Woodland and Wildlife Group and Care4ce.

Just over 2.5 miles and no stiles.



Booking Instructions

To book a place where booking is essential (walks 3, 6, 11, 16, 17, 21, 22, 30 and 37)

Email:

tickets4swf@gmail.com

or call

07436535867

A non-refundable deposit maybe required.

All walks are free unless otherwise stated, although we would appreciate a donation to cover our costs and any surplus will be used to further the aims of Sandbach Footpaths Group, in particular help fund additional kissing gates to enable us to carry on our “Miles without Stiles” project.

You can make a donation direct to our bank account:

The Sandbach Footpath Group Sort code: 30-12-59 Account No. : 18742868

You can get further information by emailing us - sandbachwalkingfest@gmail.com

“Like” our Facebook page for up to date information—www.facebook.com/Sandbachwalkingfest

The programme is subject to change, particularly in light of the current Covid-19 restrictions, which are due to end on 21 June, but are still uncertain.

Please keep up to date by following our Facebook Page.

How to find the meeting points

P1 - Wheelock Green Bank - From Sandbach, follow Crewe Road down to Wheelock, over the canal, and turn left at Mill Lane. Park in the small car park opposite Shampaan or on local roads.

P2 - Winterley Pool Lay-by - From Sandbach follow Crewe Road through Wheelock, and up to the roundabout with the A534. Go straight over the roundabout and after about 1 mile, park in the lay-by on the left.

P3 - Salt Line Car Park, Hassall Green - From Sandbach traffic lights near Waitrose, follow the road called The Hill, over the M6, then after 1 mile, turn right into New Inn Lane. Ignore a road right and a minor road left, over the canal, under the M6 and the Salt Line car park is on the right.

P4 - Plant Lane / Canal car park - From Sandbach, take the Middlewich Road to Elworth, over the railway bridge, then first left into Moss Lane and after about 0.5 mile, over the canal bridge and park on the left. If full, go back up Moss Lane and park outside the Edwin Foden Centre.

P5 - Malkins Bank Golf Club - From Sandbach traffic Lights near Waitrose, follow the road called The Hill, turn right opposite the chip shop into Hassall Road over speed humps, follow the road to the left and the entrance to Malkins Bank Golf Club is on the right. Please park on the road as we do not have access to the Golf Club car park.

P6 - Hall Lane Canal car park - by United Phosphorus. From Sandbach, follow Middlewich Road, then left into Abbey Road, at roundabout, go straight into Elton Road, dip under railway, over canal then left and park near canal.

P7 - Sandbach United Football Club - From Sandbach, follow Middlewich Road, then left into Abbey Road, at roundabout, turn left into Hind Heath Road, the car park is on the left.

P8 - Knutsford Old Road - From Sandbach traffic lights, follow the road called “The Hill”, over the M6 and keep going for about 2miles to Rode Heath. At the T-junction with the A50, turn right, then next left into Old Knutsford Road and park before the canal aqueduct (bridge).

P9 - Brookhouse Road car park - often called the “Lower Waitrose car park - located below Waitrose, off the Old Mill Road Roundabout.

The Sandbach Walking Festival is organised by Sandbach Footpaths Group (SFG) whose aims are to protect, improve and extend the network of public footpaths in and around Sandbach. Over the last 18 months, with funding from Cheshire East Council, via the New Homes Bonus, SFG have replaced over 60 stiles with kissing gates, which have greatly improved access to the countryside. This has been even more important during the Covid-19 pandemic.



Follow us on Facebook - Search Sandbach Footpaths Group

Find us on the web : www.sandbachfootpaths.org