

WOW WALK REPORTS 2009-2018

Walk Reports 2018

Friday 14th December: A dry, crisp day for our December walk, when ten of us set off across the playing fields, through the Nymph Hay Wood and the grounds of The Priory and out onto Easton Piercy Lane. After a short stretch along the road, which was icy in places, we took the bridleway alongside Manor Farm and then headed across the fields to Leigh Delamere. The return journey was along the road before ending the morning with a very enjoyable lunch at The Jolly Huntsman. Thank you to everyone who has supported WOW during 2018 and looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Friday 9th November: Many thanks to Viv for leading the walk this month, which took the route around the lanes to Stanton Wood and then back along the main road. A welcome stop for coffee was made at the motorway services, thus avoiding the heavy rain shower.

Friday 5th October: Many thanks to Jenny for leading the September walk. On a bright morning nine of us set off up Tor Hill footpath and across the fields to The Plough, where we crossed the road and made our way along the busy dual carriageway to Jacksoms Lane. We came up through the woodland to Kington Langley and then made our way back to Kington St Michael via Coffin Way, crossing the dual carriageway with care and then taking the direct route across the fields back to The Jolly Huntsman for a welcome coffee.

Friday 7th September: It was a glorious autumnal day when nine ladies left the village via Grove Lane towards Easton Piercy. We took the second footpath, crossing a field, then a bridge over a stream, and we headed over fields towards Yatton Keynell. After joining another Grove Lane, we walked on a footpath across several fields, through woodland and back to Easton Piercy.

Friday 3rd August: Too hot for a long walk today so nine of us set off across the playing fields, through The Priory and out to Easton Piercy, where we took the bridleway alongside Manor Farm. We crossed the fields and the motorway bridge leading into Leigh Delamere and from here made our way to the services for a much needed drink. After a lengthy break we walked back to the village along the road.

Friday 6th July: It was a very warm and sunny day when seven of us met for our July walk. We headed through The Ridings, across the playing fields and took a path round the Nymph Hay wood. Coming out on the lane we headed for the footpath across the fields of the equestrian centre where we saw two mares with their foals. From Stanton Lane we headed up the bridleway and then across two more fields to the wood. There was quite a bit of cutting back needed around the stiles but soon we were in the shady woodland for a while. Finally we made our way back to the village and Delcia's garden to enjoy a cool drink in the shade.

Friday 1st June: It was overcast but not actually raining when seven of us met for our June walk, so we decided to head for Bolehyde Manor but the route was fraught with difficulties. The long grass in the first three fields meant we were all pretty wet by the

time we reached Down Farm. Next we encountered a very aggressive electric fence across the public right of way, in two places, which made it impossible to cross the field. We detoured along the road to the footpath to Haywards Farm only to find a large and muddy field confronting us. At this point we decided to make our way back to Kington St Michael down the bridleway and along Grove Lane. Everyone remained cheerful despite the difficulties and we enjoyed a very welcome cup of coffee at Folly Row Café.

Friday 4th May: We welcomed a new member this month, as fourteen of us gathered on a sunny morning for our annual walk in Easton Wood, by kind permission of Bill Isaac. We left the village via the playing fields, the Nymph Hay Wood and the grounds of The Priory and then made our way to the wood. The bluebells were just coming into flower and the orchids were in full bloom and looking at their best. We enjoyed strolling through the mass of bluebells and also saw a rare herb paris plant. As we left the wood we spotted a fox crossing the field before we walked on to Leigh Delamere. We passed more bluebells in the woods on our way to the motorway services where we stopped for a welcome coffee before walking back to the village. Thank you Bill for allowing us to share the beauty of your ancient wood once again.

Friday 6th April: Following the cancellation of the March walk due to snow, it was good to have a dry and bright day for the April walk. However, the weather had been very wet, which meant that walking across the fields was not a good idea and so 14 of us set off down Stanton Lane where the primroses, white violets and celandines were blossoming in profusion. When we reached Stanton itself we walked past the church and across two muddy fields to the wood where the track was reasonably dry. We stopped for a welcome coffee at the motorway services before heading back to the village along the road.

Friday 2nd February: A bright clear day when 16 ladies met for our February walk. As we made our way down Stubbs Lane we could see the snowdrops and primroses in the churchyard coming into bloom. Our route then took us along the footpath adjoining the Old Rectory where we were delighted to find that considerable cutting back had taken place. We then headed for Lodge Farm where we were greeted by three friendly llamas. After a noisy stretch along the dual carriageway, we turned down Jackson's Lane and then up through Morrell Wood, where we saw more snowdrops and aconites. Finally we made our way through Kington Langley, spotting a few early daffodils before turning down Coffin Way. Back across the main road we crossed two more fields before a small group of us visited Folly Row Café for a welcome coffee.

Friday 12th January: Fourteen of us gathered for our first walk of the new year. As everywhere was pretty muddy, we headed along the road to Stanton St Quintin, where we were delighted to see a few primroses beginning to come into flower. The weather was perfect for walking as we passed the church and took the footpath through the fields to the woodland. When we reached the road we headed for a welcome coffee at the motorway services. Finally we crossed the motorway footbridge which enabled us to use the quieter slip road before joining the main road back to Kington St Michael.

Walk Reports 2017

Friday 1st December: It was a cold and breezy day when fourteen of us met for our December walk. We made our way across the recreation field, through the Nymph Hay wood and the grounds of The Priory then out onto Easton Piercy Lane. After a short stretch along the road we took the bridleway alongside Manor Farm and headed across the fields to Leigh Delamere. Most of the return journey was along the road before cutting back through the Nymph Hay to return to the village. We ended the morning with a very enjoyable lunch at The Jolly Huntsman. Thank you to everyone who has supported WOW during 2017 and looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Friday 10th November: It was a beautiful, sunny, autumnal morning when ten of us set out for our November walk. We left Kington St. Michael along Stanton Lane and when we reached the village we proceeded past the church, through two fields and into the wood where the trees were still looking magnificent. Eventually we reached the far side and headed for a welcome coffee at the motorway services. We finally made our way back along the road, which was particularly busy with traffic.

Friday 13th October: Nine of us gathered for our October walk on a bright, autumnal morning. We left the village via the recreation field and Grove Lane and then headed across the fields to Yatton Keynell. We negotiated a couple of ploughed fields without too much difficulty and then returned to Kington St Michael via the woodland leading onto Easton Piercy Lane, The Priory and the Nymph Hay Wood.

Friday 1st September: A bright sunny morning for our September walk. Nine ladies set off across the playing fields, through the Nymph Hay Wood and around the lane to reach the footpath towards Yatton Keynell. We crossed several fields before finding a place to cross the stream and from here we made our way to Allington Lane. Our route back to the village took us to Down Farm, then across more fields where we were lucky to spot a young deer. Finally we took the footpath through the allotments and on to The Jolly Huntsman for a welcome coffee. Friday 4th August: Just seven of us for our August walk, which took us across the recreation field, the Nymph Hay Wood, and the Priory, then on to Easton Piercy Lane. After a short distance we turned down the bridleway beside Manor Farm, which lead us across the fields to Leigh Delamere. The walk then took us along the lanes until we stopped at the motorway services for a welcome coffee. Having missed a rain shower we made our way back to the village along the road.

Friday 7th July: It was a beautiful sunny, summer day when eight of us met for our July walk. Our route took us out of the village via the new Tor Hill footpath, along Draycott Lane and into a field of barley where there was no sign of the direct pathway, so we had to make our way right around the edge. We negotiated the dual carriageway and crossed the field to Coffin Way and into Kington Langley where we took the bridleway through the shady woodland to Jacksom's Lane. Eventually we crossed the busy road again at the traffic lights and made our way back to Kington St Michael via the golf course and Lodge Farm. We had further difficulties with a padlocked gate leaving the golf course and an overgrown footpath alongside the Old Rectory. Back in the village we enjoyed a welcome coffee at The Jolly Huntsman.

Friday 2nd June: A record equalling 18 ladies gathered for our June walk. It was a bright morning as we set off across the recreation field and through the Nymph Hay Wood to the lane. We then headed for the fields behind the equestrian centre and on to Stanton Lane. From here we made our way a short distance up Nash Lane before crossing three fields and coming down through the woodland and back to the village via the footpath through the farmyard.

This month we completed our twelfth successful year of Women Out Walking (WOW), celebrating with coffee and biscuits in Delcia's garden. Thank you to everyone who supports the group throughout the year.

Friday 5th May: We welcomed three new members as 11 of us gathered on a breezy but sunny morning, for our annual walk in Easton Wood, by kind permission of Bill Isaac.

We left the village via the playing fields, the Nymph Hay Wood and the grounds of The Priory, and then made our way to the wood. The bluebells and orchids were in full bloom and looking at their best. We spent some time admiring the wonderful carpet of blue flowers with the sunlight glinting through the trees. From the wood we crossed fields of buttercups on our way to Leigh Delamere where we admired a flock of rare Manx Loaghtan sheep with their lambs. We passed more bluebells in the woods on our way to the motorway services, where we stopped for a welcome coffee before walking back to the village.

Thank you, Bill, for allowing us to share the beauty of your ancient wood once again.

Friday 7th April: We welcomed two new members to our group on this beautiful sunny morning, when 13 ladies met to walk across the fields to Allington. On the way we were delighted to see our first bluebells of the year followed by carpets of primroses. Eventually we arrived at Bolehyde Manor where the daffodils were in full bloom. After a short walk along the lane, our route back took us via the busy golf course and past the lake. As we crossed the last few fields on our return to the village, two early swallows swooped past us. Finally we made our way along Stubbs Lane, past the church and into Kington St Michael where we had a well-earned coffee at The Jolly Huntsman.

Friday 3rd March: A rather wet and cold morning for our March walk, when five hardy ladies set out for our monthly walk. The snowdrops in the churchyard were in full bloom as we passed on our way to the rather overgrown footpath alongside the Old Rectory. When we reached Lodge Farm the rain eased and we made our way to Jacksom's Lane for more snowdrops and primroses before heading up through the wood to Kington Langley. At the road we turned left and headed back towards the dual carriageway along the footpath and then on into Kington St Michael, where we enjoyed a very welcome coffee beside the fire at The Jolly Huntsman.

Friday 4th February: Although heavy rain was forecast, nine ladies set off on their February walk down Stanton Lane, where snowdrops were admired. They headed through Stanton St Quintin village then across a field path to Stanton Wood, as the heavens opened. A well-deserved hot drink was enjoyed at the motorway services before they returned to the village.

Friday 13th January: A cold and frosty morning for our January walk, when 12 ladies set off across the playing fields, through the Nymph Hay Wood and The Priory and

onto Easton Piercy Lane. From the road we joined the bridleway to Down Farm and then came back to the village across the fields. It was very muddy in places but we all appreciated a bracing walk in the fresh air. Finally, we enjoyed a welcome coffee in the warm and welcoming Jolly Huntsman.

Walk Reports 2016

Friday 2nd December: It was a dry and bright day when ten ladies met for our December walk which took us across the recreation field, through the Nymph Hay wood and The Priory and out onto Easton Piercy Lane. The road was quite icy in places so we were glad to reach the bridleway alongside Manor Farm, from where we made our way across the fields to Leigh Delamere. Our way back took us along the road before cutting back through the Nymph Hay to return to the village. We ended the morning with a very enjoyable lunch at The Jolly Huntsman.

Friday 4th November: A wet day for our November walk but ten ladies were undeterred by the weather and set off across the fields to Down Farm. From there we walked down the bridleway to Easton Piercy Lane and then along the road for a short distance, before making our way to The Priory and Nymph Hay Wood. Finally we crossed the fields behind the equestrian centre and made our way up Stanton Lane and back to the village. Despite the inclement weather we all enjoyed the fresh air and the autumn colours.

Friday 7th October: It was a bright autumn morning when eight ladies gathered for the monthly WOW walk. They set off from Kington St Michael along the lane to Stanton St Quintin, through the village, past the church and on into Stanton Wood. On reaching the road at the far side of the wood, they headed for a welcome coffee at the motorway services before the steady walk back along the road to Kington St Michael; many thanks to Pat for leading this walk.

Friday 2nd September: There was a rather autumnal feel to the weather when seven of us set off for our September walk. We headed across the fields to Down Farm and then took the bridleway to Easton Piercy Lane. We walked along the lane for a short way before making our way to The Priory and the Nymph Hay Wood. Back on the road for a while and then through two fields behind the equestrian centre and on to Stanton Lane. After a short distance along Nash Lane we crossed three more fields and came down through the woodland to the rather overgrown bridleway leading back to the main street of Kington St Michael. Finally, we enjoyed a well-earned coffee at The Jolly Huntsman.

Friday 5th August: A pleasant summery day for our August walk. Seven ladies set off across the playing fields, through the Nymph Hay Wood and The Priory and on to Easton Piercy. Here we took the byway alongside Manor Farm which eventually crosses the motorway by footbridge and leads to Leigh Delamere. We then made our way back to the village along the road, stopping for a well-earned coffee at the motorway services.

Friday 1st July: Nine intrepid ladies arrived at the top of The Close for our July walk. We headed through the fields of corn and long grass towards the dual carriageway, encountering a very difficult gate en route. The verge along the side of

the busy road was completely overgrown with brambles and nettles and we considered turning back but the group were resolute and decided to battle on. For a short way we climbed a fence into the adjoining field for a slightly safer route alongside a crop of oil seed rape. When we eventually arrived at Nash Lane we found, thankfully, that it was much easier to negotiate than last year. Finally we made our way across two fields, down through the wood and up another overgrown track to the village where we enjoyed a welcome coffee at Folly Row Café. Thank you to everyone for their patience and understanding on a very testing walk.

Friday 3rd June: The sun soon came out as 12 of us set off from Kington St. Michael for our June walk. We made our way through the recreation field and down Grove Lane to join the footpath across the fields to Yatton Keynell. The wildflowers were at their best and it was not until our return journey that the route became more difficult, as the footpath was through fields of oil seed rape and barley. Finally we walked through a shady wooded area and back along the road to the village, where we enjoyed a coffee in Delcia's garden. This month we completed our eleventh successful year of Women out Walking (WOW) – thank you to everyone who supports the group.

Friday 6th May: It was a beautiful, sunny May morning for our annual walk in Easton Wood by kind permission of Bill Isaac. Twelve of us set off along the newly resurfaced footpath at the edge of the playing fields, across the stream and on through the grounds of The Priory before arriving at the wood. The bluebells and orchids were in full bloom and looking at their best. We spent some time admiring the wonderful carpet of blue flowers with the sunlight glinting through the trees. Wild flowers were in abundance today - blue violets, primroses, wood anemones, milkmaid and a rare herb paris plant. Some of us also spotted two deer before we headed back across the fields and over the motorway footbridge to Leigh Delamere, where we were greeted by a wonderful display of cowslips. After a stop for coffee at the motorway services we walked back along the road to the village. Thank you Bill, once again, for allowing us to share the beauty of your ancient wood.

Friday 1st April: Our walking group is becoming ever more popular; this month we had a record eighteen ladies setting off to walk across the fields to Allington. It was a beautiful morning as we walked through fields of young spring lambs and enjoyed wonderful carpets of primroses. On arriving at Bolehyde Manor we were greeted by a glorious display of golden daffodils. After a short walk along the lane our route back to the village took us via the busy golf course and past the lake, where two Canada geese were very much at home. We crossed several more fields before making our way along Stubbs Lane and back to Kington St Michael, where we visited the Jolly Huntsman for a well-earned cup of coffee.

Friday 4th March: A beautiful sunny morning to welcome fourteen ladies for our monthly walk. As most of the fields were very muddy we set off via the recreation field and then Grove Lane to Easton Piercy, where we walked down the bridleway beside Manor Farm. There were just two rather boggy fields to negotiate before crossing the motorway and arriving in Leigh Delamere village. From here we made our way to the motorway services for a welcome coffee and a chat before walking back along the road to Kington St Michael. It was a very enjoyable walk with plenty of snowdrops, primroses and daffodils to admire along the way.

Friday 5th February: On a cold but bright morning it was good to welcome 12 ladies for our annual snowdrop walk. We set off through the village and down Stubbs Lane, where the churchyard snowdrops were just beginning to come into full bloom. From here we headed past the Old Rectory, across the fields to Lodge Farm and down the track to the main road where we crossed at the traffic lights. There were more snowdrops, aconites, primroses and daffodils along Jacksoms Lane. Eventually we headed up through the wood to Kington Langley where we were greeted by a spectacular display of snowdrops. Our route then took us down Coffin Way, back over the main road and into Kington St Michael, where we enjoyed a well-earned coffee at The Jolly Huntsman.

Friday 15th January: Thirteen ladies assembled at the top of The Close on a bright and frosty morning, for the first walk of the New Year. We headed off down the lane to Stanton St Quintin, which proved to be very icy and quite challenging in parts. However, once in the village we left the difficult conditions behind, passed the church and then branched off along the bridleway to Stanton Wood. We spotted quite a few early primroses and also some daffodils in the hedgerows. At the far side of the wood we made our way to the motorway services for a welcome coffee before returning to Kington St Michael along the road.

Walk Reports 2015

Friday 11th December: The weather was rather grey and overcast when 13 ladies met for our December walk. We set off across the playing fields to join Grove Lane and head along the road in the direction of Easton Piercy. At this point we took the bridleway alongside Manor Farm and continued across the fields to Leigh Delamere. As the rain began to set in quite heavily we walked as quickly as possible along the lanes back to Kington St Michael, where we were joined by another three members of WOW for a very enjoyable Christmas get-together at The Jolly Huntsman.

Friday 13th November: Thankfully a dry morning after two days of rain, making it quite muddy underfoot. Nine ladies, undeterred by the weather, set off across the recreation field, through the Nymph Hay Wood and onwards to The Priory. When we finally reached Easton Piercy Lane we made our way up the bridleway (newly excavated) to Down Farm and then returned to the village across the fields behind the Manor. We ended our walk with a welcome coffee at Folly Row Café.

Friday 2nd October: Thank you to Pat for standing in at short notice to lead the October walk. It was a beautiful sunny morning when eight ladies set off to walk to Stanton St Quintin, passing the school and church before we made our way across the fields to Stanton Wood. On the far side there was a welcome coffee stop at the motorway services where we were able to sit outside in the autumn sunshine. Finally we returned to the village via the Nymph Hay Wood.

Friday 4th September: It was a dry, bright morning when eight of us met for our September walk. We left the village via the new footpath and made our way through a field of cows to the dual carriageway and onwards, up Coffin Way, to Kington Langley. From here we took the bridleway to Jacksoms Lane where we had planned to make our way up into Birds Marsh. Unfortunately the path was totally blocked so we continued along the road. Once again we braved crossing the dual carriageway near the roundabout and made our way back to Kington St Michael across the golf course and via Lodge Farm. Back in the village we enjoyed a welcome coffee at Folly Row Café.

Friday 3rd July: On a warm, sunny morning eight of us set off at 10am for our July walk. We headed across the fields, full of oil seed rape, towards the dual carriageway and then joined the Nash Lane Bridleway. It proved a testing walk as the path was very overgrown and there were a number of fallen trees. Finally we reached the track and made our way back across the fields, where we spotted a young deer, and down through the woodland to Bridleway 3. There was more cutting back of overgrown hedgerow around a gateway before we finally made our way through the farmyard and back to the village for a welcome drink in Delcia's garden.

Friday 12th June: It was a dry, summer morning when five of us met for our monthly walk. We took the footpath via the recreation field, the Nymph Hay wood and The Priory before setting off across several fields full of buttercups and clover to Yatton Keynell. It was slow going at times as many of the stiles are overgrown and need cutting back, and the return route was even trickier as we had to negotiate a number of fields full of wheat and barley. We were pleased to reach the haven of the woodland and eventually Easton Piercy Lane from where it was an easy stroll back to Kington St Michael.

Friday 8th May: It was a beautiful May morning for our annual walk in Easton Wood, by kind permission of Bill Isaac. Ten of us set off across the playing fields and through The Priory before arriving at the wood, where the bluebells and orchids were in full bloom and looking at their best. We spent some time admiring the wonderful blue and purple carpet of flowers with the sunlight glinting through the trees, before making our way back across the fields and over the motorway footbridge to Leigh Delamere. We stopped for a coffee at the service station and then walked back along the road to the village. Thank you Bill, once again, for allowing us to share the beauty of your ancient wood.

Friday 10th April: We were delighted to have a beautiful, sunny spring morning for our April walk. Ten of us set out across the fields to Down Farm and then down the bridleway to Grove Lane. Everywhere we looked there were wild flowers in abundance – primroses, white and blue violets, wood anemones and cowslips. We made our way round the road to the Nymph Hay wood and then on to the fields behind the equestrian centre. Finally, our route took us up the Naish Lane bridleway, across the fields where the spring lambs were grazing and down through the woods. Back in the village we made our way to the delightful new Folly Row Café for a very welcome cup of coffee.

Friday 6th March: The weather was dry and bright but there was a sharp wind when eleven of us met for our March walk. We set off down the lane to Stanton St Quintin and made our way through the village and past the church. The footpath then took us through a small housing complex and across the fields to Stanton Wood. We saw the first signs of spring as we walked, with snowdrops and primroses in bloom. Once we reached the road on the far side we stopped for a welcome coffee at the motorway services before making our way back to the village along the road.

Friday 6th February: On a cold but bright morning it was good to welcome nine ladies for our annual snowdrop walk. We set off through the village and past the church where the snowdrops were just beginning to come into full bloom. From here we headed past The Old Rectory, across the fields to Lodge Farm and down the track to the main road. Due to the dual carriageway improvements we were forced to cross at the traffic lights before making our way to Jacksoms Lane. There were more snowdrops and aconites along the lane and from there we headed up through the wood to Kington Langley. At the top we were greeted by a spectacular display of snowdrops. Our route then took us down Coffin Way, back over the main road and into Kington St Michael via the new footpath. Finally we enjoyed a well-earned coffee at The Jolly Huntsman.

Friday 9th January: On a blustery January morning eight ladies set off down Grove Lane and headed for the footpath on the drive to Manor Farm at Easton Piercy. Welcome refreshments were supplied by Pat & Bill Isaac. We continued on the footpath across a field to a hunting gate, which brought us to another field, then a track leading us to the footbridge over the M4 and Leigh Delamere. The main road brought us back to the village.

Friday 12th December: Nine of us met and set off on our December walk, across the fields behind The Close to the dual carriageway and then on to the Nash Lane bridleway. It was quite muddy in parts and several places were partially blocked by fallen trees, but we eventually made it to Stanton Lane and back to the village where we enjoyed a convivial lunch at The Jolly Huntsman.

Friday 7th November: It was a rather grey and gloomy day when five of us left The Close and headed across the fields to Down Farm where we spotted a deer. From here we walked down the bridleway to Grove Lane and back across the fields to The Priory and the Nymph Hay Wood. It was raining steadily when we crossed the stream which was in full flow and we made our way home across the playing fields and along the front of The Ridings.

Friday 3rd October: A small group of four set off to walk across the fields behind the school to Grove Lane. From here we made our way to The Priory, then along the top of the Nymph Hay Wood and out onto the lane. We managed to negotiate a rather broken stile into the fields behind the equestrian centre and eventually came out onto Stanton Lane. It was then just a short stroll to join Nash Lane before coming back down into the village via the wood, the bridleway and Manor Farm. It was a beautiful autumn morning and we all enjoyed getting some exercise.

Friday, 5th September: Just five ladies again for our monthly walk on a beautiful September morning. We set off across the playing fields, where we saw a magnificent green woodpecker and on through the Nymph Hay wood. Then across the road, through the Priory and on to the footpath in the direction of Yatton Keynell. At a certain point we crossed the stream and headed for Allington Lane, skirting the newly erected solar farm. We returned to the village via Down Farm and the fields behind the school.

Friday 1st August: Five ladies gathered for the monthly WOW walk. They set off from Kington St. Michael along the lane to Stanton St. Quintin, through the village, past the church and on into Stanton wood. On reaching the road at the far side, they headed for a welcome coffee at the motorway services, thus avoiding a very heavy storm of rain. Many thanks to Pat for leading this walk at short notice and to Jenny for leading the July one.

Friday 4th July: Under leaden skies eight ladies set off down Grove Lane to the bridleway, which brought us to Down Farm and Fowlswick Lane, leading on to Allington. We were privileged to have a tour of the beautiful gardens at Bolehyde

Manor, which we thoroughly enjoyed. We crossed a stone stile further down the lane, followed the footpath over three fields and reached the edge of the golf course. Field paths, with panoramic views over the village eventually brought us to Stubbs Lane and back to the village.

Friday 6th June: It was a bright, sunny morning when ten of us set off to walk to Yatton Keynell. We found the crops in some of the fields a little tricky to negotiate but enjoyed seeing lots of wild flowers and even a deer. We came out into Grove Lane and then had to cross two ploughed fields before getting to the woodland which led onto Easton Piercy Lane. Finally we took the footpath back to the village via the Priory and the playing fields.

Friday 2nd May: It was a beautiful, sunny May morning for our annual walk in Easton Wood, by kind permission of Bill Isaac. Nine ladies and one dog set off across the playing fields and through the Priory before arriving at the wood, where the bluebells and orchids were in full bloom and looking at their best. We spent some time admiring the wonderful blue and purple carpet of flowers with the sunlight glinting through the trees, before making our way back across the fields and over the motorway footbridge to Leigh Delamere. From here we walked along the road and back to the village. Thank you Bill, once again, for allowing us to share the beauty of your ancient wood.

Friday 11th April: It was a beautiful sunny spring morning when eight of us set off to walk across the fields to Down Farm. From there we took the bridleway to Grove Lane. On our way we were delighted to see the first signs of bluebells, and masses of primroses and cowslips. We made our way back via The Priory, where there were plenty of daffodils in bloom, round the Nymph Hay Wood and then through the field in front of Town Close, before returning to Delcia's garden for a welcome coffee in the sunshine.

Friday 7th March: A small group of four gathered for our annual snowdrop walk on a clear and sunny morning. We set off along the new footpath, which took us up Tor Hill, and then crossed the road and made our way around a newly ploughed field to the edge of the golf course. After traversing the dual carriageway we continued along Jacksoms Lane where there was an abundance of snowdrops, primroses and celandines and several gardens with beautiful displays of crocus. We climbed up through the wood to Kington Langley, where we were greeted by a display of bright yellow daffodils. Finally we walked down Coffin Way, crossed the dual carriageway once more and made our way back to Kington St Michael via two more fields.

Friday 7th February: Thankfully it was a dry day, after so much rain, when nine ladies set off down the lane towards Stanton. The road was flooded in parts but we were undeterred. From the village we managed to make our way through two very muddy fields and into Stanton Wood where the track was reasonably firm underfoot. We eventually arrived at the road where some of us enjoyed a welcome coffee break at the motorway services before wading back through a deeply flooded part of the lane and up the hill into Kington St Michael.

Friday 3rd January: It was not surprising that there were only three of us for our walk this month. It was a very wet and windy Friday morning and so we abandoned the planned route and took a brisk stroll down Grove Lane, along the lane past The Priory and Priory Cottage and then back to the village. Happy New Year to all WOW walkers.

WALK REPORTS 2013

Friday 6th December: It was a fine, bright morning for our December walk when nine of us set off down Stanton Lane heading for bridleway No. 7. We were delighted to find that this route was now clear and we could walk easily through the various kissing gates to the dual carriageway. After a brisk walk alongside the busy road we turned onto the peaceful Nash Lane bridleway which still had a hint of autumn colour. Finally we made our way across the fields, down into the woodland and through Manor Farm on the public right of way, before heading to The Jolly Huntsman for our annual Christmas get-together.

Friday 8th November: We were hoping for a dry walk as eight of us set off across the playing fields, but soon after leaving the Nymph Hay Wood it began to rain heavily and did not stop for the rest of the morning. Undaunted we walked on through the Priory to Easton Piercy where we took the bridle path to Leigh Delamere. The autumn colours on the trees were a delight as we made our way, thoroughly soaked by then, back along the lanes to the village.

Friday 4th October: Firstly, thank you to Viv for leading the September walk. This month the weather was dull and drizzly when a small group of five set off to walk across the fields to Down Farm where we took the bridleway to Grove Lane. Finally we made our way back to the village via The Priory and the Nymph Hay Wood. Although we were all rather damp by the end we had enjoyed being in the fresh air.

Friday 9th August: Another dry and warm day for our walk when eleven of us set off in the direction of Kington Langley. We began by using the new footpath out of the village on Tor Hill and then making our way through two fields and across the dual carriageway, before heading up Coffin Way and into the village of Kington Langley. We returned via the woodland leading to Jacksoms Lane and on to the path across the golf course. Next we crossed a field of corn followed by a field of clover before coming out onto the crossroads via a new stile. Finally, it was a safe walk back into

the village down the new footpath before enjoying welcome refreshment at the Jolly Huntsman.

Friday 5th July: It was a beautiful day for our monthly walk. Just eight of us set off to walk across the fields to Bolehyde Manor where the gardens were looking magnificent in the summer sunshine. From there we continued along the Allington Lane until we reached the old stone slab stile, which took us into the fields for the return journey. We found that, where in the past there had been scrubland, this had been transformed into grassy banks and ornamental lakes by the golf club. On our way back to the village we found two very overgrown stiles which took some time to clear but nevertheless, we all agreed that it had been a very enjoyable walk.

Friday 7th June: The nine ladies who met for our monthly walk were delighted to be able to make a rather belated visit to Easton Wood, by kind permission of Bill Isaac. Sadly the bluebells were past their best but there were wild flowers in abundance and the orchids were magnificent. We eventually found our way through the trees to the wooden bridge and then continued through fields of golden buttercups to the road in Leigh Delamere. We headed back to the village on the road, pausing en route for coffee at the service station. Thank you Bill, once again, for allowing us to share the beauty of your ancient wood.

Friday 3rd May: Just nine ladies met on this beautiful spring morning, but sadly no bluebell walk today as the season is so late. So we set off along the footpaths towards the dual carriageway, where we saw a wonderful field of dandelions followed by a bank covered in cowslips. After walking a little way along the busy road we turned onto the Nash Lane bridleway where the wild flowers included primroses, violets and a few early bluebells on a sunny bank. Our route back took us down through the wood to the bridleway leading back to the village. Here we were greeted by a stunning clump of marsh marigolds. Finally some of our party enjoyed a welcome coffee at The Jolly Huntsman.

Friday 5th April: This morning it was dry but very cold and windy when 12 of us met for our monthly walk. We set off across the fields behind the school to Down Farm where the primroses were looking beautiful. From here we walked along the bridleway to Easton Piercy Lane and then came back to the village via The Priory and the Nymph Hay Wood. We then took the footpath in front of The Ridings and through the allotments on our way to The Jolly Huntsman for a very welcome and warming cup of coffee.

Friday 1st March: It was a pleasant St. David's Day morning when 12 of us, including one new member, arrived at The Close for our monthly walk. We set off down Grove Lane and then took the footpath to Yatton Keynell. It was a delight to see lots of snowdrops on our route as well as real signs of spring with primroses, aconites and celandines. We came back across a muddy field and through woodland as we made our way to join Easton Piercy Lane, which we followed back to the village.

Friday 1st February: There were just 5 of us for the annual snowdrop walk this year. It was a bright and sunny day and we enjoyed seeing the first snowdrops around the village churchyard. Then we made our way across the very muddy and flooded fields to Lodge Farm, after which we crossed the dual carriageway to Jacksoms Lane.

Here there were more signs of spring with celandines, primroses, aconites and lots more snowdrops. We climbed through the wood to Kington Langley and proceeded back to the dual carriageway via Coffin Way. We eventually returned to Kington St. Michael for a welcome coffee at the pub. Despite the mud, floods, more mud and more floods, we all enjoyed our walk.

Friday 11th January: Fourteen members were ready and keen to walk on this beautiful, sunny January morning. Even though we had had a lot more rain we decided to walk across the fields behind the school to Down Farm. From here we took the bridleway to the road and then a circuitous route along roads and through fields to The Priory and the Nymph Hay Wood. We eventually made our way back to the village via the playing fields. We spotted several buzzards on our route and also the first sign of spring – a single yellow celandine. It was certainly very muddy in places but we had all enjoyed some much needed exercise.

WALK REPORTS 2012:

Friday 7th December: On a bright and sunny winter morning 11 of us set off down the lane to Stanton St Quintin and then on through Stanton Wood. When we arrived at the road we headed back towards Kington St Michael. Finally, we took a detour to the Nymph Hay Wood to see the Jubilee Oak which had been planted at the picnic area. It was then off to the warm and welcoming Jolly Huntsman for a very enjoyable lunch. Thank you to everyone who has supported WOW over the past twelve months and I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year - Delcia.

Friday 9th November: This month's walk took a group of seven of us through the Nymph Hay Wood and The Priory to Easton Piercy Lane. The autumn colours were looking their best but it was rather muddy underfoot. We walked down the bridleway and across the fields to Leigh Delamere and then made our way along the road and back to the village, stopping for a welcome coffee at the motorway services en route.

Friday 5th October: Despite threatening rain clouds, five ladies and Rufus the dog completed the walk to Stanton St Quintin and on through Stanton Wood without it raining. A welcome coffee break at the Leigh Delamere Service Station was enjoyed on the way home.

Friday 7th September: We welcomed two new members this month, as eight ladies met for our September walk on a bright and sunny autumn morning. Setting off in the direction of Kington Langley we spent some time hacking back the brambles from around the first stile. Eventually we crossed the dual carriageway, walked up Coffin Way and then on through the village. The footpath down through the wood to Jacksoms Lane was in a reasonable state for the time of year and from here we proceeded back to the main road where a friendly lorry driver stopped the traffic to enable us to cross safely. We then made our way across the fields to Lodge Farm and the footpath back to the village via Stubbs Lane.

Friday 3rd August: As seven intrepid ladies set off for our monthly walk, the heavens opened and the rain came pouring down. By the time we had crossed the playing fields and entered the Nymph Hay Wood we were already very wet and as there was no sign of an imminent change in the weather we decided to abort our planned walk

and head, as speedily as possible, for the motorway services and a welcome cup of coffee. After a lengthy break we made our way back to the village. The rain had stopped and a stiff breeze began to dry us out.

Friday 6th July: On a cloudy but dry July morning 9 walkers and 2 dogs set off down Stanton Lane and on to Manor Farm, where we took a footpath through Stanton Woods. There was an abundance of wildflowers, including the Common Spotted Orchid. A welcome drink was enjoyed at the M4 Service Station.

Friday 1st June: The weather was dull and overcast but thankfully dry for our walk this month. A small group of 7 of us set out through fields of buttercups behind The Ridings to Easton Piercy Lane and then on and through The Priory to the Nymph Hay wood. We eventually arrived at the lane and proceeded to the fields behind the equestrian centre where we met some frisky ponies. Finally our walk took us from Stanton Lane along Footpath No 4 and down through the wood to the bridleway. On the way we stopped to admire a single early purple orchid. Eventually we made our way back to The Close and Delcia's garden for a welcome cup of coffee to celebrate the seventh anniversary of WOW and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Friday 4th May: The weather was quite unsettled as nine ladies met for our annual walk in Easton Wood, by kind permission of Bill Isaac. We made our way down Grove Lane and eventually cut across the fields to the wood. The bluebells and orchids were looking beautiful and were much admired. On the other side of the wood we crossed a small wooden bridge and headed across several rather water-logged fields to the public footpath once again, which eventually brought to the newly refurbished motorway bridge and into Leigh Delamere. From here we made our way along the road back to the village, with a stop for coffee at the service station en route. Thank you Bill, once again, for allowing us to share the beauty of your ancient wood.

Friday 13th April: We were pleased to welcome another new member to the group on a beautiful, sunny, spring morning, when 15 of us met for our monthly walk. We set off down Grove Lane and then headed off across the fields to Yatton Keynell. The wildflowers were an absolute delight – a profusion of primroses, violets, cowslips and bluebells along most of the route. Following the rain earlier in the week, the going was a little boggy in places but this didn't stop our enjoyment. Our route back eventually joined Easton Piercy Lane and we came back to the village on the footpaths through The Priory and the Nymph Hay Wood.

Friday 2nd March: It was a rather gloomy and misty day as 13 of us gathered for our monthly walk. We welcomed two new members and then set off across the playing fields and Nymph Hay and on through the Priory. From the lane we took the footpath in the direction of Yatton Keynell but eventually crossed the stream (with some difficulty) and headed across the fields to the Allington Lane. We came back to the village via Down Farm and the fields behind The Ridings. We enjoyed seeing lots of snowdrops and primroses and also spotted a pheasant.

Friday 3rd February: The sun was shining on a cold and frosty morning when ten of us set out on our annual snowdrop walk. We spotted a few snowdrops poking their heads up through the frost on the churchyard bank as we passed en route for the

footpath to Lodge Farm. Having crossed the dual carriageway, we had to take great care in Jacksoms Lane which was a sheet of ice, but we did manage to see the first signs of spring with snowdrops, primroses, crocus and even an early daffodil. We left Kington Langley via Coffin Way and headed back across the fields to the village, where a few of us enjoyed a warming coffee at the Jolly Huntsman.

Friday 13th January: On a glorious January morning 14 walkers set off on what is probably our favourite local walk, over the fields to Bolehyde Manor, where snowdrops, crocuses and aconites were spotted on the lane. Back on a field path several deer and a fox came into view in the distance. Stubbs Lane eventually brought us back into the village.



*WOW walk 13th January 2012.
(Photo courtesy of Jenny Hayne)*

WALK REPORTS 2011:

Friday 9th December: It was cold but bright and dry when 12 of us met for our December walk. We set off down Stanton Lane and eventually arrived in the village of Stanton St Quintin. From there we walked past the church, on through two very muddy fields and into Stanton Wood, where it was much better under foot. At the far side of the wood we were joined by Sue for the walk back to the village via the Nymph Hay Wood. It was then off to the warm and welcoming Jolly Huntsman, where we were joined by Pat and Bella, for a very enjoyable lunch. Thank you to everyone who has supported WOW over the past twelve months and I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year. *Delcia.*

Friday 11th November: It was a fine and mild November day when 12 of us set off to walk across the playing fields, through the Nymph Hay wood and on past some frisky horses at the equestrian centre, to Stanton Lane. We then headed towards Stanton before turning right onto bridleway no.7 where we spotted a single deer. As it was Armistice Day, we paused at 11am to join others around the country in observing the 2 minutes silence, to remember the fallen of two World Wars and all the conflicts

since. As we continued we found the path blocked by a fence, so we took a small detour before returning to the main route, where we found our way completely barred by a wall of brambles and nettles. Armed with sticks and secateurs we managed to clear a way through to the gate and continued our walk to the dual carriageway. From here we turned back along the peaceful Nash Lane bridleway, and then came across the fields and down through the wood to Kington St Michael.

Friday 7th October: It was a delight to have 14 ladies setting off for our walk to Bolehyde Manor. The weather was quite breezy but dry as we made our way across the fields to Down Farm and then across a ploughed field and on to Allington Lane. After a short walk along the road we crossed an old stone stile and made our way back towards the golf course and Lodge Farm. As the sun came out we spotted a deer bounding along the line of the hedge before disappearing from view. Finally we crossed one more ploughed field before walking down Stubbs Lane and into the village, where some of us enjoyed a welcome coffee at the pub.

Friday 2nd September: It was a lovely sunny morning when we gathered for our monthly walk. We welcomed a new member and then a small group of five of us set off across the playing fields and through The Priory grounds to Easton Piercy Lane. From here we crossed the fields in the direction of Yatton Keynell until we eventually found a place to cross the stream (no water this time and still no footbridge!), before making our way to Allington Lane. After a brief walk along the road we made our way back to the village via Down Farm bridleway and the fields behind The Ridings.

Friday 5th August: Another fine day when eight of us met to walk through the village and out towards Kington Langley. The first problem encountered was a field of corn which was growing right across the designated footpath, followed closely by a padlocked walkers' gate and, once across the dual carriageway, we had to negotiate an electric fence. We proceeded up Coffin Way and through Kington Langley without difficulty but this was short-lived. When we tried to take footpath KLAN3 across the fields there was no stile in the fence, the gate was covered in barbed wire and we had to join the road much sooner than we had hoped. However, we did spot a pair of jays flying out of the hedge. We eventually made our way back via the golf course and Lodge Farm only to find another dense crop of corn in the final field and a padlocked gate with no stile anywhere to be found. Good to get some air, but not the best walk of the year. We did enjoy a welcome coffee at the pub though.

Friday 1st July: A lovely sunny morning for our walk. Nine of us set off towards Down Farm, passing through beautiful fields of blue linseed. As we made our way along the bridleway we saw the last flight of Hercules from Lyneham flying low overhead. We made our way back via the footpath alongside The Priory, through the Nymph Hay Wood and on to the Equestrian Centre where there were plenty of horses enjoying the sunshine. Finally we walked into the village along Stanton Lane.



WOW ladies were fortunate enough to see the final flight of the Hercules from RAF Lyneham whilst out walking.

Friday 3rd June: Just a small group of eight of us met on a beautiful, sunny summer morning for our sixth anniversary walk. We took Bridleway No. 1 from the main street, through the corn fields and on into the wild flower meadows, where a nightingale was spotted fluttering overhead, before finally emerging onto the dual carriageway at Pretty Chimneys. We hastily made our way along the verge to Nash Lane bridleway, which was pleasantly quiet and shady. We saw a deer and a squirrel as we made our way across to Stanton Lane. From here we took the route through the fields of the equestrian centre and then on to the Nymph Hay Wood. Finally we walked along in front of Town Close and The Ridings before returning to The Close.

Friday 6th May: It was a beautiful spring morning when 15 ladies met for our favourite annual walk in Easton Wood, by kind permission of Bill Isaac. We set off round the lane and stopped to admire a rare barberry bush before continuing to the farm, where we were welcomed by Bill with refreshments. He also chatted to us about the management of his ancient woodland. From the farm we made our way to the wood and could see immediately where the recent coppicing had taken place.

Due to the early fine weather this year, the bluebells and orchids were past their best but it was still a delight to be able to walk through this beautiful area. From the wood we joined the public footpath through the fields and across the motorway bridge to Leigh Delamere. Our route back to the village took us along the road but we did spot a buzzard soaring overhead. Thank you Bill, once again, for your hospitality and for allowing us to share the beauty of your ancient wood.



WOW enjoying refreshments at Manor Farm, Easton Piercy on 6th May, 2011

Friday 1st April: It was a dry, mild morning when 9 of us met for our monthly walk. We set off along Easton Piercy Lane and then across the fields on Footpath 23 in the direction of Yatton Keynell. The wildflowers everywhere were lovely – wood anemones, primroses and white and blue violets. As the houses of the village came into sight we turned right and crossed Grove Lane and onto a footpath which took us across two ploughed fields, thankfully fairly dry. As we entered a small plantation we surprised some deer that bounded off across the fields. Back on Easton Piercy Lane we kept going until joining the footpath which took us through The Priory and the Nymph Hay Wood and on to the centre of the Kington St. Michael.

Friday 4th March: On a bright but cold spring morning we welcomed two new members to the group for our monthly walk. Thirteen of us set off through the village, passing the churchyard where there was still a good show of snowdrops. We then headed across the fields to Lodge Farm and down the lane to the main road, which we crossed with care. We strode out along Jacksoms Lane, admiring a magnificent show of crocus on the way, and eventually took the footpath through the woods to Kington Langley, where we saw the first daffodils of the year. Finally our route took us down Coffin Way through the fields, back across the dual carriageway, and on to Kington St. Michael.

Friday 4th February: It was a dry but very windy morning when seven of us eventually set off for our monthly walk. We headed down Grove Lane and on towards Easton Piercy, where we took the bridleway beside Manor Farm. This brought us across the fields to Leigh Delamere where we were greeted by a beautiful show of golden aconites - the first sign of spring. Then it was back to Kington St Michael along the lanes, with a welcome coffee stop at the motorway services.

Friday 21st January: Nine ladies met for the first walk of the year. They stuck mainly to the lanes due to the condition of the fields, although Stanton Lane was like an ice rink in parts. Heading on through Stanton St Quintin, an unusual blackbird was spotted as it was completely piebald in colour. The route home was via Stanton Wood, then over the motorway and back into the village.

WALK REPORTS 2010

Friday 10th December: After a very cold and frosty week we were lucky to have a mild day for our walk. A group of twelve of us set off through the village and across the fields to the dual carriageway, which we crossed with care. It was then an easy stroll up Coffin Way to Kington Langley and then on to walk down through the woodland footpath to Jacksoms Lane. This was still very icy and we had to tread carefully. We spotted a deer through one of the gateways on our way to the main road, where a kind motorist stopped to let us cross. Finally we walked across the deserted golf course and back along the road to Kington St Michael. The Jolly Huntsman was warm and welcoming when we arrived for a very enjoyable lunch, where we were joined by Sue.

Friday 12th November: Following several days of heavy rain, it was a rather grey and wintery morning when eight of us met for our monthly walk. We set off across the playing fields, through the Priory and on to Easton Piercy Lane. Our route then took us along the bridleway beside Manor Farm and on across the fields, through the cattle, to Leigh Delamere. Having avoided too much mud, we made our way back to the village along the lanes, stopping for a welcome cup of coffee and a chat at the motorway services.

Friday 1st October: Torrential rain and strong winds meant that for the first time since the group was formed in 2005 we had to cancel our walk.

Friday 3rd September: We were a rather depleted group of three today but the weather was warm and sunny. The walk took us across the fields behind the school to Down Farm, along the bridleway to Grove Lane and then back across the fields via The Priory and the Millennium Wood. Many thanks to Carol Thurgood for leading this walk at short notice.

Friday 6th August: The weather was unsettled when seven of us set off to walk across the fields to Bolehyde Manor. After a brief shower, we dried out quickly and enjoyed the walk, but found one broken stile and handrail on footpath No. 33 which will be added to the list for reporting to the Parish Council. We admired the gardens at the Manor briefly before walking along the lane until we reached the old stone slab stile which took us into the fields for the return journey, where we spotted a buzzard soaring overhead. Following a coffee at the pub, the final part of our walk took us along the footpath between the houses in The Ham, through the farmyard and back to The Close.

Friday 2nd July: There were eight of us for our walk this month, as we set off across the fields behind the school and out towards Down Farm. We were delighted to spot both a pyramid orchid and a bee orchid en route. From the farm we walked along the bridleway to Easton Piercy Lane and then made our way via several fields to The

Priory. From here it was on through the Nymph Hay Wood and the footpath from Grove Lane across the fields in front of Town Close and The Ridings. We did stop briefly to pick some wild cherries before returning to the top of The Close.

Friday 4th June: It was a beautiful, sunny, summer morning for our monthly walk. Eight of us set off across the playing fields, through the Nymph Hay wood and on to footpath 6. As we passed through the fields of the equestrian centre we caused some interest to the young horses there. Arriving at the lane, we walked to the edge of Stanton where we found that Bridleway No. 5 was badly overgrown with waist high nettles and, despite a valiant attempt to clear the way, it proved too difficult and we had to turn and retrace our steps to the Nash Lane bridleway. From here we headed back across the fields and through the wood, finally coming up the bridleway, which was lined with masses of cow parsley and pink campion, along the back of The Ham and into the village.



*WOW walk on 4th June, 2010
(Photo courtesy of Janet Elms)*

Friday 7th May: It was a cool and dry spring morning when 11 ladies met for our favourite annual walk in Easton Wood, by kind permission of Bill Isaac. We set off round the lanes and enjoyed a welcome coffee at the farm before continuing into the wood to admire the carpets of bluebells and the beautiful early purple orchids and rare herb paris. As we came out of the wood we rejoined the footpath and continued across the motorway bridge to Leigh Delamere. Our route back to the village took us along the road but we were able to enjoy the masses of cowslips along the way. Thank you Bill, once again, for your hospitality and for allowing us to share the beauty of your ancient wood.

(Please note that there is no public footpath through the wood and WOW were given special permission to see the bluebells)



*WOW walkers heading off to see the bluebells on May 7th, 2010
(Photos courtesy of Jenny Hayne)*





Bluebells in the wood, May 7th 2010 Purple orchids in the wood, May 7th 2010

Friday 9th April: The weather was kind to us yet again and eight ladies duly set off on the footpath through Manor Farm and along the bridleway to the woodland. We crossed several fields and made our way to Stanton Lane. From here we took the footpath through the fields attached to the equestrian centre. The walk took us on along the lanes past Priory Cottage and The Priory and on to the bridleway to Down Farm. The wildflowers en route were beginning to come into their own and the primroses and violets were particularly beautiful. The last lap of our walk brought us back across fields and stiles to the village.

Friday 12th March: It was a beautiful morning when eight of us met at the top of The Close for our monthly walk. We crossed the playing fields and walked up through the Nymph Hay Wood and then on through the grounds of The Priory. When we reached Easton Piercy Lane we turned right in the direction of Yatton Keynell but then took the footpath across the fields opposite Manor Farm. After the shock of standing too close to a crow-scarer, we made our way through the fields and across the stream. From here it was an easy stroll to the Allington Lane. Our route back took us past Down Farm and back through the fields to Kington St Michael and a brief visit to the church. Finally, several of us enjoyed a welcome coffee at the pub.

Friday 12th February: Twelve ladies gathered on a cold but dry morning for our annual snowdrop walk. The snowdrops around the churchyard were looking lovely, as were the ones alongside the Old Rectory. We crossed the fields to Lodge Farm and then took the track down to the road, where we crossed the dual carriageway and proceeded along Jacksoms Lane. Here the snowdrops were a delight and we also saw some bright yellow aconites. Thankfully, the walk up through the woodland was easier to negotiate than last summer and then it was on to Parkers Lane. As we walked down Coffin Way we were reminded that this was the route taken by villagers to Kington St. Michael church, before the building of a church in Kington Langley.

Finally we crossed the main road once more and set out towards the tower of St Michael & All Angels church, which was now clearly visible. Back in the village part of the group enjoyed a welcome coffee stop at the pub.

Friday 8th January: The village was blanketed in snow on the day of our walk and most of those living outside the village were unable to make it. However, eight of us did set off, well wrapped up, to repeat the December walk, which took us down Stanton Lane and then on through the village to Stanton Wood. The snow covered trees looked beautiful in the sunshine and a robin on the fence was quite unbothered by our presence. Once through the wood we decided to take a coffee stop at the motorway services, before returning to Kington St. Michael via the Nymph Hay wood. Although icy under foot in places, we all agreed that it had been a most enjoyable walk.



*Outside a snowy Stanton Wood, 8th January, 2010
(photo courtesy of Janet Elms)*

WALK REPORTS 2009

Friday 11th December: The weather was fine when eight of us met for our December walk. We set off down Stanton Lane and made our way into Stanton St. Quintin. We passed the church, pausing briefly to look at the war graves in the churchyard, and then proceeded through the Manor Farm development. After crossing two rather muddy fields we took the clearly signed bridleway through Stanton Wood and eventually reached the main entrance to the wood. Then it was a straightforward stroll back along the road to the village and on to the Jolly Huntsman, where we were joined by Carole and Jenny, for a very enjoyable Christmas lunch.

Friday 6th November: We were lucky to have a dry day when eight of us set off on our monthly walk. We followed the path across the playing fields, through the Nymph Hay wood and on through the Priory grounds to Easton Piercy lane. After a short walk on the road we turned down the bridleway at Manor Farm and headed towards Leigh Delamere. Our route then brought us back to the edge of the village along the road, before taking the footpath through the wood and completing the walk along the front of The Ridings.

Friday 2nd October: It was a beautiful autumn morning when 8 of us set off to walk across the fields via Down Farm and Heywood Farm to Bolehyde Manor. We welcomed a new member, Margaret, who had recently moved to the village. We

paused to admire the beautiful Manor garden and then strolled along the lane to the old stone stile which took us into a ploughed field to begin our walk back to Kington St. Michael. As we approached the edge of the golf course we saw a buzzard soaring high in the sky. Thankfully it was really dry underfoot, as we crossed yet another ploughed field, before making our way down Grove Lane and back to the village. It was a delight to find that most of the stiles and paths along the way had been cleared and were easily accessible.

Friday 4th September: We welcomed two new members to our group today and so nine of us set off on a very pleasant autumn morning to walk across the fields along Bridleway 1 towards the dual carriageway. We managed to find the route via a path we had not used before and so the secateurs were put to good use to cut back the brambles around the stiles. After a very short walk alongside the road we turned onto the Nash Lane bridleway which was beautifully quiet. A young deer darted across our path and later on we stopped to admire a couple of Gloucester Old Spot pigs. Finally we crossed the fields to the woodland and came back up the well cleared track and through the farmyard to the village.

Friday 14th August: Nine ladies met on a warm summer morning for our monthly walk. We set off through the village and across the fields to the dual carriageway. Having successfully crossed, we continued up coffin way to Kington Langley and meandered along Parkers Lane. We then took the footpath which leads to Jacksoms Lane, but this proved to be more of a jungle expedition than a gentle stroll! When we eventually reached the lane, having battled with nettles and brambles, we continued into Birds Marsh Wood which was very enjoyable although muddy in places. We watched a buzzard soaring overhead before finally making our way back to the village via the golf course.

Friday 3rd July: Our July walk saw five of us on a shorter walk than usual. We set off across the fields to Down Farm where we saw some beautiful pyramid orchids. Then we took the bridleway to Grove Lane where some pretty pink root harrow was spotted. We strolled on along the lanes to the Nymph Hay Wood and on through the Recreation Field. Finally we walked along the front of The Ridings before enjoying a welcome cup of coffee in Delcia's garden.

Friday 5th June: It was a lovely summer morning when seven of us met for our walk. We set off through the Nymph Hay wood and then followed the footpath past the equestrian centre where we met some frisky foals. Once in Stanton Lane we headed for the bridleway and then took the footpath across the fields to the copse. We had to clear a few overgrown stiles but enjoyed seeing lots of wildflowers including some beautiful yellow flag iris. From the wood we made our way up the bridleway, which had been well cleared since our last visit, through the farmyard and out into The Ham.

Friday 1st May: After a day of heavy rain previously, a glorious spring morning greeted 11 ladies as they set out on their annual walk through the ancient Easton Wood, by kind permission of Bill Isaac, to admire the beautiful bluebells and various other interesting flora and fauna. En route a doe and fawn were spotted on the edge of Priory Wood. The footbridge over the M4 brought us into Leigh Delamere, where

we continued along the road back to the village. We would like to express our sincere thanks to Bill for allowing us to enjoy the wood once again.

Friday 3rd April: Eight of us met on a rather misty morning for our monthly walk. We set off across the recreation field, through the Nymph Hay Wood and on through the Priory arboretum where the daffodils were looking at their best. It was pleasantly dry underfoot as we crossed the fields to the lane where we saw plenty of primroses and white and blue violets. From here we took Path No. 23 in the direction of Yatton Keynell where we spotted a buzzard as we enjoyed walking along parallel with the stream. As usual, we had difficulty in finding the route of Path 25 to Allington Lane but after one false start we managed to cross the stream successfully and continue on the correct footpath. Once on the lane we headed for the bridleway to Down Farm where we admired the magnificent carpet of primroses before heading back across the fields to the village and a welcome coffee stop at the pub.

Friday 6th March: It was a bright, sunny morning when ten ladies met for March's walk. We set off past the church, where we were able to admire the banks of snowdrops and then took the path, which had recently been cut back, past the Old Rectory. At the road junction we crossed and continued on the footpath to Lodge Farm. From here we took the path which crosses the golf course, giving excellent views of the surrounding countryside. Having managed to cross the dual carriageway we proceeded down Jacksoms Lane where we saw more snowdrops and some early primroses. The route then took us past Morrell Cottage and up through the woodland to Kington Langley. The daffodils were out in Parkers Lane and from here we proceeded down the old Coffin Way track and back to the final crossing of the dual carriageway. We could see the church tower of Kington St Michael in the distance as we walked back across the muddy fields to the village.

Friday 6th February:



*Delcia & Jenny on a snowy walk, 6th February, 2009
(photo courtesy of Sue Wilcock)*

With the whole country blanketed in snow it was not surprising that only three of us gathered for our monthly walk. Suitably equipped with walking poles, we decided to head for the fields of pristine snow behind the school and then make our way across to Grove Lane. The snow on the trees was beautiful and the views of the church and The Manor just had to be photographed. We passed a flock of sheep trying to shelter from the cold wind and eventually made our way out onto the lane. The snow was very slushy here and so walking was much easier. Back in the village we enjoyed a welcome cup of coffee at Jenny's.

Friday 9th January: Nine ladies took part in WOW's January walk, which was longer than usual, taking 2½ hours. Trees and hedgerows were clothed in frost, looking enchanting - "Just like Austria", that was the comment by some of the ladies as we walked on the Bridleway through Down Farm and onto the Allington Lane. After a short spell on the lane, we went onto a footpath on field tracks in the direction of Yatton Keynell. The footpath eventually brought us to Grove Lane, then back on field tracks to Cromhall Lane. The trees and hedgerows looked enchanting, clothed in frost, then, to our delight, two deer were spotted and not long after, when we were trying to establish the site of the medieval village of Eston, two hares bolted across Little Rowlands. On our journey home along Easton Piercy Lane, we were all enthralled by the beauty of the countryside on this January day.



*WOW ladies, 9th January '09 Frost tinged plants
(photos courtesy of Jenny Hayne)*