Hello everyone

The plan for the October walk on Sunday 19th is to meet as usual at the Mulberry car park at 1.45pm then walk from there, following the route on the map. Several people have mentioned that it would be nice to walk straight from Cheriton so that is what we shall try this time, using the green lanes and footpaths as much as possible.

The full circular walk is a little over 5 miles BUT for those of us that find that a bit too much for a Sunday afternoon there are lots of possibilities for shortening the length. I propose that when we meet up we can ascertain how many want to take on each section and then arrange transport as necessary, all meeting up back at the Spalding Hall for tea by between 4 and 4.30pm.

The first section is between The Mulberry and Lower Eggbeer on the Woodbrooke Road. This will take roughly half an hour to walk but if anyone would like a lift for that bit we can leave cars at the side of the road near where the footpath begins.

Go through the middle gate of three opposite Lower Eggbeer bungalow following the left hedge to the next gateway then follow footpath signs. This takes us down over the fields and through wood to a stream. Here there is a choice. It is possible to follow the stream back up to the right and onto the C50 at Crocky Dip but the road back to CB is not pleasant to walk on so someone would need to leave a car there for transport back to Cheriton. The other way is to cross the stream and follow the footpath up to the right of Combe Hall and Narracott on a green lane which comes out at Crockernwell.

At Crockernwell, again, there is the opportunity to stop and return to Cheriton by car.

Those who are carrying on will cross the C50 in Crockernwell and walk down the long narrow drive to Lambert which begins just below Stanbury’s Orchard/ the bus stop (I couldn’t see any signs at this entrance between the houses but, once on the track, it is quite well marked with footpath signs right through). Leave the house and buildings of Lambert on your left and keep on the green lane. You will go through a metal gate with blue twine [please be sure that it is fixed after you] and you then turn to the right and follow the track downhill until you come to a rather dilapidated ‘kissing’ gate. After passing through that you will go through the underpass below the A30. When you come out the other side walk up the field to the top left hand corner, through the gate and out onto the road. This section took me half an hour and on the day I did it there had been a lot of rain so it was quite wet and a bit muddy in places. Do have a look over the gates as you walk – there are some lovely views across to Cheriton.

You are now on the final section of road walking. It is just under one and a half miles back to the Spalding Hall so, again, if anyone would like a lift back from here that will be possible.

When you come out onto the road, turn right and walk for approximately 1 mile passing over the bridge across the A30 until you come to the Four Cross Ways on the Yeoford road. From here go straight across and follow the road back into Cheriton via Cottage Cross. The Spalding Hall is on your left just after the school.

We have booked the Spalding Hall for us to have tea in and there will be a choice of hot and cold drinks, and some cake/brownies too. Would you be willing to put a donation in the pot to help cover the hire of the hall? Or shall we cover it from our Walking Group funds?