



Watercress Way Walk

Sutton Scotney

Sunday June 24th 2018

Start: 10.00 am, return by 12.30 pm

Join the trustees on one of our regular guided short walks based on the Watercress Way, a new 26 mile trail NE of Winchester, based on old railway lines and droves



Paintings by Emma Lowres for our new interpretation boards

- Start at the 'End of the Line' - or rather the Sutton Scotney section of the 26 mile Watercress Way
- **A gentle circular ramble** lasting about 2 hours, covering 3- 5 miles. There will be some stops while we look at the local history and ecology.
- **Families** are welcome, as are **dogs**. Children must be accompanied by an adult. There are some minor road sections of the walk. Each person is responsible for his/her own welfare.
- There are occasional stiles and gates along the footpaths used, and walking boots and waterproofs may be needed
- **Do book with the pub** if you want lunch at **The Coach and Horses**, one our nine sponsor pubs, **01962 760279**
- **Car parking** at **The Gratton Recreation ground SO213LG**. Entrance just opposite Texaco garage A30



We will:

- Pass the renowned River Dever, tributary of the River Test, once very important for watercress production and now for its wildlife.
- Follow ancient droves, used to herd cattle west to east towards London markets in the 18th and 19th centuries, and footpaths used for centuries to reach the old coaching village of Sutton Scotney.
- See the Old Station Park housing development, on the site of the old station of the Didcot- Southampton line, recently built with its footpath following the old 1885 track bed.
- Visit the first stretch of track ever to be leased by the charity (for a bunch of watercress per year!) from the old railway bridge on the Stoke Charity road. This is still to be cleared since the railway closed in 1960

- **£5 minimum donation** to help fund our work in opening up the old railway lines for public access.
- **Please contact us** if you think you might come on the walk, so we have some idea of the **number of guides needed**. See our **Facebook and Twitter feeds** for last minute information on the walk or email us at **info@thewatercressway.org.uk** .
- Our website is at <http://www.thewatercressway.org.uk/>