



## Watercress Way Walk

### Sutton Scotney

Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> 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/>