

Happy New Year!

As we leave 2023 behind, thoughts may turn to getting out and getting fit and SAR has a full programme of walks and away trips to help you.

In addition to our regular full day walks, morning walks, short walks and our brisker TRIMbles, the **Capital Ring** series is starting up again in March and will be exploring Richmond and Osterley to Sudbury Hill. Full details are inside and although there are some members who are walking the whole series, it is easy to join any of the parts that you like the look of.

From April, **evening walks** start again. We usually meet at about 6pm and walk 4-6 miles (shorter in April and September and longer in the main summer months.)

We also have a range of **away trips**. This year we go to **Gran Canaria** in February - a chance to escape the long winter months.

March takes us to **Scarborough** to walk on the Yorkshire coast, and May will see us in the Elan Valley in mid-Wales, which featured recently on the **BBC Countryfile programme** [BBC One - Countryfile, Elan Valley](#) . Take a look if you are wondering what the area is like and see inside on page 12 for details of how to join the trip.

September will take us to the beautiful **Mountains of Mourne** and this is booking now

Our final trip of the year will be to **Torquay**, which will be taking deposits in March

All our walks and trips away are detailed inside. They do get booked up very quickly, but if you like to look of something marked 'fully booked', do get in touch with the contact or talk to someone on a walk, places do become available.

Save the date!
SAR AGM 2024
Tuesday 19th March at 19.30
Octagon Room, St Peter's Church

Join us for our AGM on 19th March in the Octagon Room at St Peter's Church, St Albans.

This is your chance to comment on and influence the direction your club takes in the coming years.

We will follow the formal meeting with an opportunity to meet fellow walkers in a convivial social .

We are always keen to hear from anyone who can contribute to the running of the club and would welcome input from newer members in particular.

More details coming soon!

IF YOU WANT TO TAKE PART IN ANY OF OUR ACTIVITIES, READ ON!

JOINING A DAY WALK

Please ring or email the contact a few days in advance to let them know you are planning to come and for full details: start time, directions, etc. They will look out for you, especially if you are a new member. If you're subsequently unable to come please try to let the organiser know, so we don't keep the whole party waiting. Most organisers can give you a mobile phone number.

JOINING A TRIP AWAY

EXPRESS INTEREST!

Helps us get a handle on likely numbers. It does NOT constitute a firm booking, but please let organisers know if your plans change.

BOOK NOW!

To secure a place you need to confirm your participation with the named contact and **pay the deposit**. Follow the process outlined on the final page of the Newsletter to secure your place. All monies paid to SAR are accepted on the understanding that members agree the terms in the Finance Policy.

FULLY BOOKED!

If you're interested in an event flagged **fully booked**, do ring or email the event contact. Sometimes participants drop out, especially for events planned a long way in advance. We may still be able to find you a space. And apologies if you find many events fully booked. We have to work well in advance to secure the accommodation we want, especially at peak times.

Navigation course

BOOK NOW!

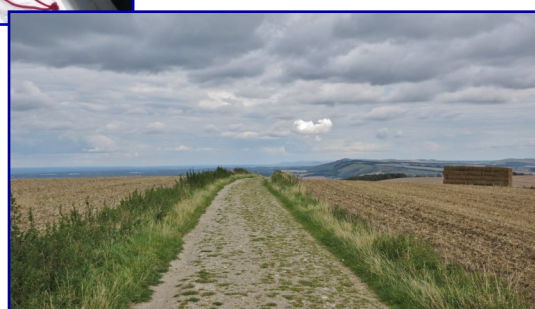
SAR Navigation Course 2024

Navigation: the art of knowing where you are, where you want to go, and how to get there. And if you get lost, how to get yourself back on track.



A practical course to suit absolute beginners and practiced navigators alike, this is all about enhancing your individual confidence and competence in map navigation.

Aimed squarely at walking in Hertfordshire and the Chilterns, by the end of the course you should be able to confidently plan and follow routes where navigation is primarily on well-defined paths, and crucially, also to navigate confidently when the path divides, stops, or simply vanishes, and the way ahead has become unclear. The course minimises verbal instruction and maximises hands-on practical experience throughout.



Day One

Saturday 16 March 2024

In the classroom: the basics of map navigation, simple compass work, electronic mapping, GPS.

Day Two

Saturday 23 March 2024

In the field: Practical hands-on navigation in a variety of terrain.

Cost: £10.00

So that we can make the necessary arrangements, please indicate your interest in attending by contacting Alison by 7th January 2024:

YOUR IDEAS?

Please ring or email one of the **COMMITTEE** if you have an idea for a walk or event or have seen a good place to stay. Even if you don't want to organise or lead, we can pass ideas on for further investigation. Or have a chat to any committee member on one of our walks

YOUR SAFETY

Leaders take reasonable care for the safety of the party, but it's your responsibility to see that you are properly equipped, to take responsibility for your own safety and that of others. SAR has appropriate Public Liability Insurance but you should have your own personal accident cover.

COMMITTEE MEETING

The next committee meeting is on **6th February**. If you have items you would like the committee to discuss, please send to **Tricia as soon as possible**.

NEWSLETTER

The next newsletter will be out on **1st March 2024**. If you have anything for inclusion, please send to Diane by **20th February**. Walk descriptions for any walks you are leading in **April or May** should also be sent by **20th February**.

Contributions are **always** welcomed. If you have seen an item related to walking, please do send it to me. **Diane**

First aid kits

It is a condition of our insurance that first aid kits are carried on all SAR walks.

Committee members have a kit, which is available for all members. If you are leading a walk, you should either ask any committee member who is coming to bring a first aid kit or arrange to get one from anyone on the list.

Holders of first aid kits, which have been stocked appropriately, can be identified on the back page.

WhatsApp Group

The SAR WhatsApp group is a useful way to connect with other members.

It is a member led group and is useful for lift sharing or walk sharing and also for sharing photos, such as Terry's recent lovely photographs of a **kingfisher**.

If you would like to be included, you can contact Richard, who manages the group. His details are on the back page,.



A reminder—Membership renewal

Jane sent out membership renewal forms a short time ago. The cost has been held at £10 for the coming year

It is appreciated when members renew promptly, as this saves Jane sending chasers and ensures you will continue to receive notices from the club.

If you decide not to renew, please let Jane know so she can delete you from the databases.

New members

We have some new members.

Do say hello if you meet them on walks.

The Capital Ring, London
May 2023-24

EASY/MODERATE



Leaders Janet Cameron and Esther Papineau

We are now half way along our walk of the Capital Ring, the 78 mile route through London. Having started on the south bank of the Thames at Woolwich we have walked round to Richmond in four walks between last May and November. We are now ready to cross to the north bank of the Thames and walk the semicircle north that eventually will lead to North Woolwich by London City Airport, before taking the Woolwich Ferry (free) south across the Thames back to Woolwich.

The section of the walk in November was from Wimbledon Park to Osterley Lock via Wimbledon Common, Richmond Common, Richmond, Brent river and the Grand Union Canal. The first part of November had been rather wet, and the Thames was high, flowing over its south bank in Richmond. Then as the tide came in the river flooded its bank for a long distance along the front of Richmond. We decided unanimously to abort the walk (having done about two thirds of the distance to Osterley) and retire for tea and cakes before returning home.

This was a good end to a most enjoyable day, but did leave the slight problem of incorporating the 3.5 miles we missed into the schedule. We have now added the missing miles to the plan, slightly rearranging the start/end points of some of the walks. You can see the dates and walks below, although we may change the start/end of a walk after checking the route.



Walk	Section	Walk	Miles	Miles/ walk	Date
1	1+2	Woolwich to Falconwood to Grove Park	6.2+3.5	9.7	Sunday 21 May 23
2	3	Grove Park to Crystal Palace	8.2	8.2	Sunday 17 Sep 23
3	4+5	Crystal Palace to Streatham to Wimbledon Park	4.1+5.6	9.7	Sunday 8 Oct 23
4	6+7	Wimbledon Park to Richmond Bridge to Osterley Lock	7.0+3.8	10.8	Sunday 12 Nov 23
5	8+9	Richmond Bridge to Osterley Lock to Greenford to Sudbury Hill	3.8+5.0+1.3+1.5	11.6	Sunday 17 March 24
6	10+11	Sudbury Hill to South Kenton to Hendon to East Finchley	1.7+3.9+4.3	9.9	Sunday 12 May 24
7	12+13	East Finchley to Highgate to Stoke Newington to Hackney Wick	1.4+5.2+3.7	10.3	Sunday 7 July 24
8	14+15	Hackney Wick to Becton District Park to Woolwich	5.0+3.8	8.5	Sunday 13 October 24
		Total		78.7	

We will send you details of each walk for inclusion in the Newsletter nearer the time and practical information eg train times etc before each walk. As always we would hope to be able to start each walk around 10.00am.

Finishing in Woolwich on the 13 October, we suggest that we have celebratory tea and cakes there. We will enjoy choosing the best venue for the group!

More information about any of these walks can be obtained from the Leaders

Coming to an area near you??

As we reach the **75th anniversary** of the Act of Parliament that established National Parks in England, a new National Park is set to be announced as part of a government set of "nature pledges" to give greater access and protection to the countryside.

Natural England will consider a list of possible sites, which could include the **Chilterns**, the Cotswolds and Dorset.

Government funding for National Parks has fallen, resulting in funding cuts, so environmentalists are giving this news a cautious welcome.

Funding worth £15m was also announced for a range of protected landscapes, to be shared by England's 10 existing national parks and 34 National Landscapes, formerly known as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The 2019 Landscapes Review recommended that all three of the areas be designated as National Parks. These areas offer superb walking opportunities and beautiful landscapes and contribute to the wellbeing, both physical and mental of those that access them.

Wales and Scotland are also set to create one new National Park each.

Thirty-four new landscape recovery projects will also be created under the ELMs farm payments scheme which will see 200,000 hectares of land managed to benefit nature and sustainable food production.

Further funding of £2.5m will be used to help give disadvantaged young people access to the countryside while £750,000 will be set aside for research into protecting England's temperate rainforests.

Anne Petrie

We were sorry to hear of the recent death of Anne Petrie, one of the founders back in 1992 when Mike Jones asked for volunteers from Jersey Farm to set up Jersey Walkers, later to become SAR. She attended Mike's meeting on Sunday 21st June with a few others and after some planning the first walk set off on 5th July. Anne helped to get the message out in the early days and lead short walks and many social events developing SAR.

Anne worked overseas for several years for the FCO but kept her house and attachment with St Albans but sadly with declining health meant that she couldn't continue with her walking.

SAR Six Month Events Plan January to June 2024

DATE		LEADER	DURATION	LOCATION
JANUARY	7		All Day	Little Berkhamsted
	11 Thu		Short Walk	Wheathampstead / Waterend
	17		Morning	Leavesden Country Park
	28		TRIMble	Heartwood
FEBRUARY	8 Thur		Short Walk	TBA
	11		All Day	Tring Reservoirs
	12-19		Away	Gran Canaria
	21		Morning	Gustard Wood
	25		TRIMble	Verulam (New)
MARCH	3		All Day	Flamstead (12 miles)
	8-11		Away	Scarborough
	17		All Day	Capital Ring5: Osterley-S Kenton
	20		Morning	TBA
	19		Evening	AGM
	24		TRIMble	Wheathampstead/Harpenden
APRIL	10		Short Evening	TBA
	14		All Day	Rickmansworth Aquadrome
	17		Morning	Whitwell to The Rusty Gun
	28		TRIMble	Batchwood
MAY	1		Evening	TBA
	15		Morning	London Guided Walk
	12		All Day	Capital ring 6: S Kenton-Highgate
	20-24		Away	Elan Valley
	26		TRIMble	Heartwood
JUNE	5		Evening	
	8		All Day	North Herts
	19		Morning	Ver
	22 Sat		All Day	15 Mile longer walk
	30		TRIMble	Harpenden

GREEN - AWAY EVENTS BLACK - WEEKEND WALKS RED - MID-WEEK WALKS BLUE - SOCIAL/TRAINING

FULL DAYS – Longer walks, often further afield (10-12 miles) and with a wide variety of interest, usually on the 2nd Sunday in the month.

BRISK WALKS (TRIMbles) – Sunday morning brisk exercise, finishing by noon, on local circuits of 7 miles on the 4th or 5th weekend in the month

MORNING WALKS - These are 5 – 7 miles long, on the 3rd Wednesday morning in the month, varied in character and followed by an optional café or pub lunch

SHORT WALKS - 3-4.5 miles at an easy pace with a chance to have lunch or a drink with fellow walkers afterwards.

EVENING WALKS – On lighter evenings, local walks of 4- 5 miles in length are offered on a day suiting the leader, in the 1st week of the month.

SAR WALKS require a moderate to good level of fitness and pace, 2 – 2.5 mph, except the TRIMbles, which are at 3mph. All are additionally graded as EASY, MODERATE, CHALLENGING or TOUGH.

Sunday 7th January
Day Walk: Little Berkhamsted / Essendon near Hatfield

EASY

10.4 miles Easy

The walk starts from Little Berkhamsted heading to Epping Green then follows Tylers Causeway to West End for a lunch break at The Candlestick PH, returning via Essendon. We pass through a golf course, woods and along the river Lea.

Ground conditions may be wet.

Thursday 11th January
Short social walk: Wheathampstead to Waterend

EASY

Join us for a 4-mile walk, taking the old railway line towards Welwyn and returning along the River Lea to have lunch in The Swan. We will walk at a slow pace.

Wednesday 17th January
Morning walk: Leavesden Country Park, Abbots Langley – Bedmond Circuit

EASY

For our January morning walk, I've mapped a circuit from Leavesden Country Park across to Bedmond and back. The area of Leavesden Park has a fascinating history, including its founding as an "Asylum for Idiots and Imbeciles" - one of those eventually closed in the 1990's! There's also an acknowledgment of the aviation history of the area and the more recent film studios.

That apart, many of the paths are firm underfoot, with a field or two thrown in for good measure. East Lane, is an old green lane, we touch on a short section of the Hertfordshire Way and there are some splendid open views to enjoy and only one stile!

Sunday 28th January
TRIMble: Marshalswick

MODERATE

Join us for a brisk seven miles before lunch. This well established route for SAR, takes us across farmland and through woodland at a good pace to be back at the car park by midday

Thursday 8th February
Short walk: details TBA

EASY

Details will be available soon for this short walk ending with a sociable lunch

Sunday 11th February
Day walk: Tring Reservoirs

MODERATE

An interesting 11-mile walk visiting the large reservoirs at Tring summit, following elements of the Grand Union Canal, the Aylesbury Arm, and the narrow Wendover Arm (currently undergoing restoration). Both reservoirs, important for maintaining the level of this once nationally significant canal as it passes over Tring summit, are designated wildlife reserves.

FULLY BOOKED!

Monday 12th February To Monday 19th February 2024
Escape the winter: Gran Canaria. (CODE GC24)

MODERATE

A 7 night HF trip to Gran Canaria with half board at a coastal village hotel and a choice of guided walks each day (Grades 2 & 4). Our base in Agaete is away from the hustle and bustle of the larger resorts and offers great access to trails in the north, tucked away villages as well as the dramatic landscapes of Tejeda and the eye-catching rock formation of Roque Nublo. **This trip is fully booked but you can find more information on page 11**

Wednesday 21st February
Morning walk: Gustard Wood

EASY

We will start from Gustard Wood and walk towards Ayot St Lawrence. We then walk along the Ayot Greenway back through Lamer Woods. It is just over six miles and fairly flat. It can be muddy but that will depend on the weather. Lunch will be at the Cross Keys

Sunday 25th February
TRIMble::Verulam/Chiswell (NEW ROUTE)

MODERATE

Join me to try out a new TRIMble Route - starting in Verulamium Park and meandering through St Stephens and Chiswell Green. Depending on your feedback, this route may become one of our regular TRIMble circuits!

We will meet outside the main entrance of Westminster Lodge Leisure Centre AL1 2DL at 9.20am, for a prompt 9.30 start, and aim to complete the approx seven miles at a brisk pace, to return by midday or shortly afterwards.

(Nb. Three hours parking in Westminster Lodge costs £3. However, early on a Sunday morning, it should be possible to find a free parking spot on a nearby street such as Holywell Hill.)

Sunday 3rd March

All Day Walk: Flamstead and Markyate

MODERATE

This estimated 13 mile walk, which follows a figure '8' starts at the village of Flamstead first documented in 1006 and which has many old buildings of which 65 are listed. We walk down towards the Ver river then take a short bit of the old Roman Watling Street and then towards Pepperstock. From there we follow Half Moon Lane to Markyate, which is on the Roman Road and was an old coaching stop. We walk north out of the village towards Kensworth, where we pass the source of the Ver. From there we head east crossing Watling Street towards Aley Green and then south to Pepperstock again and back along Half Moon Lane to Markyate. From there we walk south back to Flamstead.

FULLY BOOKED

Friday 8th March to Monday 11th March 2024 **Scarborough and the Cleveland Way (CODE SC24)**

EASY/MODERATE/CHALLENGING

The trip will include the seaside towns of Whitby, Robin Hoods Bay and Filey with the chance to visit Flamborough Head. We've got some good cliff top walks along the Cleveland Way. The challenging ones will be from Robin Hoods Bay to Scarborough and Scarborough to Filey.

A shorter option will be from Robin Hoods Bay to Whitby and Scarborough to Cayton Sands.

For more information see page 12

Sunday 17th March

Day walk: Capital ring -Richmond Bridge to Osterley Lock to Greenford to Sudbury Hill

MODERATE

We will take Thameslink and the North London Line trains to Richmond station and from there walk down to the river Thames to begin the walk. Full details of train times etc will be sent nearer the walk date. As always we would hope to start walking around 10.00am

At Richmond we continue eastward along the south bank of the Thames, crossing to the north bank near Isleworth. From there we go through Syon Park to Brentford, over the Duke of Northumberland river and join the Grand Union canal at Brentford Lock. We follow the canal and the Brent River to Greenford and from there up Horsenden Hill and down to Sudbury Hill (Piccadilly Line) underground station.

There are several cafes and comfort stops along the route and scenic spots for a picnic lunch. Overall the walk is mostly through green areas and along canals, large canal basins and rivers.

We pass through Syon Park, belonging to the Duke of Northumberland and containing Syon House. Its interior was remodelled by the famous 18th century Scottish architect, Robert Adam and the grounds laid out by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown.

Before Horsenden Hill we pass through Paradise Fields Wetlands, a haven for wild life with its wetlands, reed beds and hay fields. Horsenden Hill at around 275 feet (84 metres) provides one of the finest natural viewpoints in London giving us views from different angles to those from OxLeas Wood and Richmond Park earlier in the Capital Ring.

On a clear day, looking west, one can see the Chiltern Hills, while to the north lies Harrow-on-the-Hill with the spire of St. Mary's Church. During World War I, the summit came to the fore with the siting of an anti-aircraft gun pulled by a horse - a defence against German airships. 2,500 years ago, Iron Age people settled on Horsenden Hill leaving behind large amounts of pottery.

More information about any of these walks can be obtained from the Leaders

Wednesday 20th March
Morning walk: Redbourn

EASY

We start from the car park near the cricket pavilion and plan to have lunch at the Hollybush PH. The walk heads out past Great Revell End Farm, Hay Wood, Corner Farm, Greenland Wood, New Wood and Bury Wood
The walk is a little less than 7 miles long with less than 100m ascent. Some areas may be muddy .

Sunday 24th March
TRIMble: Harpenden/ Wheathampstead (NEW ROUTE)

MODERATE

This brisk 6.6 mile walk follows a varied route from Harpenden to Wheathampstead, heading north towards Gustard Wood, before returning via Mackerye End to Harpenden around 12:00pm.

AWAY TRIPS - 2024

We now have a complete 2024 programme of SAR Away Trips comprising:

Gran Canaria - Monday 12th to Monday 19th February - **FULLY BOOKED**

Scarborough and the Cleveland Way- Friday 8th to Monday 11th March - **FULLY BOOKED**

Elan Valley and Cambrian Mountains, Mid Wales – **BOOK NOW Final chance**

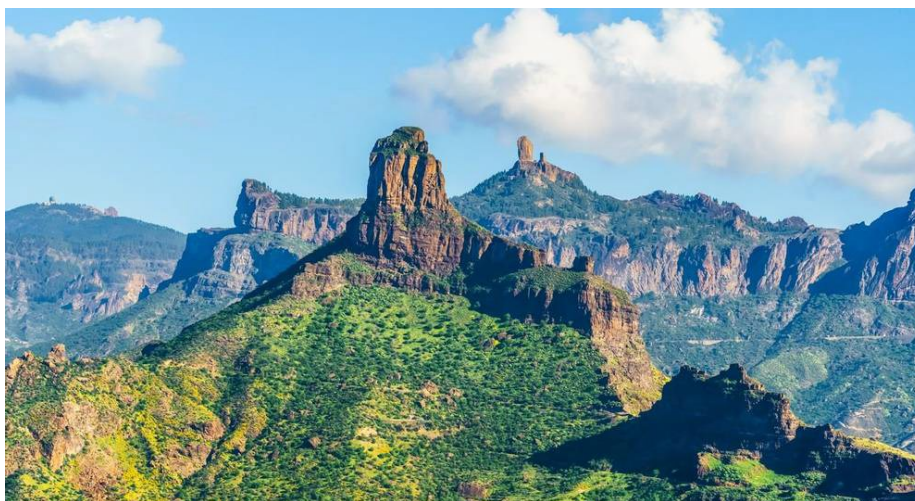
Mountains of Mourne - Monday 2nd to Friday 6th September – **BOOK NOW**

Torquay and the Devon Coast – Wednesday 2nd to Sunday 6th October – **EXPRESS INTEREST**

FULLY BOOKED!

Monday 12th February To Monday 19th February 2024
Escape the winter: Gran Canaria. (CODE GC24) ***MODERATE***

Join us for this 7 night HF trip to Gran Canaria with half board at a coastal village hotel and a choice of guided walks each day (Grades 2 & 4). Our base in Agaete is away from the hustle and bustle of the larger resorts and offers great access to trails in the north, tucked away villages as well as the dramatic landscapes of Tejeda and the eye-catching rock formation of Roque Nublo.



The cost of the trip including flights and transfers and an allowance for tips is £1509 (£1179 if arranging your own flights and transfers). In addition there is a single supplement of £189.

If you want to know more please contact Brian .

FULLY BOOKED

Friday 8th March to Monday 11th March 2024
Scarborough and the Cleveland Way (CODE SC24)

EASY/MODERATE/CHALLENGING

This trip will be based at Leisureplex Cumberland Hotel, Scarborough, just off the Esplanade at South Cliff with magnificent views across the town, harbour and medieval castle.



The trip will include the seaside towns of Whitby, Robin Hoods Bay and Filey with the chance to visit Flamborough Head. We've got some good cliff top walks along the Cleveland Way. The challenging ones will be from Robin Hoods Bay to Scarborough and Scarborough to Filey. A shorter option will be from Robin Hoods Bay to Whitby and Scarborough to Cayton Sands.

We are hiring a coach to take a group of 40 from St Albans to Scarborough and shuttle us around while we are there. Non walkers will be able to join that coach on trips to Whitby, Robin Hoods Bay, Filey and the Bempton Cliffs RSPB reserve (small charge to non RSPB members) where you see an extraordinary gannet colony nesting in the cliffs.

On the way up, we plan to stop at Clumber Park which is a NT property with a huge walled garden, which really is worth a look. There will be a small charge to non NT members of £4

The cost of the trip will be about £208 pp (supplement for room with a view – not a sea view) including 3 nights dinner, bed and breakfast at the Cumberland Hotel and a coach trip from St Albans to Scarborough and back and travel during the holiday. Tips and the recce fee are included but admission charges and packed lunches will be extra. We will need a deposit of £80 to secure a place. If you need to cancel your booking closer to the time, that deposit will only be refunded if someone can be found to take your place.

Final Payment is due not later than 31st January 24. You should pay the amount Richard Brailsford will notify to all those who have booked.

Please use the instructions on the last page of this newsletter with event code SC24 as your reference.

LAST CHANCE!

Monday 20th May to Friday 24th May 2024
Elan Valley & Cambrian Mountains (EV24)

EASY/MODERATE

We have an excellent opportunity to visit this quiet region of Central Wales, for guided walks in the Elan Valley and the Cambrian Mountains. There will be the opportunity to enjoy low level walks in the Elan Valley, and relatively high level walks in the Cambrian Mountains. Although the Cambrian Mountains don't quite reach the height of the Brecon Beacons, and fall well short of the peaks of Snowdonia, their position in Mid-Wales offers fine views of Snowdonia and the Llyn Peninsula to the north, and Brecon Beacons and Pembrokeshire to the south.

Elan Valley Lodge has been welcoming walking groups for over 35 years providing five star rated activity accommodation. The Lodge is a Victorian building that has been extensively adapted and renovated to offer "excellent en-suite accommodation for up to 36 people, fantastic food and a warm welcome at the end of your walks with afternoon tea and homemade cakes".



The cost for 4 nights half board, 3 packed lunches and 3 days of guided walking is £470.

To join this trip a deposit of £50 is payable to SAR (use instructions at the end of the newsletter with event code EV24 as your reference)

Please contact **Ralph (details on last page)** if you want to join this trip and pay the deposit as soon as possible.

Your name and name of additional person if sharing.

Preferred type of room: double/ twin/ single

BOOK NOW!

***Monday 2nd to Friday 6th September 2024
Mountains of Mourne, Northern Ireland***



The majesty of the Mourne Mountains, a sweeping range of grand peaks, has been immortalised in song and verse. The range is classified as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and an UNESCO Global Geopark.

Our five-day trip will offer four professionally guided walks exploring the Mournes. The walks are suited to members who like the challenge of five to seven hours' long walks with ascents of up to 900m on sometimes uneven terrain. For those that want to enjoy this trip, but may not wish to do all the walks, some self-guided walk options will be available.

We will stay in Hillyard House a boutique hotel in the pretty village of Castlewellan.

<https://www.hillyard-house.co.uk/>

The costs are likely to be approx £820 for single occupancy and £625 per person sharing, including four nights dinner, bed and breakfast, airport transfers to and from Belfast Airport and guiding by a professional mountain leader. The cost of flights is not included.

(The flight carrier is Easyjet to and from Luton Airport to Belfast International Airport, and will cost in the region of £150 return including checked-in baggage).

If you would like to book a place on this trip, please forward a deposit of £100 to the SAR Account using the code MM24 and Barbara know or message her on before 20 January 2024

***Wednesday 2nd October to Sunday 6th October 2024
Torquay and the Devon Coast***

EXPRESS INTEREST! **Based at the Leisureplex Metropole Hotel in Torquay, we will enjoy 4 nights half board, and several days of SAR led walks in this beautiful area of Devon.**

Unlike the usual away weekend, this trip is extended by one day and starts on the Wednesday, which gives us 3 full days at the Metropole Hotel in Torquay to explore the South West coastal path as well as some inland routes.

Having travelled there on the Wednesday, the present plans are for walks along the coastal path to Babacombe Bay, around/to Brixham and the Dart River, and centred from Totnes. A shorter and a longer walk option will be available on each of the three walking days.

The cost will be £166 per person (+ £36 for single occupancy) in addition there will be a £5 recce levy and a deposit will be requested in March.

SAR walks and events November and December 2023

Celebrating success

Keen Thames Path walkers celebrated their 232-mile success in November 2023, enjoying an evening meal at The Crooked Chimney ...

and presenting Julian Hubbard with a 'Master of the Thames Path' Award to show their appreciation of his constant vision and leadership.



Many happy memories were shared of a special walk through an ever-changing landscape. So, where should our boots take us next?