

Perambulation of Widcombe
Beating the Bounds 9 June 2007 Start 10am

‘Perambulating, or ascertaining by actual inspection the bounds of parishes, must have been, up to a comparatively late period, a very important annual work..... To impress the memory of the perambulation on the minds of the parish scholars....whipping seems also to have been resorted to, to make the recollection of the youngster still more lively. Bumping persons against the boundary stones has been continued up to the present time.’

The above is an extract from a description of the last Perambulation in 1865, which also documents picnics and partyings, boat trips and incidents en route....all of which have inspired our 2007 version. The Natural Theatre Company have lots of surprises for us!

Please acquire your map - a suggested £2 will help finance the day - and will show you the route and also other footpaths to use another time. On sale at Prior Park Garden Centre and The Widcombe Gift Co. Also available on June 9th at the start and throughout the day. But we are not telling where the angry farmer is, or where Lady Margaret will be sipping her cocktails – or who with! And will any boys be beaten? Somewhere a lady has been busy baking, and various military and naval gents getting bossy...



Remember your stout shoes, sunhat, sun cream (and/or anorak, rainhat, walking stick) water bottle and picnic, and money for stalls, teas, sandwiches etc at the schools! Some of the route is steep – not only Widcombe Hill, but the steps up to Greenway Lane...and some uneven. No dogs please at The Paragon or on Beechen Cliff playing fields...

Can't walk? Take a free bus tour sponsored by Peter Hendy CBE – lots of boundary stones are visible from the road – if you know where to look! Departures regularly between 10.30-12.30 from the bottom of Widcombe Hill. Perhaps you would like to get out en route to join the walkers...



You are most welcome to join us for sections of the walk, or just at the picnic and party places! Approx timings are given over. For info on disabled access and other queries, please phone 01225315101

Start – 10am by the river in Ferry Lane. Join in the procession with musical encouragement by the Widcombe Wobblers. Buy your quiz sheet for the day...

Lady Margaret will graciously commence the proceedings with some help from the vicar. On to the first stone in Pulteney Gardens. After this the going is UP! But there are rewards at the top! And then it is flat... Non walkers might like to divert along the canal to the bottom of Widcombe Hill and take a tour on the bus!

Approx 11.50am – after refreshments at the top of Widcombe Hill (A on the map, a good place to join us by bus – see map), we will set off accompanied by the Pramophone. This is a flat section to the top of Ralph Allen Drive.

Approx 12.30pm we will set off down Pope's Walk (opp the Hadley Arms – point B on the map). The path to join Perrymead gets fairly rough and possibly wet. Then to Honeysuckle Farm, and across the field and old railway to the Paragon School, arriving **by 1.30pm for the Big Picnic!**

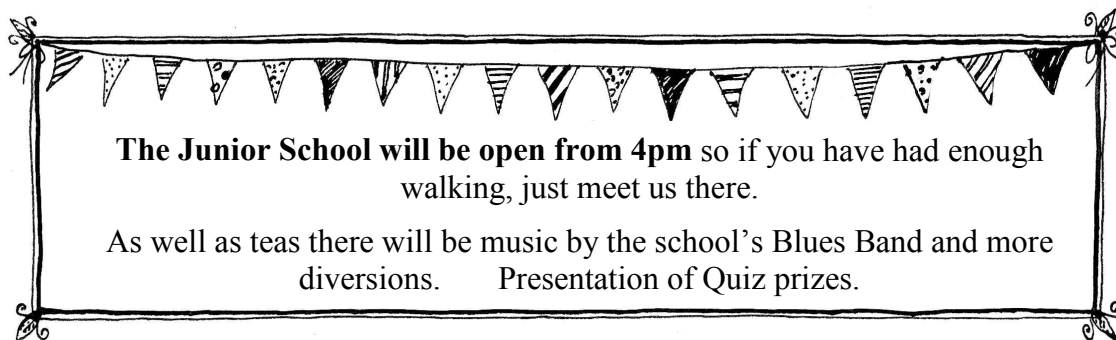


2.45pmLady Margaret will set the walkers off again

Along Lyncombe Vale Road via Watery Bottom, up (steep!) to Greenway Lane, then to Alexandra Park, The Holloway, Magdalen Rd, Oak St ...

4pm. or so - walkers arrive at the river by Churchill Bridge

Just over Churchill Bridge towards Green Park some Notables and banners will board a specially chartered boat to return to Ferry Lane. You could watch them embark from the grassy bank and follow them back down the towpath, and then to Widcombe Junior School for Celebratory Teas ...



On Monday 4 June there will be an Illustrated talk about Beating the Bounds of Widcombe presented by Margaret Burrows, chair of the W & L History Study Group. Margaret will talk about the origins of the custom, changes to our parish boundaries and sights to be seen on our walk on 9 June.

Widcombe Junior School 7.30pm

Tickets £4 incl refreshments (History group members £2)



www.widcombeassociation.org.uk

Look at our website - we have lots of other events this summer.

Many thanks to those members of the Widcombe Association who have contributed by supporting the production of the map and the costs of the day.