

CONFIRMATION OF ATTENDANCE

If you are planning to come on a walk, please text or WhatsApp the leader so that he/she knows to expect you and can contact you if the walk details change (for example, if the weather forecast is very poor or the leader is taken ill).

TRANSPORT

CDWG is not responsible for organising transport and it is your responsibility to get to the start point (in good time to be ready to leave by the advertised time – please aim to arrive 15 minutes in advance of this).

LEADING WALKS AND EVENTS

Everyone in the group is encouraged to organise walks and other events. If you would like some advice, any member of the committee will be happy to help or contact us at cdwg.info@gmail.com.

WEEKENDS AWAY

Our weekends away usually involve a stay at a holiday cottage. Places need to be booked well in advance, so you must book with the organiser to ensure a place.

OFF-PROGRAMME EVENTS

We often have extra events that perhaps weren't planned in time for the programme or are slightly different to our usual activities. These are circulated to all paid up members via email and are unlikely to appear anywhere else.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Please note that any photographs taken on CDWG walks or events may be used on the group website, social media or marketing materials. Please inform the organiser if you do not wish to appear in photographs.

ATTENDANCE IS AT YOUR OWN RISK

ESSENTIAL WALKING & SAFETY EQUIPMENT

For all walks it is *essential* to wear walking boots, thick socks, suitable trousers or shorts (not jeans), and suitable clothing for the weather and time of year. Waterproof jackets should be brought on walks along with waterproof trousers if possible.

For winter walks, several layers of clothing are better than one thick layer. Spare clothing, including a hat and gloves are essential in winter.

Plenty of food is also a good idea, along with hot drinks in winter and plenty of water and protection from the sun in summer (sunhat and lotion).

In the interests of safety, walk leaders may refuse to take those considered to be ill equipped or not fit enough for the day's walk. Contact the leader if in doubt over suitable clothing, equipment and fitness levels.

Sorry, we are not insured for and do not allow under 18s or dogs on our walks

TYPES OF WALK: ★ / ★★ / ★★★

Walks are "star" graded according to factors such as distance, terrain and ascent. A change in weather can also affect the difficulty of a walk. Use these grades as a guide for which walks to try:

- 1★ walks will generally be gentle paced and over easy terrain such as lowland hills (e.g. Sandstone Trail, Cheshire) or along canals.
- 2★★ walks may be longer in distance, involve more ascent or cover rougher terrain but with no technical ability required (e.g. Moel Famau, Clwydians).
- 3★★★ walks may be faster paced, or a longer distance, and will usually involve steep ascents over rough ground, often involving scrambling and requiring a good head for heights (e.g. Carneddau, Glyders in Yr Wyddfa/Snowdonia).

Evening walks are not graded as they are relatively short and even with hills are rarely more than an upper 1★.



PROGRAMME APRIL – JUNE 2024

Chester and District Walking Group
is a friendly group bringing together people from Cheshire, Wirral, North Wales and surrounding areas who enjoy walking and socialising.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is £10 a year, although you are encouraged to attend two or three events before deciding to join. Everyone over the age of 18 is welcome.

Subscriptions are due on joining and renewed following the AGM in November. They go towards the cost of running the group, including website maintenance, publicity, insurance, general administration and give you access to our detailed weekly walk emails.

Chair	Christine Darwen
Vice Chair	Nikki Young
Social Secretary	John Sunter
Website Officer	Peter Benson
Programme Secretary	Brian Burden
Insurance / Facebook Officer	Graham Coles

cdwg.info@gmail.com
www.chesterwalking.org.uk

APRIL

Sunday 7th **Caergwrle** ★
10:30am start **5 miles** **Gaynor**
 Breakfast at Honeys Cafe then circular walk around Caergwrle, Hope and Wats Dyke. Including a visit to 'Park in the Past' (£3.50 admission).

Sunday 14th **Penycloddiau** ★★
10:30am start **7 miles** **Pete**
 Looping past Moel Plas-yw and Brynffynnon and up Penycloddiau to see the reconstructed Bronze Age Hill Fort there, with an option of going over Moel Arthur at the end.

Wednesday 17th **Parkgate** ★
10:30am start **4 miles** **Cheryl**
 Gentle circular perambulation from Parkgate. Plenty of cafes and/or Chips/Ice cream at the end!

Saturday 20th **Bickerton** ★★
08:45am start **11 miles** **Denis**
 Scenic circular walk around Beeston & Peckforton with the odd hill or two...

Wednesday 24th **Duke's Drive** Evening Walk
7:00pm start **Mo**
 Mo leads us on our first evening walk of 2024! A circular walk, from the Dukes Drive, through the woods making our way to the river, back to Chester and drinks at the Ship Inn.

Sunday 28th **Tegg's Nose** ★★
10:30am start **10-11 miles** **Denis**
 A scenic circular walk from Tegg's Nose just above Macclesfield Forest across mixed terrain.

Tuesday 30th **Jazz Night** Social
7pm Heswall Hall **David**
 Out Of The Blue Jazz Orchestra featuring Jazz Saxophonist Alan Barnes. A great player who has won almost every award for his super exciting performances...

MAY

Thursday 2nd **Erddig** Evening Walk
7pm start **Sue**
 A circular bingle around historic Erddig Country Park.

Sunday 5th **Hilbre Island** ★★
10:30am start **8.5-9 miles** **Chris**
 A walk around Caldy, before crossing to Hilbre Island for lunch. Time for a paddle before heading back to shore, returning to the start via the Wirral Way.

Thursday 9th **Nant Mill** Evening Walk
7pm start **Gaynor**
 Circular walk round Bronwyflla, Aberoer and Hafod Wen.

Friday 10th **Safehouse Soul Band** Social
9pm Cornerhouse Pub – Chester **Juliet**
 Safehouse Soul Band with Bernie on trumpet. Great for dancing.

Sunday 12th **Conway** ★
10:30am start **6.5 miles** **Christine**
 6.5 mile stroll from the ancient Conway Castle, following the harbour to Conway Mountain.

Wednesday 15th **Countess Country Park** Evening Walk
7pm start **Gaynor**
 Scenic walk round the Countess of Chester Country Park, crossing Knolls Bridge, and around some ponds then back for drinks at the Owl.

Sunday 19th

Walk TBA

Wednesday 22nd **Port Sunlight** Evening Walk
7pm start **Juliet**
 Lovely views across the Mersey from this old landfill site that has been beautifully transformed for wildlife.

Sunday 26th **Eastham Rake** ★
Start time TBA **6 miles** **Carolyn**
 A pleasant, flat walk around Willaston and Eastham on this Bank Holiday Weekend.

Wednesday 29th **Gresford** Evening Walk
7pm start **Gaynor**
 Looping round from the Pant yr Ochain pub followed by drink(s) in the beautiful and spacious beer garden.

Thursday 30th **Safehouse Soul Band** Social
9pm Cornerhouse Pub – Chester **Juliet**
 Another night of music from Bernie's Safehouse Soul Band.

JUNE

Sunday 2nd **Hayfield** ★★
10:00am start **9 miles** **Nikki**
 Circular walk from Hayfield taking in part of Snake Path & Kinder Reservoir and then up to Kinder Scout.

Wednesday 5th **Hawarden** Evening Walk
7pm start **Mo**
 Hawarden and Billberry woods.

Friday 7th to Sunday 9th **Weekend Away**
 Group Weekend away in Criccieth including walks Saturday & Sunday - details tba.

Thursday 13th **Evening Walk**
7pm start **Pete**
 A modest, flat walk through Delamere Forest circumnavigating Blakemere Moss Lake including (hopefully) views of wildfowl then back to The Carriers Inn pub.

Saturday 15th **Day Trip to Shrewsbury** Social
9:15am **Chester Station** **Christine**
 Spend the day exploring the lovely town of Shrewsbury. We will catch the 9.30am direct train from Chester station.

Sunday 16th **Bangor-on-Dee** ★
10:30am start **3.5 or 7 miles** **Pete**
 Two loops from the picture-postcard heart of Bangor-on-Dee. See how you feel after the first half before carrying on for the second, so ideal for newbies.

Thursday 20th **Ruabon** Evening Walk
7pm start **Sue**
 Ruabon, Garden Woods and Hill fort.

Saturday 22nd **Llanefydd** ★★
10:20am start **10 miles** **Denis**
 This circular walk in and around Llanefydd will be a new area for CDWG to explore.

Thursday 27th **Higher Burwardsley** Evening Walk
7pm start **Mike**
 Circular walk from the traditional Pheasant Inn.

Saturday 29th **Bethesda** ★★ ★★
9:30am start **6 miles** **Brian**
 A challenging mountain walk up Pen yr Ole Wen.