We meet in the car park opposite Wraysbury Village Hall
OS Explorer map 160 - ref: TQ 005742

Directions to meeting point
From Datchet, drive along the Horton Road (B376). Turn right at the mini-roundabout down Welley Road towards Wraysbury. After about a mile, the road bends sharply left and passes The George PH. Soon after, turn left into The Green alongside the cricket ground. After about 200yds, turn right into the car park opposite the Village Hall.

Walk description
This walk is about 4½ miles long and it is flat. It passes some of the Wraysbury lakes (old gravel pits) and alongside the meandering Colne Brook. It then passes through National Trust pastureland at Ankerwycke where there are views of Runneymede on the other side of the Thames. The walk passes the ruins of a priory beside the Ankerwycke Yew, one of the oldest trees in England. There are two stiles and a number of swing gates. Cross all roads with care.

Walkers may wish to stop at the George PH for refreshments at the end of the walk.

Guest walkers are very welcome. Please remember, guests will be expected to contribute £1.00 to this year’s chosen charity, ‘Thames Hospice’ on the day of the walk. Guests and occasional walkers will be asked to become members if they attend more than 2 walks in any one year.

1. Walk out of the car park and turn right along the road. Cross the old ford using the footbridge and at the main road, turn right beside the Perseverance PH. On reaching the Baptist Church on the right, cross the High Street and walk down the footpath signed on the other side of the road. The path runs between a gravel lake on the right and domestic back gardens on the left.

2. On reaching the buildings of Tithe Farm, continue along the gravel track to the main road. Turn right, but for safety’s sake, do not cross the road bridge ahead. Instead, follow the track down towards the railway station, and cross by using the pedestrian steps on the left.

3. Exit the station car park and cross the road to reach the pavement on the other side. Turn right and walk over the Colne Brook bridge. Immediately after the bridge, cross the road again and walk down the signed footpath opposite. Follow this riverside path, which eventually runs alongside the railway on the right. The path is narrow and there are nettles! After about 300m at the pedestrian railway crossing, climb the stile on the right and cross the railway by following the instructions carefully.

4. Climb the stile on the other side of the railway and follow the signed footpath that veers left: there is a small pond on the right. Follow the main path signposted no.4; it runs between the lake on the left and Colne Brook on the right. The path continues for ¾ mile before reaching some steps that emerge on to a road. Turn right and cross the main road to reach a road junction. Walk down Hythe End Road, to the left. Although this is a residential cul-de-sac, beware of traffic, as there is no pavement. Continue along the road as it bears sharp right and follow it for about ¾ mile to its far end. Pass through the pedestrian gate here and turn left along the footpath to reach the river Thames. This is National Trust land.

5. Follow the path right and continue along the river path though woodland. The path eventually meets a swing gate and it emerges from the trees to continue along the edge a field. At this point, instead of going through a wooden gateway ahead, veer right through a swing gate to walk along a wooded path. The remains of St Mary’s Priory are on the left and soon after, the Ankerwycke Yew is on the right. The priory was founded in 1160 and was Benedictine in origin. The Tree Council has calculated that the yew tree is well over 2,500 years old – one of the oldest trees in the country. The council has designated it as one of the 50 most important trees in England. The tree was at least 1,700 years old when the priory was built! Some historians believe that the Magna Carta was signed close by; others argue that it was signed on the other side of the river.
6. Follow the path as it passes through an avenue of trees. In early Spring, there is a blanket of snowdrops in this area. The path reaches a gate. Turn left through a kissing gate. Follow the edge of a field and then turn right over a boardwalk beside a gate. The ground can be marshy here. Walk ahead to the next gate after which take the path that veers left diagonally across the field. It leads to another gate that opens on to Magna Carta Lane.

7. Turn left down the lane. After about 200 yards, just before the houses, turn right though a gate into a field. Follow the path across fields towards Wraysbury Parish Church of St Andrew, whose spire is visible in the distance. The path passes through a series of gates but maintains the same direction towards the church.

8. Enter the churchyard through a metal gate and follow the path round to the right; exit via the lych-gate. Walk down St Andrews Close and turn right at the main road. Cross the main road and pass the George PH on the left. Turn left down The Green and pass the cricket field on the right. The car park is on the right opposite Wraysbury Village Hall.