

## Islington U3A Longer Walks Group

<b>Walk Title</b>	Coulsdon, Chaldon and Happy Valley	<b>Walk No.</b>	382
<b>Area</b>	Surrey	<b>Type</b>	Circular
<b>Date</b>	Thursday, 06 October, 2022		
<b>Distance</b>	8 miles (13 km)		
<b>Timing</b>	4 hours walking time + travel + lunch stop. Therefore expect to be back in Islington by 5.0 pm		
<b>Meeting up &amp; travel</b>	Thameslink train from Finsbury Park station at 9.37am, St Pancras Int 9.45am, arrive Coulsdon South 10.22am. (Ultimate destination Horsham). Meet on platform at 9.30am. All journeys within Freedom Pass zone.		
<b>Route</b>	From the eastern exit at Coulsdon station we quickly get to Downs Road which leads up to Farthing Downs. Good views of Cane Hill Water Tower and Old Coulsdon. Following a path along the edge of Boxers Wood we get to a very unusual village with a water tower, Netherne-on-the-Hill. The next interesting place is Chaldon Church which has a wonderful medieval wall painting 'The Ladder of Salvation of the Human Soul'. From here a lunch stop by Coulsdon Common and a pleasant walk along open hillside with views into Happy Valley, rattle and eventually back to Farthing Downs and Coulsdon South station		
<b>Lunch</b>	At The Fox, Coulsdon Common about 1.0. A historic inn. During the Cold war it was used as an informal HQ for the Military School of Linguists for intensive Russian courses. Indicative prices– soup £6.00, side salad £2.50, chips £3.00, sandwiches £8.00, pizza £12.00 onwards, mains £12.50 upwards. Picnic option in next door field. Tea in the park at the end.		
<b>Dropping out</b>	Taxi from The Fox to station, or various exit points before lunch to make your own way back to station on foot.		
<b>Suitability</b>	Suitable for any reasonably fit regular walker. There are no particular difficulties. Terrain: Chalk downland, meadows and woods. A few steepish but short hills up and down. Bring stick if you feel you would need. Comfortable waterproof walking shoes/ boots. Waterproof jacket. Check weather forecast for temperature and likelihood of rain. Wear, or carry, an extra layer and bring water.		
<b>Facilities</b>	There are toilets on the train, at Coulsdon South station, and at the Fox.		
<b>Walk source</b>	Fancy Free Walks <a href="http://www.fancyfreewalks.org">www.fancyfreewalks.org</a>		
<b>Map</b>	OS Explorer 146 Dorking		
<b>Leader &amp; contact details</b>	<u>Walk Leader: Berry Beaumont</u> phone: 07808 724694 e-mail: <a href="mailto:berry.beaumont@gmail.com">berry.beaumont@gmail.com</a>		