

Islington U3A Longer Walks Group

Walk Title	Royston and Therfield	Walk No.	358
Area	NE Hertfordshire	Type	Circular
Date	Friday 22 April 2022		
Distance	8½ miles (13 km).		
Timing	4½ hours walking time + travel + lunch stop. Allow 7 hours in total. Therefore expect to be back in Islington by 5.30pm		
Meeting up & travel	Meet by 9.20 at the foot of the escalator to platform B at St Pancras station to catch the 9.31 Thameslink train to Royston (or Finsbury Park 9.37 / 9.42). Final destination Cambridge. Arriving 10.24 at Royston. Buy an off-peak day return from Zone 6 (Broxbourne) to Royston. With a railcard and Freedom pass this will cost £10.80.		
Route	We walk through Royston to reach Therfield Heath near the Golf Clubhouse. We join the Hertfordshire Way and walk west over the Heath, enjoying, on a clear day, extensive views north into Cambridgeshire, to Thrift Farm where we turn south and climb steadily up to Therfield (168m). After lunch at The Fox and Duck we join the Icknield Way Trail to return to Royston.		
Lunch	At The Fox and Duck, or picnic outside on the Green.		
Dropping out	Taxi from Therfield, but the walk back is shorter and mainly downhill.		
Suitability	Suitable for any reasonably fit regular walker. There are no particular difficulties. Terrain: grassland and gravel paths. Dry at the time of the recce. Possible obstacles: 1 stile Comfortable waterproof walking shoes/ boots. Waterproof jacket. Check weather forecast for temperature and likelihood of rain. Wear, or carry, an extra layer.		
Facilities	There are loos on the train and at the pub, but not at Royston station.		
Walk source	Great Shelford Parish Walks (no 44)		
Map	OS Explorer 194 and 209		
Leader & contact details	<u>Walk Leader:</u> Stuart Beare <u>Beforehand</u> phone: 020 7609 0766 (leave message if necessary) e-mail: stuart.beare@btinternet.com <u>On the day</u> mobile: 07951 928415		
Interesting facts	<i>As this is an Easter Week walk, we hope to see the rare Pasque Flower (<i>Pulsatilla vulgaris</i>), the county flower of Cambridgeshire, near Church Hill on Therfield Heath.</i>		