

## Islington U3A Longer Walks Group

<b>Walk Title</b>	Wanborough to Godalming	<b>Walk No.</b>	342
<b>Area</b>	Surrey	<b>Type</b>	Linear
<b>Date</b>	Friday, 7 January, 2022		
<b>Distance</b>	8 miles (13 km).		
<b>Timing</b>	3.5 hours walking time + travel + visit Watts Gallery. Allow 7+ hours		
<b>Meeting up &amp; travel</b>	<p>Meet at Waterloo station between 9.40 and 9.50 to catch 10am train to Guildford (direction Haslemere) where we have 20 min transfer time for the 10.53 train to Wanborough arr. 10.59. Return trains from Godalming to London Waterloo <a href="#">15.12, 28, 40</a>; <a href="#">16.12, 25, 40, 51</a>; <a href="#">17.12, 25, 42, 51</a>.</p> <p><b>Buy a day return to Wanborough.</b> With Senior Railcard &amp; Freedom Pass (Surbiton is border station in zone 6) that's £7.65 plus <b>a single ticket from Godalming to Guildford which costs £2.45 with Senior railcard.</b> There are ticket machines and a ticket office at Godalming.</p>		
<b>Route</b>	<p>Because this is an extra walk, I have taken the liberty to incorporate a gallery visit, which we don't usually indulge in on our longer walks. However, it seems a shame not to pay a visit to the <a href="#">Watts Gallery, Limmerslease and its chapel</a> when we are passing it. The walk is also shortish, 8m, so it can easily be accommodated.</p> <p><b>Visit of the Gallery &amp; Limmerslease House at 12.15pm</b> (£12.50 or £6.25 with Art Fund card) and the Chapel (free), which is excellent value if you think of what is on offer including an <a href="#">exhibition</a>. <b>If you intend to visit the gallery, you'll need to book yourself for 12.15 pm.</b> There is also a shop with pottery etc. This visit will be incorporated in the main walk and we will stop for c. 75min. Intend to leave at 1.30pm latest (to arrive at pub for lunch booking at 2.00pm).</p> <p>If you don't fancy visiting the gallery, house and/or chapel, you can either have a coffee at the Watts Gallery Café and/or chapel (no entry fees)/visit the shop or continue the walk straight to the pub (for the 1.00pm booking) and have an extra course and/or drink before the gallery visitors join you. Please download the <a href="#">walk directions</a> in that case &amp; the map below.</p> <p>This short but lovely walk crosses open fields, passing Wanborough Manor and its tiny church. It soon goes over the Hoggs Back (the North Downs ridge) to descend through a vineyard then over a golf course. After passing Compton, with its Watts Gallery, we will pass the top of the Hoggs Back, where you have to cross the A31 dual carriageway, but there is a safe place to wait in the middle: you just have to be patient and wait for a break in the steady traffic.</p>		
<b>Lunch/ Coffee</b>	<p><b>Option 1, Pub lunch:</b> 4.3 miles into the walk at <b>The Withies Inn</b> (01483 421158). I have booked one table for 6 pp at 1.00pm and one table for 6pp at 2.00pm. I will adjust numbers on the morning of the walk. You can also have a picnic lunch in the grounds of Watts Gallery or, best, near the chapel, where there are numerous benches. Please indicate on sign up form which cohort you'll be in.</p>		

	<p><b>Back-up, Option 2:</b> in case the Withies Inn is closed due to Covid (it was for 10 days in December): <b>The Watts Gallery Café</b> with homely food and a very good Welsh Rarebit and various soups.</p> <p><b>Option 3, Godalming:</b> at the end there is a nice tearoom <a href="#">Café Mila</a> and a CAMRA pub <a href="#">The Star</a> with good beers and excellent ciders at Godalming. The train station is a 5 min walk from the tearoom or pub.</p>
<b>Dropping out</b>	There is an hourly bus (No 46) service at xx.33 from the Watts Gallery at Compton to Guildford (14 min travel time).
<b>Suitability</b>	<p><b>It is expected that all attending will be fully vaccinated and should consider taking an LFT.</b></p> <p>Suitable for any reasonably fit regular walker. Comfortable waterproof walking shoes/ boots. Waterproof jacket. Check weather forecast for temperature and likelihood of rain. Wear, or carry, an extra layer. It is quite muddy in places so bring sticks (if you use them) and wear sturdy boots with a good profile.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> The path crosses the busy A31 at the Hoggs Back so much care needed to cross the carriageways.</p>
<b>Facilities</b>	There are loos on the train, at the Watts Gallery Café and in the lunch pub. No facilities at Wanborough station.
<b>Walk source</b>	<a href="http://www.walkingclub.org">www.walkingclub.org</a> Saturday Walkers Club: Walk 2
<b>Map &amp; other references</b>	OS Explorer 145 or Landranger 186
<b>Leader &amp; contact details</b>	<p><u>Walk Leader:</u> Pia Rainey</p> <p>Mobile 07775 782860 Text or leave message</p> <p>Email: piarainey@icloud.com</p>
<b>Interesting facts</b>	<p>Wanborough ('bump-barrow') may be named after a Bronze Age burial site on the Hog's Back. A Wanborough manor and chapel are said to have belonged to King Harold's brothers and to have been ransacked by William the Conqueror's army marching up the Hog's Back. The present manor house was built in the eighteenth century. During the war it was a training centre for 'the members of the European Resistance Movement who served behind enemy lines in special operations, facing loneliness and unknown dangers in the cause of humanity'.</p> <p>Wanborough Church, one of the smallest in Surrey, was rebuilt by the Cistercian monks of Waverley Abbey in 1130 and was visited by pilgrims passing along the Pilgrim's Way.</p> <p>Railway bridge with crosses. Brian Beaumont-Nesbitt writes: "When Surrey C.C. wanted to build a by-pass through the Watts property, Mary Watts refused, then finally agreed - if the bridge was designed by Lutyens. It dates from 1931; the Vic Soc says it is 'an excellent example in miniature of Lutyens' interest in geometry. The tunnel surrounds, created with a sequence of stepped arches, are skilful exercises in perspectival adjustment - the vertical walls are battered, the centres of the arches are not the same, and the horizontal planes also taper."</p>

**TICKET AND BOOKING REQUIRED:**

Watts Gallery, Down Lane, Compton, tel: 01483 810235. If you visit, look out for a vast sculpture of Watts' lifelong friend Tennyson (with his wolfhound), allegorical paintings of Time, Death and Judgement, political paintings of hunger and some coy nudes. Watts' most famous painting is the Rossetti-like portrait of the actress Ellen Terry, called 'Choosing' (would she give up the stage for him?). Their marriage, in 1864, is said never to have been consummated; he was 46 and she just 16.

**Exhibition at Watts Gallery**

'Uncommon Power': Lucy and Catherine Madox Brown (included in admission ticket)

Half-sisters. Mothers. Daughters. Artists.

Meet two creative women who grew up at the heart of the Pre-Raphaelite world.

Lucy and Catherine Madox Brown are usually referred to as the daughters of the British painter Ford Madox Brown, but both were talented, professional artists in their own right. This exhibition explores the life, art and feminist legacies of these two significant artists.

Limnerslease (included in admission ticket): The Wattses' home and studios, Limnerslease, was designed by the great Arts & Crafts architect Sir Ernest George and was completed in 1891. On Saturday 18 July, the Wattses took possession. The 'little house', as they called Limnerslease, grew into a source of inspiration and a place of great productivity and tranquillity for them both.

**FREE ENTRY, NO BOOKING REQUIRED:**

Watts Chapel and cemetery. The chapel was the project of his second wife, the artist and potter Mary Fraser Tytler, who designed this art nouveau masterpiece without previous architectural or building experience, inspired by the Home Arts and Industries Association, and with the help of local villagers. Every interior surface is covered with what Mrs Watts called 'glorified wallpaper' - angels and seraphs made out of gesso, a material which her husband used when rheumatism meant he could no longer handle wet clay. He is buried in the cloister behind the chapel. Admission is free, and it's open 9am (10am weekends) to 5pm daily.

Exhibition: "In Print: Into the Night" is an exhibition of new work by contemporary British printmakers, focusing on the wonder and beauty of night time.

Featuring a variety of printmaking mediums, the show explores what happens after dark, from images of sleeping, dreaming and nocturnal creatures, to dazzling skies, the vibrancy of cities after hours and the magical transformation of the world from dusk to dawn.

Godalming is thought to mean 'field (-ing) of Godhelm' (the putative first Saxon to claim the land). It was a coaching town between London and Portsmouth, and a centre of trade in wool, stone-quarrying, timber, leather, paper, corn and brewing. The High Street has many half-timbered and projecting buildings.

On the north side of the churchyard of St Peter and St Paul in Godalming there is the Phillips Memorial Cloister designed by Thackeray Turner in 1913 with a garden by Gertrude Jekyll. Phillips was the chief wireless operator of the Titanic, who went down at his post on the ship.



