

# **Cheadle & District Animal Welfare Society (C.A.W.)**

## **Sponsored Dog Walk – flexible walk options around Dimmingsdale**

For anyone that doesn't know Dimmingsdale, it is a most delightful area to walk around. There are walks around the ponds and just above them woodland paths. There is also the Old Churnet railway track to walk along.

### **1. Main Dimmingsdale ponds walk 1.8 miles:**

For a main Sponsored dog walk we suggest starting from the Ramblers Retreat and then walk around the ponds and back which is a nice gentle walk of about 1.8 miles. It should take around 40/45 minutes. See Pond walk details below.

This is a 'flexible' sponsored dog walk though so there are other walk options as follows which could also help to relieve the car parking at the Ramblers Retreat if necessary!

### **2. Your sponsored dog walk could be from Oakamoor station to the Ramblers Retreat and back walking along the Old Churnet railway track which is about 2.4 miles (or in reverse-Ramblers to Oakamoor Station and back).**

This takes about half an hour each way: Still sign in and meet us at the main entry point at the Ramblers Retreat between 10.30 and 11am (or until about 1pm as we will still be there).

You could park at the Oakamoor picnic site or the Station Car Park (which is situated a few yards along from the Picnic site car park) and walk along the Old Churnet Railway track until you get to Lords Bridge (look up to see a cup and saucer on the bridge!) Take the steps on the left to then cross over the bridge and walk the short stretch across to the

Ramblers Retreat. If you walk under the bridge there is a slope on the left which winds back over the bridge if you want to avoid the steps). Retrace your steps back after signing in and maybe refreshments.

**3. Extend your walk by walking from Oakamoor to the Ramblers Retreat along the Old Churnet Railway track and then continue on the main walk around the ponds returning back along the track to Oakamoor to make a total of about 4.2 miles- 1 & 3/4 hours approx total:**

Park and walk along the Old Churnet Railway track as in 2. Still sign in and meet us at the main entry point at the Ramblers Retreat between 10.30 and 11am (or ok until about 1pm) and then follow the main walk route around the ponds, back to the Ramblers Retreat maybe for some refreshments and then retrace your steps along the track.

The official Cheadle & District Animal Welfare Society 'Walk Entry point' will be situated on the green outside the Ramblers Retreat main entrance.

- ❖ We ask walkers to report to the Entry point ideally between 10.30am and 11.00am but we will be around until about 1pm where you can hand in your walk entry fee plus any completed sponsorship forms with sponsorship money (if ready to hand in at this stage), maybe even sponsor the C.A.W. dogs that are walking and receive any information you may need about the walking route.
  
- ❖ On your return our members will be found near to the Entry point and also in the gardens of the Ramblers Retreat after 11.30 for you to find and talk to until around 1.30pm.

Well behaved dogs are most welcome in the gardens, the summer houses or heated 'Potting Shed' at the Ramblers

Retreat. Fresh water and drinking bowls are provided in the gardens. Own food and drink cannot be consumed in the grounds. The Ramblers Retreat food is to be recommended anyway! Toilets are situated at the Ramblers Retreat for people who eat food or have a drink there. Public Toilets are also situated at the Picnic Ground in Oakamoor.

### **The Ponds Walk:**

Walk up the path from the Ramblers Retreat main side Garden and keep the two houses, ponds and streams on your right. Carry on just over half a mile until you reach another top pond and where there are options to follow different paths and tracks. Follow the path round in between the 2 ponds and follow it as it curves back along the other side of the pond you walked up by, which is now on your right. You will soon come to a section in the path where you will look down and see a wooden bridge on your right across the stream with steps on the opposite bank side. Cross over and go up the steps to turn left to join the path you originally walked up. (You will have seen those as you walked up also) Now retrace your route back to the Ramblers Retreat. The ponds and streams are now on your left hand side.

**\*\*The paths vary from hard-core surfaced tracks to muddy paths, therefore sensible footwear is recommended.**

Dimmingsdale is a special place and all visitors are asked to follow the Forest Code to ensure it is protected • Leave no litter; • Protect trees, plants and wildlife; Keep dogs under control & clean up after them; Leave things as you find them, take nothing away; • Guard against risk of fire; avoid damaging fences, hedges, walls or buildings.