

North Bucks rRIPPLE
(ramblers Repairing & Improving Public Paths for Leisure & Exercise)
Activity Report 24 May 2019 – 23 August 2019

Copies of before & after photos of all work are available on request. Man hours include some travel time. DaG = Donate a Gate. CAMS (Countryside Access Management System) is a reference used by BCC for work requests. All work is requested and authorised by Alastair McVail, BCC North Bucks PRoW Officer, or Jon Clark, BCC Strategic Access Officer. OPAG = Oving Paths Action Group. PG = Pedestrian Gate (e.g. Centrewire Marlow); KG = Kissing Gate (e.g. Centrewire Woodstock).

“Installed to NB rRIPPLE standard” means the following: “Marlow gate installed c/w 22 mm washer, hinges greased and latch oiled, and two 1.8 m x 100 x 100 UC4 15 year Redwood posts c/w Postsaver sleeves tamped in with copious quantities of stones. Posts are attached to gates with two 10 mm diameter coach screws. Improved by the Ramblers square decals and BCC way markers fitted as appropriate.” KG slightly different as only one post needed and as from 30/1/19 we are now putting half a 20 kg bag of Fencemate (£3.91 per bag) on top of each of the two galvanised “feet” of the two hoops. Arisings, i.e. the timber from the old stile, is cut up by chain saw and removed from site unless stated otherwise.

21/5/19 Ford. Received 6 CAMS from Alastair.

24/5/19 Weston Turville WTU/17/1 at SP861106 CAMS 88637. Emailed John Chantler to go and recce this stile to Aston gate job plus as yet undetermined additional fencing work. He said he'd do it when back from Northumberland.

25/5/19 Dinton DFU/18/1 at SP770106. Stone, Haddenham & Dinton Simply Walk Group 2019 DaG. Received cheque in post for £375 from Rosemary Bird for a S2KG that has as yet to be agreed with land owner. Forwarded cheque to John Esslemont.

26/5/19 Hulcott. Jerry confirmed with Peter Fenton O'Creevy, PC Chairman, four potential DaGs close to where Aylesbury Ramblers DaGs (R on the map) were installed. Peter said he'd discuss funding of some DaGs with the village's Mike Griffin Trust. Confirmed on 31/6/19 that a request for £1,000 would be made.



27/5/19 Long Crendon LCR/9/4 Met at 09.30 with Nick Reynolds, farmer/landowner, and made a tour with him on his quad bike to the four stiles for which we have CAMS job sheets.



Nick Reynolds said a fifth one, not on the Wychert Way, at SP707086 could also be replaced.

27/5/19 Long Crendon LCR/9/4 CAMS 89204 at SP714097 on Wychert Way. Aylesbury Ramblers Jim Robinson DaG. Dismantled long-term awkward 2-step, 1-double rail, sheep-netted stile. Installed Marlow gate to NB rRIPPLE standard but additionally incorporated 2.6 m x 175 mm diameter strainer post provided by landowner to SE side of gate. This was buried 0.91 m deep as requested by landowner and was not attached to our gate post. Re-attached sheep netting and two strands of barbed wire to new strainer post. Fitted DaG plaque. 3 x 6.5 = 20 man hours. ADAndrew. Allen 40 miles. XT Brewery.

27/5/19 Long Crendon LCR/9/4 CAMS 82724 at SP713095 on Wychert Way. Aylesbury Ramblers 2019 DaG. Dismantled long-term awkward 1-high step, 4-rail stile. Installed Marlow gate to NB rRIPPLE standard but additionally incorporated 2.2 m x 175 mm diameter strainer post provided by landowner to NW side of gate. Cut off top 200 mm of post to remove rotted section. Treated end with end-of-grain. This was buried 0.91 m deep as requested by landowner and was not attached to our gate post. Re-attached sheep netting and two strands of barbed wire to new strainer post. 3 x 6.5 = 20 man hours. BJP. 15 miles. Peter 12 miles. XT Brewery.

27/6/19 RIPPLE Curry evening at Coco Tamarind, Askett – 10 attendees – Bill & Janet, Jerry & Sue, Derek & Daphne, Keith & Christine and Allen & Anne. Very enjoyable evening 19:00 - 22:30.

30/6/19 Weston Turville WTU/17/1 CAMS 88637 at SP861106. John Chantler did a recce, see photos below, and called Mrs Mudford of Mill Farm. The CAMS is for a stile to Aston (timber) gate conversion but Mrs Mudford “is insistent that the stile is repaired”. She also wants her fence repaired. She is prepared to pay some costs. John reported back that there is a second stile in need of attention on footpath WTU/13/2 just where it links to bridleway WTU/14/2 at SP861104. 2 man hours. 10 miles.

	Weston Turville WTU/17/1 CAMS 88637 at SP861106 – photos from both sides.		WTU/14/2 at SP861104. Second stile noted by John Chantler.
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31/6/19 Impact Signs. Picked up 3 plaques for Isabella’s Gate and the two HaddSWAC ones In Memory of Jim Robinson. 1 man hour. 15 miles.

31/6/19 CRFC. Picked up two Marlow gates and stones. 1 man hour. 10 miles.

2/6/19 Haddenham Green Lane. Fitted HaddSWAC plaque to the RADAR KG at SP751099 on the Wychert Way.



4/6/19 Oakley. Paul Kilpin, Oakley PC, emailed to say PC wants to go ahead with two Marlow PGs on BOGGOF scheme. Received completed DaG application form on 11/6/19. Asked him for up front payment from PC of £250 to John Esslemont.

4/6/19 Weston Turville. Tel can with Mrs Mudford. She may come around to two Aston gates being installed, but she wants a short section of fencing repaired as well. Asked John Chantler if he'd be interested in doing the job through NB rRIPPLE.

5/6/19 Long Crendon LCR/7/3 CAMS 89205 at SP714090. Aylesbury Ramblers 2019 DaG. At edge of copse, dismantled 2-step, 3-rail, no hand post dilapidated stile. Detached associated wire sheep netting and old rails both sides. Installed Marlow gate to NB rRIPPLE standard plus one 175 mm diameter former telegraph pole strainer post buried 0.9 m as supplied by landowner. Attached new length, about 4 m, of sheep netting also supplied by landowner. Fitted DaG plaque. 3 x 6.5 = 20 man hours. BJoeJohn. 15 miles. John 24 miles.

5/6/19 Long Crendon LCR/7/3 CAMS 89205 at SP712086. Aylesbury Ramblers Jim Robinson DaG. Fitted HaddSWAC In Memory of Jim Robinson plaque. Dismantled awkward 2-step, sheep-netted stiles between fields beside metal cattle-grid-like ramp for quad bike. Installed Marlow gate to NB rRIPPLE standard. Refitted 3 rails and double height sheep netting as supplied by landowner to one side. Fitted plaque. Reattached "Keep dogs on leads" sign. 3 x 6.5 = 20 man hours. DJP. Peter 12 miles. Derek 10 miles.

6/6/19 Appreciative email from Jon Clark especially to Brian Bowman for negotiating permissions.



6/6/19 CRFC. Dumped arisings and picked up small stones. 1 man hour. 10 miles.

6/6/19 Ford. At XT Club, met with Chris Allen and Tony Hadley and discussed DaGs. Chris is happy to have a KG at Point 1 and a PG at Point 2 but also wants an additional PG at NW side of bridge at Point 4. He will find out who the landowner is on SE side of Point 4. Tony said he'd be happy to go halves on a DaG for Ford for £125.



7/6/19 CRFC. Picked up 6 posts and Marlow gate. 1 man hour. 10 miles.

7/6/19. Oakley. Paul Kilpin provided contact details for farmer. Sent Paul email with DaG application form.

9/6/19 Ford. Email to Chris Allen re ownership of Point 4. Asked if he'd help fund DaGs at Points 1 & 2. He said no explaining poor experiences from several walkers. Explained to him that improved access and way marking will help.

9/6/19 Brian Bowman suggested meet-up and to discuss further Notley.

10/6/19. Great Horwood. Jerry in contact with Mandy Cliffe re site surveys for gate installations before October.

11/6/19 Ford DFU/42/1 CAMS 89213 at SP780092 (Point 8 on the map). Chris Woods DaG. Dismantled awkward sheep-netted, 2-step (1 collapsed), 3-rail, no hand post, high stile. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. $4 \times 6 = 24$ man hours. AndrewJJoeP. 15 miles. Joe 16 miles. Peter 15 miles.

12/6/19 Oakley. Paul Kilpin asked about paying for DaGs.

From: [Bill Piers](#) >

To: [Paul & Nina Kilpin](#) >  [Hide](#)

Cc: [Jerry Michell](#) >

[John and Jean Esslemont](#) >

NB rRIPPLE - Oakley PC
BOGGOF DaGs - 2 x Marlow
gates for field accessed from
Sun Crescent
Today at 19:44

Hi Paul

It's best if you get the PC to pay the
£250 then we can put your gates into
our programme of work. Paid for
DaGs get priority.

Regards

[Bill Piers](#)

14/6/19 CRFC. Collected stones and two Marlow gates. 1 man hour. 10 miles.

19/6/19 Ford DFU/42/1 CAMS 89242 at SP780092 (Point 9 on the map). Chris Woods DaG. Dismantled awkward 3-rail, 1-high & narrow step, sheep-netted, no hand post stile. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. $2 \times 5 = 10$ man hours. JP. Peter 15 miles.

19/6/19 Ford DFU/42/1 CAMS 8924214 at SP780092 (Point 10 on the map). Chris Woods DaG. Dismantled awkward 3-rail, 1-step, 1-hand post stile. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Attached gate to existing adjacent steel gate post with 12 mm x 200 coach bolt. Used jack hammer extensively due to very hard concrete around field gate post. Used one bag of Fencemate to secure assembly. $2 \times 6.5 = 13$ man hours. BCharles plus $2 \times 1.5 = 3$ man hours. JP. 16 miles.

19/6/19 Ford DFU/54/1 at SP779091. Met on site with Chris Allen who owns stiles at Points 1 & 2 on the map and grazes his horses between gates 3 & 4.

19/6/19 Ford DFU/33/1 at SP779093 – Point 12 on the map. Met on site per-chance with Nicholas Cahill landowner. He agreed to have a gate installed. Application form emailed him on 20/6/19. Requested CAMS on 23/6/19.

20/6/19 CRFC to take arisings and to pick up stones. 1 man hour. 10 miles.

20/6/19 CRFC & Briants of Risborough. Purchased 20 x 1.8 m; 4 x 2.1 m and 2 x 2.4 m 100 x 100 Redwood UC4 15 year posts. 2 man hours. 15 miles.

20/6/19 Ford. Met with Sally Skier and talked to Sally Hall, owner of the field bounded by Point 4 on the map. 1 man hour. 7 miles. Attempted to contact Mrs Patricia Berqvist at Moat Farm re Point 13 on the map but to no avail. Left message with Jon Horn.

21/6/19 CRFC and Toolstation, Aylesbury. Collected two Marlow gates and 3 posts. Bought tools. 2 man hour. 25 miles.

21/6/19 Ford DFU/33/1 at SP778094 – Point 13 on the map. Jon Horn, the DFU PC footpaths councillor, called back and provided tel contact details for Mrs Berqvist. Called her, very friendly, and said no problem with installing a Woodstock KG on Water Lane. Called Jon back and talked to his wife who said she will

appreciate all the new gates as she simply can't get over a normal stile let alone an awkward one. She said "Slowly, slowly, catchy monkey". Requested CAMS on 23/6/19.

24/6/19 Meeting with Brian Bowman re Nick Reynolds, Ford, Dinton and Paul Roads. Brian said he'd write to Nick; make contact with Rosemary Bird and do a Dinton Simply Walk with her; talk to Martin Usherwood, DFU PC Chair and social acquaintance; hang fire on contacting Paul Roads.

25/6/19 Oving OVI/6/2 CAMS 88804 at SP793230. Dismantled "impossible" 5-rail, no steps, rickety and dangerous barrier rather than a stile. Cleared hedge encroaching over the footpath with hedge trimmer. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Buried blue water pipe, provided by farmer, to allow for electric fencing cable continuity. Reattached sheep netting but advised farmer not to use our post for straining. 3 x 6 = 18 man hours. BJoe. 32 miles back via Thame. Poured with rain almost all day long.

25/6/19 Oving OVI/6/2 CAMS 88805 at SP793230. Dismantled awkward high 4-rail, 1-step, no hand post stile on step down into field from concrete farm track. Although CAMS asked for Woodstock KG, farmer wanted simple Marlow. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Reattached sheep netting but advised farmer not to use our post for straining. 3 x 6 = 18 man hours. CDP. Peter 23 miles. Poured with rain almost all day long.

25/6/19 Oving OVI/6/2 CAMS 88806 at SP793230. CAMS instruction was to replace old wooden gate with Marlow but farmer had removed gate and will leave a gap in its place. When we arrived there was a "temporary" wire fence across the "gap" whilst re-seeded lawn is getting established. Reported back to BCC that CAMS NOT completed.

26/6/19 Oakley. Chased Paul Kilpin re Oakley PC BOGGOF DaGs.

28/6/19 Dinton with Ford & Upton. Brian Bowman, Ramblers, and Rosemary Bird, Simply Walk, went for a walk around Dinton and Upton to look at stiles her walkers can't negotiate.

1/7/19 BCC received £2,500 DaG transfer from Ramblers Area treasurer John Esslemont.

1/7/19 Hulcott. Email from PC chairman responding to Jerry's email of 25/5/19. Said they'd like to proceed.



2/7/19 Ford DFU/33/1 CAMS 89487 at SP779093 – Point 12 on the map. Dismantled 3-rail, 1-step, 1 hand post, corrugated iron clad "horrible" stile and also a second 2-rail, 1-step stile about 2 m behind. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. 4 x 7 = 28 Man hours. Allen, AndrewJ + B (sea-gulling). 16 miles. Allen 18 miles.

2/7/19 Ford DFU/33/1 CAMS 89486 at SP778094 – Point 13 on the map. Dismantled 5-rail, 1-step, no hand post awkward stile. Trimmed hedge and cleared nettles. Installed Woodstock KG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Used jack hammer extensively as concrete and stones underground where the two holes for the KG corral needed to be dug. Eventually a very neat installation. Made good sheep proofing to both sides. 4 x 7 = 28 man hours. CDJoeP. Peter 16 miles.

2/7/19 Ford DFU/33/2 at SP779093. Recce with landowner Nicholas Cahill of his mini-one-step, step-over-stile in his beech hedge adjoining Tony Hadley's drive. This has not been included in the programme of work in Ford as one of the original 13 gates surveyed. It appears to have been missed for some reason. Mr Cahill would prefer a timber self-closing, self latching gate to fit into his hedge gap. He will trim his hedge and we will survey the job.

2/7/19 Ford DFU/53/3 at SP780093 and SP781094. Recce with Jon Horn, DFU PC Vice Chairman, with responsibility for footpaths.



3/7/19 Ford DFU/33/2 CAMS 89215 at SP780092. Jerry called Mrs Susan Carr re installation of a KG at Point 11 on the map. Bill followed up with an explanatory email with photos.

6-11/7/19 Surrey and Beyond Ramblers. Mark Percy made contact wrt plaques for a donated kissing gate they have paid for in their area. Responded helpfully.

8/7/19 Ford. Loaded trailer. BJ. 2 man hours.

8/7/19 Oving. OPAG emails between Jerry and Vanessa wrt outstanding work and priorities.

8/7/19 Wychert Way at Cuddington Road. Brian Bowman emailed landowner to request permissive path.

9/7/19 Ford DFU/33/2 CAMS 89215 at SP780092. (Point 11 on the map). Chris Woods DaG. Dismantled extremely awkward overgrown and unmaintained double stile in wide hedge. Each stile had three levels of double rails either side of their uprights making a wide top to both stiles. Trimmed hedge. Installed Woodstock KG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Made good sheep netting to both sides. 4 x 6 = 24 hours. Jerry i/c + CJoeP. 42 miles as total of three trips to/from site. Peter 15 miles.

8-13/7/19 Oving. Jerry liaising with OPAG re outstanding and future jobs.

11/7/19 South East Walker. Sent in copy for Sept 2019 issue. Included response from Fiona Broadbent of BCC Simply Walk.

11/7/19 Thornborough. Jerry & Sue carried out recce of three CAMS and found several other adjacent stiles in need of replacement. Met with Mrs Joanne Jenkins of Hornets Farm who was very amenable.

12/7/19 Oving OV/12/2 at SP793226. Requested CAMS from Rose for KG on Tony Tutt's land immediately north of Ramhill Farm.

12/7/19 Ford DFU/33/2 at SP779093. Nicholas Cahill made contact wrt the installation of a Stratford gate in hedge between his drive to Midfields and next door's drive to Wychert House. He said he'd be prepared to purchase it if we'd install it. We responded that it would suit us better if he got a local jobbing gardener to do it.

12/7/19 CRFC. Picked up 2 MK gates and received 15 Marlows from BCC. 1 man hour. 10 miles.

13/7/19 Westcott. Requested help from Aylesbury Ramblers with our work party on 17/7/19 as ideally we need 6 but only have 5.

13/7/19 Westcott. Emailed Barry Grace, Head teacher of CofE school and others wrt our work party installing two gates on Wed 17/7/19. Invited teachers and pupils to take a look. Alan Lambourne, Clerk to PC, acknowledged our work and said thank you.

15/7/19 Pitchcott PIT/1/1. Resent email of 5/5/19 to Jon Clark to Alastair regarding two illegal structures across paths including Matthew's Way.

17/7/19 Westcott WES/27/1 CAMS 88942 at SP718166 on SE side of old entrance road into former MoD site. Dismantled 3-rail, no steps, 1-handpost, very awkward sheep-netted stile. Installed Milton Keynes, opening both ways, gate to NB rRIPPLE standard. Used 2 x 2.1 m posts cut down c100 mm. Made good sheep netting to both sides. Retained existing steel finger post c/w three PRow directional fingers. 3 x 5.5 = 17 man hours. KP & Tony Barker helping us out at short notice. Peter 10 miles.

17/7/19 Westcott WES/28/2 CAMS 88943 at SP718166 on NW side of old entrance road into former MoD site. Dismantled 4-rail, 1-kick board, 1 step, 1-handpost, high and awkward stile. Installed Milton Keynes 2-way gate, opening only into field due to sloping ground, to NB rRIPPLE standard. Used 2.1 m posts as above. Cleared encroaching ash tree. Landscaped sloping ground through gateway to eliminate step and need for kick board. Made good sheep netting to both sides. 3 x 5.5 = 17 man hours. AndrewBJ. 28 miles.

18/7/19 Ford DFU/33/2. Gap in hedge between Midfields and Wychert House. Nicholas Cahill emailed to say he'd ordered a Stratford gate. He implied he'd arrange to have it installed in the hedge. This mini "stile" was never a "Point on the Map" for some reason. It appears to have been completely over looked.



19/7/19 Ford DFU/54/1 CAMS 89488/9 at SP778091. Confirmed Points 1 & 2 on the map with Chris Allen owner of the paddock this section of path crosses. Agreed two gates to be installed 23/7/19.

21/7/19 Haddenham RIPPLE Annual BBQ. Great fun had by many.

21/7/19 Ford. Chris Allen called to say he's changed his mind; furious about a lady dog walker throwing a frizzbie around his paddock for the dog to chase. Work cancelled for the time being at least.

21/7/19 Ford DFU/42/1 CAMS 89209/10 at SP783090. Confirmed Points 3A & 3B on map with John Henry Tapping to be completed 23/7/19.

22/7/19 Ford job cancelled due to very hot weather forecast for 23/7/19. Let John Henry know.

22/7/19 Ford. Tel call from Alison Hadley saying she and Tony would sponsor in full the gate on Water Lane so that they can have their own plaque on it. Wording to follow.

23/7/19 Oving OVI/12/2 CAMS 89770 at SP794227 received from Rose Gibbard. This is for a KG on Tony Tutt's land planned for 30/7/19.

23/7/10 CRFC. Chain sawed quantity of arisings into wood-burner sized "logs". 2 man hour. 10 miles.

23/7/19 Toolstation. To Aylesbury for 10 x 100 and 10 x 130 coach bolts. 1 man hour. 15 miles.

25/7/19 Dinton Simply Walk. Emailed Rosemary Bird to report that Brian Bowman had talked to Paul Roads and that until Paul ceases to be a sheep farmer he will resist making life any easier particularly for dog walkers who cause him grief. Meanwhile the suggestion is that Rosemary gets landowners permissions for stile to gate conversions at points 1-5 on the map below.



29/7/19 Pitchcott PIT/1/1. Alastair responded to email 15/7/19 to say he is aware of the problem on Matthew's Way and will investigate in due course.

30/7/19 Oving OVI/12/2 CAMS 89770 at SP794227. Oving PC DaG. Dismantled 4-rail, 2-step, 2-post, 1-hand post stile. Retained hand post as way marker. Installed Woodstock KG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Cleared 2-plank footbridge of encroaching grass. 3 x 6 = 18 man hours. JJoséP. José 12 miles. Peter 23 miles.

30/7/19 Oving OVI/11/1 CAMS 88573 at SP793229. Repaired dangerous and extremely awkward 1-step, sheep-netted stile. Retained one high step post; installed one new high step post and new plate at 600 high; installed two low step posts and new plate at 300 high; retained sheep-netting and top and only rail. Fitted perforated strips dog latch. 4 x 6 = 24 man hours. BCDK. 30 miles.

6/8/19 Westcott. Email response from Tim Proctor re RADAR gates in Westcott to enable him to take his dog and children across a few fields. He will get back to us with suggested locations.

6/8/19 Ford DFU/42/1 CAMS 89209 at SP783090 (Point 3 on the map – SE side of track). Chris Woods DaG. Dismantled 4-rail, 2-step, 1-hand post, sheep netted stile. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. 3.5 x 5 = 18 man hours. AllenDJ + Bill ½ time. Jerry 10 miles. Allen 20 miles.

6/8/19 Ford DFU/42/1 CAMS 89210 at SP783090 (Point 3 on the map – NW side of track). Chris Woods DaG. Dismantled 4-rail, 2-step, 1-hand post, sheep netted stile. Used one 2.1 m post c/w yellow plastic cap to act as way marker. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. 3.5 x 5 = 18 man hours. AndrewCK + Bill ½ time. 20 miles including taking arisings to CRFC and picking up 2 gates and stones with Andrew + K. Inadvertently fitted Aylesbury Outer Ring decals instead of Aylesbury Ring decals.

7/8/19 Oakley OAK/27/2 SP638122 and SP634123. Recce by Jerry & Sue re Oakley PC BOGGF DaGs. Met lady at #12 Sun Crescent. 2 man hours. Jerry 20 miles. Email to Paul Kilpin asking him to alert worried neighbours in Sun Crescent wrt our stile-to-gates work. Jerry reported back that there is concrete in evidence around the stiles.

8/8/19 Oakley. Emailed request to Rose Gibbard, BCC, for 2 CAMS for 2 Marlows following Jerry's recce.

8/8/19 Jerry & Bill reviewed work load and Jerry updated spreadsheet.

13/8/19 Ford DFU/42/1 CAMS 89211 at SP783090 (Point 4 on the Map). Chris Woods DaG. Dismantled overgrown 2-step stile, 3-rail, 1-handpost, with barbed wire sandwiched between rails. Replaced fence corner post. And reattached fencing. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Jerry i/c. 4 x 6 = 24 man hours. DJKP. 12 miles. Peter 10 miles.

14/8/19 Alastair emailed to ask for a meeting. He's concerned we're not doing jobs in order and are promising landowners we'll do work before it's signed off by BCC. Agreed to try and meet up next Wednesday 21/8/19 in Thornborough rather than Oakley

15/8/19 Oving. John Esslemont, Area Treasurer, received £500 to cover 2019 gate installations.

15/8/19 To CRFC to drop off arisings from Ford, thence to Briants at Longwick for posts, and Toolstation at Aylesbury for 6 mm bolts. 30 miles. 2 man hours.

15/8/19 To CRFC to store posts. 10 miles. 1 man hour.

15/8/19 BCC. Emailed Alastair back to arrange on site discussion in Thornborough next Wednesday wrt work load and order in which we do the jobs and how and why jobs come up.

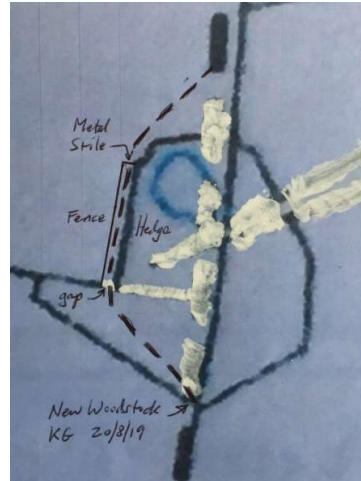
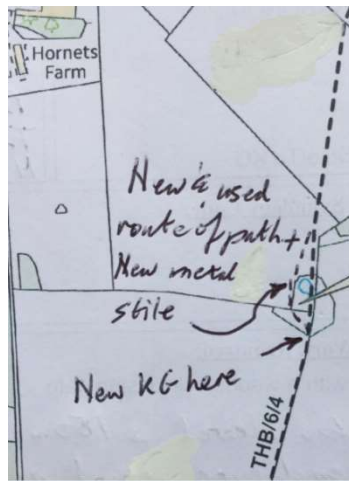
16/8/19 Oakley OAK/27/2 at SP638122. Responded by tel call and confirmatory email to concerned neighbour living close by footpath in Sun Crescent to reassure him that we are a fully trained and experienced contractor to BCC. See photo below.



16/8/19 Blow lamp. Purchased a self-lighting blow lamp from Helpful Hirings.

21/8/19 Thornborough THB/6/4 CAMS 88424 at SP739322. Dismantled 2-step, 4-rail, no hand post reasonably good condition stile. Installed Woodstock kissing gate to NB rRIPPLE standard. Cleared undergrowth and reinstated wire sheep netting to both sides. 5 x 6 = 30 man hours. BDJKP. 50 miles. Peter 34 miles. Met with Alastair McVail on site to discuss current work load and outstanding jobs. Agreed to try and clear backlog before doing recently requested and received jobs.

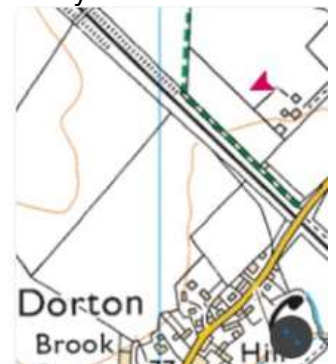
21/8/19 Thornborough THB/6/4 at SP739322. Cleared 50 m length of path where a wire fence has been erected beside a woodland area through which the path originally ran. Used power hedge trimmer extensively. Cleared away Leylandi type fallen tree right across footpath. See photos section.



22/8/19 Stewkley. Emailed Neil Shefford who lives in Stewkley about the problems we found on BCC's promoted Circular Walk #9. Attached six photos and asked if he'd be interested in getting involved with obtaining landowner information and perhaps landowners' permissions.

22/8/19 BCC. Alastair emailed an updated list of outstanding jobs with a couple of queries that we answered.

23/8/19 Dorton. FP at SP681145 beside railway line appears badly overgrown and impassable. Emailed Peter, who lives in Dorton, with a couple of photos to ask who looks after it. He said Network Rail usually do. Needs to be followed up further to see if we can ensure it's kept open and usable all year round.



23/8/19 Ford DFU/33/2 at SP779093 in hedge line between the two drives up to Midfields and Wychert House. Nicholas Cahill emailed to say his Stratford gate has arrived and would we install it please to replace his old stile.

23/8/19 South East Walker September 2019 issue released on Surrey Ramblers website.



Jim Robinson

Early this year we lost one of our most active and well-loved members, Jim Robinson.

Jim was very active in his local community in Haddenham, as well as in our group. He became a walk leader fairly soon after joining the group in 2006 and later became

Secretary. He sat on the working party that helped set up the group's website and was a major force in establishing the Wychert Way, in an area close to his heart. The Wychert Way now forms part of two circular walks on the Outer Aylesbury Ring. He was also our path checker for his home parish of Haddenham and the



Jim Robinson

neighbouring parish of Kingsey.

Following a collection at our annual winter meal in January, the group arranged through the North Bucks rIPPLE Donate a Gate scheme to install two new gates on the Wychert Way, in memory of Jim. So next time you are down this way, check out the gates, think of all he has done for us and have a glass of beer in his memory - something he would certainly appreciate.

*Roy Johnson
Aylesbury & District Ramblers*



Jim is remembered on the donated gates (on Long Crendon path 7/3 at SP 714090 and Long Crendon path 9/4 at SP 714097).

Also in South East Walker September 2019 issue is our article:

North Bucks rRIPPLE

What with Miles Without Stiles in our national parks, Stile-free walks advertised by the Chilterns Conservation Board and the county council's Simply Walk crying out for easily negotiable footpaths, we've made a decision.

Heading for our 200th gate installation well before Christmas, only very few parishes have actually ended up with a respectable stile-free walk. Many of our stile-to-gate improvements are dotted about in ones and twos across North Bucks. From now on we will concentrate on blitzing a parish to make it really 'Simply Walk' friendly.

Westcott has probably done best, with Oving rapidly closing in with sizeable annual donations from their parish council. In Ford one landowner is sponsoring nine Donate-a-Gates, with others showing an interest too. There

are routes local to our base in Haddenham that would be ideal for Simply Walks. Most of the awkward and difficult stiles have been or are due to be gated. However, as we've mentioned before, it only takes one reluctant or recalcitrant landowner to spoil things for everyone. Just one stile on a circular walk with a simple shortcoming such as having only one step, being overly high, not having a hand post, etc, will result in a recce being abandoned and a less interesting route being chosen. Unfortunately, that might well be the result the landowner, particularly a sheep farmer, might be looking for.

We will persist however. Our locally retired judge, and NFU and Ramblers member, Brian Bowman, has a new passion to convince such farmers and landowners that gates are best. Immediately, this will stop dog walkers taking wire cutters with

them to cut holes in sheep netting - it happens. With enough signage and education in local primary schools, children and parents can also work with landowners to show respect for each other's concerns and requirements.

As Fiona Broadbent, who runs Simply Walk has said "Ease of access is crucial for health walks. A stile that may be acceptable to the majority of walkers may be a real barrier for someone with something like a hip or knee problem. We offer more than 80 regular led walks throughout Bucks, making great use of our excellent rights of way system. It is a pity that some wonderful routes are not usable for our walks due to barriers."

Our latest quarterly activity report appears on our web page timed to coincide with the publication of South East Walker. See www.bucks-wmiddx-ramblers.org.uk/donate-a-gate.

*Bill Piers
North Bucks rRIPPLE
Coordinator*

NB rRIPPLE Summary:

NB rRIPPLE on site man hours – includes a proportion of travel time but not administration time which is considerable!	S2Gap / Bridge/ Steps	S/KG repair	Dog way	S2PG		S2KG		WayMk Post
					DaG		DaG	
224 for period 30 Jan 2015 – 6 Aug 2015	2G	11	9	2	0	1	0	2
66.5 for period 13 Aug 2015 – 17 Nov 2015	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0
72 for period 18 Nov 2015 – 16 Jan 2016	1B	0	0	6	0	0	0	0
74 for period 17 Jan 2016 – 15 Mar 2016	1G	0	0	2	0	0	2	1
120.25 for period 16 Mar 2016 – 11 Jun 2016	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	1
133 for period 12 Jun 2016 – 14 Aug 2016	1G	0	0	6	1	1	1	0
142 for period 15 Aug 2016 – 21 Sept 2016	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	0
104 for period 22 Sept 2016 – 13 Nov 2016	0	1KG	0	1	1	0	3	3
94 for period 14 Nov 2016 – 31 Dec 2016	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0
271 for period 1 Jan 2017 – 31 Mar 2017	0	0	0	5	3	1	5	0
216 for period 1 Apr 2017 – 31 May 2017	0	0	1	7	0	0	5	0
185 for period 1 Jun 2017 – 27 Aug 2017	1	0	0	2	5*	0	3	0
193.5 for period 28 Aug 2017 – 25 Nov 2017	1B + 1G	0	0	8	3	0	1	0
187 for period 26 Nov 2017 – 25 Feb 2018	1B + 1G	0	0	3	6	0	3	0
170.5 for period 26 Feb 2018 – 22 May 2018	0	0	1	5	2	2	2	3
300 for period 23 May 2018 – 23 Aug 2018	0	0	0	5	3	3	4	0
231 for period 24 Aug 2018 – 23 Nov 2018	1 Steps	0	0	2	3	2	4	0
207 for period 24 Nov 2018-23 Feb 2019	0	0	0	5	2	2	2	0
319 for period 24 Feb 2019 – 23 May 2019	0	0	0	5	4	2	4	
432 for period 24 May 2019-23 Aug 2019	0	1	1	5	11	1	2	
Totals	3B/5G/1 Steps	13	17	82	46	15	43	10

*Includes for two Bristol Combination Gates.

S2PG etc = Stile converted to Pedestrian Gate

S2KG etc = Stile converted to Kissing Gate

Total number of gates installed = 186 of which 89 have been DaGs.

Signed:

Bill Piers

North Bucks rRIPPLE Co-ordinator and Donate a Gate Scheme Organiser

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Many thanks to the team of eight, myself, Allen, Andrew, Charles, Derek, Jerry, Keith and Peter but in particular to Jerry who does a lot of the donkey work involving recces, discussions with landowners about access and liaising with OPAG etc etc. John Chantler is our man in Bierton who also comes along. We estimate that for every man hour of work carried on outdoors an hour is spent on admin, preparation, tools maintenance etc etc.

For current opportunities for sponsoring a DaG and our work in progress see our web page

www.Bucks-wmiddx-ramblers.org.uk/donate-a-gate



27/5/19 Long Crendon
LCR/9/4 at SP714097 on
Wychert Way. Aylesbury
Ramblers DaG for Jim.
(168)



One of two plaques to be installed on the Wychert
Way in memory of Jim Robinson. Several toasts
were raised to Jim today who worked tirelessly on
trying to get the Wychert Way stile-free.

See additional comments re these gates below.



27/5/19 Long Crendon
LCR/9/4 at SP713095 on
Wychert Way. Aylesbury
Ramblers DaG. (169)



170 mm depth of rotten
timber removed from 175
mm diameter strainer
post.



910 mm depth for
strainer posts.



175 mm diameter strainer post to left of our usual
1.8 m x 100 x 100 gate post. Livestock warning
notice rescued by Andrew from the stream and
attached to leaning sleeper.



5/6/19 Long Crendon
LCR/7/3 at SP714090.
Aylesbury Ramblers
2019 DaG. (170)



5/6/19 Long Crendon
LCR/7/3 at SP712086.
Aylesbury Ramblers Jim
Robinson DaG.

Fitted HaddSWAC In
Memory of Jim Robinson
plaque.

(171)



11/6/19 Ford DFU/42/1
at SP780092. (Point 8 on
map). Woods DaG. (172)



19/6/19 Ford DFU/42/1
at SP780092 (Point 9 on
the map). Chris Woods
DaG. (173)



19/6/19 Ford DFU/42/1
at SP780092 (Point 10
on the map). Chris
Woods DaG. (174)



25/6/19 Oving OVI/6/2 at
SP793230. (175)



25/6/19 Oving OVI/6/2 at SP793230. (176)



25/6/19 Oving OVI/6/2 CAMS 88806 at SP793230 NOT completed. Gap on other side of track instead.



2/7/19 Ford DFU/33/1 at SP779093 – Point 12 on the map. L-R Andrew, Allen & Jerry. (177)



2/7/19 Ford DFU/33/1 at SP778094 – Point 13 on the map. L-R Charles, Peter, Derek & Joe. Ali & Tony Hadley DaG. (178)



Cousin Stephen Stibbard from Newcastle, New South Wales visits the team and is well impressed. (179)



9/7/19 Ford DFU/33/2 at SP780092. (Point 11 on the map). Chris Woods DaG. (179)



Excellent installation under the leadership of Jerry. L-R Peter, Landy Disco, Joe and Charles. (179)



9/7/19 Ford. At Gate 172 rehung the field gate with two extra long eye bolts as the steel posts had splayed excessively. FOC for Chris Woods.



17/7/19 Westcott WES/27/1 CAMS 88942 at SP718166 on SE side of track. (180)



17/7/19 Westcott WES/28/2 CAMS 88943 at SP718166 on NW side of track. (181)



30/7/19 Oving OVI/12/2 at SP794227. Oving PC DaG. (182)



30/7/19 Oving OVI/11/1 at SP793229.



Close up of dog latch.



30/7/19 Oving OVI/11/1 at SP793229 – Steps to negotiate the fence.



6/8/19 Ford DFU/42/1 at SP78309 (Point 3 on the map – NW side of track). Chris Woods DaG. (183)



6/8/19 Ford DFU/42/1 at SP78309 (Point 3 on the map – SE side of track). Chris Woods DaG. (184)



13/8/19 Ford DFU/42/1 at SP783090 (Point 4 on the Map). Chris Woods DaG. (185)



21/8/19 Thornborough THB/6/4 at SP739322. (186)



21/8/19 Thornborough THB/6/4 at SP739322. Fallen tree cleared using chain saw.



21/8/19 Thornborough THB/6/4 at SP739322.



Blocked path before and after clearing with hedge trimmer.