

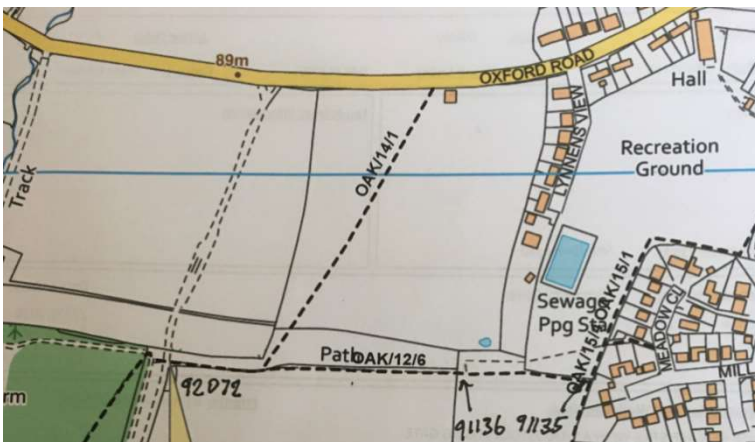
North Bucks rRIPPLE
(ramblers Repairing & Improving Public Paths for Leisure & Exercise)
Activity Report 24 August 2020 – 25 November 2020

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 BC (Buckinghamshire Council) for work requests. All work is requested and authorised by Alastair McVail, BC North Bucks PRoW Officer, or Jon Clark, BC Strategic Access Officer. OPAG = Oving Paths Action Group. PG = Pedestrian Gate (e.g. Centrewire Marlow); KG = Kissing Gate (e.g. Centrewire Woodstock). DFU = Dinton with Ford & Upton.

“Installed to NB rRIPPLE standard” means the following: “Marlow gate installed c/w 22 mm washer, hinges greased, eye bolt thread copper greased and latch oiled. Two 1.8 m x 100 x 100 UC4 15 year Redwood posts c/w Postsaver sleeves are attached to the gate’s H-frame with two 10 mm diameter coach screws. The posts and H frame are tamped in firmly with copious quantities of stones. Improved by the Ramblers square decals and BC 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.

26/8/20 Oakley OAK/12/5 CAMS 92072 at SP633118 received from Rose Gibbard. This to replace CAMS 91135 where the bridge is being replaced. Tried to email farmer Ashley Knibb, but got bounce back. Tried Paul Kilpin.

27/8/20 Oakley. Tel con with Ashley who agreed for us to do CAMS 91136 on 2/9/20. Sent email to Paul Kilpin to explain Rose will get 92135 done as well as replacing the bridge. Tel con with Paul inviting him along on 2/9/20.



28/8/20 CRFC. Picked up two sets of KG hoops and buckets of stones. 2 man hours. 10 miles.

28/8/20 Gates. Emailed Joanne to ask for a delivery of gates.

30/8/20 Oakley. Sent joining instructions to team members for 2/9/20 KG installation.

31/8/20 Ickford. Email from Ramblers path checker Peter Jordain reporting on new bridge construction.

31/8/20 Oakley. Loaded trailer for Wednesday. 1 man hour.

2/9/20 Oakley OAK/12/6 CAMS 91136 at SP635118. Oakley Parish Council DaG – DOGGOFF. Dismantled 4-rail, 2-step, 2-hand post stile. Chain sawed and hedge trimmed large amount of thick hawthorn and field maple hedge – approx 3 m² by around 2.2 m high. Installed Woodstock KG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Made good fence to south side with two rails. 4 x 6.5 = 26 man hours. BJJP. Landy 23 miles. Joe 15. Peter 14.

Met on site with Paul Kilpin, Parish Councillor and footpath improvements facilitator. Also met with Bucks PRow maintenance team comprising Greg & Luke working on KG and sleeper bridge, CAMS 91135 at SP636118. Visited Chandos Arms pub in Oakley where the landlord Stewart Joy bought us all a beer.

3/9/20 Impact Signs. Collected several plaques. 15 miles. 1 man hour.

4/9/20 Oakley. Received completed DaG form from Michael Hughes of Brill who met our work party on 2/9/20. He wishes to sponsor a gate within 5 miles of Brill, so forwarded on his email to Paul Kilpin suggesting Oakley FP28, Anthony Hawes landowner.

6/9/20 Dinton – Janet's Gate. Organised teams and lunch for Wed 16/9/20. Recce of the three jobs and visited Steph at The Seven Stars re Fish & Chips lunch on 16th. 1 man hour. 10 miles.

7/9/20 CRFC. Collected wide gate, 2-posts, stones, blue plastic tube. To LAMPS in Long Crendon for tubing clamps. 1 man hour. 15 miles.

8/9/20 Dinton with Ford & Upton, actually Westlington DFU/9/2 CAMS 91898 at SP760103. Roger Withers DaG. Dismantled 4-rail, 2-step, 1-hand post c/w dog latch, 2 completely rotten strainers and sheep netting. Installed 1.2 m Marlow gate to NB rRIPPLE c/w one strainer and NB rRIPPLE plaque. $3 \times 5.5 = 17$ man hours. BJJ. 10 miles. Joe 15 miles.

9/9/20 CRFC. Chain sawed arisings. 1 man hour. 10 miles.

9/9/20 Ickford. Sue McErlain of Court Farm Worminghall emailed to say they were looking at doing another stile and asked if we were "still in business". Responded positively and asked for details of work needed. She sent PRow map and photo. Forwarded to Rose on 19/9/20.



16/9/20 Tools. Emailed John Esslemont to request purchase of a better cordless drill such a deWalt model with an all metal gearbox.

16/9/20 Dinton with Ford & Upton, actually Westlington, DFU/14/2 CAMS 92182 at SP760104. "In Memory of Janet Piers" DaG. Dismantled awkward, dog unfriendly, 4-rail, 2-step, 1-hand post stile c/w sheep netting. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Fitted two back-to-back plaques. $3.5 \times 6 = 21$ man hours. Tom Piers, K, Jerry & Bill. 10 miles, Tom 80 miles. Roger Withers, Gate 217 DaG, visited us on site.

16/9/20 Dinton with Ford & Upton, actually Westlington, DFU/9/2 CAMS 92183 at SP760103. "In Memory of Kun chan", Adam & Ruri Piers DaG. Dismantled awkward, dog unfriendly, 3-rail, 2-step, 1-hand post stile c/w sheep netting. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard plus two short strainers. Fitted plaque. $3.5 \times 6 = 21$ man hours. Peter, Charles, John & Bill. Peter 14, Charles 8, John 14 miles.

16/9/20 Seven Stars Dinton. Steph catered for an emotional "celebratory" fish & chips lunch. Guests in addition to today's team members less Charles, were Derek & Daphne, Sue, Jane, Christine, Brian Bowman. Two tables outdoors of six to comply with Covid restrictions.

17/9/20 Preparation – unloaded trailer. 1 man hour.

17/9/20. North Marston. Tel call from Rose Gibbard, Buckinghamshire Council RoW. She asked if we could contact Mrs Dancer about an urgent request to fix two dilapidated stiles with gates. Responded that we are still waiting for permission from Archie Dancer to complete the S2KG on St Johns Lane that has been outstanding for several years.

17/9/20 Ickford ICK/15/2 CAMS 93150 at SP655074 for S2G received from Rose. Landowner Colin Quartly.

17/9/20 Ickford ICK/15/2 CAMS 92687 at SP655075 for S2G received from Rose. Landowner Colin Quartly.

18/9/20 CRFC Loaded trailer with 8 buckets of stones and two gates. 1 man hour. 10 miles.

21/9/20 Loaded trailer. BK. 2 man hours.

21/9/20 Chearsley. Emailed Anthony Adams with Roy Johnson's photos.

22/9/20 Hulcott HUL/6/1 CAMS 83591 at SP854171 Griffin Trust DaG. "Dismantled" non-existent no-steps, 1-rail, no-hand post, hurdle stile. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Reinstalled 4-rails and sheep netting to reinstate fencing. Fitted Aylesbury Ring decals. BJerryCD. 25 man hours. 25 miles, Jerry 32, Charles 25, Derek 30.

22/9/20 Hulcott HUL/5/1 CAMS 90963 at SP853167 Griffin Trust DaG. Dismantled dilapidated 2-step, 3-rail, 1-hand post stile. Installed 1.2 m Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Made good sheep netting and fencing. Left arisings on site behind fence. Fitted Aylesbury Ring decals. ABJohnJoe. 25 man hours. Joe 10 miles, Allen 14.

23/9/20 Shabbington SHB/9/5 at SP664069. Attempted to extract redundant kissing gate for reuse elsewhere. Rained off and abandoned. BJoe. 2 man hours. 16 miles Joe 15.

25/9/20 Shabbington. Successfully extracted kissing gate and loaded onto trailer with a wide Marlow and some stones from CRFC. BJoe. 3 man hours. 25 miles Joe 15. Good lunch at The Chandos, Oakley.

25/9/20 Oakley OAK/12/5 CAMS 92072 at SP633118. Visited Oxford Gun Club to meet landowner. He was happy for us to go ahead, and said need to liaise with the tenant farmer. Called tenant farmer. He said call evening before we do the work.

26/9/20 Worminghall. Tel con and emails re a gate delivered by Buckinghamshire Council to Susan Ellis-McErlain. She'll ask the farmer to install it.

26/9/20 Preparation: Jet washed 1.2 m Marlow and the KG recovered from Shabbington.

30/9/20 Great Horwood GHO/5/1 CAMS 90889 at SP758319. Great Horwood PC DOGGOFF. Dismantled awkward 3-rail, 1-step stile and dilapidated metal field gate alongside. Chain sawed off at ground level rotten former telegraph pole post. Installed 1.2 m Woodstock KG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Fitted buried electric fencing continuity pipe and cable. Fitted Great Horwood PC DaG plaque. 4 x 6 = 24 man hours. BCJoeJerry. 45 miles; Charles 45; Joe 28.

4/10/20 Great Horwood GHO/5/1 at SP761319. Received £375 DaG for KG from the Saunders of Great Horwood. Plaque inscription "Donated by two residents of Great Horwood".

5/10/20 Haddenham HAD/5/1 at SP755100 attempted to clear culvert. Failed. 2 man hours.

5/10/20 Haddenham HAD/5/1 at SP751098. Emailed Jon Clark to report two vandalised padlocks on two RADAR gates. He emailed back to say he'd source some for us and gave us a CAMS 93307.

7/10/20 Oakley OAK/12/5 CAMS 92072 at SP633118. Oakley Parish Council DaG – 2nd of 2. Dismantled awkward 4-rail, 1-step, no-hand post, additional ladder step, sheep netted stile. Installed Woodstock KG to

NB rRIPPLE standard. Didn't use any Postcrete as very firm clay soil and no animals in vicinity. Fitted NB rRIPPLE team plaque. $6 \times 6 = 30$ man hours. ABKPJoe. Allen 26 miles; Bill 23; Keith 23; Peter 18; Joe 35.

7/10/20 Oakley OAK/14/1 (No CAMS) at SP634118. Dug out and removed from site a redundant and somewhat twisted and damaged old Stratford Centrewire gate located beside a gap – see photos. Gate not indicated on the definitive map. Took gate frame to Nick Witney in Chearsley to bend straight.

11/10/20 Haddenham HAD/5/1 at SP755100. Blocked gully under footbridge cleared by Bill, Bill's son in law John and grandson Alf. 6 man hours. See photos.

11/10/20 Chearsley recce by Jerry. 1 man hour. 10 miles.

14/10/20 Chearsley CHR/4/3 CAMS 9304 at SP722105. Dismantled 2-rail, 2-step, no proper hand post stile c/w sheep netting. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard and refitted three rails to provide secure fencing. $4 \times 6 = 24$ man hours. Jerry led, plus DJoeP. Derek 6 miles, Peter 10, Joe 16, Landy 16. Met on site with Anthony Adams who is Chearsley Local Hero and is negotiating further S2Gs with landowners.

14/10/20 CRFC. Collected 2 Marlows for Padbury and reloaded with stones. 2 man hours. JJoe. 10 miles.

14/10/20 Padbury PAD/1/2 Jerry contacted landowner re us doing 2 x S2G installations on 21/10/20. Got permission to enter field off A418 but not to park on soft verge.

16/10/20 Ludgershall, junction LSH/12/3 and BRI/1/1. Jerry contacted Alan about awkward stile.

21/10/20 Padbury PAD/1/2 CAMS 91896 at SP719308 in continuous unrelenting rain throughout the day that had been forecast. Met with Linda Marriott, landowner. Dismantled dog-unfriendly, 4-rail, 2-step, 1-handpost stile made awkward by high steps. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Landscaped ground levels at gateway. Refitted fencing. $3 \times 7 = 21$ man hours. BCJoe. 55 miles; Charles 45; Joe 30. Returned via CRFC to unload arisings. Dried out tools. 2 man hours.

21/10/20 Padbury PAD/1/2 CAMS 91897 at SP719308 in continuous unrelenting rain throughout the day that had been forecast. Dismantled dog-unfriendly, 3-rail, 1-step, 2-handpost, stile. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard. $3 \times 7 = 21$ man hours. ADK. Allen 26 miles.

22/10/20 Waddesdon WAD/3/1 Jerry did recce of churchyard & access. Needed subsequently to reconfirm location as initial directions from Parish Council were incorrect. After confirmation, decided that ground conditions before high summer were too poor to access. 1 man hour. Jerry 18 miles.

25/10/20 CRFC. Collected Woodstock KG and three buckets of stones. BJ. 2 man hours. 10 miles.

26/10/20 Ickford recce. Jerry met with tenant on site and also called landowner to confirm Marlow (per CAMS 92687) plus electric fence bypass would be installed. 2 man hours. 20 miles.

27/10/20 Great Horwood GHO/5/1 CAMS 93308 at SP760319. David Saunders DaG "Donated by two residents of Great Horwood". Removed dilapidated timber kissing gate and hurdle alongside, installed Woodstock KG to NB rRIPPLE standard. Made good sheep netting and hurdle fencing. To return at a later date to fit DaG plaque. $5 \times 7 = 35$ man hours. Jerry led, plus JJDP. 50 miles, Joe 26, Peter 44.



27/10/20 Hulcott Parish Council, we have identified a proposed replacement and removal, respectively, for 2 stiles on a property boundary on HUL/3/1 at SP852171.

3/11/20 Hulcott HUL/3/1. CAMS 93495 S2Gate and 93496 S2Gap both at SP851170 received from Rose.

4/11/20 Ickford ICK/15/2 CAMS 92687 at SP655075. Dismantled dilapidated and awkward 6-rail, 1-step, no hand post stile. Retained and used upright sleeper field-gate closing post. Installed Marlow PG to NB rRIPPLE standard c/w buried electric fencing blue plastic pipe. Fitted NB rRIPPLE plaque. 4 x 6 = 24 man hours. BDKP. 21 miles. Peter 19.

5/11/20 Covid 19 Lockdown 2 implemented. All work parties cancelled until 2/12/20.

18/11/20 Bierton with Broughton. Jerry requested 4 x CAMS for four S2Gs being sorted by NB rRIPPLE volunteer John Chantler who lives in Bierton. Alastair said hold off on one due to footpath route dispute.

22/11/20 Ickford – Marlow to Woodstock conversion request for the gate we installed on 4/11/20 on FP/15/2 at SP655075. Responded to Alastair to say beyond our capabilities to grub out a hedge to fit kissing gate hoops. Alastair talked to the landowner again and it was agreed by all parties to leave the Marlow as it is.

25/11/20 Bierton with Broughton. Received three CAMS 93712/3/4 at SP836147/840158/842160 on BWB/5/1, /4/3, /4/4.

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	0
432 for period 24 May 2019 - 23 Aug 2019	0	1	1	5	11	1	2	0
366 for period 24 Aug 2019 – 23 Nov 2019	0	0	0	7	5	2	1	0
276 for period 24 Nov 2019 – 23 Feb 2020	0	0	0	2	1	1	5	0
83 for period 24 Feb 2020 – 31 May 2020	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
37 for period 1 Jun 2020 – 23 Aug 2020	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
346 for period 24 Aug – 25 Nov 2020	0	0	0	4	5	0	4	0
Totals	3B/5G/1 Steps	13	17	96	61	18	53	10

*Includes for two Bristol Combination Gates.

S2PG etc = Stile converted to Pedestrian Gate. (Normally a steel Marlow gate; occasionally an Aston timber gate.)

S2KG etc = Stile converted to Kissing Gate. (Almost universally a galvanised steel Woodstock gate.)

Total number of gates installed = 228 of which 114 have been DaGs.

Signed:

William (Bill) Piers

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

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Many thanks to the team of ten, myself, Allen, Andrew, Charles, Derek, Jerry, Joe, John, 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 Birtton who is a trustee of the Griffin Trust and is the primary mover for improvements in Birtton and Hulcott. 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



2/9/20 Oakley OAK/12/6 at SP635118. Oakley Parish Council DaG – DOGGOFF. (216)



8/9/20 Dinton DFU/9/2 at SP760103. Roger Withers DaG. (217)



16/9/20 Dinton with Ford & Upton DFU/14/2 at SP760104. "In Memory of Janet Piers" - Bill Piers DaG. Photo shows Bill & son Tom. (218)



16/9/20 Dinton with Ford & Upton DFU/9/2 at SP760103. "In Memory of Kun chan"- Adam & Ruri Piers DaG. (219)



Janet's gate proved to be really difficult due to both stile posts being cemented in to full depth necessitating excessive use of the jack hammer.



Back-to-back plaques on Gate 218.



Plaque on Gate 219.



Fish & Chips lunch at The Seven Stars, Dinton. L-R Tom Piers, Peter, Bill, Jerry, Jane, John



L-R Keith, Christine, Brian Bowman, Ramblers Path Checker, Daphne, Derek, Sue



22/9/20 Hulcott HUL/6/1
at SP854171 Griffin Trust
DaG. (220)



22/9/20 Hulcott HUL/5/1
at SP853167 Griffin
Trust DaG. (221)



23/9/20 Shabbington
SHB/9/5 at SP664069.



30/9/20 Great Horwood
GHO/5/1 at SP758319.
GH PC DaG. (222)



7/10/20 L-R Peter, Joe, Allen, Keith, Bill.
Photo taken by a grateful and appreciative local
walker and Oakley resident.



7/10/20 Oakley OAK/12/5
at SP633118. Oakley PC
DaG. (223)



7/10/20 Oakley OAK/14/1
SP634118.



11/10/20 Haddenham
HAD/5/1 at SP755100
Before & after clearing
the gully blockage.



The roots, plastic bags
and weeds that were
causing the blockage
and flooding.



14/10/20 Chearsley
CHR/4/3 at SP722105.
(224)



21/10/20 Padbury
PAD/1/2 at SP719308.
(225)



21/10/20 Padbury
PAD/1/2 at SP719308.
(Duplicate of 225 viewed
from the other side)



21/10/20 Padbury
PAD/1/2 at SP719308.
(226)



27/10/20 Great Horwood
GHO/5/1 at SP760319.
David Saunders DaG.
(227)



4/11/20 Ickford ICK/15/2
at SP655075. (228)