

KM Charity Walk

Sunday, June 24 2018

Mote House, Maidstone

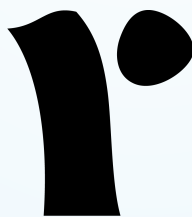
CHARITY WALK



**KENT'S
FAVOURITE
FOR 2 DECADES**

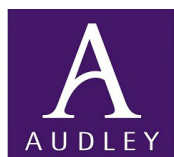
KMCHARITYWALK.CO.UK

KEY PARTNER



ramblers
at the heart of walking

Maidstone Ramblers



GLOSROSE
GROUP

Berry 
Gardens


simply ice cream



KM Charity Walk Sunday 24th June 2018, Mote House, Mote Park, Maidstone

Thank you for taking part in this year's KM Charity Walk. Last year the event was a fantastic day which raised £12,000 for cancer charities and our own children's road safety cause. This year's event is going to be a bumper day out, the walk will be starting and finishing in Mote House, Mote Park, Maidstone where we will hold a BBQ as a completion celebration for the walkers on your return!

Parking

Please make your way to the Willington Street Park and Ride car park at Mote Park and park there. From the car park the walk check-in will be signposted to Mote House. Please note that the car park is a good 5 minutes walk from the walk check-in. Please allow sufficient time and energy!

Please note that this car park will be closing at 17:30 hours on Sunday 24th June so you will need to ensure you are back at your vehicle by then. The postcode for the car park is: ME15 8JW

Check in and sponsorship

Please follow the signs to the KM Charity Team Walk check-in within Mote House, Mote Park. Our team will check you into the event. Check-in runs from 8-10am, and the chequered flag will be waved at 9am, marking the official start of the walk. We encourage walkers to set off by at least 11am to be back in good time. If you have raised any sponsorship money then please bring this to the walk check in with a copy of your sponsorship form. If you are giving sponsorship money in the form of a cheque this should be dated 24th July 2018. If you have raised money via Virgin Money, please bring a print out of your Virgin Money page showing the total amount raised.

Stamping stations

Around the course of the walk there will be stamping stations – two for the Ten Mile walk (at Otham and Leeds) and one for the Five Mile walk (at Otham). As you walk past these stations (highlighted in the route text) you should stop and get a stamp on your walk pack from our volunteers. You need to collect your stamps in order to claim your medal and goody bag at the end of the walk.

The finish

Please ensure when you have finished the walk that you 'check out' by returning to the walk check-in desk (the route will take you back in to the park this way) we will then issue you with a medal and goody bag. It's really important that we can account for all walkers so please do ensure that you let us know if you are not going to be returning to Mote Park and/or the check-in desk (see phone numbers below). Here you will be able to buy BBQ food from our hosts at Mote House.

Marshals and signage

As you walk around the route you will see various marshals along the way who are there for direction and general event support. These marshals are all volunteers from Maidstone Ramblers who have kindly given up their time to support our charity event, as well as other volunteers.

The route will also be sign posted with continuation arrows – yellow dots denote the 10 mile walk and blue dots the 5 mile walk.

Completion time

Whilst we want you to enjoy the KM Charity Walk at whatever pace you like, it is important for all walkers to be aware that our volunteer marshals will not be in place all day and night. We encourage walkers to set off by at least 11am to be back in good time and we have based our marshalling times on the slowest walking time of those starting this late. So if you wish to stop off along the way, enjoy a leisurely pub lunch etc then this is of course fine but please be aware that you may be walking without the aid of our event marshals. The walk end checkpoint closes at 5pm, please ensure that you are back by then.

Food and drink

The walk route passes several pubs where you can stop and buy a drink should you want one. There will also be refreshments available at Mote House both before and after the walk.

Please make sure you bring plenty of water for yourself for the day, although you will be handed a bottle when you check in.

Looking after the path

This route has been prepared by our partners Maidstone Ramblers using existing public rights of way and the occasional private road which we have gained permission to use. Please follow our route text carefully and naturally we trust you will follow the Country Code.

You and your health

To take part in the sponsored walk you must be in good health. We know that heart patients are keen to support our events and many are perfectly fit to take part. However, if you have any medical condition, or if you are in doubt about your health, you **MUST** get clearance from your doctor before participating. Please also ensure you take adequate precautions against the sun. Please walk with plenty of water, a hat and sun cream. Remember that sun damage can happen on very cloudy days and can be very serious in both the short and long term. Please protect yourself and your children from sun damage.

Dogs

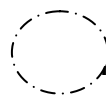
Beautifully behaved dogs on a lead are welcome on the KM Walk. The usual rules about clearing up after your dog apply on all areas of the walk, thank you. We will be walking through fields with horses, cows and sheep please bear this in mind.

Emergency numbers

In the event of an emergency please dial 999

For urgent assistance on the day please call Sophie on 07713882139 or approach one of our volunteer marshals.

Stamping stations



1. Otham

Please complete the following details

Name:



2. Leeds

Start time:

You should have this form stamped at the appropriate stamping station(s) for your walk route. Don't forget to collect your medal and goody bag at the finish.

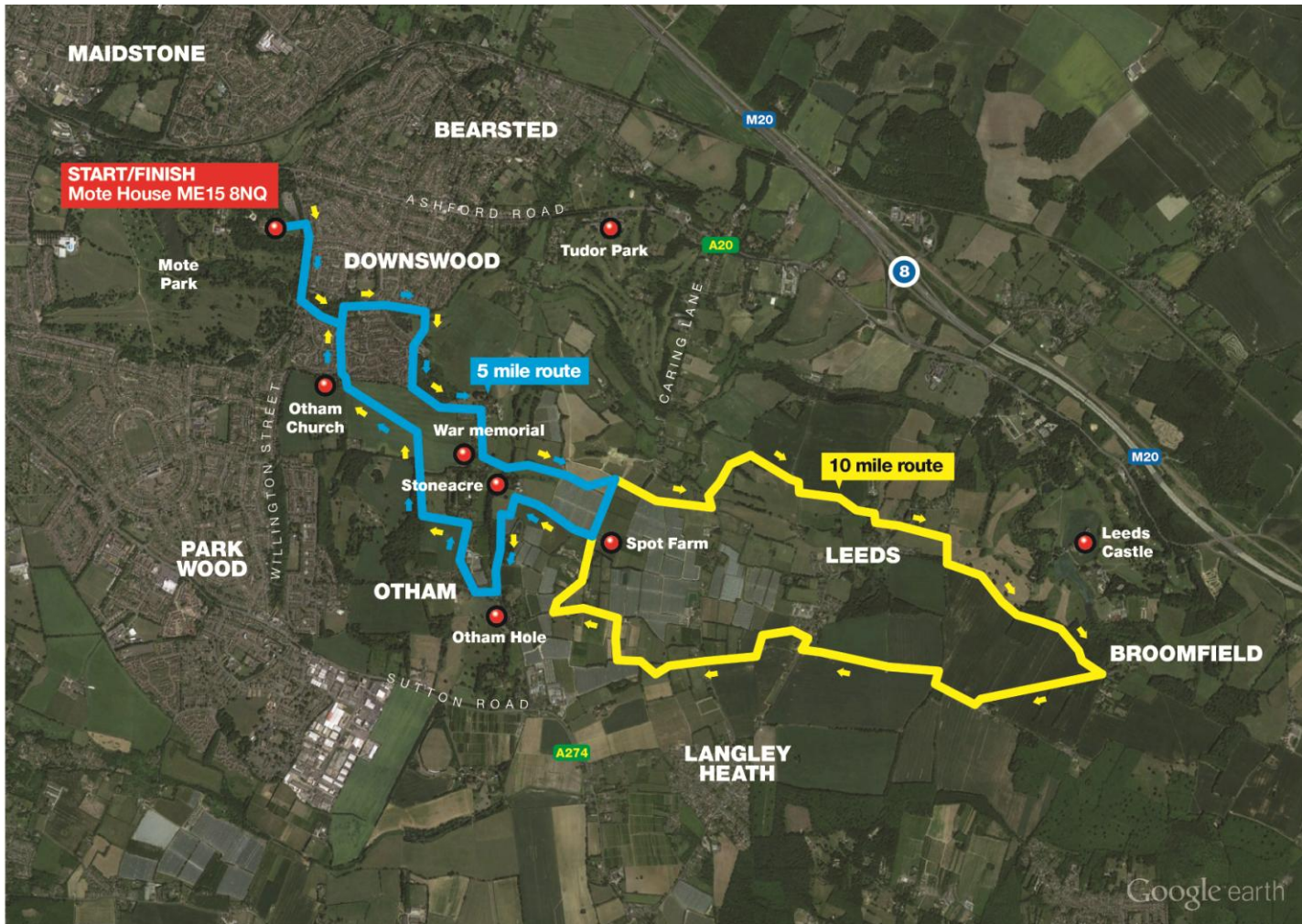
Conditions

By taking part in the walk you are confirming that you have read the 'You and your health' section above and have obtained your doctor's approval, if required, to take part in the walk. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Participants take part at their own risk.

Event organisers (Kent and Medway Charity Team, registered charity No. 1105834) or the sponsors cannot be held responsible for any illness, loss or damage caused or sustained as a result of taking part in the walk howsoever arising. Participants should ensure they use sensible footwear and be prepared for wet weather. Sun protection may be necessary.

All participants must follow instructions from officials, marshals and people in authority when appropriate. Marshals will be wearing yellow high vis vests. The sponsors and owners of the car parks hold no responsibility for loss or damage to cars or belongings whether or not the cars are parked in designated parking areas.

Route Map



KM Charity Walk – 10 miles Mote Park, Maidstone

From the Willington Street car park please follow the arrow signs to Mote House for check-in. Upon checking in and setting off take the gate at the bottom of the grassed area through the wooded path to reach the main road/path to and from Mote House entrance. At the end of the road take the traffic lights to cross the road, turn right and proceed to Deringwood Drive at the bottom of the hill.

Upon reaching Deringwood Drive turn left and walk 50 yards down the road then turn left again, following the Len Valley Walk sign, onto Spot Lane **(photo 1)**. Take the left hand fork at a junction of footpaths and continue to the road **(photo 2)**. Cross the road into a small park **(photo 3)**. Continue to the end of the lake and then turn right up a path towards houses and a road (Mallards Way), then turn left.



photo 1



photo 2



photo 3

At the roundabout, pass the entrance to the Orchard public house and take the footpath up steps to the left (signposted). Continue on the path passing houses on your right to a green area with a bench. Go through the opening ahead **(photo 4)** and turn left along the field edge to the road.



(photo 4)

Pass houses on your left and at the end of the path cross the road to the Five and Ten mile walks stamping station– be sure to stop and get your book stamped! Then turn right.

Follow the road uphill. **KEEP ON LEFT HAND SIDE** of road.

Move onto the recreation field on your left hand side as soon as possible and go towards the children's play park. Pass the play park on the right hand side and turn left onto the road (by a white cottage), towards Stoneacre National Trust property **(photo 5)**. Down the steep hill to the ford – PLEASE STAY ON THE BRIDGE provided (the ford WILL BE slippery and dangerous due to moss).



(photo 5)

Keeping Stoneacre on your right hand side walk up the steep hill passing farm buildings. When you reach the top, turn left at the last farm building **(photo 6)**. (NB only the 5 mile route goes ahead at this point.)



(photo 6)

Pass through a pedestrian gate into a farmer's sheep field. Walk on the left hand side of the field **(those with dogs please do not let your dogs off leads)**. Continue to follow the footpath to the right of the trees. Passing the poly-tunnels, turn right and continue with the path.

You will reach Holly Barn Lodge on your right. Leave Holly Farm Road and take the track adjacent to the house **(signposted)**. Please follow the track making sharp bends to the left and immediately right **(beware of cars)**.

Upon reaching the large iron gates at Holly Farm entrance please turn left along the lane **(see signposts)**.

Continue forward and turn right up public footpath KH 362 **(signposts)**.

Make your way through the farmer's orchard to a line of trees and pass left of the telegraph pole into another field bypassing an old stile. Continue with the hedge on your right hand side. At the top right hand corner of the field, pass to the right of the wire netting fence and through the hedge. Carry on, dead ahead on a farm track, for 200 yards, initially with a large shed to your left and a tree line to your right.

At the end of the poly-tunnel carry on ahead across the farm track, out of the farm and into a field. After 15 yards turn left onto a fenced track and follow this for 225 yards to re-enter the farm with the poly-tunnels to your left and onto the farm access road **(BEWARE OF THE FARM TRAFFIC)**.

Continue on this track for another 225 yards and turn left with the track. After a further 10 yards turn right through a copse and into a field. Cross the field by going slightly left of straight ahead towards to top left corner of the field. Go over the stile **(keeping wire fence to your left)** up to stile and road. Cross the road by bearing right and then shortly left into footpath KH247. Follow this track for about 800 yds towards houses and to the B2163.

Turn right onto the B2163 for 150yards and cross the road **(marshal aided)** to public footpath KH262. Follow path along the field, keeping to the left initially, for 1,000 yds straight ahead.

At the end of the field turn right onto a minor road and then directly left at junction (**can you see the loveliest castle in the world yet?**). After 300 yds bear left onto FP237A by the side of a corrugated barn. Walk diagonally down the paths (**signposted**) through and the field and onwards through the woods.

At the T-Junction please take a sharp left and walk along the bottom of the field keeping to hedge row – please take in the wonderful views of Leeds Castle on your right. Continue forward through the wood and then field with a wire fence to your right. Go across a stile (**signposted**) and across the field towards the cricket pavilion (**on your right**), more views of Leeds Castle behind you. (**photo 7**)



(photo 7)

Continue forward through a metal “kissing gate” and then bear right at the end of the cricket ground and through a wooden “kissing gate”. Please cross road to next “kissing gate” and straight ahead to the end of the field. Through the next “kissing gate” and through the churchyard (**please bear in mind that today is Sunday and please be respectful**). (**photo 8**)



(photo 8)

Upon reaching end of the churchyard with the church to your right you will reach the next stamping station on your left.

Pub lunches can be purchased in the George pub 2 min walk to your left down the hill. Those not wanting to have a pub lunch/refreshment, please cross the road (marshalled) and follow the public footpath sign straight ahead.

Cross the field and through a “kissing gate”, then over a stile. Please turn right and follow the path. Turn left through a gate by a wooden shed. You might pass horses after entering field through gate please close the gate after you. Go over a tyre stile and then a wooden stile. Then go up a steep hill over another stile and across the next field.

Keep to the right hand side of the field and walk straight over another tyre stile. At the end of path please turn right onto a road **(beware of cars – marshalled point)**.

After around 150 yards, where the road turns right, go back into fields following the signposted route and footpath KH140. Walk along the wire fence through the field. Bear right along the path. Over the next stile and into a horse field **(livery here so lots of roaming horses. Dog owners please be considerate)**. Exit the fenced area and turn immediately left. Down the very steep hill to a stile **(be cautious!)**. Go over the stile and continue in the direction of the arrow on the stile to another stile at the opposite side of field. Go over the stile and straight forward following signposts. Go up steep hill following fence line. At the top of the hill there is another stile to climb over **(signposted)**.

Directly after the stile turn left onto the road – Caring Lane - and turn right onto a public footpath **(by Arnold Court)**. Follow the path ahead for 300 yds. Go through the fence by junction of paths; please take the footpath ahead of you to continue on in the same direction. Bear left before the gate and pass through the trees **(signposted)** this is narrow take caution. Proceed with the wire fence to your right.

Turn right past poly-tunnels **(you have reached Merriams Farm)**. At the end of the poly-tunnels, please bear round to the left, over a stile, down and through the (sheep) field – keep in a straight line. When you reach the bottom of the field go over a stile and cross the ford **(by bridge only – hazardous under foot on ford slippery with moss)**. **(photo 9)**



(photo 9)

Follow the road uphill nearly reaching Otham War memorial on your right hand side. Go diagonally across the top of the recreation field towards 30mph and footpath signs. Turn left to cross the road and go up a track to follow public footpath KH132. Cross the field to Otham Church. **(photo 10)**



(photo 10)

Upon reaching Otham Church please turn right at the road **(take special care here)** and then take the 2nd left path protected by black and red bollards (signposted). **(photo 11)**



(photo 11)

Walk down the path. At end of the path you will reach Downswood shops **(marshalled)**; cross the road and follow the footpath down a slight incline. Please take the left path (signposted) at the fork. Turn right onto Deringwood Drive. Turn right onto Willington Street. Up Willington Street (keep to the path) reaching the traffic lights and signposted route back to Mote House for celebration, medal and BBQ.

KM Charity Walk – 5 miles Mote Park, Maidstone

From the Willington Street car park please follow the arrow signs to Mote House for check-in. Upon checking in and setting off take the gate at the bottom of the grassed area through the wooded path to reach the main road/path into Mote House entrance. At the end of the road take the traffic lights to cross the road, turn right and proceed to Deringwood Drive at the bottom of the hill.

Upon reaching Deringwood Drive turn left onto drive walk 50 yards down the road then turn left following the Len Valley Walk sign on to Spot Lane. **(photo 1)**. Take the left hand fork at a junction of footpaths and continue to the road **(photo 2)**. Cross the road into a small park **(photo 3)**. Continue to the end of the lake and then turn right up a path towards houses and a road (Mallards Way), then turn left.



(photo 1)



(photo 2)



(photo 3)

At the roundabout, pass the entrance to the Orchard and take the footpath up steps to the left (marshalled and signposted). Continue on the path passing houses on the right to a green area with a bench. Go through the opening ahead (photo 4) and turn right along the field edge to the road.

Pass the houses on your left and at the end of the path cross the road to the 5 and 10 mile walk stamping station – be sure to go and get your stamped! Then turn right.

Follow the road uphill. **KEEP ON LEFT HAND SIDE OF ROAD**. Move onto the recreation field on your left hand side as soon as possible and go towards the children's play park. Pass the play park on the right hand side and turn left onto the road (by a white cottage) and towards Stoneacre National Trust property (photo 5). Down the steep hill to the ford – PLEASE STAY ON THE BRIDGE provided (the ford WILL BE slippery and dangerous due to moss), (marshal here).



Photo 5

Keeping Stoneacre on your right hand side walk up the steep hill to the end of the farm buildings.

KEEP STRAIGHT ON AHEAD (NB only the 10 mile route turns left at this point). Walk past the horse fields that are on your right.

Walk round the curved path (you will have poly tunnels on your left) when you have followed the path to the end you will reach a road (caution needed). Bear right onto the road (**be cautious and keep to the left**).

Turn right into Simmonds Lane walking on the right hand side until the last house (Hurstbourne) and then cross to the left hand side. Upon reaching the junction turn right onto White Horse Lane.

After 180 yards please turn left onto the public footpath (stile opposite Swallows house). Cross the field to turn right immediately before the wood and then almost immediately bear left onto the path following the edge on the wood (**beware of barbed wire on fence to your right hand side**).

At the end of the wooded path continue onto the footpath to join a field. Follow footpaths across this field to Otham church.

Upon reaching Otham Church, turn right at the road (**please take special care here**) and then take the 2nd left path protected by black and red bollards (with the motorbike and car sign) (signposted). (**photo 6**).



(photo 6)

Walk down the path. At end of path you will reach Downswood shops (**marshalled**); cross the road and follow the footpath down a slight incline. Please take the left path (signposted) at the fork. Turn right onto Deringwood Drive. Turn right onto Willington Street. Up Willington Street (keep to the path) reaching the traffic lights and signposted route back to Mote House for celebration, medal and BBQ.

Walk highlights

Mote Park

The park's name is derived from 'moot' or 'mote' in Old English meaning "a place of assembly It's thought that the area may have once formed part of an administrative region in central Kent. It is now a 450 acres multi-use public park in Maidstone, Kent. Previously a country estate it was converted to landscaped park land at the end of the 18th century before becoming a municipal park. It includes the former stately home **Mote House**.

Mote House

Situated in the 450-acre splendour of Mote Park, with its magnificent woodland and a 30-acre lake, Audley Mote House Retirement Village is a luxury development of 100 cottages and apartments near the village of Bearsted, just a short drive from Maidstone Town Centre.

At the heart of the village is Mote House, a Grade II* listed Georgian mansion, which we have restored to its original beauty. Inside Mote House, you will find the Audley Club – with a luxury health club, swimming pool, library, bar/bistro and the Romney Restaurant.

Work has recently begun on the final stage of development which consists of 51 one and two bedroom properties, many with balconies or terraces. Off-plan reservations are already being taken and half of the first release is already sold. Contact our sales team for further details and availability of these unique Grade II* listed and new build properties.

The Church of St Nicholas at Leeds

The original church was built in Anglo Saxon times but it is The Norman Tower that makes this building so very impressive. Built in the 12th Century the tower is one of the county's best half-dozen examples. Inside the tower the ringing chamber contains ten bells which are housed in an ancient oak frame, one of the earliest surviving ten-bell frames in the UK.

Leeds Castle

It would do a disservice to this amazing building to try and condense its history into a few sentences so here are just some snippets of information about "The loveliest castle in the world".

- It was Lord Conway who when writing about the castles of Europe in the eighteenth century said that Leeds Castle was "The loveliest castle in the world"
- The castle was built almost 900 years ago by a Norman Baron
- It has been a royal residence for six of England's medieval queens, a palace of Henry VIII and a retreat for the powerful and influential
- During the early part of World War II Leeds was used as a hospital where its owner and her daughters hosted burned Commonwealth airmen as part of their recovery
- Tony Blair led Northern Ireland peace talks at the castle in 2004
- It was Lady Baillie who, on her death, left the castle to Leeds Castle Charitable Foundation who preserve the building and its grounds and have enabled the castle to be opened to the public since 1976.

Stoneacre

It is a 15th-century half-timbered yeoman's house, featuring a great hall and surrounded by glorious garden, orchard and meadows. A perfect example of a Wealden Hall-House, it is full of beautiful collections of furniture, wood and metal work.

Otham War Memorial

This memorial commemorates the residents of Otham who were killed or missing in World War I (13 names) and World War II (2 names). Many of these memorials were erected after the First World War. After the Second World War, the names of those who died in that war were also added to the memorial.