

6TH-14TH MAY 2023

JANE'S WALK

Colchester

Celebrating the legacy of the urbanist Jane Jacobs
(1916-2006)



Jane's Walk 2023: An international festival of local walks led by local people, in celebration of the urbanist, writer and activist Jane Jacobs (1916-2006).

Please note, all walks are FREE and OPEN TO ALL. They are best thought of as non-expert, community-led walking conversations. All walk times are approximate.

For details on walk accessibility, please see the Jane's Walk web page (www.walkcolchester.org.uk) and Facebook event pages for information on individual walks. Or call Rowena Macaulay on 07710 474999 to discuss.

SATURDAY 6TH MAY

WALK 1: Walk with Purpose: A walking trail exploring the lives and achievements of some of Colchester's women from the past. Join us as we visit locations around the town centre with connections to the stories of our women and use these to consider safe spaces for women in the urban environment today. With Claire Driver and Rebekah Wallace-Brown.
Meet: 3.30pm, Firstsite (foyer), CO1 1JH (1.5m, 1.5 hrs)

EVENT: Jane's Walk Grand Quiz! Fundraiser evening and festival launch Tables/teams of 4-6. Bring your own drinks (alcohol/soft), glasses & snacks. Back by popular request, all the way from South Wales, Toast will be selling vegan Completos (Chilean street food) from the Cardinal Bourne kitchen.
Venue: Cardinal Bourne Hall, 7-11pm. Tickets: £10 per person (Eventbrite: search 'Jane's Walk Grand Quiz')

SUNDAY 7TH MAY

WALK 2: Together We Walk, Together We Grow! A circular 'growers' walk from Mercers Farm allotments where we will meet local allotment holders, via Bull Meadow and passing Cowdray Marsh Local Wildlife Site, up through High Woods Country Park to the Together We Grow community garden, a 2-acre site with orchards, veg beds and poly tunnels, and a very warm welcome! Ending with tea/coffee and cake and leisurely walk back. With Clare Smee.
Meet: 10am, at the yellow bridge, Riverside, Lower Castle Park exit (east), CO1 2SD (3m, 3 hrs).

WALK 3: Weans Walk Wild in Wellies in Wivenhoe Woods. Go wild and enjoy games and fun activities with Forest School leader, Jean Quinn. Children of all ages up to 12 yrs. accompanied by an adult. Possibly too long for 2-3 yr. olds, but pushchair friendly. Break for snacks; bring a drink.
Meet: 10.30am, Wivenhoe Railway Station car park, CO7 9DJ (1.5m, 2.5 hrs).

WALK 4: From Workhouse to Foodbanks. Walk through the city centre and listen to stories of the survival of the poor. From Alms houses to sleeping rough, housing has always been a challenge. Discover the impact of the Garrison on 1860s life. Learn about who was sent to St Mary's workhouse and why? And who uses the foodbank today? With Kevin Finnigan.
Meet: 2pm, Colchester War Memorial (1.5m, 1.5hrs)

WALK 5: The Wrong Side of the River. Explore the lesser trodden lagoons on the west side of the River Colne between Hythe and Rowhedge. With 101 bird species recorded, don't forget binoculars! Ending with a pint at the Albion Pub, Rowhedge (nr bus route back, no. S9). Dogs welcome but must be kept on leads. With Emma Regan.
Meet: 2.30pm, the red Colne Lightship, King Edward Quay, Hythe, CO2 8GQ. (2m, 1.5 hrs)

EVENT Documentary: The Felling (2022). Introduced by Director, Eve Wood, followed by Q&A. A 'David-and-Goliath story' of how a community of residents in one of Europe's greenest cities battled with a powerful city council, a giant multinational corporation and the police, over a deal to chop down thousands of healthy street trees as part of a £2.2 billion private contract to maintain the city's highways. An 'extraordinary and shocking' account of what happened on the tree-lined suburban streets of Sheffield, 2014-2018 (<https://www.fellingfilm.com>).
Venue/Time: Firstsite (<https://firstsite.uk>), 7-9pm. Tickets on the door (Pay As You Feel).

MONDAY 8TH MAY

WALK 6: Looking After Our Footpaths. 'What can we do to take care of our public footpaths and pass on a useable network of paths to future generations?' A circular walk around the public footpaths of East Donyland, (Blackheath), discussing how to overcome footpath issues. With Pamela Bradley.
Meet: 10am, outside The Cherry Tree pub, Mersea Rd, CO2 0AD (3.5m, 2hrs). Some rough terrain and possibly muddy woodland paths.



For the walk timetable and more about Jane Jacobs:
www.walkcolchester.org.uk/janes-walk-colchester

WALK 7: The Abbey Way - firebugs, circuses, gunpowder explosions, a school murder and a tree called "Simon". A walk between three heritage sites - Colchester Roman Circus, Abbey Gateway and Trinity Church - detailing the intriguing history, stories and ecology of the route between them. With Alex Jones. Meet: 10am, Colchester Roman Circus (main gate), CO2 7GZ (2.5m, 1.5 hrs)

WALK 8: Sunday Traders: capturing Colchester's streets. We are a mixed group of photography-loving folk who've been getting together since Jane's Walk 2017 to try and capture the quirkiest side of street life in local towns & villages. Join us for an informal walk and talk with cameras or mobile phones. All welcome - no experience necessary. Opportunity to share pictures afterwards. With Chrissie Alexander and Ron Bell. Meet: 12 noon, Firstsite (foyer), CO1 1JH (1.5m, 2.5hrs)

WALK 9: The Hidden History of Hilly Fields - the changing uses of the landscape over time. Today this tranquil landscape looks like it was never developed but go back in time and you find Roman graveyards and Celtic burials, Star Forts, farmhouses, glass and coin making, metal working, Celtic settlements and trackways, defensive dykes, Roman roads and an aqueduct. You just need to know where to look! With Max Fox. Meet: 1.30pm, entrance to Hilly Fields, Sussex Road, CO3 3QJ (1m, 1.5 hrs)

WALK 10: Wild-Light LandEscape, Museum of the Landscape - A Gourmet Forage...

A short introduction and fun way to discover the foods and medicinals that can be found outside of the supermarket. Learn about some of the possibilities you and your family can create. Please bring a bag/basket for collection, and your own bread rolls! With Mitch McClean. Meet: 3.30pm, Chanterelle car park, High Woods Country Park, CO4 9RQ (1m, 2.5 hrs). Please note, places limited to 30 people. TO BOOK: phone/text 07593 543306

TUESDAY 9TH MAY

WALK 11: Haunted Colchester: From the dark history of the ancient Dutch Quarter to the secrets of the old town centre and haunted East Hill. Ending with fortifying beverage at The Forester's Arms! With Rob Brown. Meet: 7.30pm, at Colchester Town Hall (1m, 1.5 hrs)

WEDNESDAY 10TH MAY

WALK 12: Colchester Orbital Trees of Note (ToN). A walk in support of the ToN project, around the most rural easterly loop of the Colchester Orbital, to help complete our Orbital tree trail - possibly the longest tree trail in the world? (<https://www.walkcolchester.org.uk/trees-of-note>). No tree knowledge required! With Diana Hargrave. Meet: 10am, Tesco Express, Bromley Rd, CO4 3JE (5m, 3 hrs). Rural, mixed terrain, 3 stiles. Bring drink/snack.

WALK 13: For Better or for Worse? Myland has a long history of social, mental and health care. A walk exploring the sites of the former Severalls Hospital, Turner Village, Myland Hospital and nearby Essex Hall, and questioning how these institutions have helped to shape the areas around them. With Robert Johnstone. Meet: 6.30pm, Colchester North railway station (south side), by the elephant (2 hrs)

THURSDAY 11TH MAY

EVENT: How Walking Changes Us: An evening with author Annabel Streets, who will talk about her two recent books, *52 Ways to Walk: The Surprising Science of Walking for Wellness and Joy*, and *Windswept: Walking in the Footsteps of Remarkable Women*, which explore the many ways that walking changes our brains, bodies, minds and the relationships we have with ourselves, others and the landscape. Venue/Time: Headgate Theatre, 6.30-8pm (doors open 5.45pm). Tickets: in advance (<https://www.headgatetheatre.co.uk/>) or on the door (Pay As You Feel).

FRIDAY 12TH MAY

EVENT Film: Urbanized (2011). Acclaimed feature-length documentary by Director Gary Hustwit, followed by Q&A. 75% of the world's population will live in a city by 2050. Talking to architects, planners, policymakers, builders and thinkers across the globe, this wide-ranging documentary looks at the issues and strategies behind their design, from the global challenges of environmental policy and economic development, to housing, mobility, public space and civic engagement... Venue/Time: Firstsite (<https://firstsite.uk/>), 7-9.15pm. Tickets on the door (Pay As You Feel).

SATURDAY 13TH MAY

WALK 14: Birds of the Lower Colne. An early morning walk along the river, from Jumbo to Wivenhoe. With Michael Padmore from the Colchester Natural History Society. Meet: 7am, by Jumbo Water Tower, CO1 1PT. Return bus/train. (4.75m, 3 hrs).

WALK 15: The Best Days of Our Lives? Childhood in Newtown. A walk recalling stories from the Dickensian School off Hythe Hill; 500 children without schooling roaming Colchester in the 1890s; Barrack Street Board School built 1895; the schoolboy 'anti-cane' strike in 1911; wartime memories of evacuation and school dinners; a woodland school and the recreation ground. With Sheila Kelly. Meet: 10.30am, Wilson Marriage Centre, CO1 2LR (1.5m, 2hrs)

WALK 16: An ancient route to Copford Church. Copford back in time: follow a route first trod thousands of years ago. Around Gravel Pits Wood, across Copford Plains, to the Church with its fabulous 12th-century wall paintings and Romanesque apse. Children welcome (all off-road, wild woods and activities in the church!). With David Knock and Claire Macaulay. Meet: 11am, Copford Village Hall, CO6 1BX (2m, 2hrs)

CYCLE 17: A Jane's Cycle around the Colchester Orbital. A chance to enjoy again or for the first time, and at a leisurely cycling pace, this great circular route! Booking not necessary, but helpful (email: info@walkcolchester.org.uk). With Niko Hughes and friends. Meet: 1.30pm, at the back of the Curzon Cinema (14m; 2.5 hrs)

WALK 18: Propelling Points about People, Parcels and Poo. A circular walk around the Hythe and New Town, exploring local transport from Ancient to Modern Times. Learn how a deprived part of Colchester boosted the local economy over many years. Find out about a local man alleged to be London's most famous serial killer, how one pastime became an Olympic sport, links to a famous nursery rhyme and other extraordinary facts! With Steven Shaw. Meet: 2pm, Hythe Station (2.5m, 2.5 hrs)

WALK 19: Inspired in Colchester - A town centre trail celebrating fiction set in and around Colchester through the ages, hearing stories in the streets where they were set. With author Alex Clare. Meet: 4.30pm, Firstsite (foyer), Lewis Gardens (1m, 1.5 hrs)

WALK 20: Reclaiming Colchester's Follies. A walk through the follies of New Town - hidden historic walkways connecting the Victorian garrison and other key locations. With Pam Cox and Kayleigh Rippingale, two local councillors who have been working with the community and local artists to 'reclaim the follies'. Meet: 6.30pm. At beginning of Kendall Folley on Wimpole Rd (nr junction with Barrack Street), CO1 2BX (1m, 1hr). Note, a number of short flights of steps compromise access (email: info@walkcolchester.org.uk to discuss).

SUNDAY 14TH MAY

WALK 21: The Wrong End of the Stick: A tour of Colchester's public conveniences - their history, stories and artwork. With artist Anne Schwegmann-Fielding. Meet: 10am, at the bridge to Colchester Castle entrance (1m, 2.5 hrs).

WALK 22: A Time Travellers Guide to the New City. A walk visiting some of our local public spaces as we travel back and forth through time: find out exactly what made our new city what it is today and think about what it may become. A quirky and iconic walk/street theatre experience with poetry, stories and some pop-up surprises! With Dorian Kelly. Meet: 10.30am, Colchester Arts Centre (side door), CO1 1NF (1.3 m, 2.5hrs)

WALK 23: How to Read a House. We walk past them every day, but how often do we take the chance to actually look at them? A house can tell us a lot about when and how it was built, how it has changed and who might have lived there, if you just know how to read it. We'll look at some free resources that can be used to support further research and help confirm findings. We will also discuss the historical background to some of the areas we visit. With Andrew Mowbray. Meet: 2pm. Firstsite (foyer), CO1 1JH (2m, 2hrs)

WALK 24: Explorative Foraging. Explore and discuss natural heritage in an urban and industrial context and discover some edible and medicinal plants, trees, flowers and leaves. Our slow, stop and start walk will take us along Victorian back alleys, hedgerows, and out onto the Colne estuary. We'll finish our journey together with foraged tea! With wildcrafter and artist Lora Aziz. Numbers limited, booking advised (info@walkcolchester.org.uk). Meet: 3.30pm, East Hill Garage, CO1 2QZ (2miles, 2.5 hrs)

WALK 25: Unravelling Colchester's Textile History. A city centre walk and journey through time looking for clues to Colchester historical links with the textile industry. With Lorraine James. Meet: 4pm, at Firstsite (foyer), CO1 1JH (2hrs)

Grateful thanks: Jane's Walk 2023 is kindly supported by the Colchester Cultural and Creative Events Fund, Firstsite, The Headgate Theatre and Colchester Arts Centre.