

## AN INTRODUCTION TO THE CHURCH TO CHURCH WALKS AROUND THE BINSEY TEAM

In the Binsey Team Ministry there are twelve churches where services are held at least once a month and, in most cases, every week. In addition there are three disused churches, or their remains, where a service is still held annually.

A series of walks has been devised which visits each of these fifteen churches in turn on a complete circuit of the Binsey Team. The walker is taken through delightful, quiet countryside, with stunning views, on the northern borders of the Lake District National Park, away from the tourist honey-pots. At the start and end of each walk there is the opportunity to enter a peaceful building which in most cases has been a place of worship for many centuries, and in all cases is of interest historically and architecturally. Exercise for the body, mind, and spirit!

Each individual walk begins at one church and ends at another, and a leaflet describing the route should be available at the start church. Three of the walks go via one of the “old churches”, and one visits a church outside the Binsey Team.

The routes have not been chosen as the shortest distances between A and B, though in some instances this may be the case. They are intended to provide interesting, enjoyable, and varied walks for health and pleasure, keeping off roads, except the quietest of lanes, as far as possible, but always on public rights of way.

The walks are linear not circular, so walkers must devise their own means of returning to the start, if they need to do so, either on foot or by arranging a lift. Unfortunately, public transport is not likely to be a practicable option. Where a route can be made circular by a short and easy extension, this has been mentioned in the leaflet.

On the front of each leaflet there are some facts and figures to give walkers an idea of the type of walk to expect before they embark on the journey:

- The distance, in miles and kilometres, is reasonably accurate.
- The time taken to walk the route is much more approximate because everyone walks at a different speed. The time given does not include stops for refreshments, admiring the scenery and wildlife, photography, or adjusting clothing – anoraks on or off, jumpers on or off – inevitable on a walk in our climate. Extra time should also be allowed to visit the churches at the start and end of the walk.
- Ordnance Survey grid references for the start and end of the walk are given so that walkers can locate them on a map. It is hoped that the instructions in the leaflets will prove sufficient for you to find your way easily, but it is always advisable to take a map as a contingency. A compass is also a good idea as a bearing is sometimes given for clarification.
- Terrain – this section provides information on whether you will be going through fields or woods, along paths or roads, etc.
- Gradients – the Church to Church Walks around the Binsey Team do not involve mountaineering but some are flatter than others and an indication of what to expect is provided.
- Underfoot – this item is perhaps superfluous because boots or stout shoes should always be worn since mud, of varying depths, may be encountered at any season.
- Opening times for the churches at the start and end of the walk are given so that you can plan to go when they will be accessible.

| <b>Start</b>                         | <b>End</b>                           | <b>Miles</b> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| St Bega<br>Bassenthwaite             | St Barnabas<br>Setmurthy             | 5            |
| St Barnabas<br>Setmurthy             | St Margaret<br>Wythop                | 2½           |
| St Margaret<br>Wythop                | St Cuthbert<br>Embleton              | 4            |
| St Cuthbert<br>Embleton              | St Michael & All Angels<br>Isel      | 4            |
| St Michael & All Angels<br>Isel      | St Cuthbert<br>Plumbland             | 9            |
| St Cuthbert<br>Plumbland             | All Saints<br>Allhallows             | 5            |
| All Saints<br>Allhallows             | St Michael & All Angels<br>Torpenhow | 8½           |
| St Michael & All Angels<br>Torpenhow | All Saints<br>Boltongate             | 3            |
| All Saints<br>Boltongate             | St James<br>Ireby                    | 4¼           |
| St James<br>Ireby                    | St James<br>Uldale                   | 4            |
| St James<br>Uldale                   | St John<br>Bassenthwaite             | 7¾           |
| St John<br>Bassenthwaite             | St Bega<br>Bassenthwaite             | 5            |
|                                      | <b>TOTAL MILEAGE</b>                 | <b>62</b>    |

## **The Pilgrimage**

Give me my scallop shell of quiet  
My staff of faith to walk upon,  
My scrip of joy, immortal diet,  
My bottle of salvation:  
My gown of glory, hope's true gauge,  
And thus I'll take my pilgrimage.

*Part of a poem by Sir Walter Raleigh,  
written about 1618 in the Tower of London.*



## **The Pilgrim's Prayer**

Gracious God, you are the journey and the journey's end.  
Open our eyes to your presence,  
open our minds to your peace,  
open our lives to your power.  
Guide us on this pilgrimage, and on our pilgrimage through life.  
That we may walk in the way of peace  
and find our freedom in your service  
as we follow Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## **THE BINSEY TEAM MINISTRY**

([www.binsey.org.uk](http://www.binsey.org.uk))

proclaiming Jesus as Lord in word and deed in

Allhallows, Bassenthwaite, Boltons, Embleton, Ireby, Isel,  
Plumbland, Setmurthy, Torpenhow, Uldale and Wythop.

2015