



## Joining Instructions for Final Stage of 63-Mile Walk

*Day's Lock, Dorchester (Grid Ref. SU 569 936) via Thames Path to Abingdon School.  
Distance approx. 9 miles; walking time approx. 3½ hours*

Dear Parents and Old Abingdonians,

I am delighted that you will be joining the final 9-mile stage of the 63-mile walk on Monday 29 April, and look forward to meeting you and walking with you back to Abingdon School. The boys, and staff accompanying them, will be leaving Overton Hill at the west end of the Ridgeway on the afternoon of the previous day and, all being well, will be coming up the Thames Path from the Streatley direction, arriving at Day's Lock, just outside Dorchester, at approximately 12 noon. I hope you will understand if we are not there at exactly 12 noon!

### Mini-Van Transport Provided

Rather than asking you to meet us at Day's Lock, with the issues of parking in Dorchester and retrieving vehicles later in the day, we will arrange mini-van service from Abingdon School for the benefit of interested parents and OAs participating in this final-stage walk. You must register your interest in using this service with Catherine Wise ([catherine.wise@abingdon.org.uk](mailto:catherine.wise@abingdon.org.uk), 01235 849074) by **17:00 on Friday 13 April** so we may arrange the correct number of mini-vans and drivers needed.

Mini-vans will be leaving the Abingdon School coach park on Faringdon Road promptly at 11:15 to allow sufficient time to drive to Dorchester, and then walk to Day's Lock. **We will not be able to wait for late arrivals, so please aim to be at the coach park by 11:00.** Please park in the Lower Field car park (opposite the main entrance to the School), rather than leave your car in the coach park, which needs to be kept fully clear for the afternoon school coaches.

### Walking Route

The final stage of the walk will follow a route from Dorchester out to the Thames Path at Day's Lock and then along the left riverbank to Clifton Hampden Bridge (sorry, no time for a drink in the Barley Mow), where it crosses back to the right riverbank, goes past Culham Lock, the Abingdon boathouse (on the other side of the river), and finally back into the centre of Abingdon. The path is obviously very flat, but can be muddy in places, so please choose appropriate footwear. Please bring a snack and drink with you, as there are no convenient refreshment points along the way.

### Afternoon Reception

Upon arrival back at school – around 15:30 – there will be an informal reception and afternoon tea provided in the CMR for all boys, staff, parents and OAs participating in the event. You are warmly invited to join us for this well-earned celebration!

### Fundraising

The team of boys has set a fundraising target of £6,300 (£100 per mile) for this gruelling challenge and sponsorship donations will go to the Abingdon School Bursary Fund (50%) and the Childhood Cancer Research Trust Fund (50%). To make fundraising and donation collection simple and easy (including Gift Aid), there is a secure event fundraising [web page](#) set up with Virgin Moneygiving. Parents and OAs are encouraged to raise sponsorship money, and can direct donors to this web page or (better) set up their own personal fundraising web page linked to this page. For assistance in doing this, contact Catherine Wise ([catherine.wise@abingdon.org.uk](mailto:catherine.wise@abingdon.org.uk), 01235 849074).

Thank you joining in this special event; I hope it will prove to be a very successful and memorable occasion for everyone involved.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Wiejak  
Teacher of Mathematics  
Co-ordinator of 2013 63-Mile Walk

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