



# Thames Valley Network - Historic Pathways Project



## St Birinus Pilgrimage – Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> July 2014 Churn Knob, Blewbury to Dorchester Abbey

(The whole distance is approx. 12 miles but you may join along the way.)

Saint Birinus came to Wessex in 635 and having baptised King Cynegils became Bishop of Dorchester. He was largely responsible for bringing Christianity to this area and founding many of our present churches. The reenactment of this pilgrimage has become well established over a number of years and it seemed appropriate for the Historic Pathways Project to join in the walk along this ancient route to Dorchester Abbey. The full distance is approximately 12 miles with a couple of steepish uphill sections but please join wherever you wish.

- 10.00 Meet at the start point in Blewbury. Exact details of the meeting point will be sent to applicants when they register.
- 10.15 Welcome and a brief talk by James Pratt, the walk organizer. U3A's walk leader Ian Clarkson will also be there to look after our members.
- 13.00 (approximately) There be a lunch break at the Red Lion pub in Brightwell cum Sotwell. You are welcome to join in here.
- 14.15 The walk will start again for the remaining distance which is about 3½ miles via Wittenham Clumps to enjoy the wonderful view.  
For anyone who would like to join the pilgrims just for the last little bit into Dorchester, we suggest you park near the Abbey and stroll out towards Day's Lock. Or the archeological dig, close to the Abbey, will also be open on the day as will the Museum (14.00 to 17.00) so plenty to do nearby.
- 16.10 U3A Cream tea will be served in the Upper Room beside the Abbey.
- 16.45 Talk about St Birinus and the founding of the Abbey by Margaret Craig.
- 18.00 Service of Evening Prayer..

The charge for all or any part of the day is £5 per person, which includes the cream tea and both talks (but not lunch).

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### APPLICATION FORM

I/we would like to join the St Birinus Pilgrimage on Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> July at £5 per person.

Name(s) .....

I/we are member(s) of ..... U3A

E mail address: ..... (or SAE)

Signature .....

Cheque enclosed £5.00 payable to 'U3A Thames Valley Network' Please return to:

**MRS AGNES BUDAGOWSKA, 3 DRAYCOTT CLOSE, PARK NORTH, SWINDON, SN3 2RN**

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