

Gloucester Cathedral Ramblers Short Walk - Saturday 26 July 2025 - Report Ford Circular Walk

Promptly at 9:25am Jean, Sharon, Jon, Gary, John, Mike, Geoff and Michael set off from the car park of the Plough Inn at Ford. Our route covered 6 miles of beautiful Cotswold countryside and it did not disappoint! During our first 30 or 40 minutes, as we passed through the typical Cotswold village of Cutsdean, we were accompanied by light rain which we were not expecting but did not spoil our enjoyment of the scenery. Group photograph, courtesy of Jon Dickinson.

We eventually joined the Gloucestershire Way which we followed in a westerly direction past the most attractive buildings of Ford Hill Lodge and Ford Hill Farm with their very inviting sizeable pond with its two jetties, water lilies and, no doubt, fish population. The final mile or so of our walk took us alongside the gallops of J J O'Neill's Jackdaw's Castle racing stables where we saw horses being exercised. They looked marginally fitter than we ramblers!

Arriving back at the Plough Inn at midday, fortunately just before a coach load of thirsty tourists, we enjoyed our coffee before heading homeward. The weather was breezy with some cloud cover and temperature around 20C; ideal walking conditions ensuring the morning was thoroughly enjoyed by all of us.

John Stubbings
26 July 2025