

Countryside trek in name of fun – for a change



Members of Camberley Rotaract Club doing the 78-mile Brenda Parker Way

YOUNG Rotarians are set to finish a 78-mile walk across the Hampshire countryside.

But this time Camberley Rotaract Club was not raising money for a good cause, having decided to do the trek for fun.

On Sunday (October 16), members of the club will finish the last section of the Brenda Parker Way, a 78-mile route from Aldershot to Andover.

In May, club secretary Rachel Kulsdon, saw an article in the *StarCourier* about the newly-opened long distance path.

"So many people do sponsored walks these days that you're always being asked for money, so I thought I would

just do this one for fun," she said.

She and other members of the club started doing the walk in 10 or 16-mile sections in June.

The group is completing the last eight-mile section on from Wildhern to Andover, with a celebratory lunch afterwards. Camberley Rotaract is a branch of Rotary for 18 to 30 year olds.

The walk has had to fit around the other activities the club members have been up to this summer. These include helping at local events like Picnic to Music in the Park and the Farnham Pilgrims' Marathon, a day out at Ascot, a bath tub race in the Thames and a murder mystery treasure

hunt in Guildford.

On the Brenda Parker Way, the group endured stinging nettles, cows, climbed the highest hill in Hampshire and walked with blisters and other aches and pains.

Club president Matt O'Sullivan, said: "The walk through the north Hampshire countryside is beautiful, varied, full of wildlife and interesting local history. It's highly recommended."

The Brenda Parker Way was created by North Hampshire Downs Ramblers Group in association with the local councils in memory of Brenda Parker who worked for more than four decades on behalf of Hampshire walkers.