

Mileaters

29th July 2026

When, weeks ago, Sue, Louisa and Linda were planning their July Mileaters walk it seemed impossible that hot weather would still be an issue. Another heatwave, in July, at the start of the tourist season? Not likely! So a local circuit starting from near Hardy Monument was planned, to finish with a hike up the rather exposed and shadeless Valley of Stones.

It was not to be. Last minute discussions resulted in an early 8.30 start and a revised, shorter route through the Black Down woods and along the Jubilee Trail, to include more stretches of shade and frequent (and fashionable) hydration breaks. Eleven hardy souls braved the heat and undertook the walk, which was still a respectable almost 5 miles in length.

A picnic was planned for the end of the walk and at the last moment a knight in shining armour appeared; Richard proposed that rather than picnicking in the sun near the Stone Circle car park we adjourn to the very welcome shade of his back garden. Sue joined us bearing welcome fruit and chilled water and Celia arrived home glowing from a swim in the sea to find a group of hot, thirsty, but happy walkers ensconced outside her summer house.

Linda Scotts.



Mileaters take a "Hydration" break.