Sevenoaks Ramblers

Isle of Sheppey Bird Sanctuary and Candy Floss - 10.5 miles

Wednesday, 8th July

13 members of Sevenoaks Ramblers made their way to Leysdown on the Isle of Sheppey. Our walk didn't have a good start as the car park we were due to leave from was closed. The group quickly found alternative parking.

We began our walk by following the. King Charles 3rd Coastal path south towards Shellness before following the path as it turned south west parallel with the Swale and entering the RSPB bird sanctuary.

The path was on top of a dike and apart from seeing a variety of birds we had panoramic views across the Swale to the mainland and back across the island. After we reached the end of the bird sanctuary we made our way to St Thomas Church at Harty, known as the most isolated church in Kent. The church is believed to date back to 1089 and has no electricity.

Although the weather for the day was forecast to have temperatures around 30 we had the benefit of a very nice breeze for most of the day which made our walk very pleasant.

After lunch at the church we began our way along across country north. Unfortunately two of the fields containing public footpaths had crops planted over the right of way and the path had not been restored after planting. Employing a range of strategy's we were able to link up with the unencumbered footpath after the obstruction and continue on our way.

Reaching the Charles 3rd Coastal Path just west of Leysdown we followed the path past the numerous caravan parks into the centre of Leysdown where a range of ice creams were consumed.
We then made our way back to the cars and home.





