



RIVER COLN TRAIL

The new River Coln Trail will be launched on Saturday, 23rd March 2024 10.15am – 12noon. at Fairford Community Centre, High St. Fairford, GL7 4AF (next to the church) All are welcome. The trail runs from the source of the River Coln, near Winchcombe, to its meeting with the River Thames, at Inglesham, near Lechlade. The total length of the walk is 33 miles but it can be done in sections, as nine separate circular walks.

Kate Ashbrook, Patron of Walkers are Welcome Towns Network and General Secretary of the Open Spaces Society, will be guest of honour, with local dignitaries, environmentalists, supporters and trail enthusiasts gathering to inaugurate this exciting venture. The event will include an exhibition, an ecological display, a short guided tour and an opportunity for attendees to be among the first to experience the trail.

The River Coln Trail runs through some of the finest un-spoilt rural countryside in the Cotswolds, providing an opportunity to connect with nature and the beauty of the river with its rich biodiversity, rare wildlife and historical heritage, including a castle and a Roman villa.

This project has been ongoing for many years, a collaborative effort between two Walkers are Welcome towns of Fairford and Winchcombe, as well as Gloucestershire County Council Rights of Way. It is hoped that this trail will provide an enjoyable and educational experience for many walkers. A guide book offering a route description and maps complements the route and will be available at the launch, in local outlets and online from the walks page on www.winchcombewelcomeswalkers.com/walks.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who have helped bring this trail to life: walking, mapping, checking, putting up signage, designing and producing a booklet, negotiating with landowners etc. Thanks to you all and we hope we will see many residents enjoying both the grand opening and walking the River Coln Trail.