

## August 2014 Thrapston



The Northamptonshire Shamblers met at 6pm on the 7th of August in the car park of the Bullring Thrapston. It was a lovely warm summers evening with the sun getting low in the sky but still shining. A good number of members attended together with quite a few newcomers who had seen the notice of the walk in the Nene Valley News.

Thrapston Bullring stands in the Shadow of St. James Church, and before a large stone building that was once the tithe barn where the church stored its 'Tithes' during medieval times. The Bullring was once filled with small houses and lodgings and was probably where the original market was held, after the Market Charter granted by King John in 1205 AD.

The walk started from here, and we turned right out of the Bullring into Chancery Lane Opposite Paradise House, behind which stands the mound which is all that remains of Thrapston Castle. The walk continued along and over the playing field and along past Thrapston football ground towards the 'lake' where Thrapston sailing club is situated. After crossing the footbridge over the river Nene, we passed the old water mill going onto the footpath that leads to Islip high st. which comes out through the gardens of the Rose and Crown, opposite Islip Working mans Club.

Walking along the High St, down to The Wool Pack Inn and crossing the road to the footpath that goes past the old wharf where now the narrow boats park overnight. Continuing along the footpath one can see the arches which carried the railway line to Kettering.

The sun now much lower in the sky but still bright was reflecting distant houses in the still water which was like a mirror. The path eventually brought us out again near the Nine Arches Bridge, where we crossed the road and continued over the bridge to the new housing where

we turned left walked along near the river until we came out on the pathway from where we started, a short walk led us back passing the football club and onto Chancery Lane. The fish and Chip supper that was waiting for us in the Church Hall was delicious and very welcome after a delightful evenings walk. After the supper the AGM was held.