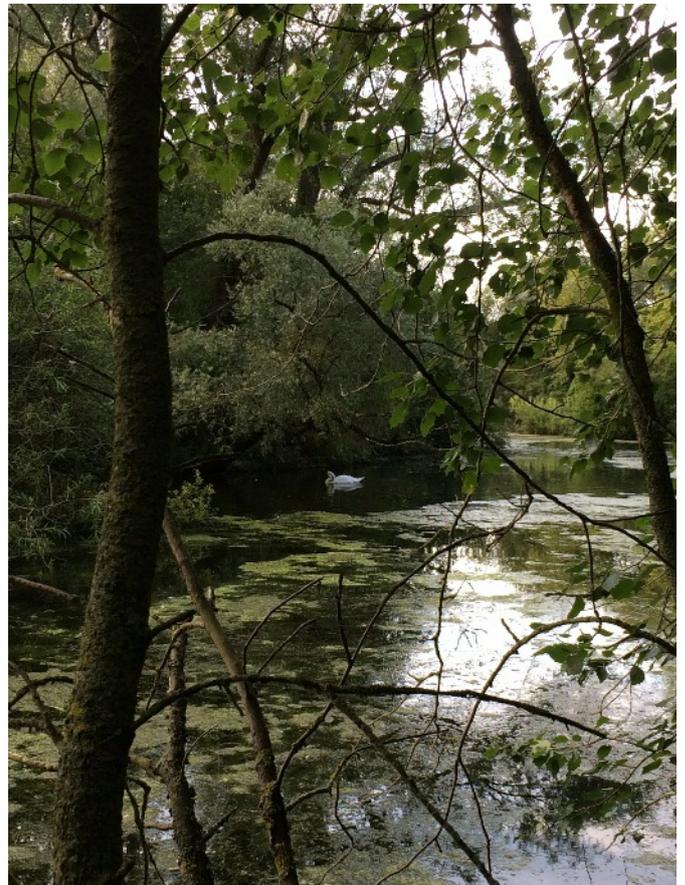


Thrapston walk – August 2019 (Evening walk)

This evening walk was to be a short walk followed by the AGM. As we currently have our walk and AGM in Thrapston, you would be mistaken for thinking it would become monotonous. Surprisingly enough, the many paths and routes between Lake, ditch and trees inevitably ensures a surprise.

We gathered for 6.30pm in the small carpark in the shadow of Thrapston church. It is customary to have a Fish and Chip Supper prior to the AGM, so orders were taken and paid for prior to departure.

This evening, 11 of us started walking by taking a road toward the yacht club, past the netball courts and skateboard arena. Delving into thick undergrowth to our right a well concealed track took us past an official information board telling us we had made the correct turn. Though narrow, in many places this was at one time a railway embankment used in gravel extraction. The verbiage now dry after the early showers was pushed aside and so good progress was made past the overgrown blackberry brambles.



The track continued in front but we turned to the left between the open water of the lake and a stream running in a ditch below. The hot summer had caused a proliferation of duckweed on the lake surface stretching like a green lawn to the distant glow of the setting sun. Blackberry bushes lined both sides of the path, their fruit dangling green, red and temptingly black. Sampling took place, bearing in mind to always to pick those a metre from the ground.



The River Nene now became our friend on our right hand side. Flowing swiftly with the input of recent rains it raced against joggers out for a late evening run. The path now became the road servicing the yacht club. All that could be seen were the upright mast tops of the sailing dinghies, tipped with their mast head flies or wind vane arrows forming a rattling forest above the security fence. Crossing a pedestrian bridge we returned past the skate board arena and with Thrapston church in view we made our way to the church room for the very welcome Fish and Chip Supper and then AGM.