

Read the text.

1

Singing for their supper



Ed

Will

Ginger

It's a sunny Saturday afternoon in the small market town of Petersfield. **Three young men** arrive in the High Street with backpacks and walking sticks. They're wearing green and brown jackets, hats, and boots. Is it Robin Hood with his Merry Men? Passers-by are interested.

Who are these young people? What are they going to do? One of the young men puts his hat down on the pavement, and puts up a sign:

'We're walking to Wales – singing for our supper.'

And they start singing. People stop to listen and smile. They are signing in perfect harmony, not pop songs, but traditional folk songs. The hat is soon full, and the people of Petersfield look and feel happier.



Meet the singers

Ed, 27, his brother Ginger, 25, and their friend Will, 26, are three young men who decided to leave their comfortable homes without any money or mobile phones and walk round the whole of Britain, in all seasons, in good and bad weather.

They are singing for their supper and sleeping anywhere they can find, in woods, fields, and sometimes houses – when people offer hospitality.

Ed and Ginger started singing with Will when they were all at school together in Canterbury. After school, Ed went to study art in Paris and London and became an artist; Ginger became a gardener, and Will a bookseller. They were still friends and liked walking together, but weren't very happy with their lives. One day they had an idea. 'Why don't we start walking and just not stop?' And so they did.

They love the freedom and the simple life. Walking and singing are simple human activities in a busy, stressful world. They sing in streets, pubs, and market squares. Sometimes people they meet teach them new songs.

Why are they doing this?

'People ask us why we're doing this, and we don't really have an answer,' says Will. 'It's a great life and we're learning so much on our journey.'

Their families worry about their futures, but they don't. **Last year they started a website www.awalkaroundbritain.com,** and they made a CD of 16 of their songs. This year they are going to make podcasts to tell more stories of their walks, and they're going to make another CD. They also plan to start a charity to help traditional country activities. The future looks good.