



Coventry CHA Rambling Club Newsletter September 2019

January Holiday to Bournemouth

The January 2020 holiday will be based at the 4* Cumberland Hotel, overlooking the sea on East Overcliff Drive, Bournemouth. We have a 5 night stay booked, commencing Sunday 19th January, entertainment will be provided on 4 nights.



We will have use of the indoor swimming pool at The Cumberland's sister hotel immediately adjacent. We can also use the bar of this hotel if we wish; the drinks are cheaper there apparently. They also have a happy hour from 5pm to 6pm when the drinks are even cheaper still!

We have 3 walks planned for the holiday; 2 are coastal walks and the other is in the New Forest. One of the coastal walks will start near Milford on Sea and end in Lymington, the other will start near Studland and end in Swanage. The New Forest walk will finish in Lyndhurst. We will arrange the usual "A", "B" and "C" grade walks each day. In addition, a day out will be arranged between the rambles, to visit Salisbury. Please return the enclosed booking form along with your deposit to Alan Whitcroft ASAP to reserve your place on the holiday.

Annual General Meeting

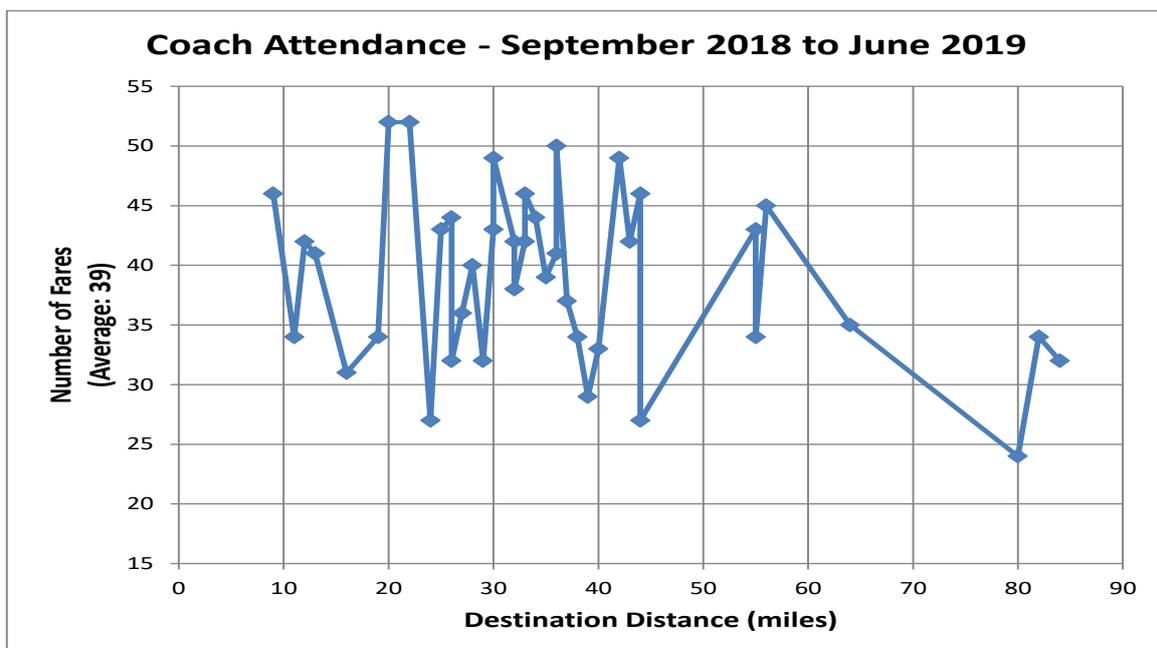
The 2019 AGM will be held on Friday 25th October at the Friends' Meeting House, Hill Street, Coventry. The meeting will start promptly at 7.30pm. Members willing to stand for election on committee should notify the Secretary no later than 14 days prior to the meeting.



Frank Dunn's ramble to the Peak District 30th June. Members taking a well-earned afternoon rest on a bridge over the River Lathkill

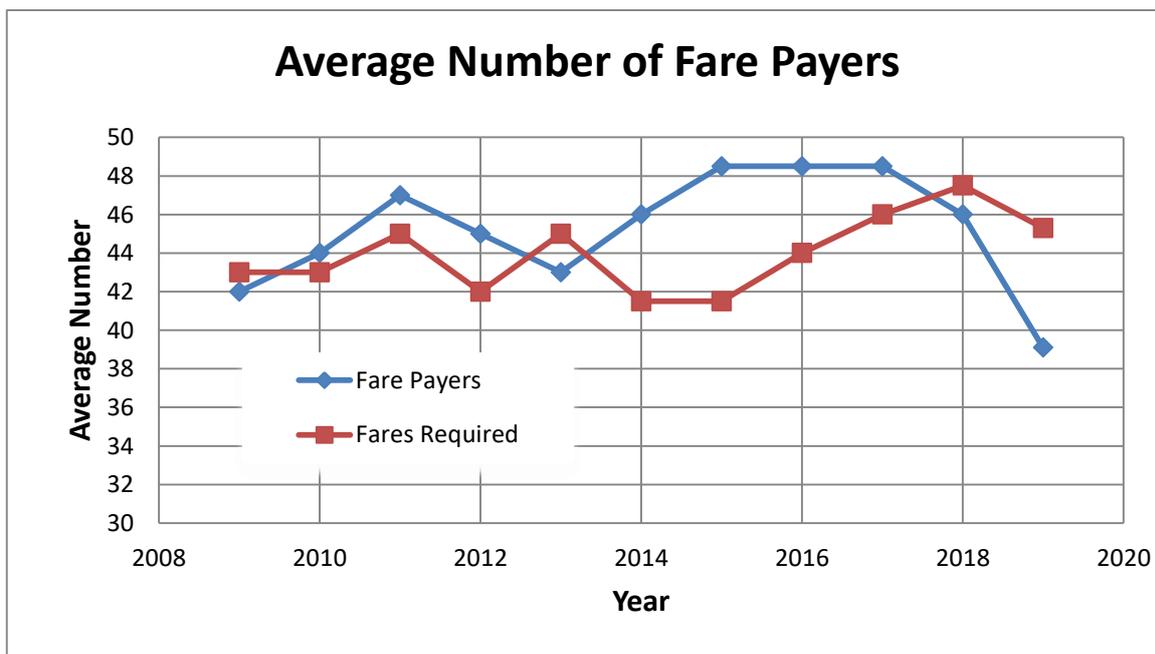
Drop in numbers for Sunday Rambles

Attendance on Sunday Rambles has decreased this year. Those who book the rambles will have noticed the empty spaces on the coach when we travel to the various destinations. The committee is aware of possible reasons for the decline in their support. The number of fare payers on a Sunday has varied over the past year, as shown in the graph below.



The graph shows the number of fare payers fluctuate between 24 and 52. The average number of fares for the ten month period is 39. This is below last year's attendance which has an average of 46.

In the past the Club has been well supported on Sunday rambles. The second graph (blue curve) below shows that over a sustained period, over 48 fare payers and the 2 ramble leaders filled the coach throughout the years 2015 to 2017. This was a period where waiting lists were common place for the Sunday rambles. In 2018 the attendance numbers started to drop and has continued to drop this year.



The graph's red curve shows the average number of fares required to pay for a coach. In 2015 the red curve started to increase and went upwards until year 2018, indicating that coach hire charges were continuously rising over this period. In 2018 the red curve crossed the blue curve showing we did not have a sufficient number of passengers to pay for the coach. This is the predicament we are in today.

The Club has decided to take action in two ways to avoid haemorrhaging funds; to increase coach fares and publicise the Sunday excursions. If you have not been on a Sunday ramble or you know of anyone who would like to try it, please contact Ann, the Coach Booking Secretary (Mob: 079 5036 3203). She will reserve you a place/s on the coach. We meet in Upper Well Street, Coventry, CV1 4AG, outside the Salvation Army building and depart at either 8.30am or 9.00am. Cars can be parked in the NCP car park at the back of the Belgrade Theatre, costing £1.50 all day on a Sunday.

Richard Satchwell

Recruitment of new members

Following on from the previous article, the Committee decided to place 1/4 page adverts in the Coventry Observer on two consecutive weekends in late July at a cost of £300. The adverts in appearance are the same as our new publicity leaflet. The circulation of the "Free" Coventry Observer is 30,000, (by law this has to be an accurate figure) and

is distributed every Thursday and Friday. What pleasantly surprised us was, along with the 1/4 page advert, they put the same advert in as a full page advert in the centre pages for us free of charge for one week.

We also had 2,000 copies of the new publicity leaflets printed. We will use some of them to give out to the 100's of walkers and runners who use the Memorial Park on Saturday morning, but we will also be looking for all of our members to have a few copies to hand out in their local shops, libraries, doctor's surgery's, etc. obviously with permission to do so. The Committee is doing their best to help recruit new members; if we are to succeed in this recruitment campaign we do need your help to distribute these leaflets

Brian Keates

Coffee Mornings

Some good news to report the Coffee Mornings are now well underway. The first hosted by Terry Stamper on Wednesday 19th June raised £118.20 for charity. The event was well attended with numbers in the twenties. Jean Bocoock hosted the second on 10th July. Again the numbers attending were in the high twenties and £118.50 was raised for charity. The remaining two coffee mornings are: Wednesday 21st August 10.30-12am. Janet Foot invites you to 611, Henley Road, Coventry. Post Code CV2 2FZ. Tel: No. 02476 612691. Wednesday 11th September 10.30-12am. Pat & Mike Head invite you to 4 Westcliffe Drive, Styvechale Grange, Coventry. Post code CV3 6LE. Tel: No. 02476 411223



Julie Wheatcroft's 21st July ramble to Helpston in Cambridgeshire. The party are standing by the old water mill on the River Nene on the outskirts of Water Newton