



Coventry CHA Rambling Club Newsletter March 2020



Tom Lovell's 100th Birthday Party

Club Members join Tom, a long-time member of the Coventry CHA Rambling Club to celebrate his 100th Birthday on 22nd December at Coventry Rugby Club. The party was organised by his three daughters.

Membership Fees

There are still some members that have **not yet** paid their Club subscription fees for this year, can you please pay them to Membership Secretary Debbie Brown as soon as possible.

Annual Skittles Evening Friday 27TH March

The Skittles Evening is to take place at Bulkington Working Mens Club, 7B Chequer St, Bulkington, Bedworth CV12 9NH. Tickets are £10 each, this time no fish and chips there will be a buffet instead. Tickets are available from Terry Stamper.

Annual Lunch Sunday 29TH March

The Annual Lunch this year is to be held at the Henley in Arden Golf Club, Birmingham Road, Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire B95 5QA. Details of time and costs are on the separate flyer.

Bournemouth Holiday Report

Sunday 19th January

After what seems like months of rain, 88 of our members had a thankfully dry morning to board our 2 coaches in Coventry City centre and head south towards our much anticipated final destination, Bournemouth.

There had been a planned staggered arrival of the 2 coaches at the hotel; it didn't quite work out as coach 2 arrived hot on the exhaust of coach 1, which meant a bit of a wait on coach 2, while coach 1 was dealt with in reception. However, the hotel was well worth the wait, The Cumberland is a 4* hotel, the decor is very stylish and this was enhanced by the Christmas decorations still being in place!

Dinner time was split, half our party at 7pm and the remainder at 7.30pm, this worked well, the food and the service throughout our stay was excellent. After dinner, there was a very pleasant lounge bar in which to take a drink or two before retiring after a long day.

Monday 20th January

After breakfast it was a 9am start for our journey to Lyminster and three walks had been planned, A=8, B=6, and C=4 miles all on flat well maintained paths. The sun was out, the sky was blue, what more could we want. The track was a bit muddy to start with but as we walked along the Solent it was peaceful and charming.



'A' walkers
on the
Solent
Estuary.

The mud flats of the Solent teem with bird life, we were able to spot Oystercatchers, Egrets, Curlews, Red Shanks and keen eyed Brian Keates pointed out a Kingfisher. All walks finished at Lyminster boatyard where a boat appropriately named 'Ramble on' was spotted by the B walkers.

The evening's entertainment was supplied very ably by Rebecca King who sang a variety of songs including pop classics, a bit of country and sing-along. She was very friendly and entertaining and attempted to teach our line dancers some new steps!

Tuesday 21st January



Saw us heading for the New Forest, where we stop for a group photo before splitting into A, B and C groups. With blue sky and sun once again we set off. There was lots of soggy heathland and muddy tracks through the woods until we came to the wonderful New

Forest ponies in the open areas. Much fun was had, as apple cores and mints were used to attract the ponies to us. The A, B & C walkers were reunited with each other and we all trundled into Lyndhurst together. Another brilliant day!

Singer Richard Knight was the evening's entertainment and it has to be said one of the best acts we have ever had. Richard is an accomplished opera singer and has worked on West End musicals such as *Les Miserables* and *Phantom of the Opera*, but it wasn't all serious stuff there was a lot of fun to be had, from opera to rock and roll he had everyone spellbound.

Wednesday 22nd January

A free day, a little dull and misty, some went off to do their own thing, the remainder boarded the coaches to the cathedral city of Salisbury.

Salisbury's a very pleasant city, lots of interesting medieval buildings, plus the usual shops, pubs, restaurants and of course the magnificent Cathedral which many took the time to visit.

Once our evening meal was finished and the tables cleared the entertainment commenced this time in the Dining room as the ballroom was in use by another party. Again we had another classy entertainer with a good voice, Neil Scott who sang songs from the likes of Neil Diamond, Michael Buble, and Sinatra.

Thursday 23rd January

Our last full day was a bit dull and with a definite nip in the air, but no rain. Another three walks on offer A and B walkers 7.5 and 5.5 miles are off to see Old Harry Rocks on Studland Head with the C walk 3.5 miles going to Ballard Down overlooking Swanage Bay. There was a long drag up to the Old Harry Rock on Studland Head before the path levelled out and glorious views of Swanage Bay appeared before us. The coastal path leading down into

Swanage was long and tricky in places but we trod carefully and made our way to Swanage for refreshments.

The temperature had dropped somewhat as we waited to be picked up from the seafront, we were pleased when the coaches arrived as usual on time, driven by our trusted drivers Danielle and Tracey.

After dinner we are back in the ballroom for our last evening's entertainment, Lee Martin gave us a varied repertoire from musicals to rock and pop, we have been blessed by the particularly high standard of the entertainer on this trip.

Friday 24th January

All packed and ready to leave after breakfast, we bid a fond farewell to The Cumberland with their excellent management and staff.

Before we know it we arrive back in Coventry after a wonderful few days, the bar for future January holidays has been set very high, the location, the hotel, the staff, the food, the entertainment, the walks, the company and even the weather played their part.

Our thanks go out to Alan Whitcroft for his time and effort in arranging the holiday, also to the walk leaders Mike Cummings, George Henderson, Brian Keates, Ben Mathias and Richard Satchwell, for their splendid walks. And just a mention of our lovely coach drivers Danielle and Tracey who helped make this holiday a very memorable one and have become part of the Coventry CHA Rambling family.

Pat Head and Chris Buchanan

Christmas Party

60 people attended the 2019 Christmas Party. Many thanks to all those who contributed, whether it be organising us, entertaining us, feeding us or just joining in; it was a fun afternoon and the end of party food auction raised £35.40 for the clubs charities.

Selling items on the coach

If you wish to sell tickets, raffle ticket, goods, etc. or ask for sponsorship on the Sunday coach, can you please ask the committee before doing so.

Youngest Member

We started with our oldest member; now meet our youngest member 8 year old Phoebe Martin pictured here with Mo Keates on a recent walk.

