



Coventry CHA Rambling Club Newsletter December 2021



Taking an afternoon break, Oversley Wood, Alcester, Sunday 14th November 2021.

Holidays 2022

January. Alan now has 79 members booked to go on the Lytham St Anne's holiday.

Brian has kindly furnished a sneak preview of the walks he is proposing for the break. The exact details of the A, B and C walks each day are still to be finalised.

Monday. Coastal seaside walks on paved paths, starting at Fleetwood, passing through Cleveleys, and ending in Blackpool.

Tuesday. Countryside walks centred on the village of Whalley, on the banks of the River Calder. The village of Whalley is one of the most famous villages in Lancashire, well known for its ruined 14th century Cistercian Abbey, the parish church which has been in the village for over 1400 years, its ancient grammar school and the field where the first 'Roses' cricket match was played it is situated on the banks of the River Calder in the heart of the

beautiful Ribble Valley and is dominated by the Nab, a green and wooded hillside. Whalley has had a long and varied history and excavations show evidence of Iron Age occupation east of the village and also of a Roman camp in the village.

Wednesday. Riverside walks along the banks of the River Lune, finishing in Lancaster. The city of Lancaster has lots to offer, alongside the usual shops, pubs, tea and coffee houses there is the Lancaster Maritime Museum which is sited on the banks of the River Lune. In the city centre there is Lancaster Cathedral and the medieval Lancaster Castle.

Thursday. Riverside walks mostly on paved paths along the banks of the Ribble River, finishing at the Riversway Dockland Marina in Preston.



Brian Keates

September. Nothing new to report, other than Alan has confirmed that everything is currently still on track for our trip to the Ramada Hotel, Kranjska Gora, Slovenia.



AGM 2021

Forty two members attended this year's AGM. For those of you who were unable to attend the AGM this year, there has been a changing of the guard on the committee. Standing down were Dave Thomas (Chairman), Brian Keates (Secretary), Mike Cummings (Rambles Secretary), Neville Russell (Thursday walks organiser) and Angela Cottrell (Committee member). Our thanks to each and everyone as they have all contributed greatly of their time and energy and fulfilled their roles admirably, some cases over many years.

Our thanks also to those who have volunteered to take up the vacant roles. Brian Keates has made a sideways move from Secretary to President, George Henderson is now Club Secretary, Richard Price is the new Sunday walks organiser (formally known as the Rambles Secretary), Angela Whelan is the Thursday walks organiser and Theresa Westwood the Saturday walks organiser. Dave Thomas is now a committee member, replacing Angela Cottrell. All other existing committee members have remained in post and unchanged.

After AGM discussion

Once the AGM had finished a general discussion ensued and two topics were raised concerning charity fund raising and the Saturday walks. Firstly on the issue of the distribution of monies raised at the various charity events that are staged each year. After some lively discussion it was decided that at any event deemed to be purely a club event such as the barn dances and skittle evenings, the monies raised should be donated to the clubs current adopted charities, which are The Air Ambulance, Zoes Place and Myton Hospice. Any individual club member holding their own charity event, for example a coffee morning, they can if they wish give the money raised to the club charities or to a charity of their own choosing.

The duration of the Saturday walks was the second topic. A member raised concern about the mileage on the Saturday Rambles being too long for some. The average used to be 4 miles, but now 6 miles seems to be the norm. Theresa Westwood (Saturday walks organiser) replied saying "she left it to the leaders to plan their own Saturday walks and members attending the walks seemed happy with what they are doing"

Just a reminder, to those of you who haven't already done so that the annual membership fee of £10 is now due for payment

Sunday Walks

After much discussion the committee have decided that the number of Sunday walks on offer is to remain as before, two or three a month depending on the number of Sundays in a particular month. Factors taken into consideration when making this decision were that the coaches are still not filled to full capacity, the usual seasonal drop in numbers due to the cold and wet weather and family commitments over Christmas and the New Year. The situation will be reviewed by the committee in February. There has been an encouraging increase in the numbers attending the Sunday coach walks over the last month or so. However, none of them has had a full complement as yet, so if you do fancy a Sunday walk even if it is a last minute decision, just give Ann a call on 07950 363203 to check availability.

The current standard coach fare of £10 is set to stay, for the majority of journeys, short and long. It is considered that this has worked well and has proved convenient for both those paying and those collecting the fares on the journey home.

Walk Leaders

A call is out for more members to volunteer to lead walks, both during the week and at weekends. You will have noticed that the same walk leader's names appear on a very regular basis on the walks programme, it would be nice to see some new names joining them, or even some old names, If you have led a walk in the past but haven't done one for a while, it would be good to see you. Are there any new budding walk leaders out there, if so, your club needs you....We particularly would like to see more volunteers to take the lead on Sunday walks. As you know there are **A** and **B** walks on Sunday's, **A** walks are about 10 miles, so this may be a bit daunting initially so why not try liaising with an established **A** walk leader and lead the **B** walk in conjunction with them instead. **B** walks are usually around 3 to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length. There is plenty of walking knowledge in the club and there will always be someone to help and guide you. Please contact any of the walk organisers to discuss having a go.



Articles for the newsletter

If anyone would like to send in any articles, photographs, poems, etc for possible inclusion in the newsletter you can do so by emailing an entry to the editor at cofa@btinternet.com

If you do plan to send in a photograph, please ensure all the humans featured on it are happy for their image to be published. Not all pictures need to feature people, it could be of something interesting or amusing spotted on a walk, any entries should obviously be club activity or walking related. If the entry is suitable and there is sufficient room it may well find its way into the newsletter. (Some newsletters are quite busy and it is a struggle to fit in all the relevant articles required). Articles/pictures for inclusion will be at the editor's discretion. It is your newsletter and it would be nice on occasion to include some additional items from the club membership.



Chris Buchanan