

Coventry CHA Rambling Club Newsletter March 2023

New Club President.

Since the last newsletter we have received notification from Nick Hames that due to personal and family reasons he has resigned from his position as Club President with immediate effect. Although Nick was only with us for a short while, he did have considerable input with ideas for moving the club forward in this technical age. We thank him for his efforts and wish him well for the future.

Fortunately, the club received a nomination for the vacant post of President which has been accepted by the committee. We are pleased to announce that the new club President is Dieshy Purewal. She has been an active club member for many years and became a committee member at the last AGM. We wish her well in her new post.

Sunday walks

As you probably are aware there have been some changes regarding the structure of the walks on Sunday. There are now three walks available and there has been some confusion as to what the A, B and C walks will entail. To help make it clearer, it has been decided to change the naming slightly. The A and B walks will remain as they have always been, and there is now a third walk option which will show on the walks programme as A-(minus).

A Walk. This will be a walk of approximately 10 miles; it will be split roughly into two. A morning walk and an afternoon walk e.g.: a.m. 5½ miles p.m. 4½ miles. You can choose to do both walks or just the one, it's up to you.

A-(A Minus)Walk. This will be a morning walk of approximately 4½ miles. It will be at a more leisurely pace than the A walk. We have been calling it the B walk.

B Walk... This will be a morning walk of approximately 2-2½ miles, at a leisurely pace, on reasonable paths, with few or no stiles.

Can we also bring to the Sunday walkers' attention that it is expected that you book your place on the coach prior to the walk preferably by the Friday of the next Sunday walk. If you just turn up you may find no room on the coach. Please ring Pauline Semple **07950363203**

We have had coach quotes for the next Sunday Ramblers and researched with several companies and our usual coach company offered the best prices. However, fuel, maintenance, insurance, and drivers' salaries have all increased and hence the coach costs. So, in line with inflation costs, future coach costs will be £17 from immediate effect.

Barn Dance 2023

Terry Stamper planned another Barn Dance on Friday 31st March starting at 7:30pm. It was in a new larger venue, the Massey Ferguson Social Club on Broad Lane. The event was a great success and thanks to caller Julian Stanley and live music was provided by Runaway Mop. Well done Terry!!

Quiz Night 2023

Terry is offering the opportunity to test your knowledge at a Quiz night on 19th May 2023 at Brandon club CV8 3HW at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £10 and include a buffet supper with a vegetarian option available on request.

Coffee Mornings 2023

We have 4 volunteers who have offered to kindly open their gardens to host this year's coffee and cake mornings. There will be a charge of £3.00 per head for those attending, with profits going to the charities chosen by the hosts. Any of your own cakes, homemade or otherwise, will of course be most welcome on the day. Any uneaten cakes will be auctioned, and the proceeds added to the total. Thank you to all those who have offered this year. Please note they are on a Tuesday morning.

Tuesday 20th June 10.30 -12.30 Angela Whelan
Charity: Tools for self-reliance

Tuesday 11th July. 10.30-12.30 Terry Stamper
Charity: The Air Ambulance

Tuesday 25th July. 10.30-12.30 Pauline Johnson
Charity: Mary's meals

Tuesday 1st August. 10.30-12.30 Dieshy Purewal
Charity: Support for UHCW

Slovenia holiday 2022

Sunday 4th September. At last, the long-awaited holiday to Slovenia arrived. At 10.30 a.m. all present and on board, we tootled off and headed for Heathrow airport. With no hold ups on the journey, we arrived in good time to check in.

It was all going so well, then the unthinkable happened, someone had forgotten their passport.....who could it be,.... well dear readers, I was that person (Chris Buchanan). Bags were searched, pockets checked, but there was no sign of the rogue paperwork. Then I had that Eureka moment! Was it under the lid of the photocopier in the spare bedroom? A call to a neighbour confirmed my suspicions. Not much help really, but at least it wasn't lost, just 95 miles away!!!

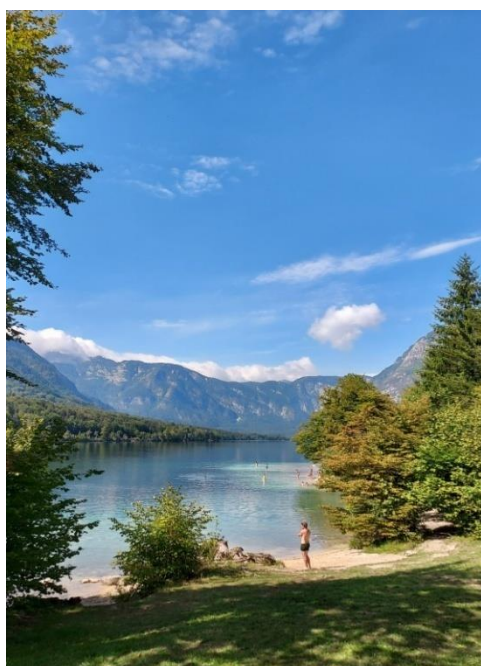
I was in a state of dismay, **no holiday!** Fortunately for me Nick (Hames) took the initiative and managed to book me a flight on the Tuesday morning from Luton Airport, so all was not lost. So, while the rest of the party continued into Heathrow airport, I headed home via the Heathrow express, the London underground and Avanti West coast with nobody else to blame but myself!

Monday 5th September: While I was at home everyone else were taking in the delights of Lake Bled and a guided tour of Slovenia's capital city Ljubljana.



Tuesday 6th September: At last, I'd got to Slovenia and my first view of the Julian Alps, on the drive from the airport the scenery was breath taking. As it was a free day, I was greeted by club members on my arrival at the Ramada Hotel in Kranjska Gora. The hotel was in a lovely location surrounded by wooded alpine peaks, and my room had a balcony and gorgeous views. Things were looking up for me!!

Wednesday 7th September: After a buffet breakfast we had two coach options. Some walked to Planica, Tamar and the Nadiza Waterfall. Others went on a tour of the medieval town of SkofjaLoka, then to Idija and finally to Kobarid which had connections with the WW1 Battle of Caporetto. I chose the walk, which was approximately 6 miles around Lake Bohinj. It was very pretty and hot. After the walk some ventured up to the Nadiza waterfall with its 33 foot drop, I plumped for a sit down and a coffee at the restaurant below.



Thursday 8th September: Another free day for people to do their own thing.

Friday 9th September: We again had two choices, either a visit to the Postojna Caves or to the Lipica Stud Farm to see the Lipizzaner horses. I opted for the Postojna Caves. The weather that day started out lovely, warm, and sunny, but as we waited to enter the caves the heavens opened, and we had to shelter in the cave entrance. Once we were allowed into the caves, a train took us on a 4-kilometre journey through

the cave system. We then walked a further kilometre or so through the stunning rock formations. The caves were enormous and quite amazing. An hour or so later we boarded the train for the return journey and re-emerged into bright sunshine.

Saturday 10th September: Another free day.

Sunday 11th September: Returning home, we reflected on a lovely holiday where all aspects of the hotel were excellent, and the weather was good. The excursions and the guides showed Slovenia to be a beautiful country, which we shared with great company. Many thanks go to Alan Whitcroft for once again arranging a wonderful holiday for us all to enjoy.

January holiday 2023

Sunday 22nd January. This year we experimented with a package holiday provided by Dunwoods. The two coaches that picked us up from Pool Meadow were comfortable and modern and drivers Charlie and Richard were efficient and friendly, so we were off to a good start! We set off at 9.15am, arriving at The Anchorage Hotel Babbacombe in the late afternoon, where we were speedily checked in and given keys to our rooms. The hotel was basically two large houses joined together which made it a bit of a rabbit warren, but we soon located our rooms and settled in. The first evening meal was an unusual one, but further meals were more to our taste. The buffet style breakfast was substantial and set us all up for the day.



Monday 23rd January. After breakfast there were three walks on offer all starting from Goodrington Beach, an A walk of 9 miles, a B walk of 4 miles and a C walk of 2 miles. The weather was dry and spring like and the paths were firm with little or no mud. The walk were mainly flat although the A walk had some steps and inclined sections. All walks were enjoyable, and we had time for lunch and a look around Torquay in the afternoon.

Tuesday 24th January. The weather was good, and we had another grand day for walking. Today we had just the two walks. The A walk of 9 miles from Hillhead along the coastal path finished at Brixham harbour, and had some steep sections(which I can vouch for!) onto the cliff tops, but which were well worth it for the views. The B walk of 4 miles also provided steep steps along the coastal path into Brixham.

Wednesday 25th January. There were no coaches today, so a chance to do our own thing. There was however a 5 mile walk from the hotel arranged by Richard which had quite a few takers.



Thursday 26th January. There were walks planned today to drop walkers at Slapton village, but the coach drivers with their local knowledge advised us that it would not be possible, so the walk leaders got their heads together and came up with some alternative walks. All the walks ended in Dartmouth. Here the B party are shown taking a breather at Dartmouth Castle after walking part of the Southwest coast path from Little Dartmouth.

Friday 27th January. Homeward bound after a very enjoyable holiday. Many thanks to all those who made it possible, Geoff Roberts for his effort and time arranging the holiday with Dunwoods, Richard Price for organising the walks programme, and the walk leaders, Richard, George Henderson, and Dave Thomas.

Greeting Cards

It has long been a feature that cards are sent out on the club's behalf to members on their 80th/90thbirthdays. Much time is taken to select a suitable card, and thanks are due to Mo Keates who has carried out this task for many years. However, the responsibility has now been passed to Stef Rushmere who has kindly agreed to step into the role.

Annual day out to Cambridge

The annual outing this year will be to Cambridge, on Saturday 8th July 2023

More details later. Save the date to your diary !!

September holiday 2023

Geoff Roberts has reserved the Afton hotel in Eastbourne for Sunday 24th September to Friday 29th September.

More details available from Geoff at skybluegeoff6@gmail.com

John Cottrell

We had sad news of the death of John Cottrell who died recently. We send our condolences to Angela his wife. John was a staunch member of the club for many years and supported it with his leadership of the club.

President: 1983-84

Rambles Secretary: 1986-88

Treasurer: 1993-2008

Angela and John met in the Club and subsequently married.

Further details of funeral arrangements are not known at present.