

DEADLINE
for the next
NEWSLETTER & PROGRAMME
SATURDAY 31st MARCH

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
South Downs Way Sat May 12th – 21st
Waendal Walk Weekend 11th to 13th May
Area Quiz Night Sat. May 23
Walking around Swanage 11th to 15th June
Awayday to Derbyshire Sat 23rd June

AWAYDAY

It has been agreed that our 2012 awayday will be to Derbyshire but because of a very busy spring it has been very difficult to find a suitable date. The earliest we can find being Saturday 23th June.

The provisional itinerary will be for the coach to pick up at Higham Ferrers market square at 8.00am and Wellingborough High Street at 8.30am. It will drop off the long walkers around 11.00am and those doing the shorter walks soon after. The coach will continue on to Hardwick Hall, a National Trust property, arriving at approximately 12.30pm. It will leave around 4.00pm and return to meet the walkers at a suitable Inn or public house where refreshment may be taken before leaving for home at around 6.00pm. We anticipate that we should arrive at Wellingborough at 8.00pm and Higham Ferrers at 8.30pm.

Final details will be available on the web site in the new year and a booking slip will be included in the next newsletter due to be published in the middle of April.

JB

CHRISTMAS LUNCHESES

The four Christmas lunches are all taking place around the time this newsletter goes to print and will be reported on in the next newsletter. In the meantime I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Ed



ramblers
at the heart of walking

NEWSLETTER

WELLINGBOROUGH RAMBLERS

DECEMBER 2011

www.wellingboroughramblers.co.uk

Editor John Bedford 01933 398905

or editor@wellingboroughramblers.co.uk

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Since the August 2011 Newsletter our Group has welcomed the following new members – Ms. Julie Hastings, Mrs. Diana Albary, Ms. Frances Graves, Mr. Martin Turner and Michael & Carol Haybyrne. Also David & Doreen Stringer have transferred in from the Northampton Group.

A minimum of 76 Wellingborough members have walked this last year with 30 visiting members coming from Northampton, Kettering, North Bucks, Ivel Valley, Ouse Valley, Huntingdon and Higham Footpath Group. 39 non-member visitors have included walkers from Spain, Canada and Arizona.

To help keep our records up to date will members please inform the membership secretary of any changes to their details.

JackieTimpson

HF HOLIDAYS

HF Holidays have selected The Rambler's as their preferred charity for 2012 and will give a donation to the Rambler's for any member of the Ramblers booking a holiday with H.F. Holidays. They will also give a donation of £250 to any Ramblers group booking a holiday for 11 or more full paying members.

RAMBLERS WORLDWIDE HOLIDAYS

At the time of going to press we understand that "Ramblers Worldwide Holidays" are offering to make grants to any group to help fund their operation and special projects. We hope to have more on this in the New Year so please watch our website or eNewsletter.

AREA AGM

This was held on Sunday 20 November at Weedon Village Hall and hosted by the Daventry Group. Both walks were well attended with 45 members staying for the meeting afterwards. Sue Alcock stepped down as vice chair but Wellingborough remain well represented with four members still on this committee. Rodney Whittaker from "The Ramblers" was the main speaker with declining membership and windfarms as his main topics. More details are in the enclosed Area newsletter. A copy of The Annual Report is available at www.northantsramblers.org.uk.

Fiona Rawlings

AWARDS

It was announced at the AGM that Richard Marshall and Gwilym Thomas had each been awarded a long service award for their contribution to the Wellingborough Group and The Ramblers Association. Richard's award was for his long service and friendliness to new members. Starting with the group at its inception in 1991 he is still leading walks every month and is a regular on the awaydays and holidays organised by the group.

Gwilym who joined the group a little later has been commended for his work as footpath secretary for the group and area and his work with various footpath initiatives involving other groups, such as British Waterways.

BARN DANCE

As reported at the AGM the barn dance at Denton village hall was a great success with a superb band and delicious fish & chips. It was well attended by our members all of whom took to the floor at sometime during the evening. Well done Maxine.

WALKING AROUND SWANAGE

Doreen & David Stringer have offered to organise a series of circular walks starting in the Swanage area from Monday 11th June to Friday 15th June 2012. It will consist of two half day walks on the first and last days and longer day walks on each of the other 3 days. Walkers need to provide their own transport to the area and arrange overnight accommodation. There are a few caravans to rent on the site that Doreen & David use but early booking is essential.

If you are interested in this trip please contact David or Doreen on 01604 459156 for more details, or visit our website.

WEBSITE

Martin Alcock is taking on a temporary caretaker role for our very successful website. He is quite new to this and we ask you all to be patient during this change over period, but please continue to send any news, pictures or anecdotes. *If any of our members wishes to take on this role please contact Martin at webmaster@wellingboroughramblers.co.uk*

FOOTPATH SECRETARY

We are pleased to report that at the first meeting following the AGM, the committee have accepted Stuart Roberts' offer to take over the position of footpath secretary recently vacated by Gwilym Thomas. Stuart has experience in this field and we are certain that he will be a great asset to the group.

Ed

WELLINGBOROUGH AGM

This year's AGM was attended by 24 members most of whom accepted the free drink offered by the committee to lure them to the event. A number of committee members stood down. Jim Timpson was replaced by Maxine Byrom as secretary who will, after the success of the Barn Dance also continue as social secretary. Gwilym Thomas who was our footpath secretary for many years has resigned. Paul Waterton has relinquished the Webmaster position and his position on the committee and Martin Alcock has agreed to have a go at the website but will not be on the committee. All retiring members were warmly thanked by the chairman and the meeting for their past efforts.

The committee are pleased to welcome Jane Stuart and John and Diane Mann to the committee whilst all other members remain the same. (See front of programme or website for details). The position of publicity secretary has not been filled in recent years and in view of continuing reductions in membership both nationally and locally we believe that this is a job that is very important. We are also looking for a newsletter editor, a job that I do reluctantly as it is done at the same time as the programme to which I must confess I give priority. We are also looking for someone to take over the editing and publishing of the eNewsletter perhaps combining the two?

There were further changes in duties with Margaret Higgins taking over our very extensive map library, Diane Mann taking on the role of Wednesday walks co-ordinator and Pam Barrett covering Thursday walks. We trust that you will all give them the support they deserve. *Ed*

	INCOME £		EXPENDITURE £		
	2011	2010		2011	2010
Funding	1,116.00	655.6	Internet/computers	158.91	10.51
Advertising	30.00	30.00	Programme	759.93	492.37
Interest	1.00	1.51	Other stationery	70.14	12.48
Social					
Events	186.10	195.20	Map library	143.63	0.00
			Meeting room	15.00	10.00
			Bank & card charges	18.50	
TOTAL	1,333.78	882.31	TOTAL	1,166.11	578.69
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE £				167.67	303.62
BANK BALANCES £				1,677.98	1,510.31