

## 2010 AGM

25 members attended the 2010 AGM held at the Old Grammarians Club in Wellingborough on 20th October. The chairman thanked all the committee and various officers for all the hard work put in during the year, and in particular Richard Marshall and Jacky Smith who had each decided to stand down. The Christmas dinner on Wednesday 15th December will be Jacky's final event as Social Secretary, concluding a period that has been both rewarding for her and entertaining for us. New members elected to the committee were Pam Barrett returning after a couple of years absence and two new members, Maxine Byrom and Fiona Rawlings . The full list of committee members is on the front of your walks programme and on our website (*Wellingboroughramblers.co.uk*) where photographs will help you put a face to a name or vice versa.

The meeting was informed that the Wellingborough group now had the largest representation on the area committee with Sue Alcock being Vice Chair, Fiona Rawlings treasurer, Andrew Knapman and Pam Barrett Wellingborough's representatives and also Gwilym Thomas.. (Ed's note. After our meeting Fiona has now become the Area Secretary and Andrew their treasurer). Our Treasurer reported that a profit of £303.62 had been made over the year a result of being one of the top 10% in the country for efficiency and good management according to a recent head office report. See details below.

The Social Secretary and Programme Secretary both reported successful years, and thanked all their helpers for their support, but the membership secretary said there was a drop of 28 members over the year which, according to head office, reflects the national trend. The footpath secretary informed the meeting that the number of planning requests for wind farms was on the increase as was the number of complaints relating to footpaths. Members were reminded to keep on sending in details of any such problems they encountered.

The website continues to grow under the stewardship of Paul Waterton who was co-opted back onto the committee last year.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm, followed by supper for those that wanted it.

INCOME £			EXPENDITURE £		
	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>		<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Funding	655.60	200.42	Internet/computers	10.51	35.23
Advertising	30.00	60.00	Programme	492.37	499.38
Interest	1.51	8.05	Other stationery	65.81	12.48
Social					
Events	195.20	49.90	Map library	0.00	0.00
			Meeting room	10.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>882.31</b>	<b>318.37</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>578.69</b>	<b>547.09</b>
<b>EXCESS OF INCOME OVER</b>					
<b>EXPENDITURE £</b>				<b>303.62</b>	<b>(228.72)</b>
<b>BANK BALANCES £</b>				<b>1,510.31</b>	<b>1206.69</b>

## **HOODIE ENCOUNTER**

Whilst out walking in Irchester Country Park I had a most unusual encounter. As I walked along a woodland path, a boy on a bicycle approached. Suddenly the top of his head began to writhe - there was a lively creature there! I thought a squirrel had dropped from the low branches above, but it turned out to be a young pet polecat that had escaped from his hoodie hat

*Sue Alcock*

## **WEBSITE**

The new contemporary design and layout of our website, is easier to read and quicker to navigate whilst extra pages allows us to add even more content..There is now a page to send in walks details which will save the programme secretary a little time and hopefully reduce the errors. Please continue to send in articles or photos that you believe may be of interest to other members to Webmaster@wellingboroughramblers.co.uk and find out what is going on by visiting, [www.wellingboroughramblers.co.uk](http://www.wellingboroughramblers.co.uk)

## **AREA QUIZ**

The 2011 Quiz will be held on Saturday 5th March 7:30 pm in Moulton Village Hall, Pound Lane, where there is a licensed bar and good parking. Entry to the Quiz is free but it would be greatly appreciated if each team entered would kindly donate a suitable prize for the raffle. Any members interested in taking part should contact Pam Barrett (See Area Newsletter for more details of quiz)

## **ADVICE FOR NEW LEADERS**

Paul Waterton has put together a simple list to help members who have led few or no walks previously. It is available from the Programme Secretary or any of the walks co-ordinators. A copy is also available on our website.

*Ed*

## **THE JAMES HERRIOT WAY**

A reminder that we will be walking the James Herriot Way from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2011. Based on your self-booked accommodation in Leyburn [www.wensleydale.net](http://www.wensleydale.net) the walk of 52 miles will be completed in 5 stages allowing sufficient time for travel on Monday and Friday. Whilst it is a long distance path it can be completed by walkers with an average fitness. Not all the stages need to be completed and travel to and from the start will be by car. (Cars not more than half full please) Please let us know if you intend to attend. Further details will be issued nearer the date.

*Paul@wellingboroughramblers.co.uk 01933 224598 Ed*

## **AREA AGM**

**It is Wellingborough's turn to host this year's event and we ask all of our members to do their best to attend this event. See panel overleaf or the Area newsletter for details.**

**DATES IN THIS PROGRAMME.**  
**AREA AGM Irchester Bowls Club Sun. Jan. 23rd 3.00PM**  
**For walks before the meeting see the programme.**  
**AREA QUIZ Sat. 5<sup>th</sup> March**

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**  
**Awayday to Norfolk Sat. May 14th**  
**The James Herriot Way 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> June 2011**  
**Walking the Rhine July 3rd to July 10<sup>th</sup> 2011**

**DEADLINE**  
for the next  
**NEWSLETTER & PROGRAMME**  
**SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

### **AWAYDAY 2011**

The next awayday is on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2011 to Wells next sea in Norfolk The coach will leave Wellingborough High St at 8.00am. and Higham Ferrers Market Square at 8.30am and travel to Walsingham where those not wishing to walk can spend the morning looking around the shrine and the village before catching a local bus or the narrow gauge railway into Wells. Our coach will continue to the coast where it will drop off those on the longer walk (10m approx) and then those on the shorter walk (6 miles approx) before arriving at Wells next sea for those that wish to spend their day by the seaside. The coach will leave Wells next Sea at six o'clock arriving in Higham around 8.30 and Wellingborough soon after. Walkers should take a picnic lunch and a drink. Full details of all options will be available on the coach.

A £10.00 non returnable deposit is required with all bookings which should be returned to John Bedford at 36 Tingdene Rd. Finedon NN95JB before March 31<sup>st</sup> 2011. Please make cheques payable to Wellingborough & District Ramblers.

**AWAYDAY TO NORFOLK 2011**

**SATURDAY 14 May 2011**

Name.....

Tel No.....

Number in party .....

Deposit £.....Cash / Cheque

Pick up point Wellingborough

or Higham

## **HAPPY CHRISTMAS**

This newsletter brings to an end another excellent year for the Wellingborough Ramblers with more walks and a greater variety than ever before. There were also many enjoyable social events and holidays. Thanks to all those who did the organizing and those that took part. We should also remember those who are members of the group through their national membership and for whatever reason do not walk with the group, their support for “Ramblers” is also very much appreciated.

A merry Christmas and a happy New Year to all of our members and I hope that it is as enjoyable and successful as the last. *Ed*

## **SUMMER HOLIDAY 2011**

To date 21 people have booked for a weeks walking holiday along the Rhine. The holiday organised by Stuart Roberts with Ramblers Holidays is from 3rd to the 10<sup>th</sup> Jul inc. For further details please contact Stuart on 01933 623745 or visit our website [wellingboroughramblers.co.uk](http://wellingboroughramblers.co.uk)

## **SOCIAL EVENTS**

The Barn Dance was well attended this year as always. The band “Ock ‘N’ Dough” did a grand job getting everyone up to dance and also gave us some good music and songs. We enjoyed the usual ploughman’s supper followed by a raffle. I’m sure everyone enjoyed the evening. The profit from this event was £116 which will be forwarded to the groups social fund..

By the time you read this all three Christmas lunches will have taken place and reports on these will be on our website in January and in the next newsletter.

You may be aware that I am now stepping down as social secretary and I should like to thank all those that have helped in any way toward the success of the events which have been organised. That includes those that have helped to set up, prepare or clear away and those that have sold or bought tickets and taken part in the social events. It is always very encouraging when positive feedback is forthcoming and I do hope that someone will come forward and have the satisfaction of arranging more successful social occasions as Alan and I had. Once again, many thanks to you all.

*Jacky Smith*