

'USE YOUR PATHS'

Use Your Paths is the RA's 'umbrella' footpath campaign for 2005. Use Your Paths Week will run from 18-24 June 2005, and will replace Footpaths Week. There will be lots of opportunities for RA Groups and members to 'get involved' throughout 2005.

There are over 140,000 miles (225,000 km) of footpaths in England & Wales. They range from the ancient and revered Ridgeway to the humble local path that gets you to the shops or to walk your dog. They may not be equally well-known, but they are both important. In fact every single yard of footpath is a precious part of our heritage. Paths form an intricate web that allows access to the farthest reaches of our beautiful countryside at the same time as serving as a functional and sustainable way to get from A to B.

It is in the main due to the RA's unstinting efforts over the last 70 years that the majority of these paths are recorded, open and usable. The RA fought to have this network shown on maps available to the public and then battled hard to have as many included as possible. The RA has lobbied hard over the years and has secured major legislation, from the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, through the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, to the recent Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

There will always be a need for walkers to report path problems to local authorities, and for RA volunteers to make decisions on diversion proposals and collect evidence to ensure every single footpath is recorded on the definitive map by 2026. Today, however, perhaps the best way we can all help to protect and preserve this national treasure is to get out there and walk more paths more often and encourage as many other people as possible to do the same.

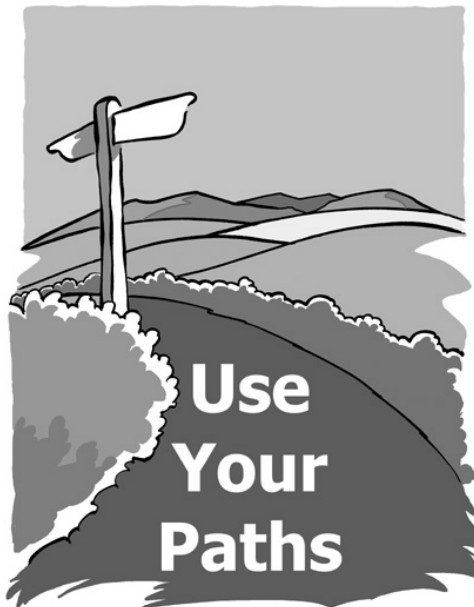
We want to make 2005 a year-long celebration of our footpath network by dedicating the year to the simple concept of 'Use Your Paths'. In that way we hope to:

- raise awareness of the importance and value of rights of way to local people
- encourage people to use their paths more frequently and more extensively
- get more people out walking
- educate people on their rights concerning paths
- inform more walkers on how and who to report path problems to
- take advantage of lobbying opportunities throughout the year

For the last 3 years a week in June has been set aside as Footpaths Week. In 2005, **June 18th to 24th** will be known as **Use Your Paths Week**. We are wanting your ideas as to how you can help to make Use Your Paths Week as successful in this Area as its predecessors.

Nationally, the RA will be highlighting the good, the bad, and the ugly of walking with a series of case studies throughout the year. It is also planning to extend last year's successful month-long website petition to run all year, and there will be another round of Footpath Work Awards.

There'll be more information on the **Use Your Paths** Campaign and what's happening in our Area in April's Area News.



EAST YORKSHIRE &
DERWENT AREA RA

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**SATURDAY JANUARY 22nd
2005**

at the
Bell Hotel, Driffield
Starting at 2-00pm

An AGENDA and AREA
ANNUAL REPORT
Is enclosed with this mailing

There will be a walk in the morning
starting from outside the venue
at 10-00am

**ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME
TO ATTEND AND
ENCOURAGED TO
CONTRIBUTE**

"A Happy & Prosperous 2005 to All our Members"

WORKING FOR WALKERS

... and don't forget you can help at local level too.

Although all our local RA Group have already had their AGMs by now there may still be vacancies on the Group Committee for someone willing to help out either by offering to organise a programme of talks or slide shows or organise additional walks and special events or to do some footpath or access work. Contact your group Secretary if you are interested.

NEW RA GROUP SECRETARIES

Details of the various Group Secretaries are listed on the back page of the Area Programme. However, can you note that following their respective Group AGMs the following people have taken over as Group Secretary:-

POCKLINGTON RA GROUP
TONY ASHBRIDGE,
4 Burnaby Close,
Molescroft,
Beverley HU17 7ET
01482-861215
Tony4Burnaby@aol.com

SCARBOROUGH RA GROUP
DENNIS MUIR
6 West Avenue,
Scalby
Scarborough YO13 0QB
01723-377222

GYBO (20's-30's) GROUP
PAUL RHODES
23 Ash Street,
York YO26 4UR
paulrhodes16@yahoo.co.uk

GYBO now have a HULL contact
Corinne Feuillatre
Corinne.Feuillatre@eypct.nhs.uk

Whilst we obviously welcome the above people to our ranks and thank them for volunteering to take on these important positions, we should also like to thank their respective predecessors, Kirsty Brooks, Elizabeth Jackson and Nancy Sydenham for the important work they have done on behalf of their Groups. We also send 'Thanks' to Graham Armstrong, a past Group Secretary and footpath campaigner in the Hull Group, as well as being an Area Vice Chairman and past Area News Editor, who will not be holding an RA position for the first time since 1987.

We are all indebted to the hard work that Graham has put in on behalf of ramblers over the years.

COACH RAMBLES

HULL & HOLDERNESS GROUP COACH RAMBLE. To STUDLEY PIKE

Members, friends and their families are invited to join us as we do something a little different - zooming up the M62 and walking across the high bridge that crosses the motorway on a 10 mile walk to Studley Pike.

Date: **Sunday APRIL 24th 2005**, leaving Hull at 07:45am first pick up Woodford sports centre then onto Ferensway, Willerby Square and South Cave.

Cost £7:50p. To book a seat please make cheques payable to RA and send to Jim Tulloch 5 Ha Penny Bridge, Victoria Dock. Hull HU9 1HD please ensure you include your name address or telephone number.

If you require more details phone Jim on 01482 587128 Thanks.

YORK GROUP COACH RAMBLES

York Group will also be going to Calderdale on **Sunday September 18th 2005**. There will be A and B walks as usual. There is also the possibility of an additional coach trip to the Dales in early May but that is awaiting indications of interest and confirmation as we go to press. More details on both from 01904-628134.

RYEDALE GROUP has a Coach ramble on Sunday June 26th. Details 01653-618583.

POCKLINGTON GROUP has a Coach Ramble to Derbyshire on Sunday August 28th. Details 01759-306829

Both the **GYBO** and **RYEDALE GROUP** are planning to walk the **Cleveland Way** in stages in 2005. Contact their respective Secretaries for further details if you are interested in joining them on these ventures.

YORK GROUP AMBLE PROGRAMME JANUARY TO MAY 2005

DATE	PLACE	GRID REF	LEADER ,
JAN 12 th	GATE HELMSLEY V.H.C.P.	692 552	K.WALKER
JAN 19 th	STILLINGFLEET CHURCH	593 410	D.FELTON
JAN 26 th	TADCASTER (BUS STATION C.P)	488 435	A.HANDS
FEB 2 nd	WHELDRAKE SCHOOL	681 451	S.ETCHELLS
FEB 9 th	STRENSALL V.H.C.P.	636 610	J.WHIPPI
FEB 16 th	BISHOP WILTON (PLAYING FIELD)	799 554	A&M. MEE
FEB 23 rd	HARROGATE RAILWAY Stn	304 552	A.CUMBERLAND
MAR 2 nd	BYLAND ABBEY (LAYBY TO SOUTH)	548 787	I.TURNER
MAR 9 th	KNARESBOROUGH (COYNINGHAM HALL C.P)	345 573	J.VANDERBURG
MAR 16 th	BRIMHAM ROCKS C.P	208 646	A.SANDERSON
MAR 23 rd	HUGGATE MILLLANE	877544	R.CRACKLES
MAR 30 th	CROPTON	759 896	A.CLARK
APR 6 th	LOW MILL C.P FARNDALE	673 952	K.WALKER
APR 13 th	KIRKHAM ABBEY	733 658	C.NICHOLLS
APR 20 th	LITTLE OUSEBURN (GREEN TREE INN C.P)	442 605	J.WINN
APR 27 th	GARFORTH (BARROWBY LANE)	400 337	M.WEBSTER
MAY 4 th	HELMSLEY (CARLTON LAY-BY)	614 841	W.HEDISON
MAY 11 th	TERRINGTON V.H.C.P.	673 702	R.BRAZIER
MAY 18 th	ALMSCLIFF CRAG	265 491	J.VANDERBURG
MAY 25 th	LITTLE SMEATON	523 170	A&J BLOOMFIELD

EVERYONE WELCOME ALL AMBLES COMMENCE AT 10.30AM
ALL ENQUIRIES TO ALAN CLARK YORK 411969

HUGGATE TEAROOM

Many of you will have enjoyed the excellent food and service at the "Old Blacksmiths Tearoom and Craft Gallery" at Huggate after a long day's walking. Sadly, the Tearoom closed permanently on 19th December. Proprietress Sue George has been a great supporter of the RA, so we would like to wish her and her family all the best.

The RAMBLERS ASSOCIATION exists to facilitate, for the benefit of everyone, the enjoyment and discovery on foot of Britain's countryside; and to promote respect for the life of the countryside.

The Association promotes rambling, protects rights of way, campaigns for access to open country and defends the beauty of the countryside. It is a democratic, voluntary organisation, registered as a charity - no 1093577.

AREA NEWS is the official newsletter of the East Yorkshire & Derwent RA Area, part of the Ramblers' Association, a company limited by guarantee, registration no 4458492. The deadline for contributions to the APRIL 2005 issue is **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 19th**.

All such contributions should be sent to the Editor, Malcolm Dixon, 8 Horseman Avenue, Copmanthorpe, York YO23 3UF.

Email to eydan.editor@care4free.net or phone 01904-706850