

View from the Chair

The 2009 AGM gave us the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of all our volunteers who have helped to make walking such a pleasurable experience, not only for our RA members but also for the walking public in general. All our Groups were represented and we were pleased to welcome our president, Ann Holt, as AGM chair. We also welcome back Chris Bush in the role of Footpath Secretary, York and North Yorkshire, a post that has been vacant for some time. It is good to have his expertise and drive as we seek to establish a new rights of way strategy for the Area. Scarborough Group have a new secretary, Pam Grimwood, and we welcome her to the team, too. Most of our Groups have a healthy number of volunteers, but we do need new people to come forward to serve on the Area Council (AC). To find out more about what the Area Council does and how you could help, see page seven.

New Ramblers Campaigns and Initiatives

This is an exciting and challenging period for the Ramblers. Many people see the RA as just a leisure organisation and do not know about its charitable, campaigning and environmen-



This year sees the 40th anniversary of the opening of the magnificent Cleveland Way, an example of the vision and commitment of some of our predecessors. Read more about it on page six.

Photo courtesy of Paul Rhodes

tal work. The RA is seeking to become more relevant to today's world, with new campaigns and services for all walkers. We need to broaden our appeal by providing, for example, shorter 2-5 mile walks aimed at less active walkers or walks for families with children. There are many opportunities for members to get involved in new initiatives locally. If you feel that you can help then please get in touch with the editors, an Area Council committee member or myself.

Peter Leese, Area Chairman

West Beck Bridge Celebratory Walk

1 p.m. Monday, May 4th 2009 (5 miles)
Join Mike Jackson at Brigham TA 080 539



Bethell's Bridge, on the route of the walk. If you cannot join us on May 4th but wish to explore this delightful part of the East Riding, the walk route is printed overleaf. Photo by DCW

Cleveland Way National Trail 40th Anniversary Celebratory Event, Sunday 24th May

The North York Moors National Park Authority is organising this event, and have invited the Ryedale group to walk the first section from Helmsley to Sutton Bank, a distance of ten miles. As this is a linear walk, the park authority will be organising transport back to the start.

As numbers are limited, in this instance priority will be given to Ryedale group members and members from other groups who regularly walk with us, but everyone is invited. Anyone interested should contact Sam Borman by phoning **01751 477325** or emailing ra.ryedale@btinternet.com as soon as possible.

Sam Borman

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The success of the Ramblers' long campaign to re-open West Beck Bridge, (spearheaded by Footpath Secretary Mike Jackson) has made this delightful and less frequented route by the peaceful waterways of East Yorkshire accessible once more.

Start: Brigham, TA 080 539

Distance: 5 miles

Park on the roadside verge on the approach to Brigham from the north east. Start walking westwards towards the hamlet, up and over the hill, down the other side and across the River Hull by a new opening swing bridge.

Turn left [southwards] and walk along the river bank past the boat club, where on some days the Brigham scows will be racing. As one proceeds along the river bank West Beck Bridge will eventually come into view.

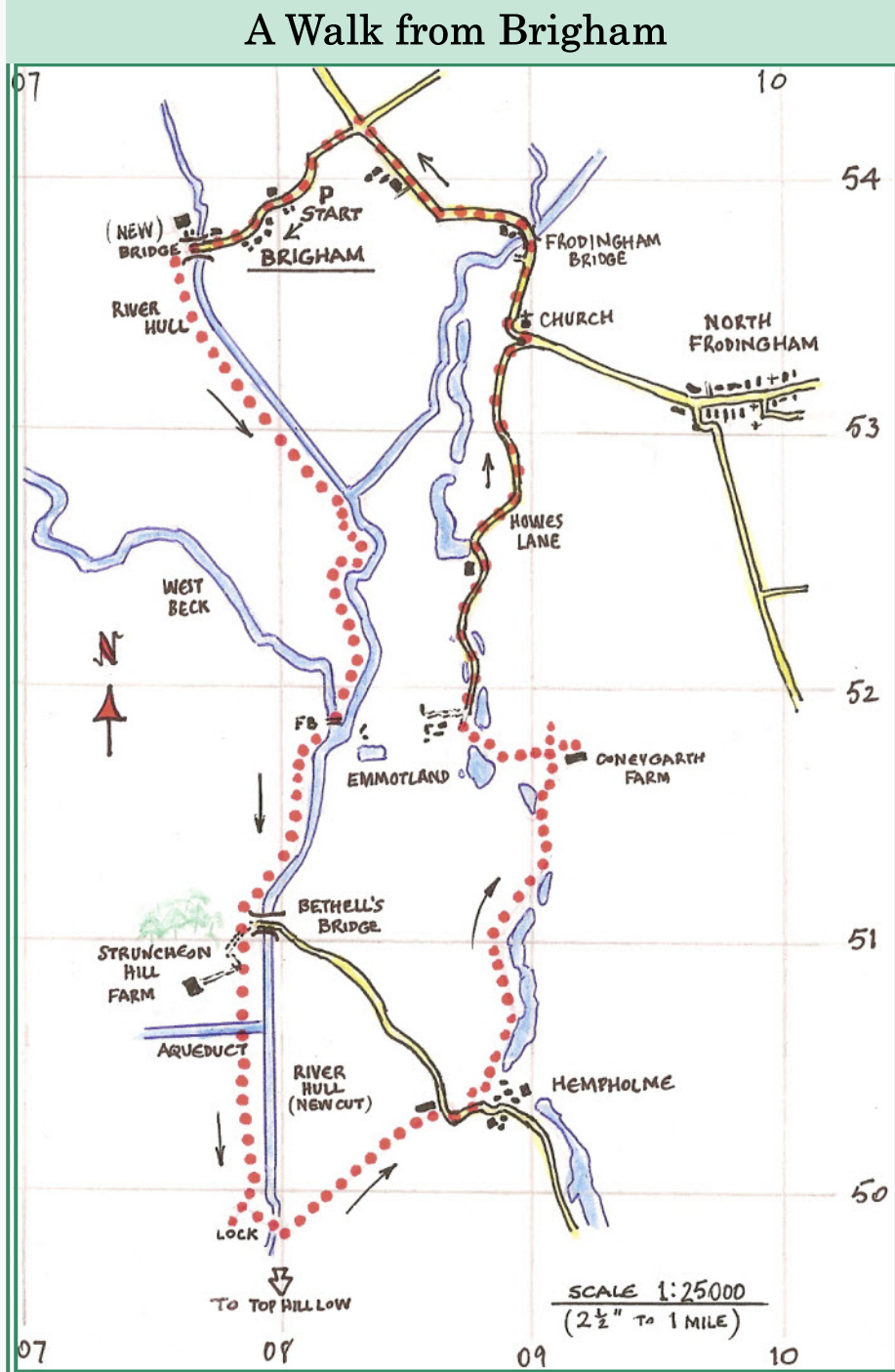
On reaching the bridge, cross over the high level bridge and admire the views of northern Holderness. Continue southwards, past the boats moored on the opposite bank before Bethell's Bridge and the bridge-keeper's house.

Here on the right is a new wood with car park and picnic area. A few years ago 165,000 trees were planted on the "island" of Struncheon Hill. Here's a chance to explore some of the permissive paths, or you can continue directly southwards on the west bank of the River Hull. Between the river and the wood is a drain, where you can watch the trout swim.

At the end of the wood, return to the River Hull; do not miss the aqueduct, taking Scurf Dike to the river. Continue southwards along the river past a new wildlife reserve to the north of Top Hill Low. This is where Yorkshire Water extracts drinking water from the river and is another bird reserve. The first lock gate on the river is at this point.

Cross the river via the lock gates and take the cross-field path in an east north east direction to the hamlet of Hempholme.

Turn right onto the road and watch out for the gate on the left into the pasture field. Walk in a northerly direction with the hedge on your right, then turn right and walk through the gate. Look to the



left and ahead is a cross-field path to another farm gate. Go through this gate and walk towards the farm track on your right. This takes you past a number of fishing lakes where the gravel has been extracted.

Continue northwards following the way-markers to a junction where another farm track crosses the route at Coneygarth Hill. Turn left here and walk towards Emmotland. This is where a bungalow was advertised for sale as a "Fishing Lake with Bungalow"

From here, walk northwards along the tarred road, Howes Lane, until you reach North Frodingham Church. Turn left here and walk on the pavement towards Brigham, crossing the Frodingham Bridge. Then you will need to walk a short section of road on the verge till you reach the cross-roads. Here, turn left on Brigham Lane into Brigham.

Thanks to Mike Jackson for describing this route and to Clive Inman for supplying the sketchmap.

The Right to Roam

For over a century, walkers despaired of ever achieving access to open countryside. How did this finally come about in the year 2000 when all previous attempts to get an Act of Parliament granting the right to roam had failed? Area President, Ann Holt, examines the reasons:

As Tom Halstead stood up to give his access officer's report at the area AGM, a memory suddenly popped into my head, the way they do when you are trying to concentrate on something else. While the bill which became the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 was making slow progress towards parliament, I had written a piece on previous attempts to get access to open country legislation. It was to go out under the name of an MP. He read it and said 'I don't mind signing this, but do you really think we are going to get it through this time?'

I was flabbergasted, so much so that I had no idea what to say. Of course we were not going to get an Act, at least not one worth having. Walkers had been trying since 1894, why should it be different this time? Surely a politician would know that?

Since then I've mulled a good deal over why I got it so wrong, why 2000 worked out so much better than 1894, 1898, and all the others up to the access sections of the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act. The RA campaign led by David Beskine from central office was brilliant by anybody's standards, but the access campaign has always been blessed with inventive campaigners and support in high places.

What had changed by the end of the twentieth century was the world outside the relatively small circles of rambling activists and their parliamentary supporters. The results of an opinion poll commissioned by the RA in 1999, at a time when government's commitment appeared to be wavering, illustrate the extent of this change. Nine out of ten respondents approved the idea of a right to roam in open country. There is no comparable material, but I doubt this would have been the case in or before 1949.

The access parts of the 1949 Act were particularly opposed by the powerful Ministry of Agriculture, its crucial role in increasing food production during the 1939-45 war still fresh in everyone's memory. By the 1990s the landowning and agricultural lobby had lost much public support as the environmental degradation and damage to human health caused by intensive farming became

better known. The civil servants who drafted the 1949 bill tended to write as though ramblers were odd people, mostly north of Watford and inclined to be stropic. By all accounts the civil servants drafting the 2000 Act were much more sympathetic than their predecessors. In politics as in much else in life, nothing beats being in on the ground floor.

Moral: history may be fascinating (alright, fascinates some of us) but it doesn't help us predict the future.

Ann Holt

Pub Closures

Mike Garnett, ex landlord of the Farmers Arms at Fridaythorpe recently said "I have been in talks with the owners for the past two years asking them to reduce the rent because it was ridiculous. I just got to the point where I could not afford to throw any more money at them." The rent on the premises, which is part of the Wellington Pub group was increased to a point beyond his means, creating a tall order for a publican competing with the supermarket giants.

"We are all struggling nowadays because of cheap supermarket drinks and being out in the sticks, people have to drive." Mr Garnett, who has more than 30 years experience in the hospitality trade, fears the Great British pub is on its way out.

Dennis Parker



SIGN OF THE TIMES ?

Clive Inman

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EXTRA SPRING and SUMMER WALKS 2009

The information below supplements that which you will find in our 2008 - 2009 programme booklet. Details of all walks including links to maps showing the starting point are also available at www.eastyorkshireramblers.org.uk

Date	Day	Time	Group	Leader	Miles	Grid Ref.			Place / details	Notes
08.04.09	Weds	10.30	YA	Jackie Glew	8	SE	154	574	Thruscross, Reservoir Car Park	
09.04.09	Thurs	10.00	S	Margaret Ingham	6	SE	673	953	Low Mill Farndale	BM
15.04.09	Weds	10.30	YA	Roz Thompson	8	SE	511	601	Newton-on-Ouse Church	
22.04.09	Weds	10.30	YA	Clive Nicholls	8	SE	730	624	Howsham Bridge	
23.04.09	Thurs	10.00	S	Margaret Ingham	6	TA	805	054	Egton Bridge Station	BM
29.04.09	Weds	10.30	YA	Margaret Green	8	SE	310	528	Follifoot Fulwith Mill Lane	
30.04.09	Thurs	10.00	S	Margaret Ingham	6	SE	814	991	Goathland nr. Hunt House.	
30.04.09	Thurs	7 pm	Y	S. Fishwick	5	SE	657	560	Stockton on Forest Church Coastliner bus 840	
04.05.06	Mon	13.00	H	Mike Jackson	5	TA	080	539	Brigham, SE of Drifffield	
05.05.09	Tues	7 pm	HH	Colin Clark	5.5	TA	155	422	Rise	
06.05.09	Weds	10.30	YA	Bill Hedison	8	SE	614	841	Helmsley, Carlton Layby	
07.05.09	Thurs	(6.30) 7.pm	HG	Karen Williams	5	SE	574	378	(Howden Hailgate CP for car share) Cawood Old Road	
07.05.09	Thurs	7 pm	Y	J & K Sawkill	5	SE	732	625	Howsham Bridge	
10.05.09	Sun	8.30	B	Philip Byrne	8	BEVERLEY GROUP COACH RAMBLE TO DERBYSHIRE (See p 6)				
11.05.09	Mon	7 pm	Y	N. Blenkin	5	SE	608	499	Aldi Car park [Fulford Road] First 7, Arriva 41	
12.05.09	Tues	7 pm	HH	Mike Jackson	5	TA	248	313	Burton Pidsea Village Hall	
13.05.09	Weds	10.30	YA	Alan Clark	8	SE	638	282	Barlow Nature Reserve Car Park	
19.05.09	Tues	7 pm	Y	P. Pendegrass	5	SE	583	647	Sutton on Forest church	
19.05.09	Tues	7 pm	HH	Jill Moore	5	TA	032	395	Saturday Market, Beverley	
20.05.09	Weds	10.30	YA	A & J Bloomfield	8	SE	523	169	Little Smeaton	
21.05.09	Thurs	10.00	S	Margaret Ingham	6	SE	635	855	Pockley, B.W.at Intake Lane	
21.05.09	Thurs	7 pm	B	Shirley Dalby	4	SE	957	271	Welton Footbridge Car Park	DSL
26.05.09	Tues	7 pm	HH	Jim Tulloch	5	TA	147	342	Ganstead, Old Road	
27.05.09	Weds	10.30	YA	Anne Allison	8	SE	707	712	Castle Howard, Lake Car Park	
28.05.09	Thurs	7 pm	B	Steve Mullarkey	5	SE	923	313	South Cave	DSL
28.05.09	Thurs	7 pm	Y	M. Skelton	5	SE	707	712	Castle Howard, Lake Car Park	
30.05.09	Sat	13.30	Y	Judith McCreery	4.5	SE	567	657	Huby to Easingwold (Linear)	PT
Reliance bus dep. Exhibition Sq, York at 1305. Cafes in Easingwold. Return buses to York at 16.10, 16.40, 17.05, 17.10.										
30.05.09	Sat	2 pm	B	S Dalby/D Wlodarczyk	3	TA	055	417	Tickton, Hull Bridge	DSL, FF
02.06.09	Tues	7 pm	HH	Jim Tulloch	6.5	TA	014	336	Skidby (nr. Church)	
03.06.09	Weds	6.30 pm	HG	D& B.Kelly	4	SE	797	232	Half Moon Pub, Reedness Fish & chip supper after walk	
04.06.08	Thurs	10.00	S	Margaret Ingham	6	SE	516	831	Sutton Bank, N.Y.Moors C.P.	
04.06.08	Thurs	7 pm	Y	N. Emery	5	SE	670	526	Dunnington, Cross Keys	First 12
06.06.09	Sat	10.00	B	Colin Mullender	9	SE	943	355	High Hunsley Circuit 1	HHC 1
07.06.09	Sun	8.30	HG	Diana Kitwood	8	Goole Leisure Centre CP. Minibus to Scarborough, booking essential. Tel: 01405 769888				Cost £14
09.06.09	Tues	7 pm	HH	Jim Tulloch	5	TA	107	286	Urban Hull (Timber Dock PH)	
10.06.09	Weds	10.50	B	Margaret Moody	8	TA	104	630	Burton Agnes Pond (circular)	PT, DSL
If using bus, take EY 121 at 10.05 from Beverley, Sow Hill. Arr. 10.50. Return 15.48, arr. 16.35 or 16.48, arr.17.35										
11.06.09	Thurs	7 pm	Y	S. Hoather	5	SE	558	550	Nether Poppleton [War memorial]	First 10
11.06.09	Thurs	7 pm	B	Jean Cavill	5	SE	997	371	Walkington Church	
14.06.09	Sun	(9.45) 10.30	HG	Karen Williams	7.5	SE	552	307	(Goole Leisure centre CP) or Hambleton, Chapel Street	
16.06.09	Tues	7 pm	HH	Jim Tulloch	5	SE	963	304	Bottom Plantation	

Date	Day	Time Group	Leader	Miles	Grid ref.			Place/details		Notes	
17.06.09	Weds	10.00	B	Ray Wallis	11	River Hull Walk from Hull Interchange to Beverley Catch 9.19 EY bus from Beverley. Arrive Hull 9.59			PT DSL		
18.06.09	Thurs	10.00	S	Margaret Ingham	6	SE	542	894	Hawby P.O.		
18.06.09	Thurs	7 pm	Y	S. Roberts	5	SE	592	507	Knavesmire Gates	First 4,12,13	
23.06.09	Tues	7 pm	HH	Steve Mullarkey	5	SE	912	368	North Newbald Green		
24.06.09	Weds	9.59	B	Margaret Moody	8.5	SE	877	418	Market Weighton Church (circular)	PT DSL	
If using bus, take X46 at 9.37 from Beverley, arr. 9.59. Return from Market Weighton on X46 at 14.54, 15.54 or 16.59.											
25.06.09	Thurs	7 pm	Y	R. Taylor	5	SE	593	476	Bishopthorpe library		
25.06.09	Thurs	7 pm	B	Dany Wlodarczyk	3	SE	055	417	Tickton, Hull Bridge		
28.06.09	Sun	10.52	B	Colin Mullender	11	CLEVELAND WAY from Scarborough Station to Filey (linear)					
Take 9.38 train from Beverley or park in Filey and take 10.34 train from Filey to Scarborough. Return trains from Filey to Beverley at 18.22 or 19.51 or Filey to Scarborough at 17.15. Option of fish and chip supper in Filey after the walk.											
30.06.09	Tues	7 pm	Y	V. Silberberg	5	SE	611	486	Fulford, Landing Lane	First 7, Arriva 415	
30.06.09	Tues	7 pm	HH	Steve Mullarkey	5	SE	939	239	Brantingham Village Hall		
01.07.09	Weds	1 pm	B	Gerry Wallace	6	SE	663	791	Nunnington	DSL	
04.07.09	Sat	10.00	B	Colin Mullender		SE	976	314	High Hunsley Circuit 2	HHC 2	
05.07.09	Sun	(10.00) or 10.30	HG	Karen Williams	9	SE	617	323	Howden Hailgate CP for car share Or Selby Bus Station		
07.07.09	Tues	7 pm	Y	J. Dykes	5	SE	607	536	Haleys Terrace [Yearsley baths]	First 1,5	
07.07.09	Tues	7 pm	HH	Jill Moore	5	TA	021	332	Skidby Mill		
09.07.09	Thurs	7 pm	B	Peter Ayling	5	TA	013	455	Scorborough Layby		
14.07.09	Tues	7 pm	HH	Colin Clark	5	SE	957	271	A63 Footbridge Car Park, Welton		
15.07.09	Weds	12.45	B	Dany Wlodarczyk	6	TA	209	479	Hornsea Leisure Centre	DSL	
If using public transport, take EY 246 bus from Sow Hill, Beverley, at 11.35. Return EY 245 from Hornsea at 16.25, arr.17.10											
15.07.09	Weds	7 pm	Y	P. Lidgett		SE	483	559	Skipbridge layby A59		
16.07.09	Thurs	10.00	S	Margaret Ingham	6	SE	609	904	Lund Farm (Telephone Box)		
16.07.09	Thurs	(6.30) or 7 pm	HG	Ken Boothman	4	SE	845	242	Howden Hailgate CP or Blacktoft village church	Pub stop	
21.07.09	Tues	7 pm	Y	L. Gall	5	SE	530	465	Bilbrough church	Coastliner bus 840	
21.07.09	Tues	7 pm	HH	Colin Clark	5	TA	154	375	A165 Skirlough to Coniston Rd		
22.07.09	Weds	DRIFFIELD SHOW Volunteers required to help man the RA stand. Tel: D. Parker 01482 869188									
26.07.09	Sun	10.00	B	Steve Mullarkey	7	SE	877	418	Market Weighton CP	DSL	
28.07.09	Tues	7 pm	HH	Jill Moore	5	TA	045	328	Cottingham Green CP		
29.07.08	Weds	7 pm	B	Steve Mullarkey	5	TA	022	254	Humber Bridge Country Park (Mill)	DSL	
30.07.09	Thurs	7 pm	Y	M. Dixon	5	Millennium Bridge, Butcher Terr/Rowntree Park [Millennium Way 1]LINEAR			First 11		
04.08.09	Tues	7 pm	B	Karen Hood	4.5	SE	935	264	Brough Haven	DSL	
06.08.09	Thurs	7 pm	Y	M. Dixon	5	Millennium Bridge, Butcher Terr/Rowntree Park [Millennium Way 1]LINEAR			First 11		
08.08.09	Sat	10.00	B	Colin Mullender		SE	986	394	High Hunsley Circuit 3	HHC 3	
09.08.09	Sun	11.00	B	Gerry Wallace	6	SE	877	544	Huggate, Mill Lane		
11.08.09	Tues	7 pm		J. McCreery	5	SE	529	698	Easingwold Market Place		
11.08.09	Tues	7 pm	B	Dany Wlodarczyk	3	TA	009	351	Folly Lake, Risby		
01.09.09	Tues	7 pm	B	Paul Schofield		Beverley Minster Guided town trail			Cost £3		
NOTES, ABBREVIATIONS and GROUP CONTACTS											
B	BEVERLEY GROUP			Jean Cavill	01482 888096	BM	Bar meal available after walk				
HH	HULL & HOLDERNESS GROUP			Lynn Clark	01482 783666	DSL	Dogs on short leads only				
S	SCARBOROUGH THURSDAY WALKS			Margaret Ingham	01723 377222	FF	Family friendly walk				
Y	YORK SUMMER EVENING WALKS			Vera Silberberg	01904 628134	PT	Accessible by public transport				
HG	HOWDEN & GOOLE GROUP thomas.marian@btinternet.com			Ken Boothman Marian Thomas	01405 769156 01430 431766, mobile 07904 031193						
YA	YORK WEDNESDAY AMBLES Jackie Glew Tel: 01423 869489 Mobile: 07858 145079 Email: glewj@ntlworld.com or Margaret Green Tel: 01423 330242 Mobile: 07710 850790 Email: margaret@telgen.co.uk										
HIGH HUNSLEY CIRCUIT Booking essential, pay on the bus Cost £5 per section											
HHC1	Park at Wolds Way and minor road junction, 500m NW of High Hunsley crossroads.										
HHC2	Meet 1 mile SE of Riplingham Cross. Park on road verges near track to York Grounds										
HHC3	Meet at Bishop Burton pond.			Minibus will take walkers to the start of each section. Linear walk back to cars.							
To make a firm booking for one or more sections, email danywlo@yahoo.co.uk or telephone Gerry Wallace 01482 867195											

Ryedale Group News

Irish music night

On Friday 17 April at 7.30 pm, we are holding another evening of Irish music provided by the "Randy Monks", at the Memorial Hall, Old Malton. Tickets are on sale at £5 from any of our committee members.

Coach ramble

This year's coach ramble will be on Sunday 28 June, when we will be walking from Malham. There will be three different walks to choose from, and we will be stopping off for a meal at the Millstones on the way home. The cost, including a two course meal, is £25. Please see any of our committee members for a booking form.

As always, all Ramblers and their friends are welcome at both of these events, so please come and join us!

Navigation training

We are hoping to arrange some navigation training, which will be free to all current Ryedale leaders or anyone who intends to lead for Ryedale. Training will be given by a qualified and experienced instructor, and the group size will be no bigger than four to ensure that you receive the best tuition possible. Courses will be one day, and on the North York Moors. They can be tailored for anyone, from the absolute beginner through to the more experienced navigator. If you are at all interested, please get in touch with Sam Borman, Tel: **01751 477325** email ra.ryedale@btinternet.com.

Improved footpath in Farndale for daffodil walk

Thanks to Clive Inman for providing a map of the popular daffodil route in Farndale which can be found on the WALKS page of our website. Clive reminds us that it is a lovely walk at any time of year, but used to be very boggy. He informs us that £16,000 pounds has now been spent on laying a combination of aggregate and flagstones along the previously unpaved section of the path.

The Daffy Caffy

In Farndale is open from 9.00 -5.00 every day in March and April.

Open May to September Fri, Sat, Sun
Enquiries: **01751 430363**

Beverley Coach Ramble

Sunday 10th May

8-mile walk at Hathersage OR visit Chatsworth House.

Coach £15. Picking up at Beverley and Howden. Book by April 30th
For details contact Gerry Wallace

01482 867195 or

details@gandiwallace.karoo.co.uk



Cheques £15 per person (made out to Ramblers Association, Beverley Group) to our Hon. Treasurer:

Dafydd Wynn, 1 Bramble Garth, Walkington, East Yorkshire, HU17 8TL by April 30th, please.

Pocklington Group

A programme of extra summer walks is being arranged and will be available from the group secretary.

Cleveland Way **40th Anniversary Walks**

The final stage of the 40th Anniversary walk from Scarborough to Filey on May 24th can be done using public transport.

For details, contact Malcolm Hodgson, National Trails Officer

Tel: **01439 770657**

Fax: 01439 770691

E-mail: m.hodgson@northyorkmoors-npa.gov.uk

Scarborough to Filey **Linear Walk Sunday June 28th**

Please note that this walk starts at 10.52, later than published in the booklet due to a change in the train timetable.

Kirby Underdale Ramble Aug 26th

Leader Philip Byrne believes it will be possible to park in the village hall car park GR 806 585. Please try this first before proceeding to the published meeting point which is outside the village.

Jack Straker

Readers will be sad to learn that Jack, who will be well-known to many as a regular walks leader, passed away on March 14th 2009

THANKS TO YORK AMBLERS

A massive thanks to my fellow Amblers who took OFF their boots to help me celebrate my 70th birthday. Instead of gifts, they and other friends and family raised £820 for HARLEQUIN, a voluntary singing group raising funds for local children's charities. Thank you all,

Yours, younger by the minute,

Betty Jackson

Calling Lyke Wake Walkers!

Mike Benson, director of the Ryedale Folk Museum, is looking for photos and other memorabilia of this famous walk.

"We would like people to bring in photos or mementos, or even the boots they used to take part in the walk and we will put them on display as well as their stories".

Walkers can now take a break in a new stone refreshment halt at the museum in Hutton-le-Hole. The building has refreshment machines, but visitors are welcome to take their own food and drink

Alan Clark defends Ramblers

Thanks to Alan Clark for leaping to the defence of the Ramblers when we were criticised by a reader of the Yorkshire Post for moaning too much about neglected footpaths and told to get up and do something about them ourselves!

Alan's splendid reply itemised much of the work that has been done to improve bridges, stiles etc by Ramblers volunteers.

Dennis Addison

The relatives of Dennis Addison would like to thank the contributors to Dennis' obituary in September's Area News. Gordon Addison writes:

"All of us would like to express our appreciation for the very moving tribute to Dennis. As you probably know Dennis lived alone for the past 30 years of his life. He found great contentment and enjoyment from his rambling activities. To Uncle Dennis rambling was more than a pastime, it became a whole way of life to him and certainly helped him to overcome his ill health in his latter years."

Paul Rhodes

MEET YOUR VOLUNTEERS



Some members of our Area Council pictured at a meeting in October 2008. From left, Ann Laing, Membership Secretary, Roy Hunt, who will be taking on the task of producing our Area walks booklet following Ray Fielden's retirement, John Jefferson, Driffield Group Secretary, and David Nunns, York Group Footpath Secretary.

Photo by DCW

In this issue we feature not just one but a group of volunteers, those who serve on the Area Council.

Most of our readers will have met at least one or two of their local group committee members and will be well aware of the hard work they put in to organising walks and social events as well as helping to keep your local paths in good condition.

Readers may not be so aware of the activities of the Area Council. This is the forum where representatives from all groups regularly gather together and is the body responsible for the management and control of the Area. It translates RA policy into plans and actions at Area level and is able to influence national policy by sending delegates and motions to the Ramblers General Council. Area Council encourages the setting up of new Groups within the area, most recently Pocklington and Howden & Goole and also

- supports the activities of Groups
- organises the Area walks programme
- produces the Area newsletter
- oversees the Area website
- allocates funds to the Groups
- co-ordinates publicity for the Ramblers at events such as the Driffield Show
- generally acts as a forum for inter-group discussion and disseminating good practice
- maintains contact with a number of affiliated local walking clubs
- is open to any member to attend

Area Council currently meets up to six times a year and would welcome new

volunteers. If you could assist in the transfer of the Area accounts to electronic format, help to erect and/or staff the display stands at county shows and other public places, assist with the production of publicity material, take minutes at occasional meetings, support the work of our footpath sub-committees and Access Officer or have any ideas as to how we can better serve our membership and the general public then we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact the editors or any Area committee member listed in your programme booklet.

Peter Leese, Area Chair

2009-2010 Walks Programme

Roy Hunt has generously offered to produce the next Area walks booklet. Please would all Group Secretaries or Rambles Secretaries contact him **by April 15th** in order to discuss arrangements and deadlines for sending in their walks.

Roy would also welcome assistance with this task.

Tel: **01430 440272** or (preferably) email **roy_hunt@btinternet.com**

Folly Lake Café at Risby

We apologise for a misprint in a previous edition. Correct details are:

Tel: **07860 255981**

Fishing hotline: **01482 862049**

www.risby-park.co.uk

Emailing St. Ethelburga

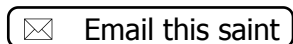
Many readers will recognise the tiny church in Givendale pictured below, a favourite spot for walkers in the Millington area. You may know that it is dedicated to St. Ethelburga, but perhaps be unaware of her pivotal role in the history of our region.

Before leading a recent walk, I looked up St. Ethelburga on the internet where I discovered that she was not just a saint, but also a queen, the wife of Edwin, King of Northumbria, whom she married in 625. According to the Venerable Bede, Ethelburga, who came from Kent, would agree to the marriage only on condition that she could continue practising her Christian religion.



Within two years of the marriage, her husband Edwin also converted to Christianity and was responsible for building the first York Minster where he was baptised. The marriage thus triggered the conversion of the north of England to Christianity.

I confess to being somewhat startled to see the following button on the website:



I had no time to try this before heading off to lead the walk, but during the day I mulled over what might be an appropriate message to send. However, that evening I realised I was labouring under a misapprehension. One can indeed email a saint (or rather their page at www.catholic.org/saints) to someone else, but the saints themselves are sadly not yet online.

Dany Wlodarczyk



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Rambling Rose - Your Caring Friend in a Crisis

Dear Rambling Rose,

On walks I often 'team up' with a man who, like me, lost his partner a while ago. Although there is no romantic attachment, we enjoy each others company. The only snag is our dogs. Mine is a rather docile bitch, his is a lively labrador. In fact, it is far too lively and regularly makes unmistakable sexual advances to my uninterested and unimpressed bitch. Unfortunately my friend never seems to notice either my anxiety or my dog's and carries on chatting as though nothing untoward were happening. This surprises me because in other respects he is obviously a sensitive person. Can you help Rambling Rose? I fear that what is at first sight a trivial matter will endanger a pleasant friendship.

KLM, Drifffield.

Far be it from me to claim an understanding of animal psychology, KLM, but I can certainly appreciate your concern. Some canine-friendly R.A. groups have a 'dogs on short leads' (DSL) policy so perhaps it would help if you and your friend walked with them? On the other hand, it doesn't sound as though your friend's labrador would be deterred by anything less than a bucket of cold water – which, as every woman knows, one rarely has to hand when one needs one. Could you perhaps think up a reason for taking charge of your friend's dog on walks and he yours? If so, you could then exercise some control over its amorous behaviour. Otherwise, embarrassing though it is, I think you will have to voice your anxieties. It could be that male dog owners are from Mars and female ones from Venus.

Dear Rambling Rose,

Following my divorce 2 years ago, I recently decided I was ready for another relationship. A friend suggested I join the R.A. which he wittily described as speed dating at 2.2 miles per hour (including lunch breaks and coffee stops). Well, I have tried it Rambling Rose and I must say I am very disappointed. The few 'available' men I have encountered talk endlessly about their medical history, how the government is a soft touch and the pace of the walk. Of course, one can always change partners at the next gate or stile but the result is usually another monologue about the pace of the walk, his medical history and how the country really has gone down the tube this time. Have I just been unlucky or do you think I should try something else?

RBS, York.

Dear RBS,

I'm sorry to learn of your disappointment with the R.A. which certainly does not mirror my own experience. Nor do you say what you bring to the party. Perhaps the men you meet become just as anxious as you to reach the next stile? Might it be that for you men are the problem rather than the answer? But if you decide to continue with the Ramblers - rather than, say, joining the Open University or Mensa - why not try the long distance walkers? They speed date at a macho 3 mph - although the monologues may be correspondingly longer.

Good Hunting!

Enjoy Your Walking,

RAMBLING ROSE.



Daffodils in Farndale



This photo was taken on a Pocklington Group walk in March, 2008. For a map of Farndale showing the route of a 3 mile walk, see page six.

Photo courtesy of Chris Bush

??????????? Griddles ???????????

The clues below should help you identify three leaders who each appear more than once in our extra summer walks programme. Clues are also given in the grid references for one of the walks each of them is leading (but not in the right order).

1. Follow unusual combination of melon 'n' dull rice with fish and chips at the coast.
2. You need to sort out Great Granma and him on Thursday.
3. Very odd crazy lady'd know the answer to this one.

516 831

209 479

986 394

Contributions to Area News should be sent to either: Dany Wlodarczyk at 49 Pasture Terrace, Beverley, HU17 8DR or to Paul Rhodes, 23 Ash Street, York, YO26 4UR

Email to danywlo@yahoo.co.uk or paulrhodes16@yahoo.co.uk

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