

VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT DAY

SATURDAY 12 APRIL 9:30-4:00pm CLEMENTS HALL, NUNTHORPE ROAD, YORK YO23 1BW

The Ramblers are running a series of workshops around the country which will be of interest to all walkers. There is no charge for the course. Workshops offered are:

1. Leading walks.
2. Ramblers' Routes (How to plan and develop a walk which can be submitted to the Ramblers national database of online walks).
3. A beginner's guide to Rights of Way Law.
4. Ramblers' Groups and the Media.

Bookings are being handled by the agency Eventbrite. To book a place (on one workshop, they run concurrently) go to www.ramblers.org.uk>what we do>events calendar>April and follow the link from there.

FOOTPATH VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to the people who responded to David and Patsy's request for more volunteers to check footpaths. Some parishes are still without volunteers.

Please contact David if you are willing to adopt even one parish – it all helps.

Email: den3mil3@talktalk.net or 01904-791187



Apologies to those current or past volunteers whose names were missed out of Patsy's footpath report in the January newsletter. Shortage of space caused a few lines of text to be omitted from her article. Here are the missing lines:

'There are other people who also help us now or who have helped in the past. They include Judith McCreery, Anne Bradley, John Sawkill, Terry Strickland, Tom Halstead, Charles Jeans, Gillian Zewde and Patsy Pendegrass.

At present the members of the Footpath Sub-committee are: David Nunns (Footpath Secretary York and North Yorks), Peter Lidgett, Doreen Felton, Isobel Thomson, Nick Slater and Trish Thornton.'

ACCIDENTS ON WALKS

A reminder that calling the emergency number **112** on your mobile rather than 999 will be more likely to pick up a network signal when out in the countryside.

A first aid kit is available from Alison Webster of St. John Ambulance at a cost of £10. Check that your first aid kit is up to date. Order from Marilyn 01347-824520.



SUBSCRIPTIONS

Occasionally Ramblers who pay annually by cheque find that they have been removed from the membership list because they have forgotten to pay on time. This can be avoided by paying by Direct Debit. You can save £10 off current prices in your first year of paying by DD.

To switch phone 020-7339-8595 quoting your membership number.

Subscriptions are currently:

- £32 Individual (£19.50 concession if solely reliant on state pension or benefits)
- £43 Joint (£25.50 concession)



COACH RAMBLES

A booking form for the 11th May ramble to Derbyshire is on the back page. Book now!

The autumn coach ramble will be on 28th September, probably to the Sedbergh area. If you would be willing to lead one of the 3 walks please get in touch with Ian Reavill at poppletonrev@yahoo.co.uk

SUCCESS STORY

Patsy Pendegrass writes, "For MANY years I and others have been asking for an improved railway crossing on the footpath near Calf Close in Haxby.

Recently, to my surprise, I discovered that the space between the rails had been raised and the rather difficult stiles at either side of the line had been replaced by metal gates – Wonderful! – so much safer. We do get there in the end sometimes!"



ARCHIVES

York Ramblers' materials are being collected in order to be sent to the new York Archive Centre when it opens in 2015.

If you have, or know of, anything relevant which should be preserved, please pass it on to or inform any member of the committee.

PARK FAIRS

The City of York Council is no longer organising the summer fairs at Rowntree Park (where we had a publicity stall for many years), West Bank, and Clifton Backies. They are hoping that local groups will take over, so look out for your local park fair if you are interested in helping out. For more information email: jennifer.cairns@york.gov.uk

COMMITTEE

Chairman: Tom Halstead
Secretary: Vera Silberberg
Treasurer: Kay Sawkill
Footpath Officer: David Nunns
Walks Secretary: Steve Hoather
Publicity/Membership: Marilyn Skelton
Committee members: Doreen Felton (Amblers rep.) and Ian Reavill
N.B. A Chairman is needed as Tom intends to step down this year.
There is also a vacancy for an Environment Secretary since Monica Nelson stepped down in November.

AMBLES PROGRAMME APRIL-SEPT 2014 7 mile walks starting at 10:30

DATE	START	PARKING	LEADER	GRID REF
09 APR	COXWOLD	VHCP	JUDITH TOSH	SE536773
16 APR	NORTON	TOWN CPC	BETTY JACKSON	SE793713
23 APR	THORNER/EAST RIGTON	MILNER LANE	SONIA DONAGHY	SE380423
30 APR	RIPLEY – FOR BLUEBELLS	VILLAGE CAR PARK	JACKIE GLEW	SE286602
07 MAY	BRIGHAM	BRIGHAM LANE	KEN WALKER	TA081539
14 MAY	SWINSTY	SWINSTY MOOR CP	ANNE ALLISON	SE187537
21 MAY	COW HOUSE BANK		JOHN WOOD	SE613887
28 MAY	BARMBY BARRAGE		JOHN POWELL	SE682286
04 JUN	RIPON	SAINSBURY'S LOWER	JOHN WHIPP	SE314714
11JUN	HELMSLEY	CARLTON LAYBY	ALAN CLARK	SE614841
18 JUN	THIXENDALE	CHURCH	STAN COOPER	SE843611
25 JUN	HAMPSTHWAITE	MEMORIAL HALL	JACKIE GLEW	SE260586
02 JUL	CHOP GATE	CP	MARIANNE MEE	SE559993
09 JUL	APPLETON-LE-MOORS		JUDITH TOSH	SE735881
16 JUL	COWLAM	COWLAM MANOR	KEN WALKER	SE963658
23 JUL	HEATH COMMON		DOREEN FELTON	SE356198
30 JUL	MIDDLES Moor		J.&M DIXON	SE092742
06 AUG	HUTTON-LE-HOLE	NY MOORS NP CP	JEAN HAYWOOD	SE704903
13 AUG	WILBERFOSS	MILL FARM LANE	ANNE AND BILL	SE724509
20 AUG	FRIDAYTHORPE	POND	BOB & JANET MARSHAM	SE875591
27 AUG	CROPTON	HIGH LANE	DOREEN FELTON	SE759897
03 SEP	BRACEY BRIDGE	PICNIC SITE CP	ANN LAING	TA075620
10 SEP	ROBIN HOODS BAY		ALAN CLARK	
17 SEP	STAINBURN MOOR	FORESTRY	ANGELA TIMBERS	SE236523
24 SEP	ROSEDALE ABBEY		ANNE ALLISON	SE726960

40 YEARS ON AND STILL RAMBLING

Nigel Emery, known to many of us for his ever-enthusiastic 'my cup's always half full, never half empty' attitude to life, has written a summary of his 40 years with Ramblers.

"You Southerners have the wrong idea about the North: you think it's all slag heaps and smokey chimneys. There's a lot more to it than that."

Thus spake the Bridlington lass with whom I was working at a primary school in Zambia back in the early 70's. Her twin sister was an Infant teacher in the East Riding and when I returned to the UK I received a letter from her advising me of a vacancy at her school for the following September.....

I recall driving over to Beverley Westwood for the first time one summer afternoon and catching my breath as the towers of St. Mary's and the Minster came into view. I moved to Driffield in 1973 but it was several months before the local Ramblers appeared on the radar.

The first walk I joined was from Wetwang and led by Geoff Eastwood. The route passed right by a farmhouse. The farmer was not pleased to see us, and told us so. Geoff's step never faltered. **"Go away you silly man!"** The farmer disappeared into the house..... to phone the police. A few minutes later a patrol car slid alongside and a young bobby wound down the window. "As long as you're on the right of way, you're OK" he told us.

Is it always this dramatic? I wondered. (It's never happened again!)

While in Driffield I received a visit from a fellow from Ramblers' head office. They were considering forming a new group in Ryedale. Would I be able to support them? Most certainly.

Ryedale got off to a flying start with a small, enthusiastic and dedicated team of leaders: Secretary Betty Hood, John Healey (John worked in industry but also led walks for Waymark until, tragically, he fell to his death on a scree slope in Italy), Alan MacDonald (Alan had flown flying boats for B.O.A.C. on the Southampton Water to Jo'burg service) and Eddie "Put me down for 25 next year" Lord.

Some years later Harry Connell took over the programme and with the help of some good-natured arm-twisting, greatly extended the leadership franchise to the extent

that he could say to me one day: "I'm not leading any walks next year. I've got rid of the lot!"

In 1976 I moved to a new job in York and immediately joined the well-established York R.A. Group in which stalwarts included: Stella Boaden, Liz Smith, Robert Brock (Robert led several walks using the now defunct Moorsbus), Martyn Webster, Bob and Janet Marsham and Walter Schonbeck. The first walk I led was from Yearsley. George Wade did the recce with me. In those days we used to meet below Lendal Bridge on Sunday mornings (parking was FREE!) to sort out transport.

In 2002, I had a telephone call from Alan Clarke inviting me to join a quartet of volunteers working with NYCC Countryside Ranger David Ottaway. For the next ten years we cleared overgrown paths and repaired/replaced 'footpath furniture' - stiles, gates, and - my favourite- footbridges. We found it very satisfying to have something substantial to show for a day's labour.

From 2005 to 2010 I managed without a car so bus and railway timetables assumed a greater importance. About this time, as luck would have it, Malcolm Dixon launched a programme of Saturday public transport walks 'for those who have no car or who prefer to leave their car at home'. These walks have opened up areas of the Yorkshire and Derbyshire Dales previously unfamiliar to me. These plus the seasonal Moorsbus trips kept me in touch with the great blue yonder. Combining another interest, cycling, I occasionally packed my boots in the pannier and rode to meet the Ramblers for a Sunday walk.

Slag heaps have been landscaped and smokey chimneys have become scarce. I feel incredibly lucky to live where I do and owe that Bridlington lass a vote of thanks. Rambling has been a wonderful way for an 'oft-comer' like myself to get to know the North. I still feel today as I did forty years ago, that a day in the hills, in good company, is a day well spent."



**YORK GROUP COACH RAMBLE
SUNDAY 11 MAY 2014
THE WHITE PEAK DISTRICT DERBYSHIRE**



These are the possible routes on OS Map OL24, but may change slightly nearer the time.

Detailed maps of the routes can be seen on the York website www.yorkramblers.org.uk.

Walk A: 12 miles. Leader Tom Halstead. Hulme End to Tissington:

Wetton Hill, Narrowdale Hill, Gratton Hill, Alstonefield, Dove Dale, Thorpe, Tissington. (Some easy access land).

Walk B: 10 miles. Leader Ian Gibbs. Hartington to Tissington:

Wolfescote Dale, Milldale, Dove Dale, Thorpe, Tissington.

Walk C: 6 miles. Leader Doreen Felton. Alstonefield to Tissington:

Milldale, Dove Dale, Thorpe, Tissington.

The coach will pick up at

08:25 Hospital Fields Road Fulford. Parking along road.

08:40 Memorial Gardens York.

08:50 BP Garage Great North way near the A1237 ring road Nether Poppleton roundabout.

Please book using the form below or download a form from yorkramblers.org.uk or eastyorkshireramblers.org.uk

COST £10 PER PERSON.

Cheques should be made payable to **RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION** but please note that cheques will *not* be cashed until *after* the ramble. Please assume that your seat is booked unless we let you know otherwise (please supply email or phone number).

Refunds cannot be given in respect of cancellations made after Thursday 8th May, and will be dependent on the cancelled seat being taken up and paid for by another walker. (Phone 01904-628134).



SUNDAY 11 MAY 2014 – COACH RAMBLE BOOKING FORM

NAME(S).....

PICK UP AT (please tick): Hospital Fields Road Memorial Gardens BP Garage Great North Way.....

CHEQUE ENCLOSED FOR £.....

Email or **Phone number**

Although you can make your final choice on the coach, it would help the leaders if you would indicate which walk you are likely to join. Details and maps of the 3 walks are on the York and the Area websites.

Please tick one choice: **Hulme End to Tissington 12 miles**

Hartington to Tissington 10 miles

Alstonefield to Tissington 6 miles

Please send your completed form and cheque to Vera Silberberg, 41 North Parade, York YO30 7AB