



YORK GROUP NEWSLETTER

January 2018

York AGM on Tuesday 21 November 2017

The Minutes have been prepared as the usual full and accurate record, but here are a few informal comments. About a dozen members participated in a pre-meeting meal at The Black Swan in Peasholme Green, enjoying the generous portions of good pub food. Not only does this make for a convivial start to the evening, it has the great advantage that we do not have to pay to rent the room!

It was not mentioned on the night, but it was in this very pub that the York Ramblers was set up in 1958, (thank you, Vera Silberberg, for the history) so this year we have a big anniversary. The first walk for York Ramblers was on 17 November 1968, when they met at Lendal Bridge and took a bus to Whitwell on the Hill for a ten mile walk with an optional cut off. They stopped at a pub and a tea room, (thank you Marilyn Skelton for the information, which is on the History section of the web site.) Your committee will arrange a suitable celebration, perhaps a Walk by Public Transport which turns out to be not-so-new, and any suggestions about what we should do will be welcome. Have you ever been to a Ramblers celebration that worked well?

In his opening remarks, Ian Reavill thanked everyone who has contributed to a successful year with a satisfactory number of walks attended by an impressive number of walkers. As always, walks on some days need new leaders, while others have a satisfactory number. The downside is that rather a lot of committee members are standing down, and although we have a volunteer as Secretary, there are a couple of vacancies to be filled, either immediately or in the near future. The new Committee looks like this:-

Chair	Ian Reavill	<i>poppletonrev@yahoo.co.uk</i>
Secretary	Richard Bramall	<i>richbram@virginmedia.com</i>
Treasurer	Lynn Croskin	<i>lynn@croskin.myzen.co.uk</i>

Footpath sec	David Nunns	<i>den3mil3@talktalk.net</i>
Rambles sec	Steve Hoather	<i>stevehoather@tiscali.co.uk</i>
Publicity sec		
Minutes sec		
Ambles rep	Doreen Felton	<i>doreen@felton5437.fsworld.co.uk</i>
Newsletter	Vivien Irish	<i>virish@theiet.org</i>
PT walks rep	Avis Strudwick	<i>avisbrian2@yahoo.co.uk</i>
Webmaster	Tom Halstead	<i>tkh1@york.ac.uk</i>
Unallocated	Viv Taylor	<i>viv@colouroptions.co.uk</i>

As you see, we need a Publicity Secretary to promote our Group, and a Minutes Secretary. In addition, Tom Halstead will leave York in the New Year, so we need a new Webmaster. It is vital that we continue to manage our York Group website. When Tom leaves, it will be a simpler site than the current one, and will be based on the Ramblers Central Office blueprint for groups, using their back up, as well as support from members of our Area team. Please contact Ian if you have the relevant skills. Also, David Nunns is not retiring yet, but needs someone to work with him to learn about the job so as to take over in the future.

York Secretary's Report – Jill Wiseman

Help needed! - Volunteers wanted for the footpath survey team.

We are looking to set up groups of volunteers from York group members to help with surveying and maintaining footpaths in our area. At present there is a small team doing the surveys, but their numbers have reduced, due to people retiring. This is vital work, and can be done by members on their own, or in a small group, under the direction of David Nunns, our footpath officer, and can involve people as much as they feel able to do. The footpath maintenance work has stopped in our area, as NYCC have ceased to support this work. However, the council is running a trial scheme with members in Lower Wharfedale, and we hope it may be extended to our area.

If you are interested in helping with the footpath surveying, then please contact a member of the group committee as soon as possible, as we can make use of you straight away. Those of you who would like to help with path maintenance - mending stiles, sign posts, and clearing paths - please contact us, but understand that it may be a while before we can start doing the work. We can arrange a meeting of those who are interested, to discuss what we hope to achieve. Please respond to this request if you are interested. It is one of the vital elements of the Ramblers Organisation, and it can be fun!

Other News

About the May Coach Ramble –

Rothbury in Northumberland is further than we usually go, so we will have to set off a little earlier, but it will be worth it. The day will be subsidised, so the price will be held at £11. In addition to the usual three walks, there is the option of visiting Cragside, the National Trust house which used to be the home of Lord Armstrong, the Victorian industrialist and innovator. The house retains its Tudor Revival

architecture by Norman Shaw, and its owner installed many domestic innovations, including the first hydroelectric driven lighting, and an early dishwasher. There are extensive and interesting gardens, so people could spend the day here, with drop-off and pick-up arranged. It would help if people would email me as soon as you receive this to express an interest, so I can book a coach of the right size. Unless there is sufficient interest, we will not be able to go ahead. There will be a booking form on the website by the end of January. To help your decision, the admission to Cragside for non-members of National Trust is £17.

Lynn Croskin,
lynn@croskin.myzen.co.uk.

October Coach Ramble – Your committee would be very pleased to have some suggestions for a venue for the autumn outing on October 14th – somewhere not too far from York, to allow for the shortening hours of day light, with the possibility of arranging the usual three walks, and with a town or village with tea shops, so we can indulge in the popular way of ending the day.

YORK GROUP COACH RAMBLE

Sunday 20 May 2018 to **Rothbury, Northumberland**. There will be three walks, 12 miles, 10 miles and 8 miles. The coach will pick up **at the earlier times of:**

- 07:45** Hospital Fields Road (join coach at Ingleby's Depot at the end of the road, on-street parking)
- 07:55** Memorial Gardens
- 08:10** BP garage, Great North Way near the A1237 Nether Poppleton roundabout.

BOOKING: *Cost £11 per person*

There are two ways of booking your seat:-

1. Download the booking form from the York Ramblers website, or use the form below. Cheques should be made payable to Ramblers Association, but please note that they will not be cashed until after the ramble. Please post the completed form and cheque to:

Lynn Croskin, 18 Beech Court, Pocklington, York YO42 2NE.

2. Alternatively you can pay directly into our bank account at: Sort code 608301, Account no. 20129521, please use your surname as a reference and email **all** the details that go on your form to **lynn@croskin.myzen.co.uk**

Please assume that your seat is booked unless you are told otherwise. If you cancel within the 36 hours before the event and we can fill the seat, a refund will be sent to your Bank.

Sunday 20 May 2018

COACH RAMBLE BOOKING FORM

Name(s)

Pick-up at

Cheque for £ enclosed

Email

Or telephone

I/we would like to visit Cragside Yes/No

Although you can make your final choice of walk on the coach, it would help the leaders if you would indicate which walk you are likely to join.