



Northamptonshire Area

Newsletter December 2010

"The Ramblers' Association promotes rambling, protects rights of way, campaigns for access to open country and defends the beauty of the countryside."

Daventry, Kettering, Northampton, Wellingborough & 20s/30s Groups

www.northantsramblers.org.uk

Your Area Committee would like to wish all our members a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Happy Walking!



The Ramblers 75th Anniversary Celebrations -75 mile Baton Walk - September 21 - 26th 2010

The weather was at its most variable during this event, ranging from very warm and sunny for the first couple of days to cold and showery with blustery winds for the following four. In all there were 73 participants (just a couple short of the 75 to make it 75 years, 75 miles and 75 participants), of whom two successfully completed all 6 stages, Bob Seaton, Programme Secretary for the Kettering Group and Fiona Rawlings, our Area Treasurer and Member of the Wellingborough Group.

Special congratulations to them but thanks go to all those who took part in what happily proved to be a very successful event. A Group photograph at the finish point, Tinwell Village Hall, with the Baton proudly displayed, was followed by tea and cakes organised by the 20s / 30s Group, a very civilized way of bringing the Walk to a close. All Groups entered into the spirit of the occasion by providing leaders to whom special thanks are due. I am sure the Ramblers will go from strength to strength over the next 75 years.

Our Area Website has featured this event for some time now and includes a good selection of photographs giving coverage of the walk from the first day through to the triumphant finish.

David Craddock

Area Annual General Meeting - Sunday 23 January 2011

Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will find formal notification of our forthcoming AGM and directions how to get to the venue. Parking is available in the small community car park that fronts the Bowling Club or alternatively there is ample street parking in the immediate area.

The Wellingborough Group is hosting the event and has arranged two walks preceding it:-

10.00am start - 9.3 miles, bring packed lunch. Leader John Ledger (01933) 387645

12.00pm start - 4.5 miles, bring packed lunch. Leader Sue Alcock (01234) 713526

The walks will start from the community car park and the Clubhouse will be open before the walks for the use of toilets (walking boots not allowed in the Clubhouse unless scrupulously clean, please).

Our Guest Speaker this year is **Keith Wadd** who was elected to the Board of Trustees this year.

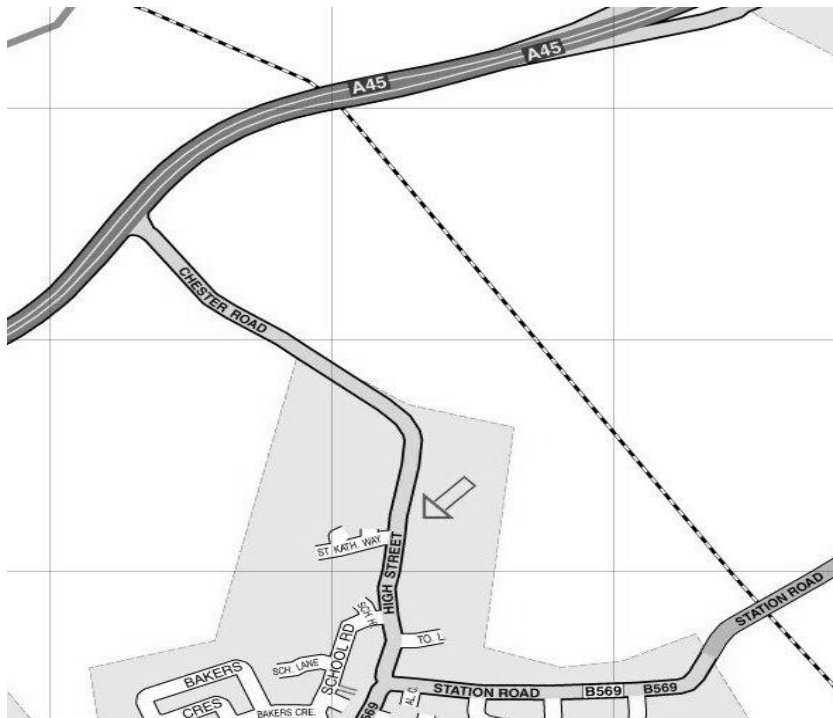
Prior to his election he played a leading role in setting up the 'concerned ramblers.' He has been Chairman of the West Riding Area since 2005 and prior to that Area Secretary and Publicity Officer. He co-edits the 'West Riding Rambler' and is a Committee Member of the Harrogate Group having led group walks for many years. In his spare time he has written four books and is in the

process of writing another. This is an excellent opportunity to hear firsthand how and why 'concerned ramblers' came about, what they have achieved to date and their aspirations for the future.

I hope we can build on the tremendous support that has been given to our AGM in recent years with another good turnout.

Please come along if you can. Thank you.

David Craddock



Map of venue

A more detailed, colour map is on the web site,

www.northantsramblers.org.uk

The arrow is pointing to the position of the Irchester Bowling Club, High Street, Irchester.

THE RAMBLERS NORTHAMPTONSHIRE AREA NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING to be held at

IRCHESTER BOWLING CLUB, High Street, Irchester NN29 7AM at 3:00pm on Sunday 23 January 2011.

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Approval of Minutes of AGM held on 10 January 2010
3. Matters Arising
4. General Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Membership Secretary's Report
7. Footpath Secretary's Report
8. Countryside Secretary's Report
9. Amendment of Area Constitution to delete the post of Countryside Secretary and add the post of Walking Environment Officer
10. Amendment of Area Constitution to add the post of Webmaster to the list of Officers
11. Election of Officers and Members of the Area Executive Committee
12. Appointment of Independent Examiner
13. Any Other Business

After the formal business there will be an address by Keith Wadd, Member of The Ramblers Board of Trustees

NOTES

1. Item 11. Nominations are invited from Members for the above posts. Officers on the Area Executive Committee are:-
Chairman, Vice Chairman, General Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Footpath Secretary, Publicity Secretary, Walking Environment Officer (previously Countryside Secretary, name change subject to approval vide Item 9), Webmaster (subject to approval vide Item 10) and Minutes Secretary.
2. Motions for inclusion on this Agenda should be forwarded to reach the General Secretary not less than 4 weeks before the meeting.
3. For a copy of the previous AGM Minutes please send sae to the General Secretary.

I am renewing the appeal made in the August Newsletter for a Member to come forward to take on the role of **Minutes Secretary for the Executive Committee**. This is a designated Officer's position in its own right and the occupant has an equal say in the proceedings. As its job title suggests the role itself entails taking notes and writing up the Minutes of the four Executive Committee Meetings held each year in February, May, August and November, plus the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting. Being comfortable with a computer and the internet and access to email are pre-requisites of the job. Please give this request some thought and if you are interested or would like further information contact me in the first instance and if you wish you could then have a chat with Pauline to get the inside story. Thank you.

David Craddock

Area Quiz - Saturday 5th March 2011

You may recall that in a previous newsletter we said the quiz would probably not take place again as Nick Price who had done such a great job for us in the past had decided not to continue. I'm delighted to report that Graham Edmonds has kindly volunteered to be our Quizmaster for the night and I hope you will show your appreciation by supporting this popular social event. The Quiz will commence at 7:30pm at the usual venue, Moulton Village Hall in Pound Lane. Entry is free and there is a licensed bar, up to three teams may be entered per Group. For further information please contact your Group Secretary or myself.

Steve Sayers (01327 361203)

Corby Festival of Walks 2011 - B/H w/e Saturday 30 April - Saturday 1 / Sunday 2 May

This event is now in its 3rd year and the format is being changed a little. A Family Fun Day is being held on the Sunday at East Carlton Country Park with a full walking programme over the three days. Chris Eilbeck and me as Members of the Steering Group organising the event undertook to arrange the itinerary for the longer walks and there will be 1 full and 1 half day one each day. Details of the two walks on the Saturday are given below and we are very grateful to Bob Seaton of the Kettering Group who agreed to plan and lead the shorter walk.

Saturday 30 April 2011 Circular day walk - 14 miles

9.30am start from Deene church (GRSP951928). Lunch at King's Cliffe club, where own food is OK. The walk takes in Apethorpe, King's Cliffe, Blatherwycke and Bulwick. Leader Chris Eilbeck (01536) 743009

Saturday 30 April - Circular walk - 7.5 miles 10.00am start from East Carlton Country Park. Meet at the Wishing Well near the Visitor Centre / Café (GRSP833893. Walk takes in the Drayton area and Middleton. Bring own refreshments. Leader Bob Seaton (01832) 273170

Further information on the event and the walks programme for the Sunday and Monday will be given on the Area Website as soon as possible and in the April Newsletter. It is hoped that one of the walks will be granted permission to traverse the length of the Rockingham Castle Estate.

Northamptonshire County Boundary Walk

5 sections of this were walked in 2010, and the dates below are for the start of 2011. For further details contact Chris Eilbeck on 01536 743009

Sunday 27 Feb	Geddington	King's Cliffe	15.5 miles
Sunday 27 March	Kings Cliffe	Warmington	13.0 m
B/H Mon. 25 April	Warmington	Titchmarsh	14.6

Staffing Display Stands at Events

This year we had display stands at the Corby Festival of Walks, the Northamptonshire County Show and the Blisworth Village Canal Festival. Next year, if we can secure places and enough volunteers, we would like to display at these and other events, such as The Kelmarsh Game and Country Fair and the Northampton Balloon Festival. Each event requires a team of helpers to staff the stand, the more that can help each time reducing the period each individual is actually needed. So we are looking for more Members to join the existing dedicated band of helpers. If enough came forward we would like to form a pool of volunteers to draw on as and when needed.

Staffing the stand is an interesting and satisfying experience and of course you usually also get the opportunity to spend time going round the other displays and enjoying the organised activities. So please consider if you can spare a little of your time to volunteer and if so contact Gwilym Thomas on (01604) 810581.

We look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

David Craddock

Area Website

Since taking over the site Webmaster Paul Waterton has put in an enormous amount of time and effort creating a new image and ensuring its contents are interesting and attractive, even learning new skills to enable him to do this.

All this hard work has paid off magnificently and the site is a real pleasure to visit. It showcases our Area in the best possible way, giving an excellent first impression to visitors. Paul fully intends to maintain the high standard he has achieved, developing the site still further and ensuring that it contains as much 'real time' information as possible. So the site will be the prime source of information on what is currently happening in the Area, keeping you in the picture in between issues of the Area Newsletter - which will also continue to contain all the news on what has been going on. So, if you can, visit now and then keep yourself updated by regularly visiting in future -

www.northantsramblers.org.uk

David Craddock

Olympics 2012 - Help needed

If you know of any link with past Olympics or with the 2012 Games to come within the County such as the International Pool at Corby, please contact the Editor. The idea is see if it is possible to link walking with Olympic sites or athletes, past or present.

Joy Tripp

Items for next Newsletter to the Editor by 11 March 2011.

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