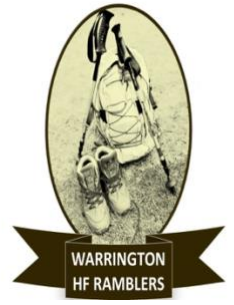


WARRINGTON H.F. RAMBLING CLUB



Affiliated with HF Holidays Winter 2026 Newsletter

Welcome to your Winter Newsletter

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2026. We have a strong committee for the coming year and we are busy getting the summer programme finalised. This wet spell must end soon and we have a great programme for you. We are hoping to get more walk leaders in 2026; see further details of an initiative to reward leaders, below.

Peter Winter
Warrington HF Rambling Club Chair

2026/27 Bulletin Board

Make sure these 2026/2027 dates are in your diary!!!

- ♦ Wednesday 11 March Club Night Alba – “We’ve got your back” at St Oswalds
- ♦ 13-16 March Weekend Away, Church Stretton
- ♦ Wednesday 22nd April Pesto 7.30pm Spring Meal
- ♦ 19 – 22 June Weekend Away, Glaramara
- ♦ Friday 17th July Pizza Night at Warrington Sports and Social Club
- ♦ 13 – 20 October Calpe
- ♦ 5 – 8 March 2027 Weekend Away Dumfries



Website

Please let us have your feedback and any suggestions for anything you would like to see on it.

You no longer need a password to see the site, it could not be easier to log on

Please note that photos taken on walks are displayed on the website and on Facebook. If you do not wish your photo to appear, please make sure you stay out of shot when the “obligatory” group photo is taken.

Don't forget to visit your website: <https://warringtonhfwalkingclub.com/>

Club Night Wednesday 19th November 2025

"Machu Picchu – the Hard Way! Trekking the High Andes"



This fascinating talk was the story of Norman's 43 miles trek through the High Andes up to 16,500ft to visit the legendary 'lost city of the Incas' Machu Picchu.

Along the way visiting Lake Titicaca, the highest navigable lake in the world at 12,500ft. Seeing the floating island homes of the Uros Indians and life on the Alti Plano, along with the mysteries and theories about Machu Picchu.



Our speaker Norman Harris

Norman Harris is a retired Assistant Engineering Manager from British Aerospace, and as if trekking to Machu Picchu was not enough, his other adventures include, trekking in the Himalayas to Everest Base Camp, riding a Harley-Davidson across the USA, and crewing a square-rigged sailing ship 6000 miles out in the Atlantic. I feel sure we will be inviting him back in the future to share some of these. Thanks to Rona for organising

It was the season to be jolly
So we were!



We, once again, held two Christmas walks culminating in a Christmas dinner

Walk 1

Sunday 7th December saw our first outing. Despite an horrendous forecast, the weather was kind – well at least we did not get wet. Peter Winter led a pleasant walk from Stockton Heath and through Grappenhall, taking in the canal, fields, and woodland paths. 23 enjoyed the walk, and of those 21 enjoyed the meal with a further 2 joining them.

The Warrington Sports and Social Club did us proud with tasty food and good service.

Thanks to Carmena Wood, Rona Bryce and Andy McLean for organising.



Wa

Wednesday 17th December saw our second outing for a Christmas walk and meal on the Wirral. 26 joined us to enjoy a pleasant ramble through Parkgate and along Wirral Estuary returning via paths to join the Wirral Way. Once again the weather was kind, despite a lot of rain and a forecast for more of the same, the day stayed dry until we sat down to eat, with even a little bit of blue sky at times. Attendees enjoyed a Christmas themed quiz after the meal, with two teams tying for a win. Thanks to Dennis Carter for leading the walk.



Wednesday 10th December

December also saw a walk with a difference in Chester. Whilst a city is not the usual venue for a walk, Phil and Yvonne made it interesting, combining a walk with some history. Entitled, "What did the Romans ever do for us", Phil explored the history of parts of the city and the racecourse. Many used the train to get to the start.

Chester was originally settled by the Romans in the first century AD and called Fortress Diva after the River Dee upon which it stands. Chester Racecourse, also known as the Roodee, is officially recognised by Guinness World Records as the "oldest racecourse still in operation". Horse racing in Chester dates back to the early sixteenth century, with 1539 cited as the year racing began, although some sources give a date of 1512 for the first races in Chester. It is also thought to be the smallest racecourse of significance in England at 1 mile and 1 furlong

22 members enjoyed the walk from Eastgate. They climbed the steps to take the city walls footpath anti clockwise around the sites, taking in the Roman Gardens, amphitheatre, old Dee Bridge, statue of Minerva and racecourse (former Roman Port) amongst other historic sites. Returning to the city walls via the River Dee promenade and canal footpaths and finish at the cathedral in town centre.

Thanks to Phil for all the research that you put in to make this a fascinating walk and to Yvonne for recceing with him.



Party Time!

Celebrations continued after Christmas with a New Year's Party – well at least it was the end of January.

Around 60 of us enjoyed a pleasant evening at St Oswald's Club on Saturday 31st January, where the Red River Band got us all up dancing.

For a change, this year, we had a hot buffet (rather than people having to bring food!). and the tombola, instead of a raffle was well received, raising £140 for charity. – this was later donated to England and Wales Mountain Rescue Thanks to Rona for booking the room and the food, Andy McLean for booking the band and to Carmena and her friend Emma for doing a fantastic job with the Tombola.

The event was rated as a great success and will be repeated in January next year!



On Wednesday 14th January we held our 76th AGM

It was well attended and ran smoothly. It is at the AGM that we elect our committee. They are responsible for ensuring we have a programme of walks and social events and that any issues affecting the Club are managed.

We are grateful to our committee for all the work they do on your behalf. If you would like to find out more about your committee members then you can visit the website: <https://warringtonhfwalkingclub.com/committee>
(Nb. This will be updated shortly to show Mike as the new treasurer)

We thanked Gary Walker for all his hard work as treasurer and Lindsay Richards for her time as Weekend Walks' Co-ordinator. We also welcomed Mike Hilton, who has stepped up and was elected as our new Treasurer and formerly welcomed Andy McLean who was co-opted onto the committee earlier in the year to take over the role of Weekend Walks Co-ordinator.

Look out for your committee on walks and let them know if you have any ideas for the Club
You can find their photos on the website

REWARD & RECOGNITION

For Walk Leaders

At the AGM many of our committee expressed our thanks to those who lead walks for the Club – without them, we would not have such a fantastic programme. At our last committee meeting, we discussed how else we might reward leaders and a number of ideas were explored, starting with buying a subscription to OS maps, which can aid walk planning and safety on the walk, however, it was acknowledged that some prefer paper maps.

Also you may already have these, but do need a new compass or first aid kit. The decision reached was:

In November 2026

Anyone who has contributed two walks or more to this year's programme, would be encouraged to buy something from either the OS shop <https://shop.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/> or the equivalent from other outlets.

Examples of things you might purchase are:

The OS App or Maps. (The OS app is usually offered at half price in November as a Black Friday Deal)

Walking guide books

Map cases or related equipment for example a compass or a first aid kit

All you then need to do is present the receipt to the treasurer and we will refund up to £20 for you.

We are aware that many lead two or more walks anyway, so please accept this a gift of our appreciation.

Don't forget too that if you are reccying a walk for the club, you can claim a contribution to your reccie expenses by reclaiming your mileage to the start of the walk and back, currently at the rate of 20p per mile.



This is your club. As a committee we strive to make it run smoothly but if you think there is anything we can do to improve things, either email secretarywarringtonhf@gmail.com OR speak to any of the committee on a walk and we can raise it at the next meeting. Also, please let us know of anything you want us to include in this newsletter. We aim to publish it in January, April, July & October.

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