

WARRINGTON H.F. RAMBLING CLUB

Affiliated with HF Holiday
July 2021 Newsletter



2021 Bulletin Board (Hopefully)

- * Freedom Festival – Saturday 31st July at the Grange
- * Autumn Supper - Wednesday 22nd September Venue to be advised
- Autumn Weekend – Barmouth 8 - 11th October

Walking Progress since reopening the club in April

The Club has offered a total of 25 walks of different levels since 14th April. Confidence seems to be returning and numbers on walks have gradually increased.

On average to end of June, we had 19 on Wednesday day walks, 19 on evening walks, 12 on weekend walks and 10 on higher grade. For those interested in stats, we also know that around 74 of our potential 118 active walkers have participated in these walks (62%).



Craig holds the record for attending the most walks and also up to the end of June, for attracting the most walkers on his walks – 45 walkers enjoyed his two Wednesday day walks.

In addition we have signed up 3 new members, 5 have tried us out for at least one walk (and we hope they will come on more). And a further 3 are receiving updates about our walks and hope to join us in the future.

We would like to thank all the leaders who volunteered to lead the above and future walks, but new leaders are always welcome



Walk Leaders wanted

We need more walk leaders. In total we have over 70 walks a year. In practice there are about 10 members who lead close to half of the walks. We all gain from the diversity of walks produced by different leaders. But there are lots of personal pluses to leading a walk:

- it is fun,
- you can develop your map reading skills,
- you pick the route
- you can work on the planning, including a recce

And help is at hand. Current walk leaders and your committee are all good sources of help with planning and a carrying out a recce and Cathy will help you draft the walk publicity.

There is a very good note on planning a walk produced by Peter Hough

<http://peterhoughblog.blogspot.com/2021/03/how-to-plan-walk-carry-out-recce.html>

When I first joined the club I was fine working out my own walks, it took some time before I was “encouraged” to lead a walk, and even longer until I led a longer weekend walk, but I love leading walks now. Please give it a go.

Call me or any of the Committee if you want to discuss it.

Peter W



Navigation Course

On the recommendation of 4 members who had attended this one day course, the club invested in the sponsorship of members to attend this course. As a club we are keen to develop and improve the calibre of our walk leaders.

The one day course held at Pure Outdoors, in Derbyshire, was highly practical and provided hints and tips for leading effectively, including map reading, using your compass to guide you, how to discover where you are and much, much more.



All those who attended pledged to lead walks for the club.

The course leader was extremely knowledgeable and you might find these tools useful:

- * Since knowing what the weather has in store is so important, it was suggested we download the 'Mountain Weather Information Service' this weather app is available on android and the apple app (£4.99). **It is used by the mountain rescue service, since it is really reliable. (mwis.org.uk).** You can also use their website to check the forecast for specific areas.(FOC)
- * To ensure you can always pinpoint your position, there is an app (OS Locate) which provides an automatic 6 digit map reference (preferred by mountain rescue if they ever need to find you), It is free to download and even gives you a compass to use on your phone and can send the location to anyone in your address book by email, WhatsApp, text etc

[OS Locate FAQ: Questions, answers and support \(ordnancesurvey.co.uk\)](https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/locate-faq)

At the last committee meeting, it was agreed to look at sponsoring places on this course next year to allow leaders or potential leaders to develop their skills.

After the course, attendees circulated some free pdfs of guides to map reading etc. If you would like these, please email me and I will forward them. secretarywarringtonhf@gmail.com These will also be available shortly on a new section. "Information and Guidance" on our website.

Club Communications

Website



If you haven't yet seen it, don't forget to look at the new Website:

The website address is www.warrington-hf-ramblers.co.uk

The URL is <https://warringtonwalkers.wixsite.com/warringtonhf>

As mentioned in the last newsletter, it is a wealth of information, particularly in the members only section (Password – Carter). You can even see the minutes of our committee meetings which keep you informed of what the committee are discussing to keep the club running.

The draft Programme is uploaded and kept up to date as things change.

You might also be interested to see the latest newsletter of the PNFS (Peak and Northern Footpath Society). These newsletters are received by the Club and are now stored in the Members Only Section of the Website for you to view. It is also interesting to see the photos from the various walks.



Facebook

Whilst we recognise that not all members are on Facebook, for those who are we have an active Facebook presence which regularly shows photos of past walks and highlights articles which may be of interest to members. It is a closed group for members only, but if you are a member and would like to join the Facebook page, just ask to join the Warrington HF Rambling Club. Peter Hough will then admit you. If you are not on Facebook, rest assured that you will still be able to gain any information you need from the website.



Car Sharing.

You will have noticed that for some recent walks the car parking has only just been sufficient, largely due to us generally not car sharing. We do not think it is yet time to reintroduce a meeting point prior to walks, but some members may want to share cars. If you want to car share, please, as far as possible, make your own arrangements. However, if that is not proving successful for a particular walk then you should contact the walk leader, who will circulate your mobile number to other walkers and ask them to get in touch with you if they can provide a lift. Please note that leaders can only do so much in matching needs with supply. We will simplify this as soon as it looks reasonable to do so and we can do so within both Government advice and the GDPR.

Forthcoming Events

“Freedom Night”. Saturday 31st July 2021. At the Grange Social Club. 7.45pm

We thought, after so long in Lock Down, it would be fabulous to celebrate with a party and all get back together. (After all we were robbed of our Christmas Party last year). So put on your dancing shoes and come down to the Grange on Saturday 31st July to rock with the Red River Band. (Back by special request after such a successful night when they performed at our Christmas Party in 2019)

The event will be on the same lines at the Christmas Party. I.e. Free of charge, but bring a finger food contribution (note not crisps or nuts as the Social Club sell these).

Also we would hope you can bring a donation for a raffle (unwanted Christmas/Birthday Gifts perfectly acceptable). As a committee, we decided to select a Charity of the Year. – this year it is Mountain Rescue (next year, we will ask for suggestions for a charity connected with walking). Any monies raised on the evening will go to this organisation.

Watch out for the email about this event, which will be out shortly.

Barmouth Autumn Weekend 8 - 11th October

We had a speedy response after only advertising the above weekend away on one email, 26 have already booked in to stay at the Min y Mor hotel and a further 7 have indicated they will be joining us, but staying nearby.

There are still rooms available, (although only 1 single room), so if you wish to join us, just let me know
The walking in the area is spectacular.

Just email: secretarywarringtonhf@gmail.com

or ring on 07947 817755



I will shortly be emailing those attending to ask for a deposit.

Very much looking forward to seeing you out walking again soon

Peter and all of your Committee (Cathy, Diane, Jayne, Kerry, Peter H, Peter W, Simon and Wendy)