

WARRINGTON H.F. RAMBLING CLUB



Affiliated with HF Holidays Summer 2025 Newsletter

Welcome to your Summer Newsletter

Welcome to the July Newsletter. We are in the second half of our busiest walking time: great weather, increased participation. We have our normal Wednesday and weekend offerings, with High Grade walks and summer Wednesday evening walks added. This all means we have 2 organised walks on offer each week for the next 2 months, concluding with the walking week in Poland in September and Llandudno in October. Do join in to what is a wonderful festival of walking, which has been assembled with care, for you to enjoy.

Our three walk coordinators (Andy, Carmena and Vini) will soon start to assemble the programme for October to March. Please come forward with walk proposals when they start to assemble our Autumn and Winter programme later this year. We already have two weekend walking holidays planned for 2026, with a third to add. Just get out there and enjoy this delightful walking weather, with a sensory reward from every viewpoint.

Peter Winter
Warrington HF Rambling Club Chair

2025/26 Bulletin Board

Make sure these dates are in your diary!!!

- ◆ 8 – 15th September 2025 Poland Trip
- ◆ Wednesday 24 September 2025, Autumn Supper
- ◆ 3 – 6 October 2025 Weekend Away, Llandudno
- ◆ 13-16 March 2026 Weekend Away, Church Stretton
- ◆ 19 – 22 June 2026 Weekend Away, Glaramara

Website

If you haven't looked at your club website recently, then it is worth a look. It carries lots of information, including latest newsletters, the full programme and has an extensive gallery of club photos. – well worth a look

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

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/>

How do we know it is Summer?

Well, if you look at your current programme, you will see that thanks to the Grade A walks and the Wednesday evening walks, we now offer a walk **every** week.

Grade A Walks

The club introduced a grading system in 2023. We abolished the term Higher Grade walk since it was felt this may be putting people off and moved to calling these either A or A-/A+ walks. It appears to have been a successful move since attendances on these walks has increased.

It is hoped that more members will be encouraged to participate in these walks, since at the lower end, they are often not much more difficult than what used to be called, the Weekend Walks and are now B or B+/B- walks.

Just to refresh your memory or if you are new to the Club, here are the gradings we use:

The following Grades aim to indicate what you might expect on a walk. Obviously, every walk is different and there may be some variation in each grade, so leaders may choose to allocate a + or - sign to show the walk is at the higher or lower end of the range.

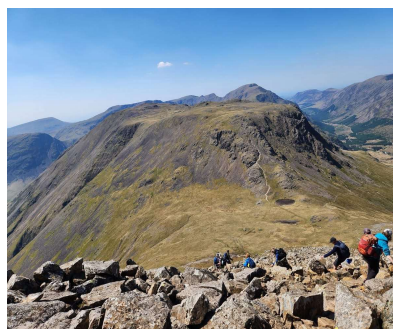
- A. Ideal for the experienced walker who is fit and likes a more challenging walk. These walks will typically be between 9 – 14 miles and over 2500 ft of ascent, some of which might be steep.
(A+ walk would be as A but also include some or all of the following - steep ascents and/or descents, rough ground with possibly some scrambling, possibly some exposed paths)
- B. Designed for those who are reasonably fit. Typically between 9 and 12 miles and under 2500 ft of ascent. Will not involve any scrambling or exposed edges nor long steep ascents or descents.
- C. Ideal for those who enjoy more sedate walking. Typically easy to moderate level and vary between 6 – 10 miles, but can have gentle height gain of up to 1000 ft
- D. Designed for those who are perhaps just starting walking or perhaps not as fit as they were or just happy to have a gentle stroll. This fits evening walks which are maximum of 5 miles and pub lunch walks which are around 6 or 7 miles. Little or no ascent.

Leaders supply walk details prior to each walk giving as much description of what to expect as they can and will allocate a Grade to it. Please read these details carefully to decide if the walk is right for you. (If you are in any doubt about your ability to do a walk, please ring the walk leader to check on its suitability)

Views from some of the A walks this year so far:



Grib Llem Carnedd Daffyd Stan's walk



Descent from Great Gable
– Andy Maclean's walk



. Blencathra via Sharp Edge
- Gary Webster's walk

There is no doubt that the higher level walks afford fantastic views and are well worth the effort of the ascent.

Weather has been kind to us too for most of our walks, though, I think those who went on Stan's would argue you can have too much sun!!!

Wednesday Evening Walks

These are always popular and in fact some of our walkers come out of hibernation just for them. They invariably attract high numbers and nearly always terminate at a pub or club to enjoy a well earned drink. Due to losing light in the evenings, unfortunately they do not extend beyond the end of August - so make the most of them.



Craig led the first evening walk at Newton – at a pace



Jan's was a bit more leisurely



Jayne's had 29 – most so far

Forward Planning

Your Club Needs
Your Help!

YOUR CLUB
NEEDS
YOU

Although it is summer, your committee are busy drawing up the Autumn to Spring programme. To enable this we need your help.

We offer around 86 walks per year, (not to mention numerous social events) and the committee work hard behind the scenes to make this happen.

So where do you come in?

86 walks cannot happen without leaders!! We are eternally grateful to those who lead walks for us, many offering more than one or two per programme.

We are though, always on the lookout for new leaders to ensure we continue to be able to offer such a diverse range of walks. So if you have not led before, why not think about it now.

It may be that you have a shortish favourite walk in your locality - this could be enjoyed by the Wednesday walkers. Or maybe, you enjoy the challenge of the mountains and could offer an A or A plus walk. Whatever the level, we would encourage you to talk to the appropriate walk co-ordinator and put a walk forward. The more leaders we have, the more widely we spread the load.

So what do we expect from a leader?

Full details of responsibilities are listed in our Charter. In essence, you would need to recce your proposed walk, ideally within a month of leading it (this helps to avoid coming across changes to the route eg path diversions or erosion)

Then, ideally, about a week before, send a description of the walk to the secretary to circulate and supply your contact details and sort Lifts.

(The sorting of lifts just means, putting those who require a lift, in touch with those who have offered a lift(s). The lift giver and receiver can then work out details of where and when to meet to enable car sharing).

On the morning of the walk, you would arrive in a timely fashion to check everyone is there. Brief the group on what the walk entails and then lead members on the walk. (What a good leader does will be explored in the next Newsletter).

Still unsure this is for you?

If the idea appeals but you are a little daunted by the prospect, then please chat to the appropriate Walk Co-ordinator. There are plenty of experienced walks leaders in the club who would be happy to come with and conduct a recce and support you whilst you gain your confidence.

Many walk leaders get a great deal of pleasure out of planning and leading walks and feel they are giving back to the club, so please consider this. The walk co-ordinator details are set out below:

Wednesday Walks

Carmena Wood 07794 470624

menawood21@gmail.com



Weekend Walks

Andy McLean 07886 503422

andrew.mclean@zoho.com



Grade A Walks

Vini Martino 07946 432645

vinimartino@googlemail.com



Spring 2026 Weekend Away - 13 -16th March HF Longmynd Hotel, Church Stretton, Shropshire

<https://www.hfholidays.co.uk/country-houses/locations/church-stretton-shropshire-hills>



This is being advertised earlier than usual to ensure we can book this venue.

This venue comes highly recommended from those who have stayed (we did stay here years ago but it wasn't an HF property then), however, they will only offer 3 night breaks.

Sorry to those who prefer 2 nights only but felt we had to go with the majority and hopefully it is sufficient notice to allow anyone working to book a day off (if they can).



What is the deal?

3 nights in this 4* rated Hotel (Visit England and Trip Advisor) in either a classic or premium room

This Edwardian country house surrounded by woodland sits in its own grounds and affords great views of the Shropshire countryside. Easy access to walks from the hotel and only 15 minutes walk to Church Stretton.

Dinner, bed and breakfast and a packed lunch

Boot and drying room

Free wifi throughout

Ample on site parking

What is the cost?

We have managed to secure a reduced rate for a group booking, starting at £319 for a shared room (£439 on their website)

Full total cost *per person* for the 3 nights below:

Double or Twin Classic Room - £319

Double or Twin *Premium Room - £349

Single Classic Room - £334

~~Single *Premium Room - £349~~ - Sorry they only had 3 of these and they have all gone.

*Premium rooms are large, have a better view and offer you robe and slippers.

So what if you wish to book?

Please reply to the email **asap** to let me know you wish to go and clearly state which type of room you require and send the deposit to the Club Account.

To secure the booking we need **to send £175 per person, non-refundable** deposit to HF by 25th August 2025.

Balance will be due on 14th January 2026

Please let me know if you intend to come asap, but the deposit can be paid any time up to 25th Aug.

(If paying the full £175 in August causes a problem but you would like to go, please get in touch with me to see if we can sort something out.)

The details you will need are;

Account Name : Warrington HF Rambling Club

Account number: 85115482

Sort code: 090153

Reference: your name (plus what it is for eg. WE Spring 2026

(NB it is a business account)

Any queries please do not hesitate to contact me: Cathy (07947 817755) secretarywarringtonhf@gmail.com

Club Social Event

We have had many enjoyable social events in Summers past, eg Afternoon Tea on the Llangollen Canal, a visit to the mines at Alderley Edge, the Ship Canal trips and a visit to the Williamson Tunnels.

This year it was a BBQ. The weather was exceptional and 35 of us enjoyed a pleasant evening on the Terrace at Warrington Sports and Social Club. These events give an ideal opportunity to catch up with each other

Thanks to Rona for organising.



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 committee 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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