

"DON'T forget to ask the Leader if he's lost, any time he stops to look around, and particularly if he consults a map. You've a right to know what's going on, and a proper Leader should not need a map".

Source - Midland Ramblers Handbook 1933



Dear Rugby Group Members,

With so much uncertainty and rapidly changing guidelines, it is hard to plan for next week, let alone next year. However, we continue to offer our group walks - adhering to current government guidelines - which can be viewed monthly on our website. Thanks must go to Vale for promoting these, to Roland for adding them to our website and to all our leaders who have taken onboard our Covid-secure outings. It is a sign of the good health of our Group that many members are organising their own independent walks during this time. Vale retains jurisdiction over forthcoming walks into May 2021. Please let her know if you are able to add a walk during this period – any length, any grade, any day of the week.

We would also welcome new faces on future programmes; the documentation is not onerous and the mandatory risk-assessment is simply a tick-box exercise – no more than is normally required on any recce. If you have not led a walk before, we are happy to provide support where needed. A gentle reminder - limited places lead to waiting lists for walks. Please, if booking a walk

and finding you are unable to attend, let the leader know asap - someone else can take your place.

A reminder from Faith, our Treasurer - "We are still paying recce expenses as usual so please do not feel deterred from claiming. During the pandemic please provide bank details as the Treasurer is currently unable to get cheques countersigned".

In these still uncertain times, may I wish you all the very best for the festive season, stay safe and well, and let's look forward to easier times in 2021.

David Shaw - Acting Chairperson

Dates for your 2021 Calendar

Wearing a 'Hat of Optimism' the committee have been planning and reinstating cancelled events and thinking of the next twelve months. Bearing in mind events may need to be put back, booking forms are not included with this newsletter. However, it would be appreciated if you could indicate your 'initial interest' in attending the two events below being organised by Pat Downton our Social Secretary

Soups, Puds & Photos

Bilton Bowls Club - provisionally booked for Tuesday 2nd March 2021. In order to register your interest in attending this event please contact Pat now on psdownton09@gmail.com telephone 01788 521305.



Coach Trip to Bath

Re-arranged for Sunday 21st March 2021. Pat has contacted all members who are happy to transfer payment from this year's cancelled trip, to the new date. However, places are still available. Register your initial interest with Pat now, as above.

Following a Committee meeting in November, a delayed AGM is planned for late February or early March. We look forward to welcoming new members to the Committee as well as expressing our gratitude to retiring members.



Weekends Away

**HF Isle of Wight - Freshwater Bay:
Tuesday 27th April - Saturday 1st May 2021**

Currently HF are only requesting final balances when they know a specific holiday is going ahead, which could be up to three weeks from the start of the holiday. We will contact you as soon final balances are requested. Currently fully booked but please contact Judy as below if you wish to place your name(s) on the reserve list. HF are currently offering a package of £29 per person, covering return ferry crossings and transport to and from the HF hotel. Useful for people travelling to the ferry terminal by train, please contact judyblags@btinternet.com telephone 02476545521 for more details.

**Lake District - Keswick:
Friday 10th to Monday 13th September 2021**

Over 40 places have already booked but there may still be availability. Contact Philippa at philippathompson167@gmail.com telephone 07769936511 for more information.

NB Walk leaders are required for both of the above breaks. For the IOW break – volunteer walk

leaders from the guest clientele should get in touch with David Shaw at ratreesh@aol.com. Self-guided walking will be an option and a selection of these will be made available.

Navigation Course

Cancelled last May this has now been re-arranged for Sunday 16th May 2021 and will be based in Woodford Eaves and Bradgate Park. Initially places will be offered to those booked onto the cancelled course. Judy will be contacting you regarding this at a later date, after which any available places will then be offered to other group members.

Rugby Group Anniversary 2021 - 50th Anniversary of the formation of Rugby Ramblers

Please think of any ideas that would help the committee plan really special event(s) to celebrate this milestone. Maybe some things currently on hold e.g. The Quiz night, could be combined with a celebratory meal of some sort. All ideas, the more the better**, to Judy (contact details at the top of this newsletter).

Finally ...

Finally a plea - we need photos - as many as you can take whilst out walking either alone or with the group. Allan Pinder has kindly offered to prepare a slide show but this is only possible from a good supply of photos. Please send these to a3@alpin2.plus.com telephone 02476542980 as **soon as possible as they are now required.**

**** NB Have you got any photos from 1971 onwards? Please let Allan know, printed photos can be scanned and the originals returned.**

Do enjoy the [Warwickshire Area Report](#) (click to access an online pdf); it's full of interesting items and thanks are due again to Graham Bevan for representing Rugby Group on the Zoom Meeting and to David for submitting a report on our behalf.

Judy Blagden

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
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