



## Arnside & Silverdale AONB Development Plan

South Lakeland District Council and Lancaster City Council are working together to prepare a dedicated Development Plan Document for the whole of the Arnside and Silverdale AONB which will identify **sites for new housing** and employment and will set out planning policies to ensure that development reflects the AONB designation.

Following consultation on a draft DPD in Winter 2016/17, **we have now published consultation maps and information on suggestions received through consultation relating to three sites**, as follows:

1. Silverdale 2. Storth 3. Arnside.

All relevant consultation information can be viewed on the Council's AONB DPD webpage

Information on the suggestions can also be viewed at Arnside & Silverdale AONB Offices, South Lakeland House, Lowther Street, Kendal, LA9 4DL, Customer Service Centre, Town Hall, Morecambe Libraries in Arnside, Carnforth, Kendal and Milnthorpe and The Silverdale Hotel, LA5 0TP

## REPORT ON OUR HARROGATE HOLIDAY

### APRIL 2017

On the last Monday in April, 31 members of Kendal Ramblers set off for a 4 night stay in Harrogate. As Harrogate is not too far away, the majority of the group opted to join an afternoon walk at 1pm from Burnsall. We did a circular walk, first along the River Wharfe (Dales Way) and then headed for Trollers' Gill – most of us had never been there before. Fascinating. Our hotel, the **Best Western Cedar Court**, was ideally placed overlooking the Stray – and with generous car parking, spacious public rooms and good food, it was a popular choice.

The first full day, **Tuesday**, saw most of us visiting **Brimham Rocks**, an amazing collection of standing rocks/pillars on a ridge, with far-reaching views to the west. One group did a 9 mile circular to the Rocks starting at Pately Bridge (they got caught in the hailstorm), whereas those doing the shorter version did a circular walk from the NT car park at the Rocks – and hence were safely in the tearoom when the hail arrived!

**On Wednesday** the two groups headed in different directions. The longer walk started at **Lofthouse**, way up **Nidderdale**. The walk followed the Nidderdale Way south to Ramsgill – lovely coffee stop here on the green (lots of benches). Then we reversed direction and walked back up the left side of the valley we'd just come down. The lunch stop was at **How Stean Gorge**, which we explored fully – including trying a (very) little bit of the 'Via Ferrata', and then finding our way through a long, uneven, cave system using our torches. **Hard hats were worn, and definitely needed**, we all banged our heads on the rocks above at some point. The walk was completed with a visit to **Middlesmoor**, then back to **Lofthouse**.

**The other group** (Wednesday) visited **Fountains Abbey/Studley Royal**, doing a walk in the area first – and getting slightly lost.....but with much hilarity by all accounts!

**On Thursday** a small select group went off and climbed '**Simon's Seat**', near Bolton Abbey. A great walk enjoyed by all. Others went to **Newby Hall** near Ripon (where 'Victoria' was filmed for ITV); **Harlow Carr Gardens** on the edge of Harrogate; **Fountains Abbey** again; York by train; and two did a walk round the reservoirs near **Blubberhouses**.

The weather during our holiday was reasonably good – mostly bright and sunny, if a cool wind at times. There was very little rain. **Margaret Pook**

**Ps.** This is the last holiday I shall be arranging. For the record, members might like to see the venues we have visited over the twelve years I have been in charge:

2006 Melrose; 2007 Drymen; 2008 Scarborough; 2009 Pitlochry; 2010 Long Mynd; 2011 Pitlochry; 2012 Peak District; 2013 Brecon Beacons; 2014 Quantocks; 2015 Alnwick; 2016 Newton Stewart; 2017 Harrogate. **MP**

**Margaret appealed** for someone to take up the baton and arrange future holidays for our group and following our return **Jill Hayes** offered to arrange the holiday for 2018 - with Margaret helping.

The result is the form on the front page of this newsletter! Thanks so much for taking up the baton Jill.

**Many thanks** to Margaret for yet again organising a wonderful holiday with a return this year to '**Pook weather**'. The walk on the way was very entertaining, with the scramble up the dry bed of Trollers' Gill' to finish the first half. I leave my language during the 'off piste' second half to your imagination!

**Our thanks especially to Hilary** who in spite of a filthy cold managed to lead walks on every day of the holiday. Finally, **many congratulations** are due to **Ray and Beryl** on their **25th wedding anniversary**. **Ed**

## Committee July 2017

Acting Chair & -	Colin Boothman	Tel: 01524 273205
Minute Secretary	<a href="mailto:colinboothman@gmail.com">colinboothman@gmail.com</a>	
General Secretary	Margaret Pook	Tel: 015395 60249 <a href="mailto:dmpook@btinternet.com">dmpook@btinternet.com</a>
Treasurer	Alison Jones	Tel: 01539 739105 <a href="mailto:alison@linford-jones.me.uk">alison@linford-jones.me.uk</a>
Footpaths (Outside LDNP)	Ernie Robin	Tel: 01539732995
/ Books Editor	<a href="mailto:perobin@gmail.com">perobin@gmail.com</a>	
Footpaths (LDNP)	Dave Harrison	Tel: 01539 728426 <a href="mailto:djh@cam.ac.uk">djh@cam.ac.uk</a>
Walks Programme	John Fairhurst	Tel: 01539 733887 <a href="mailto:john@thefairhurst.org.uk">john@thefairhurst.org.uk</a>
&	Jill Hayes	Tel: 01539 733099 <a href="mailto:justjill@hotmail.co.uk">justjill@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Newsletter	Terry Doherty	Tel: 01539 721998 <a href="mailto:terrydee@talktalk.net">terrydee@talktalk.net</a>
Social Access	Vacant	
	David Staton	Tel: 01539 724880 <a href="mailto:d.staton19@googlemail.com">d.staton19@googlemail.com</a>
Countryside Publicity/Books	Vacant	
	Polly Robin	Tel: 01539 732995 <a href="mailto:polly.ramblersbooks@gmail.com">polly.ramblersbooks@gmail.com</a>
Website	John Edmondson	Tel: 015398 21251 <a href="mailto:johnmark.edmondson@gmail.com">johnmark.edmondson@gmail.com</a>
Membership	Geoff Brooks	Tel: 01539 720097 <a href="mailto:geoff.agbrooks@outlook.com">geoff.agbrooks@outlook.com</a>
Dales Way	Donald Holliday	Tel: 015394 44066 <a href="mailto:donald.holliday@tiscali.co.uk">donald.holliday@tiscali.co.uk</a>

## Alison & Dorothy's latest saga

### The walk continues.....

This year Alison and Dorothy have switched allegiance from Scotland to the Welsh borders and have completed the southern section of Offa's Dyke.

Starting at Chepstow we walked an average of 15 miles a day and finished in Knighton, the half way point.

The walk starts on the Severn estuary and follows the actual Dyke for the first day. 50 miles of diversion take in some local sites before the trail returns to the dyke at Kington. The area may not be Lakeland Fells but it certainly isn't flat! Most days had several climbs with some over 2000 ft.

The trail includes some lovely ridge walks with great views though one day was spent in low cloud and driving rain! It mainly follows good paths, occasionally overgrown. The banks of the Wye, wheat and potato fields, grassy meadows, and lovely woodland provided plenty of variety.

This year we treated ourselves to a day off and explored Hay on Wye.

Along the way we met several international visitors and one large group of men who had come all the way from Australia just to complete part of the trail!

Plans are afoot for completing the northern section in 2018.

## Gooseholme Footbridge

Cumbria County Council has recently engaged consultants who are producing an options report for the footbridge.

Options include:

- repairing the existing structure,
- replacing with a new footbridge,
- replacing with a footbridge/cycle-bridge.

Options for any replacement bridges would need to consider whether they would be single span or not. The options will then need to be costed to allow a decision to be taken regarding the option to be pursued.

It should also be noted that any change to the footprint of the bridge access ramps will require existing Common Land to be De-registered. Only once a contractor is appointed can a programme for the work be agreed.

Unfortunately, due to the above complexity, we cannot accurately predict when the bridge will reopen.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017

The 48th Annual General meeting will be held at the Abbot Hall Community Centre on FRIDAY 24th November at 7.00 pm. The agenda for the AGM, together with various reports, will be sent out before the meeting. Will members please note that nominations for Committee membership, and motions for consideration at the AGM, **must reach the Margaret Pook** no later than 14 days before the meeting.

## Fisherman's Footbridge, Lune Valley. SD 628 944

The YDNPA has contacted Ramblers to ask if we would like to contribute to the **replacement** costs for the Fishermans footbridge washed away in the Storm Desmond floods.

Although the Lune Valley northwest of Sedbergh is **not in the Lakeland Fells of the Sharpe Legacy** they do have funds, currently £3000, for projects in such locations.

The proposed bridge is a similar construction to that recently opened at Birks Mill, Sedbergh. **CCC is offering £25000** for the actual bridge itself, but there is a considerable shortfall as overall costs are estimated at £46000-51000. Although for this size of project any Ramblers contribution is going to be **something of a token gesture**, it is an opportunity to contribute to a 'Storm Desmond' project outside of the LDNPA. The Ramblers name would be on the plaque celebrating the eventual opening of the bridge, **as is the case for the Lancaster Group on the Birks Mill bridge plaque.**

The proposal is for Area to donate a minimum of £1000

**NOTE: The Dales Way Association** are proposing matching this with a **£1000 donation** and **Kendal Ramblers** have been asked to **match the funding as well**. This will be discussed at our committee meeting on 19th July 2017.

## Kendal Group Membership

Following a report from the Membership Secretary, I am sorry to advise that we, **along with many Ramblers Groups**, are continuing to lose members. Between August 2016 and July 2017 our numbers **reduced by 8** but we lost a further **5 in July 2016**. However this is a slowdown as compared with the July 2015 - June 2016 period when our **membership was reduced by 19**. **Ed**

## A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY?

For **walk leaders, potential leaders** and those who **wish to learn** about walk-planning and the role of a walk leader.

Please put **Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017** in your diaries.

Base: **Troutbeck Institute**

Time: 10.00 a.m. (B&Q at 09:15)

**Coffee**, briefing, the first-aid kits, leaders' topics.

**Walks** of varying length and elevation, reconnoitre 'new' routes, opportunities for the less experienced to practise map interpretation and route-finding in the company of experienced leaders, noting and recording path problems. Report back over **afternoon tea**.

Suggestions for future get-togethers and the recruitment of new leaders.

Please **register interest** with Jill or John for catering.  
([justjill@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:justjill@hotmail.co.uk); [john@thefairhursts.org.co.uk](mailto:john@thefairhursts.org.co.uk))

## HERE WE GO AGAIN

Beauty Spot goes on sale

The family at **Sizergh** has owned **The Helm** since the 13th Century but announced recently that they will soon be looking for buyers. **Henry Horneyold-Strickland** advised that this decision had been reached principally because of the growing management problem exacerbated by the fact that **sheep grazing is no longer feasible** owing to the increase in public use.

**In 2007 Friends of the Lake District** purchased 33.5 ha of the eastern side of the Helm - approximately half of the total site which **in the past eight years they have fenced**, rebuilt dry stone walls and introduced some native livestock after planting 1500 native trees.

**Douglas Chalmers, the Charity's Chief Executive** has advised that managing land like this requires a big commitment. Given that the Helm is protected common land, it would appear that there is **little scope** for a prospective new owner **to prevent walkers** on the Helm - however the problem around public use and sheep grazing is to do with **walkers and their dogs**. Some dogs attack sheep which makes grazing impossible. Malcolm Petyt Chair of the Lake District Area of the Ramblers Association hopes that the Friends of the Lake District will buy this land **to add to that** which they already own, and commented that as this is **common land** there shouldn't be a problem with people losing the right to walk on it.

## Quiz and Supper Evening 3rd November 7pm at Abbot Hall Social Club

Please make a note in your diary and watch for a booking form by email.

Non email users should phone Alison on 01539 739105 at the beginning of October.

## WALK MAGAZINE FEATURE

Herewith an edited copy of a letter received recently by Margaret Pook - our Group Secretary - from Ramblers Association Officer **George Redmayne** - how nice for our group to be recognised in this way. **Congratulations John on your website work!!**

Dear Margaret,

I am writing to let you know that in the autumn issue of Walk Magazine, we'll be profiling a Ramblers Route in the Cumbria area: **0.10045 Helm Crag and Steel Fell, Cumbria** (not yet published). Alongside the route, we'll be including a link to your group's webpage [ramblers.org.uk/kendal](http://ramblers.org.uk/kendal) so that anyone interested in finding group walks in your local area will know where to start. We hope that it'll bring some new interest to you and your group!

As we're signposting people to the webpage of groups covering a geographical area where a particular route is being profiled, we want to ensure that each webpage looks as appealing and accurate as possible so that people are encouraged to start walking with the Ramblers. **It's great that you're listing your group walks online**, so thank you very much for that. **I note that you've also got lots of lovely photos on your webpage** as well as individualised text to give visitors a good impression of what your group's like. Thank you very much for all the work that's obviously gone into it. To find out more about Ramblers Routes, you can find lots of information on our website here: <http://www.ramblers.org.uk/go-walking/routes-and-places-to-walk/about-ramblers-routes.aspx>.

## Hillforts

A new database on the web may be of interest to those who like to plan walks with a purpose or leaders who like to provide interesting background information along the way.

It is Hillfort Atlas, <https://hillforts.arch.ox.ac.uk/>

A surprise to me is the high density of hillforts around the Solway coast and in the Scottish borderlands, compared with the north of England.

**John Fairhurst**

## MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT - WALKING FOR HEALTH

The Ramblers have been working with Macmillan Cancer Support since 2012 to develop the Walking for Health programme and **the agreement between the Ramblers and Macmillan has now come up for review.**

As a charity, Macmillan works with partners to shape services and demonstrate their worth, and does not fund them in perpetuity. It is essential Macmillan uses its resources to improved the lives of people affected by cancer and **the organisation believes** that the programme would be most effectively delivered through more of a shared model and has taken the decision to not continue being the sole funder of Walking for Health as of March 2018.

Macmillan remains an interested party and intends to help facilitate discussions around funding options with other charities and key partners. They are also interested in remaining as a partner beyond March 2018.

**If you have any questions please email [volunteersupport@ramblers.zendesk.com](mailto:volunteersupport@ramblers.zendesk.com)**

## Coastal Access

**Whitehaven to Silcroft** Likely completion date is now 2018/19. Commencement order to be made and opening date announced. Concern expressed by Ian Brodie re delays.

**Walney Island** Cumbria County Council have been out with coast path staff to plan the establishment work which will get underway during 2017 depending on resources available. Completion of these works may be possible in 2017/18 or may take a little longer.

**Silcroft to Silverdale** Stage 2 'Develop' is nearing completion with only a few areas outstanding. Publication of report expected in late 2017.

## 2017 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

29th July 2017 Town Hall Coffee Morning  
14th September 2017 Westmorland Show  
19th September 2017 Leaders Day  
30th September 2017 Ramblers Roadshow  
4th October 2017 Committee Meeting  
3rd November 2017 Quiz Night  
24th November 2017 AGM  
12th December 2017 Christmas Lunch  
9th February 2018 Hotpot Supper **Note: Abbott Hall**  
23rd-27th April 2018 Brecon Beacons Holiday

## Staveley Bridge

Well, first it was January, then March and they finally opened the Staveley Road Bridge just in time for the final and very last Staveley Carnival! Hip hip hooray. Ed.

## Next Copy Date

Is the 7th November 2017. All articles please by this date to [terrydee@talktalk.net](mailto:terrydee@talktalk.net) or telephone 01539 721998.

**Ed**

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2017

12th December 2017

Ramblers Xmas Lunch due to popular demand is returning to Silverdale Golf Club, Silverdale on the 12th December 2017 for a 1pm sit down.

**Booking forms and menus** will be sent with AGM papers.

## WESTMORLAND SHOW 14 SEPTEMBER 2017

Kendal Ramblers will be taking a stand at the show, as we have done in the previous 3 years. It is a good way for the group to publicise ourselves and show what we do. **Our stand** is always in the 'Countryside Arena' tent. If you are interested in doing a 'stint' on the stand (for about 2 hours) **please speak to Margaret Pook** 015395 60249. In return for your help you will receive free entry to the show!

The attached invitation has been received from Head Office

## RAMBLERS ROADSHOW –

### CASTLE GREEN HOTEL, KENDAL

**30 September 2017 9.30am - 4pm**

### Booking Essential

Join us to find out more about how to get the most out of your Ramblers membership, to meet other members and volunteers and get direct access to our walking experts and specialist partners at one of our **free\*** Ramblers Roadshows. Book your place now at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ramblers-roadshow-kendal-tickets-33395744571?ref=ecal>

In the morning you can choose from the following workshops:

**First aid for walkers and basic map skills**

**Introduce ion to walk leading**

**Using the Ramblers website to get more people walking**

**Using social media to promote your group**

**Basics of Rights of Way**

Free lunch and light refreshments are provided and it's absolutely free.

In the afternoon you can choose from

**Retaining members and recruiting new ones**

**Supporting the volunteer journey**

**An introduction to short walks and making health walk links**

**Managing challenges on group walks**

and if there is no afternoon workshop that takes your fancy there will be a short walk for everyone.

If you are not on line or do not wish to navigate the website, do ask a friend or one of the committee to book for you. or telephone 0207 339 8500

## RAMBLERS WALKING HOLIDAYS

The Walking Partnership advise me that we have received another £80 in our coffers (two people to Undiscovered Cape Verde and one to La Palma) which is music to Alison's ears. So remember to nominate Kendal Ramblers as your walking group if you book a Ramblers Holiday and our funds will benefit. This costs you nothing and applies to Ramblers Walking Holidays, Chapters Experience Holidays, Adagio and Load Off Your Back. **Ed.**