



KENDAL

March 2017

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NEWSLETTER

KENDAL WALKING FESTIVAL

Kendal Town Council plan to run a Kendal Walking Festival **every year** to open up Kendal and South Lakes to outsiders (like the Mountain festival) and bring in much needed trade. The planned dates are **2, 3 & 4 June 2017**. Jill and I have attended meetings with the **Town Council** recently and as a result of this we have offered two walks on Friday 2nd June. Additionally **South Lakes Walking Club** (coordinated by Nigel Markham) has offered three walks on Saturday 3rd and **Kendal Fellwalkers** are offering a high level walk on Sunday 4th June. This will be augmented by walks offered by Wainwright Society, Civic Trust and Wildlife Trust
John Watson

This new Festival, which it is hoped will become an **annual fixture**, will be for both locals and visitors and will be our opportunity to show everyone that **Kendal is an ideal base** to explore the immediate area and also the Lakes, Dales and other areas that are on our doorstep. We have offered two walks on the 2nd June:

Scout Scar and Helsington Barrows, approx five miles, accompanied by Jan Wiltshire who will also be giving a talk on the Saturday evening

Whitbarrow Scar, approx five miles, led by **John Watson**
EVERYONE wanting to join ANY of the walks will have to pay the required fee, this includes members of Ramblers, South Lakes Walking Club etc.

The arrangements that are made will have to be followed by everyone, e.g. meeting places, times etc. and **tickets are available** from **The Brewery Arts Centre** who have agreed to co-ordinate the selling of tickets as for the Mountain Film Festival - **details on their website**.

If you can help either on the actual walks themselves as back marker, or maybe as a marshall in the town to make sure that the right people get on the right walks **please contact me**.

If you feel that you can offer something to the Festival in any way, maybe if you have previous experience of walking festivals or have ideas of what we could be including, then please either get in touch with me or directly with **Andy Blackman** (andy-blackman@talktalk.net) and **Tom Clare** (tomclare601@gmail.com) who are the main organisers for the Festival.
Jill Hayes justjill@hotmail.co.uk

ACCESS

The Friends of the Lake District have installed **two new kissing gates** on The Helm to provide a way through a new **stock fence to Access land in the SE corner**. The National Trust will have a **new ladder stile on Farleton Fell** connecting two areas of Access Land, **installed by Easter**.

A meeting has been held with the LDNP with a view to establishing **2 new access points** to Helsington Barrows (Access Land) from the **Brigsteer Rd**.

Work continues to survey Access Land though dealing with issues is proving difficult because of the volume of urgent work currently being carried out to repair the damage caused by flooding.

Right of way - Restoring the Record

I attended a one day workshop held in Darlington on the 4th March. The day was organised by the RA and led by Sarah Bucks and Phil Wadey, authors of the definitive book on Rights of Way - Restoring the Record.

Approximately 20 attended drawn from Ramblers, British Horse Society and the Open Spaces Society.

The situation we face is urgent. Any unrecorded right of way **not registered by 1st January 2026** will be lost. After this date it will not be possible to claim a route. There are less than 9 years to go and hundreds of unrecorded public rights of way in most Counties. The good news is that once a claim has been made then it **will be remain** until a decision on its status has been agreed.

The workshop had 4 objectives - to learn how to look for paths to research; how to find evidence; how to carry out systematic research and how to write a statement of case. It was very intense with a lot of material to consider and understand. Some of the sources can only be examined by a visit to **County or the National Archive**. However a lot can be achieved from your armchair!

I found the day both challenging and inspirational. Even if I am not very successful I will learn a great deal about how our network of footpaths and bridleways came into being and how they have been recorded over the past 150 years.
David Staton

Committee March 2017

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WALKING HOLIDAYS IN BULGARIA

Bulgaria is a fabulous country for hikers, undiscovered by many western Europeans, its beauty unspoilt and charm unique.

The **Aspa Vila Spa Hotel** has been running walking holidays in the mountains of southwest Bulgaria for eight years now and caters for groups large and small. Your editor has been approached by Hazel of www.mybulgariatours.com who are based in the Aspa Vila Spa Hotel, a small family-run establishment in the village of Banya which they tell me has **naturally hot mineral springs** used for their health giving properties for centuries. Their guests have the chance to experience authentic Bulgarian life and rural culture and, when it's time to go walking, the mountains are right on the doorstep. **Hot springs feed the hotel's outdoor swimming pool and jacuzzi** - a great way to relax after a good walk. Other amenities include a sauna and steam room.

The holiday programmes are **tailor-made** and there are a wide range of routes to suit all abilities. See the website for various holidays.

The holidays are full board. One week costs 650 Euros per person (based on two sharing) and includes return transfers from Sofia airport, seven night's accommodation in an en-suite twin room, six days guided walking and/or sightseeing, breakfast, lunch, afternoon coffee with cake, three-course evening meal with **unlimited wine** and all transport.

For more information see the website (above) or e-mail hazel@mybulgariatours.com They are now taking bookings for 2017.

Message from Head Office

FESTIVAL OF WINTER WALKS 2017-18

I am writing to you to confirm the date of the next Festival of Winter Walks, which is now generously supported by the **players of People's Postcode Lottery**

Firstly, a massive thank you for the role you played in the Festival of Winter Walks 2016-17. **Over 2,000 group walks took place** – that's over 80 a day! Please pass on our thanks to the volunteers in your area or group who helped plan, lead walks or promote Festival of Winter Walks.

We are thrilled to be extending our relationship with the players of People's Postcode Lottery (PPL) this year. Their support will help us showcase our walking activities through **GB-wide festivals**: Festival of Winter Walks and Walk About. These festivals will help us **attract new people** to discover the joys and benefits of walking and to keep walking with the Ramblers.

We are working on plans for the **new look** the Festival of Winter Walks 2017-18. However, we know groups and areas appreciate plenty of notice so we have confirmed this year's festival dates as:

Saturday 23 December 2017 – Sunday 7 January 2018

As a long-standing event in the Ramblers calendar, the Festival of Winter Walks always generates a lot of publicity and media. With support from the players, we will be able to dedicate more time and resources to **supporting groups** with planning, promotion and press in the run-up to the festival. We'll be in touch regularly with updates throughout the year. The next **Walk About festival** will take place in **spring 2018**.

MORE WALK-LEADERS NEEDED

At the date of writing there are still far too many spaces on the summer walks programme, particularly in July and August, and we are seeking offers urgently.

Thank you those who have volunteered walks already. Please check the details on-line by logging onto <http://tinyurl.com/Jillswalks>. Vacant dates may be found on the same web-page. If you need to make a change or wish to add a walk please contact either Jill or me. justjill@hotmail.co.uk
john@thefairhursts.org.uk Tel: 01539 731727

John Fairhurst

English Coastal Path

Work continues on the path through Cumbria at what appears to be a slow pace and we are expecting a consultation of the proposed route through Kendal Group territory later this year or early 2018.

If any member would like to be included on the monthly newsletter circulation of the progress report on the development of the route then please let me know.

Ian Brodie iob@btinternet.com

Copy Date for July Newsletter

Please supply any articles, jokes, information etc. to terrydee@talktalk.net by the 7th July 2017 or telephone me on 01539 721998.

MONEY FOR NOTHING

Just to remind you, if you **nominate Kendal Ramblers** when you book a holiday with Ramblers Walking Holidays, they will **pay between £10 and £30** per person booked through The Walking Partnership into our coffers at **no additional cost** to you! Their October 2016 statement to us tells me that we have received **£70 for seven people** staying at Hassness in May last year. **Ed**

KENDAL CASTLE

Work to make Kendal Castle more accessible by improving and **widening or diverting** paths to avoid muddy sections began in February. They will be re-surfaced and re-aligned to follow their **original routes** and therefore enable grass to regrow in many parts of the castle site.

The project is being led by **Kendal Town Council** working closely with **Historic England** to ensure that correct Scheduled Ancient Monument permissions are in place.

Additional funding has been received from South Lakeland District Council and Cumbria County Council.

Kendal Castle features on Kendal's new **Historical Trail** and it is hope that once the works have been completed (due by the end of March) visitors will be able to enjoy the picnic area and scenic views this site has to offer.

Edited from W. Gazette

Ed

Has anyone lost this Teddy?

Do you know where it is?

In which wall?

Contact Pat Walsh on

pat@pandatwo.plus.com



Blencathra

Well we have now got to the end of the saga. The Earl of Lonsdale has removed the mountain from sale and the funds raised for its purchase have to be returned to those who donated them. **Ed**

Purse Found - in door pocket of car

Contact Geoff to claim

geoff.agbrooks@outlook.com

The Most Innovative, Brand New, Accommodation in Wales

*An ideal base for walkers who are
searching for an
unforgettable experience*

Encouraging both young and old to experience the beauty and rewards of the countryside is of great importance and providing the best possible walking experience is top priority.

Within the 'Walkers are Welcome' area of Devil's Bridge, Tynrhyd Retreat is set in acres of beautiful countryside in the Cambrian Mountains and only 10 miles from the Coastal path of Aberystwyth. The perfect accommodation for walkers. Once you've been here, you won't look back.

Tynrhyd Retreat provides 5star, stunning accommodation catering for individual room bookings and can provide exclusive use for larger groups of up to 50 people with all the contemporary features of modern day living and a bubbly hot tub to relax.

"Whilst I organise walking breaks with many accommodation providers, Tynrhyd Retreat is one of the few places that combines great comfort and space, in the beauty of the Welsh countryside. It's a real get away from it all venue, and a perfect location to start and end a walk."

Dafydd Wyn Morgan, Twm's Treks, January 2016

"Fantastic accommodation, lots of fun and a really active few days in stunning countryside."

Rhiannon Taylor, April 2016

Come and stay with us and enjoy an exciting walking holiday away from the daily hustle and bustle.

Book now to avoid disappointment and let the adventure begin!

Email or call us for a chat to discuss various options.

holidays@tynrhyd.com - 01970 607 913

Stop Press The Road bridge in Staveley is due to open before Easter!!!

AND FINALLY

The Queen's Head

For those of you that maybe missed it when it was publicised on the 2nd February, the **Fourposter pub** as some of us still know it, is due to reopen after their disastrous fire almost three years ago.

They have not attempted to **reinvent the wheel**, and it should pick up right where it left off - a cosy family-friendly pub where you can enjoy a pint and a warm hearty meal. **Opening date sometime in April** is still to be finally confirmed. **HOORAY Ed**