

OADBY HILL WALKING CLUB NEWSLETTER



November 2025

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Club Announcements

OHWC Christmas Meal

Thursday 11th December 2025, The Old Vicarage, Whetstone, Leicester at 7.30pm

Elaine Akers has booked the OHWC Annual Christmas meal for Thursday 11th December at 7.30pm at the Old Vicarage, LE8 6JH. The festive menu may be found [here](#).

Cost is £18.99 pp for two courses, or £21.99 for three Courses. Can all club members interested in joining this event email the club at ohwcmail@gmail.com before 28th November 2025 and also pay a £10 deposit pp by BACS to the OHWC bank details given at the end of this Newsletter.

OHWC Lake District Trip 2026

Leisureplex Derwent Hotel, Keswick 2nd May 2026 to 5th May 2026

Due to uncertainties in whether the Patterdale Hotel would be available next year, our Club Chair has done some sterling work in finding alternative accommodation for our annual club trip to the Lake District. He has provisionally booked the Leisureplex Derwent Hotel near Keswick:

- **Cost £299 pp**
 - One single room at base cost,
 - one cozy double room suitable for single occupancy (supplement £60)
 - Three double rooms at base cost
 - One twin room at base cost
 - Two twin rooms, with lake view (supplement £32 pp),

Since putting out an email last month, we now have 21 OHWC members booked onto this trip. If there are any other club members interested in joining next year's trip to the Lakes, can you please contact Martin either through the club email ohwcmail@gmail.com or via his mobile 07748 674223.

Walking Routes

Can all club members look at the walking routes available [here](#) prior to joining each month's coach trip, so the walk list can be passed round the coach more efficiently please. Each month's walk routes are put up on the club website in the week before the monthly walk.

Walking Boots

Club members are reminded that when joining club walks, they must wear walking boots with ankle support. The only exception to this rule is if club members have a valid medical reason for not wearing boots with ankle support.

Committee Retirements

Social Events and Media Secretary

Elaine Akers has informed OHWC that she intends to retire from the Committee at the AGM in April next year (2026). The OHWC is looking for volunteers to take over her position. Her role includes:

- Maintaining and updating the OHWC [website](#),
- Maintaining and updating the OHWC social media presence on Facebook and Instagram,
- Organising social events throughout the year (tends to be only the annual Xmas dinner).
- Attending OHWC monthly committee meetings and the yearly AGM.

Any OHWC members who are interested in this position, can you please let our club Chair know via email at ohwcmail@gmail.com, or through Martin's mobile at 07748 674223.

Newsletter Editor

Tim Akers has also announced his retirement from the Newsletter committee member position effective from next year's AGM in April 2026. His role includes:

- On a monthly basis, writing the OHWC newsletter and publishing it via email to all club members,
- Ensuring Social Media Secretary has a copy of newsletter to put on OHWC website,
- Attending OHWC monthly committee meetings and the yearly AGM.

This position would suit someone who is MS Office literate.

Any OHWC members who are interested in this position, can you please let our club Chair know via email at ohwcmail@gmail.com, or through Martin's mobile at 07748 674223.

November's Local Mid-Month Walk

At this time of publication, no OHWC member has volunteered to lead a mid-month walk in November. If any club member would like to lead a walk, can they get in touch with the committee by club email please.

November's Walk Report, by Gala Suarez

Cheddleton, Derbyshire, Sunday 2nd November 2025

Ten intrepid hikers set off with their guide Adam, confident he would lead them through 10.5 miles to the safety of Cheddleton; the ancient parish & village in the Staffordshire Moorlands; & hopefully with enough time to enjoy a well-deserved celebratory drink at the pub.

We started the walk together with Karl's group, hiking up a lovely hill just to warm us up, & further on both groups separated. Soon became apparent that the rain of the previous day had flooded a few fields that we had to negotiate along the way, getting so muddy that I eventually fell like a child whose mum & dad will tell off when I get home and send to bed without dinner.





Our climbing skills were put to the test with what felt like 100 styles, in not the best condition to put it mildly (the maintenance people didn't get the memo). The group, very early on, had to negotiate a confusing path which cut across someone's private garden, but we finally managed to free climb our way onto the next field.

All confident that this time we may not encounter any wild animals, we walked through a field where two horses were chilling. As we admired the beautiful horses, one of them decided that we were overstaying our welcome & started galloping up & down the field with a "get out of my pub!" attitude. It was at this point that we got the message & we all decided to jump over (& under) the fence to the next field, & to our safety. We hiked to the top of the hill; the sun was out & we were rewarded with amazing views, & soon after we stopped to have some snacks to get over the trauma.

As if the previous encounter wasn't enough, walking along a small road we encountered three horse riders; including a very rude horse who decided to do the business (all of it & more!) right there when Zahra & I were passing by; whilst her owner couldn't stop laughing & apologizing.

A few assault courses & muddy fields later, we bumped onto Martin's group by the old train station buildings & had a quick chat with the chap who lived in the house next to them. We all reached Froghall Wharf, Hetty's Tea Shop, the toilets (yay!) and saw several Lime Kilns (which I only know because Shirley told me); then both groups went their own separate ways.



Adam laid out our two choices: up some steep wooden steps to Ipstones Edge with the bonus of lovely views at the very top or the less steep way up the road. Five of us decided to adventure the steps. After this, we finally sat down in a lovely field with more beautiful views, to have our lunch. Further on, we passed Churnet Valley Railway, originally opened in 1848 & closed to passengers in 1965, to be rebuilt from scratch by volunteers in the 1990s.

Oh, but one final challenge awaited us, a very flooded wooded area which we nearly had to swim across! Everyone appropriately wet & happy, passed Consall Train Station, continued along the canal passing some beautiful old stone bridges & a pub called "The Black Lion", soon bumping onto some walkers from Barry's group.

Finally arriving at the village, tired & excited to reach the pub. Most of us went the wrong way & had to ask some locals for directions to Cheddleton's "Black Lion" (as the Red one seemed unavailable). One more time, we told each other about our adventures at the pub; & Rosie & I discovered "Cappuccino Stout", things cannot get any better!

December's Monthly Walk: Winster, Derbyshire,

Sunday 7th December 2025

Coach departs: Oadby Central Car Park (adjacent to the Trinity Methodist Church) at 8.00am sharp.

Please note: The coach will leave the pub at 5.30pm.

Coach Route:

M1 north to Jct 28, A38 & A615 to Matlock. A632, A615, B5056 to Winster

Boot stop: Matlock Train Station

Pub: Unknown

Map: [OS Explorer OL24: 1:25000](#) OS Map of The Peak District - White Peak Area



Walk Leaders:

- K. Millard (long)
- C. Gwinnet
- K. Pochin
- M. Beckett
- A. Wakley (short)

Booking Trips: When booking onto monthly and mid-month walks, please only use the club email rather than phone, text or word of mouth.

Coach Fare: Preferably by BACS to the bank details given at the end of this Newsletter.

From November 1st, 2024, the Coach fare has increased to the following amount per person:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| • Adult Members | £18 |
| • Guests | £20 |
| • Junior/Student Members | £12 |

Cancellations - members and guests

- Cancellations up to Tuesday Midnight before the Sunday walk - no penalty.
- Cancellations thereafter - the full cost of the bus fare is due.

Prospective Walkers

If you have not put your name down on the last coach trip, please contact ohwcmail@gmail.com to book a seat on the bus this month, prior to making a payment. You will receive a reply confirming the availability or otherwise of a seat. Please note that it is first come first served.

If you delay booking, you may not get a seat. Please do not turn up without booking and receiving confirmation that you have a place.

You must book a place on the coach in advance, or you may not be allowed to go on as it picks up at various places on the ring road members who have already booked a seat.

If you wish to be picked up from other places than Oadby Car Park, please mention where at time of booking and please be aware that very occasionally another Orbit coach may go past before ours arrives.

Walk Reminder

Please make sure that you carry your completed Club Safety Form in the top pocket of your rucksack - it could help you in a difficult situation. N.B. Don't forget to keep the form up to date. The form is available on the Club Website [here](#).

Walk Route Map

Please go onto the News section of the Club website [here](#) a few days before the monthly walk, to see a map showing the walk routes. Hopefully, this will speed up selecting your walk when signing up on the coach. The club has four OS maps available for Walk Leaders to use when leading walks.

Boot/Toilet Stop

Members are urged to keep the time taken at the boot stop to a minimum. At the end of the walk members should change their footwear and place dirty boots and rucksacks in the luggage locker before getting onto the coach, thus avoiding any congestion and mud in the coach.

Please do not wear dirty boots on the coach.

Those getting off the coach at Fosse Park and the Ring Road may alternatively put your dirty kit into a plastic bag and then take it onto the coach; thus, negating having to search for your gear in the bus luggage lockers.

Essential Wear

Members and guests must be suitably equipped. As a minimum this must include:

- Suitable waterproof walking boots that have adequate ankle support
- Waterproof coat and over-trousers
- Warm clothing
- An appropriate rucksack.
- Food and drink for the whole day
- For winter walking, all members are to carry a serviceable head torch in their rucksacks.
- A First Aid Kit is recommended

N.B. Jeans and trainers/sandals are NOT suitable. If you are not properly equipped for hillwalking, you may not be able to participate. Only Registered Assistance Dogs are allowed on club walks, except on mid-month walks at the discretion of the Walk Leader.

Cotswold Outdoors Discount Card for Club Members

Once again, Cotswold Outdoors has allowed all Club members to apply for a Discount Card. This discount is for the personal use of club members only and must not be shared with others.

Club members benefit from:

- 15% discount in-store and online,
- Expertise, advice and guidance,
- Sustainability services,
- Explore More membership.

OHWC discount

OHWC Club Members will receive a 15% discount on full-priced items (excludes electronics and selected lines) both in-store and online with Cotswold Outdoor, Runners Need and Snow+Rock. The code to use is **AF-RAMBLERS-W9C**.

This discount is strictly for personal use only and must not be shared with non-club members. Cotswold Outdoors reserve the right to amend or cancel it with immediate effect if they find this code has been leaked to unauthorised persons in any way.

Explore More

Club members will need to sign up for their free Explore More benefits scheme to use the discount. This comes with its own benefits such as a 3-year extended warranty, a 100-day returns policy, Price Match Promise and much more! Members can sign up through any of the following brands:

- [Cotswold Outdoor](#)
- [Runners Need](#)
- [Snow+Rock](#)

Expertise, advice and guidance

The best way to tap into their outdoor expertise is for Club Members to book an in-store appointment at Cotswold Outdoor, Runners Need or Snow+Rock. This ensures one of our store specialists is on hand to help you get the best kit for your adventure.

Alternatively, Cotswold Outdoor has a whole host of blogs online in our Advice & Inspiration areas. These include kit guides, itinerary ideas, inspirational stories and suggestions on how to be more sustainable. You can find these below:

- [Cotswold Outdoor](#)
- [Runners Need](#)
- [Snow+Rock](#)

Sustainability Services

For us the outdoors is everything, and across our three brands, we do everything we can to look after it for generations to come.

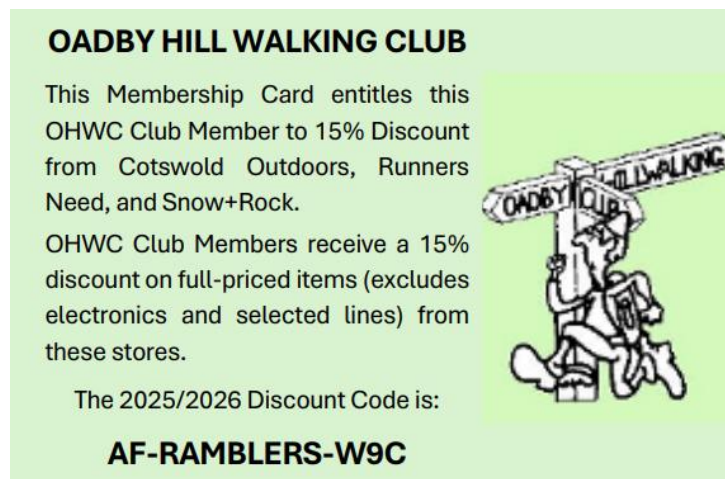
As a company, Cotswold Outdoors are working to become more sustainable, and they want to help their customers do their bit too. The services they offer to help with this are available across all their stores:

- [Make The Right Choice](#)
- [Care and Proofing](#)
- [Recycle My Gear](#)
- [Recycle My Run](#)
- [Our planet](#)

Cotswold Outdoors Discount Card

This year, Cotswold Outdoor, Runners Need and Snow+Rock have requested that OHWC Club members provide some sort of Club Membership Card to receive their discount. To that end, the club committee have decided to produce a Membership Card for club members to use if they want to take advantage of the discount offered.

Please print off this page and cut out the Card illustrated below. Please note that last month's Newsletter inadvertently displayed the wrong discount. This year's discount is 15%.



Meetings

Unless otherwise stated in this Newsletter or via email, monthly club meetings are held on the Wednesday following the Sunday coach walk at the Wigston Conservative Club, 38 Long Street, Wigston, Leicester, LE18 2AH at 7.30pm.

All OHWC club members are welcome.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding means protecting people's health, wellbeing and human rights, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect. It's fundamental to high-quality health and social care.

The OHWC Safeguarding Policy and Guidance document is on the club website at <http://oadbyhwc.com/safeguarding>.

If anyone has any safeguarding concerns that potentially involve the club, club activities, or club members, they can report in confidence by email, any safeguarding concerns to the club at OHWCsafeguarding@gmail.com.

Club Media and Bank Details

Website	http://oadbyhwc.com
Email	ohwcmail@gmail.com
Safeguarding Email	OHWCsafeguarding@gmail.com
Facebook	Oadby Hillwalking Club group
Instagram	Oadby Hillwalking Club
Bank Details	Barclays Bank
Account Name	OHWC
Account Number	50124990 Please quote surname and month of walk (i.e., Smith July)
Sort code	20-49-08

OHWC Committee 2024 – 2025

Chair	Martin Beckett	07748 674223
Treasurer	Martin Beckett	07748 674223
Club Secretary	Ann Branson	07726 334583
Membership Secretary	Mike Hewitt	07484 731419
Walks Coordinator	Adam Wakley	07720 328700
Social Events & Media	Elaine Akers	07930 122030
Newsletter Editor	Tim Akers	07855 969183