

NEWSLETTER – January 2020
Oadby Hillwalking Club www.oadbyhwc.com
ohwcmail@gmail.com

OHWC Committee 2019-2020

Chair: Jenny Fox 0116 2911491
Secretary/Newsletter: Catherine Gwinnett 07941855762
Treasurer: Alison Beckett 07557199247
Walks Co-ordinator: Geoff Mattock 0116 2395381
Membership Secretary: Carol Hinks 0116 2592144

Monthly Club Meetings

Monthly club meetings are held on the Wednesday following the Sunday walk at the Wigston Conservative Club, 38 Long Street, Wigston, Leicester, LE18 2AH at 7.30pm. All club members are welcome.

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 8th April 2020

We are keen to welcome new committee members – please speak to any of the current committee if you're interested.

Announcement

We heard recently that former OHWC member, Caroline Edwards, died in March 2019 aged 80. Caroline had been an enthusiastic member of OHWC from the 1980s to the early 2000s. She was a competent walk leader for the club, and also led walks abroad for holiday organisations. For the club she organised many weekends away, often in winter, and regularly went on club weekends at the K Shoe hut in Borrowdale. Her other outdoor interests included cycling (being an active member of the Oadby Sociable Cycling group of OHWC) and horse riding. She left the club when she moved to Somerset to be nearer her daughter Madeleine. At the time of her death, she was still looking after her 2 ponies.

Casepak visit – further information

7 people have already booked their place!! Don't delay, book today.

If you were ever curious about what happens to all the rubbish you dutifully sort and place out for recycling each week, then this is your chance to find out. Jenny Fox has arranged, with the help of the County Council, for a guided tour of a local recycling centre for the processing of recycling materials by several of Leicestershire's local councils.

The tour will take place on **Wednesday 15th April 2020 at 2pm** and take about 2 hours.

The venue will be: Casepack, 60 Sunningdale Road, Braunstone Frith Industrial Estate, Leicester, LE3 1UX. Parking is usually available in their car park. We would suggest people share travel where possible.

The tour is free of charge but **BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**. There is a limit to the size of the group of 16 people and for safety reasons the organisers need the names & details of those attending in advance. Protective clothing will need to be worn but the company will provide this if you have none.

For full details and booking please contact Jenny Fox jennyfox126@gmail.com or phone: 0116 2911491

Walk Report from Sarah Cleaver

January 2020 Ambergate

Adam stepped 18 of us into 2020 at Tansley and an immediate steep climb gave us lovely views of the cable cars at Matlock Bath. We headed west to Ribber Castle – which for part of its history was a wildlife park – 20 lynx that lived there were released into the wild when it closed, they probably aren't around now...unless the beasts of Lumsdale bred.

Some of us mud slithered downhill (the more sensible ones followed our leader on a parallel grass path only metres away!) towards Cromford Mill, a world heritage site.



We stopped for a cuppa and ice-cream (yes in January!) and the unexpected pleasure of a loo not in the bushes at Cromford Wharf. The canal that starts here is a site of special scientific interest.



We walked along the sheep pastures incline, a feat of engineering, past the catch pit (still with a crashed carriage from the 1950s inside) into High peak junction.

Following the canal again for a short time, Adam pointed out a pike, just by the bank, it soon moved away but the little grebes spotted later hung around for much longer giving us all a chance to have a look.

Past Leewood Pump House and Aqueduct Cottage which is currently a ruin but hoping to be restored, it was part of the Nightingale Estate and Florence visited it.

Off the water again and crossing the end of the line from the Crich Tramway Museum. Lunch at the Glory Mine (Fluorite mining) Picnic area (which was kind enough to have exactly the right number of tables and seats for our large party.)

We had time to go up the Sherwood Foresters Memorial Tower, very windy up top but gave fine views. And onto Crich, Fritchley and finally the (finally dry) Hurt Arms at Ambergate.

This was a really interesting walk with so many things to look at and learn about. And also notable for the bizarre street names we kept seeing: Intake lane, Chadwick Nick Lane and Top Hagg Lane. So much Googling to be done: a hagg is either a firm spot in a soft bog or a soft place in a moor – take your pick for a tarmac road I guess!

Thanks to Adam for a well-paced and UNESCO worthy walk – I'm looking forward to going back to this area to spend more time looking at the engineering.

Mid-month walk Sunday 26th January

Meet Colin at the free car park in Main Street, Woodhouse Eaves, LE12 8RZ.

Arrive 9.45 for a prompt start at 10.00.

The walk is around 7 miles and the route includes the summit of Beacon Hill. Bearing in mind it is a winter walk in Leics, it is very likely to be wet and muddy. Please make sure you wear boots and clothes suitable for the conditions.

Next monthly walk – Sunday 2nd February, Bradwell, Peak District

Coach departs: Oadby Central Car Park (adjacent to the Trinity Methodist Church) at **8.00am**. Please note the coach will leave at 5pm.

Finishing point: The Shoulder of Mutton, Church Street, Bradwell.

Coach Route: M1 (J29), A617, A619, A623, B6049.

Boot stop: Tibshelf Services

Maps: OS Landranger 119/110 or OS Explorer OL1/OL24

Walk Leaders: Andy (long) Eileen (13) Geoff (12) John (11) Adam (10) Jenny (8)

Please contact Catherine ohwcmal@gmail.com if you would like to book a place on the coach or if you are unable to go and need to cancel.

Walk reminder

Please make sure that you are carrying your completed Club Safety Form in the top 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 oadbyhwc.com/essential-information/

Walk Route Map

Please go onto the News section of the Club website, www.oadbyhwc.com 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.

Prospective walkers – please contact the group email address to book a seat on the bus this month: OHWCmail@gmail.com. You will receive a reply confirming the availability or otherwise of a seat. You are reminded 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 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, at other places than the Oadby Car Park, please mention where when booking and please be aware that very occasionally another Woods coach may go past before ours arrives. Members can book for the next month's walk on the return journey back to Oadby. You don't have to wait for the Club meeting or the Newsletter.

Bus Fares – preferably by cheque payable to "Oadby Hillwalking Club" or simply "O.H.W.C."

Adult Members £12, Junior/Student Members £5, Guests/Visitors + £3. (subject to review at the AGM)

Cancellations - members and guests - Cancellations up to Tuesday Midnight before the Sunday walk - no penalty. Cancellations thereafter - full cost of the bus fare due. (AGM 2011). Please send fare due to the Treasurer, Alison Beckett, 5 Spinney View, Great Glen, Leics, LE8 9EP

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.

Those getting off the coach at Fosse Park and the Ring Road, may alternatively, put your dirty kit into a "Bin Liner" and then take it onto the coach; thus negating having to search for your kit in the bus Luggage Locker.

Interested in being a Walk Leader? Please speak to any Committee Member, who will gladly arrange this for you – or better still come along to our Club Meetings.

Safety: The club walk organisers are not qualified guides. You join them at your own risk and of your own free will. You are part of an autonomous group, responsible for your own safety and happy to accept the discretion and actions of any or all the participants on that organised walk or activity in the event of injury to you, the need to have you rescued or otherwise.

Essential Wear - N.B. Jeans and, or trainers/sandals are NOT suitable

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

- ❖ suitable walking boots
- ❖ waterproof coat and over-trousers
- ❖ warm clothing
- ❖ an appropriate rucksack.
- ❖ food and drink for the whole day
- ❖ a First Aid Kit is recommended

If you are not properly equipped for hillwalking, you may not be able to participate.

Please do not wear dirty boots on the coach.

Only Registered Assistance Dogs are allowed on club walks, except on mid-month walks at the discretion of the walk leader.

Sunday Monthly Walks by coach: 2020

Return departure is at 5pm during GMT and 5.30pm during BST.

2 Feb Bradwell – Peak District
1 Mar Blockley – Cotswolds
5 April Symonds Yat - Wye Valley
10 May Hadfield – Peak District

Almoner's Report

If you know of any member who is poorly or unable to walk for any reason, please let one of the committee know.

And finally.... 22 walkers turned out on New Year's Day walk (is that a record?) and Colin has penned a celebratory poem.

Ode to a Walk on 01/01/2020

*There aren't any mountains and it's far from the sea
but today Burton Overy's the place to be,
We're having a great time, we're all friends you see
cause we all belong to the OHWC*

*Late-comers to the start place slowly amble
then we're off on our New Year's Day ramble,
Up the hill, not a care, not a worry
Then from behind "slow down we're not in a hurry."*

*Over the brow on the flat it's a doddle
the going is easy, dry, not a puddle,
the scenery's good but the sky's so grey,
a glimmer of sun would brighten the day!*

*Turning left off the road, direction Northerly,
On this track it's turning wet and muddy,
But we're out in the fresh air and what the heck,
It's 'im the walk leader who'll get it in the neck!*

*With chatter and good humour we all carried on
towards the huge church of little Kings Norton,
on reaching the village, so charming a delight!
The majestic church an incredible sight!*

*Below high pillars good seating we found,
Soon cakes and wine was offered around.
Having had our fill we vacated our seats
and set off South Westerly our walk to complete.*

*Crossing the green meadow of uneven ground
we made for the hedge and followed it round,
then down a long slope and over a stile,
to the Roman Road where we tarried a while.*

*Once the proud soldiers marched here in line,
but it's now the 4 wheelers that slither and whine,
the brook is still here which the soldiers splashed through,
but over a bridge on our walk we continue.*

*We encounter mud and water at a steel kissing gate
which happened recently when the brook was in spate.
Then after some slopes we arrive at a road,
It's near the end of our walk and this humble ode.*

*Together in 'Overy the back streets we saunter,
far behind us the mud and puddles of brown water,
at the Bell Inn arrive the walkers, twenty
having finished their first walk of 2020.*

*On 01.01.2020 Burton Overy WAS the place to be!
having fun and good times with our friends we agree.
We're all happy members of the O H W C!*

(Apologies all – Colin)