

NEWSLETTER – January 2023

Oadby Hillwalking Club

www.oadbyhwc.com : ohwcmal@gmail.com : Facebook: Oadby Hillwalking Club group

Barclays Bank, Account Name. OHWC, Sort code. 20-49-08, Account. 50124990

(Please quote surname and month of walk.)

OHWC Committee 2022 - 2023

Chair: Mike Hinks 07947 026424

Secretary: Clare Savage 07818 185506

Treasurer: Martin Beckett 07748 674223

Walks Co-ordinator: Geoff Mattock 0116 239 5381

Membership Secretary: Mike Hinks 07947 026424

Newsletter Editor: Andy McQuaid 07932 430530

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Monthly Club Meetings

Unless otherwise stated in this Newsletter, 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 club members are welcome.

At the last meeting the Committee noted that there were 47 walkers on the coach this month with a surplus of £152.57, which has reduced this year's losses to £55.86, which was very good indeed. At the moment any newcomers can have their first walk free of charge, there being 4 such places each month.

The meeting agreed the AGM date of 15 April 2023, and you should receive an email invite soon.

Walk Report

Despite an indifferent weather forecast, the club had a great start to 2023 as 42 members and 5 guests joined the coach to the Peak District on January 8.

Starting in and around Bakewell, 5 parties of walkers departed on different linear walks of between 8 to 13 miles, eventually reuniting at the very welcoming Duke of York Pub in the moorland village of Pomeroy where the coach was waiting.



occasional blue, and a few shafts of sunlight. Then, enjoying panoramic views across the hills we pushed on to Monsal Head and the fine defunct railway bridge over the River Wye. Having decided that an abseil off the bridge 'might be fun' (and probably highly illegal) at some time in the future the party descended down to the banks of the Wye.

The Wye is the beautiful 22 mile long principle tributary of The River Derwent. It rises on the 300 million year old



Being the last to "sign up" Alison and myself saw that Geoff's walk needed a few more bodies so opted for a quick 12 mile Peak District "jog" which of course, as ever, turned into 13 miles! Immediately gaining height out of Bakewell, we headed up towards Great Longstone under a patchwork sky of different shades of mainly grey with



Grit Stone of Axe Edge Moor west of Buxton and travelling eastwards, briefly underground through caverns on reaching the 350 million year old limestone, the resurgent river meets the Derwent at Rowsley. It's abundant supply of shrimp and caddis fly apparently fatten numerous wild brown trout and grayling, but neither these, nor the numerous water voles were to be seen in the muddy, turbulent waters on the day.

We walked the banks of The Wye for a mile or so to the A6 and heading up the Deep Dale limestone dry valley, we sheltered behind a drystone wall for a brief and somewhat chilly lunch, then headed towards Monyash. Having caught up with our party after briefly swapping 40 year old caving stories with a party of potholders who had just exited Knotlow Cavern shaft entrance (thank you for your patience), we all headed across open countryside through Flagg and finishing at Pomeroy. By common agreement, we'd all had yet another lovely, refreshing and mostly rain free winter's walk in magnificent countryside.

Many thanks as always Geoff!!

Local walks in January

The mid-month walk will be the Ex-Chairman's Walk. The leader is Geoff Mattock (ex-chairman), 10 miles from Earl Shilton with a 10am, 22 January start. Meeting place is a lay by on the old A47 towards Hinkley. OS co-ordinates 470:985. You will receive a separate email with the date.

Next monthly walk – 5th February 2023 and Stow on the Wold

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

Coach Route: M69, A46, A439, B4632, B408, Kingcombe Lane, A44 and A424 (car park South East)

Boot stop: Stratford upon Avon

Map: Outdoor Leisure 45 2½ inch.

Walk Leaders: Carol Birch (Long walk), Geoff Mattock (12 miles) John Bastow (11 miles) Barri Stirrup & Gail Butler (10 miles) and Helen Everett & Anne Bransom (8 miles).

Please read 'Prospective Walkers' below and make a BACS payment to the bank details in the header after a place is confirmed – that is unless you added our name to the list on the last coach trip.

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.*

Social events

We are pleased to say that as at 8 Jan, we have 21 people going to the Patterdale Hotel in The Lake District for the club's 50th Anniversary fellwalking trip. Please see <https://patterdalehotel.co.uk> for hotel information

We spoke with the Patterdale booking service just after Christmas who told us that they no longer had any single or standard rooms available. At that time they had remaining -13 superior Lakeside double rooms, 6 superior Lakeside twin rooms and 10 superior Lakeside rooms that can be double or twin.

If you are interested, it is easiest for individuals or couples to phone the booking line on 08448 115570 directly stating that they are part of the Oadby Hillwalking Group looking to stay at the Patterdale Hotel. **(Only use the above number as phoning the hotel directly may cost you more)** They require an immediate deposit of £50 per person and the balance of £190 per person will be taken 3-4 days before arrival. Can I ask you to book your rooms individually and then email me so I can put you on the confirmed list?

If you are considering joining us on the trip or have any questions, please email Martin Beckett ohwcmal@gmail.com or phone him on 07748674223.

AGM/Skittles: This is provisionally booked at Rose and Crown in Thurnby for Saturday 15th April, start time is 7pm with food at 8pm. The food options, at £9.95, and other information will be emailed to members.

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. 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 BACS to the bank details given in the header to this Newsletter.

Adult Members and Guests £15, Junior/Student Members £8.

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

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.

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.