**NEWSLETTER - August 2019**

**Oadby Hillwalking Club**

[www.oadbyhwc.com](http://www.oadbyhwc.com/)

**OHWC COMMITTEE 2019-20**

Chairperson: Jenny Fox 0116-2911491

Secretary/Newsletter: Catherine Gwinnett 07941855762

Treasurer: Alison Beckett 07557 199247

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.

**Good news! The free ride offer is back!**

**All OHWC members can claim one free ride on a monthly walk between September and December 2019. Don’t miss out!**

**August 2019 Walk Report – Martin Beckett**

It is believed that Offa, the Anglo Saxon King of Mercia started the construction of his dyke in or around 785AD. Some 1200 years later, 48 members of OHWC set out by coach to inspect his work. Five parties were deposited in the countryside along the English Welsh border and made their way over varying distances following Offa’s dyke and eventually congregating at the George and Dragon in the lovely town of Knighton, Powys.

The undulating walks gave us perfect views of the beautiful patchwork of cultivated fields, the Radnor Forest to the west, the Clun forest to the north and the Shropshire Plain to the east. Those of us who had not been to this area before were captivated by the luscious green of the area, carved and rounded out of the Silurian sediment and Ludlow shale plateau by the ice and streams from the last ice age, twenty thousand years ago.

Once on the Offa’s Dyke footpath we were able to see the full magnitude of the work that Offa and co. ltd undertook all those years ago. Estimates suggest that the fortifications were approximately 27m wide and 8m high!

The Met office forecast was thankfully wrong in that it was warm throughout the walk, no rain and lovely sunshine in the afternoon.

We all thoroughly enjoyed the real ale at the pub and were entertained by a local guitarist at an open mic event at the pub. Sorry, did I say all of us enjoyed the pub………………..? Unbelievably Geoff’s team were so late back they missed the pub! Was that the first time in 30 years, Geoff? There were nearly tears!!

**August Mid-month walk**

Catherine is leading a **7 mile** circular walk on **Sunday 18th August**. Meet at **The Shires Inn,** Main Street, Peatling Parva, LE17 5PU ready to set off at **9.30** If you’re interested in Sunday lunch, please make your own booking with the pub.

**If you would like to lead a mid-month walk, please let Geoff know.**

**Next monthly walk – Sunday 1st September Painswick, Cotswolds**

**Coach departs:** Oadby Central Car Park (adjacent to the Trinity Methodist Church) at **8.00am** and will leave Painswick at **5:30**pm. Finishing point The Falcon Inn, New Street, Painswick (across the road from the churchyard)

**Coach Route:** M69, A46, A439, A422, A429, A436, A46

**Boot stop:** Stratford

**Maps:** OS Explorer 179 Gloucester, Cheltenham & Stroud

**Walk Leaders:** Andy (long) Catherine (14) Geoff (12) Adam (10) Carol H (8)

**Walk Routes.** To Mike Hinks, preferably as a gpx file or as a JPEG file by Thursday 22nd August at the latest, please. mike.hinks19@gmail.com

**Please contact Carol ohwcmail@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/**](http://oadbyhwc.com/essential-information/)

**Walk Route Map**

*Please go onto the News section of the Club website,*[www.oadbyhwc.com](http://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 bus even at the start of the day.

Only “Registered Assistance Dogs” are allowed on club walks except on midmonth walks at the discretion of the walk leader.

**Sunday Monthly Walks by coach: 2019/2020**

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

**2019**

1 Sept Painswick – Cotswolds

6 Oct Hayfield – Peak District

3 Nov Hope – Peak District

1 Dec Ambergate – Peak District

**2020**

5 Jan Monyash – Peak District

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 that is poorly or unable to walk for any reason, please let one of the committee know.*